

# Terrigal High School NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 22 Term 1 March 2019

This week's featured artwork is an oil pastel still life by Ella K from Year 9 Visual Arts.

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## Principal's report

### Tell Them From Me Student Survey

Once again this year we are asking all students to complete the Department's Tell Them From Me survey. We are using the survey to identify students' perspectives, over time, for the school priorities of wellbeing and engagement.

The survey is confidential and this week parents will be receiving a letter outlining the survey. This is an opt out survey. It is assumed all students will complete the survey, unless parents advise the school in writing their intention to withdraw their child from taking the survey.

### HSC minimum standards

From 2020 students are required to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy in order to receive an HSC. Students in Year 10 will have 2 opportunities to sit the online tests in reading, writing and maths.

To support Year 10 students in demonstrating the minimum standards we have dedicated one period per fortnight for literacy and numeracy learning. Year 11 students who did not demonstrate the minimum standard last year, will also have 2 opportunities this year to complete the online test or tests. English and Maths teachers are assessing the best time for students in their class to attempt the tests.

## New school website



**Terrigal High School**

A quality comprehensive education with a history of academic success.

T: 02 4384 4677 e: [terrigan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:terrigan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



Terrigal High School now has a new Website which will be updated on a regular basis. The link for the new website is <https://terrigan-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

## Japanese students visit Terrigal High School

From March 11 to 20, Terrigal High School had the pleasure of hosting a study tour group from Mito Keimei High School, Japan. The tour provided the Mito Keimei students with the opportunity to study English and deepen their understanding of the Australian culture.

The students participated in a range of lessons each day and enjoyed visits to The Reptile Park and Terrigal Beach. They also participated in numerous activities in our Japanese classes, providing an excellent opportunity for Terrigal High students to interact, practise their language skills and learn more about Japan and its people.

The highlight of the visit was the life-long friendships that were made between students of Terrigal High School and Mito Keimei High School.



Mrs Giuliani  
Teacher, Language



## Learning in English

The English faculty have been enjoying meeting their classes and introducing the students to how they can learn about humanity and society through literature.

Year 7 have been discussing the concept of belonging and have enjoyed creating a writing portfolio selecting and reflecting on a variety of texts.

Year 8 have discovered the Australian Identity in poetry and learning about our diverse and unique culture and experiences.

Year 9 have looked at the concept of relationships and how they are depicted across a range of forms. They have enjoyed linking a wide range of texts and considering how different perspectives of relationships can be shaped through language devices.

Year 10 have enjoyed engaging in close study of a novel and discussing authorial intention and analysing how meaning is created through setting and characterisation.

Our seniors are enthusiastic about the new HSC syllabus and have embraced the demands and challenges of the course. Our rationale in Senior English is learning about how language shapes our understanding of ourselves and our world.

Our students have been enjoying their intellectual and emotional development by exploring universal issues and the complex methods in which meaning is shaped, conveyed and reflected.

Mrs Anderson  
Head Teacher, English

## What's on around school?

Look out for "Terrigal Talk" which is emailed to parents every Friday to give you a snap shot of what is happening at school for the upcoming week. It now also appears on our school website under 'News'.

### TERRIGAL TALK WEEK 9 TERM 1

Email: [terrighighschool@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:terrighighschool@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: <https://terrighighschools.nsw.gov.au>

#### Harmony Day

Thursday was Harmony day. Harmony day is a reminder for us all to show respect, compassion and embrace diversity.

At this time we acknowledge the hurt felt by our colleagues across the water in New Zealand. Students and teachers at Terrigal High school are reminded it is OK to feel sad about an event that is splashed across our news.

Within our school we have Wellbeing staff including the Head Teacher, Andy Yates, Year Advisers and School Counsellor 5 days a week.

T Turk  
PRINCIPAL

#### Notifications Late Arrivals

A new notification system is in place where parents will be notified via SMS if their child arrives late to school. Any student that signs in after 9am and before 10:30am without a note explaining why they are late, will be marked as "Unexplained Partial Absence" and with this SMS message will be generated. Similar to the absentee SMS notification, you have the ability to respond to SMS with an explanation, or you may phone the school office on 43844677.

#### CALENDAR DATES

March 25  
Yr12 English EXT Task 2  
Yr10 English Task 1  
Yr12 Physics Practical Examination  
Pre Assessment Task English/Std  
Yr9 Dance Task 1 - Theory  
Lawn Bowls  
Open Girls Touch  
Choir & Writing

## Dance news

Congratulations to Ella W, Abbey D and Laycie B for their selection into the Central Coast Dance Ensemble. The girls are very excited to be part of the CCDE and the ensemble is very lucky to have secured these fabulous performers!



The Year 9 Dance elective class has been completing a practical "Safe Dance" assessment task in class. The performances to date have been of a very high standard and it is wonderful to see the girls engaging with some difficult terminology and skills.



Mrs Walker  
Teacher, Dance/Year 7 Year Advisor/Head Teacher, Teacher and Learning



## Year 7 news

Year 7 student Sarah L brought in this photo of her Father who also attended Terrigal High School. Great to see some family school tradition! If your Parent or Caregiver attended Terrigal High School perhaps you could find a photo and bring it into Mrs Walker.

Then... and now! Students recapturing the pose from the previous photo!



### National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Year 7 participated in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. This is another of many initiatives THS is taking to stamp out bullying. The theme this year was *Bullying. No Way!* and the Year 7 students engaged in peer group activities with the SRC members.



### Student Voice – ‘Resilience’ by Nate W (speech delivered at Year Assembly)



Hi, I'm Nate and I'm going to talk to you about resilience.

To me the word “resilience” means;

- Bouncing back from difficult times
- Dealing with challenges and still holding your head up
- Giving things a go and trying your best
- Being strong on the inside
- Being able to cope with what life throws at you and shrug it off
- Standing up for yourself
- Getting back into shape after you have been stretched

In resilience the R is for Remember that we all are strong. E is for Every day you will have challenges. S is for Stand up for yourself as a hero. L is for Learn to be nicer. I is for If you need help ask for it. E is for Enjoy the things that make you happy. N is for Never let a bully hurt you. C is for Care about you and your friends. E is for Expect the best for yourself.

And remember, success is not final and failure is not fatal. The courage to continue is what counts the most.

Mrs Walker  
Teacher, Dance/Year 7 Year Advisor/Head  
Teacher, Teacher and Learning



## Sports report



The Open Girls Volleyball team played in Round 3 of the CHS Knockout Competition last week. They met a well drilled Carlingford High team who defeated them in three sets. Our Terrigal girls played well together and we are grateful to those who stepped up to fill in at the last minute.

Miss Allen  
Teacher, PDHPE

## History's Year 10 excursion to the Jewish Museum

On Wednesday February 27<sup>th</sup> Year 10 visited the Jewish Museum in Darlinghurst as part of their study of the Holocaust. This excursion has been of great value in educating our students about this historical tragedy. The excursion involves observing the display items in the main gallery followed by listening to the moving testimony of a Holocaust survivor.

One of the students wrote this account as part of the Writing Improvement Now (WIN) program.

*The story that I remember is that of an old leather belt. At first it just appeared as a tattered strip of leather, but with further investigation a story unfolded. After a thorough analysis it became clear that the belt was well worn, frayed at the edges, had loose stitching, and was made of a hundred year old wrinkled leather. The belt holes were worn and the steel buckle looked as old as time itself. This seemingly useless trinket bore a story of great importance.*

*The owner of the artefact was a Jewish man that was caught in the mess that was the Holocaust. Evidence of gruesome problems were quite apparent on the belt. The series of worn holes showed evidence of the fact that the individual suffered from malnourishment during the food scarcity that happened in ghettos and work camps. The worn belt holes painted a picture of a well fed man decreasing to a level of desperation and starvation. As your eyes float down the length of the belt you see tattered holes acting as a size chart of the owner of the belt, occasionally the wear will stop before starting again, showing a drastic fall in the owner's body mass.*

*Ultimately this object proves that although some things face value may not be stunning, a deep and polarising story can be kept within.*

- Oliver Q of year 10.

Mr Bowyer  
Teacher, HSIE

## Photography and Entertainment's excursion to Fox Studios – student feedback



On Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> Year 9, 10 and 11 Photography and Entertainment students went to Fox Studios in Sydney with Mrs Green. Here is what they had to say... The day was very exciting and informative. As Photography and Entertainment students, we saw firsthand all the elements of running a professional production. There were so many facets to running a show like "This Time Next Year" such as editing, camera work, lighting, and sound. They all worked side by side with the host and crew. The day was fun and we can't wait to see the show on TV. The day was such a great experience which has inspired us to want to work in the entertainment industry. Thank you so much for this great opportunity.

Mrs Green  
Head Teacher, CAPA

## Geography excursion to Kooragang wetlands

On Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup> Year 11 and 12 Senior Geography students went on a mandatory fieldwork excursion to the Kooragang Wetlands on Ash Island near Newcastle. The students learnt about the biophysical interactions as well as how important wetlands are to our environment. They learnt that wetlands have plenty of mosquitoes.

They now understand how human activity is impacting and what the implications are of climate change. The site is an important RAMSAR site and they understand the importance of maintaining this environment for the migratory birds some of which come from as far away as Russia in a single flight



(11,000 kms). The students were able to use equipment in collecting data and this is essential in performing fieldwork.

Thank you to the students who came along, their behaviour was exceptional.



## What's been happening in art?

We've been working hard to be creative and learn about artists, the artworld and many different techniques. We hope you enjoy the variety of works our talented students create.

Year 7 have finished their title pages, inspired by the work of Vincent Van Gogh, as seen below.



Year 9 have finished their Del Kathryn Barton inspired self-portraits as well as their Henri Matisse inspired still life artworks using pastel. We had the pleasure of using live goldfish as our focus, which was a very engaging and out-of-the-ordinary experience for our students.





# WIN (Writing Improvement Now) - Term 1 2019 Winners!

In 2019 Terrigal High School staff are continuing to develop the WIN program, which is a focus on improving student writing in the junior school. Throughout Term 1, staff have been collecting samples of student writing produced in their classrooms. Teachers then nominate their students' best efforts to the WIN team who read all the entries and select the best scripts. Entries were judged across year groups and courses in the junior school. The entries are judged on their cohesion, sentence structure, spelling, punctuation, grammar and purpose.

The Term 1 winners are as follows:

**Year 7 – Jaide B – Visual Arts**

**Year 8 – Eva B – English**

**Year 9 – Yalani M – Science**

**Year 10 – Allanah P – History**

A short excerpt from each of the student's work reveals the high quality of writing produced.



## **Year 7 Jaide B – Visual Arts**

As I pass through the dry air engulfs me. The cool night wind chills me and the hazy sight in the distance calms me. A tranquil warmth radiates and pulses, becoming a part of me. As I stare into the distance with my newfound eyes, I move towards them, like a silent invitation. A tree twists and curls and sprouts into the misty swirling clouds.

## **Year 8 – Eva B – English**

The writer's descriptive language evokes in the reader an appreciation of our land. I think it's a good thing for people to be reminded to be grateful about nature, the bush, and our land. Dorothea Mackellar uses various poetic techniques to engage the reader. She uses alliteration such as 'ragged mountain ranges' to draw attention to this text, helping to create an image in the reader's mind. She uses personification such as 'her pitiless blue skies' which gives the sky human-like qualities to help the reader connect emotionally to the poem.

## **Year 9 – Yalani M – Science**

Our science class participated in an experiment to test how fast our nervous system works. We got into small groups of about 2 or 3 and took it in turn to measure our reflexes. We started by creating a results table having 3 columns, which were sight, touch and sound. The first student in the group (the dropper) held a 1 metre long ruler vertically, while the second person (the catcher) hovered their thumb and pointer finger over the 0 mark on the ruler. Without warning, the first student dropped the ruler for the second student to catch as quickly as possible.

## **Year 10 – Allanah P – History**

It's hard to put into words what I saw. Skeletons of charred wood stood on a slant, with a sea of unrecognisable debris at its feet. The soft moan of the wind was the only sound; a melancholy cry of mourning. Not a creature stirred in this wasteland. Everything ceased to exist. There was no hope...no hope left in this cruel existence. The monster had taken everything. The monster had won.



## Careers corner

with Ms Bates, your Careers Advisor

<http://www.terragalhscareers.com/>

The School now has its own career website. Students and parents can use this site for a wide range of career information. This site is particularly useful for students in the senior years; however, other students can access information on part time employment while they are still at school. If students register in the "Student Only" area they will be able to make use of many of the proformas available. They can develop a resume, a cover letter, find out how to act in an interview, what to wear for an interview and many other things.



## Cyber Infrastructure

Mr Staniford and Ms Bates have linked up with NSW Cyber Security Network for teaching infrastructure to help teachers deliver Cyber/STEM subjects. We were successful with our application and we are excited to equip students with resources that will help inspire students to take up careers in cyber security.



## White card course

We had 20 students participate in the White card course on Wednesday. This is great for the students to understand the relevant health and safety regulations that apply on a construction worksite.



## Newcastle and Macquarie University visit

Representatives came out to visit Year 12 students last week and provided some valuable information in regards to applying to University and the great opportunities both Newcastle and Macquarie Universities have to offer our students.



# Community corner



## Youth Aware of Mental Health - Helper Training

There is a fantastic opportunity for local community members to become involved in the YAM program through participating in YAM HELPER TRAINING and assisting a trained instructor to facilitate the program in our local schools.

Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) is an evidence based mental health and suicide prevention program building resilience and help seeking for Year 9 students. The program is endorsed by the Black Dog Institute and the Department of Education. For More information on YAM visit the Black Dog Institute LifeSpan website:

<https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/research/lifespan/lifespan-strategies-and-components/strategy-5>

YAM will be delivered in 16 Public High Schools on the Central Coast during school Terms 2 and 3. YAM is facilitated by a certified instructor with the assistance of a trained helper. More info can be found at Suicide Prevention Central Coast -

<https://suicidepreventioncentralcoast.org.au/schools-program/>

A free 3 hour training program will help develop your knowledge of the YAM program and the role of the helper. You will then be provided with a list of schools and dates where helpers are required to implement the YAM program in our local schools. Please note you may only be a Helper in schools where you have no known relationships with any of the students at that school.

The next **YAM Helper training sessions** will be on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May** in Tuggerah.

If you would like to have further information on how to become a YAM Helper please contact:

*Melinda Navin*, Head Teacher Student Wellbeing Initiatives, Department of Education  
[melinda.navin@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:melinda.navin@det.nsw.edu.au), or

*Benji Trieger*, Head Teacher Student Wellbeing Initiatives, Department of Education:  
[benji.trieger@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:benji.trieger@det.nsw.edu.au)

