

# Terrigal High School NEWSLETTER

Featured artwork by Olivia H. Year 9

**Number 58, Term 4, November 2023**

e: [terrigan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:terrigan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) p: 4384 4677 w: <https://terrigan-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

## Principal's Report

Dear Terrigal HS Community,

We welcome Mr Marshall Wilkinson who joins THS for Term 4, and lives in our local area. Marshall is an experienced Deputy Principal and is coming to us as an additional resource from the Department of Education.

Recently it was World Teacher's Day, and I would like to recognise the work our staff do each and every day. We congratulate Mrs Susan Ferguson who is the recipient of the World Teacher's Day Regional award. Susan has taught at THS for over 30 years and is an expert in TAS particularly Textiles and Design, having much HSC success. She is recognised for her passion, dedication and expertise allowing students to reach their potential in Textiles. Susan and I attended a celebration ceremony at Mingara Recreation Club on Monday 30th October.



Congratulations to our outgoing Year 12 cohort. It was lovely to have our parents and caregivers on site to participate in Year 12's Walkthrough at the end of term. We then held the Year 12 Graduation at EV Church. Well done on completing your HSC examinations.

It is wonderful to celebrate the HSC success of two of our year 12 students:

- ◆ Lydia Hays-ENCORE nomination for HSC Music 1
- ◆ Jacob West SHAPE nomination for IT Timber

Our incoming Year 12's participated in their HSC launch on 19th October facilitated by Senior Executive, Wellbeing and Careers faculties. Our Senior Study Hub in the library is at the heart of support with senior students attending each study period through the school day. Parents/carers of Year 12 attended an information evening on the 23rd October in the library to deepen their understanding of their child's HSC year.

A reminder to parents/caregivers who are picking up their child after an early leavers pass has been approved. To ensure safety for students, exit is through the front office only.

Our Director Educational Leadership (DEL) Jo Wilcher attended THS late Term 3 and did walk throughs observing teaching and learning in practice. Jo was pleased with what she saw and how the school is tracking towards meeting our strategic directions. An area to continue to work on as a school community is attendance.

Since the start of Term 4, it has been incredible to see the difference in school life for our students without their mobile phones. Before school and break times our students are off devices and communicating with each other more. The phone pouches are mostly doing well, and we have received positive feedback from our school community.

We have created some specialist programs which will commence in 2024 to provide opportunities for our students to achieve excellence:

- ◆ Our High Potential (HP) class will be offered to year 8 from 2024, as well as in Year 7
- ◆ Creative and Performing Arts program for years 7 and 8, open to Dance and Drama for students in years 9 and 10
- ◆ Concert Band to commence in 2024 for students learning instruments.

# Principal's report continued

We have been working tirelessly behind the scenes with School Infrastructure around improving school facilities at THS. The male and female changerooms will be demolished and rebuilt over the remaining weeks of Term 4 and across the school holidays. This will see this new upgrade hopefully ready to use by our students from Term 1 2024. Students can wear the THS Sports Uniform to school if they have PE practical lessons in their timetabled classes, as there will be nowhere for them to get changed into for PE practical lessons for the rest of term 4.

The disabled access driveway at Maralinga Drive will be completed around the same timeframe as the changerooms. This allows safe disabled access to student and families, and safe entry/exits for our students. Thank you to our Business Manager Ms Tracy Hardman for all of her work in supporting me with liaising with School Infrastructure and DoE with the organisational logistics of such large projects.

Thank you for your continued support of our staff, your children's learning and school experience, and your engagement with our school community.

Regards,  
**Mrs Sharnee Klempert**  
Relieving Principal THS



**T.H.S CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM 2024**

**OPEN TO STAGE 4 (YEAR 7 AND 8) STUDENTS**

**MUSIC** - (VOCAL, INSTRUMENTAL, GUITAR AND SOUND PRODUCTION)  
**VISUAL ARTS**

**DANCE** - (ALSO OPEN TO YEAR 9 AND 10 STUDENTS)  
**DRAMA** - (ALSO OPEN TO YEAR 9 AND 10 STUDENTS)

THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IS FOR OUR HIGH POTENTIAL CAPA LEARNERS @ THS. STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SPECIALISED TUTORIALS 2 HOURS PER WEEK AND STUDY THEIR PREFERRED CAPA AREA/S OF CHOICE ABOVE. INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN EMAILED TO ALL RESPECTIVE PARENTS/CAREGIVERS.

SCHOOL, REGION AND STATE PERFORMANCE AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES. PLEASE CONTACT HT CAPA MRS PENNINGS OR DP MR MONTGOMERY FOR ANY QUESTIONS

**APPLICATIONS DUE 17TH NOVEMBER**



**TUES 14TH NOVEMBER**  
**6.30-8.30PM**

**THS EVENING OF THE STARS**

**ALL WELCOME**

**DANCE  
DRAMA  
MUSIC  
VISUAL ART**

**INAGURAL CAPA AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED ON THE NIGHT**

**A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE IN CAPA STUDENTS @ THS**

**TERRIGAL HIGH SCHOOL HALL**



**T.H.S CONCERT BAND**  
**COMMENCING IN 2024**

Facilitated by Teaching Services Australia  
Concert Band Conductor - Mr Rowen McBride

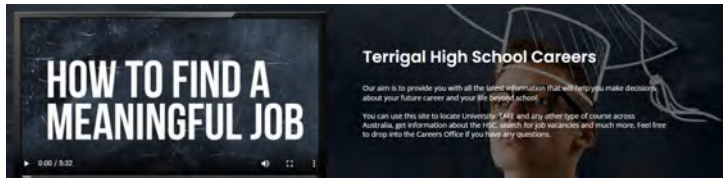
Information has been emailed home to all families.  
Interested students/parents please contact HT CAPA Mrs Pennings or DP's Mr Montgomery or Mr Wilkinson for an application form



"WE STRIVE"

**The School has its own Career Website:**  
[Terrigal High School Careers 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.



**Work Experience Year 10**

Final weeks available for Year 10 students to undertake a Work Experience. Students were given information on this earlier in the year. If they need a form or more information, please see Ms Bates in Careers!

Here is Lewis W on a building work experience!



**Year 10 Mentoring Program**

Four Year 10 students have been meeting once a week for an hour for the last couple of terms with a community mentor to discuss their post school options and put some plans in place. On the 9 November, the group visited an engineering firm at Gosford TAFE to hear about the huge variety of TAFE courses on offer after school.



**University of Newcastle 'Kickstart HSC Seminar'**

UoN know how overwhelming the HSC can be at all stages, which is why they have partnered with InspirationED to present a set of free seminars designed to handle stress and motivate students in the lead up to their studies.

Here's what's on the agenda:

- ◆ Practical tips to handle stress & motivation
- ◆ Tried-and-true strategies to nail your HSC
- ◆ A straightforward guide to understanding the ATAR
- ◆ An English seminar on the common module & how to write better essays.

For parents, they also have practical tips on how to support your child through the HSC.

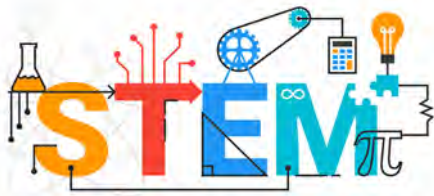
Why your students will love these sessions:

**Real Insights:** Direct, actionable advice. In these 45-min sessions, we'll share the best study strategies, exam techniques, and ways to stay on track during your HSC year/s.

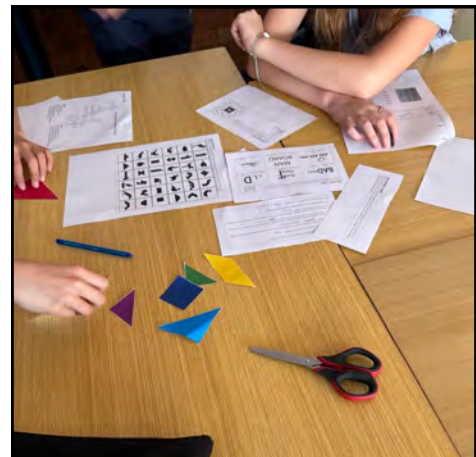
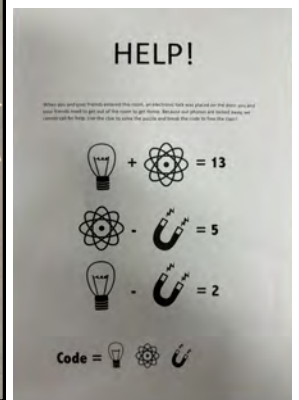
**Wisdom from the Experts:** UoN's seminars feature expert HSC Markers and qualified counsellors ready to share their tips and years of experience.

Register now for this half-day event at the University of Newcastle, Callaghan campus from 9:30am to 12:15pm on Saturday 18th November.

**E & J Bates**  
**Careers Advisers**



**STEM Day** On Wednesday 1st November all of Year 7 had the opportunity to try their hands at some STEM activities. They were coding flashing LEDs, building towers, exploring potential energy, creating protective devices for falling eggs and attempting to find their way out of the escape room. Teachers introduced them to some extra possibilities across Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics that they may not have realised prior to this day. Well done Year 7 on giving these activities a go!



# Game Changer Challenge

## NSW Department of Education, Game Changer Challenge Grand Finalists

On the 1st September, 600 students from 120 teams in schools across NSW participated in the biggest virtual semi-final event in the Game Changer Challenge history. Our five wonderful Year 8 girls, Abby P-H, Tehya H, Imogen C, Jade T and Isla A, were one of seven secondary school teams who were Grand Finalists in this wonderful challenge, and this was held over three days during week 5 of term 4, down in Parramatta at the Department of Education Offices. Whilst our girls did not win an award, the result was very close, and our students were up against students much older than themselves.

**The 2023 Wicked problem was to: invent or innovate something that will change our world and leave a lasting impact in either transport, health, environment, education.**

This challenge was all about giving students, extra-curricular exposure to design-thinking and involved **empathising, creative thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration working within tight timeframes and meeting deadlines.**

These students have been entirely self-directed, highly motivated, organised and independent learners. They are mature beyond their age and embraced every opportunity. They are the very best of ambassadors for our wonderful school and our state education system and we are very, very proud of these girls.

**Ms Massie  
HSIE Teacher**



# English Report

Introducing the New English Syllabus for 2024  
What you need to know

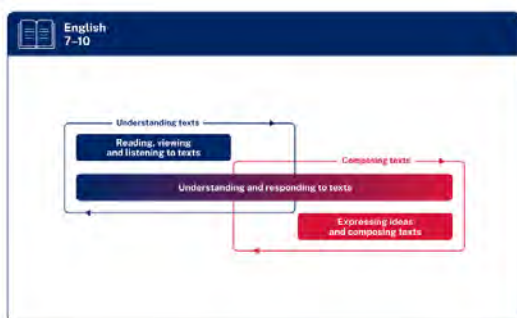
- ◆ The English K-10 Syllabus (2022) will be taught in all NSW high schools from 2024. There will be staggered implementation to ensure continuity of learning for Years 7 to 10. The English K-10 Syllabus (2022) will be implemented first to Years 7 and 9 (2024) and in the following year to Years 8 and 10 (2025).
- ◆ Engaging with quality texts remains central to the study of English.
- ◆ There is an increased emphasis on the importance and value of reading for pleasure, challenge and enjoyment.

7–10 focus areas

The focus areas for each stage support students' growing knowledge and understanding in the areas of:

- ◆ Reading, viewing and listening to texts
- ◆ Understanding and responding to texts
- ◆ Expressing ideas and composing texts

English 7–10 builds on the foundational skills developed in the earlier years to support the growing knowledge, understanding and skills in the areas of Reading, viewing and listening to texts, Understanding and responding to texts and Expressing ideas and composing text.



What can you do at home to help?

- ◆ Engage in conversations with your child about topics they are interested in
- ◆ Encourage your child to read things that interest them and provide many different types of things for them to read
- ◆ Monitor the amount of time they are on screens and the content they view
- ◆ Discuss news and world events with your child
- ◆ Encourage your child to have an opinion and to think about the world as a critical thinker

# Debating News

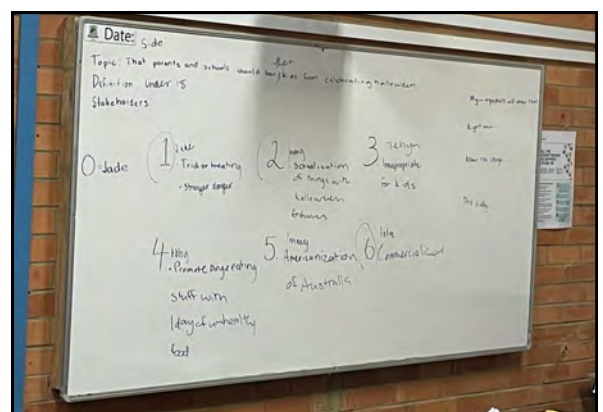
On Friday 3rd November, Stage 4 Debating Team took on Narara Valley HS for the fourth knockout final in the NSW Premier's Debating Challenge.

The topic was "That parents and schools should ban their kids from celebrating Halloween."

The team consisted of: Jade T, Imogen C, Abby P-H and Tehya H. Isla A was the team's reserve.

Terrigal argued the affirmative side of the statement in front of three adjudicators and performed exceedingly well. The result went to a split decision but, unfortunately for us, Narara was awarded the win. Narara's team will now head to the State Finals in Sydney. The fact that they were one win away from reaching the State Finals highlights the momentous nature of the Terrigal team's accomplishments.

I wish to convey a sincere congratulations to the girls for reaching the fourth knockout round in this year's prestigious competition. This is an awesome achievement for the team who have have worked so hard since the beginning of the year. They should be so proud of themselves in representing themselves and the school in such an elite fashion.



# Debating News continued

On Friday 13th October, Stage 4 debate was between Terrigal HS and Toronto HS.

The topic was 'That we make 16 the minimum age to hold any social media account'.

The girls argued the negative side and were awarded the win.

This bout was EXTREMELY close and proved to be the most challenging debate to date for the team.

The team consisted of:

1. Jade T
2. Imogen C
3. Abby P-H
4. Tehya H - team adviser

Terrigal HS have moved to the next final where they will debate against the victor of the Narara Valley and HSPA (Hunter School of Performing Arts) debate.

On Thursday 26th November, the Stage 4 & 5 Debating Teams visited Terrigal Public School to present a mock debate exhibition in front of TPS's Stage 3 students.



The topic was "That students should never be suspended from school."

Stage 4 won the coin toss and argued the affirmative side of the statement, obviously Stage 5 argued the negative.

The Stage 4 team consisted of Tehya H, Imogen C, Abby P-H & Jade T. (Isla A was the reserve). The Stage 5 team consisted of Jordan R, Jayda J, Lottie M & Ellie L. (Ben J was the reserve). The debate was astutely chaired by Evie B.

By the process of acclamation, the Stage 3 audience awarded the win to the Stage 4 team and also offered insightful feedback to the THS speakers.

The mock debate at TPS was a wonderful experience to witness and forges a strong connection with our local primary school. THS look forward to having Year 7 students of 2024 opt to join the debating team and/or public speaking competitions.

Sincere thanks to all the students and staff who participated in the exhibition.

**Mr Watson**  
**English Teacher**



# Public Speaking

This year Terrigal High School has been able to witness the amazing achievements of Abby P-H of Year 8 who participated in the Legacy Public Speaking Competition.

Abby has shown extraordinary dedication and talent as she progressed from the school level, through local, regional, and all the way to the State Final of this prestigious competition. Her achievement is nothing short of inspiring, as she emerged as one of just eight students in the State to reach this pinnacle.

On the 17th of October, Mrs Klempert, Mrs Standen, Mrs Howe and 30 students accompanied Abby and her Mum to the State Finals held at the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

At each stage of the Legacy Public Speaking Competition, Abby demonstrated not only her speaking skills but also her profound understanding of vital and relevant topics. Her speeches were insightful, engaging, and conveyed a strong sense of purpose.

What sets Abby apart even further is her ability to handle the impromptu speaking challenges. In the competition, participants must deliver a 2-minute impromptu speech on a topic they only have 5 minutes to prepare for. This demands quick thinking, knowledge, and composure under pressure, and Abby excelled in this aspect as well.

Her journey through the levels of the competition showcases her talent as a public speaker, her dedication to issues of significance, and her ability to handle spontaneous speaking tasks with grace and confidence.

It's clear that she embodies the spirit of the Legacy Public Speaking Competition, which seeks to empower students to speak up on important matters and make the world a better place.

Abby's accomplishment is a testament to her hard work and passion. We applaud her for this impressive feat and wish her all the best as she continues to develop her speaking abilities and make her mark in the world of public speaking.

We are incredibly proud to have such a talented and dedicated student in our school, and we can't wait to see where her speaking journey takes her next. Congratulations, Abby!

**Ms Howe**  
**Head Teacher English**



WELL  
DONE







Dear Terrigal High School students, carers, family and friends

Not long to go until our amazingly talented CAPA students perform for **Evening of the Stars** - we have musicians, dancers, and actors - with an art exhibition displaying fantastic art pieces from students Year 7 to Year 12. We have 80 of our talented students performing at this show - come along and support these students.

Date, Tuesday 14th November.  
 What time- 6.30pm  
 Where THS Hall

What is the cost of such an evening of entertainment - free to the first 200 THS students/family and friends.

And... we will be presenting awards to those CAPA students who have made a commitment to the creative and performing arts.



We are seeking uniform donations for our Clothing Pool. We are especially in need of sports uniforms, boys blue button up shirts (sizes 12, 14 & 16) and grey school shorts. Items can be handed in at the office. **Thank you!**

# School Student Travel

## Term 4 2023 2024

School travel applications are now open. Please click on the links below to access information on a new or replacement School Opal Card.

[Apply for an Opal Card](#)

[Renew or Update details](#)

[Distance Eligibility Criteria](#)

[Term Bus Pass holders](#)



# Year 7-10 Book Packs

For students attending Terrigal High School in Years 7-10 2024, please click on the link below for the Book Pack lists. These lists are also available on our website.

[Year 7 Book Pack](#)

[Year 8 Book Pack](#)

[Year 9 Book Pack](#)

[Year 10 Book Pack](#)

Additionally, the school is carrying stock of the following items which can be purchased from the school office.

- ◆ **Student Diary 2024** - \$3.00
- ◆ **Mathematics:** Casio Scientific Calculator FX-82AU PLUS II - \$36.50
- ◆ **ART/TAS:** Apron - \$22.00