NAIDOC AT COOTAMUNDRA

Cootamundra High School will be celebrating NAIDOC on June 26, the last day of the term. It will be a full day of cultural and fun activities including a movie, (keeping secret at this stage), bushcraft, art and craft and an address by two Aboriginal police officers from Wagga Wagga. Of course we will have the Koori Quiz once more and prizes will be awarded to the teams who score the best.

It is a uniform-free day and excellent prizes will be awarded to the students who are styled up in the Aboriginal colours.

Lunch is a free sausage sizzle plus a tasting of crocodile Thai curry (not too hot!!)

BELL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY

Macbeth: Undone performance by the Bell Shakespeare Theatre Company

“By the pricking of my thumbs,
Something wicked this way comes.”

On Tuesday the 9th of June, students from Year 9, Year 10, Year 11 Advanced English and Year 12 Drama were privy to a performance of Macbeth by the renowned actors from the Bell Shakespeare touring company. The performance, which took place in the Cootamundra High School hall, was an invaluable opportunity for our students to experience an adaptation of the infamous Scottish play. Students were able to make connections with the Shakespearean plays they have studied in English classes and experience the rich language of the Bard. Year 9 student Georgia Tate stated “Macbeth: Undone performed by Bell Shakespeare was a great performance which was informative and dramatic. Everyone enjoyed it as it was full of romance and murder. The actors’ performance was very funny. I look forward to studying this play in Year 10”. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students and we hope it will be the
beginning of a strong friendship with the Bell Shakespeare company.

PREMIER’S DEBATING COMPETITION

On the 4th of May, Olivia Monteleone, Shelby Nicka, Brittany Hefren and I (Brianna Hefren), supervised by Ms Walker, visited Murrumburrah High School for the Premier’s Debating Challenge in the 9-10 division. Our first debate was against Murrumburrah A, and the topic chosen was that ‘all exams should be replaced with assessment tasks’, and we as the negative team cleverly argued that while exams don’t necessarily cater to all types of learning, assessment tasks are unfair because not everyone will have access to the same guidance or resources. It was arguments like these that led the adjudicator to declare the debate in our favour.

Our second debate was against Murrumburrah B, and the topic decided on was that ‘athletes that commit serious off-field offences should face life-ban from sports’. The opposition, the affirmative team, stated that enforcing life bans made sport safer for everyone, and that being a sporting role model is a huge responsibility, and not to be taken lightly. We refuted this, saying that sport is a career, and these kinds of laws don’t apply to authors, doctors or any other occupation. We also stated that these sporting legends didn’t ‘sign up’ to be role-models, all they want to do is excel in their sporting career. It was very interesting to see each team’s point of view, and it was very close, though the debate was once again declared in our favour.

We organised to debate against Junee’s team at a later date. It was a great day and all teams involved had fun, and learned a lot about debating and self-confidence.

On the 1st of June, we visited Junee in order to see which school’s debating team would move on to the next round. They had won two of their debates against Murrumburrah and so had we, so this last debate was a tie-breaker.

This topic was that ‘personal attacks are a legitimate political tactic’, and we as the affirmative team got the more difficult side of the argument. The topic was rather one sided but we managed to hold our own until the very end, stating that ‘if politicians can’t handle criticism, they’re not fit for the public eye’ and that ‘we don’t know a person until someone else can point out their flaws’.

In the end the adjudicator had to declare the debate in favour of Junee, due to their more solid arguments, but we were extremely proud of our team’s efforts. This means our team will not progress to the next round of this challenge. We received helpful feedback from the adjudicator and look forward to versing each team next year.

Each person in our team enjoyed both our practice or ‘mock’ debates, and the ones where we versed other schools. We learnt a lot about team work, working when under pressure, public speaking and self-confidence. We also enjoyed visiting other schools and talking to new people who we hadn’t met before. All in all, debating was a fantastic learning experience and we definitely recommend it to anyone looking to have fun, try new things and learn.

We can’t wait to debate again next year, and we hope we can do even better.

Submitted by Brianna Hefren
FROM THE CAREERS DESK

YEAR 11 TVET WORK READINESS ORIENTATION DAY
Students undertaking Work Placement for VET Courses attended a very successful Orientation Day in preparation for their placements early next term. Students were addressed by guest speakers from local businesses and the TAFE, with the orientation being overseen by Mrs Rhonda Heffernan representing COMPACT. Congratulations to all students who attended and the effort that was made with their standard of dress.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE
Several students from Year 10 will be undertaking Work Experience next week. Students and parents are reminded that Work Experience will be available in Term 4, and be the last opportunity for work place learning (unless a VET course is undertaken in Year 11).

EXPERIENCE LA TROBE
Senior students interested in attending this day at the Albury-Wodonga Campus are reminded that registration is online and interested students need to contact Mrs Alderman. The date for this is the 19th June and parents are also invited to attend. A free bus will be leaving Cootamundra at 7.00 a.m.

BOAT LICENCE COURSE
There have several expressions of interest received for this, but not yet enough to fill a class. There are still notes for expressions of interest in the Careers Office – call in and collect one from Mrs Alderman.

BUILD A BRIDGE
Please see or contact Mrs Alderman in the Careers Office for more information regarding the Build a Bridge Camp.

PLAN MY GAP YEAR
'Plan My Gap Year (PMGY) is an award-winning international volunteer placement organisation based in the UK. We provide the world’s most affordable, need-driven and supportive short-term volunteer programmes in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Our programmes start from just two weeks in duration right up to six months. You can join us throughout the year as we have two start dates per month. So if you’re looking to travel on your vacation period, or even take a gap year to explore the world – you should consider volunteering abroad and doing something really special during your travels. We have a range of opportunities to suit people of all backgrounds and interests. Check out our website and start your adventure today – www.planmygapyear.org'
YEAR 10 SUBJECT SELECTIONS FOR 2016

This process will commence in the coming weeks and information for parents and students will be mailed home. It is very important that parents and students attend the information evening at school on Thursday, 16 July at 7.00 p.m. (First week back Term 3).

SCHOOL LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

AND A GREAT AMNESTY WAS HAD BY ALL!

Our Library book-return amnesty for June is going well - all the requested books we were unable to find, but one, have been returned, as well as other library books AND the bonus of books from other departments! We have piles of books from neighbours as well as a good student cleanout of long-overdue books. Many thanks to Matt Friend, who needed the library staff every day this term until we held the amnesty and found the missing book from the series he was reading!

Keep those missing books rolling in!

The Library Staff
TOWN LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

**POSITIVE RHYTHM PRESENTS**
**DRUMMING AND BOOM WHACKER WORKSHOP**

Fun filled workshop.
All equipment provided, you only need to bring yourself!

**When:** Friday 3rd July 2015
**Two classes only**
Cost: $22 per child
10am - 11am for years 1, 2 and 3
11am – 12noon for years 4, 5 and 6
**Where:** Cootamundra Library
Contact Cootamundra Library

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

NRL HOLIDAY CLINICS
On Wednesday 1st of July we are holding a NRL Holiday Clinic at the following locations.

YOUNG
10am - 1pm Keith Cullen Oval.

COOTAMUNDRA
10am – 1pm Nicholson Park.

It is for boys and girls between 5-14 years old

The cost is $40 which is fantastic value as the kids receive a number of items on the day. Parents need to register and pay online, it is quite simple, just click on the link below and it has all the details including what they receive in their NRL pack

http://www.playnrl.com/programs/

GREEN BRIGADE PROGRAM

The Green Brigade Program is available to children aged 5 – 15 years old to participate in a unique behind-the-scenes experience on Thursday 9 July 2015, 8:30am – 1:30pm.

All participants must complete a Legal Liability Form to participate in the program. Forms are to be presented upon registration on the day.

Activity Breakdown: Green Brigade Outline
- Exclusive access and guided tour of Raiders HQ – Gym facilitates, video room & change room
- Guided Tour of GIO Stadium Canberra and briefing on game day operations
- Access to NRL Squad Private Session: Captain’s Run at GIO Stadium
- NRL preparation and recovery briefing – delivered by Raiders Football Department & 1-hour skills session with NRL development officers
- Green Brigade Participant Pack
- Morning tea and lunch

Green Brigade Participant Pack includes:
- 2 for 1 ticket coupon for any Raiders home match in season 2015
- $10 Raiders Merchandise Voucher
- Raiders drink bottle
- Signed NRL Poster
- Membership Card with attached benefits (e.g. Food discounts at GIO Stadium, 10% Raiders Shop Discount)

THE GREEN BRIGADE
JUNIOR (5 - 15 YEARS)
Cost: $30.00

ENERGY REBATE

[Image of NSW Family Energy Rebate]

APPLY ONLINE NOW!

2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM

 eligibility criteria apply

Apply before Midnight 16 June 2015

For more information & assistance
Phone: Service NSW 13 13 00
Email: info@energyrebate.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.energyrebate.nsw.gov.au