



Please be praying for our Year 12 students as they begin their Trial HSC Exams this Friday.



Please note that Mufti Day will take place on Friday, 19 August, 2016. Normal Mufti Day rules apply!

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

“When self reigns supreme, our world view narrows.....”



On Monday morning this week, the Daily Telegraph reported two young people as having to be rescued from a smashed car. The red “P” plate driver had been driving at excessive speed and smashed into a power pole. The car was totally destroyed and the emergency services had to cut the occupants out of the car.

Guess what the crash victims were doing as they were being cut out of the car at great inconvenience to their rescuers? They were taking “selfies” of themselves on their mobile phone!

The self seems to be the new god of the current times. Obsession with self has stopped a lot of people from participating in the experiences of life and enjoying the value of the experience. They are more focussed upon getting the photo than on the experience. The self in the photo is what matters.

Sadly, self starts to get problematic when it is such a big consideration. So much focus gets put on things like self-esteem, self-righteousness, self-consciousness, self-appreciation, self-love, self-value, self-centredness.

I am reminded of the Greek myth where the young Narcissus fell in love with his own image reflected in a pool of water. He loved his image so much that he stayed staring at himself in the pool till he died. He lost his will to live. He just wanted to look at himself.

Narcissism is the pursuit of gratification from vanity or egotistic admiration of one’s own attributes. It is when you are all about yourself. It is considered a psychological problem. Sadly, too many people have it.

Jesus taught that life is not about the self. Consumed with self, we lose life. Real life, according to Jesus, is knowing God and in so doing we can be free of the bondages of self.

The greatest burden we have to carry in life is self; the most difficult thing we have to manage is self. When self reigns supreme, our world view narrows and for many people, it narrows down to the view finder on a mobile phone.

My self gives me more trouble than any other person, and guess what? I don’t even know how to take a “selfie”.

Watch yourself and watch others as they over compensate for themselves with valuing the photo over the experience. The photo is only a reflection.

Narcissus was a mythical figure from ancient days but his reflection (photo) obsession was the end of him.

Beware the “selfie” you send to others that you would not show your mother. Others are not that interested in the value of your self and too often they misuse it to your pain.

Those crashed car occupants were so full of themselves that they failed to see the good of their rescuers. Could you blame the emergency services people if they took the attitude of “Well you got yourself into this situation, so now get yourself out.”

Thank God not all people are full of the “selfie”.

God loves you and so do I.

Rodney Lynn,
Principal

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TERM 3 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Monday, 26
September to Friday,
7 October, 2017

COMING UP

- 15-26/8 Year 12 Trial HSC Examinations
- 19/8 State Athletics (Primary)
- 19/8 Mufti Day
- 24/8 Yr 10/11 Maths Excursion
- 25/8 Secondary State Athletics
- 29/8 HSC Drama Practical Exam
- 30/8 Poetry Competition
- 30/8 Year 12 Creative Writing Workshop

2016 DRAMA/DANCE EVENING

On Tuesday last week, our school held its 2016 Drama/Dance Evening. The night showcased the talents of elective Drama/Dance students from Years 9, 10 and 12.

Act 1 consisted of a selection of monologues and scenes from the Year 9 and 10 Drama students. Act 2 opened with the Year 9/10 Dance class performing a contemporary movement piece choreographed by Ms Lemair.

The evening concluded with the HSC Drama students performing their Individual Projects and their Group Performance Piece. The Year 12's performances were assessed by Ms Lemair and guest marker Mrs Searle. It was a chance for the Year 12 Drama students to perform for an invited audience one last time. In the weeks to follow these students will be performing their major works in front of a panel of markers from the Board of Studies for their HSC. Every student did an exceptional job, considering the wild weather hit halfway through Act 2 and performers had to compete vocally with the thunder and rain pelting down on the auditorium tin roof.

Students should be congratulated on their performances and I ask that you join us in keeping the Year 12s front of mind when praying, as they refine and then complete their HSC performance on Monday, 29 August, 2016.

"Hope"

By Aidan Element
(First Place—Stage 6
Writing Competition)



Sunlight drenched his face. He was dry with grains and scorched by the middle of the day. From what he could gather, his parents were close by, keeping an unbreaking protective gaze in his direction. Crashes and fizzes came from the East, in a pattern that was starting to get tedious to him. He amused himself by grabbing tiny handfuls of sand and seeing how far his arms could throw it in the direction of the water. He was nowhere near his goal, so he began to get frustrated. Crying was the only thing he knew how to do well. His mother seemed to take bounds instead of steps towards him, and soon he would be as high as he thought the clouds were. She carried him forwards as the repetitive noises grew louder. The shade she provided soothed the slippery skin of her son, and her cross necklace amused him by bobbing around. As soon as he touched the water he felt instant relief and shock. The water was cold and he didn't like it. But the glimmers of the reflective light stunned him, sending him into a state of awe.

Anticipation drenched his face. It was difficult to believe that he looked fashionable in his uniform, and he was comforted by the fact that everyone else would look as ridiculous as he did. Covered in red and white, he felt more comfortable with his mother next to

him, and he liked to think that she didn't like photos either. If he looked up really hard, he could see several different emotions on his mother's face, the dominant of which being fear. He did his best to imitate his mother's beautiful smile, but only succeeded in giving the impression that he was forced to appreciate the finances that went into this school. The flashing of the camera and the receding sound of the tick started to get tedious, as his father was snatched away by pride, as he remembered his own red and white uniform. As the bus stopped at the curb, he felt a wave of shock, realising that he would have to do this for many more years, and his mother prayed for him. Enveloped with embarrassment, he ran to the bus as soon as his mother kissed his forehead, and with a last goodbye, tried not to think about the horrors that would follow.

Anxiety drenched his face. Motionless conflict ravaged his mind as his emotions were battling with the cold reality of what life has to offer. Normally in this situation he would muster the courage to call his girlfriend to have her say nice things to make him feel better. But now he was surrounded by what he deserved. His head was quiet, but not at peace. The song that echoed into his conflicting mindset was starting to get tedious. He never shared his despair with his mother, and he couldn't now, not on a Sunday morning. As if his girlfriend's texts weren't clear enough, a wave of shock suddenly hit him as he accepted the possibility that he might never find love again. Tears replaced tears, and he was a wreck once again. His curtains lashed out at him in

disappointment, their blue velvet brushing against his face with a delicacy that reminded him of a time when he felt loved. Through under appreciation, he had triumphed.

EQUESTRIAN OPPORTUNITY

The Tamworth Inter-school Extravaganza will take place on 14 to 17 October, 2016.

Students who wish to compete, riding their own horse, need to contact Sally Taylor or Carly Williams on 66534000 for the requirements and more information.

Entries close 1 September, 2016.



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create some outstanding written texts.
Keep up the good work Matthew!

Favour Chea (6H)

Favour is a fun-loving, witty and cheerful student who interacts well with everyone. She is a consistent worker who always tries her best and goes about each class activity with a 'no-fuss' attitude. Favour knows how to have a good time and enjoys the humorous side of life, allowing her to help the vibe within our Homeroom to be light and joyful.



Lachlan Merchant (6H)

Lachlan is a cheerful, gentle and polite student who always seeks to do his best. He works happily with others, treating them with patience and respect. He is a good friend to others, has established solid revision skills and has a desire to keep improving and persevering through difficult work! Well done, you legend!



Trinity Leach (6H)

Trinity is our biggest creative writing fan, constructing imaginative texts for weeks at a time that require multiple sheets of paper. She thinks critically and thoughtfully about her responses and answers in class. She always tries her best, not just to complete the work, but also to the best of her ability. Sensational effort, Trinity!



Alexie Roy-Trembath (6W)

Alexie is a quiet, caring and friendly student who is always kind-hearted and a willing helper. She likes to do the right thing and seeks clarification on tasks when needed. She shows perseverance and determination in her work and sets herself achievable goals. Alexie has worked hard to



achieve her Bronze Award.
Congratulations!

Hugh Clifford (6W)

Hugh is a quiet member of our class. He is always polite, as well as being helpful and thoughtful to the needs of the class and others. He is kind-hearted and a good friend to many. Hugh is a diligent worker with a good work ethic. He strives to produce neat bookwork. Well done, Hugh! Keep up the great attitude!



Luke Osborne (6W)

Luke is a polite and helpful student who shows perseverance and diligence in his work. He is keen to learn, which has been evident in his work during MultiLit lessons. Luke is a talented swimmer and reached State earlier this year. He has also been part of the Middle School Outreach Team. Great effort, Luke!



Literacy Legends!

Jessica Wright and Brodie Duncan were honoured during assembly this week for their outstanding perseverance and determination completing the MultiLit Program. Brodie is the quiet achiever of the group, while Jessica is a ray of sunshine, according to Mrs Tasker. Their positive approach to learning has helped qualify them for the extension program. Well done, both of you!



Indonesian Perfect!

As students prepare to make elective choices for Year 9, Indonesian is definitely proving to be a choice many students are considering. The outstanding participation in the recent Year 8 Language Perfect competition indicates the enthusiasm many students have for learning Indonesian.

The competition ran in Week 3 from Wednesday 8am to Friday 5pm. During this time, the Year 8 students answered over 33,000 Indonesian questions. AMAZING!!

The student with the highest number of points was Ngun Tin Tial Mang with an amazing 2204 points which required Ngun Tin Tial to answer 5009 questions over the three day competition. In second place was Isabella O'Donnell with 1223 points and third place went to Mia Jackson with 1173 points. Both these girls answered over 2500 questions each to achieve their points. All of the winners received canteen vouchers and a certificate in recognition of their sensational efforts.

A highly commended award and canteen voucher was given to Hamish Francourt who answered over 1800 questions. In addition, students who scored over 100 points all had the chance to win two canteen vouchers. The winners of the bonus vouchers were Bailey Blackman and Sean Bowers. Congratulations and well done to all the Year 8 students who participated in the Language Perfect competition. You are "Luar Biasa"!

Tournament of Minds will be held Sunday, 28 August in Port Macquarie. We would love to hear from anyone willing to help out as a judge, time keeper or room supervisor. Please note that training will be conducted for judges here at the school on Wednesday, 17 August (**not in Eungai** as previously advertised).



Please contact either
Mrs West samantha.west@coffsccs.nsw.edu.au
or Mrs Searle deb.searle@coffsccs.nsw.edu.au

The Poetry Recital competition will be held in school on Tuesday, 30 August. Be working on your poems!

Middle School Music Night: Tuesday, 13 September, 2016. Don't miss it!

Gold Award!

The Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Middle School. To be eligible for the award, the student must have completed 20 hours of school service and 10 hours of service to the community. The student must also have accumulated 20 Merit Certificates and be identified by teachers as having consistently set an example to others in terms of effort and attitude.

Tayla Kelty

Tayla is a conscientious and diligent student who consistently strives to achieve her best. She brings dedication and a mature approach to all tasks. Tayla does not demand attention from teachers by being loud, teachers notice her effort and focus. She makes no fuss but maintains a positive attitude at all times. Tayla's specialist teachers have noted her involvement and enthusiasm in PE lessons, her diligence and neat bookwork in Mathematics, great skills and willingness to learn in Science, enthusiasm and commitment in Music, giving 100% in Art, extraordinary diligence in Technology classes and for being "mantap" in Indonesian. Tayla has earned her school service by being a sports monitor, cleaning classrooms and putting in 15 hours of hard work down at the school Equestrian Centre. Her community service has included being involved in the Million Paws Walk, The Relay for Life and voluntary work completed at Crossmaglen Public School. Congratulations on achieving your Gold award Tayla, you are an absolute pleasure to teach!

Tayla's friends describe her as being...

- Nice and caring
- Fun to be around
- Having a beautiful personality
- Telling funny jokes
- Loving mail (!!!)



Silver Awards!

To receive a Silver Award, a student must have accumulated 10 Merit Certificates and completed 10 Hours of school service. Their teachers must also recommend them for the award as students who show excellent attitude and effort.

Shekinah Phipps (8P)

Shekinah can best be described as a dedicated, enthusiastic, organised and diligent student who consistently strives to achieve her best. Shekinah's book work is beautifully presented and she is a caring, kind person with a sensational attitude and work ethic. Her specialist teachers all agree Shekinah deserves this award and she is a pleasure to teach!

Shekinah demonstrates great enthusiasm during PE lessons. She is an outstanding gymnast and recently competed at the State Championships where she achieved 5th overall for her age group and a 1st place in "vault."

Shekinah has completed her school service for her Silver Award by caring for our school chickens, helping out at the Equestrian Centre and being a sports monitor. She is a fantastic role model and a lot of fun to be around! Keep up the great work, Shekinah!

Estelle Mallia (7K)

Estelle is a young lady who has proven that when she sets her mind to a task, she will follow through and achieve her goals. She has shown this in achieving her Silver Award. Estelle brings a fresh way of thinking to each lesson. She is not afraid to question things she believes in and displays a very mature approach to her learning.



Estelle has the ability to write very creative texts which show depth of character and incredible description. Do not listen to Estelle if she says she is not good at drawing, it's simply not true. She loves drawing anything Manga, but these skills flow over into any drawing she attempts.

She has shown her musical skills in the outreach team and is looking forward to performing at the Middle School Music Night. Well done Estelle, keep up the great work.

Bronze Awards!

Stephanie Gordon (7K)

Stephanie is a quiet, sensible, caring young lady with a hidden secret. While she may come across a little shy, she kicks butt with her outstanding Karate skills! She is focussed and works hard. She asks questions to help her understanding and takes pride in the presentation of her work. Well done, Stephanie!



Daniel Campbell (7K)

Daniel is a polite and diligent worker. He is attentive in class and works very hard to complete all classwork. He has a special love for soccer, but actively becomes involved in anything sporty. His teachers have commented on his conscientious approach to lessons and his ability to work co-operatively with others. Well done, Daniel!



Matthew Grassick (7K)

Matthew brings something special to every lesson. He has a fantastic sense of humour and can have the class in stitches with a simple observation on what is going on around him. Matthew has a particular talent in Mathematics and when he applies himself, can

