AFL Multicultural Program

Last Tuesday, battling the forces of nature, a group of 18 students from Orara High and 17 students from Coffs Harbour High, participated in an Australian Football (AFL) Multicultural Clinic held at Orara High School.

Captain of the Sydney Swans, two times premiership winner and Brownlow medallist, Adam Goodes, led the session. Adam was supported by three other AFL representatives including former Orara High School student, Maryar Majak.

The students practised ball skills including kicking, hand-balling and played games. The program continues from 3.30 - 4.30pm on Thursdays for the next six weeks (from 28 February).

The after school sessions will be held at the Bray Street Oval and they include: fun games and skills, fruit and water and participants will receive their own football. We hope that the students all enjoy this opportunity.

Jen Clarke
ESL Teacher
From the Principal
It seems like we have only just returned to school, yet we are already half way through Term 1. I am pleased to see how students have quickly settled into their routines. I was very impressed at how, despite the heavy rain last week, the school ran with little disruption to routine.

Feeder School Visits
On Thursday and Friday of last week, we visited five of our feeder schools in order to inform Year 5 and 6 students of what high school life is like and to promote our Year 5/6 Information Evening.

On Thursday, Tyler Joseph and Erin Willis accompanied Mr Jeff James, Mr Trent Woodcock, Mrs Kristie Hood and myself to Coramba, Karangi and Nana Glen Public Schools.

Tyler and Erin did an excellent job promoting their school and allaying the fears of the primary students about High School life. Mrs Hood and Mr Woodcock also did a great job speaking about many of the opportunities available to Orara students and Mr James successfully promoted the EXCEL Class as a great chance for young people who enjoy learning and working hard at school to reach their full potential.

On Friday, Reagan Ward and Gabby Conlon accompanied us to Tyalla and Narranga Public Schools. Reagan and Gabby also did well and along with Tyler and Erin, were excellent ambassadors for Orara High School.

Year 5/6 Information Evening
This will be held on Tuesday 5 March at 6pm in the school library. Mr James would like to speak about our EXCEL Class and students will speak with Year 5/6 students and parents about high school life.

Welcome to Year 7 BBQ
Unfortunately our P&C Welcome to Year 7 Sausage Sizzle has been postponed. The BBQ area was far too wet and our portable BBQ needs repair.

I apologise for any inconvenience caused and look forward to meeting Year 7 students and parents at 5:30pm on Tuesday 12 March.

Subject Changes
Just a reminder that this is the last week for students in Years 9 and 11 to change subjects. Even doing so this late in the term can cause significant problems in terms of work to be caught up.

Elective Fees
Invoicing for all students is underway and family statements will be issued and mailed as soon as all subject changes are finalised. I encourage all parents to assist the school in providing the best education possible by paying these fees, so that we can purchase all of the perishable items necessary for these subjects.

2013 DER-NSW Student and Parent Surveys
The NSW DEC is seeking your views on the NSW one-to-one laptop program. A formal evaluation of the program is being undertaken by the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities in collaboration with the University of Wollongong. It is an effort to determine how the DER-NSW program may impact on learning and teaching education across the state. The evaluation has taken place over four years.

Please go to the link below and complete the 2013 survey. It won’t take you too long.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DER-NSW-Pr2013?c=8469

To access the link please enter it into the long address bar at the top of the page of your internet browser (not into a search engine such as Google) and press enter or go - this will take you to the survey.

Individuals cannot be identified in the data. Evaluation reports to date can be viewed online: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/about-us/how-we-operate/national-partnerships/digital-education-revolution/rrql/research.

Regards
Frank Stanton
Principal
Opportunity, innovation and success

Engineering Students visit W.E. Smith Engineering

On the last day of school in December 2012, our Yr 12 Orara High engineering students were hosted by W.E. Smith Engineering at their Boambee facility with an up close tour of their heavy metal fabrication operations and materials testing laboratory.

Students had a rare opportunity to witness first hand, heavy steel fabrication processes in action and get up close to some very impressive machinery. We also learnt a lot about heat exchangers.

Time was also spent in the materials testing lab learning about the importance of materials specifications and legal certification requirements which have to be met by modern manufacturers. We also got to handle some very exotic titanium samples, witnessed the breaking of some pretty impressive metal test pieces and saw a state of the art radioactive metal alloy analyzer in action.

Thanks must go to Mr Paul Trottman, the Manufacturing Manager at W.E. Smith, as well as the many staff who were very patient and obliging on the day. We also wish to thank Mr Heffernan for assisting with transport.

Dave Wood
TAS Teacher

Student Exchange Program

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2013 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover - all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

Opportunity, innovation and success

Yr 12 Geography Field Trip

On Monday 18th February 2013 the Year 12 Geography class attended a Field Trip to the Coffs Harbour Regional Botanic Gardens to investigate inter-tidal wetlands (mangroves).

A few guests speakers were available to talk to students about various aspects of these wetlands, why they are important and how they are managed for the future. The speaker from Coffs Harbour City Council, Ms Sue McEntyre provided the students with a lot of printed information and took students on a tour of the mangrove walk. She pointed out aspects of the wetland, the biodiversity of the ecosystem and the threats to this ecosystem.

The second speaker, Ms Chantelle Burns, the Acting Community Education Officer NSW Department of Primary Industries, spoke about the importance of mangroves for marine environments and explained the importance of marine protections, such as the Solitary Islands Marine Reserve. Ms Burns explained the levels of protection on marine environment and the fines imposed on people who break the law. She also spoke to students about some indigenous aspects of marine environments and how the wetland is important to provide an estuary environment.

Mr Adrian Paul, one of the guides from the Coffs Harbour City Council Ambassador Tours and a retired teacher from Orara High School, spoke about the cultural and historical significance of Coffs Creek.

The students worked hard taking notes, sketches, photographs, transects and diagrams in an effort to complete their investigation into threats to this wetland and the management processes that are in place to protect this environment for the future.

Cath McIntyre
HSIE Teacher

Harmony Day - Mosaic Project

On Harmony Day, Thursday 21 March teachers and students will be involved in constructing a mosaic mural.

We would appreciate any donations of tiles, coloured crockery, shells, glass pebbles, newspapers and plastic containers.

If you are able to donate any of these items, please bring them to the front office.

Alison Shatry
ESL Teacher
## Important Dates for Year 12, 2013

### Term 1, 2013

**Monday, 4 March 2013**  
HSC language oral examination timetable released  
HSC practical examination timetable released

**Friday, 15 March 2013**  
2013 Year 12 (HSC) student enrolment closes (via Schools Online)

**Wednesday, April 3 - Wednesday April 10**  
Orara High School Half Yearly Examination

### Term 2, 2013

**Monday, 29 April 2013**  
Personalised HSC written examination timetable released  
(via Students Online and Schools Online)

**Monday, 6 May 2013**  
2013 HSC written examination timetable released

### Term 3, 2013

**Monday, 8 July 2013**  
Personalised HSC language oral examination timetable released  
(via Students Online and Schools Online)

**Wednesday, 7 August - Friday, 16 August**  
Orara High School Trial HSC Examination

### Term 4, 2013

**Monday, 14 October 2013**  
HSC written examinations commence

**Friday, 8 November 2013**  
HSC written examinations conclude no later than this date  
HSC final assessment ranks available (via Students Online)

**Wednesday, 18 December 2013**  
HSC results released  
HSC Results Inquiry Centre opens

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Lindy Franklin  
Year 12 Advisor
G’day USA 2012

Every year an organisation called Education World Travel sends approximately 18000 high school students from all over Australia on a 20 day trip to experience America and get a taste for travelling.

After two years of saving we finally made it to the States. Twelve Orara High School students from Years 10-12 left Australia on 31 December 2012, and arrived in Los Angeles at 9am the same day! We stayed in Los Angeles for five days and visited major attractions such as Knott’s Berry Farm, Disneyland and Universal Studios. We also visited San Diego, then travelled to Puyallup, 40 minutes west of Seattle to meet our host families.

We then visited the school attended by our host brothers and sisters, Emerald Ridge High. They have almost 2000 students from Years 10-12. Everyone loved our accents and kept wanting to hear us talk. The next 3 days we travelled to Snoqualmie Falls and tried to snow ski! Over the next two days we visited Seattle, the Underground Tour, the Space Needle, Pike Place Markets, and the Experience Music Project.

On the weekend our host families took us to an NFL game between the Seattle Sea Hawks and the San Francisco 49ers. After saying goodbye to our host families we travelled to San Francisco and spent three days there. We went shopping, toured Alcatraz, walked across the Golden Gate Bridge, and dined at Hard Rock Cafe and Bubba Gump’s. It was an amazing three weeks, and created some lasting friendships and memories.

I hope you will also have an opportunity to go on this trip. A big thankyou to Mrs Cross and Mrs Rudendyke for organising it.

Bridget Luchetti
Yr 11 Student

Coffs Coast Tigers Football Club invite s all new and existing players to register now for the 2013 Football season

When: Saturday, 23 February
1 - 3pm
Where: Polwarth Drive
Sporting Fields
Coffs Harbour

Or online at www.myfootballclub.com.au

All enquiries contact
Mellesa Bennett 0437579528
United States - Cultural Excursion
January 2015

Background  The trip is organised by a company called Educational World Travel, NOT Orara High School, which is the same as all five previous trips. EWT has been offering this Program since 1988. They are the largest short term Exchange Organisation in Australia. Students travel as part of a school group which is fully supervised by one, or more teachers.

The itinerary will be similar to:
Day 1  depart from Sydney and on arrival in the USA, travel to Anaheim (near Disneyland).
Day 2  spend the day at Knotts Amusement Park (like Dreamworld + Movieworld)
Day 3  day tour to San Diego – visit Old Town for an insight into the culture + history of old Mexico + California before heading to an Outlet Shopping Mall
Day 4  spend the day at Disneyland.
Day 5  spend the day at Universal Studios then to your host family.
Days 6 - 15  hosted by an American family; attend school for a day; 3 days sight-seeing around the host city; evenings and weekends to go out and about with your host family.
Days 16 - 18  San Francisco - tour the city area; accommodated at Fisherman’s Wharf; dinner at the Hard Rock Café; visit Alcatraz (former island prison in the bay); ride a cable car, walk across the Golden Gate bridge.
Day 19  in transit
Day 20  arrive home in Australia

Our Host Options  Priority order - 1. Valdosta (Georgia), 2. Phoenix (Arizona)

Tour Cost Inclusions  * travel insurance
* Hotel accommodation * continental b’fast in Hotels * coach transfers in the USA * return economy airfares * sightseeing in San Francisco * tour of San Diego * entry fees to amusement parks * approx. cost is $6,000 each (including all taxes, can be paid off)
* 3 days sightseeing during hosting.

Fund-raising helps students cover the cost of additional trips + tips; may help offset part of the student’s spending money + the cost of flying to + from Sydney (optional).

Students  due to age limits, only students currently in Years 8 to 11 (2013) ie Years 9 to 12 (2014).

If you would like to participate, discuss the trip or find out more information, please feel free to contact the Group Leaders/Organisers - Mrs Cross and Miss Harvey.

Have you received the Schoolkids Bonus?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 - have you?
If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.
The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education - whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.
Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink - either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.
Host Families needed in June/July 2013
In June-July students from over 20 countries around the world will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 5 or 10 months.

Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit

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**MERIT AWARDS**

**BRONZE AWARDS:**
- Lauren Seton
- Caitlin Jackson

**Congratulations**

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**MEDICARE TEEN VOUCHERS**

Make an appointment with our Therapist—Wendy Summerill

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