

## Head of St John's

Shannon Rosewood

### National Science Week 2014

The paper plate challenge has been set!

If you have recently been watching the 'Life at 9' series on the ABC (<http://www.abc.net.au/tv/programs/life-at-9/>) then you would have seen an interesting experiment about the development of creativity in children. According to the research, our most creative students are our youngest. As we age, our creativity decreases and our preparedness to take risk and be innovative is also in decline.

Consider this famous quote from Pablo Picasso.

***"Every child is an artist, the problem is staying an artist when you grow up."***

Creativity is an attribute that we can all develop and is not exclusively to be found in the arts. Creativity in primary Science involves children in solving problems and thinking laterally. As a part of our celebrations of National Science Week St John's have been working with Year 10 students on the theme of "Science feeding the world." We also explored our creativity through considering the question – 'What can I make with a paper plate?'

Since announcing the challenge at the Week 4 Assembly I have already received two exciting creations from some keen Year 2 students – Thanks Eva and Will!



***What would you make with a paper plate?***

### Wellbeing Day

Establishing and maintaining positive relationships with family, friends, peers and educators in a variety of settings is essential to wellbeing. As a part of our LiveLifeWell@School and pastoral care program, we will be participating in a K-12 Wellbeing Day on Wednesday 27 August. St John's students will participate in a variety of art and craft activities as well as team building and outdoor activities. The students will be grouped across the classes to facilitate peer support and student leadership. A strength of St John's is the interaction between students of all ages. The recent impromptu sandpit competition was a delight to behold, as Kindergarten students worked alongside Year 6 students to create the tallest sandcastle. In the afternoon, we will join with NEGS to enjoy tabloid games. It will be a fantastic day.

### Athletics

It was a beautiful day at Armidale High for the recent PSSA competition. It was with great pride that Miss O'Connell could report that St John's students' behaviour and performances on the day were outstanding. We are so proud of all our athletes. Good luck at IPSHA!



**ST JOHN'S**

### Term Dates to Remember

TERM 3 (10 weeks)

#### Events coming up

- **Kindergarten Orientation days**  
– Contact enrolments for more information.
- **Book Week Concert**  
2pm Friday 22 August
- **Grandparent's Day – 5 September**
- **Spring Fair – 6 September**
- **Camp week**  
Year 5 and Year 6 – 8 to 12 Sept  
Year 3 and Year 4 – 10 to 12 Sept  
Year 1 and Year 2 – 8 Sept  
Kindergarten – 11 Sept  
Transition – throughout Term 3.

NEGS Calendar Link

<http://negs.nsw.edu.au/calendar/>

### Student Achievements

Congratulations to **Hayley Whitehill** and her Highland dancing. It was an amazing experience to see a little bit of Scotland on the NEGS grounds. The sword dancing was a particular highlight. Congratulations to **Bronte Dagg** and her achievements at the Brisbane Royal. Well done. We wish you all the best with the next level of the competition.

### Saturday Sport

A big thank you to all the parents who are supporting St John's students compete on a Saturday morning. I recently enjoyed a sunny Saturday barracking for our soccer, hockey players and netballers. Their sportsmanship and persistence was definitely on show.



## NSW Parents Council

For information on funding to Non-Government Schools, including an press release from the Association of Independent Schools, please go to this website:

<http://www.parentscouncil.nsw.edu.au/Funding.htm>

If parents have a further interest in issues regarding Non-Government Schools, please take the opportunity to sign up for the newsletter.



# Transition Out and About



Being part of a wonderful school with lots of resources means that the children in Transition have so many extra opportunities to learn.

During Term three we have focused on our community. We have interviewed staff including Mr Logan, Shane the gardener, and the office staff to find out how our school operates. We have toured town on the NEGS school bus and have travelled to Uralla by train. On Thursday the Firefighters will visit with their firetruck and we will go to the school hospital to find out about what nurses do. We have also introduced the My Pony and Me program. This program aims to teach the children about caring for horses and to develop confidence around large animals.

## Year 5 & 6 News Mrs Nixon

Year 5 and 6 had the pleasure of welcoming our State Government representative for the Northern Tablelands, Mr Adam Marshall, to St John's on Monday 11th August. He spoke to the students about what government is, the levels of government and the responsibilities of each. He also shared with us why he has chosen this career and the responsibilities of his job. The students gained a thorough understanding of this important part of our country as they

prepare for their excursion to Canberra in Week 9 and were grateful for this opportunity.



## St John's Sport Miss O'Connell

St John's students have been busy this fortnight competing at the PSSA Athletics Carnival. Students showed great sportsmanship and were constantly cheering for their school friends. St John's students competed in many track and field events and had a great time. Well done to all students who attended the carnival.

St John's students will be travelling to IPSHA in two weeks time. We wish them all the very best of luck in Sydney.

St John's have been travelling to the Armidale Gymnastics Centre for fortnightly Sport. We are having a blast learning many new skills.



## Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards in the Week 5 Assembly:

### Personal Best Awards

K - Meshari Almagheeb  
1/2 - Delilah Layton  
3/4 - Arnika Moorfield  
5 - Hannah Rahim  
6 - Priscilla Clonan

### Book Work Award

K - Leontine O'Neill  
1/2 - Aleisha Handebo  
3/4 - Lydia Farrar  
5 - Keeley O'Connor  
6 - Anna Jarvis

### St John's Star

K - Myla Cox  
1/2 - William Tout  
3/4 - Charlotte Claridge  
5 - Isabella Collison  
6 - Katie Hancock

## St John's Music

Mrs Tall

### The Magic Flute is coming to Armidale!

OzOpera is bringing their 2014 regional touring production of 'The Magic Flute' to Armidale and two of our St John's students, Arnika Moorfield and Eloise Gooch, will be performing with the local children's chorus selected from auditions last term. On Saturday 16th August these girls will spend 7 hours with the children's chorus master from Opera Australia applying the finishing touches to the singing, being fitted for their special costumes and learning their onstage directions. Opening night is just 2 weeks away with tickets still available from [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com) The opera will be staged at Lazenby Hall on Thursday 28th August and is very family friendly being sung in English and set in the style and period of the Indiana Jones movie series. We wish Arnika and Eloise all the best for this exciting performance and look forward to seeing them on the stage alongside seasoned professional singers.

On Sunday 27th July the St John's Vocal Ensemble performed a bracket of songs at NERAM. Their performance was very well received by a small but highly appreciative crowd and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them and their parents for giving up part of their weekend time to represent St John's.

Rehearsals are continuing for New England Sings 2014 and those children who have committed to this event travelled to NCOM on Thursday for their second combined rehearsal. The songs are beginning to come together and the children will have access to training CDs this week to assist their learning.

We are all busily preparing for the Grandparents' Day concert which will feature all of the children from St John's in varying capacities including the T-2 choir, 3-6 choir and the Saumarez Strings. This is always a highlight of the musical calendar.

Finally, on Wednesday 27th August, the Music department is holding a Twilight concert for the students of private instrumental teachers. You will be notified if your son or daughter is nominated for this concert in the coming week.



## NEGS & St John's

*invite you to*

## Grandparents' Day

Friday 5th September 2014

Meet your grandchild at 9:15am at the Assembly Hall,  
for commencement of a musical concert at 9.30am.



New England Girl's School  
Uralla Road, Armidale NSW 2350  
T +61 02 6774 8700  
E [reception@negs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:reception@negs.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.negs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.negs.nsw.edu.au)



### **EnviroMentors**

On Tuesday, 12th August, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 participated in EnviroMentors Closing the Loop workshops.

EnviroMentors is NSW's leading mobile school environmental education program. It assists Councils to educate their local children on a wide range of waste, water and sustainability issues.



### *Year 5's Fundraiser for RSPCA*

On Monday 18 August the St John's Junior School combined forces to mix, bake, ice and sprinkle to fight animal cruelty! The year 5 fundraiser meant that parents and students had a huge weekend of baking. Over 200 cupcakes were sold in a bid to donate monies to help the 56,000 animals that the RSPCA rescues, rehabilitates and rehomes each year.

The fundraising effort was a great success with \$370 raised although the poor teachers had a pretty hectic afternoon with sugar fuelled school students bouncing off the walls!



*Left to Right: Grace Cassidy, Cilla Clonan, Bronte Dagg, Eva Knox and Arabella Dagg*

### *Armidale Triathlon Club*

The Armidale Triathlon Club will running their triathlon series on the following dates:

- Race 1 - 12th October 2014, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Race 2 - 9th November 2014, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Schools Challenge - 16th November 2014, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Race 3 - 7th December 2014, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Race 4 - 4th January 2015, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Race 5 - 1st February 2015, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Workplace Challenge - 8th February 2015, 7:30am - 10:30am
- Race 6 - 8th March 2015 - 7:30am - 10:30am

The races will start at 9am.

Any further information please contact the Armidale Triathlon Club on <http://armidaletriathlonclub.org>

Any children interested, could they please contact Miss Jess O'Connell on: [jessica.oconnell@negs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jessica.oconnell@negs.nsw.edu.au)

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF 11-13 YR OLD GIRLS.**

Dear Parents & Carers,

I would like to bring to your attention The National Self Detection Program for Scoliosis (curvature of the spine) for adolescent girls. The Spine Society of Australia recommends that all girls aged between 11-13 yrs should perform the self detection test, and if any concerns see their G.P or Physiotherapist for further assessment.

Three out of every 1000 girls will require active treatment for Scoliosis. In the early stages the condition is mostly asymptomatic, therefore screening adolescent girls is highly recommended as a preventative measure.

The National Self Detection Brochure can be downloaded from [www.scoliosis-australia.org](http://www.scoliosis-australia.org). I would strongly encourage all families to check the website and address this issue. Alternatively hardcopies of the brochure are available from the Health Centre.

If your daughter is a Boarder and you would like her assessed at school, an appointment can be made to see a Physiotherapist through the Health Centre, with the cost charged to your account.

Please contact The Health Centre on 6774 8716 or [health.centre@negs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:health.centre@negs.nsw.edu.au), to request an appointment or if you have any questions.

Regards  
Cathy Beevors and Jodie Jackson  
Registered Nurse, NEGS Health Centre

**Armidale Freedom Climb**

Join us for OM's Inaugural Armidale Freedom Climb to help raise funds, prayer and awareness for women and children caught in slavery and human trafficking.

**Where:** Cathedral Rock in the Cathedral Rock National Park (On the Armidale to Coffs Harbour road, 5 km west of Ebor)

**Starting point:** The Barokee Camping ground / car park

**Time:** 9 am

**Distance:** 5.8 km loop

**Time:** Approx 2.75 hrs, but with time spent at the top, more like 3.5 hrs+

Distance from Armidale to Barokee Camping ground: 80 km (last 8 km gravel)

**Difficulty:** Medium difficulty - the last 300 meters is climbing through big boulders with a chain climb at the end.

**Registration cost:** Adult: \$20 Student: \$15 Family \$35

**Date:** August 30th

If you can't climb you can still be a part of Freedom Climb Armidale by sponsoring a climber, joining the prayer initiative or joining us for the lunch to hear more about the issues and how OM is making a difference.

For more about the climb visit us on **Facebook**

Thanks for your part in making a difference in the lives of women and children caught in trafficking, slavery and exploitation. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me

[www.freedomclimbkinabalu.wordpress.com](http://www.freedomclimbkinabalu.wordpress.com)

*Orders Taken in August*

**tinyme**  
tinyme.com.au

USE GROUP NAME AT CHECKOUT:  
St John's Junior School @ NEGS

We're fundraising with  
**Tinyme!** Support our  
group in 3 easy steps...

1. Shop at [tinyme.com.au](http://tinyme.com.au) during August 2014.
2. Enter our group name at the checkout.
3. Our fundraising group earns 15% commission. Yay!

SHOP AT TINYME AND WE RECEIVE 15% COMMISSION!

**tinyme.com.au** tinyme - the world's coolest & bestest personalised products on the web.™ Yay!

TRUSTED & LOVED BY  
**OVER 200,000**  
CUSTOMERS SINCE 2006

**Daily Fitness 8.45 Monday - Thursday**

As part of our Live Life Well @ School program daily fitness sessions focusing on fundamental movement skills will commence each morning from Monday to Thursday at 8.45am.