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From the Principal

Welcome back
The new semester has started with great reports from our three overseas trips, and an amazing story from the International European Handball stars saw Christopher Hind, Andrew’s brother also become part of the Australian team.

Our Show teams have excelled at Katherine and Darwin shows providing a wonderful showcase of our stock, and displaying the talents of students and staff. Congratulations to all those who have represented Taminmin throughout these events, the reports coming back to us are very positive and a credit to our students and staff.

Jessica Thackeray, Coreena Reeves and Kendal Nuske have been awarded the Australian Vocational Student Prize. In addition Coreena Reeves received the Prime Ministers Award. (more information in enews)

New Phone System
We now have a new phone system enabling all staff and all classrooms to be fully serviced with phones. The new school number is 8983 7000.
Other useful numbers are:
  - Student absentee line – 8983 7227
  - Student reception – 8983 7200

We now have three separate areas where students can make payments and purchase required items such as stationery and canteen vouchers. These are Student Reception, Front Reception and the Book Room. All three areas will be open before school, and at recess and lunch. Student and front receptions remain open after school. During class times students can seek urgent information only at student Reception.

Thanks to the Administration staff for their hard work over the break to ensure that all the necessary changes were undertaken ready to commence Term 3.
Science Fair – Friday 17 August
Parents have been reporting a flurry of scientific activity at home as middle school students prepare their experiments and presentations. Please visit the school at 10am for the official opening. We have the Administrator, Chief and Deputy Executive officers of DET and many industry representatives attending.

The Taminmin Website has also been given a new look at the same address  http://www.taminmin.nt.edu.au/

Show Results
Taminmin Show Team at Katherine Show and Darwin Show 2012.
Over the last 2 weeks The Taminmin Show Team has participated in both the Katherine Show and the Darwin Show. The students demonstrated stock handling skills that they have learnt throughout the year. Congratulations to Greg Owens, Rob Kelly, Andrew Simon, Matt Deveraux and our students who have worked hard to prepare for the shows. The behind the scenes work is massive and the commitment at the shows is extensive. Pictured below is the show team with their prizes from the Darwin Show.
A full report of all prizes won will be in the next edition of e-news, please look out for it.

Paris
Nine year 11 and 12 Visual Art students and their teacher, Adrienne Wade, spent 10 days exploring the art galleries of Paris and Normandy as part of their Art History studies. They visited the Louvre to see the Renaissance works, the Musee D’Orsay to see the Impressionists, Neo Impressionists and Post Impressionists, The Pompidou Centre to see the Cubists to Contemporary works. A visit to Montmarte to see where many of the art works were inspired and painted was followed by a trip to Normandy to see Claude Monet’s house and garden.
During the past year students have covered art movements from the Renaissance to Post Impressionism, so this trip was a culminating event that helped students to process and assimilate some of their studies. Mrs Wade helped students to fundraise for the 6 months prior to the trip with raffles of goods donated from local businesses and MLA’s.

Stage 2 Visual Art students used this opportunity to collect data, photos and drawings of architecture, sculpture and paintings as part of their Visual Study, the externally marked component of their course. The students will be giving a presentation of their experience to friends, family and the school community in the coming weeks. Report by Adrienne Wade

New Zealand

In June, ten year 12 geography students went on an excursion to the North Island of New Zealand. When we stepped off the plane in Auckland, we are hit by the icy weather, but soon acclimatized and began getting excited for the jam-packed ten days to follow. After a good night’s rest our first stop was Kelly Tarlton’s Underwater World where we saw a replica of Scott’s Hut, penguins, huge stingray, eels, octopus and all sorts of creepy sea animals. Then it was off to the breathtaking Coromandel Peninsula for a few days. Whilst there we kayaked through a marine reserve and saw all the old volcanic remnants, went to a hot water beach, made traditional bone carvings and took in the sights. Next stop was the small mining town of Waihi and the business end of the trip.

We toured the Martha Gold Mine, learnt all about their sustainability practices, saw how mining used to be done 100 years ago at the Victoria Battery and hiked the Karangahake Gorge and its old mining tunnels. After Waihi it was onto Rotorua. The students could barely handle the rotten egg smell but they soon got used to it. Whilst there we seeped ourselves in the Maori culture by watching traditional dances and warrior battles, eating food from a hangi and visiting the local thermal villages where they still cook their food in the natural hot springs. We even got to eat corn on the cob straight from a boiling hot spring! Taupo was our last stop and given we were all very tired by this time, we did a few small activities but mostly spent our last day swimming in hot springs and relaxing. On our final day we stopped at the stunning Waitomo Caves to see the glow worms, then it was back to Auckland to catch our flight home. Overall it was a breathtaking yet educational trip that the students thoroughly enjoyed. It was excellent to see them grow and was a valuable excursion. Looking forward to the next one already! Report by Kate Calvert
Singapore
In the last week of term four, Ms Gordon and I took 13 Stage 1 Economics and History students to Singapore for a study tour. Through an expert tour guide and trips to the Australian High Commission, the Port of Singapore, Changi Museum and Chapel and James Cook University, the students learnt about the country’s primary industries, trade and diplomatic links with Australia, the Fall of Singapore in WWII and study options available to them overseas. There were some ‘fun’ activities as well, such as trips to Universal Studios and Singapore Zoo, and a ride on the Singapore Flyer, which is bigger than the London one! The students were fantastic ambassadors for the school and we were both extremely proud of them. Report by Wade Zaglas

European Handball Report
Over the mid-year break three Taminmin students and Taminmin teacher and manager Lucas Haydn proudly represented Australia in Spain and Italy. Although only one game was won all involved learnt massive amounts not only about the sport of Handball but also about themselves. Originally Andrew and Ryan were team members, however Chris was called upon when illness hit the Aussie team.

Andrew Hind, Ryan Davis, Lucas Hayden (Manager) and Chris Hind proudly displaying their Australian playing uniforms

Australian Vocational Student Prize
What wonderful news to hear that 3 of our students have received the prestigious Australian Vocational Student Prize. Congratulations to Kendall Nuske, Coreena Reeves and Jessica Thackeray who will receive a certificate and $2000. Coreena Reeves was the recipient of the Prime Minister’s Award for Skills Excellence in school receiving an additional $2000.

The Australian Vocational Student Prize (AVSP) promotes the value of gaining vocational skills while at school and recognises the important role vocational education plays in preparing students for further training and employment. Each year schools are invited to nominate students who have chosen to pursue a practical training pathway while completing their senior secondary studies and demonstrated outstanding vocational and employability skills while undertaking a Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Schools program or an Australian School-based Apprenticeship.

Up to 500 prizes are awarded each year and winners receive a certificate and $2000. The highest achieving AVSP winners are also eligible for the Prime Minister’s Award for Skills Excellence in School, with an additional $2000 for the winners.

**C4E information evening**

Student information sessions for years 9 and 10 have been held this week with information about the Centre for Excellence in Business and Enterprise. Interested students have been given an information pack including the invitation for the parent information session on **Wednesday 15 August 6-7pm** in block 20. We welcome all interested to attend.

**Road safety**

I would like to reiterate to students who drive to school to do so in a safe manner at all times. Some concerns have recently been raised and reported to us by members of the public of Taminmin students driving in an unsafe manner. This also includes driving at a safe speed in the school grounds and ensuring that cars STOP at the STOP signs when leaving the school gates. Students with vehicles must have filled in a **Student Vehicle Policy** available from senior school reception.

Concern has also been raised about the intersection of Freds Pass Road and the Arnhem Highway. I have taken up the issue with the Department of Education, and I know that other groups have also been contacting other agencies to voice their concerns. This will also be an item at our next School Council meeting.

Life is a valuable and precious gift and I urge everyone to take extra care on our busy roads.

**Special Education Centre** has commenced construction. We anticipate that it will be built ready for commencement for the 2013 school year. The building site has been cordoned off and is strictly out of bounds for everyone except those involved in the building.

**Vouchers**

Just a reminder to send in your supermarket vouchers so we can get some sporting and art equipment.

*Miriam McDonald*

Principal