From the Principal

Thankyou to everyone for your patience over the past weeks, when the weather has interrupted our programs. Some staff and students were unable to attend school last week due to flooding of the Adelaide River flood plains. It was great to see our staff arrive back on Friday afternoon, so we hope to have everyone back on board this week.

We were able to email work to some of these students that we hope was beneficial to keep programs ongoing.

Please remember that Tuesday 27th March is a Pupil Free Day, as staff undertake professional development programs.

Harmony Day celebrations

There was certainly a buzz in the air for our annual Harmony Day celebrations. Middle school students embraced the theme of Everyone belongs: Multicultural Australians engaging in Sport and Recreation. The innovation and creativity was amazing, and the sporting theme enabled students to actively participate in activities from their chosen countries. We have some great photos, and next enews will include a special feature, once photo permissions have been sought. We will list all winners next week also. Thanks to Lucy Murrell for all the work that went into planning this day.

Indonesian Visitors

We welcome our Indonesian Visitors this week from Middle School No 19 in Jakarta. Thanks to Kathy Silburn for organizing this exchange and to the families for hosting the students. The exchange has come about due to Taminmin being a partner school as part of the Asia Education Foundation Bridge Project. We hope that our host families will find this a very rewarding experience.

Parent Teacher meeting this week.

We look forward to meeting parents this week at our parent teacher evenings. Senior school on Wednesday and Middle school on Thursday.

Laptop roll out for year 9 students

Two laptop information sessions will be held on Thursday evening for the year 9 students, one at 6pm and the other at 6.30 pm. Due to the weather two year 9 laptop evenings were cancelled, so we hope that this will suit those who weren’t able to make the meeting last week. Next term we will hold another two evenings for students in middle or senior schools.
New School Council

Congratulations to the following who are on the 2012 Taminmin School Council. Beverley Ratahi Chairman, Joanne Burgess Vice Chairman, Jude Sherley Secretary, Nicky Clark, Sharon McAlear, Tracy Bond, Donna McKell, Cheryl Owens and Bev Heugh. Staff members are Greg Owens and Carmel LeLay. Administration Manager Leanne Lock is Treasurer. The Chairman’s report highlights some of the outstanding work the Council is doing for the school.

Taminmin’s Sporting Stars

Thankyou to parents and students who have kept us updated on fabulous sporting achievements of our students. Please keep sending us this information.

NT Polocrosse National Championships

Taminmin students will be representing the NT at the Australian Polocrosse National Championships to be held in Warwick in April. Taminmin Students who are in the junior mixed team are; Georgina Davies, Tiffi Kirk, Sarah Bowler, Lauren McKenzie, Austin Coleman, In the under 21 mixed team are John Piening, Jake Burgdorf, Rosie Steward-Boon and Jess-Lee Taylor,

These students have been really dedicated and have been training at least twice a week since September as they will be coming up against the best in Australia. We wish them all well for this outstanding achievement, and look forward to some great action photos on their return.

NTIS Rugby League

We also congratulate the following students who are in the NTIS Rugby League, under the coaching of Duncan. They are CaiSen Power, David Jacobson, Calum Gahan, Richard Munchow and Luke Conaghty. These boys not only do their club training but have been training at the NTIS even through the holidays.

Congratulations boys and we look forward to updates on your achievements.

Australian Youth Handball

Taminmin College’s Andrew Hind and Ryan Davis have been selected to play for the Australian Youth Handball team in the Granollers Cup in Granollers (which is close to Barcelona) 27th June - 1st July and then the Interamnia World Cup in Teramo, Italy, from 4th-10th July. The Spanish tournament is played at the handball venue from the 1992 Olympics. At the end of the tournament in Spain, the boys will be competing in the fortieth Interamnia World Cup, which brings together teams from over sixty countries. Australia is sending both an under 18 and under 16 team with the boys from the under 16 also playing in the under 18 team. This will obviously give them a lot more game time during the competition. Both Ryan and Andrew turn 15 in April 2012. The team will be coached by Darwin High Schools Nathaniel Smith, who himself has represented Australia in European Handball. The selection of the two boys in unprecedented, as this is the first time students from the Northern Territory
Woodwork

Woodwork is back for 2012 at Taminmin College and it is better than ever. We are able to put our own features on our work once it is done. The woodwork teacher (My Hynes) is working with us to make the shop a better place to work in. We have already completed a pot stand and have all said how much we enjoyed making it and are eager to start making a pencil case each. We are also given opportunities to work on other assignments we have been given in other classes if we need a model for it. **Anne Ligteringen Year 8**

Taminmin Students awarded Higher Education Scholarship for School Leavers

**Hua Cao**, one of our highest achieving Year 12 graduates in 2011 with an ATAR of 97.85, has commenced undergraduate studies in Actuarial at ANU (Australian National University) in Canberra. Hua is living on campus and adjusting to preparing his own meals and doing his own washing! After completing Year 12, Hua undertook work experience with NT Treasury to find out more about a career as an Actuary. He is also one of 2 Taminmin students who received a 2012 NT Government Higher Education Scholarship for School Leavers which provides $3500 per year of study.

The other recipient, **Raymond Stoddard**, our highest achieving student in 2010, took a Gap Year in 2011 and has recently begun at Griffith University’s Nathan campus in Brisbane, studying Photonics and Nanoscience. Raymond lives on campus with meals provided and is settling into campus life. His advice to current students “find something you’re interested in”. We would like to congratulate both of these past students on receiving an NT Government scholarship and wish them well in their university studies.

**Jenny Eddy, Careers Advisor**

Maths for year 9 students

Year 9 maths teachers are giving an extra maths lesson every Tuesday lunch time in room 8.02 for any year nine student who wants to do homework or get help with any maths questions.

**Melanie Jeremijenko co-ordinator of year nine maths**
Back to School Voucher
The $75.00 Back to School Government Vouchers needs to be fully used before the end of Term 1, Thursday the 5th of April 2012. Anyone who has not fully used it by this time will lose any remaining credit on the voucher.

Congratulations Emma-Lee Francis
Cert 1 Hospitality
Certificate I Hospitality has been celebrating the achievements of Emma-Lee Francis gaining second place, being defeated only by one point, in the Host plus Cook for Your Career Competition; this is the same competition that our own Tayla England won in 2011 for the NT region. Congratulations Emma-Lee.
(see more Hospitality news in the VET report)

2012 NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment of all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students are expected to participate in the testing. They will be assessed in language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), writing, reading and numeracy.

The tests are scheduled for the mornings of Tuesday 15 May, Wednesday 16 May and Thursday 17 May. All schools across Australia must complete the tests on the same days. The times shown below are student working times. Additional time is allocated for instructions.

Students with special needs or who have a temporary injury will be provided with assistance during the tests as specified in the National Protocols. Formal exemptions may be granted for students with disability, or who have recently arrived in Australia and are from a non-English speaking background. Please contact your school principal for more information.

You can get more information on the NAPLAN testing process by:
• contacting your child’s school
• accessing the national NAPLAN website and the My School website
• phoning or accessing your state or territory education authority’s website. det.nt.gov.au/teachers-educators/assessment-reporting/nap or ph: 8944 9245

Miriam McDonald
Principal
VET Report

VET Hospitality

Only seven weeks into the year and students in Certificate II in Hospitality have had various workshops involving precision meat cuts. In first week of school Andrew Simons (Taminmin Farm Tech) demonstrated the skills and techniques required for catching, cooling and filleting barramundi. As we like to promote students with the paddock-to-plate concept, this worked well using fish from the Aqua-culture farm at Taminmin College. This week’s workshop students watched a demonstration from the butchers at Quality Meats, Palmerston, who showed them how to break down a whole lamb into portion cuts. This allowed students to see the practical skills required of butchers before they present the meat to customers. Following this session, students visited Denis Marah, owner/operator of a local business called Just Coffee. Denis provided the opportunity for students to practice their barista techniques by making lattes, mochas and hot chocolates. A big thank you to Andrew (Taminmin), Tony and Harman (Quality Meats) and Denis for showing students your expert knowledge.

Certificate I Hospitality has been celebrating the achievements of Emma-Lee Francis gaining second place, being defeated only by one point, in the Host plus Cook for Your Career Competition; this is the same competition that our own Tayla England won in 2011 for the NT region. Congratulations Emma-Lee.

School Council Chair Report

Thank you to those people who attended the AGM on 8 March 2012. The Chairman is required to outline decisions and actions taken in the previous year and following is an extract from my report.

“Council’s efforts in 2011 were primarily focused on pursuing issues related to inadequate infrastructure and resourcing, which had been outlined in a submission to DET in February 2011. Council vigorously and persistently pursued these issues with DET throughout the year and I am pleased to report the following.

1. Council conducted a detailed inspection of College facilities and compiled a prioritised listing of needs, with OH&S issues rated priority 1. This list included a range of safety issues in the science laboratories; the requirement for additional water bubblers, lockers for year 7 students; pathway from Admin to Middle School; chemical cupboards; and an upgrade to the farm road. These matters have been addressed.
2. DET advanced $3.0M from the 2013/14 budget to construct a Special Education Facility. Tenders have been called and construction is due to commence in the near future.
3. $200 000 Minor New Works funding was allocated in 2011/12 budget.

Council identified further issues as follows.
- Middle School playground permanent shade – completed.
- enclosure of block 20 – under construction.
- upgrade to the canteen and a significant investment in seating, to support the alignment of middle and senior school timetables – interim canteen works under construction and initial commitment of $10,000 for additional seating was doubled to $20,000. The seating will be arriving in the near future, following delays caused by flooding across various states. Funding for new cafe style canteen is currently being negotiated.
- oval upgrade required to address OH&S issues – approval has been received to proceed and works should begin this dry season.
- acoustic modifications in the gym/assembly area – inspection undertaken and awaiting advice on recommendations.
- telephones in classrooms – VOIP technology will be implemented this month.
- increase in staffing allocation required to gain parity with separate middle and senior school campuses - additional Assistant Principal and an additional Well Being Team Counselor have been permanently appointed, and additional funding for administration has been allocated.
- access required to the Palmerston Positive Learning Centre for students with challenging behaviours – now available to Taminmin students.
- realistic funding required for the farm agricultural programs – a separate allocation over and above the base and equity funding has been allocated pending the completion of current investigations into quantifying farm finances.
- review of Resource Schemes to ensure parents could save the cost of purchasing expensive text books whilst ensuring their child has access to an enhanced educational environment and access to the latest digital, online and paper resources – completed.
- review of elective material costs to ensure high cost electives were not draining budgets of core subject areas – completed.
- Digital Device Policy endorsed by Council which will inform the school community about appropriate use of mobile and electronic devices and consequences for inappropriate use.
- pursued additional Special Education Support Program funding after an initial reduction of 50% – increased allocation received.
- pursued outstanding DET reimbursements – significant reimbursements from 2009 and 2010 were received.
- Council requested several actions to increase the security of College grounds, particularly related to ensuring Community Library users are aware that accessing the library does not permit entry to the surrounding school grounds.
- submissions for bus shelters, enclosing of ceramics areas, workshop OH&S issues, science lab upgrades and covered walkways are being prepared.
- request for a financial review identified an unsustainable funding model for Remote VET which resulted in a grant allocation to ensure the College has, and will, receive additional funding to cover the deficit.
- Council was also represented at regular meetings with the DET Chief Executive and senior executives; on the selection panel for recruitment of the Principal; at a World Teacher’s Day function to thank staff for their dedication and tireless efforts in educating and supporting our students; on the Special Education Centre Project Development Group meetings to plan and construct a purpose built Special Education facility; at the handover of the Sunshine Bus from Variety NT; at Middle and Senior School Award evenings and the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony; at COGSO meetings; the Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry into Youth Suicide in the NT where evidence presented focused on the lack of supporting resources available in the rural area and the importance of the College Well Being Team being
sufficiently resourced to implement intervention and prevention programs; and Council accepted an invitation to participate in a Planning Group to undertake an analysis of educational needs for the rural area. Council also sought to increase school community participation and involvement in the College and introduced regular reporting of activity in the e-news.

I would like to thank the Principal and my fellow Councillors for their commitment and contribution to improving educational outcomes over the past 12 months. Whilst recognising there is still much to be done, there has been significant activity over the past 12 months which has laid the foundations to build on in the years ahead.

I would also like to acknowledge the support and assistance given to Council and the College from the Member for Daly Rob Knight MLA, Member for Goyder Kezia Purick MLA and Member for Nelson Gerry Wood MLA, including their regular contributions to Legislative Assembly debates recorded in Hansard which highlighted not only our challenges, but also our significant achievements.”

Regards

Beverley Ratahi

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**News from Taminmin Community Library**

**JustReading1/2Hour** was introduced @ Taminmin Library on Friday 2nd March by “Mandy Griffiths”. Mandy came along to encourage students to enjoy their reading in a quiet and harmonious setting that now can be found each Friday @ 12.30 in the Library. Mandy enjoyed meeting Taminmin students and was happy to have her photograph taken with some of them.

**Harmony Day in the Library**

*Step around the World at Taminmin College on Harmony Day* has books and flags of all the countries being studied by the Middle School classes. Come and have a look.

**Best Reading Response in conjunction with Harmony Day and National Year of Reading**

As well there is a selection of fiction books based around different cultures on display. Students are encouraged to read one of these books and to give their “Best Reading Response” in 50 words or less. There will be some prizes [between $100.00 and $25.00] for the Best of the Best. Entries close end of March. More information is available from display or Library staff.
12 and under trials for ages 10 - 13
- Rugby League 12 & Under Champs
  - Thursday 22 March 4-5pm @ Taminmin College
- Basketball 12 & Under Champs Girls & Boys
  - Tuesday 27 March, 4.30 – 5.30 Palmerston Senior College

12 and under Cluster Days
- Netball
  - Friday 23 March 9.30 – 2.00 Palmerston Netball Courts
- Rugby League
  - Friday 23 March 9.30 – 2.00 Archers Fields, Palmerston
- Basketball
  - Friday 23 March 9.30 – 2.00 Archers Fields, Palmerston

All-ability Athletics
- Saturday 24 March 9 – 12, Marrara Athletics Track

Netball Middle School
Friday 23 March

Rugby League Middle School
Friday 23 March

Basketball Middle and Senior School
Monday 26 March
WHITE EAGLE AND CUSTOM AV PRESENT

ICE CUBE


GARDENS AMPHITHEATRE : APRIL 17 : GATES OPEN 4.00PM

Rural
ATHLETICS
Club

TRACK
& FIELD

FRED'S PASS OVAL

from 5 years old to 99 years ++

Competition:
Saturday mornings
8.15am - 11.00am

Practice/training:
Under 10yrs Monday 5.30-6.30pm
Over 10yrs Wed & Fri 5.30-6.30pm

Season Start - Sign up and Come and Try and Practice:
1st Contact
Sat 14th April 2012
1st Competition Meet
Sat 21st April 2012

Contact:
ruralath2009@gmail.com or
Cameron on 0402 859 906