From the Principal

Welcome Back
Welcome back to our students and staff for 2012. A special welcome to those who are commencing year 7 at Taminmin this year and others who are new to the school. It was a very smooth and wet start, and we commend students on their responsible behavior on the first day, as we had very few wet bodies with the torrential rain.

To add with the exciting start three Berry Springs buses arrived back at school with about 60 students on board. Many thanks to our staff, and parents who assisted to ensure everyone was picked up and were safe. Great efforts from you all.

Year 12 Results 2011
Great celebrations with outstanding results from our year 12 2011 class. David Ung was the Dux of the School with an ATAR of 99. David was in the top 20 students in the NT. Congratulations to David, as he starts the new year at Monash University.

7 students received at ATAR above 90. These were David Ung, Hua Cao, Josie Short, Ashlee Scarff, Megan Cunningham, BJ Byrnes and Ray Nguyen. 10 students received at ATAR above 80. Overall we achieved more A and B grades than C, D or Es. An outstanding effort! Congratulations to our hard working students and staff, and of course the families who supported them throughout the year. Many of these students have been accepted into their first choice University courses. We will update you during the year with the pathways of some of our 2011 graduates.

The diversity of our programs at Taminmin ensures success for students with a wide range of skills and aspirations, and we are very proud of the great outcomes we are achieving.

Read about our newest additions to the Taminmin farm in the farm report.
New Staff
We welcome on board this year the following new staff members:

- Lesley Bannan, Assistant Principal senior school
- John Mackay, senior school year 11 coordinator
- Anne-Marie Hurtgen, senior school art and ICT
- Steve Rigney, senior school music and English
- Merryn Coughlan, school counselor
- Peta Richards, health promoting school nurse
- Lisa Williams, senior school maths (short term)
- Amos Olley, special needs support
- Kelly Edney, middle school health and physical education
- Judith Hagemen, middle school maths and science
- Taryn Hicks, middle school English and sose
- David Hynes, middle school technical studies and maths
- Julene Niddrie, middle school health and physical education
- Geraldine Noonan, middle school maths and science
- Natasha Ryan, middle school English and sose
- Christine Shaw, middle school English and sose
- Linda Kitchen, middle school personal assistant
- Trish Berry, VET business trainer
- Kevin Bleus, VET engineering trainer

In middle school reception this term are Tamra Rudge 8988 0002 and Linda Kitchen 8988 0026.

In senior school reception are Kelly Hirt 8988 0007, and Susan Burgess 89880003.

2012 Northern Territory Young Achiever Awards
Congratulations to David Ung who has been selected as one of ten semi-finalist’s in the Science and Engineering Award.

Sad end to the year
Our year was brought to a very sad end with the tragic death of Fern Phan during the last week of term. Our thoughts are still very much with her family and friends.

Australia Day Awards
Taminmin staff and students were honoured at the Fred’s Pass Australia Day ceremony this year.
Our congratulations to:

- Zoe Owens, Young Citizen of the Year 2012.
- Jack Merrigan, Student Citizen Award.
- Greg Owens (with his wife Cheryl), Joint Citizen of the Year Award 2012.

School photos
Dates for school photos are Tuesday 21 February and Wednesday 22 February. Information will be distributed in the next couple of weeks.
School Improvements

The long anticipated cover for our playground was built during the Christmas break. This will enable the playground to be used throughout the year, giving students a cooler and shaded area to play in.

The end of the senior school block is being covered in to enable students in year 12 to have a common room. Works are progressing on schedule.

The canteen will be upgraded during term 1 to allow a more efficient service to students.

The Taminmin website is being renewed and should be operational during term 1.

Laptop and iPad Program

The schedule for this program will be available during the next two weeks, as we prepare our new machines for student use. Parents will be invited to attend information evenings regarding these programs.

Parent feedback

We value the feedback of our parents as we plan for 2012. Please complete the short survey. A link is provided.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/taminmincollegeparentsurvey

Miriam McDonald
Principal

Farm News February 2012

The 2012 Breeding season of Taminmin’s Brahman Stud is off to a good start with three new calves being born to our resident sire “Impression”. So far we have one little red bull calf, and two very nice little heifers that will hopefully make it to a great show quality and future breeding stock for the College. The College is now expecting five more cows to calve over the following days.

The Cert III Agriculture program has also started the year with great numbers as Year 11 students who were apart of the Work Ready Program were accepted into the course for the first time. With this link between these two programs, the Cert III Agriculture Program is now at full strength which will allow students a wider range of courses and opportunities throughout the year.

In 2011 Cert III Agriculture students excelled at all three of our Rural shows, receiving many personal awards and livestock prizes for the season. This year students will have the same opportunities to set further bench marks at our shows. The only difference will be Taminmin now will have a full show team of their own Brahman stock, demonstrating the progress of the programs and the College’s Stud
School Council Chair Report

On behalf of Council, I extend a very warm welcome to students, families and teachers. Council actively encourages the involvement of parents in their children’s education, as research indicates that increased parental involvement in school has a positive impact on student achievement. Particular areas where parents have a responsibility and enormous control over a child’s success in school are in ensuring a good diet, appropriate television/technology usage and ensuring sufficient sleep (middle school students need about 9-10 hours). These things impact significantly on educational outcomes, yet teachers have no control over them and have to deal with the negative effects every day in their classrooms.

Council and the Principal are continually identifying avenues for parent participation, and I hope to see many of you at a wide range of events throughout 2012. One of the very important roles of the Chairman is to ensure our school community is informed of issues, and this is assisted by regular contributions to the e-news - I encourage you all to read it. Council also holds 8 meetings a year and everyone is welcome to attend these meetings, to gain a broader knowledge of the issues Council is pursuing to enhance educational outcomes. The AGM will be held in March and will be notified in the e-news – it would be wonderful to see an increase in parents prepared to volunteer a small amount of their time this year to support our College.

If you have any queries, you are welcome to contact me by mobile 0413522606 after 3 pm or email theratahis@bigpond.com

Beverley Ratahi
Chairman

Community Notices

Litchfield Bears Junior Rugby League Sign On Day

The Litchfield bears are looking for new and old players to play rugby league in 2012. Both boys and girls are welcome with grades starting from u6’s- seniors.

When: Saturday 11th February 2012

Where: Freds Pass Oval

Time: 11am- 2pm

Club Contact: Leanne Barnes

(m) 0407714303

(e) lbarnes8@bigpond.com