Dear parents,

Term 3 already and 2020 continues to be one of the strangest of all my years working as a teacher. Our staff are continuing to show great resilience and adapt to the many changes which continue to come our way. For several of our teachers (Industrial Technology, D & T, Visual Arts, Textiles) this term will see them become HSC markers for the first time – as the marking of practical tasks is delegated by NESA to Year 12 teachers instead of external markers. Our teachers have embraced this extra responsibility professionally and will diligently undertake the required professional learning to mark the students’ work according to NESA guidelines.

Curriculum

Term 3 is always a very busy term for Year 12. They have major practical works in subjects such as Design and Technology and Visual Arts to complete, major written works for Society and Culture and Extension subjects and of course trial HSC exams in weeks 5 and 6. They are approaching each hurdle with determination. Many of them have also begun serious planning around future pathways and are seeking wise counsel from Head Teacher Senior Studies Ms Dionne Court as they complete various online university applications. Year 11 are working towards completion of their Year 11 studies, which culminates in exams during weeks 9 and 10 of this term.

Year 10 are also busy - making choices about subjects to study during the senior years. Every year 10 student will have an individual interview this coming Thursday to make sure the subjects they have chosen allow them to fulfil career aspirations.
Excursions
It was exciting that we were actually able to run two Science excursions last week – the first excursions to depart in a very long time. Thank you to Ms Rebecca Bailey and Mr Travis Mackay who added extra COVID guidelines to their preparations. If excursions require extended time on a bus we are temperature checking students before they board. If this is going to occur it will be communicated to you in the permission note. We are not able to organise any overnight excursions at this stage, which means the Year 11 Heron Island trip is on hold. We hope this excursion, so much a part of Coffs Harbour High culture, will still run in term 4.

Challenges
We face some planning challenges. Our COVID guidelines do not allow us to have parents present for assemblies in the hall and in any case assemblies can only last for 15 minutes. We will have to find some imaginative way to celebrate the graduation of Year 12. A team of teachers will work in consultation with Year 12 to see what will work best. Similarly, we are looking at how we can organise differently the transition of Year 6 students. Our 6 into 7 transition team consists of Deputy Principal Ms Kath Steward, Head Teacher Wellbeing Ms Kate Pullinger, Head Teacher Learning Support Ms Mel Garrels and our just announced Year 7 Adviser for 2021 Ms Fiona Lugnan.

Staffing
Congratulations to Mr Kai Lawson for completing his proficient teacher accreditation – always a milestone to be celebrated. Great news that Mr Michael Dierkx, who has been with us on loan from Tumut HS, obtained permanency at our school during the last vacation. See profile later in newsletter. And a warm welcome to Ms Madi Fogarty who has started as our School Wellbeing Support Officer (youth worker). Ms Sheree Burnham, Head Teacher HSIE, has been seconded as Deputy Principal at Gloucester High School for the remainder of 2020. She will be outstanding in this role.

School planning
During term 3 all Department of Education schools are required to undertake a situational analysis following a specified format and looking at prescribed areas in preparation for writing a new four-year Strategic Improvement Plan. The planning cycle is increasing from three to four years and will run from 2021-2025. Later in the term we will be surveying parents for input into our planning.

Patti Kearns
PRINCIPAL
Hello to the staff, parents and caregivers of the students of Coffs Harbour High School.

Due to Government regulations and restrictions the August P&C meeting was cancelled. We will be advised about the September meeting in due course.

Behind the scenes our President, Treasurer and VP are continuing to manage the Canteen and the school keeps them advised about any matters that need parental input.

Everything is going smoothly in the canteen and we are all indebted to Michelle and the capable canteen staff for the way they serve our children.

We will look forward to being able to meet again and fully engage in school activities on-site. Until then - our thanks to staff for doing a tremendous job.

Caitlin Mackie
PUBLICITY OFFICER
## IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
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<tr>
<td>13th – 14th August</td>
<td>Year 10 to 11 Subject Interviews</td>
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<td>19th – 28th August</td>
<td>Year 12 HSC Trial Exams</td>
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<td>14th – 22nd September</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams</td>
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<td>24th September</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation (details to be advised at a later date)</td>
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<td>20th Oct - 11th November</td>
<td>HSC Exams</td>
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<td>9th – 13th November</td>
<td>Heron Island (details to be advised at a later date)</td>
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<td>1st December</td>
<td>Year 7 2021 Orientation Day (details to be advised at a later date)</td>
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<td>11th December</td>
<td>Whole School Final Assembly 11am (details to be advised at a later date)</td>
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<td>14th – 15th December</td>
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*Details to be advised at a later date.*

*Current COVID restrictions mean there are no overnight excursions, no parents at assemblies, no indoor assemblies longer than 15 minutes.*
HSIE JETTY STRIP DEVELOPMENT YOUTH FORUM

Coffs Harbour High School is a place where students are actively engaged in their local community. This was the case on the 10th of June when some Junior SRC students accompanied by two of our Senior students attended a presentation by Sarah Parbery, Planner/Urban Designer with the Coffs Harbour City Council. The presentation focused on the upcoming Coffs Jetty Strip Structure Plan. Students were fortunate to view the 3D Flythrough of the plans and ask Sarah any clarification questions they had. Mr Hardie-Porter accompanied students to the Jetty Strip, where they conducted a site observation. Students were then supported to complete a draft submission to the Coffs Harbour City Council which highlighted their opinions about the plans from a student’s perspective. They considered a variety of aspects including pedestrian safety, accessibility, environmental impacts and impacts on the general public during proposed works.

The HSIE faculty were very impressed by the knowledgeable questions and issues raised by students. They all represented the school in a positive way. Mr. Hardie-Porter appreciates their efforts in providing insights for the local community and we were also excited to see the wonderful contribution ex CHHS student Sarah Parbery is making to our community.

Left to Right: Mr. Hardie-Porter, Sarah Parbery, Hayden Cross, Tali Rea, Eve Tedeschi, Miranda Holmes and Jake Shaw.
Our Multicultural School Community

Aboriginal, Multicultural And Anti-Racism education were all in focus during staff professional development, with the collaboration of students and staff in creating the “What do you want me to know” course delivered by one of our languages teachers David Dun, EAL/D teacher Deanne Ion, our Aboriginal Education Assistant Mervyn Bolt and our ARCOs Rebecca Bailey and Ray Pobjoy.

This workshop has shown how important all students can be in making our school community work together well. In particular our Speaking Out Against Racism (SOAR) group used the evening event to share their experiences and understanding of how important culture is in their lives.

Some highlights include Asiya Amida speaking in person at the training session on Tuesday evening, Than Zin Oo making a brilliant video contribution to the same workshop and Stephanie Okello’s contribution to the History teaching program on the Trans Atlantic slave trade. We would like to also thank Riley Elks, Emilee Bayed, Maraiyde Dougan, Caprice Harrison, Isaiha Kelly, Musa Yahya, Ceeanna Weldon and Lily Franklin for their insights shared on video.

At Coffs Harbour High School, Racism really does stop with all of us!

Yr9 student Than Zin Oo

Raymond Pobjoy
HSIE/ANTI-RACISM TEACHER
Library News

We had an interesting and informative author zoom meeting with Heather Morris on Wednesday 29th July. Heather wrote “The Tattooist of Auschwitz”, “Cilka’s Journey” and very recently “Stories of Hope”. Some of our year 10 cohort are studying “The Tattooist of Auschwitz” this term with Mr Kai Lawson and were able to send through some pre-arranged questions for her to address with us.

Heather explained how she began the writing process as a screen play, to revise this later into novel format. She also shared how her “interview process” with the main character became more of an ongoing friendship and how, over a period of years, she was able to learn so much about his experiences in the concentration camp, including only select memories in the novel.

This experience is one lovely example of how community is gathering together to support each other through Covid19. Under normal circumstances, Heather would have been fully booked out, touring and promoting a new book “Stories of Hope” but due to Victorian lockdowns, her calendar was open and she kindly shared her time with us for free! I’ve personally read both of her earlier books and would highly recommend them to the school community.

Our students enjoying Heather’s conversations with them via zoom.

Heather’s newest book:

Library

The books that Heather spoke about with us.

Our students enjoying Heather’s conversations with them via zoom.
We also had some fun in the Library with Ms Hawley’s yr 7 English class making poems using book titles! Have a look at some of the great poems we made.

Amanda Greenham
TEACHER LIBRARIAN
Entries are now open for the Young Archie Competition

Your students are invited to create a portrait of someone special for entry into the Young Archie competition, now open in Coffs Harbour. An opportunity not to be missed for any budding artist aged 5 to 18 years. Also a fantastic experience for your classroom!

Great prizes are on offer for winners in each age category. Plus the chance to have their work of art exhibited at Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, right alongside the famous finalists from the 2019 Archibald Prize! An inspiring showcase of Australian culture today, with portraits of celebrities, artists, politicians and sporting heroes.

Entries close 20 November and the exhibition runs from 22 January to 6 March 2021.

Here’s how you can help your students be involved:

1. **Share** the entry form with all the competition details for students and parents. Entries close 20 November 2020.

2. **Display** our Young Archie poster, share via your newsletter and social media.

3. **Create** portraits in your classroom. A stimulating learning experience for any student and allows those interested to enter their work into the competition.

4. **Engage** your class with portrait activities in the free online education kit (K to 12), expertly developed by the Art Gallery of NSW, home of the Archibald Prize.

5. **Arrange a Tour for 2021**…

Next year your class can experience Australia’s most famous art prize when the 2019 Archibald Prize exhibition comes to Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery January 22 to March 6! Your students will gain unique insights to the works from our knowledgeable guides who can answer questions including ‘What was the artist trying to say?’. Your class can also follow a children’s trail through the exhibition with fun learning activities along the way. To arrange your school tour, simply return our Expression of Interest Form in advance.
NESA approved calculators 2020/2021

With the trial HSC exams and Year 11 Yearly exam quickly approaching please check that your calculator is on the list below. NESA have updated the list of approved calculators for the HSC this year. If you need a calculator the school canteen sells the ABACUS SX-II MATRIX n for $25. If there are any queries please talk to your Mathematics teacher or Ms Kellahan in the Mathematics Staffroom.

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Angela Kellahan
HEAD TEACHER MATHEMATICS
Australian Mathematics Competition

The Australian Mathematics Competition has taken place over the last week at Coffs Harbour High School. Students from Year 7 to 10 represented Coffs Harbour High with Year 7 being the largest group. Due to the record number of participants it was held in two sessions. Year 9 and 10 on the 30th July and Year 7 and 8 on the 3rd August. We now await the results.
Welcome to Michael Dierkx

My family and I have settled in well in Coffs Harbour and I am very pleased to now be a permanent staff member of Coffs Harbour High School.

I grew up in Newcastle and love playing and watching sports like cricket, footy, table tennis, handball and squash. I was a Civil Engineer for several years before training to become a teacher. I taught in Newcastle for two years before getting a posting in the country at Tumut High (down in the Snowy Mountains near Wagga and Gundagai). My wife and I raised our 4 children there and still have family and friends in the area and enjoy going back to visit when we can.

I taught at Tumut High for 19 years, teaching all levels of Mathematics from Year 7 to 12, including Mathematics Extension. During that time I built a strong respect with students, staff and parents in the community. I also ran the chess club, which is great for problem solving and social interaction. This year I have implemented chess here at Coffs Harbour High School but it has been interrupted by COVID-19. I plan to enter some other competitions when possible, or even online chess.

My family and I love all the wonderful things Coffs Harbour has to offer, with its great beaches, scenery and nature walks. My wife and I have visited Coffs Harbour many times over the years, seeing the Big Banana, wharf and jetty, etc. We even swam with the dolphins (Zippy, Bucky and Calamity) on our honeymoon, nearly 23 years ago!
Science Newsletter – August
The Science Faculty is humming with activity, still offering various opportunities for students to undertake. Outlined below are just some of the exciting activities we have been running.

Year 10 Self Select Science – University of Sydney
Unearthing Science Program
Year 10 Self Select Science participated in another video conference on Thursday 30th July with the University of Sydney. Students in this class are participating in the “Unearthing Science” program, run by the university. The idea of the program is to introduce rural and regional students to the concept of independent scientific investigation, with a focus on environmental and ecological research. Students are encouraged to think critically and curiously about the natural world through science.

Students are tasked with designing and carrying out a research project, collecting data from their own local environment or community, and presenting their work in a variety of communication pathways, including social media. They will do this through the help of ‘portable labs', packed with scientific equipment which have been sent to them to help guide and facilitate their investigations.
Support is being provided through guides on how to design good scientific experiments, plus access to Gabriel Ha Nguyen, the University Science Communication Officer, and Dr Rowena Chong, who has just finished her PhD there.

L-R: Sam Woolford, Isaac Clarke, Charlie Geddes, Sharlah Taylor, Jack Sheehan, Seated: Hayley Kitching
Year 11 Biology – Rock Platform Depth Study Field Trip
Year 11 Biology ventured to the rock platform at Woolgoolga on Thursday 30th July to conduct investigations towards their Depth Study. Students collected data on both biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) data with an eye towards creating a thorough scientific report on a hypothesis of their choice. The teachers accompanying the field trip were very pleased with the enthusiasm of students on the day, and Travis Mackay, Rebecca Bailey, Erin Richardson, and practicum-teacher Damian Arnold would like to thank them. Damian is working with Erin and the Science faculty for six weeks, and we are very pleased to have him.
Year 11 Marine Studies – Boat Smart Program

Year 11 Marine Studies attended a practical boating activity in Port Macquarie on Wednesday 29th July with Rebecca Bailey and Sue Rogers. Students complete the “Boat Smart Program”, the practical component of the NSW boat licence, which is the theory unit they are currently studying this term. It was conducted with the NSW Marine Teachers Association and Maritime Services. Students had to launch and retrieve a boat from a trailer, steer a straight course, as well as drive and tie up alongside a wharf. They also participated in workshops on engine operation, rope tying, rowing a rescue dinghy, types of life jackets, and throwing anchors. All students passed all content and activities, and enjoyed the day.

Opposite: Ryley Koelmeyer YR11 rowing boat
Below LHS: Sana Ido YR11 knot tying
Below RHS: Boating Instructor
Agriculture – Lamb Season!
The farm has recently celebrated the arrival of two lambs, on the same day. Their mothers are caring for them well, and students have enjoyed the opportunity to interact with these beautiful animals. Since returning from learning at home, students have begun to harvest some pleasing produce thanks to the recent rains, and plots are growing well.
SCIENCE FACULTY

Chloe Mary Yr9

Ella Schaffer YR9

Harper Kemp YR9

Jorja Thomas YR9
Faculty Professional Learning
The Science Faculty has recently acquired a gel electrophoresis kit. The Biology teachers in particular are very excited about this, but the whole faculty participated in professional development on the night of Tuesday 3rd August to upskill themselves in the utilisation of this new apparatus. **Gel electrophoresis** is a technique used to separate DNA fragments (or other macromolecules, such as RNA and proteins) based on their size and charge. Electrophoresis involves running a current through a gel containing the molecules of interest. Based on their size and charge, the molecules will travel through the gel in different directions or at different speeds, allowing them to be separated from one another.

*Staff members*
Charie King and Travis Mackay

*Science Faculty*
Amanda Joyce
SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE & MARINE STUDIES TEACHER
PARENT INFORMATION

SKILLS AND THRILLS DIGITAL PARENTS SHOWCASE
INFORMATION SHEET

AIM:
To help parents assist their children in making informed decisions surrounding post school pathways, and to better understand industry trends and the future of work.

TARGET AUDIENCE:
Parents of high school aged children (most beneficial for years 7-11).

ABOUT:
The Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase is an engaging and informative 20 minute video created to highlight Vocational Education and Training (VET) and the success stories that emanate from VET pathways. The Digital Parents Showcase will help parents better understand vocational pathways, including apprenticeships/traineeships and school-based apprenticeships/traineeships, and give parents the knowledge they need to help their children make informed career choices post high school.

This digital offering has been adapted from our live event delivery style to continue to engage and support parents in the wake of covid-19 restrictions.

Supporting this video, SkillsOne will be holding a live streamed Q&A panel discussion with industry professionals and Department representatives where we will address parents’ pre-submitted questions. Panel discussion to be held on the evening of August 26 2020.

TOPICS COVERED:
Through the video parents will learn about the following:

- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- TAFE/ Private Training Providers
- Industry trends
- Covid-19 impacts on industry
- Funding options available (Smart and Skilled)
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options: School-delivered VET, SBATs and EVET
- Where to find information
- Resources and support services

BENEFITS:
Parents are a driving force in their child’s life and are often looked to for both guidance and career advice. The Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase is designed to provide parents with the knowledge and understanding they need to assist their children make informed choices.

Importantly, at the present time there is little access to traditional careers information (due to covid-19 restrictions) in the form of careers expos, taster days and in presentations. SkillsOne in acknowledging this difficult time, has created a digital offering that parents can access from the comfort of their own homes to ensure they do not miss out on this crucial information.
PARENT INFORMATION

PRESENTERS:

This video was created by SkillsOne and supported by the NSW Department of Education. For over 12 years SkillsOne has been working with industry, educators, government and TAFE to engage and promote the extensive career opportunities and pathways in both traditional trades and emerging skill areas in the vocational sector. For more information- https://www.skillsone.com.au/

The host for the video content is creative talent Rachael Beck, well known actor and singer-https://www.rachaelbeck.com.au/

HOW PARENTS CAN ACCESS THE CONTENT:

- Content will only be available for a four week period from August 10 to September 4 2020. Content cannot be downloaded or saved, so must be watched during this time.
- To participate, parents need to pre-register their interest to receive viewing information and updates at https://www.skillsone.com.au/
- Content will be free for parents
- Live Q&A Panel discussion on August 26 (evening) on SkillsOne Facebook
- Parents can pre-submit any questions to do with careers/ industry to info@skillsone.com.au

SCHOOL SUPPORT REQUESTED:

SkillsOne would like to request support from your school to share the message of this free digital offering for parents. How you can assist:

- Promote the video link and Facebook live event to your parent cohort by sharing the marking collateral SkillsOne has provided on your school website, newsletter, social media and other engagement tools.
- Share information with parents of students who are interest in apprenticeships/ traineeships and schools based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBATs).

For further information, SkillsOne Contacts:

Skills and Thrills Event Assistant
Georgia Turner- georgia.turner@skillsone.com.au or 0401 318 814

Skills and Thrills Executive Project Manager:
Kirstin Casey- kirstin.casey@skillsone.com.au or 0420 652 558
SKILLS AND THRILLS DIGITAL PARENTS SHOWCASE

PARAGRAPH FOR SCHOOLS

The Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase is an engaging and informative 20 minute video created to highlight Vocational Education and Training (VET) and the success stories that emanate from VET pathways. The Digital Parents Showcase will help parents better understand vocational pathways, including apprenticeships/traineeships and school-based apprenticeships/traineeships, and gives parents the knowledge they need to help their children make informed career choices post high school.

SkillsOne has created a free video that parents can access to learn about the following;

- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
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- Industry trends
- Covid-19 impacts on industry
- Funding options available (Smart and Skilled)
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options: School -delivered VET, SBATs and EVET
- Where to find information
- Resources and support services

Supporting this video, SkillsOne will be holding a live streamed Q&A panel discussion on the SkillsOne Facebook page on **August 26 2020**. Industry and education professionals will be available to answer parents’ pre-submitted questions.

HOW PARENTS CAN ACCESS THE CONTENT:

- Content will **only** be available for a **four week period from August 10 to September 4 2020**. Content cannot be downloaded or saved, so must be watched during this time.
- To participate, parents need to pre-register their interest to receive viewing information and updates at [https://www.skillsone.com.au/](https://www.skillsone.com.au/)
- Content will be **free** for parents
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- Parents can pre-submit any questions to do with careers/ industry to info@skillsone.com.au
PARENT INFORMATION

DIGITAL PARENTS SHOWCASE

CONTENT FOR PARENTS TO HELP SUPPORT YOUR CHILD MAKE INFORMED CAREER CHOICES!

A FREE VIDEO NOT TO BE MISSED!

WHAT: Free Digital Parent Showcase Video (20 minutes- access anytime via online link)
WHEN: Available online from August 10- September 04 2020 only
PRE REGISTER FOR VIEWING INFORMATION:
www.skillsone.com.au

TOPICS COVERED

• Industry trends/ jobs of the future
• Covid-19 impacts on industry
• Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options: School -delivered VET, SBATs and EVET
• Apprenticeships /Traineeships
• TAFE / Private Training Providers
SKILLS AND THRILLS
DIGITAL PARENTS SHOWCASE

An online video presentation for parents, helping them to support their children in making informed career decisions.

ACCESS INFORMATION

WHAT:
1) Free Digital Parent Showcase (20 minute video, access anytime via online link)
2) Live Q&A panel discussion for parents

WHEN:
1) Video link available online from August 10-September 04 2020 only
2) Live Q&A panel discussion for parents on Wednesday 26 August (SkillsOne Facebook)

WHO: Parents of students in years 7-11

HOW: Pre register for viewing information on www.skillsone.com.au

ABOUT

SkillsOne supported by the NSW Department of Education has created a 20 minute online showcase for parents. The showcase is designed to help parents better understand Vocational Education and Training (VET), including apprenticeships/traineeships and school based apprenticeships/traineeships (SBATs).

The video presentation and supporting Facebook live Q&A panel discussion will address the future of work taking into consideration industry trends and the impacts of Covid-19 and will provide parents with an understanding of resources and services they can utilise to assist their children with career planning. This 20 minute video can be accessed online but will only be available from August 10-September 04. Parents should ensure they pre register to stay informed at www.skillsone.com.au.

TOPICS COVERED

- Industry trends/jobs of the future
- Covid-19 impacts on industry
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options: School delivered VET, SBATs and EVET
- Apprenticeships / Traineeships
- TAFE / Private Training Providers
- Funding options available (Smart and Skilled)
- Useful resources and services
Safe School Zone Compliance

Coffs Harbour City Council have recommenced the application of parking penalties from the start of school Term 3 as part of the Safe School Zone Compliance program. The parking patrols are in response to increased safety issues reported to authorities.

For more information, please access the links below:

