



NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

INNOVATION, EXCELLENCE, OPPORTUNITIES & SUCCESS

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER, 2016

TERM 4 WEEK 10

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DATE/EVENTS

UP COMING DATES

Homework Centre Mondays 3.30pm to 5.00pm Weeks A & B and Thursdays Week A ONLY

Senior Study Evening 7.00pm to 9.00pm Wednesdays

Tuesday 13th December to Saturday 17th December - Blue Mountains Expedition

Friday 16th December - Last Day of school

Monday 6th February 2017 - Years 7, 11 and 12 return to school

Tuesday 7th February 2017 - All students return to school

Wednesday 15th February 2017 to Friday 17th February 2017 - Burrendong Sport & Recreation Excursion Years 7 & Year 10 Peer Support Leaders

Monday 20th February 2017 - Swimming Carnival

NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENTATION NIGHT 2016



Pictured left is Luke Wye **DUX** of Nyngan High School for 2015 with Mr Michael Gibson, Principal.

Pictured Below: **Students of The Year for 2016**

from L to R:

Year 7 Fallon McClelland

Year 8 Saranna Fisk

Year 9 Abbey Buchanan

Year 10 Chloe Vernon

* *Missing from photo*

Year 11 Kiara Hawley Teale

Year 12 Emerson Alderson



Principals Report

Dear School Community,

We are finally at the end of Term 4 and what a year it's been! A quick year, that's for sure but a most enjoyable one. In this first year here, I know that I have tried to take every opportunity I could to experience "Nyngan" and what is on offer. And I have enjoyed those opportunities to experience quite a bit of our great community and try to grow as a person.

And in a similar light, I hope that when each student and family looks back on their year, it's important to reflect on what opportunities you grabbed with both hands and what things you passed up or maybe gave up on. I hope you took some great opportunities and had a chance to grow as a person or take on a new challenge and succeed at something you previously maybe feared.

In 2016 I have witnessed many highlights which make me proud to be associated with Nyngan High School. We have such a diverse school which shows strength in all areas: academia, sport, culture, creative and performing arts, career development, community engagement and leadership.

Some of these highlights include:

- ◆ The swimming and athletics carnivals- seeing our enthusiastic students participating to the absolute best of their abilities.
- ◆ Attendance and leadership from school members at important community events such as ANZAC day, Harmony Day, NAIDOC Week, Nyngan Show, Ag expo, White Ribbon Day and the Christmas markets.
- ◆ Our SRC working tirelessly to run school events like Positive Ed games, School Discos, celebration BBQ's and regularly visiting the residents at the Mick Glennie hostel.
- ◆ The 'Arts In The Dark' evening which showcased our creative and performing arts programs and our passion for performing.
- ◆ Watching our school and community get behind Matty Bolam and his family.
- ◆ Seeing our kids have opportunities to grow through programs like Duke of Ed, Didg group, Sista Speak, Aboriginal dance and representative sport.
- ◆ The Tongling exchange and the whole experience of working with our Shire Council and community, to take 6 kids on the trip of a lifetime, experiencing a totally different culture and educational setting.

Reminder for the Start of 2017

Whilst our school staff return to duty on Friday 3rd February, 2017, students commence the following week:

Years 7, 11 and 12 students return on Monday 6th February

Years 8,9 and 10 students will return on Tuesday 7th February

An SMS and Skoolbag reminder will be sent out early next year.

School & Community Partners

I would like to thank our two major partner associations for their ongoing support of our school and a continued commitment to helping provide an environment which supports kids at all times.

The **Nyngan High School Parents & Citizens Association**, led by Mrs Stephanie Waterhouse, has been a very welcoming and hard working group this year. They have again taken up the challenge to fundraise on behalf of our school and provide financial support and moral guidance for school decisions. Our P&C is a vital cog in the wheel as our school moves forward to provide a better educational and learning environment for all students. I would like to encourage new parents and long-serving parents of Nyngan High School, to join our P&C to provide their voice in our school.



Similarly the **Nyngan Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group**, led by Mrs Marea Johnson, has been a strong group who continually advocate for the best interest of our Aboriginal students, which is also beneficial for all students. We have enjoyed a forthright relationship this year and provided a wonderful array of cultural experiences for our students and many opportunities for our community to embrace Aboriginal culture in a significant way. Our Nyngan AECG is a respected team member of the school community and in recent conversations with Marea I know our relationship will become stronger again. I encourage all school community members to come along and get involved with the AECG to help provide great opportunities and education for our kids.

Farewell to Staff

As with every school year, we farewelled some staff members this year who are moving onto new adventures in many ways. We wish each of them every success and a peaceful life in their new roles or retirement.

- ◆ Earlier this year we farewelled Mr Greg Corby who retired from full-time teaching after 34 years in the service
- ◆ Mr Peter Charters has taken a transfer to Broken Hill High School as a TAS teacher. Mr Charters has been an innovative teacher who loves to challenge the students to be creative in their industrial arts and thoughtful in the design process.
- ◆ Ms Heather McVey is pursuing a career in the Defence Force as a Teacher in the Army. A move like this takes great courage and ambition and we know that Ms McVey has these attributes and will succeed in her future endeavours.
- ◆ Mrs Melanie Murray has taken a transfer to Toormina High School and will be enjoying the sunny north coast as of next year. Mrs Murray has served Nyngan High as the Deputy Principal for the past four years and ably led the school on a daily basis.
- ◆ Mrs Leonie Montgomery retires at the end of this year. Mrs Mont has been around long enough to have taught almost every Nynganite who works at our school. She is a woman of strength, a wonderful educator and a moral compass for our school.

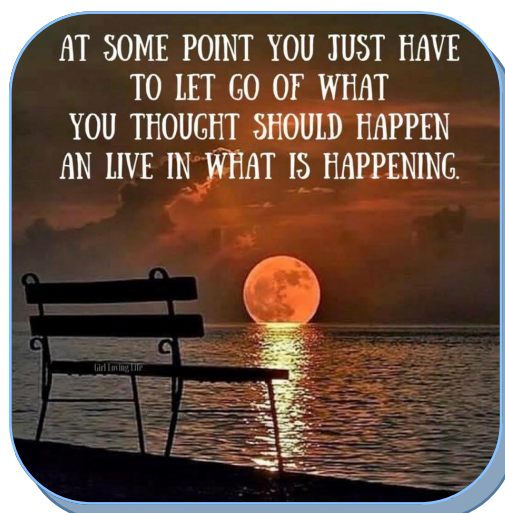
Thank you for 2016

As the sun sets on our school year I want to thank all members of our school community. I love the passion our parents have in Nyngan. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the students we have at our school and the staff team is an amazing group of people.

Whilst this job can at times be trying; the end result is always one of achievement for our kids and moving forward in a positive way to deal with the job at hand: providing the best learning environment for our kids.

PEACE AND BLESSINGS FOR YOUR HOLIDAY BREAK. MAY IT BE FILLED WITH JOY, HAPPINESS AND THE PEOPLE WHO MEAN THE MOST TO YOU !

Michael Gibson
Principal



Deputy Principal's Report

It has been an honour and a privilege to be Deputy Principal at Nyngan High School for the last 4 years. I thank the community, staff and students for allowing me to be part of their lives.

Nyngan High School is a great school.

The teachers are keen, enthusiastic and caring and they genuinely want every child to achieve their potential. The office and support staff are always there cheering on students.

The students are a delight – even when they push against the boundaries that families and the school have set as this is what adolescents do. This is how they develop into confident and flourishing adults. Our role is to support them during this phase and also try and teach them the curriculum.

Being a Deputy Principal is a great role in a school as I get to make, hopefully, a positive difference in many children's lives. One example is in my first and second years at Nyngan High I was lucky enough to accompany a number of Aboriginal students to the NASCA Careers and Aspiration Program in Sydney. Many of those students have continued onto Year 12 and achieved their HSC and some have pursued tertiary education. I like to think that this program and the many things I have done every day have indeed made a difference.

Mr Gibson spoke on the Formal Assembly about taking opportunities, as did Miss Thorpe on Presentation Evening and Mrs Montgomery talked about aiming for the stars. Nyngan High School provides a huge range of opportunities for students. A student can set their goals and they will have everything at their disposal to help them achieve that goal here at Nyngan High.

I attended high school in a small rural community on the mighty Murray River. My school's motto was Carpe Diem, which is Latin for Seize the Day or Make the Most of every individual day, live life to the fullest. I have tried to do this throughout my life and I wish that for you too. I have once again seized an opportunity as I head to Toormina High School at Coffs Harbour. I am looking forward to what lays before me but taking all my experiences, friendships and memories from Nyngan with me.

I wish everyone the best in 2017 and beyond.

Mrs Melanie Murray
Deputy Principal

Merry Christmas



HELP FOR PARENTS TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHILDREN'S eSAFETY COMMISSIONER

The Commonwealth Government's Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner has developed a resource for parents – iPARENT – which is designed to help parents learn how to be safe and secure with the connected devices in their children's lives.

iPARENT – found at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent> - provides facts and stats about Australian children online, managing technology in the home and strategies used by parents to keep children safe online.

A Parent's guide to online safety can be downloaded from the site and a range of useful information is available. For example parents can access information about cyberbullying including:

- how to talk to your child;
- a parent's guide to responding to cyberbullying;
- what to do if your child is being cyberbullied or cyberbullying others; and
- sources of professional support and help.

Information is also available for parents about unwanted contact, inappropriate, offensive or illegal content and sexting.

You may like to check out the Office of the Children's e-Safety Commissioner's **eSafety Christmas Gift Guide**, if you are contemplating buying technology for your children this year.

The Department of Education also has a cyber safety resource for parents on its website – Raising Good Digital Citizens which is accessible at: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/technology/using-technology/raising-good-digital-citizens>.

Check them out when you get the chance.

Positive Education News

What an exciting and successful year we have had in Positive Education at Nyngan High School. I will not bore you with the copious list of our accomplishments, except to say that our Tell Them From Me Survey results indicate a significance increase in student happiness and staff morale. Christmas is a perfect time to practice gratitude and kindness and really think about the fabulous lives we lead.

The part of happiness that we can control is about what we choose to focus on. We can consciously direct the way we focus our attention onto the good things in our lives. What are you most grateful for this holiday season and how can you express this gratitude in your daily life? Writing cards, giving gifts, volunteering, or writing a gratitude diary can all help make gratitude a part of your daily life.

At this time of year, our thoughts may naturally go to those amongst us who don't have homes or who can't afford food and clothing. Giving to others makes us feel good about ourselves and if we give to people we know, we may get a piece of the pleasure they receive via our brain's mirror neurons.

Enjoy your holidays and be kind, the world needs more of that!

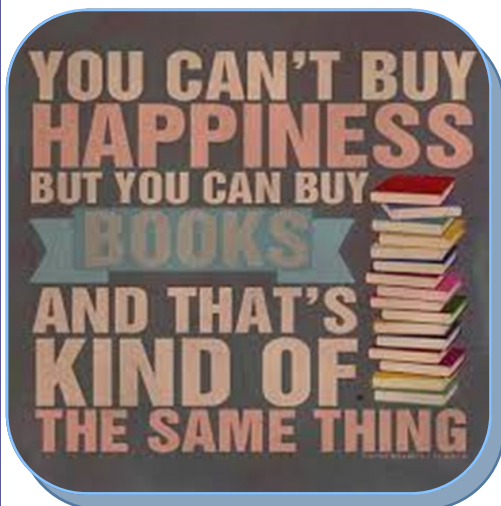
Angie Bush
Positive Education Team Leader



English/HSIE News

The English/HSIE has continued to move forward this year, showing educational leadership in many facets of the school. From Aboriginal Education to environmental sustainability we have had a role in every part of the school. Thank you to the staff, students and parents who have helped make this such a successful year. As the year draws to a close we farewell Ms Heather McVey who has been an absolute asset to our faculty. Her work ethic and support of her colleagues is second to none and she will be sadly missed. Our loss, is certainly the army's gain and we wish her well in her future endeavours. Next year we welcome Rick Partridge replacing Heather, who comes with a wealth of English knowledge and I'm sure will fit in well in our forward planning ways.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. It is such a great opportunity to get stuck in to that good book you've been dying to read (or is that just me??). We look forward to working with you all again in 2017!



Angie Bush
HT English/HSIE



Sports Report

Sport and physical activity at Nyngan High School has drawn to a close with 2016 being yet another year of great success and participation by all at Nyngan High School.

Weekly sports saw students presented with the opportunity to participate in a range of sports that enhance their skill development and exposure to different sports such as soft-crosse and golf, when the course was not under water.

Our annual swimming, athletics and fun run cross country were once again a great success with many students achieving selection to Regional and State Carnivals which is indicative of the talent that exists within the school community.

Nyngan High School was involved in various knockout competitions through the Western School Sports Association and various gala days achieving outstanding results including a triples lawn bowls team making State Finals, undefeated Girls Open League Tag Champions, 15s and Opens Far West Trophy Rugby League Champions, 14s Ronny Gibbs Rugby League Runners Up and opens Ronny Gibbs Rugby League champions.

Nyngan High School staff and students was also involved in the Premiers Sporting Challenge and the Water Warriors Swimming Program which taught the students essential water safety skills.

I would like to congratulate the following students for their outstanding achievement throughout 2016:

The 2016 Sportsman of the Year - Harry Blake

The 2016 Sportswoman of the Year - Ebony Martin

The Premiers Sporting Challenge Medal - Mia Taylor.

The Mark Leonard Trophy for 2016 - Harry Blake



I would also like to extend my gratitude to all the parents, staff and students who have assisted with sporting teams this year. Your enthusiasm and assistance with all things sports has made 2016 another successful year for sport at Nyngan High School and look forward to even greater success in 2017.

Thankyou

Tristan Dal Forno

PDHPE/Sports Coordinator



Pictured L: **Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year 2016** are Harry Blake and Ebony Martin

Harry Blake also received the **Mark Leonard Memorial Trophy for 2016**

Pictured R: Mia Taylor received the **NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge Medal for 2016**

Congratulations and well done from the staff and students of Nyngan High School



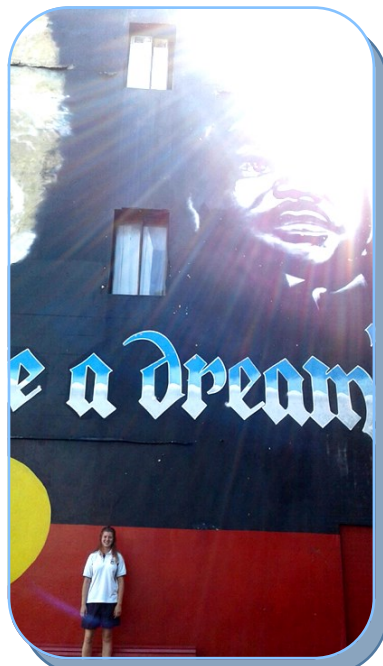
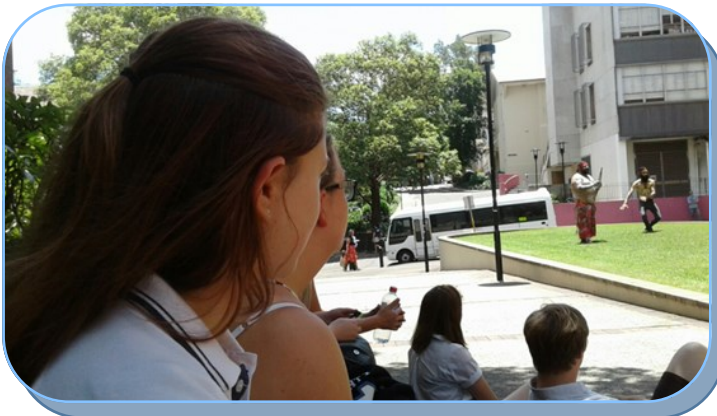
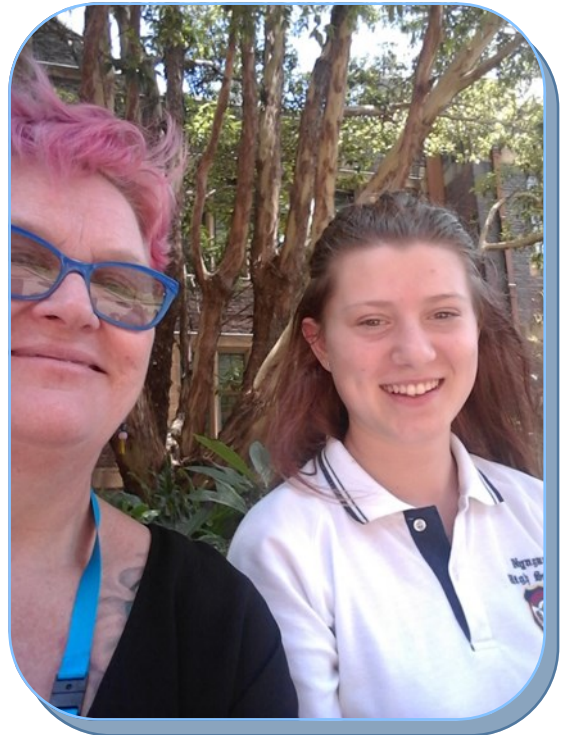
Aboriginal Studies HSC Seminar at Sydney University

Neita Woodlock, Brittany Steer and myself were all set to attend the annual Aboriginal Studies Student Day in Sydney on 2nd December, but poor Brittany had to pull out for health reasons.

The Seminar was a great day, it began in the Wallace Theatre with some previous HSC students showing us their major works and explaining both their choices and their processes. The work was inspiring and gave a lot of food for thought.

We adjourned to the old Teacher's College for the practical aspect of the day and were treated to some very good advice on how to structure extended responses in the exam. Neita got to see more Major Projects, listen to representatives from the NSW State Library explain what they could do to help her, and engage with students from all over the State.

After a pizza lunch we sat outside and thoroughly enjoyed the performance of the Culture Group who showed us some dances and great didgeridoo playing.



Despite the heat Neita was game enough to go on a ramble around the university with one of Ben Bowen's guides and was shown just how much the traditional owners of the country left for us. They saw artefacts, ate bush tucker, and heard some good yarns.

Tired but happy we took off to Newtown for dinner and gelato and I just had to take a picture of Neita in front of the iconic 'I have a dream' mural that has been inspiring many Newtown visitors and residents for years.

The trip was a long one but worth doing for the invaluable support Neita gained at the beginning of her very important HSC year.

Ms Booth



Thank You and Farewell

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and community of Nyngan and the High School for their continued support over the past 34 years.

When I started in 1982 as Miss Bowen, a shy little country girl from the coast, who would have thought that Nyngan would have provided me with so many wonderful opportunities both personally and in my career.

I have counted it a privilege to have taught in a small community where I had the opportunity to get to know many of you as you were children growing up and now it has been wonderful to see the next generation come through.



Teaching staff

We have been so fortunate at Nyngan High with the calibre of the teaching and support staff that has worked here over the years. Although it was always sad to see someone move on, we always gained another set of new and enthusiastic teachers who have made Nyngan High School the forward thinking and innovative environment that it has always been. My catch phrase has always been - 'the only thing consistent about Nyngan High is the rate at which we change!' This allowed us not to stagnate, but continue to push the boundaries of innovative educational pedagogies and programs that have given our students the best opportunities for learning. I am proud, as a member of Nyngan High School, of the achievements and accomplishments of our students and staff.

Our current executive team work tirelessly to ensure our students experience a positive, inclusive learning environment where they can experience a very broad curriculum and range of educational and extra curricula opportunities. We are so fortunate to have Ange, Tanya and Noelene on the executive team.

Melanie Murray has been with us for four years, and during this time she has been an inspiration to everyone with her positive attitude, impeccable organisation and passion for the success of staff and students. It would be safe to say that none of the excellent programs that run in this school would be running as successfully as they do without her input.

Science/Special Education Faculty

I have had the pleasure this year to work with an excellent faculty of Science and Special Education teachers and support staff. I thank each and every one of them for making this year so incredible. Alison Strong hit the ground running Term 2 when she replaced Peter O'Neill. Her enthusiasm and passion is tireless. Joel White is so accommodating, fixing computers, teaching Mathematics, Science and Computing Application and he did an excellent job being the Year 6 coordinator this year. I wish him all the best as he embarks on the role of Year 7 Advisor in 2017.

Anne Lupton is an unsung hero, with the passion she has put into the role of leading the Learning and Support Team. Nothing is ever too much trouble and she is always proactive, managing any concerns of student, teacher and parents. Along with Michael Walsh and Tammy Hamblin, Learning Support and Special Education have experienced many successes for individuals throughout the years. These experienced and talented teachers have kept me grounded and encouraged me daily. The Learning and Support Team consists of many staff members who are committed to our students, to ensure they receive the support they need to succeed.

Mick has managed the Special Education department successfully for a number of years and I am continually in awe of his care, understanding and coordination skills with children who require extra support. Mick has also taken on the SRC this year and continued the excellent activities that we have grown to expect from years of SRC guidance by Aimee Rixon.

Office and Support Staff

Our school has incredible support and office staff who ensure the smooth running of the school in the office and the classrooms. Sandra, Bev and Kyri are excellent representatives as the first contact for most people who deal with the school. The role of the front office staff has changed enormously over the years, but their importance to every member of the staff remains understated.

Veronica Bourke and Julie Walsh have been marvels as laboratory assistants the last few years. It takes a lot of preparation and behind the scenes work to conduct the great number of practical activities that are undertaken in the Science department, which often goes unrecognised. Thank you also for keeping on top of the ever-changing regulations regarding the safe storage and handling of chemicals.

As Head of Special Education, it has been wonderful to be involved with the SLSO team. Coral, Di, Loretta, Janine and Troy. I would like to thank each one of you for the support you have provided in my classes over the years.

Neralie is such an asset, working with Joel to maintain our technology needs. I have enjoyed working with the technology. There is always something new and exciting to learn.

Community

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to be involved in the AECG and P&C groups. These are wonderful organisations made up of people committed to the education of our students. I would strongly encourage everyone to become involved with one or both groups, as the work they do is crucial to the success of our school.

Ground Staff

I must mention Mark Keighran and the school cleaners. It has been wonderful to enter the school most days to a cheery hello from the cleaners. I apologise now for the chaos that has been my desk, over the years and thank you for working around me, making the working environment for staff and student so spick and span. Keiro has been so helpful fixing and finding things and nothing was ever too much bother. Thank you.

The Future

Farewell to Melanie Murray and Peter Charters. The school is that much better for having had you here and you will most certainly be missed. Welcome to Mrs Emma Partridge and her husband Richard and family as Emma takes on the role of Head Teacher Science/Ag/Special Ed.

When I first decided to retire, I was very emotional and found it difficult to hold it together when people spoke to me. Nyngan High School has been a major part of my life for so long, and I could only think of what I would miss and how would I cope not coming to school every day. As the term has progressed, I have begun to see the wonderful opportunities that will now be available to me. I am looking forward to taking an active role on the farm with Andy and Minnie. It will also be great to have flexibility to spend more time with my son Kai, his wife Kate and my beautiful granddaughter Oliana.

I wish all the excellent teachers from each faculty well for next year, and thank you for making Nyngan High School such a wonderful place to work.

Finally, thank you Michael Gibson for your support this year. I am looking forward to seeing the continued success of Nyngan High School as you 'steer the ship' into the future.

Our school motto is "Integrity". My final words for you all are: -

Have Integrity always, and do so safely!

L Montgomery

Head Teacher Science/Special Ed.



TAS PDHPE/Careers News

Firstly, what a great year 2016 has been.

Presentation Night

A huge thank you to BevBush for her tremendous support and work in helping me prepare for the night. A Thank you also to Keiro for following all my last minute requests, Mr Dal Forno for assisting on stage and Mr White for the powerpoint preparation.

Year 10 Work Experience

Mrs Quarmby and I found it an absolute pleasure to check on these students. All the local businesses were very happy with the students and gave us positive feedback.

Mr Carters

Farewell to Mr Charters from the TAS faculty. His expertise and great sense of humour will be missed. We wish him well and know the students at Broken Hill are in good hands.

Swimming Program

A big thank you to Mr Dal Forno and Miss Stafford for all their hard work on the swimming program. Those students who swam everyday and made the best of their time are to be congratulated. Swimming is a skills for life and one we should value.

On behalf of the TAS faculty members: Tiarna, Tristan, Peter, Melissa, Cath, Keiro and Neralie we thank all the students, parents and community for their support in our Sporting, Careers, Hospitality and Dance adventures in 2016. We wish everyone a safe and restful holiday and look forward to a bigger and brighter 2017.

Noelene Walsh

TAS/PDHPE/Careers Head Teacher



IMAGES FROM GIRLS DAY OUT IN DUBBO



IMAGES FROM PRESENTATION NIGHT 2016





What's Happening Around Our School !!

12th Dec	Presentation Night
14th Dec	Platinum Excursion
14th Dec	SRC End of Year Activity
16th Dec	Last Day for Students and Staff