“How is this child smart?”

This is the real educational question that drives this campus. It informs the teaching and learning experiences and the breadth of activities available to students. This edition of Tumbi Talks tells the story of how our faculties are answering this question. It is also good to be able to celebrate the excellent work being done across faculty areas as our students excel in the Mathematics Competition and achieve commendable growth in NAPLAN in Years 7 and 9. We must be doing something right!

**Tumbi Celebrates Its Own Red Curtain Trilogy**

1. **Tumbi Rocks**
   
   August saw the campus enjoy our annual rock concert. Students, teachers, parents and carers worked together to make the event a shining example of the depth of talent in our campus and from our community. The artists were polished and showed courage in storming the stage and tackling some challenging musical pieces.

   Performers were drawn from all year groups and all programs offered here. The inclusiveness of the campus was clear for all to see and enjoy. As always the staff wowed the audience with their musical talent and as such showed that they too love the spotlight and the lure of performing.

2. **Wakikirri**
   
   Early in August we were treated to nothing less than a mind blowing display of teamwork and sheer grit and determination from our Wakikirri Crew as they stormed the stage to perform “The Dark Side of Fame”.

   Our students absolutely shone in all areas of their performance, projections, soundtrack, stage work, sets and public speaking. They set their mind to the task and in doing so showed dedication and Ms Kirwan, Ms Wilkinson, Ms Pace, Ms Taylor, Ms Proust, Mr Horton, Mr Chittick, Ms Goodwin and Ms Bandy have every reason to be proud. In joining with Mr Brailey and parents on the night, we were treated to a show that knocked the socks off the judges.

   We return to NIDA next week to contest all seven areas of the competition. I for one cannot wait.

3. **Tumbi Panics**
   
   Last night, Wednesday 10 September, those who attended Tumbi Panics were treated to an excellent night’s entertainment through the showcase of our students’ many and varied talents.

   The evening commenced with a stop off at the Candy Bar for refreshments, a quick photo at the photo booth and a chance to walk the red carpet through the blaze of lights and into the PWS.

   The thought behind the staging of the event showed the level of expectation that students and their teachers had for the evening. What came next did not disappoint.

   Jack, Abbey ad Paris were suitably relaxed and polished in their MC roles and as such put the performers at ease and the audience in the right frame of mind to really listen to and watch each act.

   At the end of the evening a total of 36 acts performed ranging from monologues (and weren’t they telling a story), dance (oh to be able to move like that), Mime (the power of facelessness can never be underestimated), film (Utopia rocked...again) and drama pieces.

   Once again our students and their teachers put themselves out there to show the learning that occurs in their classrooms and the impact that learning has on shaping thoughts and actions.

   A huge thank you to Ms Taylor and Ms Proust for their tireless work in preparing students for this event and for making it an assessment practice that matches the purpose of their subject area. Ms Bandy returned to see the product of her efforts and to share the enthusiasm of students and colleagues. Word is that baby Camilla thought it was great too.

   Hats off the Mr Chittick and his team for behind the scenes in preparing the staging - the sets crew and the stage ninjas were awesome and as for the Photo Booth and Candy Bar….Congratulations and thank you to the rest of the CAPA Faculty for your team approach to everything that you do and the supportive manner in which all events are undertaken. Thank you to Mr Brailey for ensuring that the team have every opportunity to spread their wings, try new things and grow from the trust, commitment and leadership shown them every day.

   It was great to see so many staff there supporting students and colleagues and enjoying a wonderful night with parents and carers.

   Shayne Player
Library Character Lunch

The 2014 Book Week celebrations culminated on Friday 22nd August in the Library with students and staff members dressing up as their favourite literary character. The Book Week theme this year was ‘Connect to Reading’ and students by dressing up certainly did connect to their reading. At lunch time they ate their lunch in the library (a treat in itself) and consumed drinks and snacks provided by the Library. Book Prize Vouchers were awarded for most imaginative and best dressed, however everyone looked great. Prize winners included; Portia, Kiana, Hayden, Stella, Jordan and Kyle. Many thanks to Mrs Kerr and Mrs Martin for all their efforts in make the lunch such a success.

Mr Rowlison (Teacher-Librarian)
PASS
Snow Trip
2014

The trip was a complete success with beautiful blue skies and plenty of snow. The students had a ball and their behaviour was amazing.

Mr Knight

Port Macquarie Excursion

On Monday 18 August, Mr Palmer and myself had the pleasure of taking students from 10E4 to Port Macquarie to meet with a survivor of the Holocaust. We saw these boys in a different light during their excursion. The Holocaust survivor did not hold back any stories of what his life was like growing up, but most importantly, told how he continued through his life to make a success of himself - so much so, he was invited to the inauguration of Nelson Mandela. Egon was a fabulous man whose story was very confronting and inspiring, as was the rest of the Courage to Care exhibition, which took the boys through being an upstander. At 83, Egon only retired last year; his zest for life was infectious!

During their social experiences, their excellent behaviour continued, but some of their bravado escaped them as they met the camels for their beach ride.

The behaviour of all the boys was amazing, but if you see Ben S and Ben W, these two boys were such a positive influence on the others. Good things are being said about them.

Thank you to all of our great students for a wonderful day. Thank you also to Mr Palmer for driving.

Mrs Kerr
Head Teacher English
PERSONALITY CONCEPT:
The concept for the term was “Personalities”. We looked at the different personality types in our class, in our social groups and in the wider community. We discussed reasons why we all have different personalities and ways to work together and accept each other. The students then took this valuable information to our local Childcare Centres and Primary Schools to assist in them understanding young children.

YEAR 10 CHILD STUDIES WORK PLACEMENT IN A CHILDCARE CENTRE

The very talented students carried out work experience in a Childcare Centre or Primary School of their choice. They really enjoyed the experience and learnt so much about working in the Childcare Industry as a career, and about the different personalities of little children.

Here are a few of the wonderful comments that the Childcare Centre teachers made about our talented students:

- “Emma has been a pleasure to have as part of our team. She showed initiative in all areas of the program”.
- “Sami showed initiative when working with children, and has a natural aptitude when interacting with children. It was a joy to have her at our service”.
- “Kaylee actively engaged with children in play and demonstrated the ability to direct children’s behaviour when appropriate. Well done.”
- “Jessica was competent in helping out with our literacy and numeracy groups, as well as being in charge of an activity. She set up the room displays beautifully. She has the ability to intuitively assist students and staff when needed”.
- “Alleesha was an absolute pleasure to have with us. She showed initiative and was very warm and empathetic to the students. Congratulations on a great work placement”.
- “It was a pleasure to have Alarna at our Preschool. She was polite, well-mannered and showed interest in the Pre school environment”. She interacted well with both staff and children, and was happy to clean and organise equipment”.
- “Nikki was very helpful and showed initiative on many occasions”.
- “Paige asked questions, was happy to jump in and help anywhere, and interacted with the children well”.
- “Rachael formed a warm rapport with the children and she was keen to be involved in the day. We enjoyed having her at our centre and wish her well in her career path”.
- “Skye interacted well with the children and got down at their level to engage with them. She used her initiative and followed directions well. She frequently asked if there was anything she could do to help. She remained calm and helpful throughout her work experience. The children really enjoyed working with her”.
- “Sophie was lovely to have at our service. She was polite, friendly and great with the children”.
- “Caitlin had a wonderful week here. She showed initiative and a willingness to be part of the team. She was very enthusiastic and made an effort to get to know the children. Her interactions with the children were always warm and friendly. She involved herself in all aspects of the preschool routine”.
- “Abi was a wonderful student and we enjoyed having her in our workplace. She had a friendly, happy manner with all of the children and was responsive to their needs. She was always positive and behaved appropriately. She was very helpful with all routines”.
- “Rachael displays excellent interactions with the children and they all responded well to her. She was a pleasure to have in our classroom. She has shown confidence and was very helpful with the daily routine. She has shown maturity and the ability to fit in with the childcare industry.”
- “Jessica has been a pleasant addition to our workplace. She was always helpful and obliging. Jessica has shown a keen interest in learning about childcare as an occupation and seems very suited to this job”. 
WHAT DID YEAR 10 CHILD STUDIES STUDENTS THINK OF THEIR WORK EXPERIENCE IN A CHILDCARE CENTRE?

Kaylee C: “This experience was very worthwhile for me because it made me realise that preschool teaching is what I want to do. Everything about the experience was great. The best parts were outside play and learning the difference between the various age groups of the children. I felt very comfortable and I feel that this job suits my personality. I really enjoyed the entire experience.”

Sami J: “I found this experience very worthwhile and enjoyable because I had the opportunity to find out what happens in a Preschool. I was able to help out the teachers and children. I really loved playing with the children indoor and outdoors. I loved assisting everyone and being involved in everything.”

Emma T: “I loved my tie at the Preschool and valued it dearly. I met many amazing children and staff alike. Everyone was so warm and welcoming. I have wanted to be a Primary school teacher since I was 7 and due to this experience, I can’t wait to fulfil one of my biggest life goals.”

Rachel V: “I loved work experience at this Preschool. I enjoyed working with the children and experiencing how they learn best”.

Paige V: “I really loved my work experience. It gave me an insight into how it would be to work in this industry. I loved getting to know the children and experiencing how they behave and interact”.

Nikki K: “I really enjoyed my experience in a Kindergarten class at a Primary school. It showed me how much effort goes into working as a Kindergarten teacher. I enjoyed interacting with the children and getting to know them”.

Alleasha P: “I loved my work experience. I want to go back! The entire experience was positive. Seeing children learn and grow makes me so happy”.

Jessica M: “My experience in working at a Primary school in a kindergarten class was exhausting but very enjoyable. I’ve learnt so much while working with them. I enjoyed getting to know the children and helping them with the work that they were struggling with. I think I would like to pursue this career option because helping out other people’s children with their education in a positive way is very beneficial”.

Sharni S: “This was a good experience for me, even though I’m not sure if it’s the career path that I want to follow. It was great to play with the children and get along with the teachers”.

Alarna B: “I found this experience very worthwhile and I really enjoyed it. It was great because I now know that I don’t think I am cut out for working with Preschool children! I think I may like working with Primary School children instead!”

Zoe C: “This experience was very worthwhile. It put everything into perspective. I am thinking of becoming a midwife”.

Sally S: “This experience was definitely worth my time. I loved it. Now that I have done this work placement, I realise that I do want to work in childcare. I loved everything from getting to know the children to the amazing, friendly staff”.

Abi G: “Even though I enjoyed the experience, I found it very worthwhile because I have realised that working with children isn’t for me. It is a very difficult task”.

Caitlyn S: “I had a great time at the centre and all the children were lovely and loved having me there. I learnt a lot about working in childcare. I am interested in pursuing this industry as a career choice”.

Shantelle A: “Working at the childcare centre was overall fun and enjoyable. The staff were nice and helpful and the children were great”.

Sophie R: “This experience gave me an insight into what it is like to be a preschool teacher. I learnt how to open and close the preschool, and the preparation it takes”.

The Child Studies Work Placement program relies heavily on the support of Childcare Centres and Primary schools in the local community and we are most grateful to the below mentioned Centres and schools for the opportunities that they have so kindly provided for the students at our Campus.

⇒ The Entrance Public School Childcare Centre
⇒ The Entrance Public School
⇒ Mission Australia Early Learning Services Bateau Bay
⇒ Mission Australia Early Learning Services Woodbury Park
⇒ Mission Australia Early Learning Services Tumbi Umbi
⇒ Little Souls Early Learning Centre
⇒ Bateau Bay Primary School
⇒ Mission Australia Early Learning Services Tumbi Umbi
⇒ The Entrance Pre-School Kindergarten
⇒ Berkeley Vale Pre-School
⇒ Havenview Kindy
⇒ Little Coasties Kindergarten at Green Point
⇒ Budgewoi Preschool
⇒ Glenning Vale Childcare Centre
⇒ Explore and Develop
RESPONSIBILITY CONCEPT:
The concept for the term was “Responsibility”. The students started the term by taking on the responsibility of decorating and caring for a raw egg for one lesson! The students went really well, treating their egg if it was a real baby. Some of the names included Eggbert and Eggwina. We only had one casualty at the very end of the lesson, which was very sad. We became very attached to our little eggs!

BABYSITTER’S COURSE:
We then moved on to complete a ‘Babysitters Course’ where students learnt to be responsible for managing and caring for young children. They also designed and made a range of craft activities for different age groups and abilities. We sat an exam and received our babysitting certificates. If you would like a qualified babysitter, here is the place for you!

CHILDREN’S FIRST AID COURSE:
The second half of the term saw students learn basic First Aid with the guidance of Mrs Karen Eager and Mrs Sue Hale. The course had both theory and practical components including CPR techniques. It was very worthwhile and we all loved it. We received a certificate at the end. The pizza for lunch was fabulous as well!

PREGNANT VISITOR:
We also had a lovely pregnant visitor, Miss Bandy. She talked to our class about the ups and downs of being pregnant! Thankyou Miss Bandy for your insight. We can’t wait to meet baby Camilla!
Archibald Art Prize Excursion

On Friday 5 September, the CAPA faculty took 50 Year 9 and Year 10 Visual Art students to the Sydney Art Gallery to see the Archibald Prize and other contemporary art displays on at the time. It was a great day out with the students getting to stand up close and view some outstanding pieces of artistic expression. I am sure some student’s personal approach to their own art making will be extended from this experience. Thank you to the teachers involved.

Mr Chittick
Art Teacher

Women in Engineering and IT

On Friday 5 September, Ms Turner, Mr Vella and myself took a group of 18 Year 8 and 9 AVID girls down to UTS to participate in the Women in engineering and IT Day.

The day started when we met in the freezing cold at Tuggerah station to catch the train to Sydney. Upon arriving at UTS we were treated to three women talking about their journey as either Engineering or IT students or professionals. We then split into groups to participate in our hands on sessions.

One of the sessions both groups were lucky to participate in was called Artificial Intelligence. This session was taken by a young, inspirational Biomedical engineer, Jordan Nguyen, who is currently working on developing a mind controlled wheel chair and prosthetic arms. In another session students had the opportunity to test different soft fall materials and how this impacts on potential head injuries for young children.

It was a great day and the girls represented our campus well and all found something that interested and engaged them.

Thank you to everyone who supported us today.

Ms Perry
Outback Experience

Thursday, 11th September, 2014
**The Amazing Outback Trip**

25th June-4th July 2014

**DAY ONE-Tumbi Umbi Campus to Spear Creek**
The journey begins; we were all so excited to be heading to Outback Australia. We passed the time of our twenty hour coach trip by playing games, watching movies, talking, eating, taking in the sights and sleeping. It was astonishing to see how quickly our landscape can change and we got a real understanding of just how big our country is. Twenty hours in a bus and three states later we arrived in Spear Creek South Australia.

**DAY TWO-Spear Creek**
As we pulled into Spear Creek Station we had an amazing view of the majestic Flinders Ranges. After being issued our tents, a quick lesson on how to put them up and a long awaited shower we went hiking through the ranges, to look for the natural spring water, that we did not find! However, it was amazing to think that we were hiking through the largest mountain range in South Australia.

Not long after arriving back from our hike and being put in our duty groups we were greeted by a man and his dog both riding on a dirt bike. We followed them up to the sheep station for another new experience. We watched Rosie the cattle dog sort out sheep, which we then had to herd. Scott the farmer then gave us a sheep shearing demonstration.

Late afternoon we watched the sunset from the top of a hill, and kept warm by sitting around the bonfire, sharing memories, before heading off for our first night in our tents, listening to the wind howl.

**DAY THREE-Spear Creek-Coober Pedy**
We were up early and heading North to Coober Pedy. After a coach journey of playing cards, games, singing and laughing we finally arrived in the underground town! The town from a distance looked empty and it wasn't until our guided tour that we realised the majority of the houses were underground, it was fascinating to think this is how people live. We visited an underground church and house that even had a pool. We then visited the Opal Mining shop where we learnt a lot more about opals. They are so beautiful and very expensive.

After a long great day, we had dinner, a warm shower and we didn't have to set up our tents as tonight we were sleeping underground, in an underground dorm. What an experience!

**DAY FOUR-Coober Pedy-Uluru**
The bus journey from Coober Pedy to Uluru was so exciting. We could not wait to get there. We crossed the Northern Territory border which was awesome. We got out and took photos having so much fun while doing so. We arrived late afternoon at Yulara camping ground to be greeted by lots of orange dirt. We were truly in the outback. From our camping ground we could see the incredible Uluru. It looked so gigantic. We watched the sunset over Uluru and all you could hear was the click of cameras and the excitement in our voices. We could not believe that we were only kilometres from this very magical, sacred landmark. We could feel the excitement in the air. We could not wait for tomorrow.

**DAY FIVE-Uluru-Kat Tjuta**
We can now tell people we have been to the middle of our sunburnt country. We have been to ULURU! Never before had we felt so touched by nature. We had the amazing experience of watching the sunset and sunrise over Uluru, truly majestic to see the array of different colours from deep blues to light purples and pinks. We were guided around parts of the rock and we could not believe all of the different caves, water holes and rock formations. There was even a section where a waterfall had been creating dark streaks that were such a contrast against the deep orange rock. We were respectfully silent at this spot as we soaked up the strong spiritual atmosphere.

Later we visited Kata Tjuta, meaning "many heads". This was an enormous group of boulders that we were able to walk through, keeping our voices low to show respect. The walk was breathtakingly beautiful. After watching the magical sunset over Uluru we headed back to camp where we later sat around the bonfire reminiscing about our amazing time at Uluru. This is a day we will never forget!

**DAY SIX-Uluru-Kings Canyon**
An early start to Kings Canyon, stopping along the way to view Mount Conner from the lookout. The view of Lake Amadeus (a giant salt lake in the distance) was simply breathtaking and everyone managed to get some awesome pictures. After leaving Mt Conner lookout it was a long drive through the remote desert terrain to Kings Canyon. We arrived at Kings Creek Station camp ground, everyone unloaded the bus and set up the tents with dingos watching.

After all the tents were set up and all the bags were off the bus we made our way to Lilla Community. A local Indigenous Community. We were greeted with lots of friendly people and a smoking ceremony (to welcome people into the country). We then started our tour of the sacred land. We were shown amazing caves with captivating artwork and meaningful stories behind each one of them. The walk was amazing and we were learning so much about Aboriginal culture. We were guided to a beautiful waterhole, that is very sacred to Aboriginals and is not for swimming.

After returning back from our walk, a canvas and paint was set out for each of us to complete our own dot painting. After finishing the dot paintings (everyone's piece was a work of art) we mingled with the young children or we learnt how to throw a spear and boomerang. All good things must come to an end and sadly this day did. It was very sad to say goodbye and leave such a beautiful community, this is an opportunity and experience that none of us will ever forget.
**DAY SEVEN - Kings Canyon - Alice Springs**

Yet another early waking and packing all the bags and tents up we were on the road again to a magnificent place... Kings Canyon!

Pulling up to the Canyon was simply amazing and a lot to take in. We were all separated into groups and started our climb to the top of the canyon rim. The first flight of rock-stairs was a workout that everyone achieved and was one step closer to finishing the goal. The view was already spectacular, so we resumed our hike to see more amazing views. It was simply astonishing to see all the fine details in the rocks and marks that had been etched out by nature over many thousands of years. The Canyon was surrounded by lush vegetation and with some more walking we made it to Garden of Eden, a natural rock pool. The walk back was easy and calm. We had actually hiked Kings Canyon! It was such an amazing feeling to have conquered something so amazing.

With having such a spectacular day it was time to head to Alice Springs, arriving late afternoon at the MacDonnell Range Holiday Park where we had free time and a nice well deserved hot shower before eating our delicious dinner timed perfectly with a show of extravagant fireworks in the background from the town centre of Alice Springs.

**DAY EIGHT - Ormiston Gorge**

We woke up in Alice Springs, to an icy cold morning and made our way to Ormiston gorge after a delicious breakfast. Ormiston Gorge is a natural swimming hole. Only about 30 of us were brave enough to get in. It was freezing, but such an amazing experience to swim surrounded by the spectacular MacDonnell Ranges. We then headed to Standley Chasm for the midday viewing where the sheer walls glowed from the reflected sunlight to create a breath taking display of rich colour. Even the walking track to the chasm is so calming and tranquil.

We headed back to our camp site for some free time, some released energy on the jumping pillow while others relaxed and swam by the pool. Later that afternoon we headed into Alice Springs to do some souvenir shopping and buy supplies for our trip home.

That night we had our own outdoor slide show where we watched some of the photos being displayed from our trip. We were all laughing so much, reflecting back on just how much we had done. It was sad to think that this was our last night of camping. We then had our last bonfire where we shared many more stories and laughs before crawling into our tents.

**DAY NINE & TEN - Alice Springs to home.**

After nine breathtaking days of exploring the Australian Outback, it was time to head home. We packed up our tents for the last time leaving Alice Springs before dawn.

On the way home we stopped off at a diner for dinner were we celebrated Mr Howard's birthday, showering him with pink sparkly gifts! As the night wore on, everyone started to settle down and fall asleep. The last part of the journey home went by really quickly and as we neared home we began to get really excited. We spent our last few hours singing to Grease and ABBA and 'rapped' it up with a hilarious but talented performance by Mrs Westwood singing "Ice Ice Baby".

We arrived back at school to be greeted by our families and everyone was so excited to get back home to a comfortable bed. This trip was truly amazing, a once in a life time opportunity and we are all so grateful to the teachers who gave up their time to share this experience with us. We have experienced so much and we have so many great memories that will stay with us forever. Thank you!

*By Year 8 students who attended the Amazing Outback Trip.*

Also, we as teachers of Tumbi Umbi were so proud and feel very privileged to share this journey with an amazing bunch of students who did not only Tumbi Umbi and their parents/carers proud but also themselves. Their behaviour, maturity and manners are to be congratulated, at times they were tested physically and mentally but they always performed their very best. Everywhere we went people commented on their behaviour and impeccable manners. Well done and thank you.

*Mrs Lincoln, Ms Westwood, Ms Southern, Ms Taylor, Mr Howard & Mr Davis.*
IMAX Excursion

On Monday 25 August, Mr Kerr, Ms Priest and myself took 62 of our finest Year 8 students to the IMAX theatre. We were fortunate enough to see two movies (my first experience of a 3D movie) relating to our “Human Body” topic. Most students were amazed at the size of the screen and all that it had to offer. The movies were great.

Our students were very well behaved and represented the school in a positive way. All in all it was a great day and wold definitely consider doing it again in the future. A big thank you to Ms Perry who look after things back here at the campus.

Ms Haines

Utopia Snow Trip

Homework Centre

Day: Wednesday
Venue: Library
Time: 2:20-3.50pm
Bus: A bus leaves at 4pm to most areas.
Staff: Tumbi teachers will be in attendance.
(Note: If a student needs attention from particular teachers they need to arrange that with those teachers).
For more details please ring the school: 43856802
Important Notice - Research in the School

The school is participating in the Aspirations Study, a research study run by Professor Jenny Gore and her colleagues at the University of Newcastle.

Parents of students in Years 7, 9 and 11 have the opportunity to fill out a 2014 parent/carer survey at http://goo.gl/xsMgo. If you require a paper copy, please request one from the school office.

For more information or to download a withdrawal form, please visit www.newcastle.edu.au/aspirations.

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