



TEMPE HIGH SCHOOL

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Office Hours : 8.30am—3.15pm

Newsletter 6

Term 4 Week 7

November / December
2016

From the Relieving Principal

I am feeling very much at home at Tempe High School. My last four weeks settling in has given me the opportunity to understand more about the school culture (*busy, exciting, student focused*) and the wider school community (*parents and guardians, agencies who support our students, local schools*). Perhaps the biggest item of note is the parental commitment in supporting their child's education. I see this as a major strength for the school and I welcome parents to make contact with their child's teacher, Year Advisor, Deputy Principal, or myself.

On that note, I would like to update you on some temporary staff changes:

- Mr A Murphy will step in as Relieving Deputy Principal whilst Ms Fountoulis is on leave until the end of term
- Mr G Miller will relieve as Head Teacher Science
- Mrs D Davison will fill in for Mr Dias as Year 7 Advisor for the last 3 weeks of term

Each student will receive their semester report before the end of term. I encourage you to sit with your child and read through it. Students should be congratulated for doing their personal best and where appropriate, teacher feedback should be used to plan for improvement. Teacher comments provide specific information to enhance performance and could be a part of goals set for 2017. We will continue to run programs in 2017 to support student achievement such as the Homework Centre in the Library, Study Skills, Goal Setting workshops and HSC workshops.



I would like to share some words from an email I received regarding our Silver Duke of Edinburgh trip last month, accompanied by Mr G Miller. The email came from a guide at Glenworth Valley. *"This was by far, the most well prepared, dedicated and focused DoE group that I have come across"; "You just don't see this kind of commitment. The students were involved at all times and engaged themselves extremely well, particularly in adverse weather conditions. They willingly sought advice and were keen to learn. I was instantly taken aback by their desire to be involved, they completely bought in to the whole experience for which they should be well and truly congratulated."; "I enjoyed the way they were completely supportive of each other's endeavours. They were an absolute pleasure to be around."* What a lovely reflection on our school and those students.

It has become apparent that some of our policies need to be reviewed and I am asking any parents who would like to be a part of a consultation group regarding our School's Welfare Policy, make contact with me (natalie.hale@det.nsw.edu.au or 9588 2023). The review process will involve students, staff, parents and community input.

Once again, I am very excited to be leading Tempe High School and look forward to making more connections with parents over the next 4 weeks.

Ms Natalie Hale

P & C Committee 2017

The positions are:

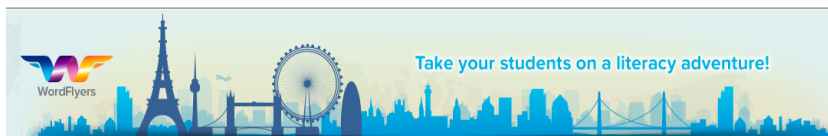
- President - Open
- Vice Presidents - Lisa Newey and Nichola Jephcott
- Secretaries - Kylie Salisbury and Julie Lewis
- Treasurer - Joanna Mangos
- Band Committee - Cathy Miers

A big thank you to outgoing President Louise Roberts for her work in 2016

Nov 21	Nov 22	Nov 23	Nov 24	Nov 25
Year 10 Camp	Year 10 Camp	Year 10 Camp		
Year 12 Work Placement	Year 12 Work Placement	Year 12 Work Placement	Year 12 Work Placement	Year 12 Work Placement
Year 12 Business Studies Group presentations	Year 12 Business Studies Group presentations	Year 12 Business Studies Group presentations	Year 12 Business Studies Group presentations	White Ribbon Day
Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2
NASCA Camp	NASCA Camp	Year 8 Forensic Science Day	Year 12 Business Studies Taronga Zoo Case Study Excursion	Piano Competition All day in HALL
Year 8 Luna Park Excursion	Recognition Assembly Periods 1 & 2	NASCA Camp	Debating GALA DAY—7-10 Interschool	
		Year 11/12 2U Mathematics Exam	Year 11/12 4U Mathematics Exam	
Dec 5	Dec 6	Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9
Peer Support Camp	Peer Support Camp	Peer Support Camp	Year 12 English Advanced and Standard Task	Year 12 Food Technology assessment task due
Work Experience Year 10	Work Experience Year 10	Work Experience Year 10	Work Experience Year 10	Work Experience Year 10
Year 11/12 3U Mathematics Exam	Year 7 2017 Orientation Day 9.00am—10.30am 11.00am—12.30pm	Silver Award Excursion	Chemistry HSC in class assessment task	Year 12 Business Studies marketing task
Year 12 HSC Physics Practical Examination			Visual Arts HSC assessment task	Year 12 SLR practical assessment periods 1 & 2 Biology practical exam HSC period 1 & 2
Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16
Year 12 Legal Studies task 1	Presentation Evening 6.30pm			
Biology HSC practical exam periods 5 & 6				
Physics practical exam in class				

ENGLISH CORNER

WORDFLYERS – WELCOME ABOARD!



Tempe High School has recently joined *WordFlyers*, an online program designed for secondary students to enhance their literacy skills. *WordFlyers* makes learning fun with engaging tutorials, a range of different text types and interesting activities. Students in Year 8 will have the opportunity to use this program in class and at home.

Students can collect points by completing activities; points are then used to travel around the virtual world, uncovering interesting facts and buying souvenirs!

At this stage, we are trialling the program with all Year 8 students and, following student feedback, we look forward to expanding this to other year groups next year.

If you would like more information, please go to the website www.wordflyers.com.au

Students in Year 8, will have their own username and password, which they can use to login. Any issues or queries can be directed to Ms Yin in the English department.

Student Book Reviewers

Welcome to our *Book Review Team* – made up of students- who have written some wonderful reviews of books they have read in a bid to entice other students to engage in a regular reading schedule.

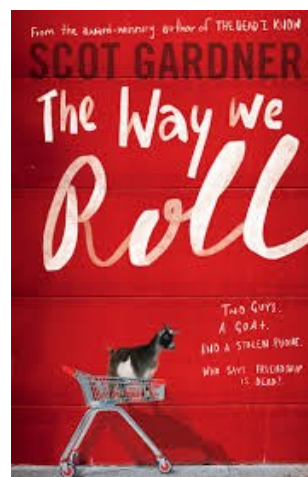
Sara in Year 9 and Matthew in Year 10 have written some well-expressed opinion pieces on their chosen novels. A wide range of genres will be covered in the coming year.

DEBATING GALA DAY

Tempe will host an interschool *Debating Gala Day* on Thursday 1st December for Years 7-8. Our debating teams will compete against schools in the area with the purpose of gaining more experience which should continue to strengthen our debating teams.



ENGLISH CORNER

Tempe High School Student Book Reviews

One of my favourite books of 2016 is “The Way We Roll” by Scot Gardner. I enjoyed it so much I was motivated to read other Scot Gardner books and, although I liked them, “The Way We Roll” is definitely my favourite Gardner novel.

I can only give you a brief idea of the plot without making this a spoiler:

Two guys meet pushing trolleys in a supermarket car park. One of the guys, Will, is from a rich background but has run away from boarding school to escape a family secret. The other boy, Julian, has been in juvie and lives in a brick shed with his girlfriend at the back of his mum’s house.

These two guys are unlikely friends but they become mates and together they right some of the wrongs in Will’s past.

It’s a kind of bromance—the novel shows that we can find friendship in unlikely places, and we can teach each other something as small as how to ride a Vespa to something as big as how to hug.

“The Way We Roll” is incredibly funny with unexpected humour and I had some good laughs reading this book. It’s a well written and easy-to-read novel. Each chapter-ending makes you read on and the chapters themselves are detailed but fluid and this adds to the fact that it’s a real page turner. Even though this book is about two teenage guys, this is a book I would recommend to anyone, regardless of their gender, race or age.

Ham—Year 8

ENGLISH CORNER

*Tempe High School Student Book Reviews***Blind Faith****by Ben Elton**

Have a feeling not everything is quite as it seems, not everything you have been told is necessarily so, or baffled by some assumptions society chooses to blindly accept? If so, you are in for a treat as the screenwriter, comedian and accomplished author Ben Elton takes us on a cerebral journey in his book '*Blind Faith*' which is a celebration of reason and clarity.

This book falls under the category of satire and black comedy and is written in third person through the eyes of a man named Trafford. It relates to audiences of all ages but will be especially resonant with high school students who have started questioning the world around them and experiencing firsthand the feeling of mistrust and frustration towards established institutions.

Trafford lives in a world where everyone has a right to know everything about you. A world where everything you do is put through a live stream, a world where it is a standard dress code to be naked, a world where your faithfulness is measured by your ability to fit in. A world where privacy and knowledge are against the law.

Although Trafford abides by the rules he finds himself less and less tolerant of the rituals that form everyday life. All seems lost until he finds the others who share his views.

At first glance it sounds like a fun but superficial read. However as the plot thickens you come to the sobering realisation that the society that Trafford lives in is a satirical version of our own. Ben Elton indirectly challenges some of our most controversial issues. For example, he tackles the debate on vaccinations, religion, privacy and even our education system. *Blind Faith* is endlessly thought-provoking and will undoubtedly shake the foundations of some well-established conventions and 'norms' that may have flown under your mental radar until now.

To make his messages and points more impactful Elton makes his readers come to conclusions obscurely and has mastered the art of 'showing, not telling'. He achieves this by planting us in a familiar scene and thus helping us empathise with the character and his situation. In the orientation of the book we are just as fed up as Trafford with the ridiculous reality he lives in. Then we realise that it is a mirror of our own. He references familiar objects or people to help us realise this connection, and adds his trademark humor to keep you enthralled with the unfolding plot. For example, McDonalds is a prestigious high class restaurant.

Blind Faith is considered by many to be comedic genius and is one of the only books that will have you chuckling out loud. There were many embarrassing moments in trains for me. Ben Elton uses his developed standup comedy techniques and applies them to his story. If I had to describe his comedy it would fall under the category of alternative comedy, specifically observational and satirical. Much like Mark Steel.

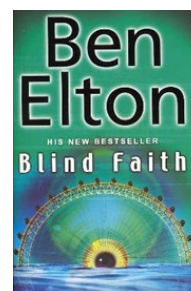
As for Trafford, there is a bit of him in all of us. Trafford is a reserved and patient character who desires to follow his passion and his mind wherever they lead him. You will fall in love with all other Ben Elton characters, both main and secondary (and their eccentric names). They all have strong personalities and are very relatable, with Elton drawing you into their inner thoughts, values and motivations, making it easy to empathise and understand the different perspectives that surround us.

Ben Elton is not a conventional author and often he will defy the rules of creative writing to enhance his message. Beginning from the end, killing off main characters and mocking the audience are things that he specialises in, so be prepared to be surprised

I have read a lot of Ben Elton's books and the one thing they all have in common is the strong, twist endings. They either paint a scene that you can't forget or lay the framework of a message that you continue to contemplate and discuss over and over again.

Ben Elton is simply a well-rounded author with his talent in conveying meaning matched with his writing talent, and for this reason I think his books will stand the test of time. I admire his simple but expressive language, his ability to write in first person (teaching me that the fewer I's the better) and all his great quotes. You won't find a better definition of blind faith anywhere else... "no society based on nothing more constructive than fear and brutish ignorance could survive forever".

If you enjoy this book you will open yourself to a new world of enlightened reading, with 35 other titles by Ben Elton. I particularly liked Gridlock, Blast from the Past and Time and Time Again. As a prolific writer I expect Ben Elton will deliver more outstanding books and I can't wait to read his next instalment.



ENGLISH CORNER

Tempe High School Student Book Reviews

OTHER GOOD READS

About a man who enlists for the war for fame and pride but quickly learns the horrors and untold secrets of the battlefield.

The Red Badge of Courage-

About a man who enlists for the war for fame and pride but quickly learns the horrors and untold secrets of the battlefield.

What on Earth Happened?

A non-fiction book that summarises everything from the origin of the planet to people by using analogies and simple language.

The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat-

Another great non-fiction book, this time by Oliver Sacks, a neurologist who shares with us the experience of many of his patients with unusual conditions that will teach you a great deal about the brain and the body.

Sherlock Holmes

The original *Law & Order* or *CSI*, before forensics was established. A series of crime detective books with ingenious characters and mysteries to solve through the power of observation, deduction and a thorough knowledge of human behaviour.

t788

A short History of Nearly Everything

Another non-fiction book by Bill Bryson. He manages to explain complicated concepts in the simplest terms. It is considered a book for dummies on everything there is.

A series of Unfortunate Events

Admittedly the complexity of this books language ceases to be of high school calibre. However I still admire Lemony Snicket to be one of the only in-character authors. This series of books is full of fun characters, mystery and quite ironically, humour.

by Sarah—9A



ENGLISH CORNER

Tempe High School Student Book Reviews

Ranger's Apprentice Book review

They move silent as a shadow. They climb impossible heights. Their archery skills are unsurpassed. They are Rangers.

If you enjoy reading books with action, interesting themes and legitimate history and techniques then you will love reading *Rangers Apprentice*. If you aren't a reader, it is a great place to start. *Rangers Apprentice* is the bestselling book series which follows the adventures of Will Treaty, who starts life as an orphan at Redmont Castle. On his fifteenth birthday Will becomes the Ranger's apprentice.

The books are set on the island of Araluen, a place that bears remarkable similarities to England.

Under his mentor, the ranger Halt, Will learns to shoot a bow and arrow, move stealthily, throw knives and ride horses all to an extreme level. All of the lessons Will learns from Halt can be applied to real life. For example, one lesson from the first book is the fact that people must practise not until they get it right but until they DON'T get it wrong, which can be used in any setting that requires work and discipline.

Ranger's Apprentice doesn't have too many complicated words or confusing plotlines, but it definitely isn't simple. The themes are also often mature. In one book the main character faces drug addiction and enslavement. It also has references to real life events, like the Mongol invasion, in its own version of the world. I gained lots of pleasure working out which countries and events correlated with actual historical ones. My only criticism of the books would be that they can become clichéd in parts, but apart from that they are thrilling reads.

Ranger's Apprentice is a long series - with twelve books in the main story - but if you have commitment issues, most work as standalone novels. I personally found them to be addictive, and barely noticed that when you stack them all up they are half a metre high. If you like the *Ranger's Apprentice* series, then there is a parallel series called *Brother Band*, which follows the story of a group of young Viking boys. It is set in the same world and makes references to characters in *Ranger's Apprentice* and vice versa.

The author of the series is John Flanagan, an Australian who has written many successful books including *Brother Band*, *The Jesse Parker* series and of course, *Ranger's Apprentice*. The *Ranger's Apprentice* series is Flanagan's most successful work and has received a multitude of awards including the Australian Book Industry Award in 2008, two-time holder of the Book of the Year for Older Children and numerous shortlistings and notable book awards.

I thoroughly recommend this book to those who enjoy reading but also to those who are not regular readers but would like to read more often.

THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT is appealing to all those students who are yet to return their novels. We would like all books returned before the end of term so that we can place them safely into hibernation during the holidays.



Parents, this is the perfect time to ask your child to clean their bedrooms. Are there ANY novels that need returning to the school?

Thank you for your support 😊

Year 7 Students Brainstormed !

On Wednesday 9th November, during period 1 and 2 performers Rodney and Amy from Brainstorm Productions came to Tempe High School and gave our Year 7 students plenty to think about in terms of interpersonal relationships. Through the use of engaging role plays (featuring both Rodney and Amy and a host of costumes, props and rock music) the Tempe audience were subject to a myriad of ideas bringing to light the awful impact that all forms of bullying has on people. The performance encompassed scenarios that most students could relate to in terms of school life – but with the added complication of students who decide bullying is okay.

With a question and answer session afterwards our Year 7 students had a lot to think about in terms of how positive relationships lighten and bring out the best in friendships, whilst gossip, negative attitudes and bullying lead to wider and negative results around any school community or workplace.

The Tempe High School Head of Wellbeing Ms White and Year 7 Advisor Mr Dias were in the audience along with Year 7 audience and they found students were engaged and responsive to the many ideas and strategies being on offer to us.

CAREERS ADVISOR

Year 10

A reminder that **Work Experience Week** is approaching. This year the dates are Term 4, Week 9 (5th—9th December).

Work experience helps young people learn about workplace expectations and employability skills. It helps students gain a better understanding of the real world of work and helps them make informed career choices for the future.

Students have been given the necessary paperwork—including insurance information.

The *Student Placement Record* must be signed and returned to the Careers Advisor prior to starting the placement.

If you require any assistance, please feel free to contact me either by phoning the school or by emailing:

shane.fawcett@det.nsw.edu.au



Mr J Dias—Year 7 Advisor

LEAVING STUDENTS

Any student who is leaving Tempe High School needs to provide a letter from their parent/guardian as soon as possible indicating destination school and final day.

TEMPE TIMES

HO HO HO HO!



It is that time of year once again when we can expect the Christmas edition of The Tempe Times!

We have interesting features on the Tempe High School Science Fair, a feature on our Koori staff members Aunty Carole and Ms Dass looking at Christmas from their unique Koori perspectives. We have a fascinating interview with our relieving Principal Ms Hale and loads of reviews, games and things to put a Christmas glow to our daily lives!

Please log on to the Tempe High School website and log-on! We will be launching it to you by the start of week 8!

<http://www.tempe-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/moodle/tempe-times-page>

TAS FACULTY

This term Year 10 Food Technology has been learning about Food Equity and the circumstances that may lead to people not having enough to eat. As a class we decided to try and help a local organisation that helps people in this situation. The organisation we chose to support is The Exodus Foundation.

We held a very successful bake sale. \$640 was raised and will be donated in the name of Tempe High School.

Well done to all of the fantastic students who participated and those who spent their money on a bake sale that is going to such a great cause.

Ms S Di Rosario—TAS Teacher



SCIENCE FACULTY—TERM 4

VALID

This year for the first time we had our year 10 science students sit the VALID test. VALID stands for Validation of Assessment for Learning and Individual Development.

We have some raw data below. In the coming months the school will be getting more detailed information.

Overall	Level					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
School percent in level	0.0%	1.2%	5.4%	24.6%	45.5%	23.4%
Cohort percent in level (N = 20683)	0.8%	7.2%	24.2%	36.2%	24.9%	6.8%

Extended responses	Level					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
School percent in level	0.0%	0.6%	6.0%	21.0%	46.7%	25.7%
Cohort percent in level (N = 20683)	2.9%	9.4%	19.4%	31.7%	29.7%	6.6%

Knowledge and understanding	Level					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
School percent in level	0.0%	2.4%	9.0%	23.4%	46.1%	19.2%
Cohort percent in level (N = 20683)	1.0%	8.9%	23.4%	34.3%	24.3%	8.1%

Planning, designing and conducting	Level					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
School percent in level	0.0%	1.2%	9.6%	16.8%	38.9%	33.5%
Cohort percent in level (N = 20683)	4.3%	8.3%	22.2%	24.6%	27.2%	13.4%

Problem solving and communicating	Level					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
School percent in level	0.0%	2.4%	12.0%	26.3%	32.9%	26.3%
Cohort percent in level (N = 20683)	1.2%	8.8%	27.2%	30.4%	22.0%	10.4%

Level 6 is the highest score. 20683 students sat the year 10 VALID test across the state. As a snap shot it informs us that the school has done very well.

An indication is that a greater proportion of our students are in the levels of 5 and 6 and fewer students are in the levels of 1, 2 and 3.

This is a testament to our students who should as a cohort be very proud of their achievement. While I can say that the Science teachers are also very pleased with the result. Over the coming weeks we will be taking a closer look at the data to see where we are doing well and importantly where we can strengthen what we do.

While the test is not compulsory for year 10, it is compulsory for year 8 who recently did the VALID test. We will receive the year 8 results next year.

For those who are not aware the VALID test is an online test that examines the Science knowledge, skills and problem solving abilities of students across the state. The year 8 students used the faculty chromebooks to do the test in class. The chrome books worked extremely well.

SCIENCE FACULTY Continued**Forensic Science Incursion Year 8**

A Forensic Science Workshop (“A Case of Conspiracy”) will take place at our school on Wednesday 30th November (Term 4, week 8) to present a crime scene for Year 8 students to solve. Students will hear about the suspects and be able to examine the evidence found at the scene. They will see the tests that are carried out in the Forensic Laboratories and help solve the crime just like real Forensic Scientists. Students will learn how real Forensic Scientists process crime scenes to find the vital clues they need to assist a Police investigation. Students will experience fingerprinting, DNA profiling, ballistics, microscopy, trace evidence transfer, gas chromatography (and much more) and see how they are used to identify the murderer.



This incursion relates to the areas of “Working Scientifically” and “Science as a Human Endeavour” in the Stage 4 Science Syllabus. For further information you can use the link:

<http://www.educationinteractive.com.au/secondary.asp>

This the third year we have run this incursion and we keep doing it because the students keep telling us that it was an interesting day and that they really enjoyed it. Each time it has been run I have seen the students engaged and enjoying the opportunity to look how at one avenue for the application of science in society.

Notes have been given to year 8 students and it would be appreciated if students could pay twelve dollars to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

BYOD

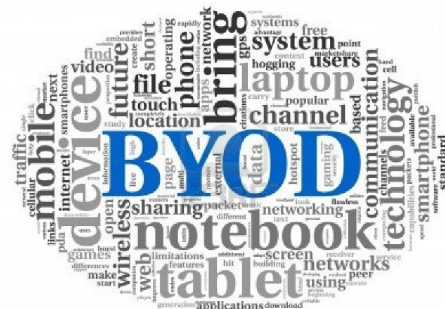
2017 will be the year when BYOD (Bring your own device) program will extend across the school. The draft policy, user agreement and information note for parents have been placed on the website. User agreements will also be given to year 7 and year 8 students and students in other years who wish to receive a note. The user agreements are to be signed and returned to Science teachers who will collate and record these.

Please do not buy a new device unless you wish to. If you have a device please trial this at school first before investing in a new device.

The way most BYOD lessons will run is that a teacher will advise students in advance that a particular lesson will involve technology. During that lesson the teacher will bring technology to the classroom to ensure that all students have access and those students who have their own technology can use it during the lesson. It is important to note that not every lesson will be BYOD. Pen and paper are still very important.

An example of how BYOD has been used is that some year 9 science classes did their Student Research Project on google docs. This meant that there was no paper involved, the document was always available during class and all members of the group could access the document in class and from home. Some students brought a computer from home while the teacher had enough chromebooks so that each group had access to technology.

Finally and importantly please understand that it is not obligatory to participate in the school's BYOD program. If you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to call the school.



Mr A Murphy—Head Teacher Science

PEER SUPPORT

Congratulations to all of year 10 for making the 2016 Peer Support Program such a memorable experience for students and staff alike. The students were thoroughly engaged, and used teamwork to produce an entertaining and spectacular newspaper fashion parade. Special thanks goes out to Ms A White—Head Teacher Wellbeing, Ms K O'Brien—Year 10 Year Advisor, and the Tempe High School staff who gave their time to support year 10 as they begin their journey as year 11 Peer Support Leaders.

Mr A Greene—Peer Support Trainer



TEMPE HIGH SCHOOL

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

PURCHASES

The Noffs Shop in Marrickville has kindly agreed to sell our second hand uniforms, with all proceeds being returned to the Noffs Foundation. Originally named The Wayside Foundation, the Noffs Foundation's mission is to *help disadvantaged young Australians become advantaged*. Read more about the Noffs Foundation at noffs.org.au



Address:

The Noffs Shop

Unit 3, 359 Illawarra Road, Marrickville

This is under the Revolution apartment complex, just next to Marrickville station

Opening Hours:

Monday to Saturday, 10.00am to 5.00pm

DROP OFFS

Freshly laundered uniforms can be dropped off at both the school (main office) and the Noffs Shop **DURING OPENING HOURS** only.

Please **do not** leave donations while the shop is closed