Special projects, music and cows

By MATILDA MERRICK and SHAHNE HOCKING

WANT to be involved in a special project? Where you get to research a topic that interests you and then be part of a special expo, where you present your project to teachers and parents? Well at Corrimal High you can be involved. We call it The Special Interest Project and we offer it to all students in our year 7 and 8 Motivation classes. This year students have researched topics such as homelessness, marine sanctuaries and Disneyland.

As well as the motivation projects we have a wide variety of other projects.

For example, we have Mr Heugh’s percussion group playing various drums from all over the world. We recently had a talent quest which featured performances from the school vocal ensemble, percussion ensemble and big band.

This year we also had two exciting science projects. This year Corrimal High School’s class 101 invented 10 solar cars, while year 8 science are trying to break the world altitude record for student-designed rockets.

The science research projects for the UOW Illawarra Con science fair are to be shown at our school fair, with a selected number sent to UOW fair. We enter this every year and generally take home a few prizes.

Finally, we are one of the few remaining schools in the Illawarra offering agriculture courses.

Every year our students are involved in a dairy farm module developed by Dairy Australia to create awareness and promote careers in the dairy industry.

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The gift of the gab

By SHAHNE HOCKING

CORRIMAL High School has a keen interest in public speaking and debating and we encourage all students to be involved. We have participated in many competitions and are proud of our achievements.

Last year we had four students Shahne Hocking, Keaton James, Noah Rzeminski and Josh Hayles, who participated in the NAIDOC public speaking and debating competition and performed exceptionally well.

We also had eight students who competed in the recent South Coast Public Speaking competition.

Our school is well known for its debating prowess.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commercial fishermen to blame

Fishing is the most popular sport in Australia yet more and more fishing spots are being turned into marine sanctuaries due to overfishing.

Many boats and fishing trollers wipe out enormous amounts of fish every day. So instead of banning or limiting the boats, they take fishing spots and turn them into sanctuary zones - which will stop a fisherman from doing what he loves. Now I don’t know about you but to me that sounds frightfully wrong.

Ben

Teach our kids how to swim

How many kids have drowned before we take action?

I’m disappointed in our government for not establishing compulsory swimming lessons earlier. We could have saved the lives of many different children.

Vox pop

Does technology have a...
We run, jump, swim and enjoy our sport

By OSCAR McFARLANE

We are extremely proud of the sporting achievements of students here at Corrimal High. Our athletes have success on and off the field at various levels, including state, regional and zone competitions.

Recently, Corrimal High took a senior girls’ volleyball team to compete in the State Knockout Series. The girls were successful in their first game, which put them in the top eight teams. Although they did not win another game, they improved their skills and represented the school with pride.

Students take part in the cross-country run.

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knockout, where we were ecstatic to make the grand final. Although we were defeated, we again showed our great sporting skills as well as sportmanship.

We engage in many other events, such as girls’ rugby league gala day, touch gala day and the Hassett Cup Junior cricket knockout.

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He and Jamie Wakeling, both of year 12, also represented the South Coast region at the combined high schools boys’ football championships, where they reached the semi-finals.

Oscar Curby has had a lot of success in cricket. He was selected as the captain of the South Coast regional open boys’ cricket team earlier this year. He went on to be selected for the NSW combined high schools open boys’ cricket team – an incredible honour.

Every student competes in the school’s cross-country, athletics and swimming carnivals. This year the swimming carnival had a theme of Lachlan Theobald (year 8) and Erin Grimshaw (year 7) made it into South Coast Regional Cross Country Carnival at Willandra.

We had 17 students go to South Coast Regional Athletics Championships in Canberra, which is impressive. Two, including Eboni Fraser, qualified to state level.
Travel with a new language

By Kye Chamberlain and Cody Fairar

Learning other languages is one of the most important things to do in today's society as not everyone speaks the same language.

Our school offers two different language electives, French and Chinese. Both of these languages are important to learn because they are two of the most widely used languages in the world after English. Both language classes offer exciting cultural days, such as a trip to China Town and the Chinese gardens in Sydney.

Crepe day was also held at our school this year. It involved a French chef, Patrice, setting up a crepe stall in our playground and selling a variety of crepes. Many students lined up for seconds, and the chocolate and whipped cream crepes were a special hit.

At Corrimal High School there is always something going on, especially in the classrooms. Our school has opportunities for every student. Corrimal High's Support Unit is one of the best in the area, and its staff are committed to helping the students learn. The support staff help teach life skills as well as a slightly modified curriculum of mainstream subjects.

The unit also offers work experiences and trips to places like the local fire station to learn about team building. One of the most appreciated parts of the support unit is the school's Secret Garden. It is a garden tucked away behind a fence like a secret courtyard and offers a quiet space for students who request it.

Corrimal High has also set up a retail shop as part of our Retail Skills program. The aim is for students to learn how to work and respond in a retail environment.

"The shop offers an opportunity for students to engage in practical scenarios and apply their skills in a retail environment," says Mr. Stephens, our retail skills teacher.

Although the shop only started up this year it is going strong and has the support of many of Corrimal High's teachers and students. We pride ourselves on offering a variety of practical subjects and experiences for our students.

We have students engaged in TAFE trade readiness programs in areas such as carpentry, spray painting and automotive repairs.

We run financial programs, and several of our students engaged in a "Boatsmart" program this year as part of their Marine Studies course. This program was designed to educate teens in recreational powerboat handling.

We have also been involved in programs such as the Travel Safely program, where students are taught how to keep themselves safe if they travel overseas.