As most of you are aware our Canteen Manager, Sue Townsend’s grandson had a severe accident in February last year leaving him with a severe ABI (Acquired Brain Injury). James is a regular face at the high school Canteen helping his grandmother out and putting smiles on your kid’s faces.

You may have seen blue beanies getting around in our community. This year the P&C are getting behind the “Bang on a Beanie” campaign to help raise much needed funds for the brain injury foundation. All money raised will help children, adults and their families like Sue and her grandson in the future with their long and hard recovery.

Accidents can happen with a blink of an eye. None of us think it will happen to their family or friends but believe me it can happen to anyone, no matter how hard you try and prevent it. So one day this foundation may indeed help someone you know or love.

The SRC are having a fundraiser this Friday (19th August) Week 5 for Bang on a Beanie and it is a gold coin donation. Students are encouraged wear a beanie or they can wear a fancy hat. This issue is very close to people at the school and we would very much appreciate it if everyone would support the cause.

What a show!! Last week Canowindra High School’s production “A Night in Vegas”, showed to sell out crowds earning rave reviews. Who knew such a variety of talents lurked beneath the surface of the student body? We did! It all started with a bang at Wednesday’s matinee performance, with the primary schools very much enjoying becoming part of the show. A weary but stoic cast fronted up that night to present a variety of energetic and colourful items and some that challenged us to think about society. On Thursday they presented a refined and polished performance that again wowed the audience.

As often happens with whole school activities at Canowindra there are a myriad of other benefits that go hand in hand with such experiences and extend beyond the normal classroom activities. In the lead up and preparation for such events we, as teachers, have the privilege to see the students in action.
We see cross year group peer support with students of all ages enjoying a positive experience together. It also was pleasing to see large numbers of students from year groups becoming more cohesive and supportive of one another. The leadership shown by the older students in mentoring younger peers was outstanding. We would particularly like to mention the contribution made by Emily McTaggart of Year 11 who created and directed the junior drama performance. Assisted by Meg Irvine and Hayley Wynn of Year 10, she instilled her group with the confidence and skills to get on stage for the first time and challenged them to perform something a little out of the ordinary.

The creative process and problem solving involved in such performances is invaluable. Having to design, evaluate and modify their work, the students have to accept criticism and rethink ideas. In a group decision making process, this can be challenging and requires maturity and acceptance of other’s view points. The sound and lighting technicians also faced the challenge of new equipment in some areas and failing equipment in others! Quick fixes were the order of the day!

For all involved the experience of performing meant conquering fears and building confidence to get in and have a go. The teamwork and camaraderie that developed in the last few days of preparation resulted in the positive and happy environment that existed in the hall despite the hectic pace at which all seemed to move.

We often also tend to overlook another outcome of such experiences.....FUN!! Kids get a real buzz out of performing and were rightly proud of themselves in showcasing their talents with many comments from others that they would like to be involved next time we can look forward to even greater involvement in the future.

![Image](image.jpg)

Until next time
The Production Team

**Principal’s News**

**Wow – what a terrific School Production last week. Congratulations to all of the students involved from the back stage, sound and lighting crews to the drama groups, musicians, dance troupes, individual performers and of course the comperes of the show.** There were too many exceptional performers to mention individually by name. Of course a show as big as that takes many weeks of planning and hours of perfecting. During it all, four staff in particular have worked very hard to make it a reality. Many thanks to Kath Balcombe, Tony Dagg, Dearne Curtis and Meredith Healey. All three have put themselves second for the kids. I hope the weekend provided some respite for their tired and exhausted bodies. We have some incredible talent in our school and it is wonderful they have opportunities to develop and display it.

Last week all students watched a motivational presentation highlighting four inspirational Australians as they worked to positively change the world around them in big and small ways. As an example, one of the young Australians featured drifted through school not knowing what she really wanted to do. Upon leaving school she travelled through Asia and was struck by the poverty of orphans in an orphanage. Determined to make a positive difference, she returned to Australia and set up a sponsorship scheme enabling her to return on a permanent basis and set up a safe and healthy place for the children to live. We hope this is an example to all of our students, that no matter who they are, each can make a positive difference to the world around us.

Congratulations to the many students in Year 12 who are currently working hard to complete major projects over coming weeks. Students are completing major projects in visual arts, design and technology and industrial technology (automotive). **Automotive projects are due today and thus students under the tuition and watchful eye of Bob Scott, have been working very hard and long hours to perfect their engines and projects.**

Last week students in Year 10 completed their Workcover OHS White Card training enabling students to enter worksites safely. **This week Year 10 students are out of the school in workplaces on work experience.** We wish them well as they investigate possible future careers and see how education facilitates a life beyond school.

**Whooping cough (pertussis) infections are increasing again, especially among school age children in NSW.** Recently a case of whooping cough was diagnosed in a student from our school. **Parents are advised to monitor their children closely facilitating early diagnosis and treatment of any child infected with the disease.** Along with reducing the severity of the infection, this action can help prevent further infections in the community. Further information can be obtained from NSW Health on their website.

**The next P&C Meeting will be conducted this week on Thursday 18 August at 5.30pm in the staff common room.** Parents and caregivers are invited and encouraged to come along and contribute to the priorities, direction and emphasis of our school.

David Lloyd
The focus for this article relates to the Y12 IT Automotive class. The Industrial Technology Automotive Course is a Category A Board of Studies Course requiring students to complete and present for external marking a practical project and supporting portfolio representing a minimum of 75 hours work.

Students are required to select a project related to the automotive trade which will enable them to demonstrate a wide range of skills and knowledge culminating in the presentation of a finished project and supporting folio. To bring a project to completion in the time available requires a well thought out timeline, supported by a management strategy that has been well-researched and an implementation structure that is within the scope of each individual student.

The 2011 class have for some time had a very keen interest in the IT Automotive course and this has been clearly evident in the quality of their projects and their ability to work independently with practical work and high order problem solving.

The 2011 list of students and their projects include:

- Charles Toohey - Suzuki TS250 motor bike restoration
- Daniel Middleton - 1988 Yamaha YZ125 water cooled 2 stroke motor bike restoration
- Danny Daley - 2 stroke lawnmower
- Samuel Wallace - Yamaha TS 185 ER motor bike restoration
- Jayden Simon - Suzuki TC 185 Ag motor bike restoration
- Lincoln Townsend Holden inline 6 cylinder black 202 cubic inch engine rebuild
- Gerard Eppelstun - Chopper build-up utilising a Suzuki 185 motor bike engine & running gear

Year 8 into 9 (2012) and Year 10 into 11 (2012) Subject information Evening
Thursday 25 August 6pm for Year 8 into 9 (2012)
7pm for Year 10 into 11 (2012)

This season Canowindra Pool is trialling a payment plan option that will allow you to nominate dates over the coming weeks to pay your season ticket to ease the pressure at the beginning of the pool season.

Contact Jarrod at canowindrapool@hotmail.com for further details and/or pricing.

The canteen will be having a RED DAY Week 6

Wednesday 24 August 2011
On Friday the 12th August, Chantelle Goulevitch from the Commonwealth Bank program StartSmart, conducted a 2 hr interactive seminar for Canowindra High School Yr 10 & 11 students. She spoke to the students about taxes, your rights in the workplace, managing your finances, superannuation, saving and how to budget.

The talk was aimed at the students, in a direct but humorous way, as they enter the workplace, currently have casual or part-time employment and are considering their options for the future. The information provided should set a basis on which they can build their knowledge on the workings of the workplace and the smartest ways to ensure their future is looked after.

StartSmart will now be visiting the school annually to talk to Yr 10 & 11 students, providing them with the tools to better manage their finances.

**Do you live/work with a Teenager?**
The ARCHER Study Team presents...

**Adolescent Health and Well-being**
Session 2 in our series of FREE community presentations in country NSW about adolescence

You are invited to attend a presentation by

**Professor David Bennett**
Senior Staff Specialist, Department of Adolescent Medicine & Head, NSW Centre for the Advancement of Adolescent Health, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead on

Adolescent development and behaviour:
What’s normal and when to

**Assessments due:**

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