



# Tottenham Central School Newsletter

Monday, 16th December, 2013

Week 11 - Term 4

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## POSTING LETTERS TO SANTA

On Tuesday 10th, December Year 2/3 walked to the Post Office to post their Santa letters. Mrs Hillam showed the children how the mail is sorted each day and where their family's mail is stored before being delivered.



## GRADUATION DINNER

*Right:* Demmi, Tobi and Jayde cutting their graduation cake, last Thursday night. A great night was had by all.



Education & Communities

## Principal's Message

The 2013 school year is drawing to a close and as I look back over all the events and activities held throughout 2013 I am quite amazed at what we have achieved together. It has certainly been a very busy, successful and productive year.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all parents and community members for the generous support provided to Tottenham Central School throughout the year. Your support, encouragement and valuable contributions are much appreciated, and are vital to the on-going success of all our students. Thank you.

I would like to congratulate everyone who had a part in the Secondary Formal last week. On a wonderful night of celebration, students were able to end the year in a very appropriate fashion. My thanks go to Naomi Fishpool and Fergus Brown for so capably 'chairing' the evening, and to Mrs Jarvis and all her helpers for ensuring the evening proceeded smoothly. Thanks to the Stage 5 students who assisted in decorating the Golf Club dining room with fairy lights, tinsel and other decorations to create a festive atmosphere. I also thought that all students dressed extremely well and really enjoyed their evening. Perhaps the highlight of the evening was the disco. I congratulate everyone for making the night such a success.

Last Tuesday we also held 'discos' for our infants and primary students. There were quite a few students who proved themselves to be 'naturally talented dancers'. A really happy atmosphere prevailed at both discos. My thanks to Mrs Lindsay for being the 'DJ', and to all the primary teachers who helped supervise.

Many parents, grandparents and friends of the school attended our Christmas Assembly last Friday. Congratulations to all students who took part in their class's performances. I thought they were all fantastic... with K/1/2 possibly stealing the show with their singing and music. It was also very pleasing to see Stage 4 students perform their short, fun musical item. We were all pleased to see and hear about the Stage 5 Hornsby Work Experience. Bridget Bennett and Hannah Smith gave a great presentation about their week in Sydney. My thanks to everyone involved.

Congratulations to the many students who received Merit Awards and Sports Awards at the assembly, and especially to all those who received Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum Awards.

During the last two weeks many primary students have been involved in the School Swimming Scheme. It was very impressive seeing the improvement in students' water confidence and skills. It is important to ensure, as we approach the summer holidays and the swimming season, that all children are 'water safe' and well supervised when in, or near water. My thanks to Meggan for organising and conducting the Primary Swimming Scheme. Thanks also to Jodie and Ros for all their good work at the pool over the last two weeks.

To cap the term and year off, our Presentation Ceremony will be held tomorrow, Tuesday the 17th of December, commencing at 10.00am. The Presentation Ceremony is one of the most important functions of the school year and is an opportunity for the TCS community to reflect upon and to celebrate the achievements of the past year. It is important that all students wear their best summer school uniform. I encourage everyone to attend this rewarding and enjoyable highlight of the school year.

This week we will farewell two of our teaching staff, Miss Felicity Dwyer and Mrs Kim Williams.

Miss Felicity Dwyer is taking leave in 2014. Miss Dwyer, as you are all aware, has done an absolutely outstanding job here over the last two years. She has provided students with interesting and varied science lessons, forming a good rapport with students and inspiring them in and to take an interest in Science and to always do their best. Miss Dwyer has worked extremely hard, teaching secondary and primary Science and Sport as well as successfully coordinating Chemistry for Year 11 students in the Western Access Program. I am sure everyone joins me in thanking Felicity and wishing her all the very best in her adventures in 2014.

Mrs Kim Williams has completed her four year appointment here as a 'LSES staff member' this term. Mrs Williams has also demonstrated what an excellent teacher she is, and has always worked extremely hard in the many and varied roles I have assigned her. In particular Kim has provided outstanding lessons in a number of areas and has in particular excelled in giving outstanding Visual Arts lessons. Kim always gives her best to all classes, taking a genuine interest in all students and motivating them to always do good work. All being well, we will see Mrs Williams here as a relief teacher in 2014.

School recommences for students on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> of February, 2014. The school Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> of February. It is important that all students return permission notes this week, for both the swimming carnival and for sport, which will be at the pool on the first Wednesday and Thursday.

In conclusion I would again like to pass on my thanks to everyone - students, staff and parents, for making 2013 such an enjoyable and successful year at Tottenham Central School. Have a safe and peaceful holiday break.

***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!***

***Steve Garriock***



## School News

### Presentation Ceremony

tomorrow morning,  
Tuesday, 17th December,  
starting 10am at  
Tottenham Memorial Hall



#### REMINDER - MEDICAL RECORDS UPDATE

*Last reminder - it is very important that we have these forms to update our medical records.*

*Please fill out the form and return it to us regardless of whether or not your child has an allergy or medical condition. Thank you to the parents who have returned these forms already.*

#### SECONDARY REQUIREMENTS FOR 2014

Included in this newsletter is a copy of the secondary requirements for next year. Please ensure that all students have these items, clearly labelled for their return to classes.

#### CONCERT NIGHT DVDS

DVDs of Concert Night are available in the school office.

Disk 1: Opening curtain to Intermission,

Disk 2: Sound of Music, plus over 500 still photos.

\$5 each – proceeds to the school's Merit System rewards.

#### YEAR BOOK

The 2013 Tottenham Central School Year Book will be available for sale at the Presentation Assembly. Cost \$10. Orders taken at school.

*This Wednesday secondary students will be walking to the pool at 1.20 pm. The students can either bring their lunch from home, order their lunch from the canteen or order hot food at the pool. We will spend the afternoon as usual at the pool for sport.*



Tottenham Central School students begin the  
2014 school year on  
**Wednesday, 5th February, 2014.**

Please ensure all new belongings are clearly  
labelled with your child's name.

# School Calendar

## Term 4

<b>WEEK 11</b>	16 <b>I WANT TO BE DAY</b> Class parties	17 Presentation Day 10.00 am	18 <b>Students last day of school for 2013</b>	19 Staff development day	20 Staff development day
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## Term 1, 2014

<b>WEEK 1</b>	27 January	28	29	30	31
	← <b>HEAT WEEK</b> →				
<b>WEEK 2</b>	3 February	4 Staff return for 2014	5 <b>TCS students return for 2014</b>	6	7 School Swimming Carnival
<b>WEEK 3</b>	10	11	12	13	14
<b>WEEK 4</b>	17 Gobondery/NARRAF tennis trials - Tottenham	18	19	20 ← <b>ACCESS CAMP</b> →	21 Gobondery/NARRAF swimming - Narromine

# Sports News

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL NOMINATION

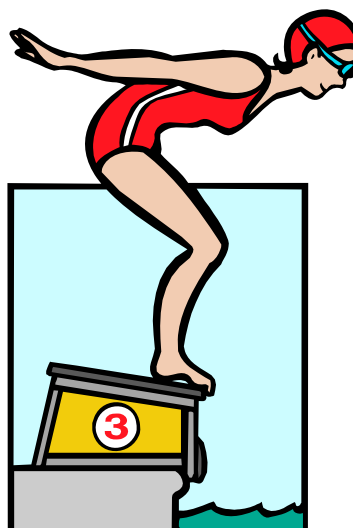
Nomination forms have been sent home for the swimming carnival next year. These need to be returned as soon as possible. For those parents with 8 year old children in Year 2 it is easier to complete the nomination form now and send it in then see how they go over the holidays. If you feel your child cannot swim in the carnival they can be taken out at the beginning of next year. On the nomination form is the house and colour of the house your child will be in.

## SPORT NOTES

Sport notes were sent home last week to allow your child to either walk to or catch a bus to the pool for sport next year. These need to be returned as soon as possible.

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our annual swimming carnival will be held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Don't forget our new sporting houses - Bailes (red) and Latham (yellow).



## End of year celebrations



## Other news

### YOUTH CLUB

Thanks to Barb and Tristan Baker for running Open House on Friday night. A huge thanks to all those members who helped out with the drink stall at the Christmas Tree. It was a busy evening and your help was invaluable. Mrs Baker has also organised that this THURSDAY evening, 6 – 10pm will be our Christmas Party at the pool. Bring a snack to share, as well as a Chris Kringle present to the value of \$10. Normal pool entry fee applies. Additional parental help would be appreciated.

### PONY CLUB

Our end of year get-together will be held at the Racecourse this Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:30pm start, with an afternoon ride then Christmas Light Run at the conclusion of the evening for those who wish to participate. Please RSVP by Thursday for catering. Kevin Gorrie will be coming this way on the weekend for shoeing – message him on Facebook ([Karen N Kevin Gorrie](#)) -- probably the easiest way to get in touch with him these days!

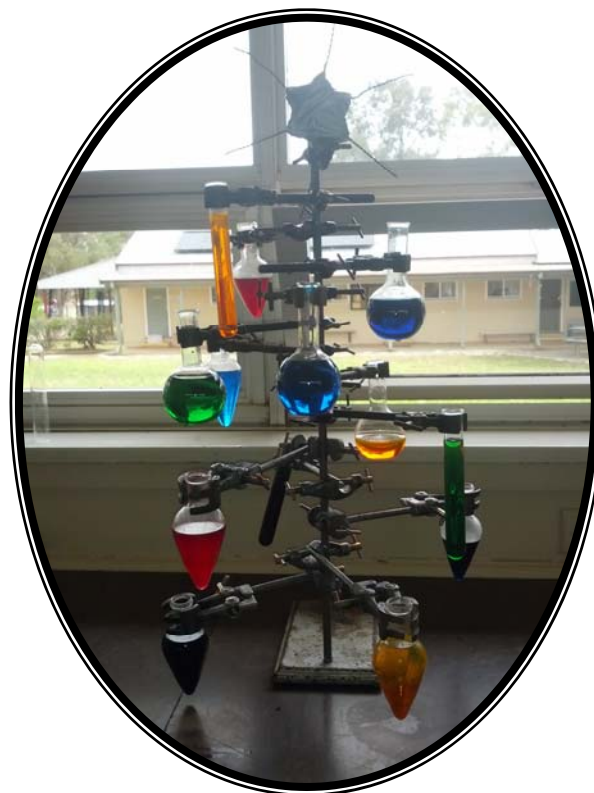
### THE LITERARY GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

Between 1920 and 1942, J. R. R. Tolkien wrote a series of letters to his children from 'Father Christmas.'

*The Father Christmas Letters* were published posthumously in 1976 and have been linked to Tolkien's major works, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. Some scholars -- such as Laurence and Martha Krieg in the journal *Mythlore* -- have even suggested that the character of Gandalf was partly inspired by the figure of Father Christmas.

Much of our modern idea of Santa Claus comes from the 1823 poem 'A Visit from St Nicholas.'

More commonly known by its first line, 'Twas the night before Christmas,' this poem popularised the image of St. Nick as a jolly fat man wearing fur-trimmed red robes (long before the Coca-Cola adverts popularised this). The poem also introduced us to the names of all of Santa's reindeer. It was published anonymously, and probably written by an American professor called Clement Clarke Moore -- although this claim has been disputed by some.



Miss Dwyer got into the Christmas spirit and decorated the science lab with her *Chemistree*.

*Have a safe and happy holiday everyone*

### THE TRUE MEANING OF BOXING DAY?

Turns out there are a few different theories as to the exact origin of 'Boxing Day'. One is that in England during the Middle Ages, servants who worked on Christmas Day were given the next day off and presented with gift boxes or left overs boxed up to take home, from their employers.

Another theory is that boxes were placed in churches to collect money for the poor and then distributed to them on Dec. 26.

A lot of people I know seem to think the day after Christmas got its name because that's the day we box up and put away all our Christmas presents and decorations. I can't picture anyone doing that. I'm lucky if I get everything put away before New Year's.



# *A Visit from St. Nicholas*

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St Nicholas soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.  
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow  
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below.  
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer.

With a little old driver, so lively and quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St Nick.  
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!

"Now Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!  
On, Comet! On, Cupid! on, on Donner and Blitzen!  
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky.  
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,  
With the sleigh full of Toys, and St Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.  
A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,  
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,  
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.  
He had a broad face and a little round belly,  
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!  
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk.  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.  
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,  
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"



Secondary students are required to provide the following materials, clearly labelled, for classes in 2014:

Blue pen	Black pen	Red pen
Highlighter	Lead pencil	Coloured textas
Coloured pencils	Glue stick	USB – thumbdrive
Pencil sharpener	Eraser	Geometry set

## Stage 5

Mathematics	1 x A4 Mathematic Grid Book 1 x A4 exercise book Casio Calculator (BOS calculator approved list) \$24 fx-82 AU PLUS – available through school
English	1 x Display folders 2 x A4 196 page Exercise books, stapled with ruled margin – no tear out pages or perforated pages 1 art diary
Science	1 x A4 196 page exercise book Covered leather shoes
Geography	1 x A4 exercise book
History	1 x A4 exercise book
PD/H/PE	1 x A4 96 page exercise book
PE/Sport	Sports clothes, joggers
Music	1 x A4 exercise book 1 display folder
Visual Arts	1 x A4 Visual Arts Diary 2 B pencils (range of B's for drawing) Art shirt / paint smock
Technology	Display folder book 1 x A4 Exercise book

Mathematics	2 x A4 exercise books or ( 1 x exercise and 1 x grid book, if preferred )
English	1 x Display folders 2 x A4 196 page Exercise books, stapled with ruled margin – no tear out pages or perforated pages, 1 art diary
Science	1 x A4 196 page exercise book Covered leather shoes
Geography	2 x A4 196 page exercise books 1 x A4 Display folder
History	1 x A4 196 page exercise books 1 x A4 Display folder
PD/H/PE	1 x A4 96 page exercise book
PE/Sport	Sports clothes, joggers
Timber Technology	Display folder A4 Lecture Pad ( shared with Metal Tech)
Food Technology	Display Folder, 1 x A4 128 page exercise book, Covered leather shoes
Metal Technology	Display folder A4 Lecture Pad (shared with Timber Tech)
Information & Software Technology	Display folder 1 x A4 128 page exercise book
Work Education	1 x A4 128 page exercise book Laptop bag/satchel for DER laptops