



**FARRER MEMORIAL AGRICULTURAL  
HIGH SCHOOL  
TAMWORTH**

**2017 HIGHLIGHTS**



## **ACADEMIC and SCHOOL**

- A review of the Higher School Certificate results for 2017 indicates that generally the school performed well. We had 9 students achieve Band 6 results in Industrial Technology, Maths, Senior Science, Biology, Primary Industries and two in Drama, which is a first for Farrer. 50 Band 5s were also achieved.
- Our Destination Survey for Year 12—2017 indicated that of the 85 students: 45 received Course University placements offers; 17 Apprenticeships; 15 Agriculture related careers; Workforce - 12 and ADFA - 3.
- **Ongoing relationship with the following Universities:** Students visiting Sydney Uni, UNSW, Macquarie Uni, UNE, Newcastle Uni, Bond University. The following Uni's visited us Charles Sturt Uni, University of QLD, Southern Cross Uni plus the Defence Forces.
- **Course that we ran at Farrer-:**
  - 80 students completed the Occupation Health and Safety White Card Construction Course.
  - 15 students completed a senior First Aid.
  - 10 students completed a lifeguard course.
  - 20 Year 10 students completed Cert I in Financial Literacy.
  - All year 10 were run through small workshops by Tracey Cullen from "Style For You" focussing on making a good first impression.
  - Skills Road ran workshops for all of Year 9 and 10 in 2 large presentations and 2 small presentations.
  - 25 students attended the Health Careers Forum by the University of Newcastle.
  - All Year 10's and Year 12's attended the Regional Careers.
  - The Smith Family ran several workshops over the year, bringing together industry, oldboys and recruitment personal from Peel Valley Employment.
  - All Year 10's completed 2 weeks work experience in December.
  - Year 7 Geography tour to Coonabarabran
  - Year 7 excursion to Moore Creek Caves
  - History tour to Sydney Jewish Museum
  - WWI Study Day for Years 9, 10, 11 & 12 Modern classes
  - Year 9 & 10 Geography classes completed fieldwork in the Tamworth region
  - Year 12 Geography class completed excursions to Sydney and Newcastle
  - Students participated in the Australian Geography Competition achieving 8 Distinctions and 8 High Distinctions
  - Students participated in the Australian History Competition achieving 10 Distinctions and 8 High Distinctions including 3rd highest result in Australia
  - Commerce students participated in the ASX Sharemarket game
  - Commerce students participated in the Essi Money game
  - Year 9 Commerce students developed an enterprise growing and selling vegetables
  - Senior students participated in the UNSW Business Studies Competition and Economics Competition
  - Year 11 & 12 Legal Studies students visited the Newcastle Courts
  - Year 12 Legal Studies students visited Tamworth Court and observed a number of cases being heard
  - Year 12 students participated in the UNE HSC Study Day for Business, Economics and Legal Studies
  - Rock and Water—Resilience
  - Young Drivers Expo attended by Year 11

- Students at Farrer have achieved strong results in 2017 HSC. In Industrial Technology, students performed well in the production of projects and folios with at an exceptional level of achievement by Samuel Barden and Jack Foley achieving Band 6 (top 10% of their cohort in the HSC) and nine Band 5 results in Industrial Technology. In Engineering Studies students were also credited with strong results. For most students their HSC result in the TAS subject was their best overall.
- Additional to the HSC success, two students had their projects nominated by markers for the annual InTech Display in Sydney. InTech is an exhibition of outstanding Major Project's for Industrial Technology. These projects were made by Liam Martin (IT-Metal) and Samuel Orman (IT-Multimedia).



Top: Sam Barden, Jack Foley

Left: Liam Martin, right: Sam Orman

- New England Mathematics Association - Mathematics Day: Year 7 & 8 students
- Maths Competitions
- Pi Day - Year 7
- Year 7 Orientation Camp
- Junior Dance with NEGS
- Debating teams in junior, sub junior and senior sections competed in the regional competitions
- Drama HSC Performance Night
- Regional Theatre Sports competition
- Plain English Speaking Competition
- Chess
- NAPLAN
- National Harmony Day celebrated
- Bangarra Aboriginal dance workshop—selected students
- NAIDOC week activities included the Farrer Aboriginal Dance Group
- Opportunity Hub
- Bullying workshop
- Senior success program for Year 11
- PRIDE assembly
- RUOK assembly
- Speech Day guest speaker—Old Boy Mark Sowerby



## AGRICULTURE

- Farrer Year 9 Wool Science students competed in the Northern Schools Prime Lamb Competition achieving good results
- Students competed in the Junior Meat Sheep Judging against 90 other students for across the North West of the state
- Students participated in junior judging for beef cattle, sheep meat, fleece and Merino sheep at the Tamworth Show.
- The Farrer Annual Angus Bull Sale took place in June. This year's sale saw the top price for a Farrer Bull reach \$14,500 and a gross of approximately \$345,000.
- The 2016 steer show team achieved outstanding results at Singleton and Northern Schools Competitions – a large number of awards were achieved: Northern School Comp: Champion on Hook, various 1st in class. Singleton: Reserve Champion Led Steer-Hoof.

All of the procedures and events below are heavily student centred:

**BEEF** • Weighing bulls, Weaning calves, Scanning cattle, Tattooing /DNA sampling, Fertility testing, bull and heifer structural assessment, bull vibrio testing, weaner injections, AI program CIDRS / Pregnancy testing cows and heifers, scanning L Calves, Pestivirus, on-site property sale, 50 bulls, low stress livestock handling course and Genomic testing

**SHEEP** • Shearing and classing White Suffolk rams, AI program. Side branding White Suffolk, Lambplan structural assessment, Pre scanning vaccination

- Jemalong wool sale excursion
- Year 10 Wool Science were involved in the White Suffolk Ram Sale - preparation – sale day – catalogue – marketing – 71 rams were sold, the top price was \$9000 and the average price for the sale was \$1842



### OTHER AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES

- Year 7-12 students assisted with several Primary and Pre-school farm tours
- Industry Partnership formed with Automed UNE.
- Students involved in the analysis of seismic data for groundwater location with Sydney based company Geo9.
- Students involved in UNE SmartFarm and the utilisation of data via emerging technologies.
- Food and Fibre day held at Farrer. A variety of workshops were run by Year 10 students delivering to 350 Primary school students from around the Tamworth district
- Students in Years 7-12 engaged with industry Veterinarians from Merial International in relation to a variety of topics focussing on animal physiology, genetics and world food production.
- Tamworth Show, Scone Cattle Show and Walcha Show judging
- Vegetable production by Year 7
- Students fencing and tree planting at Brewongle and Farrer
- Dubbo Sheep Show
- 12PI work placement AA Company – Western Queensland/Northern Territory
- 11Ag to AGQUIP
- Year 12 Primary Industries chemical accreditation
- 11 Ag visited Breeza Station
- 11 Ag Property Planning Competition achieving Innovation and Highly Commended Awards
- AgCap students participate in the Australian Cotton Conference on the Gold Coast
- Year 10 Agriculture visits to Teys Abattoir, Clipex, Irrigation properties, Bede Burke Chicken farms and UNE
- Year 9 visits to Peel Valley Milk
- Singleton Junior Judging
- Industry partnerships continued with RM Tek, Clipex, boehringer ingelheim
- Students in Years 11 & 12 involved in seminar from Angus Australia



## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP and COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- The Prefects Induction preceded the swimming carnival and the school gathered to induct the Captain and his fellow prefects and seniors
- [Vampire Shield Blood Donor program participation](#)
- Shave for a Cure this year raised \$8665 for research into leukaemia and support for families affected. This was an excellent outcome for our dedicated year 12
- Australia's Biggest Morning Tea raised \$1400 through cake and raffle sales
- The Red Shield Appeal (Salvation Army) collected \$3075
- Red Cross Appeal raised \$5203
- Melbourne Cup "Suit Up" morning tea raised \$1290
- Movember raised over \$11860
- Daffodil Day & Legacy Day student participation to raise money for cancer
- Year 12 Cambodian fundraiser donated to the Cancer Council—\$3035
- Year 10 Commerce raised \$582 for the Cancer Council
- Year 11 attended their Leadership Camp, at Lake Keepit
- The Captains and Prefects for 2018 were announced following the Leadership Camp —School Captain: Alex Roseby, Boarding Vice Captain: Charlie Shadwell and Dayboy Vice Captain: William Clinch
- The Captains for the sporting houses were announced Lachlan Smith (Macarthur), Zac Parker (Peel), Hagan Size (Parkes) and Joshua Irvine (Oxley)
- The 2017 boarding prefects were thanked for their work by the wellbeing team with a dinner
- Captain's visit to State Parliament
- RUOK Day raised \$215
- Budgey Smugglers
- English Schoolboys rugby team billeted
- Wellbeing Week Term 2
- Student Wellbeing committee

**School Captains 2017**



**Year 11  
Leadership Camp**





## WEEKEND ACTIVITIES IN THE SCHOOL

Some of the activities organised by the Weekend Activities Officer this year included:

- Golf
- Lawn bowls
- Cinema
- Tenpin bowling
- Green Valley Farm
- Mud Run
- Motor bike museum
- Canoeing the Peel
- Go Karts
- Movies
- Tamworth Putt Putt
- Tamworth Driving Range
- Marsupial Park/Tamworth lookout
- Tennis comp
- Indoor sports
- Barraba Pool trip
- Laser Tag
- Tag Gridiron
- Xbox Gaming
- City to Surf
- Indoor soccer/Basketball/Hockey
- Paintball
- Newcastle Knights vs Sharks game
- Central North Rugby Union grand final
- Chaffey Dam canoeing/fishing
- Archery
- Tamworth Show
- Table Tennis
- Touch football
- Oztag
- Dodge Ball
- Great Nundle Dog Race
- Cod Fishing—Horton River
- Trout fishing at Woolbrook



## SPORT PARTICIPATION

**Just a few of the sports that Farrer students can be involved in ... there are probably more**

- 1st XIII Rugby League
- Group 4 Junior League
- The Under 16 Rugby Union team - Buchan Shield
- In 2017 it was our turn to host TAS at the annual inter-school challenge in Rugby Union, Soccer, Hockey, Basketball, Tennis & Chess where competition was hot for the Jim Levy Trophy the Dick Hodgson Shield.
- The 1st XI cricket
- School athletics carnival, with excellent participation, won by Parkes House.
- School swimming carnival, again with fantastic participation, won by Macarthur House.
- School cross country, again with student and staff participation won by Oxley.
- Participation in the local Tamworth junior cricket association for years 7, 8, 9 & 10
- Participation at a variety of zone carnivals
- CHS knockouts in hockey
- Volleyball
- Football
- Touch football
- Basketball
- Water polo
- The Open Tennis participation
- In Clay Target Shooting
- Soccer
- Archery
- OzTag
- Year 10 Silver level boys enjoyed their snow trip to Perisher Valley
- Horse sports participation
- Chess competitions against various schools from the region.
- Royal lifesaving awards.
- Student referees at Minor League, Peel Schools' (Primary) and other school carnivals.
- Senior Sportsmen's dinner end of Term 3 to recognise student achievement.





**Oxley House**



**Macarthur House**



**Deel House**



**Parkes House**

**All the fun of the  
Swimming Carnival  
February 2017**

**FARRER MEMORIAL AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL**

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