Lewis Nicholls was recognised for his outstanding literacy and numeracy results at a presentation afternoon held at Penguin High School on Thursday the 16th May.

Learning Services North West General Manager, Bruce Cameron said, “While there was a focus on NAPLAN performance, a more significant purpose was to publicly recognise the outstanding achievements made by our learners and the great work being done in our government schools.”

We congratulate Lewis on his outstanding achievement, as well as those students from the Circular Head Federation of Primary Schools who were also recognised at the event.
Underage drinking is a problem noted nationwide. Adolescents and sometimes even younger children have consumed alcohol, with 90% of over 14 year olds having had alcohol at least once. Teenagers need to know the risks involved with underage drinking before they pay the ultimate price. As shocking as it is, 1 in 4 hospitalisations of people aged 15-24 happen because of alcohol, and 4 Australians under the age of 25 die due to alcohol-related injuries in an average week.

The risks and effects of alcohol on the teenage brain are horrific. The brain is the most important organ as it controls everything we say and do and doesn’t develop until around 23 or 24 years of age. So drinking at the legal age of 18 can be harmful, as you could still acquire injuries associated with under aged drinking. Before the brain is fully developed its acquirement of important skills, such as learning, memory, planning, emotional stability, and thinking may be impaired through underage drinking. Drinking can stunt brain growth, stopping its ability to reach its full capacity, therefore underage drinkers may not do the best they can in life.

Short term effects of underage drinking are injuries from violence, road accidents, drowning, trauma, alcohol poisoning and unprotected sex. Long term harms are social impairment, brain damage, depression, chronic disease, cirrhosis of the liver and alcohol dependence. Who would want that?

If you live in Tasmania one of the laws involved with underage drinking is that a person shall not sell liquor to a minor. Also, another law is that a person under the age of 18 shall not enter licensed premises, purchase, collect, or drink liquor in a public place.

Despite these laws, many people still continue to drink illegally.

A portion of people in Australia today believe that it is acceptable for minors to drink. To support this, I did an interview at my High School. Surveying 26 people who were 14-16 years old, 11 people said that it was socially acceptable for the age group to drink. 7 said it wasn’t acceptable, and 8 people said that they weren’t sure. Reasons for their uncertainty were dependent on the situation. They said that it would be alright with adult supervision and on special occasions, but not in a party situation. What do teenagers really gain from drinking underage?

Teenagers think that they gain popularity and social acceptance when the drink but what they really gain is long term harm to themselves and the people around them. An example of the darker side of drinking is Taylor Meyer’s story. Taylor was 17 when she died. On October 17, 2001, Taylor started drinking early in the evening; consuming hard liquor with and without energy drinks. The alcohol was believed to have been acquired from relatives or with fake IDs. It was a cold night on October 17. A friend of Meyer’s told police that after drinking at an airport party, Meyer left to meet a cousin. As she left, she started walking in the wrong direction, with the party laughing at her. Friends set her straight, but she became lost again and wasn’t seen again until her body, covered in bruises and abrasions, was discovered 3 days later, face down in a shallow pool on swampy grounds. Her blood-alcohol level registered 0.13 per cent at her autopsy.

Taylor Meyer’s horrific story is just one extreme example of the consequences of drinking underage. Teenagers need to understand the risks of underage drinking before they step into the erratic and confusing world of alcohol.

By Siobhan McDonald
Smithton High School
ANZAC Chronicle

ANZAC Day in Circular Head Throughout the Years

Smithton High’s ANZAC Timeline 1915-2015 - The Changes, Commemorations and Landmarks

During Term 1 of school the grade 7/8 extension group from Smithton High School have constructed a magnificent timeline of newspaper articles spanning from 1927 all the way to 2012 on the celebrations and commemorations of ANZAC Day.

The archival research was difficult because the online Advocate archives only start at 1927 and go until 1954. The school’s Chronicle newspaper archive only spans 1989 to 2012, so from 1960 till the late 80’s the timeline is blank, we will fill this in as we do more research in the archive of the local RSL.

Connor Capell

Mr Benson Visit
On the 8th of May, the president of our local RSL club in Smithton, Peter Benson, came to our class to give a speech about ANZAC Day. He explained the 7/8 extended English class about many important events and stages in the history of ANZAC Day.

Some of the things he spoke about incorporated the origin of ANZAC Day (including the events of Gallipoli, and how the first ANZAC Day occurred). He also explained some common traditions which took place in our community to commemorate ANZAC Day, and also explained to us the importance of ANZAC Day and the need for it to continue forward into the future.

He congratulated us on our previous work, including our timeline and other written work. We took a photo to remember the occasion and we all thanked him for giving up his time to speak to us.

He was very knowledgeable and quite inspiring for some. He explained lots of new things about ANZAC Day and I think we had all learnt something to take away from his visit.

Lewis Nicholls

Mrs Kay’s Experience

In 2008 our school library technician, Mrs Jill Kay, fulfilled an Australian dream: to be in Gallipoli on ANZAC Day. Whilst in Gallipoli Mrs Kay experienced many things.

Firstly, in order to experience the dawn service she and her husband had to endure the freezing temperatures of the outdoor night because they had to camp out to see the dawn service.

Secondly, she had the experience of hearing the speeches and letters of ANZAC veterans and the children of veterans. “It was truly beautiful,” Mrs Kay said and whilst this was all happening the sun was rising behind the speakers.

And finally, as Mrs Kay was leaving, a group of Turkish children ran up and hugged Mrs Kay and her husband, simply for the fact they were Australian.

Connor Capell
Choose Health Expo

An interactive expo to help YOU to have better health

- Laughter workshop
- Try Tai Chi
- Health checks
- Sensory play for your children
- Healthy cooking demonstrations
- Make your own calming hand cream
- Fit ball tryouts
- Plant and take home your own vegie plants

FREE ENTRY

Thursday 20th June

Circular Head Recreation Centre
10am - 2pm

For further information contact
CHAC 6452 1287
or
Rural Health Tasmania Inc
6452 1266
Tap into water every day

Offer water as the main drink

Fill a bottle with water for childcare or school

At home have water on the table at mealtimes

Show your child that you enjoy drinking water

Encourage water during and after sport

Always take a water bottle for your child when you go out
## Dates to Remember

### June
- **Monday 10th**: PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- **Tuesday 11th**: Year 6 Transition
- **Wednesday 12th**: School Assembly Block 1 9.40am
- **Tuesday 18th**: Year 6 Transition
  - Burnie Drama Eisteddfod
- **Wednesday 19th**: Burnie Drama Eisteddfod
- **Friday 21st**: Info Update
  - Car Wash – Outdoor Education
  - SEC Fundraiser (lunch)
- **Friday 28th**: Art Excursion

### July
- **Monday 1st**: Reports sent home
- **Friday 5th**: Newsletter
  - STUDENT LAST DAY

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## Parent/Guardian Information

Just a reminder for parents/guardians to notify the school office of student absences by **9.00am**. Please phone **6452 1376**.

Office Admin
A Word from the Principal…

School Gym
We are very excited about the announcement made by the government last week in regards to a 3.5 million dollar upgrade for a new gym. I would like to personally thank staff, students and the school association for the persistence and determination you have shown over the last 7 years in relation to this very important issue. Well done! We will keep you up-dated about the gym as more information comes to us.

Year 6 Transition
Starting on Tuesday the 4th of June, Year 6 students will attend Smithton High for their first transition day. The students will spend time working with the Year 7 students in their core classes and with the 9/10 Rec and Health students. We look forward to working with the Year 6 students over the next month.

Work Experience
Over the last two weeks our Year 10 students have been out on work placements within the community. This is a very valuable opportunity for our students as it provides them with first-hand experience in the work place. I would like to thank the employers who have taken students; without your support this program would not occur. Keith Billing has been instrumental in maintaining this program over the years and I thank him, along with Andrea Wilson and Sarah Cuthbertson.

Cross Country
The Year 9/10 Cross Country carnival was held on Friday 17th May and the Year 7/8 Cross Country carnival was held on Friday 31st May. Well done to all who participated on the day and congratulations to the following students who placed in the top 3 for their year group. Grade 10 Girls – Hannah Jackson, Sarah Heathcote, Brianna Grice. Grade 10 Boys – Dylan McCourt, Jordan Williams, Caleb Enniss. Grade 9 Girls – Brielle Kay, Victoria Wells, Taneesha Goodlad. Grade 9 Boys – Carlton Heres, Mathew Van Loon, Jarod Elphinstone. Grade 8 Girls – Connie Perry, Kirsty Jamieson, Olivia Nibbs. Grade 8 Boys – Joseph Doust, Royce Jackson, Grady Hite. Grade 7 Girls – Jessica Cooper, Zara Mulholland, Abbi Mulholland. Grade 7 Boys – Kai Dixon, Connor Poke, Judd Stewart.

NAPLAN Testing
Grade 7 & 9 students (Australia wide) took part in testing from May 15th to May 19th. Student participation during the testing period was very high and results will be posted to parents and the school around September.

Moderation
All staff took part in Moderation meetings on the last day of Term 1. Teachers met with other colleagues from Wynyard and Yolla to ensure assessment standards are moderated accurately.

Midyear Reporting
Teachers are in the process of completing assessments and writing reports which will be distributed in the three way meetings between the student, parent and teacher, beginning in the first two weeks of Term 3 from Tuesday 23rd July 2013 to Friday 2nd August 2013. Reports will be available to be collected at this meeting. Parents can make bookings with your child’s Core Teacher by ringing the school office on 64521376 or through a note in the student diary.

Black Shoes
Thanks to all parents and students who have made the effort to get black shoes for the start of Term 2. We appreciate your support. Feedback from the community has been positive.

Nikki Clark
PRINCIPAL