



# LAWSON'S LATEST

## THE HENRY LAWSON HIGH SCHOOL

2 DECEMBER 2016 TERM 4 ISSUE 8

The school has slowly emptied of students this week. Year 10 are at work around town and the local area, and Years 7 and 8 have headed off on their adventures to Canberra and Sydney respectively. Year 7 were attending question time at Parliament House on Wednesday. Mr McKnight's initial report is a grand slam – 10/10 for behaviour and the activities. Reports from Sydney say that the owners of the Indonesian restaurant were very impressed by the students' behaviour; the owner had goosebumps.

A large group of students enjoyed the big day trip to School Spectacular. Francesca Fenton was performing with the ballet ensemble, and they all recognised her as the dancer in blue. It was another performance of colour, light, sound and energy and our students witnessed the record breaking performance of the most number of people on stage at one time.



Year 6 have completed their transition for secondary school. Their third orientation day gave them more experiences of the different learning in the classroom from mathematics to cooking, from working in the industrial arts area to learning in geography, and the engineering excitement of science. Mrs Griffiths, as the Year 7 adviser for 2017, has met nearly all the students and their parents as they have come in for their interviews. Mrs Griffiths says it has been great to meet the students and start to get to know them well.

Our school captains were the guests of Rotary this week. Selwyn White, Francesca Fenton, Mitchell Stevens and Shannon Best spoke on leadership. Each had their own focus: the importance of being a positive role model; to find and follow and follow your passion; how sport teaches you many lessons for life particularly after a defeat to get back up and try again

and taking the opportunities that life presents. The student leaders drew many compliments from the Rotarians who were impressed with the insights they shared.

Last week Year 10 designed projects to target ways the school environment could be improved. On Friday they pitched their proposals to the students, staff and Mrs Carly Brown, as a representative of the P&C. The ideas were great and varied: a milk bar stand at the canteen; lots of improvements to the playground including murals, new furniture, plants and lots of colour; a digital notice board for the playground and out the front; a gamers club; improvements to the school entrance and grand plans for the back ovals. The students had plans, models and digital presentations. They were able to spruik their concepts for all to consider the projects. There were lots of great ideas that we are going to look to implement over time, perhaps starting with a monitor in the playground with the daily notices and photos.



As from next year, I have accepted a position as Principal School Leadership. This new role will involve working across the western area supporting principals with the many challenges they face. It is an exciting opportunity tinged with sadness at moving on from this wonderful learning environment. Our director, Maree Angus, is in the process of working with the P&C to commence the process to fill the position.

Next Tuesday evening is the final P&C meeting for the year while the SRC are running a social. It should be a loud, happy night in both venues.

Margaret Carey

Principal

## CHALLENGE, ENCOURAGE, ACHIEVE

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02 6343 1390

[www.henrylawson-h.schools.det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.henrylawson-h.schools.det.nsw.edu.au)

## Kids Teaching Kids

On 22 and 23 November, the Year 9 agriculture students, Connor Day, Bridget Baker, Andrew Knight, Jonathon Day, Jesse Thomson- Jones, Heather Walker and Marie Knight, along with Mrs Baker and Stephen Pereira, travelled to the south eastern suburb of Sydney, Kirrawee, to present our workshop at the Kids Teaching Kids day. The first day consisted of waking up early to travel by bus, train and taxi to our accommodation where we met up with five lovely students from Worawa Aboriginal College in Melbourne. After a short rest and recuperation, the two schools headed for Cronulla for a relaxing walk at the beach and a tasty dinner at the Miranda mall. We were soon back at our accommodation, preparing for the big day ahead.

The following day was the day of Kids Teaching Kids at Kirrawee High School. Decked out in our school's show shirts, jeans and boots we turned up at the big city school, excited and in anticipation of what was to come. After a big welcome and introduction to Kids Teaching Kids from the founder, Aaron Wood, and a quick morning tea, we presented our workshop twice to two groups of really engaged and interested Sydney students, ranging from Years 7 to 10. Our presentation was based on the research we did for the Archibull Prize, with a focus on cotton farming and agricultural sustainability. Our workshop incorporated our play, the Archibull animation and small workstations where the students had hands-on informative exercises of sowing seeds, feeling unginned and ginned cotton samples, and sewing pieces of cotton fabric together. To finish the workshops off, we involved the students in an interactive multiple choice game to reinforce the main concepts of sustainable cotton farming.

The workshop went very well and we had the privilege of having Aaron Wood as an audience member. He was very impressed with our play and was very grateful for our effort in travelling to present at the Sydney venue.

After our workshop we had the opportunity to listen and participate in some of the other school presentations about domestic violence, how tidal waves occur and bullying. These workshops all fit under the Kids Teaching Kids umbrella, as they include the key focus areas of environment, economics and wellbeing. The workshops used some interesting video techniques and a range of clever methods to challenge and provoke the audience. We found the presentations very engaging and beneficial. After saying goodbye to some newly formed friends, we made the big trek back home to the comforts of peace and quiet, familiar beds and freedom from delayed public transport.

A huge thank you must go to our sponsors, Sydney Airport and QANTAS, who made this trip possible through financing our excursion, and Weddin Landcare for sponsoring our local Kids Teaching Kids day in October. We would also like to thank Stephen Pereira for coming with us to Kids Teaching Kids and assisting us as a parent supervisor and of course, to Mrs Baker for giving her unending support and helpful insights into the way a successful workshop is run. It was a wonderful educational and cultural experience for all of us, and everyone must be commended on their outstanding efforts.

Marie Knight and Heather Walker



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## WEDDIN COMMUNITY NATIVE NURSERY

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## NEW CHARITY WILL HELP RURAL AND REGIONAL YOUTH ACCESS FURTHER EDUCATION

A group of community members passionate about helping the region's young people on their way to further education and training has established a local branch of national not-for-profit organisation Country Education Foundation (CEF).



The idea to bring the charity to the Grenfell community was sparked by Peter Spedding, who had heard about the organisation's success in other rural towns like Boorowa, Cootamundra and Cowra.

"It's essential that our students are supported to access further learning and skill development. With limited further education opportunities in small towns like Grenfell, young people have no choice but to travel or move away to access TAFE or university.

"It's that extra cost to country kids that is, in a lot of cases, prohibitive to young people reaching their full potential. And that's one of our key goals for the CEF of Grenfell – to help families afford to send their kids off to get qualifications that will enable them to get good jobs."

Mr Spedding said CEF of Grenfell received a kickstart for their student scholarship fund from the local CWA when they folded, along with some funding from the national CEF office. He said there has also been strong interest from local business to support the foundation.

The CEF model is equity based so students don't need to be top of their class to apply for CEF funding. We are committed to helping kids who might miss out on uni or TAFE because they simply can't afford to go on to further study.

Applications for support in 2017 are now open on the CEF website. Young people aged 16-25 who are pursuing further study or a job in 2017 can apply for scholarships to help them with the costs of TAFE, university or starting a job. To apply for a CEF of Grenfell scholarship visit [www.engage.cef.org.au/grenfell](http://www.engage.cef.org.au/grenfell). Applications close 27 January 2017.

For more information contact Margaret Carey on 02 6343 1390 or 0408 063 286 or email [CEFGrenfell@gmail.com](mailto:CEFGrenfell@gmail.com).

### Frequently asked questions

#### Which will be better for me - PVC or School Drive Subsidy?

It depends on:

- How many children you have on the scheme.
- The type of school they attend (boarding school, day school or mini-school).
- The distance you need to drive.
- If you have children to add to your school trips in the future.

You should consider staying on the PVC subsidy if you're receiving a PVC subsidy for more than one child.

We suggest you check which scheme is better for your individual circumstances by using the online comparison calculator at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)

#### What are the School Drive Subsidy rates?

You can find the latest rates for the School Drive Subsidy and the PVC at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)

#### The deadline for new applications for the existing PVC subsidy is 20 December 2016.

Keep in mind, if you stay on the current PVC subsidy, you won't be able to add new students after 17 January 2017 without switching all the existing PVC students to the new School Drive Subsidy.

### Need more information?

Find out more, including examples of school trips, at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive) or call 131 500.

## SCHOOL TRIP SUBSIDY CHANGES



Transport for NSW



Transport for NSW

### What's happening?

From 20 December 2016, the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy will be progressively phased out and replaced with the new School Drive Subsidy.

This change will make it fairer for everyone who drives their children to school or to the nearest public transport location.

If you're a parent or guardian currently receiving the PVC subsidy, you can choose to stay on it or switch to the new School Drive Subsidy after 17 January 2017.

### What are the main changes?

If you're driving one or more eligible students from the same household to the nearest public transport pick up point or to school, the new School Drive Subsidy will be paid 'per trip' (for the complete school trip). This 'per trip' payment is different from the current PVC subsidy, which is paid 'per student'.

Other differences include:

- A flat per kilometre rate (indexed annually to the cost of living) will apply under the School Drive Subsidy, unlike the flat payment per distance band in the current PVC subsidy.
- The requirement to do a special return trip each morning and afternoon will be removed.
- The 300km per trip payment cap will be removed.
- The limit of eight trips per year for distance education students to attend mini-schools during term time will be removed.
- The PVC subsidy rates will remain at 2017 levels in 2018 and beyond.
- Payments to third parties will stop (e.g. payments to a bus operator hired by parents from pooled PVC subsidy payments).

Note, you can't be on two schemes at the same time. If you add new students after 17 January 2017, all eligible students will automatically go onto the new School Drive Subsidy, including existing PVC subsidy students.

### How do I check which scheme is better for me?

Check the comparison calculator at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)

### What do I need to do?

If you want to stay on the existing PVC subsidy, you don't need to do anything.

Assuming the school trip doesn't change, your payments will continue for all existing students until they leave school or until you need to re-apply because a student is moving up to Year 7 at high school.

If the school trip changes because you move homes or the student changes schools, you will need to re-apply under the new School Drive Subsidy.

Remember, you can't re-apply for the PVC subsidy after 20 December 2016, but you can switch to the new School Drive Subsidy at any time after 17 January 2017.

If you want to switch to the new School Drive Subsidy, apply online at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)

Just like the PVC subsidy, payments will be made twice a year, around August and February, based on the student's school attendance for the preceding semester.

The online application process only takes about 10-15 minutes to complete.

If you don't have access to the internet, feel free to call 131 500 for assistance.

After you've applied and been approved for the School Drive Subsidy, payments will be made automatically into your bank account twice a year.

You won't have to re-apply until a student reaches the end of Year 6, or until you next update any details – such as a change of school, school trip or address.

### What happens if I stay on PVC now but want to add a new child later?

For new eligible students, you can either:

- Add the new student into the new School Drive Subsidy and also switch the existing students to the new scheme, or
- Stay on the current PVC subsidy where existing students are covered, but not add any new students and not receive any additional subsidy.

### What are the distance requirements under the School Drive Subsidy?

School year band	Minimum distance to school/TAFE	Minimum distance to the nearest public transport pick up point (where available)
Infants and Primary students (Years K-6)	More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance	More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance
Secondary students (Years 7-12)	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance
TAFE	More than 3.2km walking distance	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance

You can read about these changes in more detail at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)



### What is the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy?

- PVC is a subsidy available to parents or guardians who drive students to school or a public transport pick up point.
- PVC is only available to the nearest public transport pick up point or to school where no other transport options are available.
- Applications for 2016 and for term one 2017 are due by 20 December 2016.
- From 20 December 2016, the PVC subsidy will be phased out and replaced with the new School Drive Subsidy.
- The last date for any PVC subsidy applications is 20 December 2016.

### What is the School Drive Subsidy?

- School Drive Subsidy is the new subsidy available to parents or guardians who drive students to school or a public transport pick up point.
- School Drive Subsidy is only available where there are no other public transport options.
- School Drive Subsidy applications open on 17 January 2017.

### What is changing for schools?

- Schools will continue to provide attendance records twice a year for PVC and for the School Drive Subsidy.
- Payments will be made directly to the parents or guardians of students approved for the School Drive Subsidy.

### What is changing for parents and guardians?

- Applications for PVC close on the last day of term four, 20 December 2016. No applications will be accepted after this date.
- From 17 January 2017 customers will only be able to apply for the School Drive Subsidy.
- The new School Drive Subsidy will be paid 'per trip' (for the complete school trip). This 'per trip' payment is different from the current PVC subsidy, which is paid 'per student'.
- A flat per kilometre rate will apply to the School Drive Subsidy and will be adjusted annually.
- PVC subsidy rates will not be adjusted annually. The PVC subsidy rates will remain fixed at 2017 levels.
- The requirement to do a special return trip to and from home each morning and afternoon will be removed for the School Drive Subsidy.
- The 300km per trip payment cap will be removed for the School Drive Subsidy.

Parents and guardians are also able to request their current approved kilometre distance by contacting the Transport for NSW Concessions team on [student@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:student@transport.nsw.gov.au)

4. What action can parents and guardians take if they do not agree with the current kilometre/distance they have been approved for on PVC?

Parents and guardians are able to request a review of their application by contacting the Transport for NSW Concessions team on [student@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:student@transport.nsw.gov.au)

5. Can parents and guardians stay on the PVC subsidy?

If parents and guardians have the PVC subsidy (or apply on or before 20 December 2016 and are successful) they can choose to stay on it. They do not need to take any action.

However, if any circumstances change for any one of the students receiving a subsidy, parents and guardians will need to apply for the School Drive Subsidy or choose to stay on the PVC subsidy.

Change in circumstances include:

- change of school
- change of home address.

6. Can parents and guardians return to PVC at a later date?

No. Once a parent or guardian has changed to the School Drive Subsidy they cannot go back onto the PVC subsidy. After 20 December 2016 no more applications for PVC will be accepted. This includes any updates or re-applications.

7. Can parents and guardians have both PVC and School Drive Subsidy?

No. A household cannot have both the PVC subsidy and the School Drive Subsidy. For example, it is not possible to have one child on the PVC subsidy and another on the School Drive Subsidy.

8. Can applications be made for the PVC subsidy after 20 December 2016?

No. Unfortunately PVC applications cannot be considered after 20 December 2016. This includes situations where:

- the parent, guardian or school was unaware of the closing date
- the parent or guardian was unaware they may have been eligible for PVC, such as not finding out about PVC until the school term started in 2017, after PVC closed on 20 December 2016.

9. Can parents and guardians apply for any subsidy for school travel in 2016 after 20 December 2016?

No. Unfortunately applications for PVC cannot be accepted after 20 December 2016. See answer above (Q.8)

School Drive Subsidy applications open from 17 January 2017 for student travel in 2017 and beyond. The School Drive Subsidy is not available retrospectively for 2016 school travel.

10. Can School Drive Subsidy payments be made to someone else on behalf of a parent or guardian?

No. School Drive Subsidy payments can only be made directly to the parents and guardians who have applied.

11. Is there a review process?

Yes. Parents and guardians are able to request a review of their application by contacting the Transport for NSW Concessions team on [concessions@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:concessions@transport.nsw.gov.au)

- The limit of eight trips per year for distance education students to attend mini-schools during term time will be removed for the School Drive Subsidy.
- School Drive Subsidy payments can only be made directly to the parents and guardians who have applied.
- Parents and guardians can check the website for full details on changes, eligibility and distance requirements at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)

### What is changing for third parties?

- Payments will be made directly to the parents or guardians of students approved for the School Drive Subsidy.
- Third parties can still convey students for both PVC and School Drive Subsidy. The change means that Transport for NSW will no longer support direct payments to their accounts under the School Drive Subsidy.
- While a customer remains on PVC current payment arrangements will remain in place.

### Top questions for parents and guardians

1. Who is eligible for the School Drive Subsidy?

To be eligible for the subsidy, minimum distance requirements apply as shown in the table below, as well as other criteria (see [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive) for full details).

School year Band	Minimum distance from home to school/TAFE		Minimum distance from home to the nearest transport pick up point (where available)
Infants + Primary (Years K-6)	More than 1.6 km straight line distance OR at least 2.3 km walking distance	A N D	More than 1.6 km straight line distance OR at least 2.3 km walking distance
Secondary (Years 7-12)	More than 2.0 km straight line distance OR at least 2.9 km walking distance		More than 2.0 km straight line distance OR at least 2.9 km walking distance
TAFE	More than 3.2km walking distance		More than 2.0 km straight line distance OR at least 2.9 km walking distance

2. Which will be better – PVC or School Drive Subsidy?

Parents and guardians should check which scheme is better for their individual circumstances by using the online comparison calculator at [transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive)

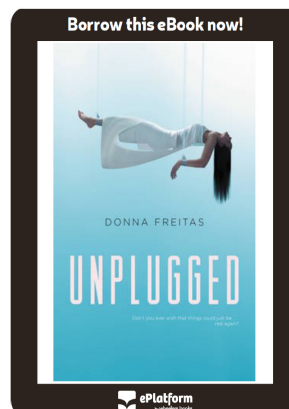
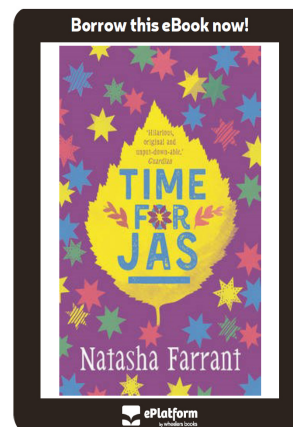
It depends on:

- how many children are on the scheme
- the type of school attended (boarding school, day school or mini-school)
- the distance they need to drive
- if additional children from the same household will be travelling in the same car for school trips in the future.

3. Where do parents and guardians find the distance they are currently approved for under the PVC scheme?

Parents and guardians would have received confirmation of their PVC entitlement when it was first approved. Letters will be sent to current customers on PVC with information about the changes. Most letters will also include their current approved kilometre distance.

## Now available from our e-library





## THLHS P&C and Community Quilt Project 2017

The P&C would like to invite you to be a part of our quilt project.

If you like to be social and can sew a straight line or even make a good cup of coffee, why not come along on

**Saturday 3 December to the school 10am–3pm.**

If you are not able to come but would like to be involved please contact

Keryl (Fabric Sauce) 6343 1001 or Helen 0428542708.

**Would you like to be organised for 2017?**

**Would you like buy your school uniform for next year?**

**Place your order now!**

Please complete the form and return it to the canteen with the correct money. Your order will be available from the canteen for collection at the end of the week.

Student name/s: .....

Year/s: .....

Contact number: .....

If entering THLHS next year in Year 7, please add your current school .....

Amount enclosed: \$..... Please make all cheques payable to The Henry Lawson High School P&C.

THLHS UNIFORM PRICE LIST				
ITEM	PRICE	SIZE	QTY	TOTAL
Junior polo shirt	\$35.00			
Junior girls skirt	\$30.00			
Junior girls tailored shorts	\$30.00			
Girls tailored long pants	\$37.00			
Senior girls skirt	\$55.00			
Senior girls short sleeve blouse	\$27.00			
Boys basic shorts	\$20.00			
Boys basic long pants	\$26.00/\$30.00 (size 18 or above)			
Senior boys dress shirt	\$25.00			
Senior polo shirt	\$35.00			
V neck knit cotton jumper – navy	\$50.00			
V neck fleece jumper – navy	\$30.00			
Soft shell jacket	\$50.00			
Sports track pants	\$25.00			
Sports shorts	\$15.00			
House polo shirt	\$30.00			
Reversible hat	\$15.00			
Wet weather jacket (old style)	\$72.00			
Fleece jacket (old style)	\$25.00			
Hat (old style)	\$8.00			
TOTAL ITEMS ORDERED				
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED				



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## Well-being Corner

*"Try a thing you haven't done three times; once, to get over the fear of doing it; twice, to learn how to do it; and a third time to figure out whether you like it or not."*

*Virgil Thomson*

Life is full of potential new experiences and positive risks. Give them a try, let curiosity motivate you; don't let fear stop you. Then, decide for yourself if you should make them a part of who you are.

## TODAY

I'll be open to new experiences.

## CANTEEN ROSTER

Week commencing 5 December

Monday	<b>VACANT</b>
Tuesday	Lisa Day
Wednesday	<b>VACANT</b>
Thursday	Veronica Hazel
Friday	Cath Sullivan



## Presentation Day 2016

Parents, carers and friends are cordially invited to attend the 2016 Presentation Day Assembly to be held on Thursday 15 December commencing at 11.00am.

This is the culmination of our school year when we recognise and reward our students for outstanding achievement in academia, sport and community citizenship.

The Henry Lawson High School wishes to thank the community for their continued generous support which enables us to acknowledge our students for their outstanding achievements.