How exciting it was this past Tuesday to stand on the edge of the pool and experience the atmosphere around us! Eager and excited students and parents sitting at our brand new grandstand, ready to watch and participate in the first Inter-House Carnival for 2016.

For the past four years, Starkey House had been victorious and they were keen to continue this tradition for yet another year; however, the other Houses had different ideas.

Each and every student who participated, from Years 3 to 6, did themselves and their House proud! 8 year olds swimming 50 meters is no easy feat and yet, they showed resilience and persistence in ensuring they did their best. I was so pleased to see the support that came from the crowd, whether it was from parents, other students or teachers. How nice it was to see House Captains jumping in to swim beside those students who were finding the swim a little more challenging than others. Then to hear the encouragement coming from the grandstand as these students finished their race was fantastic!

It is during these carnivals that I often feel the true sense of community here at Somerset College. To have the P&F running the canteen and supporting events such as this so well, parent volunteers coming in to assist with timekeeping and to give their time willingly and to see parents and grandparents arrive to support the students shows what a great community we are.

For the first time this year, we awarded Age Champion medals to our 8 year olds. Mr Michael has provided all the Age Champion 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the Junior School Sport section at this link here.
YEAR 3 TO 6 INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL CONTINUED

So the only question left to answer is, “Did Starkey make it five years in a row?” The results of the 2016 Year 3 to 6 Inter-House Swimming Carnival were:

1. Laver
2. Starkey
3. Veivers
4. Andrews
5. Franklin

I would like to congratulate all students for their efforts today and thank all the staff for their assistance. In particular, I would like to thank Mr Andrew Michael for his co-ordination of yet another superb carnival!

Paul Taylor
Head of Junior School

SOMERSET COMMUNITY CELEBRATES 2016

The Parents’ and Friends’ Association’s first event for 2016 was its annual Celebration of the New School Year, held last Friday in the beautiful surroundings of Towers Quad.

Parents joined the Headmaster, College Leadership Team, and staff, providing an opportunity for our community to catch up with old friends, make new ones and to engage in lively conversation.

Your P&F Committee and Parent Liaisons greatly appreciated the positive feedback and thrilled that everyone had a wonderful and fun night.

We also pass on our thanks to the Events, Maintenance and Ray Building staff for their invaluable assistance.

Josie Kay
President – P&F Association

MEET THE STAFF

Over Terms One and Two 2016, we’ll ask our Junior School staff a few questions about themselves. We invite you to learn what they have to say in their answers below!

1. Your name? Paul Taylor
2. Your role in the Junior School? Head of Junior School
3. How long have you worked at Somerset College? I have worked at Somerset College for the past two years and attended as a student for seven years (1984 through until 1990)
4. What do you like most about your job? There are a few things I love about my job. The first is interacting with so many different people - staff, students and parents. As a teacher, I really hope to make a difference in the lives of students. I want them to become inquirers and to become confident citizens.
5. Favourite Food? I love chocolate-covered Turkish Delight
6. Nickname at your primary school? PT or Fish
7. Favourite colour? Red
8. What other job would you like to do if you were not doing this job? I would love to be on the stage performing or on television hosting a show, like Sunrise.

Continued over page...
9. **What person inspires you the most and why?** Winston Churchill, who was Prime Minister of England during World War II, kept the people together during this very difficult time. England looked like they would be defeated; however, under his leadership, the people rallied together and, with the help of the allies, were victorious. He was a strong leader, but one who also showed compassion.

10. **Favourite quote?** “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade!” – First penned by Elbert Hubbard in 1915.

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1. **Your name?** Brenda Millican  
2. **Your role in the Junior School?** Assistant Head of Junior School – Curriculum/PYP  
3. **How long have you worked at Somerset College?** 20 + years  
4. **What do you like most about your job?** I like that I can play a part in the development of life-long learners who will act to take care of the next generation and the world in which we live.  
5. **Favourite Food?** Pasta Amatriciana  
6. **Nickname at your primary school?** I didn’t have one.  
7. **Favourite colour?** Yellow  
8. **What other job would you like to do if you were not doing this job?** Veterinary Surgeon  
9. **What person inspires you the most and why?** I have been inspired by many people over many years; currently I am inspired by someone who is still living, Carol Dweck. Dweck researches how a growth mindset can impact positively on learning. What it means for most people is that with the right kind of effort and practice we can grow our brains to achieve more highly than we ever thought possible. The science is now backing this up, acknowledging that the brain has the “capacity to develop throughout life”.  
10. **Favourite quote?** “You can’t start the next chapter of your life if you keep re-reading the last one.” – (Unknown)

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1. **Your name?** Troy Zernike  
2. **Your role in the Junior School?** Assistant Head of Junior School – Pastoral and Operations  
3. **How long have you worked at Somerset College?** 9 years  
4. **What do you like most about your job?** Being able to interact with all of the students from Pre-Prep to Year 6 on a daily basis, as well as being able to catch up with students in the Senior School.  
5. **Favourite Food?** Buffalo wings.  
6. **Nickname at your primary school?** TZ  
7. **Favourite colour?** Green  
8. **What other job would you like to do if you were not doing this job?** Sports commentator … or Mr Sayer’s job!  
9. **What person inspires you the most and why?** My Dad. Pretty cliché, but he’s a model of hard work and is the most generous person I know.  
10. **Favourite quote?** “Speak only if it improves the silence” – Gandhi

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1. **Your name?** Andrew Michael  
2. **Your role in the Junior School?** PE teacher and Junior School Sport Organiser  
3. **How long have you worked at Somerset College?** 7 years  
4. **What do you like most about your job?** Being Active, teaching skills that will last a lifetime, students and the facilities  
5. **Favourite Food?** Mexican  
6. **Nickname at your primary school?** Bergs – I played a lot of Tennis as a kid and Stefan Edberg was my favorite player. I called myself Edberg which was shortened to Berg, and then Bergs  
7. **Favourite colour?** Blue

Continued over page...
**Meet the Staff Continued**

8. **What other job would you like to do if you were not doing this job?** Guitarist in a blues band, dive instructor or sports journalist

9. **What person inspires you the most and why?** My Grandpa (Ken Kearney) - From very humble beginnings went on to captain Australia in both Rugby Union and Rugby League and won 6 premierships as Captain/Coach with the St George Dragons. He was always positive, humble, hardworking and loyal ...and wanted to be a PE teacher.

10. **Favourite quote?** "It's not the problem that's the problem, it's the attitude towards the problem that is the problem" – Captain Jack Sparrow

**Chinese New Year Celebrations**

On Monday 8 February, it was Chinese New Year Day. Chinese New Year is an important Chinese holiday that was traditionally celebrated from Chinese New Year’s Eve - the last day of the last month, of the Chinese lunar calendar - to the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the first month.

However, for my family, we celebrate only Chinese New Year’s Eve and Chinese New Year Day.

On the eve of the new year, my family gives our home a complete cleaning. It is believed that the cleaning will sweep away the bad luck of the past year and make our home ready for good luck in the new year. On this night, we have a Reunion Dinner, more of a promise that the family will unite despite our busy work or school schedules. The feast includes vegetables, chicken, pork and most importantly, fish, as fish represents an abundant year.

On Chinese New Year Day, it is very important to honour our elders and our family visits the senior members of our extended families to greet them loudly and enthusiastically with lucky sayings such as, “Kung Hei Fat Choi! Sun Nin Fai Lok! Sun Tay Kin Hong!” Which means, “Congratulations and be prosperous! Happy New Year! Wishing you excellent health!” After delivering these sayings of good luck, red packets (lei si) are well received. Red packets contain money and are passed out from the elders and married couples to the children to bestow good luck.

However, Chinese New Year wasn't always a celebration.

Legend has it that long, long, long ago a village was being threatened every new year by a fierce lion-like creature named, Nin, who lived in the forest. It terrorised the village destroying crops and houses, even eating livestock and the children! To escape, the villagers fled to a nearby mountain. One year, a wise Taoist monk, who was travelling along the mountain road, asked the villagers why they were running away with fear. After hearing about the destruction that Nin brought every year, he visited the village where an old man and his family stayed behind - for he was too old to make the journey. When the monk arrived at the gates of the village, the family told the monk to run away, but the monk said that he was there to scare Nin away.

With the help of the family, the monk hung red lanterns and red scrolls on the windows and doors. When Nin descended upon the village they made loud noises by beating drums and gongs, for Nin was scared of the colour red and loud noises. Eventually, Nin was forced back to the forest by the monk waving a red fan. The next year, the monk came back with Nin, having caught and tamed it, to help the villagers to ward off bad luck and clear the way for good fortune and prosperity. Since then, it has become tradition to hang red lanterns and auspicious signs, beat drums and gongs and be blessed with the performance of a Lion Dance during Chinese New Year celebrations.

*Continued over page...*
Chinese New Year Celebrations Continued

As a very special surprise at our Junior School Assembly, we were blessed with good fortune by my Kung Fu School, FitLife Martial Arts, as they performed a traditional Lion Dance to help us welcome an auspicious Year of the Monkey.

Ruben Yam
Year 6M Student

Shrek and Donkey

Two Stalwart Friends Off on an Adventure
Many students in Years 4, 5 and 6 are adventuring together creating Shrek Jnr for performance at the end of March.

Shrek (Oliver Whale) and Donkey (Ethan Carkazis) are two of the more famous characters from the movie and yet, at our last rehearsal, Lord Farquaad (Geraint Evans) and Gingy (Marcus Peachey) came close to stealing the most laughs.

The cast of fairytale creatures, forest trees and animals, Dulocians – those oh so perfect people – and the main characters are in the midst of the hard work slog of preparing lines, songs and choreography for our future entertainment.

I would like to thank the band of Staff and Senior students all involved in this year's production for their excellent commitment, ideas and inspiring energy.

We have a rehearsal this Saturday – Main from 9.00am to 4.00pm and chorus from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Act 1 here we come to have done, done, done!

Jenny George
Musical Director

Paul Dillon

We were thrilled to have Paul Dillon visit us again this week. In many ways, his was a "good news story" as the proportion of young people taking drugs is continuing to decline in most areas of concern.

It was also reassuring to see evidence supporting the fact: most young people are non-drinkers, non-smokers and have nothing to do with illegal substances. Paul reminded us that adults in Queensland who supply alcohol to minors, other than their own children in their own home, are breaking the law. This law applies even if minors smuggle alcohol into the house and consume it without the adults' knowledge.

Throughout the sessions Paul held with students in Years 10, 11 and 12, much valuable advice was given. In particular, he helped dispel some of the myths about alcohol, and explained how to best care for a person who is intoxicated. We very much hope our students will not worry about "getting into trouble" when things do not go according to plan – contacting responsible adults or ringing 000 could be vital steps toward saving lives.

We ask parents of students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to discuss the issues raised by Paul at home. We commend to you Paul's website and his book “Teenagers, Alcohol and Drugs”. Tutors will be discussing the use and abuse of alcohol with our students over the coming weeks as well.

Adrian Johnson
Head of Senior School
PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

The Department has been a little quieter this week with the Year 7 students away on their camp. We look forward to being regaled by their tales of adventures on their return and to their return to rehearsals next week.

Continuing Our Staff Welcomes
We would like to welcome back Mr Craig Alloway to the Co-curricular Department this year. Mr Alloway will be re-joining us to teach Brass to complement our teaching team with the Year 4 band as well as instrumental teaching. Mr Alloway will be supplementing our brass teaching as Mr Liddell has had to limit his time with us. We are sure all will give Mr Alloway a warm Somerset welcome on his return.

Upcoming Performances
The upcoming week sees the members of Department from the various Houses participating in the music making at their respective House Chapels. Next week sees Franklin and Andrews House Chapels on Tuesday (Franklin) and Wednesday (Andrews) evenings. Students involved in the music for these Chapels need to be in attendance by 5.15pm in order to set up for the service. Senior School musicians in each of these Houses need to ensure they bring their instruments on appropriate days and to keep a keen eye and ear on the Notices for their rehearsal times. Instrumentalists will be accompanying the hymns whilst the choristers will be providing an anthem in the worship service. Laver, Starkey and Veivers House Chapels, along with the Junior School Family Chapel Service, are in the following week (Week 5).

House Plays
Rehearsals for the House Plays Festival productions are well and truly underway, with all sorts of interesting characters taking shape within our theatre spaces. Damsels, frogs, Hamlet, zombies and dogs are all running wild, bringing madness, mayhem and hilarity to the Performing Arts Centre. All performers are asked to keep a check on the House Plays Schoolbox page for all of the latest news. Additionally, tickets are now on sale here.

Week 4 Co-curricular Lessons
With regards to co-curricular lessons during Week 4, as the teachers come in on specific days, the lessons will remain on their normal days. The Monday/Friday timetable change is only for the academic timetable.

Congratulations
Apologies to Tom Halloran who was inadvertently left off the list last week of those students who received awards for their outstanding results in their examinations last year. Tom, along with the others listed last week, received a Gold medal for his Grade 2 examination, presented to those who received the top marks in Queensland for their levels. Congratulations and well done, Tom!

Sue Roberts and Katrina Fisher
Director of Music and Director of Theatre Arts.

SENIOR SPORT

Each day our students have increased access to our new sporting facilities. Students are urged to check Schoolbox and the daily notices for all upcoming events.

Samantha McInnes, Nathan Rana-Smith and Ryan Vardy, Triathlon
Samantha, Nathan and Ryan have been selected in the South Coast School Sport Triathlon team to compete at the State Titles at Hervey Bay next week.

Georgia McNamara, Futsal
In January, Georgia was part of the Queensland Metro team who competed in the National Futsal Championships in Sydney. Georgia played target (forward) and winger throughout the tournament and the team took out the tournament with a grand final victory over New South Wales Thunder.

Continued over page...
**Senior Sport Continued**

**Rylee Burns, Athletics**
Rylee competed at the Little Athletics Regionals over the weekend. She won gold in the Triple Jump with a PB of 9.95 and silver in the High Jump. She has qualified for State in both events.

**Rylee Burns and Madizen Wilkens, Netball**
Rylee and Madizen have been selected in the Queensland Regional Netball Academy, a high performance programme run by Netball Queensland for the South Coast Region.

**Regional Swimming Nominations**
Students will be notified shortly if they have qualified for the Regional Trials. Monday 29 February and Wednesday 2 March will be the South Coast Swimming Trials (4.30pm to 9.00pm) at Southport.

**Swimming Practices**
Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7.30am. Meet Mr Butcher at the pool.

**Student Injuries**
If your son or daughter is injured at school sport, it must be recorded at the time by the College Nurse/medical person present if parents wish to apply through the College insurance policy. If delayed signs or symptoms arise over the weekend, students must notify the College Nurse on Monday morning.

**Sports Information**
Don’t forget to check the Schoolbox Senior School Sport page as well as the noticeboard at the end of The Smith Building for all sports notes. If you need more information, drop by the Sports Office in the new Fitness Centre.

**Next Week**
**Monday 15 February**
- 11.00am to 4.00pm: House Swimming Carnival

**Wednesday 17 February**
- 9.00am to 2.00pm: APS Swimming Carnival

**Friday 19 February**
No Sport (Monday Timetable).

**Week 5**
**Friday 26 February**
- 12.50pm: Sports Assembly
- 1.15pm to 3.20pm: Winter Sports Trials (2 of 3)

**Add the Sports Page Link to Your Schoolbox**
- Go to “My Links” at the bottom left of your Schoolbox homepage and click ‘Edit’
- ‘Manage my Links’, click ‘+’ at the top right of page

Shane Lunniss
Director of Sport
Developing engaged global citizens aspiring to excellence, demonstrating integrity and valuing difference

**Somerset College Approved School Bags**

Please note that the Retail Centre no longer stocks or sells the Blue Junior School backpack; this has now been replaced with a Green backpack.

There is currently a choice of four College bags for students to purchase whilst attending Somerset College:
- Pre-Prep to Prep College Bag, 16 Litre Capacity – RRP $53.15
- Green Small College Bag, 18 Litre Capacity – RRP $73.15
- Green Medium College Bag, 27 Litre Capacity – RRP $76.75
- Black Large College Bag, 33 Litre Capacity – RRP $79.85

There is currently a choice of two College sports bags for students to purchase whilst attending Somerset College:
- Navy Small Spartan Sports Bag, 27 Litre Capacity – RRP $37.60
- Navy Large Spartan Sports Bag, 42 Litre Capacity – RRP $47.60

The College has taken a streamline approach in the Junior School to help minimise costs to parents. For Junior School students moving to the Senior School you may continue using your current green bag or you can purchase a large black bag.

It is no longer a requirement to change bags based on your child’s Year Level.

**Caring For Your College Bag**
- Wipe clean with a damp cloth
- Air dry
- Do not soak
- Do not machine wash

**Product Warranty For Your College Bag**

Spartan, our official College bag supplier, provides a lifetime manufacturing warranty against faulty workmanship and materials on all supplied school bags and a three year manufacturing warranty against faulty workmanship and materials on all sports bags.

**Warranty Procedure**

1. In the instance where a student makes a claim under our Spartan warranty, please provide a proof of purchase when returning your item(s) to a Bird and Bush (Retail Centre) staff member, we will return the product(s) to Spartan for assessment on your behalf.
2. Spartan will assess the claim and provide details of any repairs or replacement. Please allow 7 to 10 working days.
3. The College does not accept responsibility of an item or product that has been misused or mistreated.
4. We cannot offer a substituted replacement during this time.

Kate Andrews  
Retail Supervisor