



Irrawang High School Newsletter · Issue 1 · February 2021

Promoting excellence in academic, cultural and sporting performance

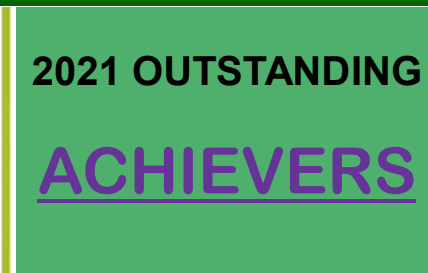


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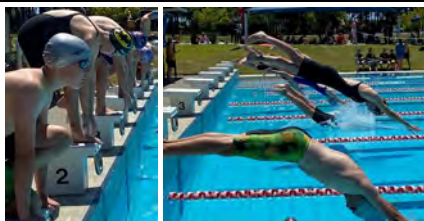
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Supporters



From the Principal's desk

Welcome back!

It is my pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to the 2021 school year. To new and returning students and their families. Many thanks to all of our staff, students and parents for helping to get the new school year off to a very positive start

Our new school year has started off strongly – we have over 1060 students, this includes over 180 students in Year 7. The influx of new enrolments will mean a new timetable in Term 2 that will affect some year groups more than others. These changes will be communicated to students and families through Facebook and an information letter in due course. May I wish all of our new families a very warm welcome to Irrawang High School.

As an educator there is tremendous pleasure hearing the buzz among students and staff at the beginning of the school year. The challenge for us as a school community – students, parents and staff – is to maintain and build on that excitement. I believe that, as a school community, we should have students' academic success and their wellbeing as a dual focus for our actions every day. I have high expectations of our staff and students in both wellbeing and learning. I expect staff and students to work hard and work to their potential. That each individual demonstrates respect to the staff and fellow students and to become the best person that they can possibly become.

Irrawang High School is a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) School that values respect and responsibility in creating a caring learning environment and supports students to achieve their personal best. The school offers all students the opportunity to achieve excellence in academic, cultural, sporting and community endeavours.

A joy of, and commitment to learning is strongly evident around the school. I have been most impressed with the staff's commitment to delivering excellent public education, something that parents, carers and the community rightly expect. If you have any concerns throughout the school year, I encourage you to approach the school, as it is better to sort a problem rather than continue for a period of time worrying about it.

Congratulations to the "Class of 2020"

It has been great hearing of the successes of our Year 12 students from last year. Many have gained offers into University courses and in gaining scholarships to assist with further study. Other students have gained full time employment and apprenticeships. What always is most pleasing to me is that no matter what a student's interest or talent they can be confident that they will receive the support of our experienced and dedicated

From the Principal's desk cont'd. . .

teachers to enable them to achieve at their highest level!

Enrolments

With the continued high demand for enrolment at Irrawang High, all year groups are almost full and only local students can be guaranteed enrolment to attend our school.

With a dual focus on wellbeing and learning, based on high expectation relationships and a focus on future focused learning and academic excellence, in a climate of acceptance and support. Irrawang High is committed to working in partnership with families, nurturing and educating every student to reach their potential.

Getting the small things right makes a huge impact

Thank you to all parents and carers who have supported their child to be organised for school, arriving on time, nutritional food and fantastic uniform. It is these pillars of consistent effort and routine that will prepare and foster success in our students at school and into the future. If you need support with any of these items, please contact the office, Wellbeing coordinator's – Justin Tonks or Sarah Bailey, Year Advisor or DP. The school is committed to establishing strong partnerships with parents to nurture the potential in every student. The Deputies look after particular year groups and in 2021; Grant Godfrey is Deputy Years 9 and 12, Liana Gill is Deputy Years 7 and 10, and Peter Hosking Years 8 and 11.

Year Advisors

A reminder to all parents that an excellent point of contact if you have a concern about your son's or daughter's wellbeing, is the Year Advisor. The Year Advisors for 2021 are:

- Year 7: Jacqui Liddell (HSIE) and Toby Fibbins (Support)
- Year 8: Greg Field (HSIE) and Marlee Byrnes (HSIE)
- Year 9: Kassandra Bangle (CAPA) Lexi Petersen (CAPA) and Meagan Rembarz (CAPA)
- Year 10: Peter Furey (Maths) and Tiffany White (Maths)
- Year 11: Sarah Heffernan (PDHPE) and Damian Hurley (PDHPE)
- Year 12: Kaylie Newell (English) and Liz Danvers (TAS)

Curriculum Head of Departments

For any curriculum issue parents/carers are advised to firstly contact the Head Teacher in the curriculum area. The Head Teachers are:

- * English: Ms Sarah Barry
- * Mathematics: Ms Sarah Bailey

From the Principal's Desk cont'd. . .

- Science: Mr Dave Pearson
- HSIE: Mr Todd Hopper
- PDHPE: Ms Rachelle Burns
- CAPA: Ms Adele Robinson
- TAS: Mr Michael Groth
- Support: Ms Natalie Moore and Mr Chad Brown
- HT Teaching and Learning: Kate Connor

A focus on attendance in 2021

In 2021 we will be aiming to improve student attendance rates. The first step in improved student outcomes is to have students in class every lesson. Students who have an attendance rate of 90% miss the equivalent of one month's worth of learning each year. This equates to 100 hours of lost instruction and support. It is what we will be referring to as an Educationally at Risk - Danger Zone. We will be aiming to provide attendance updates on a regular basis along with our usual attendance letters and SMS communication.

Uniform

In a clear indication of support, the overwhelming majority of students who returned or started at Irrawang High School this year have embraced the wearing of uniform including the new school hoodie/jumper. Irrawang High School operates a corporate uniform; this means that students have some choice about the uniform they wear. A minority of students have chosen to come to school in some items that are NOT uniform. These include some styles of shorts, jumpers with commercial brands, tights and shoes. I expect every student to be in school uniform every day. Students who present as out of uniform will continue to be reminded that they are not meeting requirements and we will be in contact with families and work together to resolve uniform issues.

Mobile Phones

All students are able and welcome to bring a mobile phone to school. Having said that they are not necessary and often cause more problems than what they solve. Mobile phones when instructed by the teacher are to be off and away (out of sight). I would like to remind parents and carers that the front office (49874687) should always be contacted should you need to speak with your child or pick them up.

From the Principal's desk cont'd. . .

The way ahead . . .

Our Strategic Improvement Plan for 2021 – 2024 is nearly finalised. Our three strategic directions are: Student Attainment, Quality Teaching and the School Environment. I am excited at the challenges and opportunities ahead for education generally, as we strive to provide the best educational opportunities for all students at our school. I encourage you all to stay connected with the school either in person or through our social media strategies. You can 'Like' us on Facebook.

At Irrawang High we believe that the education of each student is enhanced by a strong partnership between school and home, and we welcome parent involvement and contact.

Once again welcome back to school. I hope your year is happy and successful and that each student at Irrawang strives to make 2021 a year to achieve his or her personal best.

Attendance Matters

Being on time and regular attendance at Irrawang High School is essential to assist students to maximise their potential.

Regular attendance helps students to:

- develop a sense of belonging
- develop and maintain friendships
- be more engaged at school
- progress with their learning
- be more aware of career and life options.

School starts at 8:47am every day. If students are here before 8:30am a free toastie and drink is available.



Thank you MarketPlace Raymond Terrace!

Huge thanks as always to all the MarketPlace businesses for their continuing support of our Community PBL and outstanding students and schools during 2021.



NSW Government Schools

Term Dates 2021

Term 1	Wednesday 27 January - Thursday 1 April
Term 2	Monday 19 April - Friday 25 June
Term 3	Monday 12 July - Friday 17 September
Term 4	Tuesday 5 October - Friday 17 December

Staff Development Days 2021:

- Monday 19 April
- Monday 12 July
- Friday 17 December

Please check with the school, as schools may vary some of these dates.

Dates to Remember - Subject to Alteration

MARCH

Wed 17 Mar STEM ME Defence Industry Exhibition - Fighter World

Fri 19 Mar Harmony Day
Bullying, No Way

Mon 22 Mar P&C Meeting + Annual General Meeting

Wed 24 Mar Elevate

Fri 26 Mar ARTEXPRESS Stage 6 Visual Arts

Mon 29 Mar Year 6 Student Visit

APRIL

Thurs 1 Apr Last Day of Term 1

School Resumes for all students Tuesday 20 April



Support class students with Ms Moore and Ms Thorburn selling their crafts at MarketPlace - see story Page 16

Student Achiever of the Week

Congratulations to the following students on their excellent achievements:

Week 2:

English: Thalia Wilson, India Cockle and Paige Dennett

Mathematics: Seren Ballangarry, Owen Johnston, Scott Ingram, Eve Walters, Cruze Lopez, Emily Parker, Tamia Ingram, Rachael Garrett, Riley Breiner and Gwen Dunn

Science: Corey Allen, Brodi Mather, Jack Hill, Danielle Smith and Zahli Olding

Week 3:

English: Tamia Ingram, Ebony Lewis, Ben Killick, Hayden Clarke. Olivia Dee, Georgia Sloane, Jacqueline Paroissien and Callan Astin

Mathematics: Zack Gourlie, Brodie Mitchell, Lucah McAusland, Cody Turner. Alice Hedges, Mackenzie Shephard, Jeremy Black, Lily Carter and Chloe Burns

Science: Noah McKimm, Bridget Pressley, Hudson Wells, Alana De Llanza and Mia Reynolds

TAS: Tayla Curtis, Joshua Beasley, Darius Plooy, Jaime Lucas, Jonathan Martin and Logan Skinner

Week 4:

Ngaralabaa: Dallas Hall, Tylor Nean and Regan Taylor

TAS: Oscar Smith, Cameron Whitby-Moody, Jaimen Webster, Rhys Robinson, Ryan Heiss, Chloe McNaught, Tanner Kelly, Aidan Stanko and Jarrod Knorr

Science: Zakary Bull, Mackayla Astin, Ruby Ryan, Makybe Hannon, Tjanah Bird, Holly Boatswain and Jayden Hunter

Week 5:

CAPA: Kailyn Taranto-Moroney, Jacob Crossan, Ava Purdon and Huxley Rowe

English: Jackson Picot, Riley Dyer, Sage Farina, Charlotte Taylor, Jonathan Martin, Annaliese Everingham, Jayden Dudgeon and Kasey-Rose Dissinger

TAS: Joslyn Schubert, Keilyn Atkins, Joshua Dee, Caitlin Stewart and Addison Thomson

Week 6:

CAPA: Eve Walters, Madison Ellicott, Kayla Morton and Angelina-Jade Cousin

Ngaralabaa: Alexie Casserly-Hall, Jackson Skaines, Kiahlan Wallace, Dakota Rae, Dallas Hall, Ayla Barrett and Caitlin Ping

TAS: Deagon Cook, Jake Stanyer, Amber Wilks, Shae Mulley, Jayden Dudley, Isabella Hall and Mitchell Evans

Week 7:

CAPA: Emalynne Hunter-Hahn, Sophie Bennett, Riley Marmont and Jacinta Pike

English: Cody Turner, Charlie Williams, Elyssa Holden, Samuel Rainbow, Breony Davies, Angelina-Jade Cousin and Chloe Burns

Science: Corey Allen, Amalie Dok, Crystal-Rose Foster, Hollie Maher, Holly Kennedy and Trinity

Spelt

TAS: Jorden Zbogor, William Swan, Abbey Stunell and Annaliese Everingham

Vaping



Health

Unfortunately, schools across NSW are having problems with students 'vaping' or using e-cigarettes.

Vaping refers to the use of battery-operated devices that heat a liquid to be inhaled.

These items are banned in all schools. There is a lot of information from NSW Health regarding the dangers of vaping, can you please discuss this with your child.

The NSW Department of Education has advised schools that students should not bring e-cigarettes or e-cigarette accessories onto school premises or use them during school-based activities. Consistent with Department of Education and school policy - vaping, selling or being in the possession of e-cigarettes will result in disciplinary action that may lead to a student being suspended from school.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/tobacco/Pages/e-cigarettes.aspx>

https://irrawang-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/i/irrawang-h/ECigarette_cancer_council.pdf

<https://irrawang-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/i/irrawang-h/ECigarette-Factsheet1.pdf>

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=2BoIFZK0EJg&feature=share>

Just a reminder

A reminder to all students that amongst other items, the following items are banned from the school.. aerosols, chewing gum and energy drinks.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Breakfast Club volunteers needed..

To ensure we continue this fantastic daily service for our students and provide them with a toastie and a drink, we desperately need more volunteers from 7:00 am – 8:15 on Monday and Tuesday.

Tasks include buttering bread, toasting sandwiches and preparing hot milos in terms 2 and 3 and juice in terms 1 and 4.

If you can help please call Sonia Todd or Lue Fagan on 4987 4687.



News from the IHS Clontarf Academy

Recently our Irawang Clontarf Academy hosted an inter-academy game of Oz-Tag against Toronto High's Clontarf Academy.

Both sides played some great footy and had a heap of fun. Term 1 Week 7, the boys will travel out to Toronto to play a return game.

A big thanks to The Toronto Clontarf Academy and thank you to Mr Baxter and the Ngarralbaa Team for their support on the day.



clontarf
foundation



IHS Show Team

Ms Henry's IHS Show Team attended the Maitland Show recently with students from HRHS.

Students participated in the Cattle Clinic where they learnt how to judge and prepare livestock.

Congratulations to Jordan Saunders and Caitlin Bennett who received a Highly Commended in the Junior Cattle Judging competition.



News from Science

Year 7 Science students have all been learning how use the equipment and to measure and record information in their 'Working like a Scientist' unit.



Have you changed your personal details?

In order to keep our records up-to-date, if your student has any change in their personal details eg doctor, medical condition, emergency contact, telephone no., address etc, please inform the school ASAP.

Port Stephens Council Mayoral Scholarships announced

Huge congratulations to Johanne Montano, Madeline Wolinski and Nicola Green who have each gained a Port Stephens Mayoral Scholarship.

Each student will receive a \$2000 scholarship sponsored by a local business, to help with their university costs.

Johanne is undertaking a Bachelor of Computer Engineering and Mathematics at the University of Newcastle and is sponsored by Newcastle Airport.

Madi will be attending the University of Newcastle to study for her Bachelor of Secondary Education and is sponsored by the Raymond Terrace Bowling Club.

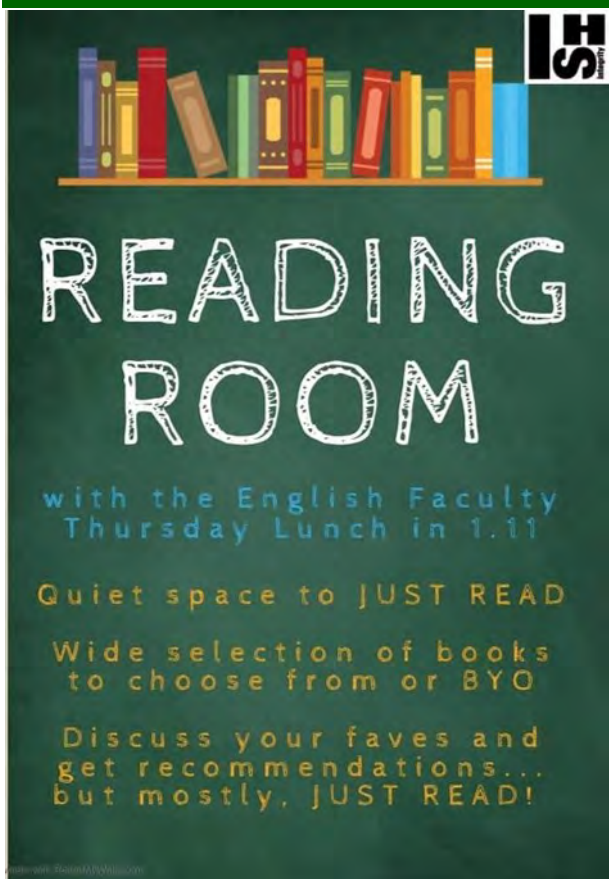
Nicola will be pursuing a Bachelor of Advanced Mathematics at the University of Newcastle and is sponsored by Salamander Bay Recycling.

Twenty scholarships were awarded across public, selective and independent schools across the Hunter and our three stars shone.

Sincere thanks to Port Stephens Council and the local companies for their ongoing support of our young people.



News from English



Friday can only mean one thing for Mrs Barry's 9L - Literacy Games!

Play based learning is another successful style adopted by the class as part of their intensive literacy program.

Great work 9L!



IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

ABSENTEE NOTE

(to be returned to Roll Call Teacher first day back after absence)



STUDENT'S NAME:

Roll Group:

Year:

Date of Absence/s:

Reason for Absence:

☐ Sick

☐ Leave

☐ Other

Signature Parent/Caregiver:

Date:

The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Student Leadership Team

The PBL Student Leadership Team is a new opportunity in 2021 for students to join the existing groups of IHS Student Representatives.

The 23 founding members of the team are representatives from Years 7-9. With a strong focus on our school's Positive Behaviour for Learning framework, the team is involved in helping the school and community understand Irrawang High's values. Their role also includes coordinating PBL events and communicating student voice to the staff PBL team.

The group are hardworking and have already in their first few weeks as a whole group, shown outstanding creativity, initiative, collaboration and passion for continuing to make Irrawang High School a great place.



We are collecting these seedlings

Calling all families.... Irrawang High School would love any donation of the new seedlings from the Discovery Garden program from Woolies.... Ms Henry has great plans for our school gardens.

All plants can be dropped into the front office, and students who donate plants will go into a draw for some great prizes.

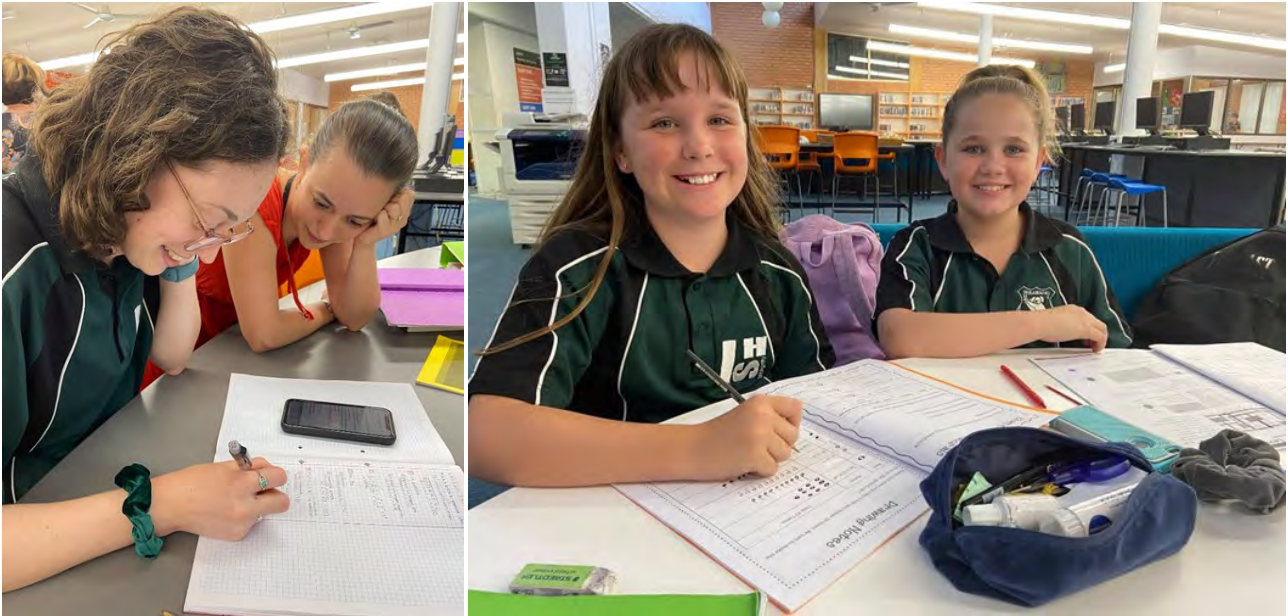


Snack n Study (Homework Centre)

Snack n Study is held on every Monday and second Tuesday from 3:15 pm - 5:00 pm.

Our dedicated staff are on hand to help with assessments, homework and assistance with schoolwork. Afternoon tea is provided.

Permission forms are available from Mrs Firth in the Maths staffroom.



IHS Chess Club

A reminder that IHS Chess club is held every Thursday break 2 in Room 3.8. Mr Furey and Mr Woodland look forward to meeting all new students.



Swimming Carnival



House scores:

- 1st - Bramley Bats, (Red) - 960
- 2nd - Moy Cockatoos, (Yellow) - 907
- 3rd - Dawson Dolphins, (Green) - 701
- 4th - Osborne Koalas, (Blue) - 555

A message from Port Stephens Council

"As the new school year begins it is timely to reinforce road safety around schools, and this week Port Stephens Council rangers will commence their School Zones Campaign. The campaign will run over the next four weeks, with rangers conducting high visibility visits to all schools across the LGA".

WHAT DO THESE SIGNS MEAN?

2 MINUTES ONLY
YOU CAN STOP HERE FOR 2 MINUTES ONLY
You can drop your child off here but you must either stay in the car or within 3 metres of the car. Mobility sticker permit holders may stop for up to 5 mins.

NO STOPPING
YOU CANNOT STOP HERE
You cannot drop your child off here. Medical or other emergency stopping only is permitted.

BUS ZONE
YOU CANNOT STOP HERE UNLESS DRIVING A BUS
Children cannot be dropped here unless they are arriving by bus.

Hours of operation may apply to some signs. This means that the restrictions apply for those times only.
A road safety initiative of Port Stephens Council

A Road Safety Initiative of **PORT STEPHENS COUNCIL**

Students get crafty

Students in our Support classes have been very busy making all kinds of really beautiful cards and other gifts to sell at MarketPlace Raymond Terrace.

If you missed out last time, don't worry. The students will be there again on 26 February and 19 March.



IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL



ABSENTEE NOTE

(to be returned to Roll Call Teacher first day back after absence)

STUDENT'S NAME: **Roll Group:**

Year: **Date of Absence/s:**

Reason for Absence: ☐ Sick ☐ Leave ☐ Other

Signature Parent/Caregiver: **Date:**

IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL



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Year: **Date of Absence/s:**

Reason for Absence: ☐ Sick ☐ Leave ☐ Other

Signature Parent/Caregiver: **Date:**

NOTE: DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT 4 NEW STUDENTS FOR OUR TAEKWONDO PROGRAM THIS TERM

TOOGEE MARTIAL ARTS
RAYMOND TERRACE DOJANG
TAEKWONDO MON & WED
5.30 - 7.00PM
KICKBOXING TUE & THU
7.30 - 8.30PM

ENROL NOW!

ACTIVE KIDS

@TMARaymondTerrace
www.toogeemartialarts.com

Taekwondo, Self Defence, Tournaments, Cardio Kickboxing, MMA, Little Ninjas, Discipline, Confidence



IHS supporters

Does your child need an extra hand with English or Maths?

Sometimes children fall behind at school. They may have moved from another state, changed classes, or something else has happened in their life beyond your control. For whatever reason they then begin to struggle with their work at school, with their homework and with their exams. This can be frustrating for both them and you as a parent.

Kip McGrath specialises in helping children catch up to where they need to be in English and Maths. The resources we use are specifically designed to do this job. And the reason we only use qualified teachers, is that they have the tools and skills to accelerate your child's learning, so that any gaps are closed as quickly as possible.

We complement what is done at school to help your child. Your school gives your child an essential foundation in education across a wide range of subjects and developmental activities. Our job is to give your child an extra hand when they need to catch up ... for whatever reason. So together we can help your child reach their full potential.

Kip McGrath Education Centres Raymond Terrace
48 William Street Raymond Terrace NSW 2324
4983 1000 raymondterrace@kipmcgrath.com.au

Kip McGrath

www.kipmcgrath.com.au/raymond-terrace

EDUCATIONCENTRES

DRIVING SCHOOL **LIVE2DRIVE** .com.au

Live to drive is a qualified driving school focused on developing students into safe and confident drivers building skills to last a lifetime

WE OFFER AUTOMATIC & MANUAL

1 hour lesson **\$70**

3 x 1 hour lessons **\$210**

Bonus 30min driving valued at \$35

6 x 1 hour lessons **\$420**

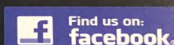
Bonus 1hr driving valued at \$70

Driver's Test package (includes lesson before plus use of car for your test) **\$140**

Gift Vouchers Available *Conditions apply

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Email: info@livetodrive.com.au



PAID ADVERTISING

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MarketPlace...
**SUPPORTING
LOCAL COMMUNITY**

 **MarketPlace**
Raymond Terrace

www.marketplacerraymondterrace.com.au
35 - 39 William Street, Raymond Terrace | Phone 4987 7686

love this place

IHS supporters



Jets Junior Bowls Academy

Gain experience from the best of the best with World Champion Natasha Scott, Australian Rep Matt Baus & former State Reps Jason Stokes and Lennon Scott.

All kids are kitted out ready to take to the green

Scholarships up for grabs

AEROBOWLS



Book your next party, high tea or private event with our Events Manager, together create a memorable personal celebration

Open on weekends for casual Cafe' dining, sit among the peaceful gardens and spoil yourself or friends with delicious coffee and hearty food. The Rectory is the perfect setting for your next event

Unwind • Indulge • Celebrate 48 Sturgeon Street



STUDENTS - GET MOVING WITH US!
16 & 17 YEAR OLDS WELCOME

JOIN NOW AND RECEIVE 1/2 JOINING FEE +
WEEKLY RATES FROM 13.95

ANYTIME FITNESS RAYMOND TERRACE
3/40 RICHARDSON ROAD, RAYMOND TERRACE
(02) 4983 2060

Terms apply. See in club for details.



The Real Futures Foundation is a non-profit organisation which has an established track record of helping to inspire and motivate students in Port Stephens to either stay in school and increase their educational engagement and attainment, or choose a positive pathway that enables successful transition to employment, further education or training.

Scotty's
CINEMAS
RAYMOND TERRACE

VISITORS TO IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

Visitors should not enter school playgrounds without the issue of a visitors pass from the front office.

NB: Teaching staff are not always available, therefore it would be appreciated if appointments were made beforehand.