



New Norfolk High School

Students fear more control

JADE-EMILY TATCHELL

IN 2008 there will be changes happening in all Tasmanian state and private high schools.

With a new curriculum, no Grade 10 early leave and the age of leaving school being raised to 17, it's going to be a big year for teachers and students.

In the new curriculum, more subjects will be compulsory. These are English-literacy, mathematics-numeracy, science, society and history. Other important subjects included in this new

curriculum are health and wellbeing, arts, and vocational and applied learning.

For New Norfolk High School students this means there will be fewer choices for optional classes. The choice is being cut from six to three and students will be counselled to choose options to do with their career choice.

When a Grade 9 class was told this, most students disagreed and one said: "This new curriculum is another way of controlling our lives."

Next year, students in Grade 10 will stay in school

the extra three weeks and leave with the rest of the school.

This means teachers will have less time to organise for the new Grade 7s, orientation days and planning for the new year including time tables.

Most Grade 9 students at NNHS feel this is unfair, especially for those who want to start working and find jobs before the Christmas season starts.

Some feel leaving early in Grade 10 is a reward for staying in school and having

a good four years at high school.

"My brother and sister got to have theirs, but I don't get mine," said Laura Dillon, 14.

Lisa Clarke, 15, said: "The Grade 10s have been at school longer than others; we should get to leave early."

Reagan Pearce, 15, said: "It's so unfair, we miss out next year. I don't like that; unfair."

There also has been an age change from being able to leave school at 16, increasing to 17 unless you are doing an apprenticeship, full-time

training or work. No Grade 10 early leave, a new curriculum and change of leaving age. Is this another way of controlling the youth of Tasmania?

All students at this school feel it is highly unfair to remove the Grade 10 leave.

However, the curriculum will give students more opportunities to learn different and interesting things.

Increasing the leaving age is another good idea as it makes us do something useful and think more about our futures.

School talk

How much is too much for a leavers' dinner dress? Compiled by Jess Wright.



MALCOLM ELLIOTT, principal: It mustn't cost more than families can afford.



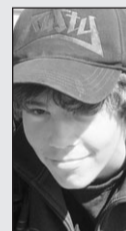
BRUCE EVANS, teacher: The cheaper the better.



SARA LOWE, Grade 9: \$800 is too much to pay for a dress.



JAIMIE ZACHE, Grade 9: It depends what families are comfortable with.



JAIMIE CURTIS, Grade 10: Anything over \$400.

Campers walk on wild side

KALINDIE GITTUS

NEW Norfolk High School has been involved in the Wilderness Program, formerly Project Hahn, for several years.

The program usually takes a group of nine students, two teachers and two program leaders and is run over five days and four nights.

The program is open to all students but is usually aimed at the quiet achievers, leadership groups and people at risk.

The week away usual-

ly takes place at Cockle Creek, Esperance and South-West National Park (South Cape). NNHS has also been involved in a snow camp at the Walls of Jerusalem National Park.

Students are not allowed to take their mobile phones or MP3 players on camp. They take part in activities such as caving, abseiling, kayaking, and hikes with over night camps.

The Wilderness Program is all about getting students out of their

comfort zones, so it can be physically and mentally challenging.

The main things students learn from this experience are teamwork and how to be considerate of other people.

They also learn about goal setting and how to see their own potential, as well as being given the opportunity to interact with the outdoors in exciting ways.

The program supplies all equipment the students and teachers need.



LEADERS: New Norfolk students on a Wilderness Project camp.

Much money raised as teachers cop fair dunking

LISA CLARKE

NEW Norfolk High School held its second fair of the millennium in September; the first of which was about three years ago.

Mr Craig Youd's leadership class started to organise the fair from June 18.

The idea had been raised at the start of the year by the prefect board.

At the fair, there was a cafe conducted by some of the grade 9 students. Customers were offered a seat and a wide variety of gourmet food prepared by catering students.

The Derwent Valley Youth Future Action Team (D'FAT) hosted a dunking machine and one of the highlights was that students were able to dunk a

good range of teachers. At 50c for three throws, the dunking machine raised more than \$250.

Bridgewater High School Farm brought its petting zoo and there was a car boot sale, class stalls and a magician.

Overall about \$3500 was raised and these funds went towards a new shade area near the canteen.

"Some of the highlights of the fair were lots of people enjoying themselves, the good natured way that both students and teachers enjoyed the dunking machine and also the weather," said Mr Youd, who assisted with the fair.

"It highlights the leadership potential of the students," he said.

This page was produced in the Grade 9/10 journalism class. Writing team: Lisa Clarke, Jade Tatchell, Kalindie Gittus and Jess Wright. Advertising team: Sarah Blackwell and Sara Lowe. Thanks to all sponsors.

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 Michael Aird would like to congratulate the students at New Norfolk High on their achievements in 2007 and wish them a very happy new year
 Authorised by Michael Aird, Parliament House

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Derwent Valley Sport and Recreation Centre
 Activities that are in progress at the moment include Indoor Soccer, Men's Basketball, District Basketball, Local Basketball (4-12 year olds), Indoor Hockey and Netball
 Other activities include senior fitness classes, aerobics and karate. The dry sauna and squash courts are available for use any time by appointment
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