Travis Thomas has recently signed up for an apprenticeship in Commercial Cookery Stage 3 at Fe Fi Fo in Inverell. Travis completed all his schooling at Ashford Central School, gaining his HSC in 2013. Hospitality was one of his favourite subjects and a subject he performed very well in.

Travis helps prepare and cook meals with the chef and is also involved in pastry preparation with Alex, the proprietor. This three year apprenticeship involves two years / one day a week at Armidale TAFE, some early starts and night shift.

Travis is enjoying his work.
Cross Country Success

On Thursday, 10th of April the Ashford Central School 2014 Cross Country Carnival was held. The weather conditions were hot, however, this did not deter the students and saw many students and parents support the event.

There was great enthusiasm and potential shown by many runners and it was encouraging to see so many students wearing their house colours.

The champions for the 2014 Cross Country were as follows:

- **Primary Minor Girl Champion**: Montannah Formiatti
- **Primary Minor Boy Champion**: Jack Agnew
- **Primary Junior Girl Champion**: Josie Thompson
- **Primary Junior Boy Champion**: Geoffrey McCosker
- **Primary Senior Girl Champion**: Lana Howard
- **Primary Senior Boy Champion**: Joe Luckett
- **Secondary Junior Girl Champion**: Claire Stevens
- **Secondary Junior Boy Champion**: Matthew Minos
- **Secondary Senior Girl Champion**: Chloe Charles
- **Secondary Senior Boy Champion**: Darryl Morgan
- **Secondary Open Girls Champion**: Letitia Hartley
- **Secondary Open Boys Champion**: Jesse Rollinson

Congratulations to these champions and to all of the other students who participated in the event and contributed to their house’s championship points, with this year’s winning house being Severn on 324 points closely followed by Macintyre on 296 and Fraser on 270 respectively.

**RECORDS**

There were 4 records broken on the day at the carnival:

- **MINOR GIRLS** – Montannah Formiatti 4:23:43 (old record – 5:04:37)
- **SEC JUNIOR BOYS** – Matthew Minos 16:25:40 (old record – 17:01:40)

Finally, there are many thank yous to make to people for their time, effort and support in organising and running such a wonderful carnival. Firstly, to Terry Steiger, Margaret Mell and the Ashford Show Trust, for the organisation and preparation of the grounds. To the school canteen, for providing food and drinks. To all of the staff at Ashford Central School for their effort and support in the organisation and running of the carnival. To all the parents and community members for their support of the event and to all of the students for their participation and effort. Without just one of these individuals or groups of people, we would not be able to conduct these types of events. Once again, thank you all, your help is much appreciated and congratulations to those successful students.

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**Annual Athletics Carnival**

The Ashford Central School Annual Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday, 16th May.

**DATE:** 16th May, 2014  
**VENUE:** Ashford Town oval  
**TIME:** 9:00am start  

**FOOD:** a canteen will be operating on the day at the venue. Please try to support the canteen as people put a lot of time and effort into providing such a facility.

**SUPPORT:** we are inviting everyone to come along to the event and enjoy what is a wonderful day for the students and show your support for the participants. Also, come along and enjoy the entertainment of the novelty events (sack races, tug-o-war).

**STUDENTS:** students are encouraged to wear appropriate athletic clothing in their house colours and demonstrate active involvement by taking part in the athletics events. House colours are as follows:

- Macintyre = Blue  
- Fraser = Yellow  
- Severn = Red
Voluntary School Contribution

In an effort to simplify the payment of money to the school for visiting performances, books and school contributions, the school introduced a system of a one off payment for all costs for the year. This system was introduced in 1995 with the support of the P & C and AECG. The big advantage to parents is that they get a considerable saving by paying the one off levy.

The advantage to the school is the reduction of interruption to teaching time and more effective use of clerical time.

The school benefits from Equity Funding and many programs in the school are subsidised. The Voluntary School Contribution does not cover the cost of excursions during the year.

The contribution for each class is as follows: Kindergarten to Year 6 is $40.00 per year, Year 7 to Year 12 is $40.00 per year.

Secondary Subject Contribution:
- Art $10.00
- Technics 1: $40.00
- Technics 2 pay for own materials
- Industrial Technology: pay for own material
- Food Technology: Years 9 - 12 pay for own materials.

There is a family discount for families with more than two children attending Ashford Central School. No family pays more than their eldest 2 children's levy. The levy can be paid off on a term basis if you wish. If there is genuine hardship and families cannot pay their voluntary contribution, they are asked to contact the Principal for an interview.

The contribution covers free ambulance, books, paper supplies, art and craft materials, text books, visiting performances (three per year), PSSA and CHS fees, Life Saving Awards and Life Education Van.

At a P&C meeting at the end of 2007, a parent reported hearing a number of parents discussing “voluntary school contribution”. They were saying it was cheaper to pay for the visiting performers at the time of the show.

This is in fact true, but, if you choose to do this you are making no contribution for books, paper supplies, art and craft materials, text books, Life Education van, PSSA/CHS fees etc. In 2012, the school spent $101,527 on such items or about $580 per student.

Asking parents to contribute $40 per student does not appear unreasonable and represents exceptional value for money. Payments can be made at the office at any time. Several parents have already made payments for 2014.
BOSTES
BOARD OF STUDIES
TEACHING &
EDUCATIONAL
STANDARDS NSW

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2014

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 15 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 16 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
**Thought For The Week**

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

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**Ashford Bushfire Brigade**

Next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 14th May, 2014, 7.30pm** at the fire station. All members are asked to attend.

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**Bonshaw CWA**

A luncheon for cancer research will be held at the Bonshaw Hall. Wednesday, 14th May, 2014 at 12.30pm. Cost: $13.00 per person. Raffle and guest speaker.

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**Ashford Roosters’ RLFC General Meeting**

The next meeting of the Ashford Roosters’ Rugby League Football Club will be held on **MONDAY, 2nd June, 2014 at 7.00pm**. The meeting will be held at the Bonshaw CWA A luncheon for cancer research will be held at the Bonshaw Hall. Wednesday, 14th May, 2014 at 12.30pm. Cost: $13.00 per person. Raffle and guest speaker.

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**ASHFORD SHOW SOCIETY AGM**

15th May 7.30 pm at the Bowling Club

At this meeting, office bearers and committee are nominated and elected for the coming year and the 2015 show. Contact the Secretary, Lisa Heyer, on 07 4653 8183 for more information or to register your interest in a position. The Show Committee meets once a month. These meetings are open. All are welcome to attend.

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**Ashford Presbyterian Church**

Pastor: Trevor Ewart
Sunday Service - 9.00am
Bible Study - 9.30am Wednesday at the Manse. All welcome. Stay for a cuppa and a chat.
Email: trevorewart@activ8.net.au
Phone 67258761
mobile 0448876161.
ASHFORD MEMORIAL BOWLING CLUB
FRIDAY, 9th May, 2014.
Lucky Member’s Draw 280 drawn 8:30pm
Progressive Members’ Draw starts 7.15pm @ $20. If not won increases by $10.00 every 15 minutes till 8.00pm.
Meat tray raffles starting at 6.30pm.
Saturday’s Euchre 2.00pm start
Social Bowls: Wednesday, 2.00pm start
Sunday, 2.00pm start
Happy Hour: Fridays 8.30 - 9.30pm
CATERING ON FRIDAY NIGHT
Mothers Day Special.
Free glass of wine with meal
6.30–8.30pm • Bookings desirable
Phone 67254202
Catering available on alternative days for private functions. Minimum 20 people. Bookings essential.

ASHFORD GOLF CLUB
11th May - 1st Round Championships
18th May - 2nd Round Championships
25th May - 3rd Round Championships
General meeting, Tuesday, 13th May 6.00pm at the Golf Club. Members please attend.
1st June - Stroke
8th June - Stroke
15th June - Stroke  Bundarra 4BBB

THE LIONS’ CORNER
Our Lions’ meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Bowling Club 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Our next meeting is 6th May, 2014. Please don’t forget we are still collecting stamps and ring pulls, you can leave them at the RTC for collection.

LEOS
Our meeting will be held on Friday, 9th May in the Science lab at lunch time. PLEASE LEOs do not forget to bring your fees and membership form at the next meeting as I need to send them away to Sydney.

BINGO
Held at the Bowling Club on the first Wednesday of the month. STARTING TIME: 1.00 pm. Our next day is the 7th May, 2014. Come along and have FUN with us as we all had a ball with all the new games and prizes. Cost of the books is $5.00 each and jackpot tickets are $2.00 each. Our jackpot is up to $65.00. Starting time eyes down at 1.00 pm.

MINI - LOTTO
Winning numbers: 4, 6, 8, 12, 13, 20. Draw Date 2/05/2014. JACKPOT is more than $6,104.00. I can’t wait to see some lucky player take this money home with them. Thank you to all our supporters. The Lotto helps us to put money back into the community.

DRIVER REVIVER
Driver Reviver is over for these holidays. Once again a BIG THANK YOU to my volunteers who help out with manning our Driver Reviver. Without these loyal people we could not run and I appreciate and thank you for your time.
Site manager Helen
Yours in Lionism, Lion Helen
SPORTS SHEAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Incorporating the TRANS TASMAN CHAMPIONSHIP
The Ashford Show Society has been presented with a proposal to hold the Sports Shear National Championship in Ashford.

This is a two day shearing event and would be held on a weekend at the School COLA in October, 2015 where there is more space available than at the Showgrounds, particularly for the large number of spectators expected to see all the action.

There are 6 shearing stands. These are portable, being constructed on trailers, and include pens and are available for hire from Sports Shear Queensland. Sheep will be Merino.

It is anticipated that over 100 shearers and around 50 wool handlers would participate. Shearers and wool handlers would come from all Australian States plus New Zealand.

The top three shearers qualify to travel to New Zealand in March of the following year to shear off in the Trans Tasman Championship.

There would be no cost to spectators – free to watch, with a canteen and bar. Accommodation could include farmstay, billeting, the caravan park, the National Park, Inverell, Coolatai, camping at the Showgrounds or on local properties.

The event would be run by the Ashford Show Society but cannot proceed without assistance and support from Ashford and surrounding areas.

Closing date for submissions to the Sports Shear Association to run this event is July 2014.

A public meeting is being held on Thursday, 8th May 7.30 pm at the Bowling Club for the Show Society to assess if there is enough local interest to run this major event.

Various aspects need to be addressed before committing to a submission including: financial - as significant funds are required, labour, sheep, catering, accommodation.

Steve Symons, co-ordinator for this event, can be contacted on 6725 4279. If you would like to discuss this proposal, can assist in any way or if you can help but are unable to come to the meeting, he would appreciate your call.