



Cartoon: Cheyanne Delmege

Last super storm leads to questions

EDITORIAL

By EVA HENCHY, KHIARA CAMPBELL and SAANE ELLIS

TERM One ended at Tenambit Public School with students looking forward to the Easter break and two weeks later, teachers returned to school well rested.

Teaching staff spent the day in the library in high spirits despite the heavy rain and increasingly violent winds buffering school buildings. Our teachers returned home ready for students to arrive Tuesday morning. Tuesday morning came, however the school never opened and remained closed for an entire week due to the most damaging and fatal storm to hit the Hunter in decades.

The Maitland City Council area is home to over 70,000 people and covers an area of almost 400 square kilometres. One of Australia's fastest growing cities was affected with roads cut, homes lost, cattle and livestock stranded and schools and businesses damaged or temporarily closed.

At Tenambit Public School, many trees, namely spotted gums which house native animals and birds were destroyed, falling on buildings and collapsing across the playground.

The worst affected area was the library which, just a day after hosting our teachers, suffered a damaged roof which leaked and let in thousands of litres of water to damage or ruin hundreds of books.

Maitland suffered major flooding in 1930 and 1955, yet twice in the last eight years the area has suffered a super storm, the last in 2007. Climate change is often discussed by politicians or in the case of Australia, denied to actually exist. Yet our area is experiencing more regular, violent storms and intense storms delivering heavy rainfall and strong winds.

Is Australia doing enough clearly to reduce or minimise the affect of climate change? Students at Tenambit feel the task to heal the planet will be left to our youth who currently have no say in climate change policy or environmental law.

Instead of waiting, why not start now and begin making changes to ensure our climate remains stable? We do not want to inherit a planet so poorly maintained it is too late to repair. Ironically, one of the biggest industries in the Hunter causing strain on our climate is the coal industry. These operations were unaffected by the storm, yet the average family in Maitland will tell their own personal story for years about the terrible 2015 storm. Let's act now on climate change before it's too late.

All enjoying coming up to the big school

By LISA WOODFIELD, CHLOE HOPE and JORJA HOPE

EVERY child in Australia must attend school and complete their basic education. Should a young person in kindergarten finish school after the Higher School Certificate in year 12, they will spend 13 years at primary and secondary school altogether.

But before all this happens, there is preschool or early child care and at Tenambit every week, the community is offered a special program called CUBS (Coming up to Big School).

Presently, several dozen young boys and girls come to Tenambit Public School each Wednesday to learn new skills vital for school and enjoy playing games and participating in activities under the supervision of staff members and program co-ordinators.

CUBS helps kids prepare for big school which is a simple philosophy that works. Most of the students attending CUBS enrol at Tenambit Public School the next year and settle more easily as they are familiar with the school setting and surroundings. The friendliness of the program is now copied and used in other schools as part of a larger network which is having huge benefits for young people coming to primary school across the Hunter.

Parents who come to CUBS with their children each week have made



CUBS enjoy their transition to Tenambit Public. Picture: Chloe Hope

some positive comments about the program. One parent said; 'It is an amazing program for our children who will be in kindergarten next year as they learn valuable skills for later in life'.

The program is fondly

remembered by those who completed it in 2014 as Lucy, in kindergarten 2015, said: "I liked CUBS because I got to play and meet new people and learn things that I know this year. I wish I could go back because it was so much fun".

The world game alive and well in Tenambit

By JORJA HOPE and SKYE ARMSTRONG

THE Tenambit Sharks Football Club are often named as the best junior football club in Maitland.

The booming junior organisation offers the world game for the youngest age group in under 6 through to over 35s and all-age men and women.

The most important section of the club is the junior program which represents the future of the club to 2020 and beyond.

The club has a prosper-

ous future with registration numbers up and the fields at the Beryl Humble Complex full most nights of the week with training, shooting practice and passing drills.

Vice president Barry McGaw says; "This club has a great family spirit and gets better each year".

The facilities are well-maintained by Maitland City Council and the red and blue football stripe is worn by more children than any other sport in Tenambit.

The under 10 age group



The Tenambit Sharks Football Club.

Picture: Shaine Lambert

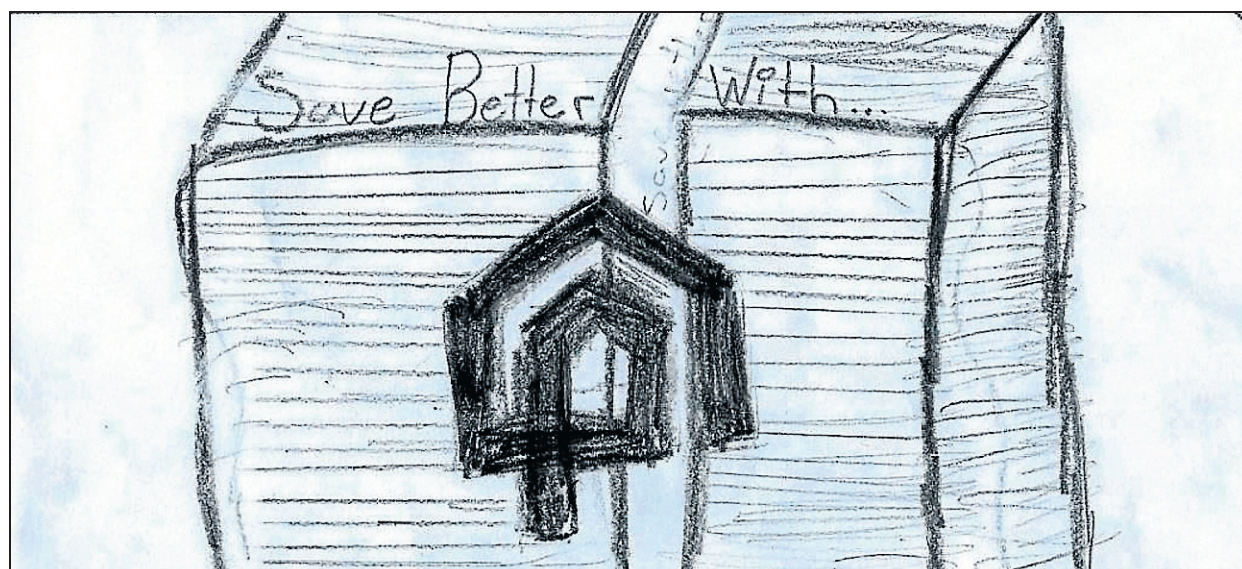
boasts two teams and trains Thursday evenings wearing the club colours covered by local sponsors representing local busi-

nesses. The club ties its proud history with an optimistic future where football will be played in Tenambit for decades.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS SCHOOL NEWSPAPER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE COMPETITION SPONSORS



SEE THE ENTRIES ONLINE AT theherald.com.au/community/newspapers-in-education/



Advertisement created by Olivia Howarth, of Tenambit Public School.

Here for you, here for the community

13 19 87 newcastlepermanent.com.au

Here for good. **NEWCASTLE PERMANENT**