



Term 3 Principal News

And just like that we have so quickly come to the end of term 3 at BCBS. It has been quite the whirlwind term where achievements of our students have been exceptional. There is so much to be proud of at BCBS.

We have been working hard this term to develop programs and improvements based on the community consultation. I am confident about the direction our school is taking and the opportunity for students expanding. Most of the new initiatives are set to launch in 2025. They include:

- The Talented Arts Program
- The Big Picture Pathway (information night is 24th October)
- Excel2Accelerate – a pathway for high potential and gifted students
- Middle school program for Year 7
- Enhanced transition program for our Year 6 students
- Improved use of our learning spaces
- Increased student voice in decision making
- Reimagining HUB
- Introducing Restorative practice to support behaviour development and conflict resolution.

The potential of the students at our school never ceases to amaze me. This term I spent significant time working with a group of Year 9 and 10 students to explore how we can make better use of our open learning spaces and learning street. Together we are partnering with architect, Dr Fiona Young. We began by posing the question, where do you like to learn? The workshops have culminated in scale models that we will use to explore with staff and then develop real life improvements to our learning spaces.

Principal update continued...

I am keen to continue to tidy up our facilities and value add. Projects with the Department of Education can take time to ensure safety and compliance. Weather permitting, by the end of the year we should see:

- A cover over our outdoor basketball court (COLA)
- New carpet in the Learning Street, Level 1 and 2
- Additional shade in the playground (requested by students)
- Chairs for assembly (requested by students)
- Some additional frosting on class between classrooms
- Improved acoustic insulation in classrooms to reduce noise

On Thursday we celebrated the achievements of our Year 12 students and gave them a wonderful send off. We are so proud of them all. Best of luck to those heading into their Y12 exams. I have included my principal's speech for those who could not be present.

Have the very best holiday break and we look forward to seeing you all back ready for term 4!

Peter Howes - Principal

Big Picture EDUCATION AUSTRALIA

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

24TH OCTOBER 2024
5:30-6:30PM
THE LEARNING STREET
LEVEL 1

About Big Picture

"Big Picture is an innovative pathway that puts your child's passions and strengths at the centre of their learning. This unique approach ensures students are empowered to thrive through personalised projects and real-world learning experiences. The program builds trust, respect, and care as we nurture each student's sense of purpose and curiosity. By focusing on essential life skills like communication, problem-solving, and social reasoning, we will prepare students for life beyond school, whether that be university or the workplace.

Join us for an informational session on Big Picture Learning and discover how we create futures by partnering with families to help students set goals, explore career pathways, and pursue what truly motivates them."

<http://www.bigpicture.org.au>



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Year 7 English Group Performances

Will Shakespeare be taught forever? We certainly think so. Year 7 are introduced to Shakespeare through Andy Griffith's 'Just Macbeth', a modernised play based on William Shakespeare's 1606 play, 'The Tragedy of Macbeth'. Three school children who are rehearsing a scene for this play are propelled onto a battlefield on a cold Scottish heath - and this is where the adventure begins.

BCHS students then stepped into the characters of Andy, Danny, Lennox, Witches and Warriors to perform a scene from 'Just Macbeth', with props, costumes, Scottish accents, sword fighting and whizz-fizz!

The students certainly stepped out of their comfort zones, and their classrooms (literally) as they rehearsed in the glorious Spring shade underneath the fig trees. There were opportunities for collaboration, creation, communication, comedy and problem-solving. Accompanying the group performances, students then wrote personal reflections and here are some glimpses of their experiences



Student reflections: 'My first thought when I heard we were learning about Shakespeare was confusion: why were we learning about some old guy who wrote boring lectures? Little did I know that my mind was about to be blown. I hadn't realised that so many of the stories I know and love were either written or inspired by Shakespeare.' (O.W.)

'When I heard about the group performance, I was scared, but the play and talking with other people made me overcome speaking in front of the class in the end.' (C.M.)

'I think performing Shakespeare instead of reading it is a good skill to have - you get to be someone you're not and you get to make it come to life.' (C.M.)

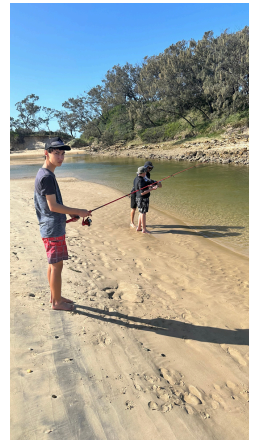
'We found out that one of the main characters in our group would be away for the group performance, so I stepped up and took her role even though I hate performing in front of people...we just solved the problem and went on.' (M.S.)

'My favourite lesson was the one in which I performed, and not just because I got to 'enjoy the stage', but also because watching my classmates perform the same thing as me helped me to adjust how I might have performed.' (O.W.)

'My favourite lesson would be the lesson where we got to go outside and rehearse the play. I loved rehearsing the play, because I feel like it was a time where I got to have fun while doing school work.' (H.H.)

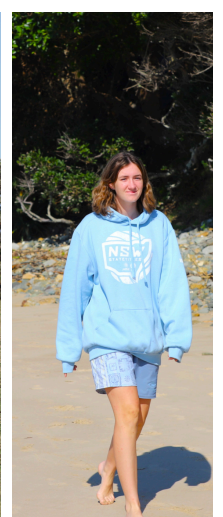
Year 9
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

PEBBLY BEACH



Year 11
SLR EXPEDITION

SANDON RIVER



Term 3 Sporting Achievements

We are so proud of all of the incredible sporting achievements this Term! There is no doubt that there is a fighting spirit amongst our athletes and they have all represented our school with great determination and skill across the many sports. Congratulations to all of you for your efforts. Remember to check out our FB and Instagram pages.



Purple Shirt Fridays

Ballina Coast High School are proud to partner with the Rotary Club of Ballina on Richmond in their collaborative initiative with Cherry Street Sports Ballina, standing together to “SAY NO to Domestic & Family Violence” and “YES to Respectful Relationships”. Our staff, join participating business every Friday to wear our Purple Shirts in support of this important cause.



Legacy Week

Shakira Hargrave and Deklan Lovejoy were selling badges recently at the Ballina Post Office. Over 15 BCHS students supported Legacy Week in several local locations and over \$2300 was raised to support widows and wards of Legacy. The students have helped raise over 40% of the funds for Legacy Week. An incredible effort!

Exploring Commerce in the real world at Dreamworld...

Year 9 and 10 Commerce students explored Dreamworld’s marketing tactics and investigated their key target markets and the techniques used to approach them. They uncovered Dreamworld’s relationships with the media, including print, television & broadcast. Gaining an understanding of how Dreamworld engages with the public on different platforms.



For the love of ART

Creative Arts students have had a day in Brisbane this Term visiting the Iris Van Herpen Exhibition at the Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) and the permanent collections at the Queensland Art Gallery.

Year 9 TAFE Open Day

Year 9 had a fantastic day at TAFE Wollongbar open day last week where they got to experience some amazing courses that TAFE has to offer. The day was interactive and the students got to be hands on in the Animal Care department, the Hairy and Beauty Salon, the Electrical workshop and the Childcare Centre to name just a few. It was a great day out for the students where they could experience being in an adult learning environment and were even treated to pizza lunch.



Farewell To Year 12



Ballina Coast High School officially opened its doors in 2019, welcoming an eager Year 7 cohort, ready to begin their schooling in our newly built facility with Year Advisor Trixie Donald. Today, they attended their last official day as Year 12 students, and we watched them graduate at our annual Year 12 Farewell Assembly with Trixie still guiding them as their Year Advisor.

Students were recognised for their incredible achievements, showcased their musical talents and their future endeavours were celebrated in front of a large crowd of students, teachers, community and family members.

A big thank you to all of the parents and carers and our valued staff for supporting the students throughout their schooling years and to our special guests for joining us for this memorable day. We are so proud of each and every one of our Year 12 students and wish you all the best for your upcoming HSC exams and your future beyond high school.

Principal's Key Note Year 12 Presentation Assembly 2024

It is a tremendous honour to stand before you today to celebrate the accomplishments of such an exceptional group of young individuals. Today, we gather not only to recognise achievements, but also to mark the conclusion of a significant journey and the commencement of a new chapter filled with possibilities. To our parents and families, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for partnering with us on what may have seemed like a challenging yet rewarding journey. Together, we have navigated through obstacles and triumphs, and today we stand at the culmination of this shared experience.

I must acknowledge the profound influence of our remarkable teachers, executive, and support staff. The impact that a dedicated teacher can have on a person's life is truly remarkable and enduring.

I would like to commend our captains, Hien, Sasha, Nina, and Harrison, for representing Ballina Coast High School with pride, grace, and kindness. Your leadership has been exemplary, and we are proud of the contributions you have made to our school community.

This year marks the graduation of the first Year 12 cohort since my tenure as principal of BCHS. I have been consistently impressed by the welcoming, intelligent, adventurous, and respectful nature of this group. While some of you humorously claim to be the best-looking graduating class, your true beauty lies in your character and achievements. You are also the first group of students to complete your entire secondary schooling in our beautiful building.

As you reflect on your high school journey, each of you carries a unique and personal story of triumph over challenges that may have seemed insurmountable at times. Despite the hurdles, you have persevered and are here today, on the brink of a new chapter.

The road ahead will undoubtedly be filled with joys, triumphs, and challenges. It is the fond memories and positive experiences that will serve as your strength during difficult times.

As an 'old' English and Drama teacher I can't help but share inspiration from Shakespeare's Hamlet. In the play there is a young man, Laertes who has completed his schooling and is about to head off on a round-the-world adventure. His father, Polonius gives him some final advice, not dissimilar to 'Did you pack your socks and an extra pair of undies? And don't forget to message your mother...' Polonius goes on, like we parents do, until he finally finishes with the brilliant advice, "above all, to thine own self be true."

What does this mean? My interpretation for you year 12 is to remember to prioritise self-care, maintain a healthy mind and body, and uphold the values instilled in you by Ballina Coast High School - kindness, empathy, and compassion. By staying true to these principles, you are setting yourself up for a successful life.

To the Year 12 cohort, I wish you all the best in your upcoming exams. I have full confidence that you will go forth and make a positive impact on this world. I encourage you to return and share your adventures and successes with us. And, in parting, I leave you with this reminder: "Be the best version of yourself that you can be."

Thank you, Peter Howes - Principal



YEAR 12



2024



A visit to the Farm Byron Bay

Our support centre students had a lovely visit to the Farm. Roy the horse was the super star of the day. Such a great experience for all of the students and staff.



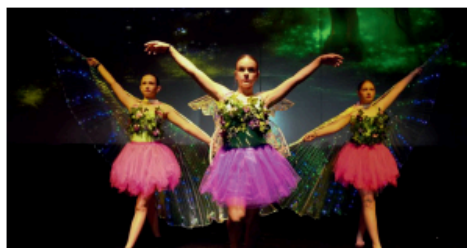
BCHS BALLINA COAST HIGH SCHOOL

innovation excellence diversity

Exciting New Programs Coming in 2025



A selective High Potential and Gifted pathway for those wanting to dive deeper into their academic learning.



A selective extra curricular program for those with a desire to cultivate their Creative and Performing Arts passions.



A selective student-led learning model focused on their personal interests blended with workplace experiences.

Wishing Students, Staff and Families a happy holiday break. We look forward to seeing you back for Term 4 on Monday 14 October 2024.

innovation excellence diversity