



BCHS BALLINA COAST HIGH SCHOOL

innovation excellence diversity



Term 3 Principal Message

Term 3 is always a busy exciting time of year. Our students have been active in so many areas and have been engaging in a wide variety of learning experiences at school and within the community.

We started with an amazing NAIDOC week celebration where we saw community and students come together to share and learn from each other. To see our students proudly sharing their culture through dance, music and art was outstanding. The work of Desert Pea Media and Jali Land Council with our students from the Cabbage Tree Island community, highlighted their amazing talents and resiliency in their 'Wanna go Home' music clip and short documentary. We couldn't have been prouder than when we saw our students on the national ABC news telling their story and sharing with the nation.

Year 10 headed to the ski fields for the annual ski excursion in NSW and challenged themselves in a new environment, learning new skills and experiencing another way of life. We hope some of them catch the snow bug and take this experience to go on and explore the world and its many slopes it has to offer. Though the conditions may not have been the best in 2023, our students made the most of it and had a great time enjoying the winter wonderland with their friends and staff.

Students have been studying hard, with our Year 12 students completing their Trial HSC Examinations early in the term as they prepare for their final HSC examinations in Term 4. Major works have been completed and submitted, Music pieces polished, Drama rehearsed, and now final performances have been assessed. These students have applied themselves for so many years and now will look forward to their final Year 12 assembly, their HSC examinations and then the celebration to end it all, the Year 12 Formal. It is an exciting time for Year 12, and we wish them well.

Principal Message continued...

Year 11 have now completed their Preliminary Examinations and will move into their final HSC year shortly, following in the steps of our outgoing Year 12. While the junior school got to discuss their Semester One results at this term's parent teacher evening. It was great to see so many families supporting their child's academic progress, talking to teachers about their child's learning and how they can continue to improve and grow.

Sport as always at BCHS has been showcasing the many talents of all our athletes, though none bigger than Year 12 student Jacob Carre. He was the leading scorer at the national titles in Football (Soccer) and has gained selection in the Australian Under 18 Football team and will now go on to tour Europe and the UK. This is a truly outstanding achievement and shows what is possible when you apply yourself and chase your dreams.

Many other BCHS teams and individual athletes progressed in NSW CHS knockout competitions, through to zone, region, and state competitions, again highlighting the incredible strength of sport at our school. We look forward to continuing to hear about their great achievements.

Students have been participating in numerous extra-curricular activities this term. Year 10 participated in work experience, trying potential career paths, and getting a feel for what may be ahead after school. Year 9 completed their PEER Leadership course and are ready to assist in the transition of the 2024 Year 7 students through the rest of this year and into the next. There have been exciting Outdoor Education adventures, Physics students assessing the science behind the major theme park rides and so many more opportunities to learn both in and outside the classroom.

This has only been possible by the many extra hours of work coordinating these events by our BCHS staff and the staff that support their release to provide these amazing opportunities. We are still struggling with staffing like most NSW schools, though, if there is a way to make it happen, we will continue to pride ourselves in providing these opportunities for our students.

Term 3 sees us saying farewell to some staff as they move to new opportunities in life, while we get to welcome some new staff to BCHS and look forward to working with them over coming years.

Ms Ebony Milgate and Mrs Michelle Hogan have both taken up new adventures and we wish them well. Much loved SLSO Mrs Helen McLean has retired after many years working with our support centre students and Mr Rod Farrelly has been successful in gaining a position as Assistant Principal at Wilson Park School in Lismore starting Term 4. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Kristie Li as a new Math teacher and Mrs Mariah Bramley O'Connor as our new Head Teacher HSIE in Term 4 and thank Mr Jacob Gardiner for his tireless work who has supported the faculty in the relieving Head Teacher role.

To all staff who have left us or leaving, thank you for all you have done in supporting the many students lives who have benefited from your tutelage and passion for education over the years.

I would like to also thank our parents for all you do in supporting your children to come to school each day ready to learn, ready to be challenged and ready to grow. It is not always easy, and we have had some challenging years recently, though we are a resilient community and all the little things you do are appreciated.

I hope all families, students and staff enjoy a relaxing holiday break and spend some time doing the things that make them happy. I look forward to seeing you all again in Term 4.

Jesse Coates, Relieving Principal



Sensational Ski Trip

The highly anticipated Year 10 ski trip has been a rewarding experience for the 55 students and 5 teachers who attended.

Whilst the snow conditions were a little disappointing early in the week, it didn't stop our students and staff from hitting the slopes and having a great time. A fantastic dump on the Thursday ensured that Friday was a winter wonderland for the students on the slopes with 10cm of fresh snow.

Some of the highlights of the trip was the night skiing, fireworks display and staying at Smiggins right on the mountain which ensured that the group got to embrace being in the snow for the whole week.

A massive thank you to the teaching and administrative staff that worked hard behind the scenes to make this amazing trip happen!

We know that our Year 9 students are already getting excited for their turn next year.





Congratulations Sophia

Year 12 student Sophia Gooley is one of our school-based traineeship students. She recently competed at the World Skills Championships in Melbourne over 3 days in the VETiS Hairdressing category.

Sophia competed against 6 other students and was the GOLD medal winner scoring 94.58/100.

Students were judged on hair colour application, hair braids, head, neck and shoulder massages, blow dries, time management, communication and working as a team.

This is a fantastic achievement, and we are all proud of you Sophia.

Legacy Luncheon and Ceremony

School Captains, Sophie-Lee Sariago and Nathaneal Kelly joined Head Teacher Wellbeing Robyn Sheehan, at the Legacy Luncheon and Ceremony held at the Ballina RSL Club on Sunday 27 August 2023. Sophie-Lee read 'Flanders Field' during the ceremony and Nathaneal addressed the luncheon as a guest speaker about the importance of Legacy. Congratulations to both students on the quality of your presentations and for being wonderful examples of young leaders for BCHS.



Summer & Maverick Ransom's Acting Success in Los Angeles...

Congratulations to this brother and sister duo for their recent achievements at the Industry Network Talent Showcase in LA. They performed in front of 100 judges who were talent agencies, managers, and casting directors and both were incredibly successful.

Maverick won 8 awards across the acting categories and came 4th overall in his age division, which was excellent, considering he was one of the youngest in his division and competing against drama undergraduates. Summer won 10 awards across the acting and modelling categories and was the winner overall in her age division. Both now have acting opportunities ahead of them which they are both very excited to pursue for the future.



NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS

“For Our Elders”

Term 3 began with our NAIDOC week celebrations, organised by Head Teacher Raelene Fox. It was a wonderful week that showcased Aboriginal culture, the history and celebrated the theme “For Our Elders”. An assembly was held on the village green that opened with a Welcome to Country by Elder, Auntie Julia Paiden and a performance given by staff Mr Stuart Kent, Mr Noel Francis and guest Uncle Jason Sines that touched the audience.

We premiered the music video “Wanna Go Home” that featured our Cabbage Tree Island students. It was created by Desert Pea Media in collaboration with Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council and local images by photographer Uncle Kris Cook were also on display. A week of dance workshops with renowned performer and choreographer Rayma Johnson was another highlight of the week, as was the 3x3 Basketball competition and the Oz Tag event. We thank everyone who contributed to this meaningful week.





Farewell to International Student Johanna Dieling

who returns home after being at BCHS since Term 1.

What Country do you call home?

Germany will always be my home because that is where I grew up with friends and family; but Australia will be a part of where I call home as well because I've created a completely different life here.

Most memorable moment at BCHS?

The marine trip to Julian Rocks when I saw turtles and sharks for the first time. I never did anything like this in Germany.

Your favourite Aussie food?

Vegemite scrolls even though I don't like Vegemite.

Favourite Australian Animal?

Quokka

Something you love about Australia that you will miss when you go home.

I will miss my Australian friends, my host family, being a 3-minute walk away from the beach, the markets and the sunny weather.

Why we WEAR IT PURPLE at BCHS!

Our school community supported our LGBTQIA+ students by celebrating diversity and inclusion on Wear It Purple Day. The afternoon helped to raise awareness and challenge harmful social cultures in our community. There was live music, a fashion parade, face painting and badge making. Thank you to our community supporters Yazmindi Music, Headspace Lismore and Lola Dining. We are grateful to everyone involved in creating a wonderful celebration.



Australian Schoolboys Selection

Year 12 student, Jacob Carre represented NSW in the Interstate Football (soccer) Championship. He was a standout player at the tournament, helping the NSW team win the competition. Jacob's consistency on the field, and a flurry of goals throughout the tournament, helped him to gain selection into the Australian Schoolboys Team. BCHS staff and students wish him all the best with his international tour in 2024 and his future endeavours in the sport. (Jacob is pictured front row second from the right).



SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Follow our facebook page for sports reports



Support Centre Visits Crowley Care – Meaningful connections have been made with residents of Crowley Care this Term. Sharing music, poetry, medals, life accomplishments and making clay creations.



Education Week Awards

Congratulations to the BCHS staff and students who recently received awards at the Education Week Awards 2023 at the Goonellabah Office.

Raelene Fox, Head Teacher of our Jullum Centre, received her award for leading the Aboriginal Education Team to improve the learning, and social wellbeing of all students. She is committed to Aboriginal Education and works collaboratively with staff to find new resources to support Aboriginal perspectives into lessons, increasing student attendance and promoting First Nation's culture across the school community.

Toni Bellos received her award for her unwavering support for the students undertaking a school-based traineeship at BCHS. Her ability to liaise with employers, training services, school personnel and students has seen a significant growth in the number of students participating in and successfully completing a school-based traineeship.

Helen Mclean, who recently retired from BCHS received an award for her dedicated service to public education for over 40 years. Starting as a volunteer, she soon became employed as a School Learning Support Officer. Helen brought laughter, professionalism and dedication to her workplace every day.

Tahj Garratt received his award for being an exemplary student of BCHS. He is a high achiever who always applies himself to his studies with application and due diligence. Tahj is to be congratulated on his sportsmanship, positive behaviour, and supportive nature. He is also to be highly commended for welcoming, cheering and encouraging support students participating in school events.

School Captains Nathanael Kelly, Bonnie Tinworth and November Webb received their awards for being exceptional leaders who represented the school at many events and for being well-respected ambassadors for the school. Applying themselves with due diligence to their schooling and upholding school values.

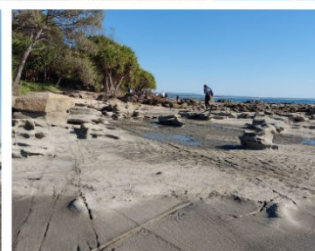


Year 11 Biology excursion to Woody Head

This Term our Year 11 Biology students travelled to Woody Head Camping Area where they met with educators from Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre. The educators coordinated activities throughout the day on the rock platform.

Students were very engaged and gained onsite knowledge about how to work scientifically regarding biological practices and management of ecosystems on our local rock platforms.

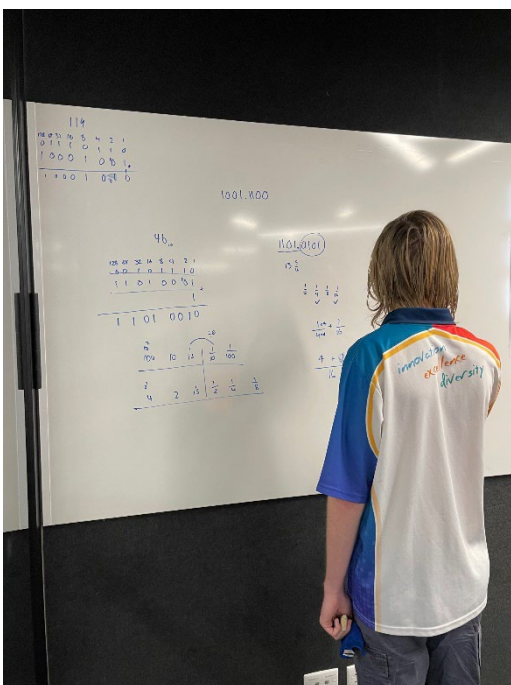
Subject Matters...



Yr 7 Technology



White Card Training



Software Design and Development

The year 12 class have been honing their binary arithmetic skills with a guest specialist teacher Jacqui Lyon.

The class were revising how to convert decimal to binary to hexadecimal in preparation to perform binary arithmetic.

The students had a fun time learning on the board in preparation for their HSC exams.



Class of 2023

Our Year 12 cohort finished their week with 'FUN THEMED DAYS' including, Favorite Teacher, Rhyme without Reason and Gender Bender.

Thursday 21 September we formally said 'Farewell' to the year group with a whole school Assembly. Presentations were made by special guest from our community. We wish them the best of luck for their upcoming HSC Exams.

