



# BCHS BALLINA COAST HIGH SCHOOL

innovation excellence diversity

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Amazing, brilliant, captivating, delightful, exhilarating, funny...and I could continue right through the alphabet to z in describing the first term of 2019 in our new building. We have captured the hearts of all. This was in no small part due to our community. Particular thanks to staff and students who have embraced the opportunities to continue to focus on learning.

Our staff and students proudly showcased learning and facilities to hundreds of people. Our Transition Evening for Year 7 2020 was an indication of the support for the way we are delivering education to our young people. We have waiting lists for out of zone enrolments and this also is evidence of our commitment to improving on the work we do.

As the term ends, we can rightfully celebrate the following

- Our students are on task and learning
- Our teachers are working together to continually improve the work we do
- We have had tours and visitors through our school, with more planned
- Our students are planning NAIDOC Week
- We are looking at a community celebration to open our school
- We had Jed and Lachlan perform at *Encore* at the Sydney Opera House and Jason perform at *OnStage* at the York Theatre, Sydney
- Our Targeted Sports Program is a joy to see
- Friends of BCHS have met
- Our swimming carnival began with our first Street Parade
- Professionals in Residence is underway.

We have been honoured with the responsibility and opportunity to make BCHS happen and the learning spaces are humming, the students are engaged and we are in a happy place. Thank you all for your support.  
Have a safe Easter break.

Janeen Silcock, Principal





## Ballina Coast High School Opening

Ballina Coast High School was officially opened on Thursday 7 March by the Hon Rob Stokes MP the Minister for Education. Welcome to Country was recited by AECG President Deborah Cook.

Principal Janeen Silcock welcomed the guests and included in her speech "This journey began just over four years ago and it has been one that celebrates young people, our community and public education. The journey continues... it is not finite. Our journey will continue to build an extraordinary path that places students and learning at the centre and works with a community to raise good men and women, who will go out into the community – locally, nationally or globally and contribute in a meaningful way. Every person within this space today and beyond has played a part... they have given their hearts, the love of learning, their belief in young people and their commitment to public education, to create an amazing legacy. The facilities are magical but it is the people and learning that matters now and for every tomorrow".

Students Mariah Cavanaugh-Roberts and Mauleen Santibanez spoke on behalf of our school. Mariah and Mauleen spoke in regard to "the school's main focus being about students being highly educated and able to have a lot of opportunities when attending and leaving school". "How proud the students are of this tremendous state of the art school and sharing this once in a lifetime opportunity with the 90 staff, 850 students and the whole of the school community".

## Public Open Days

Two days were held in February to allow interested community members a look through, with staff volunteering their time to assist with the guided tours. We were inundated with over two thousand people checking out our state of the art facilities. This has led us to plan a *Family Festival of Fun* Grand Opening on Tuesday 28 May for family and community members to attend and delight in all the amazing options our school is offering to students. Details regarding this event will be shared soon.....



# Maths

Some of the outstanding features of the dynamic Mathematics Faculty for 2019 include:

- Two exciting new members – Mr Scott Hogden and Mr Ashton Tselepy, who are already providing valuable innovation into the delivery of Mathematics to our students.
- We continue to utilise a variety of on-line learning platforms that permit us to extend our teaching/learning beyond the confines of the classroom – these include Education Perfect, Educreations and the Eddie Woo video series.
- Our school provides the facility for highly talented Mathematics students to be accelerated beyond their current year group. We currently have four students who are completing their senior courses while in Year 10.
- Mr Bill Feruglio has recently conducted testing of our Year 7 students for numeracy and literacy under the Best Start program. He is currently conducting analysis of the results of this testing, in order for us to tailor our delivery more effectively

## Technical and Applied Science (TAS)

Term 1 has seen the TAS classrooms come alive with excitement, creativity, innovative thinking and learning. The TAS faculty have challenged themselves in all areas of technology endeavouring all students to achieve their personal best.

Ballina Coast High School has welcomed back Glenn Worthington who has inspired Year 10 students in engineering and designing and fabricating drones that are almost ready to fly. Year 11 and 12 Construction students are busy building around the school tool racks and projects to support their new environment.



We have welcomed Scott Etienne as an exchange teacher from Canada inspiring students and taking a leading role with new technologies specifically in laser engraving machines creating new and exciting design projects in Design and Technology.



# Science

Term 1 has gone by incredibly quick and the Science Faculty has enjoyed a number of highlights with students.

Marine Technology - Year 9 students have been rearing red claw in our aquaculture facility; Year 10 students are obtaining their boat licences through a school partnership with RMS; some Year 12 students will be obtaining their SCUBA certification. Students also harvested, filleted and cooked our first run of farm raised Jade Perch!

Agriculture - Students are rearing Jade Perch in our aquaculture facility and are looking forward to the construction of a fruit orchard, community garden and chicken coop next term.

Years 7-9 Science - Rockets; cardboard marble runs; science video blogs; sodium explosions and ecology excursions have all made this term exciting to say the least. One experiment unintentionally triggered the school smoke alarms and evacuation of the entire building! The Science Faculty can confirm now that the alarms and school evacuation procedures are working extremely well 😊

We are looking forward to next term and more exciting things in the works for the Science Faculty, stay tuned for more updates!

## Creative Arts

It is full steam ahead in the Creative Arts Department and we are thrilled with the new facilities in our purpose built classrooms. Students of all years are currently engaged in assessment work and are working well on a variety of practical and theoretical learning opportunities.

We are excited to have three students nominated as semi-finalists in the Moran Contemporary Photography Prize. Our student's works have been selected from schools across Australia and we are very proud of their efforts.

Drama students had a wonderful trip to Sydney to attend Onstage, which are the best HSC performances of 2018 along with other theatrical experiences. They returned with focus and determination to begin planning their own HSC pieces.

The dancers are currently preparing for the Dance Festival and will have an incursion later this term to consolidate their routines for this event. They are also involved in choreographing dances for the MADD Production.

## Languages

It is a very exciting time to be studying Japanese right now, as 15 students and three teachers are preparing to depart for a two-week visit to our Sister School in Togane, Japan during the April school holidays. This will be reciprocated in March 2020 with our Sister school visiting us. Students are currently enjoying lunchtime viewing of Anime shows, and are looking forward to the opportunity to try some Karaoke next term.



## Careers

The start of the school year has been a very busy time in Careers. We have hosted the University Showcase. Among the showcase were representatives from the University Of New England, Southern Cross University, Bond University, University of Queensland, Griffith University and TAFE. The University of Melbourne also visited to discuss Indigenous pathways to University.

We have quite a few students this year who have been successful in gaining School based traineeships in a range of areas such as Early Childhood, Health, Hairdressing, Construction Automotive, Engineering and Business Services.

Some Year 10 students have undertaken work experience throughout this term. If any businesses would like to host one of our students, please contact the school.

The Professionals in Residence Program has kicked off with several community members spending the day talking with our students. Residences so far include a retired Airline Pilot and a former Griffith University Student ambassador coming in over the next two weeks.

The Defence Force Recruitment team has been here twice this term for presentations about life in the Army, Navy and Air Force and they are planning to return to Ballina to host a Recruitment session next term.



**HSIE** stands for Human Society in its Environment.

Our junior subjects include world history and geography. In Year 10 we offer modules including VET Business Services, Commerce, Causing Conflict and People and Events that Shaped the World.

Our senior curriculum is wide and varied. Subjects offered include Modern and Ancient History, Legal Studies, Business Studies, Society and Culture, Geography and Aboriginal Studies. We also offer VET courses such as Retail and Business Services.

We are a fun filled faculty who love to get out of the classroom and in to the field.

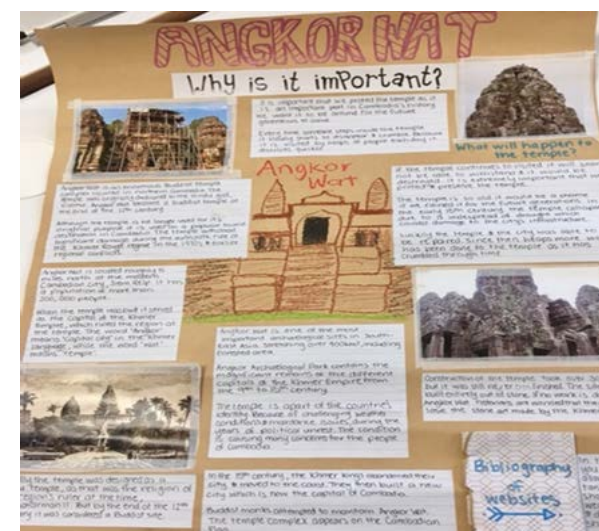
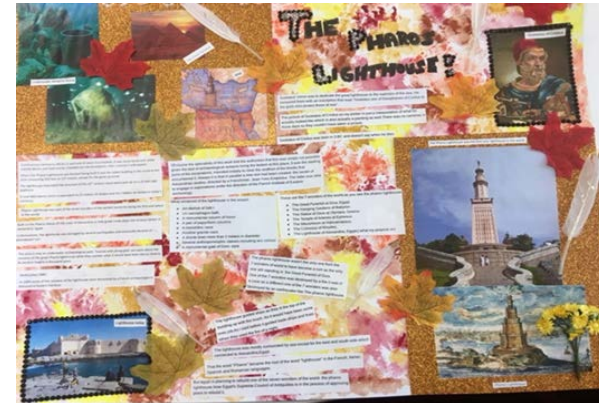
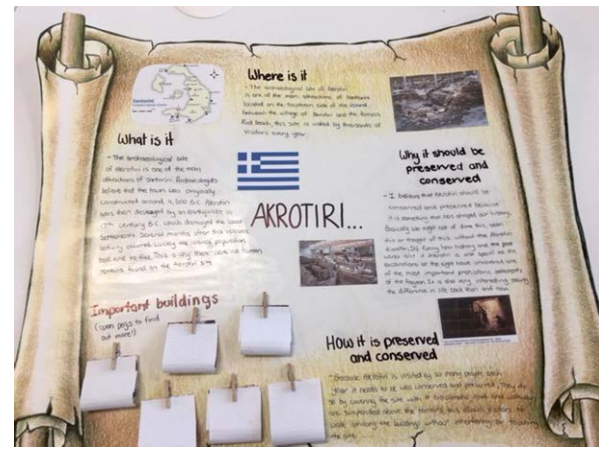
**H**istory is revisited with Year 8 through ancient ruins that told stories – archaeology told the narrative.

**S**cientific and geographical investigations led Year 9 to develop inquiry and scientific research skills. They developed a hypothesis and looked at our local oyster farming.

**I**nterest in the real world created opportunities for Year 10 to develop knowledge and skills in electives involving Commerce, Law, Business and the Environment. They have looked at conflict and project based learning.

**E**xcursions abounded in Term One with Year 7 walking with our past in the cemetery, reflecting on Aboriginal history and developing empathic and cultural awareness.

We continue to wrap around HSC students with their interest in history, Legal, VET and Business subjects. We are an energetic and engaged faculty that continues to place students at the centre of all we do.



## English

The English faculty are a dynamic group of educators who are passionate about their subject area. They bring a wide range of experience to the classroom including professional media experience, public speaking and debating expertise, regular participation at HSC marking, film making skills, professional writing prowess, and exceptional understanding of literature and literacy.

They aim to provide an education that creates confident and articulate communicators.

We say farewell to Byron Christie and wish him the very best in his new position. His energy and passion will be greatly missed.



Ballina Coast High School participated in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in 2018 and we are very excited to be doing it again this year. Any student wishing to complete their Duke of Edinburgh's Award in 2019 please see Mrs Pratt or Mr McQuhae for a form. If you would like more information please email questions to [amanda.pratt3@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:amanda.pratt3@det.nsw.edu.au) or [cameron.mcquahae@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cameron.mcquahae@det.nsw.edu.au)



## Support Centre

The Support unit has had a busy term in our new school. Our students have experienced many exciting activities.

Work Education program has begun this year at Macadamia Castle. Students help with cleaning animal enclosures, and filling feedbags.

We participated in a HSIE Excursion to Rocky Creek Dam to investigate our local water supplies.

We have held fundraising BBQ's to raise funding for our Overnight excursion to be held later in the year.

Pictured below: Tyrell checking out the flowers at the dam. Jake helping feed the animals at the Macadamia Castle.



## Athlete Profile

**Name:** Rowen Mansfield  
**Program:** Rugby League  
**Club:** Ballina Seagulls  
**Rep:** Gold Coast Titans / NSW 15s

### Benefits of TSP:

Get to work on my core basic skills on a consistent basis.

I enjoy the training and the athlete development principles that will improve my overall game and Long Term Athletic Development.



## Targeted Sports: Around the Grounds

The wait is over and what a fantastic start to the Targeted Sport Program for 2019.

The positive feedback from staff, students, parents and community representatives provides us with the confidence that the TSP program will become an integral part of sport and athlete development into the future here in Ballina.

With currently 115 students across our five programs including Basketball, Surfing, Netball, Football and Rugby League, we are establishing a culture of high expectations, commitment and personal excellence.



## SRC

Recently the SRC Planning Day reflected how strong, brave and confident our SRC team is this year. We played games to get to know each other, to work effectively in a team, and to be able to communicate with each other to create and achieve our goals. Speaking of goals, we created a list of SMART and diverse goals that we hope to achieve this year, for not only the school's benefit but also the community's. These include:

- Colour fun run for a charity
- Workshop day (CAPA/TAS)
- Fundraiser/Fete/Market fair (Family Fun Festival)
- Eliminate littering (More bins/ Organic waste bins/ recycling bins)
- Create a school compost
- Build agriculture in school
- All weather cover on school outdoor BBQ-chocolate fundraiser, community movie night, trivia night, raffle
- Acknowledgment to country on outside of building



The theme of 'communication' was shown throughout the day as we broadened our knowledge as well as skills in communicating, from public speaking to learning different ways to communicate with each other (i.e. emailing, sign language).

I would like to give a huge thank you to two of our school captains, Amelia Farrant and Tayla Kennedy for helping us throughout the day by setting an example of how to lead as well as how to communicate effectively.

Another exciting part of our agenda throughout the day was our election. Nearly all our members gave an improvised, persuasive speech on the SRC officer role they wish to become. It was amazing to watch the bravery and confidence of the students, particularly the young year 7's. I would like to congratulate the following students for fulfilling these roles:

SRC Executive: President- Maureen Santibanez, Vice President- Bohdi Chang, Secretary- Hope O'Connor, Treasurer- Chloe Pratt, Correspondence- Joshua Mueller, Charity Coordinators -Laura and Luke Quirk, Caterer - Hayley and Ruby, Junior Chamber - Jack McIntosh, Chloe Pratt, Mia Grant, LEO Liaison- Brandon Parson, Fundraising- Zac Irwin, Juniper Benko, Sports Liaison- House Captains, Environmental Team- Everyone.

Towards the end, we had our official SRC induction, which parents and carers were invited to. Our guest speaker Mr Jim Meldrum from East Ballina Lions Club, and our principal Mr. Armstrong gave inspiring speeches about their leadership journey.

We took the SRC oath, and all received our badges, with parents or carers pinning them on. It was an educational, fun and a great day. Congratulations to all the members!



I am honoured to be the president of the SRC for 2019; I am very excited as well as determined to work with the staff and students of our beautiful and thriving school. I wish to thank two wonderful and supportive advisers, Mr. Playford and Mrs. Pratt, for their continued support.

Kind Regards

Maureen Santibanez- President of the SRC

# Personal Development, Health and Physical Education - PDHPE

New school, same great sporting teams and excellent results. BCHS has started the year with a bang; numerous teams have represented the school in a variety of CHS knockouts, progressing to Far North Coast and North Coast levels. Individuals have gained selection in a number of representative teams, with BCHS students strongly represented in FNC, NC and some moving to the state level of competition (volleyball, basketball, soccer, rugby league, touch, netball, swimming, hockey, rugby union).

Ballina Coast High School PDHPE and Sport department are getting students moving and experiencing life! PDHPE classes now have access to a great new fitness centre and are taking advantage of some great new equipment as they learn to train their bodies and create lifelong healthy patterns.

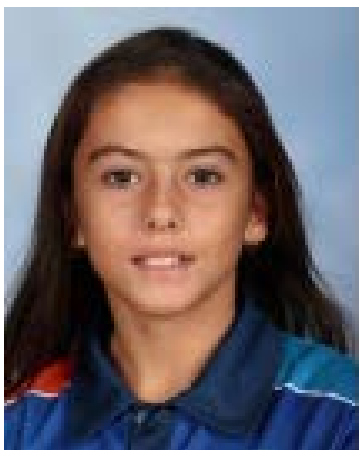
Our indoor and outdoor courts have been a hub of activity as we eagerly await the redesign and upgrade of our fields, which will lead to a truly exceptional teaching and learning environment.

## Swimming Carnivals

Congratulations to Erin Green, pictured below, of year 7 who, at North Coast Swimming Carnival, qualified to swim in the 50m freestyle at the State Championships in Sydney. We wish her the very best.

We congratulate all of the Ballina Coast High School students who attended our school carnival and paraded in their sporting house groups along the streets to the pool. The winning House this year was Gwardi (Blue), with the captains (pictured below right) throwing down the challenge to win the next two carnivals, the Cross Country and Athletics.

Well done to those students who represented our school at the Far North Coast and North Coast swimming carnivals. It is tremendous to see that the Ballina Coast High "FIGHTING PRAWN" spirit is alive and well. Our students were great ambassadors at these events, with many positive comments coming from other schools and regions on our student's performances and manners.





## Hastings Point Excursion

Senior Marine Studies students were fortunate to visit Hastings Point, near Pottsville last week. They enjoyed a day of nature-based activities including snorkelling on the rocky headland, kayaking amongst the mangroves, observing birdlife on Cudgen Creek. Students also visited the extensively resourced Marine Museum at the Big 4 Caravan Park.



...ANOTHER MADD PRODUCTION...

## Wild Hearts



Rehearsals are well underway for this year's annual MADD Production and it's going to be wild!

Starring over 120 of our talented singers, dancers, actors and musos and written and directed by drama teacher Ali Chigwidden, *Wild Hearts* tells the inspiring stories of teenage rebels throughout history who pushed boundaries, acted with courage and creativity and went on to change the world in some way. Featuring the music of *Linkin Park*, *P!NK*, *Sia*, *Guns N Roses* and *Rhianna*, the production will burst onto the stage, christening our new state-of-the-art Performance space, June 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>.

Although it is still a few months away, the buzz around this year's MADD Production is unprecedented. We had a staggering 75 actors audition for lead roles and are thrilled to have a professional vocal coach working with our ensemble of singers. We have a fresh band to continue our MADD tradition of mind-blowing live music and more dancers involved than ever. Not returning to Ballina Players Theatre, our MADD home for the past 7 years, will be bittersweet as we have so many fantastic memories on that stage but we are beyond excited to bump in to our very own facility and create new magical moments.

Save the date for *Wild Hearts* term 2 week 8. It's shaping up to be our best yet!

### April

10 - 12 : Yr 7 Camp  
 Fri 12 : ANZAC Day Assembly  
 Mon 15 : School Holidays commence  
 Mon 29 : Staff Development Day  
 Tue 30 : Students return to school

### May

Wed 8 : HSC Drama Study Day  
 Fri 10 : Yr 10 Vaccinations  
 14, 15, 16 : NAPLAN – Years 7 & 9  
 27 - 31 : National Reconciliation Week  
 Tue 28 : School Opening Festival

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*Our school proudly stands on Bundjalung land.*

