



BCHS BALLINA COAST HIGH SCHOOL

innovation excellence diversity



TERM 4 AT BALLINA COAST HIGH SCHOOL

Term 4 has been different but then similar. Different in that we had Year 12 at school for the first four days of term before saying farewell at their final assembly. Similar in that students then completed their HSC without any major concerns and we were able to hold a formal. Different in that the formal was at school and it only involved Year 12 and teachers. However, I believe it was one of the best nights I have attended, as the students danced and took last photo mementos throughout the night and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A big thank you to Robyn Sheehan (Year Advisor), her band of helpers for setting up beautifully and the Hospitality teachers, the Year 11 Hospitality classes and the Year 10 volunteers who assisted on the night.

Year 11 have all commenced their HSC study and will have, or soon will be completing, the first assessment task that counts towards their HSC School assessment. I encourage all students to ensure they attend all lessons, engage fully and study well to ensure they achieve their full potential. The School based assessment counts for 50% of their final assessment.

NAIDOC week has been celebrated and I encourage you to see that report in the VIBE. As we near the end of the year some restrictions have eased but interestingly others still haven't and schools have been given flexibility which indicates this could continue into 2021.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas.

John Parker
Relieving Principal

NAIDOC Week – *Always Was, Always Will Be*

Always Was, Always Will Be.

The theme for NAIDOC week this year recognises First Nations people as Australia's first caretakers of this land and that they have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years.

The theme celebrates all aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, acknowledging that they are spiritually and culturally connected to this country. Here at BCHS we embed Aboriginal histories and culture into our HUB lessons and different subject areas throughout the week.

Students and staff were involved in different activities that allow them the opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich culture of our traditional custodians. Guest educators and esteemed Elders from our community deliver workshops in weaving, artwork, dance and languages.

The week began with a flag raising ceremony, traditional dance by both the boys and girls dance groups and finished with a BBQ lunch and music concert. The celebrations were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, the perfect coming together.



Year 9 Guest Presentation from Michael Anderson - the founder of the Tent Embassy

In Year 9 History we studied the topic 'The Movement of People'. As a part of this, we have discussed the ongoing impacts of the slave trade in modern America and of colonisation in modern Australia.

My Pop, Michael Anderson is an Aboriginal Elder and an important activist for the land rights movement. One of the amazing things that he did was form the Tent Embassy with three other Aboriginal men. The Tent Embassy was a protest against the McMahon government's approach to Indigenous land rights. My Pop said that they created the embassy because they had been made to feel like aliens in their own country.

My teacher and I organised for my Pop to present to some of the Year 9 classes via Zoom. In his presentation, he spoke about his own personal experiences growing up on a mission, becoming a lawyer and working with politicians like Gough Whitlam as Human Rights advisor, to create change.

Seeing my Pop up there presenting made me feel proud. I am proud of who I am and the history of First Nations people.

It is important for all young Australians to understand the history of our country from an Aboriginal perspective. I hope that his presentation spread awareness and it was awesome to hear my classmates asking how they could support First Nations people.

Claire Roberts-Hickling, Year 9

Awards of Excellence

Congratulations to all the students who were recognised at the Awards of Excellence assemblies. These awards are given not only for sustained and diligent effort in class but for achieving high standards in the subject.

The Award Assembly is normally a formal evening with parents, invited guests, friends and sponsors. This has not been a normal year. The awards were given at special assemblies in Stage groups. Other awards in recognition of achievements were given out in HUB classes. Well done to each and every student.



Congratulations to all Award Recipients



NRL Tipping Competition

This year was particularly difficult for the fifty students and staff who participated in the challenge of football tipping. However, from the outset one student edged ahead of the pack. Others were close and even after lockdown with changes to the competition he continued to hold his lead. We recently held a prize giving ceremony where Year 7 student Baxter Turner was awarded first place in the 2020 NRL competition.

Education Perfect

During the year many students have been using an education application on their computer and devices called Education Perfect. It is sometimes used by staff to challenge students who have completed set work. Tyler McLennan in Year 8 has completed over two thousand questions correctly to be in the top five percent of students in Australia. It is a very popular education program so this is a very big deal. Congratulations Tyler (pictured above with Year Advisor Trixie Donald).



Formal Finish

Year 12 students graduated with epic style in 2020. The red carpet greeting for everyone as they arrived was broadcast live to big screens. The Performing Arts Space makeover was astounding with colourful lights, palm tree theme and beautiful decorations. The DJ played old and new tracks as the smoke machine swirled around the dancers. Delicious food was served from the hospitality kitchens and the smile on each student was amazing. A difficult year was finished with elegance and flair for the third Year 12 group to graduate from BCHS.



It was an Evening to Remember



Transition Takeoff

Transition for the 2021 intake of Year 7 has commenced. Nearly two hundred Year 6 students from schools around the district attended for orientation to staff, subjects and scenery. The students completed a range of activities in different subjects which gave them a taste of secondary education. The students participated in team building exercises and were introduced to their Peer support leaders.



Targeted Sports Program 2020

This year has been challenging for us all in many ways. As the coordinator of the Targeted Sports Program, I am proud of the way in which many of our students have shown resilience and commitment throughout a disrupted year of training. A big thank you to all parents and carers for your efforts, as we understand that often the early morning sessions can be challenging to attend.

There have been many highlights in an interrupted year; *The NSW Rugby League visit by Brad Fitler and Greg Alexander, Gala days, inter school's competitions, visiting the HPC (Surfing) and the introduction of Strength and Conditioning session for several groups.*

On Tuesday the 15th December, all TSP students had the opportunity to celebrate a successful year with an activity day which included; Laser Tag, Dodgeball and Volleyball. As a part of the activity day students also received a BBQ lunch, and was concluded with the TSP Awards for 2020.

Expressions of Interest now open on our website for 2021:

<https://ballina-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/learning-at-our-school/targeted-sports-program.html>



Congratulations to Keenan Crisp of our TSP Surfing Program. He represented NSW and has achieved 10th place in the Australian Titles.



Congratulations to Jamilah Bikoumou and the girls from Northern Rivers tennis academy for their win at the NSW interschools event in Sydney last week.



TSP Award Winners
Each sport received acknowledgements including Coaches Award, Best Trainer, Team Member of the Year & Athlete of the Year.



Julian Rocks and Shelley Beach Rock Platform

This term Year 9 Marine Studies students had the opportunity to explore the Shelley Beach Rock Platform as part of their studies and Years 9 and 10 Students snorkelled at renowned Julian Rocks in Byron Bay.

Year 7 Geography

This term in Geography we have been studying 'Interconnections'. To learn about global trade, the students have been playing 'The Trade Game'. This involves them working in teams to trade resources to try and accumulate the most points, by predicting which resources would be the most valuable. Ziyah Kiel tracked the actual trends over the last 10 years of the resources we had been trading and graphed this so that the students could predict patterns of trade from 2020-2030. He then ran a more advanced version of the Trade Game in class, and created a presentation so that the game followed the projected trends. He was a fantastic leader and all of the students absolutely loved it. Well done Ziyah and thank you for creating such an awesome activity! Miss Ebony Milgate



Futsal Gala Day

BCHS hosted a Futsal Gala Day at the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre.

U14s Girls - 3rd Overall

Kyla Radford secured golden boot with 4 goals in one game. Standout efforts by Shyloh Worgan and Phoenix Mills in defence.

U16s Girls - 3rd in group A

Star performances by Molly Walsh (Captain), Sally Crethar (Goal Keeper) & Jasmine Crethar for her defensive efforts.

U14s Boys - Overall CHAMPIONS (4-2 win in grand final)

Golden boot shared between Ashley Edwards, Sola Minegishi & Kade Henderson with 4 goals each throughout the day.

U16s Boys - Runner up losing 4-1 in grand final.

Deserving of a grand final win, honourable mentions to Captain Levi Meldrum (golden boot), Thomaz Westaway, Mitchell Roy & Daykin Stanger.

With Thanks from BCHS

Ballina Coast High School would like to thank SecondBite Community Connect, NORCO, Woolworths Ballina Fair and Food Bank for their continued support this year donating food for our Breakfast Club Program.

With the support of these business and the BCHS staff that volunteer their time we are able to run our Breakfast Club, providing thousands of healthy breakfasts to our students every day throughout the year.

SecondBite Community Connect Program is an innovative model of food rescue that facilitates the redistribution of surplus food from local food donors to reduce waste and provide nutritious food. It is great to have a local community partnership that works for everyone.

NORCO donate fresh milk every week which is used to make healthy smoothies every morning. Woolworths Ballina Fair donate fresh fruit and other consumables weekly and Food Bank also provide consumables throughout the year.

Students and staff wish all members of these organisations a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we look forward to continuing our partnership with you in 2021.



SecondBite
Ending Waste. Ending Hunger.

Woolworths 
The fresh food people



The Green Team

Our Green Team have been working very hard this semester in problem solving, planning, team work, wood working and construction, as well as job searching skills. They have worked on a number of projects including the construction of a bush tucker garden for the Jullum Centre, a Gaga ball pit for the PE Faculty and playground equipment which was donated to Biala Special School. They have also updated their resumes, cold canvassed local businesses, and were even successful with getting job interviews. We celebrated their successes and commitment with pizza on the last day of the program. Well Done Team!

Kirsty Cameron



Zoe Aboitz was selected in the NSW Country Shootout this term.

Marine Cooking

The Marine students have been involved in many activities as part of their program. This includes breeding, feeding and growing some Jade Perch and Silver Perch. The students have never caught, cleaned and cooked the fish. Recently the stars aligned and the students were able to taste their efforts. Learning to clean and fillet was an additional skill. Most students were not aware that rosemary was a nice herb to accompany fish. The verdict was delicious!!!



CAREERS NEWS

White Card Course

The Careers Team provided White Card Training opportunities to a collection of Year 10 and 11 students this term. White Card training fulfils the compulsory safety requirements of all people on worksites. The students are now safely focused and work ready for school based or full-time apprenticeship or traineeship roles, general work experience or other roles on worksites.

TradeFit

A group of students have just completed a free "TradeFit" course with Novaskill at Alstonville High School. TradeFit is a customised 2-week training course covering a national accredited unit of competency designed to give students a broad overview and induction to what life as a tradesperson could look like. The first part of the course involved training and the second part covered work experience with local trade businesses. Overall the student feedback was excellent. This experience will have helped clarify student career pathways and provided some important life-learning skills.

"Switch On"

This free pathway course helps students learn about different types of electrical work and provide practical opportunities to develop knowledge and skills including training on basic circuitry, fixing and cable management, sheet metal work and telecommunications. The course is being run over a three-week period at Wollongbar TAFE. The course will assist students to further expand their understanding of career pathway opportunities.

YES TAFE Plus

Over Term 2 and 3, a group of twenty five Year 10 BCHS students were involved in two free TAFE NSW's Youth Engagement Strategy programs where students engage with learning in a hands-on environment. Student were given the opportunity to learn about fitness, early childhood and health pathways and also building, trades and automotive. Students were supported to develop individual learning plans, engage in vocational taster courses and receive ongoing mentoring, counselling and career advice.

Year 12 Students

The Careers Team is looking forward to hearing about Year 12 University offers moving into the new year, new jobs, travel plans, gaps years and all the new learning that goes along with this next chapter of your lives. Congratulations!! We wish you all the best. Keep in touch!

Miss Ryan and Miss Middleton
The Careers Team



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