PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Our Student Representative Council (SRC) is a group of students elected by their peers to represent all students in the school. They organise ways for students to participate in and contribute to their school community. In an ideal school, and the one that Batemans Bay High School is certainly working towards, students should be active citizens of the school community and have their ideas and opinions routinely sought and respected. Students from Year 7 to 12 are encouraged to contribute to and participate in school-wide decision making. The SRC provides an effective and convenient vehicle for this to happen.

Students are prepared for and supported in their leadership and decision-making roles through all aspects of the curriculum, in classroom, whole school and out-of-school activities. Mr Attwood and Mr Perrem are our SRC coordinators and do a wonderful job in developing the students, enabling some to go on to regional and state SRC duties.

I would to recognise our current SRC members and welcome any students new to the leadership team:

Year 7  Hartney Figg, Lucy Turnbull
Year 8  Ella Pearce, Jack McFarlane
Year 9  Cara Hodge, Emilee Clout
Year 10  Leonidas Katsanis, Chelsea-Lee Dorn
Year 11  Tanika Golbach (President) Kelsey Pye (Vice President Hannah Kinnane (VP) Erin Warwick, Jarrod Ryan, Kevin O’Kelly, Maeve Turner

The skills, values, knowledge and attitudes that students learn from participation in school life are vital to their future role as citizens of a democratic society.

GROOVIN’ THE SHIRE

Groovin’ the Shire is an annual live talent quest for high school aged performers in the Eurobodalla. It aims to give young performers a chance to get on stage in front of a live audience and a panel of judges, to share their talents and possibly win a cash prize.

Out of eight acts that performed, Ike Read from Year 8 took out the grand prize of $300. Musical duo Kevin O’Kelly and Tyler Struchlak were the runners up, entertaining the crowd with slide guitar, mandolin and cello pieces.

Tanika Golbach and Jesse Craven compered the show as part of the 2015 NSW Youth Council Conference in September. The conference was held locally and youth councils from all over NSW visited and came along to the show.

This is yet another example of our capable students leading the way.

Mr Greg McDonald
Relieving Principal

P&C MEETING

School Library - 7pm
19 October
All Parents Welcome
One of the most popular of many extra-curricular and sporting activities we have available to students at Batemans Bay High School is School Surfing. Part of the prerequisites of being selected to participate in this sports option, is to complete a Surf Survival Course. Students that want to represent our school in surfing related competitions also have to complete this course.

The course involves both a theoretical and practical component. The practical component involves a Run-Swim-Run assessment and a board rescue, plus some basic first Aid. The theory involves an understanding of the ocean environment, surf assessment and dangers as well as CPR and first aid scenarios. The students involved had a blast, learnt a thing or two and passed with flying colours.

This year’s Batemans Bay High School surfing fraternity got a special treat, with the South Coast Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter making a spectacular entrance, landing on the school oval. Some of the crew were educating students on its service and presented students with their certificates at our school assembly. A big thank you to Pilot, Rob Wildman, with Air Crew member, Euan McKenzie and Rescue Crewman, Harley Dengate. Well done to all of our students who participated and catch you all in the water!

Glenn Hall
PDHPE Teacher

Student Achievement – Student Monique Kornman Yr11

Monique is a very talented and dedicated student who has demonstrated excellence in all her Preliminary HSC courses. She has a flair for Science and show the level all girls should aspire to in STEM subjects.
In the first week of the holidays, a group of students ranging from Year 8 to 11 enjoyed a seven night excursion to Noumea, New Caledonia. They arrived at Tontouta Airport in Noumea on 17 September, and back into Sydney Airport on 24 September.

The students were split into two groups, French and Science. The French group attended 12 hours of French lessons over the course of the week, at the Centre de Recontres et d’Echanges Internationaux du Pacifique (C.R.E.I.P.I.C), while the science group studied the tropical ecologies of the island.

While the lessons were extensive and challenging, with four x three hour sessions with a half-hour break, the students all agree it was worth it. They met students from other schools and performed well in all tasks they participated in, with their French teachers praising the girls for their progress. At the end of these sessions, the students were awarded with certificates of achievement and enthused about how much they had learnt in the short time they were attending classes.

Together, these two groups enjoyed numerous fun excursions to different parts of the city, island and surrounding islands. As a group they experienced the best of Noumea from the seat on the motorised Tchou Tchou Train, and took a day trip to Amedee Lighthouse. There they climbed the stairs of the lighthouse to see the view of the beautiful surrounding ocean, and watched a local band and dancers perform as they ate lunch.

On the Sunday, they were amazed by the colourful, glowing and sometimes scary tropical marine animals in the stunning Noumea Aquarium, and explored the Botanical Gardens of New Caledonia. There they fed peacocks, and saw the bird native to New Caledonia, called the CAGOU. They observed a large variety of flora and fauna, many of which were endemic species of New Caledonia, in the charming scenic park, Le Parc Forestier.
NOUMEA trip (continued)

On Tuesday, the students learnt about the local Melanesian culture and its history on their tour of the Tjibaou Cultural Centre. And what an amazing building it was. (Built by famous architect, Renzo Piano). natural environment and learnt about the violent struggle of the Kanaks as they fought for autonomy. They saw how the huts were built, and discovered the relationship of the people to the land and natural environment and learnt about the violent struggle of the Kanaks as they fought for autonomy.

The students and teachers stayed in the Hotel le Pacifique, which had an excellent view of the beach just opposite; they ate local tropical cuisine in the best restaurants in Noumea, and on numerous occasions swam in the crystal blue of the Pacific Ocean that surrounds New Caledonia.

Sometimes, they were divided into separate groups. The French group had the opportunity to further their skill of the French language with the CREIPIC lessons.

The Science group had a little more freedom. First they travelled by coach with a guide through the bays and beaches of Noumea to the Ouemo Peninsula, where they entered into the mysterious Caledonian mangrove to observe little animals, some of them prehistoric, and the strange and remarkable flora and fauna. The next morning they had free time, which they spent at the morning local markets at Port Mozelle. Lastly, as a separate group they kayaked down the cool, pristine flowing river at ‘Parc Fayard’ at Dumbea, where they enjoyed the tranquillity of floating down one of the prettiest valleys in New Caledonia. These students had heaps of fun and learnt a lot about New Caledonia, the people who lived there and the language that is spoken there (French).

Le Clan—La Nouvelle Calédonie était tellement amusante!

Report by Mia Talmadge Year 10
THE RED ROOM POETRY COMPETITION

Well done to all those students who entered their poems in The Red Room Poetry competition. Students were asked to write a poem about a talismanic object of their choosing. The poems were all of a high standard. All students who entered their poems received a certificate for participation which was presented at Assembly. Congratulations to James Dickinson, Kelarney Blunden, Jess Anderson, Calista Draper, Marcus Cristallo, Tayah Hancock, Claire Ison, (Year 7), Stella Cross and Ella Chatelain (Year 8).

Above: Three of our talented poets

Report by Ella Chatelain

BOOK REVIEW

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford (Ballantine Books, 2009)

The first time I saw the book on the book case and read the inscription I knew I had to read it. The genre of this book is historical fiction.

The main ideas of the story are the power of friendship and love, and the hardships one must face looking back at a troubled or difficult past. I know this by the many bitter or emotional moments this novel possesses.

It is set in the 1940s - 1980s in Seattle. There were many troubles in World War Two and racism was one of them (and unfortunately is still today). Japanese-American families suffered greatly during World War II, due to the actions of their families in the past.

Japanese-American families were evacuated to the intern camps to avoid the risk of spies in America. People moved on and the evacuation became just an unfortunate event in the past. But 40 years later Henry Lee (a Chinese American) remembers a young Japanese-American girl named Keiko Okabe with whom he forged a bond of friendship and innocent love in his childhood. In the basement of the Panama Hotel, he searches the belongings abandoned by the Japanese families, hoping to find the Okabe family's treasures and a very important long lost object.

This is a beautifully written book that I found touching and also sad. Like the title suggests, it is bitter and it is sweet. This novel will bring tears to your eyes and also bright smiles. I will never forget this amazing novel.

Follow Henry and Keiko's journey and their beautiful friendship during the hardships of war and separation.

Reviewed by Abby Talmadge

HOW TO SAVE A LIFE

On 15 October the Westpac Rescue helicopter landed on the Batemans Bay High oval. Pilot, Rob Wildman, along with Air Crew member, Euan McKenzie and Rescue Crewman, Harley Dengate, came to present certificates to the Surf Survival Course participants and talk to the students about their exciting and rewarding job.

The crew all agreed that the best part of being rescuers is the rewarding feeling they get after saving a life. They save, on average, 1 – 2 lives a month, which is outstanding! With 53 years’ service combined, the work they do is phenomenal; however, to keep this going they need donations. Visit www.lifesaver.org.au to donate.

By Laney Francis. Photographs by Brodie Smith (Year 11)
Week 3
Mon to Fri
19-23 Oct  HSC Exams
Mon  19 Oct  P&C Meeting
Tues 20 Oct  Year 6 to 7 Transition—small groups
Thur 22 Oct  Year 7 Swim School
Thur 22 Oct  NSW Junior Chess League
Fri 23 Oct  Year 9 Drama National Gallery Canberra
Fri 23 Oct  Year 7 Mogo Zoo and Botanic Gardens

Week 4
Mon to Fri
26-30 Oct  HSC Exams
Tue  27 Oct  Year 6 to 7 Transition—small groups
Tue  27 Oct  Warners Bay HS Band Tour —P5 & 6 MPC
Fri  30 Oct  Year 9 Drama rehearsal for ‘Come Alive’
Fri  30 Oct  World Teachers Day

Year 7 SWIM SCHOOL (SPORT)
During term 4, our Year 7 sport groups will be able to take advantage of our aquatics programme during Thursday sport. There will be a range of activities from ‘Learn to Swim’ for students with little experience to ‘Life Saving’ skills for experienced swimmers. These activities also complement our PDHPE units of work in Term 4 on safe living.

Dates: Year 7:
Thursday, 8 & 22 October
Thursday, 5 & 19 November
Thursday, 3 December

Times: 11:00am - 12:40pm
Venue: Batemans Bay Swimming Pool
Transport: Bus
Cost: $7.00/week (pool entry and bus)

This is a compulsory part of the curriculum and ALL students are expected to attend
Any enquiries can be directed to the PDHPE staff on 4478 3600

Community News

BATEMANS BAY RUGBY UNION TWILIGHT RUGBY
Friday evenings, Hanging Rock oval, Batemans Bay
5.30 to 8.00 pm
Phone Peter Ryan, 0409 470 295 or Ronnie Collier 0408 247 644
rugbymail@bigpond.com

Community Advertisements
School Matters regularly includes community information and advertisements. The School does not endorse or accept responsibility for these activities. Attendance at or use of these services is at the discretion of the students.