PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

INSPIRING TEACHERS
One of the characteristics of a great teacher is the desire to further one’s own learning, not just that of one’s students. I believe secondary teachers should be experts in their subject areas. That expertise, once acquired, needs to be constantly updated and supplemented by the growing body of knowledge on quality teaching practices. A commitment to ongoing professional learning is a demanding yet essential expectation of all teachers at Batemans Bay High School.

Not content with merely addressing their own needs, some teachers go above and beyond, recognising the role they can play in the development of their colleagues. Two of our HSIE teachers, Ms Linda Dwyer and Mrs Suzanne Rooney, have been formally recognised by the History Teachers’ Association of NSW for their contribution to furthering the education of other teachers from around the state. They were recently invited to deliver presentations at a history teachers’ conference. The presentations delivered by both teachers were highly regarded by those who attended. The knowledge, enthusiasm and professionalism shown by Ms Dwyer and Mrs Rooney contributed greatly to the success of the conference.

Schools are busy places and many demands are made on teachers’ time. Teachers prefer to be in front of their classes wherever possible. However, enabling teachers to present at these conferences not only benefits those who participate but ultimately their students. We are lucky to have such teachers on staff.

INSPIRING STUDENTS
The achievements of many of our students often go unnoticed, or may be soon forgotten. This is not uncommon in schools, where hundreds of individuals can come and go in the space of a year. This fact does not diminish their achievements. We need to remind ourselves that our students are highly successful in many areas of endeavour and that school achievement is the norm, not the exception. We want to encourage students to strive for excellence.

Next time you visit the school office or the library, take note of the achievements of our current and former students on display. From outstanding HSC results to national sporting representation, these students demonstrate that anything is possible. I want all students to believe that that they can reach their personal best. What better way than to be inspired by their peers who did likewise?

Greg McDonald
Relieving Principal

P&C MEETING
School Library
Tonight, Monday
7pm 18 May
All parents welcome
### What's On Term 2

**Week 5**
- Tue 19 May: Open Netball at Bega
- Thur 21 May: School Social 7-10.00pm
- Fri 22 May: Superhero Day - Fundraising for Interact

**Week 6**
- Mon to Tue 25 - 26 May: ELC Leadership Camp at Tuross
- Mon 25 May: Nangai Mai Workshop Sydney
- Mon 25 May: Year 7 Vaccinations
- Tue 26 May: Sorry Day
- 27 May to 3 June: Reconciliation Week
- Thur 28 May: Aboriginal Debating and Public Speaking Workshop in Library

### ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

On Friday, 8 May, 47 students from Batemans Bay High School attended the zone cross country at Wolumla. All students participated with enthusiasm. There are a number of our students who excelled in both individual and team cross country events and as a result are continuing on to compete at Regionals in Cambewarra on Friday, 29 May. Congratulations to all students who competed, Batemans Bay High was by far the best represented team.

*Mrs Claire Mathie*  
*Sports Organiser*
Batemans Bay High school year 10 students were presented with a realistic view of how domestic violence towards women can have a flow on effect and what they can do to help stop it.

This was part of a special presentation from Canberra Raiders legend Alan Tongue and former Rabbitohs star Nathan Merritt when they visited the high school as part of the NSW Government’s Tackling Violence program.

The students watched a thought provoking true story about a young girl called Angela, who was in an ever escalating violent relationship with her boyfriend. The story showed the warning signs and how the relationship eventually spiralled into a sickening confrontation in a park that left the girl fighting for her life in hospital and the boyfriend sentenced to gaol.

The Rugby league legends dissected the story and asked the students how this could have been prevented. The students pointed out all the other bystanders in Angela’s story who could have helped, but didn’t and how it affected the rest of her family and friends for life.

Domestic violence was defined in all its forms and students learnt very clearly that domestic violence is much more than a man hitting a women. They discussed what a healthy and fair relationship would look like and the signs of an unhealthy one, with good communication being the key element.

The students looked at the disturbing statistics of domestic violence, such as one in three women being affected by domestic violence and that two women are killed every week by their current or former partners. Kids that come from domestic abuse backgrounds are more likely to continue the cycle.

Alan and Nathan then took their message outside to the rugby field where the students were put through league drills with a clear point. Each drill had a corresponding link to what happens in domestic violence relationships. When communication is poor and people become bystanders, everybody who is connected to the victim will be affected by the outcome and the cycle continues.

It is up to the current generation of young people to break this cycle.

Gerard O’Keeffe
Wellbeing Coordinator
ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) 2015
English
ICAS English assesses reading and language skills in a range of contexts.
Cost per student $8. Final payment due to front office by Thursday, 25 June. Sitting date is Tuesday, 28 July 2015.

Food Allergy Week 17 to 23 May 2015
Did you know that one in ten babies born in Australia will develop a food allergy? The Food Allergy Week website has lots of great information, ideas and resources to help you be more allergy aware.

Find out more:
http://www.foodallergyaware.com.au

Cert III in Horsemanship provides relevant units of competency to equip you with appropriate skills and confidence to benefit horse and rider and promote safe riding and handling practices. Pathways to employment opportunities in the equine industry.

The course can be completed part time, with flexible study and assessment.

Face to face learning, including weekend clinics or online.

To enrol and for more information go to:
www.horsecourse.com.au

ENDEAVOUR WORMS

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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.