PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
GLOBAL LEARNERS
Depending on who you speak to, the current curriculum is either crowded with excessive content or too narrowly focused on literacy and numeracy for the purpose of testing students and schools through external assessments like NAPLAN. I have another point of view, which is that the NSW Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) has got the balance about right. NSW has been the nationwide leader in curriculum and assessment for as long as I have been teaching. BOSTES continues to uphold its rigorous standards whilst allowing schools to offer a diverse range of courses that cater for all types of student abilities, needs and interests.

The syllabuses are prescriptive, but not to the point where they dictate what happens in every individual lesson. Our teachers have a degree of freedom in how they implement each syllabus. They can devise unique programs and explore opportunities to extend students. I see no better example of this than in Mrs Jones’ 8A Geography class. As part of its recent studies, the class accepted the challenge of providing clean water to a school in South Africa. Led by Abby Talmadge, Gabrielle Vandenberg and Raine Dexter, our students have now ensured that less fortunate children in another part of the world are able to attend school. The children will no longer have to contend with the preventable waterborne diseases that made them sick and stopped them getting an education. This initiative was not part of an extracurricular fundraising event. It was an integrated part of the curriculum and resulted in the achievement of real-life educational outcomes. It also highlights our students’ capacity to contribute to something on a global level. The ability to engage with others outside the school context is a key 21st Century learning skill.

YOUTH EXCHANGE
Many students from Batemans Bay High School have been fortunate enough to travel to various parts of the globe courtesy of youth exchange programs. The school endeavours to host students in return and we have always found the experience to be rewarding. We have just farewelled Frederik Dopp in Year 10, a wonderful young man who has returned to his home in Germany after 12 months in Australia. Our next exchange student will commence in Term 3 and is a Year 10 male from Denmark.

The Rotary Club of Batemans Bay is looking for families who may want to host our new student and contribute to his Australian cultural experience. The Rotary International Youth Exchange program is highly regarded and provides substantial support for students and families in Australia and abroad. If your family is interested in assisting and being part of this mutually beneficial learning experience, please contact me for more information.

Greg McDonald
Relieving Principal

Win tickets to the opening night performance of Saltwater
Entry is through the “School Stream app”
Winners announced Week 1, Term 3
### What's On Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1 June</td>
<td>Fast &amp; Fresh - Drama, Canberra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 3 June</td>
<td>School Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 3 June</td>
<td>Regional Tennis</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 10 June</td>
<td>Student Principal for a Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 10 June</td>
<td>UOW Unique Experience Day Year 10</td>
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<td>Thur 11 June</td>
<td>Biggest Morning Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 11 June</td>
<td>Coondoo Classic Mountain Biking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12 June</td>
<td>Zeal Performance Year 9-10</td>
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**Golf**

On 28-29 April, I went to Blackheath and Wentworth Falls and represented our school in a two day golf tournament. Students were eligible if they attended any NSW high school and had an official Australian Golf Union handicap. I played in the Year 7-9 group with loads of other talented young golfers. I played pretty well but got beaten to the line by a few other kids. The winners of both the scratch and the handicap events won a trip to New Zealand. Even though I didn’t quite win anything, I still had an incredible experience, despite the really cold weather and since then I have lost nearly a whole shot off my handicap.

*James Dickinson, Student*

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**PREMIERS SPORTING CHALLENGE LEADERSHIP DAY**

As part of the sports committee, eleven students from our school went to Moruya High School to learn about teaching sports in school. We hope to host a gala day of our own later in the year to teach younger students about a variety of different sports.

*BBHS Sports Committee*
The latest addition to the Special Ed Faculty, Max, a 14 week old Fox Terrier, is the brainchild of Dave Bray, who researched and wrote a ‘Dog Therapy Program’ for students in our Support and Djaambii classes. Max spends time in the classroom with students during the week supporting our positive behaviour programs. This has helped students to keep on task and meet classroom expectations, and students are responsible for his care and training when at school. He really is an amazing dog.

We are currently working on a variety of programs in our Djaambii and IO/IS classes. Our ‘School to Work’ grant has enabled us to build a sensory garden for students, and we have plans for an extension in 2015. Stay tuned for news of our grand opening.

Some of our students are learning to play chess, and we are already seeing some fierce competition! We recently had a visit from Batemans Bay Primary School, where 24 students came to view our classrooms and visit our Ag Plot. They loved seeing the animals and meeting Alex. We then got together at Corrigans Beach for lunch, and students used the play equipment and the Liberty Swing. It was a great day, and a good opportunity to meet some of the students who will be starting Year 7 in 2016.
SEA TO SNOW
_Hike and bike your body to a new altitude_’
3 day Training camp, 9 day Journey
From the Sea to the Snowy Mountains by hike and bike.

‘Get into the wild and find yourself’

You may also directly enter the Silver (if 15yrs) or Gold (if 16yrs) Duke of Edinburgh Award and achieve further recognition for your expedition. Requires online Duke of Edinburgh Award enrolment (with payment of an additional fee to the Award Scheme).

Upcoming Sea to Snow Training Camps:
**Sea to Snow Training (Yr 9-11)** 19/08/2015 - 21/08/2015
For more information: thecrossing@thebegavalley.org