PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WHAT'S WRONG WITH EXCELLENCE?

Admittedly, this is a rhetorical question. I could save you the trouble of reading further by quoting Edwin Starr and saying “Absolutely nothin!” but indulge me a little and I will elaborate.

From time to time, I am faced with challenging situations. This does not set me apart from anyone. The majority of teachers, students and parents are regularly faced with their own predicaments. I am also called upon to solve problems that may have no apparent solution. Again, many others have to do likewise and can have difficulty finding a way forward. When I eventually arrive at an answer, there are times when I am confronted with apathy and excuses. You may be familiar with responses like “it’s not my problem”, “that’s just the way things are”, or “near enough is good enough”. This is where my position may differ from some. I don’t believe that you should ever give anything other than your best.

By definition, to excel is to surpass, or simply, to do something better than someone else. There is certainly an argument for encouraging healthy competition in the pursuit of excellence. The world would be a poorer place without those who strive to go above and beyond (a Roger Federer forehand at the peak of his career was a sight to behold). However, this narrow definition does not allow us to accept that excellence can be a standard. It does not need to be a normative term. We can’t all be “the best”, but we can all be “our best”. By adopting this attitude, the attainment of excellence is achievable by all.

Our expectation at this school is that we strive for excellence. We want the best from our teachers and we want the best from our students. This applies to every aspect of education, from the delivery of quality lessons to the following of classroom rules. These ideals are supported by the Department of Education in its School Excellence and Wellbeing Frameworks. The focus of these policies is excellence in learning, teaching and leading across the public education system. Schools are being supported state-wide with a stronger discipline code, the employment of more counsellors and greater assistance for disadvantaged students.

You may have already noticed a gradual lifting of standards. This will continue. Walk around the school and you will already see students:

- resolving conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly,
- complying with the uniform code,
- arriving at school on time prepared for every lesson, and
- aspiring for the highest levels of learning.

An experienced principal once said “what we condone, we teach”. Collectively, we will not accept excuses because collectively, we will not accept anything other than the best for our children.

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**

**Week 8**
- Wed 10 June: Student Principal for a Day
- Wed 10 June: UOW Unique Experience Day Year 10
- Thur 11 June: Biggest Morning Tea
- Thur 11 June: Coondoo Classic Mountain Biking
- Fri 12 June: Zeal Performance Year 9-10

**Week 9**
- Mon 15 June: All Year 9 - Reach
- Thur 11 June: Biggest Morning Tea
- Thur 11 June: Coondoo Classic Mountain Biking
- Fri 12 June: Zeal Performance Year 9-10

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**SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

On Wednesday, 3 June the annual school athletics carnival was held. The weather was very kind and the students had a fantastic day.

Thank you to all students who participated with enthusiasm and showed great sportsmanship. The Zone Athletics carnival will be held at Moruya High School (Moruya) on Friday, 19 June.

Congratulations to all students who are progressing on to represent Batemans Bay High School at the Zone Carnival.

*Claire Mathie*
*Sports Organiser*

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**ICAS English Competition**

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) English assesses reading and language skills in a range of contexts. The following aspects of texts are assessed and reported: reading for meaning in literary texts, reading for meaning in factual texts, textual devices, syntax and vocabulary. The questions require students to locate, identify, interpret, infer and synthesise information in and about texts.

Students read a variety of texts which narrate, describe, explain, argue, persuade and review. The types of texts include extracts from picture books, novels, poems, play scripts, transcripts of interviews, letters, diary entries, advertisements, webpages, feature articles, opinion pieces and comics. These texts cover a range of topics and may include tables, diagrams, maps and other visual information.

The test is available for all students from years 7 to 12.

**Sitting Date:** Tuesday, 28 July 2015  
**Cost per student =** $8

**Final payment date to front office:** Thursday, 25 June 2015
School Athletics Carnival 2015
Year 11 drama, accompanied by Clyde Circus and Saltwater performers travelled up to the Canberra Theatre on Monday, 1 June to participate in this year’s prestigious Fast and Fresh Competition.

Two groups from Bay High performed - a small ensemble and a large group performance. Both did amazing work, with our large group performance called ‘snapshots’ making it through to the grand final. Considering that 35 plays were performed and only ten selected, it is a great achievement for Bay High and acknowledges the fantastic work of Sharon McCutcheon and Geoff Perrem. The grand final was held on Saturday, 6 June and we will have a report of how well they did shortly.

‘Snapshots’ will also feature in our upcoming school production Saltwater. Tickets available now at our office.
Batemans Bay Basketball Association and the Bay City Cinemas
Present a fundraising screening of

**Jurassic World**

Thursday, 11 June 2015
$25 includes movie, drink and pizza
5.30pm
Proceeds raised support junior SJL Rep Teams & the USA Tour 2015

BBHS Parents & Community Koori Advisory Committee (PACKAC)
Are hosting a
Free Communication & Conflict Resolution Workshop

Monday, 22 June 2015
10 - 2.00pm
Adult Ed Batemans Bay
42 Orient Street

Lunch and transport provided. Contact Jill 4472 2655 or email Packac@searms.com.au

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**NSW TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2013**

iPod mini

3 x 16GB WIFI TO BE WON

We are searching for NSW’s best high school teachers to be part of an exciting new project that will change the face of teaching resources.

To nominate your teacher fill out the entry form at www.nswteacheroftheyear.com.au and answer in 100 words or less why you believe your teacher should win the title of NSW Teacher of the Year.

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**ENDEAVOUR WORMS**

Paul & Brenda

Worms - Worm Castings
Worm Juice - Worm Farms

Ph: (02) 4472 5207
Mob: 0407 166 331
endeavourworms@bigpond.com

**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.
Batemans Bay High School
is now on

How to get the School Stream app on your mobile device

iPhone / iPad iOS 7.x - 8.x
1. From your mobile device go to the App Store, search for School Stream
2. Tap the FREE button to the right of the School Stream listing
3. Tap the INSTALL button
4. Enter your iTunes password and tap OK
5. Wait for the install icon to change to OPEN
6. Tap the OPEN button
7. You will be prompted to accept push notifications, you will need to select OK
8. Start typing Batemans Bay High School into your search then SELECT Batemans Bay High

Android / Tablet
1. From your mobile device go to the Play Store, search for School Stream
2. Tap the School Stream listing
3. Tap the INSTALL button
4. Tap the ACCEPT button
5. Wait for the app to install then tap the OPEN button
6. Start typing Batemans Bay High School into the search then SELECT Batemans Bay High
7. Tap the DONE button in the top left