NAPLAN
NAPLAN is sometimes criticised because it is a moment-in-time snapshot; that it lacks context and therefore has little meaning for students themselves. NAPLAN is also ineluctable, so it is incumbent on schools to make it as meaningful as possible. Students who have performed admirably should be recognised just as they would for their achievements in class.

NAPLAN provides a huge amount of data to dissect and for this reason those outside the education profession simply rely upon the scores for each test aspect to gauge the performance of a school. These scores are not misleading as such, but they do not present the whole picture. They are a starting point and one needs to look deeper if the intention is to evaluate teaching and learning. One of the more useful measures for school to consider is the growth pattern, that is, the extent to which students have improved in the two years since the last assessment. This illustrates the contribution of the school, rather than other factors from outside the classroom.

The teaching of Mathematics has been a focus of the school over the last three years. This is starting to show in the growth of our students. I would like to congratulate the following Year 9 students on outstanding improvements in the Numeracy test aspect of this year’s NAPLAN:


These results are not achieved by “teaching to the test”. They show a commitment by the staff to broader numeracy education and, of course, dedication by the students to their work.

FAREWELL YEAR 12
It’s easy for teachers to forget that graduating from high school is a momentous occasion for our students. Year after year, we see yet another group of young adults move with trepidation into the big wide world, accompanied by familiar tears of farewell, laughter in shared memories and clichéd songs of goodbye.

Although teachers may appear indifferent on the outside, take my word when I say we all care deeply about the futures of our Year 12 students. The past six years have not been about us, despite our fixations, frustrations and remonstrations; they have been about them. I am sure that in times to come, they will be able to say that at least one moment here at Batemans Bay High School has shaped the people they have become, and for the better. As much as I delight in hard-earned HSC results and astronomical ATARs, I find the less measurable characteristics they display as worthwhile and productive members of society far more gratifying.

I don’t wish Year 12 good luck – they don’t need it. Rather, I hope they can do what is necessary to mitigate the misfortune and exploit the opportunity that will invariably come their way in their adult lives.

Year 12 students and their families are invited to breakfast hosted by the staff before school on Thursday morning. This will be followed by our traditional and formal farewell assembly. All students will be required to wear full school uniform to attend.

Mr Greg McDonald
Relieving Principal
**Week 10**

Mon to Wed
14 - 16 Sept  Year 11 Crossroads
Tue and Thur
15 & 17 Sept  Last week of Uniform Shop 20% off sale
Mon 14 Sept  Year 7 Vaccinations
Mon 14 Sept  Year 9-10 Photography class to Mogo Zoo
17-24  Sept  Noumea Excursion
Thur 17 Sept  Year 12 Farewell Presentation Day 9-11.00am
Fri 18 Sept  Last day of Term 3

**Term 4**

Tue 6 Oct  All students and staff return

---

**SUNDAY MARKET**

**BATEMANS BAY**

Batemans Bay High School
P&C Markets
3rd Sunday Each Month

9am to 1pm
Corrigans Beach, Batehaven
Sunday, 20 September 2015
hsbbsundaymarket@gmail.com
ALL WELCOME

---

**NOUMEA 2015**

Our Noumea excursion leaves Australia this week.

There are a number of people who must be recognised for their help in bringing this excursion together over the last 12 months. *Gerard O’Keeffe, Greg McDonald, Belinda O’Keeffe, Michele Anuyahong, David Kinnane and one of our lovely students Aisha Roman.*

It has been a big effort by a great and efficient team.

Teachers will now be on duty 24/7 for the eight day excursion in New Caledonia.

I know the students, teachers and I are all looking forward to the trip and that the girls will be great ambassadors for their school and country.

*Reioni Ramsland*
*French Teacher / Girls Supervisor*

---

**Student Achievement**

**Student Achievement – Melissa Bertosa Year 12**

Melissa has harboured ambitions of joining the Armed Forces and has been working towards this goal at school for the last few years. She has recently been accepted into the Air Force, assisted by her consistent school record. Melissa proves that consistent dedication and application, as well as her persistently positive attitude, makes a difference to where you end up in life.
POWERFUL OWL
On Thursday, 10 September our Ag plot had an unexpected visit from a “Powerful” owl.

This is the largest owl species in Australia, endemic to eastern and south-eastern Australia. The Powerful owl is a carnivore, eating mainly medium to large tree dwelling mammals. They mate for life (over 30 years in some cases) and pairs defend their territory year round.

With the help of Mrs Nicholls and Mr Mitrovic the owl was taken by Samantha to Birdland Animal Park, to see if it could be saved.

THE AUSSIE BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
Why ‘The Aussie Backyard Bird Count’?
- Engage school communities in the natural world while getting to know the birds in their local schoolyard
- A chance to educate local school communities and create bird-friendly spaces in gardens
- Connect with a wide range of Australians through national media coverage

When?
The second annual Aussie Backyard Bird Count will be held on

19 to 25 October, 2015

How?
- Spend 20 minutes in your local park or school ground
- Teachers and students can participate as individuals or as a class group
- Use the Aussie Backyard Bird Count app
- No prior bird watching experience is necessary

If you would like to get involved, please contact:
National Events Coordinator
stacey.maden@birdlife.org.au
DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING
Career opportunities in Batemans Bay for parents. School holiday workshops.

Free Information Session
Wednesday, 16 September
from 5.30pm

Venue:
The Business Hub, Village Centre, 1 Perry Street Batemans Bay

Bookings are essential and places are limited. Please call Trish on 0414 442 707 or Email: admin@thetecexec.com

CORRIGANS BEACH RESERVE
INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND MARKET DAY
Sunday, 20 September 2015

We are commencing a very exciting project and are now seeking input from children and parents to help us develop a design for a regional playground at Corrigans Beach Reserve, Batehaven.

This playground will deliver a play space that will provide opportunities for children with a wide range of abilities.

Landscape artist, committee members and council staff will be at the Corrigans Beach Reserve Market Day on Sunday, 20 September from 9-1.00pm.

We will also be providing a further opportunity to comment from 21 September to 2 October 2015, via our community survey available at:

- Council website
- Batemans Bay Library
- Council main office in Moruya

For further information, contact Greg Miller on 4474 1232.
We would love your voluntary participation at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens.

Tuesday, 22 September  
9 - 3.00pm

You will learn about seeds, propagating, planting and garden beds

Register by calling Michael 4471 3348

Service NSW is now open in Batemans Bay

Now open Monday to Friday  
8.30 to 5.30pm
Sam’s Arcade, Shop 1, corner of Orient and Camp Street, Batemans Bay

Individualised funding is becoming available to people with disability through the NSW Living Life My Way framework and the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Workshop at Club Catalina  
Monday, 12 October  
9.30 to 2.30pm

Call 1800 774 764

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.