Principal Appointment

At the conclusion of the Department’s merit selection process, I can announce that I have accepted the permanent position as principal of Batemans Bay High School. I am humbled to represent a conscientious and dedicated body of teachers committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for our students. I think teaching is the best job in the world and I am lucky to have such a privileged responsibility in shaping the future.

Over 25 years ago, the families of this town rallied together to establish our local high school. I remember those times and pay tribute to the parents who made it happen. The connection between the town and the school was strong in its infancy. Now the school has grown up and is finding its own way, but that doesn’t mean we can’t strengthen the relationship and restore the school to its rightful place at the heart of our community. It should be the school of choice for all families in the area.

As a comprehensive, coeducational, country high school, the school has a pretty good track record. Our teachers are caring and committed to your children’s success. We give our students unique opportunities and get them to where they want to be in life. Our graduates are well rounded human beings who succeed in the wider world. But because we do so many things so well, it has been easy to make excuses when we don’t quite reach our expectations, or ignore the things that need to change in order to improve. I can assure parents that this school will accept the demanding challenges and answer the difficult questions. Together, we will make it better.

Special Education Classes

Over the past three years, the number of Special Education classes at school has doubled to six. There are two classes for students with moderate to severe intellectual disabilities, three for students with emotional disturbances and a newly created multicategorical (MC) class, catering for up to three types of disabilities in the one group. Providing alternatives to mainstream schooling is an essential element in ensuring the needs of every student are met.

Unfortunately, the creation of a new class has not been accompanied by the delivery of a new classroom. I am working on a solution and expect to have permanent arrangements in place during Term 2. In the interim, the MC class will operate from the library using the old National Partnerships staffroom (most recently used as an additional senior study space). Senior students can still access the library, including its study rooms, during periods where they do not have timetabled lessons. The deputy principal can also arrange study rooms for senior students on request.

Save the Date

Parents should be aware that most school events are scheduled on Tuesdays. This may not be convenient for everyone, but it allows parents to plan ahead, particularly for the regular information nights that take place during the year. The first parent/teacher night will be held on Tuesday of week 11 (5 April) in the Multi Purpose Centre from 4pm to 6pm. A barbeque will be provided and Term 1 progress reports will be issued on the night.

Mr Greg McDonald
Principal
What’s On Term 1

Week 5
Tuesday 23 Feb  Zone Open Girls Basketball - Bega
Friday 26 Feb  Harmony Day Year 7 and 8

Week 6
Monday 29 Feb  Immunisation Year 7
Tuesday 1 March  Boys Basketball - Bega
Thursday 3 March  School Social

P & C GENERAL MEETINGS FOR 2016

Held every third Monday at 7pm
in the School Library

Monday 21 March
Monday 18 April  (no meeting, Holidays)
Monday 16 May
Monday 20 June
Monday 18 July  (no meeting, School Development Day)
Monday 15 August
Monday 19 September
Monday 17 October
Monday 21 November  (Christmas meeting)
Monday 19 December  (no meeting)

Jasmine Stuart Year 7
Jasmine has been at high school for just a few weeks and has already accumulated five achievement awards under the school’s Student Achievement Program.

Keep up the great work Jasmine!
Year 7
Monday, 29 February

Make sure you have a good breakfast before coming to school

---

**YouthRock**

YouthRock is a competition that is open to all bands that write and perform their own songs. It provides students an opportunity to create and enjoy entertainment and to acknowledge and celebrate the positive contributions made by their efforts and achievements. It also showcases student bands to the music industry.

It is a joint Department of Education/Department of Family and Community Services/Youth Week project. Sponsors also include NSW Health and Office of Emergency services.

The competition is judged by music and recording industry representatives. The music and recording industry also provides more than $10,000 worth of prizes to the finalists.

YouthRock will be held over five days at the Sutherland Entertainment Centre, 13-17 April.

*Entries close Friday, 18 March at 5.00pm*


Last year two of our students, **Rami and Riley** from the band **Terravorous**, performed in Sydney at the finals. Both boys said they got a lot out of the process and it was a great event.

For more information see **Ms Harris** in the Music Department, anytime.

---

**DRUM KIT**

The Music department would like to sincerely thank **Mrs Dielman and Sunshine Bay Primary School** for donating their no longer needed drum kit to us. The drum kit is already being utilised by **Mr Street** and his keen band of rockers in the ‘Shed’.

Thank you

*Kathie Harris*

*Music Department*
Do you know where your closest water hydrant is? Does it look like this one?

- Find your closest hydrant
- Clear area, and ensure it is clearly marked
- If maintenance is required, contact your local fire station, council or water authority

On Wednesday, 17 February we enjoyed a visit from our wonderful local fire officers - Phil Eberle, Nathan Pascoe and Jamie Ridley. In a fire emergency, knowing the location of and having unobstructed access to a water supply is critical to saving lives and property.

Four of our students volunteered to help - Jack Cullin, Gilbert Taylor-Thompson, Lexus Knight and Blake Legge. A hydrant was located along the footpath of Beach Road. As you can see it wasn't well maintained, so together it was cleared up (as is everyone’s legal obligation) ready for operation.

FRNSW Hydrant Hero campaign hopes to raise awareness and preparedness in the community. Email a photo of yourself with your hydrant, or before and after photos to: hydranthero@fire.nsw.gov.au

Post a message using #HydrantFRNSW
Entries go in the running to win prizes

Our local Fire Station 4472 4600
On Thursday, 11 February, our talented volleyball girls trialled for the South Coast regional open girls' volleyball team. Their hard work over the past few years has earned them positions on the team. The following students from BBHS will travel to Bathurst on Monday, 2 May to represent our region at the NSW State Championships.

*Lily Attwood* (Year 11), *Braieta Barenaba* (Year 10), *Kateia Barenaba* (Year 12), *Stella Cross* (Year 9), *Emerson Hall* (Year 11), *Simone Lavis* (Year 11), *Emily Kinnane* (Year 11), *Hannah Kinnane* (Year 12), *Jessica Taber* (Year 12) and *Molly Wilkinson* (Year 11).

Thank you to *Margaret Barenaba* and *Amanda Hall* for their assistance with transport on the day and to all parents for supporting the girls to reach their goals and play volleyball at this level at the State Championships.

*Ms Saunders and Mrs Mathie*

---

**FUTURE LEADERS WRITING PRIZE 2016**

The Future Leaders Writing Prize is designed to recognise and reward talented young writers. It aims to encourage expressive and creating writing.

Year 11 and 12 students in Australian secondary schools are invited to submit a piece of writing (800 to 1000 words).

The writing can be fiction or non fiction and on any topic

**Prize**

In 2016, the award winner will receive $1000. Where there is more than one winner the prize money will be shared.

The winners of the Future Leaders Writing Prize will have their work published.

**Submissions**

Please send all submissions electronically in a word document by Wednesday, 1 June to helen@futureleaders.com.au

“The prize played a large role in the producer of the play entrusting me with the script writing duties when I had never written a play before. So for me the prize has gone a lot further than I could ever have imagined.”

*(previous winner of a Future Leaders Writing Prize)*

*Scott Simpson
HT English*
The results are in! A huge congratulations goes out to John Lomnicki (Year 10) and Finn Jeffery (Year 9). Both students were runners-up in their respective categories of Youth Mental Health and Environment and Conservation, for their civic projects undertaken with community mentors Kerry Foster and Emma Weldon over a period of three terms in 2015.

Both boys received a framed certificate as runners-up and a $100 gift voucher.

An excellent result for the school and the region.

Future endeavours for the boys involve John Lomnicki as keynote speaker at the annual Youth Mental Health Summit to be held in Sydney in March, and Finn continuing his involvement in the School’s Eco Team, that through his civic project was a key aspect in having the school registered as an Eco School.

The following write up was printed this week in The Bay Post.


The Youth Frontiers Program will run again in 2016, Ms Koprivec is seeking any students from Year 9 and 10 to participate in this wonderful program that offers so much in the way of leadership building, resilience, networking and team building skills and most importantly fun. Contact Ms Koprivec in the English faculty.
UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG HSC BOOTCAMP
On Tuesday, 16 February, Year 11 attended the University of Wollongong Bootcamp at the Batemans Bay Campus. The HSC Bootcamp is a program offered to students beginning Year 11 at UOW’s In2Uni Schools.

The program is designed to give students a heads up for the HSC and help to prepare them for their senior studies.

The program is delivered by current university students who have recently completed and been successful in their HSC and who have previously attended a local high school. The program focuses on tips for approaching the HSC, soft study skills and what to expect over the next 18 months.

Mrs Bradshaw
Year 11 Advisor

(Photo: Students are assisted by mentors to access online resources)
AUSKICK & JUNIOR SEAHAWKS

Registration Day
Thursday, 3 March
4.30pm
Hanging Rock AFL Ground

Training starts on Thursday, 3 March, then each Tuesday and Thursday by age group.

Seahawks apparel is available for purchase at the canteen for a low price. Place your order on registration day.

For more information
bbayseahawks@gmail.com
Or contact Rob 4471 8228
Geoff 0438 727 083

FUN RUN

Broulee Beach Fun Run
Friday, 26 February
Register from 4.30pm at South Broulee

2km, 3.5km or 5km
$5 per child
$15 per adult
$25 per family

Prizes and Dress Up competition

Organised by The Broulee and Moruya Public Schools P&C to raise funds for both schools.

EXPERIENCE A NEW CULTURE

In June-July 2016 students from over 25 countries around the world, will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 3-10 months.

Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

1300 135 331 or visit
www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student

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.