

Tall Timbers Newsletter



Strive to Achieve

BULAHDELAH CENTRAL SCHOOL

A PRIDE School

Term 3 Week 6 Issue 18

11th November, 2013

➤ GREAT NEWS INSIDE

- * Numeracy National Partnership
- * 2014 Primary Captain nominations
- * Pre-school & Scouts' fundraiser
- * Dear Chaplain
- * Remembrance Day
- * 2014/15 School holidays

➤ BCS SCHOOL PROGRAMS



➤ VALUE OF THE WEEK

Excellence. We do our best to achieve excellence. Have you done your best?

Shannah Barrish performed with the NSW State Choir at the Sydney Opera House

From Sunday 20th to Tuesday 22nd October, Shannah Barrish (Yr 7) travelled to Sydney to perform with the NSW State Choir at the Sydney Opera House. This choir is made up of 80 students from all regions of NSW. After meeting with the choir and having a full day rehearsal at the Arts Unit in Lewisham, she spent Monday at a full day rehearsal at the Opera House, before their first performance as part of the Festival of Choral Music. Shannah had been chosen as a soloist, and started the performance when the choir appeared on stage. She had sound checks and another performance on Tuesday night, where she led the choir unaccompanied.



Shannah enjoyed the opportunity to perform in the Opera House and is looking forward to her next challenge – a 16 day trip through Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Munich, Salzburg and then to Vienna for the Vienna Music Festival. This will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend workshops and perform in a range of international venues, including the Vienna School of Music.

Shannah will travel as part of a group from west of the NSW Divide, with 70 students making up the band and choir to perform in some amazing venues.



➤ PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Numeracy National Partnership

Bulahdelah Central School was provided funds earlier this year as part of the Federal Government's Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership program. The Australian Government committed \$243 million for 2013 to drive improvement in the areas of literacy and numeracy across all states and territories.

The objective of the Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership is to improve the performance of students who are falling behind in literacy and/or numeracy, including targeted groups such as students from disadvantaged backgrounds and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in participating schools. The Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership will contribute to the effective use of evidence-based approaches in schools to lift the performance of these students.

The Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership is underpinned by a whole-school approach to improve student outcomes in literacy and/or numeracy. This whole-school approach recognises the critical role of quality teaching and leadership in improving student learning outcomes, and the importance of focusing on the underlying school culture of continuous improvement to optimise student achievement and to ensure sustainability.

Bulahdelah Central School made a decision to focus on the Numeracy aspect as this was an area where we felt a significant number of our

students were underperforming and had been the case across a number of years. We are also currently targeting Literacy in the Primary School with staff involved in an ongoing literacy professional learning activity which began in 2012 so it made the decision to focus on Numeracy the logical choice.

As a school we have analysed the effectiveness of the current whole school approaches in numeracy and developed a series of actions to improve the numeracy outcomes of our targeted group of students within the context of a refined whole school approach. These specific whole school actions have been included in our 2013-2014 School Plans.

One key action has been the use of the Department's Numeracy continuum where each student has been plotted against the continuum. The Numeracy continuum describes how students progress from using simple to increasingly sophisticated strategies in order to solve number and measurement problems. It also supports our teachers' understanding of how students develop numeracy concepts by providing an explicit framework of students' strategies and understandings across critical aspects of numeracy.

Teachers will continue to further develop and refine their strategies through targeted and additional professional learning in numeracy over the coming months and into 2014. We look forward to seeing the results and the improved student outcomes over the coming years.

REMINDER

The Department of Education and Communities will not accept any absence reason if the absence(s) is more than **seven (7) days old**. Please telephone the office daily to advise of an absence and then send your absence note the first day your student returns to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

➤ PRIMARY CAPTAIN NOMINATIONS:

The following students have nominated to run for Bulahdelah Central School Primary captains for 2014. Each of these students will be interviewed by the School Executive to assess their suitability for the role of captain. Students will vote for eight captains (regardless of gender), two captains for each term. Voting will be next week. Here are our nominees:



Elly-Rae Banks

I think I would be a good captain because I help with the community, I follow school rules and I would love to be school captain. I love public speaking and I strongly believe I should be a school captain.

Bryleigh Barrish

I believe I would make a good leader at Bulahdelah Central School because I am a positive person who strives to always set a good example. I believe that a leader should be someone who is the same inside and out, like a strawberry not a watermelon. I believe that if I was going to expect someone to do something it is important for me to set an example and show that I am willing to do the same thing.

I am a confident person and I look at the challenges of a leadership role as a way to make me a better person and also as an opportunity to learn more about myself and improve my personal skills.

While I am new to Bulahdelah Central School I feel that my involvement in my previous town and school demonstrates how important community is to me. I have shown that I am willing to give up my time for my school and community in a positive way and feel that I would make a great leader for Bulahdelah Central School in 2014.



**Marni Barry**

I am very proud to be part of the Bulahdelah Central School community and would do my best to make my school proud and gladly take on the responsibility to become a role model and mentor for fellow students if chosen for a leadership role.

Aria Brown

If I were elected captain I believe that I would be a good role model. I always wear my uniform with pride and follow the school rules. I am willing to have a go at anything and believe that I can be a fantastic captain.

**Heidi Buchanan**

I believe I will make a good school captain because I'm a happy, polite and easygoing person who is easy to approach. I always follow school rules, wear my uniform with pride and encourage others to do the same. I set a good example in our playground and am involved in the playground monitoring program.

I have represented our school every year at Zone athletics, cross country and attend ANZAC day marches. I am helpful to teachers, students and visitors to our school and I'm looking forward to any challenges I may have to face as a captain and also look forward to attending leadership courses to make me a better leader for our school.

**Tayla Hartley**

It is my wish to become a leader as a school captain at Bulahdelah Central School. I believe that I am an excellent role model and student. I believe my contributions to the school would be an asset. I have strong family values and show respect for my fellow students.

I would be proud to be a captain and hope to fulfil this role.



**Anjoli Luxon**

I think that I would make an excellent Primary school captain because I always follow school rules, wear proper school uniform and use PRIDE (Participation, Respect, Innovation, Determination and Excellence). I have never received a detention, let alone a suspension. I am always determined to finish my work on time and to make sure that I'm as innovative as possible.

I love Bulahdelah Central School and I want to give something back to say thank you for all it's given me and that being to try and make everybody even prouder of our school.

Bailey Middleton

I will devote myself to this job and work even harder then ever before if I'm elected school captain. I will also ensure that I try my best to keep my promise to make this school better and enforce all my ideas and yours. I'm not perfect, I don't know everything, but I promise you this if I'm elected - I will put everything I can into the position of school captain because being a leader of Bulahdelah Central would be a huge honour.

**Stewart Morris**

I would be a good captain because I obey the rules. I am a good role model for the younger students because I wear school uniform. I get most of my work done and I attend all of the performances held at school. I enjoy being a playground monitor because I can meet all of the new and older students.

Tahlia Read

So although I haven't been at the school the longest of all the candidates, I still have the ability to make a good captain and lead the school just as much as anyone else. I will make a great captain even though I won't be able to promise for everyone to do any work or everything in the canteen to be free. I can promise to lead the school with pride!

**Taylah Smith**

I believe I should be considered for school captain in 2014 because I'm responsible, respectful and an approachable person who will try my hardest to fulfil the role of school captain and uphold our school motto of PRIDE.

Beau Thatcher

If I was voted school captain I am determined to try my best. I will work harder than before. I will help teachers with errands and to help set things up. I will be a better role model for the younger students. I will help with the PSSA (Port Stephens Sporting Association) announcements. I will try my best to be school captain.

I hope I will be school captain.

**Holly Towers**

I am very proud of my school and the achievements that I and other students have provided. I do and will continue, to participate in all school events, carnivals and sporting events and put great effort into everything. I do like helping my younger peers and I will make sure they know the importance of our school uniform and school grounds rules and help students to follow them.

I believe I would make a great school captain with my natural organisational skills. I am against bullying and I believe that no one should feel alone at school. My aim as school captain is to make sure everyone loves coming to school.





➤ BCS DEPUTY PRI. PRINCIPAL:

I have returned to school after a week on sick leave due to a recurring back injury which, after some rest and physio, is well and truly on the mend. I would like to thank my staff for their support at school during my absence. Not only did they have to continue to do their own jobs but they also had to attend to my duties as well. Their efforts are much appreciated!

We are very lucky to be able to send three students, from Year 6, to Stewart House this year. Each year 1,800 public school children attend Stewart House from many parts of NSW and the ACT. During their stay, children are provided with optometric, dental and medical treatment. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to promote a healthy lifestyle. Stewart House enjoys unprecedented support from the NSW Department of Education and Communities and NSW Health and the NSW Teachers' Federation. I hope the students enjoy their stay at Stewart House.

Our Kindergarten Orientation program comes to a close today with a meeting for parents. I would like to sincerely thank Mr Gibbs for the time and effort he has put into making the program engaging and fun for our newest students. The "big schoolers" to be, have responded extremely well to life at big school and we look forward to welcoming them into Kindergarten in 2014.

We welcome a prac student to BCS for the next 4 weeks. Miss Emily Wilde will be working in the Year 6 classroom with Mrs McDonald. We are very fortunate that we have experienced teachers who are willing to give their time and expertise to mentor our young teachers of the future, a very admirable and selfless act.

I am sure that Miss Wilde will learn a lot from and enjoy the practicum experience. She will be learning from one of the best!

The five weeks "Resilience Program," for Year 6 students, kicks off on Thursday this week. This program, which will give the students some resilience strategies, has been organised by our behaviour support teacher, Ms Vella.

Congratulations to our Bronze, Silver and Gold merit winners who were awarded their certificates at today's merit assembly. Well done to you all!

Congratulations to all our students who won prizes in the writing, art and public speaking sections at Bulahdelah Show. These awards were presented at the student evening, last Wednesday. I would like to thank Mrs Fenning for her coordination of the student work as well as the choir on the evening. These opportunities would not be possible without the efforts of our staff. Thanks Mrs Fenning!

Pianists at the Bulahdelah Show

Finlay and Bridie O'Connell, Taylah Smith and Marni Barry, along with 7 other piano students taught by Lyndall Hertzler, will entertain visitors at the Bulahdelah Show on Saturday, 16th November, between 10am and 11am. Come along, grab refreshments from the canteen next door, then enjoy a seat in the shade while you are entertained with popular music and show stoppers from 'Mary Poppins', the 'Sound of Music', 'The Wizard of Oz' and more!

REMINDER: If your student will be absent from school for 5 or more days on a family holiday, an EXEMPTION FORM (one for each student in your family) should be completed and returned to the school PRIOR to the holiday for principal approval.

➤ FUNDRAISER FOR BULAHDELAH PRE-SCHOOL & SCOUTS:



Help support our community, and get a great Xmas gift to give to your families, by booking a photo session with Jaspa Photography for Sunday 24th November at Bulahdelah

Pre-school.

For only \$20 your families receive a beautiful 10 x 13 inch framed portrait plus are treated to a 20 minute mini photo shoot with your choice of pose combinations. (Minor retouching available upon request) limit one per person or family.

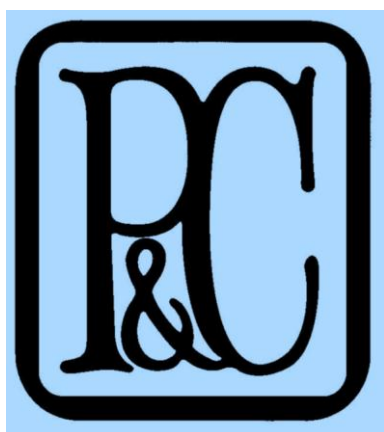
Each \$20 booking fee is donated directly back to our Preschool and Scouts' organization.

Additional packages start from as little as \$50 or a complete CD Rom package consists of 15 images with 3 pose variations, plus high resolution CD Rom containing your family's images for only \$225.

A bonus of \$5 from every CD Rom package purchased is donated directly back to your fundraising organisation.

Portraits are delivered back to your centre within 10 days and additional prints will be available for purchase at this time.

For further details and bookings please contact Angie Vella on 0419256967.



Dates for P&C Meetings Term 4:

11 th November	Tea Gardens	4.00pm
9 th December	BCS	3.45pm

➤ IMPORTANT DATES:

Nov	11	P&C Meeting Tea Gardens Yr10 Exams Remembrance Day
	12	Yr12 Formal Golf Club
	14	Week 1 Resilience Program
	15	Yrs K-2 Bulahdelah Show Visit
	15-16	Bulahdelah Show
	18	K-6 Whizzy the Waterdrop visit
	20	Week 2 Resilience Program
	22	YrsK-11 BCS Colour Run
	25	Yrs7-9 Exams
	25-29	Yr10 Work Experience
Dec	2-6	Yr10 Work Experience
	9	P&C Meeting BCS

➤ DEAR CHAPLAIN:

**My daughter in the next room has just txt me:
'wots 4 T?'**

How do I respond?

Of course, you could simply txt her 'WYSIWYG.

BetA b hEr n 5 mins o U ms out!

translated, *'What You See Is What You Get Better
be here in 5 minutes or you'll miss out!'*.

However, you are not alone in wondering how best to communicate with your text-talkin' teen. SMS language (also known as txt, txtspk, texting language or txt talk) is fast taking the place of face-to-face conversations. Getting teens to talk about just about anything other than the latest app, with food a close second, is difficult at any time. However with the ever-increasing flood of technological devices specifically designed to speed up communication, teens are now so comfortable thumbing conversations, that it is all but impossible to get them to use their mouths let alone look you in the eye. Prising out a face-to-face conversation is as painful as pulling teeth! So where is texting leading to?

1. Teachers report that students are losing the ability to spell and to draw upon a variety of words.
2. When put in a position where they need to talk face-to-face, students often opt for short, snappy, twitter-sized comments rather than taking the time to express opinions and formulate ideas.
3. Students are becoming less able to read people's facial expressions. Because texting is devoid of context it's impossible to gauge the appropriateness of different types of conversations; and to know whether the text was accompanied by emotions such as sarcasm, jest, regret, excitement, sorrow or happiness. Perhaps 'emoicons', as used in text messaging to indicate the state of mind of the writer such as :-) to express happiness, is an attempt to fill the gap.

4. Teens are at a stage in their life when they are learning how to act appropriately in a wide variety of situations. When young people continually hide behind their phones, relying on texting, a wide range of interpersonal skills fail to develop. As a result, they are more likely to shy away from uncomfortable, confronting and challenging situation.

How might you wean your teen off his/her phone? Perhaps one simple step is to return to sharing the evening meal together! Perhaps it's as simple as sitting around the table together, and each person sharing something about their day, their funniest or weirdest moments! Sure it is hard when everyone is going in different directions after school, but if it means your teen is talking to you, face-to-face it's worth it!

Then, you might text back to your daughter:

*'IMHO mo **F2FT** plz!'*

There is a great webpage listing 92 of the most popular txt abbreviations at <http://techland.time.com/2012/05/03/92-teen-text-terms-decoded-for-confused-parents/>. Look out for PAW!



ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP-TO-DATE?



Remembrance Day in Australia is dedicated to Australians who died as a result of war, particularly from World War I onwards. A minute of silence is dedicated to the deceased, especially for soldiers who died fighting to protect the nation. Remembrance Day is annually observed on November 11th although it is not a public holiday.

What do people do?

Many Australians stop what they are doing at exactly 11am in their local times on November 11th each year to dedicate a minute of silence for those who died in war, especially soldiers from as far back as World War I. Those who join in this act of remembrance include teachers, students, politicians and workers of public and private sector enterprises.

Many people wear artificial poppies on the day and key political figures make speeches in remembrance of the nation's fallen heroes. Services are held at 11am at war memorials in suburbs and towns across the country, at which the "Last Post" is played by a bugler and a one-minute silence is observed. Remembrance Day has been partly eclipsed by ANZAC Day as the national day of war commemoration.

Public life

Remembrance Day is not a public holiday in Australia, however many workers stop what they are doing at 11am for a minute of unified silence before resuming work again.

Background

According to the Australian Government's Cultural and Recreation portal, Remembrance Day, which was originally called Armistice Day, commemorated the end of the hostilities for the Great War (World War I), with the signing of the armistice, which occurred on November 11th, 1918 – the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

On the first anniversary of the armistice, in 1919, one minute's silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony. After the end of World War II in 1945, the Australian and British governments changed the name to Remembrance Day as an appropriate title for a day which would commemorate all war dead.

The year 2008 marked the 90th anniversary of the Australian attack at Villers-Bretonneux. On April 24th, 1918, Australian Imperial Force (AIF) soldiers attacked German forces that captured the French town of Villers-Bretonneux earlier that day. The action was successful, but the fighting was fierce, and many lives were lost on both sides.

Symbols

Red poppies are worn on blazers, shirts, jumpers and other items of clothing on Remembrance Day to remember those who died during a war. Poppies were among the first plants that came from the battlefields of northern France and Belgium during World War I. Some people believed the popular myth that poppies were rich in their redness because they blossomed from grounds that were saturated with soldiers' blood.

	2014	2015
Term 1	Tuesday, 28 th January to Friday, 11 th April	Tuesday, 27 th January to Thursday, 2 nd April
Term 2	Monday, 28 th April to Friday, 27 th June	Monday, 20 th April to Friday, 26 th June
Term 3	Monday, 14 th July to Friday, 19 th September	Monday, 13 th July to Friday, 18 th September
Term 4	Tuesday, 7 th October to Friday, 19 th December	Tuesday, 6 th October to Friday, 18 th December

* School Development days occur at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3 and the last two days of the school year. Check with your school, as schools may vary some of these dates.



5 facts about strawberries

1. Strawberries aren't actually berries, they are known as 'accessory fruits'
2. On average, strawberries have about 200 seeds
3. They're the only fruit with their seeds on the outside
4. They are a good source of Vitamin C
5. Most children love them!

Why not pack strawberries for Crunch&Sip® this week?

4 reasons to send snow peas for Crunch&Sip®

1. Kids love their crunchy texture and sweet flavour
2. They are a source of iron, protein and potassium
3. They don't bruise easily
4. They make an exciting change for Crunch&Sip®



Did you know...

Tomatoes gain weight as they ripen!



Cherry or grape tomatoes make a tasty snack for children. Why not pack your child some for Crunch&Sip®?



CANTEEN SPECIALS:

The BCS Canteen staff **Sheryl Barry (Canteen Manager)** and **Christina Watt** continue to provide a healthy and varied selection of foods for our students and staff.

They prepare healthy one-off specials each week. These specials are publicised each fortnight in the school newsletter and on the school web site. Students and staff are invited to order from this list in addition to the Menu/Price List.

Specials this fortnight are:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>RECESS</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>LUNCH</u>	<u>COST</u>
Nov 18	Nachos	\$3.00	Vol au Vents	\$3.50
Nov 19	Fried Rice	\$2.00	Spaghetti Bolognese	\$3.50
Nov 20	Jelly Cups	\$0.50	Tuna Bake & Salad	\$4.50
Nov 21	Ham & Cheese McMuffins	\$3.00	Mini Chicken Wrap	\$3.00
Nov 22	Smoothies	\$2.00	Rissole Roll (G)	\$3.00
Nov 25	Meatballs	\$3.00	Prawn Cutlets & Salad	\$5.50
Nov 26	Banana Split	\$2.50	Zucchini Slice & Salad	\$4.50
Nov 27	Mini Pizzas	\$3.50	Calamari & Chips	\$5.50
Nov 28	Noodles	\$2.00	Salad Wrap	\$4.00
Nov 29	Mini Salad Wraps	\$3.00	Bacon & Egg Roll	\$4.00



HOUSEKEEPING INFORMATION:

BCS distributes the *Tall Timbers* newsletter by **FAMILY EMAIL**. Please ensure that your family email is entered correctly on our records. We also place a copy of our newsletter on our website; <http://www.bulahdelah-c.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Next Newsletters for Term 4: 25th November & 9th December.

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP-TO-DATE?

Parents, if you have changed any details e.g. your address, mobile phone, home phone or emergency contacts, could you please make sure you let the office know so we are able to keep an accurate record. It is important for us and your children that we are able to contact you in case of an emergency.