

Tall Timbers Newsletter



Strive to Achieve

BULAHDELAH CENTRAL SCHOOL

A PRIDE School

Term 4 Week 10 Issue 20

7th December, 2015

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➤ VALUE OF THE WEEK

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

“They took on the challenge.”

“A pleasure to work with.”

“They completed their TAFE course at the same time as completing Year 10.”

“Just look at the canoes!”



On Friday, 13th November, there was great anticipation on the banks of the Myall River, as BCS students, Damian Barry, Jacob Crispin, Kaitlyn Osborne, Rachel Rae, Jacob Whalen and Nelson Wrigley, launched their canoes.

The students have recently attained their *Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways* and, as part of this training, were required to complete a project.

Over Terms 2 and 3, each student has constructed a canoe under the tutelage of TAFE teacher, Mr Brian Jones, who shared his vast knowledge and avid enthusiasm for all things boating.

In participating in this project these students demonstrated all of our PRIDE values.

PARTICIPATION: They took on the challenge.

RESPECT: Mr Jones frequently commented that these students were a pleasure to work with.

INNOVATION: Lots of problems to be solved in innovative ways whilst constructing canoes.

DETERMINATION: They completed their TAFE course at the same time as completing Year 10.

EXCELLENCE: Just look at the canoes!





Thanks again to Mr Jones for sharing his expertise, Miss Lawton for being our Lifesaver/Supervisor for the launch, Forestry Corporation, NSW for allowing us to use their shed and to the GONSKI funding that enabled this program to happen.

All of the canoes floated, EXCEPT when a nameless student *accidentally* rolled Miss Lawton's! Kerry Carter





➤ **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:**

It is hard to believe how quickly the school year has passed and come to an end. I would like to thank all our parents for your faith, trust, and commitment to Bulahdelah Central School throughout 2015. I would also like to congratulate all the students on their hard work this year. Many of these students will be acknowledged at our up-coming Primary and Secondary formal assemblies later this week. I wish our community a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer break and I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

Don't forget to get your child reading lots of good books in the holidays because we know books at home have been strongly linked to academic achievement and of course there are lots of other great reasons to get your child reading when not at school.

Parent Online Payments

Early next year a new parent payment option will be available through our website. This payment system is secure and specific to schools and is accessed using the Westpac QuickWeb system.

A **\$ Make a payment** link will be placed on the front page of our school’s website. By selecting the **\$ Make a payment** link you will be taken to a secure Westpac QuickWeb payment page. You will no longer be in the school’s website as this payment page is completely separate from the school and is run by Westpac as part of the banking service provided to all NSW government schools.

There will be no passwords or PINs to remember with the payment process very intuitive and follows the format of many other online payments that people use every day.

Payments can only be made using Visa or MasterCard credit or debit cards.

American Express, Diners Club or EFTPOS cards are not accepted. PayPal is not a payment option using this process either. If a payer only has an EFTPOS debit card then the school’s EFTPOS terminal, cash or cheque are alternate methods of payment which will need to be made at the Front Office.

I believe this option will allow lots of our parents to make payments for such things as subject contributions, excursions, sport and equipment from home or work rather than having to come into school.

End of Year Student Reports

As well as sending this home with each student this week, copies will also be available via the Parent Portal. We are gradually providing more information via our Parent Portal and as such I encourage all parents to ensure they access the Portal regularly.

Early next year we will also provide all students with their individual access keys so they will also have access to similar information as their parents.



➤ **IMPORTANT DATES:**

| | | |
|-----------------|----|--|
| Dec | 10 | Pri. Presentation Assembly |
| | 11 | Sec. Presentation Assembly Matt Smith Memorial 1.30pm |
| | 16 | Last Day of Term 4 |
| Jan 2016 | 28 | Yrs 1-6 & Yrs 7, 11 & 12 commence |
| | 29 | Kinder, Years 8, 9 & 10 commence |

This Christmas we wish that all your hopes and desires come true. May the Christmas magic make all your aspirations and dreams real.

As you relish the goodies, decorate every nook and corner of your home and enjoy the get-togethers...

*May the joy and festivities continue to radiate in your lives, long after Christmas is gone.
Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!*

*From the staff of Bulahdelah Central -
Merry Christmas!*





➤ REL. DEPUTY PRINCIPAL:

As the 2015 school year comes to a close, there are a lot of activities happening.

On Sunday, 29th November, I had the pleasure of attending the Manning Great Lakes Technology awards at Taree Art Gallery. One of our Year 12 Industrial Technology – Timber students, Ellie Gooch, was presented with the major prize in the Industrial Technology section. Her photo collecting her certificate, money prize and trophy, as well as her outstanding project is featured on the next page of this newsletter.

I would like to thank the staff and students who attended the Wet 'n' Wild excursion. This is a reward for more than 95% attendance for Terms 2, 3 and 4. A great day was had by all, with great weather and fantastic rides.

The Year 7 2016 Orientation Day was held on Thursday, 3rd December, with the incoming Year 7 students having a full day of activities and demonstration lessons. A big thank you goes out to Mrs Ros Caro for her wonderful organisation of the day and to the other students, teachers and office staff who helped out on the day as well. I am sure that Mrs Caro will make a fantastic Year Advisor for the incoming Year 7 students.

The Year 10 students have just concluded their work experience program for the year. This is a valuable experience for those students who participate in this program to gain knowledge of different vocations and to also see how the world of work operates. With this knowledge, students are better equipped to know the vocation they may or may not want to pursue in the future.

Teachers are busily finishing off report writing for Years 7-9 after exams concluded in week 8.

A reminder that the Secondary End of Year Assembly will be held on Friday, 12th December in the school's gym from 10:30am. This is a great opportunity to recognise the academic achievements of our students throughout the 2015 school year. After lunch on Friday, students and staff will participate in the annual Matt Smith Memorial Concert which will be held from approximately 1:30pm in the gym. This is an open invitation event for family, friends and the community to remember Matt in an event fitting to his nature and for some quiet reflection.

The Year 10 and 11 students will have received the student contract for the implementation of the senior school program. Both the student and parent need to read and sign off on this contract before the end of the year, so that students are ready to start the new program for next year. If you as a parent have any concerns about the contract, please get in contact with me at the school on 49974329.

As this is the last newsletter for 2015, I would like to thank Mr Hudson and the rest of the staff for the help and the opportunity to experience and gain knowledge in the Deputy Principal's position for an extended length of time. I look forward to some of the changes the school has implemented for the 2016 school program.

On behalf of all the staff and students at BSC, I wish the school community a safe and happy Christmas break and an even brighter 2016.





LtoR: Councillor Allan Tickle - Greater Taree City Council, Dr David Gillespie - MP for Lyne Taree, Ellie Gooch, Greg Dixon - Manning River Steel. Ellie Gooch pictured with her Roll Top Desk.

Congratulations Ellie on obtaining this prestigious award and producing a well-crafted Roll Top Desk as your major work for your HSC.

'Convergence' Presents:

*A traditional nativity play with narration, music and audience participation.
Please come dressed as a shepherd, angel, wise man (person) or stable animal
and you can be part of the play!
No experience or rehearsal required.*

Sunday December 20th, 5pm at the Bulahdelah School of Arts.

*The performance will be followed by a bring-and-share-finger-food-supper; tea, coffee and cool drinks available for a gold coin donation (all proceeds to the Christmas Bowl Appeal).
Come along and enjoy this family Christmas event.*

*Further details contact Thora-Lou Smith: 0413 883 401
talingah@bigpond.com*



➤ **REL. DEP. PRI. PRINCIPAL:**

As we begin Week 10 of Term 4, it is hard to believe that another school year has almost finished.

Despite being close to the end of term, there are still several activities planned on our school calendar. Today saw a large group of over fifty Year 4-Year 11 students travel to 'Wet n Wild' in Sydney as celebration for their outstanding attendance pattern for 2015 of 95% and above. Thank you to Mr Warren Jones for his planning and supervision of our students on the day. It is hoped that all of our students will strive for the best attendance pattern that they can in 2016.

In follow-up to our recent trip to Canberra for Stage 3 students, Mrs McDonald has submitted an application to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training for a Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER). This has resulted in a rebate for each student who travelled to Canberra and will be finalised before the end of term. Thank you Mrs McDonald for the tedious paperwork which was certainly worthwhile.

Today was our final merit assembly for 2015. There were several Bronze and Silver recipients and a group of 18 students who received their Gold award and merit badge. Congratulations to those students who have applied themselves throughout the year and strived to achieve the next merit level. Several special certificates were also presented, including Great Lakes calendar merits, sporting and reading challenge and an outstanding championship award with a ribbon and trophy from the Bulahdelah Show.

On Tuesday, 8th December at 11am, our final PRIDE assembly will take place in the school gymnasium. Students from K to Year 12 will be acknowledged for consistently displaying Bulahdelah Central School PRIDE values.

On Tuesday there will also be a half hour puppet show for students, presented by the combined scripture group. There is no cost for the show. Parents and preschool students are welcome to attend the puppet show which begins at 12:20pm in the hall.

On Thursday, 10th December, the Primary Presentation Assembly will commence at 10:30am in the school gymnasium. Parents and community members are warmly invited to attend. Year 6, along with their parents, grandparents and the official guests, are invited to a light luncheon in the staff common room at the end of the presentation assembly. The Primary Christmas Concert will then take place at 1:40pm in the school hall. Once again, we invite parents and our community members to attend and enjoy the wonderful entertainment for the afternoon. Parents are welcome to share a picnic lunch in the playground with their children prior to the Christmas concert.

Our presentation assembly would not be possible without the efforts of so many who have worked collegially to plan, arrange and present the day. This year we are again grateful to have strong community support with some very special awards for our students. Some of these include:

The Jack Ireland Award for consistency, honesty, integrity and on-going and outstanding commitment to the school and local community.
Tea Gardens Lions' Community Service Award for proven involvement at school and outstanding academic achievement.

CWA Award for citizenship.

Literacy Award sponsored by Mrs Kerry Carter and the inaugural Tea Gardens Rotary Local Schools Debating Trophy.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our sponsors for acknowledging and encouraging our youth.

Bulahdelah Central School primary students recently represented our school in the Tea Gardens Rotary Local Schools' Debating Competition against Tea Gardens Public School. The inaugural debate was held on Monday, 23rd November, at the Tea Gardens Country Club at 6pm. The Rotary Club requested teams of three students, whilst they provided a "whip" for each of the teams. The topic for the debate was: *'Technology Has Gone Too Far'* with the Bulahdelah team taking on the role of the affirmative. Both teams spoke extremely well, with regular nods of agreement from the attentive audience. The adjudicator declared the Bulahdelah team, comprised of Year 6 students Seleana Murphy, Harry Cole and Finlay O'Connell, as the winners. Thanks are extended to the Rotary Club for your generous support of the local schools and to the parents who attended on the evening. The presentation of the inaugural trophy will take place at Thursday's Presentation Day Assembly.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank the personal efforts of each and every one of our primary staff members who work tirelessly to bring high quality education to our local students. The school and the children are fortunate to have such committed and generous staff who have the students' best futures at heart. I extend a Merry Christmas to our staff, students and school community and a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2016.



Saturday 19th December
Kids Glow in the Dark
Christmas Disco
6pm to 8pm

Please bring your child a present for Santa to hand out.
We prefer all presents around \$10 in value.

Bulahdelah Bowling Club
Call 49974365

FREE Entry

Sausage sizzle, hot chips and cold drinks available at the disco

PosterMyWall.com

TEA GARDENS LIBRARY
Marine Drive Tea Gardens
Telephone: 4997 1265

Summer Reading Club
Registrations open
1st Dec
Read 10 books
for the chance to win some awesome prizes. Enquire now.

School Holiday Activities
Creative Christmas Craft
Monday
21 December 2015
2:30 ~ 3:30pm

Art Workshop
With Melanie Lee
Wednesday
13 January '16
2:00 ~ 3:30pm

Paper Craft & Colouring
Workshop
Wednesday
20 January '16
2:30 ~ 3:30pm

All material supplied.
Bookings essential as there are limited places.



Year 6 Canberra Excursion

National Museum

On the second day of our trip, the first stop was the National Museum. It was fantastic; we learnt lots about cultural artefacts. We were also told about the first Aboriginal lady to win the tennis competition at Wimbledon, Yvonne Goolagong. We all enjoyed our time at the National Museum. Seleana Murphy



Questacon

At Questacon there was a big TV that you could make the video go in fast forwardslow motion with this little knob you spun. In this room Finlay and Bridie got to go on TV; Harry Plummer, Tom McInerney, Olivia Smith and Angus Devon were in the back ground.

There were also lots of little games and tricks to play; it was an excellent day! Tayvan Williams





High Court

On Thursday, 19th November, we went to the High Court building. It was that tall it made us feel short. The High Court was very educational. We had to answer some questions about Court Rooms 1, 2 and 3. The High Court is where the people go to argue about a law that they think is unconstitutional and that they would like to be changed, for example the smoke company did not want to change their packets of cigarettes that have people coughing up blood and people with lung cancer. So they went to the High Court to complain about the cigarette packets but thankfully their request was overruled. Annika Gore, Khloe Middleton and Miranda White-McDougall.



Telstra Tower

Our trip included a trip to the Telstra Tower in Canberra. We watched a video about its construction and then went up on an elevator to one of the lookouts. We continued to go up many levels until we reached the top. The lookouts were amazing. The sunset was so bright and beautiful, one I will never forget. Seleana Murphy



Parliament House

One of my personal highlights of our trip to Canberra would definitely be Parliament House. It was really awesome to role play a huge part of the Australian government's law making decisions. The House's rich history was extremely interesting. In conclusion I vehemently encourage any tourists in Canberra to visit our nation's most famous landmark, Parliament House. Westleigh Richardson



Our students travelled back in time and experienced the life of Captain Cook, saw some of the navigational instruments that would have been used aboard the Endeavour and Captain Cook's shoe buckle that he wore during special occasions.



They also learnt about the life of Mary Reilly and saw the original letter she wrote as she waited aboard a ship to come ashore at Botany Bay.

Some of the other original sources that the students were lucky enough to see were original drawings from Johnny Kangatong from 1855 and Indigenous word lists from our local area dating back to 1885.



This was a fantastic experience for our students as not many people get to see such rare and exciting items.

Tuesday, 24th November, students in Years 3-6, were lucky enough to receive a visit from the State Library of New South Wales. The 'Far Out' learning program travels to towns in regional NSW to display and talk about original items relating to early Australian history.



➤ 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLASS OF 1965:

During the fifties and sixties our school-life in Bulahdelah was probably a reflection of the slower, sleepier lifestyle of the town itself.

In the sixties the world was rapidly changing – colour TV, mobile phones, computers, automatic teller machines and other new technology was appearing but which always seemed to take so much longer to reach Bulahdelah.

We had no Katis or Target – had never heard of Bunnings or Aldi – but of course we still had Wade's, Shultz's and Doohy's.

We probably had a lot more time to devote to our school studies than the kids of today – with their added distractions of smartphones and Ipads and texting. But I guess we spent more of our time outside. We played sports, we went for drives or walks and visited family and friends, and of course we went swimming down at Legge's Camp.

Undoubtedly we had an easier curriculum and I can't remember that we knew what peer group pressure was, no cyber bullying and trolls had yet to raise their evil head.

50 years is a long time in the human journey and we each have our own memories of that journey but just to remind you that in 1965:

- Robert Menzies was Prime Minister.
- Saint George won their tenth straight grand final.
- Record floods hit the Myall River in July of that year.
- Elvis Presley and the Beatles were still in full swing.

Some found school easy, whilst others struggled, but when push came to shove, we were all proud to be attending Bulahdelah Central School.
Dianne Mackaway (Barry).



LtoR: Trevor King, Denise Berrick (Leary), Billy Nobel, Sue Saville (Griffis), Judy Chapman (Fuller)

➤ HISTORICAL MUSEUM VISIT:



On Tuesday, 1st December, Year 1/2G went for a short walk to visit the Bulahdelah Historical Museum. It was once again a warm day for our excursion and we also had a warm welcome from Mr Kevin Carter when we arrived. He explained the history of the Court House building and we watched a visual presentation of early settlers, places and people from Bulahdelah.

We then roamed around the building looking at various historical artefacts including the cells, the school room, and outhouses. I would like to thank Kevin for his assistance and the parents who came with us. At times the students were a little like a 'bull in a china shop' but this will not deter us from visiting this wonderful local resource. We all arrived back at school richer from the experience. *Warren Gibbs, Teacher.*



➤ **LILLY BROWN ACTUALLY IS THE FASTEST GIRL IN TOWN:**



She could almost be mistaken as the lyrics to a song, but fast, fast, Lilly Brown actually is the fastest girl in the whole darn town. Make that the fastest

girl in the country, emerging from the recent western action shooting national championships with the junior trophy.

Now ranked 48th overall in Australia, the thirteen-year-old is working towards beating her father and coach Duncan Brown (aka Bronco Billy) who came away with a third in his section and is now ranked 10th overall. "She's not beaten me yet, but she'll get there," he laughed.

Both members of the Gloucester Rifle Club, the Bunyah father and daughter team competed

alongside three other club members and shooters from all over the country in the national championships held in Newcastle from November 20th to 22nd.

While Lethal Lilly was modest about her win, her father Duncan said her competitive streak stood her in good stead before events such as these.

"On the way there, she just kept saying how she wanted to beat such and such person... and she did!"

Lilly had come away at the same event last year with a second place and so arrived at this year's meet determined to beat her nemesis, a shooter known as 'KT'. "I really wanted to beat her," Lilly admitted.

"We're now going to take a six month break to get our lives back. Lilly's aim was to be national champion. She's done it now; it's time to get back to her friends," he said.

Another notch on her custom made belt this year was the Shooter of the Year title with the Cowboy Action Shooting Society, across Australia. *Gloucester Advocate, 2nd December 2015.*

back to
School



RESUMPTION DATES FOR
STUDENTS

TERM 1 2016 ARE:

THURSDAY 28th January

Yrs 1-6

Yrs 7, 11 & 12

FRIDAY 29th January

Kindergarten

Yrs 8, 9, 10



“Teachers who love teaching, teach children to love learning.”

Robert John Meehan

