



Value of the Week

Innovation. We initiate & continue to improve as individuals, teams & the school. Can you find a better, smarter or more creative way?

School Calendar

November

28 Year 11 Biology – Seal Rocks

December

5 Year 7 Orientation Day

7 Years 4-11 Reward Day at “Flip Out” Charlestown Square

13 Primary End-of-Year Assembly

14 Secondary End-of-Year Assembly

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BULAHDELAH CENTRAL SCHOOL PRIMARY
VISIT THE
BULAHDELAH
SHOW!





➤ REL. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Welcome to our new academic school year!

All Secondary students have been progressed to their next academic year and started their new courses. This allows for our Vertical Senior Curriculum to meet the required number of hours prior to the HSC exams for each course. It does have the advantage of keeping us all working right up to the end of the year when many other places experience a 'wind down' period.

A dedicated group of the staff continues to work on our 2018-2020 School Plan, analysing the results from our surveys and evidence of our current practice to benchmark our placement on the Schools Excellence Framework. I thank everyone who has contributed to our survey for their honest and respectful opinion. I have provided some of the results in this newsletter, but wish to clarify that our senior students will complete the survey now that they have returned from the HSC. Whilst it is important to note that not all responses are positive, the overwhelming tone and majority of responses were. It is always nice to hear positive feedback about our school. We have a great school with caring staff and students and exceptional facilities. From a planning group perspective, we also appreciate the constructive feedback about how we can improve further. We certainly cannot deliver on some of the requests of changing the curriculum or school facilities including a swimming pool, but we do have a commitment to strategically move the school forward in the identified areas.

Our first Strategic Direction relates to personalised learning and achievement, where we will be working with students and staff to identify and address areas of academic performance that are at minimum standards, extending our students who have strengths and talents in particular KLAs (Key Learning Areas), providing collaboration planning time for Primary

staff to develop teaching strategies and revamping our Secondary monitoring system to include an effort scale and self-reflection.

Our second Strategic Direction is being developed around teachers and students building their leadership capabilities and taking an active role in the school. This will also create some stronger links with our local community as we look to build the relationships with local community groups and local businesses.

Our last focus area is concentrating on the teaching practices in the school and how we work together to achieve better results and prepare students for their futures. We will be looking at lesson delivery, assessments and feedback to students.

These are our purposed ideas and I welcome any comments on our current plans and directions.

Question 1: What do you value at BCS?

Total of 103 responses to date, with most responses mentioning:

- Small classes allowing more/better personal attention to students and their learning.
- The collegial atmosphere where staff help and support each other.
- Willingness to try things.
- Big enough to have choices, small enough to care.
- Not much bullying at school and it's easy to find your way around and easy to make friends.
- As a student, in our school I value the wide range of friendly, helpful teachers who are always prepared to teach a fun, educational lesson.
- Updated equipment.
- Inclusiveness - all children accepted for who they are.
- Teachers who work with the students and parents to get good outcomes. Friendly and supportive environment.
- Small, community-minded school. Staff know individual students and they don't get lost in the crowd.

Question 2: What could make our school even better in the future?

- Getting the students to think and aim higher.
- Stronger and deeper collaboration around what makes a difference to teaching and learning. A real commitment to make T&L changes that will impact upon the learning of all our students.
- Make more cool stuff. More access to school things for lunch and recess. Able to play games in the gym.
- Clean bubblers, water bottle fountain, cleaner toilet blocks, an area out of the cold or heat during lunch and recess, better variety at the canteen, lower prices at the canteen, comfier uniforms, comfier classroom chairs, more discos and more practical classes.
- Lower canteen prices.
- I think more opportunities for parents to be involved and participate in their child's learning would be very beneficial. As many parents are busy and have varying schedules, I think using technology and other means to communicate would allow parents to become involved and help out with organising more activities.
- Better communication between staff/pupils/parents.

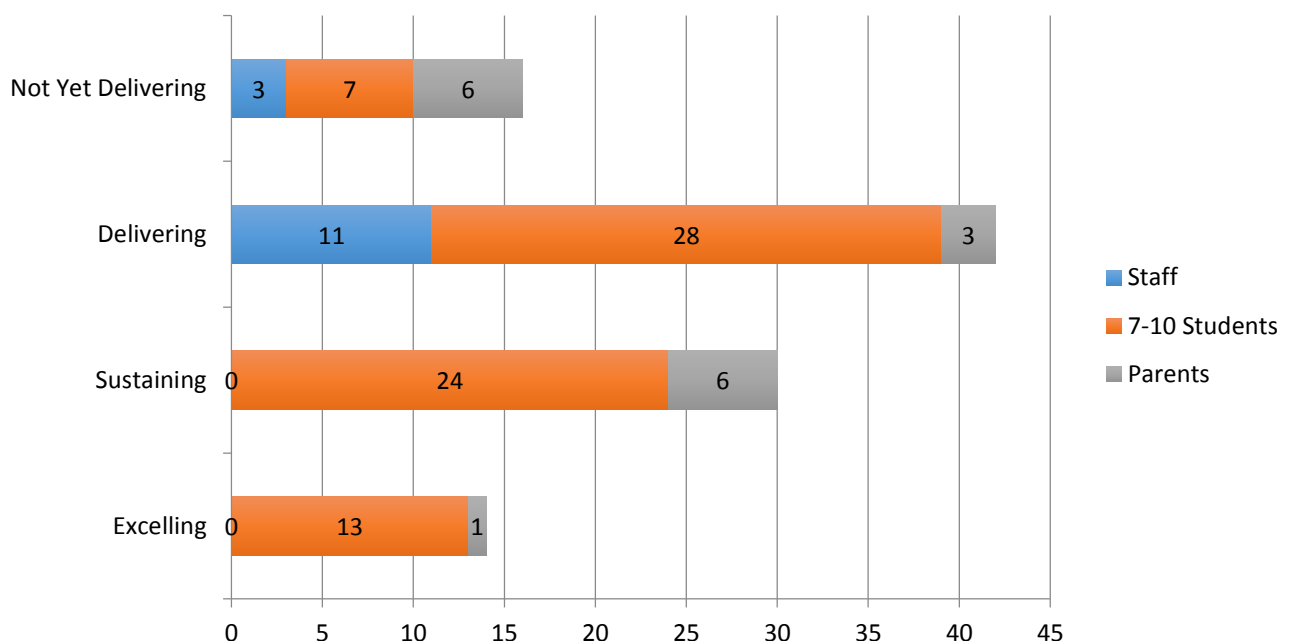
Question 3: Where do you place Bulahdelah Central School in relation to "High Expectations"?

- Not yet delivering - in some regards, the school appears to work in isolation to the rest of the community. There are pockets of interaction at times, but it needs a more sustained approach.
- Staff say they have high expectations but their actions don't reflect that. I could not articulate what the aspirations and expectations are of our students' parents.
- Although teachers have high expectations for their subject areas this has yet to become a consistent whole school approach.
- Lack of parent partnerships (from sustaining and growing). Limited information in student semester reports about 'high expectations'.

Deb Gilbert



High Expectations?





➤ **REL. DEPUTY PRINCIPAL:**

**Term 4 Presentation Assembly
- Secondary School**

Planning and preparations are well underway for the Secondary school end-of-year Formal Assembly which will take place on Thursday, 14th December, commencing at 10:30am in the Gym. Parents and carers of students receiving major awards, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd or highly commended in a subject area will receive an invitation in the mail. All parents, carers, family and friends of the school are welcome to attend.

This year as part of our school's Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program we will be introducing to the assembly program the PRIDE Medal Awards. This is a medal to be awarded to the student in each year who has demonstrated

the school's five PRIDE values (**P**articipation, **R**espect, **I**nnovation, **D**etermination, **E**xcellence) in the most outstanding manner throughout the whole school year. This judgement is measured by the attainment of Merit Awards achieved by students throughout the year. These are issued to students by teachers in the form of blue Well Done cards, white Merit Award cards, merits issued through monitoring reporting every five weeks and PRIDE Certificates issued as part of the term by term PRIDE assemblies. The student who has achieved the most merits overall for 2017 will also have their name inscribed on a perpetual shield to be displayed in the school administration office foyer.

We look forward to this once again being an excellent assembly to mark the conclusion of another busy year of work and achievement by students and staff at BCS. *Warren Jones*

**YEAR 7 2018 ORIENTATION DAY
TUESDAY, 5th DECEMBER
10:00am - 2:00pm**

To assist students, parents and care givers with the transition from Primary to Secondary school, we will be holding an Orientation Day on Tuesday, 5th December. The day will provide an opportunity to find out about subjects for Year 7, uniform, equipment, bus travel and other information about the school you may require.

You will have the chance to meet staff and tour the school and the students will attend mini lessons and a treasure hunt. The day will conclude with a BBQ lunch.

We look forward to welcoming our new students and making entry to Secondary school as happy and stress-free as possible.

Please RSVP to BCS Front office by
Friday, 1st December, for catering purposes.



➤ **COLOUR ME: LET'S GET TOGETHER & MAKE A DIFFERENCE:**



Year 9 students Holly Towers, Anjoli Luxon, Tahlia Mancini, Heidi Buchanan, Jake Billinghamurst, Sebastian Walker, Taylah Smith, Natasha Veith,

Blair Hill-Mather, Joshua Howarth, Abby-Jo Banks, Dakota Edgerton worked together to encourage and raise awareness about respect. They collaborated to organise and deliver a Colour Run for the students of BCS. They chose a colour run because people come in different shapes, sizes, backgrounds and colours and each and every individual should be celebrated. Many a weekend was spent making the colours, which involved mixing flour, water and food colouring followed by a lengthy drying and crushing process. The colour run was held on the oval of BCS and involved a sausage sizzle, photo sessions and an obstacle course. Together the students raised \$114.66 which will be donated to the Black Dog Institute to assist with youth mental health. *Ros Caro - English Teacher.*



Ros Caro



YEAR 8 YEAR ADVISER



Due to family reasons I will be taking an extended leave from BCS and my role as Year Adviser will be filled by Ms Lisa Jego.

To all the parents, guardians, community members, staff and students of BCS, I would like to say thank you. Thank you for welcoming me and making me a part of your family, "Thank You"

for supporting me during my time at BCS, thanks to my students for teaching me new things, making me smile and giving me grey hairs. Most of all thank you for sharing your time with me.

This is not goodbye! I am sure that we will meet again someday. Best wishes, Ros Caro.

➤ MULTI CATEGORY CLASS VISIT TO BULAHDELAH SHOW:

It was a magical day with three of our MC students, Miss Jenny and myself connecting with the community at the Bulahdelah Show. We arrived shortly after 9:00am and after tracking down the always organised and energetic Maxine Gooch, we found ourselves helping out at the Australian Stock Horse, Led and Ridden events. Rhonda (a steward) and Gary (a judge), both from the Central Coast made us feel welcome and very useful.

In a short time we found ourselves being educated on the different areas of judging. They include temperament, physique of horse and rider, ages, height, progeny and action.

Jackson, Harrison and Tyson enjoyed sorting, selecting and handing out the ribbons for the judge. The boys quickly became adept at understanding when the judge was ready for the

ribbons to be brought forward. The boys' etiquette around the horses and riders was impeccable. The judge only indicated subtly when the boys needed to come forward with the ribbons and prizes, and they did not skip a beat. Much to our judging teams dismay we did depart from our volunteering duties around 1:00pm to enjoy a much deserved steak or sausage sandwich and a sit in the grandstand to spectate the action of the Camp Draft. We enjoyed seeing the wares and crafts in the pavilion and admired our very own Harrison's achievement, a Highly Commended in the cake decorating section, along with many achievements of our other peers and community members.

What a wholesome opportunity to connect and develop positively amongst the support of our wonderful community. *Micheala Sawtell - Multi Category Teacher*





Positive Behaviour for Learning, also known as **PBL** is a system of values embraced and pursued by students and staff at Bulahdelah Central School. You would be familiar with our schools' **PRIDE** values; **P**articipation, **R**espect, **I**nnovation, **D**etermination and **E**xcellence. At school our students are regularly acknowledged for their dedicated efforts in demonstrating and adhering to these values as they participate in their academic, practical and sporting commitments.

This PBL system of values follows our students out into their community too. At home *Participation* may be demonstrated by the student lending a hand preparing dinner or washing the dishes afterward, while *Respect* is shown in the way a student speaks to their family members or neighbours. Within the community the value *Innovation* may be displayed as creative ideas for community fund-raising events, *Determination* may be demonstrated on the sporting field, while *Excellence* could be shown in the students' attitude and performance in their work place. Through a collaborative community commitment our students can be encouraged to consistently observe Positive Behaviour for Learning as they engage with their community and take their place within it.

Throughout 2017 Bulahdelah Central School has undertaken numerous PBL initiatives to remind and guide students' and staff behaviours. These include:

- the PRIDE banners on display in our gymnasium for all to see during formal and informal assemblies and gatherings,

- the updating of school emergency evacuation procedures and maps situated in appropriate positions within every room throughout the school to inform and guide all students and staff in the event of an emergency,
- the installation of signs informing students of passive, active or mixed areas in the playground to guide students' in their use of the different playground areas,
- the inclusion of an additional PBL team member to help support and implement PRIDE across the school and
- the attendance of BCS PBL team members at a PBL EXPO to share the BCS experience of PBL and gather further resources and information to assist in its ongoing development at BCS.

The PBL vision for 2018 looks to include:

- updating the monitoring system to reflect the schools PBL PRIDE values,
- continued development of consistency of the PBL values in all classrooms and
- seeking student input into the above development as a means of making PBL more meaningful to them.

Positive Behaviour for Learning is a continually developing process within schools and 2018 looks to be another active and interesting year for Bulahdelah Central School as we work together in its implementation. We invite you to come along for the ride. *Kim Rigley - Teacher*





YEAR 7 CLAY UNIT

Students designed and constructed a ceramic outback dwelling. Some built shacks, hotels,

churches and toilets. Clay slabs were rolled out, cut to the plans and then assembled. Water tanks, verandahs and even old fashioned 'dunnies' were added. After completely drying, the works were bisque fired to 860 degrees and glazes were applied. The next firing reaches a temperature of 1160 degrees.

There were a few disasters with walls not completely joined but overall the finished products were great. Maybe this will inspire a few future architects or builders.



Bisque



Glazing





➤ YEAR 12 FORMAL:

Our Year 12 students were joined by staff and parents at their recent formal dinner which marked the end of 13 years of schooling. The 39 graduating students looked stunning as they arrived in their finest attire for the evening of glamour, celebration and memories.

During the formalities, graduating students Taylah Boyle and Karl Nickle announced that Year 12's parting gift to the school was a outdoor seating which will be installed outside N Block. "Our fundraising earlier in the year allowed us to purchase some new seats which we hope will be well-used by all students at BCS for years to come," Karl said.

Fellow students Shae Finch, Tamara Gooch and Bianca Mason thanked their teachers and parents for their support and guidance throughout their schooling. They also acknowledged the many life-long friends they made along the way. "This has been a long journey we shared together, but it is now time for us to open new doors and start the next chapter in our lives," Bianca said.

The Year 12 formal is a highlight of the school calendar and is a wonderful opportunity for staff, students and parents to celebrate the occasion together.

We congratulate the Class of 2017 on completing their school education at BCS and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. *Wendy Parsons - Year 12 Advisor*





➤ ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:

With the Year 5 and Year 6 students having returned from their visit to Canberra I would like to thank the staff who attended this big excursion. A big thank you also to Mrs McDonald for organising and leading the excursion to our nation's Capital city. Students returned exhausted but holding life-time memories of their time away. School excursions provide terrific opportunities for students to develop skills in team-work as well as providing educational outcomes. This excursion certainly benefited all students who attended.

Yesterday our Kinder to Year 8 students enjoyed an amazing musical performance from Manly Selective High School band members. With over 80 musicians, the performance was an entertaining, interactive and educational hour for our students. This free concert provided a range of inspirational music styles to our students.

Years 2 and 3 students have begun participating in the Hunter New England Health's initiative, 'Good for Life Good for Kids'. These students have begun wearing accelerometers (similar to a watch) to measure physical activity. I'm sure that the accelerometers will be busy counting the amount of physical activity our Year 2 and Year 3 students participate in during this week.

As part of the Smith Family's Christmas Book Appeal, Primary classrooms currently have a donation box for unused good-quality books. Mrs Christine Rose-Dibley (Ruby's mum) will be collecting the book boxes on Friday, 8th December. Book donations are currently being accepted by teachers for this Christmas Appeal.

The 2018 Primary Swimming Carnival is booked for Friday, 9th February 2018 (back-up date Friday, 16th February). I do hope that as a parent, or family member, you will be able to join the swimmers at this scheduled school event for a fun day. A Tea Gardens school holiday swim program is available for students to access

through <https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/events/s-wim-and-survive>. Structured swim lessons are available for Primary students to access at the Tea Gardens pool in January.

With just fifteen school days left of 2017 (as I write) I remind parents and students that school finishes on Friday, 15th December. I would expect all students to be in attendance every day until then. Please take the time to talk with your child about behavior as the end-of-year programs can sometimes cause anxiety or stress for Primary students. As always, students can chat with myself, or staff, if they are feeling anxious or stressed. I do hope that all our students enjoy the last weeks of 2017 at school learning happily, playing safely and finishing each day with a smile.
Rod Pye



Above photo: this is the accelerometer the students will be wearing on their wrist for one week during school time. The accelerometer will measure student's movement patterns during the school day.

➤ PRIMARY CAPTAIN NOMINATIONS 2018:

The following students have nominated to run for Bulahdelah Central School Primary Captains for 2018. Each of these students has been interviewed by the School Executive to assess their suitability for the role of captain.

Students and staff have voted for four captains (regardless of gender). The four elected students will be announced at the Presentation Day Assembly on Wednesday, 14th December. Here are our nominees:

Cole Buchanan



I believe I would make a good School Captain because I am good at organising sport games and have been a leader to help run Wednesday afternoon sport with K-2. I have marched in the ANZAC day parade every year which has developed my leadership skills. I have also been a buddy for the 2018 Kindergarten students which requires good role model and leadership skills.

Chanai Jenner



I feel I would make a great Captain as I have great leadership ability. I have demonstrated these skills on many different occasions in various situations, including being involved in the leadership team at my previous school. This involved helping around school grounds, scripture and choir. I adopted a leader role as well in my peer groups helping to solve problems and conflict.

Sasha Middleton



I would love to be School Captain as I am approachable, confident and care about my fellow students. I am a hard worker and give 100% in all activities the school provides. I will be supportive to my fellow peers and friendly at school and in the community.

Elise Miles



I was a Sixer at cubs (Sixer is a leader) and would like to be a Captain so I can represent the school on assemblies or just in general. I am a very responsible student and I like to help out. I would like to be involved in the SRC (Student Representative Council) and help the teachers with assemblies and other organised activities.

I would like to do more public speaking and learn more about leadership.

I believe I have a lot to offer in this role.

Ruby Plummer



I believe I would be a good School Captain because I try my best to demonstrate the principles of PRIDE.

Participate in school activities and I am Vice Captain of Bradman.

Respect – I always respect class mates and teachers.

Innovation – I think of innovative ways to make school better.

Determination – I am determined to follow through on my promises.

Excellence – I try to achieve excellence in class and at sport.

I would love the chance to be a Captain. I am a fair and friendly person who helps other students.

Nathaniel Redman



I am reliable, honest and responsible. I would like to be a School Captain for 2018 to make the school safer, cleaner and funner.

In my two years of Cub/Scouts, I was a leader of my group and I enjoyed the responsibility a lot. I would like to be a Captain because I enjoy the role of leadership. I strongly believe our younger students need a responsible role model and in my opinion I fit that position because I'm responsible and I have had teachers tell me that I would make a good role model.

Izabell Read



I want the school a better and more fun place to be at. As Captain I will add more bake sales and fundraisers to raise money to place extra no bullying posters around the school to reduce bullying.

I would also like to bring gardening back into the school and more.

Abbey Vella



Bulahdelah Carols in the Park

Join us for a Christmas Celebration with entertainment and a sausage sizzle.

Date: Saturday, 16th December, 5:30pm

Venue: Wade Park

Featuring: Prominent Sydney Choir, Local Artists and the St Joseph's School Choir

Activities:

Audience carols

Kids Entertainment, balloons and face painting

Santa visiting via the Rural Fire Service

Alcohol and Pet Free Zone

➤ BULAHDELAH SHOW STUDENTS' NIGHT:

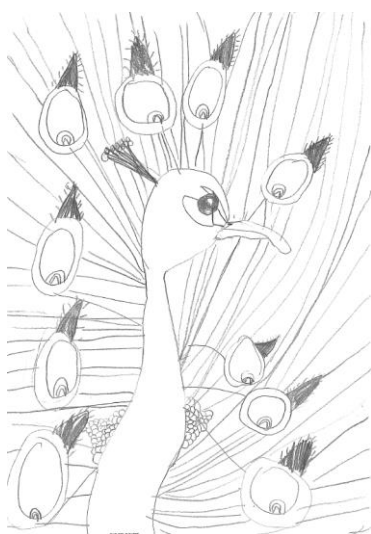
On Wednesday, 8th November, the students' night for the Bulahdelah Show was held in the Mervyn Richards Pavilion. Students from Bulahdelah Central, Tea Gardens, Coolongolook, Bungwahl and St Joseph's Bulahdelah all competed in the art, creative writing and public speaking competitions.

Entries for the art and creative writing were chosen by each school and submitted earlier for judging. First, second and third place winners in each section were presented with their awards on the night.

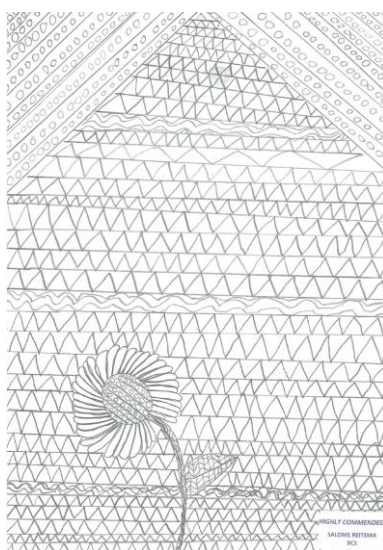
The following students gained a place in the art competition.

Line Drawing

Stage 1 - 1st Claire Tufrey



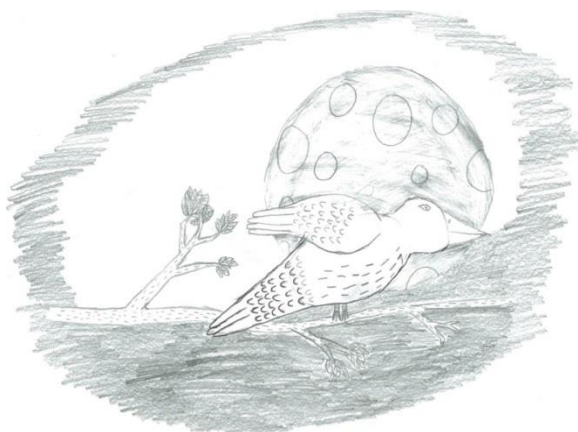
Stage 1 - Highly Commended Salome Reitsma



Stage 2 - 1st Sheena Lamborn



Stage 2 - 2nd Nathaniel Reitsma



Stage 2 - Highly Commended Mia Bidwell



Stage 3 - Highly Commended Paulo Coelho



Painting

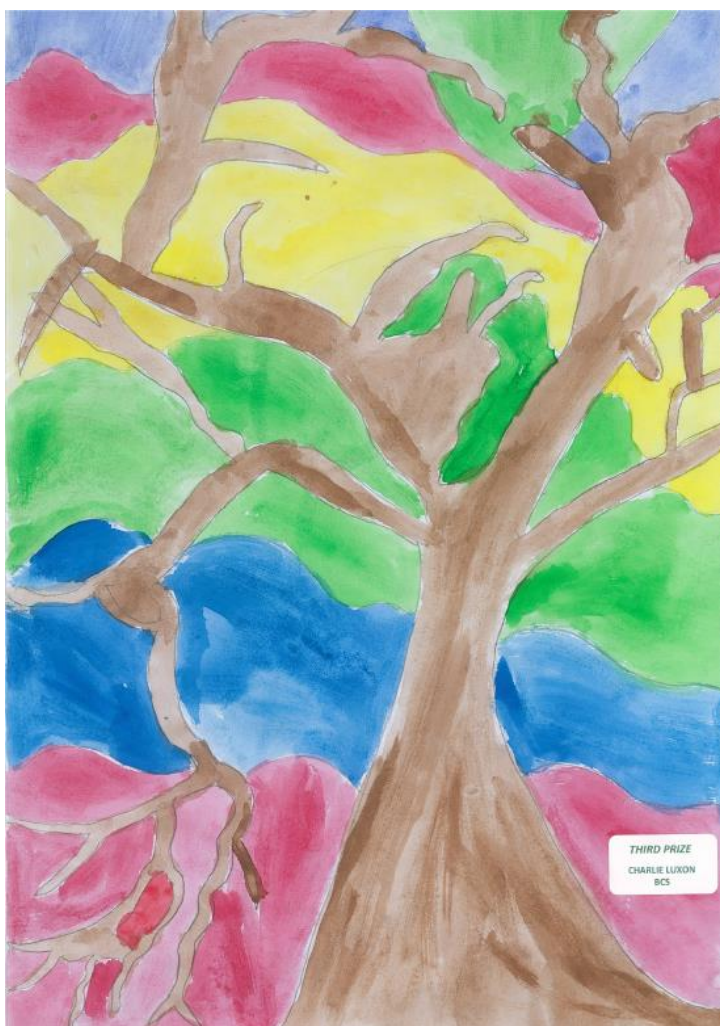
Stage 1 - 3rd Zackery Moran



Stage 2 - Highly Commended Sheena Lamborn



Stage 3 - 3rd Charlise Luxon

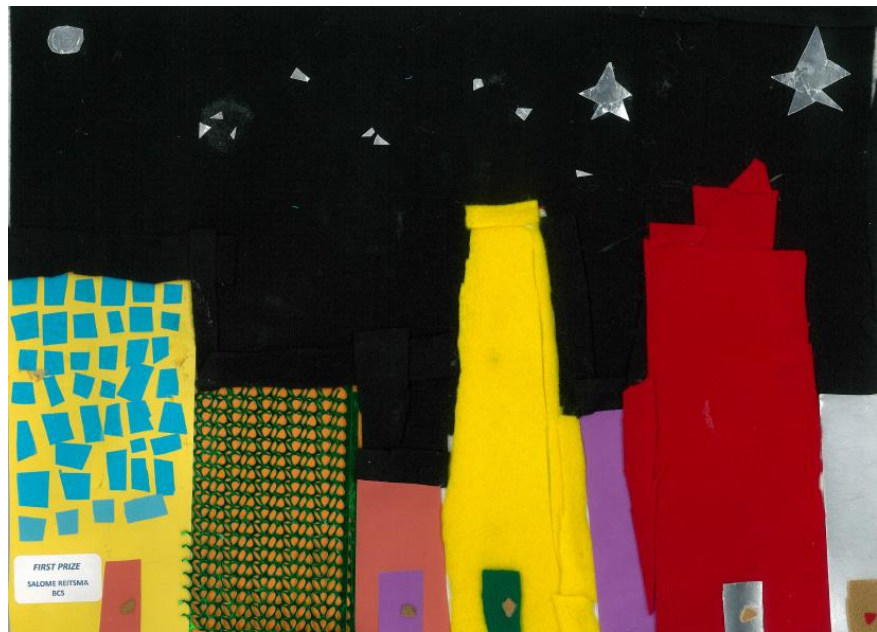


Collage

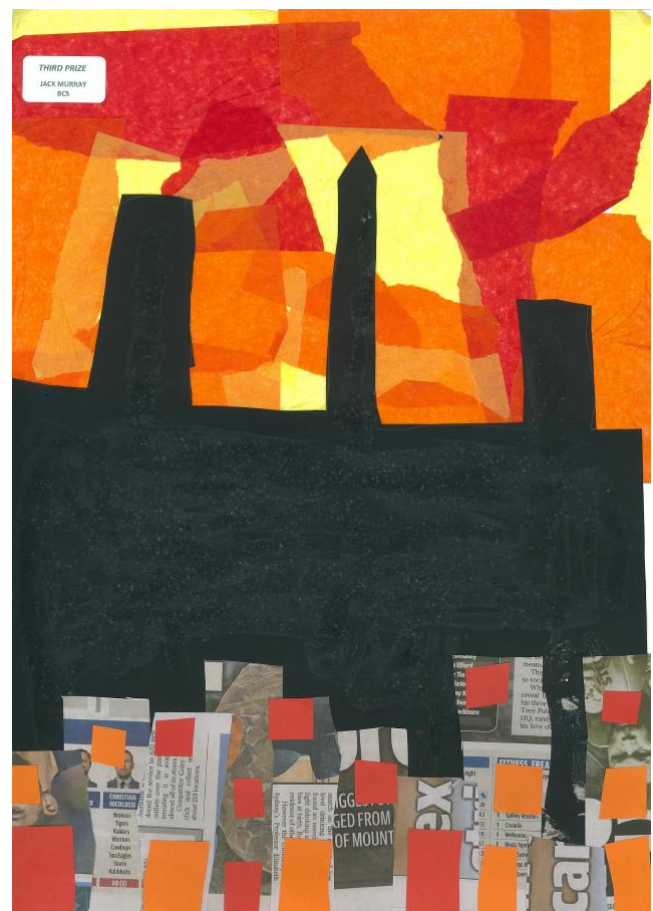
Early Stage 1 - 1st Banjo Edwards



Stage 1 - 1st Salome Reitsma



Stage 1 - 3rd Jack Murray



Stage 1 - 2nd Zackery Moran



Stage 2 - 2nd Charlie Garemyn



Stage 3 - 1st Izabell Read



Stage 3 - 2nd Maggie Cunich



Stage 3 - Highly Commended Maddi Tassell



A+ Excellent!

Creative Writing & Bush Poetry

Students from each school were chosen to compete on the night in the public speaking competition.

In the Stage 2 section, Peter Poniris spoke very well and gave an interesting and humorous speech on 'How Much He Hates doing Speeches'.

A fantastic effort from all of our speakers!

In creative writing, the following students were awarded with prizes.



Creative Writing

Early Stage 1
2nd Ruby Dibley

Stage 1
1st Jasper Gibbs
3rd Fenix Roller

Stage 3
3rd Izabell Reid

Bush Poetry

Stage 2
1st Blake Matheson

Stage 3
1st Grace Kiehne

Blake Matheson's Bush Poetry

Slithering through the outback under sticks and leaves.
Now up a tree, Hanging on a branch it's now looking at me.
It must be happy up there swallowing that mouse,
big, juicy, plump and grey.
Falling into the belly of that big brown snake.



SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

Thursday, 30th November



EVERY ORDER EARNS 20% BACK IN REWARDS FOR YOUR SCHOOL!



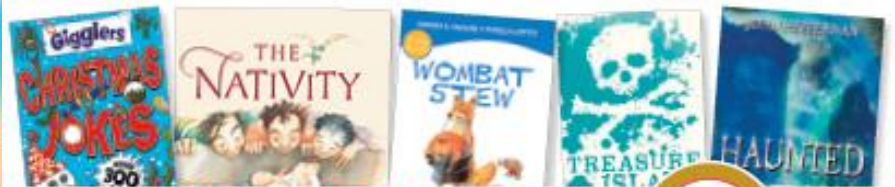
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back to
School



COMMENCEMENT DATES
FOR STUDENTS
TERM 1 2018 ARE:

TUESDAY 30th January

Years 1-6

Years 7, 11 & 12

WEDNESDAY 31st January

Kindergarten

Years 8, 9, 10



“Behind every successful man and woman, there is an unsung hero – a teacher who silently enjoys tears of happiness when they see their students succeed.”

