

# BONALBO CENTRAL SCHOOL

*'Lifelong Learning for a Positive Future'*

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Assistant Principals:

Keith Larsson  
Corinne Miller  
Judy Voisey  
Megan O'Meara

## SCHOOL NEWS

Term 3 Week 9, 2010



Primary 4/5/6 Camp at Coffs Harbour



Students at Questacon ↓

### ***Dates to Remember:***

September 17, 2010- Diabetes BUZZ DAY  
September 17-23, 2010- Years 10 & 11 Exams  
September 22, 2010- Bloodwood Shield  
September 22, 2010- FOOTY COLOURS DAY  
September 23, 2010- SRC Disco  
September 24, 2010- Literacy/Numeracy Debate  
September 24, 2010- Year 12 Last Day of School  
September 24, 2010- Last Day of Term 3  
October 11, 2010- First Day of Term 4  
October 15, 2010- First HSC Exam  
October 28, 2010- COGS Celebration Year 7



## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **Transition to High School**

As part of our preparation of Year 6 students for high school Mr Gray, Mr Kilroy and myself have made visits to Year Six classes at Bonalbo and neighbouring Primary Schools to meet and talk about High School. We are planning to have all Year 6 students visit the High School in Term 4 to familiarise themselves with teaching staff and the High School environment. Mr Gray will be the Year Adviser of Year 7 and Mr Kilroy will provide some additional support for students when required.

### **Uniform**

As mentioned in earlier newsletters we are having a serious review of the lower half of the High School uniform. Samples of skirts, shorts and long pants have been acquired. Our intention is to have selected students model the uniform early next term to gain appraisal from students, parents and carers. If we have majority agreement we aim to have all students wearing the uniform during 2011.

### **Excursions**

Since the last newsletter the K/1 class and 4/5/6 class have had an excursion to Sea World and Coffs Harbour respectively. The reports back from students and staff indicate that the excursions were educational and fun. Thank you to all the staff and parents who were involved with organisation and supervision. Further details of the excursions can be found in this newsletter.

### **Year 12 and Examinations**

Year 12 will finish their formal schooling at the end of this term and continue their preparation for the Higher School Certificate which commences Thursday October 14. We wish all of Year 12 the best of luck with their preparation and the exams. We also wish Year 11 best of luck with their yearly exams which commence on Friday, September 17.

### **Tractor Tender**

Thank you to those people who put in a tender for the school tractor. Unfortunately no tender reached our reserve price. Consequently we will be advertising the tractor more widely by placing an advertisement in the Northern Star on Saturdays.

### **Coles/Bi-Lo Sports for Schools Promotion**

If parents and carers and students are planning on purchasing food or items from Coles or Bi-Lo you have the opportunity to support the school. For every \$10.00 spent a voucher can be obtained from the checkout. This voucher, if given to the school, will go towards the acquisition of sports equipment.

### **School Holidays**

As this will be the last newsletter this term I hope all students and staff have an enjoyable holiday and a well earned rest before returning to school on Monday, October 11.

*Keith Larsson*  
*Principal*

## **PRIMARY NEWS**

It has been a very busy term for everyone and it isn't slowing down as we get to the end! Students in K-3 have been on their excursion to SeaWorld and 4/5/6 have returned from three days at Coffs Harbour. Thank you to all helpers, aides and teachers who contributed to these excursions. Without your help and efforts, the days do not run as smoothly. A special thank you to Charlie Taikakara for driving the bus to Coffs and for bringing us home safely.

Year 4/5/6 students will be participating in a Rugby Union Gala day at Bangalow on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Students will travel with volunteer parents to play at least 3 games to learn skills and experience union.

On Monday September 20, 2010, students from the Primary will be performing dance, song and music at the Casino Performing Arts Festival. The concert commences at 6:00pm.

On Wednesday September 22, 4/5/6 will be hosting our final assembly of the term. Please feel welcome to attend to see what 4/5/6 has to high light from the term.

A reminder, as the weather begins to warm up, to make sure your child's name is printed inside jumpers and tracksuit pants as students are stripping them off at lunch time and forgetting to return them to their bags.

On Wednesday August 25, the Rural Fire Service visited the Primary students and worked with them on fire safety. Thank you to the Mallanganee crew for a very interesting and informative visit. As the weather warms up, please regularly check your child's hair for nits to help minimise their spread.

*Primary Staff*

#### **4/5/6 Reports**

Lately, in class, everyone has been doing work and looking at Explanations and Procedures. Tejal, Larze, and I were making a Paper Mache Volcano (PMV). First, we ripped up paper and stuck it down around a bottle in the shape of a volcano. We painted it black. Then, after it was dry, we inserted 9 mint mentos inside of it, and then we poured diet coke into it. The mentos made the coke froth up, though we expected it to be bigger. Then Tejal wrote a report on it. Larze and I helped her with it. Then I got some free time.

*Charlie Dwyer*

#### **The Garden**

A few weeks ago students in primary planted spinach, beans and tomatoes for Green Up Clean Up. The spinach is going very well. It is very green and thriving and filling up most of the garden bed.

There are 9 bean plants, but they are not going as well as the spinach.

The tomato plants are going well. There are no tomatoes on the plants yet, but they look healthy.

*Sarah and Jesse*

#### **4/5/6 Camp**

The camp was awesome. My favourite activities were ice skating, the Porpoise Pool, the giant swing and the fan drop. The giant swing was 11m and the fan drop was 14m.

I can skate well but I got the trolley out so I could go faster on skates. The giant swing is cool because I went up 11m and then you pull a green knob and it released the swing. You fall down 9m and then go back and then back up 8m. The fan drop was cool too because you climb up 14m then you jump off the platform and fall.

*Gypsy Dunne*

The camp was mad narly. My very favourite thing to do was ice skating. I rode in Miss O'Meara's car to the rink. We got to the rink and got our ticket. We got a shoe size and told the man and he gave us our ice skates. It was really fun. I picked it up really fast. I fell over three times. After we finished I bought a bag of jelly beans.

*Larze Holt*

On Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> our class 4/5/6 went on an excursion to Coffs Harbour. We arrived at 2 pm and were allocated to our rooms. Throughout the week we did various activities, some of the best activities I did were circus skills, ice skating, butterfly house, kegal barn (9 pin bowling), power fan drop and the best of them all was the giant swing. The giant swing was so extreme. Shawn our instructor harnessed and strapped us up. The rest of the group had to haul us up the height we wanted (of course I went the highest point which was 11metres)the hauling team then braced themselves and when you were ready you released yourself by pulling a black cord, and you're off and swinging having the time of your life.

*Catrina*

Day Three was awesome. I had scrambled eggs and bacon for breakfast, then one of the instructors took the class to the fan drop. I was harnessed to a steel rope, and then I climbed up to the top to the post which was 14 metres high. I climbed up to the top and jumped off. It was pretty slow going down. It was awesome.

*Logan*

### K-3 Sea World Excursion.

On Friday September 3, Kindergarten through to Year 3 went on an excursion to Sea World. The day went well, as we were able to observe different animals that had been trained to act or do tricks. The students enjoyed watching "Buddy", the sea lion catch the crooks in the show, "The fish investigator" and meeting "Friday" another sea lion afterwards that they were allowed to pat and have photos taken with him. The students also watched the dolphin show and enjoyed seeing the trainers ride the back of the dolphin like a surfboard and be flipped in the air off the dolphin's nose. The dolphins also did high leaps into the air. While we enjoyed our lunch we also saw the pirate show that taught us that it doesn't matter if you're on different sides you can still work together. A big thank-you goes to Ritchie Heycock and Matthew Kirkpatrick our parent helpers for the day and to Hellan, Mandy and Christine for their help as well. If parents are interested in seeing photos from the day there will be a display board of them out the front of the K/1 classroom.



K/3 with the sea lion Friday who starred as Silky in the movie Nim's Island.

### Agriculture News

The year 9/10 agriculture class have been learning to drive the school tractor. With their new driving skills they have been slashing the school farm to allow new spring growth for our steers. The steers are growing well and easy to handle. During term 4 we are hoping to get some sheep to expand the students learning to different production animal species. The sheep will be housed at the school in the paddock behind the primary. The students are looking forward to working with sheep and learning new skills.

*Stephen Gray*

### From the art room

This term, students are responding well to the creative challenges set for them in various art activities.

Year 2/3 students have been exploring two art forms – stencils and simple printmaking. They have applied their ideas to the techniques they are learning, with impressive results. Year 4/5/6 students are working on their long-term project in which they produce a hand-bound book containing information about the elements of art. Nearly there!

Year 7 have been exploring their relationship with the cultures that underpin the two languages they are currently studying – Bundjalung and Japanese. In Art we have looked at traditional Aboriginal dot-painting and such art forms as calligraphy and origami. Also on the agenda are kite-making and decorating their Taiko drums.

Year 8 students have been learning basic ceramic pot-building and are constructing a ceramic house in a group project.

Year 9/10 students have been working on a Land Art project on the banks of Peacock Creek, using materials found in the environment. Year 10 is also preparing for exams which will take place next week.

Year 11 students also have exams next week. In practical artmaking, year 11 have a chance to try out ideas which will go into the development of their Body of Work for their HSC.

In the Beginner adult class, students are learning painting skills including colour theory and painting techniques. Their goal is to produce an abstract painting based on a collection of personally significant objects. The Advanced class students are learning darkroom techniques and exploring the possibilities of the photogram.

*Sally Goldstein* Teacher, Visual Arts

**In English this term, Year 9 have been studying various text types. We read and analysed a feature article on Generation X and decided to write our own, concentrating on Generation Y. The students created and then conducted a survey, gathering responses from 68 high school students. The following article is the result of some research and the student survey.**

### **Y is Gen Y?**

They watch 'How I Met Your Mother,' listen to Paramore and Short Stack, and their favourite websites are Facebook and Youtube.

They are Generation Y, born between 1981 and 2000. Tech savvy, this generation is plugged in 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: ipods, iphones, the internet, digital cameras, laptop computers and X-box 360. As far as the internet goes, a recent survey of twelve to eighteen years olds at Bonalbo Central School showed that 26% prefer the social networking site Facebook, followed by Youtube with 20.5%.

"My phone is my life," said Year 9 student Natalie Johnson. The majority of Year 9 students said they "need" technology, especially to help relieve boredom. Forget letter writing and plain old telephone calls – this generation communicate through email and text messages.

While Generation X was media-savvy, Generation Y is media-saturated. "The media influences us to look good," said Mimi Arent-Highfield, Year 9. The student survey at BCS showed that most wear clothes from Supre, Element and other surf brands. The media also influences Gen Y in terms of how they talk, what they buy and what is "cool." A sceptical bunch, they are more influenced by trends and their peers than by parents or leaders.

The majority of Gen Y-ers at BCS said they had no idol. One possibility is the level of media exposure celebrities have. An example is Lindsay Lohan, who was popular with Gen Y, until she "became drug-addicted and promiscuous," according to Year 9 girls, in response to what the media has reported.

Popular idol groupings at BCS included family, friends, actors, musicians and surprisingly, teachers. The survey showed that the vast majority of BCS students favoured male celebrities, and a lot of students had no favourite celebrity.

"I couldn't choose one; there are too many," said Natalie.

"Boys idolise boys and girls love boys," said Mimi, explaining why so many male celebrities are popular.

Gen Y are the most apathetic generation to date, not wanting to pay their dues to society. "We don't owe anybody anything," said Jason Crosby, Year 9. Job transients, they move through different jobs before settling into a career, unlike previous generations.

Big consumers, Gen Y are in major debt, with many young people having to declare bankruptcy. Money is there to be spent.

The Gen Y-ers from BCS love movies and the three top genres were comedy (38%), horror (20%) and action (16%). Favourite music genres were RnB, techno, pop, metal, and alternative, with 22% of students favouring rock.

According to the survey 25% of students favoured PE as a school subject, followed by English and Music, with 15% each. Agriculture and Design and Technology were also popular.

Experts say Gen Y-ers love attention and being involved in teams. They are nothing without their friends. They like to sleep around, apparently, which could also be related to their attention seeking behaviour.

Considering this exposé, the next generation don't stand a chance. They will drown in media, be overcome by technology and have so much choice they will be even more aloof and switched –off than Gen Y.

So Y is Gen Y?

Don't know; don't care.

**Ninja.**

One of the more colourful characters around the school is Ninja, the oriental alter ego of S. Coates in Year 10. He can be spotted from time to time in his traditional black head wear. Ninja has agreed to do a series of interviews with other interesting folks from school in which he will discuss the vital issues of our time.

**What's with the Beanie?** Ninja talks headwear with Mr Tucker.

Ninja: Tucker San, I'm always running into problems when I wear my traditional headgear in public, so I was wondering if you have run into any strange looks or hostile reactions to your, er... beanie. Is that what you call it?

Mr T: Pretty much. It was advertised as a Guatemalan cotton kofi beanie.

Ninja: So why did you buy it?

Mr T: People think I've got religion or joined a cult, but I just needed something to cover my head while I'm treating sun spots on my scalp with a deadly ointment.

Ninja: Deadly ointment? Isn't that extreme?

Mr T: It's better than cancer. The trouble is it makes your scalp bubble up like hot mud at Rotorua.

Ninja: Ah. That explains the beanie.

Mr T: Yep, I needed something to cover my head, something I could wear inside and out, so as not to frighten the children.

Ninja: So where did you get it from?

Mr T: On eBay, from a seller called Good Time Bob.

Ninja: I wish they sold good ninja masks on eBay. That'd make my life a whole lot easier.

Mr T: Actually, Ninja, I think you might have something in common with Good Time Bob.

Ninja: How so? Why is that?

Mr T: I ordered two beanies, hand knitted from Guatemalan cotton by Guatemalan women.

Ninja: (bored) Yes, yes.

Mr T: They arrived promptly, the beanies, not the women.

Ninja: Hmm...

Mr T: There was a lovely business card from Good Time Bob.

Ninja: A business card? How intriguing.

Mr T: Yes. It had beautiful flowers on one side.

Ninja: This keeps getting better and better.

Mr T: But...

Ninja: But what?

Mr T: On the flip side was GoodTime Bob's other business card.

Ninja: What do you mean, 'other business card'?

Mr T: Well it advertised Bob's Sniper School, armed extraditions and other martial and security services which, frankly, I didn't need.

Ninja: Hmm, Bob sounds like quite a guy. Maybe we could chat about some lessons. I'm available if he needs any.

Mr T: But enough of my shopping adventures. Where did you get your interesting headgear?

Ninja: Actually I made it myself employing time-honoured traditional methods and the best, most easy to breathe through material.

Mr T: Easy to breathe? Is that a big consideration?

Ninja: Have you ever tried swimming with a towel wrapped around your face? It's not exactly a walk in the park.

Mr T: Good point well made.

Ninja: Actually, the new Year 10 T shirts have exactly the air flow characteristics I'm after. Pity they're the wrong colour.

Mr Tucker: Bummer.

(To be continued)

**YEAR 7 COGS UNIT**

A COGS unit is a unit of work which runs across a number of subject areas. Both students and teachers collaborate to reach a common goal via a common learning task.

Year 7 at Bonalbo Central School have been working towards understanding what links them with both the land and culture of the local Bundjalung people and the people of Japan. The subjects of English, Music, Visual Arts, History, Japanese and Bundjalung are involved.

The results of their learning will be presented at a special day on Thursday, October 28. Invitations will be sent out to parents and carers. Nimbin Central School students are also doing a COGS unit,

on a different theme, and they will be coming to the Bonalbo presentation and Bonalbo will be travelling to Nimbin.

# SECONDARY SRC NEWS

## CELEBRATION TIME !

### SECONDARY DISCO

THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010

6-10PM

BONALBO COMMUNITY HALL

NO ADMITTANCE AFTER 6.30PM

NO PASSOUTS UNLESS PARENT AT THE DOOR

SECONDARY STUDENTS ONLY

TEACHER SUPERVISION

\$2 AT DOOR

### BUZZ DAY FOR DIABETES

FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

GOLD COIN DONATION TO HELP DIABETES RESEARCH

DRESS LIKE A BEE OR IN BLACK AND YELLOW/GOLD

### FOOTY COLOURS DAY

CELEBRATE GRAND FINAL TIME AND THE FINAL BLOODWOOD SHIELD GAME BY WEARING YOUR FAVOURITE FOOTY COLOURS

WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER

GOLD COIN DONATION TO CANCER RESEARCH

## Bonalbo Central School Centenary Reunion

### Saturday 23 April 2011

**Accommodation needed:** If you are willing to billet someone for the night/weekend please ring/ email the details and cost to Bonalbo Central School ASAP so we can advertise on our website. Include contact details and any cost.

If you know of someone planning to come please get them to ring or email ASAP so we can start planning for catering and souvenirs etc.

email [bonalbo-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:bonalbo-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Proposed Celebrations:

Saturday 23 April 2011 - School based celebrations

Saturday evening- Supper dance

Sunday-Town based celebrations

Monday-Anzac Day celebrations

## Adolescent Drinking Behaviour

Young people aged 16-24 report the heaviest drinking patterns in Australian society. In NSW 26.6% of males and 17% of females in this age group are classified as 'high risk' drinkers (NSW Population Health Survey 2008) High risk drinking was defined as those who have daily 11 or more drinks if male and 7 or more drinks if female..

Paul Dillon from Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia (who is the keynote speaker at the north coast RRISK Seminars) said more young people drink "to get out of it, to get wasted" and that "Australia is one of the few countries where binge drinking is acceptable".

Some young people drink to intoxication when they socialise and are less likely than adults to be concerned about the negative consequences of heavy drinking. Young people are more at risk than adults as they are physically and psychologically immature, lack experience with alcohol, are more willing to engage in risk taking behaviour and are often unaware of the dangers of excessive consumption.

Choosing not to drink or learning how to drink responsibly can be among the most difficult tasks facing young people today. Parents and carers are often so concerned about the risks associated with illicit drug use that they forget that alcohol is the substance most likely to be the potential source of harm.

Under age drinking is becoming an ever increasing concern. The earlier young people start drinking, the more likely they are to become high risk drinkers and experience alcohol related harm whilst they are young and in later life.

### Who supplies alcohol to young people?

Parents are the most common suppliers of alcohol with 28% of males and 29.5% of females under the legal drinking age of 18 reporting that they obtained alcohol from their parents; 21.6% of males and 23.4% of females reporting that they obtained it from friends and 21% of males and 25% of females asked someone to buy it for them. (NSW School Students Health Behaviours, 2008)

Parents and carers need to consider the wisdom of supplying alcohol to their underage adolescents. They can help young people to make safer decisions by discussing risks and safety strategies, particularly when celebrations are occurring. Parents should keep up with what is happening in the lives of the young people in their care and take positive steps to prevent them or others from drinking and driving.

School based courses (Personal Development, Health and Physical Education) and the RRISK seminars also help students make informed safer choices.

Look for information about the RRISK Program and risk taking at our website [www.rrisk.com.au](http://www.rrisk.com.au)

### Community Garage Sale Mallanganee Memorial Hall

Bonalbo St, Mallanganee  
Saturday September 18, 2010  
9 am to 1pm

Drinks and snacks available  
Cost is \$10 per table for sellers

If you would like to have a table please send name and your \$10 to the Mallanganee General Store, Post Office Before 6th September.

For more information contact: Mavis Goodlad 6664 5116  
Gillian Hanley 6664 5148

The garage sale is a fundraising event for the  
**MALLANGANEE MEMORIAL HALL**

### Southern Cross Cultural Exchange

An international future for students

This is an opportunity to make a difference for your future by hosting a S.C.C.E International student. You could enhance your studies, your travels, your career. Learn of new opportunities, attitudes, and have fun teaching Australian culture. Carefully selected students arrive in early February from Europe, the USA, Japan and Canada. Check out our brochure

**BRING THE WORLD TO YOUR HOME**  
On the Southern Cross Cultural Exchange website  
[www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au)

If you want to seize this opportunity while still in secondary school contact SCCE on 1800 500 501  
(We may have a representative in your area)  
Fill in the Host Family Application Form (also on our Website). The February students are being matched now!