

Bonalbo Central School



Lifelong Learning for a Positive Future

School News

Term 4 Week 10, 2014



*Farewell
and Good
Luck*





Important Dates

Thursday December 11, 2014- Presentation Night

Friday December 12, 2014- Silver Rewards Excursion

Tuesday December 16, 2014– Year 6 Sleepover

Wednesday December 17, 2014– Pool Party

Wednesday December 17, 2014– Last Day of School

Tuesday January 27, 2015– Staff Return to School

Wed. January 28, 2015– Years 1 to 7, 11 and 12 return

Thursday January 29, 2015– Years 8 to 10 return

Thursday January 29, 2015– Kindy Best Start Assessments

Monday February 2, 2015– Kindergarten Start



Principal's Report

Looking Back

I will admit that I find it difficult to believe I've been working at Bonalbo for almost two full years. In 2103 I was relieving Mr Larsson as principal while he was on leave and I was lucky enough to get the job permanently starting in 2014. As this is the last Newsletter for 2014 I thought I might allow myself a small indulgence and look back over the last two years and speak about a couple of the highlights and things that immediately come to my mind when I contemplate two years being the principal of our fantastic school.

Perhaps the first thing I think of when I get a spare moment to contemplate being the principal at BCS is the people: our wonderful kids, the friendly and up front parents and the great staff I have working with me. A lot of people say to me that things these days are different and that kids are not what they used to be. I understand what they mean when they say things like this but I've always thought the changes have been more to the world than to the children growing up in it. Kids are kids: it could be tough growing up in the 60s and 70s when I was a kid and it can be tough and confusing now. If I have one overriding aim as principal it's that I want our students to feel like they belong and that we provided them with consistency. When students come to BCS they know what to expect and where they stand and, with any luck, this gives them the certainty they need to concentrate on the reason they're here; their education. I'd like to thank our parents for entrusting their children to us for this most important of tasks. We try to live up to the trust you show us every day.

I can't let this last newsletter pass without mentioning my fantastic staff and in particular Ms Miller. I am constantly impressed with the staff at this school and by how hard they work. I rarely need to ask for something to be done, in most instances it will have already happened. I'd like to thank the staff for all their hard work during 2014: I do appreciate them and I'm sure the wider school community does too. I also want to mention Ms Miller who is leaving us at the end of the year to go on to pastures new. I can't adequately express to Corinne how grateful I am to her, first of all for being on the panel who initially appointed me here and secondly for all the support and work she has put in to train me in the way things need to be done at our wonderful school. I will miss Corinne both professionally and personally: I don't think our school quite knows how big a role she has played in shaping this place over the last couple of decades. Good luck Corinne, I hope your new role brings you everything

you could hope for.

I'd like to thank everyone in our school community and wish them a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Mr Hodges

Principal

Secondary Student Representative Council

Hi

My name is Michael, and I am part of the student leadership group for 2015. I am vice-captain, the other vice-captain is Tamykah, and the two captains are Brendan and Teal.

We have big plans for 2015 – each taking an area of responsibility such as speaking at presentations and ceremonies, meeting with the school principal and organising social events.

We will also possibly bring in more sports activities, such as lunch time competitions and matches against other schools.

Another goal is to develop leadership skills in the younger students so that they develop the confidence to be strong school leaders.

Look out for my news in future newsletters in 2015.

Michael

Bonalbo Health Service advise Dr Sunil will be taking leave on the following dates:

15th to 19th December 2014 on leave.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 22nd, 23rd and 24th December will be at the Hospital.

29th December to 2nd January 2015 will be taking leave.

As always, this plan is subject to change please contact the Hospital for appointments.

No Locum.

Agriculture News

Year 7

Year 7 had their end of year BBQ on Friday 5 December. The students prepared and cooked; chicken kebabs, BBQ potato chips, eggs, corn, garlic bread and a garden salad. Most of the food they had grown in their gardens. Everyone joined in and no one went hungry.

Year 9/10/11

Ag Camp will have been completed by the time this newsletter is printed. The students will have visited 4 local agricultural enterprises; the Blueberry farm, Cooper's Dairy Farm, Mara Seeds and a Beef Farm. A big thankyou to each of the farmers for welcoming the students to their properties. Also a thankyou to the Bonalbo Show Society for allowing us to camp at the showground.

Stephen Gray

Bonalbo Red Cross Good Start Breakfast Club

I would like to thank my small group of volunteers and students for giving of their valuable time during the year. Their dedication to the Breakfast Club has enabled us to keep going, three days a week, with average per day 50 to 60 students having something to eat before they start their school studies. A good start to the day. The Upper Clarence Lions Club must also be thanked for serving breakfasts the first Monday of each month.

The CWA Tintenbar Branch and the Petty family kindly donate to the Breakfast Club and this is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Rachel at the school canteen. Breakfast Club couldn't run without all of these willing helpers.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Holy Christmas and health and happiness in 2015 and all of my volunteers have a restful holiday ready for another busy year.

If anyone has two hours Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and would like to volunteer please contact Monnie 02 6665 5113, we would love to hear from you.

Once again thank you all very much.

Monnie Petty

Manager Good Start Breakfast Club

End of Year News for Careers and related areas.

We have had another massive year with regards to our (mostly) senior students and their individual patterns of study towards their HSC this year and 2015 is already shaping up to be just as big!

Firstly, our 2 School Based Apprentice/Trainees are successfully finishing their 2 year employment which they managed to combine with full-time study. Shania has made a great impact at the Casino Commonwealth Bank, working 1 day a week during term and in blocks over the holidays while completing her Cert II in Business Services and 4 other HSC subjects while Shannon has become invaluable to Jumbunna (Bonalbo) Pre-school, studying Early Childhood Education as a TVET course as well as her other HSC subjects. Well done girls, you have been great role models

to our younger students.

At this stage we are just about ready to sign up 3 of our Year 10 students into SBATS for 2015/16 – one going into Shannon's position at the Pre-school, Jeremy has been successful in securing a position at the NAB in Casino; Tabitha has secured a position at the Bonalbo Pharmacy and will study Community Pharmacy as her related TVET subject. Very exciting – and demanding – times ahead for these 3 very enterprising young people and I look forward to working with them and their families over the next 2 years.

We may also have our first Year 10 SBAT in 2015 – Layton has completed Work Experience over an extended period this year and we are now looking to convert that to a School-Based Traineeship – more news to come on this one.

In the VET and TVET areas, we have continued to provide both Hospitality and Primary Industries for Stage 6 students here at school and individual students have accessed either Wollongbar or Lismore TAFE campuses to study a range of TVET courses. Unfortunately, the funding we have been able to secure to bus students to Lismore/Wollongbar is not available for 2015 so some lateral thinking has had to occur! While our students can still enrol at either of these campuses, they will need to organise their own transport – quite an ask for parents/carers. Alternatively, I have been able to organise for 3 of our students to attend St Mary's in Casino 1 day a week to do their Auto-Mechanics course and have just had the go-ahead for some of our boys to enrol in a "Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways" course 1 day a week at Casino TAFE. Both of these opportunities will be able to be accessed by travel on the school buses to Casino and will be exciting courses for the students involved.

We have just had 8 students complete their Cert II in Furniture Making after attending Casino TAFE over the past 2 terms. These students have done themselves proud in terms of their achievements in this course which counts as a full subject already completed for them for Years 11 and 12! I attended the Open Day they hosted for family and school staff last Friday and saw the excellent team work they displayed in a simulated workshop, working with students from both Casino High and the Casino Christian School, to produce their very professional cabinets. The staff at the TAFE (and our own Teacher's Aide, David Bird) are to be commended for the care and learning opportunities they provided for our students who impressed everybody by their maturity and responsibility.

Finally, our Year 12's are eagerly awaiting HSC results and making plans for various options in 2015. Of the 10 students (out of a total of 14) who applied for Early Entry to university, ALL were successful and are now individually making plans to accept or defer offers. Well done!!!

I look forward to another full year in 2015. My philosophy is to treat every student individually and I welcome any opportunity to talk with parents and students about their school-to-work options.

Jan Maslen, Head Teacher/Careers

2015 Adult Education

In 2015 Bonalbo Central School will be offering Adult Education Classes

Hospitality (VET Cert II)

Visual Arts

Patchwork

Community members who might be interested in undertaking one of these courses are asked to ring the school and provide their contact details

While details are yet to be confirmed Visual Arts will most likely run after school hours and Hospitality and Patchwork will be held during school hours.

Please contact Bonalbo Central School front office on 02 6665 1205



Year 6 Graduation

Bonalbo Bowling and Recreation Club

Childrens Christmas Party and Disco

Saturday December 13, 2014

Disco Starts 6.30pm

Santa arrives 7.30pm



All children welcome,
but must be accompanied by a responsible
adult.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR