



B.C.S. NEWSLETTER

Be Respectful

Be Safe

Be a Learner

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Assistant Principal: Kim James

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Term 4 Week 10

Dec 17th, 2024

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YEAR 12 FORMAL – Zeppelin, Chloe, Erin, Tess, Koby

KINDY GRADUATION – Dennis, Bryce, Talisha



YEAR 6 GRADUATION – Kirra, Hamish, Kylee, Kevin, April, Blake



DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec 19-20	Staff Development Days	11	Touch Football Trials Safer Internet Day
Jan 31	Staff Return for 2025	12	Whole School Swimming Carnival
		19	Primary Swimming @ Woodenbong
Feb 6	First Day Term 1, 2025 for all students	20	Secondary Zone Swimming Carnival
		27	Primary Zone Swimming Carnival

PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY – a wonderful celebration of student achievement!

Academic Achievement

Year 1 Phoebe
Year 2 Ayla
Year 5 Elleearna

Year 7 Breanna
Year 8 Sunni
Year 11 Kobi
Year 12 Tess

Special Award Winners

AEO

Talisha, Phoebe, Kaliyah, Jasmine, Blake,
Lamarni, Kobi

P&C

Hallie, Charlotte W, Amity, Elleearna, Aerlina,
Isabelle, April, Sunni, Sarah, Aimee, Kobi, Tess,
Chloe, Erin, Zeppelin, Koby

Primary Sportsmanship
Eggert Sportsmanship
Noel Shone Boys Sport
Peter Petrochilos Sportsperson of Year
Primary CWA Citizenship
CWA Education Fund Grants
Lions Club Attendance
Bonalbo Bowling Club Attendance
Kevin Hogan MP Book Prize
Crauford Kerr Encouragement
Trojan
Reuben F Scarf
ADF Long Tan
AMPOL Best Allrounder

Isabelle
Kaleb
James
Tess
Isabelle
Loclin, Blake, Aidon, Dan, Kobi
Aimee
Talisha, Aerlina
Sophia, Breanna
April
Chloe
Kobi
Sarah, Chloe
Tess



2025 School Captains

Primary Isabelle, Aerlina
Secondary Rhys, Aimee, Kobi



Sports Champions

Swimming

Junior Girls Isabelle
 11 Year Girls Kalli
 Senior Boys Blake
 12 Year Girls Tia
 13 Year Boys Jhwarne
 13 Year Girls Charlotte
 15 Year Girls Erika
 15 Year Boys Will
 16 Year Girls Makenzie
 16 Year Boys Layne
 17+ Year Girls Chloe

Athletics

Junior Boys Rylee
 Junior Girls Isabelle
 11 Year Boys Kevin
 Senior Girls Kylee
 Senior Boys Hamish
 13 Year Boys Kaleb
 14 Year Boys Jesse
 15 Year Boys Jason/James
 16 Year Girls Makenzie
 16 Year Boys Jordan
 17+ Year Girls Miah
 17+ Year Boys Zeppelin

Cross Country

Junior Girls Phoebe
 Junior Boys Oliver
 8/9 Year Girls Sophia
 8/9 Year Boys Rylee
 10 Year Girls Isabelle
 11 Year Boys Kevin
 11 Year Girls Kalli
 Senior Girls Kylee
 Senior Boys Blake
 13 Year Girls Pepquita
 13 Year Boys Kaleb
 14 Year Boys Daine
 15 Year Girls Erika
 15 Year Boys Jason
 16 Year Girls Lillian
 16 Year Boys Tyronne
 17+ Year Girls Chloe
 17+ Year Boys Koby



House Champions

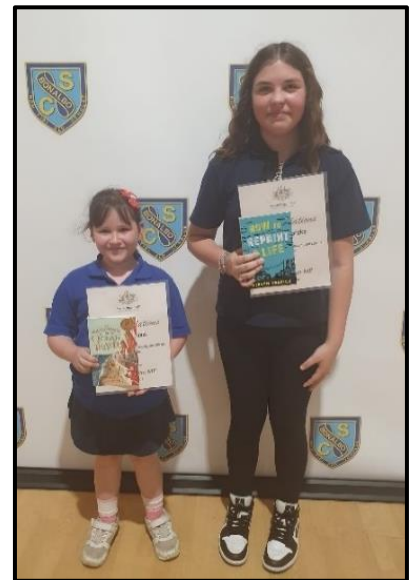
Primary Swimming	Bruxner Bandits	Secondary Swimming	Clarence Crusaders
Primary Athletics	Bruxner Bandits	Secondary Athletics	Bruxner Bandits

Presentation Assembly





Congratulations to Mr Jason Anderson and Mrs Kim James, who received 20-year service certificates from the NSW Department of Education.



Thank you to all those who attended and helped to make it a wonderful assembly.
We are very proud of our students.

Excerpt from Principal's address at Presentation Assembly

"... I'd like to acknowledge everyone involved in organising and running today's assembly but would like to make special mention of Nicki and the admin team for their hours of work, and to Mr Gray, Ms Ducat and their team of student helpers for setting up the hall. Thank you and well done to our outgoing Captains, Chloe, Erin, Kylee and Blake for their work today as hosts and for their leadership throughout this year. I look forward to working with Isabelle, Aerlina, Rhys, Aimee, Kobi and the SRC next year.

Congratulations to all our award winners. Today is the culmination of a year's worth of participation, your abilities and talents, and your commitment to learning. You have shown respect and tolerance for others. You have led by example and been involved with our community. Thank you and well done.

To our Kindy students, well done on finishing your first year of school. We look forward to watching your growth over the coming years. I hope you enjoy your new book. To our Year 6s, congratulations on completing Primary School. We have watched you grow into more mature learners over the years and wish you all the best at high school. The Year 12 Formal a few weeks ago was a great celebration and farewell for our Year 12 students. HSC results come out this Wednesday, ending 13 years of schooling. To our graduating class of 2024, we, along with your families, are proud of you, and we wish you all the best. As I said at the Formal, "Every great accomplishment starts with a first step. No matter how big your goals are. No matter how great your plans are. No matter how immense your dreams are. It all begins with a single step." We hope you take that step and look forward to hearing where it leads you.

None of these important milestones would happen without the parents. I thank all our parents and carers for guiding and encouraging your children. Working with us to support student learning and wellbeing will always benefit them, and I am pleased that we can work together to bring about improvements and success.

I am lucky to have such a wonderful group of staff, teaching and non-teaching, who go above and beyond. Collectively, we take our commitment to public education very seriously and we work hard to achieve our school's motto of "lifelong learning for a positive future" for every student. I also acknowledge the hard work of my Executive team, who support me and guide both students and staff...

... To finish, I again thank everyone for their attendance, organisation and participation today. Congratulations to all students on their year of achievements. We are proud to be a part of them and hope 2025 can be a year filled with even more success. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and relaxing holiday break."

Kathryn Taylor

Principal



Staffing News

Mrs Tessmer is taking up a position in Casino after 4 years at Bonalbo. We thank her for making maths much more enjoyable and engaging positively with students. You will be missed, and we wish you all the best. Miss Kate Sheehan will be with us teaching maths next year.

Mr Vennix has been with us for two years teaching mainly English and History. We thank him for his service and wish him well as he awaits news of what might be in store next year.

Ms Baldwin has been in primary this year and we thank her for her work. She too is awaiting news on next year and we wish her and her family well. Ms Bronte Hewes will take up our permanent primary teacher position next year. She comes to us from Ungarie Central School and is very excited about joining our team.

Mr Ellevsen has been with us this year teaching mainly Geography. We thank him for his work and wish him well in the future.

Wendy Greer has been working in primary, supporting students and staff in the classroom. We wish her all the very best on her next adventure.

Mrs Bird will be going on maternity within a few weeks of Term 1 starting. We wish her all the best with her soon-to-arrive bundle of joy. Mr Jaan Stolk will be joining us to teach all things PE and Sport-related. He comes to us from Victoria with a wealth of interesting experiences to share.

Mrs Clements will also be taking maternity leave part-way through Term 1. Mr Stephen Gray will again step in to pick up Agriculture and Primary Industries.

Pool Party

What a great way to end the year! The whole-school pool party was a success despite the few showers of rain!! Students enjoyed a relaxing dip, lounging on floaties, playing all manner of water games such as volleyball, diving contests, basketball. Thanks to our P&C, everyone enjoyed pizza and hot chips for lunch.



Year 12 Formal

What a great night!

Our graduates looked amazing, the Bonalbo Bowling Club was beautifully decorated, Michelle and her team provided a delicious meal, the speeches were heartfelt, the cake was divine, and the company was good.

Thank you to everyone involved.

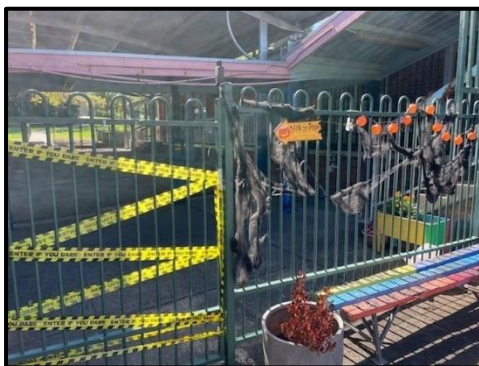


Year 6 Graduation Dinner

Thank you to the family members and staff who came to help students celebrate this special milestone. All students looked amazing and had a wonderful time. We look forward to seeing you take on the next step in your schooling journey moving into high school next year. Thank you also to the Dog 'n' Bull Bonalbo for the lovely meal.



Halloween





Trick or treating the principal!



Spook-tacular Halloween at Bonalbo Central!

Great time had by all our students: wearing some amazing costumes, trick or treating and participating in fun activities.



Teddy Bears' Picnic



Remembrance Day

On the 11th of November, we honoured those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom from all wars and conflicts over the years, by learning about the importance of Remembrance Day and observing a minute's silence at 11am.



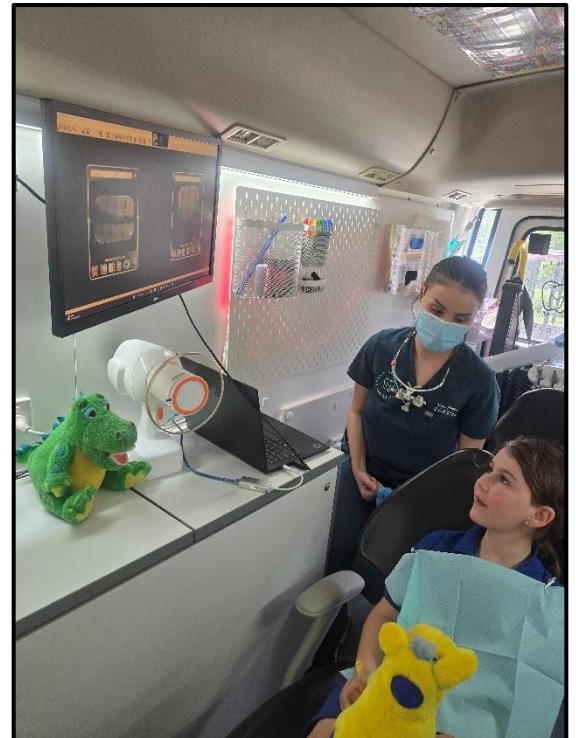
It was a time to reflect, pay respect, and remember the courage of those who served and continue to serve.
We will remember them.
Lest we forget 🌸

Stewart House

April, Blake and Aidon had a wonderful two weeks away at Stewart House in Sydney earlier this term. They visited many of the famous landmarks and enjoyed various sports, craft and cultural activities. They also had various health checks, including sight, teeth and hearing.

Dental Van

We were lucky to have the Mobile Dental Care Australia Van visit all students earlier this term. Thank you to Elena and Nicholas for making the trip to see us.



Rewards Activity

Several K-12 students were rewarded for their consistent demonstration of our school's expectations with yummy snacks of ice-cream spiders, chips, lollies and popcorn while they watched the movie, *If*. Congratulations on your positive behaviours and efforts throughout the year.

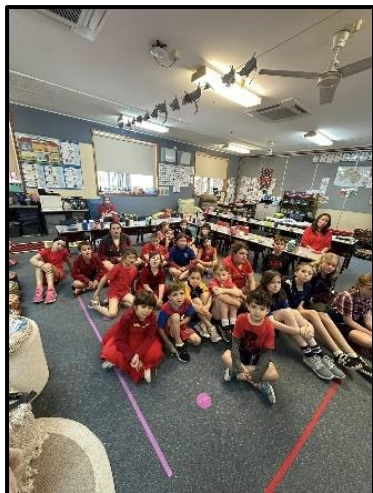
Uniform Request

If students have outgrown their school uniforms or families have any unwanted uniforms, we would love to be able to bolster our stock of pre-loved items. We are particularly low on primary and secondary shirts. Items can be brought into the front office. Thank you for supporting other families.

PRIMARY



On Friday 25th October, our students and staff showed their support for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation wearing red and learning about why the Day for Daniel is so very important. K-6 also tried a variety of red foods. Thank you everyone for your support. We raised \$78 for the foundation which helps provide resources for communities and schools to educate young people about keeping themselves safe.



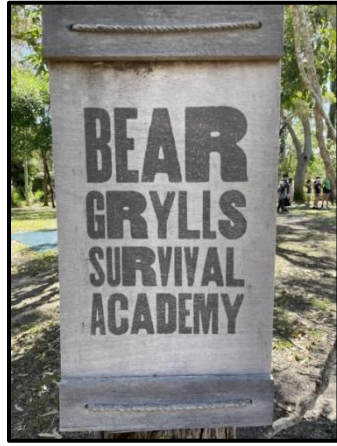
Year 3-6 Camp

It was an early 6.30 am start leaving BCS, with a quick stop at Grafton then continuing to Coffs Harbour to visit Carobana Factory for a tour and carob tasting. Lunch and a beach walk followed then it was up to the Solitary Island Aquarium to learn heaps about life under the sea.





Students had a fun experience participating in the Bear Grylls Survival Academy, working together to complete outdoor challenges.





What a place to be on a hot day! Thank you to the Darlington Beach Holiday Resort for a wonderful stay. The students had a blast.

CWA Visit

Celebrating all things French 🇫🇷. Over the last 2 terms, K-6 have been learning about France, participating in the CWA's country of study competition. Thanks to Wendy and Mandy for transforming the classroom into an art gallery worthy of the Louvre! We were lucky enough to have the lovely ladies of the Bonalbo CWA visit us to judge the K-2 colouring, the 3-6 postcards and the 3-6 PowerPoints. Sophia the K-2 colouring in, Aerlina won the 3-6 postcard writing competition and Hamish won the PowerPoint presentation section. The students and staff were also treated to some beautiful French treats. We thank Bonalbo CWA for the wonderful treats and Mrs Taylor for sharing her knowledge of all things French and her daughter Lexi for the beautiful photos of Paris and surrounds.





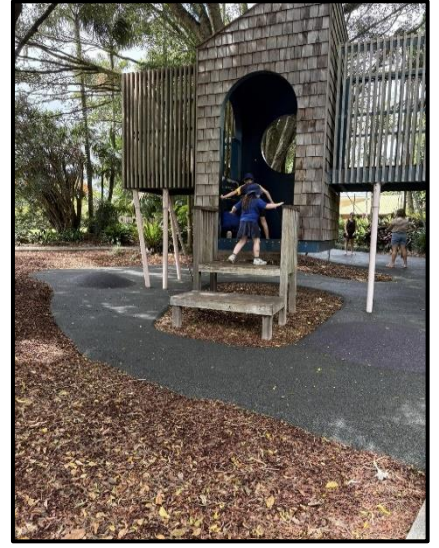
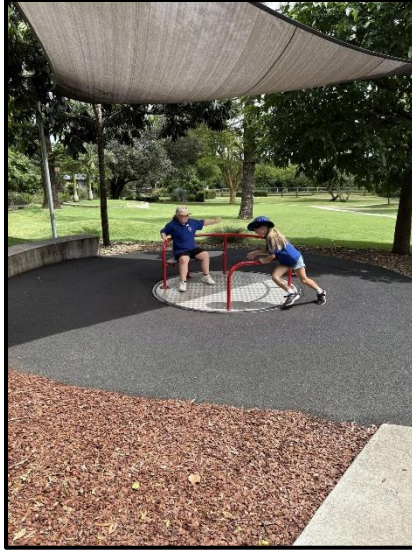
OZ Harvest Team Visit

K-6 had Alison from the OZ Harvest team visit to talk to them about food wastage and how we can create new and exciting meals from the leftovers in our fridge. As part of this wonderful program, we received a classroom cooking package and Woollies vouchers to purchase ingredients to participate in cooking lessons at school. This is a great opportunity for the students and we thank OZ Harvest for their support.



K-2 Summerland Farm Excursion

K-2 students travelled to Alstonville to visit Summerland Farm recently. Students learnt about the animals they keep and their features like hair, nails and horns. They were lucky enough to spend time with the goats, rabbit and guinea pigs. Students also participated in a scavenger hunt for things in nature. Students enjoyed playing on the giant fort and in the splash zone.







Primary Swimming Program

The primary school swimming program was another highlight this term. The program aims to build confidence and skills in the water as well as basic skills in water safety and survival. Submerging to collect items, floating with flotation devices, kicking on front and back and safe entry into the water are all basic skills taught to emerging swimmers. As the children progress through the program, they learn to float without devices, to tread water and learn about water safety, including helping others without putting themselves at risk. Strokes including freestyle, backstroke and backstroke are taught to children when they are ready. The important SLIP, SLOP, SLAP, SEEK AND SLIDE message is also included to encourage sun safety.



Tom Cooper Reads...

Kyogle Shire Councillor, Mr Tom Cooper, recently visited primary to read *Jack and Angie Beat the Bite*, a book about mosquito safety. Thank you, Tom.



SECONDARY

Food Technology

Stage 5 Food Technology students provided a beautiful high tea for some lucky staff as part of their unit on Food for Special Occasions. This was a great opportunity for students to show off their baking skills and practise providing customer service.



Students entered some amazing chocolate cakes in The Land Cookery Competition held by Bonalbo CWA. Thanks to the CWA for their support of our students and Simon Powick for judging. Congratulations to, Sarah, who won the under 18s section, and Layne, who placed second. Both will now go on to compete at the North Coast level.



Agriculture

The Ag Team had a great day at Lismore Show.

We had two steers moved forward in the competition, with 'Diesel' (purchased from Narelle Phelps of Casino) making the next stage to get 2nd in his school class and fourth overall in the school section.

Well done to all the students, staff and parents for all their hard work leading up to and on the day of the show.



The Ag team's success continued with our little steer 'Broozzer' (also purchased from Narelle Phelps) getting 2nd in the school class and 3rd in the open section for the light weight carcass.

It was a close competition with 'Broozzer' only 2.39 points behind the champion carcass. Thank you to Narelle Phelps - these results and those from Beef Week are a testament to your breeding and line of cattle.



Kitchen Garden

The little garden planted by our gardening group has absolutely thrived this semester. We have had an amazing crop of cucumbers and rainbow chard that has been harvested and sold from the office. Our sunflowers have added some lovely colour and have been providing food for the native king parrots.



Men's Shed Visits

This semester, Stage 5 boys have been visiting the Bonalbo Men's Shed on Thursdays. This is a great opportunity for our students to work on their woodworking skills and build connections in the community. We greatly appreciate the time and effort of Bob Glendenning and John Tart, who have given up their time to support our students.



Industrial Technology

Year 12 Industrial Tech Timber students had a great time, having fun and learning plenty at Southern Cross Distance Education in Ballina.



3X3 Basketball Gala Day

James and Jordan had an amazing day in Casino at the Casino Basketball Centre for the schools' 3-on-3 competition. On arrival, they were teamed up with a student from Nimbin and a student from Lismore. Our newly formed team battled through six

games of 3-on-3, 7-minute, half-court basketball at a hectic pace. The teamwork and unity shown by the boys were outstanding, subbing on and off and organising which three started on the court among themselves. At the completion of the six games, we were ranked equal second, with 2 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses.

We headed into the semis against Casino HS. The game was drawn at seven all.

Unfortunately, after extra time, we were down 7-8. Our eighth and last game was to determine third or fourth for the day. We snatched victory from Casino Christian College 6-5, finishing the day in third place! Great result, boys.

The boys walked away exhausted but exhilarated. Well done, James and Jordan, you did BCS and yourselves proud!



Certificate III in Aviation (remote piloting)

The school drone was out taking aerial photos, with qualified operator Year 11 student Rhys, who has completed a Certificate 3 in Aviation (remote piloting) at Wollongbar TAFE. Rhys attended the campus 1-day per week for 3 terms. Rhys enjoyed the course and felt it was a good experience with plenty of hands-on activities.



Year 6-7 Transition

Friday November 29 saw our next year's cohort of Year 7s experience the morning in high school. After some get-to-know-you activities, students toured the school with Mrs Taylor and met many staff.

On Tuesday December 3, we then welcomed our incoming Year 7s to participate in a day of high school subjects. They enjoyed learning about our agriculture facilities, card making in visual art, biscuit decorating in food technology, basketball in PE, science experiments and poetry in literacy. Their feedback from the sessions show they have helped to ease students worries about starting high school next year and that they have already made some good connections with each other. We look forward to having these students with us full-time in 2025.



Yakult Factory Tour

Year 12 Business Studies students undertaking the operations unit had the opportunity to participate in a Yakult factory virtual tour. Students were taken through the factory and all aspects of operations were explained along with the layout of the factory floor. The facilitator discussed how the product is made and the different issues that arise and how they work to keep upholding employee moral and social, ethical responsibilities. Thank you to Yakult for providing this opportunity to our rural students as this would not be possible without a virtual option.

Resilient Kids Program

Stage 4 & 5 students were involved in a presentation and activities from Resilient Kids, an organisation that supports youth mental wellbeing. Activities looked at resilience and outdoor survival skills.



R-RISK

The Reducing Risk Program is part of the Year 11 mandatory course 'Life Ready'. It involved sessions on safe driving and partying, how to support your friends during a night out, dispelling myths about drugs, alcohol and vaping. Students actively engaged in the online sessions and appreciated the new knowledge they gained.

Merry Christmas

Once again, staff and students enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit by decorating our entrance for the Lions Club Christmas Cheer Competition.

