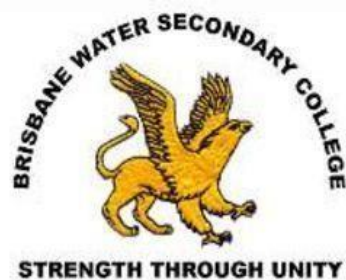




NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2017





Message from the Principal

Term 2 is quickly drawing to a close and I would like to thank the staff for their wonderful work in preparing student reports. It has been a great term and I have been very impressed by our student achievements in a wide range of sporting, cultural and academic pursuits.

Brisbane Water Secondary College is currently undertaking an extensive 'student voice' initiative, with Deputy Principal Adam Montgomery, to ascertain how students like to learn and their thoughts on schooling at Brisbane Water Secondary College. This will form the basis of the next school plan for 2018 – 2020. Furthermore, College Principal Paul Gilmore will be gathering the thoughts of parents and teachers at the school and those from our partner primary schools. This information will then regularly reviewed as part of the 'BWSC Strategic Plan' for the next three years, as we endeavour to make our outstanding school even better by attempting to meet the specific needs of our community.

The campus has been the focus of much activity in recent times. This has included a visit from Deputy Secretary of the Department of Education Murat Dizdar and the University of Queensland to investigate the outstanding results of the school. A particular focus of these investigations was on increased student enrolments numbers, steady improvements in the NAPLAN examination, close relationships with our partner primary schools, middle schooling initiatives and very strong student engagement with school in the recent Tell Them from Me student survey results.

The campus has also been the focus of considerable professional learning hosting numerous regional events. These have included a three-day Positive Partnerships workshop, which aimed at supporting staff and families with Asperger's and Autistic students. The regional AECG was also hosted here on the inaugural "Sorry day" assembly. Finally, next term the campus will host the training for schools as we move towards NAPLAN online in the immediate future.

There have been some notable staffing changes including the appointment of Jake Shearer to the Mathematics Department effective January 2018. Jake has contributed positively to the school culture and has been heavily involved in the preparation of our very successful Rugby League sides. Unfortunately, the end of Term 2 will see the retirement of Margaret Robson our very popular Head Teacher Science who has taught at both the Woy Woy and Umina campuses since 1979. Margaret has been an enormous contributor to Public Education, being a published author of Biology textbooks and Supervisor of Marking for the Higher School Certificate. Her contribution to the education of those on the Peninsula and its surrounds cannot be understated. I wish Margy a very happy and restful retirement. She will be very sorely missed.

The school has had considerable success in a range of fields since the last newsletter. The Year 8 debating side has continued its string of successes with a strong victory over Gosford Selective High School. The cheerleading team are again NSW champions and along with some of our solo dancers will be heading to the National Champion on the Gold Coast in August. Our dancers have performed beautifully at both Star Struck in Newcastle and Central Coast Dance Festival at Laycock Street theatre. The school also participated in Bookfest with students attending 17 conferences with up to four classes attending at a time. Amazingly, we have 500 students on target to complete the Premiers Reading Challenging! Thank you to all our dedicated staff for providing these wonderful opportunities for our very talented students.

Overall, there are amazing programs and initiatives that are occurring across the College. Please promote the great work that is taking place and encourage parents who have historical doubts to contact me for a tour of the school. Also, feel free to suggest that they look at our school promotional video, which can be accessed through our school website and Facebook page.

Looking forward to a great Term 3.

Brent Walker
Principal
Brisbane Water Secondary College



Message from the Acting Deputy Principal

Term 2 has been another busy term. It started with off with NAPLAN and culminated in a series of very successful CAPA events. Our students have been involved in zone sporting carnivals, an AVID extravaganza, concerts, excursions and so much more! Schools are very busy places!

It is my privilege to be in the position of relieving Deputy Principal at present and I am relishing the different role although I am missing my beautiful classes. If you need any information or have any queries in relation to Year 9 students please feel free to contact me.

Next term will see Year 8 being given their subjects selection books and we will have a night for you to come and view what is on offer at the school in terms of Year 9 subjects.

Transition to high school for 2018 is well under way and we are delighted to have so many keen and excited Year 6 students heading our way. Term 3 will see Year 5 students spending time with us and our wonderful Peer Leaders will be very involved in this process.

Thank you to our wonderful school community for your continued support of our school. Partnering together is a privilege for us and one we never take for granted. Thank you for working with us in achieving the best outcomes for all our students.

I hope that the students have a relaxing and safe holiday and return in Term 3 ready to hit the ground running.

Warm regards

Susannah Murray
Acting Deputy Principal
Brisbane Water Secondary College

Team 1

Term 2 has been a busy time, with students working hard on assessments in all subjects.

We have welcomed Ms Heighington to the team as Team Leader and Ms Mosey, who is teaching English.

Congratulations to the 79 students that achieved Silver level. They will be attending their chosen rewards excursions next Wednesday.

Congratulations to the 19 students that achieved Bronze level. They had time out of class last week and were rewarded with zooper doopers.

Have a great holiday and we look forward to a wonderful Term 3!



Team 3

Term 2 has been a busy time, with lots of learning, assessments and work being done. The Athletics and Cross Country carnival was a great day, with many students in team three participating. Congratulations to Keira Howell - 4th in the U12 girl's zone cross-country! It was great to see so many students from Team 3 in their house colours, as well as participating in so many events.



All year 7 students have all been entered into the Premier's Sporting Challenge. This is an initiative to increase the level of activity for students in NSW schools, which is important due to the increasing levels of inactivity within the community. Students will start this initiative at the start of term three where they will be monitoring their activity levels every morning in roll call for a total of 10 weeks. Students in each team will be competing against one another to try to be the most active team across all of Year 7. Every student who participates will receive a certificate.



As we are heading into winter, we want to remind students that they need to be wearing school jumpers on cooler days. Wearing correct school uniform is a very important facet of our school core values and so we appreciate support from home in this regard. Correct footwear is also vital. If you have any issues with getting the correct uniform, please do not hesitate to contact us, as we are able to support you in this



HOMEWORK

Students should be completing homework each night...some may tell you they do not have any, so I have included a list of things that they should be doing every night...

- Revision of class notes from the day
- Reading – at least 30 minutes each night
- In Year 8 & 9 team three classes are currently working towards their next assessment task which is creative writing. Students can be encouraged to draft pieces and bring them into Ms Boyce and she is happy to provide feedback.
- Creating vocabulary lists for each subject and learning them as spelling lists
- Maths online



If you are concerned that your child is not completing homework, please let us know so we can follow up for you.

As Semester 1 finishes Team 3 would like to congratulate the students who have achieved Silver in our PBL program. We hope you enjoyed your rewards excursion.

Students in Team 3 who qualified for Silver:

7.3.1

- Georgia
- Jaxen
- Amaya
- Ashlen
- Shayla
- Paige
- Shanyce
- Phoenix
- Madison
- Neave
- Taylah
- Alex
- Seth
- Oskar
- Macadie

7.3.2

- Preston
- Mitchell
- Jazmin
- Jessie
- Tahlia
- Ellie
- Dyllon
- Chloe



8.3.1

- Alexcia
- Jordan
- Isabella
- Tara
- Alex
- Emma
- Ben
- Charlise
- Kai
- Aydin
- Maxx
- Jay
- Titan
- Jaydn

9.3.1

- Mina
- Chadwick
- Sophie
- Sandro
- Damon
- Grace
- Bailey
- Levi



Team 4

Our recent End of Term Concert did not disappoint, with some of the best acts BWSC has to offer, performing their amazing talents to audiences. Student bands, singers, dancers, cheer, aerobics and drama performances made up the program in what was quoted as, 'One of the best concerts ever'

These talented students never cease to amaze with their dedication and efforts to always produce performances that make us so proud.



Team 5

Congratulations to Team 5 students that have achieved Bronze and Silver levels this semester. These students enjoyed a Zooper Dooper reward and students that accomplished Silver level will experience a rewards excursion on Wednesday 28 June 2017 to various locations such as Movies, Ice Skating and Clip and Climb.

Many of our students participated and achieved great results in BWSC recent Athletics Carnival held at Adcock Park. Well done, to all Team 5 students for your enthusiasm and effort.

Below are some photos of Team 5 students relishing their Zooper Dooper reward and enjoying the Athletic Carnival.



Team 6

Thank you to all the Team 6 students whose respectful behaviour and commitment to their learning contributed towards another successful term.



ART SPECIAL

8.6.1 have been working hard on their self-portraits with their art teacher, Ms Baynie.



Can you identify them from their drawings?



Team 7

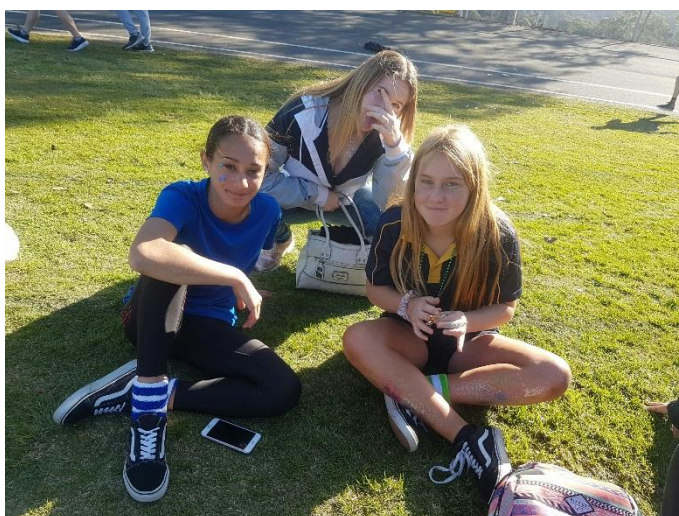
Another busy term for Team 7! All of our students, especially our Targeted Sports students showed their true skill and sportsmanship at the Athletics Carnival.

Our Year 7 and Year 9 students were well fuelled for their NAPLAN Exams by Mrs Murray's snack initiative. They enjoyed fresh fruit, museli bars and poppers before their exams, and performed very well under pressure.

Well done to all for another productive term at BWSC!



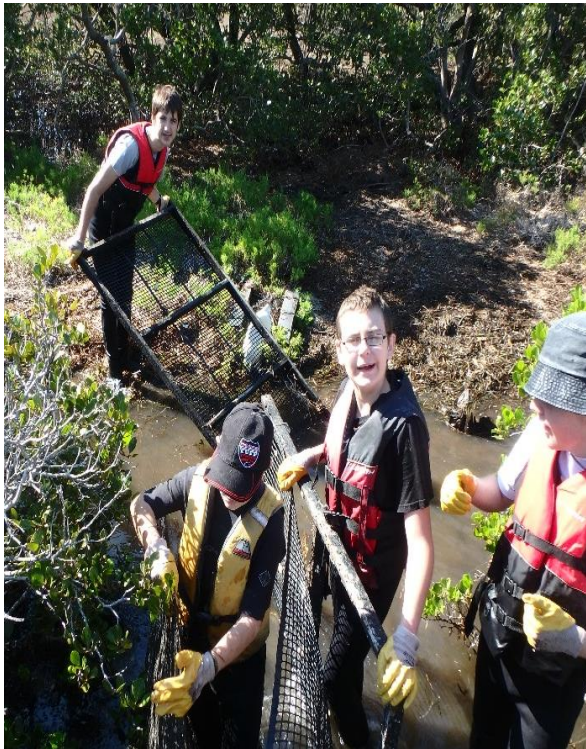
NAPLAN



ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Support Unit

This year the Support Unit have commenced a new focus group called “Connect”. Students are selected to be a part of the Connect group for a semester at a time. This semester the “Connect” group have been out on a Clean Foreshore day and an Abseiling day. During the Clean Foreshore day students assisted in cleaning up rubbish that is dumped in our waterways. The students worked very hard all day, assisting in collecting and removing a barge load of rubbish from our local waterways. The Clean Foreshore program has just recently won a Regional Land Care award, which was presented to students at our Woy Woy campus down at Taronga Zoo. The students then participated in an Abseiling day at Wards Hill in June. All the students conquered their fears and successfully abseiled down the rock escarpments at Wards Hill.



Careers Corner

Year 9 have now entered 'google classroom' and are finishing off their resumes. Students have one last lesson to use their class time to finalise their work. If students require extra time, this project becomes homework. All resumes and cover letters must be submitted by August 14 for feedback.

These resumes, along with the cover letter, will be used for our schools Mock Interviews that are on November 20-22. Students have been told to start **working on their** portfolios and collating all school reports, certificates, awards outside of school and anything else relevant.

Unfortunately, our two prior Barista excursions were cancelled this year, due to low numbers. Our last Barista excursion will be on August 25. Money and permission note **MUST** be in by August 4 for it to proceed.

The White Card permission note and money must also be in by the last day of term 2, June 30. The excursion is planned for July 28.

All excursion notes can be obtained from the BWSC Umina website, under 'Careers'.

I would just like to remind all parents and students that excursion notes along with money must now be in 15 school days prior to the excursion.

Year 8 have also been introduced to 'google classroom'. Students have been exploring career sites such as; JobJump and learning to type using a great site called typingclub.com.

I am also pleased to inform you that I was again successful in my application for additional funding for careers. We have received a School to Works Grant of \$4,000. This money will be used to expand on student's preparation for the upcoming Mock Interviews.

Lastly, I have had several local businesses approach me and ask me to source students for part time and casual work. If you do not have our BWSC Umina phone App or access to our Facebook page, I urge you to do so. This is where these jobs and other information are sent for parents and students to see.

Ms Lewis

Debating

A massive congratulations for the great work of Laura Wearne and her debating side last week. Their victory over Gosford Selective High School is a considerable achievement and a testament to what students from our school can achieve. The debating side are Isla Readett and Vanessa Bun (8S2), Maddison May and Aliesha Peterson (8S1).



BookFest – Premier's Reading Challenge

BookFest commenced on 6 June with a live Video conference launch with author Jeff Kinney (Diary of a Wimpy Kid series). It continued with Jacqueline Harvey, an illustrator battle and finished with Kate and Jol Temple. Over the next few days our students will have further opportunities to conference with Jackie French, Mem Fox, Leigh Hobbs and Morris Gleitzman, just to name a few! This is all part of the 15 year Premier's Reading Challenge celebrations.



Dance

Star Struck is a performing arts extravaganza presented by the Hunter area of the NSW Department of Education. Now in its 25th year, Star Struck is an annual arena showcase of dance, music and drama celebrating public education.

In 2017, Star Struck "Shines On" is a tribute to the silver anniversary and the talent of 3,600 students. BWSC - Umina's Yr 7 CAPA Dance students were involved in the week long production at Newcastle Entertainment Centre and performed their hearts out. All students should be very proud of their efforts, and how they represented their school in such a positive way.



Cheerleading

Congratulations to our wonderfully talented cheerleaders - 74.9pts, 1st & qualifying for nationals.

All teams performed well and we received some great results in all genres including dance. Tasma Smith, Isabella Holt and Tess Richmond-Yunn all qualifying for Nationals. Excellent day and one very proud coach!



Sorry Day

Our Year 7 and Year 8 CAPA Music students love performing for Sorry Day. We had a collaboration of both classes perform Archie Roach's 'Took the Children Away' for the 'National Sorry Day Assembly'. Well done to the performers and also the TEPA crew for the audio assistance.



Farewell

As mentioned previously, Margaret Robson, our very popular Head Teacher Science who has taught at both the Woy Woy and Umina campuses since 1979 is retiring. Margaret has been an enormous contributor to Public Education, being a published author of Biology textbooks and Supervisor of Marking for the Higher School Certificate. Her contribution to the education of those on the Peninsula and its surrounds cannot be understated. On behalf of BWSC, we wish you a very happy retirement.



SASS News

The long awaited, Learning Management & Business Reform (better known as LMBR) is now live! The state education body established the LMBR in 2006 and is the biggest software reform in 30 years. This is a major overhaul of the finance, HR/payroll and student administration systems. A massive thank you to Krissy Sheehan, Trish Gassman, Louise McMillan and Erika Rowe for all your hard work, dedication and some very long hours to make this a successful transition!





**Next P & C Meeting will be on Wednesday 16 August 2017
on the Umina Campus**
