

Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus



December Newsletter



Principal Letter



Once again I am amazed at how quickly the year goes! As my first semester at Brisbane Water Secondary College draws to a close, I can reflect on the incredible privilege it is to be Principal at Umina Campus.

Transition, whether it is Year 6 into Year 7 or Year 9 into Year 10, is a vital ingredient to the move from one educational stage to another. We work hard to ensure each student's transition provides them with the skills, support and experiences that build confidence and positivity to tackle the next stage of their educational journey. Our staff, under the expert guidance and incredible organisational skills of Deputy Principal, Ms Susannah Murray, plan many activities and opportunities that include school visits for taster lessons, parent information sessions and treasure hunts designed to engage our 2020 Year 7 cohort. I know that our wonderful staff at BWSC Umina Campus derive almost as much enjoyment from delivering these experiences as the students. I'd like to thank Mr Simon Warren, Ms Angela Cox and Ms Linda Langmaid for their informative and engaging Year 9 Transition Information Evening recently. Our students are in excellent hands!

We have so much to celebrate and it gives me great pleasure to recognise the achievements of our students at our Presentation and Sports Evenings as well as our Deadly Awards. Thank you to all the families and caregivers who take the time to come along and support our students as they are recognised for academic, sporting and cultural achievements. It is so important to let our young people know we're proud of them and the support of the community means so much.

Our current Year 8 students in the leadership team have delivered their speeches for captain and vice-captain positions for 2020. All candidates presented themselves to the entire school at a morning assembly and spoke with passion and conviction about their school pride and leadership aspirations. I am very proud of each student and the high level of achievement they have reached. They are all worthy recipients of these positions and should be proud of their efforts. The school voted from these candidates and it is a privilege to announce the Captains for 2020 as Davara Marshall and Ethan Hill. The Vice-Captains for 2020 are Charli Grant and John Lennard. These students are ably supported by our strong SRC.

We are currently undertaking Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) across the year groups that are designed to provide staff with diagnostic information to help us target teaching and learning to best meet all student learning outcomes. These tests are not contributing to students' assessments but students are encouraged to give their best effort so that results provide an accurate indication of each student's skills in literacy and numeracy. This data, along with other school based data, will provide important information for school planning for 2020.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all students, staff, parents/caregivers and the community a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Kerrie O'Heir
Principal

Deputy Principal



Welcome to the Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus community. Term 4 has been an exciting and busy term in 2019 as we remain committed in meeting the diverse academic, sporting and cultural learning aspects of all our students at BWSC Umina Campus.

This term, we had the privilege of meeting the Year 7 students of 2020 from our partner primary schools. The students have been visiting the campus as part of our transition program and have been engaged in a variety of activities that they can look forward to. A big thank you must go to Mrs Murray and the team of teachers committed to providing these outstanding lessons. Also, thank you to our wonderful peer leaders who have done a wonderful job mentoring our Year 6 transition students.

Staff from our Campus have been participating in the nationwide AVID conference in Melbourne. This professional learning will allow our teachers to develop engaging lessons sequences based around collaborative strategies that will be key skills for students as they move into careers in the 21st Century.

Year 7 are completing a course on surf survival and competency in the water. This is an extremely important program due to the environment in which we live. Completing the surf survival qualification will enable our students to participate in sports and activities involving water when they become our Year 8 cohort. Year 9 elective classes have been completing many excursions over the course of Term 4. Marine Studies and Outdoor Education successfully completed a snorkelling course at Toowoon Bay whilst the Girls Academy made the journey to Doyalson to complete the RAW challenge.

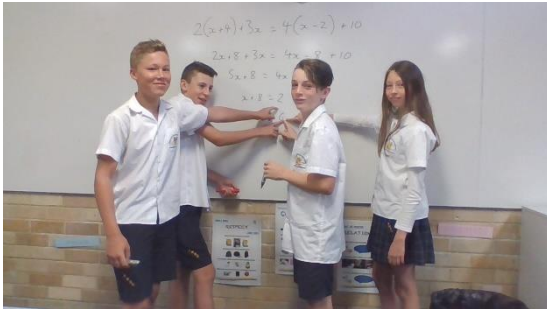
Our Year 9 students also took part in an information exchange and transition excursion with the senior campus in preparation for next year. This will be continuing on throughout the term as we forge a smooth pathway between the two campuses. Once again another outstanding year for all stakeholders of BWSC Umina Campus.

Wishing all students, staff and community members a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to more learning adventures in 2020.

James Guthrie
Deputy Principal (Relieving)

Team 1

We are nearing the end of 2019 and **Team One** are showing no signs of slowing down. As the weather is warming up so does their enthusiasm and efforts in all their subjects. Students in Team One will continue to work towards fulfilling all course outcomes whilst acknowledging our school's core values.



Maths: In Mathematics students in Team One are currently either revising for or completing their end of year exams. Year 7 are being assessed on Fractions, Decimals, Equations and Length, Year 8 Algebra, Equations, Rates/Ratio and Volume, and Year 9 Data, Trigonometry and Equations. These exams are taking place in weeks 4 and 5 and are weighted at 40% of the final assessment mark.

Science: Team One students have been refining their study techniques and 711 can be seen here revising their study cards/notes on our beautiful lawn area. They use their effective collaboration skills to quiz their peers, often correcting and prompting each other. 911 are hard at work completing their Yearly Science Examination. Students have put their tried and tested study methods to good use in the lead up to exam time.

PD/H/PE: With all assessments finished for 2019, Team one are finishing off the year with a variety of new sports. Year 8 and 9 are under way with their striking games unit and are learning the basics of lacrosse where year 7 have been introduced to ultimate Frisbee.... they can't get enough of it!

Technology Mandatory: Year 8 have enjoyed learning a range of techniques in Textiles, including tie dye, applique and manufacturing skills. 811 have put their new skills into practice in the creation of their bags and cushions following the design process.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Team 1 students who have recently completed successful work experience at local businesses.

Team 1 Events Update.

A variety of Team One students will be welcoming Year 6 students in Week 6 in their transition into Year 7 2020.

Week 9 will be a big week as 9AVID will be visiting the University of Newcastle, sitting for their Mock Interviews and attending their graduation assembly.



Team 2

There are 68 students from Team 2 who have achieved a Gold or Platinum level for consistently demonstrating the school's core values. These students will be invited to the Rewards Excursion on Monday the 16th of December, where they can either go the Movies at Erina OR go to Luna Park



Team 3

Students have been busy working on assessments in all subjects. They have been completing tests, baking cakes and making burgers, creating pieces of art, writing essays, giving speeches in other languages...

Year 9 have started to focus on their transition - with talks in class, meetings with Woy Woy campus staff and a visit to BWSC Woy Woy campus coming up.

We are looking ahead to celebrating those students in Team 3 that have achieved Platinum and Gold levels. They will be rewarded with a day at Luna Park or the movies on Monday 16th December.



Team 4

7CAPA & 7.4.2

In Maths, Year 7 have just completed fractions and are about to start chance. Science has had Year 7 looking at habitats. In HSIE, Year 7 have just completed ancient Egypt and are about to start ancient China. Year 7 have been looking at poetry in English. They have been completing a unit on sun safety in health, and ultimate Frisbee in P.E.

8CAPA

In Maths, Year 8 are completing a unit on algebra. Science has them looking at body systems and energy. In HSIE, they have completed the colonial period and have started a study on Polynesian history. In English, they are looking at film techniques. In Art, they are looking at perspectives and in LOTE they are completing speeches.

9CAPA

In Maths, Year 9 are doing revision on trig, equations and data. Science has Year 9 looking at ecosystems. In English, Year 9 are completing a unit on the Elizabethan era, with a focus on Shakespeare. In History, they are looking at Australians at War, in World War One and World War Two.

CAPA

Students have gone to see the School of Rock musical in Sydney. In CAPA classes and electives, students are working on their pieces for the end of year concert.



Team 5

In Science, 751 are learning about Forces, some examples we have learned are push – pushing a door, pull – pull a drawer open and twist – twisting a bottle lid off. We had the opportunity to take our learning outside of the lab to expand our knowledge on push and pull in our everyday lives. Our class was placed into two teams to play tug-o-war, this exercise was to help us understand balanced and unbalanced forces. We formed teams of girls versus boys, the boys' team were victorious because they had more strength and force. Some photos of the tug-o-war competition are below.

In 752 we have been learning about Sun Safety. Students were given a task to design a poster to ensure an awareness of the negatives effects of exposure of our bodies to the Sun. The aim was to create a slogan, a character and include the reasons why we should be safe in the sun. The most creative and best effort will be awarded with a prize.

Permission notes have been handed out for our PBL end of year Rewards Excursion. Huge congratulations to all Platinum and Gold students who have constantly displayed our school's core values of Respect, Relationship and Commitment, enjoy your excursion to either Luna Park or Movies on Monday 16 December 2019.



Team 6

For this I am grateful...

my loving family, access to good education and health care and living in a safe country **Jasmine**

my life, being in AVID, that my mum and dad can afford to buy extra to what we need **Ella**



my family, friends, food in my fridge and a roof over my head **Harrison**

that we have firefighters that keep us safe from intense bushfires **Caitlin**

for coming to Australia, having a safe place to live and a great family **Jasmin**

my pets, family, and modern conveniences **Jake**

air conditioning on a hot day **Oscar**

my phone, food in my fridge and my family **Kynan**

my family and friends who support me through hard times **India**

that I have a lovely and safe home and the opportunity to learn **Anna**



Sebastian interviews Jacob

When did you enrol at BWSC?

At the beginning of the Term 4

What was your last school? **St Peter's**

What do you enjoy about AVID?

My peers, the program and the way the teachers provide a consistent amount of help

What is your favourite subject?

Science due to the pracs

What is your favourite quote?

Hope for the best, prepare for the worst



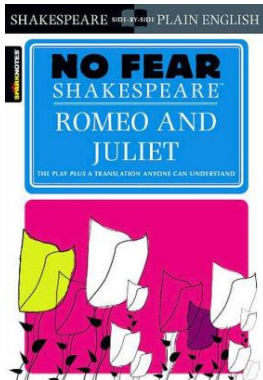
Team 7

Term 4 has been very busy for Team 7. Students are working hard to complete yearly assessment tasks. We encourage all students to ask for assistance from their classroom teacher, team leader or assistant team leader if they are experiencing stress during this time.

English

Students in 771 completed an examination based on poetry forms and features. The boys are to be congratulated for the way in which they approached the test, and the outstanding results achieved by a number of students. The last five weeks of the year will build on the boys' passion for Morris Gleitzman's 'Once' series, as they undertake a further novel study.

871 completed an examination based on film techniques and genre. The class has been focused on the sport genre. The boys are to be congratulated on their deep engagement with the film studied and the sophisticated understanding of the associated iconography and archetypes they have developed. For the final five weeks of the year, the class will be studying the novel 'The Boy in the Striped Pajamas'.



971 are studying Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Last week students in 971 completed the associated assessment task, which required them to independently research the Elizabethan context and write an informative essay. The boys have embraced the challenging language and themes of the opening scenes of 'Romeo and Juliet'.

Science

Congratulations to 771, 871, 872 and 971 for completing their Yearly Science Examinations. Students in Year 7 are now studying Forces, Year 8 are tackling the topic Energy and Year 9 are developing their practical skills in the topic Forensics.

Music

771 are currently working through their keyboard assessment task. Students have been working hard to develop a left and right hand section as a performance task item and are to be congratulated on their efforts.



Food Technology

971 are studying Food Celebrations. Students had the opportunity to design a Birthday Cake and make it at school.

771 completed the Australian Agriculture Burger assessment task. In this task, students had to have at least four different agricultural industries included in their design.



Team 8

Year 7 and Year 8 students from Team Eight dazzled and delighted parents, care givers and members of the local business and political communities recently during the Project Based Learning presentation night.

The event was an enormous success and the quality of the work produced by our students resulted in a special mention in the New South Wales Parliament by Member for Gosford, Ms Liesl Tesch.

Meanwhile, Year 9 students from Team Eight have been preparing for transition to the Senior Campus. This preparation will involve a visit to the Senior Campus on the 4th of December. Other teams have already visited the Senior Campus and have returned buzzing, excited for the opportunities that the Senior Campus presents.

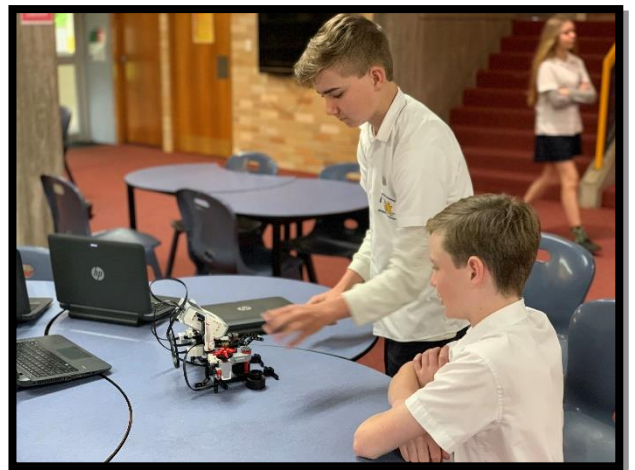
Kind Regards,

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Library

It might have been our final homework centre for the year, however that didn't stop our beautiful students getting stuck into the true spirit of the season, with warm messages of hope and goodwill written in a plethora of languages all over the library glass. Our library is now adorned with festive decorations, and the happy, buzzing vibe in the room was truly contagious!



Careers

Year 8

Reminder that Year 8 students should be collating their reports and certificates for this year. It is important that they are set aside and added to their 'Portfolio' which is required for their Mock Interviews in 2020.

Students have been researching RTO's (Registered Training Organisations) and Universities and are learning the difference between the two and discovering what they both offer.

Year 9

Mock Interviews are fast approaching and most classes have only two lessons to left before the big event. Mock Interviews are compulsory for all students and will run on Monday December 9 – Wednesday December 11.

Students will be taken out of class 20 minutes before their interview allowing them time to change and prepare. Once the interview is completed, students will return to class.

It is important that all Year 9 remember to bring; cover letter, resume, portfolio and work sample on the day. It is the student's responsibility to print their work off well before week 9 when the interviews commence.

I would like to encourage the students to change into an appropriate outfit for the interview if at all possible. Students not wanting to change should be in school uniform.

There is a \$50 Westfield Voucher and many other prizes for outstanding performers. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the students who have worked hard in class and produced excellent work. Best of luck on the day.

Central Coast Group Training (CCGT) are sponsoring our Mock Interviews again this year. Their support is greatly appreciated.

Work Experience

We have had an excellent opportunity come up with NRMA Ocean Beach Holiday Resort. They are taking 2 students at a time for a 2 week training programme. The student's main focus is gardening and maintenance. Our students have worked so well that the park Managers will continue running this program for 2020 to students who are 14 years old or over. A special mention to Jacob Tuiva who set a high standard being the first student to complete this program.

Peninsula Village has also offered us training opportunities this term in maintenance. Students are working under the maintenance team and are learning many skills including; repairs of fly screens, setting up flat packed furniture and gardening. We have had several boys attend and all have come back having enjoyed their week of learning.

Woy Woy McDonalds have taken many students this term. Students included; Kyle Lang, Billee Mulligan-Washington, Sebastian Lovell, John Lennard and several others.

Cassie Webber, the store manager, has been a great support to our students and has been promoted. She will now be supervising 3 stores which will benefit our students. I wish Cassie all the best in her new position.

Other students out included; Matthew Miles who worked at Ettalong Diggers in the kitchen, Taylor Ison who worked in child care and Jason Taylor who is continuing to work at Terrigal Pet Resort.

I have recently communicated with a local Hairdresser who is also wanting to provide training to some of our students. It is fantastic to be linking more of our students to businesses in our local community.

Our TAFE YES program students are doing exceptionally well and seem to be enjoying the challenges of learning in an adult environment. Just a reminder that these courses finish on the prospective days the week beginning December 2.

Nerrida Lewis

Book Packs

Don't forget that the 2020 Year 7 and Year 8 Book Packs are available to order online through the OfficeMax website

<https://www.officemaxschools.com.au/>

You will need to enter our school Access Key: 9UQ3S

Packs are available for students in mainstream and AVID and Year 8 CAPA students are required to add an extra item to their packs, so keep a lookout for the Subject/Class Note.

Year 9 may use exercise books of choice and will be informed by their class teachers at the beginning of the school year, of any other requirements.





Proudly supports Brisbane Water Secondary College

As this is our last Newsletter for 2019 we would like to wish you and your family a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

