



B.C.S. NEWSLETTER

Be Respectful

Be Safe

Be a Learner

Principal: Kathryn Taylor

Assistant Principal: Kim James

Term 3, Week 10

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As a new chapter begins for some - our 2026 Kindy Transition students have been with us each Tuesday this term and this will continue next term - for others it is the end of an era.

This week, we farewell our Year 12 class of 2025. Whilst assessments are now complete, there is still work to be done to ensure the best possible results are achieved. Revision during the holidays and right up until the exams is invaluable to the final result. Next term, Year 12 students are only required to attend school for their exams but the study room is open every day if needed. Students are welcome to organise to catch up with their teachers anytime. We wish them the best for their HSC Exams next term.

Year 11 students have now completed their Preliminary year and will begin their HSC studies next term. They will have access to the Yr 12 study room once exams are done.

As part of our partnership with the University Centre for Rural Health and the University of Sydney, we are pleased to have two new Occupational Therapy students join us 2-days a week next term. Chloe and Jorja will be with us Mondays and Tuesdays Weeks 2 – 8.

P&C News

P&C organised another successful dessert drive this term. Special thanks to Jess Kumar for making such delicious treats and thank you to those who supported the drive.

The P&C is an important aspect of any school. As a member, you will be informed of school happenings, have a direct line of communication with the principal and other staff, meet other parents/carers, have an opportunity to ask questions and have a say, and be involved in fundraising for the benefit of all students. It only requires the commitment of one Wednesday afternoon a month. Please consider joining next term.

Have a restful break. We will see everyone back for Term 4 on Tuesday 14 October.

Kathryn Taylor
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPT 26	Last day TERM 3 Year 12 Breakfast & Farewell	NOV 10 - 14	Stage 5 Exam Week
OCT 13	TERM 4 BEGINS Staff Development Day – no students	12	P & C Meeting 3.30pm
14	ALL STUDENTS RETURN Take Off into Kindy 9 – 12:30pm continues each Tuesday – last day December 2	14	Year 12 Formal @ Drake Hall
16	HSC Standard English Paper 1 Exam (9.50-11.30am) P & C Meeting 3.30pm	17-21	Stage 4 Exam Week
17	HSC Standard English Paper 2 Exam (9.25-11.30am)	DEC 2	Year 6-7 Orientation Day
20	OT students begin – each Mon & Tues	4	K-12 Careers Expo @ BCS – all students involved
21	UNE Science Discovery Day @ BCS – primary and secondary students involved	8 - 12	Primary Swim Scheme
22	HSC Maths Standard 2 Exam (9.20-12pm)	10	P & C Meeting 3.30pm
23	HSC Hospitality Exam (1.55-4pm)	15	Year 6 Dinner @ Bonalbo Bowling Club
24	HSC Biology Exam (9.25am-12.30pm)	16	K-12 Rewards Excursion @ Ballina Climbing Jungle
27-28	Primary Industries Farm Vehicle Course @ Wollongbar TAFE	18	End of Year Presentation Assembly 11:30am in MPC – lunch provided
29	HSC Business Studies Exam (9.25am – 12.30pm)	19	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 2025 Whole-school Pool Party
31	Halloween Dress Up Day		

Farewell Class of 2025

Today we farewelled our Year 12s starting with a lovely breakfast with families and staff. Mrs James made individualised biscuits for each student. Thank you to Ms Ducat and Ms Davies for your help with organisation.

The bell song for their last official day was Simple Minds' "Don't you (forget about me)" from the movie *The Breakfast Club* and, as tradition expects, we clapped them out at the end of the day.





We are very proud of these young people, wish them all the best for their upcoming HSC Exams and look forward to seeing them move on to do great things

Pyjama Day

To support the Pyjama Foundation, staff and students dressed in their favourite pyjamas and oodies to raise funds for organisations that support children in foster care. Prizes for best outfits and s'mores and hot chocolates all round.

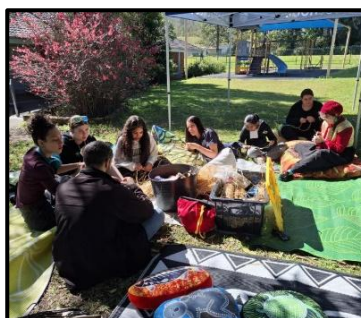


NAIDOC Day

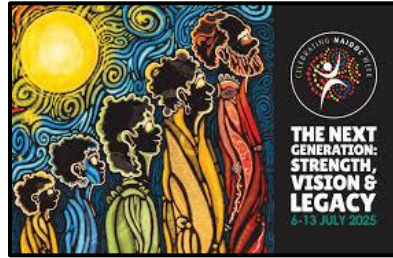
What a great day of celebration! It was wonderful to be able to celebrate and recognise 50 years of Indigenous voices, culture, and resilience. With the theme "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy," we celebrated not only the achievements of the past but the bright future ahead, empowered by the strength of our young leaders, the vision of our communities, and the legacy of our ancestors.

We are grateful to Uncle Cedrick, Aunty Dolly and Paul for sharing their cultural knowledge and stories with us. Students enjoyed various activities, including beading, art and craft, badge and key ring making, face painting, weaving and boomerang throwing.

Everyone enjoyed a fantastic feast, including kangaroo stew, BBQ, salads, Johnny cakes and an amazing cake to finish. Thanks to everyone who prepared our amazing food and well done to students for their help with service. A big boogelbeh (thank you) to everyone who helped make this a wonderful day.







Public Education Week

Q. What's the best thing about a public central school?

A. Having primary and secondary students together with wonderful staff and families!

We are proud of our central school being able to build connections with all children and families in our community and love igniting students' potential.

- ★ Tuesday Team Trivia was a success, with secondary students having fun.
- ★ Wednesday sport saw students and teachers battle it out on the volleyball court.
- ★ Thursday was busy, with an open classroom, picnic lunch, tabloid sports and athletics
- ★ Friday Fry Up was great, with everyone coming together to enjoy a BBQ lunch.





Book Week

What another amazing celebration of books and reading! Students and staff wore some awesome costumes to celebrate their favourite book characters for our Book Week Parade on August 22nd. Shout out to Mrs James and Jess for going all out to create a chocolate wonderland in primary - the book hunt was a great success!





Stewart House

This year, five students attended Stewart House in Sydney – Aerlina, Amity, Evlyn, Isabelle and Christopher. They enjoyed 2 weeks living near the beach at Curl Curl whilst taking part in educational programs and excursions that build social and emotional skills, boost self-esteem, and support overall wellbeing. It was great to make new friends. Highlights were excursions to:

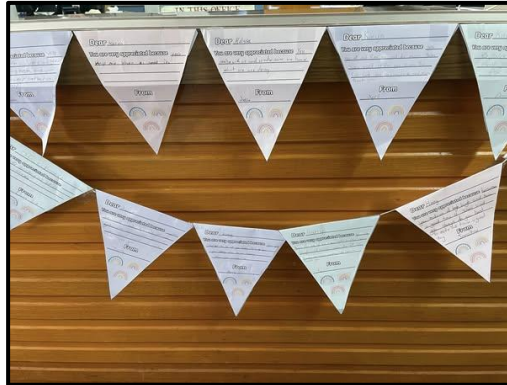
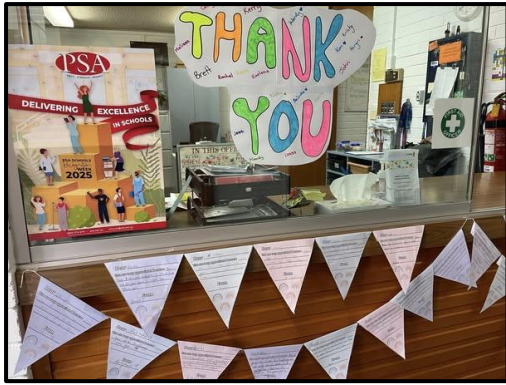
- bowling - Amity got a strike
- water park- SOPAC - the big, dark slide and the whirlpool
- aquarium - seeing the sharks and the dugong - it made a funny noise
- wax museum - seeing famous people, Katy Perry and ET were our favourites
- zoo - there was a tree kangaroo and red panda - we went into a native forest room - really liked the wetlands section with all the turtles



School Support Staff Recognition Week

The backbone and face of every school, we can't thank these hardworking staff enough!

Our wonderful support staff enjoyed a lovely morning tea and gifts today to recognise their hard work. Students wrote individual messages to show their gratitude and appreciation of all they do for them.



Science Week

Primary students have enjoyed watching some exciting science experiments as part of Science Week. They have learned about surface tension and density through experiments like magic water, salt volcanoes, exploding bags and elephant's toothpaste.

Students made their own lava lamps by combining oil, water, food colouring and fizzy BeroCCA tablets in jars. Students were able to take their jars home so that they can add a BeroCCA and recreate the experience any time they want.

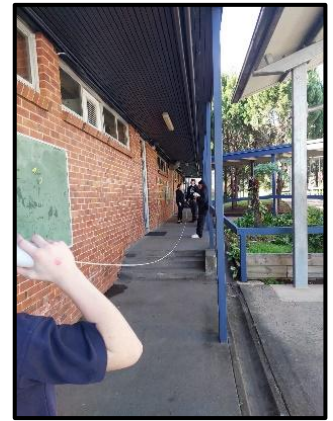




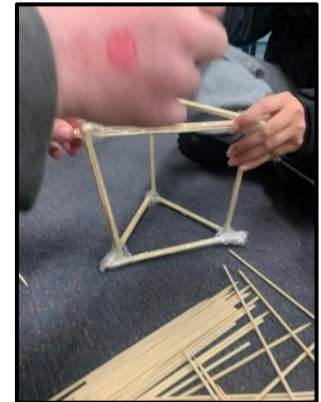


Stage 4 and 5 explored the universe "threw" making paper aeroplanes. We tested out different designs to see which flew the furthest and which was the most accurate.

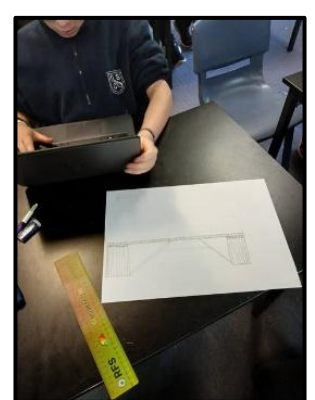
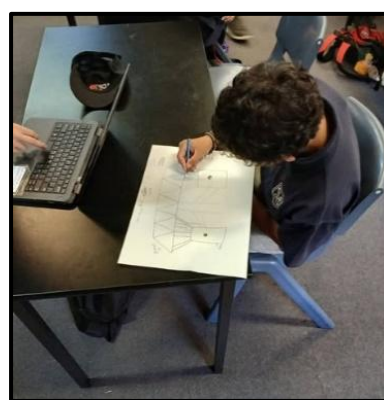
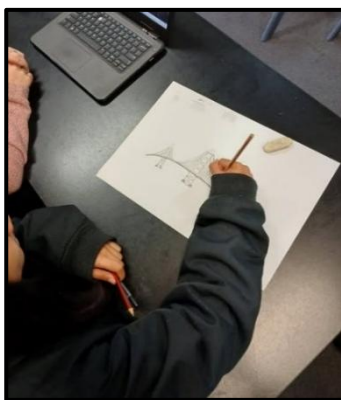


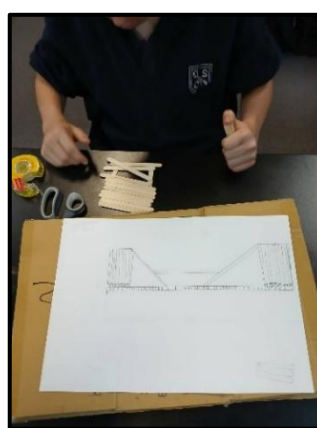
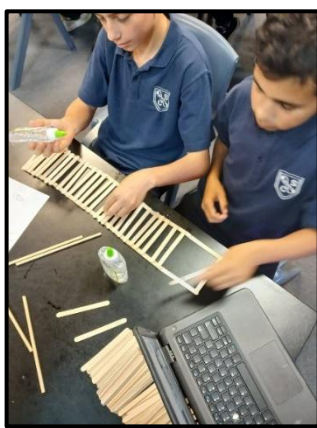
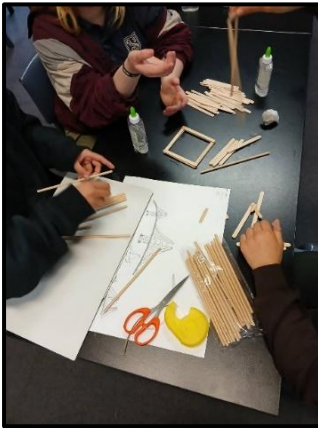
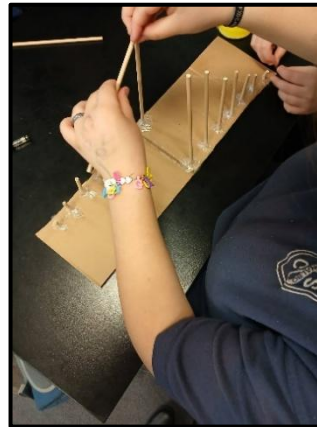
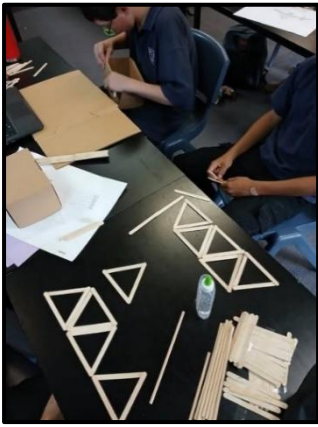


During PDHPE, our Stage 5 students tackled the Science Week Tower Challenge as part of our teamwork and leadership focus. Using only wooden skewers and tape, students collaborated to build towers strong enough to hold a shoe. Congratulations to Drew, Alvina and Jesse, who claimed victory with an incredible 38cm-high tower!



Stage 4 Careers students were given the challenge to design and build a bridge. Students used teamwork, research and engineering skills in this project.





Careers

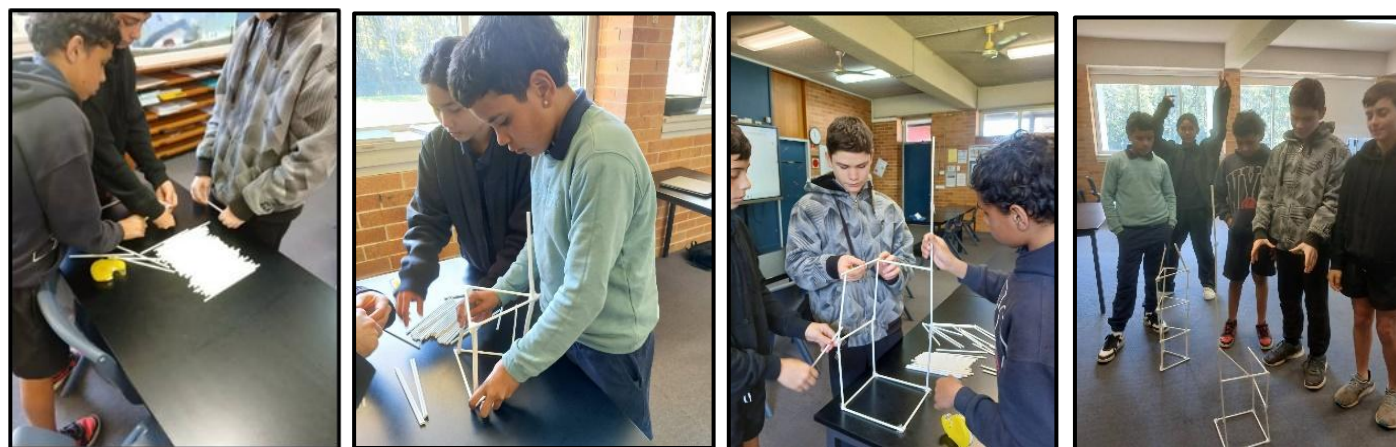
Each week, classes from Kindy to Year 8 undertake a lesson focusing on careers and what is needed to achieve your career goals. K-2 and 3-6 have been using games to develop their understanding of fair play, patience, respect, listening, conflict resolution and communication. All of these are essential skills used in most jobs. The 3-6 class have also been learning about jobs that are different or exciting – the job of waterslide tester won the students' hearts. Learning about unusual or exciting jobs can motivate students to think more positively about their career aspirations.



Students in Yr 3 to 6 have been developing their teamwork skills, playing up and under and using their bodies in different ways to spell out words. Their collaboration skills are getting stronger every week. Thanks to Mackenzie for helping.



Stage 4 have been investigating jobs they find interesting and what they can do to achieve this job. We have also been working as a team to build a bridge, again learning soft-skills important in any job. Students have developed their communication and problem-solving skills.



Community Involvement

Recently, some staff and students catered for a local clearing sale. It was great to get out into the community ... and show off our new gazebo. Thanks to everyone who supported us.



Rewards Afternoon

Eligible students enjoyed a relaxed afternoon of games – including board games, card games and Nintendo Switch – and snacks. Well done to those students whose attendance, behaviours and attitudes have been positive throughout the term. Next term's reward is an excursion to Ballina Climbing Jungle, so this is something worth working towards with consistently positive behaviours.



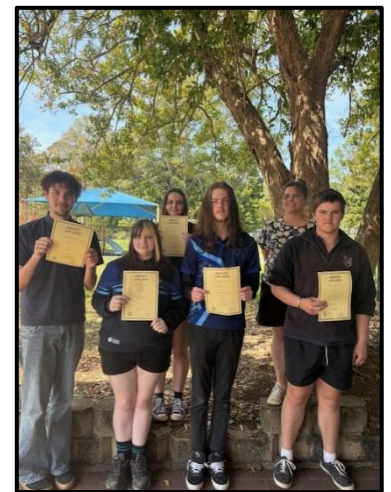
ADF Visit

The ADF dropped in for a surprise visit to speak with students about a career in the defence force. Wayne and Tammy spent time across all classes discussing their career journey in the ADF and a variety of career options for students. Our students showed respect and asked some interesting questions. Wayne was asked his favourite place, answering Afghanistan. Thank you to Wayne and Tammy for sharing their stories.



End-of-Term Assembly

Hosted by our school captains, this term's assembly included merit awards, farewell to Year 12 and the primary bucket drumming performance from Monday night's Casino Small Schools Performing Arts Concert. Well done to all students.



PRIMARY NEWS

Athletics

The Upper Clarence Primary athletics carnival was held at Tabulam in August. We had some great results with our PP5 relay finishing 1st thanks to Isabelle, Persia, Kevin and Philmar. Isabelle walked away with 1st in high jump and 3rd in 4 running events, and Aerlina also ran 3rd in her event. Well done everyone and thanks to Tabulam Public School for hosting a great day.





Zone Athletics

Isabelle, Kevin, Philmar and Persia competed in the Northern Rivers Athletics Carnival in Lismore on Thursday 4th September. They tried their hardest and represented our school with honour. Well done! Thanks to parents and Jess for transporting students.



CWA Country of Study

Primary students really enjoyed the CWA International Country of Study Day. They worked hard on their Republic of Korea PowerPoint presentations and colouring-in competition entries. We were pleased to welcome Bonalbo CWA ladies to award participation certificates and prizes to section winners. Congratulations to Norman, Talisha, Shreya, Hallie, Lola, Telia, Amity and Isabelle. Thank you to Helen and Ivy for their presentation. It was great to hear about Korean food and customs and see the beautiful hanboks (traditional clothing). A huge kam sa hap ni da (thank you) to all for the amazing Korean food - Ma sis seoyo (yummy)!





Performing Arts Concert

On Monday 22nd September, K-6 travelled to Casino to perform at the annual Casino/Kyogle Small Schools Concert. This year's performance was bucket drumming (and great crazy fox dancing!) to "What does the fox say?" Thanks to staff and parents/carers for their efforts to make this performance a success.



Take off into Kindy Program

Our 2026 Kindy transition program has blasted off to a great start this term! The six children have settled in well and are confidently participating in a school-like routine. We have been exploring a range of play-based learning activities to target skills which will support the children to be successful at school in 2026. We are looking forward to having the children return on October 14th to continue their learning journey. Sessions will be from 9-12:30pm.



SECONDARY NEWS

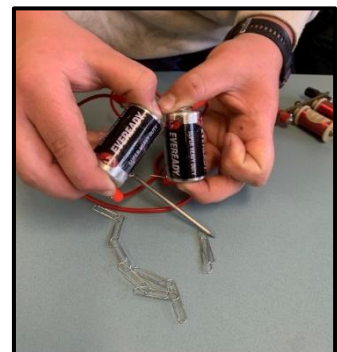
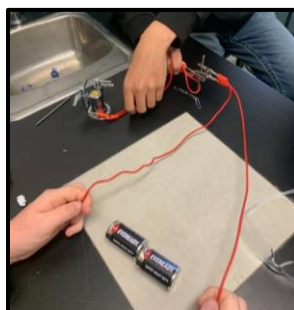
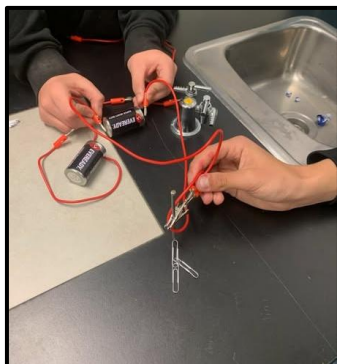
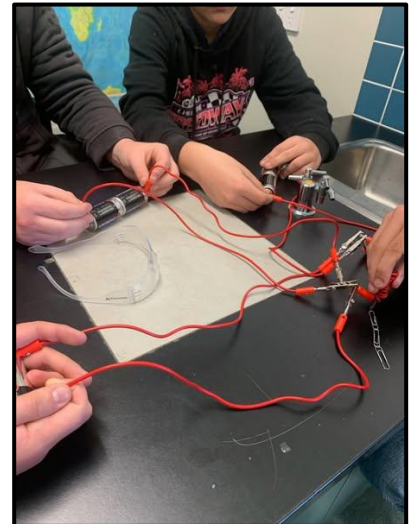
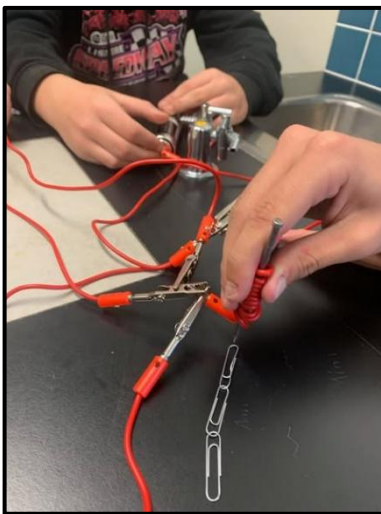
Food Technology

Stage 5 Food Tech students made their own individual versions of loaded fries as part of their unit on Food Product Development. The cheeseburger flavoured loaded fries were particularly good!



Science

Stages 4 and 5 students are exploring electricity conduction with batteries, wires and paperclips, and testing heat transfer using colourful thermometers. These hands-on experiments are sparking curiosity and learning!



National Skills Week

As part of National Skills Week, our students had a variety of opportunities to engage with and develop various industry skills.

Calf Marking Excursion

"This bull's got no testicles!"

"Well, don't put a ring on her, she's a heifer..."

111 calves marked in 3 hours may not be record-breaking pace but the rings all ended up on the bull calves, as they should.

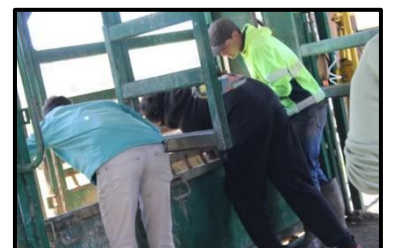
Jordan, Jason, James, Ben, Jeremy and Daine went to the Gray family farm to learn more about cattle husbandry. All the vaccine ended up in the calves' necks, the rings on bulls' testicles and tag in all ears. Plus, no humans were harmed: success!

The photography class even made an appearance to capture the special moments. As a reward, they each got to take home souvenir mud all over their special photography shoes! Special mention

must go to Cobey for his expert tail holding skills.

All the boys demonstrated responsibility and were engaged in the tasks asked of them. They learned genuine cattle husbandry skills that they can continue to develop and become employable young men.

Stephen Gray
Ag Teacher



TAFE Short-course

TAFE has kindly run an Early Childhood short course at our school with Woodenbong students as guests. Students learned how to care for young children and the various career pathways into this profession. Thank you, TAFE, for upskilling our students.



Shearing School

Jordan and Jason attended a Shearing School at Trelawny Station west of Tamworth last week. They learned a lot and worked even harder, as shearing is definitely not for the faint-hearted. The boys had a good time and achieved an improved understanding of sheep shearing. A big thank to Quirindi High School for support with transport and to Mrs Shoemark (Jason's grandma) who was their surrogate mum for the week.



Stage 5 History

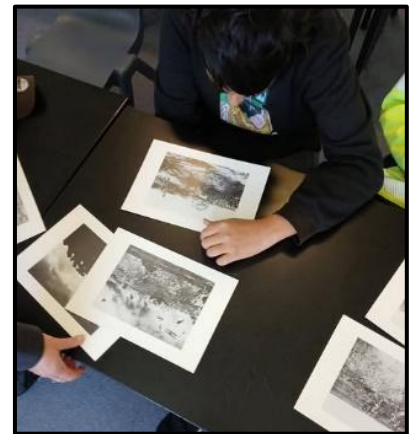
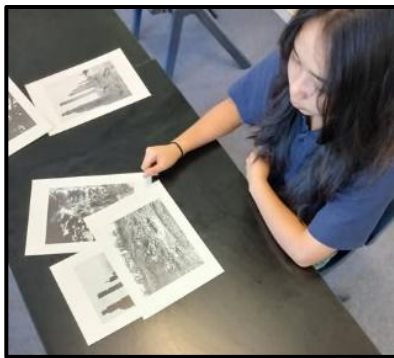
Students have been learning about World War 1 and will continue next term with World War 2. We have visited the Bonalbo War Memorial and discussed the importance of why remembrance matters to this day. Students learn about how global conflicts impact our lives today and, in the past, the cost of war both financial and socially, how the courage and mateship of WW1 helped shape our identity, and how conflict resolution can support us no matter how big or small the event.

Stage 5 had a lovely walk to Bonalbo's War Memorial. We looked at plaques, the cenotaph and the big gun. Students had to think about how the Bonalbo community has commemorated our fallen soldiers. We were very impressed that the land was donated for this in 1918.



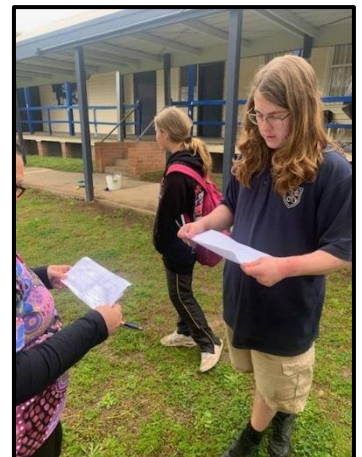
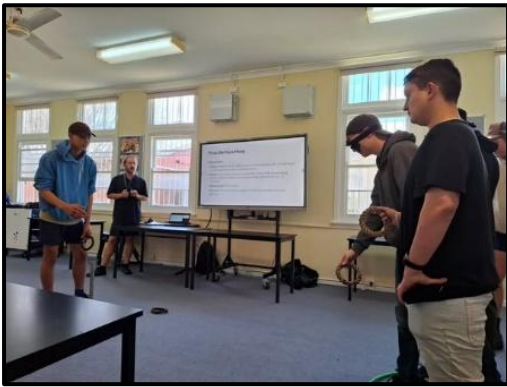


Students investigated aspects of World War 1 using photographic primary sources. Students were particularly interested in Big Bertha and the destruction left behind from the conflict.



PDHPE

Stage 5 students participated in a team-building lesson themed "All for One, One for All." They engaged in activities like juggling, cup-stacking, skipping rope and frisbee to develop teamwork and communication skills. We're proud of their commitment to work together.

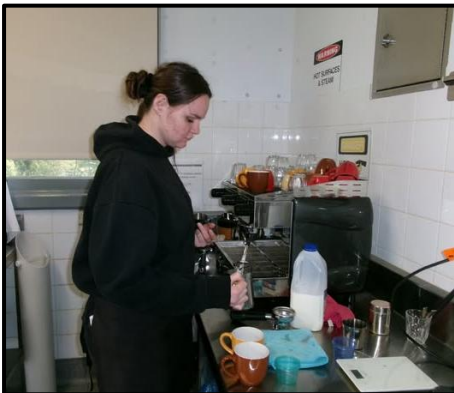


On National PDHPE Day, students hit the field for an epic cricket showdown! Stage 4 faced off against Stage 5, with Stage 4 clinching the victory. It was a fantastic day of fun, teamwork and sunshine, celebrating health and physical education in style!



Hospitality

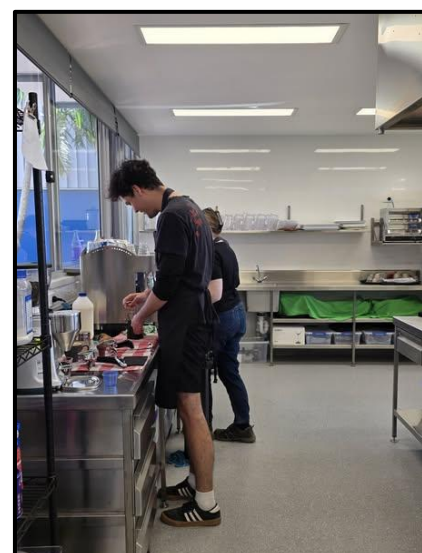
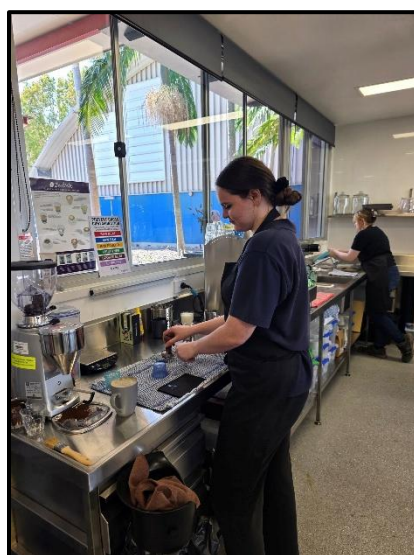
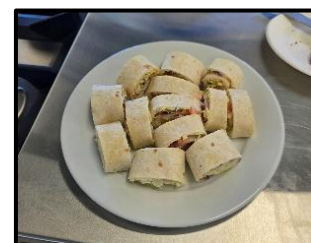
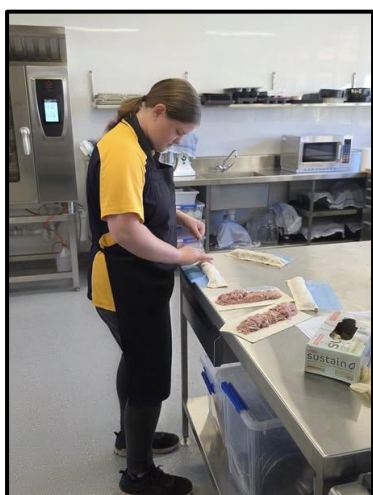
Aimee and Kasiha fine-tuning their barista skills in Hospitality. Congratulations on achieving your Certificate II in Hospitality (Food & Beverages).



Sarah made a variety of lunch items - tomato and zucchini bruschetta, turkey pinwheels and chicken sandwiches. They were delicious.



Hospitality students hard at work at the SXDE Cafe. Thanks to Julie and Jaymin from Southern Cross Distance Education for their time and expertise.



Sport

Regional Athletics

Several students participated in the regional carnival in Kingscliff on July 31st.

Boys relay - James, Jason, Will and Raekwon - 3rd

James - 3rd in javelin

Freddy - 5th in javelin

Well done to all competitors. Thank you to parents for transporting our athletes.



A bit of rain doesn't stop us from playing sport here at BCS.



Staff - Student challenge. Old v New. And the winners were Staff!



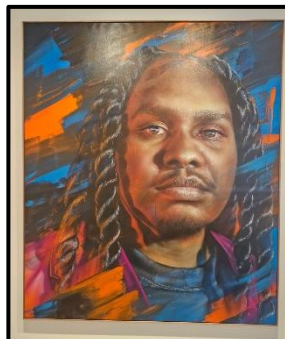
Stage 4 students had a great time soaking up the sunny weather during Wednesday afternoon sport at Bonalbo Golf Course. They enjoyed a fun-filled session, swinging clubs and making the most of the beautiful day outdoors!





Art Excursion

Secondary students had the opportunity to visit the Lismore Art Gallery earlier this term to see the Archibald Prize Exhibition.



YAM Program

As part of PDHPE, Stage 5 students participated in the Youth Aware of Mental Health Program over three weeks. Students engaged well in learning activities, discussions and role plays focusing on how to support mental health. This tied in well with RU OK? Day, where having a conversation with a family member or friend is crucial to positive mental wellbeing.

A Fantastic Day of Career Exploration

Our students had an incredible opportunity to explore a wide range of future pathways at the NR CONNECT Careers' Expo at the Lismore Showgrounds. Stands included several tertiary institutions, including Southern Cross University and North Coast TAFE, and local councils such as Ballina, Lismore, Tweed, Kyogle and Maclean. The day also included engaging discussions with representatives from Essential Energy, Forestry Management, Australian Defence Forces and Indigenous services like Momentum Health and NACCHO. It was a vibrant day filled with inspiration and insights for our students' bright futures!



Casino Food Co-op Visit

On Thursday 14th August, students from Years 10 and 11 attended the Casino Food Company (CFC) Careers Day to find out about the careers on offer in the red meat industry.

Did you know that Casino Food Company is one of the largest employers in Northern NSW, employing 1500 people? We found out that they have so many different types of employment on offer including:

- ✦ Accounting
- ✦ Administration
- ✦ Animal Welfare
- ✦ Human Resources
- ✦ Information Technology
- ✦ Marketing
- ✦ Warehousing, Transport & Distribution
- ✦ Laboratory technicians
- ✦ Quality Assurance
- ✦ Meat Inspectors
- ✦ Purchasing
- ✦ Food processing
- ✦ Maintenance
- ✦ Tanning

Students had an awesome day exploring the different areas by touring CFC. They visited the yards where the cattle are dropped off and washed down ready for processing, and they saw where the meat is processed, sliced, packaged and refrigerated. There is one freezer that blasts the meat at -40C, freezing the meat within 24hrs.

Students visited the tannery and saw the cow hides being processed into leather. Casino Hide Tanners makes the highest quality wet blue leather that is highly sort after all around the world. Their leather is used to make jackets, boots, belts, bags and upholstery coverings.

Students can apply for afternoon work at CFC and they are also currently offering a variety of traineeships. If your child is interested in applying, please go to the SEEK employment website: <https://www.seek.com.au/jobs?advertiserid=44961954>. You can also google Casino Food Company to find out more.





Work Experience

Stage 5 have undertaken work experience at various businesses and locations, learning about the world of work. Students learn how a workplace functions, use communication skills (talking to supervisors or customers), how learning links to work, gives students an idea about what they would or would not like to do after school, and it helps build confidence in their abilities.

Bonalbo Central School would like to thank the following for supporting our students during their placements. Your willingness to welcome and mentor young people has given them a valuable opportunity to experience the world of work, develop new skills, and gain insights that will help shape their future career paths. We are truly grateful for your time, guidance, and continued support.

CK Café Tabulam

Mountain Blue Tabulam

Mara Seeds Tabulam

Jess Kumar (Dog n Bull Bonalbo)

Casino RSM club

Rod Ramsay Drake

Revive Hair Woodburn

Matt Smith Drake

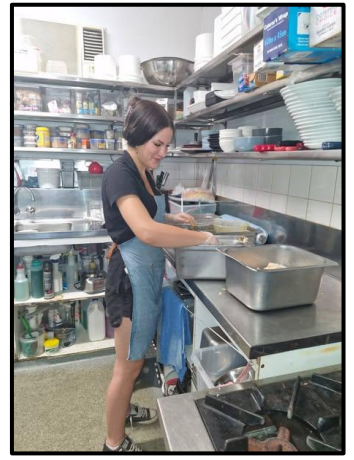
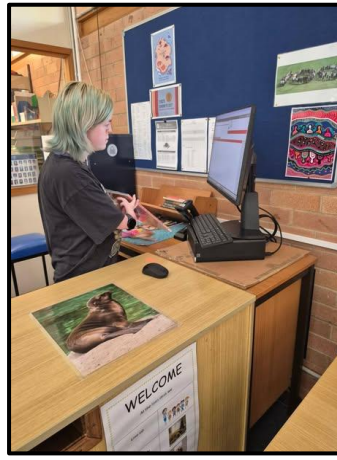
Powick's Pantry Bonalbo

M2 Electrical Geebung QLD

Rangers Valley Glen Innes

Graham's Quarry Casino

Bonalbo Central School (Raelene and Nicky)



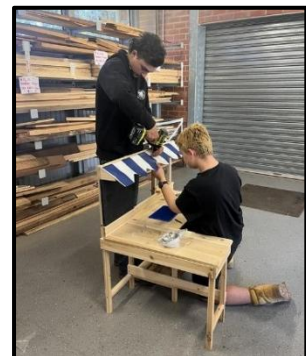
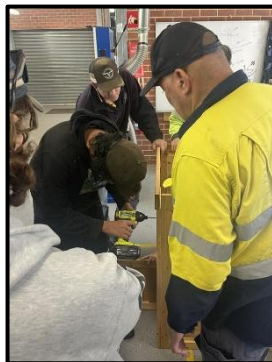
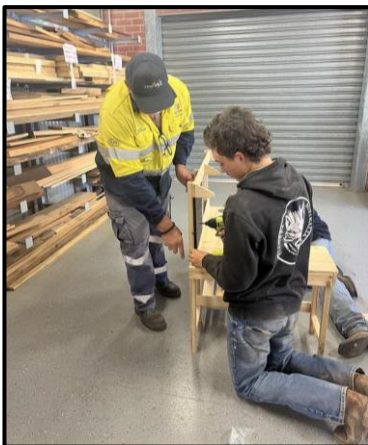
Year 12 Formal Fundraiser

Thanks to raffle winner Bob, the Dog'n'Bull now has a fresh load of wood. Thanks to all who bought tickets to support our Year 12 Formal.



Construction Short-Course

To follow up on last term's learning of the White Card (safety course required for work on building sites etc.) students undertook a two-day course. They built and painted a cubby house and play mud-kitchen, developing important practical and teamwork skills. Thank you to Tony, Charlie and Robert (Novaskill) for this invaluable opportunity.





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Three terms down, and one to go! We bid farewell to Yr 12 and wish them all the very best in their pathways after school. The students (Kasiha, Aimee, Kobi and Rhys) have been an easy group to work with, and each have in place some very good post-school plans.

On Tuesday 23rd September, we had Stuart Wenham, from Apprenticeships Australia, visit the school to talk with students about traineeship and apprenticeship pathways, post-school. It was a very informative talk, and your children deserve praise for the well-mannered and attentive attitude they maintained for the hour-long presentation.



Have a lovely holiday, all, and see you next term!

Ian Geyer
Careers Advisor