

BILLABONG HIGHLIGHTS

Monday 19 October 2020 Term 4 Week 2B



Principal's Report

HSC exams begin tomorrow for all students across New South Wales. We wish our students all the best. It has been a challenging year on top of an already challenging time for Year 12 students, but we believe our Billabong High School students have had a positive preparation journey and are well placed to give it their best shot. Parents and students are reminded to please get in touch with your teachers or the school if you have any concerns – be they last minute learning questions, or questions about exam organisation and COVID arrangements. We are here to support and will of course prioritise Year 12 matters.

Students and parents are also reminded to stay up-to-date through Facebook – our official communication channel for HSC organisation. A message was posted on

Angus White Performing at the RCM

Friday afternoon outlining expectations for students. Again, best wishes to all Year 12 students. You will do great!

As the weather warms up, and with Year 12 having left school, it is an excellent opportunity for Years 7-11 to be very active and productive with their learning. Year 11 have now officially begun their Year 12 studies, and for all intents and purposes are considered "Year 12". Teachers are excited to begin a new fresh course, and for our new Year 12 students, it is a "blank canvas" or "new season" that brings excitement and opportunity. We all look forward to supporting a new year group through one year of effort that will result in positive results for them.

For Years 7-10, we are well and truly in the



Above: New Staff Member Mr Ted Bates - Student Support Officer/Youth Worker

state-of-mind to capitalise on this learning time. We are rested from school holidays, we are settled into classes, knowing our classmates, teachers and subject area expectations. We are all thriving in our afternoon activities, and hopefully enjoying a balanced and productive school life. We look forward to continuing to support you with this for the duration of the term.

Tonight our staff will remain at school until 7:30pm for an extended professional learning session. Head Teachers will be leading faculty sessions about high expectations, followed by whole-school sessions breaking down the theory and process of classroom observations for teachers. Thank you to Instructional Leaders Julie Bowen and Liz Murdoch for organising what promises to be a productive evening of learning.

Mr K. Wawszakowicz
Principal

Student Support Officer Introduction

I hope you're safe and well. My name is Ted Bates and I am the new Student Support Officer/Youth Worker at Billabong High School. This is a new position and will be an added resource to the wellbeing team. I work collectively with students, teachers, parents and the community in a wellbeing and support capacity.

I'm fulltime in this role working Monday - Friday helping students to feel safe, supported, connected, capable and motivated so they can connect, succeed and thrive.

My background is in youth social work and I have just moved to the area with my family from Dubbo.

I am excited to work as a SSO here at the school because I love seeing young people achieve their goals, act on their strengths,



Above Left: New Staff Member Mrs Courtney White - Teacher PDHPE

Above Right: Ms Aimee Fisher and Ms Annie Bell - CSU Professional Placement Students

overcome challenges, and thrive off different opportunities. I want to help ensure young people feel like school is a safe and positive environment, where they feel prepared, capable and connected with a sense of purpose.

The students I have met so far during my first week show awesome potential and alongside fellow staff, have really helped me feel welcome here at Billabong High School.

I look forward to getting to know you all, learning from you and working together with our community to help students achieve and be the best they can be. I'll see you around.

Professional Placement Students

This Term we welcome two CSU Professional Placement Students. Aimee Fisher and Annie Bell will be working with the English Faculty.

Year 8 VALID Testing

All Year 8 Students will undertake their VALID 8 Test on the **3rd of November 2020 Period 3 and 4.**

VALID 8 is compulsory for Year 8 Students and takes the form of a 70 minute interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer.

Students require a set of earphones for the test.

Any questions can be directed to your classroom teacher or Ms Torocsik (Head Teacher).

Congratulations

Year 8 Student Angus White was recently awarded the Advanced Silver in Contemporary Guitar scholarship for 2020 from the Riverina Conservatorium of Music.

Calendar

Tuesday 20 October 2020

Year 12 Exams Commence

Tuesday 27 October 2020

P&C Meeting (via Zoom) 7:00pm

Tuesday 3 November 2020

Year 8 VALID Testing

P&C Meeting

Next Tuesday - 27th October 2020 at 7:00pm
Via Zoom Conference Call
All Welcome

Please contact Julie on 0487 484 420 or via email billabongpc@yahoo.com for Zoom code

Fun Facts from HSIE Faculty

1. The Nenets people are nomadic reindeer herders living in Siberia where temperatures can drop as low as -50 degrees Celsius! Ask a Year 8 student to tell you how the reindeer communicate.

2. The Jim Crow Laws legalised racial segregation in the USA for about 100 years. Ask a Year 9 student to tell you how the recent Black Lives Matter protests relate to past civil rights protests in the USA and the world.

3. The Human Development Index (HDI) is used to measure the wellbeing of people living in certain countries. Norway is ranked number one and Niger is ranked last. Ask a Year 10 student about how the HDI is measured and where Australia is ranked compared to other countries in the world.

4. The three elements of crime are mens rea (guilty mind), actus reus (guilty act) and causation. Ask a Year 12 Legal Studies student about how the elements of crime were demonstrated in the case of R v Dean (2013) NSWSC where Roger Dean was found guilty of eleven counts of murder after setting fire to a wing of the Quakers Hill Nursing Home.

SRC Table Tennis Tournament

At the end of Term 3 our SRC hosted a Table Tennis Tournament. Students participated in Stages across a number of days. Stage Four victors were Jordan Klemke and Brodie Lieschke. Stage Five Victors were Nathan Wardius and Hamilton Black. A great time was had by all.

Top to Bottom: SRC Table Tennis Match, Stage 4 Winners and Stage 5 Winners

