

# BILLABONG HIGHLIGHTS

Monday 2 November 2020 Term 4 Week 4B



## Principal's Report

At last week's P&C Meeting I announced some upcoming leadership changes at Billabong High School. For 2021 I will take up a three year position as Principal, School Leadership (PSL) based out of the Albury Education Office. My new role involves coaching and mentoring principals to pursue school excellence and improved outcomes for all students. It will begin Day 1 of Term 1, 2021.

Director, Educational Leadership for the Hume Network, Sue Lowe, recently conducted a merit selection process to fill the Relieving Principal position, and I am very pleased to announce that Julie Bowen will lead Billabong High School into the future. I have since run a process for the Deputy Principal Instructional Leader position, and I am pleased to announce that Liz Murdoch was successful. They will be joined by Dr Nim Weerakoon in the Deputy Principal role at Billabong High School for 2021, making for a very strong senior executive leadership team.

In addition to this news, on Friday I was unexpectedly contacted by an Executive Director from Sydney, and I have been asked to relieve as Director, Educational Leadership for a network in the Metropolitan South of Sydney. I will begin in that role as of Monday next week, meaning that this week will be my last for now at Billabong High School. Although this was unexpected, we have already conducted significant planning for next year's restructure, so we are in a very good place to simply bring our plans forward to next week. Several staff members have already filled higher roles when I was recently in the Hume Director role, so we certainly have the staff capacity to achieve this successfully now and into the future.

For now I would like to thank staff, students and community members who have supported improved learning outcomes for students at Billabong High School over the five years that I have been principal. When I came to Billabong High School I was struck





**Above: Aurora College iRes 2020 Participants**

by the potential of our school community, and although we have achieved significant gains in student outcomes during that time, there is still considerable opportunity for continued improvement. In line with the School Excellence Framework, New South Wales public schools are pursuing excellence and “continuous improvement for every student, every teacher, every leader, every year.” We’re not looking for “comfortable”, “close enough” or “what we’ve always done.” We are pursuing excellence, as defined by the School Excellence Framework. This active pursuit requires commitment, expertise, professionalism and disciplined execution over time. It means putting student outcomes at the centre of all decision-making, and often involves (all of us) making difficult or challenging decisions in order to achieve outcomes for students.

Our success at achieving this is reflected in our clear ongoing commitment

to instructional leadership and high quality professional learning for staff, an increase in the number of staff seeking higher accreditation and leadership development opportunities, and of course our significant improvement in student growth, including Billabong High School achieving the highest NAPLAN scores in the Riverina. Our success is exemplified by initiatives such as the establishment of Aurora College, the Thrive program, our growing Special Education and Learning Support capabilities, and in our exemplary management of continuity of learning during COVID-19. I am confident that this year's HSC marks will indicate an upward trend, and that next year's HSC marks will confirm that trend – especially with Julie Bowen leading the team with clear commitment, direction and purpose.

As a proud employee of the NSW Department of Education, my commitment has been, and will always be, to improve

## Billabong Highlights



**Above: Senior Hospitality Incursion**

outcomes for NSW students. Just as it was a privilege to teach English at Liverpool Boys High School, and to be a Deputy Principal in Macquarie Fields, so it was a privilege to be Principal of Billabong High School. I look forward to now supporting student outcomes in Sydney South, and then to my future role working again with local principals out of Albury. As next year's role will include supporting the principal of Billabong High School, and as my own three sons will continue to attend public schools in our area (and possibly BHS), I will retain a very strong professional and personal interest in the performance of Billabong High School. I look forward to continuing to work together to support the success of all of our students. Best wishes, and kind regards to everyone in our school community.

**Mr K. Wawzkowicz**  
Principal

### Barista Incursion

On Wednesday and Thursday last week our Senior Hospitality students completed a Barista Course. During the incursion, Kylie from Wagga Hospitality taught our students how to use the coffee machine and make really good coffee! It was a great experience and everyone gained valuable skills, knowledge and experience that will be beneficial for them when seeking future employment.

Report by Georgia O'Connor Year 11

### Aurora College

Due to COVID-19, Aurora College held their residential online (iRes) last Monday and Tuesday. Our shared students attended a range of sessions. Guest speakers included Adam Spencer (mathematician and comedian), Dr Norman Swan (physician, journalist and broadcaster) and Melina Marchetta (author). Students also presented their Science Fair to their virtual classmates, performed a coding activity



## Billabong Highlights

### Calendar

**Tuesday 3 November 2020**

Year 8 VALID Testing

**Thursday 17 November 2020**

Year 6 Taster Day

**Tuesday 1 December 2020**

Orientation Day

and participated in an online Kahoot! trivia game involving 250 students. There was even an opportunity to attend a Zoom disco hosted by our own Steve Bowen! While iRes could not replace the programmed residential in Canberra, student appreciated to effort Aurora College put in organising the event.



Above: Thrive Textiles Students displaying their bunting

## BILLABONG HIGH SCHOOL

## UNIFORM SHOP

## BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

## FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Visit **calendly.com/billabong**  
to book your appointment

OR PURCHASE ONLINE AT

**daylightsportswear.com/billabong**

for students to pick up from the Uniform Shop  
during open hours



### Billabong High School

*Uniform Shop Special Opening Hours*

*Uniform Shop is located within the school*

#### December 2020

Tuesday	1st. December - Orientation Day	9:00AM - 3:30PM
Tuesday	8th. December - Orientation Day	9:00AM - 3:30PM
Monday	14th. December	9:00AM - 3:30PM
Tuesday	15th. December	9:00AM - 3:30PM

#### January 2021

Monday	25th. January	9:00AM - 3:30PM
Wednesday	27th. January	9:00AM - 3:30PM
Thursday	28th. January	9:00AM - 3:30PM

NORMAL HOURS TUESDAY:

9:00am - 3:30pm

DECEMBER & JANUARY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
Enquiries - Sarah Kennedy 0437205297



SCHOOL UNIFORM SPECIALISTS



Purchase Online: **daylightsportswear.com/billabong**  
Please Pick-up all orders at the school uniform shop

PRICE LIST / ORDER FORM ON THE BACK  
MASTERCARD VISA EFTPOS NOW AVAILABLE. AMEX, DINERS OR CHEQUES NOT ACCEPTED. NO LAYBY.