

BILLABONG HIGHLIGHTS

Monday 9 November 2020 Term 4 Week 5A



Always Was, Always Will Be.

8 - 15 NOV 2020

#NAIDOC2020



Principal's Report

On behalf of our school, I wish Mr Wawzkowicz all the best as he commences the role of Director Educational Leadership for the Woronora schools in Sydney. Although Mr Wawzkowicz has left our school, he provides others with the opportunity to develop as leaders. I am one example of this, as is Ms Murdoch and Ms Nim. I am also pleased to announce that Mrs Mackinlay will lead the HSIE faculty at Billabong High School as Head Teacher for the rest of the year and throughout 2021. The ongoing development of leadership capacity has been one of the key features of our improvement journey over the last five years. We recognise the importance of building capacity and striving for excellence in teaching, learning and leadership.

Throughout the week we will celebrate NAIDOC week. The theme this year is "Always Was, Always Will be". During this time we reflect and celebrate the rich

2020 National NAIDOC Week

histories, cultures and achievements of our first nation's people. Ms Nim has worked with students to make a brief video that will be shown during today's assembly. Activities will also occur in classes throughout the week. I encourage our school to celebrate this important week and embrace our nation's history which dates back thousands of generations.

The journey of improvement at BHS will continue. This will be led by Mrs Murdoch as Instructional Leader, Ms Nim as Deputy Principal and myself as Principal. Our priority is to provide a quality education for our students and we will do this by supporting their learning needs and working closely with staff on their professional development. One of my first responsibilities as Principal is to fill several permanent teachers and two Head Teacher positions. The process will be completed before the end of the school year.

The HSC exams will conclude this week.



Above: Students participating in a variety of activities during Thrive

We wish our Year 12 students all the best as they start the next chapter of their lives. A strong focus of Billabong High School as we move into the next round of school planning should be creating global citizens. This means that our students will form a worldwide view, looking beyond just our local area. If 2020 has taught us anything, it is that what's happening throughout the world will impact on the way we live. As global citizens we can influence what our future might look like. I encourage the Year 12 students to venture past the borders – both physical and metaphorical as they start their next adventure.

Ms Bowen

Afternoon Thrive Classes

Thrive is again up and running for Term 4. As is the case for other schools, COVID19 restrictions have meant that where possible, students have chosen activities that have

been set up in Stage groups.

Several new interest groups have been included for this Terms selection. One of which is Spike Ball which is played by our stage 5 students. This new sport has many challenges as it is a game of strategy and is much like volleyball, but played by bouncing a ball off a mini tramp with the aim of having the other team miss the ball.

Term 1 2021 choices will be made next week, with many new activities being introduced at that stage. In planning for any event, students will be required to make selections twice. These selections will occur on different days to minimise confusion. Plan A, will be to have them select as if there are no COVID19 restrictions and where possible we can vertically integrate the students in activities such as art, beginning guitar and martial arts. Plan B, will be similar to this term where COVID19 restrictions will



Above: Earth and Environmental Science student modelling Banded Iron Formations



**Top Right: Marine Studies students
Bottom Right: Library NAIDOC Display**



mean that where possible, students will be restricted to stage groups. Let's hope that we can move forward with plan A.

Regular surveying of the students show that they really like the initiative, and look forward to it at the end of the day. It also shows that a significant percentage of students participate in a sporting activity 3 times or more per week, with 20% of students participating in a sporting activity for Thrive 5 times per week.

Other activities that are currently running include K-Pop, Year 10 study skills, paddock to plate cooking, netball, habitat houses (woodwork), art space, board games, beginning guitar, STEM, e-Sport, craft, fitness. There are too many activities to list. I would like to thank all of the teachers for their tireless efforts to make these activities meaningful and engaging for all students.

K-Pop

Annyeonghaseyo! Hello! K-pop is a new thrive activity introduced this term. K-pop is all about Korean pop music, dramas (TV shows), food, language and culture. So far this term, students have enjoyed listening to new and old Korean pop songs, learning new vocabulary and discussing favourite Korean dramas and singers. The students involved in this group already have a love for everything Korean and have been enjoying exploring Korean culture further.

Marine Studies

Our Marine Studies students have created a replica of an Aboriginal fish trap. The students have been working to figure out how the fish traps worked and the importance of the dreamtime story that goes along with it. This will be displayed in our school library to celebrate NAIDOC week.

Calendar

Tuesday 17 November 2020

Year 6 Taster Day

Monday 23 November 2020

Sports Colours Day

Tuesday 1 December 2020

Orientation Day

Wednesday 16 December 2020

Last Day Term 4



FRIENDLY REMINDER

Can all Year 12 Students please bring back their text books when they have finished their exams.

Below: Community Notice - this is not a school event

FREE WEBINAR



Supporting young people during COVID-19

Albury Wodonga headspace, in partnership with headspace National are hosting a webinar for parents and carers of young people to support their mental health through COVID-19

Information presented will:

- * Strengthen your understanding of mental health and mental health literacy,
- * Build skills and strategies to support the mental health and wellbeing of your young person, including their transition to work and study,
- * Build awareness of local, state and national supports available to young people, and
- * Showcase local headspace Centre community resources.

The webinar will consist of a presentation on mental health, followed by a panel discussion with guest speakers.

**Tuesday 17 November 2020
7-8.15pm AEDT**

Click on this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/albury-wodonga-covid-19-parent-and-carer-webinar-supporting-young-people-tickets-126927669075>

You will be redirected to register via Eventbrite. The Zoom meeting link will be in the confirmation email sent by Eventbrite after you register.

Contact: For more information email:
headspaceSchools@headspace.org.au