

Bay Side

March 2017 Issue

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Upcoming Events – Term 2

26 April	School resumes ANZAC Day Assembly 10:30am
27 April	College Cross Country
2 May	Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:30-7:00pm
5 May	School Photograph Day
9 May	Music Performance Night 6:00pm
10 May	Year 12 Vaccinations
18 May	Splendour at the Bay
25 May	Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:00-7:00pm
14 June	Year 11 Vaccinations

Principal's Report

We have come to the end of a very busy term and students and staff are looking forward to a well-deserved break. Last week our Year 12 students completed their mid-course exams in a calm, mature manner, which reflected their familiarity with exam routines and procedures. Year 11 have completed their first assessment tasks and are responding well to the increased expectations of the Senior Campus.

Diversity Day

Last month we celebrated Diversity Day (Blackwattle's version of Harmony Day) with a special assembly highlighting the schools many diverse cultures. This year it was wonderful to hear from one of our former Aboriginal students who reflected fondly on her time at the school. As usual there was plenty of delicious food supplied by students, staff and our café operators Michael and Mona. The afternoon Talent Quest ended the day on a lively note. Sincere thanks to Year 11 Deputy Chantelle Phair, our wonderful staff and students for making this day so enjoyable.

Sporting Success

Not only does Blackwattle excel in the academic arena but we've had numerous successes in various sports this year. We are very fortunate to have a group of very talented swimmers who have powered through the Zone Competition and are now looking to test themselves on a bigger stage at National level and beyond. We have had other successes in a range of sports including; Rowing, Handball, Girls Cricket, Women's AFL and Boys Hockey. I congratulate all our students on their fantastic achievements and acknowledge the amazing work of Peter George who is in charge of Sport at Blackwattle Bay.

Open Day for Primary Parents

I am always delighted to welcome parents to our school especially when those parents have children in Year 5 or Year 6 and are curious to find out what school is like at the Senior Campus.

Last month we again welcomed around 40 parents to our special Open School Mornings. Parents were shown around the Campus by members of the SRC and were able to see the school in operation on a typical day. As usual our Student Representatives did a fantastic job as tour guides and delighted in answering questions in an open forum.



School Attendance

Research over many years consistently indicates that there is a direct correlation between attendance rates, punctuality and academic achievement. We have high expectations for all our students and endeavor to minimize any disruptions to the learning routine.

The Department of Education has explicit guidelines regarding requests for Leave Exemptions, which need to be made in writing and approved by the Principal. In line with this policy a Principal can only approve leave for:

- Exceptional circumstances
- Employment in the Entertainment Industry
- Participation in an elite sporting event (1 or 2 days)
- Participation in an elite arts program

To ensure students have the best possible learning outcome, parents are requested not to organise overseas family holidays, events and reunions outside of school holiday time.

I wish you all a very happy holiday break and look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Wednesday April 26.

Sharon Roberts, Principal

From the Year 12 Deputy

We have just completed another important session of Mid-Course Exams and I would like to congratulate Year 12 students in the manner in which they conducted themselves throughout this stressful time. It is so important to have many practice sessions before the major HSC exams and when results are released early Term 2 take the time to reflect on your preparation and study time and look for ways to continue to improve as you move into Term 2. Talk to your teachers and get as much feedback as possible. The May 25 Parent Teacher Interviews are an important event for you to attend with your parents so there is a 360 degree view on your progress to date. Teachers will be able to talk to you and your parents about your future study programs.

Term 2 is also a very busy term for finalising major projects and performances in many subjects such as Society and Culture, Visual Arts, Drama and Industrial Technology. Don't leave it to the last minute and think it is possible to put it together quickly. Take advice from your teachers who are experts at managing HSC students in their specific subjects.

We have a number of events coming up in Term 2. Our annual Splendour@the Bay will be coordinated by the School Leaders, Sports Leaders and the Ambassadors. It is always a great day for Year 12 to relax and enjoy one more BIG day of fun and sporting activities, including of course BUBBLE SOCCER! This is the day you will also dress up in a MAD WAY and have your final FUN PHOTO, which is complimentary and will be included in your Graduation Portfolio. Make sure you pass on any good ideas to the leaders so we can organise a great event. Week 4 and 5 this term is devoted to University Weeks where Ms Cleaver coordinates many of our leading universities to visit Blackwattle Bay Campus and deliver information sessions for all students thinking of applying for University in 2018.

And on that point remember to continue to build up your personal vessel with all the documents you need when you start applying for scholarships, university, TAFE or a job.

NSW DE and Health will be implementing a meningococcal ACWY school-based vaccination program targeting Year 11 and 12 students in secondary schools from Term 2 2017 that will provide protection against meningococcal serogroups A, C and Y as well as W. This is in response to the emergence of meningococcal W as a significant cause of invasive meningococcal disease in Australia in 2016. Evidence suggests that this strain of the disease is more severe than other types .

May 10 has been set aside for Yr 12 students. There will be more information sent to parents before this date as it requires forms to be signed by parents or carers. For more important visit: <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/meningococcal-w.aspx>

Year 12 – two more intense terms of high school left - make the most of it, enjoy your friendships and aim to achieve your PERSONAL BEST. Keep referring to the studyskills handbook for motivation and guidance. Make sure you connect with your Year Advisers or myself so we can help in anyway. Enjoy the autumn holidays and use some time to GET READY for TERM 2.

Ms Cuke

English Faculty – Diversity Day

#webelong

Diversity Day – it's all about the celebration of Australia's cultural diversity. We here at Blackwattle Bay Campus extend our celebrations to be inclusive of not only the wide range of cultures that the College represents, but also of the genders, abilities, and interests that our students proudly possess on behalf of the wider Australian community.

This year, on 20th March 2017, the Campus came alive for the usual D-Day fanfare. Funny hats were donned. Cakes and pastries were baked. The sausages were a'sizzling. Cuisines of the globe were laid out decadently across the stalls of varying faculties. By the canteen, LOTE set up their renowned gelato machine, which carried out its business alongside a stall boasting an array of European snacks. Out on the oval, HSIE prepared footwear for an intense Aussie 'thong throwing' competition. Nearby, TAS set up their all-American NFL toss-the-ball game and Giant Twister among other activities.



On behalf of the English Faculty, we decided to represent a concept rather than a culture this year: 'Everyone Belongs'. Armed with a larger-than-life Instagram frame, a party bag of masks, wigs, and hats, and complimentary fairy bread as nourishment, we took to the streets (read: just the school) to capture the diversity we saw.

According to the data, our Instagram initiative resulted in a doubling of happiness, follower counts upped by 100%, and our faculty target of achieving school-wide inclusivity not only met, but exceeded. Here's to more good food, good company and diverse days ahead of us! 😊
Clare Shiu

The Preliminary Advanced classes have commenced a study of the novel *Anil's Ghost* by Michael Ondaatje. Part of their study involves project-based research as to why the pursuit of truth is a driving force for writers. Students are currently undertaking research into the Sri Lankan civil war as to develop an understanding of Post-Colonial literature. There has been some interesting discussion about the novel in all classes.

Meanwhile, our Standard classes have been enjoying their unit of Close Study of Film, including *The Truman Show* and *Witness*. They will also be engaged in reading *Jasper Jones* for Term 2 alongside the timely release of the film adaptation. Happy Reading! The English Faculty 😊



Student Representative Council

Congratulations to members of the SRC who cooked some amazing food for the Diversity Day food stalls and to the boys who helped out with painting nails!

We had delicious dumplings, super bombastic Spaghetti Bolognese, naughty and nice nachos, sensational samosas, carefully created cupcakes, beautiful brownies, and perfect pesto pasta! The masses loved it and we raised \$385!

Again, we're very proud of your efforts, leadership, co-ordination, organisation and teamwork; congratulations SRC!

Many thanks,

Mr Mansfield



European Art and Culture Study Tour 2018

We are in the final stages of planning for the tour. The study tour is aimed at students in year 11 and 12 studying Ancient & Modern History, Languages – French, Italian, German, Society and Culture and Visual Arts for the Higher School Certificate. The study tour is carefully designed to include the most fascinating and important art, archaeological and architectural sites of Berlin – Germany, Northern Italy, Tuscany, Florence, Venice and Paris - France.

Students will experience artworks and historical sites linking to case studies explored in the Preliminary and HSC courses both in Ancient & Modern History, Society and Culture and Visual Arts. This experience will enhance the student's ability to make critical and historical accounts, judgments, reflections, analysis and interpretations of the world of art, architecture and archaeological sites.

This overseas excursion will be conducted from **Wednesday 11 April to Sunday 29 April 2018**. The expression of interest forms will be available early Term 2 once the tour is finalized.

Some of the museums and places of interest will include:

- **Berlin:** Reichstag, Brandenburg Gate, Jewish Museum, Sachsenhausen – Nazi concentration camp, Pergamon Museum and a day trip to Potsdam.
- **Northern Italy:** Venice, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Florence, Uffizi Gallery, Accademia Gallery and Day tour of Tuscany including to Siena, San Gimignano and Pisa.
- **Paris:** The Louvre, housing iconic works by Da Vinci, Delacroix, Vermeer, including Greek, Etruscan and Roman antiquities. Other museums include Musee d'Orsay, Centre Pompidou and Musee de l'Orangerie.
- **Day trips** to Giverny to visit Monet's garden and Auvers where Van Gogh spent his final days and and hopefully the dawn service at Villers Bretonneux for the 100th Anniversary on 25 April. Below are photos from 2016 tour, Florence, Musee de l'Orangerie and Venice

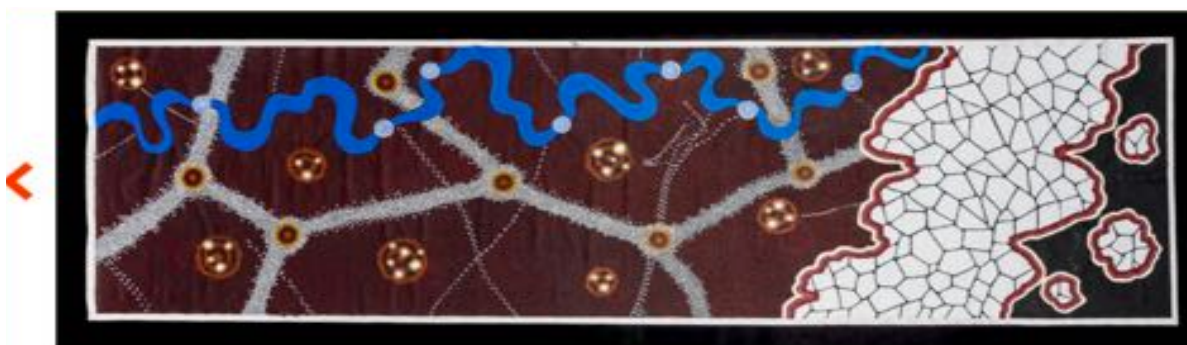


FINAL DAYS FOR ART EXPRESS

If you haven't been to ARTEXPRESS at the Gallery of New South Wales and The Armory at Sydney Olympic Park please do so during the school holidays as the exhibitions close on 23 April.



NAME: Jack Combe
SCHOOL: Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus
TITLE: Dillusions
FORM: Painting,
HSC YEAR: 2016
GALLERY: Art Gallery of NSW, Western Plains Cultural Centre,



NAME: Jessie-James Caldwell
SCHOOL: Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus
TITLE: The time that once was
FORM: Painting,
HSC YEAR: 2016
GALLERY: The Armory, Sydney Olympic Park, Western Plains Cultural Centre,

If you're travelling near Moree over the break, pop into the Moree Plains Gallery, which is hosting an ARTEXPRESS exhibition from 7th April - 28th May. This exhibition includes Jackson Hastie's body of work. Another ARTEXPRESS exhibition you can visit is being held at Campbelltown Arts Centre from 6th April – 28 May.



NAME: Jackson Hastie
SCHOOL: Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus
TITLE: Family time
FORM: Painting,
HSC YEAR: 2016
GALLERY: Moree Plains Gallery, Western Plains Cultural Centre,

From Blackwattle to Bronte

Blackwattle Bay's international students have been treated to a world of wonder and opportunity over the last two weeks.

The Year 11 and 12 international students were visited by Angel Wang, a representative from Macquarie University, on Wednesday the 22nd of March. They learnt about future opportunities at Macquarie University and were given a glimpse of campus life in Australia.

Further immersing themselves in what Australia has to offer, 16 Year 11 international students from Blackwattle Bay and 4 international students from Balmain were accompanied by Ms Liu, Ms Li, and Mr George on an excursion along the Bondi to Bronte coastal walk last Thursday, the 30th of March.

Starting at Bronte, students braved the wet weather as the rain cascaded onto the cliffs and into the ocean. However, at the end of the day, "One hot drink saved all our lives", chuckled Assistant International Student Co-ordinator Ms Liu. We would like to give a huge thank you to Mr George for navigating for the group on the day.

Mr H Santoro

English ESL Teacher/International Students Team



Diversity Day: Talent Quest

The Diversity Day Talent Quest 2017 highlighted the many music, dance and circus talents at Sydney Secondary on 20th March. Congratulations to all students who participated from Years 11 and 12. A special mention to our winners Marcel Mori, Nick Verzi-Worth and Oscar Donlevy of Year 11 who took out first place with their devil sticks and rapping act, as well as Charlie Crockett and Lily Copping who were runners up. We look forward to more weird and wonderful acts at next years' Diversity Day.



Sydney Secondary @ YouthRock

Congratulations to Julia Keogh, Marin Rezo and Oscar Donlevy of Year 11 who have successfully been nominated for the Department of Education's Youth Rock band competition. The group submitted a number of original rock compositions and were offered a spot in the heats which take place at Sutherland Entertainment Centre on Wednesday 5th April. They will be competing against schools from all over NSW for a recording deal prize. We wish them good luck!




Sutherland
Entertainment
Centre
April 5-9

www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au/youthrock

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Sporting talent on show at Blackwattle

17 students from Sydney Secondary College will be competing at NSWCHS swimming at SOPAC 2-4 April. This is the largest group we have ever had and reflects the great swimming talent in our College.

Sydney East Secondary Sports Association Swimming Championship Results 13 March 2017 SOPAC Homebush

- Andrew Balcomb 1st Boys 15-16 400fs and Boys 16 200fs, 4th Boys 16 100fs, 6th Boys 16 50fs.
- Daniel Mizera 2nd Boys 17 400fs, 2nd Boys 17 200fs, 2nd Boys 17-19 200IM.
- Sigrid Perry 9th Girls 15-16 400fs, 8th Girls 16 200fs, 10th Girls 16 100 breast, 7th Girls 16 100fs.
- Daniel Sun 4th Boys 16 100 breast, 7th Boys 16 100 back.
- Abbey Ryan 12th Girls 17-19 100 breast, 9th Girls 17-19 100 back.
- Jeffrey Kong 8th Boys 17-19 100 breast.



Sydney Secondary College team: one swimmer from each age group. This is the first time we have entered a team.

5th Boys 6 x 50 all-age relay, 5th Girls 6 x 50 all age relay (Jeffrey Kong and Abbey Ryan from Blackwattle).

Sydney Secondary College team: 3rd G16 4 x 50 fs relay (Audrey Tran, Frances Smith: Balmain, Sigrid Perry: Blackwattle, Maddie Baker: Leichhardt).

Sydney Secondary College team: 1st B16 4 x 50 relay team and set new record 1:44.86

(Finn Purcell: Leichhardt, Andrew Balcomb and Daniel Sun: Blackwattle, Elliot Plummer: Balmain).

Congratulations to all students on an excellent effort.

Success all round

Tal Lewis and Benedict Brenner win gold at the NSWCHS rowing championships in Grafton 27-28 February 2017

Our students were placed 1st in the Boys Inter-regional 8 combined with students from Concord, Hunter and North Coast. They were placed 1st Championship men's pair. Tal made the final in the single scull while Benedict made the semi-final in the single scull.



Handball

Norwegian students Liam and Bjorn McCourt are Year 11 students from Tromso who are studying at Blackwattle Bay until they return to Norway in July. They have been selected for the National U21 team and have been training hard at three training and selection camps in Brisbane. They have also been selected for the National U17 Beach Handball team and will compete at the Oceania Championships in the Cook Islands in May 2017.



Girls Cricket

Keiko Grantham in Year 11 represented Sydney East in the NSWCHS girls cricket carnival in Maitland 20-24 February 2017 where they were placed 5th. A highlight for Keiko was taking a double wicket maiden against the Sydney North team.

AFL-W

Angela Priftis in Year 12 has been training with the GWS women's team in the very successful women's AFL competition that has just been won by Adelaide. This is a fantastic achievement for a very talented athlete. Angela is aiming to be selected in the draft for this competition in 2018.

Boys Hockey

Ian Pedersen-Clarke in Year 12 has been selected to represent Sydney East to compete in the NSWCHS hockey carnival in Grafton during week 6 in Term 2.

Lunchtime sport

Monday Badminton has been very popular with students enjoying participating in this great sport.

Wednesday Futsal has also been very popular with 6 teams competing. The champions of this competition in term 1 were Schemer's United.

In Term 2 these sports will continue provide sporting opportunities for our students at lunchtime.

CHS Knockout team news

Our Boys Football, Touch and Rugby League have progressed to round 2 after great wins in their respective competitions. Our Girls netball team, under the great leadership of Rebecca Flint, has been training well. Team members are looking forward to some dry weather in term 2 for their knockout competition at Miranda.

Upcoming events

- Cross Country College Championships, Week 1 Thursday 27 April.
- College Athletics, Week 4 Monday 15 May.
- All Schools Swimming Championships, Friday 5 May.

Student Applications for the 2017 State Music Camps are now open

Students from NSW Government schools have been attending State Music Camps for more than 60 years. Talented music students join together for one week each year to receive expert tutoring and develop their performance skills. Participants rehearse and perform high quality repertoire culminating in a concert for families and friends on the final night of the camp.

Musical activities at camp include participation in a major ensemble (symphony orchestra, symphonic bands, vocal ensembles and stage band) as well as a number of elective ensembles and activities. Elective activities include brass and woodwind ensembles, saxophone ensemble, stage band, jazz improvisation, composition, music technology and music theatre.

The dates for State Music Camps this year are as follows:

State Senior Music Camp: Sunday 25 June – Friday 30 June 2017 (last week Term 2).

State Junior Music Camp: Sunday 16 July – Friday 21 July 2017 (first week Term 3).

The camps will be held at Sydney Academy of Sport, Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen. (Office of Communities, Sport & Recreation).

Follow the link below to apply - applications close on Friday 5 May 2017.

For more information and to apply: <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/state-junior-and-senior-music-camps>

LMBR Financial System Change

Dear Parents and Carers

Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay will transition to the new NSW public schools' finance system and a new bank account on **24 July 2017**.

To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept parent or carer payments.

1. **Direct deposits:** As of **30 June 2017**, we will no longer accept direct deposits into our current school bank account as we prepare to close this account and transition to the new one. Any payments made using direct deposit after this date cannot be properly allocated to a student's account in a timely manner. Please ensure you have made any outstanding direct deposits before **30 June 2017**.
2. **EFTPOS payments:** We will not be able to accept EFTPOS payments between **19 July** and **24 July 2017**. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding EFTPOS payments before **19 July 2017**. From **25 July 2017**, EFTPOS payments will be accepted as before.
3. **Cash and cheque payments:** Between **19 July 2017** and **24 July 2017**, we will also not be able to accept payments by cash or cheque as we prepare to close our current bank account and transition to the new one. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding cash or cheque payments before **19 July 2017**. From **25 July 2017**, cash and cheque payments will be accepted as before.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. If you have any questions, please contact Susanne Love, School Administrative Manager on 96605688 or via the school email account sscbwattle-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Earth and Environmental Excursion to Australian Museum

Despite the pouring rain on Friday 17th March, my year 12 Earth and Environmental Science students had a fantastic day at the Australian Museum.

They attended a workshop identifying fossil remains, mimicking a palaeontologist scientist working in the field. Plus they got to handle real specimens of 3.5 billion year old rock that provided evidence for the oceans changing from anoxic (no oxygen) to oxic (oxygenated oceans) from billions

years ago.

We also got to see life-sized models of the kind of organisms, which used to inhabit Australia 50,000 years ago, the Australian Megafauna (see pictures). Climate change and hunting were responsible for their demise.

I want to thank everyone in the class for making the excursion such an enjoyable experience – you all were perfect and respectful in every way.

Thank you, Mr Mansfield - Science Department



Above: Eamonn and Robert mimicking the stance of a 3 meter tall ancient kangaroo – no evidence it used to hop or fight by balancing on its tail like modern day kangaroos.



Right: don't worry Rob, this megafauna was vegetarian.

Right: my wonderful Earth and Environmental class:
Eamonn, Alice, Kate, Jimmy, Aleks, Riku, Seb, Bonnie, Lily, Portia and Rob.



STUDY SKILLS NEWSLETTER

FOR APRIL

Are you a 'carrot' or a 'stick' person?

Knowing whether you are motivated by avoiding pain and the pressure of consequences or by achieving pleasure and rewards can help you (and your parents) work out the best way for you to be motivated to do your work for school.

The concept comes from the idea that to make a donkey move forward you can either tempt it with a carrot (a reward) or threaten it with a stick (a punishment). Now we are not saying that you are a donkey! But we are saying that different things motivate different people.

You are likely to be more of a 'carrot' person if you:

- Tend to be focused on achieving goals
- Make lots of plans and lists for yourself
- Find the concepts of rewards and prizes very motivating
- Often have a clear picture of what you want to achieve

You are likely to be more of a 'stick' person if you:

- Tend to leave things to the last minute
- Put off unpleasant tasks
- Prefer to do things when you 'feel' like it rather than when you plan it
- Like the idea of rewards but aren't keen on doing the work to achieve them

If you are a 'carrot' person, you can get yourself motivated to do the work by breaking down the task, setting targets and goals and making plans. The thought of getting a good mark or achieving a prize is very motivating for you. Your parents can motivate you further by offering rewards for achievements!

If you are a 'stick' person, you find it harder to get yourself motivated to do the work. You are more likely to work when you focus on the consequences of NOT working.

When you are putting things off, spend a minute or so brainstorming all of the outcomes if you do not get started on the work. Then decide the first 3 most important things for you to do. Don't worry about the rest at this stage, just focus on the top 3.

For parents of 'stick' children, these students may often require more micro-management. Students may need help in determining what they are going to work on, and parents may need to then check in every half hour or so to ensure students are staying on task. These students will be more motivated by negative consequences such as removal of technology or other privileges if outlined working conditions are not met. However it is a good idea to always balance the introduction of consequences for not doing the work with rewards for doing it! This may not be the driving force for their motivation, but positive reinforcement for doing the right thing can lead to really good outcomes.

For students who get frustrated with themselves being 'stick' people and leaving things until the last minute, you can start to move towards becoming more of a 'carrot' person. Identify some of your 'carrot' friends, and start to model their behaviour. Ask if you can plan the work together and check in regularly with each so you stay on track. It is possible to switch from one modality to another! However no one can make you do it, you need to want to change and then you need to work towards switching your mindset.

You can learn more about how to get motivated at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units, particularly the unit on MOTIVATION. On the Things to Print page are some useful handouts for parents and students about how to build motivation.

Username: sscblackwattlebay

Password: 56 achieve