



BULAHDELAH CENTRAL SCHOOL

Est. 1868

A PRIDE School

Delivering Quality Education

Teaching for today, educating for tomorrow

Strive to Achieve

12/12/11
Issue 20

Tall Timbers Newsletter

Last
for
2011!



Enjoy a safe and happy holiday

ONE MORE WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENT

Ben Eadie represented Bulahdelah Central School at Shortland Waters Golf Course, Newcastle on Monday 28th November. The competition was run by the Jack Newton Junior Golf Foundation for high school students from the Lower North Coast and the Hunter Region.

Forty five students from years 7, 8 and 9 played, some coming from as far afield as Wingham and Musswellbrook. The hilly Shortland Waters course proved a tough challenge, especially when the temperature started to soar to over 30 degrees.

Ben shot an 80 off the stick, 1 over his handicap, to win the year 7 division.

Congratulations and well done Ben.

(Photo shows Ben with Jack Newton).





OUR PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTIONS:

As this is our last edition of the *Tall Timbers* Newsletter for 2011 I would like to **thank** our **parents and the community** for their support throughout the year. Your involvement makes a big difference to the school and the education of all students.

Schools sometime struggle to include parents and community members in the day to day organisation of the school but we are always on the lookout for ways to improve the link between the school, parents and the wider community.

Although as a parent your role your child's learning evolves as they grow, one thing remains constant: you are your child's learning model. Your attitude about education can inspire theirs and show them how to take charge of their own educational journey so it is important to be positive about not only the school but education itself.

One area that concerns me is that a lot of students are willing to give up early when things get tough or they perceive the task too hard. We endeavour to promote persistence by encouraging students to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty for the ability to persist at a task and see it through to the end is one of the most important success attributes that you can develop in a child.

There are numerous times every day when children must persist rather than give in. A young child learning to tie shoelaces or ride a bicycle must persist. A primary aged student must show determination to finish tasks and a secondary student needs to work through difficulties, particularly those he or she doesn't understand or complete right away.

There is a strong correlation between effort and success and we need to let students know this. In fact, they need to learn that by GIVING EFFORT they will more than likely experience more success. The ability to persist in the face of difficulties maybe an old-fashioned quality but it is one of the best success attributes that children will ever develop.

Michael Grose from parentingideas.com.au lists *four practical strategies you can use to promote a sense of persistence in your children*:

1. Develop a vocabulary for persistence. Words like "Hang tough", "Work Hard" and "Hang in there" can become part of their everyday vocabulary.
2. Point out to children when they stick at a task. Most parents know it pays off when they catch their children being good but it also pays off to catch them being persistent. The behaviours you focus on as parents expand so let them know when they have been persistent. Also remind them that persistence generally pays off.
3. Help children to remember times when they experienced success by HANGING IN when they were younger. Let them know that persistence has paid off before and it will again.
4. Talk about HARD WORK with your children. They need to understand that to be successful they need to do things that are NOT fun or easy. While it would be good if all work and learning was fun, in reality, this is not always the case.

Final Words....

"Persistence and patience have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish." John Quincy Adams.

- ***Don Hudson, Principal***

UPDATE FROM OUR DEPUTY PRINCIPALS



I would like to wish everyone a **very happy Christmas** and my best wishes for the **new year of 2012**. As we enter the last week of the 2011 school year it is appropriate to reflect back on what has been a fulfilling year for staff and students at Bulahdelah Central School.

There have been a number of highlights as well as the usual challenges for any school year. As I was watching the student's PowerPoint slide show of the **Jindabyne** year 11 excursion and the recent year 9 **Canberra excursion** at the assembly today I reflected on the range of opportunities that students can access at BCS and the time and effort that teachers put into organising and ensuring our students have those chances to experience life and places beyond the classrooms.

Other events that spring to mind this year include the successful **year 11 musical** "*The Pirates of the Caribbean*" and the middle school **Egyptian unit** which culminated in a visit to the Tutankhamen Exhibition in Melbourne, to name only a few.

As we celebrate with our **secondary presentation assembly** this Wednesday 14th December, I would like to congratulate all **students for their achievements** throughout the year and to **thank staff** for their contribution to the success of the students and also to **parents** for your continued support.

Year 7 to year 9 **reports** will be handed out following the **Matt Smith Memorial Concert** which will be held on Wednesday afternoon. This memorial concert has been organised by the SRC and is a fitting final tribute from the students and celebrates Matt's life and his love of music.

I would like to thank our **lifesaving instructors** who did a tremendous job instructing for the Royal Lifesaving Awards last week. Thanks also to **Brooke McKenzie** who organised the instruction and supported the instructors throughout the week.

On a personal note, in what has been a particularly challenging year for myself and my family, I would like to express my thanks to all the staff, parents and students who have given me their support and best wishes during the year. It is and continues to be greatly appreciated and helps make it easier to carry on during what will be a long but hopefully positive journey.

Finally, please note the commencement dates for 2012 and I hope everyone has a long, safe and enjoyable holiday.

- **Roger Horton, Secondary Deputy Principal**

This is the final primary report for 2011. We have had a very full year of learning and extra curricula activities, in which students had the opportunity to participate. Many of our students embrace these opportunities and are rewarded with success, for their efforts. I would like to congratulate the student body on their achievements this year and look forward to working with the students in 2012 to once again "Strive for Excellence." I would like to thank my hardworking **staff** for their commitment to providing quality education for our students. We are very fortunate to have staff who go above and beyond to ensure their learning programs are engaging. And, I would like to thank **parents** for your continued support throughout the year. It is certainly appreciated and valued and I look forward to a close association with the parent body, again in 2012, working together to enhance student learning outcomes.

There will be some changes next year. **Penny Britton** is retiring after a long and illustrious teaching career. I would like to thank Penny for her contributions, to the education of students at BCS. She was a much loved teacher and we will miss her enthusiasm and dedication. I would like to wish Penny all the best, in her retirement, and hope that she might come and visit us again next year. **Anthea Whittaker** and **Janene Atchison** are also leaving us. Anthea has been with us for four years and Janene for a shorter period but both women have contributed a great deal of time and expertise to the terrific team of teachers we have here. I would like to wish both ladies the very best for their future teaching aspirations.

Our numbers will drop next year, due to a small kindergarten intake, and we will only have six classes. They are as follows, at the moment, but numbers and class structures may change, depending on what happens at the beginning of 2012. K/1 19 students, **Mr Gibbs**, 1/2 26 students, **Mrs Ottignon**, Yr 3 25 students, **Mrs Wills**, Yr 4 23 students, **Mr Backhouse**, Yr 5 24 students, **Mrs McDonald** and Yr 6 24 students, **Mrs Murrell/Mrs Murphy**. **Mrs Fenning** will be the part-time/RFF teacher.

Finally, I would like to wish every family a very **Merry Christmas** and a **safe and happy holiday** season. I look forward to working with you all in 2012.

Some dates for your diary: 13/12 Presentation Assembly, **14/12** Year 6 farewell, **16/12** Last day of school for 2011 for all students, **27/1/12** staff return (student free) **30/1** students in Yrs1 to 6 return, **31/1** Kindergarten return. **Sally Thompson, Primary Deputy Principal.**

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION



FREE FUN DAY

Hunter New England Health, Career Assist and the Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre are offering a free fun day for young people (aged 8 to 17 years) with a family member with a mental health difficulty. They are organising transport through Bulahdelah, Forster, Taree, Gloucester, Wingham and their surrounds to the "Centre of Gravity Indoor Rock Climbing and Dark Zone". This event will be on **10th January 2012**. If you are interested **please contact Carer Assist on 65514333 or 0429995907 (or see Mrs Gilbert during this school term).**

RETURN DATES FOR 2012

FRIDAY	27 th January 2012	Staff return	Student Free Day
MONDAY	30 th January 2012	Years 7,11,12, 1 to 6 commence	
TUESDAY	31 st January 2012	Years 8,9,10 and Kindergarten commence	

CANTEEN – we are a HEALTHY canteen – GREEN for GO

The BCS Canteen staff **Sheryl Barry (Canteen Manager)** and **Christena Watt** continue to provide a healthy and varied selection of foods for our students and staff. They prepare healthy one-off specials each week. These specials are publicised each fortnight in the school newsletter, on the school web site and the daily notices. Students and staff are invited to order from this list in addition to the Menu/Price List.

2011			
12/12	McMuffins Ham & Cheese	\$ 2:50	Tacos \$ 3:00
13/12	Min Wraps (Chicken tender)	\$ 2:50	Garlic Prawns & Rice \$ 5:00
14/12	Wedges S/C Chilli Sauce	\$ 3:00	BBQ Chook & Salad \$ 4:50
15/12	Spring Rolls	\$ 3:00	Fish & Salad – Scollop \$ 5:00
16/12	Prawn Cutlets/Spiders	\$ 4:00	Salt & Pepper Squid & Salad \$ 4:50
19/12	CANTEEN CLOSED	NIL	CANTEEN CLOSED NIL
20/12	CANTEEN CLOSED	NIL	CANTEEN CLOSED - WILL REOPEN 2012 NIL

ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAYS

2012			
27/01	Staff return	Nil	Nil
30/01	Smoothies	\$ 2:00	Egg & Bacon Roll \$ 3:50
31/01	Mini Salad Wraps	\$ 2:50	BBQ Chook Salad \$ 4:50
01/02	Fruit Salad & Icecream	\$ 3:00	Fish Burger \$ 3:50
02/02	Cocktail Fish	\$ 3:00	Chicken Caesar \$ 5:00
03/02	M'Bites	\$ 3:00	Cheese Burger \$ 3:00



NEW TRACTOR



Staff and students have welcomed to the BCS Ag. Plot our newest teaching resource, a Kubota L4400 tractor. It comes equipped with the latest safety gear including a remote start/stop switch which allows the teacher to stop the tractor from up to 50m away. We have also been supplied with new slasher and rotary hoe to accompany the tractor. -This valuable new resource enables our year 11 & 12 primary industries students to excel at

their tractor and machinery competencies for their certificate II in agriculture. Special thanks to Mr Hudson (Principal) and Mr Gladys (Head Teacher TAS, VET & LOTE) for their help in securing this great resource.

- **Brent Smith, Primary Industries teacher.**

FROM THE DEPARTMENT

Summer fire safety: Summer has officially started and with it comes the increased risk of bush and house fires. If you live in a bushfire prone area, ensure you have taken the necessary steps to protect your property and family from fire. Download a fact sheet: www.fire.nsw.gov.au/gallery/files/pdf/factsheets/02_bushfire_prep.pdf It is now law that caravans and campervans be fitted with working smoke alarms. Check LPG gas bottles for leaks as this is how many barbecue fires start. Many more tips on how to enjoy a fire-free summer are on the Fire and Rescue NSW website: www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Remember in the event of a house or bushfire always dial 000. If your mobile phone is out of range, dial 112.

Orientation information: Monday 5 December was the official Orientation Day for Year 6 students around the state to visit the secondary school in which they are enrolled for 2012. This was one of many opportunities for your Year 6 child to be introduced to the high school environment. During the holidays, have a look at the great information on the School A to Z website about starting high school and what to expect in the senior years. You'll find a wealth of tips and hints about moving up to high school, including a vodcast you can watch together at: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/starting-year-7> you can also download a handy high school checklist at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/highschool/index.php

Secondary - Help yourself and others: Young adulthood is an exciting time, but it can also be a time of emotional confusion and stress. The Reachout website, www.reachout.com, has information on everything from family relationships, bullying, sexuality, to drugs and alcohol, grief and loss. There's also a helpline and live chat help. Reachout has an internship program for students who are interested in working in the social services sector. Flexible intern opportunities include the areas of marketing, IT, psychology, multimedia and more. Email nikki@inspire.org.au if you're interested. Also check out the 'get involved' page for more ways young people 14-25 can help others: <http://au.reachout.com/get-involved>

- **Department of Education and Communities.**



WORDS OF WISDOM

Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas."
~ Peg Bracken.



PRIMARY POINTS

CAREERS THROUGH READING



Stage One students from BCS have had the opportunity to learn about university life and career options this term, through their participation in the 'Careers through Reading' program. The program, an initiative of the **University of Newcastle**, aims to raise awareness amongst primary students of various careers and the pathways to these careers, while simultaneously building skills and interest in literacy.

Over a three week period, Stage One students were introduced to current University of Newcastle students, studying for a diverse range of careers including Physiotherapy, Nutrition and Dietetics, Teaching, Occupational Therapy and Architecture. Each week the university students would read to small groups of Stage One students books that are related to the specific career that the student is studying. During the period that the program ran at Bulahdelah Central, Stage One students also worked on group and individual projects related to careers that interest them.

For the final week of the 'Careers through Reading' program, Stage One students were invited to dress-up as a career professional for their 'graduation' and present their projects, which will be hung in the Auchmuty Library at the University of Newcastle. **Mr. John Ireland** was also invited to speak to Stage One students about his career as a chemical engineer. The children described the program as fun and enjoyed learning about university life and the diverse range of careers and options offered there.

- **Janene Atchinson**

Photo shows Stage One students at Bulahdelah Central with the books they were presented with by the University of Newcastle, at their 'graduation' during the Reading through Careers program.



PRIMARY MERITS

The last list for 2011!!!

Gold: *Early Stage 1* – Zach Atkins; Curtis Barry; Toby Barry; Ryland Burns; Maggie Cunich; Isaac Hamilton-Tate; Georgia Ryan; Lela Smith; Zane Walker; *Stage 1B* – Amber Cunningham; Tindo Galimard; Braiden Guthrie; Thomas McInerney; Selena Murphy; Zachary Perrot; Shannon Powick; Maddison Richards; *Stage 1 W* – Jack Cunich Natarlia Faulkner; Kiyan Galimard; Chloe Hartley; Raylee Kierans; Aiden MacMurray; Mitchel Nott; Finlay O’Connell; Kodi Perrot; Harry Plummer; Blake Richardson; Westleigh Richardson; Luke Rinortner; Zachary Watt; Miranda White-McDougall; *Stage 2 O* Heidi Buchanan; Phebe Germanos; Taylah Smith; Abby Whitfield; *Stage 2 Wills* – Hayley Chalker; Madison Hurtado; Jordyn Watt; Kayly Whitfield; *Stage 3 McM* – Allyn Buck; *Stage 3 M* – Grace Germanos; Luke Gray; Kensley Nassif.

Silver: *Stage 1B* – Emma-Rose Carruthers; Izaak Chisholm; Kelly Hutchinson; Jackson Lee; *Stage 1 W* – Mathew Blackwell; Matthew Brown; Aiden MacMurray; Mitchel Nott; Westleigh Richardson; Luke Rinortner; Tori Spring; Willis Studdert; Claire Terry; Jayden Watling; Zachary Watt; Chloe Hartley; *Stage 2 O* – Elly-Rae Banks; Brodan Nassif; Lana Pringle; Beau Thatcher; Holly Towers; Kobi Watt; *Stage 2 Wills* – Eva Germanos; Brandon Nott; *Stage 3 McM* – Luci Campbell; *Stage 3 M* – Matthew Aldis; Fletcher Barclay; - Brandon Watt; Jessica Lyal.

Bronze: *Stage 1 B* – Makayla Faulkner; *Stage 2 O* – Christopher Chatwood; *Stage 2 Wills* – Brock Buchanan; Elke Studdert; *Stage 3 M* – Dean Buck; Brock Ryan; Tayla Sanders; Zach Fletcher.

Congratulations to all our primary students who achieved awards in 2011. All Early Stage 1 students received a Gold Award which is an excellent achievement. Well done everyone.

- **Stan Backhouse, Primary Merit Coordinator.**

DRUMBALA



On the 28th of November years 3- 6 had a fantastic opportunity to participate in a 45min drumming workshop with Katy and Warren Loades of Drumbala. Overall response from the students and teachers involved was enormous smiles and the amazing sound vibrating throughout the hall left all who participated feeling uplifted and joyful. Hoping to continue with drumming workshops next year.

- **Angie Vella, Organiser**

Photos: Left –Year 5/6 Mrs Murrells class; Left below Year 5/6 left to right **Brandon Watt, Clayton Haynes, Tayla Sanders** and **Edan Cray**; right below Year 4 **Rachael Godfrey, Georgia Smith.**



Our mission is to strive to achieve in all endeavours in a happy, caring and supportive environment.



SECONDARY SOURCES

YEAR 11 GEEK CAMP



Seven of our dedicated and hardworking year 11 Mathematics students attended a maths geek camp at Bonny Hills on Tuesday 22nd November. This program was supported by the North Coast Region to assist students in gaining a better understanding of the HSC Mathematics course. The day involved participating in tutorial sessions delivered by experienced presenters, such as Sue Thompson and Bob Aus. They also spent the day meeting students from other schools in the Manning/ Hastings / Macleay region studying the higher levels of Mathematics. This mingling with students from other schools allows them to gauge

their progress and form friendships with like students. Tuesday afternoon, we waved goodbye to the nerds; **Sarah Parkinson, Samie Clouten, Kieren Fennell** and **Ethan Wisemantel** as they left with **Mr Kershaw** to return to Bulahdelah. **Mitch Blanch, Liz Martin** and **Jake Christy** stayed on Tuesday night for some fun maths activities. These geeks then spent Wednesday attending more lectures, but these lectures were specific to Mathematics Extension. The Geek Camp will continue to meet every term as these students work towards their HSC.

- **Deb Gilbert, Organiser**



NIDA ACTING TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP

NIDA is Australia's National Institute of Dramatic Art, a centre of excellence in theatre, film and television. The Manning Entertainment Centre is again offering a NIDA acting workshop during the summer holidays, giving local students the opportunity to work with a NIDA tutor to develop their understanding of acting techniques, culminating in a short performance for family and friends. The Centre subsidises the cost of these workshops so that local students are paying \$200 less than their Sydney counterparts. If you are between 15 and 18 years of age and can attend on 9th to 13th January 2012 please see Mrs Shultz for an application form. As places are strictly limited, this form with your payment of \$350:00 (includes GST) should be sent as soon as possible to Manning Entertainment Centre, PO Box 482, Taree NSW 2430.

LIFESAVING PROGRAM

The Lifesaving Program practical for 2011 was conducted at Bulahdelah Pool while the theory component was held at BCS between 6th to 8th December. The aims of the program were to educate students about water safety, to develop survival skills, as well as rescue and resuscitation skills. All students were assigned to groups appropriate to their age and swimming ability and the school's record of previous lifesaving program results. If students wished, they could complete and order the relevant Royal Lifesaving Society Award such as Junior Swim & Survive, Swim & Survive, Senior Swim 7 Survive, Bronze Star, Bronze Medallion, Resuscitation and, in some cases, Junior Instructor.

YEAR 9 CANBERRA EXCURSION WAS AN EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS

Twenty-two Year 9 students embarked on a four day excursion to Canberra with Teacher/Navigator, Heather Moncrieff (although Cordel did most of the work) and myself. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and never complained despite poor weather and sub-standard nourishment. The students found the Australian War Memorial fascinating and took part in a Laying of the Wreath Ceremony with a Vietnam War Veteran. In Federal Parliament House they were involved in a role play activity and played the parts of elected representatives and enacted the processes that occur in parliament. The bill they debated was an attempt at lowering the voting age to 16 years. The Electoral Education Centre allowed them to conduct a practical and engaging election using the system of preferential voting; Pizza defeated Cheesecake by a narrow margin. Questacon was a great experience in 'hands-on' science. However, the students felt that Laser Tag was the most riveting. Overall, it was a great trip and I look forward to our next Year Group excursion in Year 11. The cost of \$380 included transport, accommodation and some meals plus entry fees to venues. This cost was subsidised by a contribution from the Australian Government of \$30 per student towards travelling expenses, so that young Australians can visit their national capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. Students, staff and parents thank the Australian Government for this support. - **Mike De Angelis, Organising Teacher.**

NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS – FOOTBALL WINNER



Bulahdelah Central School would like to congratulate **Tom Darlington** on winning the Newcastle Knights football, which was signed by the Knights themselves. Tom is an all-round athlete who plays as a second rower for the Raymond Terrace Roosters under 13's. His heroes are Kurt Gidley and Akuila Uate and he says, "I want to be like them when I grow up." So thank you to the Knights for signing the ball. Tom's recent relocation to Dungog High has been a loss to BCS. We wish him all the best at his new school and look forward to hearing about his future successes in rugby league. - **Simone Payne**

Photo from left: Jake Devon, Tom Darlington and Raygan Massard-Davis

COMMUNITY CHATTER

COMMUNITY CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER, 2011 at Great Lakes Nursing Home, commencing with a **sausage sizzle** at 5pm (*gold coin donation appreciated*) followed by the **carols** at 6:30pm. (*Candles will be available at a cost of \$2 each.*) **Come along for an evening of fellowship**



SUMMER COASTCARE ACTIVITIES: Great Lakes Council proudly presents the following activities for January:

17th January **Worimi Wonders** 10am to 12pm Pebbly Beach; 18th January **Plastic Fantastic** 9am-12pm Pebbly Beach; 23rd January **Rockpool Ramble** 2:30pm- 5pm One Mile Beach; 24th January **Saltmarsh Crab Count** 9am Coomba Park; 25th January **Spot the Seagrass** 9am Little Street Baths. **Bookings are ESSENTIAL for all these FREE activities.** Minimum age is 5 and children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Participants need to wear protective and non-slip footwear (no thongs), hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and bring wet weather gear, water, snacks, sunscreen and insect repellent with them. Telephone 65917301 for more information and bookings or email isabelle.strachan@greatlakes.nsw.gov.au

FORSTER TUNCURRY BODYBOARD ASSOCIATION is looking for more young riders, boys and girls who want some competition and loads of fun. Keen to be involved? Jump onto www.ftba.org.au or contact Aaron Dodds 0408481048 or info@ftba.org.au We will be holding an expression session Sunday 18th December, meeting place Middle One Mile Beach Car Park @ 7.30 for 2hrs. Forster Tuncurry Bodyboard Association (FTBA), is a not for profit organisation.

Our mission is to strive to achieve in all endeavours in a happy, caring and supportive environment.

HOUSEKEEPING INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

Your school's Administration Office is open Monday to Friday from 8:10am to 3:30pm during school terms.

Exceptions are two Thursdays a term when the office will be closed from 3pm. Dates for Term 1 to be advised

NEXT NEWSLETTER: 6th February, 2012 - Issue 01 – first for 2012.



BCS distributes the *Tall Timbers* newsletter by email. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please make sure your family email address is entered correctly at the school office and that your mailbox is cleared each Monday fortnight. Also, the newsletter is available on the school webpage.

PLEASE NOTE: A small number of printed copies of the newsletter are available in the foyer of the school administration office for those parents

who require a printed version and for visitors to the school

Newsletter distribution dates for Term 1 are 6th & 20th February, 5th & 19th March, 2nd April

Please mark these dates on your home calendar and, if necessary, remind your student to collect your copy from the foyer.



EARLY NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL PHOTOS: School photos will be taken on 19th & 20th March 2012. Again, please mark these dates on your home calendar.



BCS BILLBOARD

Dec	13	Primary presentation 10am; P & C lunchtime stall; Primary Concert.
		Luna Park Secondary Excursion
	14	Secondary presentation 10am; Music Matt Smith memorial; Year 6 Farewell;
		Community Carols by Candlelight at Great Lakes Nursing Home, Bulahdelah
	15	Yr 7,8 & 9 sport at Big Buzz
	16	End of student school year
	19	Staff Development Day – student free
	20	Staff Development Day – student free – end of school year for staff
		ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY EVERYONE
2012		
January	26	Australia Day Public Holiday
	27	Staff Return – Staff Development Day – student free
	30	Yrs 7, 11, 12, 1 to 6 commence
	31	Yrs 8, 9, 10, Kindergarten commence
Feb	06	Life Education (up to & including 8 th); First newsletter for 2012
	07	<i>OnStage</i> excursion up to and including 10 th)
	13	First P & C Meeting of the year
Mar	07	Year 7 Camp Elim up to and including 9th
	12	Annual General Meeting P & C Assoc. Inc.
	19	School Photos (and 20 th)
Apr	01	Daylight Saving ends

Dates are correct at time of publication. Please do not hesitate to contact the School Administration Office if you have any queries

SEASON'S GREETINGS

**The P & C Association Inc. members wish you a happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year.
They look forward to seeing you at their meetings in 2012.**



**The students and staff of BCS would like to take this opportunity to wish our Canteen Manager and Assistant a very happy Christmas and a happy new year.
Thank you for the excellent service you deliver.**



**To all our wonderful volunteers who help out in so many ways including reading, sporting and classroom activities,
we say a very BIG thank you and wish you all the complements of the season.**



**The BCS Student Representative Council members wish all students and staff a very happy Christmas and a great holiday.
We would like to thank everyone for their support in 2011.**



THE STORY BEHIND CHRISTMAS:

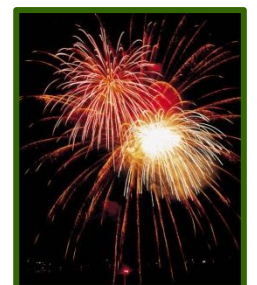
There are very few people in the world today who do not know what the Christmas holiday is all about. Christmas, as we know it today, is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, which happened over 2000 years ago. The word "Christmas" translates to "Mass of Christ". However, we can all be sure that the celebration of the Christmas holiday did not start right away. So how did the actual celebration of the Christmas holiday begin? Believe it or not, many of the traditions that we observe during the Christmas holiday season began way before the birth of Christ. Exchanging gifts, decorating trees, and the burning of the Yule log were all winter traditions that began before Christ was born, but were eventually incorporated into the holiday that became known as Christmas, and became part of Christmas history.



Over 4000 years ago, the Mesopotamians celebrated each new year with a 12-day festival, called Zagmuth. The Mesopotamians, who believed in many gods, held this festival in support of their chief god, Marduk, because they believed that he battled the monsters of chaos at the beginning of each winter. It is from this festival that the 12 days of Christmas is believed to have originated. The ancient Romans held a celebration each year in honour of their god Saturn. The festival, which they called Saturnalia, began in the middle of December and lasted until the first of January. The Romans decorated their homes with garlands, as well as trees upon which they hung candles. During the festival the citizens of Rome would visit each other's homes and hold great feasts. One of the theories of how the tradition of the giving of Christmas gifts came about was from the Roman practice of exchanging gifts between family and neighbours during the festival of Saturnalia to promote good luck.

THE HISTORY OF NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS:

The celebration of the new year on January 1st is a relatively new phenomenon. The earliest recording of a new year celebration is believed to have been in Mesopotamia, c. 2000 B.C. and was celebrated around the time of the vernal equinox, in mid-March. A variety of other dates tied to the seasons were also used by various ancient cultures. The Egyptians, Phoenicians, and Persians began their new year with the fall equinox, and the Greeks celebrated it on the winter solstice. **Early Roman Calendar: March 1st Rings in the New Year:** The early Roman calendar designated March 1 as the new year. The calendar had just ten months, beginning with March. That the new year once began with the month of March is still reflected in some of the names of the months. September through December, our ninth through twelfth months, were originally positioned as the seventh through tenth months (septem is Latin for "seven," octo is "eight," novem is "nine," and decem is "ten." **January Joins the Calendar:** The first time the new year was celebrated on January 1st was in Rome in 153 B.C. (In fact, the month of January did not even exist until around 700 B.C., when the second king of Rome, Numa Pontilius, added the months of January and February.) The new year was moved from March to January because that was the beginning of the civil year, the month that the two newly elected Roman consuls—the highest officials in the Roman republic—began their one-year tenure. But this new year date was not always strictly and widely observed, and the new year was still sometimes celebrated on March 1. **Julian Calendar: January 1st Officially Instituted as the New Year:** In 46 B.C. Julius Caesar introduced a new, solar-based calendar that was a vast improvement on the ancient Roman calendar, which was a lunar system that had become wildly inaccurate over the years. The Julian calendar decreed that the new year would occur with January 1, and within the Roman world, January 1 became the consistently observed start of the new year. **Middle Ages: January 1st Abolished** In medieval Europe, however, the celebrations accompanying the new year were considered pagan and unchristian like, and in 567 the Council of Tours abolished January 1 as the beginning of the year. At various times and in various places throughout medieval Christian Europe, the new year was celebrated on December 25, the birth of Jesus; March 1; March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation; and Easter. **Gregorian Calendar: January 1st Restored:** In 1582, the Gregorian calendar reform restored January 1 as new year's day. Although most Catholic countries adopted the Gregorian calendar almost immediately, it was only gradually adopted among Protestant countries. The British, for example, did not adopt the reformed calendar until 1752. Until then, the British Empire—and their American colonies—still celebrated the new year in March. Australians hold celebrations on New Year's Eve (31st December) and often fireworks are featured as the clock strikes 12 midnight.



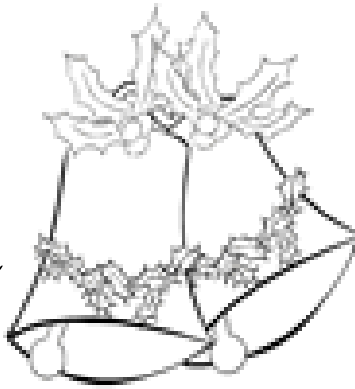
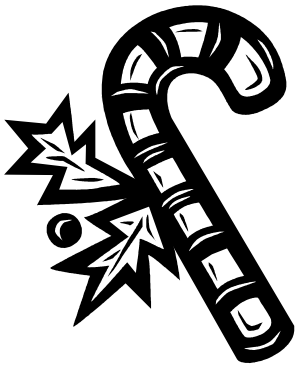
CHRISTMAS FUN



CRAFT -TIN CAN SANTA: This Christmas try making a Santa craft. These easy to make tin can Santa craft is lots of fun and inexpensive too! What you'll need: 1 empty, clean metal can; white, peach and pink acrylic paint; medium pink pom pom; 2 small wiggle eyes; Cotton balls; 6-8 medium white or silver sparkle pom poms; 1 sheet red glitter felt; 2" wide x 8" long strip of white glitter felt; White craft glue; Hot glue gun (handled with parent's permission only). How to make it: Paint entire aluminum can with white paint.

Paint a section in the front of the can peach (or whatever skin tone color you like) for the face. Take one cotton ball and stretch it out so that fits all the way around the rim of the can. Glue in place about ½" below the rim. This is Santa's hair. Lay strip of white glitter felt on the table. With hot glue gun, fold over edges and tack in place on both sides. This will create a thick and smooth brim for Santa's hat that will not show any uneven cutting lines. Set aside. Position the red glitter felt around the top of the can, above the hair (stretched cotton ball). Glue in place and let dry. You will finish Santa's red hat in a later step. Meanwhile, glue the white felt in place over the top of the red felt and the cotton to form the brim of Santa's hat. Using white craft glue, add Santa's beard by gluing cotton balls all around the can, leaving enough room open for his face. To complete Santa's red hat, tuck the red felt into a cone shape, using hot glue to tack in place if you like. Fold felt over the side of the can and hot glue to the side. Hot glue the silver or white glitter pom poms to the end of the red felt. Use an extra cotton ball to dab on the cheeks, using a small amount of pink paint. Glue the pink pom pom on for the nose. Glue wiggle eyes in place.

COLOUR FOR CHRISTMAS:



COOKING -CHRISTMAS TREE BISCUITS:

This basic sugar biscuit dough recipe can also be rolled into balls, dropped from a spoon, or baked in a pan to make bar biscuits. But for the holidays, it's a wonderful to roll and cut out into tree shapes because they're not too delicate (no tiny pieces to break off) and they're simple to decorate, too. Simply shake colored sugar over them before placing them in the oven. Start the dough about an hour ahead of time so it has time to chill. Ingredients: 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature, 1 cup sugar, 2 large eggs, 2 teaspoons vanilla extract, 3 cups unsifted all-purpose flour, plus additional flour for the work surface, 1/2 teaspoon baking soda, 3/4 teaspoon salt, Green and red colored sugar, Green and red hard candies, Green and red gumdrops, cut into tiny pieces. Cooking Instructions: In a large mixing bowl, beat the butter with the sugar for two minutes or until creamy with an electric mixer. Beat in the eggs one at a time, followed by the vanilla extract. In a large sifter, measure the flour, baking soda, and salt. Sift this over the egg mixture and beat on medium speed until a soft dough forms. If the dough seems a little sticky, beat in two to three additional tablespoons of flour. Scrape the dough out of the mixing bowl and form it into two balls. Cover and chill for one hour. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Remove the dough from the refrigerator about 10 to 15 minutes before you plan to use it. Knead briefly on a floured work surface. When the dough is fairly pliable, roll it out with a floured rolling pin to about 1/8-inch thickness. Cut out cookies using a tree-shaped cookie cutter. Using a spatula, transfer the cookies to the baking sheet. Sprinkle the cookies with red and green colored sugar. Bake the cookies for eight to 10 minutes, rotating the pan once, or until the bottoms of the cookies are golden and the tops are barely firm. Transfer the cookies to a wire rack to cool. . Continue rolling, cutting out, and baking cookies until all the dough is used.



AUSTRALIA DAY – CELEBRATE WHAT'S GREAT

The tradition of noticing 26 January as Australia Day began early in the nineteenth century with Sydney almanacs referring to First Landing Day or Foundation Day. That was the day in 1788 Captain Arthur Phillip, commander of the First Fleet of eleven convict ships from Great Britain and the first governor of New South Wales, arrived at Sydney Cove. Yet the tradition of having Australia Day as a national holiday on 26 January is a recent one. Not until 1935 did all the Australian states and territories use that name to mark that date. Not until 1994 did they begin to celebrate Australia Day consistently as a public holiday on that date. The evolution of Australia Day has included a number of nationally significant events, including the strong emergence of the Indigenous rights movement on the sesquicentenary of 1938, and the huge bicentenary celebrations of 1988. A detailed history of Australia Day, written by Dr Elizabeth Kwan and commissioned by the National Australia Day Council, can be found on the Australia Day website: www.australiaday.org.au/history.



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA DAY: TIMELINE

Before 1770 - Aboriginal peoples had been living for more than 40 000 years on the continent we now know as Australia. At least 1600 generations of these peoples had lived and died here.

Europeans from the thirteenth century became interested in details from Asia about this land to the south. From the sixteenth century European cartographers and navigators gave the continent various names, including Terra Australis (Southern Land) and New Holland.

1770 - Captain James Cook raised the Union Jack on what is now called Possession Island on 22 August to claim the eastern half of the continent as New South Wales for Great Britain.

1788 - Captain Arthur Phillip, commander of the First Fleet of eleven convict ships from Great Britain, and the first Governor of New South Wales, arrived at Sydney Cove on **26 January** and raised the Union Jack to signal the beginning of the colony.

1804 - Early almanacs and calendars and the Sydney Gazette began referring to 26 January as First Landing Day or Foundation Day. In Sydney, celebratory drinking, and later anniversary dinners became customary, especially among emancipists.

1818 - Governor Macquarie acknowledged the day officially as a public holiday on the thirtieth anniversary. The previous year he accepted the recommendation of Captain Matthew Flinders, circumnavigator of the continent, that it be called Australia.

1838 - Proclamation of an annual public holiday for 26 January marked the Jubilee of the British occupation of New South Wales. This was the second year of the anniversary's celebratory Sydney Regatta.

1871 - The Australian Natives' Association, formed as a friendly society to provide medical, sickness and funeral benefits to the native-born of European descent, became a keen advocate from the 1880s of federation of the Australian colonies within the British Empire, and of a national holiday on 26 January.

1888 - Representatives from Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and New Zealand joined NSW leaders in Sydney to celebrate the Centenary. What had begun as a NSW anniversary was becoming an Australian one. The day was known as Anniversary or Foundation Day.

1901 - The Australian colonies federated to form the Commonwealth of Australia. The Union Jack continued as the national flag, taking precedence over the Australian red and blue shipping ensigns gazetted in 1903. Melbourne was the interim federal capital. The Australian Capital Territory was created out of New South Wales in 1908, the federal capital named Canberra in 1913, and the Parliament House opened there in 1927.

1930 - The Australian Natives' Association in Victoria began a campaign to have 26 January celebrated throughout Australia as Australia Day on a Monday, making a long weekend. The Victorian government agreed with the proposal in 1931, the other states and territories following by 1935.

1938 - While state premiers celebrated the Sesquicentenary together in Sydney, Aboriginal leaders met there for a Day of Mourning to protest at their mistreatment by white Australians and to seek full citizen rights.

1946 - The Australian Natives' Association prompted the formation in Melbourne of an Australia Day Celebrations Committee (later known as the Australia Day Council) to educate the public about the significance of Australia Day. Similar bodies emerged in the other states, which in rotation, acted as the



Federal Australia Day Council.

1948 - The Nationality and Citizenship Act created a symbolic Australian citizenship. Australians remained British subjects.

1954 - The Australian blue ensign was designated the Australian national flag and given precedence over the Union Jack. The Australian red ensign was retained as the commercial shipping ensign.

1960 - The first Australian of the Year was appointed: Sir Macfarlane Burnet, a medical scientist. Other annual awards followed: Young Australian of the Year, 1979; Senior Australian of the Year, 1999, and Australia's Local Hero, 2003.

1979 - The Commonwealth government established a National Australia Day Committee in Canberra to make future celebrations 'truly national and Australia-wide'. It took over the coordinating role of the Federal Australia Day Council. In 1984 it became the National Australia Day Council, based in Sydney, with a stronger emphasis on sponsorship. Incorporation as a public company followed in 1990.

1984 - Australians ceased to be British subjects. *Advance Australia Fair* replaced *God Save the Queen* as the national anthem.

1988 - Sydney continued to be the centre of Australia Day spectacle and ceremony. The states and territories agreed to celebrate Australia Day in 1988 on 26 January, rather than with a long weekend. Aborigines renamed Australia Day, 'Invasion Day'. The Bondi Pavilion protest concert foreshadowed the Survival Day Concerts from 1992.

1994 - Celebrating Australia Day on 26 January became established. The Australian of the Year Award presentations began alternating between Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane.

2001 - Centenary of federation. The National Australia Day Council's national office had returned to Canberra the previous year. In 2001 the Council transferred from the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts to that of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Australians' growing familiarity with the Australia Day holiday led the Council to focus on shaping their awareness of its significance and meaning.

2004 - The presentation of Australia Day awards — the focus of Australia Day — became fixed in Canberra.

At its core, Australia Day is a day driven by communities, and the celebrations held in each town, suburb or city – unified by the celebration of what's great about Australia and being Australian – are the foundation of its ongoing success.

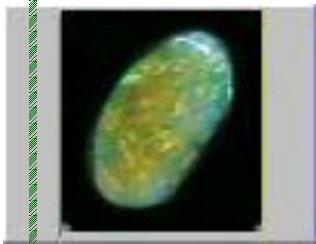
(Check with your local council for Australia Day activities in your area.)

Do you know?

National Floral Emblem is the **Golden Wattle**

National Gemstone Emblem is the **Opal**

National Colours are **Green** and **Gold**



WHO'S WHO AT A GLANCE**Executive**

Principal Don HUDSON
Secondary Deputy Roger HORTON
Primary Deputy Sally THOMPSON
Secondary Head Teachers:
Humanities Vanessa SHULTZ;
Maths/PE Wayne HOLT
TAS/LOTE Christopher GLADYS
Welfare Deborah GILBERT
Primary Assistant Principals:
 Stan BACKHOUSE & Carol WILLS
School Administrative Manager:
 Sue ROBARDS.

Friends of the School

Elizabeth (Betty) BBRAMBLE,
 OAM and Jack IRELAND, OAM



We're on the Web!
bulahdelah-
c.schools.nsw.edu.au

HOW TO CONTACT US**Mail**

8 Meade St, Bulahdelah,
 2423

Telephone

Admin Office 4997 4329
 Canteen 4997 4766

Fax

4997 4512

Email

bulahdelah-
 c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Bulahdelah Central School

was established in 1868 and from that time, has served a supportive community between Forster & Tea Gardens. The school is located below Alum Mountain, with spacious, well laid-out grounds. As a central school, BCS serves the needs of students from Kindergarten to year 12 on the same site, in a friendly, caring manner. The school has developed close educational links with our partner primary schools as we are all proud members of the Myall Learning Community.

Bulahdelah Central School
 teaches the values of

PRIDE-
Participation
Respect
Innovation
Determination
Excellence

Strive to Achieve

