Thursday 27th August saw a strong turnout of Aboriginal students and their parents from Bombala High, Bombala Public and Delegate Public Schools attend a gathering held in the High School’s Library.

Andrew Stewart who was representing the Cooma Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) was in attendance and he took the opportunity to meet our local families. The AECG is a non for profit Aboriginal organisation that provides advice on all matters relevant to education and training with the mandate that this advice represents the Aboriginal community viewpoint.

It promotes respect, empowerment and self-determination and believes the process of collaborative consultation is integral to equal partnership and is fundamental to the achievement of equality. The AECG advocates cultural affirmation, integrity and the pursuit of equality to ensure that the unique and diverse identity of Aboriginal students is recognised and valued.

This was the first in a series of planned events that we will be running to further connect with our communities with the next event to be held at Delegate Public School in Term 4. Around forty people attended the gathering and were able to enjoy a relaxing morning tea and the chance to have a yarn with Andrew and staff members from each of the schools.

It was fantastic to see so many people in attendance and it is hoped that this will provide an opportunity for parents in Delegate and Bombala to have a say in the AECG.

The planned smoking ceremony had to be placed on hold due to the weather conditions on the day but it is hoped that this will happen at the next gathering.

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Ebony ‘nails’ her HSC drama performance

On Thursday, 27th August, our Year 12 Drama student, Ebony Ingram, prepared herself for the daunting experience of performing for two Board of Studies Examiners in her Practical Drama Examination.

The examiners arrived to a cold and wet morning at Bombala High School – the second last day of their marking road trip. These examiners spend two weeks ‘on the road’ – they spend a week in Sydney visiting selected schools and then in the second week, they do a tour of various rural, regional and remote schools. Bombala High School is one of the smallest schools they visit.

Ebony has worked extremely hard on the two original performances which were to be marked – one is the Group Performance (or GP), and the other is the Individual Project (or IP). Ebony’s GP was created from scratch earlier in the year by Ebony and her Year 11 colleagues, Davina Duthie, Seanna Cox and James Sullivan. Between then and now, they have studied dramatic theories, techniques and exercises in order to ensure a unique dramatic performance based on the stimulus: ‘A Whirlwind of Possibilities’. These students presented a dramatic performance, ‘Any Which Way’, which examined the myriad of decisions and influences that combine over time to help create the person we ultimately evolve into. Ebony’s character found herself in a variety of situations, each with many decisions to be made, and each with a consequence that had to be accepted. All students gave their best efforts and should be congratulated both for their preparation and performance.

Ebony followed this with an even more daunting task – to perform a monologue for the examiners (her IP). This time she was totally on her own and could rely on no one but herself to create the performance. She had written a monologue in which her character remembers and reflects on her life - the good and the bad – and prepares herself for the future, wavering between pleasant memories of the past and the grim realities of the present. Ebony absolutely ‘nailed’ this performance and impressed the examiners with her command of both character and voice. She was very convincing and held the attention of the audience, including the examiners, for the duration of the performance.

HSC examinations are confronting enough but when they are practical exams like Drama they can be nothing short of terrifying, making many students very anxious. Ebony is to be congratulated for the diligence with which she approached these tasks, the dramatic skills which she applied to both of her performances, and the maturity she demonstrated throughout the whole process.

So now, the written exams…
Our family was transferred to Bombala in 1989, we came from Bass Hill, a suburb of Sydney. This has been my home ever since.

I was born and educated in Nowra, New South Wales. As a teenager, my passion was hockey, in which I excelled, representing the Illawarra region. An opportunity arose whilst I was studying in Year 10 to begin an apprenticeship as a ladies hairdresser which I jumped at, relocating to Sydney. It was quite an experience as Nowra was a country town 38 years ago. I lived on the Woronora River and access was by boat or down a cliff to the house. I finished my apprenticeship back in Nowra and worked as hairdresser for many years. In 1987 I moved back to Sydney and worked at the Ford Motor Company in the kitchen helping prepare food for 1200 workers.

In 1992 I worked at Jolly Rogers in Bombala. This position held me in good stead working with the public tirelessly to support staff and students.

Peter Braden, our Farm Assistant, looks after the school farm as well as completing many handyman jobs around the school. Colin Ryan, our General Assistant, looks after the grounds and general maintenance of our school.

Calli Kidman is our Technology Assistant who keeps our computers and laptops functioning and provides support to Charmaine Clark with the technology in the school.

Sue Morgan, Janelle Devine, Jo Le Rougetel, Kim Reddy, Sharon Hampshire, Kirralee Herron, Marty Harris and Robert Taylor are our School Learning Support Officers who provide such great assistance to our students.

Every day, in so many ways, our valuable SAS Staff supports us in our school. Without our SAS Staff we would not be able to provide the wonderful school that we have here at Bombala High School. National Recognition Week is a great time to thank all our SAS Staff for their hard work and dedication to our school.

Please give them all an extra big smile and thankyou this week!

This week students, parents and staff at Bombala High School would like to acknowledge the hard work done by our SAS Staff as part of SASS National Recognition Week. This year’s theme is ‘Our Jobs, Your Children, Their Future’ and our SAS staff are definitely committed to our school and the students who attend Bombala High.

We have 16 SASS staff who play an invaluable role at our school. Raelene Stevenson who is our School Administration Manager does a wonderful job managing the finances and working with the SAS Staff on a whole range of projects. Kim Elton, Anne Caldwell, Connie Cotterill and Laura Chapman are our School Administration Officers who work tirelessly to support staff and students.

Getting to know…Kim Elton

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9/10 PASS excursion head to Canberra

We left school at 7am ready for a big day with Eden High School. Their big bus picked us up at Nimmitabel and we made our way to our first stop Club Lime in Belconnen.

As we arrived we got changed and ready for the first of our fitness classes. There were some Canberra Raiders finishing a workout. The first class was a Spin Class. Our instructor was full of energy and made us work very hard on the bikes.

She had us working so hard that as we left you could see a puddle of sweat that she had made from our workout. Our next fitness class was a Pump Class. This class was a weighted barbell workout that exercises all the major muscle groups for a more toned, fitter and healthier you. Our instructor was very encouraging and energetic. Each of our classes went for about 40 minutes and by the time we were done, we were ready to leave.

Our next stop was the Australian Institute of Sport. Here we were given 30 minutes in a room full of various activities testing sporting skills. Some activities included shooting basketballs, a wheelchair basketball shot, rowing, cycling, skiing, vertical jump, sprinting foot reaction timer and many more. We were then given a 30 minute tour of some of the facilities at the AIS. Some of these facilities were where the gymnasts and volleyballers train. We were also shown one of the gyms at the AIS were various other people train.

After leaving the AIS, we were on our way to the Belconnen Mall for lunch. Many of us chose healthy options for lunch, whereas those who chose McDonalds were made to do push ups in the Mall before we left.

After lunch we were given 30 minutes to do some window shopping before we were to meet to make our way to Ten Pin Bowling.

We were given one game of Ten Pin Bowling which was a lot of fun. There were some interesting bowling techniques and a lot of gutter balls. After we had finished our game there was a little time to play some air hockey and other video games while we waited for everyone to finish their games as well as wait for our bus.

When we arrived at Rock Climbing, there was a young group of children climbing. Children no older than 8 years, were climbing all the way to the top without any fear, making it look effortless. We then got our harnesses and were given our safety lesson. After we had demonstrated to the instructors that we knew the right procedures we were then able to go and start climbing.

We were given an hour and a half to climb the various walls and some challenging ropes. There was also a little section that you could try and climb without a harness, with a heavily padded mattress floor.

To finish the night off one of the instructors demonstrated how to climb up the wall and on the roof. This was very cool!

Keiarna Rodwell
SRC Reps head to camp at Murrumbateman

Last week Adam, Tanika and I travelled to Murrumbateman to attend an SRC Camp along with 100 other students from the Wagga Wagga Region. The region stretches from here up to Wollongong out to Albury and all the way to Broken Hill.

We arrived on Monday afternoon and were placed in colour groups and dormitories. Tanika, Adam and I were each in separate groups. Our afternoon was filled with games so we could get to know each other.

Tuesday consisted of flexi-workshops in the morning until lunch and then we split into colour groups to discuss ‘Big Ideas’ in our schools. After dinner we played games in the dome with our teams.

On Wednesday we each attended two different flexis. This also ran until lunch. After lunch we competed in the ‘Amazing Race’. This was the first dry day, we had all week. After the ‘Amazing Race’ we went back inside and played ‘Leader Trivia’ until dinner time. After dinner we played musical games. Adam ran ‘Don’t Forget the Lyrics,’ later beating the grand finalist singing ‘Uptown Girl.’ We continued into the evening with ‘The Box Run’ and ‘Making Rain.’

Thursday everyone awoke exhausted but still pushed through a long, full day. We were split into colour groups to finalise our ‘Big Ideas’ before having a large debate. We later saw guest speakers and we all learned valuable skills to improve our school SRC and improve student ‘voice’ in our school. On Thursday night we were rewarded with a 3 hour disco by DJ Matt Brown. The theme for our disco was country hillbillies versus coastal hippies. This was a great way to end our last night together.

We would like to thank Mr Fuiono for taking us on the camp and for driving the bus and also for all his preparation before the camp.

This is, by far, one of the best excursions I have been on and I would recommend it to anybody who is given the opportunity to attend.

Keiarna Rodwell

A Writing Enrichment Program for Year 8 at Bournda EEC

As the second part of Bournda Environmental Education Centre’s programme for National Literacy Week, selected Year 8 students from Bombala, Eden and Bega High Schools were invited to take part in a writing workshop yesterday. It was a joy to present this workshop, once again, to a new group of enthusiastic students.

In this part of the programme, the participants consider narrative viewpoint, creating distinctive ‘voices’ within a text through the use of dialogue and appeals to the senses and the effect of multiple storylines. Using the theme of ‘Voices in the Landscape’, the students composed a narrative seeking to use some of the techniques considered in the workshop. After editing, these works will join the Year 7 ones created two weeks ago and become a travelling exhibition that will be on display at each of the three schools in the coming weeks.

Claudia Tonks, Storm Worley, Nicolah Tellis and Kate Farrell accepted the invitation to attend the workshop and clearly demonstrated their interest in writing and developing their skills. It can be quite a challenge to create a piece of writing, in one session, to be published as part of a display. The efforts of each of the students who have taken part in the workshops this year have been impressive. A credit to themselves and their schools, they are to be congratulated.

Deb Harris
This week in Careers (Week 8 Term 3)

RURAL FIRE SERVICE CADET PROGRAM

Our Year 9 students continue to work well together in the RFS program and graduation is coming up this week. Today will be their last session and will give them time to finalise any last minute skills before their graduation ceremony and demonstration on Thursday 3 September. All parents and caregivers have been formally invited to the ceremony, demonstration and light luncheon and we look forward to seeing how all their hard work has culminated. A big thank you to John and Danny for their excellent leadership and instruction.

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG IN2UNI WORKSHOP (UOW)

Last Tuesday saw our inaugural video conference with Brittany from UOW. Due to our technology upgrade we had no VC equipment operating so the Primary School kindly let us use their connected classroom. This session focused on deconstructing HSC English questions and gave students all the necessary information to improve their understanding of the requirements of HSC questions including a focus on the verbs used.

The students participated in a number of different activities including essay writing and sentence and paragraph structures. A big thank you to UOW for this very informative program. We value our partnership with them. Just a reminder also about the two programs UOW are offering our students, designed to give students an edge in the HSC. The Year 12 Summer Master Classes will run over the three weeks during the January school holidays between Tuesday 5 January and Wednesday 20 January 2016. Students will get to experience life as a university student and will be awarded with 6 unspecified credit points, a guaranteed UOW Early Admissions Interview and be eligible to apply for the $1000 In2Uni Schools Partnership Scholarship. The Master Class application fee is $430 payable once students have been selected to participate however, students can also apply for a free place. Master Class subjects include: An Introduction to University Science, Fundamentals of Business Management, Human Geography and Designing Business Information Systems. Some courses are offered via the Bega Campus also. Please pick up a brochure if you are interested. Further information is available at: www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway.

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIONS CENTRE (UAC)

Our Year 12 students are currently busy applying for their preferred university courses on the UAC website. This is also where they can apply for early entry to university via the Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS). Both these applications close at midnight 30 September 2015. If you have any problems or require any assistance please see me or visit the website: www.uac.edu.au

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

A quick reminder that the local scholarship packages are available from me if you haven’t picked one up yet.

CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

This service offers professional, friendly and impartial advice following the release of HSC results. The service is free and available by phone (1 300 300 687) or through their website (www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au). Parents and carers may also use this service if they are seeking advice on their student’s behalf. The Careers Advisory Service is available from Friday 18 December to Wednesday 23 December 2015. The website also contains helpful information to assist students in clarifying course choices, employment opportunities, career pathways and training options.
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND (UNE)

Information has arrived for any Year 12 student interested in studying at UNE next year. The brochures include available scholarships and early entry courses. There are step by step guides on how to apply also. If any student is thinking of studying at UNE next year, please come and collect this valuable information as the application for their early entry program is not through UAC.

CAREERS NETWORK MEETING

Last Thursday I was fortunate to attend a Careers Association of Australia (CAA) funded network meeting at Karabar High School. This was a very informative day which included sessions from BOSTES on the impact of Australian Professional Standards on Careers Advisers as well as CICA Benchmarks for a quality career development service in our school. We were also introduced to a fantastic resource, the Career Tools Website which I am hoping to purchase for 2016. There was also the opportunity to visit the Karabar Distance Education Centre and network with other Careers Advisers from our region. Thank you to Jenny Brunskill at Karabar High School for organising the event and to CAA for their financial support to ensure we could all attend. As a direct response to some of the issues raised at the meeting, I will be putting together a short survey early next term which will explore how we can make our careers service in the school even better for the future.

AUSTRALIAN CAREERS SERVICE WORKSHOP

I attended this workshop last Friday in Canberra. Representatives from a variety of post school options were available to talk to and gain a deeper understanding of what they have to offer. The institutions included Defence Force Recruiting, the Academy of Interactive Entertainment and the Whitehouse Institute of Design. This was a very valuable workshop and I would like to thank Bombala High School Executive for the opportunity to attend.

Donna Shelley

Simon Till of Year 7 interviews Danny Yeadon, Field Services Coordinator in charge of last week's migration to a new server and computer system.

Simon: Hi Danny.
Danny: Hi Simon.
Simon: What is it that you actually do?
Danny: I work with technology for the Department of Education, supporting both primary and high schools in this southern area from here up to Goulburn, bringing school networks up to a better standard.
Simon: How did you get this job?
Danny: I originally worked with the railways and then I studied a Diploma of Information Technology. I then began work with IT for the railways. Eventually I moved across to the Department of Education supporting schools.

Simon: What is the problem with the network at our school?
Danny: Well, all schools are moving to eT4L which is ‘enhanced Technology for Learning’, which is a more stable network with more resources.
Simon: Can you get Year 7 their laptops quicker?
Danny: (laughs) No. Unfortunately the laptops had to wait for us to finish doing this upgrade.

Simon: Do you like what you do?
Danny: Yes, it’s a great job, Meeting people, cabling, fixing computers and travelling around visiting schools.

Simon: Thank you Danny for letting me interview you.
Danny: Thank you Simon. It was really nice to make the time to be interviewed.

Simon: I’ve never shaken someone’s hand before. I was a bit nervous at the start because I’m nervous meeting new people, but you are really nice.

Thanks Danny.
Jam Drops with Year 6

Yesterday saw Year 6 from Bombala Public School visit Food Tech as part of our Transition to High School Program.

They had a great time working with Year 9 Food tech students who guided them in making jam drop biscuits.

By the end Year 6 had made some new Year 9 friends and had some delicious jam drops to take home.

I wonder if any jam drops made it home.

Danial Bartle
Year 9

2015 Tennis Competition Commencing

The spring tennis competition is set to commence at 7:00pm on Monday 7 September at tennis courts. Contact Dave Murphy for info on 02 6458 7111

A word of thanks….  

A huge thank you must go to all our on-site and visiting IT staff, who went above and beyond to make sure our transition to eT4L was as smooth as possible.

Footy Colours Day

Last Friday in conjunction with Bombala Public school we held a ‘wear footy colours’ day. The day was held to raise funds for cancer research.

Bombala High raised $118.00

Coming Events

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER
Parent assembly graduating RFS Cadets@ 12:30pm in the hall

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER
Snowboarding

MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER
Yr 11 Video Conference-UNOW

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER
School President speeches and elections

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER
Year 7 Immunisation

Yr 7-11 NSW Fire Brigade Rescue Education

This morning we had a lovely phone call from ‘Rosemary’, a visitor to our town who, while walking her two large dogs, came across one of our students as he walked to school this morning. On opposite sides of the street, Rosemary sat down on the kerb to adjust her gloves, and was very impressed that despite the size of the dogs, the student crossed the street to see that she was okay. In her words the student displayed “the perfect mix of caution and caring”.

To Rosemary, thank you for your feedback. To the unidentified student, we say well done on modelling our school values so well. Keep up the good work!

Boreham twins and Nicolah Tellis


Chance Westaway and Sam Power