



## The Balgowlah Boys Campus Newsletter

### Principal's Report Week 8 Term 3

I sit in front of my desktop with another difficult decision to make, I ponder how many of my of my principal colleagues are put in such a position as this....

What do I place on the front page of the school newsletter; do I celebrate the amazing MAD performance that was held last week, in which over 400 students either performed, displayed their work or worked behind the scenes? A truly remarkable program that should perhaps take centre stage, or should I proudly announce another outstanding set of results that Balgowlah Boys produced in the National Literacy and Numeracy testing, NAPLAN.

The fact that I was unable to attend this performance has impacted on my decision, so firstly, our amazingly talented students and staff.



*Student performances*





*Visual Art displays in the library*



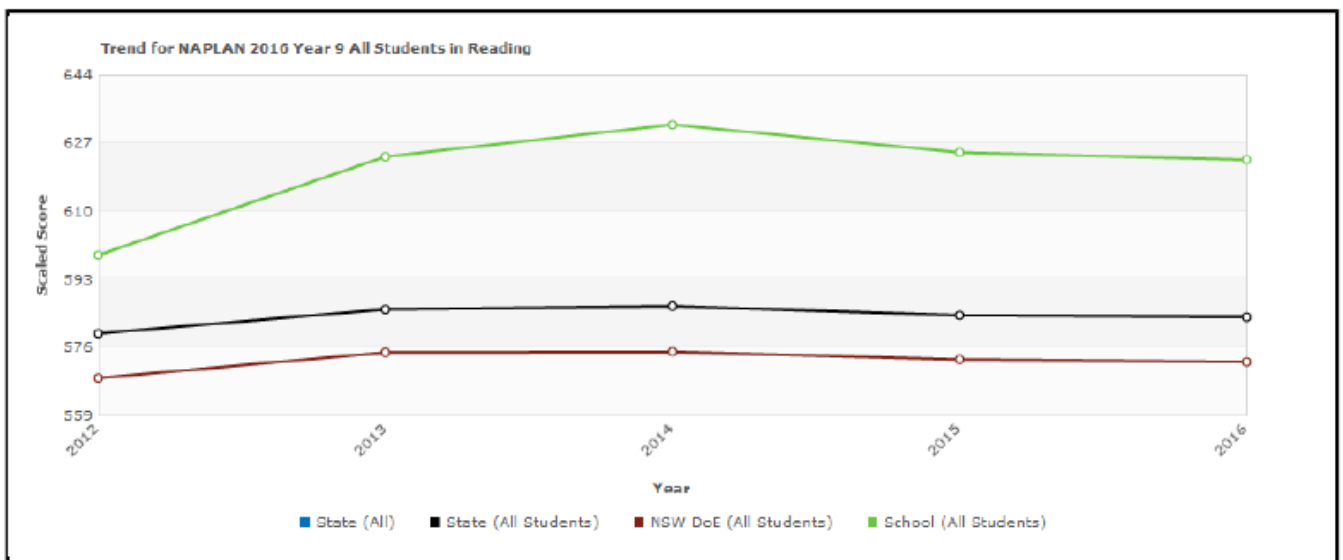
*Year 9 Design and Technology*



## **NAPLAN**

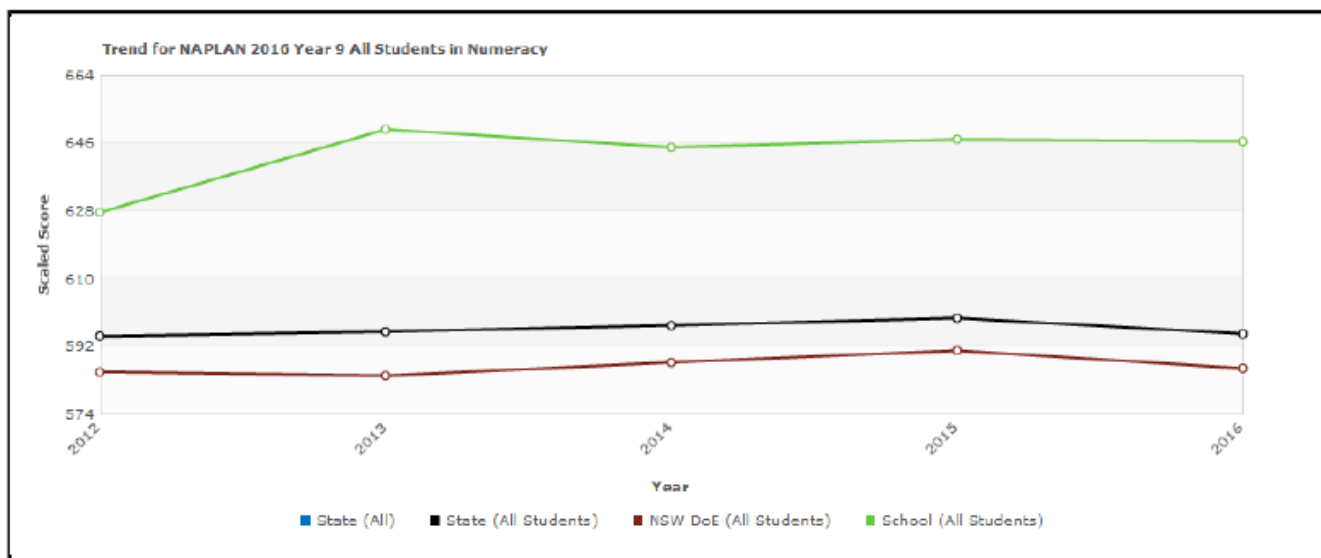
Once again Balgowlah Boys has produced outstanding NAPLAN results. The following data sets demonstrate the average growth that has occurred with Balgowlah students, from when tested in year 7 to when tested in year 9.

### *Trend data for Reading Growth over last 5 years*

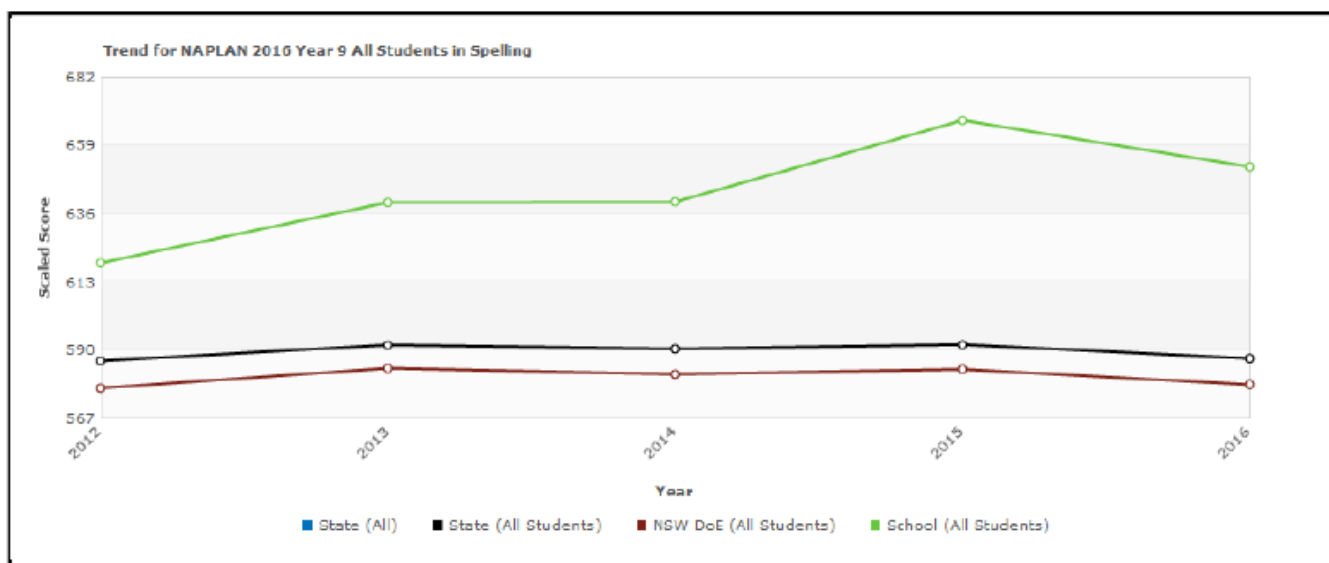


Note, the green line is Balgowlah, the black line is average for all state schools, the red is average for all state government schools.

**Trend data for Numeracy Growth over last 5 years**



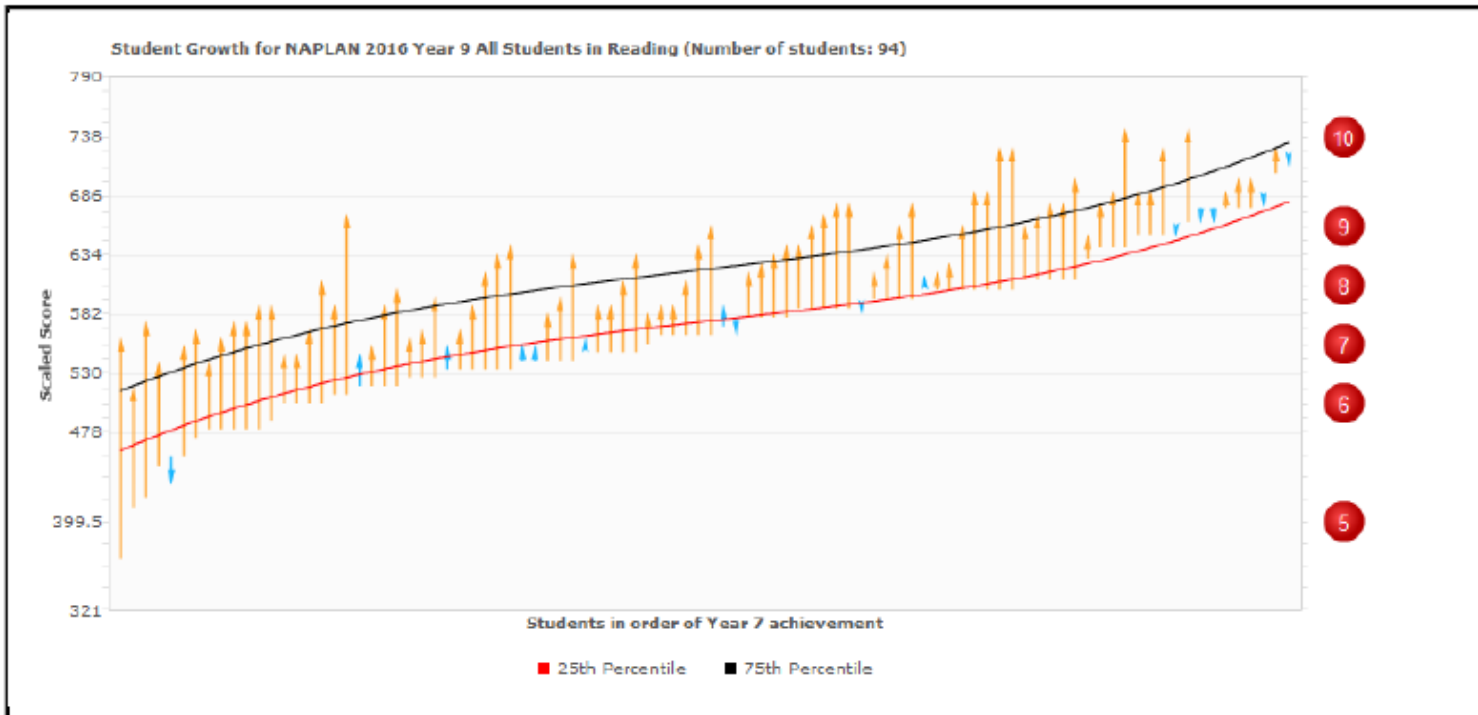
**Trend data for Spelling Growth over last 5 years**



One might argue that 2016 reflected a downturn from 2015; certainly the graph demonstrates such a trend, however, if you compare the 2016 data to state averages there is still remarkable growth.

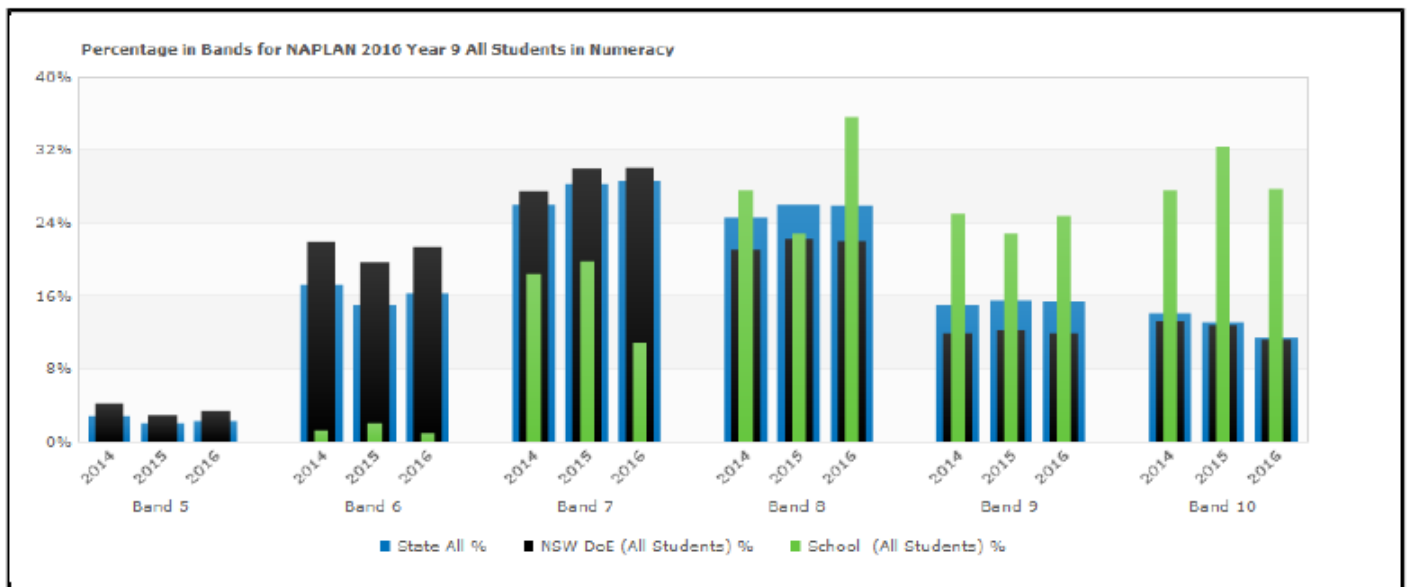
There has been much debate as to the significance of NAPLAN testing, we never set our goal to be the best in the state. What this school did engage in is the feedback that can be provided by this type of testing and how we could use this feedback. For instance the following graph shows each student in year 9 represented as an arrow. The colour of the arrow represents if the student produced expected growth (orange is expected growth reached, blue not); the size of the arrow relative to the size of the growth.

## Student Growth in Reading 2016



Apart from telling us how well the boys have developed at a glance. We can hover over each arrow, identify the student, their actual growth, what competencies they got wrong, the correct response, sample activities to develop their skill or knowledge in that competency. This is the real value in taking this testing seriously – it certainly has and will continue to be an important learning tool at Balgowlah Boys Campus.

## Performance in Bands for Year 9 Numeracy



I will be presenting this data in greater detail at the P & C meeting next week.

**Paul Sheather**

**RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | EXCELLENCE**

## **Breakfast Club**

Here at Bally we offer breakfast every Tuesday morning to anyone who's hungry. This is lovingly supported by Balgowlah Heights Hot Bread Shop and Harbord Growers at Stockland Balgowlah. I'd like to express my thanks for their ongoing support. If you're in the neighbourhood drop in to these fine establishments and buy some of their goods.

**Kieran Degan**

## **Signing in at the Front Office**

### **Year 11 & 12 Parents:**

Would you please remind your sons that they must sign in at the office every morning **Before** they go to class so that they are marked present at school. This will ensure that you do not receive a text message advising that your son is absent from school, when he is actually present.

### **Late to School year 7 to 10:**

If your son is late to school for any reason, would you please make sure that he signs in at the office – **Prior to going to class** – to prevent unnecessary text messages being sent to you advising that your son is absent from school when he is actually present.

## **Sport Report**

Summer sport (T4 2016 and T1 2017) selections commence on Wed 14<sup>th</sup> September during normal sport times. Sport selection notes were emailed home last week. If you missed the email a PDF copy of the note is available on the Balgowlah Boys Campus website and also on the BBC Facebook page. Hard copies are also available at the office or PE staffroom.

Please acknowledge that many sports fill quickly. The order of preference this season goes to boys in Year 10-7 in reverse alphabetical order (Z-A), so please ensure that your son has a back-up sport. Enrolment and payment is all done on the day. Please no forms in advance. Please also note that boys must have their own equipment for tennis, golf, surfing and skating.

Grade sport finals concluded on 127<sup>th</sup> August with Volleyball and Senior Soccer progressing through to the Super-finals on 24<sup>th</sup> August. The Volleyball boys beat Cromer 2-1 to emerge winners. Well done Mr Hawkins and the boys on your efforts. The Soccer boys lost against Manly HS, thank-you Mr May for taking this team.

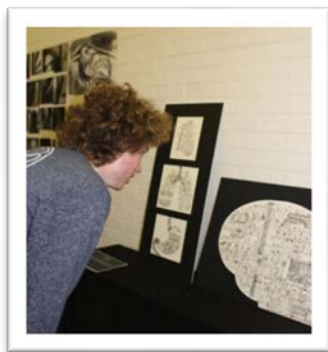
Congratulations to Joey Steggall & Oscar Hume who were selected to represent NBSC at The Australian Interschool's Snowsports Championships in Perisher this week. Our best wishes to you both.

Our very popular Sports Achievement Assembly is on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (Week One, Term 4) where we will recognise these boys and many more for their commitment and efforts to Bally Sport in 2016. Boys receiving awards will be sent invites home this week.

**Dave Morris**  
Sports Organiser

### Visual Arts Report

Visual Arts at Balgowlah Boys Campus had an incredibly successful MAD2016 - we think it was our best exhibition yet! The quality of the works displayed by our students from Years 7-12 was outstanding, and this year's HSC bodies of work were of a particularly high standard.



We would like to thank architect and Balgowlah Boys parent Kathlyn Loseby for opening the event on the Tuesday evening; the evening was very well attended and enjoyed by all. We would also like to thank Ms Fitzpatrick and the Year 11 Hospitality students for their wonderful catering of the event,



Mr Burton for working so hard to hang the HSC works with us, Mr Ian May for the fabulous display created for our Year 7 insects, as well as the many students who assisted with set up, presentations and other tasks essential for a successful night.

We are also excited to report that our Year 9 Elective Visual Arts students will be exhibiting their artworks inspired by the site and stories of the Quarantine Station at the Manly Arts Festival from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 10am – 4pm. The class will be having their own opening night on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September at the Quarantine Station. RSVPs may be sent to [sally.leaney@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sally.leaney@det.nsw.edu.au).

More information can be found at <http://www.manly.nsw.gov.au/attractions/gallery/manly-arts-festival-2016/> where you can download a copy of the festival program.

Year 12 HSC Visual Arts bodies of works are ready to be sent to BOSTES for marking. We are very pleased with the quality of works produced by our HSC students this year, and would like to congratulate them on their efforts in developing sophisticated technical strength and meaning in their works. Students will now need to work on practising past papers and developing Section II essay responses in preparation for their HSC Examination. Students are encouraged to see Ms Sally Leaney or Mr Chris Boylan if they have any questions about the upcoming examination or if they need extra assistance.



**Ms Sally Leaney**  
Visual Arts Teacher

## The Faculty of Arts Music

Another year, another Magnificent, Astonishing and Distinguished showcase. This years' MAD saw more entries than ever with audition schedules tightly packed in the lead up to the main event. Due to the extraordinary amount of performances, the two nights of MAD featured completely difference musical acts from the Elective Music students.

The Year 7 and 8 Combined Choir stole the show, with their performance of a wide range of repertoire and Acapella interpretations. The hard work and dedication they undertook during Music lessons and combined rehearsals wowed the audience as students performed all five pieces from memory and with accompaniment provided by the live Concert Band.



The student run Production Crew conducted themselves in the most professional manner, ensuring that all lighting and sound equipment was functioning and that stages were preset for acts, making change over between performances as streamline as possible.

MAD2016 has raised the bar. We can't wait to see what is in store for next year!



## **Year 8 Report**

Term 3 already and our boys in year 8 have again been setting new benchmarks in all aspects of school life. In Project Penguin last term, teachers from Manly Vale Public constantly commented on the exceptional effort and application our mentors displayed in supporting their students. Special mention goes to our top two mentors, Geoff O'Neil and Sebastian Bland, as well as Lincoln Wood and Max Smith who spoke eloquently on the presentation day at Taronga Zoo. Other schools run this program with year 10 students, so it is so pleasing to see 31 of our boys demonstrating their credentials as future leaders.

Whilst an arduous task, reading all of the year 8 reports was an immensely satisfying experience. The most pleasing aspect was the level of effort our boys are making in class. We used this as the basis for class awards in the "By Effort We Achieve Presentation". In some classes it was such a close competition for the awards that boys with over six "fives" for effort were denied an award. It is an old cliché but never more true that we just can't award enough of our wonderful boys so please know that our pride and congratulations go with all the boys.

Homework club has begun again on Tuesday afternoons. This term we are teaching specific study skills for 10 minutes at each session before we allow the boys to move on to specific tasks for homework, assignments or study. It starts at 3.20 in the library and runs an hour with snacks provided and plenty of help from teachers. Please encourage your son to participate in this valuable opportunity.

Family holidays are important times for bonding and learning experiences beyond the school experience. If you need to remove your son from school during term please ensure that you clearly communicate this to the office in writing as per the DEC policy on student absence.

We will be meeting all the boys in one-on-one interviews, beginning next week. The purpose of this is to give them an opportunity to let us know how they are going and anything they feel would help their success in the future. We will be visiting the boys during ELAN so it will take us many weeks to visit with all 156 boys. As always, if your son or yourself have any concerns there is no need to wait, we always welcome students who want to ask a question, need guidance or seek reassurance.

Whilst it is only term three 2016, plans for the 2017 year 9 camp are underway and we hope to communicate details of this later in the term. We aim to run the camp early in Term 1 2017. Camps can be a difficult expense for families but they are vital in connecting students to peers and school life in general as well as fostering personal growth. If you believe it will be difficult for your family to meet the expense of camp by the end of this year please discretely let us know well in advance and will set up a payment plan from the start of term 4 to allow parents to more comfortably pay off the cost of camp.

On a final note, we have been forming a year 8 committee of around 15-20 boys, representative of all the social groups in our year to assist us in making plans for the year group as a whole. We would dearly love it if we could have a similar representation from parents. This would not be an arduous task, potentially we are asking for about a half hour meeting of parents once a term. Please make contact with us at the school if you feel you would like to be part of this group?

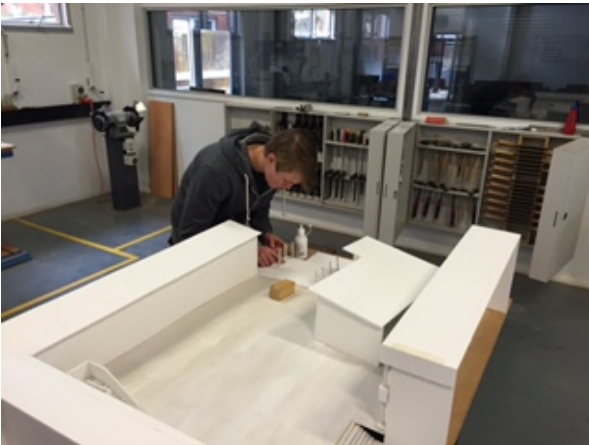
**Daniel O'Brien and Ian May**  
**Year 8 Advisors**



## Year 12 D&T Major Works

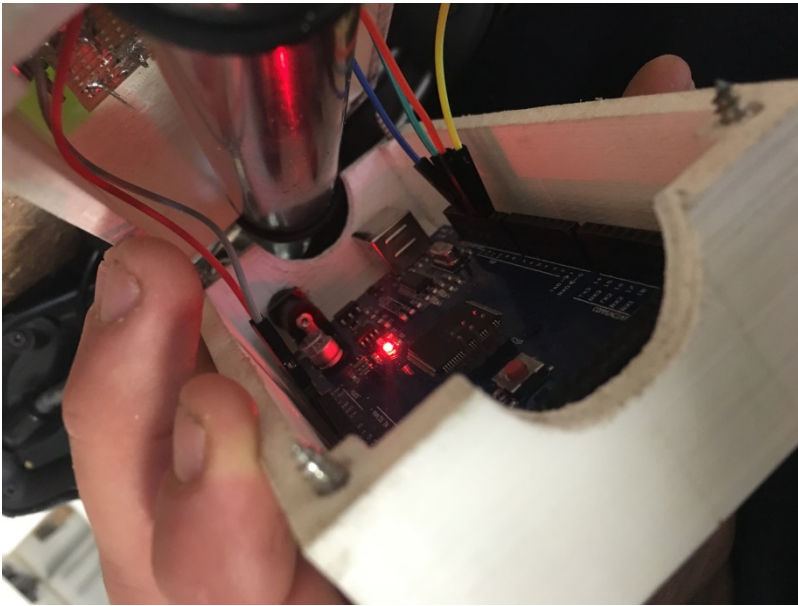


*Owen Sheather; Google Shetchup design for Canteen Quad area.*



*Architectural Model*





*Shaun Falzarano; Bike safety sensor*

*Sensor mounted on bike*





*"By using emerging technologies we engage boys in innovation and future pathways"*

## M.A.D. Display



*Year 11 Timber students have been working industriously every week to produce their wall clock projects.*



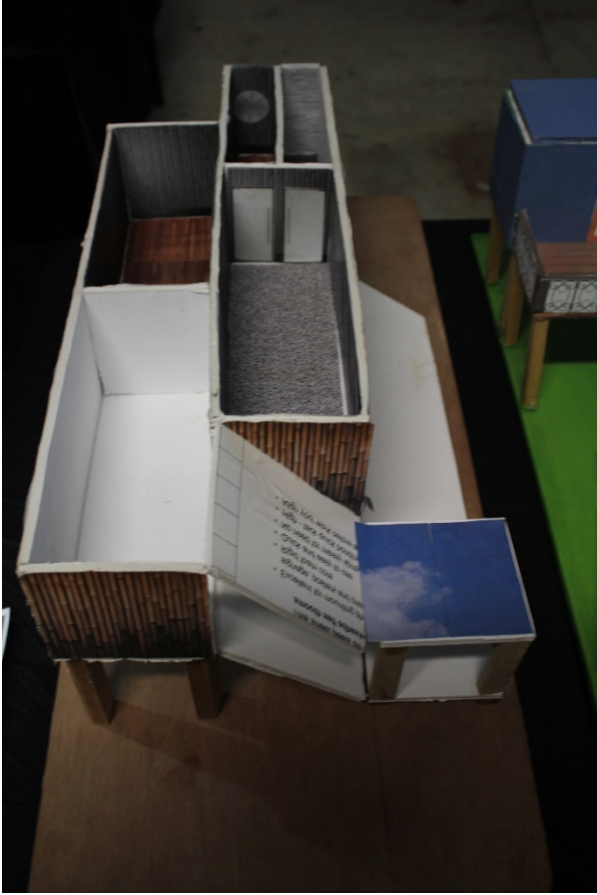


*Year 9 Timber students have been designing their own jewellery boxes using advanced joinery such as finger joints to create their custom designs.*



*Year 8 Technology class have been busy making skateboard decks this term. They also have completed their extended writing task on technology topic.*





***10 Design and Technology students have been designing their own studio living spaces using old shipping containers. They were allowed to use 2 shipping containers to design their studio living space. Students made scaled models as well as detailed CAD drawings to propose their solutions.***



*Year 12 Construction students have been attempting their final cluster assignment this term by demonstrating knowledge and skills in offsite manufacturing and carpentry projects. Students have been making carry all tool box and knock down fitting as well as a picnic table for the school. The TAS faculty wishes all students very best luck in their HSC exam preparation and their future endeavours.*

## **French**

Year 8 French completed their French food assessments this week, culminating in the end of the food unit. This assessment required students to choose a French dish from a French recipe website, research the history of their chosen dish, make it at home and bring it to class for all to share.

All of the dishes were amazing. Some examples of the food brought in were; salade Niçoise, tarte au citron, galette de rois, beignets and crêpe Suzette. I would like to give a big thank you to all the boys for participating and to their families for helping them as well.

