



The Balgowlah Boys Campus Newsletter

Principal's Report

Week 10 Term 4 2018

This is the last newsletter for 2018 and there is much to celebrate. The HSC Results released last week revealed that our boys did themselves and the school proud! Balgowlah was ranked 62nd in the state, the second highest ranking for a public, comprehensive (non-selective) school.

Once again, our English faculty attained results that should not be achieved in a comprehensive school. Placed 7th in the state, this is now the fourth time in succession the school has been placed in the top 10.



The image published in the Sun Herald. Four of our top performing students. (left to right) Jesse Lilley, Josh Smith, Nikita Chopenko, Ms Aimee Jan, Thomas Southgate.

The article reads;

"Balgowlah Boys' – a public, all boys school on Sydney's northern beaches – is becoming renowned for its excellent results, particularly in English, where it has finished near the top of the state for four years."

I would like to publically congratulate the teachers, particularly those that taught these boys in their Year 12 courses. They put in an enormous effort to ensure the boys produce their very best.

From the awards presented at Presentation Day on the 11th December, it appears that there will many more newspaper articles in the future. Below are some of the highlight of the assembly;



Dux for 2018 Josh Smith presented with the Freshwater Community Bank Scholarship – valued at \$5,000



Cristobal Vasquez, recipient of the Ed Szanto Award for the Improved Performance



Callum McKay receives the Caltex All-rounder Award



Wordsworth Awards 2018



Gold Awards for the Premiers Reading Challenge



Year 7 Academic Recipients 2018



Year 9 Academic Recipients 2018



Year 11 Academic Recipients 2018



Dux of the Year Awards for 2018

Deputy Principal's Report

We are very proud of the students who have worked so hard this year to improve their academic results. Better grades come from putting in extra hours both at school and at home. Of course, I would like to thank parents who have encouraged their sons and have remained patient as they negotiate the high school journey together. There were a number of boys who excelled; not just academically, but also across a range of career focused subject areas. Any student who worked consistently and learnt from their mistakes is destined for success. To all our 2018 HSC candidates I wish them all the best as they head out into the world to pursue their dreams.

The staff at Bally Boys are truly amazing. Repeatedly they made huge efforts in the classroom and after hours as they spurred on and inspired their students to develop their skills and knowledge.

2019 begins for Years 7, 11 & 12 students on Wednesday 30.01.19.
Year 7 will assemble in the hall at 9am and receive their new timetables.
Yr12 will convene in the library for a short meeting before classes.
Yr11 will meet in the Quad.

Years 8, 9 & 10 begin school on Thursday 31.01.19.
Yr8 will meet in the hall Period One.
Yr9 will meet in the Quad Period One
Yr10 will meet in the Library.
Friday 1st February will be a normal school day.

I wish all our community a safe & happy Christmas and New Year.

Ian James



Students trying to find a novel in the library during our wide reading classes is like explorers venturing into the unknown in search of fabled cities – the collection of PRC books is extensive. When our boys finally discover their perfect read, they rush to their favourite spot in the library, settle quickly into their ottoman and get lost all over again, becoming so captivated by the world of the story that it is often difficult to bring them back.

Those guilty of such an escape are our wonderful Premier's Reading Challenge recipients who have successfully completed the 2018 Challenge and received their certificates, gold and platinum awards. Congratulations!

Year 7 Premier's Reading Challenge Certificates and Awards

Frederick Agius, Ignacio Aylwin, Jasper Berry, Alex Brigden, Jai Cefai, Donald Danilo, Finn de Mars, Emmanuel Enriquez, Cameron Farrugia, Xavier Gillespie, Connor Gordon, Spike Hancock, Alex Hughes, Liam Karunaratne, Artie Leiper, Ellis Litchfield, Cameron Lorenzo, Otto Maxwell, Oscar McLelland, Frederico Payne, Kale Perry, Tenzin Platter, Ervin Poursoltan, Nicholas Ridge, Louis Rounsley, Brandan Shapter, Thomas Sokolow, Luca Vasquez-Buzzolini, Louis Vichemont, Jack Ward

Gold: Cooper Franks, Luca Leplastrier, Flynn Simpson

Platinum: Joel Davies-Sparks, Sam Henderson, Sean Itzhaki, Christian Lauber

Year 8 Premier's Reading Challenge Certificates and Awards

Sam Davies, Ben Dryburgh, Yannis Frerck, Owen Frost, Bradley Hoy, Joshua Kohe-Love, Aydan Masters, Tyler Smith

Platinum: Alexey Beale

Mrs Helen Lepre

PRC co-ordinator

Year 10 Report

Well done again to our great young men of Year 10 on completing junior school. It was such a fantastic experience to see them all let their hair down in such a positive way at the formal and show the many delightful young ladies they brought what excellent gentlemen they have become.



Whilst this went on there was a vast array of careers being tested on work experience whilst at Australian Business Week several student had a taste of life running a large listed company. Special mention must go to Mrs Phani who worked tirelessly to make sure work experience was again a meaningful time.

Our thoughts now turn to the next step of continuing the chain of success in stage six at Bally. The boys came together for an information session at the start of week 9 where they got ready by getting sized up for their new, crisp, white shirts, sign on processes and most importantly the expectations and requirements they need to fulfil when the start Year 11 in 2019. The main areas to remember are:

- Understand the nature and repercussions of plagiarism
- Look at the NESA website for all things HSC (syllabus, exams)
- Purchase your new shirt this term to ensure it will be ready week one 2019 otherwise it will be week 2
- Details on Senior Jerseys will be posted on Canvas in the holidays ready for a vote and fitting by week 2 term 1
- ..and most important ... When you start year 11, study "everything every day".
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Sadly we do say goodbye to a small number of the boys and to you we wish you all the best. To all the excellent young men of year 10 returning, enjoy your Christmas and the break, be good to your families, and come out of the blocks in 2019 ready and firing.

Daniel O'Brien and Bernard Roberts
Year 10 advisors

A Time for Reflection

As the year draws to a close, I take the time to reflect upon my three terms at Balgowlah Boys Campus and consider all the wonderful staff, students and parents I have had the opportunity to meet and work with. Working as a school counsellor is a privilege and one I never take for granted. To be taken into the inner thoughts, dreams and aspirations of our young men continues to inspire me and provides me with hope and optimism for our future. Within most young men I see a deep and rich values, a willingness to connect and improve and a continuing desire to be better men. As educators and teachers it is always up to us to be positive role models for our boys so they have a rich path to follow. So what does being a positive adult role model look like?

For me it looks like the following:

- Apologising when I have made a mistake or hurt someone
- Being polite and respectful to whomever I meet and knowing that a simple “excuse me”, “no thank you” and “yes please” can make a huge difference to someone’s day
- Taking the time to talk with those in need
- Swapping anger with kindness, intolerance with tolerance and selfish with selfless
- Remembering that my values may not be that of others, but provided both sets of values come from a good place, it is okay
- Remembering that everyone is fighting a battle I know nothing about
- Sharing my wealth. Wealth is a relative term but know even a Christmas donation of \$10 can make a difference
- Picking up rubbish that is not mine, particularly near waterways where it will ultimately end up in our ocean
- Opening the door for someone or allowing them in front of me in a queue
- Treating all women respectfully and speaking out against boys and men who do not
- Unashamedly telling those I love that I love them

Whilst Christmas is a wonderful time for many, it also can be a difficult time many and it is important we acknowledge, support and also care for these individuals and families. If by chance you find yourself or someone you know struggling over the break, please go to the school’s website where you can find a whole list of websites, agencies and organisations who can help. To access these go to the school’s website, *Supporting our Students* and then *External Support and Guidance* or type in: <https://nbscbalgb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/supporting-our-students/external-support-and-guidance.html>

I wish everyone a very merry Christmas, a happy new year and a very safe holiday.

Ross Whitfeld

Music



We have had an excellent year in Music with all students from Stage 4 learning new instruments, such as guitar, keyboard, ukulele and drums to develop their performance skills. Year 7 have explored a range of musical styles from Australian Music to Music Technology, whilst Year 8 have deepened their awareness of Film Music, Popular Music and Rock Music. Stage 5 students have spent time mastering their skills on a chosen instrument in preparation for solo performances throughout the year. Year 9 have delved into the world of Musical Theatre and Jazz, whilst Year 10 have performed music for small ensembles and composed music that addresses global issues, incorporating positive messages to promote change.

Our new Year 12 students have begun their HSC journey, busily preparing themselves for assessment tasks. We wish them the best in their studies over the next 12 months. Congratulations to the class of 2018. All students came through with excellent results in Music that are well deserved after 6 years of hard work. Our Music Extension students Joshua Smith and Julian McKay's major works were awarded with the top band, and they both achieved a Band 6 result for Music 2. Julian was lucky enough to receive an Encore Nomination and a place at the Sydney Conservatorium to study a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Performance commencing in 2019. We wish the boys all the best for their future ventures.

The school hosted a training event for music teachers from all over New South Wales in November in conjunction with a company called "Musical Futures" (M.F.). The school provided training for 33 teachers from primary and secondary schools from around the Sydney region. "Musical Futures" provides resources to music teachers in order to promote practical and active music making within lessons. Hosting such events will lead to the school attaining "Musical Futures champion school status" as the school already uses these resources within music lessons. By developing this relationship, the school music department will gain notoriety and endorsements for being a champion school.

Notable achievements in music 2018

- School band tour to local primary schools
- New programs in lower school stage 4 which were embraced by the boys
- Concert band and Stage band performing some excellent shows including a very successful school concert evening
- Hosting Musical Futures training and integrating the programs into the curriculum
- Gaining funding from P+C for the development of the recording studio
- Year 7 and 8 regularly performing in class ensembles with video recordings
- Year 9 elective numbers increasing due to better engagement in curriculum lessons
- Signing up to complete training of new teachers from UNSW



Visual Arts

2018 has been a big year in the Visual Arts. We have had an extremely full and rewarding program and we thank all the students who have participated in Visual Arts projects and events this year. Thank you also to the P and C who have supported us in some of our larger events in the form of sponsorship and community engagement with our Mural

Projects. Thank you to all the staff, Ms Leaney, Ms Hamilton, and Mrs Curran for all your efforts in providing an exciting Visual Arts program in 2018.

Some notable achievements this year have included:

- The inaugural Year 12 Visual Arts Showcase of HSC Bodies of Work
- The 'Live the Dream' mural with Year 10 students and artists Elliott Routledge (numskull) and Cam Wall.
- Year 10 Abstract painting workshops with artists George Raftopoulos and Maria Stoljar (talking with Painters Podcast)
- The Year 10 Abstract Exhibition and Art Prizes in the artrooms
- The Year 9 Quarantine Station excursion and exhibition as part of the 2018 Manly Arts Festival
- The Year 9 incursion with Ben Brown
- Year 7 Gifted and Talented site study with Geography
- Year 12 2018 'Express yourself Manly Art Gallery' nominees Josh Smith, Conor English and Jy Martin.
- Excellent HSC results 2018 including a Band 6 for Josh Smith, acceptance into National Art School for Conor English, and acceptance into UNSW fine arts/education for Jy Martin

We look forward to a huge 2019 and are already planning big things. We are currently renovating the art rooms and planning for more murals, exhibitions, artist visits, excursions, and quality teaching and learning programs.

See you next year

Chris Boylan

Library Lines

Throughout 2018 the school library has undergone a huge makeover. Some changes have been highly visible; others have taken place 'behind the scenes' in the engine room.



The new-look circulation desk, thoughtfully designed to reflect modern trends as well as supporting current library best practice has completely transformed the library's overall appearance. The very popular Manga collection has expanded, and is now easily recognisable in a prominent position at the library entrance.

New shelving for valuable reference books has improved the appearance and offered greater visibility and accessibility to resources.

It has been a privilege to work closely with colleagues in the English Faculty this year to refine many teaching resources including the ELaN literacy books for Years 7 – 9. With faculty input and support, a new program was introduced to all Year 7 classes, the **Critical Literacy Program**.

All Year 7 students attended one lesson each two-week cycle to further develop their literacy skills. The Critical Literacy Program included Information Management, The Information Skills Process (based on critical thinking and inquiry learning) and the Harvard Referencing Process, Text Type 1: Information Report and Text Type II: Book Review. Next year, all Year 7 students will attend this program in four episodes, one each term, in consecutive lessons.



There were many boys who have delivered quality work with me this year, however I would like to single out a few for a special mention. **Critical Literacy Quiz results:** 1st in Year 7 - Alrick Helm (7L); 1st in class - Joel Macfarlane (7A), Kale Perry (7B), Leo Blaxwell (7D), Logan Dibble (7E), Aiden Smith (7P), Doolan Grainger and Benjamin Johnston equal (7R) and Daniel Miners (7Y). **Text Type I: Information Report:** 1st in Year - Oscar McClelland (7B). Oscar is to be congratulated on his work ethic. He presented draft copies, sought advice on how to improve his final result and acted upon the advice given. His mature approach and respectful communication with library staff are to be commended. The boys are currently working on Text Type II: Book Review.



Wide-reading is a vital component of critical literacy and all Years 7 and 8 classes regularly attend the school library to avail themselves of the diverse reading collection and the quiet reading space. The boys are welcome to borrow both hard copy library books, eBooks and audio books. Our library is available 24/7.

The Year 7 and 8 boys were all encouraged to read widely for the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge. This year, the number of students who completed the challenge was higher than ever. My heartfelt thanks go to Ms Helen Lepre for her commitment and promotion of this program and the wide-reading classes.



Mr Ben Corby has immersed himself in the role of Teacher-Librarian (Relieving) to enable me to teach the Critical Literacy Program. I am deeply grateful to him for the professional, supportive team-work and his willingness to go the extra mile. His patience and perseverance in managing a total stocktake of 10,000 library books and almost 5,000 English textbooks, has resulted in a solid, accurate account on which we can build in 2019. With the ever increasing number of students attending our school, the demand for extra resources is inevitable. Mr Corby is also responsible for the current 'Holiday Reading' promotion and video clip link which is accessible to all students via CANVAS. I look forward to developing creative and exciting programs with him in 2019.

The addition of Ms Debbie Dimova to the library staff has resulted in a major improvement to library best practice. Ms Dimova has worked closely with the Teacher-Librarian and other members of the English Faculty to streamline management and circulation of both library books and English text books. She is currently revolutionising the Archive collection to improve accessibility of both soft and hard copy records. Her contribution this year has been enormous and her skills and work ethic are greatly respected and appreciated.

School holidays are often a time when students are required to clean up their rooms. If this is the case in your home, please keep an eye out for any book that may belong to our school. We do need large numbers of library and textbooks and replacements are expensive and time-consuming. Your co-operation in encouraging your boys to return these books is greatly appreciated.

Our best wishes go to all for a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to another exciting year in 2019.

Joy Jones
Teacher-Librarian
English Faculty

Holiday reading...

all day, every day!



eBooks and audio books anytime, anywhere!
Our Library is open 24/7

No need to wait – just read.

Borrowing our eBooks is as easy as

1. Download the eBooks app from your app store
2. Find our library and log in using your school ID
3. Browse and borrow an eBook to read on your device

Duke of Edinburgh Award News

Congratulations to students who have actively engaged in the Duke of Edinburgh Award program this year. It is a significant accomplishment alongside academic responsibilities. Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards will continue to be signed off into 2019 as sections are completed.

Year 9 students in 2019 are encouraged to come along to a Bronze Information Evening at Freshwater Senior Campus 5.30pm Wednesday 13th February 2019.

Year 10-12 students can attend an evening outlining the progression steps to Silver and Gold at 5.30pm on Thursday 14th February 2019.

Ms Vicki Busse

NBSC Duke of Edinburgh Award Leader

Bally Basketball

Huge congratulations to the Basketball Juggernaut. Some wonderful results this term;



Year 9 Div 1 Bally Breakers Grand Final Champs back – to – back!



Year 9 Bally Barracudas Grand Final Champions!



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Balgowlah Boys Campus Calendar - Term 1 2019

Jan 1B	28	QUEENS ARRIVAL 	29	SDD	30	Year 7, 11 and 12 return	31	Year 8, 9 and 10 return	1	
Feb 2A	4		5	Yr 12 Cross Campus classes start	6	Staff Meeting	7		8	Swimming Carnival
Feb 3B	11		12		13		14		15	
Feb 4A	18		19		20	Staff Meeting	21		22	
Feb 5B	25		26		27		28		1	
Mar 6A	4		5		6	Staff Meeting	7		8	Zone Swimming Carnival
Mar 7B	11	Final week for year 7 Assessment Year 7 Parent Welcome Evening 6-7 pm	12	Final week for year 7 Assessment	13	Final week for year 7 Assessment	14	Final week for year 7 Assessment	15	Final week for year 7 Assessment
Mar 8A	18	Drama Production in Hall	19	Drama Production in Hall	20	Staff Meeting Drama Production in Hall	21	Drama Production in Hall	22	8-10 Exam Booklets & Outcomes to DP Drama Production in Hall
Mar 9B	25	Yr 7 reports to HT Yr 10/11 Parent/Teacher 4-7 Drama Production in Hall	26	Drama Production in Hall	27	Drama Production in Hall	28	Drama Production in Hall	29	Yr 7 Reports to YA Drama Production in Hall
April 10A	1		2	Yr 12 Assessment Period Yr 7 reports to DP Yr 10 Easter Show	3	Yr 12 Assessment Period Staff Meeting	4	Yr 12 Assessment Period	5	Yr 12 Assessment Period Year 7 Reports Printed
April 11B	8	Yr 12 Assessment Period Yr 8/9 Parent/Teacher 4-7	9	Yr 12 Assessment Period	10	Yr 12 Assessment Period	11	Yr 12 Assessment Period	12	Yr 12 Assessment Period