



The Balgowlah Boys Campus Newsletter

Principal's Report

Week 6 Term 3 2019

Normally at this time of the year, I present the school's NAPLAN data. However, as detailed in the media the results this year have been delayed. Results are being scrutinised due to technical issues with the online testing process. This is one of the reasons Balgowlah has chosen to continue with the written testing. We will be studying the data closely when it is released to identify areas of improvement for the boys.

NESA has removed the connection between NAPLAN results in Year 9 and the minimum standards for the HSC. This has been a much-applauded outcome as it placed far too much pressure on students. These minimum standards will still apply, but will not be assessed until the end of year 10 and even then students can sit the assessment up until, and after their HSC year.

The 2019 Science Techno Museum presentation was held at Manly Campus last Friday and two Balgowlah Boys teams received awards for their presentations.



Balgowlah Boys recipients of Outstanding Techno Award.

130 Bally Geography students competed in the Australian Geography Competition organised by the The Royal Geographical Society of QLD. Balgowlah was among the 792 schools and over 80,000 students that competed across Australia. A large number of Balgowlah students performed exceptionally well, with a total of 25 credits, 28 distinctions and 15 high distinctions. A special mention to Kai Taylor of Year 12 who placed in the top 1% of students across Australia.



***Recipients of
Distinction
Awards for
the
Geography
Competition.***

Congratulations to those students that have been successful in the winter sport competition, including the Senior Grade Soccer for winning their Zone Final on penalties. Congratulations also to the Senior and Junior Touch Teams for convincingly winning their Zone Final!



The Junior Shell Cup team winning the regional championship and moving onto the state finals Oct 30



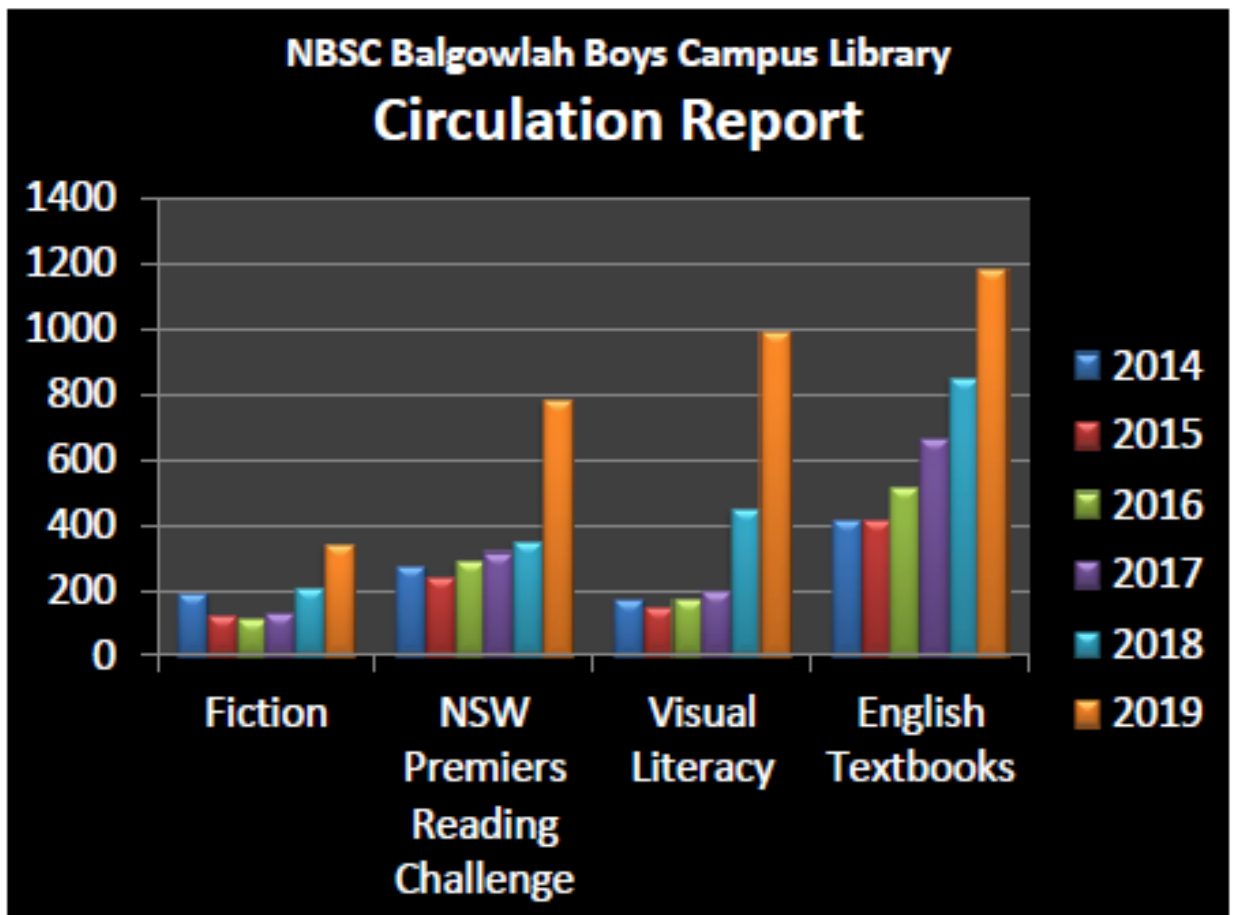
The Balgowlah P&C organised for David Gillespie to present to the Northern Beaches community in the school hall last week. David presented some of the material he researched for his latest book *The Teen Brain*. The strong sale of tickets demonstrates the concern parents on the northern beaches have around the time adolescents spend on digital entertainment.



David Gillespie presenting in the school hall

Library Lines

More, more and even more! This year has seen more boys than ever are and enjoying the wide range of resources available in their library. Our new Year 7 students have displayed a love of reading and are proving to be regular 'borrowers'. Recently almost **500 new titles** were accessioned and reached the shelves. Most were not there for long before they were discovered by eager readers.



The data represented in the above graph is from the same period each year (1st February – 23rd August 2014-2019). The graph above demonstrates the sudden spike in the 2019 borrowing data. This is due partly to the increase in student numbers at the school, but mostly due to the availability of new high-impact resources. Between 2014 and 2016, the number of boys borrowing fiction books changed little however this year although many chose from the **NSW Premiers Reading Challenge** collection, a large number of boys also spread their wings and selected from the general fiction collection.

Visual Literacy is the current favourite with **Manga** and **Marvel** the fore runners. The boys, who regularly borrow from these collections, also tend to return them promptly ready for next in the series. The data does not reflect the number of times books have been browsed through or read while in the library. Books in the **Visual**

Literacy, Reference and Non-Fiction collections are sought after during lunch hour or wide-reading sessions. This also applies to **eBooks** which can be 'opened' for a look and not actually borrowed, **audio books** on our **ePlatform** site also. They offer a 'sample' to listen to. It seems there is a lot of sampling without actual borrowing. The benefit of eBooks and audio books is that once borrowed, the boys do not have to remember to return them. After two weeks they are automatically returned.

With almost five and a half thousand **English Textbooks** on our system, a robust management approach was called for. We are extremely grateful to our P& C for the financial support so generously given. We have been able to refresh the text book collection by replacing lost and badly damaged books as well as topping up the numbers to cater for larger year groups. The new-look book room has allowed for greater access and ease in distribution. Since 2016, the improvement in data is fundamentally due to stricter loan and return procedures driven by Mr Roberts and supported by Library and English Faculty staff.



Return Your TEXTBOOKS!

Please encourage your son to return their text books when asked. There is a strict **'no return, no loan' policy** and without the current text, students are unable to satisfactorily engage in their class work. Should a student misplace or damage a text book, a replacement is acceptable. The alternative is to pay the cost of the book to the Front Office which will allow the purchase of a replacement.

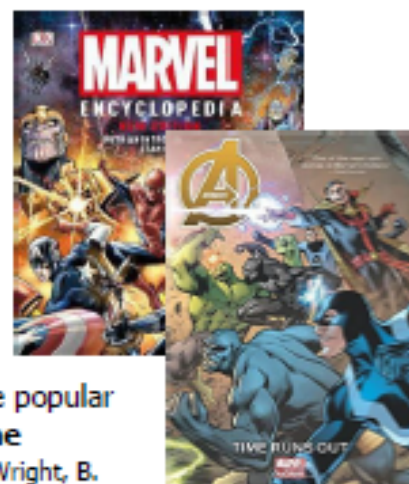
Marvel at Marvel!

This week, yet another batch of brand new books were accessioned are now available in the library. Amongst these are a large number of Marvel comic books including *Time Runs Out* (one of the most epic stories in Marvel history) and a copy of the *2019 Marvel Encyclopedia*.

Beginning its operation in 1929, 'Marvel Comics is the largest publisher of comic books in the United States. It owns many of the popular characters in comic books, including **Spider-Man, the X-Men, the Incredible Hulk, Captain America and the Fantastic Four**'. (Wright, B. W.) Marvel comic books have proven to be extremely popular with our boys and expansion of the collection was an obvious choice.

As all Marvel comic books are expensive and collectors' item, they are shelved behind the circulation desk in the Library and available upon request. Read further...

Wright, B. W. at <https://www.encyclopedia.com/media/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/marvel-comics> [accessed 27th August 2019]



New! New! New!



To support the rapidly increasing interest in **Visual Literacy**, not only have we acquired many new Marvel comic books and Manga, we have added more interactive non-fiction books including *'Rainforest : A journey from river to the treetops'*.

This is a **3-D Explorer version** which includes pop-up scenes with transparent layers. As the boys enjoy the hands-on investigation, they are also able to explore and learn about all the layers of the rainforest from the in-depth explanations.

We take student requests very seriously and recently we have received several for **autobiographies** or **biographies** about football players. 'The Boy on the Shed' offers a great read for all.

Shortlisted for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year Award, 'Paul Ferris's **compelling memoir** is different. For starters, he **wrote it all himself, beautifully**. Also, it **extends well beyond football...**It has been **quite a journey** from the garden shed he used to climb, back in Lisburn, that gives this **engaging book** its title - and one which thoroughly confounds the notion of the idiot footballer. (Daily Mail)'



'What a life, what a book...it is **excellent. Sports book of the year.**'

(BBC Radio 2 Simon Mayo)



'Sin is dying, poisoned by his blue blood. His troubles deepen when a traitor who poisoned him escapes from the custody of the Covert Operations Group and sets out for revenge... can Sin survive long enough to save his friends, himself and the day?' **The Clockkill and the Thief** is the winner of the Storyline Tessa Duder Award, a New Zealand award made to the author of a work of fiction for young adults aged 13 and above. It is a sequel to the award-winning *'The Traitor and the Thief'* and will appeal to so many of our 'series' readers.

Danielle Vega delivers blood-curdling suspense and terror on every page of her thrilling series, *'The Merciless'*. Despite this series being not for the faint-hearted as are most books in the 'Young Adult, Horror' genre, the boys felt we should order in more. Again, our 'series' readers will be thrilled!



Volunteering

It all began when three young Year 9 gentlemen approached library staff and asked could they volunteer to assist in the library during their lunch hour. The hours and tasks would be monitored and count towards their **Duke of Edinburgh Award**. **Owen Frost, Conor Goulding and Thomas Taylor-King** proved to be reliable, responsible and mature in the execution of their 'duties'. The boys gained more from volunteering than they initially expected. They developed a passion for volunteering and now, over a term later, are still assisting us whenever they have spare time. Their enthusiasm has rubbed off on one of our Year 7 regular borrowers, **Lucca du Plessis**, who asked could he also help out. Owen Frost willingly took Lucca under his wing to begin what we hope is the beginning of a new tradition here at Bally.



NSW Premiers Reading Challenge (PRC)

For many it was a last minute rush to enter the books read from September 2018 until 30th August this year. Although some were at first reluctant to participate, as the closing date approached, the tide turned with many reporting in their own time to borrow relevant books or to identify books they had read and not recorded.

Ms Lepre works tirelessly on this challenge and the library staff members are always happy to supply as many books from the official list as possible. This year for the first time, **all Year 7 classes** have been delegated a **wide-reading period** with the Teacher-Librarian. Having an opportunity every two weeks to browse, borrow, return and discuss their books has resulted in double the numbers of PRC books and Visual Literacy books borrowed in 2018 for the same period this year. Serious readers have recognised that there are many 'great reads' in the general **Fiction Collection** despite not being included on the **PRC Reading List**. It is gratifying that the boys do borrow and read these without necessarily any reward. We will have an honour list in time for the next newsletter.

Joy Jones
Teacher-Librarian
English Faculty

YEAR 7 ENGLISH

BALLY POET'S CORNER

Last term, Year 7 English classes created their own versions of "Dead Poet's Society". Students found their own voices through poetry and got carried away composing a variety of forms such as haiku, cinquains, ballads, imagery poems, limericks, sonnets and on diverse subjects such as space exploration, physical landscapes, nature, friendships, love and ancient battles. Year 7 teachers are proud to present this anthology of poetry.

Mrs Lepre's 7B

The Moon Landing

Weightlessness

Stepping down the ladder

Grabbing the big American banner

The sound of his own puffing breath

"Magnificent Desolation."

Isolation

Pressing his foot onto the soft moon dust

Looking back at the horizon

The mountains were giants

Huge boulders covered the plains.

Stillness

"That's one small step for man," he said.

There was silence

"One giant leap for mankind."

The rising sun sparkled behind him.

Happiness

On Earth, static turned into a blur

Joy flooded the people's homes

The pictures showed the man on the surface

The whole world held their breath.

Future

Our possibilities are now expanding greatly

Making that giant leap into a small step

As we touch the surface of the 'Red Planet'

To eventually reaching the stars.

By Max Michel

The Arctic

Looking up

The clouds started weeping

Drops fell from the sky

Crystals forming as fast as light

Patterns more intricate than a labyrinth
The sun was setting
As it shone reflecting light off the compact snow
Trees were standing high
With their leaves frozen, still as a statue
A snowflake landed upon a fluffy surface
Mostly hidden behind a low snowy hill
A creature emerged from the shadows
Into the light
I looked at the still water
Sighting a rippled reflection of its face
Its eyes were stars in a black void
Fur, white as a dove swayed in the light breeze
With a nose black like the night
The creature felt threatened
As it crouched
Creeping away from me fearfully
It leaned over to the water
Cracking the thin ice beneath
And diving into the ice cold water
Never seen by me again

By Mitchell Murphy

Mrs Pomfret's 7C

I Stand Tall

As we march blindly to our uncertain fate
I think of you Eileen and your flawless face
I think back to the days
When I was six years of age
Life was simple then
Mother sang me lullabies
Father taught me to use a pen

Sergeant Parker walks past
I mask my timbered face and stand tall
My hand shaking on the butt of my gun
Holding it tight so it doesn't fall
Could this be the last time I think or feel
And if I survive will I ever heal?
From destroying a family with a single shot?
An unborn grandson never knowing his pop
Would you still love me Eileen
If you could see what I have seen?
And what will I say to my curious son
If he ever asks me what I have done?

By Thomas Edwards

A Soul's Journey

Clutching onto life
Lying at death's door,
A heart
As fragile as glass

Yet as strong as a rock
Sinks into eternity,
For now thy is still
And Hermes lies waiting
To guide through the gates
Like a sheep and its shepherd,
We row through the Styx
Where a growling dog sits
Guarding the gates
A hungry look in his eyes
But he does not attack,
A panel of judges
Now ready their verdict
To the meadows we go,
For all life ends.

By Max Lowry

Mr van Rooyen's 7H **Thermopylae**

A wasteland of blood and gore
As far as the eye can see
The remains of a lengthy war
On the fields of Thermopylae

Crows as dark as the night
Filthy-black carrion munchers
Screaming and cawing in their flight
They become the hunters

Swords and spears coated in scarlet-red
Littered the killing ground
As well as the bodies of the dead
Being torn up by wild hounds

Dented helmets on the ground
With tattered red plumes
The cape of a Spartan in a mound
A filthy, war tomb.

Shattered Persian shields
Bloodied heads face down
Bodies scattered across the fields
Corpses left with a permanent frown.

As the sun set below the world
A melancholy silence descended
And the warrior's spirits left for the underworld
And the bloody war ended.

By Ethan Gregory

A Great Art

Reading rhythms and rhyme,
The English language,
Forged over time,
For story telling, for those who are creative.

A constant work in progress,
Lyrics,
No more, no less,
Like metal to a blacksmith.

A vast selection of each,
Not physical, but very real,
Picking groceries,
Giving motives and how you feel.

A gift to all,
And worth more than gold,
Sounds dance, for forever and more,
From New tracks, to songs of old.

By Joshua Waters

Mr van Rooyen's 7D

We will remember them

Brave men we salute you,
Those in the blood-stained and torn camouflage uniform,
The shower of gunshots, the choir of shells you faced
With nothing but crippling fear as company.

Men from Australia and New Zealand,
Became brothers on the battlefield.
They endured the rat infested trenches together,
They endured the bitter nights together,
They endured everything together.

The dead now rest on the battlefields,
The poppies stand tall where they once did.
The angry cry of guns have been silenced,
Those brave men can rest easy now.
Their dreadful journey was at its end.

By Charlie Stowe

Seasons

Sky is utterly dim and silent
Not a sound or movement in the glacial air
All that is felt is the quivering wind
As cold as a gravestone

Animals and plants that were once inert
Come out to thrive and play

Darkened dismal colours of winter
Are all of a sudden forgotten

Suddenly a nurturing glimmer of light
Shines through the gloomy clouds
The saffron sun glistens upon the yellow sand
Beaches become completely overrun

Leaves that burnish bright drift in the air
Eventually collapsing to the forest floor
All colours vanishing from site
As if they were never existent

The sky is utterly dim and silent

By Saxon English

Mr Falkland's 7F **A Race into Oblivion**

"Crash", the mischievous waves chant as our skipper guides us
Past towering peaks and troughs like canyons, filled with foam and spray
He controls our boat but has no control over our destiny
As he enthuses on how he won the day
Mother Nature has another thing to say
She sends us powering to the blue below and grants us an eternal sleep.

By Ollie Mann

Spring

Spring smells like,
The newly-cut grass,
Or pleasing perfumes filled with beauty,
It smells like roses and violets fragile like glass.

Spring tastes like,
A burning ray of happiness and sunshine.
It tastes like a big, plump apple,
Or the excellent combo of cheese and wine.

Spring sounds like,
Birds chirping in the morning,
It is annoying like a fly,
But is heavenly and pleasing.

Spring feels like,
The innovation of creation,
Creating new life amongst our nations,
Evoking but disturbing the sweet feeling of relaxation.

Spring looks like,
A simple garden,
With varieties of God's children,
So, join me my friends because Spring has just begun.

By Louka Yonner

Ms Wagner's 7I

Ice is breaking
Ground is shaking
Earth is dying
Adani is lying

Look at the oil
The spills in the soil
And at the gas
Our cars going too fast

The sea levels rising
It's not that surprising
This is our last chance
We need to take a stand

By William Jessop

Ms Wagner's 7W

Gloom

Whenever it glooms,
The flowers shall never bloom,
The light grows bleak,
And then the fog starts to creep and sneak,
Life feels like fear,
And a sharp chill is near.

Whenever it glooms,
Light will always be doomed,
We hide in packs,
Whilst the darkness is lurking, ready to attack,
The water threatens to freeze,
Life is reduced to their knees.

Now the sky is clear,
We show no fear,
They drew their swords,
And now we can use our blade,
But whenever the sky starts to gloom
Life and light shall be doomed.

By Dylan Gamble

Mr Brecht's 7S

Once in medieval times,
There lived a dragon with a fancy stride.
A dragon with a billion sharpish fangs,
As described in the Vikings songs they sang.
A dragon with yellow eyes,

Bring out the victim's woeful cries.
A dragon with threatening scales
And a long, red and pointy tail.

On a dark and gloomy day,
There was a Viking on his way.
He had a death wish, so to say.
He was looking for a dragon to slay,
Not tomorrow, but today.
When he saw the dragon lord
Out came his murderous and angry sword.

The fight began
The Viking ran
"I am here to save the land!"
were the words spoken from his tenacious gland.
The dragon's blood was like mud and sand.
The fire from the dragon's mouth
Burnt and made the Viking shout.
As the sword pierced the dragon's chest,
It was the end of an evil pest.
Glory filled the Viking's heart,
It patched a hole...
In the empty part.

By Jamieson Hobbs

Ms Wait's 7T

The Sword

King, menacing sword drawn,
Wolf-like graphite eyes,
Luminous in the moonlight,
Shadows cast upon the wall,
Advancing threateningly.
Chilled spine creeps in fear,
Panic overwhelms,
Bones, brain and belly scream, "Flee!"
But remain petrified, ossified and frigid
Sword raised,
kneeling body shaking uncontrollably,
Sweat beads form,
Flat blade taps shoulders
Big, booming, baritone declares,
"Arise, Sir Sebastian!"

By Adam Yates

Graves of Valour

As the battalions march forth and through,
the soldiers expend themselves amidst their fear
like deer falling prey to the wolves.
Whilst the deprived grounds endure a force of adversity,

the gunshots cross the endless trenches.
The Colonels' watch in their lavish as
the considered mere soldiers witness their joint demise.
Deafening bombs! Gunshots!
Screams of helplessness and pain
Adrenaline rushing, frantic emotions,
the panic ensues.
They miraculously find the courage to force through.
Charging forward, rifle in hand, men shouting
Fallen soldiers everywhere
Silenced by the gunfire
Their sad fateful end is dire.
The poppies bloom as insurmountable lives are consumed.
Darkness sweeps across the land.
Now where the very bullets they fired,
where the pandemonium took place,
they will lay for eternal rest.

By Luke Thompson

Sport Report

Sport Selection

Sport selection will take place in Week 7 for students from Years 7-10. Students will be required to sign up to their sport through School Bytes (using their student DET portal username and password). The following link will be opened up to the students at the times published online and via email to parents: <https://online.schoolbytes.education/sport/>

There will be a staggered process for students when selecting a sport depending on their cohort. Year 10 students will have the first pick of sports, followed by Year 9, then Year 8 and finally Year 7. Students may select any sport, however, sports may become full so students are advised to have a few options to choose from. School Bytes will be open on the following dates and times for sport selection:

Year 10	Tuesday September 3 rd 2019 at 5pm
Year 9	Wednesday September 4 th 2019 at 5pm
Year 8	Thursday September 5 th 2019 at 5pm
Year 7	Friday September 6 th 2019 at 5pm

Full payment with permission is required within ONE WEEK of online selection. Failure to pay (for paid sports) within ONE WEEK of selection will void selection. Payments can be made at the front office or online at <http://www.nbscbalgb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/> and clicking on the "Make a payment" tab.

Sports Achievement Assembly

The Sports Achievement Assembly acknowledges an array of students achievements and representing the school in sport from Term 4 2018 to Term 3 2018. The Sports Achievement Assembly will take place on Friday November 1st. Students who will be receiving awards will have invitations sent home at the term.

Grade Sport

Congratulations to the Senior Grade Soccer Team, the Senior Grade Touch Team and the Junior Grade Touch Team for winning the North Shore Zone Finals. Further congratulations goes to Junior Touch and Senior Soccer for winning the Super Zone Final as well.

Steve Menzies Cup



Congratulations to the Under 15s Rugby League Team and their coach Mr Backhouse who defeated St Paul's in a nail biting Grand Final at Brookvale Oval this afternoon! The boys played extremely well and won in golden point with a field goal from Rory Morgan of Year 9. Thank you to all the

parents, staff and students that came to support the boys on the afternoon.





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3

Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber HSC major works



Jack Learmont



Gil Pybus



Mitch Nicholson





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3



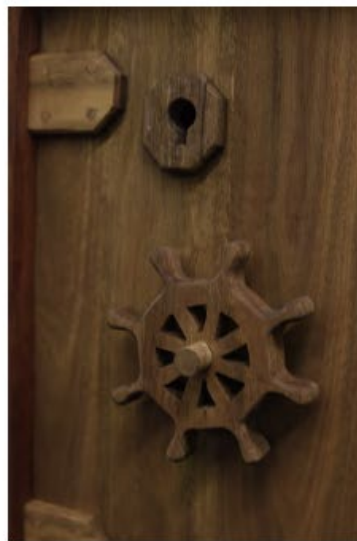
Jared Piendl



Lucca Bruzzano



James Burcham





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3



Nick Bowley



Nathan Hogg

Congratulations to Mr. Dowsett and the boys for all their hard work and dedication over the past year. The finished projects are truly outstanding. A special thanks to the P&C for their funding of new workshop machinery. Without their support many aspects of these projects would not have been possible.

TAS Showcase of HSC major works - Catering by Year 12 Hospitality





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3

Year 12 Industrial Technology Multimedia - HSC major works

Over the past year Our HSC Multimedia students have applied themselves across a range of excellent major projects and comprehensive portfolios, which included video documentaries, animation, web design, photography, and print publications. Congratulations on completing a demanding year of work in the creation of your engaging works! Drop in and visit the TAS faculty if you would like to view them. Well done boys and excellent effort! - Mr. Mills & Mr. Miller





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3

Year 7 Skateboards - Industrial Technology Timber





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3

Year 8 Mini-shelf & Beach Chair



Year 9 & 10 Food Technology





TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?

Term 3

Year 11 Hospitality - Handmade Gnocchi & Fish Filleting



Year 12 Construction - Surveying the school

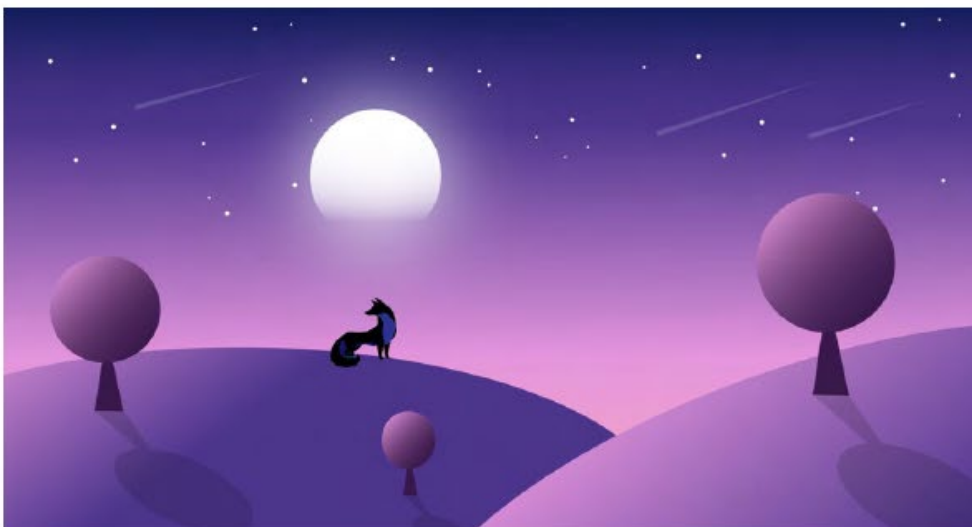
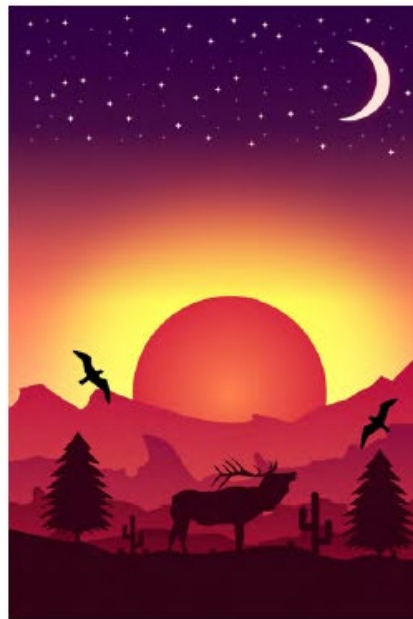




**TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS?**

Term 3

**Year 9 Multimedia
Vector Artworks created using illustrator**






The Year 7 leadership Committee has been working hard this term on a number of projects aiming to support and benefit the students at the school. Since forming the committee the boys have developed, distributed, and collated a number of surveys to identify relevant issues facing Year 7 students as well as the types of projects they would like to see implemented at the school.

Based on the feedback obtained from the surveys the boys are currently working on a range of projects such as a school based Return & Earn Recycling Program, fundraising events, and special interest clubs.



Breakfast Club:

So far this term we have seen the successful launch of a Breakfast Club which provides free breakfast for students at the school. Students in the committee, along with staff members have been volunteering their time every Monday and Thursday morning to help run the club to ensure everyone at the school has access to the most important meal of the day.




REFUEL AT SCHOOL
WITH THE
BREAKFAST CLUB

Free Breakfast
available for All Years

Monday's & Thursday's
8:10am - 8:50am

Located in the
courtyard outside D-Block

SPONSORED BY THE YEAR 7



Music news

- We have a Year 11 and 12 performance evening on Thursday 5th September in the School Hall. This is in preparation for the Year 12 HSC final performance exams the following week. It will also give all Year 11 boys an opportunity to perform and a chance to see the quality of work needed for their HSC. All guests are welcome to see these boys perform.
- All 3 school bands are playing at the NSSWE Chatswood Spring festival on Sunday 15th September. Times are as follows:
 - Stage Band are playing outdoors on the concourse at 11am.
 - Year 7 Concert Band and Senior Concert Band are playing in the 1pm session in the Concert Hall.

Tickets are required for the Concert Hall events - these are available through Ticketek.

- The Stage Band is performing in the Manly Jazz Festival on Sunday 6th October. This is a brilliant performance opportunity for the boys and will showcase their hard work throughout the year. They are scheduled to perform at 10am on the 'Jazz Stars of the Future' stage, which is located outside Manly Council Chambers.
- In other news:

Assemblies are going well with performances now happening every week. These performances are streamed live via the Balgowlah Boys Facebook page - please visit Facebook to see our marvellous boys playing songs from all different styles and genres.

Drama news:

Drama /Co-Curricular Drama: The Company and Elective Year 9 Drama attended a Sydney Theatre Company educational performance where the students were able to listen to the Assistant Director describe their Production of 'Lord of the Flies', from the initial concept to performance. The production elements of kinetic lighting, scaffolding and theatre storage boxes were used as devices to create space and atmosphere, and used symbolically to create height and depth. The stripping away of the stage to create an alienating effect was challenging and creative.

Remembering that The Company had performed this play in March of this year and that each student was invested in their role, this has created a great deal of discussion. The key to Kip William's directorial interpretation was Toxic Masculinity. Considering the play is based during the Second World War, this provoked strong and interesting reactions from the students. References in the text to uniforms and gender were ignored. In this production, adults played young boys and sometimes the students thought the characters' behaviour was rather close to the children's nursery: interesting!

The students now have a greater understanding of the interpretation of plays and of the creative freedom that exists. Integrity of the text is all. This was our group's introduction to live theatre, experiencing different staging and interpretations; it has opened the imagination to possibilities.

Coll Burns who played Jack in our production of 'Lord of the Flies' is about to play the role of Stefano, a boisterous and often drunk butler of King Alonso, in 'The Tempest', by William Shakespeare. He, Trinculo and Caliban plot against Prospero, the ruler of the island on which the play is set. Caliban believes Stefano to be a god because Stefano gives him wine to drink and Caliban believes it heals him.

We would very much like to support Coll by attending this play. Information is below.



Stephano (centre), Trinculo and Caliban dancing on the sea shore, painting by Johann Heinrich Ramberg (detail)

**Live Performance The Tempest –September 3rd – 7th: 7.30pm - 10 pm
28, Fisher Rd Dee Why (Newlife Baptist Church) Students \$27 Adults \$33
September 3 @ 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm**



The Tempest Point Break Drama Theatre company presents the thrilling & unforgettable play, The Tempest. Shakespeare's classic romance / comedy, The Tempest will be brought lovingly to life by Point Break Drama Co-Founder Paul Winchester & resident director Blair Cutting. A tale of revenge, redemption, personal growth, hatred, love, slavery and – ultimately – coconuts.



Our group outside the Roslyn Packer Theatre waiting for the call to enter the theatre, and inside which looks half full for the pre-show talk but is packed for the performance itself. We all stayed for question time and the day was a magnificent success.

"The acting of the Sydney Theatre Company's Production of Lord of the Flies was brilliant, the lighting, however, is where I feel the play "shines," mixed with the music and ambient sounds of the theatre. I constantly felt a sense of fear and dread, not of the play but of what these children are doing on this island. Using lights in this unnatural way reflects the childish imagination of the castaways, with the lights getting redder and more twisted as the children's minds did. The Production kept me on the edge of my seat and is a must see" Coll Burns Year 8 The Company

"It's good that that they are allowing actors with disabilities to join the cast. Daniel Monks was a superb and able Roger. It was a good performance and well executed. Overall it was an amazing experience" Sam Year 9 Drama Elective

"Costuming was rather unusual. I felt that the choir didn't quite work due to missing uniforms. The ending was conclusive though confronting due to the brief image of the innocent child" Owen Chandler Year 9 Elective and The Company

"The casting was very good. I believe that the gender diversity added to the understanding and characteristics of each role. The ending in my opinion let the play down." Jack Flynn Year 9 Drama Elective

"The way blood was used on the actors looked realistic and the light clothes were accurate. Though someone would be wearing a school uniform. The actor playing Simon

played a great monologue. The Q and A after the performance helped to explain the ending" Harry Webster Drama Elective

"A lasting impression and an interesting way of interpreting the play" Gordon Carroll The Company

"Ralph was perfect. Piggy brought a new dynamic. I do believe Jack was too aggressive from the beginning of the play and there was no development of character. I believe the ending was confusing and irrelevant. However I enjoyed the new take on this classic story" Ryan Flynn Year 9 Drama Elective

"Generally positive in response. Costumes interesting and ensemble of actors was great. Overall a fabulous experience" William Colton Year 9 Drama Elective, The Company.

Tricia Herman and Kirstin Wait

From the counsellor

Over the past month Year 9 and Year 10 students have had presentations from batyr. Quoting from the batyr website, **batyr** is:

"is a for purpose preventative mental health organisation, created and driven by young people, for young people. We give a voice to the elephant in the room by smashing the stigma around mental ill-health and empowering young people to reach out for support"

The power of the batyr presentations is that young people within our students' generation are sharing their stories of emotional pain, set back and torment whilst then providing strategies to either manage or overcome their hurdles and go on to lead supported and balanced lives.

A key aspect of the batyr presentation is to encourage young people, especially boys, to talk about their concerns and feelings. However, it is well pointed out, that sometimes boys will not just come out with what is concerning them, rather they need to be asked or prompted. As parents, this is where we come in. If you notice that your son (or daughter) may be down or not acting as they usually do, do not be afraid to raise it with them. It is possible that you will encounter a mono-syllabic response of "Nuthin", "I'm fine" or "Leave me alone", however there may also be those times when you are surprised with the response and one that may lead to further conversation. If you find starting these conversations difficult, a simple way is to begin with an empathic reflection, "You don't seem yourself at the moment, is there anything I can help you with?"

As many parents will tell you, these conversations may be best had when engaging in an activity, such as driving to a location, cooking dinner or washing up. Further, it may also be a conversation that could be instigated by a favourite family friend, a sporting coach, a relative . . . the initiator does not necessarily matter, what matters is that the conversation has commenced and your child knows that there are people who care.

For those young people who are struggling, in addition to support provided at the school, there are a range of local service and websites available to support children and parents.

Local services include:

Headspace Brookvale	9937 6500
Northern Beaches Youth and Counselling Centre	9976 1486
Sydney Drug Education Counselling Centre	9977 0711
Northern Beaches Lifeline	0439 613 005

Helpful Websites include:

batyr	https://www.batyr.com.au
eheadspace	https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/
reachout	https://au.reachout.com
Biteback	biteback.org.au
Head to Health	https://headtohealth.gov.au

Finally, the beyou website, whilst designed for educators, also has a range of excellent resources that parents can access: <https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets>

Take the time to talk with your kids, you might be surprised what they have to say.