FOCUS ON Year 7 CAMP

The Year 7 Camp took place in Week 8 of first term and there is no question about it – the trip was a huge success! With 164 students, staff and Year 11 Peer Support Leaders, there was a great buzz of excitement on Wednesday morning as we piled onto not one but three buses!

Students participated in a range of activities including grass skiing, archery, raft building and the highly popular waterslide – easily Mr Ferguson’s favourite! From the range of stories coming back with us, there can be no doubt that camp was a highly enjoyable time. One of the biggest highlights for us as Year Advisers was being able to get to know all of the students who attended camp and seeing the polite, considerate and adventurous people they are both inside and outside the classroom setting. Watching students solve problems in the Initiatives Activities and rise as a team to beat Year 11 in water polo were truly great moments, demonstrating how Year 7 are always demonstrating the schools values of being safe and respectful learners.

A huge thank you to Ms Ferris, Ms Wood, Ms Spora, Mr Bell, Ms Yeo, Mr Lawler, Ms Hennessy, Mr Kenny, Ms Boole, Ms Corcoran, Ms Redding and the Year 11 Peer Support Leaders for making camp the success it was – Year 7 are already counting down to our next camp in Year 9!

Eleanor Cloherty and James Ferguson
Lake Burrendong Parody Song Extract – Jonty Milstead

I tried to ski on grass
Tried to climb on rocks
I kept on going for the fun
I coulda given up then but
Then again I couldn’t have ‘cause
I travelled all that way for something
I took it in but I still had fun

CHORUS
‘Cause I’ve been to Lake Burrendong, ‘ay
I’ve been to Lake Burrendong, ‘ay
I’ve been there for a while now
I’ve been waiting to yell, ‘YAY
Been holding it in for a while, ‘ay
Would of taken you if I could
Been waitin’ since Year 6
I’ve been to Lake Burrendong.
And it was pretty fun

Camp Recount by Elise Fowler

Camp, where shall I start? First of all we were at school at 8:00AM. When we arrived at Burrendong we found out what activity groups we were in and who was in our cabins. Our group was the Emus and the instructor was Matt. For lunch we had ham sandwiches they were nice, after lunch we did rock climbing and I made it to the top of the wall. After rock climbing we did the slip and slide which was awesome, it was 50 metres long.

Thursday morning for breakfast I had toast and egg. After breakfast we did grass skiing which I fell over many times. Next we had archery, I hit the target three times. Lunch was sausage sandwiches. Following lunch we did paintball combat, we were the red team. For night games we played Star Wars which was super fun. My team won because we stole the other team’s Princess Leia and we had ours.

Friday, the last day: I had mixed emotions about this day. I was excited to go home but I really wanted to stay. For breakfast I had toast with vegemite. When we went outside to have an assembly one of the instructor’s dogs came over, her name was Olivia but we all called her Ollie. She was a black Labrador. My first activity was initiatives which were using our common sense to find out things. After that we did raft building. Our raft had two barrels, a lifesaving board and two small logs. We came 3rd in the race and right at the end one of the boys told me to loosen one of the ropes because I was on the raft so he could push the barrel evenly under me – instead the barrel shot out from underneath me leaving a nasty bruise on my head.
For my first high school camp it was very good. I recommend everyone goes and tries something new.
Sam Taylor - Camp Reflection

The First Day:
On the first day at camp in my group the activities we did were rock climbing which was quite scary for me but I still made it to the top. The other activity we did was the water slide which was incredible even though I got hurt a bit from going too fast and sliding on the grass.

The Second Day:
We did grass skiing which I did not like as much. We also did archery which I was very good at, nearly getting a bullseye. I had three goes and only missed the target once which I think was pretty good not doing archery a lot. The last thing we did this day was paintball combat which was totally awesome! We had to put paint into some water bottles then squirt it into lots of water balloons. Once time was up we did lots of games until we ran out of water balloons.

The last day:
On the last day we had to switch around activities so we did Initiatives first. The last activity we had to do was raft building which was cool. Then our group won the raft race we had to do which was good because we all got to hop into the pool. My favourite activity would have to be the giant waterslide.
Year 7 CAMP cont........
Year 7 CAMP cont......
Year 7 CAMP cont…….
School Strategic Plan
The final draft has been placed on our website for comment. Rather than presenting the full plan, I showed the P&C a mind map version which had the major areas that Bathurst High has identified as our focus for the next 3 years and I spoke to the reasons for our directions. I have attempted to reproduce that here. I am happy to take emails with questions on Bathurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or phone the school on 63313755 and ask for me.

School Strategic Plan 2015—2017
Major Strategic Directions

Learning and Assessment.
Learning for students and assessment of learning

Values and Culture of the students, teachers and leadership

Professional Excellence
For teachers and leaders

New Science Teacher
Congratulations to Janine Lawler who has been successful on merit for a permanent science position at Bathurst High. Ms Lawler has been on a temporary contract and has been doing outstanding work in Science. She can now continue this in a permanent capacity.

Geoff Hastings
Principal
Preliminary Study Day
197 Year 11 students from both campuses attended the Preliminary Study Skills Day held at Bathurst High Campus on Tuesday 31st March. This was a phenomenal response and it was a great chance for students from both campuses to use the new facilities of the Performing Arts Theatre. Sessions included Note Taking, Exam Preparation, Time Management and establishing a study timetable.

RYDA
Around 130 Year 11 students attended the annual RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) workshop at Mount Panorama on 19th March. This event is most valuable in teaching young drivers the potential dangers and hazards that are inherent in driving. It is a great awareness-raising activity and always stimulates a lot of discussion about road safety and associated topics.

HSC Seminars
We will be hosting the annual Central West HSC Enrichment Seminars at CSU on 16 June. All of the major HSC courses will be covered. A highlight of the day will be workshops on The Tempest run by Bell Shakespeare. We are also expecting a range of outstanding guest presenters and experienced HSC markers to be delivering sessions.

HSC Mid-course Exams
Year 12 have completed these exams which have been run across both campuses over the last two weeks of term 1. Normal shared courses will resume next term.

iLearn and iexplore
Transition programs have been up and running for some weeks now, with students from our partner schools getting the opportunity to participate in activities at the secondary campuses. These programs will continue throughout the majority of the year and always elicit very positive feedback.

CSU Future Moves and Your Tutor
CSU Future Moves are piloting the YourTutor online tutoring service in 10 selected partner schools across the Central West and Port Macquarie regions in 2015. Due to the strong working relationship between Charles Sturt University and Denison College we have been invited to participate as part of this pilot.

YourTutor is an online tutoring service operating 3pm-10pm Sunday to Friday. Your Tutor includes access to Maths, English, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, plus assignment research for all subjects, writing and grammar, and high school and university study skills. More information is available on the Your Tutor website www.yourtutor.com.au. This service will be provided free of charge to our students by Future Moves. We anticipate getting student access set up in the first couple of weeks of Term 2.

School Development Day Term 2
This will be a combined College activity with all teaching staff participating in a BYOD training activity at the Kelso High Campus. The focus will be on supporting teachers to further develop their understanding of Google Apps and Microsoft Office 365 and tools including Nearpod, Quizlet and ThingLink can be used to increase student engagement and participation in class.

Craig Petersen
College Principal
A Message from the Deputy Principal Senior School

Congratulations to Scott Matheson. Scott recently won the Western Area Secondary Schools Golf Championships.

Year 10 student Joel Goulding will represent NSW at the Australian BMX titles in Brisbane next week after successfully competing at the state titles. Joel spends every afternoon training and we wish him luck in his endeavors.

Congratulations to four of our senior students who have been selected for the Western Region hockey team. These boys are Kyle Reardon, Isaac Darlington, Jaidyn Hunt and Justin Mellor. They will play in Bathurst from 26th to 28th May. The boys were definitely looking for an opportunity to travel a little further afield but I am sure they will enjoy the opportunity of representing the school and the region.

Students in Year 12 have now completed their Mid-Course Exams. Students will be receiving valuable feedback from teachers and should use this to their advantage as they work towards their trials and HSC exams. Year 11 students will not have an official Mid-Course exam week. They will be completing these tests during regular class time during week 4. Each individual teacher will inform students of the days these will occur. They will have normal lessons at other times throughout the week.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain the Illness/Misadventure aspect of the assessment policy. If students are unable to attend an examination due to illness or misadventure they must submit an application within a week of the date of the task or examination. If sick they will need a doctor’s certificate. I should be contacted if they will not be at school to complete the task or examination on the day or before the day where possible. Holidays or a trip to Sydney are not a reasonable excuse for not attending an examination. Please be aware of these dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSC Trial examinations</td>
<td>10th – 24th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSC examinations</td>
<td>12th October - 6th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preliminary Mid-Course in class assessment/exams</td>
<td>most will occur during the week starting the 11th May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preliminary End of Course exams</td>
<td>7th – 18th September</td>
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There will be a Year 11 and 12 Parent/Teacher night on Wednesday 13th May from 4pm – 6pm in the Performing Arts Theatre (the old hall). We will be using an on line booking system through Millennium and we will send a text message when the booking system is available. If you do not have Millennium access you can phone the school now to get the access or phone the office when bookings are open and they will make the bookings for you.

Jenny Stirling
Deputy Principal
Senior School
Welcome back to Term 2! It’s certainly been a very fitting start to the coldest of the school terms. Reminder that if your child needs a new winter uniform, the uniform shop is open Tuesday 8.30 – 11.30 and Thursday 1.00 – 4.00. Students will definitely need some warm clothes!

As you will see this edition is dedicated to the Year 7 Camp. I had the privilege of going on a day visit to the camp and it was fantastic to see the enthusiasm and fantastic participation of all the students as they tried out a variety of new activities. The slip ‘n slide seemed to be one of the favourite activities and I believe that Mr Ferguson and Ms Cloherty were particularly gifted in this area! One of the best outcomes of the camp is how it improves the general cohesiveness of the year group as students really get to know one another well. This was definitely evident on the camp as well as afterwards at school.

At the end of the term we also had the Year 7 Commendation Ceremony. For the first time we were able to hold this in the Performing Arts Theatre which worked very well. Congratulations to all the students who received awards. All commendation ceremonies will now be held in the Performing Arts Theatre. I encourage you to talk to your child about these awards as it can be something for students to work towards.

In the coming weeks, Year 7 and Year 9 will sit for the NAPLAN test. Information about this has been sent home. Year 9 students will get more guidance about what is involved in the writing component of the test this year. The way NAPLAN writing is marked is very specific. We believe that if the test is going to accurately reflect students’ writing skills they need some guidance on the NAPLAN writing criteria. If you have questions regarding any aspect of Naplan please contact the school.

This Term we are also starting our community mentoring program called Raise. We really look forward to welcoming our community mentors to the school who will work with some of our Year 8 and 9 students once a week for Terms 2 and 3. It is a great example of how the community and school can work together to support students wellbeing and education.

Finally, congratulations to Year 9 and 10 Commerce students. The class is currently participating in an Australia wide stock exchange game. They are given a hypothetical $50 000 to invest in shares listed on the ASX. Our school is currently ranked 4th overall. Well done!

Stephanie Scott
Relieving Deputy Principal
Middle School
Western Swimming Trials—Dubbo

On Thursday 3rd March 2015, 15 Bathurst High School Students attended the Western Swimming Trials in Dubbo. It was a wonderful day of competition which saw a number of our swimmers qualify for the State Swimming Championship in Sydney.

The qualifying students were:
- The Senior Boys Medley Relay team, consisting of Cooper Fox, Brendan McMahon, Braydon Ross and Blake Arthur
- Kacey Fox (12 years) for 50 Mtr Freestyle, 100 mtr Backstroke and 100 mtr Breaststroke
- Ben Roffe (14 years) for 100 mtr Freestyle and 200 mtr Freestyle
- Travis McMahon (12 years) for 100 mtr Backstroke
- Jenna Murphy (16 years) for 100 mtr Backstroke

Well done to all other students who represented the school on the day. A huge thank you to the parents who travelled with their child/children to the carnival.