Dear Parents and caregivers,

On Wednesday the school submitted its final enrolment numbers for 2016. The school has grown by more than 25 students already this year. The numbers are as follows:

Year 7 - 154 students
Year 8 - 150 students
Year 9 - 137 students
Year 10 - 134 students
Year 11 - 164 students
Year 12 - 112 students

Total 851 students

I am very proud of the fact that our school has grown steadily from 704 students in 2010 to our current figure which is approaching the highest number the school has ever had which is 868.

P & C meeting

An important P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 February in the Byron Bay High School Library commencing at 7.00pm and closing at 8.30pm. Some of the issues on the agenda are school uniform, the school canteen and consultation on the 2016-17 Byron Bay High School Plan. We would love to see you there.

Year Advisors

Year Advisors are key welfare personnel and play a vital role in the support and guidance of your child. Year Adviser’s provide valuable pastoral care and student welfare support for a wide range of student needs. Year Advisors are usually the first point of contact for parents who want information about their child’s progress. Our Year advisors are:

Year 7 - Ms Michelle Lowe
Year 8 - Ms Ebony Donohoe
Year 9 - Ms Sarah McGregor
Year 10 - Mr Peter Stanek
Year 11 - Mr Neil Armstrong
Year 12 - Mr Curtis Miles

The Head Teacher of Student Welfare is Mr Ritchie Duncan.

They can all be contacted by calling the school on 6685 8188 or by requesting their email address from the school.

You can always contact me at peter.p.king@det.nsw.edu.au.

Mr Peter King, Principal

What's Coming Up!

WEEK 4
16 February
North Coast CHS Swimming carnival
P&C meeting in library @ 7 pm
17 - 19 February
Year 7/11 Camp Koinonia Evans Head
19 February
FNC AFL
Photo Catch ups
11 December
Semester 2 Presentation Day 9.45 am

WEEK 5
24 February
National Apology Assembly
Year 7 Meet the Teachers 5 - 6.30pm
25 February
FNC U15’s Touch Football - Trial
26 February
North & South Soccer Trials
Photo Catch ups

Week 6
29 February
The Magical World of Crazy Science
1 March
FNC Rugby League Trials Open & 15’s
4 March
North v’s South - FNC Football

Payments Now Due
All Years - School photos
All Years - FNC Swimming - $20
Year 7 Camp - $240
Year 7 Crazy Science - $5
Year 8 Camp - $290
Year 10 PASS - $30
Years 7 - 10 Aquatics - $30
Years 7 - 10 School sports
Year 11

All students have received a copy of the Year 11 Assessment Policy this week in their English class. This is a critical document outlining BOSTES and school rules around successful completion of Preliminary and HSC courses. It also contains critical information about the timing of Assessment Tasks in every course throughout the year. Any student who has not received a copy of this document or completed the quiz relating to it must see Mr Smith as soon as possible to complete this activity. The document has been emailed to all parents and students and is also available on the school website.

The majority of students will have completed All My Own Work in the last few weeks of Term 4 last year. If you were absent for this activity please also see Mr Smith ASAP as this is a mandatory activity.

Year 11 students are required to attend school everyday from 9 am to the final school bell. Students who have a study period in period 1 MUST sign into school by 9 am at the front office swipe station. If a student does not swipe in this will be listed as an unexplained absence and listed as such on your school report.

Year 9

Year 9 students have returned to school with great enthusiasm as they move into Stage 5 of their secondary education. It is wonderful to see the overwhelming majority of students coming to school with a positive attitude and in school uniform. After speaking with many elective program teachers I have been pleased to hear positive stories about Year 9 engagement in their chosen courses.

Later in Term 1 all students in Year 9 and 10 will be surveyed about what they enjoy about school, and what they would like more of in the middle years of High School. I encourage all Year 9 students to think deeply about their survey responses so we can make our great school even better for students in middle years.

Year 7

Year 7 are making a great start to their secondary schooling. We are indeed fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and positive new cohort in our great school. I was impressed to see so many junior students participating in the fun and challenge of the Swimming Carnival last week. High school is a place of opportunity and adventure! Having new friends, different subjects and a much larger group of teachers is all very exciting.

For some this transition will present challenges, please let a teacher, your Year Advisor or someone in the office know if you are experiencing any problems.

Year 7 Camp is on next week. This activity will be fun and rewarding. It is a great opportunity to make even more new friends and to bond with your peers and peer leaders away from school. Many thanks to the Year 11 students and staff who will attend school camp next week. We can't wait to see the photos and hear the stories!

Parents please remember to come along to school on Wednesday 24th February from 5pm to 6.30pm for our "Year 7 Meet the Teachers evening". This is an informal gathering here at school where you will have an opportunity to meet with the teaching staff, learn more about the wonderful curriculum offerings at Byron Bay High School and discuss the early progress of your child.

Mr Mark Smith, Deputy Principal, Byron Bay High School

Year 7 is off to a fabulous start

There has been lots of fun in class and great feedback from teachers in all subjects. The students have been kind, caring and very respectful and we are so pleased to have them in the school. The school morale was high at the swimming carnival and the year seven students had a ball! We are all looking forward to the camp next week which should be fantastic! Today they are taking home a list of the things they need for the camp, so have fun packing. Important items that are often forgotten are hats, water bottles, sunscreen and clothes that can be worn in the water for canoeing. Please get in any outstanding notes ASAP!

Ms Michelle Lowe, Year Advisor
A fabulous start to 2016!

Year 8
Year 8 students are settling into their new classes, solidifying old friendships and making new ones. All students have the opportunity to be involved in an exciting year camp to Lake Ainsworth organised by Ebony Donohoe. This camp in Term 2 is a very valuable time to develop confidence within themselves and further develop interpersonal skills. It is a time to focus on themselves as young people to build resilience and have some fun.

Year 10
Year 10 students have noticed the exciting opportunities our new timetable has afforded them this year. Peter King is taking Year 10 students through lessons centred on leadership and Mark Smith on Teen Mental Health. The addition of this subject enhances students’ social knowledge and staff connection with individual students of Year 10.

Year 12
Year 12 is steaming ahead! Songs, chocolates and roses were a hit today for Valentine’s Day with Year 12 raising $370.00 to go towards their Formal. Curtis Miles is drumming up support for more fundraising ideas. See Curtis if you have more ideas to contribute. This lighter side of Year 12 is great to take some stress off the commitment students are displaying towards their studies. With the Half Yearly Exams six weeks away it is a good time for students to start practising relaxation techniques to help with stress and anxiety.

Ms Janine Marcus, Deputy Principal Years 8, 10 and 12

Bangarra Dance Workshop
Last week 2 Indigenous year 7 students, Hunter Mains and Kiahn Ladkin were fortunate to take part in a workshop with Bangarra Dance Theatre to learn contemporary Indigenous dance repertoire from some of Bangarra’s leading artists. The aim of the workshops was to foster the development of dance skills and cultural significance in talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The workshop was designed to identify students with exceptional talent and potential to join the 2016 NSW Public Schools Aboriginal Dance Company. This involves commitment to attend workshops in Sydney at least once or twice a term and performing in the State Dance Festival and the Schools Spectacular. Our two students were chosen from 20 students to potentially join the Schools Spectacular Aboriginal Dance Ensemble. Great effort from 2 dedicated students and good luck for the future. Congratulations Kiahn and Hunter.
Marine Studies Students Secure Boat Licenses

Before starting their summer break a number of Year 12 Marine Studies students took part in a course to gain their NSW Boat Licenses. Having diligently studied the variety of Maritime rules and safety procedures the students overcame their first hurdle and all passed their in class theory test. Students then progressed to the practical component of the course where they spent a clear and sunny day at North Creek in Ballina learning how to launch and land a boat, rowing and anchoring and safely attaching a motor.

After this preparation students then spent the rest of the day on the water maneuvering the boats around obstacles and reading conditions and adhering to the buoys in the estuary. The students all walked away in proud possession of completed licenses and logbooks ready to activated at the RTA.

Thank you and congratulations to the students involved, Mr O’Connor who helped on the day and took the photos and the staff from Ballina Marine Discovery Centre. They were extremely impressed with the conduct, enthusiasm and application BBHS students displayed.

Mr Stuart Galletly, Head Teacher HSIE

Cambodia Excursion

Fourteen students and three staff attended a three week excursion to Cambodia in January. This hugely successful activity was filled with many memorable activities. We built two houses for young families in Trach Village outside Siem Reap. We spent a day in a Cambodian Public High School. We saw the great work Tara Winkler (Young NSW Person of the Year 2012) and her organisation Cambodian Children’s Trust are doing to support children in Battambang. We ate spiders and raised over $1500 for VOICE who support people who have been displaced from their homes and communities in Phnom Penh.

We saw many interesting cultural aspects of Cambodia. From the ancient ruins of the Angkor civilisation through to the horrors of the Khmer Rouge genocide in the late 1970’s. Cambodia has a rich history with many lessons. The resilience and optimism of the Khmer people was evident everywhere we visited.

Each and every one of us have a new appreciation of our lives here in Byron Bay. A huge thank-you to everyone in the school community who donated money or time to support our activities.

Mr Mark Smith, Deputy Principal
Byron Bay High School P&C

All Parents Carers and Community Members are encouraged to attend our meetings. Our first P&C General Meeting for 2016 will be held in the school Library 7pm Tuesday 16 February.

**Agenda:**
- Ongoing Canteen Management 2016
- Presentation of Roles and Responsibilities of Executive Positions.
- Preparations for AGM 15 March 2016

All Parents Carers and Community Members are encouraged to attend our meetings. P&C is an effective forum to have positive communication with the school, meet other parents and carers, meet teachers. It is a way to become informed about lots of areas of school management and programs.

Meetings are the third Tuesday of the month in the Library at 7pm. All are most welcome to attend.

*Mrs Melissa Macdonald, President - BBHS P&C Association*

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**Financial help is available for parents**

Back to school costs are putting parents under pressure. To help out, Byron community Centre offers No Interest Loans to people on low incomes for essential goods and services. The Byron Community No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) loans range from $500 to $1000 and can include education items such as computers, textbooks, school fees, and uniforms.

This community run loans program is safe, fair and interest free. Run by the community for the community.

Call: (02) 6685 6807 Email: nils@byroncentre.com.au Visit: www.byroncentre.com.au or Drop in: The Byron Community Centre, 69 Johnson Street, Byron Bay

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**New Library Resources**

**Fiction:**
- Blast
- Everything, Everything
- Dragons at Crumbling Castle and other stories
- Extra Weird
- Gemma’s Bluff
- House of Odd
- I Am China
- A Monster Calls
- The Natural Way of Things
- Next Together
- The Thing About Jellyfish

**Graphic Novel:**
- Mad Max: Fury Road [Older Readers]
- Snoopy: Cowabunga!
- Space Dumplings
- Tower of Treasure

**Series:**
- I Am Number Four: The Fate of Ten
- Ranger’s Apprentice: The Early Years
- The Emperor of Nihon-ja
- Twinmaker 3: Fall

**Non-Fiction:**
- Empty hands: one woman’s journey to save children orphaned by AIDS
- Guinness World Records 2016
- Guinness World Records 2016: Gamer’s Edition
- Making Air Cleaner
- Oxford Illustrated Shakespeare Dictionary
- Planet to Plate: the Earth Hour Cookbook
- Seymour Simon’s Extreme Earth Records
- Social Media: Facebook, Twitter and the modern The revolution
- Voices of Black America
- The Rest of Us Just Live Here
- The Year of Goodbyes: a true story of friendship, family and farewells

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The Future is Ours
Community News


Byron Bay Junior AFL Club sign on day Sunday 14 February @ 10am. Register online at www.byronbayafcregistrationpage.sportingpulse.net. For information contact the Club’s registrar on 0405 428 564. Website www.byronbayjuniorafl.com

Agriculture News

Jake Fitzpatrick did an incredible job in Agriculture year 10 propagating native plants from seed indigenous to our area which were sold to renegenerators to plant in the Broken Head area.

The end of 2015 saw him receive two significant awards for his diligent efforts. He not only won the Sustainable Futures Australia Environmental Excellence Award but also the Regional Leadership Award for the Northern Rivers (Coffs Harbour to Tweed Heads).

Jake also admirably learnt to drive a tractor with competence and zeal!

Here are some of the year 10 group doing an amazing job learning tractor driving skills at the end of their Agriculture course - Sidney Young, Shae Campton, Ethan Johnston and Edward Smith.

Ms Jennifer Woodward, Agriculture Teacher
The Future is Ours

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2016 the following vaccines will be offered to Year 7 students*:

- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child’s school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation).

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

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**NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2016**

Year 7 Vaccination program will commence 17 March 2016. Parent information kits have been sent home with Year 7 students today. If your child did not receive one please collect the permission kit from the School front office and return before this date. Please see the following information from NSW Health.
School Carnival 2016
Records set as Byron High hits the water

BYRON Bay pool was packed last week for the high-school’s annual carnival.

Gabbi Fry set records in the 17 girls’ 50m freestyle 29.26 and 100m freestyle 1.18.72.

Lucy Guye set records in the 17 girls’ 50m backstroke 30.34 and 100m fly 1.29.53.

Nathan McKenzie set a 50m breaststroke of 37.33 and Archie Truswell set a 50m breaststroke of 36.00. House winner was The Pass.

The Future is Ours
Hospitality & Events Management Course

Age 16-24
Cert II

Free Tuition
TAFE Accredited

Course Dates: 7th March - 25th May
Every Mon - Tues - Wed @ The YAC
(1 Gilmore Cres, Byron Bay)

Information Session: Wed 2nd March - 11am to 1.00pm @ The YAC
For More Info Ph: Steffie 6685 7777 Or Email: Stephanie@BYS.org.au

Learn to:
- Work Effectively with Others
- Source & Use Information
- Use Hospitality Skills Effectively
- Show Social & Cultural Sensitivity
- Interact with Customers
- Participate in Safe Work Practices
- Process & Monitor Event Registrations
- Provide Event Staging Support
- Use Hygienic Practices for Food Safety
- Provide Responsible Service of Alcohol
- Prepare & Serve Non-Alcoholic Beverages
- Prepare Simple Dishes

Delivered by Byron Youth Service & TAFE NSW