HARD WORK PAYS OFF

Hard work and sacrifice has paid off for two talented Year 12 Nambucca Heads High School students. Savannah Peterkin and Jayde Hill have both recently been selected to represent Australia in their chosen sporting events.

Savannah who has been competing in Long Jump for a number of years has been selected to represent Australia in the 2015 Youth Commonwealth Games to be held in Samoa in September. She was extremely surprised and overwhelmed when she found out because she has been out of competition and training for a while with an ankle injury. “I’ve never represented Australia before ... I’ve never even been overseas,” she said. “It hasn’t quite sunk in yet, I’m still shocked, but when it comes closer I’d say I will be nervous.” Savannah will continue her training regime, five days a week, ramping up with extra sessions as the competition gets nearer. To top it off Savannah is combining all this with her studies as she is completing her HSC this year as well.

Jayde has been selected to represent Australia in the 5000m race walk at the Oceania Championships to be held in Cairns in May. This is the second time Jayde has been selected for this competition and is a reflection of Jayde’s ability in this event. “I am super excited to be picked to represent in an Australian team again. I had an amazing time last year in the Cook Islands and met some wonderful people and made some lifelong friends,” Jayde said. In recent competitions Jayde has defeated Olympian Cheryl Webb and world junior representative Jasmine Dighton. Jayde is very lucky, and thankful, to have a former NSW Institute coach, Yvonne Melene, living in Nambucca Heads. Yvonne is retired but has been more than happy to help Jayde with her training and guide her through her athletic career. Jayde is also currently completing her HSC this year.

Nambucca Heads High School would like to congratulate Savannah and Jayde on their selection in these teams. Their positive attitude to life and their ability to make the most of every opportunity is why they have been so successful. We would like to wish them all the best for these competitions, their HSC and their obviously bright future.
Dear Parents and Community

Last Friday we held our ANZAC Day Service and I would like to congratulate all students for their exemplary behaviour during the service. All students paid respectful silence and attention to our guest speaker who spoke about the reasons as to why the Australian and New Zealand soldiers found themselves in Anzac Cove one hundred years ago. Thank you to all the students from the school who participated in the service and also to Mr Elsley for his organisation of the service and for his excellent playing of The Last Post.

Thank you also to those students who represented the school at either the dawn service at Nambucca Heads or at the march that was held at Bowraville on Saturday. As we marched down the hill into Bowraville into a sea of people you could imagine what it would have been like 100 years ago when those brave diggers were given a rousing send-off from the people of the Nambucca Valley.

Term Two is half yearly exam time. Year 10 and 11 will sit their exams from the end of week 4 until the end of week 5 (Friday 15th to Friday 22nd May). Year 7, 8 and 9 will sit their exams in week 7(Monday 1st to Friday 5th June). In the coming weeks your child will be given a study outline for each subject. Please ask them what they have to do for their exams and encourage them to do some study before their exams.

As winter approaches I would like to remind everyone about our winter uniforms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Uniforms – Years 7 to 10</th>
<th>Senior Uniform – Years 11 and 12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aqua or sky blue polo shirt with sleeves and a collar</td>
<td>White polo shirt or button through shirt – both with sleeves and a collar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sky Blue button through shirt</td>
<td>Navy Blue shorts, long pants, tracksuit pants or skirts - NO LOGOS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy Blue shorts, long pants, tracksuit pants or skirts - NO LOGOS</td>
<td>Navy Blue jumper – NO LOGOS or Senior Jumper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy Blue jumper – NO LOGOS</td>
<td>Sport &amp; PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White polo shirt and navy blue shorts</td>
<td>White polo shirt and navy blue shorts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TIGHTS and DENIM are NOT part of our uniform in Years 7 to 12, no matter what your child tells you!

All uniforms can be purchased from Nambucca T-Shirts in Bowra Street, Nambucca Heads.

As always please contact the school if you have any questions about your child’s education.

**HIGHLIGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT**

The selection of Savannah Peterkin and Jayde Hill for Australia in their chosen athletic events. Congratulations Savannah and Jayde on all of the hard work and effort you put into your training. You are both an inspiration to not only our school community but to the whole Nambucca Valley.

Simon McKinney
Principal

**CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4th—7th</td>
<td>Duke of Edinburgh Emu Walk</td>
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<td>May 5th</td>
<td>Science and Engineering Challenge</td>
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<td>May 5th</td>
<td>Year 12 Parent/Teacher afternoon</td>
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<td>May 7th</td>
<td>Vaccinations Years 7, 11 and 12, Year 10 Tackling Violence with David Peachy and Nathan Merritt</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8th</td>
<td>Years 9 and 10 Marine Studies Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12th—14th</td>
<td>Naplan Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12th</td>
<td>Year 12 Biology and Physics Kickstart Program Armidale</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14th</td>
<td>Year 10 Geography Excursion (postponed from 30th April)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15th</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country Kempsey</td>
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On Tuesday the 21st April students from Nambucca Heads High School joined students and staff from Bowraville Central School at the Community gardens to meet with Dr Chris Sarra in the yarning circle. Dr Chris Sarra grew up in regional Queensland in a climate of racism and low expectation for Aboriginal children. But he defied the odds to become one of Australia’s most inspiring educators, with a mission to ensure quality schooling for all indigenous children. Dr Chris Sarra of the Stronger Smarter Institute promotes high expectation leadership in schools to ensure high-expectation classrooms and learning environments with high-expectation teacher/student relationships.

The morning at the community gardens cultivated rich conversation amongst staff and students and delved into topics such as roadblocks that can arise when we are working towards our dreams and also ingredients/attributes we need in order to achieve our dreams, such as, hard work, passion, dedication, compassion to mention a few. Students heard stories from the inspirational Dr Chris Sarra and shared their own experiences and aspirations for the future.

“Dr Chris Sarra told us to make the big decisions in life, to reach our goals and to believe in what we want to do. It was helpful as it makes us start thinking about what we’re going to do with our lives”. KYIESHA COHEN - Year 9

“It was a fun and an inspiring experience and I learnt a lot!”
DANIEL TEECE-JOHNSON – Year 9

Submitted by Ms Kristle McKinnon

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents/carers, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents/carers are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

Parents/Carers are responsible for:

- Enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling.
- Explaining the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven days to the school.
- Ensuring that their children attend school regularly.
- Taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.

School Staff are responsible for:

- Providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students’ sense of wellbeing and belonging to the school community.
- Recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance.
- Maintaining accurate records of student attendance.
- Implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise.
- Providing clear information to students and parents/carers regarding attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance.

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, notification must be received by the school within 7 days, otherwise the absence will remain “unjustified”. This could affect any Government payments you or your child receives.
The Nambucca Valley Local AECG (Aboriginal Education Consultative Group) held a three day Connecting To Country experience inviting Principals and Teachers from the Valley 10 Schools to participate in this program. **Day 1** explored the Nambucca Valley Aboriginal Agencies insight to Culture and the services that are available for our Aboriginal families. Muurrbay Language & Cultural Centre, Giiguy Gamambi Preschool, Darrimba Maarra Health Clinic. **Day 2** We travelled around the country town of Bowraville which included the History of The Stolen Generation and Testimonies, Bowraville Land Council. Topics were - Freedom Ride, Miimi Mothers, Ngambaga Bindarray Girrwa (Gumbaynggirr Elders), Race-course History, Saint Mary’s Primary School and Bowraville Mission. Thanks to Aunty Sandra Buchanan and Aunty Ann Flanders for travelling with the staff and sharing their time and journey of this little old town. **Day 3** kicked off with the Gaagal Wanggaan National Park History which led to a 2.5 hour walk through Gaagal Wanggaan South Beach (South Beach ). During this tour we heard about the Gumbaynggirr people creation story and how the sea was made. We also learnt spiritual connection of the ocean, land and rivers, we became aware of the endangered marine life as well as climate change and impacts on our beaches. Thank you to Unkya Local Aboriginal Land Council and their Rangers.

The three days highlighted the connection to the three Towns—Nambucca, Bowraville and Macksville, the family connections and Gumbaynggirr People. Thanks to Aunty Violet Perry, Uncle Bud Marshall and Uncle Robert Edwards for their time and knowledge.

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**International and Competition Assessment for Schools (ICAS)** is a skills based assessment with a competition element. The science competition will be held on Wednesday 3rd June. If you are interested in entering please pay $2 to the front office by Tuesday 5th May. For further information please speak to Ms Waters or your science teacher or go to [https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about](https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about)

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**YEAR 7 SOCIAL**

At the end of Term 1 the SRC held a “Welcome to Year 7 Social”. It was a great night with a large number of students attending. The theme for the night was “Hipsters and Hippies”. There were some great outfits. The SRC ran a canteen so no one went hungry or thirsty. The SRC would like to thank Mr Brock Janssen for DJing the night and staff for coming along to make the night possible. (More photos on the eNewsletter and website)
On Friday 24th April Nambucca Heads High School held a very informative and emotional ANZAC service to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of Gallipoli. Led by school captains, Jayde Hill and Connor Hoban, a number of students and invited guests spoke about their connections and experiences of the different war campaigns.

The service began with an audio visual clip of “The Incidental Tourist – Gallipoli’s Anzac Cove” and “Gallipoli Campaign 1915-2015 – ANZAC Centenary tribute”.

Jack Edwards then did the Welcome to Country. Year 7 students, Chloe Keppie and Terryn Hopper read the ANZAC Requiem followed by another clip “Diary of a Gallipoli Soldier”. Morgan Robins, a Year 11 student, then spoke about what ANZAC Day means to her and told about an uncle that served in WW11, how he suffered with lifelong injuries. Another Year 11 student, Jamie Green, told the story of the “Last Charge of the Boy Soldier”. Fifteen year old Jack Harris lied about his age to enlist in the army, he was the youngest soldier to die at Gallipoli.

Year 10 student, Jason Warwick, read “A Gallipoli Soldier’s Diary”. The words of a soldier to his family were an insight into the day to day life of a soldier during the First World War.

Guest speaker, Mr Sandy Saunders, gave a wonderful talk to the staff and students on how the landing in Gallipoli came about and how Australia and New Zealand became involved in the doomed conflict.

To finish the service History Teacher, Mr Steven Elsley, played the Last Post and Reveille on the bugle. The service concluded with Advance Australia Fair.

Congratulations to Mr Elsley for the organisation of this wonderful service. Also congratulations for the respect given to our armed forces, both past and present, by the students during the service. Thank you also to Mr Sandy Saunders for attending and representing the RSL.

Congratulations to all the students who attended the Dawn Service held at the cenotaph in Nambucca Heads or who travelled to Bowraville on Saturday 25th April and marched in the Anzac parade under the school banner.

Mr Steven Elsley and Mr Sandy Saunders
NHHS students at the march in Bowraville

**SPORTING AND COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Stuarts Point Players**

Presents two plays—Alibis and Groove-a-Rella. They will be presented on several dates at Stuarts Point, Gladstone, Kempsey and Nambucca Heads. More information For more information email: rmorrison4@bigpond.com

**Kokoda Challenge**

A charity bowls day will be held at the Nambucca Heads Bowling Club on Sunday 3rd May to raise money for locals taking on the Kokoda Challenge. All funds raised go to to the Kokoda Youth Foundation.

**Groundswell 2015**

Youth Alive is hosting large scale events designed so that young people can bring their friends, their youth ministries and schools to experience incredible praise and worship, inspiring speakers and great local and international bands and artists. The concert will be held on 9th May at Lifehouse Church, Coffs Harbour. For more information or tickets go to: youthalivensw.com

“Back to the 80’s”

*Don’t forget the school musical in Term 4*
On March 31st Years 9 and 10 Marine Studies and PASS students and Year 11 SLR students travelled to Coffs Harbour to the Surf school for a bit of action on the water. The students tackled some new activities that tested their nerves and gave them a few thrills. They went surf rafting, surfing, surf kayaking and also had time for a bit of mucking around in the waves. This excursion is designed to encourage the students to “get to know” each other and is a great way to start the year on a positive note while learning some safety skills, which are always handy when living in a coastal community.

Apologies to Thys Byrt. In the last newsletter there was a report on Thys saying he had a Diploma of Education. He actually has a Bachelor of Education which is a four year course.