2014 has seen the successful launch of a new subject called Entertainment - Screen and Media (Gaming). Mr Laffan underwent significant training at the end of 2013 to be able to offer this new and exciting course. Students have shown great enthusiasm so far for the content of this new and exciting course.

COMING UP

28th March  Year11 RYDA Driver Training
31st March -  Year 12 Mid Course Exams
11th April  Europe Tour Departs
11th April  Last Day Term 1
28th April  Term 2 Begins
8th May  BWSC Cross Country
Welcome to our March newsletter. Semester 1 is progressing well with many initiatives focusing on student achievement being implemented across the campus. In week 4 Yr12 students had the opportunity to hear from some of our high achieving 2013 HSC students who provided advice on HSC preparation. It is important that students do hear from past students to gain an understanding of what is in front of them. The session was well received and hopefully all students were able to walk away with at least one new HSC preparation idea.

Congratulations to Mrs Hodges and her team for the organisation of the campus swimming carnival. The response from staff and students indicate a highly successful event with a number of records being broken. Well done to all participants.

I had the pleasure to meet with Yr10 parents last week at our annual Yr10 parent information evening. Parent participation was definitely stronger this year due to the fact we are now able to communicate these types of events with parents through facebook and the smart phone APP. Well done to Mr Simon Norris who is responsible for web based communication.

An ongoing concern to our welfare team is the increasing support required for students who are bullied and harassed by students via the internet. Although we have run many workshops to improve student understanding that cyberbullying is against the law, some students still believe they have a right to text and/or create facebook messages that are menacing and abusive. The Criminal Code Act 1995 states that if a person is found guilty of using a carriage service to menace, harass or cause offence the penalty can be 3 years imprisonment. If a person is found guilty of using a carriage service to make a threat to cause serious harm the penalty can be 7 years imprisonment.

Some reminders for upcoming events:

- Yr11 parent information evening will be held on Tuesday 18th March starting at 6.00pm in the hall.
- P&C meeting will be held at the Woy Woy campus on Wednesday 19th March starting at 7.00pm. This meeting will be the AGM. If as a parent you want to hear more about what is happening on this campus come along and make a contribution as part of our P&C.
- Yr12 mid course exams will commence on the 31st March until 11th April (last day of term)
- The first day of term 2 (Monday 28th April) will be a school development day. Students will return to school on Tuesday 29th April.

David Allomes
Principal
NEW FLAGPOLE

Congratualtions to the Junior AECG for raising funds to allow the installation of a new flagpole, that will proudly display the Torres Straight Island flag. Well done everyone.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Last week was the Random Acts of Kindness Week. Students visited local neighbours to deliver chocolates to thank them for their patience in our neighbourhood and just to show them respect and yes, a little random act of kindness. Their reactions were delightful! Remember, you don't need a reason to help people!

CAREERS NEWS

UTS Women in Engineering gave a presentation to 16 of our girls interested in pursuing a career in engineering. Two of the presenters, women in their early twenties had not gone the traditional academic pathway to UTS. The girls had to solve a third world problem using simple engineering principals. A day long visit to UTS is planned for the girls in September where they will be able to investigate courses and facilities. The Motor Transport Association are going to give a presentation on the 28th of March to students interested in embarking on a career in the motor industry in areas such as light and heavy mechanical maintenance and repair, body work, outdoor power equipment, marine and more. This presentation will be followed up with an optional session on the Map my future website and the motor industry pre-apprenticeship aptitude test.

Plan-it Careers mentoring is well under way with 11 mentors and 11 students. Most of our mentors have been assisting our students for many years. This term a tour of Ourimbah Campus and a cabinet making factory to discuss apprenticeships are planned. Any student interested in joining mentoring next term please see Ms Beemster in the Careers room.

READY TO WORK - It is always wise to have qualifications that will enable you to work whilst you study at Tafe or Uni after you have left school. The Barista course, RSA, RCG and First Aid Certificate are a good start. A Barista Course will be running on the 31st March, see Ms Beemster if interested.

YEAR 12 TEXTILES

Congratulations to Tara Barnes on the completion of her skirt for her Textiles Major Work. Mrs Dowling and the Textiles are making great progress on their major works.
On the 10th and 13th March, Year 10 participated in one of two Vietnam War Study Days as a component of their History course. A major focus of both History days was a visit by the Nambus, which is stationed at Ettalong but tours around the state for educational visits to schools. The Nambus was crewed by veterans of the Vietnam War, who answered students’ questions about the many artefacts and memorabilia on board the bus and also talked to the students about their experiences in the war. The veterans who attended the two days complimented our Year 10 students on their attentiveness and good behaviour.

As well as the Nambus visit, Year 10 listened to music from the Vietnam War era and watched a performance of “Vietnam – Dusted Off”, a play about Vietnam veteran Frankie Hunt that was performed by his son Brett Hunt. The play was both funny and moving, and everyone was impressed with Brett’s storytelling, acting and musical skills.

I would like to thank the students of Year 10 for their participation and for the respect they showed our visitors on both days. I would also like to thank all the staff who contributed to making these study days a success.

Mr Wright, History Co-ordinator

Congratulations to the Boys and Girls cricket teams who have had great fun competing in knockout competitions. The Girls beat Kariong HS, while the Boys suffered a narrow loss to Asquith Boys HS.
Members of BWSC Woy Woy Environmental and Sustainability group along with a Year 10 Geography class participated in Clean Up Australia Day in and around the school grounds on Friday 7th March.

There was plenty of litter to be picked up saving huge amounts of rubbish from entering stormwater drains and local waterways. Students also learnt some valuable information about recyclable and non-recyclable products.

The enthusiasm and hard work of the students who participated is to be applauded. We look forward to working on some exciting projects throughout the year.

Any student who has a genuine interest in the environment and would like to join, please feel free to attend the next meeting.

Next meeting: Monday 31st March (lunchtime in G1)

A reminder that Earth Hour is coming up on 29th March between 8:30pm–9:30 pm. So remember to turn your lights off and show your support for the planet!

Coordinators: Mr. Cameron and Miss. Roberts

On the 10th and 13th March, students from Year 10 travelled to Terrigal to conduct an array of geographical fieldwork activities investigating the affects of coastal erosion on the human and physical environment. This is directly connected to the Coastal Management topic, which is currently being studied in class and is the basis for Assessment Task 1.

Students travelled between three sites – ‘The Ruins’ at Wamberal Beach, Terrigal Lagoon and the Skillion.

After some quick demonstrations by teachers and the staff from Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre, students were actively conducting beach profile surveys, determining the density of native beach vegetation, measuring sand particles, performing water quality tests and finding their bearings at the top of the Skillion.

It was an enjoyable two days for all and students appreciated exploring and learning about the world beyond the classroom.

Many thanks to all staff members who helped to make the two days a success.

Mr Cameron, Geography Co-ordinator
Brisbane Water Secondary College Agriculture Department is off to a winning start for 2014. Preparation for the coming show season started last year and continued throughout the holidays and when school resumed.

Students have been busy training and preparing cattle for the Maitland Agricultural Show on Friday 14th February.

At least one hundred and sixty students participated from several schools in the hunter and central coast regions with at least thirty head of cattle.

BWSC was represented by 18 students and 4 show cattle.

The school’s enviable performance record was maintained achieving 1st and 2nd in the lightweight class and 1st and 4th in the heavyweight class.

The light weight steer proceeded to win the overall champion steer of the show.

**Other achievements on the day include several students placing in a strong field in the Paraders competition. Results are:**

- Adam Gowrie 2nd
- Isaac Jones 5th in the 13 year old class
- Keely Tribemorgan 3rd and Jake Barrett Highly Commended in the 14 year old class
- Luke Brookes 3rd in the 15 year old class
- Allana Norris qualified to represent the school at Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Students and staff are busy preparing for the Canberra Royal Agricultural Show in late February followed by Sydney Royal Easter Show in April.

Brisbane Water Secondary College would like to extend their sincere thanks to Mr and Mrs Greg and Leoni Ball who have organised the cattle clinic at Maitland Show for many years. The Balls continue to invest their expertise, support and time throughout the year in order to provide excellent educational opportunities for youth in Agriculture from regional to national level. Luke Brookes placed in Junior Judging.