Youth of the Year

Congratulations to Joshua Manning and Emily Somerville who have competed in the first round of the Ballina Lions Youth of the Year competition. Joshua clashed with some excellent public speakers, including Ballina High School’s eloquent school captain Jordon Staude. Joshua was successful in winning this round with a combination of community involvement, local knowledge and natural stage presence. We look forward to Sebastian Gallagher’s sortie into the Alstonville competition this week.

Our Primary Shines Bright

5/6F has had a great start to the year. Our class is peer reading with KB on Monday afternoons. It has been lots of fun getting to know all of the Kinder children. We have started reading a book called ‘Hating Alison Ashley’ and we are creating artwork that revolves around it.

Shae Bright came to our classroom to show us her two guinea pigs. They were so cute! Both of them were boys and one was making a lot of sounds. We gave them an apple core from our compost bucket.

Lunchtime in the K-6 Library

Children enjoying games and the new furniture!
Kinder Students are Having Fun!
Coming to school is a big change for young children and the Kinder students have been having a lot of fun, making new friends, starting to read and write, participating in Kindergym, and even meeting a rabbit in 'news' time.

Homework Centre
This operates on Wednesday afternoons from 3:15-4:15pm, and is offered to students who need assistance with homework. This can be assigned homework from the class, Mathletics, Spelladrome and even reading assistance. There is NO COST involved with Homework Centre. An afternoon snack is advised as there is a 15 minute break prior to the commencement of work.

Due to the times of the Homework Centre parents/carers need to be prompt collecting their children by 4:15pm. Please ensure that arrangements are communicated in writing with Mr Orchard, Mrs White or Mrs Faulks if other people are picking up your child, or if they are to walk home.

NRL Development
Over the last few weeks, Wazza and Kel from the NRL Development of Skills have visited Southern Cross School K-12. They have been motivating and introducing students from Years 3-6 to many new skills and developing teamwork strategies. The students have had great fun and participated with enthusiasm.

Look Out! Look Out! Snakes About!
There have been a few snake sightings within the school grounds. Please take care and be vigilant near garden beds.

A Message from the Principal
You are probably aware of recent bomb threats in an increasing number of schools across Australia. We will be organising a number of drills over the coming weeks. Our first evacuation drill will be held this Thursday at the end of period 4. We will be asking students to take their bags and move on to the designated area. Rolls will be marked immediately.

We want staff, students, parents and carers to be aware, not alarmed, as we practice to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all staff and students in the event of an emergency. We ask for your support in the drill.

In the event of a ‘real’ emergency, we will be prepared. Our priority, along with safety of staff and students, will be to call police and emergency services. Parents and carers will be informed as soon as possible via sms, facebook, and our webpage.

Thank you to the parents and carers who are taking care of our students in the drop off area. It is appreciated.

Janeen Silcock, Principal
Year 7 2017 Information Evening

Year 6 students and their families are invited to come along to find out about the exciting educational opportunities on offer for our students in 2017. Join us at the school gymnasium on Thursday 10 March for a sausage sizzle at 5pm, followed by an information session and school tour.

7-12 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Year 7-12 teachers are conducting interviews between 3:30pm and 7:00pm on 14-15 March. Interviews will be held in our school gymnasium.

You can now book interviews at times that suit your family best. Visit www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the school code 67694, then follow the simple instructions.

Bookings must be made no later than 11 March.

7-12 Sports Update

Open Girls Volleyball

Amba Gardnir, Rachael Laurenson, Kate Goodman and Adelle Stafford travelled to Byron Bay to represent Far North Coast in the Opens Girls Volleyball North Coast Championships. The girls played well and the team finished 2nd overall. Congratulations to Amba Gardnir for selection into the North Coast team. Kate Goodman was selected as a shadow player.

Under 15s Touch Football

Southern Cross School K-12 took two boys teams and a girls team to the U15s Far North Coast Touch Football Trials. All students involved represented the school well and displayed outstanding touch football skills. Congratulations to Hamish McClintock for being selected in the Far North Coast team. Liam Green and Rowan Mansfield were selected as shadow players.

Open Boys and Girls Football

Congratulations to our Open Girls and Boys Soccer teams who competed at the Far North Coast CHS Football knockout and trials at Lennox Head on a sweltering hot day.

During the girls draw, our team defeated Byron Bay 2-0 with goals by Taylor Watson and Lauren Johnson. Georgia Wheatland was strong as keeper, shutting out her opponents throughout the day.

Our boys team easily advanced to the second round with a 5-2 win over Ballina High. Unfortunately with no reserves to call on during their second match against Byron Bay, the boys went down 3-0. Considering the extreme heat, our boys played with real passion and school spirit.

Seven of our girls and five boys will be continuing for the North v South trials for the Far North Coast.

New High School Update

Last week a small team were fortunate to travel to Auckland New Zealand to spend the day at Hobsonville Point Secondary School. It was an inspirational experience. Similar to our vision for the new school in Ballina, students are at the centre of all decisions made at Hobsonville Point. This ensures that students develop as confident, connected, actively involved life-long learners.

The values they encourage, model and explore are:

**EXCELLENCE:** Setting high standards.

**CONNECTEDNESS:** Connecting respectfully with others, engaging with learning, community and opportunities.

**COLLABORATION:** Working cooperatively in partnership with and learning from others.

**INQUIRY:** Questioning, reviewing and reflecting to ensure continuous improvement and problem-solving.

**INNOVATION:** Taking risks by trying new and different ways of thinking to achieve positive impact.

The material gathered at Hobsonville Point will be invaluable in assisting the Year 7 team who are currently developing a new approach to the curriculum.

If you would like to find out more please come to our information evening on Thursday 10th March at Southern Cross School K-12. School tours and a sausage sizzle will commence at 5:00pm. An information session will run from 6:00pm.

Remember if you have any questions please contact me and I will endeavour to find an answer.

Sue Page, Deputy Principal Strategic Directions.

7-12 SRC Report

Our 7-12 SRC held a meeting in which we nominated and voted for leadership positions and discussed how we can make our school’s SRC more efficient and more involved with the community than ever before. We want to congratulate everyone who stood up and had the confidence to say they wanted to lead in front of a group of people they hardly knew, and thank Year 7 for their contribution of ideas. We know that no school is perfect when we work individually and independently, but together we can strive and undoubtedly achieve perfection. If anyone has any questions or ideas they’d like to put forward don’t hesitate to come and ask us. We can’t promise waterslides or free pizza, but we can promise that we’ll try as hard as we can to represent your ideas, morals and beliefs to the executives of the school and the wider community.

We also discussed possible future fundraising events and which charities and organisations we would like to sponsor, and what we’d like to achieve by the time our representation comes to an end. We look forward to having lunch dates with Mrs Silcock to discuss our goals and look forward to having fun with you in the future.-Ryan James
7-12 Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday 16 February, Southern Cross School K-12 sent our 7-12 swim team to Mullumbimby to compete in the Far North Coast Zone Swimming Carnival. All students involved represented the school with pride. Congratulations to the following students who placed highly in various events and will represent the zone at the North Coast Carnival:

- Tamsyn Walo - Girls 12 Years - 1st 100m Breaststroke, 4th 50m Freestyle
- Sienna Walo - Girls 12 Years - 3rd 50m Freestyle
- Pierse Charlton - Boys 12 Years - 2nd 100m Breaststroke, 2nd 100m Butterfly
- Alysha Baldwin - Girls 16 years - 1st 100m Backstroke, 2nd 200m Freestyle, 2nd 100m Freestyle, 2nd 100m Breaststroke, 2nd 100m Butterfly, 2nd 50m Freestyle
- Jessie Kernaghan - 17+ Years - 1st 100m Butterfly, 2nd 50m Freestyle
- Kieran East - Boys 17+ Years - 1st 100m Breaststroke, 1st 100m Freestyle

Relay Teams:
- 2nd Girls 13 Year 200m Freestyle Relay Team (Tamsyn Walo, Sienna Walo, Annabelle Flamisch, Kathleen Schlenker)
- 1st Girls Open 200m Freestyle Relay Team (Jessie Kernaghan, Alysha Baldwin, Lucy Croft, Georgia Wheatland)
- 2nd Girls Open 200m Medley Relay Team (Jessie Kernaghan, Alysha Baldwin, Lucy Croft, Georgia Wheatland)

The North Coast Carnival will be held at Kempsey on Tuesday 8th March. Good luck to all students involved.

Uni Showcase and Defence Force Talk

In Week 5 this term, students from Years 10-12 were lucky enough to have a visit from the Defence Force. They presented information on life as a defence force member, current job opportunities and the requirements for entry. Approximately 100 students attended and feedback from the students was very positive.

Year 12 students from Southern Cross School K-12 and Ballina High School then attended the University Showcase which had presenters from Southern Cross, Griffith, New England, Southern Queensland and Bond Universities as well as North Coast TAFE. This presentation focussed on university life and preparation for university studies as well as course choosing and preference information - a very informative session for students who will be making big decisions in the not too distant future.

Thank you to all who attended.
The Careers Team (Ms Ryan and Miss Middleton).
Pictured above: Peta Grobler takes time out with Defence personnel Jeremy and Ben from the army and airforce.

Yuta Koyano
Japanese Exchange Student

Hi My name is Yuta. I am a exchange student from Japan. I live in a city called Narasino city. I am staying at Cumbalum. I came here to improve my English and make some friends in Australia. Every Australian is very friendly so I like them. It is hard for me to listen to your English. And I ask you to repeat because I want to talk more with you! Pleased to meet you.

Thank you, Yuta.

Yr 7 English Assessment date change

Parents and caregivers of Year 7 students please note that the first assessment task for English has been moved to Term 1, Week 11.
Trivia Night - a Year 12 fundraiser

When: 5:30pm, 18th March
Where: Southern Cross School K-12 Gym
Cost: $5 per person
Bring: Food, non-alcoholic drinks, gold coins
How: Get a team of 8 or less people together and email the school at stthcross-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au with your members and team name.
**Interschool Equestrian**

Summerland Dressage Club, in conjunction with Xavier Catholic College are holding an Interschool Dressage Competition at Bangalow Showgrounds on April 3rd. Entries close on March 25th and you need to enter online at https://www.nominate.com.au/equestdn/Nominate.aspx. Scroll down to the Summerland event and follow the prompts. The program will be online shortly.

In order to participate you need to be a Junior Rider member of EQUESTRIAN QUEENSLAND (EQ).

This membership (whilst expensive for those who do not compete regularly) gives you excellent insurance for your horse riding activities 24/7 as well as other benefits. If you are pony club member, once you have joined EQ you can apply for a $50 refund by sending EQ a copy of your pony club membership card.

---

**NSW Country Surf Life Saving Champs**

Congratulations to the following Southern Cross School K-12 students who recently represented Ballina Surf Life Saving Club:

- Karina Perris - Womens Open Beach Sprint Relay Team - Gold Medalists
- Ben and Sam Limpenny Fawcett - U17 Beach Relay Team - Silver Medalists
- Ben Limpenny Fawcett - U17 Beach 2km Run - Bronze Medalist

---

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Thur 10</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Y7 2017 Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>K-12</td>
<td>School Photo Catch Up Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 14</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tue 15</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W16 - F18</td>
<td>Yr 8</td>
<td>Camp - Thunderbird Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 21</td>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tue 22</td>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tue 22</td>
<td>K-12 Families</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 25</td>
<td>K-12</td>
<td>Good Friday Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 28</td>
<td>K-12</td>
<td>Easter Monday Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Fri 8</td>
<td>K-12</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These dates are a guide only.
For updated details please refer to our school website.

---

**Year 11 and 12 Students**

Please remember to sign in at the student sign on counter as soon as you arrive at school.
This will eliminate unnecessary text messages being sent to parents/carers.
BRAVE Self-Help is an online program for the prevention, early intervention, and treatment of youth anxiety. It was developed at The University of Queensland by experts in youth anxiety and has now been running for over 14 years throughout Australia. The program is fun, interactive, based on cognitive-behavioural principles and has been found to be effective in reducing anxiety in children and adolescents. It has helped hundreds of children experiencing social anxiety, shyness, separation anxiety, phobias and general worries. BRAVE Self-Help is now available to use at home for free due to the support of beyondblue. Any Australian young people who would like help with anxiety can access the self-help program via https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/ The program can be accessed through any computer or tablet device, at any time and includes up to 10 sessions for youth. Parents can also take part in a separate parent program to learn ways of helping their child or teenagers manage anxiety. Teachers, young people and parents can also find out more about the program or take a trial or any of the programs through the BRAVE website.

Let Us Know What You Have To Offer!
Boost Your Local Awareness Through Southern Cross School K-12 Newsletter
Providing affordable targeted advertising to over 1,300 locals every fortnight!
Take advantage NOW! for just $35 for single advertisements, or for better value... $360 for one whole year!
That’s 20 advertisements throughout one whole year, which you can change as often as you like, to promote anything you want your local community to know about!
For more information, contact Sara Bishop on 0410 018085, or by email sarabishop@gmail.com

Uniform Shop Hours
K-12 Uniform Shop is open:

Wednesdays  8:45am - 10:30am
Fridays  8:45am - 10:30am

For any enquiries, please email us at sxuniformshop@gmail.com
I've put together a new website.

It's a "One Stop Shop" for everything you need with Career Planning and help.

**CHECK IT OUT NOW!**

Ms Donna Ryan

Careers Adviser

THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT