News from the Principal

It’s almost impossible to believe that term one is nearly over - it has gone so quickly. We are busy as always but there is a strong feeling that the school is moving forward. Last week, three very successful, well attended meetings were held for parents. More than 130 parents attended the year 6 into 7 Information Night held on March 4 that included a tour of the school. Following this event, a workshop for parents of students in year 10 was held in the library. Almost 100 parents were given information on the Record of School Achievement (ROSA) and Year 10 work experience.

On Thursday March 5, parents attended the school to learn about the Social and Emotional Learning (SELS) Engagement program. Students have been invited to join the program and already are demonstrating an increased capacity to engage more fully in their learning and with others. The Independent Learning Centre will open again in the last week of the term. The centre will be staffed by a teacher, Ms Christie three days a week from Wednesday to Friday. Students will be referred to the program through the Learning Support team and by the deputies. They will be supported to close gaps in their learning and to complete outstanding assessment and course work.

During the next school holiday period, factory built sails will be erected over the sward area of the playground. These sails will provide much needed cover and shade for students. Most of the cost - $10,000 will be provided by funds raised by the Student Representative Council (SRC). This is a hugely generous offer by the SRC and on behalf of the school community I thank them very much.

A meeting of the Uniform Committee was held on February 26 at which a new winter jacket was endorsed. The jacket features a warm fleecy lining with a detachable hood. It retails for $65 from the uniform shop and can be worn by all students. The feedback from students has been very positive and we hope that this will provide an attractive and warm option for the winter months. Once again, I ask for parent support in ensuring that students wear the Bowral High School uniform to school.

The school now has the capacity to send emails to parents and we are asking that parents update their information so we can communicate with you more effectively. Along with the website, SMS and school APP, we will be using emails to communicate instantly and also to send the newsletter home.

Parents are again reminded that full school attendance is a legal requirement and exemption from school for the purposes of travel or holidays will no longer be granted. The Student Attendance in Government Schools-Procedures policy states: ‘Regular attendance at school for every student is essential is students are to achieve their potential, and increase their career and life options’.

An application to be given leave to travel must now be sought and parents will need to provide evidence of travel in making this application. Leave may not be granted if it is believed that the absence from school is not in the best interests of the student. Forms can be downloaded from the school website or collected from the office. Whilst it is understood that travel cannot always be arranged in school holidays; nevertheless, family holidays arranged in school time should be avoided as much as possible.

Finally, the Building Fund that parents are asked to contribute to on school invoices is used to provide new school amenities for students. In recent years, the Building Fund has been used to build a change room and toilet for student use near Café Bowral and also the student walkway and window. Contributions to the building fund are tax deductible.

The next meeting of the P &C will be held at 7pm in the staff common room on Wednesday March 18. Come along and join the steadily growing group of parents supporting our school.

Kim Paviour
Koori Kids News - Declaration Event

Three weeks ago, myself and other indigenous students from years 7 to 11 and some teachers, attended the ceremony of handing back the Jubilee Rock and making sure this sacred land is protected.

This sacred land has become a community asset for generations to come. The ceremony also acknowledged the 80th birthday of Auntie Val.

In attendance were Aunties, Elders from different regions, the Mayor, Duncan Gair, member for Goulburn, Pru Goward, National Park Rangers, police, Stevan Miladis and other members of the Koor community.

The land will be used by the community for indigenous and cultural activities. The land is also available to visitors to the Southern Highlands.

Abigail Angwin-Sinclair
Year 9
Updating information
Over the next few weeks Bowral High office staff may be contacting parents to update important details that we are missing on your child enrolment form. Information obtained will be strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than statistically for future funding for your child’s education. If any of your details have changed or updated could you please notify the office staff. This is very important in terms of communication processes. Your child can obtain a update form at the office or you can download it from the website, or simply give the school a call. Thanks.

Davidson Shield Cricket - Open Boys CHS Knockout Competition Match Report
On Friday 13 March, Monaro High hosted Bowral High in Cooma in the first round game for 2015. In cool overcast conditions, Bowral were sent in to bat. Opening batsman, Mitchel Stanmore, played to anchor the innings; batting through 34 overs to score 40 - which on a dry outfield would have been many more runs. Alexander Bates batting at 3, knocked up a quickfire 35. Then, Clayton Barnes scored a solid 24; Cameron Malcolm (23), Morgan Rykers (18) and Kyle Jesshope (16 n.o.) all made valuable contributions to the final team total of 7-188.

When it was Bowral’s turn to bowl, it was the medium pacers: Clayton Barnes (3-7), Sam McIlhatton (3-4) and Matthew Bates (1-14), who made the impact on Monaro’s higher batting order. The boys fielded strongly with Christian Molloy taking one particularly terrific catch. Cameron Malcolm (2-12) finishing the tail for Monaro’s total of 10-79.

Thanks again for the parents and grandparent who assisted in transporting their children on the day - it was a big drive for a day's sport. And thanks to Gregory Martin who was a scorer for the match; your effort was much appreciated by myself and the boys.

BHS Open Boys Cricket Team v Monaro: M Stanmore, S McIlhatton, A Bates, C Barnes, C Malcolm, M Bates, M Rykers, K Jesshope, J Miller, C Molloy, P Molloy, B Martin.

Michael Murton - Opens Cricket Coach/ Manager

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Some Calendar Dates for Term 1 2015

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<th>Weeks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>March 16  Bowral, PS Taster Day Work Placement Yr 12 Bus Serv Zone Touch, Crookwell</td>
<td>March 17  Colo Vale, Kanga-loon, Glenquarry Taster Day Rugby Union Trials Boys Volleyball</td>
<td>March 18  Open Rugby League Sydney Dance Co excursion</td>
<td>March 19  Formal assembly Jnr pd 2 Formal Assembly Snr pd 4</td>
<td>March 20  Boys &amp; Girls Hockey Trials Cross Country HSIE Yr 10 Assessment pds 1,2 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>March 23  Taster Day Mittagong PS Yr 10 work exp week HSC Half yearly exam week</td>
<td>March 24  Study skills workshop in Library 6pm to 7.30pm</td>
<td>March 25  Open Boys / Girls Soccer Respect Circle pd 2 @ Youth Hub</td>
<td>March 26  State swimming Respect Circle pd 2 @ Youth Hub</td>
<td>March 27  State Swimming</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>March 30  Study Skills workshop 6-8.30pm Zone Boys Tennis Red Cross Day</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 2  Last day of term 1</td>
<td>April 3  Good Friday Public Holiday</td>
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Bowral High School

Respect    Responsibility    Fairness