COMING EVENTS
Term 4 Week 11

Tuesday, 15 December  Parent Teacher Interviews 8.30am – 11.30am
Wednesday, 16 December  Year 12 BBQ Breakfast 7.30am
                         Last Day of Term for Students

Term 1 Week 1 2016

Tuesday, 26 January  Australia Day
Wednesday, 27 January  Staff Development Day
Thursday, 28 January  Years 7, 11 & 12 return
Friday, 29 January  All students return

Term 1 Week 2

Tuesday, 2 February  School Swimming Carnival
Wednesday, 3 February  UOW Discovery Day Yr 12

Principals Message

This will be the last newsletter for 2015. This year we introduced our new school uniform which has been embraced by our school community. Almost all students are now wearing the new school uniform. Students that still have previous uniform may wear this uniform in 2016. It is hoped that all students will be in the new uniform by 2017. I have included details of the school uniform in the pages that follow.

This year was also the first of our three year school plan which focuses on three strategic directions. These include Teaching, Learning and Engagement; School Culture and Community Partnerships. In 2016 we will continue to focus on these strategic directions and the targets set for each strategic direction.

In 2015, we continued to offer students a myriad of opportunities both in and out of the classroom. Participation in school excursions, school activities, school events, work placements and external events have been plentiful this year. We thank our school partners who have made this all possible.

At the beginning of the 2016 school year, we will be staging a whole school assembly for our students outlining our expectations of students and the promotion of student learning. This includes arriving at school on time, in full school uniform and with all the equipment required for the day, attending all lessons and participating in all class activities. Ultimately, we want all students to take responsibility for their own learning. In 2016, we will also be placing greater emphasis on promoting our school’s core values of Respect, Responsibility, Participation and Safety and recognising and rewarding students that adhere to our core values.

The school will continue to spend a substantial amount of funds on improving our school grounds. We will increase signage and seating throughout the school, so all students are aware of out of bound areas and have comfortable seating.

Respect, Responsibility, Safety & Participation
We have improved our website and newsletters and introduced the schoolbag App to improve communication between the school and parent/carers and the wider community. If you have not downloaded our schoolbag App please do so, as this is a very useful and up-to-date source of information about our school. I will continue to keep you abreast of developments in our school and ask that you support our efforts in making changes at our school that will ultimately improve students learning outcomes.

2016 will see a number of changes in staffing. Mr Damian Rees has been appointed Deputy Principal, replacing Mr Gary Smith and Ms Natasha Clark has been appointed Head Teacher Welfare replacing Mr John Dyball. Mrs Jenny McDonald has been appointed our third Deputy Principal for 2016 and will continue to work with the current Year 7 and Year 11 students, who will be in Year 8 and 12 respectively in 2016. Mr Duncan Nisbet will be relieving Head Teacher English in 2016. Ms Kerrie Lindsay will be working with Year 7 and 11 students in 2016 and Mr Damian Rees will be working with Years 9 and 10.

I would like to congratulate all the students who have put time and effort into their work this year and those who have been recognised for the achievements in a variety of endeavours. A big thank you to staff who make this possible each and every day. It is their dedication and commitment that allows students to excel in these endeavours. Thank you also to our school partners who work with us in partnership to ensure that we provide students with an excellent, comprehensive education that meets their needs.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support during 2015 and wish you and your loved ones a very happy and safe festive season. I look forward to a productive partnership in student learning in 2016.

Kem Rakiposki
Principal

Inspire Succeed Excel Aboriginal Education Awards

Congratulations to Joshua Wright-Smith who recently represented the NSW Bushrangers Hockey Team in Perth. Joshua’s team played teams from Australia, Japan and Malaysia, as well as attending coaching clinics.

Students graduating from Links to Learning Program

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEW DAY
Will be held on Tuesday 15 December from 8.30am – 11.30am in the school library. Students will be given booking sheets so that you may make an appointment time with the teachers. If you would prefer to make an appointment with the teacher directly please ring the school.

YEAR 12 HSC RESULTS BREAKFAST
Year 12 2015 are invited to a HSC Results Breakfast hosted by the P&C Association. Come along to school on Wednesday 16 December, 7.30am to 9am and share your results with us. Your parents/carers are most welcome. This will be your last chance to come together as a group and say farewell to your class mates and teachers. Hope to see you there!
Avoid the rush of the first week of school, when only 1 person at a time can be served in the uniform shop! Instead bring your student the week before school starts, when 14 fitting rooms will be in use in the PE Change rooms, situated around the far side of the school hall. (School Oval side). We will be open 18 January to 22 January from 8am to Midday only. During the week before school starts (the uniform shop will only be filling the orders from the PE change rooms and accepting payment. There will be no trying on of uniforms in the uniform shop itself this week.

There will be No Student Assistance or Abstudy available, unless you have already been given a card for 2016 by the school office.

Year 7 and 8 book packs are only available from the school canteen during term time, however a book requirement list will be available from the uniform shop.

SHS Uniform Shop

**Opening Hours during Term**
Mondays and Thursdays 9am – 1pm
EFTPOS or Cash only
Student Assistance Available for Eligible Parents
SCHOOL SHOES
Please see attached flyer regarding discounts to school shoes available from Shoes and Sox Stores or online when purchasing $150 or more from the Uniform Shop.

**Skoolbag App**
Don’t forget to download the Skoolbag App on your smartphone through your App store to keep up to date with Newsletters, Excursion and Homework reminders, as well as up to date information of what is happening at school. You can also advise the school of your child’s absence through the App.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience
The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience is a free, traveling exhibition that tells the story of Australia’s involvement in World War One and our subsequent century of service.

This once-in-a-lifetime event will be staged at the University of Wollongong Sports Hub from 11 – 20 January 2016. It’s an ideal summer holiday activity for families in the Illawarra region.

Entry to the Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience is free, but booking is essential as places are limited. Find out dates, locations and booking details at [www.spiritofanzac.gov.au](http://www.spiritofanzac.gov.au). Follow us on social media using the hashtag #spiritofanzac.

**FREE BOXING FITNESS at PCYC**
Start the New Year by getting stronger and more involved with your PCYC.
What: Classes will start with a warm up game, like soccer; followed by boxing practice with pads, in a friendly environment.
Where: Shoalhaven PCYC
Who: High School Students
When: 3.30-4.30pm Monday – Thursday commencing 15 February.
We are offering these classes free for a month because we want to find out how they benefit you. There are only 50 spots so sign up quick. Visit us for more information or call 4421 8588. Parent consent is required so bring your mum/dad/carer when you sign up!
Respect, Responsibility, Safety & Participation

SUMMER KIDS’ CAMPS

THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT

Summer is all about having FUN in the great outdoors. There is no better way for kids to jam-pack their school holidays with adventure and excitement than by attending a Sport and Recreation Kids’ Camp. Choose from day programs and residential camps to Duke of Edinburgh’s Award journeys. Activities include raft building, mountain biking, flying fox, giant swing, cookouts and more. With so many programs on offer, you’ll be sure to find a camp your kids will love. Kids’ day camps start from $50. Residential camps include 24-hour supervision, accommodation, meals and activities, and many offer supervised transport to and from Central Station, Sydney.

For more information go to: www.sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps or 13 13 02 fb.com/nswsportandrecreation

Please join us for church at Bomaderry Anglican this year!
Christmas Eve @ 6.30pm - fun, pageant-style service for all ages.
Christmas Day @ 9am - traditional service with kids’ program.
Then for 'Summer Church' every Sunday @ 9am until the end of January.

Transgender & Gender Diverse Support Group for Parents

Many parents and carers can feel isolated and alone on their journey of understanding and supporting their child’s gender issues. If you would like to meet other parents and carers, share experiences, hear from guest speakers and learn more about a range of health, legal and social topics. This group will be facilitated by two local parents, in conjunction with The Gender Centre and Headspace Wollongong. First Tuesday of the month, 5.30pm for 6pm start until 8pm. Contact Headspace Wollongong on 4220 7660. www.gendercentre.org.au.

Shoalhaven High School will, as a service to parents, advertise community news which may be of interest. SHS does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility to the management or organisation.