



Baldivis
Secondary College

NEWSLETTER

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TERM 4

Well here it is....the final e-newsletter of 2014. As with any great organisation we are currently engaged in reviewing the programs, processes and initiatives of the college. Varying exercises in this regard have already taken place or are currently being completed. In the first half of 2015 we will continue to conduct our own self review and additionally will have the External Review Group oversee our review and ensure that the review is comprehensive, accurate and incorporates strategies for enhancing what we have achieved or to further target areas requiring further improvement. Surveys have formed a part of our review processes. The surveys have been a good resource for opinion and suggestions. I am happy to report that the data thus far indicates a significant level of satisfaction across a number of business areas within the college.

As I write this the final touches are being made to two of our new buildings for stage 2 and we expect to have them handed over to us in the next few days. This is great news as our staff are able to move into them prior to the end of the school year and have the classrooms easily set up for day 1 next year. With an expected 1050-1100 students for 2015 we will certainly need the space. The largest building in the college is due for completion in April 2015. This does mean some disruptions in term 1 next year for classes

that are ready to move into the new building and use the new resources. We will make every endeavour to minimise those as much as possible.

We have sent 6 staff over to Melbourne for some intense AVID training and are conducting a full day of professional learning for all of our new staff next week. AVID is an essential whole school initiative that is embedded in all classes as a means to ensuring our students are well prepared for successful lifelong learning and prepared for further studies beyond high school. It also incorporates the very important aspect of career development and motivating our students to engage in goal setting and planning around meeting their aspirations.

As is always the case we look to give the community a glimpse of BSC life and the many activities and successes we enjoy. This edition of the e-newsletter is another of those opportunities. I trust you will enjoy the celebrations contained within and the information that is also provided. I wish each of our Baldivis Secondary College community members (the BSC 'family') a very pleasant and safe festive season and look forward to a fantastic 2015 school year!

Kind regards,
Keith Svendsen - Principal

HOLIDAY READING

The summer holidays are a great time to grab a book, a cool drink and catch up on some reading. Without school and assignments, students have more time on their hands and a book (or e-reader) makes a great companion.

All library resources are due back before the holidays, but we would like to encourage students to come and see us in the Library to arrange a holiday loan – we have a great selection! The Library recently purchased a range of books that are suggested reading for Senior School English. Get a head start on background reading and read one or two of them these holidays.

Baldivis has a new public library and the holidays would be a great opportunity to go and check it out. Membership to any public library in WA is free and you then have access to a huge collection of books and other resources, including e-books, magazines and databases.

Scholastic is having a HUGE book sale at the Old Mandurah Yacht Club 1A Halls Head Parade on Thursday 11th December from 8.30 – you could pick up some bargains!

Of course, if people have been VERY good, Father Christmas may even give you a book under the tree...

VISUAL ART

Our Year 9 Visual Arts students were lucky enough to have renowned artist visit the school for a Q&A session. Kyle Hughes-Odgers and Brad Eastman, AKA Beastman, are two very well-known Australian artist who have just completed a new mural work at the newly developed Stockland shopping centre. They stopped in to meet and greet our students and share a bit of knowledge. Some very cool guys who are at the top of a very elite game. Our students got to show-off their own work too, with a display of the skateboards they have just done up with spray paint and stencils.

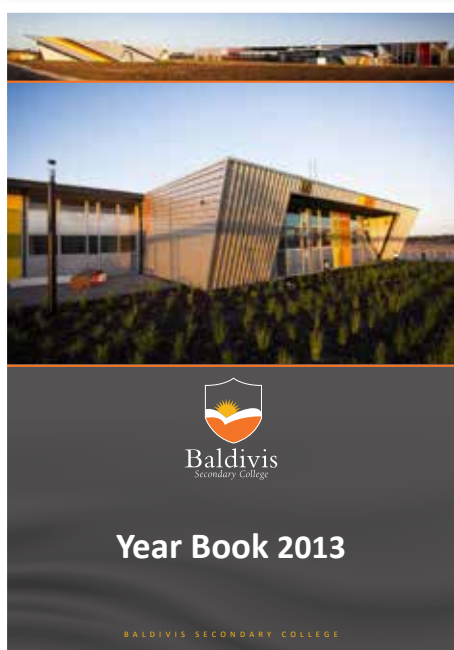
Year 8 Visual Arts students have just fired their clay sculpture work, Tiki Mugs!

Looking at clay as a medium and how traditional culture can be used in pop culture the year 8 students created these awesome vessels in surf culture style. We've seen some very gnarly work from them... let's hope they can follow it up with some sweet paint jobs on them.

2013 YEAR BOOK AVAILABLE NOW!!

At last the 2013 e-Year Book is now available for purchase! Visit our website for details on how to order.

Go to <http://baldivissc.wa.edu.au> to order.



YEAR 9 AUSTRALIAN HISTORY TOUR 2014

With much excitement 20 Year 9 students and three staff flew to Canberra for a weeks exploration of the nation's capital. During our stay we visited many interesting sites such as Old and New Parliament Houses, Australian Institute of Sport, National Museum of Australia, Australian War Memorial, Canberra Deep Space Complex and Questacon to name a few. At each site the students discovered the breadth and depth of Australia's political and legal evolution, involvement in international relations and its considerable impact on society's knowledge and discovery. For all, the trip was a practical examination of the theoretical work covered in the Society and Environment and Science learning areas. Each student had their own individual highlight but each would agree that the experience of travelling with fellow students interstate, exploring Canberra, developing their independence and resiliency skills as well as adding a valuable layer of knowledge to their education was an amazing opportunity.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the National Capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$240 per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.





SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2014 has been a big year for sustainability at Baldivis Secondary College. Students, staff and the community have come together at various times to help lay the foundations for a successful integration of sustainability into college life, culture and learning.

The Sustainability Committee consists of a number of dedicated teachers from all learning areas. Their goal has been to develop a 'Sustainability Action Plan' which provides a guide for embedding sustainability into college life over the next three years.

Curriculum

Sustainability is at the heart of the Australian National Curriculum as one of the key cross-curricular priority areas. All learning areas at the college have been examining ways to embed sustainability into their teaching and learning practices through their curriculum content and by providing students with engaging experiences that connect students to their local community and environment.

In Term 1 students from the Year 9 T.E.P. program examined the concept of 'provenance' planting using trees and shrubs that naturally grow in a certain area. Using trees donated by a local business they planted a wind break along the Eastern boundary of the school. They discovered the role invertebrates play in a healthy soil ecosystem and the importance of preserving our soils in an arid climate. They further examined the role of healthy soil ecosystems in agriculture, constructing several large organic food garden beds using a layered permaculture system.

Our Art Department worked with several students from the college to create exhibition pieces using recycled materials for the "Rockingham Sculptures by the Sea" annual art show. A strong creative and innovative spirit was evident in the sculptures created.

The Term 2 Science Fair showcased the incredible talents of our College's scientific community with strong themes of 'environmental science' showing through the student projects. Everything from alternative energy to nutrition and even environmentally friendly household cleaning products were on show.

Also in Term 2 the teaching staff all participated in a session examining the resources and opportunities that exist to extend learning at the Baldivis Children's Forrest, as part of our College's Professional Learning Community. Each learning area identified ways they could use this award winning educational resource to enrich and extend the learning experiences of their students.

In Term 3 a number of our students participated in 'Kids Teaching Kids', first at the one day event held at the Baldivis Children's Forest and then at the International Kids Teaching Kids Conference in Mandurah. Kids Teaching Kids is an educational model that uses local environmental issues as a theme for learning. It starts in the classroom and extends into the community preparing kids to take up the challenge of making a positive contribution towards resolving an issue within their community as well as developing strategies and experiences in managing their own learning. At the three day International Conference our students rose to the

occasion making a positive impact on each aspect of the event. The opening night showcased the amazing musical talent of Jo Branch and our school contemporary musical ensembles as they wowed audience members from across Australia. On the second day our Year 9 AEP students presented their project on 'bush foods' and their role in meeting Australia's future food security and nutritional needs. Their presentation inspired a visit from Professor Lyn Beazley (formerly W.A.'s Chief Scientist) who was impressed by the knowledge and confidence of the team. On the final day students from the Baldivis Children's Forest PSYC team ran workshops with delegates examining the role of frogs in healthy wetlands and the plight of the White Bellied Sea Eagle. The work they created is soon to go on display at Perth International Airport. Event organiser and former Australian of the Year, Aron Woods was grateful for the significant and valued contribution our students made towards making the whole event a success!

Community

Throughout 2014 our students have been part of a range of sustainability programs and projects designed to make positive connections within our local community. Students from the Young Men's Shed worked under the guidance of Mr John Matthews our D&T guru to design and construct a number of bat boxes that will house our local micro bats, an important native species for reducing mosquito populations.

Early in 2014 a number of our Year 9 students joined forces with the Year 4's from Baldivis Primary School to clean up our beach as part of Coastcare Week. The team collected data on waste streams and the volume of waste and sent their findings off to Coastwatch to be used as part of a national citizen science data collection. We are hoping to extend this program to even more students in 2015.

2014 also saw the creation of our Garden Club, a student lead team that meets during lunchtime to select, planting and cultivating a range of vegetables, salads and berries. Throughout the year up to 55 students have participated in growing crops, managing compost from our school canteen and constructing worm farms. The rewards of their success are realised in lunchtime BBQ's with produce being devoured by club members.

The student lead Green Team has been putting together a waste and litter strategy to deal with the increasing litter issues around our college. The Green Team promotes student engagement in improving aspects of our college community, identifying barriers and problem solving solutions. Students have used an evidence based approach to identify key hotspots for litter around the school and litter streams that occur in each zone. This year's team has created a plan for the 2015 Green Team to put into action.

Sustainability Report Continued...

A number of our students have been heavily involved in the formation of the Peel Sustainable Youth Council. This team of young inspired future leaders gets together once a fortnight at the Baldvis Children's Forest to participate in a wide range of activities exploring environmental science, leadership, community and the arts. One highlight for 2014 was the 'build your own shelter' winter camp out. The group also ran the Kids Teaching Kids Forest Day and a number of community events. In 2015 the team will be offering memberships to be part of the program and enjoy a range of activities including: canoeing, outdoor cinema, laser tag, soil mapping and a tour to South Australia to meet the Murray River Youth Council.

2015 is geared up to be an exciting year for sustainability at the college with a range of programs and projects identified engaging both the curriculum and community. One exciting opportunity will be the Baldvis Community Garden. School and community representatives met with JCY Architects and landscape designers recently to discuss the proposed garden along the Northern boundary of the college. Further information as well as invitations to be a part of the steering committee will be announced early in 2015. On behalf of the Sustainability Committee I would like to congratulate the staff and students who have helped to lay strong foundations for sustainability at Baldvis Secondary College.

2014 HONOUR ROLL

Year 8 Awards

AVID	Kelly Wheeler	Science	Oliver Hanisch
Design and Technology	Oliver Hanisch	Society & Environment	Katana Gleesman
English	Oliver Hanisch	Year 8 Top Student	Oliver Hanisch
Food Technology	Deijaan Healey-Marsh	Endeavour Award	Chaydon Curtis
Health Studies	Alessandra Rodrigo	Citizenship Award	Jack Dennis
Instrumental Music	Amber Roberts	Leadership Award	Gabriella Orellana
Integrated Arts (Performance)	Jack Denis	Arts Award	Maea Fonua
Integrated Arts (Visual)	Jake Ellis	Sports Award	Will Smith
Mathematics	Oliver Hanisch	Sustainability Award	Ella Thompson
Physical Education	Miimama Amataiti		

Year 9 Awards

AVID	Vanesa Vincec	Society & Environment	Meg Willans
CAD Technology	Bayley Bell	Systems Technology	Bayley Bell
Dance	Zoe Jones	Visual Art	Jennifer Comrie
English	Meg Willans	Wood Technology	Joel Kepa
Food Technology	Beverlin Ybanez	Year 9 Top Student	Meg Willans
Health Studies	Jared Moseley	Endeavour Award	Nicholas Hodgson
Instrumental Music	Meg Willans	Citizenship Award	Tayla Phillips
Mathematics	Meg Willans	Leadership Award	Kate Stewart
Metals Technology	Connor McClure	Arts Award	Jay Rapley
Photo Media	Jennifer Comrie	Sports Award	Britney Manihera
Physical Education	Sean Casey	Sustainability Award	Georgia Read
Science	Meg Willans		