What’s New At NAC?

With the start of the new school year there are new people, new staff and new projects. I would like to tell you about some of the new projects that we are planning for 2015.

In an article titled “Schools that achieve extraordinary success” ten lessons were identified which were factors in improving learning outcomes for students. The last lesson was called Engendering Pride in the School. Without exception, all of the schools in this study took pride in their buildings and grounds as well as the work their students produce. You may have noticed more displays of student work around the school including art works in the Administration block and Library (thanks to our new curatorial team), The Body of Work Art Prizes on display from the Year 12 HSC students and we are looking to display more student work through our newsletters and in the classrooms.

1. Kindergarten playground

   Children learn through their interactions with the environment and their relationships with those around them. They learn through the experiences of touching, moving, listening and observing and they need many ways and opportunities to express themselves.

   The environment is vitally important in the learning process and children can best create meaning and make sense of their world through environments which support “complex, varied, sustained, and changing relationships…” (Cadwell, 1997)

   We are in the process of creating an educational play space for our Kindergarten and Year 1 students that will allow our children to develop and learn from their environment. As part of the process we would like your input into the planning. Some of you may be familiar with our preschool and we would like to create an area where our children can explore, create and imagine. The focus will be on utilising natural products, like we have in Apex Park. Mrs Pearson sent home a letter to our Kindergarten and Year 1 parents asking for ideas that they would like to see in this play area. There is a board outside our Kindergarten Learning Centre displaying pictures of play spaces that our children would like. All parents are welcome to come into the Kindergarten foyer to see the ideas and we ask that you contribute to the process by sending or bringing in pictures to Ms Piazza, Mrs Pearson or myself.

2. Toilets and changeroom near the oval.

   One of the difficulties with our large campus is the distance of the oval from the classrooms. We have been very fortunate to have been given a demountable building from one of the other Sydney Anglican Schools which we will place near the oval. Students will have better access to toilet facilities and equipment will be stored in a more accessible location. We believe this will allow greater access for classes to use the oval during sport and PDHPE lessons.

Disclaimer:
Whilst the information is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication, circumstances may impact on the accuracy. Please consult the Parent Portal or School website for any updates or changes to dates.
Love is in the air, or maybe not.

Love is in the air, or maybe not. On February 14 cupid returned to ignite, rekindle or move love along for another year. From romance to the subtle everydayness of companionship, Valentine's Day provided an opportunity to highlight love which is real or imagined, reciprocal or unrequited. Love is also the theme of much literature, from classics such as Romeo and Juliet to the raft of Mills and Boone offerings. As humans we long for love and seek it where we can. Much of this stuff can be an informative and entertaining reflection of this desire.

As parents and educators we need to be on guard for how the popular culture can confuse our children and students. Recent books and movies have portrayed love and relationships in a manner that can distort and limit our understanding of real love and relationships. It is important that we discuss at an age appropriate level what relationships are about. As young people grow older these discussions become more complex. At any stage of development, young people need appropriately honest answers. These discussions can be enriching and deepen your own relationship with your children. Can I also encourage you to carefully consider the ratings on movies and to be aware of the impact that movies which are not age appropriate can have on a child's development? The same can be said of the TV programs and computer activities which are used for entertainment.

Might the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Christians in Rome encourage us:

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will". (Romans 12:2)

Jim Dayhew
College Chaplain

Animals at School

It has come to our attention that a number of parents are bringing dogs onto the College grounds when they are waiting for their children in the afternoon. Unfortunately dogs are prohibited on school grounds according to the Companion Animals Act. I would hate to think that a dog snapped at one of our students if it became scared with many children crowding the animal. Please read the excerpt below. For further details please contact either myself or Ms Sue Turner

Lorrae Sampson
College Principal

COMPANION ANIMALS ACT 1998 - SECT 14

(1) Dogs are prohibited in the following places (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled):
(a) any public place, or part of a public place, that is within 10 metres of any playing apparatus provided in that public place or part for the use of children.
(e) (meaning any property occupied or used for a purpose connected with the conduct of a government school or non-government school under the Education Act 1990).
(5) A dog is not prohibited under this section in a school ground or child care centre if it is there with the permission of the person controlling the school ground or child care centre (ie the Principal)
(8) This section does not apply to the following dogs:
(a) a police dog,
(b) a dog that is an assistance animal being used bona fide by a person with a disability to assist the person,
(c) a corrective services dog.

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disability to assist the person,
(c)  a corrective services dog.
Students who need to have a mobile phone whilst they are at the College are required to have them switched off whilst they are on school property.

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

“Educational research shows that good feedback is crucial to good performance”

In my travels around the senior school it has been very encouraging to see the innovative ways in which technology is being used in our classrooms. Students and staff have quickly adapted to the new learning tools that are available to them. The Google Apps for Education platform is proving extremely robust and already we are seeing benefits of this approach. The ease with which teachers can share resources will no doubt prove to be a great help to our students learning.

Chapel this year has been split into two separate events. Yr11-12 Chapel occurs Tuesday Week A, 12:15pm - 1:00pm in the College Recital Room. Yr7-10 Chapel occurs Tuesday Week B, 12:15pm - 1:00pm in the College Gymnasium. All parents / carers who wish to attend are warmly welcome.

A reminder to all parents that the Canteen no longer reheats food brought from home. This is necessary to help ensure the health and well-being of our students. Some simple guidelines to assist parents and carers to appropriately prepare school lunches include:

- place a frozen container such as a frozen drink in the lunchbox with food that is normally refrigerated, such as ham and yoghurt. Alternatively, use an insulated lunchbox or cooler.
- Avoid including food in lunches that would normally be kept in the refrigerator, especially during the summer months.
- When preparing school lunches, avoid perishable foods which have just been cooked or warmed, such as hamburgers or boiled eggs. Such food should be chilled in the refrigerator before being packed for lunches.
- Discard any leftovers at the end of the day

Thankyou for helping the College to ensure our children’s safety.

A reminder that our first student-parent-teacher evening for Years 11-12 will take place on Thursday 12th March from 3.45pm. We strongly encourage all parents and carers of students in these year groups to attend this evening with their children. Educational research shows that good feedback is crucial to good performance. Staff give feedback on many levels, these evenings are a valuable part of our program and attendance is definitely a must.

Mr D Hamaty
Head of School

The NAPLAN Tests will be held this year from Tuesday 12th May to Thursday 14th May, with a catch-up day on Friday 15th May for any student who may miss one or more tests due to illness or misadventure. As you will be aware the NAPLAN tests are compulsory for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. However, the Government does allow parents/carers to apply for exemption from the tests in special circumstances. These are:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

Furthermore, parents/carers can apply for their child to be withdrawn from the NAPLAN tests. There is a form that parents/carers can collect from Student Services for this purpose. If parents/carers wish their child to be withdrawn this form needs to be returned to the College no later than Friday 1st May. If appropriate parents/carers may also request disability adjustments to assist with equity in this matter.


Peter O’Donnell
Director of Studies

Enrolments are now open for 2016. We are experiencing a healthy level of enquiry for Kindergarten and Year 7. Please encourage any family and friends who are considering joining us at NAC to apply soon!
A message from Serena, P&F President..

Thankyou to all those that attended the first meeting and AGM for P&F on Monday night, it was great to see so many new faces amongst us. I would like to acknowledge and thank all the outgoing P&F members for their hard work over the previous year and congratulate the incoming Executive. We have a very exciting year ahead with a number of new events planned. Watch this space!!

2015 P&F Executive:
1. President – Serena Copley
2. Vice President – Alison Western
3. Secretary – Giosefina Sims
4. Treasurer – Sharlina Mead
5. Publicity Officer – Caton Hicks
6. School Banking – Tracey Pybus
7. Book Club – Kylie Hayes

Mark it in your diaries:

• Silos Wine and Cheese Night: At this stage, the event is being organised for a Friday night, date to be confirmed, 6.30-8.30pm
  Everyone is welcomed to kick off the new school year and especially to our new families joining the NAC community

• Second hand uniform sale: Tuesday 31st March commencing at 2.30 in the canteen area.
  Sell your own items, buy others, donate unwanted items to the P&F

• Calling all BBQ guru’s: Can you spare some time to help sizzle some sausages at the college open day on 28th March?? If so, please contact us so we can get a roster up and running. Let us know what times you can make it. We need people from 9.30am – 2.30pm (to set up and pack up as well)

• 2015 P&F Meeting Dates: All welcome.. come along and be part of the school community...
  Meetings commence at 7pm in the staff common room.
  Term 1: Monday Monday 16th March
  Term 2: Monday 18th May and Monday 15th June
  Term 3: Monday 20th July and Monday 24th August
  Term 4: Monday 19th October and Monday 16th November

Contact us at: ParentFriend@nac.nsw.edu.au

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Peripatetic Programme

Nowra Anglican College has a Peripatetic Programme for students to learn music/speech and drama.

There are very limited numbers left with our teachers.

If you’d like your child to learn an instrument, to sing or perform (speech & drama) please pick up an application form from Student Services.
Congratulations to everyone who participated in the Senior School Swim Carnival. It was a great day of house spirit and competition.

Congratulations to:

**Alex Halank** (Year 8) successfully defended his Windsurfing State title. Recrowned NSW Under 18s Wavesailing Champion.

Congratulations to Proctor for winning the carnival for the first time.
Congratulations to:
Samantha Fletcher for her recent results at the Nowra Show.
Samantha gained three first places, one second, a blue ribbon for Classes 15-19 - 9 ages 12 years and under), a blue ribbon for the most outstanding exhibit in all of Section 35, and the purple ribbon for the most successful exhibitor in all of Section 35!
Well done.

Awards
Congratulations to all award recipients this week

Gold Light of the Cross
Year 12
Alana Dolan

Silver Light of the Cross
Year 12
Alana Dolan
Year 9
Angélique Riou
Alexandra Winter

Bronze Light of the Cross
Academic
Year 9
Angélique Riou x 2
Benjamin Herne x 2

Reading
The School Magazine turns 100 this year and becomes the longest continually published children’s literary publication in the world. You may remember reading the school magazine yourself when you were in primary school.
Our school subscribes to the magazine and many teachers use it as part of their reading program.
The magazine has something for everyone from stories to poems and cartoon strips.

Each year we promote the Premier’s Reading Challenge and encourage all our students to participate. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is a worthwhile activity because its aim is for children to become proficient readers through enjoyment and practice.
Children, often helped by their teachers and parents, keep a reading log which is included in this newsletter: https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/readingLog.html
All students who participate and who successfully complete the Challenge have their names published in the Sun Herald. It is a condition of entry that students entering and successfully completing the Challenge will receive a PRC certificate and appear on the PRC Honour Roll. They will also receive a certificate from the Premier of NSW. Students who complete the Challenge over 4 years will be awarded a Gold Certificate.

We ask you to support and encourage your children as they attempt to read 20 books before the beginning of September.
At our first Parent Morning I talked about how children learn to read and about how, we as parents can help them. Popular children’s author, Mem Fox, urges parents to read aloud to their children every day. Enjoyment is key. She says, “Reading aloud shouldn’t be thought of as a ‘grimacing This-is-good-for-Your-Child event’’. Rather reading to your child creates a special bond as you both enjoy the words and pictures, the ideas and viewpoints, the hopes and fears that are found within the pages of a book. Let me encourage you to read to your children every day.

FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL
“Our swimming carnival was a wonderful event”
Volunteering
At NAC we encourage parents to help in many different ways. Teachers really value your support. If you are interested in helping in the classroom this year, please let your child’s teacher know, preferably using the note that has been distributed. All visitors and volunteers are required to sign in at Reception and to wear a visitor’s badge.

Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival was a wonderful event. What struck me most about the day was the happy enthusiasm of the children. Their wonderful behaviour and energetic participation ensured a really fantastic day. It was great to see many parents, grandparents and friends there. Thank you for your support.

Susan Pearson
Head of Junior School

CSSA super eight cricket gala day
The CSSA super eight cricket gala day was held on Tuesday the 10th of February at Boystown Oval in Engadine. The day ran as a round robin competition with two pools of four teams. Nowra Anglican College took one team to compete against Inaburra, Sutherland, Greenacre and ICS Cordeaux. The Nowra Anglican College pool contained two teams from Inaburra and a team from ICS Cordeaux.

Our first game was against Inaburra B. We started strongly with the bat with Troy Sweet, Jack Walsh and Toby Huard all retiring after reaching twenty. We finished at 1/85 from our 7 overs. If our batting was good our bowling and fielding was exceptional as we restricted Inaburra B to just 3/14 from their 7 overs.

Our next game was against a very strong Inaburra A team. Again we batted first, however this time we were slow out of the blocks. Some late hitting from Ben Lans (19*) and Troy Sweet (12) helped to boost our total to 4/51 from our 7 overs. Again our bowling and fielding was very good, however we were up against a very good batting side. In a very tight finish Inaburra A scored the winning runs in the final over.

Our final pool game was against ICS Cordeaux who had had a very narrow loss to Inaburra A also. This time we bowled first and managed to restrict the opposition reasonably well. ICS Cordeaux ended up with 4/55 from their 7 overs. After 4 overs of the chase we were 1/25 requiring another 31 runs from the final 3 overs. Enter Toby Huard who struck the ball to all parts with a very rapid 20 retired. This game also went right down to the wire with NAC bringing up the winning runs in the final over. We finished on 2/58.

This meant that we finished second in our pool and gave us a playoff game against Sutherland who finished second in their pool. It quickly became evident that our pool was the stronger of the two as we bowled first and restricted Sutherland to 4/25. This allowed our batters to bat with freedom in the second innings. Having passed the total in the second over the team was able to bring out the trick shots with several ramp shots being played. Once again Toby Huard top scored with another very rapid 20 retired.

It was an excellent day all round and bodes well for the eleven a side competition that is run in Term 4. Special thanks to Max Lans who scored for all of our games.

The team was: Cameron Murray, Harry Evans, Tully Dennis, Jack Walsh, Ben Lans, Jack Sweet, Troy Sweet and Toby Huard.

Junior School full STEAM ahead!
An exciting new STEAM Technology program for years 5 and 6 has started this year at Nowra Anglican College. The class is called STEAMmakers and our program is all about facilitating innovation and design thinking through play and project based inquiry. Activities in the class have been inspired by Makerspaces and the collaborative culture. Makerspaces provide hands-on, creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build and invent as they deeply engage in science, engineering, design and tinkering. This Term we are focusing on electronics and have been exploring circuit design using Littlebits. If you want to find out more about our classes we have a website you are welcome to visit. https://sites.google.com/a/sras.nsw.edu.au/steammakers/home

WANTED:
Donations of Knitting Needles & Balls of Wool for the Knitwit Club
The Knitwit club meets at lunchtime every Tuesday in the library to learn to knit. We will be making squares to create blankets for those in need.

 Helpers also wanted – if you can donate your time we meet at 11.20 for about half an hour.

“949 Power FM are bringing breakfast to NAC Junior School!”
Loz & Jack from the Power FM Breakfast Show will broadcast live from our school on Thursday, 26 February, 2015.

The Power FM crew will bring Breakfast for the kids available from 7.30am-8.45AM, as well as games and a STACK of prizes!

We are looking for volunteers to help serve Breakfast on the day. If you are able to help, please email ssproule@sras.nsw.edu.au.
Junior School Swimming Carnival

The Junior School swimming carnival was held at Bomaderry Aquatic Centre on Friday the 13th of February. We were very blessed with the weather as the day started under overcast skies and cleared throughout the day.

The first event of the day was the Open girls and boys Individual Medley which kicked off at 8:30. Both the boys and girls races were very tight affairs, with the top three in the boys race all beating the previous record and the top two in the girls race separated by less than a quarter of a second.

The standard of racing across the day was excellent, as was the enthusiasm in which all students joined in whether racing or cheering on the races.

There were a number of records broken on the day:
Troy Sweet – 12/13 years 50m Backstroke – 41:83
12/13 years 50m Butterfly – 40:10
Ella Hughes - 12/13 years 50m Butterfly – 36:99
Kaylam Tytherleigh - Open Individual Medley – 3:19:36
Clare Murray, Bella Sebbens

Congratulations to the following age Champions:
8 Years Girls – Indy Roulstone 8 Years Boys – Daeon Willdig
9 Years Girls – Sarah-Joy Day 9 Years Boys – Thomas Fraser
10 Years Girls – Bella Sebbens 10 Years Boys – Lachlan Hird
11 Years Girls – Isabella Janezic 11 Years Boys – Thomas Maxted
12/13 Years Girls – Ella Hughes 12/13 Years Boys – Troy Sweet

The house competition across the day was also very tight with very few points separating first and second and also very few points between third and fourth. The final points score was:
Best - 1210
Trickett - 1191
Procter - 1038
Hargrave - 1023

Nowra Anglican College will now be represented by a team of 29 students at the SASSA swimming carnival to be held on Tuesday 10th of March at the Bomaderry Aquatic Centre.

Special thanks to our wonderful Year 10 helpers, who despite upstaging the teachers in the relay, worked tirelessly all day. Thank you also to our wonderful parents for contributing to the smooth running of the carnival.
**Preschool News**

At the beginning of 2015 we have welcomed many new children and families and welcomed back many returning families. We have had a busy start to the year with our service full to capacity. The beginning of the year provides children with many opportunities and one of the most significant of these is the forming of new friendships and developing a sense of belonging and being within our preschool community. As educators we prioritise this and spend a significant amount of time ensuring children feel comfortable and safe.

We are very pleased to inform everyone that Bomaderry Community Preschool has recently undergone an assessment and rating process and has been rated as ‘Exceeding’ in all seven quality areas. This was a great achievement and I would like to thank all of our education team for the consistent hard work and dedication towards providing a high quality education and care service for families in our community.

**Risky Play**

To what extent should one regulate risk in children’s play is an ongoing debate. Research has proven that in our eagerness to protect our children, and to avoid serious injuries by restricting children from experiences and stimuli, we are in fact robbing our children of very important facets of development.

Children’s play is not risk free, in fact risk is incredibly important in children’s development (indeed in all of us). Risk allows us to test theories, build skill, confidence, learn through failure and delight in success.

In our play environments children are encouraged to take (managed) risks. Whether it be playing within the large outdoor play spaces, crawling through the river bed, jumping from the A Frames, climbing trees, negotiating the large boulders and climbing ropes, engaging in the woodwork space hammering and designing or just playing in the sand pit, our play space offers children opportunity to test their skills and discover new qualities about themselves and the world around them.

At Bomaderry Community Preschool we build opportunities into play so that children can take risks and also manage that risk.

**Bernice Mathie-Morris**

**Director**

**Bomaderry Community Preschool**
**Football NSW Southern Branch Football Club**

Southern Branch Football Club is seeking boys for its U11 Skills Acquisition Program (SAP) and an U12 goalie and girls for the U9, U10 & U11 SAP teams.

Teams compete within regional leagues and against elite Sydney teams.

**Contact Matthew Shepherd on 0419 925 006 for information before 23 February 2015.**

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**UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG AUSTRALIA**

**Scholarships for Cert III and Cert IV Aged Care – A Pathway to Nursing at UOW Shoalhaven**

A fantastic opportunity exists for local community members to apply for a scholarship to participate in an innovative education and employment project, with support for applying to UOW for a Nursing degree.

There will be 15 places available for locals to be provided with a learner centered, supportive and professional education program. The program will guide them through vocational training into higher education at university in order to pursue a professional career in Nursing.

This program is available to all ages. Under the project, students will study locally in the Shoalhaven at UOW Shoalhaven and Chesalon to complete units from a Certificate III which will be followed by a full Certificate IV in Aged Care.

Applications are now open for this unique educational opportunity.

**Contact Stacey Reid and Casey College 87787777 or Robbie Collins 44480888**

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**Over the Rim of the Moon**

*Berry School of Arts*

**Sunday 1st March 2:30 pm**

Adults $20
Concession $15
Tickets at the door
Phone 0409316781

**A recital by**

Sarah Turvey—Soprano

with

Vicki McCartney—Flute
Lesley Challender—Piano