Ballina High School was first established in 1929 as an Intermediate High School. In 1956 the school became a High School. Ballina High School has a long tradition of excellence in academic, cultural and sporting endeavours. Students have gained district, Regional, State and National status in all areas of school life.

ANZAC Day Commemoration

The School was host to a number of guests for its Annual Commemoration Ceremony for the fallen. Moving speeches were made by Samantha Jeffery and Mr Ussher. This was followed by the giving of gifts by the Korea, South East Asia, Vietnam Veterans Association and the Laurel Club. The musicians who played “Only Nineteen” and “Leaving on a Jet Plane” did a fantastic job. Well done to all involved in organising the ceremony. Mr Andrew Playford

ANZAC March

It was wonderful to see Ballina High students and staff representing our school marching with the Community on Anzac day.

Representatives Excel

At the recent Battle of Kapyong commemoration service at the cenotaph our school captain Ashton Tselepy made a wonderful speech. He was congratulated by all who attended. The following day in front of hundreds of people Sunae Reilly gave the ANZAC Day address. The importance of the speech was shown by its inclusion in the local paper. Well done to both these fine young people. Mr Andrew Playford
Trek Quest Outback 4x4 Jurassic Adventure, Walk with the Dinosaurs—Lismore to Graman via Condamine, Charleville, Muttaburra, Winton, Jundah, Adavale and Bollon. 24 September to 1 October, 2011. Fees $200 Deposit paid with entry plus $100 paid by 17/9/11. Call Peter on (02) 6663 1442 or A/H 6663 1538, 0418 666 937, Fax: (02) 6663 1528. www.trekquest.org.au.

Helping Learner Drivers become Safer Drivers — FREE workshops for parents and supervising drivers. Advice about: Current laws for L & P licence holders; Supervising learner drivers; Completing the Learner driver log book; The benefits of supervised on-road driving experience. 6.00-8.00pm Thursday 26 May at Ballina RSL Club, 240 River Street, Ballina. Book now on 6686 1427.

Host Family Request — In June/July 2011 Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd will be receiving exchange students from Europe, the USA and Latin America. They will live with a host family and attend a local school for 2-10 months. Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or Phone 1300 135 331.

Gemfest — Lismore’s 21st Annual Gemfest is for 2 full days of celebrations. Saturday 14 May, 9-5pm & Sunday 15th May, 9-3pm. Join us at Lismore Showground. Entry $5 per adult & $1 per Child (under 5 free).

Rotary Youth Exchange — Is seeking applicants for the 2012 program. Students from Year 12 are able to apply. Places are still available, but hurry! As a Rotary Youth Exchange student, you will spend one year living in another country. You will be introduced to their culture and lifestyle. In your host country you may learn another language, experience cuisines, study different subjects. Any students or parents interested in finding out more about this wonderful Youth program can contact yep@yep.rotary9640.org or phone Denise Payne on (07) 5539 1041.

Alstonville & Wollongbar Bypass Community Celebrations — Saturday 7 May, 2011 at 8am-2pm. Free Shuttle bus to site. Pick up every half hour at the Alstonville Show Grounds & Wollongbar Shopping Centre bus stop. Free entry & free parking onsite — Vehicular access via Kays Lane Russellston “the new bridge”. Fun run/walk starts at 9.30am, Official ceremony & parade starts at 10.30am, Free bypass bus tours starts at 11am. Open public bike ride starts at 7.30am, Food & drink, rides, face painting, Local market stalls, etc. Contact Bob Wilson on 6628 0506 for more information.

Movie Pass Giveaway

Question: Who discovered penicillin?

Have your answer in by Tuesday, Day 3, Week A, Recess.

Place your answers in the box on the Receptionist Desk at the Front Office.

There was no winner last newsletter so we are running the question again.

Good luck!
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 May, students will undertake the 2011 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children.

All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for special provisions that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at...
A reminder about junior exams.

Students your half yearly exams are as follows:

**YEAR 7**
- Geography: Friday 27 May…………..Periods 3 & 4
- Maths: Thursday 26 May…………..Periods 5 & 6
- Science: Wednesday 25 May…………..Periods 3 & 4

**YEAR 8**
- Maths: Thursday 26 May…………..Periods 1 & 2
- Science: Friday 27 May…………..Periods 1 & 2

**YEAR 9**
- Geography: Wednesday 25 May…………..Periods 1 & 2
- Maths: Friday 27 May…………..Periods 5 & 6
- Science: Thursday 26 May…………..Periods 3 & 4

**YEAR 10**
- English: Monday 23 May…………..Periods 1, 2 & 3
- Science: Monday 23 May…………..Periods Lunch, 5 & 6
- Maths: Tuesday 24 May…………..Periods 1, 2 & 3
- Geog/History: Tuesday 24 May……..Periods Lunch, 5 & 6

Students are to remain in M Block during period 4 under supervision.

Be prepared – Mr John Parker

Because our student’s brains are not fully developed, they need our support and explicit guidance in learning how to arrange activities in the right order. It’s not that they won’t do it; they haven’t the anatomical brain capabilities to do it consistently as yet.

Please go to www.learningcurveplanner.com.au for further information

Mr Andrew Playford

Exam Season

Year 11 students should be well and truly underway with a program of revision for their half-year exams which commence on the 2nd of May. Years 7 – 10 should also be reading through the work that they have completed so far this year.

Students that have taken time off due to illness or for other reasons should make the effort to catch up on missed work from their teacher or a friend.

Many students say “I don’t know how to study.”. The response to this is that studying – for an exam, driving test or for career reasons – is a skill that is learnt and improved with practice. Educators often liken the brain to other muscles, in that it is improved with activity and exercise. Other students comment that they do not have the time to do extra work at home. Again, it becomes a matter of priorities and perhaps cutting back (just for the next several weeks) on time spent doing other activities.

Year 10 students can practice for their key School Certificate exams by downloading full copies of past exams from the NSW Board of Studies (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au). Additionally, there are self-marking practice tests for the multiple choice components of the exams. Students need to be familiar with both the knowledge and skills for each subject as well as the format of the exams.

Multiple choice questions present a challenge to even the best prepared student. The question and answers can be structured in a way that students need to bring several concepts together to score a mark. The answers are often also presented with two wrong answers, a nearly right one that will lure most students and a correct answer for the thoroughly prepared student. In this way, the multiple choice section can be a thorough test of knowledge and skills.

Preparation for exams involves students reading through their class notes from throughout the year and making brief summaries to cover each of the topics covered. Students are also advised to look back through past tests and assessments as these contain many clues to possible exam topics. For the School Certificate, there are excellent study guides available for purchase or from most libraries. (http://www.pascalpress.com.au/Excel-Revise-in-a-Months/108.htm)

As a student, I found it very useful to hand write brief points for each subject on small cards. Then during the day I formed the habit of taking ‘small bites’ of information. Higher achieving students will by now have a routine of homework and revision. They may also have checked that they have covered all the topics in the course by checking the syllabus for each subject.

Overall, it is never too late to make a start on revision. (Okay, maybe the night before the exam is a bad time to start – it would just make you realise how much you don’t know). All students can make an improvement on their grades by putting in an extra effort at this time of year. Good grades – or just an improvement on the half yearly exams – are a great boost to self esteem and confidence. Furthermore, an attitude shift now will make the coming year easier to tackle.

Good Luck
Work hard
Enjoy the rewards.
What should my teen do if he or she finds an explicit, hateful or otherwise objectionable group on Facebook?

You or your teen can anonymously report abusive group pictures and content by clicking on the “Report Group” link located under the group’s picture. The reporter will be asked to specify the abusive content. Facebook will review the complaint and will act to ensure all users comply with our Statement of Rights and Responsibilities so that Facebook remains a trusted environment where people can interact safely.

What should my teen do if he or she finds something in a explicit, hateful, or otherwise objectionable in a link posted on Facebook?

You or your teen can anonymously report offensive links by clicking on the “Report” link located under the material. You will be asked to specify the offensive content. Facebook will review your complaint and will act to ensure all users comply with our Statement of Rights and Responsibilities so that Facebook remains a trusted environment where people can interact safely.

What should my teen do if someone has posted an objectionable photo on Facebook?

You or your teen can anonymously report photos that violate our Statement of Rights and Responsibilities (e.g., pornography) by clicking on the “Report This Photo” link in the bottom right corner below the picture. Facebook reviews these complaints and takes down photos as necessary. It is not a violation of our Statement of Rights and Responsibilities to post a photo that is unflattering, so remind your teen not report a photo just because they may not like the way they look in it.
Ballina High School Shoe Regulations

Thank you to all parents who are supporting the school by ensuring that their child/children are in full school uniform each day. School shoes are an important part of our uniform and they must conform to the Occupational Health and Safety requirements determined by the Department of Education and Training. Parents are reminded that our students’ school shoes must be enclosed and hard-covered (leather) and must not expose the foot in any way.

- School shoes must be made of leather and offer adequate support to the foot and stable sole for playground and sport. (Some may prefer a second pair of appropriate sports shoes white or black only.)
- If the shoe takes laces, these must be worn and fully laced up.
- The shoe must cover the entire upper section of the foot to protect against falling objects or spill liquids.
- Shoes must not have canvas or woven panels.
- The shoe must be completely black or white (including sole and laces).

We thank parents for ensuring students are in the correct footwear each day so that they do not breach important safety regulations and for providing supportive footwear for growing feet.

STYLES OF SHOES THAT COMPLY WITH OH&S REGULATIONS

STYLES THAT DO NOT COMPLY