Year 6 to 7 Orientation Day

Orientation Day for Year 6 to Year 7 at Ballina High School is to be held on Thursday 1st December 2011. Students will participate in a range of challenging individual and group activities designed to develop team work and problem solving skills. In the afternoon students will visit the swimming pool before returning to school. Ballina High School is looking forward to seeing all new students on this special day.
Year 7 Key Learning Areas (KLA)

**English**

Hello to the new Year 7 students. You will participate in a wide range of activities designed to further develop your skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing and representing.

**Term 1** Narrative Reading and Writing, Drama
**Term 2** Film Review, Claymation
**Term 3** Poetry, Media
**Term 4** Novel Study, Film Study

**Assessment** You will complete a formal assessment task at the end of each unit of work.

Each task is equally weighted and is designed to allow you to demonstrate your achievement of the course outcomes.

**Homework** There will be a mix of teacher set tasks and assessment tasks. It is expected that students wishing to make the most of their study will need to allocate one to one and a half hours each week to homework. The best homework for students is to read regularly everyday!

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**Mathematics**

Hello, my name is Mr Coughlin and I am the Relieving Head Teacher of Mathematics. I look forward to meeting our Year 7 students and parents in 2012. Ballina High is a great school and I am proud to have been here for 25 years. During that time I have seen students who have applied themselves achieve outstanding results and will endeavour to encourage our new students to also reach their goals. In Mathematics in Year 7 all students will cover similar work, but the more able students will be extended to hopefully reach their potential. Initially students will revise the four basic operations and plane shapes.

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**Science and Marine**

Welcome to Year 7 Science. High school Science is an interesting and exciting subject, but like all your work in high school, your rewards in this subject will be determined by how much you decide to put in. You will be taught in one of six Science laboratories operated by specialist teachers – we would ask that you quickly become familiar with the rooms and equipment – they are not like any other rooms in the school and will be new to you. Each year you will study two units from each of the Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth Science lobes of Science to make up an interesting and varied course.

We wish you well in your Science studies at this exceptional school.

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**Technology & Applied Studies (TAS)**

Hi to the Year 7 of 2012, my name is Mr Horsley and I am the Head Teacher of the TAS Department.

I think this is the best subject in school because we get to make many of the things we learn about. The design element allows you to bring your own ideas and to experiment to suit your own tastes.

Technology & Applied Studies covers many subject areas and in Year 7 and 8 you get to experience a wide variety of design projects in Woodwork, Metalwork, Food Technology, Textiles, Computing and Technical Drawing.
Hello Year 7 2012, my name is Mr McDonald and I am the Relieving Head Teacher of HSIE. HSIE deals with a wide range of subjects that you will have the opportunity to study while at Ballina High. They deal with how humanity has survived and developed over time, the challenges it faces and the interaction mankind has had with the environment. We deal with subjects such as Aboriginal Studies, Business Studies, Commerce, Geography, Modern and Ancient History, Legal Studies, Economics and Society & Culture.

During Year 7 and 8 you will be completing the Stage 4 Geography and History syllabus, with Geography being your focus in Year 7. You will be investigating the physical aspects of our world. This includes climates, landforms and patterns of flora and fauna. Additionally, we look at human interactions with the environment, both positive and negative. We hope in HSIE you will enjoy investigations into the fascinating world that surrounds us.

Hello students, my name is Mr Krix and I am Head Teacher of Visual Arts, Music, Drama and LOTE. These subjects are all part of the Creative & Performing Arts Faculty. I think you will enjoy working with our CAPA teachers and I look forward in a few years time to see you as leaders of our school. Year 7 complete four units of work: Term 1 painting/drawing/collage, focusing on design, Term 2 clay work – strange and wonderful animals – you’ll love that one, Term 3 Art for Arts Sake – drawings, photography, installations, and sculptors and Term 4 Graphics – Mambo inspired designs. We go on a trip to the beach to make sand sculptures and we might visit Brisbane’s Art Gallery.

A big welcome to the Year 7 students of 2012 from all the PDHPE staff—Mr Buchanan, Mr Gordon, Mrs Gallaway and Mrs Smith. You will all be participating in an exciting course called PDHPE, which will have you running, jumping, rolling, dancing and generally learning how to keep yourself fit and healthy. In practical PE lessons we concentrate on improving our co-ordination skills in catching, throwing, hitting and kicking, as well as dancing and gymnastics. In theory lessons Year 7 will be learning and discussing things about yourself and getting along with others, good nutrition, the dangers of drug use and about how to keep yourself safe. Mr Buchanan and Mrs Gallaway are the school Sports Organisers. Each Wednesday afternoon we run whole school sports activities and we will be keeping Year 7 together as a group for Term 1 to 3 learning different team sports. In Term 4 you will have your first opportunity to select a sport of your choice to play till the end of the year.
Awards Program for Ballina High School

A level system for rewards has been introduced and is currently running for Year 7 students.

This system allows students to progress up through the levels from one year to the next through diligence, participation, courtesy and respect as well as being moved to the lower levels as a result of negative behaviours demonstrated.

The aim of this system is to give all students the opportunity to be recognised and rewarded.

All students begin on the green level and through class awards are able to progress to the bronze, silver, gold and finally the Ballina High Award from Year 7 to Year 12. Alternatively students may move backwards to the orange then red level which indicates intervention is needed.

We would love to see all our Year 7 2012 students achieve gold!