We are proud to be recognised by The Educator magazine as an INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS WINNER 2016. The Educator states “In our second annual Innovative Schools list, The Educator once again profiles the schools leading the charge in transforming Australia’s educational framework. The award recognises schools for the “impressive initiatives they’ve employed to optimise their students’ educational experiences”.

Congratulations to staff for this recognition of their dedication and passion in developing excellence and innovative practice in the STEM, Sports and Creative Industries Academies. The award also recognised both the Zenith program and LEAP Academies in meeting students’ educational needs.

The Educator article:
HASTINGS SECONDARY COLLEGE, Port Macquarie, NSW
In 2015, Hastings Secondary College contemplated how to better tailor its educational offerings to its diverse community, investigating innovative approaches adopted both locally and abroad, and developing a range of flexible learning opportunities.

For Year 7 and 8 students, it has developed Sports, STEM and Creative Industries academies for students. It also offers Personal Interest Project classes for students across a range of interest areas, linking learning to real-world experience.

There is also the LEAP Academy for Year 8 to 10 students who benefit from more individualised learning in a smaller group setting. Then there is the Zenith program for high-achieving and gifted and talented students in Year 7, in which staff and students work together on authentic, real-world projects.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

It is hard to believe we are starting the last term of the year although preparations for next year are well under way. We ended the term with a wonderful graduation for Year 12 and have started this term with a very successful Orientation Day for the new Year 12.

College News

The college is trying to refine Strategic Direction 1 in the school plan for 2017. This will be the last year of the planning cycle. The 2018 to 2020 plan will be a totally college based plan. Central to this work is looking at the directions we want the college to take and how we want to allocate the 3.6 extra staffing we have for the college. The Principal’s Leadership Group is consulting with the College Adviser Board (CAB) and the staff at both campuses. Both P&C groups are represented at CAB meetings. Associated with this work is the development of role statements for all college employees.

Year 12 Graduation Assembly

It was a very moving Year 12 Graduation Assembly on the last day of term. It was wonderful to see the students and their parents celebrating together. I congratulate all the prize winners and thank our many sponsors including the CWA, Mid Coast Connect, Rotary, P&C and Diana Gammon. Diana donated a prize for best in Science in memory of her late husband Dr Roger Gammon who had mentored some of our Year 12 students. The Year 12 students provided all the musical items and the national anthem. They were truly a talented year. Mr Sanderson gave a very emotional farewell speech, Year 12 made it very clear how important he had been to them. I thank the Office Staff, Stewart Heddes, Cassie Holland and Mick Sanderson for all the work they put into the assembly.

Congratulations to our new captains

One of the highlights of the Year 12 Graduation Assembly was the old captains announcing their replacements. Only one staff member knew who had won. I congratulate all those who had the courage to enter the contest and congratulate the successful candidates. The successful girls were Isabelle Woodham captain and vice-captain Tayla Davenport. The successful boys were Shawn Wilson captain and vice-captain Arki Murphy. I will interview them for the next newsletter. We have started our morning teas this week with students giving useful feedback on the Orientation Day.

P&C meeting

The October P&C meeting was held on Tuesday this week. The president was able to report on the very successful fundraising at the Antique Fair and the fact that they have been able to contribute $15,000 to the school this year. The school is very grateful for their efforts. The next meeting will be Tuesday 15 November at the Town Green Inn starting at 6:30 pm.

We have many exciting events in the next fortnight including a camp for students doing the SES course, the World Teachers Day celebrations and Valid Science testing.
Interview with Kane Pollard – World Champion Futsal player.

Kane Pollard is one of the few people in Australia who will ever be able to say that they are a world champion. Kane was a member of the Under 17 Australian Futsal Team who played in the recent world championship in Dundee Scotland. Futsal is a fast and furious game, Kane usually plays flank or pivot but can play goal keeper. Kane was chosen for the team in February and attended three training camps in Australia. Kane was the only representative of the East Coast Team (Taree to the border) who made it to the national team. He made some really good friends in the team with members coming from as far away as Perth. There were four teams who made it to the championship: Australia, Pakistan, USA and Scotland. The team was undefeated in all rounds but had some close calls after their spectacular 31 to 0 score against Pakistan in the first round. Pakistan soon improved and the next game was 14 to 2 to Australia. They found the Scotland team very physical and large and the USA played a very tactical game. Australia played the USA in the final, winning 7 to 2. The team spent two weeks in Scotland and were pleased to be able to do some sightseeing in Edinburgh and in Newcastle where they did some of their lead up training. The world championship trophy will be passed around all team members, so we hope to see it in Port Macquarie. Kane plays soccer locally as well as Futsal. He is also a proud member of both school teams.

Year 12 Orientation Day

The Year 12 Orientation Day was an opportunity for the new Year 12 to receive their assessment booklets and go through the BOSTES rules around assessment. They also had talks on time management, work life balance, careers, VET, senior study and how HSC marks are worked out. I thank all those staff who presented. The feedback from the students was very positive, my favourite comment was, “It showed all of us how much the teachers care.”

PD/HEALTH/PE

Sport Academy Sydney Academy of Sport Excursion

Students in the Year 7/8 Sport Academy recently completed a very successful three day excursion to Sydney.

First travelling to Homebush’s Olympic Park, they participated in a Circus Skills session, with the high trapeze being the favourite for most of the students. The group was then able to cool off with a session in the Aquatic Centre and Olympic Pool.

Students then travelled to Narrabeen’s Sydney Academy of Sport, where they heard a talk from Olympic Athlete Emma Lincolne-Smith, followed by both theory and practical sessions involving Fitness Testing, Nutrition, Speed & Agility, Recovery, Team Building Initiatives and Strength and Conditioning. Many elite level athletes train at Narrabeen and the students were able to meet a number of members of the Olympic gold medal winning Australian Women’s Rugby 7’s team.
The last day also saw the students complete a very informative tour of the Sydney Cricket Ground, Allianz Stadium (Sydney Football Stadium) and Rugby League Central, before heading back to Port Macquarie.

Overall the excursion was an outstanding success and I congratulate the students for the enthusiasm that they showed in all of the sessions that they participated in. I have no doubt that this was an extremely positive experience in developing the sporting potential of these students.

Special thanks goes to both Mr Huens and Ms Bourke for their wonderful work also on this excursion.

Rogers and Taylor Gunning (Yr 10), Jarrah-Lee Kouwenberg (Yr 9), Alira Gunning, Taylor Ylias and Sophie Stace (Yr 8). Mrs Napier (Ag Teacher) and Mrs Gunning (Parent) accompanied them.

The students took one steer and two heifers with them. They attended workshops for two days which included grooming, selecting stock, junior judging, marketing, halter making and pasture management, to name a few. Then on the last day they were lucky enough to all be invited to join in with the parading and the junior judging competition.

The students all conducted themselves extremely well and had a wonderful time. Well done Cattle Team!

On Thursday 8 September, the school Cattle Team travelled to Muswellbrook for four days to take part in the 2016 Upper Hunter Youth Cattle Camp with approximately 90 other students from the Hunter Valley. Students included Grace Rogers and Taylor Gunning (Yr 10), Jarrah-Lee Kouwenberg (Yr 9), Alira Gunning, Taylor Ylias and Sophie Stace (Yr 8). Mrs Napier (Ag Teacher) and Mrs Gunning (Parent) accompanied them.

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On Tuesday 6 September, Year 12 Chemistry students had the opportunity to get a closer look at how the Port Macquarie Hastings Council provides us with clean water. Kim Freeman, Project Officer, coordinated our fieldwork so students could see how the water from the Hastings River is treated to make it safe for us to drink.

From the Hastings River to our tap

On Tuesday 6 September, Year 12 Chemistry students had the opportunity to get a closer look at how the Port Macquarie Hastings Council provides us with clean water. Kim Freeman, Project Officer, coordinated our fieldwork so students could see how the water from the Hastings River is treated to make it safe for us to drink.
Our day was spent at the Environmental Lab in Port Macquarie, the Wauchope Water Treatment Plant, Aqua Lab, Koree Island Pump Station and Cowarra Dam. The photos feature Mikayla Martin-Coats assisting with the titration at the Environmental Lab and her prize, a microscopic membrane filter – just what every budding chemist needs!

It really was a pleasure to take our Year 12 Chemistry students on this fieldwork. You were great ambassadors for Hastings Secondary College Port Macquarie Campus. Good luck in your exams and best wishes for your future. I will definitely miss you.

Awardees so far:


Silver level – Kirsten Ballard, Shayla Cullen, Zoe Freeman, Holly Kemper and Corey Roughley.

Congratulations and thank you to these students for your hard work and dedication in gaining positive points from their teachers.

Also individual points go towards house points. The holder of the House Cup at the end of Term 3 is …TOWNS.

Futsal

Port Campus sent three teams to the LNC Zone Futsal gala day. All teams were very competitive and matches were played in good spirits. The Under 14 girls’ team had a narrow first up loss, with Rory Ballard being the most outstanding player on the court. The Under 14 boys played with skill in their matches. Our best team were the Under 16 boys who made the final, only to be beaten by a good Camden Haven team. Best player was Sam Smith and it was very pleasing to see Lachlan Kaczorowski go from being in a wheelchair a year ago to being a top player for his team in this competition.

Merit System Update

Our Merit System aims to maximize the personal, social and educational development of all students. It recognises and rewards students who demonstrate our Campus’ PBL values of: Proud, Motivated, Honest and Safe. Students who participate enthusiastically in extra curricula activities and build upon the Campus reputation and positive image within the community will also be recognised. This system aims to encourage students to develop a positive culture of behaviour and expectations in our Campus.
Skills and Thrills Showcase Excursion for Years 9, 10 and 11

There is an opportunity provided by the school for students in Years 9, 10 and 11 to attend the Skills and Thrills Careers Showcase at the Majestic Cinema in Port Macquarie. This showcase is an engaging one hour show with an exhilarating film packed with music, video and animation. In this showcase students will find out the latest on jobs of the future, industry trends and how to connect their passions to a successful career outcome. Details of this upcoming excursion are below:

Event: Skills and Thrills showcase by SkillsOne
Location: Majestic Cinema in the Port Macquarie CBD
Date: Wednesday 2 November 2016
Times: Leave school at 9:10am (end of Period 1) and return at 10:50am (Period 3)
Transport: Transport will be via a charter with Port Bus.
Cost: FREE. There is no cost for this fantastic opportunity.

Year 10 Work Experience Program 2016

We again encourage all Year 10 students to take part in the School Work Experience, as part of the Career Education Program. All Year 10 students who are work ready will have the opportunity of participating in Work Experience during the allocated two week period from Monday 28 November (week 8) or Monday 5 December (week 9). A letter with further information about the process of applying for work experience will be issued to all Year 10 students in the coming week. For any further enquiries please contact the Careers Adviser.

Photographic Competition

Help promote healthy living at school and win

Primary and high school students are encouraged to grab their mobile phone, tablet or trusty camera to capture images that promote ‘Healthy Life Healthy You’ for their chance to win a laptop computer or a family holiday.

Schools can also share in more than $16,000 in prizes
www.yourhealthlinkphotocomp.com.au
More than $45,000 in total of prizes to be won.

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

Monday 24 October 2016
- SES Cadet Camp Selected Year 10
- BOSTES Finalise Yr 11 student records

Tuesday 25 October 2016
- SES Cadet Camp Selected Year 10
- BOSTES Yr 11 Non-completion docs to BOSTES
- Yr11 SCU Open Day Excursion

Friday 28 October 2016
- World Teachers Day function
- Open Boy’s Cricket

Monday 31 October 2016
- Pancake Breakfast

Wednesday 2 November 2016
- VALID Science 8 test opens
- Careers Showcase Excursion At Cinema