



THE RIVERS SECONDARY COLLEGE

The heart of secondary education for Lismore

NEWS AND UPDATES

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5 | TERM 3 | WEEK 5



"I finished up in my role as Executive Principal (EP), The Rivers Secondary College after a bit more than 2 years on Friday 5th August. On Monday 8th August I commence as Director, Public School, Mid North Coast Network which runs from Nambucca Heads south to Kempsey. I will be travelling down and staying during the week at Coffs, where the office is located, and returning home to our family on weekends.

The commitment to each and every public school student and their family is obvious and one that we need to continue to promote. Thank you to my principal colleagues for your support, sage advice and encouragement.

It has been a privilege to serve the Rivers community and I sincerely wish the very best for the ongoing growth of the College and associated P-12 learning community."

John Baker



Congratulations to Mr. Greg Smith, Principal of Banora Point High School who was successful, through an Expression Of Interest process in gaining the relieving Executive Principal, The Rivers Secondary College position to replace Mr. John Baker.

Mr. Smith brings a depth of experience to the role, particularly in his current role as principal and through his leadership responsibilities of the T5 (Tweed 5) learning community.

Mr. Smith has commenced in the position of Acting Executive Principal and will continue in the position for the remainder of 2016.

Lismore Performing Arts Festival

The Rivers P-12 Learning Community Dance Initiative has once again displayed its extensive capacity to provide students within our Rivers primary and secondary public schools network with exciting opportunities to showcase their talents. 16 members of The Rivers Junior Dance Ensemble performed their beautiful piece titled "In Bloom". The students performed with grace, maturity and outstanding energy and received positive feedback on the night. All members should be very proud of their achievements and have continued to earn their place in the elite ensemble. The Rivers Secondary College have recently joined together to create its first Rivers Aboriginal Performing Arts Ensemble. The ensemble consists of 13 members who worked exceptionally hard to prepare for their second performance together on the Tuesday night of Lismore Performing Arts Festival. The students performed their piece titled "Mother Earth" and in doing so made a significant impact on all those who had the pleasure to view it. The audience was left feeling blown away by their professionalism, focus and connection to the meaning and spirituality of their piece. A very proud achievement for the students and staff involved.



Rivers MADness

The Rivers Secondary College Combined Dance Ensemble includes 21 members from years 8-10 who meet each Wednesday morning during sport electives and have created a whimsical dance piece titled "The Wonder of Alice". The ensemble were invited to perform at the Rivers Madness HSC showcase.

The feedback was outstanding!! The students presented a flawless and captivating performance that they can be truly proud of. This was an amazing opportunity for the students to debut their new piece and demonstrate their incredible performance skills to their peers, families and staff of the college.

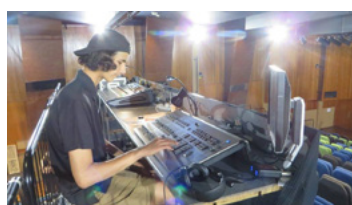
The art and photography exhibition attracted a huge crowd of parents, Principals and peers who enjoyed the canapés and drinks provided by the Hospitality classes of KHC and RRHC, while admiring and discussing the high quality of the works.



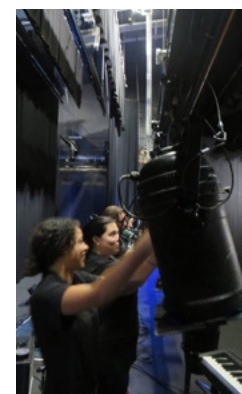
The event then moved to the performances where a near capacity crowd were treated to a very special Welcome to Country in language by Uncle Lewis. For many patrons it was the first time they had experienced Aboriginal language first hand. He then concluded his welcome with an astounding display of didgeridoo, many thanks again to Uncle Lewis for this authentic cultural experience. Mayor Jenny Dowell officially opened the event with unabashed pride and praise for public education and the quality of opportunity that The Rivers College provides in Lismore.



Uncle Lewis



Then it was on with the performances - WOW - singers - guitarists - rock bands - drama monologues - over an hour and a half of quality production, ably 'managed' by the KHC stage crew. It truly was a wonderful event, thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. The acting Executive Director of The Rivers Secondary College, Mr Greg Smith forwarded his heartfelt congratulations, impressed with the energy, collaboration and commitment of The Rivers Secondary College. We wish the Creative And Performing Art students all the best in their upcoming HSC performance exams and, once again, a big thank you and congratulations to all involved - enjoy some 'snapshots' of the night.....



A big THANK YOU to all of the Lismore Community members who attended The Rivers Secondary College "MADness" on Wednesday Night. A big congratulations also to the staff, students, parents involved in all the hard work that went into making event such a resounding success.



CALENDAR

Date to add to your Diary:

31st August

Year 7 2017 High Achievers

Information Night RRHC 5:00pm

31st August - 1st September

**RIVERS OPEN BOYS BASEBALL
TOP 8**

1 September LHC MADD

**Matinee and Evening
Performances**

12th September

Netball U/15's Zone

12th September - 21st September

Year 11 Exams - All Campuses

13th September

Year 6-7 Transition 2016

23rd September

**YEAR 12 FAREWELL ASSEMBLY
RRHC 9:30am**

16 - 17 November

Spotlight *Lismore City Hall*

Late November

White Ribbon Day *claim the date*



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SECONDARY COLLEGE

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We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Elders past and present of the Wijabal Wiyabal people and other peoples of Bundjalung Nation. We acknowledge that they are the first peoples of this land on which our school stands.

Beyond Broncos Mentoring Program

Thursday 11th August Richmond River High Campus hosted the Launch of the Beyond Broncos Mentoring Program for the Lismore area; involving Richmond River High, Lismore High, Kadina High, Woodlawn and Trinity students, parents and staff. Justin Hodges, Scott Prince and Bo de la Cruz, Ambassadors for the Broncos ran a workshop with students involved in the program.

This mentoring program involves a dedicated team of Broncos' Indigenous Support Staff, including former Richmond River High Campus student Josh Creighton, who will provide one-on-one mentoring support, encouragement and motivation for students to achieve maximum school attendance, effort and behaviour and to complete Year 12. Over 60 students are now enrolled in the program across the five schools.



Japanese

Our visitors from Lismore City's sister city, Yamato Takada had a tree planting ceremony at Kadina with Lismore Mayor Mrs. Jenny Dowell as special guest. The tree planting was of a Sasanqua Camellia, a small evergreen tree from Japan which grows to around 6 metres tall and 4 metres wide. Kadina student Aleesa, who is going to Yamato Takada in September as part of a Lismore City initiative, did a great interview with NBN Lismore. While our visitors from Yamato Takada Commercial School have left it was not before being given Friendship Bracelets made by Rose (Year 7) from the Japanese club.



To finish the visit the students held a Skype link with Yamato Takada's mayor and educational officials to formalise the successful exchange program. Tywana, who gave the Acknowledgement of Country, was recognised as a previous participant in the program.



The STEM Youth Development Camp

We had 9 Students from the Lismore Campus attend the STEM Youth Development Camp in week 2 of the Term. The camp was organised by Sherri Longbottom from the AECG. The camp was designed to allow indigenous students from around the region with an interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths to really benefit and learn from great role models and see the opportunities that exist out there in the world.

The activity workshops included:

- Understanding the behaviour of bush fires from a mathematical and practical perspective.
- Introduction to Fractals in nature and in technology.
- Conceptualising Algebra from a Yolngu (Arnhem Land) perspective.
- Introduction to engineering discussing the different types of engineers and designing a water craft.
- Designing a catapult using physics.
- Weaving.
- Aboriginal Artefacts.
- Learning to build your own computer.

One of the highlights of the camp was the Cultural Excursion to Wardell. Here we met Uncle Marcus Ferguson a man with an absolute abundance of historical knowledge. He is also fighting to protect a large area of land due to its cultural significance, the land being currently under review for the new Pacific Highway.



Three Lismore Campus students are learning to build a computer

Lawrence Kennedy



Assoc. Prof. Jason Sharples displays the pattern in which fire burns



Uncle Marcus Ferguson explaining the tree trunk markings left from people more than 100 years ago
Uncle Marcus Ferguson explaining the tree trunk markings left from people more than 100 years ago

SHARED CURRICULUM

Richmond River High Campus Awards

Students from other Campus sites attended the senior awards assembly this term at Richmond River High Campus. Wesley Linguard was awarded an outstanding academic achievement award for Software Design and Development, Kendelle O'Reilly received an academic award for consistent effort and achievement in Textiles and Design and Bridget Kennedy (not pictured) was also recognised for outstanding achievement in Textiles and Design.



Wesley, Ms Russell (KHC) and Kendelle

Aboriginal Dance Ensemble



The Rivers Dance Ensemble





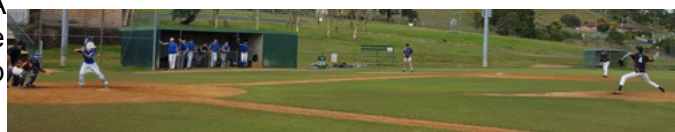
SPORTING NEWS

Opens Boys Baseball

The Rivers Secondary College Open Boys Baseball side took on Castle Hill High School today. What seems like a pattern for this team, there were a number of errors that gave the visitors the lead after the first innings. After some sloppy pitching and a few consecutive hits by Alex Battese, Riley Gregor, Jordan Williams and Damon Mitchell, the Rivers made a strong come back to lead 7-1 in the 4th. Our boys wanted to make it hard for themselves by making a few more errors in the 5th innings, score held at 7-6. A brilliant display on the mound from Jordan Williams was only aided by a strong performance from Damien Santin. A well fought battle by both teams to take the game 9-6. The Rivers will now need to travel to Sydney to play in the Top 8. Well Done!



The Rivers Boys Open Baseball



The Rivers Open Girls Hockey

Open Girls Rivers Secondary College Hockey Team

Allison Larrescy and Sonya Laverty will be taking our Open Girls Hockey team to Taree next Tuesday, to play Wednesday against Wingham High School. The girls are in the final 16 of the NSW CHS KO series as North Coast champions. An outstanding achievement and we wish our Open Girls the best of luck next week.

The Rivers Under 15 Basketball

The Rivers college held another sporting round robin and trial day at Lismore Basketball stadium on Thursday the 25th. All three schools had both boys and girls trial to make the Under 15's Rivers Basketball Teams. All students played hard basketball and showed great sportsmanship. The boys were very physical on the court demonstrating high skill levels and great understanding of the game. The girls pushed hard in all games and showed exactly what it means to be apart of the College by supporting other teams when numbers were lacking.

The selected boys team:

From RRHC Jasper Hedges-Makings, Alby Pickford, Johnny Batten and Luc Veit-Prince. From LHC Julian Thompson, Bailey Crabtree, Jeneray Crookshank and Sean Taylor. From KHC Jordan Pethers, Zeus Rooke and Callum Baine.

The selected girls team:

From RRHC Macie Nixon, Tyler Thorley, Natasha Rosa, Elijah Wraight, Taylor Coster and Shoshana Toben. From KHC Olivia Gelately, Hayley Elliot and Amelia Mueffels-Pethers. From LHC Bianca Kelly.



Exciting Inclusions into our College Curriculum for 2017

Southern Cross Football Program

Tony Wilson and John Eakin continue to be involved with our Southern Cross Football program. This is an exciting inclusion to our GATS Football program for our stage five and six students across the College.

Stage 6 Dance

Dance will be running for years 11 and 12 starting in 2017. Our state of the art dance performance space at Lismore High Campus will be utilised for practical components of the course.

RIVERS COMMUNICATON

The Rivers Secondary College website is continually being updated. We encourage you to visit www.therivers.schools.nsw.edu.au. Our website is quickly becoming a more useful tool for parents and the community.