



THE WINGECARRIBEE

2024 A YEAR IN REVIEW



Acknowledgement of Country

It is our responsibility at Bowral High School, to acknowledge and respect the Gundungurra lands and people as the traditional custodians. We wish to pay ongoing respect to all elders, past, present and future. With fairness, we recognise the shared histories of our wider community and support the cultural diversity of all our students, staff and their families.

The Wingecarribee School Magazine

Bowral High School commenced publishing their annual magazine in 1928. It was a way to celebrate and commemorate the year just gone. We hold every copy published and it is a way for generations to look back. This year's cover commemorates the school heritage with the image of the school building that has featured on every edition and the bird that made an appearance in the 1950's.

Principal's Message

Safija Bristina



It had been a fitting end to the year with our annual Presentation Night held Wednesday evening. The community came together to acknowledge, celebrate, and reward our students. The atmosphere was electric, with guests, parents/carers, staff, and students meeting and mingling before the formal proceedings began.

This year, we celebrated outstanding HSC results, with 13 students achieving Band 6 results. This success was a testament to the dedication and hard work of our staff and students. A key factor in this achievement was our very successful HSC Hub, where an experienced teacher was positioned full-time to provide holistic support to our students during the most significant and challenging year of their schooling career. This initiative would continue in 2025 and expand to support other year groups.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our students, who show courage every day by seizing opportunities to learn, make mistakes, learn from mistakes, and build resilience and perseverance underpinned by respectful behaviour and communication. Our students have proved to be great ambassadors for themselves, their families, and indeed our school. They demonstrate diligence, determination, and dedication to their learning.

Looking ahead, I am filled with enthusiasm for the future of Bowral High School as we move into our High Potential Gifted Education partnership in 2025. This partnership will see our commitment to developing high potential and delivering talent development and extension opportunities in state-of-the-art facilities for all students, creating, maintaining, and sustaining a high-performance culture.

We bid farewell to Christine Roberts, who served as Relieving Principal during terms 1 to 3, and acknowledged her significant contributions to our school.

As the holidays are now here, I wish all of our families, friends, staff, and students a relaxing, restful, and rejuvenating summer break. I hope you all enjoy the upcoming festive season with loved ones and remember to stay safe. I look forward to welcoming you back to school next year. Happy holidays!



Year 7 & 10 Deputy Principal David Verdejo

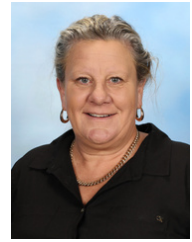
2024 marks my second year as Deputy Principal at Bowral High School, and it has been an honour to serve this incredible community. Over the past two years, I've witnessed remarkable growth and development within our school.

It has been truly inspiring to see teams across the school passionately working to improve learning and enhance the experiences of our students. Our sports program has expanded significantly, offering a diverse range of activities such as golf, bowling, basketball, and tennis. Similarly, our creative and performing arts programs have flourished, with our team performing statewide, including our School Spectacular in Sydney and the second school musical.

Year 7 had a fantastic start to their high school journey with the school camp. It was heartening to see them rally together and form a strong year group. Year 10, on the other hand, has entered their final year of junior schooling. Many students are preparing for their career paths through school-based apprenticeships or by focusing on building their academic skills in preparation for senior schooling and the HSC.

We have also seen significant improvements in literacy and numeracy results across all year levels, as well as bigger and better school events. I am particularly proud of our achievements in the Statewide Game Changers Challenge, where we reached the grand final and won one of four awards. Additionally, the introduction of the STEM program has been a major milestone for us.

This year has been monumental, thanks to the dedication and commitment of our staff, who work tirelessly to provide students with authentic learning experiences. I am grateful for the hard work of all the teachers and students behind the scenes. I am immensely proud of all the students and their growth and commitment to their learning. Together, we are building a bright future for Bowral High School.



Year 8 & 11 Deputy Principal Angela Harmey

As we come to the end of another incredible year at Bowral High School, I am delighted to share some highlights of our students' achievements and activities.

Our Year 8 students kicked off the year with enthusiasm, participating in the swimming carnival with great turnout and participation. As the year progressed, they showcased their skills in the tech mandatory classes, producing impressive work in woodwork and culinary arts. They also took part in the Cross Country Carnival, with some students advancing to the Zone Cross Country.

Throughout the year, our Year 8 students were recognized in various presentation assemblies, receiving certificates for their outstanding achievements across different Key Learning Areas. The athletic carnival was another highlight, with lots of participation in track and field events. As the year came to a close, Year 8 students made their selections for elective courses they wish to pursue in Year 9, ensuring they are set for an exciting and engaging year ahead.

Year 11 embarked on their journey of completing the HSC course this term. They have successfully completed the first part of their course, with opportunities to drop subjects or elevate courses to extension in mathematics, science, or English. This flexibility has been well-received by many students, providing them with tailored learning paths that suit their interests and academic goals. Additionally, students now have access to the HSC Learning Hub, a dedicated space for studying during non-face-to-face periods, as well as a place to relax and rejuvenate.

Overall, it's been a fantastic year for both year groups. I am immensely proud of the hard work and achievements of our students and look forward to seeing what 2025 will bring.



Year 9 & 12 Deputy Principal Amanda Sutton

As 2024 draws to a close, it's a time to reflect on the many wonderful moments that have made this year so special.

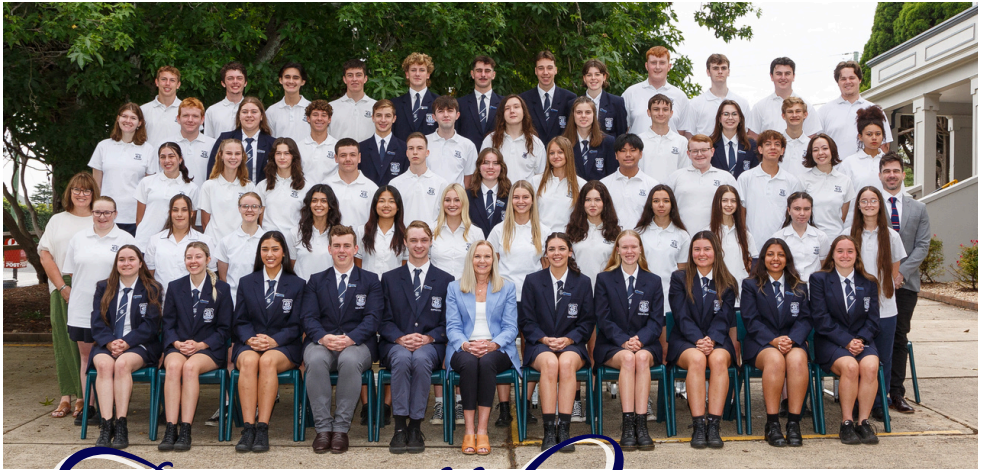
A highlight has been celebrating the achievements of our Year 12 students as they completed their HSC. Graduation was a momentous occasion, marking the culmination of years of hard work and dedication. The formal was an absolute blast, filled with laughter, joy, and unforgettable memories. It has been a privilege to sign students out as they shared their exciting plans for the future. We look forward to welcoming them back in the final week of school for our HSC Results Breakfast, where we'll celebrate their accomplishments and hear more about their next steps.

Year 9 has also had an outstanding year. I am incredibly proud of their growth, achievements, and the strides they've made in both their academic and personal development.

This term, we've been busy planning the Future Focused Class for students looking to transition into the workforce. This program will provide them with valuable project-based learning, guided by one main teacher. This personalized approach will allow students to integrate their work experience or TAFE courses, setting them on a path towards success in the workplace.

As we head into the holiday season, I want to wish all of our students, staff, and families a joyful Christmas and a restful break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in Term 1, 2025, for another exciting year of growth and achievement.

Enjoy the holidays, and see you all in the new year!



Farewell Year 12

Class of 2024

To my wonderful year group,

It is wild to think that when I first met most of you, you were tiny, wide-eyed children, unsure of what to expect of this new adventure call 'high school'. Here we are, 6 years later and you stand at the threshold of adult life and independence.

I remember remarking in one of our first year meetings in year 7 that we would create countless memories at school and that, before we knew it, it would be 2024 and you would be graduating (at the time I scarcely believed it myself: six years seemed such a long time!) At the risk of sounding like an English teacher analysing a text, teenage experiences and memories have the profound influence on the formation identity. It may be argued that literally became you within the hallowed walls of Bowral High School.

I hope that you appreciate the sincerity of the sentiment when I say that you have also left your mark on BHS. One the school, and on me. It is with unfathomable pride that I have watched you all excel; seen how you embraced opportunities; beamed as you adopted and embodied school pride from day one; and admired how you developed into and flourished as leaders who endeavoured to rejuvenate a sense of pride in the student body. My one hope for this cohort when you began high school was that you would find success at our school (whatever that looks like individually) and use that success to inspire your younger peers. You have surpassed my hopes.

I must thank you for being a part of MY journey at BHS too. Each of you have left lasting impacts on me, too many to articulate, some in ways that I possibly may not yet realise. I say this without a syllable of hyperbole or rhetorical agenda. I cherish the time spent with each of you and being your Year Advisor. I won't even try to list any of the fond memories here. You know them and I know them. You will not be forgotten. Thanks for listening to my lame (hilarious?) jokes and making the job easy for me. It was a pleasure.

Alas, we would love to keep you all, but that would be greedy. It is now time for others to benefit from your spirit and kindness and humour. Your journeys and experiences from here will vary greatly, but this will remain: you are the Graduating Class of Bowral High School 2024, and you were remarkable.

A fond adieu,

Ben Murray

Farewell Miss Howe

Written by Mr Nathaniel Camarsh HT Support

At the end of Week 4 we said a heartfelt farewell to Miss Becky Howe, who, after ten years of dedicated service at Bowral High School, is moving on to become the Head Teacher at Elizabeth Macarthur High School.

Becky has been an integral part of our Support Unit and a guiding light as Head Teacher of Wellbeing, tirelessly supporting the needs of students and staff with warmth, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to their growth and success.

Known for her enthusiasm, kindness, and passion for sports, she has left a lasting impact on our school community, inspiring those around her to strive for their best. While we will deeply miss her presence, we are immensely proud of her achievements and wish her every success in her new role. With Ms Howe gone, the students will finally have a chance of success in the annual staff vs student games!

Thank you, Becky, for all that you have given to Bowral High. You will be missed.

2025 School Captains & Prefects



Howdy world, these are your captains speaking,

2024 has been busy, but we are proud of what we have achieved. It has been a great year for increasing house spirit, raising funds for amazing causes, and overall increasing our community engagement. At the end of Term 2, the outgoing prefects and captains organised an ice bucket challenge to raise funds for Motor Neuron Disease. This was such a huge success, and just under \$3,500 was raised. Other events that have happened this year included many successful carnivals, our PBL day, the festive Giving Tree and dress up. The Giving tree was an amazing success where Bowral High School donated over 450 gifts to people in need. This year we were able to reignite the flames of house spirit at assemblies through cheering, and are looking forward to keeping the momentum running next year. We have done all this through the support of our amazing students, teachers and parents and can't wait to extend this into 2025 going above and beyond.



See you next year, captains signing out!

Meg Paviour and Henry Rees



Belmore

2024 was not the greatest run for Belmore but we did show the beginning of immense spirit.

Holding down second through the swimming carnival as the first showing for the year, we demonstrated extreme strength with brilliant individual and team efforts throughout the day. Unfortunately we stumbled as the year progressed as a team in the Cross Country and Athletics carnivals, but the school still witnessed the many individual champions that call Belmore home. Amelia Camarsh in Year 8 and Reegan Bush in Year 11 both came out on top at the Cross Country, with Amelia continuing her athletic prowess being named Zone Athletics Age Champion and Brayden Dawes winning the Zone Cross Country. Finn De Vere also showed that he is not to be trifled with, winning 16 years age champion at the Athletic Carnival. These students and the rest of Belmore House have thrown down the gauntlet to the rest of the houses to show that we are here to win.

We may have finished the year in third place but we are hungry and wanting more for 2025. The other won't know what hit them next year.

GO BELMORE!!!

Tukker Lewin

Gibraltar

Gibraltar has once again just fallen short of the top this year with our house continuously placing well in most of the events in 2024

Gibraltar started the year off a bit rough with us coming in 3rd at the swimming carnival. Josh Mckay was an outstanding competitor with him coming out on top in the 16 year boys. Gibraltar came back more motivated than ever in the athletics carnival with our house gaining many points just from participation alone. We fell just short of first in this event with Fitzroy managing to just beat us.

Throughout the 4th term Gibraltar managed to gain more points through the fortnightly sporting events with Gibraltar dominating in the basketball competition in week 6. In the end Gibraltar's spirit and determination never wavered, keeping us close to the top throughout the year.

2025 will be the year where Gibraltar will build on our house spirit and will strive for first once more. In 2025 I will strive to lead my house to the top through encouragement and participation from as many people as we can get. Ideally, this'll mean that the points gained in class and on the sports field will push us to the top for the 2025 season.

Let's go Gibraltar

William Farrell

Hume

2024 has not been Hume's year for the House Competition, but we always gave our best at every opportunity.

While the year didn't start with a win in the House Relay at the Swimming Carnival, it was great to see our competitors pull together to make it a challenge for the other houses to overcome. This 'can do' attitude and competitive spirit continued throughout the rest of the year, and culminated at the Athletics Carnival, where many of our members competed in every event, and while individual success was attained, Hume House showed the rest of the school that we may be small in number but we are big in heart.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the amazing efforts of many of our students outside the sporting arena, with students like Brody Yates in Year 10 being acknowledged for his outstanding academic achievements, Chloe Ward for her services to the community and the rest of Hume House for everything they do every day to improve themselves everyday.

A big thanks to Ms. Smith, Ms. Van Diemen and all the other staff for supporting Hume House during these trying times. We will come back next year bigger and better than ever and will show all the other Houses that Hume is not to be forgotten.

Hayden Kull

Fitzroy

The 2024 year saw all of Bowral's houses grow in engagement and involvement, notably, the weekly assemblies worked to encourage students to roar war cries during the house point review. This led to increased school spirit, drawing students to fight for their houses, working harder in classes and sporting events.

Early in the year we saw our house participating rigorously in the swimming carnival which pushed Fitzroy to an early lead, our house continued to thrive throughout the year, earning further points in the athletics carnival and other events.

Many thanks to Ms Geer, Mr Bleasdale, Mr Crisafi and the rest of the Fitzroy house for unwavering support throughout the year, providing the house with unprecedented accessories, chants and dedication, driving the reds to the top.

With the involvement of the Fitzroy students, next year will aim to bring further house spirit through the use of enthusiastic flags, mascots and a reward for the entire house after Fitzroy continues their dominating reign.

GO FITZROY!!

Joshua Haylock

2024 Student Representative Council



A Year of Impactful Fundraisers and Events

It's been a great year leading fundraisers and events to support various causes across the school. The SRC has been instrumental in fostering school spirit and addressing key issues affecting our students. Through successful fundraising efforts and engaging initiative events, the SRC has made a tangible impact on our school community.

One of the significant achievements by the SRC this year was the installation of two water stations, strategically placed to benefit our students. One of these stations was installed on the way to the Oval, ensuring that students have the opportunity to stay hydrated while heading to and from the fields. This initiative has not only promoted better health and wellbeing among students but also demonstrated our commitment to enhancing the school's facilities for everyone's benefit.

A primary focus has been tackling the issue of vaping, with informative campaigns and activities designed to promote healthy choices among students. The funds raised have been put to excellent use, including purchasing water bottles for students in need, organising games to energise school events, and supporting programmes that benefit the wider school community. The SRC's dedication and creativity have strengthened connections within the school while championing positive change. Here's to their continued success!

2024 INTERACT



Eco-Champions in Action: Rotary-Sponsored Club Sparks Environmental Awareness at School

Our Rotary-sponsored Interact Club has been actively involved in our community, fundraising for various causes. This year, their primary focus has been on building environmental awareness within the school. Collaborating with external organisations, they have improved recycling efforts and highlighted the impact of poor waste management. Through these activities, students have also developed critical leadership and project management skills, making it a valuable capacity-building experience.

BHS GAME CHANGERS

Game Changers: BHS Students Drive Innovation and Leadership

Meet the BHS Game Changers: Tucker L., Chloe W., Michael T., and Henry Awe. This talented group of students recently competed in the Game Changer Challenge, a statewide competition funded by Education NSW. The Challenge encourages students to develop innovative solutions to real-world problems.

The BHS Game Changers focused on addressing the impact of PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) on the environment, particularly on water supply and consumer products. PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals found in various products, known for their persistence in the environment and potential health risks.

Using modern technology, the students proposed creative solutions such as developing apps and advocating for legislation changes to mandate clear labeling of products containing PFAS. Their innovative approach aims to empower consumers to make informed choices and reduce the impact of PFAS.

Since the competition, the BHS Game Changers have presented their ideas to our local MP, Judy Hannan, and continue to work towards addressing PFAS in our community.

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Mathematics

Maths Faculty Year in Review: Crunching the Numbers on 2024

As the year comes to a close, we're dusting off our calculators and reflecting on the significant milestones of 2024. It's been a year of changes, challenges, and, of course, equations that have kept us on our toes. Here's a look back at the numbers that really added up for the Mathematics Faculty this year.

A New Syllabus = New Opportunities

The implementation of the new NSW Mathematics syllabus for Year 7 and 9 has kept our faculty busy balancing creativity with compliance. From piloting innovative teaching strategies to wrestling with the ever-expanding glossary of curriculum terms, we've embraced the change with enthusiasm. Our students have risen to the challenge, and we're looking forward to seeing the long-term dividends of this fresh approach.

HSC Highlights

Another year, another set of HSC classes working hard to solve the ultimate equation: balancing study, life, and sleep. This year, six Mathematics classes tackled the HSC, ranging from Numeracy to Mathematics Extension 1. With results just around the corner, we're immensely proud of their efforts and can't wait to see their achievements. We also thank our faculty for their unwavering support in guiding these students through every formula and proof.

Moments of Maths Magic

Beyond the curriculum, 2024 has been filled with moments that remind us why we love what we do. Whether it's the joy of students finally mastering simultaneous equations or the groan-worthy puns shared in the staffroom, Maths has continued to be the most entertaining subject on the timetable.

As we prepare to close the book on 2024, we're already plotting (and graphing) our course for next year. With the new syllabus extending into Year 8 and 10, exciting professional learning opportunities, and a fresh cohort of students, the future is bright.

Finally, thank you to the students, staff, and families who make the Maths Faculty at Bowral High School what it is. You're the real MVPs (Mathematical Valuable Players). Here's to 2025: may it be filled positive outcomes!

Farewell Mr Murton

Written by Mr Shane Bleasedale HT Mathematics

This year we say farewell to Michael Murton, who leaves Bowral High School after an extraordinary 30 years of dedication, teaching, and leadership. Michael's journey here has been marked by excellence, commitment, and a deep love for education that has touched countless lives.

As a Mathematics Teacher, Michael inspired students to tackle challenges and see the beauty in numbers, shaping minds and sparking a passion for learning. As a Head Teacher, he led with wisdom, always setting a high standard for his department and supporting staff to reach their fullest potential. His work as a Best in Class teacher with the HSC Strategy Team demonstrated his unwavering commitment to improving the quality of Mathematics teaching for all students.

Beyond his professional roles, Michael has been a mentor and guide to teachers across the school. His advice, encouragement, and friendship have helped shape the careers of many, creating a legacy that will carry on long after his departure.

Michael, you will be greatly missed, but your impact will remain here for many years to come. We thank you for your service, your dedication, and the positive influence you've had on our community. We wish you all the very best in your next chapter.

Bowral High School Teachers, Students & their Families



Mr Murton - Then and now

HSIE's Remarkable Year: Embracing Innovation and Community

The HSIE (Human Society and Its Environment) department has had an extraordinary year filled with exciting learning experiences and significant achievements.

One of the major highlights was the introduction of virtual reality learning. This innovative step has allowed our students to engage with history and geography in a more immersive and interactive way, bringing lessons to life like never before.

We were thrilled to welcome a new member to the HSIE team, John Raisin. John's passion for teaching and fresh perspectives have made a significant impact, contributing to the dynamic learning environment our department strives to provide.

A bittersweet moment this year was saying goodbye to our esteemed Head Teacher, Cameron Evans. Cameron left at the end of Term Three to take on a promotional role within our school. We wish him all the best in his new position and thank him for his dedication and leadership.

In addition, our Year 10 students had the invaluable opportunity to visit the Sydney Jewish Museum. This excursion was not just an educational outing but a profound experience that deepened their understanding of history and the importance of remembering the past.





The Model United Nations tournament was another standout event. Students stepped into the roles of international diplomats, debating global issues and working collaboratively to develop resolutions. This experience provided them with a practical insight into international relations and diplomacy.



Our commerce students embraced the world of finance with a Shark Tank project, inspired by the popular TV show. This project encouraged them to develop business ideas and pitch them to a panel, honing their entrepreneurial skills and understanding of personal finance.



Junior students also had an enriching year, diving into the study of ancient societies. Through object-based learning and dressing up in period costumes, they were able to engage more deeply with historical content, making learning both fun and impactful.

In summary, the HSIE department's commitment to innovative teaching methods and real-world learning experiences has made this a memorable and successful year. We look forward to continuing this journey of exploration and discovery in the year ahead.

English



2024 has been an exceptional year for our English faculty, marked by remarkable student achievements, innovative learning experiences, and collaborative success.

Our Stage 4 Debating team demonstrated outstanding skill, critical thinking, and teamwork to secure the Zone Championships in the prestigious Premier's Debating Challenge. Competing against some of the best schools in the region, the team's persuasive arguments and poise under pressure highlighted the talent and dedication of our students and their coaches.



This year also brought the magic of Shakespeare to life for our Year 9 and 10 students, with a visit from the Shakespeare Players. Their vibrant performances and interactive workshops gave students a new appreciation for the Bard's timeless works. From impassioned monologues to lively sword fights, the sessions proved to be both educational and thoroughly entertaining—a memorable experience for all involved.

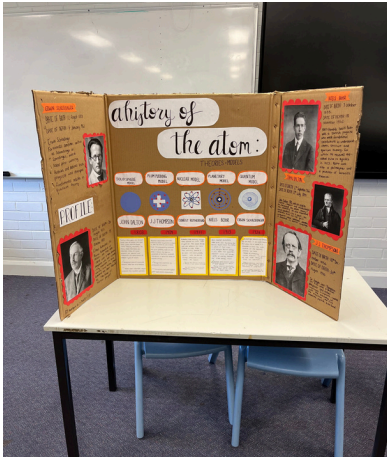
For our Year 11 cohort, the annual Murder Mystery event took on new dimensions with the "death" of our own Head Teacher, Ben. Students worked in teams, analysing clues, interrogating suspects, and piecing together evidence in a cleverly designed narrative that honed their critical and creative thinking skills. The event was a highlight of the senior calendar, blending fun with rigorous analytical challenges.

Finally, our Year 12 students capped off the year with outstanding HSC results, reflecting the hard work and passion of both students and staff. Across Standard and Advanced English, as well as Extension courses, our students achieved remarkable success, with numerous Band 6 results and personal bests that exemplified their dedication and the quality of teaching and learning within our faculty.

2024 has truly been a year of excellence, creativity, and community for the English faculty. We look forward to building on these successes in 2025!

SCIENCE

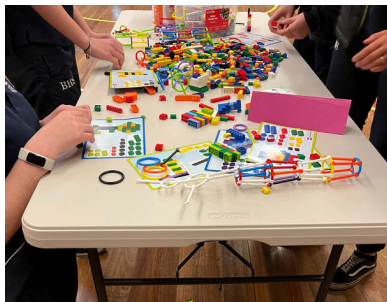
A Spectacular Science Week and Beyond



This year's Science Week was a resounding success, connecting our school community in innovative and exciting ways. We extended invitations to primary schools to explore our engaging exhibits and displays. The event was packed with hands-on experiences and workshops, led by our dedicated staff, who showcased various projects across the school. From combining science and food technology in cooking workshops to exploring human movement science with PE, and even witnessing explosive chemistry experiments, there was something for everyone to enjoy.



Moreover, we've made significant changes to our assessment tasks, focusing on assessments for learning. This shift has provided further opportunities for students to engage with science in meaningful ways. Emphasizing hands-on experiences, we increased the number of practical activities, which students found engaging and fun.



Additionally, we expanded the number of excursions and field trips, aiming to take students into the real world to see science in action. This approach has not only enriched their learning experiences but also demonstrated the practical applications of scientific concepts. The enthusiastic response from students highlights the effectiveness of these initiatives in fostering a love for science and encouraging active participation.

Bowral High's PDHPE Faculty: A Year of Innovation, Engagement, and Achievements in 2024

In 2024, the PDHPE faculty at Bowral High made significant strides in enhancing the curriculum and fostering student engagement. The faculty undertook a comprehensive review of the 7-10 scope and sequences, integrating Writing in Secondary strategies and developing consistent literacy practices across Years 7-12. This focus on literacy aims to support student understanding of key concepts, verbs and improve overall academic outcomes in PDHPE. Additionally, the senior PDHPE course has been superseded by the new Health & Movement Science course, with teachers participating in professional learning opportunities online to prepare for its full implementation in 2025.

The faculty also strengthened its links with local primary schools through collaborative initiatives, such as visits, gala day participation, and the provision of coaching programs led by Year 10 PASS and Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation students. These efforts have not only provided valuable learning experiences for primary school students but also helped build stronger relationships within the community.

The CHS Knockout sports program continued to be a key part of the school's sporting culture, focusing on developing commitment, sportsmanship, and a strong sense of participation. Staff members from across the school volunteered as coaches, fostering positive interactions with students. Teams such as girls' cricket, girls' touch, and volleyball reached Zone and Regional finals, demonstrating the success of the program.

The Smith Cup tradition continued in 2024, with Goulburn High hosting Bowral High. While Goulburn claimed victory, Bowral students competed with determination and sportsmanship. Although team numbers were reduced, the competitive spirit and camaraderie were strong.

Both the Athletics and Cross-Country carnivals were highlights of the year, promoting inclusivity and school pride. These events, which foster positive staff-student relationships in a non-teaching environment, saw increased participation, especially in Cross Country, where a growing number of students nominated to compete. The success of these events reflects the school's commitment to developing school connectedness and pride, with plans to return to a 1½-day Athletics event in 2025.

Thank you to the PDHPE staff for their ongoing dedication to the wellbeing, engagement, and education of our students throughout 2024.

TAS Technical & Applied Studies

Year 7 and Year 8 Technology Mandatory Projects

In the spirit of creativity and hands-on learning, our Year 7 and Year 8 students have been busy with their Technology Mandatory projects, showcasing their skills and innovation.

Year 7 Projects: Our Year 7 students have been hard at work building birdhouses. This project allowed them to apply their knowledge of design and construction techniques, resulting in a variety of unique and functional birdhouses that will surely provide a cozy home for local birds.

Year 8 Projects: Meanwhile, Year 8 students took on the challenge of creating wind chimes and amplifiers. The wind chimes project encouraged students to explore sound, materials, and aesthetic design, producing beautiful and melodious pieces. The amplifier project combined elements of electronics and woodworking, culminating in functional amplifiers that can enhance sound from various devices.

These projects not only enhance students' practical skills but also foster creativity, problem-solving, and a sense of accomplishment. We are incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm our students have shown and look forward to seeing more innovative projects in the future.

Year 10 Food Technology

During term 3, Year 10 Food Technology were studying the unit 'food for special occasions'. As part of their assessment they were required to bake and decorate a cake for an event of their choice. We think you would agree, they turned out fabulous



TAS Technical & Applied Studies

Year 9 Food Technology

Year 9 Food Technology classes kicked off with an exciting and flavourful assessment for their Aussie Aussie Aussie unit. Students were tasked with creating unique burgers inspired by the diverse cultural influences within Australian society that they explored throughout their studies.

This hands-on project encouraged students to apply their understanding of various ingredients and culinary traditions to craft burgers that reflect the rich, multicultural tapestry of Australia.

The task not only honed their cooking skills but also celebrated creativity and cultural appreciation in their food creations.



Year 11 Hospitality

The Year 11 Hospitality class started the term on a high note, showcasing their culinary prowess by preparing chicken sandwiches using focaccia bread they skillfully baked last term. This practical session not only reinforced their baking techniques but also allowed students to demonstrate their proficiency with the combi oven, a versatile tool in the school kitchen. The students were thrilled with the results, gaining confidence in their skills and appreciation for both the quality of their baking and their growing expertise in kitchen equipment.

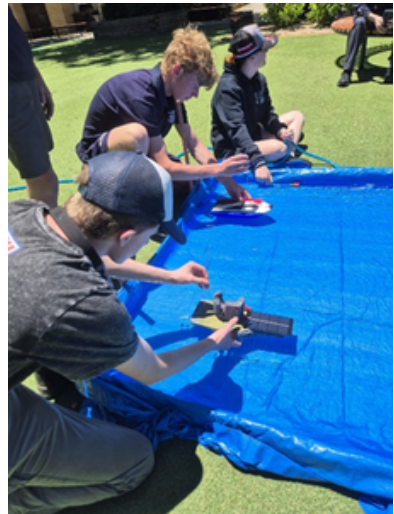


TAS Technical & Applied Studies

Year 9 Term 4

Solar powered boats

During term 4, Year 9 Engineering learnt about boat design and Archimedes' principle. Students designed and constructed their own boat designs and raced them in a student-built race pool. Students raced against each other for the fastest speed and straightest swim path. The weather was perfect, with full sun and no cloud cover, making the perfect racing conditions. A fun afternoon had by all students. Well Done!



Year 12 Engineering Studies

Year 12 Engineering spent Term 4 completing their first HSC module on Engineered Structures, with a focus on Truss Bridges. Students designed a truss bridge in 3D modelling software 'Onshape' and then laser cut them on acrylic or plywood. Students tested the strength of their design by loading the truss with heavy weights. The strongest bridge held a whopping 30.5kg which is pretty impressive for a 3mm thick piece of acrylic!



TAS Technical & Applied Studies

Year 9 Industrial Technology Timber

During Term 3 and Term 4 Year 9 range of projects and associated theory work. These projects included a Foot Stool, Music Amplifier with a Head Lamp and a Foldable Serving Tray. These projects were all completed to a quality standard, and we look forward to the students continuing their development of skills in Year 10.



Year 10 Industrial Technology Timber

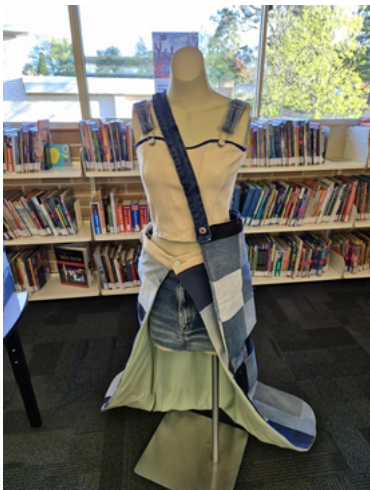
Congratulations to the Year 10 Industrial Technology Timber classes on completion of their Major project – The Shaker Table and Portfolio. These projects were completed to a high standard and will prepare them for their future Year 11 and Year 12 Major Project.



TAS Technical & Applied Studies

Year 12 Major Works

Congratulations to the Year 12 Design and Technology class. The standard of work was outstanding and we applaud them for their commitment and dedication.



TAS Technical & Applied Studies

2024 Vocational Education & Training (VET) Awards

Congratulations to our outgoing Year 12 in excelling in the Workplace Learning Awards - Southern Highlands. Mari W, Rylee D and Kaitlin S all received awards of excellence in their vocation. Fraser L was named VET Hospitality student of the year. William N was named SBAT student of the year and Mackenzie was named Allied Health student of the year. Mackenzie also was named the overall winner of the Student of the year award. Most of our students will be continuing further education in their chosen fields. We are very proud of all your achievements this year and the role models you have been.



Teacher Further Training

During 2024 Both Mrs Millan and Mrs Sands have been working to complete their Cert III in Catering. This qualification is essential for them to be able to deliver the Cert II in Hospitality course. Mrs Sands and Mrs Millan also completed their Food Safety Supervisor Certificate.

Congratulations go to Mrs Samulski who completed her STEM Teacher acceleration HSC Engineering course through University Technology Sydney.

TAS Technical & Applied Studies

2024 Work Placement

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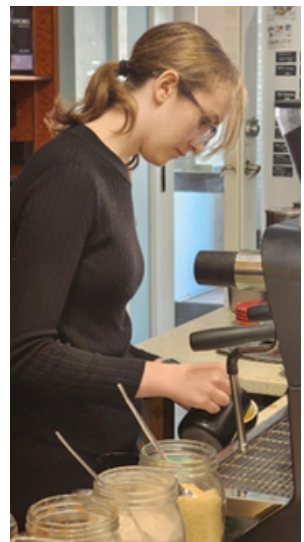
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TAS Technical & Applied Studies

2024 Work Placement

A big thank you to all of the local businesses and companies that hosted our VET Construction and Hospitality students this year. Our students gained a great deal of skills and experience whilst on site and working within industry.

Congratulations to the students who have gained apprenticeships or part time work from their host employers, an amazing achievement by these students and a credit to the VET teachers who have ensured they are workplace ready.



A Thriving Year in CAPA



This year has been a remarkable journey for our Creative and Performing Arts department. We've seen tremendous success with our musical productions, including the highly acclaimed *Addams Family School Musical*. This production not only showcased our students' incredible talent but also fostered a strong sense of community within the school.

In the Higher School Certificate (HSC) space, we organised workshops at the Hume Conservatorium of Music, providing students with invaluable feedback from industry experts. These masterclass sessions have significantly enhanced their performance skills, preparing them for their major assessments.

Pulse Alive, a statewide drama, music, and dance concert, allowed our students to collaborate with peers from across New South Wales. This event, held at Sydney Olympic Park, was a smaller version of the School Spectacular but equally impactful, celebrating the diverse talents of both primary and high school students.

Our students also performed at local festivals, including the vibrant Tulip Time in Bowral, representing our school with pride. The upcoming Christmas concert will see our students spreading festive cheer through carols performed at local primary schools and shopping centres.

Our HSC Visual Arts programme achieved a milestone with a nomination for Art Express. Our photography students collaborated with Annesley Retirement Village, creating heartfelt photo booklets capturing the residents' life stories. They also conducted a comparative project between the Southern Highlands and Cabramatta, highlighting Australia's cultural diversity.

Additionally, our students competed in the NSW Surround Sound competition, facing off against schools from across New South Wales. They became finalists and performed at Spec Fest in front of hundreds of people at Homebush, showcasing their talent and hard work.

2024 School Musical



This year, Bowral High School wowed audiences with Addams Family - The Musical, a quirky tale of love, family, and acceptance as Wednesday Addams falls for a "normal" boy, creating hilarious chaos. Over 60 students brought the show to life through stellar performances, intricate set designs, and expert sound and lighting. Our hospitality team ensured smooth sailing, serving drinks to the 1,000 ticket holders. Months of hard work culminated in an unforgettable experience, showcasing the creativity, dedication, and teamwork of our students. It wasn't just a performance—it was an extraordinary journey for all involved!



2024 School Spectacular



Bowral High Shines at Surround Sound Finals: A Year of Music and Magic

This year, Bowral High rocked the NSW Arts Unit's Surround Sound finals! Our talented students wowed audiences at SpecFest and Schools Spectacular 2024, performing on the iconic SpecFest main stage at Qudos Bank Arena, Olympic Park. Leading up to their televised debut, our bands honed their craft in exclusive music industry workshops, preparing them to deliver unforgettable performances. From electrifying tunes to crowd-pleasing energy, Bowral High made its mark, entertaining thousands and showing the state what we're made of. Here's to a year of music, passion, and pride for Bowral High!



2024 Year 11 Photography



Bowral High Shines at Surround Sound Finals: A Year of Music and Magic

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Wellbeing

This year marked significant strides for Bowral High School's wellbeing program, with a strong focus on tackling bullying and building student resilience. Thanks to our partnership with Highlands Youth Services, we were able to continue offering equine therapy, a unique form of therapy involving interactions with horses to improve mental health and emotional wellbeing. Equine therapy has proven beneficial in helping students develop trust, empathy, and coping skills.

We also implemented the "We All Matter" program, aimed at fostering inclusivity and respect among students, and the "Rock and Water" program, which focuses on building resilience and self-confidence through physical and mental exercises. Resilience, particularly for young people, is about developing the ability to recover from setbacks, adapt well to change, and keep going in the face of adversity.

Additionally, we celebrated Harmony Day, a significant event where we educate students about understanding and appreciating different cultures to build a multicultural society. The highlight of the day was the food stalls, where students could try dishes from various nations. We were also fortunate to have Daniel Mirza, author of "Getting the Monkeys Off Your Back," speak to our students. His talk addressed both the victims of bullying and those who bully, encouraging all to address their own issues.

Another key initiative was the Mental Health First Aid program, which provided students with an action plan for seeking mental health support for themselves or their friends. We also implemented the Straight Sights program, offering free eye tests and glasses to students; over 450 students participated in this beneficial program.



Wellbeing

Bron Woodward

SSO Student Support Officer

As the Student Support Officer at Bowral High School, my role is to support the wellbeing and engagement of students. I work closely with students, teachers, and families to provide a nurturing and inclusive school environment. My responsibilities include addressing barriers to learning, supporting students' mental health, and promoting positive behaviour. By offering individualised support and connecting students with appropriate resources, I aim to help every student thrive both academically and personally.

Over the past year, I've had over 720 appointments, which underscores my commitment to student wellbeing. Additionally, I proactively monitor and respond to reports from STYMIE, our online anti-bullying software program. This platform allows students to anonymously report instances of bullying, ensuring that they receive timely support. My role involves triaging these reports and coordinating with relevant staff to address each situation promptly, ensuring that students facing challenges receive the help they need as quickly as possible.



SMITH'S CUP

Bowral High and Goulburn High School came together for the 91st instalment of the Smith Cup, hosted at Goulburn High School. This historic event, one of the longest-running school competitions in New South Wales, saw students competing in a variety of sports and activities, highlighting their skills, teamwork, and school spirit.

The day was filled with energy and enthusiasm, as students from both schools showcased their talents across numerous events. From the adrenaline-pumping athletics to the intense basketball matches and spirited debates, the competition was fierce and friendly.

After a full day of exhilarating contests, Goulburn High School emerged as the champions, claiming the Smith Cup for 2024. This victory was particularly significant, marking their first win in a decade. The cheers of joy and pride were a testament to their hard work and dedication.

A huge congratulations to both Bowral High and Goulburn High for their incredible participation and exemplary sportsmanship. The spirit of friendly competition and mutual respect was evident throughout the event.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to Goulburn High School for hosting such a fantastic event. Their hospitality and excellent organization ensured that the day was a memorable experience for all involved.

Here's to another year of great competition and camaraderie! Let's keep the spirit of the Smith Cup alive and look forward to many more years of this cherished tradition.





BOWRAL High School



exceptional learning opportunities for all