

exceptional learning opportunities for all on Gundungurra land



# TERM 3 PRINCIPAL UPDATE



Dear Parents and carers,

Greetings from Gundungurra land, and welcome to an exciting and vibrant Term 3. For our Year 12 students, this term marks their final chapter at Bowral High School. I am confident they will make the most of it. Among them are exceptional musicians, talented artists, skilled athletes, inspiring student leaders, and dedicated academic scholars. The Class of 2024 has consistently shown dedication and has dramatically enriched the vibrancy and culture of our outstanding school. I was lucky enough to start at the school as their deputy principal and end as their principal.

Over the year, I have worked with my teams across the school to bring your children exceptional learning experiences outside of the classroom. I have been so pleased with how our school community has created these opportunities. There are so many that are happening across the school and it would take pages and pages to cover, but hopefully these few here give you an idea of how far our school has come.

Last term, we had the honour of working with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and, with your assistance, raised approximately \$3500 through our successful Ice Bucket Challenge. I want to thank Chloe, Ms. Sutton, and our student leaders, who worked tirelessly to promote and run the event. Our wonderful staff were highly supportive, as demonstrated in this photo.





At the end of Term 2 the executive teams from Bowral and Picton High Schools collaborated to enhance their leadership skills as part of "Our Plan for Public Education." We were honored to have Deb Summerhayes, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Education, join us for this significant initiative. Our focus was on the 'Our Plan for Public Education' and the principles of Explicit Teaching, including Learning Intentions and Success Criteria. This collaboration aimed to strengthen our leadership capacity and ensure that we continue to provide high-quality education to our students.

## STEM@BHS

We are proud to be launching a new partnership with Education NSW's- Academy of STEM Excellence. This initiative comes with support from the Department of Education with resources, staff resources and training to ensure it is authentically delivered to our students. We are commencing with a pilot initative "Virtual Academy of STEM". Selected students for Term 3 will engage in weekly virtual STEM lessons with other students from across the state. This offers students the opportunity to network and build their knowledge base. Towards the end of Term 3, we will open up expression of interests to students in Years 7,8 and 9 to be part of the Term 4 cohort.

Bowral High School is also one of five selected schools across the state to compete in the STEM Hydrogen Car Challenge. This is a project based learning STEM unit of work where Ms Samulski and her Year 10 Engineering class will spend this term learning about how to make hydrogen and build a model race car. The school has been sent a huge resource kit that form the basis of the car, but students will need to build and design the drivetrain, the low resistance body and the remote electronics. In Term 4, they will put their car to the test and race against other schools.

#### Game Changer Challenge

Chloe, Michael, Meg, Joshua and Tukker will be competing the upcoming Game Changer Challenge finals. The students have been researching the impact of PFAS chemicals, the task is to produce a workable solution to an environmental problem. Already, they have been choosen from hundreds of teams and now are just one of 20 schools statewide that are competing for the championship title. They will now work with industry change experts and scientist to develop a solution to the PFAS problem.

#### Addams Family the Musical

I would like to thank the community for coming along to support our production of Addam's Family the Musical. The production was outstanding, and our students had an exceptional learning experience. Over 65 students were part of the cast and crew. It was excellent to see our school community come together for such an exciting event.

### Hume Conservatorium of Music

In Term 3, we commenced private and group tuition for students who want to learn a musical instrument from industry professionals who are still actively performing. Currently, we have 25 students enrolled in the program and will shortly be offering another round of places. Students with all abilities can join the program in singing, guitar, piano, and drums. You may wish to contact our Head Teacher of CAPA, Ms Karakasch, for further information.

#### **Annesley Portrait Exhibition**

Our Year 11 photography class has been working with our neigbouring retirement village to build a photography exhibition. Students have spent time with the residents and getting to know their stories. The class has then captured their stories in a series of portaits which will make up the exhibition with the photographer and resident sharing the stories behind the portraits. The protraits will be gifted to the residents and their families by students. This project lead by Ms Billington has been such a wonderful and meaningful learning opportunities for all.

#### **School Sport**

In Term 1 we took on student feedback and reshaped the way we offer sport at Bowral High School. After a successful two terms and an ever growing number of sport offering we are pleased to announce that we will be continuing with this approach. We would like to thank all the students and their families for their support as we strive to create exceptional learning experiences.

Mrs Christine Roberts

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# Key Term 3 Dates

- Year 12 ELEVATE study skills program- Monday, 29 July.
- NESA Check-in assessments in stage 4 classes.
- Year 12 Trial HSC Exams- Monday 12 August- Tuesday 20 August
- Science Week Wednesday 21 August- Friday 23 August
- Year 12 Graduation Evening- Tuesday 24 September
- Year 12 Formal- Wednesday 25 September
- Year 12 Jamberoo excursion- Thursday, 26 September
- PBS Day- Year 12 Final Roll Call- Friday 27 September