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Our year got off to a great start with senior students and staff participating in an amazing trip to New Delhi in India to set up a sister school with G. D. Goenka Public School in Ghaziabad. We also had an influx of students pushing our enrolments from 67 to almost 90 and to top it all off we came back to school to see that the secondary school buildings had been reclad giving the school a much needed face lift.

Throughout the year we have continued our emphasis on high quality literacy and numeracy education. The NAPLAN results that have come back this year have shown good growth by almost all students. I believe that our CAFÉ literacy, Spelling Mastery and now 7 Steps to Writing Success programs are really meeting the needs of our students.

The school camps to Halls Gap (grade 1/2/3) Sovereign Hill (Grade 4/5) Canberra (Year 6/7) and Sydney (Year 8 to 12) have been a real highlight for students this year and the Prep Sleep Over is always one of my favourites.

Keeping our students fit and active has been another important part of our program and this year our whole school P-12 swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals have really been successful. We have also had a number of students progressing to district and regional levels. The Dental Van, Pet Education, Life Ed, Keys Please and Party Safe are just some of the other programs that we have delivered this year to support our students overall wellbeing.

The primary and secondary school plays, music concerts, a visit from the MikMaks and a whole school excursion to see the Mortlake College CATS production has ensured that our students continue to have access to many Arts and Cultural experience.

The College and the community have continued to work together to support local students and families with a wide range of activities including, Milo Cricket, AusKick, Futsal, Working Bees, Mother’s day and Father’s day activities, ANZAC services, welcome BBQ, Pink Stumps day, secondary school information nights, Gnurad Gundidj Leadership programs, Library visits, and many more. In a partnership with local government, community members and College an In Venue Family Day Care facility has been established at the College and we are looking forward to offering this much needed child care service next year.

“During the course of the year the College undertook an extensive self-evaluation process a College Review was conducted by Pam Toose who spent four days at our school speaking with students, teachers and parents about how they perceived the school. As a result of these two processes a new Strategic plan for 2016-2019 has been established and we are currently finalising a new vision and set of values for the College that will guide us over the coming years.

It is an exciting time for the College and I would like to thank all the staff, students and parents of the College for a fantastic year.

George Porter
Principal
Junior School Captain’s Report

2015 has been a wonderful year. We have had a lot of new students come to our school and we hope they have had a good experience at Lake Bolac College so far.

We have both looked back over our year and reflected on what we have enjoyed about being school captain and why we would recommend it to others.

Hollie – I recommend running for school captain because it is fun to take on another role. It is more enjoyable knowing you’re going to come to school and you’re a big part of the primary school. It has helped me with my public speaking confidence. I now feel more relaxed standing in front of an audience of people and talking. Also taking on the role of school captain involves doing community services, taking part in the ANZAC ceremony and interacting with people from the community. I have really enjoyed my experience of taking on a role at the school. I hope you run for school captain in the future. I would like to run for senior school captain in the future because of my enjoyable experience as junior school captain.

Wiremu – I recommend people to go for school captain because it builds your public speaking confidence. I have enjoyed the responsibility of being school captain because at morning assemblies we get to help run them, as well as taking ‘Huff and Puff’ on Wednesday mornings. I believe that being a school captain has made me more responsible and more mature. I don’t know how, it has just happened. It was a good decision to become school captain and I hope to become senior school captain in the future.

We hope everyone has had a good year, as we have, and we hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Good luck to all students in 2016.

Student Leaders – 2015

Back Row: Alicia Hall, Chloe Hall, Amy McIntyre, Brandon Richards, Wiremu Faithfull, Jasmine Clark, Melanie Evans, Sarah Thewlis
Middle Row: George Porter (Principal), Cameron Craddock, Bailey Townsend, Casey Potter, Patrick Graham, Hollie Phillips, William Pedersen, Dylan Turpin, Korey Reisenberg
Front Row: Brydy Atkinson, Eboni Hucker, Pania Potatau-Wright, BJ McIlvena, Oliver Neumann, Annika McArthur, Jasie Craddock, Rachael Loader
2015 has been a big year for the college. We said hello and goodbye to teachers and welcomed 20 new students expanding our numbers further. We saw all our new students find their place in the school community, each contributing differently. We hope they have felt welcomed and happy in our environment.

From beginning to end we watched our students achieve outstanding results in academics and sports, including a handful of students taking us to state.

The school has worked hard this year to improve its grounds and facilities by making the community garden which the year 9’s have worked very hard on, cutting down the cypress trees and cleaning up the gardens, and the renovations of the old student centre to make room for the up and coming day care.

The two school productions this year performed by the primary and secondary groups, Pan the Man and The Curious Case of Mr Blackie, were a great success and they even got us photos and a write up in our local newspaper.

The school has had a range of camps this year that took the students interstate including Canberra, Sydney and of course India. The year 11 and 12 India trip was an amazing experience where we made memories we will never forget. All the fundraising and hard work put in helped us to make it the best trip possible. Thank you to all those who supported us and put in their time and effort.

This year the college was home to the smallest group of VCE year 12 students sitting exams (all 2 of us, yay!) as a result Sarah and myself were featured in an article in the Herald Sun which we hope will bring more attention to the college.

Overall it has been a fantastic year for the College. We hope everyone has a safe and fun filled holiday, and we wish everyone luck for 2016.

Casey Potter and Sarah Thewlis
College Captains
When we reflect on 2015 and the year that is has been, many words come to mind; busy, enjoyable, wonderful, successful just to name a few. It is hard to believe that it is coming to an end, which definitely supports our motto of ‘time flies when you are having fun’.

Sometimes we all get stuck in our own busy whirlwind that we forget to step back for a moment and take in everything around us. Next time, when you have a moment, take the time to step back and look around our beautiful school and all of the wonderful facilities our students and teachers have and the wonderful work they are doing. Playgrounds, basketball courts, spacious ovals, gymnasium, undercover areas, and just beyond our boundary; tennis courts, netball courts, lake, football oval, and a swimming pool just to name a few. We are a very lucky small rural school that has all of the facilities and opportunities of big city schools!

Our school would also not be what it is today without the tiresome work from our spectacular parents, friends and wider community. From our updated junior school kitchen through to our gardens and everything in between, your efforts are greatly appreciated by all. Your donations and generosity also does not go unnoticed. Thank you.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the students on their individual and group achievements this year, both inside the classroom and out. Everyone has had a moment this year where they have achieved greater than they would have expected and tried their hardest to push themselves. This may have been at our school sporting events, in NAPLAN, exams, classwork, or even at local events such as the Mosaic to Mountain fun run. Keep expecting more from yourselves as only great things will happen!

Brooke Richardson
Junior Campus Manager

Jamie Ferguson
Senior Campus Manager

“Keep expecting more from yourselves as only great things will happen!”
The Amazing Race
The Mik Maks Concert
Mothers Day Lunch
Mothers Day Lunch
Life Education Van
Book Character Parade
Book Character Parade
Fathers Day Lunch
Fathers Day Lunch
Gnurad Gundidj Excursion

On Tuesday 1st September we went to Glenormiston for the day and we went to the school for Student Leadership.

We went on our school bus and it took nearly one hour. When we got there we met our buddies and they showed us around the school. They live at the school for about a term.

We had a healthy muffin for morning tea and then we started the activities with our buddies. Some of the activities were trust games, aboriginal face painting, making a model of the earth’s layers with play dough, painting a boomerang, watching a model volcano erupt and learning about Australian animals.

We had a barbeque for lunch and then we played games outside like octopus and scarecrow and chain tiggy. We all thought it was an awesome day.

2/3 class
Brandon Richards – Harris Accident Repair Centre
For my week of work experience I worked at Harris Accident Repair Centre in Ararat. During the week I achieved many tasks like dissembling and assembling cars which included: taking off side skirts and bonnets and front bumpers. I also took out a radiator and put on a new back bumper for a 2013 Ford Ranger.
I also helped Josh find colour codes for cars, and help him make the colour so he could spray the panel he had to paint. I had a great time working for Skinner Harris, I learnt a lot, and got along with everyone.

Will Pedersen – Danny Green Painting, Decorating & Handyman
On my week of Work Experience, I was painting with Danny Green Painting, Decorating and Handyman in Geelong. I was mainly making plaster and I was up a scaffold cleaning and then painting windows. I learnt how to make plaster and on Friday I was helping Danny put Acratex on columns so that he could paint them. I thought my week of Work Experience painting was fun and it was interesting learning new things.

Bailey Townsend – Craig McNab Painting and Decorating
On my work experience I did painting with a family friend at Ballarat. Over the week I did plastering, sanding and painting. We worked at a couple of houses around Ballarat and on a fence at Coles and Hungry Jacks at Bakery Hill in Ballarat. I learnt that painting is a good job and it would be a good career choice. The best part was painting at the Coles car park and working with good people.

Pania Potatau-Wright – Halls Gap Zoo
Wow! Who would have thought cleaning up poo would be more fun than school? Well I did!
Last week I did work experience at the Halls Gap Zoo. I had three buddies; Ellie, Craig and Tracey. The main things I had to do involved cleaning the enclosures and feeding the animals. I didn’t mind cleaning up the poo, because it felt like you were getting somewhere.
I got to hand feed a lot of the animals, which I really liked. My favourite animal at the zoo was the common marmoset. They are really little and can be very funny. My least favourite animal was the deer. They can be annoying, especially when they follow you around and steal the food for the other animals off the trolley.
From this work experience I got some good feedback from the staff. They said I was a good worker and I was welcome to come back. Hopefully I will do work experience there again one day. I really enjoyed my time at the Halls Gap Zoo.

Paige Lagerwey-Allen – Lake Bolac College Library
Who knew working in a library could be so loud and eventful?
I spent my work experience in the school library, helping out with a variety of things. I wasn’t expecting all the different jobs I had to do, including drawing a backdrop and converting a scary looking bear into a little less scary looking red panda. Of course I also did book related things, like borrowing and returning books, putting them on the shelves, and trying to make everything as alphabetically in order as possible. I also learnt how surprisingly relaxing covering books can be.
Overall, I had a fun time and if I had to pick a highlight, it would definitely be the free cups of tea I got.
ANZAC Day
Grade Prep

Back Row:  Maggie May Minie, Bella Wardlaw, Kristie Newnham (Teacher), George Porter (Principal), Lucy Calvert, Maggie Atkinson
Bella Wardlaw: When I grow up I want to be a nurse because I want to help the people.

Maggie May Minie: When I grow up I want to be an artist because I like art.

Fergus Giles: When I grow up I want to be a bat man because I want to save the world.

Lucy Calvert: When I grow up I want to be a teacher because I just want to be a teacher because I make people criss cross (cross their legs) and help kids.

Wyatt Jackson: When I grow up I want to be Iron Man because I want to save the world.
Grade Prep

Parker Hamilton: When I grow up I want to be a zoo keeper because I want to see the animals.

Jack Loader: When I grow up I want to be a farmer because I like shearing sheep.

Maggie Atkinson: When I grow up I want to be a nurse because I want to help people.

Logan Atkinson: When I grow up I want to be a brick layer so I can build a house.

Lea Phillips: When I grow up I want to be a nurse because I want to be a helper.

Oh the places this Prep Class will go!
Grade Prep Sleepover
Grade Prep Sleepover
Grade 1

Back Row: Cooper Keilar, Sophie Read, Sophie Calvert, Margot Bourchier (Teacher), Jenny Wilkinson (Teacher), Ciahna Ratima, Lily Geddes, Ben Stacy

Front Row: Chloe Kinley, Chelsea Jose, Braden Veale, Lily Giles, Sam Leishman, Jessica Davis, Jazzy McIlvena
Gabby Anderson: My favourite fairy tale is ‘The Little Mermaid’ because she makes friends.

Sophie Calvert: My favourite fairy tale is ‘Sleeping Beauty’ because she comes back to life.

Jessica Davis: My favourite fairy tale is ‘Peter Pan’ because he was in our play.

Lily Geddes: My favourite fairy tale is ‘Cinderella’. I like it because when Cinderella goes to the ball, she is wearing a very pretty dress and I like when they dance.

Lily Giles: My favourite fairy tale is ‘The Twelve Princesses’ because I didn’t know the story and I like dancing.

Chelsea Jose: My favourite fairy tale is ‘Rapunzel’ because she has long hair.

Cooper Keilar: I like ‘Pinocchio’ because we read ‘Don’t Pick Your Nose Pinocchio’ and it was funny.

Chloe Kinley: My favourite fairy tale is ‘Hansel and Gretel’ because they put the witch in the oven.

Sam Leishman: My favourite fairy tale is ‘Peter Pan’ because he always wins against Captain Hook and he pushes him into the water.

Jazmyn McIlvena: I like ‘Puss in Boots’ because it is about cats.

Sophie Read: I like ‘The Little Mermaid’ because mermaids have tails and I wish that I was a mermaid under the sea.

Benjamin Stacy: I like ‘Peter Pan’ because he can fly and he fights against Captain Hook.

Braden Veale: I liked the Wolf and ‘The Seven Little Kids’ because a wolf ate the kids (goats).
**Grade 1/2/3 Halls Gap Camp**

**Benjamin Stacy:** I went on school camp. We went to the zoo and I saw a bison and I patted a snake.

**Sophie Read:** It was fun when we went to Halls Gap. We played and we played activities as Tasman and Flinders. We did archery and low ropes. We had two trampolines to play on.

**Chloe Kinley:** At camp I went to the zoo. I patted a dingo and saw a crocodile. I had a snake put around my neck.

**Braden Veale:** I went on the low ropes. The ropes were tricky obstacles that we had to cross.

**Lily Geddes:** On camp we got to go to the Halls Gap Zoo. I saw a cheetah. At Halls Gap Zoo we got to feed the wallabies. We said hello to the talking bird. It said hello back. I loved it. I loved the camp too.

**Sam Leishman:** At camp it was fun. We had a disco. I was going crazy at the disco.

**Cooper Keilar:** On camp we went to the zoo. I liked the Tasmanian devil.

**Jessica Davis:** I saw a deer at the zoo. It was eating.

**Lily Giles:** On camp we went to the Halls Gap Zoo. My favourite animal was the cheetah. In the shop I found a cheetah but I didn’t have enough money for it so I found a snow leopard. It was cute. I named it Snowy. Lily Geddes got one too, she named it Charlie.

**Sophie Calvert:** On camp we had a disco. There was a stage and I danced the whole time.

**Charlie Leishman:** In April we went on a camp. We did archery and went on a climbing wall and a low ropes course. We also went to the Halls Gap Zoo and saw lots of animals.

**Annabelle Walker:** At the camp I liked the low ropes course and the balancing plank. I liked going to the ice cream shop and the lolly shop. We also went to the Halls Gap Zoo and Venus Baths.

**Eboney Atkinson:** My favourite things on the camp were archery and going to the Halls Gap Zoo. I liked the obstacle course and dancing at the disco too. We also went to Venus Baths and we tasted the water. It was so fresh. The camp was really fun.

**Emma Vallance:** Our class went to Halls Gap for our camp. My favourite thing was going to the Halls Gap Zoo and we were able to hold a snake. We went to the lolly shop and to Venus Baths. We also went on a low ropes course and we had a disco.

**Robert Read:** The best things on camp were when I fell in the water, when we did archery and the disco. I liked it when I ate some lollies with Lachlan, Ruairi and Sam. I liked the ice cream with a smiley face on it. I liked the zoo because it had snakes and cheetahs.

**Brodie Phillips:** On our camp we did archery, we went on a climbing wall, we had a disco and we went to Venus Baths and the Halls Gap Zoo. My favourite thing was Venus Baths because we got to climb the rocks and go anywhere we wanted to go.

**Sean Deutsch:** The best part of the camp was the big walk in the bush and the ice cream. At the Halls Gap Zoo I saw two Tasmanian Devils, parrots, monkeys and kangaroos.

**Kayley Phillips:** On our camp we went to the lolly shop and to the Halls Gap Zoo. We did team building activities and we went on a night walk and had a disco. We even got chips and an ice cream. We had so much fun!

**Riley Keilar:** In April we went to Halls Gap for our camp. My favourite part was seeing a ten foot kangaroo. It jumped a metre high fence.

**Mita Ratana:** At camp my favourite thing was archery and I nearly popped the balloon. I liked the obstacle course too. I also liked it when we went to the Halls Gap Zoo because we got to hold a snake.

**Rachael Loader:** I liked the walk to Venus Baths and going to the Halls Gap Zoo. At the zoo I liked the cheetahs, meerkats, red panda, monkeys, Tasmanian devil, peacocks, buffalo, giraffes, Jane the pet snake, koalas, pigs and bilbies. I got to feed one white kangaroo. I also liked the ice cream that I had with a smiley face on it.

**Oliver Neumann:** On the camp we did archery and lots of other activities. We went for a walk to Venus Baths and we went the Halls Gap Zoo. We also had a disco. My favourite thing was archery.

**Joanna Coutts:** I liked the walk to Venus Baths and going to the Halls Gap Zoo. I liked the cheetahs at the zoo. We did archery and the low ropes course. We had ice cream and chips. We also had a disco.

**Ruairi Hayward:** The best things on camp were eating an icecream from the icecream shop and going to the Halls Gap Zoo. It was fun holding the snake at the zoo.

**Lachlan Veale:** My best thing on camp was the climbing wall and the obstacle course. I fell off the climbing wall twice. I also liked archery. You had to hit the balloons to win a prize. Robert was the only one who hit the balloons.

**Sam Davis:** At camp we went to a lolly shop and we went to the Halls Gap Zoo. We also did archery and trust exercises on the tyres.

**Dervla Hayward:** My favourite thing on camp was the disco. We went to the Halls Gap Zoo and I liked the monkeys the best. We went for a night walk too.

**Tom Kinley:** I liked the Halls Gap Zoo the best and I really liked the cheetahs. We went to the ice cream shop and I got a bubble gum ice cream. It was yummy.

**Ben Vallance:** At camp Riley and I found a kangaroo that was ten feet tall. It bounced over a really high fence.
Grade 1/2/3 Halls Gap Camp
Back Row: Edward Hargreaves (Teacher), Rachael Loader, Brodie Phillips, Charlie Leishman, Sam Davis, Sean Deutsch, Dervla Hayward
Middle Row: Emma Vallance, Ruairi Hayward, Benjamin Vallance, Lachlan Veale, Tamihana Ratima, Robert Read, Annabelle Walker
Front Row: Nikita Steer, Ebony Atkinson, Riley Keilar, Oliver Neumann, Tom Kinley, Joanna Coutts, Kayley Phillips
Absent: Mita Ratana
These are a few of our favourite things…

Dervla likes to roller skate because she can go fast and it is fun.

Ben likes to look for lizards because there are lots of holes near his woolshed to find lizards. He likes to look after the lizards.

Riley likes to play in his tree house because it is being upgraded and it has a seat, a table and a garden arch. It also has a flag with a skull and cross bone.

Nikita likes to ride her bike because it is fun, it is easy and she can do it when she likes.

Tom likes to run because he can do it whenever he wants and it is very good exercise and lots of fun.

Joanna likes to ride her horse because she can go fast when the horse canters and slow when the horse trots. She wears a helmet when she rides.

Emma likes to sew with a sewing machine because she likes sewing and she can do it when she wants to.

Oliver likes to ride on the quad bike when his dad is fencing and he helps to put out the fencing wire.

Brodie likes to play football because he can get muddy and it is lots of fun.

Mita likes to help with shearing because he can shift sheep and put them in the pens.

Kayley likes to do pony carting because it is fun sitting in the cart. Sometimes the pony likes to go fast.

Eboney likes to do Art because she likes to be creative and instead of throwing things out she likes to recycle them. She has made a kingdom out of cardboard.

Annabelle likes to dance because she gets to tap dance on a special floor.

Charlie likes to play football because it is fun and there is lots of tackling, running and kicking that is good for your legs.

Sam likes to climb trees because it is awesome fun when he climbs up high.

Robert likes knee boarding behind the ski boat because he gets to spray water at other people when he turns.

Lachlan likes to water ski because he likes the wind in his face and he feels good about being able to get up on one ski.

Rachael likes to draw and paint and make things because it is fun. She likes doing Art at school.

Ruairi likes to use his iPad because it has games on it and he can use Wi-Fi. He likes to watch videos and his favourite game is Minecraft.

Sean likes to ride his bike because he can go fast and he can do jumps on his bike.
Grade 4/5

Back Row: Logan Walker, Daemon Ratima, Madaline Phillips, Brooke Richardson (Teacher), Chontaye Ratima, Marcus Graham, Issabella Neumann
Front Row: Brydy Atkinson, Dougal Doery, BJ Mclvena, Hugh Geddes, Aaron Wood, Charlotte Coutts
When Grade 4/5 combine their powers... anything is possible!!

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<td>Mathematician</td>
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BJ McIlvena: Pantomime? What does it even mean I said to myself. As we got comfortable in the red chairs, everyone started talking. The lights slowly started going down, then the curtains opened. When it started I knew it would be funny just by what the actors were wearing, and I wasn’t wrong. After we left the theatre, everyone knew what pantomime meant, a comedy play. Sovereign Hill was a great experience and everyone enjoyed it.

Logan Walker: As soon as we walked off the bus I knew it was going to be a fun camp. We walked into our rooms and set up our beds and then went for an explore. I went to the ten-pin bowling first. There was a bit of a line but then it was finally my go. Ten-pin bowling was the best part of the camp. I am sure every class that goes to Sovereign Hill for camp in the future will love it as much as we did.

Isabella Neumann: As soon as we walked down the hill towards the bowling alley, I knew that camp was going to be great. It was cold and wet but that didn’t stop us from exploring Sovereign Hill. As we separated, I headed down to the gold pans. When I first started I had no idea how to pan, but it was just luck that Mr Porter was there to show me. Camp was the most mid blowing experience ever. I think that it is safe to say that before we went to Sovereign Hill we did not know much about it, but now we know much more.

Brydy Atkinson: As soon as we got to the top of the hill at Sovereign Hill I knew we were going to have a great time. We did a lot of things. My favourite was sewing. We walked up the stairs of the old, little house. The two ladies were very kind. We all enjoyed it. It was a great camp.

Marcus Graham: We got comfy in the chairs to watch the pantomime. The curtains opened. The people told us we were going to watch Romeo and Juliet first. Romeo and Juliet was funnier than I thought it was going to be. Everyone was laughing through the show. The second show was even funnier. When we left everyone was saying quotes from the show and we still remember them today. Sovereign Hill was a great experience for the Year 4/5s.

Hugh Geddes: We sat down and the curtain went up, a man was standing there. He started talking to us and said ‘We are doing Romeo and Juliet, the wrestling match’. From that moment I knew it was going to be very funny pantomime. Sovereign Hill was awesome.

Dougal Doery: Blood on the Southern Cross sounded gruesome; none of us knew what it would be about. When we sat down we were dying to know what was going to happen. As we hopped on to the special road tram, we didn’t know what was in the darkness beyond. I thought the show was really exciting, especially when the canon went off. That’s just one of the cool things we did at Sovereign Hill. I thought the show was really exciting and everybody enjoyed it too.

Charlotte Coutts: It was hard calling our teacher Ma’am (Mum) at first, but we got used to it. We walked up the road to the school that was small but it still fitted our class in. We spent two days going to school and everyday of it was fun. Each day after lunch we learnt trades; the girls did sewing and the boys did candle making and helped make cart spokes. I believe Sovereign Hill was a great experience because it taught us more about what people did hundreds of years ago.

Madaline Phillips: As we all jumped onto the wet road train I knew I was going to love Blood on the Southern Cross. Once we stopped, we all walked into a room and sat down. Then two big doors opened. I thought there was going to be a big screen, but it turned out to be something completely different. I heard a loud bang as the cold wind filled the room. We could see outside, it was that dark you could only just see the ground. All of a sudden a tent lit up and you could hear talking. I couldn’t wait to watch the rest of the show. Sovereign Hill was the best camp I have gone on so far at school.

Aaron Wood: (Aaron did not attend the school camp, so he wrote about something else he enjoyed since being here.) As we pulled up at the Willaura Football oval I saw all the equipment set up. I knew it was going to be a great day. I came 1st in discus, 2nd in the 600 metres and high jump, 3rd in shotput, sprints and long jump. Everyone was tired at the end of the day. After my first experience at Lake Bolac interschool sports I can’t wait until next year.
Grade 4/5 Sovereign Hill Camp
Back Row: Rebecca Blackburn (Teacher), Madison McIlvena, Wiremu Faithfull, Nataliya Marsden, Hollie Phillips, Taupiri Ratima, Bonnie Steer, Giselle Allgood (Teacher)
Front Row: Jasie Craddock, Korey Reisenberg, Alicia Hall, Maia Ratana, Annika McArthur, Ethan Wood, Eboni Hucker
Absent: Ben Steer
My Secret To Surviving School
Year 6/7 Canberra Camp

On Monday 16th November the Year 6/7’s, Mr Ferguson and Mrs Blackburn departed Lake Bolac for a week long camp in Canberra. The camp was full of interesting activities and everyone had an enjoyable time learning about our Nation’s Capital.

Activities included:

- Glenrowan Tourist Centre for the “Ned Kelly Show” where we followed the exact footsteps of Ned Kelly at the location of the actual shootout with the police.
- National Museum, where we enjoyed a self-guided tour and had the opportunity to experience a fresh and exciting approach to Australia’s history, cultures and environment.
- The Royal Australian Mint, where every single Australian coin in the pockets of millions of Australians is made. Here we received a theatrette presentation, a guided tour of the National Coin Collection and the factory from the observation windows, as well as the opportunity to make our own coin.
- Australian War Memorial, which contains the Hall of Memory, Roll of Honour, Aeroplane Hall and an absorbing War Museum. Relics of Australia’s involvement in conflicts since 1885 portray Australian men and women at war from Gallipoli to Vietnam.
- Telstra Tower night lights tour on Black Mountain.
- Lake Burley Griffin 1 hour Sightseeing Cruise.
- Cockington Green Gardens, a miniature English Village. Here we took a self-guided walk through the grounds as well as a short train ride.
- High Court of Australia, the pinnacle of the Australian judicial system. Attendants on hand explained the features of the building and took us on a 45 minute tour of the public hall and courtrooms.
- Australian Institute of Sport, which provides sports training and competition facilities of a world standard. Here we had a 90 minute tour guided by an athlete, for an insider’s look at Australia’s premier sporting precinct.
- Parliament House on Capital Hill. Here we participated in an education program and enjoyed a guided tour.
- Big Splash Water Park for a swim and slide afternoon.
Back Row: Jamie Ferguson (Teacher), Dylan Turpin, Cameron Craddock, Brandon Richards, Casey Potter, William Pedersen, Bailey Townsend, George Porter (Principal)
Front Row: Sarah Thewlis, Melanie Evans, Jasmine Clark, Patrick Graham, Chloe Hall, Amy McIntyre, Pania Potatau-Wright
Absent: Harry Grist Kroon
Damn! The bull charged at the ute again. “Dan, stop the bull” screamed Kayden. I know we should have shot him. It was a wild bull from the next door neighbours place and had been stuck in the fence. That’s just another fence we need to fix. At this rate we’ll get nothing done.

Amy McIntyre

When I felt he was close I got nervous. Not because I was scared, but rather because it was a feeling that wouldn’t go away. When I got home I told my Mum and Dad that I felt like someone was watching me and they didn’t seem at all surprised. They let me know that I was at the age where people would try and find me and hurt me because of what I was now. The trouble was, I didn’t know what I was.

Jasmine Clark

It was pitch black. Suddenly I could see a lot of little lights on the roof of the cave. I turned my torch on and they all disappeared. Confused, I turned it off again and they all came back. They must have been glow worms.

Pania Potatau-Wright

The forest is a dangerous place to be lost. You have no idea what awaits inside.

7 hours earlier:

Me and my friends were on our way to the campsite. There was a legend about the forest name, ‘Backside’. It’s called that because on side of the forest is pitch black. The legend says that the forest was hunted by creatures from our nightmares.

Dylan Turpin

Hello, my names Alfred. I’m a wizard and a scientist. Well, I don’t have a certificate to state that I really am. You see, I really like animals. All sorts of animals. From big to small, smelly and non-smelly. This one day when I was mixing up potions something went horribly wrong.

Cameron Craddock

Oh no. I’ve lost the key and my parents won’t be home for three more days. All the windows of our house are child proof and the doors are jammed. Now I’m stuck inside for three days, with only enough food for two. Thud, there is a loud noise upstairs. I start walking up the stairs and then I hear it again.

Jack Hucker

“You can survive and not survive at the same time” were the wise words of Megan Stack in her memoir Every Man in This Village is a Liar. Her writing demonstrated the tough times and struggles of conflict that she experienced centred around the war in the Middle East. She talked of being torn from reality and divided from her home. She took on this whole other different life. We see how Stack is both divided and strengthened by her experiences of conflict, but that’s not to say that there wasn’t some long lasting damage along the way.

Sarah Thewlis

“In times of conflict, people are forced to make crucial decisions”. This sentence hides many questions. What people is it referring to? What kinds of decisions are we forced to make? What does it mean by crucial? There are many people that can be forced by conflict to make crucial decisions, each type of person will have their own decisions to make. Whilst the rich make decisions about homes and looks, the poor might be making decisions about food and how to survive.

Patrick Graham

“The future depends on what you do today” - Gandhi. In times of conflict the crucial decision we are forced to make determine our future. When making important life choices, we must consider both the outcome we desire and the outcome we want most to avoid. The way we react to conflict can be the difference between peace and war. One bad choice can change everything. Forever.

Casey Potter
As almost everyone will know, seven of the staff and students travelled to India over the 2014/2015 summer break. I’m sure we can speak on behalf of everyone when we say it was an incredible trip. We stayed with host families that had students our age so we got to go to school with them and experience what Indian school life is like. The school was amazing and it was interesting to see how everything worked and all the staff and students were very welcoming.

Some of the highlights of the trip were the Taj Mahal, the Akshardham Temple, which is made out of thousands of sculptures, the food (there was plenty of it!!!), riding camels and the driving. Some of you may not know, but the road rules in India are very different from back in Australia. When we say different we mean more that they don’t really have many rules at all, they don’t stay in one lane, they don’t use indicators (honking is their main way of letting people know where they are when on the road), and on one occasion we even drove on the wrong side of a highway in a bus while making a U turn! We saw some amazing sights in Jaipur, where we stayed in a beautiful hotel for two nights, we got the chance to do a bit of shopping and bring back mementos and presents for family and friends. The people we met were incredible and every single one of them made us feel welcome. We saw some incredible things, both good and bad, and it’s a trip that we will never forget.

Casey Potter and Sarah Thewlis
Technology
2015 was another busy year for our musicians. About 40% of school students are learning an instrument or singing in a group. Ms Cheesman has coached several capable piano students, while Mr Avery has many more young drummers this year, inspired by the talented Cameron Craddock in year 9. The junior musical production Pan the Man kept our students busy in term 3. Meanwhile we hosted school concerts in May and November, and our musicians and singers performed for Willaura Primary School.
Library
Sport - Swimming

Whole School Interhouse Swimming
Friday 27th February, Lake Bolac.

Junior Campus
 Aggregate Award
1. Tasman  234
2. Flinders  218

Senior Campus
 Aggregate Award  Swimming Participation
1. Tasman  190  1. Tasman and Flinders
(100% participation)
2. Flinders  137

Age Group Champions - Girls
16 years  Pania Potatau-Wright (T)  33 points
20 years  Chloe Hall (T)  21 points

Age Group Champions - Boys
14 years  Dylan Turpin  (T)  35 points
16 years  Patrick Graham (T)  35 points

New Records
Girls 20yrs 50m Freestyle - Chloe Hall (T) 39.57sec

Junior Black Ranges & Little Desert Swimming
Tuesday 24th February, Horsham Aquatic Centre.

Hollie Phillips  2nd G 11 50m Backstroke
(1st in Black Ranges section)
2nd G 11 50m Freestyle
(1st in Black Ranges section)

Bonnie Steer  17th G 12-13 50m Backstroke
39th G 12-13 50m Freestyle

Madison McIlvena  18th G 12-13 50m Breaststroke
23rd G 12-13 50m Freestyle

Wiremu Faithful  5th B 12-13 50m Breaststroke
19th B 12-13 50m Freestyle

Jasmine Craddock  29th G 11 50m Breaststroke

Hollie Phillips, Georgia Richardson (Maroona), Tara Charlesworth (Ararat North) and Georgiana Gray (Willaura)
5th G 11 4x50m Relay

Madison McIlvena, Grace Astbury (Maroona), Sophie Joyce and Scarlett Burmeister (Willaura)
5th G 12-13 4x50m Relay

Hollie Phillips, Georgia Richardson (Maroona), Sophie Gray and Sophie Joyce (Willaura)
10th G Open 4x50m Relay

Senior Interschool Swimming
Wednesday 25th February, Beaufort.

Aggregate  Handicap
1. Beaufort  240  1. Lake Bolac  647
2. Hawkesdale  197  2. Derrinallum  220
3. Mortlake  188  3. Mortlake  198
4. Lake Bolac  97  4. Hawkesdale  145
5. Derrinallum  44  5. Beaufort  135

Age Group Champion
Hollie Phillips  G 13 12 Points

Junior Greater Western Region Swimming
Friday 13th March, Eureka Aquatic Centre Ballarat.

In our region there are 203 Primary Schools so the competition is fantastic with many highly talented individuals to compete against. We had Hollie Phillips competing in 3 events which in itself is a wonderful achievement.

Hollie Phillips  8th G 11 50m Backstroke
9th G 11 50m Freestyle

Hollie Phillips, Sophie Joyce and Scarlett Burmeister (Willaura) and Grace Astbury (Maroona)
8th G 12-13 4x50m relay

Senior Greater Western Region Swimming
Wednesday 25th March, Warrnambool Aquatic Centre.

In our region there are 48 Secondary Schools so the competition is fantastic with many highly talented individuals to compete against.

We had Sarah Thewlis, Pania Potatau-Wright, Chloe Hall and Jasmine Clark competing in Girls 18-20 years 4x50m Freestyle relay. They finished 3rd in a time of 2:41.60 mins. This was an absolutely superb effort and it was great to see their combined happiness when they received their ribbons.

Melanie Evans was the unfortunate student who completed all the training but in the trial for the final relay selection just missed out on fourth place. The grace and dignity with which she took this outcome was typical of the high quality person that she is.
Sport - Swimming
Whole School Interhouse Athletics
Friday 17th April, Lake Bolac.

Junior Campus
Aggregate Award
1. Flinders 490
2. Tasman 451

Senior Campus
 Aggregate Award
1. Tasman 270
2. Flinders 118

Age Group Champions - Girls
16 years  Pania Potatau-Wright (T)  52 points
20 years  Casey Potter  (T)  50 points

Age Group Champions - Boys
14 years  Dylan Turpin (T)  45 points
16 years  Will Pedersen  (T)  45 points

Junior Lake Bolac & District Athletic Sports
Friday 1st May, Willaura.

It was a terrific day with all students performing very well. The schools involved were Willaura, Maroona, Ararat North, Buangor and us. Maroona won the overall aggregate with Lake Bolac finishing third.

We had four age group champions and they were:

Boys 6 years Ben Stacey
Boys 8 years Brodie Phillips
Boys 11 years Dougal Doery
Girls 10 years Madaline Phillips

Junior Black Ranges Athletics
Tuesday 1st September, North Park, Stawell.

Hollie Phillips  1st G 11 Shot Put, High Jump
Dougal Doery  5th B 11 1500m, 4th 11 Triple Jump
B.J McIlvena  4th B Discus, Shot Put
Annika McArthur  2nd G 12-13 4x100m Relay
(With Scarlett Burmeister, Grace Astbury and Georgia Richardson)
4th in heat of G 12-13 100m
Marcus Graham  5th B 11 High Jump
Isabella Neumann  3rd G 11 Discus
Madaline Phillips  1st G 10 Shot Put, High Jump

Senior Mid West Complex Interschool Athletics
Tuesday 28th April, Brauer College Athletics Track, Warrnambool.

Aggregate
1. Beaufort  605.5
2. Mortlake  487
3. Hawkesdale  439
4. Lake Bolac  228.5
5. Derrinallum  138

Handicap
1. Lake Bolac  1523
2. Mortlake  507
3. Derrinallum  418
4. Hawkesdale  378
5. Beaufort  350

Age Group Champions
Cameron Craddock  B 15 years

Congratulations to all our student competitors, many who have trained really hard at lunchtimes and in HAPE classes.

Win, lose or draw we expect our students to always give effort and perform at their own best level. We came 4th in the aggregate points tally and winning the handicap shield by so much was a terrific achievement.

Well done to Cam also for being age group champion.

Having the year six students participate was really important as it helped field competitors in many more events, including the relays. Well done Lake Bolac!

Thanks to Pat Graham for helping pick the Athletics side, the staff and parents for their support on the day and especially Pauline Graham for her camera work. All this extra effort really does help inspire our students.

Junior Greater Western Regions Athletics
Thursday 17th October, Llanberris Athletics Centre, Ballarat.

Hollie Phillips  3rd G 11 High Jump, 8th G 11 Shot Put
Madaline Phillips  1st G 10 Shot Put, 6th G 10 High Jump
Senior Greater Western Region Athletics  
Friday 9th October, Llanberris Athletics Centre, Ballarat.

Pat Graham 1st B 16 Javelin 39.14m
Will Pedersen 5th B 17 Triple Jump 11.12m
Brandon Richards 6th B 17 Javelin 25.98m
Cameron Craddock 4th B 15 400m 1:00.38min

These students have been training for nearly 5 months completing three lunchtime sessions per week. I could not be more proud of their attitude, effort, enthusiasm and achievements as they have all given up so much time to improve skill and fitness levels in their chosen events.

Junior State Athletic Finals  
Monday 26th October, Albert Park Athletics Centre, Melbourne.

Lake Bolac had Madaline Phillips participating in a single event. The result is as follows:

8th G 11 Shot Put 7.05 m (16 Competitors)

I am extremely proud of Madsy as she has trained with great effort, dedication and enthusiasm three lunchtimes a week for the past four months.

For anyone to make a State Final is an amazing achievement and Madsy is entitled to be thrilled with her performance. 

Well done Madsy!

Senior State Athletic Finals  
Friday 17th October, Albert Park Athletics Centre, Melbourne.

Lake Bolac had 1 student participating in a single event. The result is as follows:

Pat Graham 4th B 16 Javelin 41.67m
Pat was just 33cm of placing 3rd and 3.59m from 1st place so once again his performance has been outstanding

I am extremely proud of his attitude, effort, enthusiasm and long term commitment to self improvement as he has given up so much time and energy to be a state finalist.

Well done Pat!
Sport - Athletics
Whole School Interhouse Cross Country
Friday 22nd May, Lake Bolac.

Junior Campus

Aggregate Award
1. Tasman 198
2. Flinders 176

Age Group Champions - Girls
Prep-Year 1 (1km) Sophie Calvert (T)
Years 2-4 (2km) Madaline Phillips (T)
Years 5-6 (3km) Hollie Phillips (T)

Age Group Champions - Boys
Prep-Year 1 (1km) Braden Veale (T)
Years 2-4 (2km) Tom Kinley (T)
Years 5-6 (3km) Dougal Doery (F)

Senior Campus

Aggregate Award
1. Tasman 82
2. Flinders 118

Age Group Champions - Girls
16 years (3km) Pania Potatau-Wright (T) (1st overall girl)

Age Group Champions - Boys
14 years (3km) Korey Reisenberg (F)
16 years (3km) Will Pedersen (T) (1st overall boy)

Senior Interschool Cross Country (3km)
Wednesday 20th May, Lake Bolac.

Aggregate Handicap
1. Mortlake 442 1. Lake Bolac 1493
2. Beaufort 280 2. Mortlake 460
3. Lake Bolac 224 3. Derrinallum 224
5. Derrinallum 74 5. Beaufort 162

Age Group Champions
1st Patrick Graham B 17 years
2nd Chloe Hall G 17 years
3rd Hollie Phillips G 13 years
3rd Pania Potatau-Wright G 16 years

Junior Greater Western Region Cross Country
Friday 12th June, Warrnambool.

Lake Bolac P-12 College had Dougal Doery competing in the 11 years boys 3km event.

He placed 28th out of 52 competitors and performed extremely well. The top twelve place getters made it to the State Finals.

I am confident he can reach this standard in the future as he is a talented runner who trained diligently in HAPE and at lunchtimes.

Well done Dougal!
Sport - Cross Country
**Senior Interschool Triathlon**

Thursday 5th March, Lake Bolac.

There are four sections, junior boys & girls and senior section boys & girls, and we had teams in each section. The fastest team in each count as points to the overall team score. Results are as follows:

**Aggregate**

1. Hawkesdale
   - Junior Girls Time: 52.31
   - Junior Boys Time: 49.18
   - Senior Girls Time: 50.53
   - Senior Boys Time: 40.25
   - Total Time: 193.17 mins

2. Mortlake
   - Junior Girls Time: 53.50
   - Junior Boys Time: 44.34
   - Senior Girls Time: 51.04
   - Senior Boys Time: 43.53
   - Total Time: 193.21 mins

3. Beaufort
   - Junior Girls Time: 56.38
   - Junior Boys Time: 49.33
   - Senior Girls Time: 60.57
   - Senior Boys Time: 50.12
   - Total Time: 216.20 mins

4. Lake Bolac
   - Junior Girls Time: 61.42
   - Junior Boys Time: 53.29
   - Senior Girls Time: 67.07
   - Senior Boys Time: 51.55
   - Total Time: 234.13 mins

5. Derrinallum
   - Junior Girls Time: No Team
   - Junior Boys Time: 74.50
   - Senior Girls Time: No Team
   - Senior Boys Time: 57.11
   - Total Time: 132.01 mins

**Section Placings**

**Junior Girls**
- 4th 61.42 mins
  - Swim - Hollie Phillips
  - Bike - Amy McIntyre
  - Run - Annika McArthur

**Junior Boys**
- 6th 53.29 mins
  - Swim - Wiremu Faithfull
  - Bike - Cameron Caddock
  - Run - Marcus Graham

**Senior Girls**
- 6th 67.07 mins
  - Swim - Sarah Thewlis
  - Bike - Melanie Evans
  - Run - Pania Potatau-Wright

**Senior Boys**
- 7th 51.55 mins
  - Swim - Patrick Graham
  - Bike - William Pedersen
  - Run - Bailey Townsend

**Senior Football Netball**

Thursday 18th June, Mortlake.

Lake Bolac College combined with Derrinallum College in the football with a stand alone B grade netball side. Well done to all our students and their efforts in each game. Results are as follows:

**B Grade Netball Ladder**

- Beaufort 8 (200%)
- Mortlake 8 (150%)
- Lake Bolac/Derri 8 (97%)
- Hawkesdale 0 (69%)

Best Players - All the girls played well and Hollie Phillips was the sides MVP. Thanks to our coach Melanie Evans and to our umpire Pauline Graham for their support and tutelage.

**Overall Netball Ladder**

1. Mortlake 20
2. Beaufort 16
3. Lake Bolac/Derri 8
4. Hawkesdale 4

**Overall Football Ladder**

1. Hawkesdale 8 (437%)
2. Lake Bolac/Derri 8 (109%)
3. Beaufort 8 (68%)
4. Mortlake 0 (29%)

**Football Results**

- Lake Bolac/Derri 5-10-40 def Hawkesdale 5-4-34
- Lake Bolac/Derri 5-11-41 lost to Beaufort 8-10-58
- Lake Bolac/Derri 8-20-68 def Mortlake 7-3-45

Will and Harry both performed well and impressed me with the way they related to the Derrinallum boys.

Thanks to Derrinallum who supplied the coach, goal, boundary and field umpires.
On Friday the 5th of June I went with the Victorian representative squad for Ultimate Frisbee to Sydney to compete in the Australian Youth Ultimate Championships. We were called the Bandicoots.

The squad stayed at the Baden Powell Scout Centre which was, unfortunately, about an hour and a half train ride from the fields.

The first day of competition we competed against Queensland at 10:00am at Moore Park in Sydney. We won 11 to 5.

Next game was against our rivals WA at 11:30am, it was a very close game, came down to universal point. We won 8 to 7.

Our final game for that day was against ACT. It was a good match but unfortunately we lost 13 to 7.

On Sunday we started the day with a game against NSW. They defeated us 14 to 7. With that loss we still made it into the finals.

In the semi-finals we played against ACT again. We battled well and ended up with a victory.

We had made it into the grand final and we were up against NSW. We started well and had the lead early but NSW continued to push and they played well. They brought the scores back to even then took the lead, winning the grand final and taking gold.

We were very happy with second as that was the best result the Bandicoots has ever achieved.

We waited for the announcements and we were surprised when we won the spirit award. The spirit award is for the team that played with the best sportsmanship. This was very satisfying as we were the first ever Vic representative squad to win this award.

On Monday we went to Manly and had a small game on the beach and went for a swim. We then had to wake up at 3:00am the next morning to catch our flight that left at 7am. I enjoyed my AYUC experience and hopefully I will have a great one next year as well.

Pat Graham
Sport - Other
Pan the Man

Synopsis
Peter Pan has always been known as the boy who never grew up. Not anymore! The story never told is that once Peter finds love he starts to lose his boyhood. Pan the Man begins with an old Wendy and an old Captain Hook telling their respective nephews and nieces the story of Peter Pan. From there we flash back to the Pan story as it has never been told before. The story of the wrong Wendy being taken by Peter to be the mother to the orphans. The story of Peter and Wendy falling in love but with Peter unsure of what it all means. The story of jealousy by Tinkerbell and the story of the three greedy geologists whose plane is shot down by an errant orphan child’s arrow and who try to manipulate Hook against the Neverlanders in order to steal the enormous riches they find on the island.

Cast

On Neverland
Peter Pan             Marcus Graham
Wendy               Hollie Phillips
Tinkerbell            Alicia Hall
Crocodile            Wiremu Faithfull
Tiger Lily             Eboni Hucker
Nibs                  Maddy McIlvena
Tootles              Bonnie Steer
Amelia                Isabilla Neumann
Lost Children
Jessica Davis, Lily Geddes, Chelsea Jose, Cooper Keilar, Chloe Kinley, Sam Leishman, Jazmyn McIlvena, Sophie Read, Braden Veale, Lily Giles
Neverlanders
Logan Atkinson, Maggie Atkinson, Fergus Giles, Wyatt Jackson, Jack Loader, Lea Phillips, Bella Wardlaw
Baby Crocodiles
Eboney Atkinson, Joanna Coutts, Sean Deutsch, Tom Kinley, Rachael Loader, Brodie Phillips, Kayley Phillips
The Pirates
Captain Hook          Dougal Doery
Smeec                 BJ McIlvena
Bluebeard             Korey Reisenberg
Cook                   Aaron Wood
Pirate Crew           Madaline Phillips, Charlotte Coutts, Brydy Atkinson, Aaron Wood, Hugh Geddes

The Geologists
Bass                  Jasie Craddock
Flinders             Ben Steer
Carstairs            Ethan Wood
In London
Other Wendy           Nataliya Marsden
Sgt Bruiser           Ethan Wood
Constable Smith       Ben Steer
At Old Hook’s Home
Old Hook              Logan Walker
Young Pirates         Sam Davis, Riley Keilar, Charles Leishman, Oliver Neumann, Robert Read, Ben Vallance, Lachlan Veale
At Old Wendy’s Home
Old Wendy             Annika McArthur
Children             Emma Vallance, Annabelle Walker, Nikita Steer, Madaline Phillips, Charlotte Coutts, Brydy Atkinson
Producer/Director     Rob Smith
Junior Production
The Curious Case of Mr Blackie

Synopsis
Mr Blackie has died suddenly under the medical care of Dr Atkinson. Mrs Tyson is suing for damages resulting from his death.

Cast
Judge Will Pedersen
Mr Chamming Patrick Graham
Mrs Tyson Sarah Thewlis
Dr Appleton Amy McIntyre
Dr Johnson Jasmine Clark
Ms Adams Melanie Evans
Clerk of Courts Cameron Craddock
Producer/Director Rob Smith
Senior Production
Students

Chelsea Jose        Cooper Keilar        Riley Keilar        Chloe Kinley        Tom Kinley        Charlie Leishman

Sam Leishman       Jack Loader          Rachael Loader       Nataliya Marsden    Annika McArthur   BJ McIlvena

Jazzy McIlvena     Madison McIlvena      Amy McIntyre         Maggie May Minie    Isabella Neumann  Oliver Neumann


Pania Potatau-Wright  Casey Potter    Maia Ratana          Chontaye Ratima     Ciahna Ratima    Daemon Ratima
Absent: Gabby Anderson, Harrison Grist-Kroon, Jack Hucker, Paige Lagerwey-Allen, Mita Ratana, Benjamin Steer
Staff

Giselle Allgood  Kenneth Avery  Rebecca Blackburn  Fiona Blake  Margot Bourchier  Jamie Ferguson

Roger Flanner  Edward Hargreaves  Pamela Hayes  Mark Howard  Kirralee Keilar  Sally Kinley

Jennifer Lloyd  Kristie Newnham  George Porter  Brooke Richardson  Susan Richie  Andrew Twiss

Jenny Wilkinson  Anne Wynne

Absent  Helen Vallance, Kate Bailey, Sri Kalluri
Alumni

Former Staff Member

It was late 1979 when I was put “in excess” at Ballarat HS and was given the choice between Maryborough and Lake Bolac as my next appointment. I must have been pretty adventurous as I chose the Bolac option!!!!

As was the system in those days, you got a “day off” to visit your new school. So I rang and made an appointment and was, of course, asked if I played football - which I did in a fashion!!! The word was out, new PE teacher who plays football and hopes were obviously high for a new six foot-four centre half forward. I duly walked into the staff room and the look of disappointment on Ollie Matheson’s face was obvious for all to see - five foot-seven, long hair and beard!!! We did OK over the next couple of years, playing in the finals in 81 and 82. The football side of things was one of the very enjoyable part of the time at Bolac. The Tigers managed to win a flag in 1980 as well, which made for a happy year!!!

Of course playing football was a great way to get involved, meet people and enjoy the journey. I also managed to play a bit of cricket for Westmere Wanderers (badly), basketball, badminton and squash (also poorly). For a little while I got Doug Lee and Paul Seery interested in a bit of distance running, but the lure of football was a much better option I think! Kicking a ball around the oval was more fun than long slogs along the roads dodging magpies and plovers.

Kathie and I got married at the end of 1980 and we decided that we would live and work at Lake Bolac. We rented a house about 8k out of town on the Ararat road. We had lots of good times there, including a couple of football club functions!!!!!

Kathie took an interest in local sports as well, playing in the netball team and coaching the juniors. She can boast a couple of finals appearances over the journey. She took to squash and badminton as well - but with far more success than I had!!!

The teaching, innovation and interaction at the school were tremendous in those days. It was extremely dynamic and exciting and you always felt like you were getting somewhere and making a difference. I always felt that we thought and taught well, partied hard and put together a school that was worth being part of. I met lots of great teachers and some of the nicest students that I ever got to teach!

As well as what I thought was a pretty innovative curriculum, the school also managed to put together plenty of activities that engaged both students and teachers including sports days, Cup Days, dress up socials, and various other carnivals and activities. It was a great place to be!

Lots of things happened in those days that just couldn’t happen now!!! Friday afternoon was Activities Afternoon - a great way to finish the week! Teachers offered something they were interested in and students picked something that might like doing for a couple of hours. Some of my highlights were offering tennis with Bernie Lloyd and taking on all comers (reasonably successfully) and setting off on a weekly bike ride with a few young enthusiasts. Imagine getting that time off the maths and science fanatics now days!!!! Staff room cricket was also a compulsory activity, played with a three foot ruler (no metrics yet!) and a tennis ball. Made for a late start to many a class if the batsman was on a roll!!!

Hot days were always a highlight!!! I forget how hot it had to get, but once it reached a certain temperature afternoon classes were cancelled and the entire school took off down to the lake for a cooling swim!!! Can’t see us getting away with that either these days!!! One of the more memorable things to come out of this was watching Rod Homburg and John Bradley taking to the thermometer with their cigarette lighters in order to get it to the required temperature! I am sure Richard Gledhill was well aware of the ruse but was happy to play along!!!

Speaking of the weather, that horizontal and incessant rain was just a delight for a PE teacher!!! Grey skies, wind blowing a gale from Warrnambool and raindrops that blew across you every day for weeks on end!!! I know the locals loved it, but it taxed your best spirits at times!!!

I have a number of photos from the time - my favourite is that of the mighty Bolac Bullets, a motley collection of staff members who took on the students at indoor soccer (yes, in the 80’s - we were ahead of our time!!) In a brilliant final we managed to beat the very talented boys from year 11 and to their disgust took out the trophy - which we never put up for a rematch or challenge!!!!
It has been great to occasionally hear how some of the former Bolac teachers and students are going. It was a great place to be - and I was always surprised at how many people had heard of the place or knew someone from there. Really importantly, we made some fantastic life-long friends in that time - the Catlow's, Lloyds, Sheehan's, Parnaby's, Gledhill's and my family have had regular get togethers and holidays for a long time now. We have just returned from bolac@europe, an eight to ten week tour through various parts of Europe, and what a time we had!!!

Bryan Adams reckons the summer of 69 was pretty good, but the years of 80-82 were lots of fun and pretty influential to the rest of our life together!

**Former Students**

**Paul Seery**

My brothers and I attended Lake Bolac High School between 1963 and 1982. Quite a lot has changed since then, not only for Lake Bolac High School (now Lake Bolac College) but for all of us in day to day life; how we all communicate with each other on a daily basis and how we all learn new information.

When my brothers and I attended Lake Bolac High School the chalkboard was one of the main tools of communication used by the teacher, used in conjunction with textbooks, teacher generated handouts, calculators, and of course teacher explanation and classroom discussion. We watched the occasional video (… now was that VHS or Betamax?) which at the time appeared to be quite special. The other skill in our teachers’ toolbox was their commitment … a commitment to foster learning and a dedication to help their students learn.

Despite the many changes that have taken place since our time at LBHS, there are always going to be constants in life (and education); which we reflected upon recently -

**Chris Seery (1963-1968)**

I often think my six years at Lake Bolac High in the 1960’s laid the foundations to go on to tertiary education and my constant thirst for knowledge. Lake Bolac always had young teachers straight out of university who were enthusiastic, making learning enjoyable and interesting.

I have lived in Melbourne now since 1980 and retired since the end of 2013. Since retirement, my wife Lyn and I did a cruise from Melbourne to and around New Zealand in March 2014. In the winter of 2014 we travelled through Qld and Far North Qld, as well as the Northern Territory down to Alumni Adelaide. This year we travelled right around Australia during winter enjoying the northern “winter” in a Winnebago.

Next year we hope to go to Canada and the United States during our winter. As well as trips away and future trips overseas, we pass through the Lake Bolac district a couple of times a year when visiting Mum, who now lives in Ararat.

I always have good memories of Lake Bolac High, growing up in a rural area and appreciating all it had to offer.

**Peter Seery (1964-1969)**

Lake Bolac High School (LBHS), as it was known in the 1960s, was crucial to my life, and so I would like to encourage any young students today to approach their studies with diligence, dedication and optimism; and to play sport too.

Whatever your dreams are, a well-rounded education is key I will always remember the cohort of enthusiastic, friendly, dedicated and very capable teachers who were at LBHS then, as they helped to shape my world view and encouraged me to go on to tertiary studies. Of course, education is a lifetime's endeavour.
Ken Seery (1972-1977)

One of the lasting benefits I got out of a rural high school education was an encouragement for self-reliance - when I got to tertiary level I saw many fellow students who had done much better at HSC as it was then than I had, but had been perhaps “spoon-fed” by their schools, and hence often struggled at tertiary level where you have to be self-reliant and a self-starter. No-one to chase up whether you had completed all the work or even attended class. They were lost. My Lake Bolac High School (as it was then) experience was invaluable for that - and also for engendering a sense of community.

I was at LBHS during the 70s at the tail end of its peak when the High School itself still had 300+ students, being fed by a plethora of district primary schools. (I would be remiss here not to also mention my Glenthompson Primary School headmaster Don Halliday who gave me a love of mathematics which persists to this day, and was encouraged at LBHS).

That community spirit was evident in virtually no-one at LBHS being “just a number”. We were also fortunate in having a high proportion of committed teachers - no small effort when you consider that many were on their first teaching appointment after graduating, and LBHS may not have been their first preference. In my case, teachers such as Richard Gledhill Peter Solly, Ron Jepsen, Brian Cooper, Tom Atkinson, Terri Allen et al were adept not only in being excellent teachers, but also in encouraging self-reliance, which as a life skill is pretty hard to beat!

So while the larger schools maybe had superior facilities and perhaps more intensive tuition (although I did do Maths / Science in HSC in classes of 2 - 3 which was a pretty impressive teacher / student ratio!), few could beat LBHS for providing a great basis for future study and career.

Paul Seery (1977-1982)

… and as for my reflection; I would start with the fact that I have been fortunate to have had a vocation in education for over 20 years now. Many of my own teaching philosophies today stem from my time at LBHS; I have never forgotten the teachers who encouraged me, challenged me and took an interest in me, no matter how small. For me, the skills that I developed during my time at Bolac High were the need to be self-directed, to ask for help when needed and to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills. Progressing through the early years to the middle and senior years of schooling what became apparent to me was my teachers’ passion for their subject material and the extra curricula activities they offered. There is no doubting that this passion was also picked up on by many other students who availed the many opportunities made available to us all.

The world it seems is changing almost daily at breakneck speed… for example devices that are taken for granted by today’s generation were unthought-of by ours. New discoveries present new opportunities and underpinning both is the importance of education. Not only were my brothers and I fortunate to attend Lake Bolac High School, where we grew academically and socially in a safe environment, during our time at the school we were also afforded many opportunities - academic, sporting and extra curricula. Of equal importance, my brothers and I were extremely fortunate to come from a family home where the value and importance of education was instilled in us from an early age. Our parents encouraged us to learn for life, because as they said - education provides opportunity, and opportunity is the future.

… and that, hasn’t changed.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute the Lake Bolac Bugle.
Engagements

Britten – Clutterbuck
Emma Britten (former student) and Nick Clutterbuck

Thewlis – Teasdale
Jessica Thewlis (former student) and Bradley Teasdale

Linane – Wynne
Kara Linane and Charles Wynne (former student)

Ferguson – Van Den Broek
Jamie Ferguson (current staff member) and Jayde Van Den Broek

Bone – Johnson
Rebecca Bone and Matthew Johnson (former student)
28.04.15 at Port Douglas
Home: Smythes Creek

Marriages

Hamilton – Rich
Tara Hamilton (former student) and Craig Rich
11.04.15 at Tarrington
Home: Goroke, Victoria

Clark – Richardson
Brooke Clark (former student and current staff member) and Adam Richardson
28.02.15 at their home ‘Kiwarick’
Woorndoo, Victoria

Sherman – Huf
Julia Sherman (former student) and Brendan Huf
10.10.15 at Hamilton
Home: Hamilton

Gutheridge – West
Katie Gutheridge (former student) and Paul West
24.10.15 at Mt Duneed
Home: Torquay
**Mulcahy – Downes**
Jessica Mulcahy and Alex Downes (former students)
18.04.15 at Ballarat
Home: Streatham

**Births**

**Rich**
Tara (nee Hamilton, former student) and Craig Rich
A boy, Finlay Andrew on 20.11.14

**Harrison**
Lauren (nee McInnes, former student) and Scott Harrison
A girl, Annabel Grace on 11.03.15

**Finlayson**
Lyndell (former school nurse) and Shaun Finlayson
A girl, Annie Maple on 18.03.15

**Bourchier**
Margot (current staff member) and Matthew Bourchier
A boy, Nicholi Patrick on 24.05.15
Brother to Arya

**Whinney**
Sarah (nee Paterson, former student) and Tom Whinney
A boy, George William 18.05.15
Brother to Jane and Edward

**Thom**
Kim (nee Drydan, former staff member) and Jack Thom (former student)
A girl, Georgina (Georgie) Anne Thom on 12.03.15
Sister to Charlie

**Albert**
Jessica (nee Park, former student) and Jeremy Albert
A boy, Oliver Jude on 25.09.15

**East**
Sarah (nee Hamilton, former student) and Shane East
A girl, Tilly Sarah on 05.01.15
Alumni

Gilbert
Amanda Clark (former student) and Jo Gilbert
A girl, Marli Elisabeth 03.04.15

Huf
Julia (nee Sherman, former student) and Brendon Huf
A girl, Madison Joy 13.02.15

Day
Michelle Bartlett and Scott Day (former student)
A boy, Pheonix Luna on 01.12.14

Lloyd
Melanie and Sam Lloyd (former student)
A boy, Leo Oleska 28.03.15
Brother to Odette

Wynne
Kara Linane and Charles Wynne (former student)
A girl, Lola Joan on 22.01.15

Roads
Krystal Day (former student) and Peter Roads
A girl, Indigo Onyx on 28.01.15
Sister to Kai and Jet

McLeod
Katherine (nee Forbes, former student) and Alex McLeod
A girl, Molly Cook 17.09.15

Box
Kylie and Jonathan Box (former student)
A girl, Abigail Rose on 20.10.14
Sister to Charlotte and Matilda
Deaths

Thatcher
Janette Thatcher (former staff member)
Wife of Richard and mother of Roslyn
02.12.53 – 20.02.15

McMaster
Helene McMaster (former staff member and volunteer)
Wife of Leo (former School Council member) and mother of Mari-Anne, Donna-Marie, Patrick and Damien (former students)
26.11.37 – 30.10.15

Mould
Heather, wife of Peter (former staff member) and mother of Lucy, Kate, Lauren and James (former students)

Peters
Donna Mackay and Thomas Peters (former student)
A girl, Zara Louise 23.09.15
Sister to Jackie

Liston
Justine and Jock Liston (former student)
A boy, Jack Edward on 06.06.15

Grinter
Jenna Barr (former student) and Ben Grinter
A boy, Emerson Jack on 29.05.15