Principal’s Message
The Year 12 Formal evening was a great success and it was fantastic to see the students presenting themselves so beautifully and enjoying their final school function with their family and friends. Congratulations and many thanks to Ms Aimee Dawson for her exceptional organisation and to all who contributed to the evening. Our best wishes go to all of the ‘Class of 2013’ as they embark on the next exciting period of their lives.

Miss Alexandra Fraser has farewelled one group and is busily preparing another. The Year 6 students have had a fantastic opportunity to ‘transition’ to Dorrigo High School and the support for this process continued this week with the statewide Year 6 – 7 Orientation Day. We are very confident that this wonderful group of young people are ready to thrive in high school and we look forward to working positively with them and their families for the next six years.

We welcomed back our fantastic singing group this week from the Schools Spectacular in Sydney. As expected they were a credit to their school and their families. I hope everybody took the opportunity to view the event on television and was able to appreciate the magnitude of the experience these students had. Many thanks to their teacher Ms Beth Richards and their support crew Ms Salena Bryce for their fantastic effort in providing this experience for the students.

The final weeks of school for 2013 have arrived and staff and students are continuing to seek the balance between celebrating the achievements of this year whilst also maintaining an ongoing commitment to new learning. Please encourage your child to maintain attendance and a commitment to learning up until the final day. The holidays will commence for students on Thursday 19 December. The School Presentation Day will be held on Wednesday 18 December and staff will be engaged in professional learning on 19 & 20 December.

This is the final bulletin of the year and I would like to take the opportunity to wish families all of the very best for a safe and happy holiday season. A final reminder that school will resume for all students on Wednesday 29 January 2014.

Mr Bleakley – Principal

Important Dates

December
9............. Yr 6 into Yr 7 transition all day
17........... Well Done excursion
18........... Awards presentation, 11.00am
............. Last day of term for students
19........... Staff development day
20........... Staff development day
............. Last day of term for staff

January
28........... Staff return to school
29........... Students return to school

Are you travelling during the holidays?
We are able to issue Concession Cards for students 16 years and over or Proof-Of-Age cards for younger students. If you need one of these before the holidays come to the office and ask for one to be organised. Please do it now and don’t leave it until the last minute.

Food Technology Requirements

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<td>Decorating Gingerbread</td>
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<td>Between two Students need to bring extra lollies for decorations eg: mint leaves, red smarties, mini M &amp; M’s</td>
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Dorrigo Show Agriculture Report

Many students from Dorrigo High School participated in the Dorrigo Show and helped to make what was yet another very successful community event. Agriculture students participated in a range of activities including the following.

Grace Jones, Lara Mason, Saber Veitch and Daniellei Smith entered the scarecrow competition and produced a wonderful structure worthy of the competition and were highly commended by the judges.

The junior beef cattle judging competition and beef cattle parader’s competition each had entries in excess of 30 students from school’s such as Bellingen H S, Bowraville Central School, Macksville H S, New England Girl’s School and competitors from other beef cattle studs. Dorrigo High was represented by a number of younger students many of whom were judging for the first time, gaining valuable experience for the future.

Logan Watson, Ryan Masters, Darcy Johnson, Xena Hodgson, Jorden Cochran, Jade Cochran, Jacob Mason and Jesse Tosh participated in the competition, judging four Murray Grey bulls, very kindly supplied by Sue Francis of Dorrigo. Jesse Tosh excelled making it to finals and the oral section of the competition among a very strong field of competitors. A great effort from our aspiring young judges. Xena Hodgson and Lachlan Perkins led Dorrigo High’s two Murray Grey cross heifers in the junior paraders competition and were a credit to the school in the manner in which they presented themselves and their heifers in the ring.

Lachlan drew special praise from the judge in the courage and perseverance he exhibited in handling his animal throughout the competition despite her definitely not wanting to be at the show on this occasion. Xena had her heifer looking a million dollars taking out second place in the best presented and exhibited beef or dairy animal by a school.

Catherine and Garth Burley worked tirelessly preparing and exhibiting their Mum and Dads’ Jersey dairy cattle with Catherine taking out the Junior dairy cattle paraders competition.

Jesse Tosh, Xena Hodgson, Kelsey Ellem, Jordaine Osland, Logan Watson, Lachlan Perkins, Mitchell Beaumont and Johnathon Tarran are to be congratulated on the many hours of work and professional manner in which they cared for, prepared and trained the school’s beef cattle prior to and during the show.

One of the most popular venues at the show is the animal nursery with many agriculture students involved in the setting up and looking after of animals, pets and visitors to the nursery over two very long days of the show. Most of the animals exhibited in the nursery are bred and raised on the school farm as part of agricultural studies at Dorrigo High. The following students put in a magnificent effort with some students putting in more than a 12 hour day for both days and are to be congratulated on their community spirit and very keen interest and love of animals. Grace Jones, Matthew Sommers, Tahnee Beelitz, Mattiah Beelitz, Samantha Sangster, Julia Sangster, Andrew Jones, Jordaine Osland, Ryan Masters, Jacob Mason, Shanlee Duckett, Holly Newsome, Faith Woods, Marlene Amos, Katelynn Miller, Chloé McGuigan, Savanna Harris and Liam McAlpine.

Many thanks to Max and Chris Grace who provided a calf for the nursery, Matthew Sommers for providing his cute, playful dog, Shanlee Duckett for her adorable lamb and Nathan Steele for the provision of eggs to be hatched out in the school incubator. Lou Molina and Chris Menzies very generously supplied Gazebos for the display.

Grace Jones added to her already mammoth contribution in the animal nursery by helping out in the junior pet show competition on the Sunday. Many thanks to Charlie Tosh who has very generously offered her time and expertise to the judging of this event for the past two years.

A number of junior girls also volunteered their time and services on Friday to assist ladies in the main and luncheon pavilions in preparation for the show. By all reports they did a magnificent job. They included Shanlee Duckett, Julia Sangster, Holly Newsome, Faith Woods and

A very big thank you to Chris Menzies and Greg Greenhalgh for all their hard work in the building and dismantling of the nursery and Bailey’s Produce for the provision of crates for animal housing. Also to the staff at Dorrigo High who very generously and willingly allowed students to take time out from their normal lessons to prepare for the show. My apologies to anyone that I may have inadvertently forgotten to mention, however, you can be assured that your contribution was very much appreciated.

What a great community we live in!

Allan Grace
What an unbelievable experience for our students! An immense stage, filled with a full size student orchestra, crazy lighting, hundreds and hundreds of dancers dressed in amazing costumes that stretch the imagination, a booming choir with 1,600 students, and performers ready for the world stage!

We got a small taste of real show business, attending rehearsals from 7.30am in the morning through to 6.00pm at night, then doing five back to back performances. We managed beautifully though, and with great enthusiasm and very good grace. Our arms, however, may never recover from all the choralography!

We managed to squeeze in a few extra activities as well, including a trip to the IMAX theatre, quite a bit of shopping, and we just made it in time to see “Grease – The Musical”, which was a real treat.

The Schools Spectacular was very lucky to have Channel 9 on board to televise the performance. If you didn’t manage to see it over last weekend you can still watch the performance on www.jump-in.com.au

We are very aware of the immense amount of support we have received from our school and wider community in pursuing this adventure, and would like to say Thank You to each and everyone who have assisted us in being able to have this wonderful experience.