Well..... here we are at the beginning of Term 3!!! Where have the weeks gone?? In only 4 weeks time, Year 12 Science students will sit Trial HSC examinations in Biology, Chemistry, Senior Science and Physics.

Completing coursework, revising classwork, constructing topic summaries and mindmaps, reviewing practical investigations, completing past examination papers and developing examination techniques should ensure a flurry of learning is occurring for these senior students, both in the classroom and at home.

Accessing the support and guidance of their teachers is paramount, with many teachers providing additional study session opportunities over the coming few months. Students are encouraged to avail themselves of these opportunities, but are also reminded to maintain a healthy balance between school, work, play and rest.

Healthy living – adequate food, exercise, leisure and sleep – is an important element in students meeting with HSC success. Any student who may be feeling overwhelmed is encouraged to seek support from their friends, family, teachers or health professionals.

This term will see Canowindra High, along with the nation, celebrate National Science Week from August 15 – 23. This year’s schools theme is Making Waves – The Science of Light, based on the International Year of Light. During National Science Week students will participate in classroom activities associated with the theme, with a lunchtime competition open to all students planned for the end of the week. More details will follow in future newsletters.

One change occurring this year in the Science arena is the change to the Year 8 Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSAonline).

Once mandatory for all Year 8 students, ESSAonline is being replaced by VALID (Validation of Assessment for Learning and Individual Development), and schools now have the option for students in Year 8 and Year 10 to complete VALID Science 8 and VALID Science 10.

This year, Canowindra High School has decided to opt in for both Year 8 and Year 10. Year 8 students will complete the VALID test T4 W2, with Year 10 sitting the test in Week 9 this term.

Much of the VALID assessment will be completed online, with the structure and delivery closely following that of ESSAonline 2014. CHS Science staff will complete training, enabling them to objectively mark the extended response sections for our students by applying strict marking guidelines. Participation in VALID will provide valuable data regarding our student’s growth from Stage 4 to Stage 5 Science, highlighting areas of strength and enabling us to target areas for improvement across Years 7 – 10.

SCIENCE IN ACTION!!! It really is all around us! So take some time this term to appreciate the science around you in everyday life. Let’s hope Term 3 is a good one for all of us!!
After gaining the title of Western Region Champions the Open Girls Soccer team went into the state finals against the other 15 teams that were regional winners. The girls drew a hard match versusing Burwood Girls High School. It was a tough match from the start against a very strong Sydney school but the girls showed true character and never gave up. The result in the end was a 6-3 loss.

Term 2 Assembly

At the end of last Term the school held a term assembly where students were presented with achievement certificates for Merit, Athletics Age Champions, Robotics, Soccer and Cultural Merit Certificates. Congratulations to students who received awards on this day.

Principal’s News

Welcome back I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays despite the rather cold and sometimes miserable weather. Term 3 is going to be a very busy term particularly for our Year 12 students who will finish their formal education at the end of the term.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Mr Steven Wilson to our permanent staff. Mr Wilson has been appointed in our TAS faculty filling the metalwork-wood vacancy left by Mr Scott. We also welcome back Mrs Kylie Parker as our Agriculture teacher and Mr Owen McLaughlan who will be job sharing with her for three days per fortnight. Students in Years 7 and 8 will also have changes in their timetables due to the rotation of electives.

What a great privilege it was to travel to Cowra at the end of last term to watch our Open Girls soccer team play Burwood Girl’s High School. The enthusiasm, determination, sportsmanship and teamwork of every one of our girls was exceptional and I was extremely proud of their representation of our school. On behalf of the school, a huge congratulations should also go to Mr Jones on his commitment and efforts with this team.

A huge thank you to the many parents that attended the Parent-Teacher interviews at the end of last term. The holding of this evening immediately after reports were issued proved to be well received and will now be repeated in next year’s calendar.

This Thursday we will also see take two for our Rural Cup match against Molong Central. Students who are not in any teams are still expected to attend school on this day and we also encourage any interested parents and community members to come along and enjoy what is traditionally a great day of sport.

Neryle Smurthwaite
Principal
NAIDOC WEEK

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, the oldest continuing culture on the planet. NAIDOC started as a result of a number of major Aboriginal organisations, governments and church groups supporting its formation. Each year, a theme is chosen to reflect the important issues and events for NAIDOC week.

Canowindra High took the opportunity to hold our own event on Wednesday, Week 10, Term 2. Students participated in 2 activities over the course of the afternoon. The activities were Cooking Damper and Kangaroo Meat Kebabs, Painting a Patchwork Mural, Mixed Games, AFL, Weaving, ‘Going Bush’ Documentary (featuring Debra Mailman and Kathy Freeman), Indigenous Heroes ( Included designing a football jersey for the indigenous round), Pavement Chalk Drawing and Trivia Quiz. The greater majority of the school participated in this event, with our Aboriginal students acting as Mentors and Tutors at each activity. As you can see from the photos, great fun was had by all!
THANK YOU FROM SRC

At the end of last term the SRC held a cake stall to help raise money for Tristyn O’Reilly to go to London with Coever Australia Under 14’s soccer squad. We raised $129. Prizes were awarded to all who decorated their cakes.

We would like to thank the eight people for their donations: Julia Wright (Yr 7), Shi Gorringe (Yr 8), Mackenzie Lazarou (Yr 9), Alana Cramer (Yr 9), Hayley White (Yr 12), Mrs Leanne Harrison, Mrs Karen Pickering and Mrs Dearne Curtis.

Lachlan Valley Learning Community

Over the past two terms Principals and staff from schools in Cowra, Canowindra and surrounding districts have been meeting regularly to discuss the formations of the group the Lachlan Valley Learning Community.

This group of public schools has joined together to emphasise and highlight the importance and strength of public schools and the power of a kindergarten to Year 12 education within this area. The group have been looking at ways that each school complements each other as well as how we can recognise the diversity we have within our school communities.

To celebrate the launch of the Lachlan Valley Learning Community this year, as part of Education Week celebration, a grand concert and art display will be held. The concert will take place on Wednesday, 29th July and Thursday, 30th July. The official launch will take place in the Theatrette of the Cowra Civic Centre on Wednesday, 29th July commencing at 6pm followed by a concert at 7pm featuring students from all schools and then a second performance will be held on Thursday, 30th July. The Art Show will be held in the Cowra Library and it will run from the 28th July till 28th August.

Tickets for the concerts will be available from all schools and will be $10 per adult, $5 per student and $20 per family. Seating will be strictly limited due to the size of the Civic Centre. All proceeds from the concert will be donated to Careflight and Stewart House.

As well as all these events, a new logo has been developed to draw together the elements of our districts. The blue outline symbolise the two rivers—Lachlan and Belubula, the green hills, valley and fertile plains of our area and the rising sun to signifies the light that comes through the power of education.