FACULTY IN FOCUS – SCIENCE

Tribute to Mrs Michele Berry
Michele Berry was the Science laboratory attendant at Canowindra High for 10 years from the mid 1990s to the early 2000s. Michele was a valued and well-respected colleague and the new Senior Science Centre has named the ‘Michele Berry Science Centre’ in honour of her memory.

Below is an extract of the speech that was given at the official opening of the Science Centre at the end of term 1.

“As a member of the Science staff at our school, Michele was excellent. She was a hard-working and conscientious laboratory assistant who applied herself with enthusiasm and dedication to whatever task she undertook. She had a passion for Science. She particularly enjoyed working with the Science staff in the design and preparation of many practical activities. She especially loved Chemistry. She and Mrs Kath Balcombe, our Senior Chemistry Teacher, developed a very productive and creative working relationship in the preparation of work for Yr11 and Yr12 Chemistry students.

Michele was a super organiser. Her organisation of Science equipment and chemicals was brilliant. At times, in getting ready for a practical, I would put some Science gear on a bench in the main prep room and come back in half an hour to get it and it would be gone. Michele would have seen it lying there without a note on it so she would put it away. But because she was so well-organised, I knew exactly where the gear was stored. Because of this, all the Science staff soon learned to put notes on any equipment that was left out.

I have mentioned previously that Michele had a great passion for Science. It was this passion that led her to undertake further training in laboratory management. She regularly attended workshops and training courses to develop her expertise in this area. She was a core member of the regional laboratory assistants group and many lab assistants from other schools would contact her for advice and guidance. Many times I told her that she should have gone to university to become a teacher.

One area, in particular, that Michele demonstrated this passion for Science was in the area of Chem Safety. Besides attending relevant training courses, Michele enthusiastically reorganised the classing and storage of science chemicals according to the required safety guidelines. The meticulous work she did in labelling and tagging chemical stock and reagent bottles is still evident today and is much appreciated. Her design and maintenance of the chemical records system in Science was also exemplary.

Up to now I have been talking about the outstanding work that Michele did in the Science faculty. Michele also worked hard in other areas in the school. One area in particular where Michele did excellent work was as a Teacher Aide Support. For those who don’t know, Teacher Aide Supports work with students who need help with their work at school. We have a number of these Aides working in the school at present. Michele in particular worked for many years with one student who had a severe hearing disability and Michele’s work played a considerable part in the success of this student in her HSC exams.

In conclusion, the Science Staff, especially Mrs Balcombe and myself (as we both worked with Michele), wish to acknowledge Michele’s wonderful work over the years she
was a member of the staff at Canowindra High. It gives me great pleasure and it is wonderful to be able to have our new Senior Science Centre named in memory of Michele”.

Tom Harvey
Science Head Teacher

Principal’s News

Welcome to the first newsletter for term two 2011. Our weekly newsletter is the central source of all information related to school activities including student learning, upcoming and completed events. Consistent with previous practise, a newsletter will be published and distributed to students in hardcopy to bring home each Monday of term. The newsletter is also uploaded weekly to our website www.canowindra.school@det.nsw.edu.au and emailed directly to all parents and community who request copies. If you would like to be added to the email list, please phone the front office of the school and the ladies will ensure your address is included. Having the newsletter emailed ensures it does not get lost on the way home from school!

The term began with two school development days for staff on Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 April before the students returned. All staff undertook professional learning in a wide range of activities to support student learning including Eight Ways quality teaching, persuasive writing, sports coaching, emergency care, early drug intervention and occupational health and safety. The term has begun smoothly with students settling quickly into routine. All students have been given a new individual timetable for this term which includes a number of improvements including a better matching for students undertaking courses external to the school. The schools timetable is driven by student learning and hence a number of improvements are included in the latest version.

The last week of last term was a very busy one for students and staff. The term concluded with the official opening of the Michele Berry Science Centre. Photos and more detailed information have been included on the front page of the newsletter. The previous day, students and staff commemorated ANZAC day and student achievement through the award of certificates for bronze level in the new student recognition system and certificates for achievement in the swimming carnival.

Each year our school is allocated a small amount of money to help families experiencing financial difficulties to help ensure all students can access a quality education. Small amounts of money to support student learning including essential items such as books, uniform and excursions are available on an as needed basis. As per updated procedures, requests for assistance should be in writing where possible. All requests are received and managed on a confidential basis. Further information can be obtained by contacting either David Lloyd of Nicole Bugeja on 6344 1305.

This week on Wednesday, students compete in the annual athletics carnival. Sporting carnivals are considered compulsory school days of attendance. Students who have medical or other conditions that prevent them from competing in the activities are able to join in through cheering on their mates and perhaps in other official ways such as recording and measuring student achievements.

This term we remain committed to developing further links with our parents, carers and the wider community. An example of this includes the option for year twelve parents to participate in a three-way interview between their child, school staff and themselves to reflect on their half yearly report achievements when the documents are distributed in coming weeks. This ten minute meeting provides an opportunity to celebrate successes and ensure educational achievements are broadly in line with future goals and aspirations. A formal letter of invite will be sent home with students in the next few days.

In closing, I would like to encourage people to contact the school at any stage with any questions or queries no matter how small or insignificant as usually the earlier issues or concerns are dealt with, the easier they are to manage and the better the long term outcome. Enjoy term two!

David Lloyd

JUNIOR LEAGUE STILL TAKING REGISTRATIONS

Canowindra Junior League would like to let everyone know that we are still taking registrations for all teams. If you are interested in playing this season please come to the oval on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 5.00pm. New players will need 2 copies of your birth certificate and a parent with them to fill in paperwork. There is also a fee of $35. Junior League football is a great game and the Canowindra club have some great coaching staff and are a very friendly family oriented club.
For more information please call Janeen on 0447125340. For any players needing new socks or shorts they are available for sale also on Tuesday and Thursday at the oval.

Canowindra Sports Trust AGM
Canowindra Sports Trust has managed the running of the Sports Complex since 1982, with many local community members working tirelessly over this time for the betterment of the facilities. The Sports Trust consists of 14 affiliated bodies (sporting clubs and schools), from these organizations, an executive and board are elected to run the Trust voluntarily on a day to day basis. The affiliated bodies pay a fee for use of the grounds, with this money being spent on improvements to the oval.

The Annual General Meeting of the Canowindra Sports Trust will be held on Monday 9th May 7pm at the Canowindra Health Centre. All affiliated bodies are encouraged to send 2 delegates along and community members are welcome to attend.

Confirmation
The Rt Rev’d Richard Hurford will be conducting the sacrament of Confirmation at All Saints’ Anglican Church Canowindra; 7 pm Friday 19 August 2011. Confirmation preparation for youth will commence 4 pm Tuesday 10 May through to the confirmation date, excepting school holidays in July.

Their will be a cost of $30 to cover the price of the confirmation book and other sundry expenses. Confirmation preparation for adults will be arranged when it is known who and how many people we have, the cost will be the same as for the youth. Those seeking confirmation are asked to attend one of our regular services of worship. There will be a commissioning of the confirmees at the combined service 9.30am All Saints’ Canowindra. Please let Jono know via email or phone by Tuesday 3 May if you would like to be confirmed.

The easy way to get a tax file number
The ATO, with the cooperation of schools, offers students aged 13 years or over the opportunity to apply for a tax file number (TFN) through school. This is a voluntary program and makes it easier for students to obtain a TFN.

Students need a TFN for employment, applying for Centrelink benefits, opening a bank account or deferring university fees.

Applying for a TFN through school is easier because students do not need to show identifying documentation to the ATO. The application form is available from the school and students can complete it at home. The form requires information such as the student’s name, address and date of birth. Students also need to provide the following details:

- students born overseas will need to provide:
  - overseas passport number and date of issue
  - Australian passport number and country of issue or
  - Australian citizenship certificate number and date of issue or
  - Australian passport number and date of issue

It is important that the application form is completed correctly and in full and signed by the student. All information provided on the application form will remain confidential.

The school will certify the application form by cross-checking against information held on their records. Students are not required to show identifying documentation to school or the ATO.

Students will receive their TFN via a notification letter sent to their postal address within 28 days of the application being received by the ATO.

What’s On

Week 2 B Week

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<tr>
<th>Wednesday 4 May</th>
<th>Athletics Carnival</th>
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| Thursday 5 May | Tom Kemp Rugby League  
Condobolin 
Open Girls Soccer - Orange |

Week 3 A Week

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<tr>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>NAPLAN –Y7,9 Language/Writing - JSMH</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN-Y7,9 Reading - JSMH</td>
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<td>Thursday 12 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN-Y7,9 Numeracy – JSMH</td>
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<td>Friday 13 May</td>
<td>Cabonne Community Reading Day</td>
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Deep appreciation is extended to Newcrest Mining who have generously donated $1500 to support enhanced literacy achievement. The money will be used to purchase iPads and other resources to develop literacy programs including extension and enrichment activities. Many thanks also to Mrs Meredith Healey who composed the submission and led the development of the initiative.

ASSESSMENTS DUE WEEK 3:
Y12 – Design & Technology 3
Y12 – Ancient History 3
Y12 – Chemistry 3

Y10 – Geography (S1) 2
Y10 – Visual Arts 2

Canowindra High School Athletics Carnival 2011
The Annual Athletics carnival will be held at the sports trust oval on Wednesday 4th May. All students will attend morning assembly and house meetings for roll mark then walk across to the sports trust oval.

WHO IS INVITED?
For students, attendance is compulsory, as this is a normal school “day”. Those students who anticipate they will not be here Wednesday, must provide a note in advance to the Deputy Principal.

If students are away, then a note must be provided the following day. The carnival is a great opportunity for parents and families to join us and watch the students compete.

MEAL ARRANGEMENTS
A number of food lines, as well as drinks will be served at the kiosk throughout the carnival. Otherwise bring a lunch and snacks that will provide plenty of lasting energy such as sandwiches and fruit. Also carry water or drinks to keep well hydrated.

WHAT TO BRING
Students are permitted to wear house colours to school on Wednesday (no inappropriate dress, including singlet tops, will be accepted) and students must wear covered shoes to school. During the carnival it is recommended that students have hats, shirts and sunscreen.

If there are any medical or similar reasons why a student cannot participate, parents are asked to provide a note to Mr McKenzie explaining the circumstances.

We are all looking forward to a great day!

W McKenzie
Carnival Organiser

________________________________________

Please fill in and return this form to the school office if you will be able to assist us with a job at the carnival. Jobs include timekeeping, place judging or measuring at field events.

We will contact you with final details of the roster. The carnival starts at 9.30pm and runs until 3.00pm

☐ Yes I can help with the carnival, I would prefer to do ___________________________(please specify)
☐ I am happy to do any of these jobs.

Contact number:_______________

Signed_______________________Date ________________