Congratulations to all the students who attended the school Athletics Carnival in Albury last Wednesday. The weather was very kind and there was a high level of participation from those in attendance. Good luck to the students who will contest the Zone Carnival tomorrow.

The NAPLAN Tests were held for Years 7 and 9 last week. The students were very settled during the tests and results will be available later in the year.

The P & C will be holding a wood raffle in early June. Please keep an eye out for the tickets and hopefully the raffle will be well supported.

Girls’ Football
A girls’ practice match against Riverina Girls’ Football Team was played on Friday afternoon.

The BHS girls’ played well but were beaten on the day.

Best Players: Isabelle Cottrell, Emma Parker, Brieanna Galvin, Vanessa Taylor, Abby Parker, Emily Pinnuck.

Calendar May

20
Zone Athletics Carnival

21
U/15 Girls’ AFL
U/14 Boys’ Bushrangers Cup Football vs Xavier High School

26
Semester 2 commences
‘You Have a Future Program’
James Ruse Agricultural High School Visit—
By Sarah Bahr-Withers

At the start of last week, six students from Years 10-12 including myself were lucky enough to be offered the opportunity to attend James Ruse Agricultural High School in Sydney for two days. During these two days we would take a tour of the school and attend classes. When asked by Mr Velikans if I would participate in this excursion, I said yes without hesitation, being quite sure that this opportunity would be most beneficial as are all of the extra curricular programs offered at Billabong High School.

So on Sunday 4 May we headed off in the mini-van bound for Sydney. On the trip up we discussed what we were all expecting at the school and how we thought all the students would respond to us country folk coming into their school. Once we arrived in Sydney it was down to Newtown we drove to have dinner at a traditional Thai restaurant and to the most delicious gelato store ever.

When the school week began on Monday morning, we were up at the crack of dawn and driving through the city with the hope that we would arrive on time and not get too lost. Once we arrived at the school I immediately felt out of place. This big, fancy high school was a daunting experience and I truly missed our little Billabong. James Ruse seemed much too posh for my liking. That was until we were introduced to our buddies and walked into roll call. Honestly, it was just like walking into my own 10-1 class. I felt quite at home. We attended a History class which we knew most of the answers to, as we had just finished the topic they were beginning and an Agriculture class. A Maths class which was beyond bewilderment, their third class was so much more advanced than our one class. After a tour of the school farm, which was absolutely spectacular, it was goodbye James Ruse and hello Westfield. After an afternoon of intense shopping, Chinatown was just the place to end the day. The highlight though, was definitely the Harbour Bridge and the potato yoghurt.

Day two of school was just as early as the Monday. We attended an Art class which I was absolutely mesmerised by. The calibre of art that all the students were producing was just amazing. In PE students had to modify a sport and then teach it and another skill to their teacher and their class. It was interesting learning the way they were taught and
James Ruse cont...
interacting with the students outside the classroom.

At the end of the day, it was time to say goodbye to our amazing buddies. I was actually kind of sad having to leave as I had met some of the nicest people ever. Everybody at James Ruse was so welcoming and friendly, but above all, they were all so willing to get to know you even if we were only strangers for two days. It wasn’t the fancy, posh school I had expected, but instead friendly. Definitely an experience I am glad to have been chosen to take part in and most definitely an experience that I will forever treasure.