

# Blacktown Mail

**Preparing Boys for their Future since 1959**  
**Partially Selective Boys High School**

## Term 2 2022

### RELIEVING PRINCIPAL

**Mr Robert Murie**



Term 2 is often the busiest term of the year with completion of assessments, reports going home, parent teacher evenings, students participating in extracurricular activities and planning for the next year getting underway. At Blacktown Boys High School, the start to term has been extremely busy however as always, our students and staff work with dedication and relentless commitment despite ongoing interruptions caused by Covid, as they aim to achieve high expectations.

Recently Year 12 have participated in the 'Step Forward' program run by Western Sydney University, The College. This program delivered online at school, supported students to address concerns about transitioning from high school into their chosen career pathways through increasing their self-efficacy and myth busting concerns about attending university. Post program student feedback data indicated that participants reduced their fear of failure, enhanced their confidence in career selection and developed time management skills to minimise their anxiety about failure in learning. I would like to



**For Important Events see the school website:**

[blacktownb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://blacktownb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)

thank all of those involved in this powerful program and look forward to continuing our partnership with Western Sydney University, The College again next year.

NAPLAN testing has recently been completed and from my discussions with students in Years 7 & 9 it appears confidence is high, and they are anticipating great results. That said, I would like to remind students and parents that NAPLAN results should not define a student as they only reflect a snapshot of performance in a test on one day. Collectively however, the test results are an invaluable source of data about our overall school performance that will be analysed by teachers to enhance teaching practice and implement more individualised approaches to classroom practice targeting student needs.

Term 2 is also important for students in Years 8 & 10 who need to consider their elective subject choices for Stages 5 and 6. Our upcoming subject selection information evening will provide parents and students with information about curriculum choices on offer. This is planned for Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June and will be followed with

personalised subject selection interviews for Year 10 students and their parents to be held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Planning for these events is currently being finalised, including an interview schedule for each student and more information will be forwarded to parents soon. I look forward to meeting parents during these informative sessions that are designed to help your sons navigate important transition points in their education and make positive subject choices that aim to engage students and maximise academic results.

Across the school there are many improvements being made to update infrastructure, improve the learning environment and support student learning and wellbeing. This term the entire school is receiving a lighting upgrade, ventilators are being put into 23 classrooms, furniture has arrived for the new Year 12 Study Centre, school basketball/tennis courts are being resurfaced, cricket nets upgraded, a sensory garden is being installed in Inclusive Education and school IT facilities are receiving a major upgrade. For students, a Wednesday morning breakfast club has started, providing hungry boys

with an extra nutritious start to the day and the homework centre will reopen in the library from term 3.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind our parents when you are visiting the school for information sessions or parent teacher evenings can you please ensure you park only in the Blacktown Boys' car park or preferably on the street. Please do not park in the adjoining Blacktown Girls High School car park as these gates are locked by 6pm and you may be locked in.

Since the end of Term1, I have had the pleasure of stepping into the role of relieving Principal and I must say it has been fantastic working in this capacity with students, staff, and parents to ensure the young men in our community have every opportunity to continue thriving and to be successful.

Have a wonderful term everybody.

Mr Rob Murie (Relieving Principal)

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**  
**Mrs Trish Matthews**



Slowly and safely, we are moving back to what school looked like at the start of 2021. Not only were students engaging with the curriculum then, but they also had opportunities to take part in extra-curricular activities which help to grow a healthy body and mind. Extra-curricular activities help our boys to work in teams, sometimes with external partners, such as business partners like ABCN or universities; meet and share

ideas with peers in other schools at SRC events or debates; and develop the ideals of sportsmanship with a greater understanding of pride for a team and the school, and fair play. Other activities may support students who need support to re-engage and manage themselves positively in a variety of situations. With this in mind, it is time to drop the hundreds of 'friends' online whom your son would not even recognise in the street, and confirm real relationships face to face with real people, who cause your son to think and be challenged in a respectful way.

Please encourage your sons to participate beyond the classroom to affirm relationships and make new connections. Information about past and future events are in the different Faculty reports later in this newsletter and also snapshots of them are seen on Facebook and the school website. Most importantly we encourage you to talk to your son each day about what he has been doing, what he is proud of and what he is looking forward to.

I would also like to remind parents to ensure that they are accessing the Parent Portal via the email address that has been provided to the school. You will find a copy of your son's timetable and teacher's names, be able to respond to absences, find documents that are relevant to your son's year group and also other information such as links to the E-Safety Commissioner for up-to-date information about how to create a safe online environment for your family. You may need to apply for a second family key if the Portal is being accessed by both parents with two separate email addresses. Sometimes parents change their preferred email, so it is important to notify the school when this happens. You will need to access the Parent Portal for bookings for parent teacher

evening later this term, so now is the time to check your access. If you have any issues doing this, please contact the school.

Blacktown Boys High School is partnering with Real Schools for the next three years to build and enhance our community. It aims to develop a practise of productive, relational, and effective practice across the school. This means that teachers, students, and parents will be working together to enhance a culture of learning. We look forward to meeting with parents later in the year to discuss how this practice extends into the home so that we can work together to achieve the best possible outcomes for your son.

Parents of Years 7 and 11 received their transition/ progress reports early this term. If you have any queries about your son's progress, please contact the school. Formal reports will be available for all students, in all years, later this term, to communicate how well you son is achieving or working towards outcomes and what the next step in their learning should be. This will be followed up by scheduled meetings at Parent Teacher evening, where teachers look forward to meeting with you and your son. In addition to reported curriculum subjects, your son receives targeted literacy lessons, wellbeing lessons in years 7-10 and High Resolves (Year 7). We also look forward to meeting with year 10 parents later this term as part of the process to support your sons in selecting Stage 6 subjects and planning career pathways. Year 8 will also be selecting subjects for electives in Years 9 and 10.

We look forward to the opportunity to connect with all of our community and encourage you to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Trish Matthews  
Deputy Principal



**RELIEVING  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL  
Mr Satendra Prasad**



Welcome to Term 2. We had a dynamic start to the term with our students engaged in their learning, complemented by a variety of incursions, excursions, and diverse opportunities such as debates and competitions to enrich their learning experiences. The majority of the year groups started the term with formal assemblies, run by student leaders under the guidance of their Year Advisers. I was fortunate enough to participate and address some of them. Even after missing out on these opportunities with the effects from pandemic over the last two years, the student leaders and the students in respective cohorts prepared and executed their assembly programs commendably.

Congratulations to our Year 12 class of 2021 on the completion of the Higher School Certificate. We are very proud of the way our Year 12 students responded to the ongoing challenges throughout their senior schooling. They made the most out of a difficult situation and their resilience and diligence resulted our class of 2021 producing the best HSC results we have seen. We encourage the current cohort to use the expertise and resources at school and challenge themselves to get the best possible outcomes for themselves.

Attendance matters. We want all our students to succeed in 2022, to have

the best outcomes for themselves. One key aspect to our students achieving success and potential is by attending school. We know attendance matters and we expect all our students to be at the school every day doing their personal best. We want our students to be aiming for at least 95% attendance for the entire year. Frequent absences can have a dramatic impact on a child's learning and impact on their ability to reach their true potential. Just one day's absence could mean missing out on valuable learning. Attending school every day helps grow our students and allows them to develop skill sets to support success beyond school. We understand that students' do need to stay home under certain circumstances and Blacktown High School has an extensive and committed wellbeing team to support our students and we encourage families to reach out by calling the school during office hours.

Our Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) targets student growth and attainment. Improvement measures explicitly target strategies in Literacy and Numeracy. When the students were still enjoying last days of their holidays, staff were busy honing their skills in data analysis and building upon literacy and numeracy progressions to plan teaching and guide classroom practice. To support reading we run MacLit, an explicit intervention program for small groups designed to improve reading proficiency. The objective is that these students will be able to use these improved skills across all their KLAs and progressions used to track and guide student development. Students are encouraged to use the opportunity to make a difference.

As the colder months approach, please remember that hoodies and other nonuniform sloppy joes are not part of our school's uniform. Our school has a uniform policy to ensure safety

and equality and staff reinforce the uniform policy. Whilst most students look immaculate in their Blacktown Boys uniform, we want everyone to be compliant. Parents are encouraged to support their children by ensuring they have access to correct uniform and write students name on their items of uniform as students are constantly leaving jumpers, jackets, and hats behind in the playground. If their names are written on the items, they can be returned if the items are misplaced or found. The school understands the financial needs of our community and will work together to ensure no one is disadvantaged with our stance with uniform.

At Blacktown Boys' High School, we recognise the value of our cultural diversity, which enables students to develop tolerance, awareness, and pride as citizens of our community. Our code of conduct of Learning, Respect and Safety promotes our values. Our school values excellence in the classroom, on the sporting field and in all cooperative community endeavours. We recognise the importance of the partnership between parents, teachers and students and see it as the key to producing young men who are both prepared for their vocations and responsible for the welfare of their community environment.



**HEAD TEACHER  
ADMINISTRATION  
Ms Vidhi Sharma**



Welcome back to another busy and a zestful Term 2! I hope that everyone had a pleasant and restful time during the holidays. As we move to Term 2, students should be in winter school uniform. We want our students to be seen in positive way. If you are unable to provide your child with correct uniform due to unavoidable circumstances, please send them with a note to Ms. Sharma Head Teacher Administration before 8

am, who will provide them with a uniform pass if necessary. In addition, students should not come to school in PE uniform except on Wednesday for sport as they are expected to change into and out of their uniform for PE lessons. There will be times when some students will attempt variations. These variations are not acceptable. School Uniform implies uniformity and harmony. Once variations start to creep in, the value of the uniform can be undermined.

Senior students who arrive at school not wearing the correct uniform need to request a uniform pass before 8am. Junior students who arrive at school not wearing the correct uniform will be subject to school discipline processes.



**Junior Boys Uniform**

**SHIRT:** Grey cotton / polyester, short or long sleeves, with embroidered school crest.

**TROUSERS / SHORTS:** Grey cotton drill (no track pants or cargo pants).

**SHOES:** Black with leather uppers.

**SOCKS:** Maroon with white bands.

**JUMPER:** Maroon (fleece lined) with embroidered school crest.

**JACKET:** Maroon fully lined zip jacket with embroidered school crest.

**CAP:** Black cap with gold embroidered BBHS.

**BLAZER:** Maroon with embroidered school crest.

**TIE:** School tie with embroidered school crest.



**Senior Boys Uniform**

**SHIRT:** White cotton / polyester, short / long sleeves, with embroidered school crest.

**TROUSERS / SHORTS:** Black cotton drill (no track pants, cargo pants or sport shorts).

**SHOES:** Black with leather uppers.

**SOCKS:** Black

**JUMPER:** Maroon (fleece lined) with embroidered school crest.

**JACKET:** Maroon fully lined zip jacket with embroidered school crest.

**CAP:** Black cap with gold embroidered BBHS.

**BLAZER:** Maroon with embroidered school crest.

**TIE:** School tie with embroidered school crest.

We continue to strive and ensure that when our students graduate the school, they remain positive and productive

NSW Department of Education

**Why attendance matters**

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:

- Learn
- Build friendships
- Develop life skills

**Days missed = years lost**

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed



members of the community. Our focus is to teach our students the importance of arriving on time. If students aim to be in the school grounds by 8am, then that will ensure they are at their classroom, ready for Homeroom at 8.10am. Being on time does not mean running through the gate at 8.10am. Being on time means being at your Homeroom class at 8.10am. The school looks forward to working with our community to assist our students being the most excellent form of themselves. Please support your child by providing a checklist and encourage them to get organised and pack their school bag the night before. Check List: Before you leave home for school you should have: Books for the correct day, BHHS Hat, PE Uniforms – if needed Hard shoes, Equipment – calculator, protractor, coloured pencils, pens, pencils, apron etc, Due Homework and Assignments. Looking forward to having another great Term!

## SCHOOL ADMIN MANAGER

Mrs Joanne Colgan



### Student Invoices and School Bytes

Welcome back to term 2 just a reminder that Student Invoices will be emailed out again in week 6, please contact the school if you need to update your email address. Many thanks to the families who have already paid their school fees for 2022. These funds help greatly in our provision of quality learning experiences for all students. Elective subject funds raised are necessary for students' elective subjects to continue in their current form.

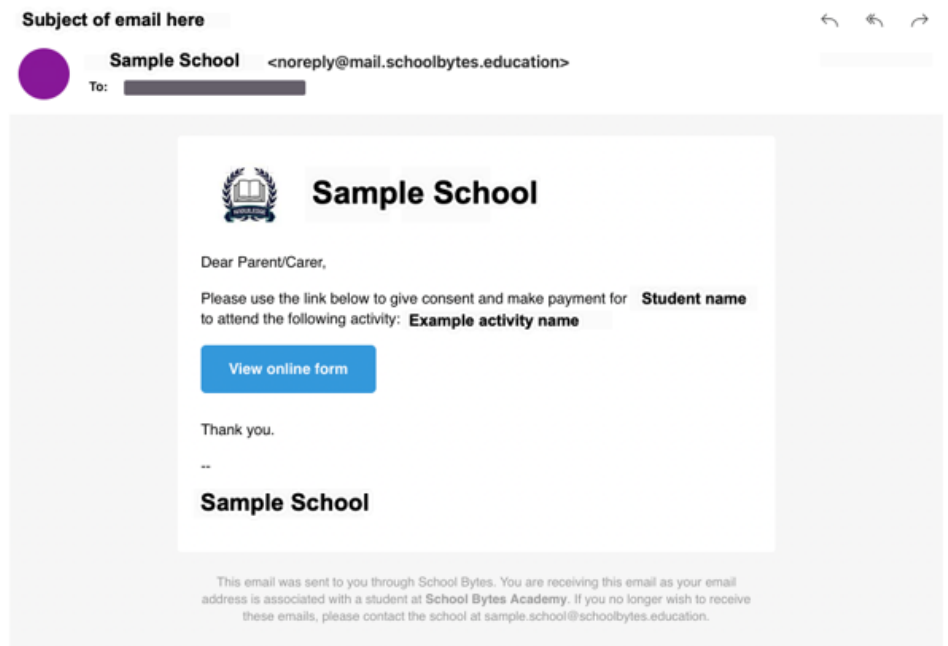
It is most fortunate that our parents and community do so strongly support the school and value the education that their sons receive. Our students need this support to continue in 2022.

Payments (in part or in full) may be made at the front office or you can use our new online payment option through School Bytes.

I have enclosed some information on how to use the payment online system over the next couple of pages.

### How to access School Bytes

To access the School Bytes payment portal or to sign an online permission note, you will receive an email from the school, sent from School Bytes, with a unique link you can select

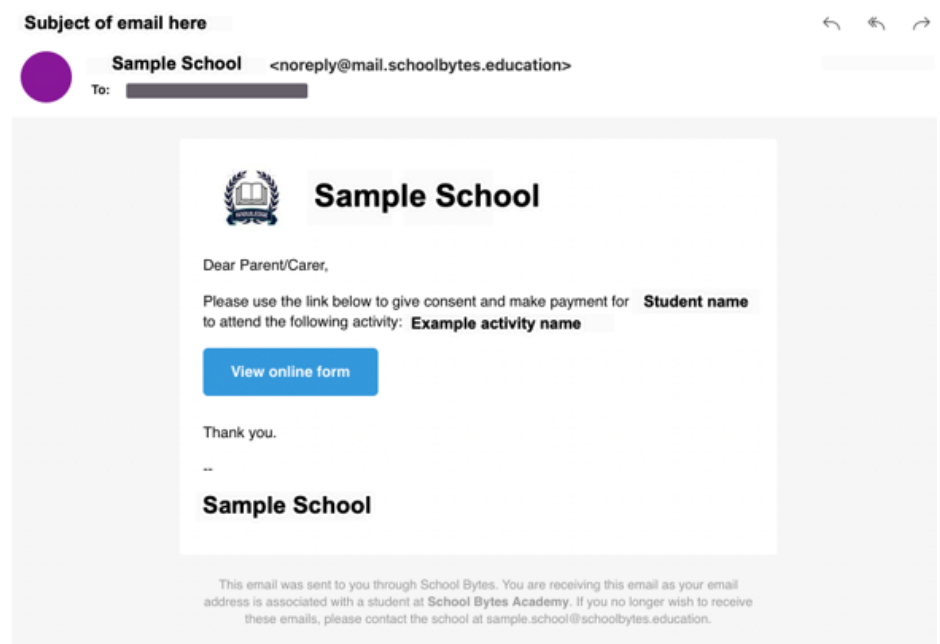


This link will automatically log you into the School Bytes application where you can then continue to make a payment or enter the details into your online permission note.

The emails are sent from noreply@mail.schoolbytes.education. If you are not receiving these emails, please check your spam/junk mail folder and add the email address to your safe senders list.

### Completing online permission notes

1. Select the blue view online form button in the email





# School Bytes

## 2. Review the details of the event

Please note: Some sections of the note may contain links to an external website. If required, you can click on the links to review any further information. If you wish to print the activity information, click on the blue "Print" button on the right-hand side underneath your school's logo. To add the event to your calendar, select the blue "Add to calendar" button next to the print button.

Activity Name:	
Date/Time:	
Description:	
Venue:	
Overnight Location:	
Transport:	
Dress Code:	
Food:	
Please Bring:	
Due Date:	

## 4. Complete the required sections of the note

All required sections are marked with a red asterisk.

I have read the above details and give consent for my child,  Yes  No

Student Name:

Parent/Carer Name: \*  Parent/Carer Phone Number: \*

Emergency Contact Name: \*  Emergency Contact Phone Number: \*

Medical Conditions (including any medication required):  Dietary Requirements:

In relation to the proposed structured aquatic activities (please select response): \*

My child is permitted to go in the water  
 My child is not permitted to go in the water

Parent/Carer Signature: \*

Please sign in the box above using your mouse or finger (on mobile devices) - [Reset Field](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

## 3. Provide consent by selecting yes or no.

I have read the above details and give consent for my child,  Yes  No

Student Name:

Parent/Carer Name: \*  Parent/Carer Phone Number: \*

Emergency Contact Name: \*  Emergency Contact Phone Number: \*

Medical Conditions (including any medication required):  Dietary Requirements:

In relation to the proposed structured aquatic activities (please select response): \*

My child is permitted to go in the water  
 My child is not permitted to go in the water

Parent/Carer Signature: \*

Please sign in the box above using your mouse or finger (on mobile devices) - [Reset Field](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

## 5. Provide a signature

In the parent/carer signature section, you will need to provide your signature digitally. This can be done with a mouse if you are using a computer or your finger if you are using a mobile device.

I have read the above details and give consent for my child,  Yes  No

Student Name:

Parent/Carer Name: \*  Parent/Carer Phone Number: \*

Emergency Contact Name: \*  Emergency Contact Phone Number: \*

Medical Conditions (including any medication required):  Dietary Requirements:

In relation to the proposed structured aquatic activities (please select response): \*

My child is permitted to go in the water  
 My child is not permitted to go in the water

Parent/Carer Signature: \*

Please sign in the box above using your mouse or finger (on mobile devices) - [Reset Field](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

6. Select submit form

Once you press submit, your response will be recorded. If you need to make any changes to your response you will need to contact the school.

Make a payment

1. Select open link beside make online payment.

External Links

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**Make Online Payment**

Open Link

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Information Note

Download



2. Select the fee for the activity

To change the amount you are paying for an item, enter the desired amount in the balance column.

Please note: Your school may not invoice the activity which means it will not appear on the payment portal as a line item. In this case, you will need to select the add other item button to add the line item manually.

3. Populate the payer details then select next.

4. Populate the payment details in the secure make a payment page and select submit payment.



**HEAD TEACHER**  
**ENGLISH**  
**Ms Erin Wagner**



Welcome back to Term 2! My name is Ms Erin Wagner, and I will be the Head Teacher English for the remainder of 2022. It is a pleasure to be part of such a welcoming school community here at BBHS.

I would like firstly thank Ms Bystrzynski, Ms Hakim and Ms Kaur for their fabulous work here at BBHS – you will all be missed, but we wish you well in your next adventure. I would also like to thank parents and students for their patience while we manage the change in staffing this term.

In English this term, students will be studying:

As Year 10 begin to consider their senior studies, I look forward to communicating with you and your sons about options for English in the senior years and the academic demands of each of the available courses. Being in the most appropriate course is essential for your son’s wellbeing and academic achievement, and the English faculty will work with you to guide students into the best course for them. I look forward to supporting you and your sons as they prepare for their senior years.

Our Year 11 and 12 debating team have been hard at work training for the Premier’s Debating Challenge. After a defeat in the first round to Northmead Performing Arts High School, the Year 12 team won their debate against Yass High School to secure their spot in Round 2. A huge congratulations to Akash, Jinil, Tony and Neil on their win, and good luck for the next round.

BBHS has two more debating teams prepping for the Premier’s Debating Competition. Our Year 7 and 8 team will go up against Blacktown Girls High School, Rooty Hill High School

and Quakers Hill High School in this term. While our Year 9 and 10 team will soon face off against Blacktown Girls High School. We wish both of our teams the best of luck! Thank you as well to Ms Scarcella for her support of the debating team this year.

Should you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me or your son’s English teacher and we will be happy to help.

**HEAD TEACHER**  
**MATHS**  
**Ms Xiao Chirgwin**



**Journey to HSC**

Year 12 students are now more than halfway through their HSC courses. We are very proud of our students for their dedication and perseverance through this journey. There will be more assessment tasks coming up this term for our students. We would like to remind our parents and students that it is crucial for students to bring all of their learning equipment to class, and this includes a NESA approved scientific calculator. We recommend the CASIO FX82AU PLUS II or CASIO FX100AU.

Class	Study Area
Year 7	Journey Boat: Picture book and narrative study
Year 8	Novel Study
Year 9	Science Fiction
Year 10	Close Study of Shakespeare/Drama
Year 11 Extension	Texts, Culture and Values
Year 11 Advanced	Narratives that Shape our World
Year 11 Standard	Contemporary Possibilities
Year 11 Studies	Playing the Game: English and Sport
Year 12 Advanced	The Craft of Writing and Critical Study of Literature
Year 12 Standard	The Craft of Writing and Language, Identity and Culture
Year 12 Studies	Digital Worlds





## Tips for Examination Preparation

- Begin early
  - Pay attention in class, learn day-by-day
  - Complete all assigned homework
  - Check assessment notification and know the topics that are involved
  - Create summary notes for each topic
- Simulate test conditions
  - Know your own learning style and how you study
  - Practise questions under test conditions with allocated time
  - Create a distraction free study environment
- Consistent practice
  - Practice solving different questions every night
  - The more you practise answering different questions, the better you will be at them
  - Learn from your mistakes
  - Past HSC papers are strongly recommended to all Year 11 and 12 students for familiarity of the layout and the style of questions
- Work with your teacher and other students
  - Ask for teacher's help when you are unsure of any concepts
  - Helping other students often consolidates your own understanding
- Positive mindset
  - Aim for your personal best
  - Aim for improvement
- Rest and exercise
  - Aim to sleep well every night
  - Regular exercise to recharge your physical and mental health



## Year 10

### Assessment Schedule for Term 2

Class	Week of Assessment
Year 7	Week 6
Year 8	Week 6
Year 9	Week 2
Year 10	Week 2
Year 11 Standard	Week 7
Year 11 Advanced	Week 7
Year 11 Extension 1	Week 8
Year 12 Standard 1	Week 6
Year 12 Standard 2	Week 6
Year 12 Advanced	Week 6
Year 12 Extension 1	Week 5
Year 12 Extension 2	Week 7

This term, our Year 10 students will also be considering what Year 11 courses they will be pursuing in the following year. They should choose their courses for Mathematics wisely, basing their decisions on their skills sets and balancing different subjects. The details for the different courses are in the subject selection handbook. There will be a Foundation Test in Week 6 for the 5.3 and 5.2 pathway classes to check whether students have the required algebra skills for the Mathematics Advanced course. Students should speak to their class teachers to seek guidance on the most suitable course.

### Maths Peer Tutoring

Maths Peer Tutoring program has started back up this term. Students from all year groups are welcome to attend. Our eager senior Mathematics Student Leaders are ready to help with homework, revision for assessment tasks or extra studies. Please encourage your son to attend on Tuesday and Thursday, recess, and lunch time in Room 26.





# ACTING HEAD TEACHER SCIENCE

**Ms Pembe Hussein**



Hello Students and Parents,

Welcome back to an exciting Term 2, where students will continue to explore their passion and interests in the various branches of science.

Ms Wu had the pleasure of presenting last year's participants of the Crystal Growing Competition with awards signifying their massive accomplishments from their entries last year. Congratulations gentlemen, the crystals were very well developed according to their size and clarity.



This term we will again open the Crystal Growing Competition to Year 7 and 8. Students are required to sign up through Ms Wu and notes have been emailed to parents. Please pay the \$10 entry fee at the Front Office or online. We look forward to seeing your fantastic results once again.

Also, term HSC Chemistry and HSC Physics students will be attending the Sydney



University Kickstart program. Physics will be attending on June 22 and Chemistry will be attending on June 29. All students in these courses are required to attend as the program explores HSC syllabus outcomes through the firsthand experience with advanced University laboratory equipment. Please see Mr Choudhary and Ms Hussein for more information. Parents can sign the permission note that has been emailed and pay online or through the Front Office.

As it is mid-year, Junior Science assessments this term will be Half-Yearly Examinations held during the respective grades Assessment Week. Students are encouraged to refer to the assessment notification that was issued to them during class and to follow the explicit instructions outlined in the notification to prepare for the task. During Science classes, students will be taken through revision content and techniques to empower them for their upcoming assessment. In order to further prepare for the upcoming examinations, students

are encouraged to develop concept maps that outline and link the subtopics within the overarching topic. Students can use this as a checklist as a recognition of their fantastic progress throughout the year.

Supporting Year 11 and Year 12 Science students in their studies, the

Science Faculty has implemented Edrolo - an online learning platform to assist students in consolidating their understanding. Students are encouraged to routinely review their understanding through the revision of the content and through the completion of the quizzes.

Science students are reminded of the Health and Safety requirements of completing practical firsthand investigations safely. Students are to ensure they are following the teachers' instructions at all times and to ensure they are wearing the appropriate footwear, at all times.

Lastly, just a reminder to Year 12 Biology students that their Depth Study Task 3 is now due on 27 March 2022. All students are to submit their report via Google Classroom by 8:10am on the day and they are to complete the in-class examination during Period 2 in the Hall. Please follow the instructions on the updated assessment notification and the letter that was handed out to students.

See you shortly at Parent Teacher night.

Kind regards,

Pembe Hussein

Relieving Head Teacher Science





**HEAD TEACHER  
HSIE  
Mrs Gina Jackson**



The HSIE staff have worked tirelessly to transition students back to school after the lengthy interruption caused by COVID. Staff have successfully planned engaging lessons both inside and outside the classroom, ensured students participated in competitions such as Mock Trial, MUNA, and the Geography Competition. Mr Dibbs & Mr Taylor coordinated the ANZAC Day school assembly to commemorate the fallen in battle and ensure their sacrifice is remembered. Miss Nguyen initiated our partnership with ECHO – a non-profit organisation run by university students, who delivered the first of a series of tutorials to our Year 11 and 12 Economics students and delivered a workshop to our Year 7 and 8 students on financial literacy.

**Anzac Day**



**Cookie Excavation**

At the end of term 1, Year 7s investigated the ancient past and learned about the roles of historians and archaeologists. They took on the job of archaeologists and applied their knowledge into meticulously excavating cookies and digging up artefacts of ‘chocolate chips’. Students in 7H and 7M learned that excavation requires tremendous patience and attention to detail.



**Learning outdoors**

Year 9 students took learning outdoors for their historical investigation in the ‘Movement of Peoples’ topic in Term 1, when they measured the

size of the Brookes slave ship and the space allocated to men, women and children captured as slaves on the ship. Through this active learning activity, 9HSIE students learned to empathise with enslaved people and their tormenting experiences.



**ECHO Financial and Economic workshops**

At the end of Term 1, BBHS was honoured to have ECHO (a youth-led not-for-profit organisation that promotes economic and financial literacy among youth) host a workshop for our year 7 and 8 students. Students now understand globalisation and inflation and are able to recognise these concepts in their daily life. The HSIE Faculty wishes to continue working with ECHO throughout the year to better equip young students with financial and economic literacy to help them make informed decisions from an early age.



ECHO also held a workshop with our Year 12 Economics class to discuss the government’s budget and current economic issues, extending students’ learning and application of theories in practice. ECHO members, being former HSC high achievers, also



provided our Year 12s with tips and learning strategies to prepare them for their upcoming HSC Economics exams.

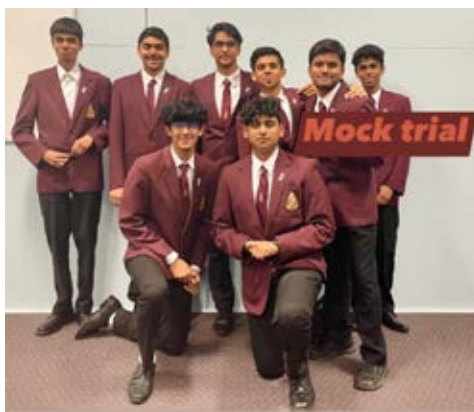


### Model United Nations

Multiple teams competing in both the Model UN Assembly (MUNA) and Evatt UN Security Council competitions are training hard for their rounds during May and June. Our first team, Kunwardeep Singh and Samirali Ami, kicked it off with their round for Evatt hosted at James Ruse Agricultural High School in Week 3, representing Mexico successfully. By participating in Model UN competitions, students develop their skills in public speaking, teamwork, research, negotiation, and global citizenship. (Miss Nguyen)



Congratulations to the Blacktown Boys High School Mock Trial Team on their win against Cecil Hills High School. Students put 5 weeks of preparation to the test to represent the defence in the criminal charge, "Possession of Stolen Goods." Students had to put together a case which established that the defendant did not know the items in question were stolen. They called witnesses, presented legal arguments, and raised objections to secure the win. Good luck in the next round of the competition! (Mr P. Taylor)



### Geography & History Competition

65 students from Years 7 – 11 sat for the Australian Geography Competition in week 10 last term which was successfully delivered for the first-time using Education Perfect. We are looking forward to receiving their results. (Ms Narayan)

By now you have probably received information through your email about the scheduled History Competition on the 3 June during period 4. This competition is open to Year 7-10 students. There is a \$250 prize for each National champion. We encourage as many students as possible to participate in this competition.

G. Jackson

## HEAD TEACHER TEACHING & LEARNING Mr David Martin



As we approach the midpoint of the year, there are several key events for all parents/carers and students to be mindful of. NAPLAN has taken place, and students in Years 10-12 will be completing any Minimum Standards tests they have remaining (information about these tests can be found on the NESA website). Students in Year 8 and 10 will also be completing their Subject Selection for Stage 5 and Stage 6, respectively, and will be provided additional information about it. Parents and carers are encouraged to discuss elective choices with their children and should remember that students will perform better in subjects they enjoy and are good at. I emphasise that these should guide all decisions made regarding subjects chosen for Stages 5 and 6.

Year 10 students have also been participating in a program run by Western Sydney University called Confidence With Careers, which has helped them to identify strengths, interests, and possible career pathways. Students should consider this program for how it can inform their decisions over the coming years, as well as the pathways available to them. On behalf of the students involved, I wish to thank Dr Atwa from WSU for the program she has developed, as well as her team for delivering the program for the benefit of our students.

Finally, a reminder that the EAL/D survey is currently being completed, and at the beginning of Term 3 the NCCD will take place. These two surveys do not affect students but are a requirement of all schools to provide data about the types of learners they have, as well as the potential needs of all students and how they are supported. If you have any questions regarding either of these surveys, please contact the school.

Mr D. Martin

## **NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy is an assessment that runs nationally and tests students' skills in particular aspects of literacy and numeracy in years 3, 5, 7 and year 9.

In NSW, the NAPLAN tests replaced English Language and Literacy Assessment (ELLA) and Secondary Numeracy Assessment Program. (SNAP) The aspects of literacy tested in NAPLAN are writing, reading and language conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation). The aspects of numeracy tested in NAPLAN include working mathematically, knowledge and skills, data, measurement, number, patterns and algebra, space, and geometry. The NAPLAN test does not test students' ability in English and Maths as a subject, it tests the students' literacy and numeracy across all subjects.

The NAPLAN test for years 7 and 9 is held in May in weeks 3 & 4 in term 2 and is carried out across Australia in the same week for all four-year groups. There will be a make-up day for students who missed a test paper or were absent on a particular test day.

These tests provide valuable information for teachers, students and parents and supply a picture of student performance across all

levels of achievement that helps teachers to improve the literacy and numeracy skills for their students. The test results usually arrive at the end of term. The staff will analyse the results through the Executive, Learning Support Team, and staff.

This analysis is then used to refine teaching and learning programs and also to target students who may need specific assistance through individualised and intensive programs at school by our specialised support staff.

Mrs B Josan

Learning Support Team

## **Gaming and Young People**

As life gradually returns to normal and we start to spend more time out and about, we can still feel attached to habits we picked up during long periods of isolation. For many of our young people, this involves habits related to gaming. So, what exactly is gaming? Gaming refers to playing electronic games, whether through consoles, computers, smartphones, iPads, or other devices.

Gaming is extremely popular amongst young people and for good reason. There are many positive things about gaming. It provides an opportunity to compete against peers, problem-solve and unlock new achievements. It's a way to socialise and become part of a community with people who share similar interests. It can also provide a path to explore and create new things. Gaming can be a great way for young people to relax, build their self-esteem and learn to become more resilient.

It's also important to be aware that if used in an unhealthy way, gaming can have negative impacts on a young person's wellbeing and development. In particular, this is related to the amount of time spent on gaming.

Current government guidelines

recommend no more than 2 hours of sedentary recreational screen time per day for high school aged young people. Many young people spend several hours a day gaming both during the week and on weekends. Excessive gaming can become addictive and can impact a young person's cognitive wellbeing, affecting things like memory, attention span and perception. It can also affect their emotional wellbeing, leaving them sad, irritable, anxious, or angry when they're not able to spend time gaming.

It's important to be aware of the warning signs pointing to unhealthy gaming. These warning signs could include things like changes in their routine, e.g., difficulty sleeping, increased absences from school or skipping meals so that they can game. It could be evident in a young person spending more money than they can afford on games, having decreased personal hygiene or spending less time with family. Young people can show increased aggression or be more likely to experience conflict with friends or family over their gaming habits. A young person may lose control over the amount of time they spend gaming or start to complain of aches and pains.

If you want to promote healthy gaming in your household or for a young person you know, there are several strategies you can implement:

1. Lead by example. Think about the amount of time you and the other adults in your household spend on your devices. Demonstrate a healthy balance of screen time each day.
2. Get active. Promote spending time outdoors, exercising or joining a sport club.
3. Encourage other hobbies or interests. You can also try using gaming as a reward for after other tasks have been completed.



4. Show interest in the game and appreciation for the positive aspects like teamwork and socialising.

5. Schedule clear times for when gaming is allowed and not allowed or use a timer for gaming sessions. Persevere and stay consistent.

6. Helpful restrictions. If needed, limit the amount of data available to be used for gaming devices or restrict access to data at certain times of day – especially during sleeping hours. You could also make mealtimes ‘device free’ and even keep devices and chargers outside of the bedroom.

By encouraging healthy habits, gaming can be a positive part of a young person’s life. For more information or ways to help, speak to Headspace or your GP and visit <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/big-issues/gaming>.

Perrin Knight

Student Support Officer

## CAREER ADVISER Mr Trevor Hodges



Year 12 students have been actively involved in extra curricula seminars with ‘future students’ representatives’ from multiple universities. University of Sydney, New South Wales, Macquarie, Western Sydney and UTS to name a few.

Students gain firsthand knowledge of University and Pathways into courses that serve their career aspirations. Presenters are 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> year students at university who share their stories

of progression from acing the HSC through to applying through UAC as well as university early entry schemes. Course structures and combinations available to complete Degrees were discussed and explained in-depth. These incursions are an important part of all year 12 students’ education as they assist students on their pathway from school to work and further study.

Year 10 students completed an ‘Interview to Impress’ online incursion ZOOM conference with ABCN. The company utilised for this event was CSR Marketing. Mentors from this company assisted in the further development of students interviewing techniques through interacting interviewing questions and answers. The outcome of this community input will impact on students’ pathway interview skills and expand their knowledge on the ‘world of work’. Blacktown Boys’ is a fervent supporter of community delivered courses and ABCN as their skills are highly valued and extend students experiences beyond those from school. ABCN work with all stages from year 7 through to year 12 and beyond.



Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber students completed their compulsory industry study when they visited a major cabinet making company in Western Sydney. Students were astonished as to the level of automation

used across the entire production process. The software developed by the company controlled every aspect of design and construction, even down to ordering and paying for stock, without human input. Safety and upskilling of employees were a high priority for the company, as was their efforts to be an environmentally friendly business. This company produces more solar feed in than they draw from the grid and recycle raw material as much as it is



feasible. This experience will assist students in their HSC and future careers.

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Year 12 senior students from Blacktown Boys' High will be attending the Careers Expo at Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park. The focal point of this excursion is to allow students to access information on tertiary institutions, business, employment and training services, including apprenticeships. In addition to the 140 providers, students have the opportunity to attend professional seminars on a variety of topics, in 4 separate seminar rooms, such as, extension Mathematics and English, History, Sciences, Economics, studying tips and tricks. Feedback from students from previous visits has been very positive. The cost to students is \$20, which includes a 3-day pass to the event and a seat belted bus to and from school to the venue. Places are limited, so you need to book early, hand in the completed note and payment to the front office. Parents of all grades have the opportunity to attend the Careers Expo in person over the weekend, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of June.

The investment in additional HSC resources to assist students' performance in their exams by the Careers Department have now arrived. Students are now able to borrow these from the library on a weekly basis. It is envisaged that this will give students multiple experiences in order to value-add to

their exam performance.

Year 11 & 12 students should continue to refer to the NESA HSC Study Guide available here:

<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-student-guide/student-guide>

This guide provides links to quizzes, past HSC examination papers and an examination checklist.

NESA has also provided Parents with a HSC Study Guide available here:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/parents/parent-guide/high-school-hsc>.

As much as study is important, it is also important to remember to relax and remind yourself to communicate to those around you. Students are to ensure they are prioritising their health and wellbeing. Tips on staying healthy during the HSC can be found here:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/stay-healthy-HSC>.

Yours sincerely,

The Careers Department

Trevor Hodges

Careers Adviser



## ACTING HEAD TEACHER INCLUSIVE EDUCATION Ms Lana Sevenoaks



Term 2 is going to be a busy time for Inclusive Education. Our students are learning about healthy eating, human diseases, and animal adaptations, in Science and Geography. This work ties in with our recent visits to the school agriculture plot. Students will be planting their own vegetables and they will be learning about the life cycle of plants from seed to fruit, as well as learning valuable agricultural and sustainable farming skills. Our animal adaptations unit ties in with an excursion to Sydney Zoo, that we are planning for later in the term.



Students have conducted interesting firsthand investigations in science, involving the use of microscopes and looking at the cellular structure





**ACTING HEAD TEACHER  
CAPA  
Ms Victoria Zaw**



A warm welcome back to Term 2. This term is a very exciting time for our students and staff. We have officially commenced preparation towards **Café d' Art**. Our annual exhibition and performance evening celebrates student achievement in Visual Arts, Music, Visual Design and Italian. It will be held in our school hall on August 31 (Term 3, Week 7, Wednesday). Due to COVID, Café d' Art was celebrated online for the last two years. This year, we look forward to meeting you in person, awarding excellence in our courses and sharing live musical performances. The evening provides HSC Music students and others a platform to perform for an audience as well as an opportunity for Visual Arts and Visual Design students to curate their works in an exhibition space. Awards and prizes are given on the night. Award recipients will receive a formal invitation for the evening.

Currently, all Year 7 - 12 Visual Arts and Year 9 - 10 Visual Design students are planning their major work submissions for Café d' Art. Their works will take form as an acrylic

of plants and insects. Firsthand investigations, facilitated by Miss Winata, will continue throughout the term. Our breakfast club and food technology lessons have continued, with the goal of improving functional living skills for our students. The athletics carnival is coming up in week 5, and is a great opportunity for the students within the support unit to participate in a whole school event, and to earn points for their sporting houses. We're looking forward to a great day with all of our students. Also, the Tesla class will be having their IEP meetings this term, which provides an opportunity for parents and teachers to collaborate on learning outcomes and social goals. We're looking forward to a full but rewarding term.

Our faculty:

**Miss Zaw**

Relieving Head Teacher CAPA/ LOTE and Visual Arts, Visual Design and Stage 4 Music teacher

**Mrs Hunter**

Visual Arts and Visual Design teacher

**Mr Conley**

Visual Arts and Stage 4 Music teacher

**Mrs Miggins**

Visual Arts teacher

**Mr Cayas**

Music teacher

**Mr Pace**

Italian teacher





painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, digital artwork/s or collection of works. When artmaking, student decisions are informed by research, experimentation, critical thinking, refinement, curatorial considerations, and material practice. Art rooms are available for additional studio time at recess and lunch times as negotiated by their teacher.

In Music, students across all enjoying the new Kawai Upright piano in the music room. Students are also experiencing a range of newly acquired percussion instruments. These will be of benefit in future performances, such as the Café d' Art, for which a number of student ensembles are rehearsing. A call for piano auditions to perform on Café d Art evening will also be announced in the daily notices this term.

Students making themselves known through their artmaking and performance are:

- Eon Aniano
- Hamza Akbari
- Nashwan Uddin
- Nourudeen Baghdadi
- Salman Uppal
- Mahmood Hasan
- Hasnain Ali
- Pranat Mishra
- Samson Immanuel
- Tanveer Singh
- Arya Gandhi
- Kay Sharma
- Shashwat Thakur
- Darryl Liongson
- Neel Patel
- Atul Praveen
- Zakar Ahmed
- Niketh Sajith
- Himadri Chakraborty
- Jason Kim

<b>Term 2 Visual Design</b>	
Year 7	OCEANS2148 (continued)
Year 8	Alfresco - The way we eat (continued)
Year 9	Core, Growth and Form - Exploring Repetition and Surrealism in Nature
Year 10	Core, Growth and Form - Exploring Repetition and Surrealism in Nature
Year 11	Representations of figure
Year 12	Bodies of Work
<b>Term 2 Music</b>	
Year 7	The Instruments of Music
Year 8	The Pioneers of Rock
Year 9	Music for Small Ensembles
Year 10	Western Art Music
Year 11	Music of Australia and Film Music
Year 12	Individual Electives
<b>Term 2 Italian</b>	
Year 8	Di dove sei? (Where are you from?)



## HEAD TEACHER

### PDHPE

Ms Tahnee Lovering



Welcome to Term 2! As usual a busy term with lots of events and assessments. Please ensure you are keeping up to date with your assessment schedule seeking teacher feedback on drafts early and catching up on any missed work due to absences. A reminder to only be wearing PE/Sport uniform on sports day. For PE practical lessons students must come prepared with their sport uniform packed ready to change before and after the practical lesson

### School Gym Club

Gym club is up and running. If you are in year 10-12 and are interested please see Miss Lovering to register.

### New permission notes system

A new online system is now being run to distribute permission notes, event information and collect permission and payments. All permission notes will now be sent to your identified primary email address. Consent can be submitted online as well as payments. Please ensure you have provided the school with an accurate contact email so that you do not miss any event information. A yellow change of email form can be obtained from the front office.

## Term 1 topics and assessment tasks

Year/ Course	Unit Name	Assessment Task	Week Due
7 PDHPE	Prac - FMS & Composition Theory - Relationships	Relationships	7
8 PDHPE	Prac - Fitness Games Theory - Safe Behaviours	Nil	N/A
9 PDHPE	Prac - Net/Court Theory - This is Me	This is Me	9
9 PASS	Physical Activity for Health	Nil	N/A
10 PDHPE	Prac - Invasion Games Theory - Movement Analysis	Movement Analysis	8
10 PASS	Physical Activity for Health	Nil	N/A
11 PDHPE	Body in Motion	Body in Motion	9
11 SLR	Sports Coaching & Administration	Sports Coaching & Administration	5
12 PDHPE	Factors Affecting Performance	Factors Affecting Performance	9
12 SLR	Fitness	Fitness	10

The graphic features the text "PDHPE STAFFROOM" in large, white, hand-drawn letters on a red background. Below the text are five cartoon avatars of staff members, each with their name and role written below them:

- Sports coordinator:** Fabricato
- Yr12 year advisor:** Franic
- HT PDHPE:** Lovering
- PDHPE teacher:** Wilson
- PDHPE teacher:** Mills



## SPORT CO-ORDINATOR Mr Daniel Fabricato



### Zone Cross Country

With the wet weather hampering our sport season in Term 1 we were finally able to get through the rest of our age groups for our Cross Country. Congratulations to the following Age Champions:

12 Years – Yohan Estrada

13 Years – Karthik Banuka

14 Years – Alessandro Elemento

15 Years – Ishan Dave

16 Years – Luis Contreras Villajuan

17 Years – Ali Yuldashev

18+ Years – Michael Hodges

Wyndham College played host to the Blacktown Zone Cross Country on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Our students were very eager to run and demonstrated some pleasing results. Congratulations to all our students who qualified for the Sydney West Cross Country Carnival which will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June at Sydney International Equestrian Centre.



### Bill Turner Cup

On 29<sup>th</sup> April, BBHS played host to Chifley College, Mt Druitt Campus in the first round of the Under 15's Bill Turner Cup Soccer competition. In a dominant first half BBHS took a 4-0 lead into half time. In the second half our boys worked on our communication skills and ended up 7-0 victors. Man of the match was our striker Deng Atemgai who manage to score 4 goals. Other great performances included Coopa Jackson and Devansh Dhami. We look forward to playing Bede Polding College in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the competition.





## ACTING HEAD TEACHER TAS Mr Peter Mueller

It has been a busy time in TAS this term with all the year groups heavily engaged in their specialisations. Food Tech completing practical exams: Year 7 made burgers, Year 8 chicken tandoori wraps, Year 9 own healthy choice meals and Year 10 international pizzas. Check out some of their handiwork.



Year 9 Multimedia completed their first assessment task where they created animated figures and their own logos to be used as a brand identifier in their next assignment, the creation of their own website.

Year 9 Timber are hand crafting stepping stools using a combination of dowel, biscuit jointing, and rebate construction.

Year 9 Engineering have been designing and building their own miniature water towers out of Balsa wood with some interesting results.

Year 10 Electronics are all heavily engaged in trying to construct a functional DC electric motor out of scrap and recycled materials. The work ebbs and flows as groups struggle then overcome shortcomings in design and available materials before they move on to the next hurdle.

Year 12 Software Design are now heading into the final stretch before the HSC, busily coding their final unit of work and preparing for the trials in term 3 week 1.

## YEAR 7 YEAR ADVISER Ms Chloe Alfonso



### YEAR 7 CONTINUE TO THRIVE

As we near the halfway mark of the year, Year 7 look back fondly on the positive experiences they've had so far - Swimming Carnival, Peer Support, Cross Country and of course NAPLAN! Students have been sharing their creative and

sporting talents and learning new skills along the way. As they continue to transition into the high school environment, many are also stepping up in new roles of responsibilities, such as contributing to the School Representative Council (SRC) and taking on extra-curricular activities like the Rubik's Cubing Club, Art club, Sports teams and debating.

We look forward to how much further they continue to thrive and grow throughout the year!

### Rubik's Cubing Club

Congratulations to Yash Mali, Liam Talarico, Riley Ong and Ayan Ata for achieving the fastest average solves in their respective categories! Their efforts in speed-solving a Rubik's cube enabled them to complete average times of 1:02.69, 00:43.94, 00:18.33 and 00:15.06 respectively!



We encourage all students that are interested in puzzles and challenges join the Rubik's Cubing club every Monday and Wednesday during recess and lunch! They can work on improving their average times in preparation for the new competitions coming up this year.





# Year 7 at the Swimming Carnival



## YEAR 8 YEAR ADVISER Ms Cindy Tang



To our students, parents & guardians, Welcome to Term 2 of Year 8! We finished off term 1 with many whole school events such as the swimming carnival, the cross country and the SRC elections. Hopefully by now, Year 8s have established a routine

for school and are more familiar with the procedures and processes around school.

During my walks around the playground at recess and lunch, it is fantastic to see many of the year 8s participating in active activities during their break such as playing ball games on the school oval, playing handball, table tennis, basketball and playing tips with their friends. It is also great to see students interacting with peers from different classes.

I would like to congratulate our newly elected Year 8 SRCs! These students have taken the initiative to apply to become SRC and have been nominated by their peers to represent their homeroom. It is fantastic to see our year 8s stepping

into leadership roles at BBHS. Our year 8 SRCs are:

- Aryan Ahuja
- Taran Mittal
- Omair Qurashi
- Tanveer Singh
- Navkarn Singh
- Charlton Hakeai
- Coopa Jackson

Taran, Navkarn and Charlton were also the MCs for the Year 8 meeting at the start of Term 2 and did a wonderful job at addressing the meeting and going through the announcements. During this Year Meeting, we looked at the key events occurring for year 8 in Term 2 such as subject selection and parent teacher evening. We also



looked at positive decision making and understanding consequences of our actions. I would also like to congratulate Taran for receiving the Student of the Term award. I look forward to working with our SRCs and the rest of Year 8 throughout this year.

During term 1, we also had 20 students attend the ABCN Full Steam Ahead excursion to the Powerhouse Museum. These students went through an expression of interest process and applied to attend this three-day excursion. We received positive feedback from the ABCN organisers, and our students demonstrated their problem-solving skills, collaboration skills and creativity through completing the projects.

I would like to also mention the following year 8 students who are representing BBHS in the zone swimming and zone cross-country.

### **Zone swimming**

- Jacob Bradley
- Ebenezer Jacob
- Aryan Mandri
- Sitt Naing
- Zakarayya Shaideen

### **Zone cross - country**

- Tharun Anandh
- Karthik Banuka
- Simon Charles
- Narayan Madhan
- Nikhil Taylor

Here are some announcements and reminder for Term 2:

### **Year 8 Assessment Week**

Assessment week for year 8s is in week 6 (30/05/22 - 3/06/22). This means that most assessment tasks for Year 8s will be due during this period.

### **Junior Subject Selection**

Students in year 9 and 10 (Stage 5) will select three elective subjects in addition to compulsory subjects. The compulsory subjects for Stage 5 are: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography & PDHPE. Most of the electives will be from the TAS, CAPA/LOTE, PDHPE & HSIE faculties. Year 8 students and their families will be invited to a subject selection evening later in Term 2, providing more information about the electives that are being offered and the process of choosing electives. I encourage year 8s to start thinking about the electives that they might be interested in undertaking in Stage 5 and ask these faculties about what these electives are about. This will help the students make more informed decisions.

### **Semester 1 Reports & Parent teacher evening**

Year 8s will be receiving their Semester 1 report at the end of this term. There will also be a parent-teacher evening where parents and guardians can meet the teachers and formally discuss their child's progress in Semester 1. Similar to last year, there will be an online booking system for the interviews. More information will be given closer to the date.

### **Uniform, Sport Day & Changerooms update**

The formal school uniform for juniors consists of a grey shirt and grey trousers/shorts with leather shoes. Black trousers are only for senior (year 11 & 12) students. Students should also not be wearing grey jogger pants to school. The PE changerrooms are in use so students should be bringing their sport uniform on the days that they have 'PEP' on their timetables. Year 8s have sport Period 1 and Period 2 every Wednesday. Students should only be wearing their sport uniform to school on Wednesdays.

If students are not coming to school with the correct uniform, they need to provide a note from their parents/guardians to the HT of Administration for a uniform pass.

### **Attendance** (start of school and each period)

Students need to be at their homeroom by 8:10am every day. There is a warning music bell that goes at 8:05am to signify that it is time to go to homeroom. If students arrive at school after 8:10am, they need to go to the front office to get a late note. Students need to also be mindful about when recess and lunch ends and need to actively make their way to their classroom when the 5-minute





warning bell rings to signify the end of recess and lunch.

### **Learn to Live Program**

The Learn to Live outline for Year 8s this term consists of:

- » Managing stress & organisation skills
- » Your Identity @ BBHS
- » Evaluating & reviewing my goals
- » Subject Selection Summary
- » E-Safety & Digital citizenship

### **Extra-curricular activities & Competitions**

I would also like to remind Year 8s to listen out for extracurricular activities that they can participate in. These extra-curricular activities are usually announced during homeroom, assemblies and posted on the year 8 google classrooms.

In Term 1, we had extracurricular activities including:

- Junior Debating
- Bill Turner Soccer Cup
- Cricket Lunch time league
- ABCN Full Steam Ahead
- Australian Geography Competition
- ECHO Financial & Economics Workshop
- Sport tryouts
- E-sports competition

There have also been announcements for extra-curricular activities for Term 2 such as the Crystal Growing Competition, Australian Mathematics Competition and Under-15s rugby and basketball. I encourage all students to consider extra-curricular activities as a way to build their soft skills, to discover hidden passions and

build a sense of belonging to school.

### **Google Classroom for year 8**

All year 8 students should be on the Year 8 Google Classroom. This is the same Google Classroom as in year 7 and will be used as a platform for communication between myself and the cohort.

### **Contact with the school**

Students are encouraged to talk to their teachers or myself if they have any questions or concerns about school, their classes, homework, or peer relationships. Parents and guardians who have questions can email the school or contact me via please contact the school.

Ms Tang



## **YEAR 9 YEAR ADVISER**

### **Ms Jessica Scarcella**



Hi, Year 9 parents, carers, and students,

I'm Jessica Scarcella and I've been working as an English Teacher at BBHS for four years now. While Miss Zaw is relieving head teacher in the CAPA faculty, I will be helping to support Year 9 as relieving year advisor. I've taught many of you Year 9 students over the last 3 years, but I'm really excited to get to know even more of you during this term as year advisor. A reminder to students that if you have questions or concerns, please see me up in the English staffroom and I'll do my best to help you. I look forward to working more closely with such a friendly, lively, and talented grade of students!

Term Two is off to a flying start for Year 9, both in the classroom, and on the sports field. This term, Year 9 will be completing NAPLAN for the first time since Year 5. This is an opportunity to check in with how their literacy and numeracy skills are progressing, and how we can best support our students as a school. At the end of last term, students represented BBHS as part of the ABCN future thinkers' program. Students worked with mentors from IAG to develop their collaboration skills, and to develop innovative ways to solve problems in order to make our school a better place. They learnt that failure isn't a bad thing but rather a chance to make an idea

even better! Year 9 students, keep an eye on Google Classroom as we will be asking for volunteers who are interested in attending session 2 soon. Finally, all of Year 9 competed in our cross-country race at the end of last term. A huge congratulations to those who finished the race! A special congratulation to those who have made it to Sydney West Cross Country.

During the L2L program in Week 3, students had the opportunity to listen to a guest speaker from the Australian Institute of Sport, Hannah Buckling. Hannah is an Australian water polo player, and she was very generous sharing her experiences with Year 9. We got to learn more about mental fitness, how to keep our minds healthy and how to raise our resilience. I encourage all of you to try to use one of the mental fitness techniques we learnt during the session over the next term. You could practice gratitude, mindfulness or form a habit that is as simple as reaching out and connecting with people from your support network.

## **YEAR 10 YEAR ADVISER**

### **Ms Kathleen Villanueva**



Term 2 is a busy term for everyone, particularly our Year 10 students! They have been welcomed back to the term with their assessment week early this term and are looking forward to a few exciting events this term.

## **Confidence with Careers**

Students in Year 10 have been given the opportunity to participate in a program called Confidence with Careers which they have started at the end of Term 1. It is a program run by Western Sydney University to develop a student's understanding of career pathways and different ways of entering fields of study that they may be interested in. So far, Year 10 have been actively involved in the workshops with the mentors which has helped them to create a career diary, as well reflect on what they think they would like to pursue in the future.

## **Learn 2 Live**

Learn 2 Live is a wellbeing program that has been introduced into the Year 10 timetable once a fortnight to address age-specific topics and to assist students to create SMART goals for the year. In our lessons so far, students have been able to write down their goals, learn more about how to recognise stress, what the growth mindset is, and have listened to presentations from guest speakers. Headspace Mt Druitt visited during one session to talk about mental health, what they do as an organisation, and the services that they can provide for young people. During another session, a representative from the Students As Lifestyle Activists (SALSA) also came to speak with Year 10 to empower them to become leaders in the school and motivate younger students to increase physical activity and improve their diet. It was great to see many Year 10 students eager to participate to be a part of positive change in the school.

## **Upcoming Events for Year 10**

### **Subject Selection**

An exciting part of Year 10 is the opportunity to start thinking about the options that they may want to take





## YEAR 11 YEAR ADVISER Ms Jessie O'Brien



Welcome back to another busy term. As you are reading this, you will be halfway through your Preliminary journey!! As daunting as that seems, you should all be proud of your achievements thus far and remember to maintain the dedication and focus you have demonstrated in Term 1 to ensure your greatest success in the HSC.

In Term 1 Year 11 participated in a range of activities, including a Year Meeting discussing effective strategies to transition into senior schooling, the School ANZAC day Ceremony, Haka Warriors, as well as a range of sporting and extra-curricular activities. I wish to congratulate our sporting champions, Mock Trial and UN Youth teams and those involved in the ANZAC Day Ceremony in their efforts of representing our school, and I encourage you to continue to express interest for any extracurricular activities to support your career opportunities after school. I would also like to congratulate Aadil Patel on receiving the Term 1 Year Advisors award for his all-round efforts in term 1.

As we move through this busy term, there are a few general reminders for Year 11:

1. Make sure you are on our **Google Classroom**, so you receive all the up-to-date information relevant to our grade. If you need the code, make

after this year. At BBHS, we offer a range of subjects for Years 11 and 12 which will be introduced to the students as well as parents/carers on Thursday 16 June during our Subject Selection Information Evening. The evening will also go through important guidelines students need to be aware of when choosing their subjects so that it can align with their plans after Year 12.

### Subject Selection Interviews

To ensure that students have chosen subjects that suit their personal needs and goals, Subject Selection Interviews will be taking place later this term. These interviews invite both the student and their parents/guardians to a meeting with a teacher to discuss the options available and what recommendations some of their current teachers might have. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the subject selection process and get answers to any queries or concerns that you can have.

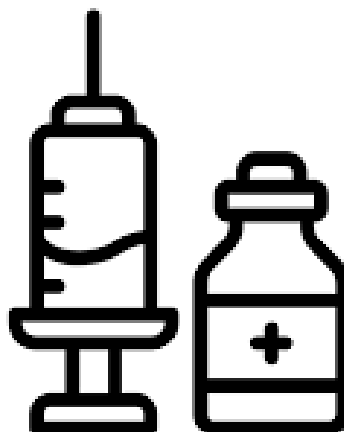
### Parent/Teacher Evening

Upcoming this term is Parent Teacher Evening. It is a great opportunity to meet all of your son's teachers and learn of his progress in his studies in each of his subjects. These meetings are only scheduled once a year and are important in ensuring your son

is working towards achieving all learning outcomes. It will also give you a chance to clarify and discuss any questions you might have regarding his Semester 1 reports. Bookings are made online in the Parent Portal. If you do not have access to this, please update your email address at the front office to receive an access key.

### Vaccinations

Students will be receiving their Meningococcal vaccinations towards the end of this term. Notes containing information regarding the vaccination have been sent home and will need to be returned as soon as possible to ensure that all the necessary details are collected before the date of the vaccination.



sure to see me in the HSIE staffroom!

2. Overall, everyone has continued to wear their new **uniforms**, let's keep this up! Remember, if you are out of uniform you need to follow the right procedures and see Ms Sharma with a note to be eligible for a Uniform Pass.

3. Despite the risk of sounding like a broken record, our goal this year is **no "N-awards"**. If you get stuck at any point, make sure to communicate with your teachers. You also have access to study centre in **room 9 every Wednesday recess** for support or a quiet place to work.

In the coming weeks we will begin to have meetings to organise and finalise Year 12 Jackets, a Year 12 Yearbook, Formal and fundraising and potential other Year 11 Exclusive activities! Keep an ear out in homeroom for announcements and check Google Classroom to ensure you have all the most up to date information.

Lastly, some tips for preparing yourself for Senior school and managing a changed workload:

### **Stick to a routine**

Follow a regular school sleep pattern and create a study plan to work around your lifestyle. Remember school and life should be a balance. If you have a job, this needs to be considered too.

### **Attendance**

Make sure you are on time to school and all of your classes. Every minute of class time counts. If you are away, make sure to speak to your class teachers to see what you need to catch up on.

### **Continue to exercise and spend some time away from your workspace**

Get outside, soak up some sun and fresh air! It is great for helping you to relax and focus.

### **Reach out**

If you need any additional support, don't be afraid to ask! The following people are here to help you:

- \* Careers Adviser
- \* Year Adviser
- \* Head Teachers & Classroom Teachers

## **YEAR 12 YEAR ADVISER**

### **Mr Andy Franjic**



Welcome to Term 2 to all students, parents, and carers. I hope you all had a restful break and are ready for another busy term. Essentially, our Year 12 students have reached the halfway point of their final year at BBHS. One thing I'm sure the students will have noticed is that time travels fast and before they know it the HSC will be upon us. In saying this, it has never been more important to be prepared and organised for the next stage of the year.

### **NESA Confirmation of Entry**

Students have been provided with the form that indicates the subjects for which students are entered with NESA for the HSC. Students have made corrections where necessary and this information will be updated. It is important that students access their 'Students Online' account to ensure the correct subjects are listed. If there are any errors, they should inform either myself or the Head Teacher of Administration – Ms Sharma immediately.

### **Attendance**

Turning up is the basic ingredient for success in most walks of life. When it comes to a productive final year of school a high rate of attendance is paramount. I am concerned at the high rate of absenteeism for many students in the cohort. Missing days from school at this point means missing out on invaluable learning time in the classroom and the opportunity to consolidate those essential skills and knowledge that are provided through learning activities in the classroom. For any periods of justified absence, it is important that students provide the relevant documentation informing of the reasons for their absence.

### **Early Entry Applications**

It was pleasing to see the number of students attend the seminar presented by our Careers Advisor – Mr Hodges on the process for early entry applications. Mr Hodges provided students with a wealth of information that will assist them in this process. A large number of students were successful in obtaining offers to courses at universities such as Macquarie, Sydney & UNSW in the past and it can be a rewarding option for students. I encourage all students that meet the criteria to undertake this process and seek assistance if necessary. At the end of the day, the more options in terms of career pathways our students have, the better.

There is a webinar regarding the 'Macquarie Leaders & Achievers' Early Entry Scheme on the 1 June at 6pm. Students can register for this webinar for further information.

### **Study Periods**

Many students now have a number of study periods as part of their timetable. I have noticed that a large number of our students are not utilising this time for the desired purpose on a frequent basis. Whilst it is important



to have a balance between academic rigour and recreational time, many of our students are losing significant opportunities to further their understanding of course material and practising those essential skills that they will be examined on in the near future. I encourage all students to make the most of the time available to them.

### **Fundraising Committee**

The students have been involved in several successful fundraisers so far this year. Our next scheduled fundraiser is a BBQ at the Athletics Carnival. Many students in the cohort have attended meetings and are enthusiastic about being involved which is always exciting to see. Funds raised will go towards funding for the Year 12 Formal and any other financial requirements that arise as part of Year 12.

### **School Support Networks**

As we continue on the pathway to the HSC students will experience a range of emotions caused by examination stress, meeting deadlines, parental expectations, relationships, and other factors. This is a reminder of the support available in the school community and externally. The most important thing for our students to understand is that they are not alone on this journey and that they only need to ask for help to receive it.

- Year Adviser - Mr Franjic
- Careers Adviser - Mr Hodges
- Head Teachers
- Classroom Teachers
- Deputy Principals
- Principal
- School Counsellors
- School Support Officer - Mr Knight

### **Outside Support Networks**

[Headspace.org.au](http://Headspace.org.au)

[Beyondblue.org.au](http://Beyondblue.org.au)

[Kidshelpline.com.au](http://Kidshelpline.com.au)



### **SRC CO-ORDINATOR Mr Gurpearl Singh**



At Blacktown Boys High School, the Student Representative Council (SRC) is administered by students from Years 7 to 11 and guided by the SRC coordinator, Mr Gurpearl Singh. The SRC voices all students' concerns by having one student representative from each Homeroom who listens, takes notes, and caters for the individual needs of their peers.

SRC elections happen in early Term 1. Initially, an Expression of Interest (EOI) form is provided to all students. Students submit the EOI form to the SRC coordinator. Soon after, SRC elections are conducted. All of this is administered by the Student Leadership Team; that is, the Prefects and Captains.

With over 800 students at BBHS of which 2% are from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds and 87% who speak a language other than English at their home, there is explicitly a wide array of students from cultural backgrounds attending BBHS. So, the SRC and Student Leadership Team also administered

National Reconciliation Week this term.

Finally, please find below a reminder of the structure of our SRC and Student Leadership Team:



### **Greetings from the ARCO team!**

It is Term 2 now and the members of the team are working vigilantly to make sure that any racism comment is addressed as soon as it made known to the team members. This term, we will be very busy with speaking at assembly regarding anti-racism education, creating new posters to display around the school, liaising with parents and members of our local community, and conducting several surveys to gain knowledge about how we can help our students further!

Additionally, the school SRC Team will address the students on the assembly during this term to make them aware about the effects of racism and remind the students that we are a safe school and we take racist remarks very seriously.

On the whole, we are doing our best to stamp out racism both to students and community members.

Remember, we are here to support you to ensure you feel a sense of belonging and are treated equally! See Mr Kumar, Mrs Chhabra, or Mr Singh anytime if you require any assistance.



# SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES

## WHAT ARE YOU RISKING? \*

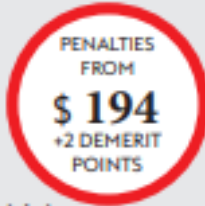


Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need **YOU** to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones.



### NO PARKING

**No waiting.** You have **2 minutes** to drop-off or pick-up. You must stay within **3 metres** of your vehicle.



### PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

1. In a queue of traffic, **no part of your vehicle can stop** on a pedestrian crossing.
2. Do not let **your child in or out of a vehicle** at a pedestrian crossing as this is a No Stopping zone.



### NO STOPPING

You must **not stop** on a length of road with a **no stopping** sign. The first **10 metres** from an **intersection** is a no stopping zone. **Yellow kerb lines** are also a No Stopping zone.



### DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Do not park on or across a driveway or footpath.



### BUS ZONE

Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone.



### U TURNS

U turns are **illegal** on or near a **pedestrian crossing** and across a **double white line**.



### MOBILE PHONES

Extra fines apply for using a mobile phone in a school zone.



May be subject to Double Demerits

### DOUBLE PARKING

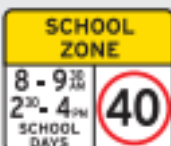
Double parking is illegal and is very dangerous in a school zone.



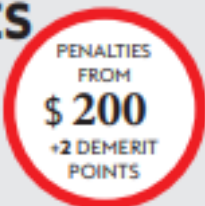
\*Fines current as of 11 November 2020.

Fines and demerit points are subject to change. For more information check out the NSW Centre for Road Safety website.

### SPEEDING OFFENCES



**40km/h** is the limit. Children are vulnerable, so slow down in school zones.



May be subject to Double Demerits



PENRITH  
CITY COUNCIL



Blacktown  
City Council





# Share the care with schools

Changes in your child or young person's mental health can affect their schooling and relationships, however support is available for school students experiencing mental health concerns.

**Please let your school know if your child or young person has presented at or been admitted to hospital for mental health issues so they can discuss further support.**

You or an advocate can talk to the Principal, Deputy Principal, Year Advisor, Head Teacher Welfare or School Counsellor/Psychologist to develop a plan.

## Ask your school for help with:

- Keeping your child or young person safe.
- Returning to school following a mental health crisis.
- Identifying school staff your child or young person can talk to.
- Developing an individual support plan to help stay connected with school during tough times. This might include flexibility around school hours, homework or catching up with school work.
- Accessing support from the school and outside agencies.



**Health**  
Nepean Blue Mountains  
Local Health District



DT-002 050519

# STAY IN THE LOOP FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



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FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS, STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENTS AND SCHOOL EVENTS