

Blacktown Mail

Preparing Boys for their Future since 1959
Partially Selective Boys High School since 2010



Message from the Principal - Mr David Calleja



At Blacktown Boys high School, our aim is to ensure that students are given the skills and the social attributes that will enable them to be successful young men in the greater community. The task of moulding our students is not easy and at times can be an arduous one to say the least. At school we have a number of expectations and standards that we do not shift away from. These are expectations which some people feel are unnecessary or petty, but in fact are part of the learning process and essential in preparing your child for the workplace. Let's be honest, the workplace of the future is going to be a highly competitive one, where your son or daughter will be competing against people from around the world, not only from NSW or Blacktown. As a school community, there is an expectation that we teach students social and personal standards which will help them into the future, and which are not taught through a textbook. As a school we work with you the parent to ensure your son is ready and capable of thriving in the community, socially, spiritually, and as economically as possible.

Hence, we have a uniform code which we expect our students to follow. Uniform identifies a student as being part of the Blacktown Boys community; at school, a boy is not judged by his peers because of the clothes he wears, and he is not treated any differently from other students in the classroom by his teachers or other people he may come in contact with whilst at school. Socio-economic position, wealth, status, etc are nullified by the wearing of a universal school uniform. The only distinction being a senior or junior uniform. In some workplaces a uniform may not be formalised like ours, however there is an expectation and standard of dress that needs to be followed. This is especially the case in some industries such as retail and sales; government offices and private industry where an image needs to be projected. Examples would include Lawyers, Accountants, School Principals and Executive staff etc. For this reason, we expect the boys to wear their uniforms with pride and above all, correctly, projecting an image of professionalism, self-pride, and pride in the school they attend. This sends out a strong message to the community outside the school gates. A well-dressed Blacktown Boy sends a strong and positive attitude to any potential employer they may come across. In a society where image means a lot and the school one attends can mean a lot, it is important that our boys understand the importance of wearing a uniform correctly and with pride. Consequently, a number of boys need to improve the way they dress and present themselves at school. I make no apologies for wanting the best for all our boys, and uniform forms an important part of the

positive image we are trying to send to the community about Blacktown Boys High School.

It is no accident that the current State Government is targeting school attendance across all NSW schools. Attendance is so important and as a school and with your help as parents we must work together to ensure all students attend school each and every day and that they do not truant either fractionally or for a full day. When students miss class or school, they miss essential work which can have a snowballing effect. This places them at a disadvantage to their peers. As they continue to progress from year 7 to year 12, the work they miss progressively increases. When the crunch comes in Year 12, this has undoubtedly, a significant impact upon their ability to perform in their final examinations. For example, they may be limited in their literacy or numeracy and be unable

COMING EVENTS

TERM 3

TERM DATES FOR 2023

Term 3 starts - Tuesday 18 July
and ends – Friday 22 September

Term 4 starts - Monday 9 October
and ends – Monday 18 December
2023

to articulate or attempt a critical section or question of their exam. Students are required to be at school every day unless they are seriously sick. Text messages and letters from the Home School Liaison Officer or the school will be sent home when attendance has dropped off noticeably or when no valid excuse is sent. Students should present medical certificates if absent from school for more than two days. Projecting the attendance of a student into the future world of work. An employer will certainly dismiss an employee if they are continuously late or absent. Students at BBHS need to develop a disciplinary attitude to attend each and every day unless sick. This will certainly prepare them for the future world of work.

Finally, students need to be respectful towards their teachers and towards other students. Manners and the way we address others are certainly scrutinised by potential employers when someone attends an interview. Students need to be wary of how they speak to other people in the school, especially adults. By being conscious of what one says and controlling their language, students can easily practice effective communication with their teachers without being explicit, rude or swearing. Etiquette, how we present ourselves, our personal hygiene, are all critical when in the company of other people but especially so when applying for a job. By training at school, these expectations become habits which last a lifetime. They also are automatic when in an employment situation and again, send out the right messages to those we work with and the employer.

As a school, the staff are working towards setting our boys up for success. We want the best for our boys, we want them to be employable, to have a good standard of living and be happy once they leave school. To achieve great things, we need parents to help us and to work with us as a team, setting the scene for the future. So that means essentially; being at school on time every day, wearing the correct uniform and being respectful towards others. By practising social etiquette, our boys from BBHS are ten steps ahead of the rest.

Deputy Principal Mrs Trish Matthews



It is hard to believe that we are in Semester 2 already! Welcome back to all students and parents, and to our new students and families who have recently enrolled.

With travel resuming to the level that it was pre-Covid, we are happy to say that we have an increased number of students enrolling at Blacktown Boys through the International Student Program. This program

offers students applying for a student visa, the opportunity to experience our inclusive school culture and first-class teaching and learning, whilst gaining high-level English language skills and experiencing an Australian lifestyle. We welcome these students.

Throughout Term 2 we supported students to focus on their learning at school with our Yondr Program. All staff agree that the transition to a 'phone free' school over Term 2 has increased productive learning time in class. You would have heard on the news that the Education Department's *Students' Use of Mobile phones in Schools* has been put in place across the state from the start of this term. This is because research data shows that students in 'phone free' schools have increased focus and learning in classrooms, that distractions are removed, and positive social interactions are promoted.

After the first week one student told me that the hardest thing was to know what to do at recess and lunch time: 'we just sit there, and no one says anything'. I am happy to report that he and his friends now engage in conversations and games where they communicate in real time. We pride ourselves on developing self-confident young men who can collaborate and communicate effectively, as they develop skills to be lifelong learners.

We look forward to a collaborative and productive second semester. This will be evident as you read through this newsletter to find out what is happening in our subject faculties, extra-curricular areas and in the Year Adviser reports. We have great teachers who provide lots of additional opportunities to our boys so they can engage and excel. Please encourage your son to get involved and to talk to you about his day to day achievements.

Deputy Principal Mr Rob Murie



At Blacktown Boys High School, we are very proud of the fact that students, teachers, and parents work together as a team to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment where every student is valued and can strive towards their future goals. Conflict, however, is often inevitable in a school with close to 900 boys enrolled and it is not unusual for

most boys to experience some form of conflict during their school life.

As teachers, it is important for us to educate our boys about how to resolve conflict in a way that promotes self-regulation and encourages positive and respectful behaviour. At Blacktown Boys High School, we have adopted and prioritised a pro-social, whole school approach to conflict resolution, through use of 'Restorative Practices'.

At its core, a restorative approach revolves around building,

maintaining, and restoring positive relationships, especially when incidents involving interpersonal conflict or wrongdoing arise. This approach places empathy, communication, and understanding at the forefront, encouraging individuals to take responsibility for their actions while working towards resolutions that benefit everyone involved.

When our teaching staff made the conscious decision to prioritise a restorative approach to relationships within our school community, we partnered with 'Real Schools' and have embarked on a three-year plan aimed at reducing the frequency of negative behaviours and improving school culture. By providing comprehensive staff training and ongoing support for implementation within the school community, we are working towards modifying student behaviour, reducing the frequency of negative behaviour incidents, and placing the responsibility on our boys to be accountable for their actions and to repair any harm caused to others because of their actions.

The benefits we are hoping to unveil through implementation of restorative practices at Blacktown Boys High School include:

- 1. Reduced Behaviour Incidents:** When students and staff engage in open dialogue, conflicts can be resolved constructively, diminishing the likelihood of recurring issues.
- 2. Improved School Culture:** A restorative approach will lead to greater unity within our school community where our boys feel more connected to their peers and teachers, fostering an environment where they can thrive academically and socially.
- 3. Empowerment and Accountability:** Restorative practices empower individuals to take ownership of their actions. Our boys will learn to comprehend the consequences of their behaviour and develop a sense of accountability, contributing to personal growth and development.
- 4. Enhanced Communication Skills:** By encouraging dialogue and active listening, restorative practices will equip our boys with invaluable communication skills. These skills extend beyond the school environment, preparing them for success in various aspects of life.

Positive Conflict Resolution: Conflict is a natural part of life, but our boys will be equipped with the tools to address it constructively. They will learn to engage in discussions that seek solutions, rather than assign blame.

At Blacktown Boys High School, we want our journey with restorative practices to be transformative. We also know that restorative practices work best when the entire school community is involved. We want our teachers, students, parents, and support staff to embrace this approach wholeheartedly, knowing when we work as a team, we will create an atmosphere where everyone contributes to the collective goal of fostering a respectful and caring environment. **As such, I would like to invite all parents to a 'Parent Information Session' on Wednesday August 30th at 6pm in the school library.** This evening will provide you with information about how restorative practices are working at Blacktown Boys High School and provide opportunity to demonstrate how we can work together to empower your sons with the skills to help them thrive at school and prepare for a successful future.

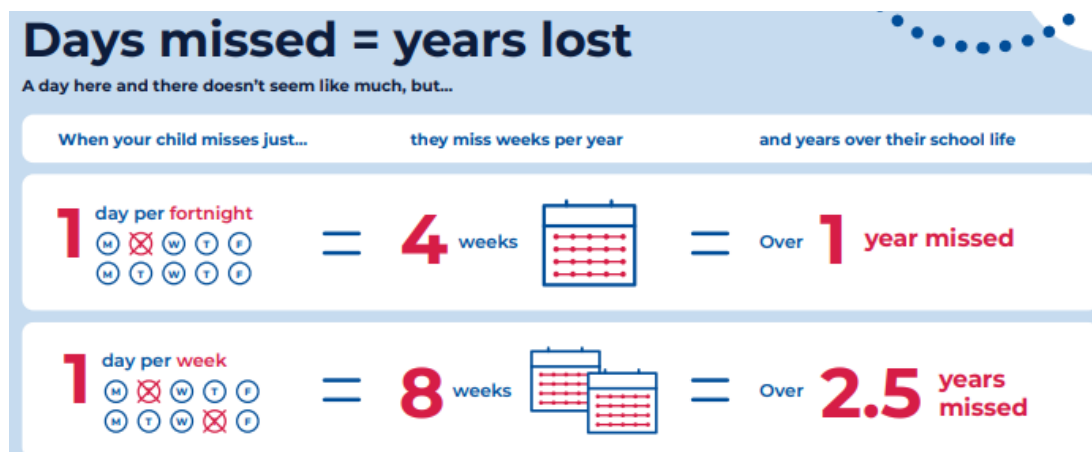
Lastly, I must mention attendance at school. When a student misses school, they are missing important opportunities to develop life skills, build relationships with their peers and most importantly, learn skills that will help them be successful later in life. You can see from the image below that even a few days missed can amount to a significant loss of learning time over a student's school life.

At Blacktown Boys High School, we have high expectations for every boy enrolled. We know that school is the best place to learn and by attending school every day your child will get the most out of their learning and improve their career and life options.

When your child is absent it is important you let the school know, including the reason why, on the day or the day before. This helps make sure we know where our students are and offer support for you and your family if needed.

In particular, school executive are currently focussing on ensuring students attend school on time and the Principal and Deputy Principals are holding detentions for those students who attend school late without an suitable reason. If you are

having trouble getting your child to school every day or on time, please talk to your son's Year Adviser or the Head Teacher Administration, so we can work together, because every day matters.



Head Teacher, English

Ms Erin Wagner



Welcome back to Term 3!

This term in English, we will be studying the following:

- Year 7 Novel Study
- Year 8 Shakespeare Through the Ages
- Year 9 Australian Identity: Novel Study
- Year 10 Novel and Film Study
- Year 11 Extension Texts, Culture and Values
- Year 11 Advanced Critical Study of Literature (King Lear)
- Year 11 Standard Close Study of Literature (Wilfred Owen poetry)
- Year 11 Studies The Big Screen: English in Film-Making
- Year 12 Advanced Critical Study of Literature (TS Eliot poetry) and HSC Revision
- Year 12 Standard Language, Identity and Culture (Ali Cobby Eckermann poetry) and HSC Revision
- Year 12 Studies On the Road: English and Travel

As Year 12 return from their English HSC Trial Examinations, it is important that they use this time to reflect upon the feedback from their teachers and use this to develop and improve upon their skills in the lead up to the HSC. Whilst this time of year can feel exhausting after a long period of study and examinations, it is also a crucial opportunity to consolidate the learning that has taken place in the last three terms. Students are encouraged to continue revising their class notes, preparing practice responses for feedback, and applying that feedback. Your teachers are always here to support you in doing so.

Year 10 have now completed their WebChoices for subject selection. Students were not required to choose a specific English course as English is mandatory in Year 11 and 12. This term, the English staff will work with students and parents to finalise their course recommendations. Parents and students will be informed of the final course placement in the coming months, but please feel free to contact your son's English teacher or the Head Teacher English should you wish to discuss their course placement.

In Week 2, 30 year 7 students participated in a Stop-Motion animation workshop hosted by 'Digi Ed'. In this workshop students worked collaboratively to create and storyboard a

narrative, design the backdrops for their animated movie, build characters and key objects using modelling clay before beginning the animation process. Shooting at 12 frames per second, students learned to appreciate the time and patience it takes to create a stop-motion film using small, precise movements and taking hundreds of photos. Students also added titles, credits, music and sound effects to their movies, leaving the day with a completed stop-motion film of their own. This workshop supported students learning of key concepts in English with a focus on narrative structure, characterisation and of course, the all important skill of being able to work well in a team. Thank you to Ms Cookson for organising this fantastic opportunity for students. There may be further opportunities to attend another Stop-Motion animation workshop if there is enough interest, so students should listen out for notices in homeroom.





Debating News!

Well done to our Senior Debating team who, despite not progressing onto the next round, have made great efforts this year both in their own debates and in preparing our junior debaters. Our Year 9 and 10 team debated against Girraween HS last term but unfortunately lost, before coming away with a win against Parramatta HS in Round 3. Congratulations to our Year 7 team who beat the Year 8 team in Round 1 and to both junior teams who beat Rooty Hill HS in Round 3. It has been great to see the efforts of our debaters being rewarded. Thanks to Ms Johnson, Mr Masera, Ms Sharma and Ms Semerci for helping support our debaters this year.

Head Teacher, Mathematics Ms Xiao Chirgwin



I would like to warmly welcome our newest team member Miss McKenzie, who has replaced Ms Autar.



My name is Shelby McKenzie and I am a Teacher Education student until I graduate at the end of the year! My goal is to help students understand that Mathematics is not so scary once they get to know it and I want to show them all the awesome applications it has in the world around us. Outside of work, I am an avid soccer player and I like playing video games and drawing. I am looking forward to joining the BBHS team.

Term 3 is a mammoth term for our Year 11 and Year 12 students. Year 12 students have finalised their trial examinations in the early part of Term 3. This is the last term of valuable learning before they face their external HSC examinations that are happening from October to November. Year 11 students are busily working through their last term of Year 11 course work in Term 3 before they embark on their journey as a Year 12 students starting Term 4.

General Examination Advice for Students:

1. Show detailed working out in your answers, no bald answers
2. Read and answer the whole question
3. Don't leave any multiple choice questions blank
4. Don't round your answers too early, round once and at the end
5. Check that your answers makes sense
6. Really know your content, revise regularly, don't cram last minute
7. Check when parts of a question are related
8. Choose the simplest and quickest method
9. Highlight the key words of a question
10. Read and draw graphs accurately
11. Know and use the reference sheet provided (Year 11 and 12)

New Junior Mathematics Syllabi

The Mathematics faculty is working collaboratively to embed the new junior Mathematics Syllabi. 2024 will be the first year where our first cohort of Year 7 and Year 9 students start with the new Syllabi. 2025, all year groups will be working through the new syllabi. In Stage 5, Year 9 students will no longer be studying Mathematics 5.1, 5.2, or 5.3 pathways, instead they will be studying the Core curriculum. Students who excel in the Core curriculum will also take on additional Paths units. Students who are intending to do Mathematics Advanced in Year 11 and 12 will need to ensure they have completed Core and Paths units in Year 9 and 10.

Calculator

This is a timely reminder to all students to check that they have a NESA-approved calculator and they should bring their calculator to each Mathematics lesson. We recommend the CASIO FX82 Plus II or CASIO FX100, as they are NESA approved calculators. Students will need NESA approved calculators for NAPLAN and HSC examinations. Having their own calculator and practising the functions regularly helps students to build their fluency and improve their ability to respond to problems quickly.

A new calculator CASIO FX8200 has recently arrived on the market that has gained NESA approval for this year's HSC examination. This calculator includes functions such as displaying exact values involving surds and calculating logarithms of any numerical base which both FX82 Plus II and FX100 do not have. This calculator would be recommended for students who are keen to pursue the calculus-based courses in Year 11 and 12.

NESA does NOT accept mobile phones as calculators for NAPLAN and HSC examinations and the Mathematics Faculty at Blacktown Boys High School will also follow the same requirements to ensure your sons are prepared for these important examinations.

Please see link for more details on the NESA approved calculators.

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/rules-and-processes/approved-calculators>

Mathematics Competitions

- 2023 Australian Mathematics Competition is held on Friday 4th of August. We are looking forward to wonderful results from our students. If your son has missed out on the competition this year, please encourage them to register early next year for the Australian Mathematics Competition when the registration opens. If you would like to access AMC Practice Problems, please use the following links.
- Year 7 & 8: [https://www.amt.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AMC-practice-problems-solutions-](https://www.amt.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AMC-practice-problems-solutions-Set1-JUN.pdf)

[Set1-JUN.pdf](https://www.amt.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AMC-practice-problems-solutions-Set1-JUN.pdf)

- Year 9 & 10: <https://www.amt.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AMC-practice-problems-solutions-Set1-INT.pdf>
- Year 11 & 12: <https://www.amt.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AMC-practice-problems-solutions-Set1-SEN.pdf>
- 2023 APSMO Mathematics Olympiad had the first 2 rounds of competition in Term 2 and will be having the last 2 rounds of competition this in class for the Year 7 and 8 selective classes.

We are very pleased to see our students value different enrichment opportunities. Students can sharpen their critical and creative thinking skills through these competitions.

Mathematics Peer Tutoring Program

Mathematics Peer Tutoring Program is running again this term. This program is dedicated to help our all of our students. It is on every Tuesday and Thursday recess and lunchtime in room 26. Year 11 and 12 Mathematics student leaders have volunteered their time to be tutors for students in need. The feedback from our students in the last five years have this program have been really positive. If you think your son would benefit from joining this program, please advise them to attend.

Assessment Schedule for Term 3

Year 7	Week 6
Year 8	Week 6
Year 9	Week 5
Year 10	Week 5
Year 11 Standard	Yearly Examination Period
Year 11 Advanced	Yearly Examination Period
Year 11 Extension 1	Yearly Examination Period
Year 12 Standard 1	Trial Examination Period
Year 12 Standard 2	Trial Examination Period
Year 12 Advanced	Trial Examination Period
Year 12 Extension 1	Trial Examination Period
Year 12 Extension 2	Trial Examination Period

Head Teacher, Administration

Mrs Natalie Simon



Term 3 is always a busy term for exams and assessments, especially for our senior students. Year 11 and 12 are reminded that the study centre is available for them in the periods which they do not have a scheduled class.

Year 12 are coming to the end of their secondary education journey but please do not stop applying your-

self. Practical and language subjects have most of the HSC scheduled in this term and I wish all the students the best in these practical examinations. Year 12 students are reminded to check their personalised HSC Timetable which is available through their Students Online account. You also need to make sure all your details are correct, and if you would like your HSC results texted to you in the morning of their release day, make sure you have your current mobile number attached to your account.

Year 11 will be having a formal examination period in Weeks 8 and 9 this term. This will be staffed by independent invigilators and it aims to imitate the conditions in which Year 11 will be sitting their HSC next year. Students only need to attend school on the days in which they have exams, otherwise they are expected to be at home studying.

It is always a timely reminder that students need to attend school every day. The school's Facebook page is updated weekly with both the winners of the Canteen Attendance Vouchers and the overall attendance rate of the week. More than 90% of students attend school each day which is a great achievement. If your son does happen not to attend school, parents and carers must justify this absence. The

easiest way to do this is with the daily text messages home to absent students' families or through the Sentral Parent Portal. With three or more days absent, a medical certificate must be provided to the school.

A reminder to families that the only reason for absence, as directed by the Department of Education are:

- Being sick or having an infectious disease
- Having an unavoidable medical appointment
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Exceptional or urgent family circumstances eg: attending a funeral

Families are reminded that if students are taking more than five days leave an "Extended Absence" form needs to be filled in and given back to the front office prior to the leave being taken.

We are targeting truancy and lateness this term. For those students who are continually late to school or choose not to go to class there is a new Principal/Deputy Lunch time Detention on Thursday lunch time. Students will receive a slip that day to report to the detention with the Principal where they will be required to justify their choices. To avoid this consequence, students need to attend school and class on time every day.

Lately, most students are in uniform. However as the term progresses more and more students are found out of uniform by class teachers. Students are reminded that hoodies are not a part of the school uniform. Lowes at Blacktown has all the uniform for the school and parents/carers need to make sure they purchase the correct uniform for their son. If you have trouble purchasing the uniform please let myself or a Year Advisor know. If a student is out of uniform, they must see the HT Administration BEFORE the 8.10am bell.

Have a great Term 3.

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

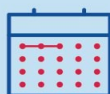
they miss days per year

5 mins
per day

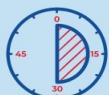


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3 days

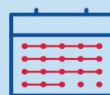


30 mins
per day



=

18 days



**Patterns of lateness
can have a serious
impact on your child's
education.**

education.nsw.gov.au

Head Teacher, HSIE

Mrs Gina Jackson



The aim of this newsletter for HSIE is twofold to continue to provide parents/caregivers with an update on some of the extracurricular activities students participated in during Semester 1 and to offer a glimpse of the innovative teaching occurring in our classrooms.

Model United Nations Competitions

During Term 2, Year 11 and Year 12 students participated in multiple Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) competitions. Six of our Year 12 students (Maximus, Kunwardeep, Samirali, Ivanshu, Aadil, and Nishad) spent a full weekend at Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School competing in the Western Sydney Rotary District MUNA. Both teams performed enthusiastically and demonstrated strong public speaking and research skills.

Our Year 11 students (Ismahill, Smit, and Eon) also competed in the Rotary MUNA hosted by Rotary in NSW Parliament. They were commended for their



impressive performance by the chairperson. We would like to thank Blacktown Rotary for their continuous support of our students in MUNA competition.



Blacktown Boys High School also hosted Evatt competition this year in Term 2.

Our Year 11 students (Ismahill, Rayyaan, Zakar,



Sadiq, Eon, Jayden, Smit, Owais, and Suman) competed well with enthusiasm and strong public speaking skills. Congratulations to Ismahill, Suman, Zakar, and Sadiq for

making it to the semi-final. By participating in Model UN competitions, students develop their public speaking, teamwork, research, negotiation, and global citizenship skills.



Economics Student Conference

Year 12 Economics students attended a webcast conference hosted by Economic Literacy Centre. Students got to listen to economists give an analysis of updated statistics and a revision of all topics in the HSC Economics course. Students enjoyed an informative and productive day.



Year 11 Business Studies Cookie Production

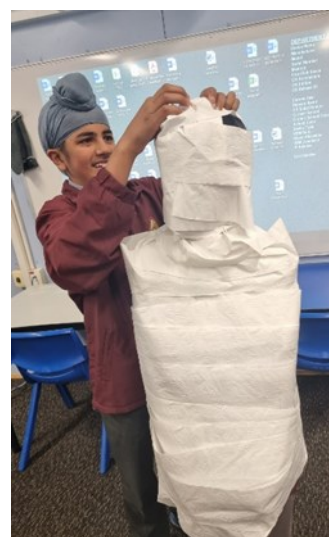
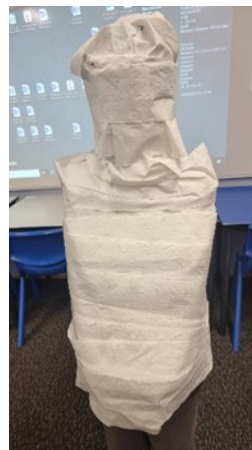
Year 11 Business Studies students produced cookies for quality assurance testing. The aim was to produce four cookies with consistency. Students formed small groups and produced their own designs. The activity allowed students to work effectively as part of a small group and appreciate the processes involved in quality management. Students enjoyed the cookies once they were checked by the teacher for consistency!



Year 7 Mummy Wrapping

In a creative and educational effort to bring Ancient Egypt to life, 7HSIE (Ms Narayan's class) students studying the fascinating civilization took a hands-on approach to mummification. A group of enthusiastic learners turned their classroom into an ancient embalming workshop, using toilet paper to mummify willing volunteers, capturing both attention and controversy. The goal was to offer students a unique experience that would allow them to connect more intimately with the customs and rituals of Ancient Egypt. Throughout the activity, the students followed historical texts and other reliable sources to ensure their reenactment remained as authentic as possible. They carefully wrapped each "mummy" in layers of toilet paper to repli-

cate the traditional embalming process undertaken thousands of years ago in the Nile Valley.



Geography Competition

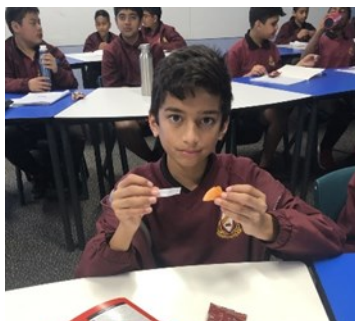
Australian Geography Competition sixty students from Years 7 – 10 registered and participated in the Australian Geography Competition on 31st May. Participating students were mostly positive about their performance, re-

porting that the questions were based on general knowledge and problem-solving skills. The HSIE staff looks forward to receiving individual performance feedback and results. A special thanks to Ms Narayan the coordinator and Ms Limbu for her assistance in administering the competition.



Confucius Said ...

As part of the ancient China topic Year 7 students studied the teachings of Confucius and his impact on ancient Chinese society. As a class they considered the impact of Westerners encountering Confucian wisdom initially through fortune cookies. Students randomly selected a cookie, considered the brevity of the message, and pondered its significance in their lives.



E-sports

META High School E-sports Competition Throughout Term 2, 30 students participated in the state-wide META High School E-sports competition. Students participated in a range of E-Sports including

League of Legends, Rocket League, and Valorant. We wish to commend all students on their excellent communication skills, ability to work effectively with teammates, and great leadership skills demonstrated throughout the competition. Keep an eye out in daily notices for future competitions in Term 3 and Term 4! (Ms O'Brien)

Upcoming Excursions/Incursions

We are pleased to announce that this term we have three excursions organized to help our students extend their learning outside the classroom through interactive and real-life experiences.

Wk 5 – Years 11 & 12 Luna Park

Wk 7 – Year 9 Geography – Audley-Bola Creek rainforest
Royal Nation Park

Wk 8 – Year 8 Geography– The Rocks

We encourage prompt payment as places on coaches are capped.

Acting Head Teacher, Science

Ms Cindy Tang



Welcome Back to Term 3!

We are proud to introduce our new Science teacher Jane Nair to Blacktown Boys High School.



My name is Mrs Jane Nair, and I am the newest member of the Science department. I have been teaching year 7-12 students for the last 20+ years across Public, Private and Catholic schools. I am passionate about teaching the next generation of students and pride myself on finding innovative ways to make learning fun whilst maintaining the highest professional standards.

My goal every day is to have positive impact on young people. I have completed graduate certificate in Special Education and pride myself on differentiating instruction to meet the needs of all students.

My teaching philosophy is - every child should be introduced to the tools they need to establish their own learning style. I incorporate technology whenever possible in the classroom while still leaving plenty of room to celebrate the students' imaginations with specialized activities and hands-on experiences.

Term 2 was a productive term for Science and I would like to start by celebrating a few accomplishments from last term. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the parent-teacher interviews.. It was wonderful to have meaningful conversations with students and parents regarding their schooling journey in Science, with a shared focus on motivating and improving the student's passion for Science. I would also like to acknowledge the dedicated Year 10 students and parents who attended the Senior Subject Selection evening.

In week 9 of Term 2, Selected Year 12 Chemistry students attended the NSW Schools Titration competition at the University of Sydney under the supervision of Ms Winata and Ms Wu.. This competition is a quantitative analytic competition where students complete a set of acid-base titrations to determine the unknown concentration of a weak acid. Students participate in teams, and the overall team score depends on the accuracy of the work of its members. Our students have been training strenuously for this competition since Term 1 by remaining back afterschool to practice the titrations. I would like to thank the students for their ongoing efforts and

determination, and especially Ms Winata and Ms Wu for providing the opportunity for our students to participate in this competition.

Year 7 and 8 students also participated in the Crystal Growing competition held during lunch time in Term 2. It was also fantastic to see the Year 9 facilitators Kahu, Taran and Kay who mentored the Year 7s and year 8s during this competition. We wish all the participants the best while their submitted crystals are undergoing judging.

Year 7-10 students also sat the Big Science Competition. This external competition provided students the opportunity to test and apply their knowledge with challenging questions. Out of the 33 students who sat the competition, we received fantastic results with 3 high distinctions, 4 distinctions and 8 credits.

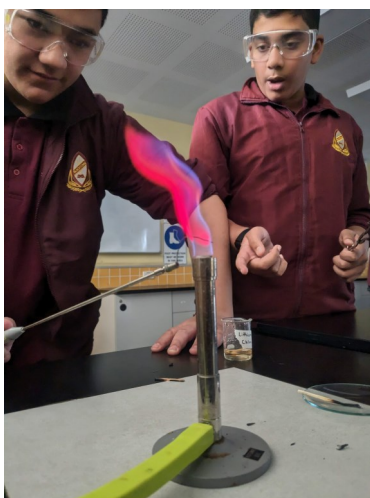
I would like acknowledge the following students for receiving commendable results:

High Distinctions: Vishesh K (Year 7), Aditya P (Year 8), Mateo O (Year 8),

Distinctions: Nashwan U (Year 10), Braydon L (Year 9), Jonathan N (Year 9), Noor S (Year 7)

This term, we are also celebrating National Science Week in Week 5. This year's theme is "Innovation: Powering Future Industries". Science teachers will be running various activities during recess and lunch to celebrate the amazing world of Science. We would also like to thank the students who signed up to volunteer to help out for Science week. Students are reminded to listen to the Daily notices for more information. I encourage all students and parents to visit the National Science Week website (<https://www.scienceweek.net.au/find-events/>) for events that are happening during the 12th - 20th August.

We would also like to remind Stage 5 and 6 students about the online platforms that they can use to supplement their Science knowledge at home. These online platforms consist of videos, questions and interactive quizzes that students can use to revise and prepare themselves for their assessments. Stage 5 students have access to "Atomi" and Stage 6 Science students have access to "Edrolo" and "Atomi". Students will need to use their school email and password to



log in.

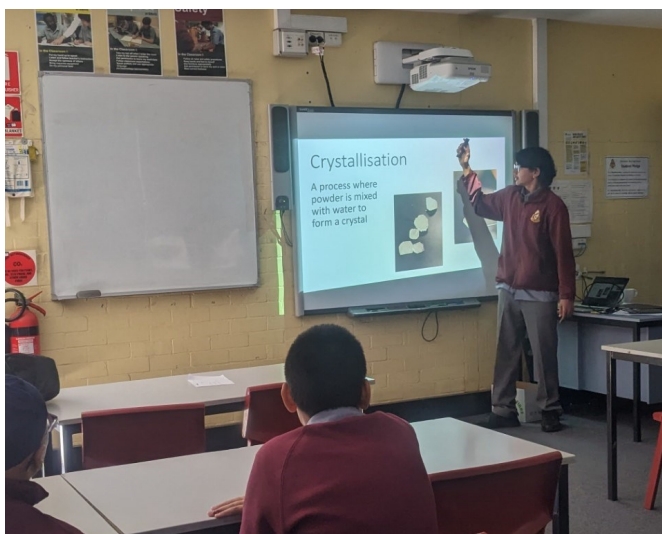
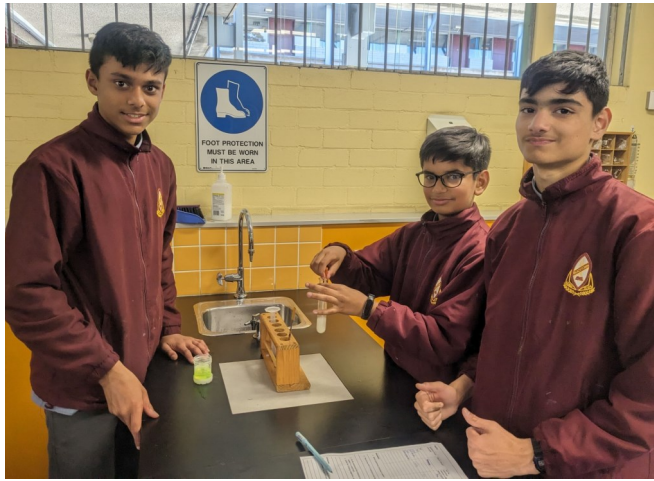
Year	Topic	Assessment
7	May the Force be with You - Physics	Research and Data Processing Task
8	Incredible Ingredients - Chemistry	Skills Assessment/ Practical test
9	It's Just a Theory - Physics & Space	Skills Assessment
10	Getting Around - Physics	Student Research Project (SRP)
11	Biology - Module 2 Chemistry - Module 4 Physics - Module 4	Yearly Examinations
12	Biology - Module 7 + Revision for HSC Chemistry - Module 8 + Revision for HSC Physics - Module 8 + Revision for HSC	Trial Examination

For Stage 4 students, in addition to the resources provided in class, students are also encouraged to use online resources such as "BBC bitesize", "Phet" as well as video sites such as "Youtube" and "Clickview" to consolidate their learning.

Here are some suggestions for Science related Youtube channels that students can explore at home:

- Questacon
- Veritasium
- Kurzgesagt
- AsapSCIENCE





Head Teacher, Teaching & Learning Mr David Martin



With Semester 2 underway, there are a few things that are wrapping up from Semester 1. Students in Years 7 and 9 have received their NAPLAN results, and parents/carers should be aware of the updated reporting system for NAPLAN that is beginning this year. Students are assessed against 4 levels of achievement (Exceeding, Strong, Developing, and Needs Additional Support),

which do not have a direct comparison to the Bands that were previously used. Parents and carers are advised to be cautious of any such comparisons that are made, as they are not directly comparable. Parents and carers have received an information pack explaining these levels of achievement with their child's NAPLAN results.

I would also like to thank parents, carers and their families for their involvement in the Year 8 and Year 10 Subject Selection process. It was excellent to see so many parents attend the information evening sessions for these two year groups, and also how many Year 10 students came with families to have personalised, one-on-one interviews with staff from Blacktown Boys High School to discuss their subject choices. These interviews allow students to receive expert advice tailored to their individual needs, and have seen an improvement in the engagement of students who attend these interviews when they enter Year 11 and 12. Additionally, thank you to all parents and carers of Year 9 and 10 students who completed the survey and attended the evening 'Planning Your Child's Future' which allowed us to discuss the ATAR, post-school pathways, and myths around Year 11, 12 and beyond. Your feedback has assisted us in identifying how we can better support your child as they progress into Stage 6.

Semester 2 will see students in Years 7-9 sit the Check-In tests, which inform the school about their literacy and numeracy development and allow us to plan for student needs more effectively. Students in Years 10 and 11 will continue sitting the Minimum Standards tests, while I would like to congratulate all students in Year 12 for meeting the Minimum Standards already.

Everest Program

Our Year 8 Everest class attended an experience day at UTS in Week 1 of Term 3, where they had a tour of the campus and its facilities, as well as participated in activities focusing on entrepreneurial skills and creativity. Students in this program will continue to engage in activities that develop their

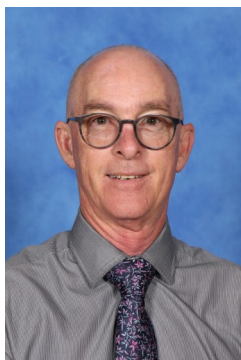
knowledge and abilities, so that we can maximise their potential. Students were particularly impressed with the technologies available at UTS and have begun considering what pathway they will take over Stage 5 and 6 as a result of their participation on the day.

As vacancies become available in our Everest program, students enrolled at BBHS will be invited to apply to fill places the following year. Keep an ear out in Term 4 for any possible positions that may be available in our Year 8 and Year 9 2024 Everest classes.



Students visiting UTS

Career Adviser, Mr Trevor Hodges



YES TAFE programs

Blacktown Boys' students have been actively involved in multiple TAFE NSW's Youth Engagement Strategy PLUS (the YES+ program), which helps students engage with learning in a hands-on environment at TAFE. Students get support to develop individual learning plans, engage in vocational taster courses and receive ongoing mentoring, counselling and career advice. The program gets students out of the school setting and into TAFE-style learning and on relevant industry sites. The YES program is based upon the idea that there are many ways and places that learning can occur and that mainstream education is not for everyone.



YES has ongoing flexible enrolments and a personalised learning approach. YES operates as a 'school within a school' with its own timetable and broad and diverse curriculum offerings from years 9 to 13. These integrate with the wider school community allowing students to engage on different levels with the program as needs require or emerge. Seven students joined the YES Health program and experienced the health industry firsthand. 8 students experienced Nursing. 5 students learnt how intricate Plumbing can be. 3 Panel Beaters repaired cars. 4 students became landscapers. 7 students flew high in TAFE Aviation. These students gained a deeper understanding of the theory of flight, as well as visiting 3 airports as part of the course. Aarush Sultania was awarded the DUX of the 2023 class. The school would like to thank all TAFE teacher for their support in the programs, especially Rebecca Lill from Aviation.



On Thursday 23rd June 2023, Year 12 students from Blacktown Boys' High attended the Careers Expo at Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. The focal point of this excursion was to allow students to access information on tertiary institutions, business, employment, and training services. In addition to the 140 providers, students had the opportunity to attend professional seminars on a variety of topics, in 4 separate seminar rooms. Many of the students used their free tickets to re-

turn to the venue over the weekend and attend additional seminars. Feedback from students was very positive.

H.S.C. resources

The investment in additional H.S.C. resources to assist students' performance in their exams by the Careers Department have now arrived, and students are now borrowing 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>.



Head Teacher, Inclusive Education

Ms Sevenoaks



We have lots of exciting programs running in Inclusive Education this term. Students from years 9-12 will be participating in work experience at Woolworths. They will be learning valuable life ready and employment skills. There is also an opportunity for these students to gain part time employment at Woolworths after the completion of the work experience

program.

Several of our students are also participating in TAFE YES+ courses this term. Two of our students are studying Cyber Security and one of our students is attending Italian Cooking classes. These programs help build skills and prepare students for post-school and career success. The support unit will be continuing our Community Access program this term, with upcoming excursions to Strike Bowling, Milsons Point and the Maritime Museum. These excursions are valuable opportunities for students to strengthen their travel training and real world Numeracy skills.

Inclusive Education has also organised for a project officer from Uniting to meet with our parents and caregivers to assist them with their NDIS applications and existing plans. These meetings will be taking place every Tuesday and they will give parents and caregivers of students with disabilities an opportunity to make the most of their NDIS plan, to best support the needs of their child

We acknowledge the homelands of all Aboriginal people and pay our respects to Country.

NAIDOC Week

In week 2 BBHS celebrated NAIDOC Week. Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students hosted and participated in a Corroboree during our NAIDOC Assembly. A special mention goes to our Aboriginal student leaders Rastie Yeboah and Riley Gilligan-Griffiths, they did an amazing job running the event. The theme for this year's NAIDOC Week was For Our Elders, and we were honoured to be joined by Bigambul Elder Uncle Wes. We were also joined by our local MP Stephen Bali and our Director Toni Kember.



EaLD, Ms Vidhi Sharma



Blacktown Boys HS is an incredibly multicultural school that acknowledges more than 82% LBOTE students, who come from a variety of linguistic and cultural backgrounds and speak a language other than English as their first language. EAL/D being part of the learning support team has been quite busy this year as we continue

to make constant improvements to our EAL/D program, which is essential to the success of our EAL/D students. This program being an integral part of the whole school curriculum is delivered in a variety of ways to meet the diverse needs of our EAL/D students at different stages of learning.

Every student coming to us, we start to build their student profile and gather that information through collaborating very closely with them. Besides teaching English through Parallel classes for Year 7 & 8 I also support the classroom teachers through collaborative teaching (Team teaching) and enhance students learning through differentiation.

The English curriculum, which is varied and scaffolded to produce explicit learning for the EAL/D students across the EAL/D learning progression scale, our focus on providing the best for our EAL/D students has not lessened. The classes for our targeted Stage 4 EAL/D students with the goal of maximizing and enriching their language learning experiences as well as developing their literacy and English language abilities has successful outcomes as evident through the learning outcomes.

I would like to extend the opportunity to invite parents to be a part of the team and help us with suggestions to build culturally inclusive environments.



Head Teacher PDHPE

Ms Tahnee Lovering



Year 11 exams

This term sees the conclusion of year 11 courses and the transition into year 12 units next term. Year 11 will undertake their yearly examinations week 8 and 9 which will also serve as a practice in HSC exam processes.

These examinations will assist in developing student study skills and time management. Students will be

provided with a timetable for the timing of both the PDHPE and SLR courses. It is important that students review their timetable and plan well so they turn up for their exams on time, healthy and rested.

Bstreet Smart Yr 11

Tuesday week 6, August 22nd all year 11 students will be attending the Bstreetsmart presentation at Qudos Bank Arena. Please ensure students have returned permission notes for the event.

Bstreetsmart is the inspiring initiative of the Trauma Service at Westmead Hospital. Westmead's Trauma Service is constantly reminded through their hands-on work that young people aged between 15–30 are disproportionately represented in road trauma. As a result, they have a strong commitment to Road Safety Education.

The purpose of bstreetsmart is to reduce the fatality and injury rates of young people by promoting safe behaviour as drivers, riders and passengers.

Attendance at the bstreetsmart event grows every year which means more students and teachers are experiencing and learning about the impact of dangerous/distracted driving and the consequences for those directly and indirectly involved in a crash.

Going into its 19th year, the bstreetsmart forum is Australia's largest educational event on road safety with over 224,000 year 10, 11 and 12 students having participated. bstreetsmart provides students with first hand experiences and:

- An understanding of their responsibilities as a driver and as a responsible passenger
- Information and strategies to avoid serious injuries and death
- Information on how to reduce risk taking behaviour through greater awareness of the consequences of distracted driving, inattention, speeding, drink and drug driving and driver fatigue.

This successful initiative receives support from the NSW government and our generous partners to ensure bstreetsmart can continue to be offered to all schools, as they recognise the important role it plays in the community.

First Aid course 11 PDHPE classes

This term 11pdhpe classes are studying the First Aid unit. In conjunction with this, both classes have been offered the opportunity to partake in a First Aid course to provide them with the following qualifications.

HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation

HLTAID010 Provide basic emergency life support

HLTAID011 Provide First Aid

Students are to return permission and payment to the front office by week 4.

NAIDOC Week

This term students celebrated NAIDOC week in PDHPE practical lessons by participating in Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games to learn and experience aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. Many of the Yulunga games have influenced our modern sports played today.

'Yulunga' means playing in the language of the Kamilaroi (Gamori) people of northern-western New South Wales.

Some games students participated in included; 'Battendi', 'Puloga' and 'Wana wana'. A description of other Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games can be found at <https://www.sportaus.gov.au/yulunga>

Term 3 topics and assessment tasks

Year/Course	Unit Name	Assessment Task	Due
7 PDHPE	Prac—Games of Culture Theory— Healthy Life-styles	Gmaes of the Culture	Wk6
8 PDHPE	Prac - Bullseye! Theory - Healthy Life-styles	Bullseye	Wk6
9PDHPE	Prac - Greatest Hits! Theory - The Choice is Yours	Nil	N/A
9PAS	Issues in Physical Activity & Sport	Nil	Nil
10PDHPE	Prac - Contemporary Games Theory - Mental Health	Contemporary Games	Wk7
10PAS	Issues in Physical Activity & Sport	Nil	N/A
11PDHPE	Fitness Choices/ First Aid	Yearly exam	Examination week
11SLR	Games & Sports Applications 1	Games & Sports Applications 1	Examination Wk
12PDHPE	Equity & Health	Trial HSC	Wk1&2
12SLR	Sports Administration	Nil	N/A

Sport Coordinator

Mr Daniel Fabricato

**Blacktown Zone Athletics**

On Wednesday 7th June and Thursday 8th June the annual Blacktown Zone Athletics Carnival was held at Charlie Bali Reserve. With a great 2 days on the track and field our boys showed great athletic ability and determination competing in various events. Congratulations to all the

boys who qualified for the Sydney West Athletics Carnival held at Sydney Olympic Athletics Centre.

Sydney West Athletics

On 26th and 27th June qualified students from the Blacktown Zone carnival made their way to Sydney Olympic Athletic Centre to compete at the Sydney West Athletics Carnival. Congratulations to Mehtab Gill and Yug Patel who progressed to the CHS Athletics Carnival to be held on the 6th and 7th September. We wish you all the best.

Head Teacher TAS Mr Satendra Prasad



Greetings from Technological and Applied Studies Faculty
We are delighted to welcome you all to the latest edition of our school newsletter. As we embark on another exciting academic term, we hope this publication will serve as a bridge between us, fostering a stronger sense of community and collaboration. In this edition, we will feature inspir-

ing stories of our students' accomplishments, innovative teaching methodologies, faculty spotlights, and important announcements. As we continue to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of education, it is crucial for us to work together, united by a common goal of nurturing young minds and empowering them to reach new heights. We eagerly await the chance to showcase the collective brilliance of our faculty. Together, let us continue to inspire, innovate, and make a lasting impact on the lives of our students.

As we step into the future, we look forward to embracing new challenges and opportunities with open arms. This year holds the promise of innovation and growth, where we will explore modern pedagogies, integrate technology effectively, and foster an inclusive and diverse learning environment. Together, we shall nurture an atmosphere of intellectual curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking that empowers our students to become responsible global citizens.

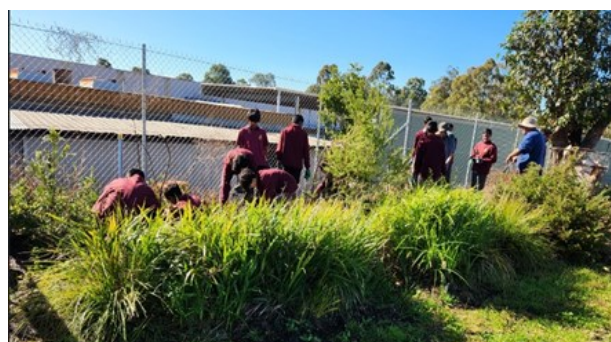


Students in Food Technology have been busy over the last term. They have made lots of different foods from French Toast and Pasta in year 7, to hamburgers in year 9 and Thai Noodle dishes in year 11. All students enjoy practical lessons eager to eat their creations.



Sustainable Wicker beds

Inclusive education students garden in progress



Year 8 Agriculture students working in Native Garden



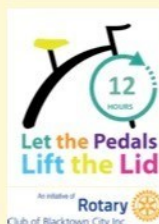
Upgraded new table saw

Major changes to TAS curriculum for stages 5 and 6 are starting in 2024. We will introduce Computing Technology course to Year 9 and progress to Year 10 in 2025. This course replaces Information and Software Technologies (IST). Software Design and Development (SDD) in Year 11 will be replaced by Software Engineering whilst Information Processes and Technologies (IPT) will be replaced by Enterprise Computing. The teachers are currently preparing resources to implement these from day 1 next year.



Let the Pedals Lift the Lid

An initiative of
Rotary
Club of Blacktown City Inc.



STATIC BIKE RIDE

How far can you ride in 5 minutes?

Come and find out between 10AM and 10PM on Saturday, 16 September 2023.

Challengers over the age of 10 are welcome to participate, riding static pushbikes alongside **Melvin D. Gray**.

All proceeds will be donated to Rotary Mental Health Research to advance diagnosis, treatment & rehabilitation for those suffering from mental health issues.

WHEN:

10.00am to 10.00pm
Saturday, 16 September 2023

WHERE:

Ballroom, Level 1,
Blacktown Workers Club
Campbell Street, Blacktown.
Enter via Colo Lane carpark.
Walk across Campbell Street to
the Club main entrance.

For further details please contact
Melvin Gray:
E: blacktownrotary@gmail.com
M: 0412 007 120

Student Support Officer,

Mr Perrin Knight



Bullying

Unfortunately, bullying negatively impacts school students right across Australia. So, how can we understand bullying and what can we do about it? Firstly, it's helpful to define exactly what bullying is as it's often confused with harass-

ment. Harassment is a one-off incident of doing something mean to another person, whereas bullying can be defined as *repeated, deliberate behaviour intended to harm another person*. Bullying behaviour isn't limited to physical bullying or verbal bullying such as hitting someone repeatedly or constantly calling them offensive names. It can also include social bullying and cyber bullying, things like intentionally excluding someone over a period of time or using technology to repeatedly send hurtful messages.

Why do people bully others? There are lots of reasons why someone might bully another person. They could be feeling jealous, want to feel better about themselves, want to fit in with their friends, feel angry inside, want to have power over others, have been bullied themselves, or not know that what they're doing is wrong.

How does bullying affect people? Bullying can be very hurtful and impact a person's feelings, body and mental health. Some examples include: having trouble sleeping, losing their appetite, having trouble concentrating, feeling down about themselves, have trouble with schoolwork, feel physically sick, feeling hopeless or powerless, feeling sad, angry or confused, and feeling unsafe or afraid.

What can be done to help when someone is being bullied? If someone is being bullied themselves or sees their friend being bullied, there are some steps they can take to help the situation.

What can I do if I'm being bullied?

1. Try to keep your distance.
2. Don't bully them back.
3. Tell them what they are doing is not OK.
4. Talk to an adult you trust.
5. Take time to do something nice for yourself.
6. Have someone help you report the bullying.

How can I support a friend who is being bullied?

1. Ask them about their situation.
2. Listen to them.
3. Remind them they're not on their own.
4. Support them to seek help.
5. Stick with them.
6. Look out for their mental health.

As well as looking out for their friends, a student might see another person being bullied online or in person. This known as being a bystander. If a student sees bullying behaviour going on and decides to intervene or speak up to help the situation, this means that they've become an upstander. How do you change from being a bystander to being an upstander? Some strategies to try are:

Question the bullying behaviour.

Change the subject or use humour to redirect the situation.

Intervene as a group to show there are several people who don't agree with the bullying.

Stay with the person who is the target of bullying to help defuse situations.

Help the person being bullied to report the situation to a trusted adult or report it yourself.

Reach out privately to check in with the person who was bullied to let them know you do not agree with it and that you care.

Bullying can seriously affect the wellbeing of students in schools. Being a Blacktown Boy means standing against bullying. By using some of the strategies above you can help to minimise the incidence and impact of bullying behaviour. If bullying continues, it's important to report the situation to an adult at school. This could be your teacher, year advisor or one of our school deputies. Together we can work to be a school free from bullying.

Year 7 2023

Ms Michelle Winata



As we approach the close of our third Term for 2023, we wanted to take the opportunity to share some of the key moments and achievements of Year 7 students so far. Despite the challenges, students have demonstrated great resilience, teamwork, and dedication to learning, which has resulted in the presentation of over 55 bronze awards

and 3 silver awards to acknowledge students' hard work in class and general positive attitude. Keep up the good work Year 7. This Term, our focus on mental health and wellbeing was more important than ever. To support this, we have started running the Subtext program which is an intensive workshop with highly skilled artist mentors with schools to lead an 8-week immersive arts experience allowing students freedom of expression whilst supporting them to find and build confidence in their voice. Some key objectives are creating a space for students to feel valued, and a sense of belonging and a part of a community, so that they can build confidence in their oral language and literacy skills, to communicate and express their ideas, questions, sense of identity and values. We're pleased to report that the feedback from these sessions has been extremely positive. The students have also had many extracurricular opportunities run by the various different faculties who have gone above and beyond to make school an engaging and enjoyable place to be including:

- Dance club
- Vocal group
- Debating
- Claymation Digital Animation Workshop
- King Tut History Incursion
- Indigenous Pathway Programs
- Chess Competitions
- Anzac Day Assembly
- Naidoc Week



On behalf of the entire teaching and administrative staff, we'd like to express our gratitude for your ongoing support. It's your involvement that truly makes our school a community. As we move into the final stretch of the year, we're confident that our students will continue to excel and make us proud. With many more events to look forward to in the coming term.



Year 8 Adviser 2023, Ms Chloe Alfonso



Welcome back to Term 3, Year 8! Year 8s are partaking in their final two terms as Stage 4 students and made some important decisions last term regarding subjects for next year.

It was wonderful to meet our year 8 families during the Junior Subject Selection evening as well as during parent-teacher interviews in Term 2.

These events are important opportunities for our students to gain information about Stage 5, set goals and explore exciting avenues of learning for their future. It's also important for conversations about learning, engagement and goals to take place at home to foster safe and supportive environments where students are encouraged to do their best academically, socially and emotionally.

Congratulations to the following students for attaining excellence in curriculum, citizenship or extracurricular activities.

Bronze Achievement Awards:

Adam Abdelaziz, who received 2 Bronze Achievement Awards.

Akshaj Gavva, Ali Khurram, Amjad Aicha, Aravith Kannadasan, Ayden Nightingale, Callum Cole, Daud Ashar Malik, Ekamvir Singh, Ibrahim Khalazaei, Iniyan Srikumar, Jasmeh Kooner, Muntazir Mehdi, Sri Hari Sriranganathan, Sosaia Fihaki, Udyat Marwaha, and Vishal Vedula who each received 1 Bronze Achievement Award.

Silver Achievement Awards:

Ekamvir Singh, who received the first Silver Achievement Award for the cohort. Well done!

All students are encouraged to strive for excellence in all areas of school, not just to receive merit cards, but to embody the values of confidence, diligence, compassion and school pride in all they do. I look forward to congratulating more students as the year progresses.



Some announcements and reminders for Term 3:

Junior Subject Selection

Thank you to all the students who submitted their Subject Selection forms and returned the signed form from their parents. Students will receive their electives on their Year 9 timetable when they return in 2025.

Semester 1 Reports and Study Skills

Year 8s have received their Semester 1 Reports at the end of Term 2. Students are encouraged to reflect on their progress, and work alongside their teachers to improve their learning in the classroom. It is particularly important for students to develop their time management, organisation and effort moving into Stage 5 next year.

Learn to Live Program for Term 3:

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

- Emotional Intelligence: Regulating emotions
- Balancing Act: Sleep, Study & Social Balance
- Evaluating & reviewing my goals
- Addiction
- Sydney Trains Railway Safety Presentation



Google Classroom for Year 8

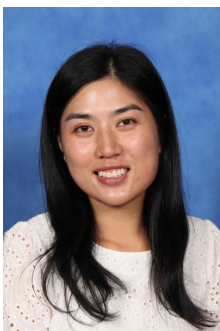
All Year 8 students should be in the Year 8 Google Classroom. This platform is for communication between myself and the cohort. If your son is not currently enrolled in "Year 8 2023" on his Google Classroom home page, he should request a join code from me as soon as possible, so as not to miss any important announcements or notifications.

Extra-curricular Activities

BBHS runs a range of extra curricular activities throughout the year for our students to participate in. It was great to see Year 8 students taking on new challenges and skills from these activities such as the BBHS Cubing Club, Chess Tournaments, Zone Athletics and Debating to name a few. Well done to these students that stood out in their efforts and achievements in Term 2: Ardass Kalirao (Zone Athletics Age Champion), Hriman Joshi (Year 8 Debating Team), Aravith Kannadasan (Year 8 Debating Team), Darsh Maharaja (Year 8 Debating Team), Suren Simdar (Year 8 Debating Team), Yash Mali (Year 8 Debating Team), and Xian Li (Chess Tournament Champion).



Year 9 Adviser 2023, Ms Cindy Tang



To our students, parents & guardians,
Welcome to Term 3!

Congratulations to all the Year 9s who had positive Semester 1 reports and I would like to thank all the parents and guardians who attended Parent-teacher interviews. It is fantastic to see the parents working together with the school to improve the learning outcomes of their son.

Congratulations to the following year 9s for receiving awards in Term 2::

- Student of the Term: Jack
- Silver Award: Taran, Marco, Jack & Denzil

Twenty Year 9 students also attended the ABCN Future Thinkers program hosted at the OKTA office in North Sydney. During this program, the students were mentored by industry professions regarding the design thinking process which is a key transferable enterprise skill. The students further developed their problem-solving, critical thinking and judgement skills through proposing solutions to questions such as 'How can AI protect the environment?', "How can AI solve bullying in schools?" and "How can AI help teachers in the classroom". We received positive feedback from the facilitators and mentors during the day, who highly praised Blacktown Boys students for their maturity, communication and presentation skills and ability to problem solve under pressure. There will be more ABCN opportunities in the future and I encourage all Year 9s to apply for them.

Finally, as I have taken up a new role in school, I would like to say my farewells to the Year 9s as their Year Adviser. As a cohort, we have had challenges with an online orientation in year 6, cancelled camps and excursions and online learning due to the pandemic. It has been a pleasure to oversee the growth and development of the students over the last 2.5 years. The new Year 9 Year Adviser is Mr Daniel Fabricato. Mr Fabricato is a pivotal member of school and has also been the sports coordinator and has had positive interactions with the students during sport as well as his lessons. I am confident that he will be able to support the students further in their journey in high school!

Here are some announcements and reminders for Term 3:

Assessment Booklets

Year 9s have received their assessment booklets in Term 1. A reminder for Year 9s to regularly refer back to the Assess-

ment Booklets and their assessment notifications to prepare themselves for due dates.



Camp

Camp will be held in Term 4 from 15/11/23 - 17/11/23 at the Outdoor Adventure Compnay. Permission notes are out and full payment is due on 21/08/2023 (Week 6 Monday Term 3)

Uniform

The formal school uniform for juniors consists of a grey shirt and grey pants/shorts with leather shoes. Black pants are only for senior (year 11 & 12) students. Students should also not be wearing grey jogger pants to school. The PE changerooms can also not be used so students should be bringing their sport uniform on the days that they have 'PEP' on their timetables. . Year 9s have sport Period 5 and Period 6 every Wednesday. Students should only be wearing their sports 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 to each period)

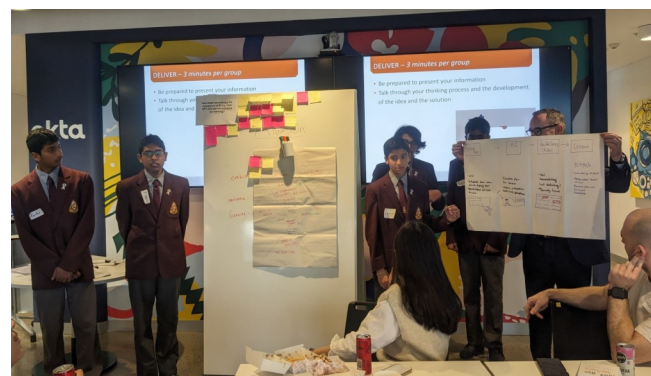
Students need to be at their homeroom by 8:10am every day. There is a warning music bell that goes at 8:05am to signify that it is time to go to homeroom. If students arrive at school after 8:10am, they need to go to the front office to get a late note. Students need to also be mindful about when recess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



Learn to Live Program for Term 3:

The Learn to Live outline for Year 9s this term consists of:

- Healthy lifestyle
- Attitude matters
- Leadership
- R U OK?
- Reviewing and evaluating goals



Extra-curricular activities & Competitions

Students are reminded to listen out to the announcements for these activities during homeroom, and make sure they take note of deadlines for sign on dates.

Google Classroom for year 9

All year 9 students should be on the Year 9 Google Classroom. This is the same google classroom as year 9 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 Mr Fabricato via the school phone.



Year 10 Adviser 2023, Ms Victoria Zaw



Dear Parents/ carers and students,
Welcome back to Term 3, 2023.
Thank you for attending the important events last term – Senior Subject Selection Evening, Subject Selection Interviews and Parent Teacher Interviews. We value your time and support as Year 10 students make important decisions in their academic journeys.



A reminder that students can seek advice about extra-curricular activities, subject selection choices, TAFE career programs for high school students and post-school opportunities from Year Adviser – Miss Zaw, Careers Advisor – Mr Hodges, Transitions Adviser – Ms. Marsh.

Year 10 have several important dates coming up this term.

TERM 3 IMPORTANT DATES

- **Senior Subject Selection Choices due – Week 2, Monday, July 24** Subject choices are submitted via Web Choice link sent to student emails.
 - **Academy U Welcome Ceremony – Week 3, Wednesday, August 2** Key event details emailed to participating 10 students.
 - **Vaccinations – Week 3, Monday, July 31** Information emailed to parents. Forms completed online.
 - **SALSA Youth Voices Excursion – Week 9, Thursday, September 14** Student list (10) to be published on Year 10 Google Classroom
 - **Interview to Impress @ Microsoft – Week 10, Tuesday, September 19** Student list (20) to be published on Year 10 Google Classroom
- Term 3 TAFE – Start your future – Ongoing through Term 3**
Students must check their emails for enrolment details. If you have further questions, see Mr. Hodges.



Year 11 Adviser 2023, Ms Villanueva



Welcome back to Term 3! We hope you had a restful break and are now ready to dive into the next chapter of your academic journey. This term is filled with promising opportunities and memorable events that we cannot wait to share with you.

Creating the 2024 School Leadership Team

We are thrilled to announce that the process of creating the 2024 School Leadership Team has begun. This team will consist of the School Captain, Vice Captain, and Prefects, who will play an integral role in shaping the school's culture and ensuring a positive learning environment for all students. We are looking for individuals who embody our school's core values of integrity, responsibility, compassion, and resilience. Stay tuned for more information on the selection process and how you can participate.

Yr12 2024 School Jackets Design

We are proud to share that the Yr12 2024 school jackets have been exclusively designed in-house by our talented students themselves! These jackets are more than just a piece of clothing; they represent your journey through high school and commemorate the remarkable achievements you've made so far. We know you're excited to receive them, and you can look forward to proudly donning these jackets in Term 4.

Preliminary Exams in Weeks 8 and 9

As you progress through Year 11, it's essential to be prepared for the upcoming preliminary exams scheduled for Weeks 8 and 9 of this term. These exams are an essential milestone as they will provide valuable feedback and insights into your progress before the HSC year. To ensure you perform at your best, here are three exam techniques to help you excel in longer exams:

1. Time Management: Divide your exam time wisely among the different sections or questions. Allocate a specific amount of time for each question based on its marks and complexity. This strategy will help you avoid spending too much time on a single question and allow you to complete the entire paper.

2. Practise Past Papers: Familiarise yourself with the exam format and types of questions by practising past papers.

This will not only help you understand the question patterns but also improve your time management skills. Review your answers afterward to identify areas for improvement.

3. Revise Regularly: Instead of cramming all the information at once, create a study schedule that involves regular revision. Breaking down the content into smaller, manageable portions will enhance your retention and understanding of the topics, making it easier to recall during the exam.

Remember, your teachers and support staff are here to assist you throughout this process. Don't hesitate to ask for help or clarification if needed.

We wish you all the best for Term 3 and the exciting times ahead. Let's make this term memorable and successful together!

Year 12 Adviser 2022, Ms Jessie O'Brien



Welcome back to your final term of High School! By the time you are reading this you will have completed some of the biggest milestones in your schooling careers and will be in the final stages of preparation for your HSC. It has been an absolute pleasure to have had the opportunity to watch and support you to grow not only taller but also in character and wisdom. I have complete faith and confidence in each and every one of you.

This term will continue to be busy with final details and preparations for graduation and your examinations, so please ensure you are up to date with any announcements by continuing to check our google classroom.

Upcoming events and paperwork:

- **HSC timetable:** Make sure you have reviewed your timetable and know when your examinations are
- **Reference Packages:** Paperwork will be provided to the grade in the upcoming weeks to request references from teachers for their academic and extra-curricular activities
- **Early Entry for University:** Ensure you see Mr Hodges and are attending any upcoming sessions with Universities to help prepare for your Post-High School career pathways
- **Graduation:** Scheduled for 21st September. More details will be provided closer to the date

Mental Health and Support Networks:

The next few months will be a stressful time, and we wish to remind Year 12 of the following options available to support them. If you have any questions, please see Ms O'Brien or Deputy Principals.

HSC Mentors: Your staff mentors are here to support you. Reach out to them!

Year Advisor: You can reach Ms O'Brien via email or on google classroom. Respond to the HELP ME! Post

Councillor: You can see Ms O'Brien for more details or you can simply knock on the councillors door or slip a note under their door

Beyond Blue: Provide a 24 hour support line. Visit <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

To finish, your teachers past and present have helped me to put together a few pictures from over the years! We are so proud of you and all of your achievements and cannot wait to celebrate your success!



Year 12 Collage

