Welcome everyone and thanks for taking time to read up on what is happening at Blacktown Boys’ High. By the time you read this, the HSC exams will have commenced, and I wish our boys all the best in their endeavours. I have to say, their behaviour and attitude leading up to these exams has been exemplary, and I hope they are rewarded with positive results.

I had the pleasure of announcing our 2015 School Captains and Prefects last Term. The boys are:

- Dennis Lomax (Captain)
- Visagan Kajendran (Vice Captain)
- Sarthak Garg (Prefect)
- Timothy Pagulayan (Prefect)

All were worthy recipients and all four show every sign of being excellent ambassadors for the school, and representatives for the student body.

Term four is always very busy, not only with HSC exams, but also assessment for our other Year groups. We also look forward to welcoming the 2015 Year seven cohort at our orientation day and farewelling this year’s Year 12 at their formal.

As I write this, we are also in the process of developing the school timetable for next year. This is always a complex task, but we hope to have it completed by mid-term.

In two weeks’ time our Visual Arts representatives will be exhibiting in the annual Citibank art gallery, in the Head Office of our business partners Citi. As in the past, the sponsorship from Citi has been wonderful this year. Not only have they been wonderful with the Art support, but they have also hosted over 80 students from different year groups as part of the ABCN mentoring programs, and have volunteered in
school promotion and beautification activities.

If you have any comments / questions regarding your son’s school, please feel free to call me, or arrange to pop in for a chat.

Shaun Addy
Principal

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**Dates for your Diary**

**October**

8th  Year 8 & 9 Robotics Club excursion
9th  Year 9 History Debating
10th Bell Shakespeare Production
13th HSC Commences
   - Year 9/10 Assessment Week
14th Year 9/10 Assessment Week
15th Year 9/10 Assessment Week
16th Year 9/10 Assessment Week
17th Year 9/10 Assessment Week
21st Citibank Art Exhibition
23rd Literacy and Numeracy Test
24th Sculpture by the Sea
   - Macquarie Mentoring Campus Day
27th Year 7/8 Assessment Week
28th Year 7/8 Assessment Week
29th Year 7/8 Assessment Week
30th Year 7/8 Assessment Week
   - Selective Parent Afternoon
31st Year 7/8 Assessment Week

**November**

3rd  World Science Day
10th Year 12 signout
11th Year 12 signout
   - Remembrance Day Ceremony
14th Cronulla Trip 2
18th Parent Information Meeting
21st History Mastermind—Year 7/8 team

**December**

3rd  Year 6/7 Orientation Day
10th Swim School
11th Swim School
12th Swim School
17th HSC Results Released
   - Last day of school for 2014

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**From the Parents and Citizens**

The P&C will be holding their next meeting on Tuesday 21st October 2014 commencing at 10am. The meeting will be held in the school library.

All parents are welcome.

The final meeting date for the year is:
Tuesday 18th November   4pm
Some people think that term 4 is a downhill run until the end of the year. Not so at Blacktown Boys High School! It is a time of new beginnings and ongoing planning and development.

Formal schooling for Year 12 2014 ended with their graduation on 18th September, where their achievements were celebrated and the best wishes of all the staff were voiced in many different ways. In particular, their Year Advisor Miss French, who has been a part of their lives for the past six years, put in a lot of effort to ensure that this day would hold special memories for them. Although the formal attendance has finished, teachers are holding tutorials right up to the day of each exam, for students who have made bookings, and want to make the most of the opportunity for extra revision and consolidation time. With the formal HSC examinations starting on the 13th October, and finishing no later than 7th November, our Year 12 young men will then be looking forward to their formal, before their official sign out on 11th November. I would like to wish them all the very best for their pathway into the next stage of their lives, knowing that we have, in partnership with their families and carers, been a huge part of making them into the young men that they are today.

For Year 11, their Preliminary exams signalled the end of year 11 with the rigours of the HSC course starting Day 1 Term 4. It is important that all students maintain 100% attendance and punctuality in order to maximise their post-school options. Blacktown Boys is the perfect place for students to be nurtured during these final two years, with a staff that know and understand their needs and learning styles, where we are not so big, that we cannot give them the individual attention that they need and deserve.

It may come as a shock to current Year 10 students that they will start their HSC course in less than twelve months’ time. Subject selections have already been made by Year 10 after a well considered ‘Step Up’ planning and thought process that started at the end of term 2, involving teachers, Head Teachers, the Year Advisor, the Careers Advisor, a BOSTES representative, parents, and most importantly the students themselves. This term they continue the Step Up Program. As well as further developing study skills, this means that they will all be completing the mandatory requirement of “All My Own Work” prior to commencing their Preliminary year, and also be introduced to the world of BOSTES, which supports students and parents, and also mandates the requirements for the attainment of RoSA, and Preliminary and HSC courses. As leaders in the school, a select group of year 10 students will also be training as peer support leaders for our incoming year 7 2015.

For Year 9 the formal part of the RoSA has begun, where they need to demonstrate that they are attempting all course outcomes with diligence. In three terms time, they will be selecting courses for their Preliminary and HSC study. It is never too early for them to start thinking about future pathways and interests that they would like to follow, by focussing on their work, and researching and asking questions of teachers, family and friends. For Year 8, subject selections have already been made for their electives in Years 9 and 10, where they were able to utilise our new online ‘Webchoice’ system. Year 7 and Year 9 have already received their NAPLAN results, which are essentially a tool to guide planning to build the Literacy and Numeracy skills of students. BBHS continues to add growth to students’
skills, and this information adds to the wealth of knowledge that teachers have about the way that your son learns, in order to guide programming, and differentiated learning.

It was pleasing to see so many parents at our Year 7-11 Progress Report and Portfolio Pickup, at the end of third term, and reassuring to see so many Academic goals where students were able to identify what they needed to do to improve their results, and add to their strengths, through the setting of SMART goals that included preparation for the yearly exams. Their personal goals are also an acknowledgement of the benefits, for students, of developing their own interests and sharing these goals with their families and teachers. This is another way that we demonstrate our interest in the ‘whole child’ so that they can grow into successful young men.

So, all in all, term 4 is a busy term for all students, and we look forward to celebrating their successes with the issue of Semester 2 reports in December.

From the Head Teacher Administration

**Attendance - ‘It’s not OK to be away!’**

The majority of students at Blacktown Boys High School attend school every day. The average attendance rate at Blacktown Boys High School is equal or better than state average. I am very proud to congratulate these students who take their education and their future very seriously.

Some students, however, have their educational progress severely interrupted by absences which are more often than not, unnecessary and for reasons fairly low on the **important to my future** scale.

To reach their full potential at school, students need to attend every day. This means a few days off per year due to genuine illness. One day a fortnight off will accumulate to 20 days absent per year. This equals 120 periods absent, the equivalent of 4 school weeks per year.

**How can any student be expected to keep up with work under such circumstances?**

Parents have a critical role to play in protecting their own son’s future. Absences can be minimised by arranging dental and doctor’s appointments after school or during the holidays. Shopping, helping at home and visiting relatives may all seem important at the time but not as important as a person’s **FUTURE**.

Let’s work together and make our boys understand that **‘It’s not OK to be away!’**

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**Choosing the right shoes**

School shoes may all look the same but the cost can vary from about $30 to $120 and beyond. Does a more expensive shoe mean a better shoe? Find out more:

Dear Parent / Carer:

Clearance Procedures School Contributions and Email Details

Each year our school begins finance and equipment clearance procedures in October. This involves clearing outstanding invoices for student Subject contributions and General contributions and student returning library or subject text books and or equipment borrowed to the school.

Our thanks to the families who have paid their contributions as these contributions help greatly in our provision of quality learning experiences for all students. Copy invoices are available from the front office, or if you prefer, request a copy over the telephone on 02 96221558. We can forward a copy to you via email or post.

The school budget is developed and monitored regularly by the Finance Committee at the school which distributes the funds from the voluntary contributions to various curriculum areas. Elective subject contributions are necessary for student’s 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 education that their sons receive. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing this relationship with you and your child.

For your convenience, payment of outstanding contributions may be made at the front office using: eftpos or cash. Or, alternatively payments may be made over the phone by credit card.

If you would prefer our school to email your invoices to you in the future, we ask that, if you have not already done so, please either forward your email address to our front office in person or by email to blacktownb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au and mark to the attention of Ms P Holley. We are moving forward with a more efficient means of communicating messages to parents/carers.

The School Administration team would like to wish all our families a very safe and happy term 4 vacation and look forward to seeing you all again in 2015.

P Holley
School Administrative Manager

Preparing for the HSC

Is someone in your house preparing for the HSC? Here’s some practical advice on everything from writing an essay to helping the rest of the family stay supportive (and sane) while your teen works towards their final exams. Find out more:

Hi everyone and welcome to Term 4. We’ve had a busy year and the pace won’t be slowing down any time soon.

The English faculty ran a great Literacy Week in week 7 of last term. The wonderful English/ESL/Learning Support/Drama staff got into the spirit with a fun Literacy Week ‘skit’ loosely based on the popular The Hunger Games series, which was performed on assembly. Mr Addy, our school Principal, was especially compelling in the role of ‘Death’. A full week of themed dress up days for teachers and students followed as well as an assortment of literacy activities. I would like to congratulate Minn Soe of 7S who took out our Spelling Championship. Literacy Week will be back better and bigger next year.

Late last term, I had the pleasure of accompanying a group of Year 8 boys to the final session of RISE, one of the programs that is the result of our fruitful relationship with Citibank and the Australian Business and Community Network (ABCN). The boys benefited from the mentoring and reading program and did themselves and their school credit. I was especially pleased to hear the reflections and speeches of some of their mentors, who themselves immensely enjoyed spending time with our students. Some photos are included over the page. It is a wonderful program and I look forward to our continued involvement.

As you read this, our Year 12 students will be embarking upon their HSC examinations. We wish them well and we know that the future holds great things for them. Ms Fuller and I will remember them as a diverse and interesting group with correspondingly wide talents. We both enjoyed teaching them and look forward to seeing their results when they are released in December.

Our new Year 12 cohort begins their HSC English study this term under the guidance of myself, Mr Martin and Ms Kaur. The ‘Belonging’ Area of Study has been replaced by ‘Discovery’ for 2015 and the faculty staff is excited about this change. Academics from the University of Sydney will be working with the Advanced class this term,
in continuance of an established program our faculty has with the English Department at the university. We are grateful for the opportunities such programs provide. Another program run with a university partner, Macquarie Mentoring, continues to make positive contributions to our boys’ experience of high school, under the guidance and organisation of Mrs Lal.

Much more has been happening and will continue to happen in English, as outlined in the contributions from faculty staff below. I’ll say bye for now, and I wish everyone a happy and productive Term 4.

Mr Mitchell Comans

ICAS Spelling

In term 2, 15 Year 7 students participated in ICAS Spelling Competition and it is great to see the results with one Distinction, 2 Credits and 2 Merits. Congratulations to all these students for their effort and commitment. The students will receive their certificates on Assembly shortly.

Mrs Kaur

Premiers Debating Challenge

Congratulations to Year 10 debating team for making it to quarter finals. This time the team could not reach Semi Finals but they are determined to achieve it next year with strong willpower and more practice. I look forward working with the diligent team and wish them good luck for future debates.

Mrs Kaur
Model United Nations - Canberra

The weekend of the 16th and 17th of August saw Blacktown Boys High School compete at the National Rotary Model United Nations Assembly for the first time. Our school qualified after achieving second place in the regional competition earlier in the year.
Chaopeng Ma, Sarthak Garg and Yasin Rahman played the role of South Korea in costumes provided by the Korean Society of Sydney. The competition took place at Old Parliament House, Canberra, with schools from all the eastern states and the A.C.T competing.
Our team debated the resolutions put before the General Assembly well and moved a successful resolution on the ensuring the humane treatment of terrorism suspects.
Thank you to Blacktown Rotary Club for covering our team’s costs in participating in the competition.
Mr Dewane
Blacktown History Debating Competition

The Blacktown Boys’ High School HSIE Faculty is planning the second annual Blacktown History Debating Competition to be held on Thursday, 9th of October. Last year, Hills Sports High School and Quakers Hill High School participated in the event, and this year the competition will expand to include most Nirimba schools.

Five Senses Education in Seven Hills sponsored the event last year and they have again kindly offered to provide a book prize for each student in the winning team.

We look forward to a great day of history debating and wish our Year 9 students the very best of luck in the competition.

AIME Mentoring Program

YEAR 12 GRADUATION – 2nd September 2014

Our Year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enjoyed a very eventful graduation day at Sydney University as part of AIME. The mentoring program aims to build skills, opportunities and confidence for Indigenous high school students. Laurie McDonald and Joshua Pickering celebrated their AIME Year 12 graduation and received a complementary Bonds ‘hoodie’ to wear proudly. Congratulations to the Year 12 boys for completing the program. We wish them all the very best in all future endeavours.
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST are now open for all students who are interested in being involved in the CAPA ‘JOURNEY’ project for 2015. This will involve a trip to Orange, Blayney and Bathurst with student delivery of lessons at a primary/pre-school, country photography and site specific 3D construction. The faculty will run this excursion in March 2015 and by flagging it at this time it will allow parents to plan and prepare for it. All payments would need to be finalised by the end of February. The work from this excursion will feed into the external Citibank exhibition proposed for 2015.

Café d’ Art once again was a successful showcase of our students work and we would particularly like to thank all those who supported and helped this event to run in 2014. Many students worked behind the scenes to ensure the night ran to schedule and so that the students could perform and present what we do. We all enjoy this and are proud of our student’s contribution. Mr Conley and Mr Shiel once again worked overtime to bring the event into reality. Thank-you and your teams very much. Mrs Burne would also like to thank the presentation teams and acknowledge the work of our school captain Vincent Maulio, vice-captain Hezron Fekitoa and senior student Lachlan Rousell who have worked for a number of years to bring Café d’ Art to the public and their contribution will be sorely missed. You are appreciated.

QUALITY HOMEWORK – at present we have had an influx of quality homework being presented in the form of assignments, projects and critical studies. OMAR MAGABLEH in year 7 and Lachlan Klingberg in Year 8 excelled with his presentation of a 3D project made from non-traditional materials and inclusive of electronics. We were overawed with the interpretation of the assignment and contacted parents to extend our appreciation of his efforts. Vendant Patel 7S, Rakul Jeyakumar 8G, Pratik Patel 7S are also completing work to an excellent standard.

21ST OCTOBER is the date for the 2014 Citibank exhibition at their Head Office in the city. Approximately 30 students will have work exhibited, based on our Newcastle trip and our interpretation of working concepts of mining, money and environment. We are excited about how this exhibition will form up and students are engaged with all aspects of its presentation including project delivery, finance, and strategic considerations of team and independent delivery of the works to be displayed. The different skills of our students come to the fore in such instances and they are earmarked for further involvement and projects.
Literacy and Numeracy Team

The LAN Team consists of Mrs Burne (HT—CAPA), Mrs Lees (HT—Maths), Ms Hunter (Visual Art teacher), Ms Chhabra (Maths teacher), Mr Cheema (Maths teacher), Mr Muscio (PDHPE teacher), Mr D’ Souza (English teacher), Mr Martin (English teacher), Mr Lloyd (HSIE teacher), Mr Hodges (Careers Advisor), Ms Josan (LaST) and Ms Dayal (ESL teacher).

The LAN Team has concluded its annual literacy competition which was based on ‘NARRATION SENSATION’ in term 3, 2014. The aim of the competition is to have everyone write on the same topic from year 7 to year 10. The focus this year was the narrative which supports the NAPLAN writing target for this year. All staff from all faculties administered and marked the competition. Mr Muscio, Mr Martin and Mr D’Souza conducted professional learning for the staff prior to the competition.

Many budding writers became visible to all in the school community with the following students being acknowledged for the quality of their writing and the impact of their storytelling on their audience. All received movie tickets and achievement awards, as well as being part of a group photograph for the foyer, and having their story printed in a book for the library.

WINNERS of 2014 ‘NARRATION SENSATION’ were:

Zack Wood 7L
Zackery Flores 7B
Christo Saji Joseph 7S
Ahmed Khondoker 7G
Jacob Jarman 8L
Michael Thiab 8B
Adib Hossain 8S
Nisharth Patel 8G

Nishil Patel 9S and also ‘Persuade Me’ competition 2013
Suhaib Ghazanfar 9G
Abdul Sumad 9M1
Brent Valdez 9.2 and also ‘Persuade Me’ competition in 2013
Jarod Ibarra 10.1
Vishal Suresh 10S
Jack Webster 10G and also ‘Persuade me’ competition 2013
‘PERSUADE ME’ Competition 2013
Ritwhik Gupta 7G, James Kaufman 7L, Michael Silang 8B and Jonas Tay 8G in 2013.

Congratulations to all.

Mrs Burne – HT LAN TEAM
From the Mathematics Faculty

Term 3 has been particularly busy in the Mathematics faculty with the ICAS and Australian Mathematics Competitions running as well as preparations for the World of Maths incursion to be held in November. The Mathematics faculty were also involved in organising and running the GATS-lympics event that was held to promote academic excellence within our local primary schools. The end of term 3 saw Year 11 students completing their preliminary HSC courses with their final exams held in weeks 9 and 10.

In addition to student centred events, the Mathematics faculty have undertaken several professional development opportunities including a faculty planning day aimed at developing our programmes for the implementation of the NSW syllabus for the Australian Curriculum in Year 8 and 10 next year. We were also lucky enough to receive a private donation which has allowed us to purchase a large number of new text and resources books which will help us to continue to ensure the best mathematical education for your sons.

In the last newsletter, we introduced the skills that the NSW syllabus for the Australian Curriculum outlines as essential for 21st century learners. We looked at how the study of Mathematics helps develop critical and creative thinking in students. In this edition, we will discuss how Mathematics can help develop the personal and social capability of students.

**How does Maths help my son develop personal and social capability?**

A student’s personal and social capability is their ability to understand themselves and others, as well as how they learn to manage their relationships, lives, work and learning more effectively.

While the study of Mathematics is not traditionally associated with the social development of students, it clearly involves them in a range of practices that are essential for developing their personal and social capabilities. These practices include activities that relate learning to their own lives and communities, such as time management, budgeting and financial management, and understanding statistics in everyday contexts.

The Mathematics curriculum further enhances the development of students’ personal and social capabilities by providing opportunities for initiative taking, decision making, communicating their processes and findings, and working independently and collaboratively in the Mathematics classroom.

By undertaking sustained study of abstract concepts and problems that involve high-order thinking, students learn to recognise and regulate their emotions, establish positive relationships, make responsible, reasonable decisions, work effectively in teams and handle challenging situations constructively.

To help your son develop his own capabilities, it is important to recognise the development of these skills rather than solely focussing on the content being taught. The difference between a Band 6 and a Band 5 student in all HSC mathematics courses is often the ability to do ‘more’ than blindly apply formulae or rote-learn solutions. More importantly, only students who develop the ability to regulate themselves, communicate their ideas and apply their knowledge to manage challenging situations, will transfer the skills taught in the classroom into their own lives.
To help students develop their social and personal capabilities, the Mathematics faculty have invited all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 to participate in the World of Maths incursion.

**World of Maths Day**

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 should have taken an incursion note home last term for the World of Maths Day that will be held at Blacktown Boys’ High School on 13th November 2014. The team from World of Maths will provide students with the opportunity to participate in a range of interactive, problem solving activities. Activities will focus on developing Working Mathematically skills but will cover all strands of the Mathematics curriculum including: number and space, measurement, chance and data, logical thinking and sequencing.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students of all abilities. Permission notes and payment were due last term but we may still have limited places available. If you would like your child to attend, please contact the Mathematics faculty to confirm attendance before returning your permission note and payment.

**ICAS and Australian Mathematics Competition**

The Australian Mathematics Competition was held on the 7th August 2014 with the ICAS Mathematics Competition conducted the following week on the 12th August. Students from Years 7 to 11 were invited to undertake in these competitions with over 80 students participating in the Australian Mathematics Competition and 70 students entering the ICAS competition. These competitions are designed to be difficult and give students’ the chance to demonstrate their problem solving skills in a unique environment which pits them against the best Mathematics students from across Australia. With around 20% of our school students competing in both competitions, the Blacktown Boys’ school community is making a clear statement about the importance of Mathematics in our student’s lives.

All students who competed must be congratulated for their behaviour and effort. A special thanks to Mr Cheema for his hard work in co-ordinating these competitions.

While final results and certificates for both competitions are expected early in term 4, we have received preliminary results for the Australian Mathematics Competition, with 9 students being awarded a Distinction and over half of Blacktown students being awarded a Credit certificate. A full list of award recipients will be published in the next newsletter.

**Yearly Examinations**

Students in Years 9 and 10 will sit their Yearly Examinations during Week 2, term 4, while students in Years 7 and 8 will sit their Yearly Exams during Week 4, term 4.

**NOTE:** Students must supply their own calculators for the yearly examinations. If your child does not have a calculator, please purchase one before the exams.
Some of these exams will be held over two class lessons so please be sure that your son is aware of the exact dates of his exams.

Students should refer to their Assessment Notification which details the content being assessed. These notifications were handed out before the holidays in order to give students time to thoroughly revise and prepare for the exams.

**Term Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Probability, Equations, Measurement and Number Plane</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Surface Area and Volume, Rates and Ratio, Similarity and Congruence, and Reasoning in Geometry (advanced courses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Linear Relationships, Equations, Geometry and Congruence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Advanced</td>
<td>Properties of Geometrical Figures, Polynomials and Logarithms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Mainstream</td>
<td>Graphs, Simultaneous Equations, Surface Area and Volume</td>
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</tbody>
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**NOTE:** Year 11 Classes will begin their HSC courses in Term 4.

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**GATS-Lympics comes to BBHS**

Blacktown Boys’ hosts a challenge to Gifted and Talented primary students in the Blacktown Learning Community

Written by Jake Xu

Challenging gifted and talented students can be difficult for primary schools particularly those in Year 5 and 6. Those schools that are partnered with Blacktown Boys’ High School as part of the Blacktown Learning Community (BLC) were recently given a great opportunity to extend their students, by participating in the inaugural GATS-Lympics.

On Tuesday 26th August, eight local primary schools sent teams to the GATS-Lympics, hosted by Blacktown Boys’ High School. Each team consisted of the five best and brightest Stage 5 students who competed against the other schools in a series of academic challenges.

Each faculty at Blacktown Boys’ provided a competitive challenge, for the students, which they had to complete under competitive conditions. Whether the task involved making self-supporting sculptures or mixing chemicals, there were a variety of difficulties for each team to work together to overcome.

The event was organised by Mrs Lees (HT Maths) and Mr Comans (HT English) but staffed by the students from 10S who took on all the necessary roles for running the competition including being recorders, reporters, hosts and team leaders for each primary school. While the high school students were not allowed to complete the tasks for the teams, some events proved to be a challenge for the older students who found themselves leading a team to complete tasks such as a titration experiment which is not covered in high school until year 12.

One of the primary students said, “Today was really a great day, it was very fun and challenging. Our leader made the day very enjoyable.”
The event winners of the GATS-Lympics were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPA</td>
<td>Think it, See it, Make it, Free it</td>
<td>Riverstone Public School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Titillating Titrations</td>
<td>Lalor Park Public School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Spelling Superstars</td>
<td>Metella Road Public School</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS</td>
<td>Straw Towers</td>
<td>Marayong Public School</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSIE</td>
<td>Trivia Quiz</td>
<td>Hambledon Public School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Coding Challenge</td>
<td>Completed by Schofields Public School, Hambledon Public School and Lalor Park Public School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall winners for the GATS-Lympics were the team from Lalor Park Public school who beat Hambledon Public by only one point. Nirooban Sithamparathas, the leader of team Lalor Park said, "The students have shown great teamwork and effort in the GATS-Lympics. They were very intelligent and determined, which led them to win the competition"

Despite the rain, the GATS-Lympics proved to be of great benefit for all the primary students involved, as well as the year 10 students, who assisted in running the day. With a wide range of activities ranging from practical application of creative skills to decoding tricky code challenges, the day was academic, fun and exciting.
Wow, what a semester it is in Science!

Firstly, we would like to wish all our Year 12 students all the best for their final HSC exams, and thank them for the work they have done in completing their courses. Miss Hussein, Ms Bou-Khalil and myself all agree, it has been a pleasure working with them, and we are sure the future will be bright for the boys, whatever they choose to do.

In the junior school, we have been steadily pushing the boundaries of the student’s creative and critical thinking. As you can see, Year 8 and 9 have been building models during term 3 – Year 8’s challenge was to demonstrate energy transformations, while Year 9 have had to design a car to protect an egg passenger and still travel a decent distance. Meanwhile, Year 7 have had their chances too, creating parachutes to test their understanding of forces, and are likely to be building models of the solar system or galaxies as part of their final topic in term 4.

Year 10 have demonstrated their scientific thinking skills, submitting their media analysis assignment at the end of term 3, and are well on the way to completing the course requirements for their RoSA. We would like to take the opportunity to remind all students and caregivers that their exams will be held in week 2, term 4, and any outstanding work also needs to be completed within this timeframe.

On top of this, we have been able to present students with their awards for the ICAS and “Big Science” competitions as you will see in the next section.

As I said, it has been a busy time, and after all…. Life is Physics and Chemistry!
ICAS Science 2014

Congratulations to all students who participated in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools Science Competition. 58 students participated and were awarded 3 distinctions, 24 credits, 10 merits, and 21 certificates of participation.

The following students achieved a distinction average: Saumil Talati, Cameron Heydeman, Daniel Xie. The following students achieved a credit average: Prash Vimalasri, Thomas Brooks, Nikhil Paul, Minn Soe, Sugandhan Srigangan, Taranpreet Walia, Samuel Hossain, Jiayi Wang, Rudra Chauhan, Ritwhik Gupta, Akshayarm Karthekeyan, Dellushan Rajkumar, Hamza Warisi, Manraj Chohan, Upinder Saini, Rahul Dema, Harry Nethra, Nishil Patel, Alan Reji, Frank Starr, Harshiv Vadher, James Kidd, Kevin Luo, Daksh Mukhra, Vishal Suresh, Jake Xu, Sarthak Garg, Jeffrey Huang.

From Science Competition Co-ordinator
Mrs Bou-Khalil

Big Science Competition 2014

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Big Science Competition. 52 students competed and between them they achieved 2 high distinctions, 7 distinctions, 21 credits, and 22 participation awards.

The following students achieved a high distinction average: Manash Chowdhury, Ritwhik Gupta.

The following students achieved a distinction average: Nishil Patel, Jake Xu, Lachlan Hibbert, Nishartha Patel, Dellushan Rajkumar, Jorawar Singh, Sarthak Garg.

The following students achieved a credit average: Jeffrey Huang, James Kidd, Mohammed Nasir, Ashwin Rajkumar, Alan Reji, Samar Shrestha, Frank Starr, Daniel Xie, Thomas Brooks, Rudra Chauhan, Christopher Feghali, Cameron Heydeman, Samuel Hossain, Akshayarm Karthekeyan, Nikhil Paul, Utkarsh Sharma, Prathik Shivashankar, Saumil Talati, Jiayi Wang, Hamza Warisi, Kenneth Fong.

From Science Competition Co-ordinator
Mrs Bou-Khalil

Robotics Update

Congratulations to all the FRC team, who successfully competed during the mid-year holidays in the “Duel Down Under” competition at Barker College, Hornsby. The team included:

Vaughn CAMACHO 9S
Thomas VERWEY-CUTHBERT 9G
Sharn PURI 10S
After the competition round robin, we were chosen to work with two other teams in an alliance that reached the semi-finals. This was indeed a credit to the entire team, but special mention must be made of Thomas’ practical skills in keeping our robot on the field, and assisting other teams with construction, and of Sherwin’s inter-team negotiation and tactical skills.

FIRST Australia also had some very exciting news – we have been so successful as a group, next year’s competition will count to the international finals, with a new regional event to be held in Sydney in March 2015! Something the Year 8 and 9 students can start working towards when we visit Marsden High School early term 4 for a reflection day.

AND IT DOESN’T END THERE!

The Year 7 robotics club, which meets on Thursday afternoon, have been learning to build and program Lego NXT robots. They are working in small teams, negotiating roles and are doing a fantastic job building creatures and learning to work with the sensors and motors effectively. A school team (members yet to be decided) have been entered into the FIRST Lego League competition, to be held in November. In this competition, they need to design solutions to a variety of challenges – details of which can be found on the FIRST website.

It really has been fantastic to watch the boys develop through these extra activities, and we thank them all for their enthusi-
From the TAS & PDHPE faculty

**Barista Brigade**

The ‘Barista Brigade’ is well and truly in full swing. A group of Year 9 Food Technology students have been busily preparing a selection of coffees and hot chocolate for many staff over the last few weeks. The boys, who have all trained in a ‘barista’ course earlier in Term 3 are putting their skills into practice.

The feedback from staff has been very positive and a ‘better cup of coffee’ at a very reasonable price could not be purchased anywhere other than at BBHS. The boys are working extremely well and have been supervised by Ms Kemp. The ‘shop’ opens for service early in the mornings with delicious coffees available by 7:30 am.

I congratulate the boys in their enterprise and also gratefully acknowledge the many hours and hard work put in by Ms Kemp to initiate this successful venture.

**Rotation of Stage 4 Technology Mandatory**

Many of our Year 7 and Year 8 Technology Mandatory classes are into their third and final rotation of course units. The boys are to be congratulated for their hard work to date and the TAS Faculty encourages all students to be actively engaged in their lessons, prepared for practical work and continue learning new skills. It can be daunting to have a new teacher every 12 weeks, however, the students have been very co-operative and diligent in their application in all areas.

By the end of Term 4 all boys will have had a variety of experiences using different technologies, tools and equipment. As the boys have learnt new skills both in a practical sense and also with respect to problem solving, the quality of their work has continually improved.

Boys in Stage 4 learn to utilise a ‘design process’ to solve problems. In all the units, boys are challenged in Numeracy and Literacy as an aspect of developing and completing their chosen tasks.

Safety in the workshops and classrooms continues to be a major focus, and in this respect I would like to commend the vast majority of students who are always prepared for their practical lessons, ensuring they have the expected PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) needed to work safely in our practical areas.

Some classes will have completed topic tests for their last units of work, others will undertake some written tests during Term 4. Boys are encouraged to work hard, ask questions if unsure and undertake regular revision at home to consolidate the theory components of their courses at home.
**Stage 5 and Assessments**

The boys in our elective classes are well into the second half of their courses and will be devoting much of their time to working on and completing their practical projects before the end of Term 4.

This is a timely reminder for students in Year 9 and year 10 that formal assessments need to be completed diligently and to the best of their ability to avoid the possibility of not achieving course outcomes resulting in possible ‘N’ awards being issued.

**Safety in the TAS Facilities**

I remind parents and caregivers of the Departmental requirements to follow WHS (Work Health and Safety guidelines) and to assist us in ensuring boys are properly attired to participate in practical lessons at all times.

The following link can be accessed to view safety guidelines:


and

1.9.1.6 Footwear

*This information replaces Safety bulletin No 4, November 1993*

Footwear is an important safety item. Good soles provide a sound grip on the floor preventing accidents from occurring. Footwear can also protect feet from mechanical or chemical damage. It is mandatory that students carrying out practical activities using chemicals or equipment in schools wear enclosed leather footwear. Sandals, open footwear or high heeled shoes must not be worn in workshop areas or laboratories.

**Subject Contributions**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and caregivers of the payment of elective practical subject contributions for the courses their sons/charges are undertaking. The consumable materials we use in our classes are paid for by the elective subject contributions.

Payments can be made at the Front Office at recess and lunchtime. Eftpos facilities are also available.

Please contact me, Mr Rolf Ballin HT TAS, at the school on 9622 1558 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

**YEAR 11 and YEAR 12 Engineering Studies - POWERHOUSE MUSEUM EXCURSION**

On Thursday 4th September, students from the Year 11 and Year 12 Engineering Studies classes went on an excursion to the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo.

All the modules being studied in Year 11 and Year 12 were on display – making the theoretical content of
the course ‘alive’.

The boys had a wonderful opportunity to see ‘engineering’ in action via a wide range of exhibits and displays. As well, students were able to see the changes in design and technology over the last century, demonstrating the impact Engineering has, and is having, in our daily lives with glimpses of what may eventuate in the future.

**HSC – Industrial Technology – Timber**

On August 18th the Major Design Projects of the Year 12 Industrial Technology – Timber students were being assessed by the BOSTES HSC marking team. Two members of the marking team visited the school to assess the major works on show.

The students should be very proud of their achievements to have the projects completed in the designated timeframe.

I congratulate all the boys in their endeavours in the course and wish them well in the upcoming HSC examinations and beyond.

I would also like to give praise to their teacher, Mr Naicker, for being there for the boys and giving them the support and encouragement needed to complete their projects.

**Engineering Studies**

The Engineering Studies students have been working very hard this term to complete their course and undertake quite a rigorous revision period. I would like to extend to my students best wishes for the upcoming HSC examinations and wish them all the best for their future ahead.

*To all our Year 12 students the TAS/PDHPE Faculty wish them well in the examinations and hope their aspirations will be achieved.*
**Year 11 ‘Stepping Up’ to year 12**

Term 4 is the beginning of the HSC course of study for our Yr 11 students in many subjects including:

Information Processes and Technology, Software Design and Technology,

Industrial Technology – Timber and Engineering Studies

In a little over 12 months from now, the study for the HSC will be complete. All of our students are encouraged to be diligent in their studies and work positively towards the goals they have set themselves.

**RISE**

Again the RISE program was undertaken by a group of year 8 students accompanied by a different Head teacher each week. This program is a joint initiative between CitiBank and the school to encourage boys to undertake wider reading. Mentors from Citibank engage one on one with the students over an extended program of reading. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the experience and I would like to thank the mentors from Citibank for their support in this program. The view from the Citibank building is also quite impressive.

**Aurecon Bridge Building**

The “Blacktown Ravens” again entered a team in the annual Aurecon Bridge Building Competition which was held on the 6th August this year, at the Sydney Art Gallery.

The competition is sponsored and conducted by Aurecon Engineering, a prominent global engineering firm. The guidelines and specifications for the competition are quite rigid and the teams need to design and build a model bridge, only using the materials supplied by the organisers. The materials our boys had to work with included a limited supply of 6mm square balsa, 3 metres of string, a limited quantity of 5 minute araldite glue and the cylindrical container the materials were posted in – quite a challenge considering the lengths of balsa were significantly smaller than the gap the model bridge had to span.

Our team came up with a unique design incorporating all the materials available based on a combination arch and truss bridge (seen in the photograph).

The team consisted of:

Ashwin Rajkumar, Jeffrey Huang
Faraz Ganji and Raj Makwana – all from Year 9.

Teams are judged on the load bearing capacity of their bridge divided by the maximum load supported by any bridge on the day plus a score incorporating design and aesthetics.

The maximum load supported by a bridge on the day was **35kg**.
The Blacktown Raven’s design was a commendable 7.2kg.

As you can see from the photo, a significant amount of ‘stress’ was concentrated at the left end of the bridge, resulting in failure at that point.

I would like to congratulate the boys for their efforts, creativity in design and the way they worked collaboratively to solve the problem presented to them.

Looking forward to further inspirational designs and an improved result in 2015.

ICAS Computing Skills Competition

The ICAS (International Competition and Assessments for Schools) in Computing Skills was conducted earlier in term 2.

There were 30 – 45 items in each paper, depending on the year level, which require students to apply their knowledge, skills and understanding across the skills areas of operating systems and computer hardware; networks and other communications systems; word processing; graphics and multimedia; spreadsheets and databases; internet use and email programs and programming.

Nineteen students across Year 7 – Year 10 participated in the tests this year.

Results are awarded as:

High Distinction (top 1 %), Distinction (next 10%), Credit (next 25%), merit (next 10%) and Participation (all other students).

Our results were:

3 Distinctions
3 Credits
3 Merits
9 Participation

I would like to congratulate all the boys who participated in this year’s competition. Each student receives a certificate and a detailed analysis of their results.

Come on 2015.

Rolf Ballin

HT TAS/PDHPE
BBHS World Cup Competition

During the last 5 weeks of term 2, 116 students participated in the Blacktown Boys High School World Cup Competition. Students formed teams of four to play against each other in a fast-paced, futsol style tournament, with 29 teams being organised into 6 groups, similar to the FIFA World Cup. Groups were sorted based on grade with a round-robin system as the first phase of the competition, with the winner of each group proceeding into a knockout, alongside 2 wild card teams. The winners for each group were:

- Group A (Year 7): Spain- Shaon Ahmed, Taran Walia, Ayush Arora, Angad Singh
- Group B (Year 7): Germany- Ibrahim Gorashi, Mustafa Musa, Seinthan Sivakumar, Dilman Mangat
- Group C (Year 8): Portugal- Alex Galea, Michael Thiab, Rio Dangkua, Mosavar Parwani
- Group D (Year 9): Brazil- Anwar Alanzi, Nevil Shah, Faraz Ganji, Dilnesh Sundarampillai
- Group E (Year 10): Antarctica- Manthan Agraval, Adarsh Kanyadi, Daksh Mukhra, Mohamed Darfour
- Group F (Year 11): Chile- Thomas Cooper, Faisal Faizi, Thamir Alanzi, Ahmed Kamal
- Wild Card #1: Ivory Coast- Hussin Gorashi, Samson Mulbah, Atish Somaroo, Haseeb Akram
- Wild Card #2: Asian Invasion- Eunny Choi, Chaopeng Ma, Harsh Dorge, Anandu Pradeep

These 8 teams then competed in the knockout stage during Week 9, with Germany and Chile proceeding to the Grand Final. The spoils went home with Chile, who won with a score line of 3-1. Both teams played well, and overcame tough matches to make it that far.

Congratulations to all participants of the competition, as everybody competed fairly and created a positive attitude towards the tournament. It was great to see everybody having fun and battling out some tough matches, with every team scoring goals along the way. With some upsets and close victories throughout the tournament, it was an interesting 5 weeks. Once again congratulations to all participants and they should be proud of how well they played.

Mr Martin and Mr D’Souza

Sport Report

CHS State Athletics Carnival

Mustafa Musa from Year 7 competed in the 90m Hurdles at the State Athletics Carnival which was held at Homebush between 4-6 September. Mustafa did himself and his school proud by finishing 4th in his heat which was held on the Friday. Unfortunately he did not qualify for the final which was held on Saturday. Nonetheless, this is an achievement worth celebrating, especially considering Mustafa had never competed in hurdles before the Zone carnival earlier this year. I would like to congratulate Mustafa upon reaching the State level of competition.
Year 7 & 8 Gala Day

On Monday, 15th September our Year 7 and 8 students participated in the Gala Day. Our students had the opportunity to select their own teams for either soccer or touch football and play against students from other schools in the Blacktown Zone. Overall, approximately 120 students from our school were involved in the event along with students from Seven Hills High, Mitchell High, Riverstone High, Quakers Hill High and Girraween High School. Our students looked fantastic in their sports uniform and their behaviour and participation on the day was outstanding. It was very exciting to see the level of enthusiasm from our students and the spirit and fair play they demonstrated in their respective games.

I would like to thank our students from Year 9 and 10 who took on the role of team managers and referees on the day. It was a great experience for the boys to see what it is like being in control of a game. These students included:

Year 9: Junior Tapuaiga, Jack Olsen, Harry Lomax, Ronin Selvage, Phillip Vaoga & Ramzi Asousa

Year 10: Hussin Gorashi, Andrew Watts, Humza Tariq, Krishna Kafley & Haseeb Akram
## Integrated Sport Points Update

Points are allocated for Win (3 points, Draw 2 points and Loss 1 point).

### Year 7 Sport – Touch Football

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### Year 9 Sport – Street Hockey

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Overall Points Score

Points are allocated for overall placings after the finals for each sport have been completed. At the end of the school year leading teams from each year group are awarded Sports Team of the Year.

Points are allocated as follows:

1\textsuperscript{st} – 6 points
2\textsuperscript{nd} – 5 points
3\textsuperscript{rd} – 4 points
4\textsuperscript{th} – 3 points
5\textsuperscript{th} – 2 points
6\textsuperscript{th} – 1 point

The student who receives the most man of the match awards is awarded Sports Person of the Year for their respective year group.

Year 7 Sport

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Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014
The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge ended on September the 1st with Blacktown Boys High again having a number of students who successfully completed the challenge. In total, 12 students completed the challenge and some of those students will certainly have achieved a Gold award after having completed the challenge four times previously.

The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge is very popular with Year 7, 8 and 9 students, with Year 7 in particular strongly represented. Many Year 7 students read widely for pleasure and research, and are regular borrowers from the Blacktown Boys High Library.

The full list of students who completed the challenge in 2014 is as follows:
Year 7
Michael Gale, Vedant Patel, Prathik Shivashankar, Jora Singh, Suwasthigan Suganthan, Jesse Tay and Timothy Yatco
Year 8
Manraj Chohan, Lachlan Hibbert, Jaimejose Paje, Rafid Salah and Niroshan Uthayakumar

Popular Books with Students and BBHS
BBHS has over the years developed a very good library collection for young men. We collect a varied selection of popular fiction books in order to encourage students to read widely for pleasure and interest. Some books are borrowed frequently while others, while still being popular, are borrowed now and again. The popularity of some books with students mean they are often part of a larger series which may take a student many months of reading to complete. Often students will be waiting for the next book in a series by a particular author.

What follows is a list of some of the most popular books with students at BBHS.

The Fault in our Stars and other books by John Green
John Green has become very popular with older readers who enjoy stories which are closer to real life experience rather than fantasy. Other books by this author are Looking for Alaska, Paper Towns, An Abundance of Katherines and Will Grayson Will Grayson.

Reviews of these books are very often positive. They do contain some adult themes and are often considered intelligent, emotionally engaging and funny.

Both adult and young adults tend to enjoy these books.
The Rangers Apprentice and Brotherband series by John Flanagan
These books have been incredibly popular with students for years. At last count John Flanagan has written 12 Rangers Apprentice books with recount the adventures of Will from apprentice to fully fledged Ranger in a middle age style kingdom. Full of swordplay and intrigue, Vikings and villains they have captivated many younger students over a number of years.
The Brotherband series of books has only recently been written by John Flanagan and is set in a Middle Age Viking settlement. It also has been very popular with students who enjoy adventure.
These books are not so much fantasy as historical fiction.

The Lorien Legacies series by Pittacus Lore
Comprising the novels I Am Number Four, Power of Six, Rise of Nine, Fall of Five and The Revenge of the Seven, as well as numerous background novels called The Lost Files.
These are best characterised as Science Fiction Adventure, and have been very popular with students of all ages. They are basically stories of the last remaining aliens which look like us but have various powers who are trying to survive against another alien race, all set on Earth.

The Percy Jackson books by Rick Riordan
Comprising the Percy Jackson series of five books, the Heroes of Olympus series of 4 books and counting, and the Kane Chronicles. The prolific Rick Riordan has written enough books to keep any reader engaged for quite a while, and would probably be considered the most popular children’s book author writing today.
These books have been wildly popular with younger students for years and each new title is borrowed almost as soon as it is returned to the library. They contain lots of magic and adventure and information about the ancient gods of Rome, Greece and Egypt.

The Divergent series by Veronica Roth
Set in the future these novels are comprised of the adventures of a teenage heroine in a dystopian society where everyone is divided up into five factions. Candor - the honest, Erudite - the intelligent, Amity - the peaceful, Abnegation - the selfless, and Dauntless - the brave.
This series has taken over from the very popular The Hunger Games and is also being made into a series of movies.
The Divergent series is popular with older students and adults.
The **Treehouse** series by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton
The books comprise the adventures of Andy and Terry who live in an ever-expanding treehouse. These books appeal to very young readers and teens. It is written and illustrated in an inventive comic book style and has absurdly humorous writing which appeals to many younger students. The books in the series are **The 13-Story Treehouse**, **The 26-Storey Treehouse** and the **39-Storey Treehouse**. Expect **The 42-Storey Treehouse** any time.

The **Hobbit** and **Lord of the Rings** by J.R.R. Tolkien
The timeless **Lord of the Rings** comprising the novels, **The Fellowship of the Ring**, **The Two Towers** and the **Return of the King**, and earlier novel **The Hobbit** introduced us to Middle Earth. The adventures of Bilbo, Frodo, Gandalf and Aragon in their battles against the evil Sauron always appeal to a new generation of readers. Despite being an adult series in terms of the sophistication of the language and the length of the novels they still attract readers from all age groups.

Chess in the Library 2014
The Blacktown Boys Years 7, 8 and 9 Chess Competition 2014 is in progress.

Forty students are participating this year and have been divided into five groups named after chess pieces, The Rooks, The Knights, The Bishops, The Queens and The Pawns. Two students have won through to the final round robin group: Harry Lomax from The Bishops group and Akshayram Karthikeyan from The Knights group. The winners from the Rooks, The Queens and The Pawns are still being decided.

When the final group winners are decided then they will progress to the final round robin group to decide the overall King.
From your Year Advisors

Year 8 - Evan Shiel
This term has been big term for Year 8, with students being involved in many extra curricular activities, such as Café D Art, the Year 8 gala day, ICAS, the Australian Maths Competition and RISE. It also saw students across the year receive their portfolios containing work samples from each of their subjects.
An information afternoon was held this term for parents to come and speak to teachers about subject selection for Year 9. If you still require any information you are welcome to contact me at the school.
This term students are going to be undertaking their yearly exams and are reminded to begin studying hard.
Rock and Water training that was held during term 2 of this is going to return in term 4, this time with a different group of students.
Mr Shiel

Year 9 - Andy Franjic

Portfolio Pick-up
The portfolio pick-up was held on Monday, 15th September, 2014. Parents had the opportunity to come to the school to pick these up, view the progress reports and have a conversation with teachers regarding student progress.
For those students that could not attend, they were able to collect their portfolios or progress reports from the Year Adviser or the Deputy Principal. I would encourage all parents to regularly discuss student progress so that any concerns can be dealt with promptly by contacting the school. We are always willing to discuss any matters by phone, email or in person by making arrangements with the teacher or myself.

Student Meetings
A major focus of our meetings this semester has been the importance of striving to achieve our personal best in all subjects. This can be done in a number of ways but a key initiative by the school has been the encouragement of goal setting among our students. This involves not only writing out a specific and achievable goal but also thinking about and writing down how you will go about achieving that goal. This is probably one of the most difficult tasks for boys to undertake, I know it was for myself at high school. Therefore, I am extremely impressed when I see our students preparing thoroughly for exams, producing quality assessment tasks and working above and beyond what is required to get the most out of the lesson time available each day. Our students are currently in a period of their lives when setting the right priorities and making the correct decision can be challenging. Our Principal, Mr Addy addressed the students in a Year Meeting and spoke about the importance of grasping the opportunities given to us before it is too late and to start developing good habits now. I would encourage all students to frequently evaluate their performance and strive hard to achieve their goals, whether they be personal, academic
Yearly Exams
Students will be sitting their yearly exams in Week 2. Timetables for exams have been issued and these can be collected from the Year Adviser. I would encourage all students to prepare well and give themselves every opportunity to achieve their personal best.

Mr Franjic

Year 10 - Lee Dewane

Subject selections
During the course of term 3, Year 10 completed their subject selections for Year 11. The students were assisted in their decision making by a series of workshops organised by our school.
Mr Dewane met with each Year 10 class to hand out the subject selection booklets and provide initial information on the subjects offered at our school. An information evening for parents was then held in week 5 which featured a Board of Studies guest speaker. This provided students and parents with invaluable information on the requirements for the awarding of the HSC. Following this evening, groups of students were able to meet with Head Teachers in order to discuss the subjects offered in individual Faculty areas.

This process has assisted our students in making informed decisions. Getting your subject selections correct is one of the most important components of a successful HSC.

Step Up
Term Four is an important time for our Year 10 students in preparing to enter the senior school. At our school we run a series of workshops known as Step Up. The aim of the program is to assist students in building up the generic skills they will need for success in senior study.

During this term some normal classes will make way for special programs. These will include study skills, team building, All My Own Work and research skills amongst others. Late in term 4 all Year 10 students will also be required to complete a compulsory work experience.

I urge all Year 10 students to make the most of the Step Up Program. Once students begin Year 11 the work requirements can be very full on. As a result anything students do in advance will improve their chance of success.

Mr L. Dewane
Stage 6 (Year 11 & 12) - Aimee French

**YEAR 11**

Aspirations

The Aspirations program concluded on Friday 1\textsuperscript{st} August with the final session being held at CitiBank, Sydney. Throughout the program and workshops, students had the opportunity to develop a variety of team and individual skills to help them succeed in the workforce. They undertook challenge activities and mock interviews, and presented to their peers at Blacktown Girls High School and the mentors at CitiBank.

The following students received their completion certificates for the Aspirations program and felt they gained a great insight into future career options and vital skills to assist them; Vithagan Arunasalam, Harsh Dorge, Kenneth Fong, Sarthak Garg, Jeffrey Huang, Visagan Kajendran, Justin Lee, Dennis Lomax, Timothy Pagulayan, Archies Patel, Anandu Pradeep and Reece Troth.

**RYDA**

On Monday 28\textsuperscript{th} July 2014, 25 Year 11 students travelled to Homebush to take part in the RYDA Program. RYDA is a Road Safety Program designed for 16-18 year old students who are approaching that crucial time in their lives where they start to drive independently or are travelling as passengers of novice drivers. It involves a series of practical and powerful workshops that aim to change the way young people think about road safety. As part of the interactive one-day experience, students experienced braking at different speeds, devised travel strategies that will work for them in the real world and got tips from road safety experts on how to protect themselves, their friends and family. Students also had the opportunity to hear first-hand how one poor choice can change a life forever, as they met, listened to and spoke with a crash survivor, which has great impact. Students also watched a powerful and emotional video on the life and tragic death of and 18 year old provisional driver and her best friend, led by a Police Liaison Officer.

More information and resources around this workshop can be found at the Road safety Education website found below:

[www.rse.org.au](http://www.rse.org.au)

At RYDA, students got the opportunity to:

- Identify risks of car travel (to young driver and passenger) including life-long consequences.
- Identify contributing factors to crashes and understand how these are preventable (crashes aren’t accidents).
- Identify what a low-risk driver/passenger is and
compare to self (in relation to low-risk attributes).

- Investigate ways to manage and eliminate road risk by developing and rehearsing personal strategies.
- Prepare steps (safer driver and passenger behaviour change) to lower identified personal risks and be a socially responsible road user.

**UP2NOW**

Students are reminded to continue using the up2now website to record, organise and share their academic Results, Awards and Achievements. Students are able to organise their portfolio into several profiles that can be shared with prospective employers or education providers. This is a great way to keep track of their achievements and results to also help create a thorough reference for when they leave high school. Students are encouraged to maintain their profiles during the rest of their school years.

The up2now website can be found at [http://www.up2now.net.au](http://www.up2now.net.au)

**YEAR 12**

Throughout term 3 Year 12’s were busy fundraising, organising their graduation and formal, and most importantly of all, getting in as much preparation as they can for their final HSC examinations. Third term has flown by and the Year 12’s celebrated their graduation on Thursday 18th September 2014.

The HSC Examination timetable can be found using the address below and students are encouraged to log on to Students Online to get their individualised timetable, and familiarise themselves further with examination procedures, especially in the case of illness or misadventure.


It has been an absolute pleasure for me to follow through this Year 12 group from when they first started in January 2009, all the way through to the completion of their HSC. They are a cohesive peer group and all exhibit positive qualities that will help them be successful in their future endeavours.

**YEAR 12 – Important Dates to Remember!**

- Monday 13th October 2014    HSC Exams start
- Thursday 6th November 2014   Year 12 Formal – Blacktown RSL
- Monday 10th November 2014    Year 12 Sign Out – 9-11am BBHS

Good Luck with all your exams and I look forward to seeing everyone at the formal to celebrate the end of the HSC.

“You have brains in your head.
You have feet on your shoes.
You can steer yourself
Any direction you choose.
You’re on your own. And you know what you know.
And YOU are the guy who’ll decide where to go.”

- Dr. Seuss
Community Notices

MARIST YOUTH
The Marist Youth group, situated close to the station in Blacktown offer a number of programs outside of school hours that may be of interest to students. Their ONE Homework club is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-5.30pm. It offers quiet reading areas as well as tuition once needs are identified. As well as this they also offer, Literacy and Numeracy Workshops, ACU gate Programs, Health workshops, ACE (Adolescents Coping with Emotions) and workshops in Arts and Crafts, Living Skills and Public Speaking. They can be found at 22 Main Street, Ground Floor, Blacktown or phoned on 0439 247 435 for further details.

PARENT TIPS
Teenagers seeking more independence
Knowing how much freedom and responsibility to give your teenager is difficult, especially if they’re your eldest or only child. To become capable adults, teenagers need to learn to make good decisions on their own and have opportunities to show you they can. The Raising Children Network website has a wealth of expert information and guidance for parents of teens and younger children. If your child is testing the boundaries and pushing for more independence, you may find the article ‘Shifting responsibility to your child’ worth reading. Go to www. bit.ly/1jCxKhe

Study help for high school
It’s often quite difficult for parents to assist their children with their high school homework and study. Even if we have professional experience in the subject area, children tend to find it difficult to take parental advice when it comes to school. (Don’t feel bad, teachers’ own children do exactly the same thing.) www.khanacademy.org is an excellent, not-for-profit website which may help your child study and revise tricky concepts in science, maths and the humanities.

KILDARE ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE

SKIN CANCER CLINIC

Appointments are now available at KRMC®’s Skin Cancer Clinic.

Exposure to the sun’s ultraviolet rays can cause sunburn, skin cancer and contribute to visible signs of ageing. There is a higher risk of skin damage, which can lead to skin cancer, during the summer months but skin cancer is really a year-round issue. That is why it is important to have regular skin checks with a doctor.

If needed, KRMC™’s mole-scanning technology enables the doctor to build up an accurate picture of changes to the skin and to detect any suspect moles. Our doctors are able to perform excisions of moles that appear to be of concern and to send them for analysis via our on-site Pathology department.

To make an appointment at KRMC®’s Skin Cancer Clinic, please call Reception on 8822 3000

OPEN EVERY DAY 8:00AM TO 8:00PM
BULK-BILLING PRACTICE   WALK-INS WELCOME
36 Kildare Road, Blacktown 2148 (next to Westpoint)
8822 3000 www.kildaremedical.com.au
M.B. DENTAL
Family Dentistry

Dr Magdi Butrous
Trust in many years of experience

An Amazing...

$0 Gap*
Check-up, Clean, X-rays, Fillings
* For Health fund members. Terms & conditions apply

FREE CHECK UPS!
for new patients
Terms & conditions apply

Our success is providing you with a
Beautiful Smile
for the lowest cost

Only $70 Check up, Clean and Fluoride for an adult accompanying a child with Medicare Dental Scheme

Medicare Children Benefits Dental Scheme
Accepted ✓
2-17 year olds “Bulk Billed”

138 Sentry Drive – Parklea NSW 2768

CALL NOW ➔ PH: 9626 2346

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Ten Week Professional Singing/ Recording Workshops

KIDS, TEENS & ADULTS

MONDAY NIGHTS : PARRAMATTA

ICE Studio- 8 Victoria Road, Parramatta

STARTS MONDAY OCTOBER 20TH - NOW ENROLLING !

ONLY : $150

Teachers: Carmelo (X Factor 2012) and Megan (The Voice 2014)

- TRAINING IS IN A FULLY EQUIPPED RECORDING STUDIO

Introduction Level and Advanced Levels Available

TIME-TABLE

Kids 5.30pm to 6.30pm - 7yrs old to 11 yrs old

6.30pm to 7.30pm – 12 yrs old to 16 yrs old

7.30pm to 8.30pm – Adults – 18 yrs and over

ENROL NOW:

Phone: (02) 8916 6201  Mobile : 0406 834 820

Email : info@soundinitiative.com.au
School Uniforms Online

I am pleased to let you know that the school uniforms can now be ordered online at Lowes. This is an exciting addition to the service that Lowes currently provides to Blacktown Boys High School.


Lowes offers free delivery for orders over $100. There is a $10 delivery fee for orders less than $100 or they can be picked up from the store at no extra cost. See the advertisement in this newsletter for further details.
BASIC PACKAGE

SUIT $169.95
‘PARAMOUNT’ BUSINESS SHIRT $34.95
2 BONUS TIES $49.90
(Selected - $24.95 EACH)
TOTAL VALUE $254.80
SALE PRICE $199
SAVE $55.80

EXTRA 5% DISCOUNT
Ask about our Lowes Ezy-Way credit card.

LOWES

For your nearest store please visit www.lowes.com.au

VALID ONLY AT:

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Colours & designs may vary from store to store.
GET THE LOOK FOR LESS

PREMIUM PACKAGE

SUIT $169.95
‘PARAMOUNT’ BUSINESS SHIRT $34.95
DRESS SHOES $49.95
TIE ‘CLASSIC’ $24.95
BELT $19.95

TOTAL VALUE $299.75
SALE PRICE $249
SAVE $50.75

EXTRA 5% DISCOUNT
Ask about our Lowes Ezy-Way credit card.

LOWES

For your nearest store please visit www.lowes.com.au

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Colours & designs may vary from store to store.

VALID ONLY AT:
GET THE LOOK FOR LESS

COLOUR PACKAGE

SUIT
AVAILABLE IN PINK (AS SHOWN), WHITE, RED, ROYAL,
YELLOW, GREEN, PURPLE, AQUA & ORANGE.

‘LOWES’
BUSINESS SHIRT $24.95
BELT $19.95

TOTAL VALUE $243.95

SALE PRICE $199
SAVE $44.95

LOWES Ezy-Way credit card.

For your nearest store please visit
www.lowes.com.au

VALID ONLY AT:

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Colours & designs may vary from store to store.
Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a FREE two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

**TIME & DATE:**
6.00 pm-8.00pm Tuesday October 14

**VENUE:**
Blacktown Council Offices

**BOOK NOW ON:**
Phone David on 0434 964 764 or email saferlearnerdrivers@gmail.com

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers

NSW Government
This Fact Sheet provides an overview of some of the penalties that apply to illegal parking on all roads in School Zones.

If you stop in a ‘No Stopping’ area
- Fine from $311 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop your vehicle on a length of road or in an area in which a No Stopping sign applies.

No Stopping includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

If you disobey a ‘No Parking’ sign
- Fine from $173 + 2 demerit points

You are allowed to stop your vehicle only to set down or pick up passengers, or goods.

Your vehicle must not stop for more than 2 minutes. The driver must not be more than 3 metres from the vehicle.

If you stop on or near a ‘Pedestrian Crossing’
- Fine from $415 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop or park your vehicle on or near a pedestrian crossing to drop people off or pick them up.

If you stop in a ‘Bus Zone’
- Fine from $311 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop or park your vehicle in a bus zone for any reason.

This includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

A ‘Kiss & Ride’ area is always within a ‘No Parking’ zone. The ‘No Parking’ rules apply to all ‘Kiss & Ride’ areas.
- Fine from $173 + 2 demerit points

You are allowed to stop your vehicle only to set down or pick up passengers, or goods.

Your vehicle must not stop for more than 2 minutes. The driver must not be more than 3 metres from the vehicle.

If you are Double Parked
- Fine from $311 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop your vehicle or park in the middle of the road to drop people off or pick them up. Always stop or park legally and safely at the edge of the road or in a parking area.

When you obey the parking rules, it makes it easier to see what pedestrians are doing.

More information over the page

For more information contact the Blacktown City Council on 9839 6000
If you block access to a ramp, path or passageway - Fine from $104

You must not stop or park your vehicle where it stops people using a pram ramp, footpath or passageway. This includes when you are queuing around a corner while waiting to pick up someone from the school.

If you stop on or across a driveway or block access to a property - Fine from $173 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop or park your vehicle on or across a driveway, or block access to a property.

If you stop on a footpath or nature strip
- Fine from $173 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop or park your vehicle on a footpath or nature strip in a built up area. This includes stopping with two wheels on the road and two on the path or nature strip.

If you park too close to the road dividing line or strip - Fine from $242

You must not stop or park your vehicle within 3 metres of the continuous dividing line or dividing strip unless a sign allows you to park there.

There are many more parking rules that could affect you.
For more information see the RMS website
www.myrrha.com

For more information contact the Blacktown City Council on 9839 6000
Double Parked

Stopping includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running

School Zone
Fine from $311 + 2 demerit points

All other roads
Fine from $242

For more information contact the Blacktown City Council on 9839 6000
Single with Children
A non-profit social group operated by
the Single Parent Family Association

ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT?

Every week Single with Children provides fun and exciting activities especially for single parents and their children (many activities are subsidised or even free)

It's a great way to meet and get to know people in your area

To find out more and get a FREE copy of our social calendar, contact us today.

Call 1300 300 496

Or visit our website:
www.singlewithchildren.com.au
THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

Choose from over 30 exhilarating camps at 10 locations across NSW these school holidays.

Our Sport and Recreation Centres offer over 40 activities for kids aged 5 to 16 years. Try your hand at fishing, mountain biking, kayaking, abseiling, crafts, cooking or flying fox. You’re sure to find a camp the kids will love.

Kids’ Camps from $45 per day

fb.com/nswsportandrecreation
www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps  13 13 02
Become A Volunteer Host Family

Make Your Place Their Second Home

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.

Arriving in July:

Sixtine (16) from France is full of excitement about discovering a new school system, a new culture and becoming a member of an Australian family. Sixtine has a wide range of interests, including horse-riding, reading, painting/drawing, spending time with friends, watching movies and playing boardgames.

Kalle (17) from Finland is an accomplished cellist and pianist. He enjoys school and hopes to become a lawyer. Also a keen sportsman, Kalle loves running, golf and skiing. Both of his sisters have been exchange students and Kalle can’t wait to have his own exchange experience in Australia.

Find out more!

Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au

Open your home and hearts to an international exchange student!
It’s easier than you think and a fantastic experience for all!
## Contribution Schedule 2014

### Subjects

**Agriculture (Elective)**
- Year 7: $20
- Year 8: $20
- Year 9: $25
- Year 10: $25
- Year 11: $25
- Year 12: $25

**Drama**
- Year 7: $20
- Year 8: $20
- Year 9: $20
- Year 10: $20
- Year 11: $15
- Year 12: $15

**Engineering**
- Year 7: $15
- Year 8: $15
- Year 9: $15
- Year 10: $15
- Year 11: $15
- Year 12: $15

**Food Technology**
- Year 7: $80
- Year 8: $80
- Year 9: $100 + uniform purchase ($70)
- Year 10: $100 + uniform purchase ($70)

**Hospitality - Food and Beverage Strand**
- Year 7: $100 + uniform purchase ($70)
- Year 8: $100 + uniform purchase ($70)

**Industrial Technology - Electronics**
- Year 7: $70
- Year 8: $70

**Industrial Technology - Engineering**
- Year 7: $40
- Year 8: $40

**Industrial Technology - Metal**
- Year 7: $30
- Year 8: $30

**Industrial Technology - Multi-media**
- Year 7: $20
- Year 8: $20

**Industrial Technology - Timber**
- Year 7: $50
- Year 8: $50
- Year 9: $40 + special project costs
- Year 10: $15 + special project costs

**Music**
- Year 7: $10
- Year 8: $10

**Music (Elective)**
- Year 7: $20
- Year 8: $20
- Year 9: $30
- Year 10: $30

**Science: Fiction & Philosophy**
- Year 7: $15
- Year 8: $15

**Technology**
- Year 7: $40
- Year 8: $40

**Visual Arts**
- Year 7: $30
- Year 8: $30

**Visual Arts (Elective)**
- Year 7: $50
- Year 8: $50
- Year 9: $50
- Year 10: $50
- Year 11: $50
- Year 12: $50

**Visual Design (Elective)**
- Year 7: $50
- Year 8: $50
- Year 9: $50
- Year 10: $50
- Year 11: $50
- Year 12: $50

**General Contribution**
- Year 7: $45
- Year 8: $45
- Year 9: $50
- Year 10: $50
- Year 11: $65
- Year 12: $65

**Sport Levy**
- Year 7: $15
- Year 8: $15
- Year 9: $15
- Year 10: $15

**Total**
- Year 7: $140
- Year 8: $140
- Year 9: Variable
- Year 10: Variable
- Year 11: Variable
- Year 12: Variable

**Notes**
- Contributions cover the purchase of materials in certain key learning areas and to cover costs associated with sports or excursions.
- Contributions also cover the purchase of materials in certain key learning areas and to cover costs associated with sports or excursions.
- General Contributions cover services such as library, textbooks and curriculum-related resources.
- Sport Levy ensures that the school is registered for all Zone, Regional, State and National Competitions.
- Total – Full or regular part-payment accepted. Eftpos facility available. Phone payments accepted.
BLACKTOWN BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

CHANGE/UPDATE OF STUDENT DETAILS

Student Family Name: _______________________________ First name:____________________ Year Group: ______

Your New Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________ Post Code: _________________________________

Your New Home Number: __________________________ Your New Work Number: __________________________

Your Mum’s New Mobile Number: ______________________ Your New Email Address: ______________________

Your Dad’s New Mobile Number: ______________________ Your New Email Address: ______________________

Your Change of Student Family Name: ________________________________________________________________

Your Change of Student Parent/Guardian Details

Name: ____________________________________ Relationship to Student: ________________________________

Address: __________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________

Your Attached documentation eg Deed Poll, Custody Agreement, Statutory Declaration.

Your Change of Emergency Contact

Name: ____________________________________ Relationship to Student: ________________________________

Address: __________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________

Your Medical Information – Additional form to be completed "Administration of Prescribed Medication" available from the Office.

Parent/Guardian Name: _________________________________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ________________________________ Date: _________________________________

Office Use Only

Family Code: ______________________ ERN: ___________________ Staff Initials: _______________
ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please excuse my son ________________________________________________ of roll class ____________

For being absent on __________________________ because ________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature ______________________________________ Date: / /

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please excuse my son ________________________________________________ of roll class ____________

For being absent on __________________________ because ________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature ______________________________________ Date: / /

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please excuse my son ________________________________________________ of roll class ____________

For being absent on __________________________ because ________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature ______________________________________ Date: / /

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please excuse my son ________________________________________________ of roll class ____________

For being absent on __________________________ because ________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature ______________________________________ Date: / /

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please excuse my son ________________________________________________ of roll class ____________

For being absent on __________________________ because ________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature ______________________________________ Date: / /