The End of the Year is Rapidly Approaching.
This time of the year is very busy as we finalise Assessments for all years, as well as begin planning for the 2015 school year.

This planning includes the timetabling of classes as well as allocation of teaching staff to these classes, budgeting, programming etc.

Students in all years must attend school until Wednesday the 18th of December.

Activities are being organized for all years. Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 will attend normal classes up until the last three days, at which time they will be allocated an activity to attend, undertake Peer Support Training or fulfill HSC requirements (where Yr 11 is concerned).

P&C Funded Projects Continue
1. Study Skills Online

The P&C has again funded the Online Study Skills program for 2014-2015. This valuable resource can be accessed by all students and parents at school and at home. The program has a huge amount of information for students and parents, as well as lots of interactive activities, multimedia experiences and useful resources. To access the handbook, go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au (the link is also found on the Blakehurst High School’s web site) and login as a subscriber with these details:

| User name: | blakehursths |
| Password:  | 186results |

In addition to the huge amount of content, the systematic program for students to work through includes:

- online quizzes, summary sheets, worksheets, lots of FAQs answered, articles and links, online polls, facility to submit questions, helpful grids and planners, jokes and quotes, student thoughts, images and photos, students can submit ideas to win, competitions, audio and video files, streaming audio (to allow students the option to read or listen to the content) And: new content added regularly, new units added each year, new features added regularly. There is also a tracking system where students save the results of their end of unit quizzes and modules over the years.
2. SMS Absence Notification System
The P&C has continued to fund the school's SMS system throughout 2014 and again next year.

Just as a reminder, the program reads the schools attendance rolls at a predetermined time each day (around 11am) and then automatically sends an email to the parent/caregiver (note, unless otherwise altered, the system will default to the mothers mobile number) of any absent or late student.

Parents can then reply by SMS, to explain the student's absence/lateness. This will negate the need for an explanation letter. Of course, parents are still able to write letters, emails or phone the school, to notify us of the reasons for the student's absence, if they wish to do so.

Parents can also use SMS to inform the school prior to the student's absence. The number for this is 0427 016460.

The SMS notification system can also be used to inform you of upcoming events such as Parent and Teacher evenings, P&C meetings, sporting carnivals etc.

Please notify the school ASAP if your contact details change in any way in the future.

3. Mathletics
The P&C have funded this very valuable program again for 2015. Records show that students from BHS logged into the Mathletics program 8400 times (from Feb.to 15 October, 2014), spending 4300 hours completing 21000 activities.

4. Year 7 2015 Diaries
The P&C have again agreed to fund school diaries for all incoming Year 7 students again next year.

5. Ecomist
The P&C has funded the installation and ongoing maintenance of the ecomist, deodorizing system used in the student toilet blocks. I would like to thank the P&C on behalf of the school for their ongoing financial support of these very important projects.

The last P&C meeting for 2014, will be held in the Staff Common Room at 7pm on Wednesday the 12th of November. Members of the P&C will be bringing a plate of goodies for an end of year celebration. All parents are welcome to attend.

The HSC
As I write this newsletter the HSC exams are drawing to an end. Feedback from students about the exams has generally been positive, although it was not unusual to get a "it was really easy" or "it was really hard" response when asking two students about the same exam! The HSC results are available to students on the 17th of December (ATARs are usually the next day).

Presentation Night
Please put the 2014 Presentation Night date (Wednesday the 10th of December) into your diaries. The night will begin promptly at 7:00pm (please arrive early to be seated) in the school hall and it should last for two hours.
An Important Message from David Coleman

Every day, young people are faced with a number of online safety risks, which can include inappropriate content, cyber bullying, spam and scams.

I am hosting the Banks Online Safety Forum to inform parents, teachers and carers about the risks faced by young people online and to provide help in creating a safer online experience.

Details for the Banks Online Safety Forum can be found below:

When: Tuesday 11 November 2014

Where: Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus

Address: Oatley Avenue, Oatley

Time: 3:30pm – 5:00pm

RSVP: Sinclaire Prowse on 9771 3400 or sinclaire.prowse@aph.gov.au

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Communications, the Hon. Paul Fletcher, MP will attend the Forum to speak about the ways in which parents and teachers can be better informed about online safety.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information about the event.

David Coleman Federal Member for Banks
T 02 9771 3400 | F 02 9771 4144 | Parliament 02 6277 4188
22 Revesby Place, REVESBY NSW 2212
Career planning for your child
Experts talk about how you can help your child broaden their ideas about work and career paths. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/career-planning-for-your-child

Raising good digital citizens
We're the first generation of parents responsible for equipping our children with digital citizenship skills. That is, how to use technology safely and responsibly, and how to evaluate, manage and use the information and tools they find online. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/using-technology/raising-good-digital-citizens
Term 4 in Full Motion
Students are in the midst of assessments and exams while staff are managing marking and report writing, a busy time for all.

Our Gifted and Talented program will come to a culmination at the end of term with RICH task presentations by the Year 7B class. They are working on a project “Our Place” where they are exploring different aspects of Blakehurst High School. Parents and carers will be formally invited to an afternoon where the students showcase their learning closer to the date. The staff (Ms Grima, Ms Pappas, Ms Koutsoukos, Ms Nozica, Ms Berrett, Ms Hawkins, Ms Evers, Ms Fabrizio) have worked hard to make this a wonderful learning experience for the class and I thank them for their efforts.

To further our GAT program, the above mentioned staff will be trained next month in updated methods of differentiating the curriculum which we will then apply to our 2015 programming. This training will ensure staff are prepared to suitably cater for and extended our students with higher order and critical thinking skills and deliver RICH tasks each year. As an additional element of developing the GAT program within the school, the team and I will also be compiling a Thinking Tools Kit that will be employed across the school to develop knowledge transference and integration in students across all faculty areas.

On Thursday 6 November candidates from our local feeder primary schools will be sitting the GAT test for entry into our 2015 cohort. As per previous years we have a strong contingent of students hopeful of gaining a place in our GAT class of 2015, evidence of the high esteem which our school holds amongst the community and the recognition we achieve for the opportunities we offer our students. We wish all candidates well in their efforts but I would like to stress that no matter what class students are placed in, all pupils at Blakehurst High are provided with the best teaching and learning experiences to help develop them into independent and confident lifelong learners.

We continue to closely monitor truancy and we seek parental support and encourage open and regular conversations with your children about the importance of attending each class and being a productive and proactive learner. In consultation with the staff I have put in place a new system to track attendance. Each staff member is responsible for checking their students, noting unexplained absentees on a daily Faculty Register and ensuring the student completes a detention and catches up on all missed work. Each week Head Teachers provide me with a list of all confirmed truants within their faculty from the week before and I compile a tracking sheet. After three consecutive truancies I meet with the student, keep them for an after school detention, inform parents and issue a warning of suspension. On the instance of the next truancy, a parent interview will be requested and a suspension given for continued disobedience. Truancy is not a big concern at Blakehurst High but for the few students who choose to make the wrong choices, we have procedures in place so they are made accountable and counselling provided to help them consider better options.

In Week 9, after exams and assessments are all concluded, the Year 7 Student Advisors, Ms Camilleri and Mr Roth, along with the Welfare Head Teacher, Ms Smith and myself, will be delivering Anti Bullying workshops to all our Year 7 cohort to reinforce our school policy and instil strategies in our students to deal with issues that they may be faced with. As we know, bullying occurs in all areas of life and providing methods to confidently deal with concerns as they arise and build resilience in all students is foremost in our procedures.

On November 12th we have our last P&C meeting for the year and will be farewelling some of our parents as their children have completed their time at Blakehurst High School. We thank them for their years of service and the many hours they have contributed to support the school. They have also subsidised many wonderful programs that have enhanced the teaching and learning experiences of all students and we are very much appreciative of all they have provided, a testament to the positive outcomes that can be achieved when strong relationships between school and home exist.

Mrs V Manos
Deputy Principal
CAPA ‘Column’

Welcome to Term 4

Lights II

Camera II

Action II

MUSIC
The Concert Band is preparing for the final official function of 2014: BHS Annual Presentation Night. It’s not too late if you are still thinking about joining us – there is no time like the present! Remember Monday afternoons 3 – 4.15pm – beginners and experienced players of all instruments are most welcome!

Guitar lessons continue each Thursday with our ‘resident’ guitar teacher, Mr Nick Watson. There are currently vacancies in Nick’s timetable, so if you are interested in learning to play the guitar or brushing up on your skills come and see Ms Jacobsen in CAPA staffroom for more information.

I am very pleased to announce that Jamie Hardy (Year 7), our very talented young drummer, has represented BHS in the Regional Concert Band. The Regional Concert Band toured cities in China in the September holidays, performing at various venues and schools as part of the reciprocating arrangement the Sydney Region has with our sister schools in China. Congratulations Jamie! Jamie will also be performing at the Schools’ Spectacular Concert as part of the Sydney Region Band. We have a planned excursion to this year’s performance on Friday 28 November at the Sydney Qantas Credit Union Arena and look forward to this and other amazing performances at the concert.

VISUAL ARTS
Year 12 HSC Major Works have been recently returned to us, having been marked at the Marking Centre. There will be an exhibition of these major artworks in the coming weeks in the BHS Library. We will also take photographs and include these in our final newsletter for 2014. It never ceases to amaze me, the talent we have here at Blakehurst!

A big thank you to our dedicated teachers who are able to nurture and develop the skills of our creative students. Ms Codey and Mr Jenkins will be hosting an exhibition in the Library, this week and next week, of Years 8, 9 and 10 Ceramic and Lino work. Everyone is invited to come along and check out the amazing work of our junior Visual Arts students.

DRAMA
Well, we are now into Term 4 and our Year 11 Drama students have already started to sink their teeth into their HSC course studies. They are eagerly working on the initial stages of their Individual Performances and I am very happy to see that all students are supportive of each other, offering encouraging advice in workshops. I am very excited to see what this talented group of dramatists will be capable of producing in the coming months! A friendly reminder to all those students interested in attending our regular Junior Drama Club meetings during lunchtimes, every Friday. Please feel free to come along for some drama games and theatre sports with our regular members!

Finally, I would like to express how proud I am of my Year 12 Drama students who have recently graduated. It was a year to remember and I sincerely thank you all for your commitment to your studies. You all worked very well together in the spirit of what our school represents. It has come to my attention that two of our Drama students have received early placements into Performing Arts courses at Wollongong University which is particularly pleasing to hear. Well done!

Thank you all for a wonderful year and I look forward to the next!

…..Ms Sophia Shaw
…..Teacher

Ms Judy Jacobsen
Head Teacher & CAPA Team
THE WORLD’S BIGGEST CLASSROOM is an initiative that showcases the projects of NSW public school students, and is run in conjunction with the Schools Spectacular. The projects are showcased around Sydney, including:
- The Concourse at Central Station,
- St. James Train Station,
- Circular Quay Train Station
- Olympic Park
- Westfield Shopping Centres

The themes this year include:
- Art Now, Connect Culture and Identity,
- The Edge: Creators and Innovators
- The Spirit Lives: Anzac Centenary - 2014 to 2018
- Game of Life: 125 Years of School Sport.

Six girls in Year 9, Stella Hung, Jasmin Lu, Wendy Nyunt, Caitlin Su, Cassandra Tsang and Annabelle Wong created a project based on the Game of Life: 125 Years of School Sport. The girls designed a ‘tree’ created with Papier Mache; highlighting the sporting achievements of the students at Blakehurst High School. Their tree is being exhibited at St. James Train Station from 30th October until 1st December 2014.
Welcome back to Term 4! I hope that everyone had a restful holiday. Term 4 has started off as a busy term again and all our students have been busy planning, designing, making and creating.

**Year 10 Food Technology**

Year 10 are currently studying all about the Food Service and Catering Industry. They had a Design Brief to design, plan, make and create a dessert for one person for an afternoon tea. They had a choice of a young male from a football team or a group of young 25 year old females. The challenge was set and they certainly met this brief. We are extremely proud of their creativity and plating skills!
Years 9 & 11 Textiles Excursion
On Thursday 30th October, Year 9 and Year 11 Textiles and Design classes visited Sydney TAFE Faculty of Costume Design to observe and exhibition and showcase of current and graduating students studying 'Costume Design for Performance.'

Our students were inspired by a Theatrical and Dance costume showcase which were designed by the TAFE students. These included costumes from various productions such as, Resident Evil, Oliver Twist, Chicago, A midsummer Nights Dream, Jane Eyre and many others. This was an extremely beneficial experience, particularly for our current Year 11 students as they prepare to begin their Textiles and Design major work.
Mrs Simpson and Ms Hatjinikitas would like to acknowledge the exceptional behaviour and representation of our students.

Mrs N Dexter
Head Teacher TAS Home Economics
The 31st October marks the Annual SRC Muftiday at Blakehurst High run by the SRC.

Because the day landed on Halloween celebration day, a lot of students arrived in creative and fun Halloween costumes.

The positive response to the Cupcakes sold by the SRC in the Quad area was amazing. The Junior Prefects had organised and sold raffle tickets throughout the week and the 3 lucky winners were Triston, Sophie and Steven.

Congratulations to the winners and a big thank you to the students and staff members who supported the student groups by either bringing a gold coin, buying cupcakes and/or buying raffle tickets. Your support is much appreciated.

On another note, the new 2015 Executive Team has been elected as follows:

President – Caitlin Su
Vice President; Sandy Ng
Secretary – Meggie Yao
Publicity Officer – Mandy Ruan
Technician – Jasmine LU/Ellen Koutsoukos
Photographer – Brianna Fitzmaurice
Treasurer – Jessica Jiang

On Tuesday October 28, the senior members of INTERACT visited Café EXODUS – a not-for-profit café in Kogarah Bay in order to get involved and give back to our local community. By purchasing a meal, our money directly supported projects run by Exodus Youth Worx - who provide services to empower and support young people and youth off the streets. We were pleased with the friendly customer service and lovely Moroccan-themed food. Most of the group chose the ‘Chicken Bogart’ burger and the ‘Mango Django’ juice. The luncheon was a fun way for INTERACT to get involved in the community by doing something as simple as chatting with a group of friends over lunch. You can visit the café yourself at 4A Wyee St, Kogarah Bay NSW 2217.

Ms V Wirayakusuma
Interact Coordinator
Parents/Caregivers

Last Week of School 2014

During the last week of Term 4, Monday December 15 up to and including Wednesday December 17, ALL students will be participating in COMPULSORY programs to ensure that the last three days of school are productive, beneficial and enjoyable.

Each year group will have specifically designed programs as follows:

- **Year 7**: A Learn to Swim/Stroke Correction/Life Saving Program at Carss Park Pool
- **Year 8**: An Activities Program where students chose an activity to participate in for the three days. These activities may include: Sights of Sydney, Fishing, Movie Appreciation, Sporting Pursuits or Table Tennis. Venues and costs will be dependent on the activity.
- **Year 9**: Peer Support Training and selection of Peer Support Leaders for 2015.
- **Year 10**: Senior School Transition Program including the COMPULSORY “All My Own Work” Course.
- **Year 11**: 25 Hour COMPULSORY PDHPE Cross Roads Course including: A Resuscitation Certificate, Expert Guest Speakers who discuss lifestyle issues that are prevalent and sometimes dangerous for young people and a day visit to Cataract Adventure Park where students will participate in activities such as caving, abseiling, a giant waterslide, flying fox and challenge valley to develop strong and trusting bonds between the students in Year 11. The school looks forward to your support in ensuring that your child attends these three days. A great amount of time and effort has gone into ensuring that your child has the most beneficial learning experience during this time.

More specific information for each year group will be forwarded with your child in the early weeks of Term 4, but if you require any information in the interim I can be contacted at school on 9546 3281.

Mr Yelavich
Head Teacher/PDHPE
Term 4 is the term for formulating and conducting final exams, report writing and planning for the next school year. Now that Year 12 has departed, the faculty has been busy reviewing programs and ‘tweaking’ assessment tasks so that quality teaching and learning takes place and all students remain engaged. By the time this newsletter is published all Years will have completed their final formal assessment tasks, however there is still much to be taught:

YEAR 7…
will continue with the topic Food Works. They will explore food chemicals, and conduct tests that identify the ingredients in everyday foods. They will look at nutrition and assess the diet of a sportsperson in terms of its compliance to healthy guidelines, such as the Healthy Food Pyramid.
YEAR 8...
will investigate forms of energy, such as heat, light, electrical, potential and kinetic. They will conduct experiments that examine energy changes. This is a fun topic that is largely physics based. Students should find the remainder of the year very enjoyable.

YEAR 9...
have been looking at waves; sound waves and light waves, and how the ear and eye work. They will look at the electromagnetic spectrum and investigate the difference between UV rays, Xrays and Gamma rays, and their uses in medicine and technology in general.

YEAR 10...
will continue with the topic, The Human Impact. They have already looked at genetics and heredity and have used punnet squares to predict features in offspring. Later, they will look at nuclear chemistry in detail, and renewable and non-renewable forms of energy.

EXCURSIONS...
- Monday 10th November - Mr Hewetson’s and Ms Apostolou’s Year 8 Science classes will visit the Wollongong Science Centre.
- Friday 21st November - Year 9 will explore the Blue Mountains.
This term has been a very busy term for us yet again! We were successful in obtaining a $2200 grant from the Teachers Environment Fund. Their generous contribution has helped us start our Australiana: Native Plant Garden. We are going to include several Aboriginal plants which have been used historically by Indigenous people for food, tools and medicine.

The site we chose, despite its central location, was extremely bare and at odds with the rest of our school’s green grounds. Our initial project involved turning this barren landscape into a place for inspiration and learning. This is an ongoing project for us which may stretch to the first school term of 2015.

We believe the delivery of the learning area content introduces Aboriginal plant use through a sustainable native plant garden and encourages conversations between learning areas eg Science, HSIE and Food Technical (bush tucker) and between students, teachers and the wider community.

Our native garden will lead to general improvement of the local environment, as a result of people putting their skills into practice, by transforming a barren area into a low maintenance wildlife haven. It will increase awareness in our local school community of the value of indigenous vegetation.

We would like to thank the Teachers Environmental Fund for the wonderful opportunity they gave us, to make our learning fun and engaging, and helping us contribute to a sustainable future for all of us.

Ms Z Georgopoulos
Environmental Team Leader
News from the LIBRARY

The Library has been busy so far this term with lots of classes finishing off Assessment Tasks and students studying for exams before school and during recess and lunch. Borrowing has also been high as students make sure they have reading material for DEAR. A reminder for students in Year 7 and 8 to keep a record of their reading to include in the 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge.

Year 9 English Class Blogs

We have set up Class Blogs for all Year 9 English classes using BlogEd. As part of their Assessment we will be discussing Blog etiquette and giving students guidance on using blogs to reflect on their learning and share experiences. BlogEd is a great starting place as it is completely controlled within the school.

Year 7 History Display

Once again we have some wonderful ancient Egyptian "artifacts" on display courtesy of the Year 7 History classes.

Recommendations for Reading

Do you like the Big Bang Theory? Have you read The Rosie Project and the sequel The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion?

IF YOU LIKED Maze Runner, READ: The Scorch Trials and The Death Cure
Further Recommendations

- **The Enemy**  Charlie Higson
- **The Bridge**  Jane Higgins
- **When Courage Came to Call**  L M Fuge
- **Far Rockaway**  Charlie Fletcher
- **Brianjack**  Brian Falkner
- **The Tomorrow Code**  Brian Falkner
- **Bloodtide**  Melvin Burgess
- **Ship Breaker**  Paolo Bacigalupi
- **Escape from Genopolis**  T E Berry-Hart

For other recommendations, please check the Video Screen in the Library for Book Café suggestions.

Mrs Alchin/Mrs Larson
Teacher/Librarian
From the CAREERS Adviser…

Careers Websites:

A reminder that Blakehurst High School subscribes to two very informative Careers websites Job Jump and Blakehurst High Careers. Parents/Carers and students are encouraged to utilise these sites to assist with future Career planning and pathways. The sites are particularly useful for senior students as they contain current information on such topics as University & TAFE open days, scholarships and apprenticeships. Job Jump is a useful site for investigating different Career options and Blakehurst High School Careers has tools for creating a cover letter and a resume.

Blakehurst High School Careers: www.blakehursthighcareers.com

To register for Job Jump:
Students may register with or without an email address. Students type in Blakehurst High in the school section and swallow for the password.

To register for Blakehurst High School Careers:
Students will need a valid email address. Click on For Students in the top right hand corner then Student Secure Area and finally registration. Be sure to keep a record of your username and password. After you register it will be helpful to log on with the allocated password, then click on change password and change it to something you will remember for future use.

The Yamaha Industry Partnership
Blakehurst High School's Yamaha industry partnership will continue on Friday the 21st of November. The Yamaha road race team has invited five students who were part of the 2014 Student Grand Prix to attend a practice day for the Formula Extreme event. The team manager will run information sessions for students on the day. The objective is to provide students with the opportunity to see behind the scenes, talk with riders and technicians.

Work Experience:
Recently some Year 10 students gained extremely valuable experience during their work placements which assisted them in creating future pathways into further education, training and employment opportunities.
Brandon Oliveira had an enjoyable week at the St George Motor Boat Club Marina where he had the opportunity to learn more about the marina industry and gain hands on experience and practice undertaking such tasks as tying up and letting go of boats, inspecting the marina, giving berthing and dock support and rope splicing. Brandon received an outstanding work placement report and on the completion of the week of work placement was offered a part time job at the marina during the summer holidays. Brandon is pictured above with marina staff members.
Fattoum Diab and Aicha Taleb also received outstanding reports after a very successful week of learning at St George Hospital. Each student spent the week in different sections of the hospital. Both Fattoum and Aicha were able to discuss their experiences working in the hospital during their application interviews into the TVET Health Services course at St George TAFE, their experiences greatly assisted the girls in securing their places in this course.

Fattoum also used her work experience report in the application process for a nursing traineeship at St George Private Hospital. Congratulations to Fattoum! After a very competitive application and interview process Fattoum was successful in obtaining a School Based Traineeship in nursing at Saint George Private Hospital. Fattoum commented:

“The opportunity to undertake work experience at St George Hospital was very exciting for me. We visited different wards each day. I enjoyed the special care nursery the best as I got to work with babies. I learnt so many new things during work experience which will greatly help me in my future nursing career and I am delighted to have gained a traineeship in nursing.”

Kathy Wong and Ester Yuan are pictured at the Kogarah Sizzler restaurant. These students were kept very busy during their work placement last week, where they had the opportunity to develop their skills in the hospitality industry.

Mark Tzavellas had just finished assisting to restore the interior of a Cadallic when I visited him at Complete Auto and Marine Trimming in Rockdale earlier this week. Mark is pictured below next to the Cadallic with the manager Michael Milonas. After Michael informed us there is a shortage of skilled workers in the motor trimming industry, Mark expressed his keen interest in obtaining an apprenticeship in this area in the future.

Year 10 and year 11 students wanting to undertake work experience are encouraged to see me in Careers to discuss their work placement options and collect the necessary documentation.
News from

Mathematics

Australian Maths Competition
As mentioned last newsletter we had some pretty impressive results, well done everyone – we have 35% more High Distinctions and Distinctions than in 2013. Our highest achievers were:

High Distinction
Eleni Chen - Year 11  Shuyi Wang - Year 11

Distinction
Abby Zheng - Year 11  Cheney Jin - Year 11
Mike Zou - Year 11  Nicole Yang - Year 11
Key Lei - Year 11  Tracy Xu - Year 11
Eric Lu - Year 11  Tommy Huang - Year 11
Miao Liu - Year 11  Howard Feng - Year 10
Charlie Zhang - Year 7  Robert Shopov - Year 7
Anthony Watt-Smith - Year 7

Our P&C has purchased Mathletics for you in 2015
We are very grateful for the P&C again funding Mathletics for 2015. This would otherwise be $99 for home users. During 2014 we noticed a dramatic increase in usage, particularly amongst the junior years. We will be undergoing more training and receiving updated worksheets and online resources so anticipate further development next year.

As always, all students are encouraged to spend an hour or so using the program at home each week. There are many choices of activities and after a student has completed teacher-set tasks they can attempt any topic they like. The can also play live arithmetic races against their friends and classmates.

If you are unsure of your child’s username and password email blakehurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au and we will forward it to you.

Year 12 Mathematics: General 2 vs General 1
In Year 12 the General Mathematics course splits into two subjects: General 2 that contributes to an ATAR, and General 1 which does not. General 2 is the harder of the two courses. We assume that all students wish to study General 2 unless they tell us otherwise. Nevertheless, we have many students who would be best suited to General 1. We have issued information letters to these students to take home. Your child’s report, with the Yearly exam mark and cumulative rank, will give you an indication of whether we have advised they should change courses.

If you would like to discuss with your child’s teacher please call the school on 9546 3281, or email blakehurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

End of Year Exams
Year 11 will be experiencing their first HSC assessment tasks in weeks 9 and 10. We remind all students that they must be on time and attend all lessons on those days, or else have a doctor’s certificate for the time of their absence. To not do so risks earning zero marks for the task.

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be having end of year Maths exams in Weeks 9 and 10. The results of these exams, in conjunction with the four term tests that they have completed, will assist in determining their class for 2014. Each test is one period in duration and held in their usual classroom.
For all tests topics will be given to the students at least two weeks in advance.

Year 7: L, A & K: Monday 1 December
Year 7: B, E & H: Tuesday 2 December
Year 8: Friday 5 December
Year 9: Thursday 4 December
Year 10: Thursday 4 December
12 General & Maths: Monday 1 December, period 0
12 Extension 1: Tuesday 2 December
12 Extension 2: Tuesday 9 December

Bring your equipment....
During Term 4 every Maths teacher has become much more insistent that all students have all necessary equipment at every lesson. As an encouragement we have introduced a daily lunchtime detention for any student forgetting their workbook, calculator, textbook (and any other equipment that might be needed that lesson, such as a geometry set). So if your child has come home saying they need $22 to purchase a calculator from school this is likely the reason why!

We have found this has immediately improved the students’ ability to complete their work in class.

Mrs A Peachey
Head Teacher Mathematics

NSW Volunteer of the Year Award is an annual awards program by the Centre of Volunteering which recognises the outstanding efforts of the 2 million plus volunteers in NSW; promoting the importance of volunteering to the community.

Blakehurst High School would like to congratulate our current Year 12 student Renee Gillespie who was a finalist in the Student Category and was presented with her certificate on the 16th October, 2014 at Sutherland Entertainment Centre.

Renee began her volunteering experience as part of the NSW Premier’s Volunteering Program in Year 10 at Blakehurst Aged Care. Despite completing her hours as part of the program, Renee has continued to visit the residents at Blakehurst Aged Care, spending endless hours listening to residents and keeping them company. Renee has exhibited excellent time management skills, as she has been able to apply herself diligently to her studies whilst maintaining her relationships and efforts with the nursing home residents.

Renee’s selflessness and willingness to help others is commendable and I would personally like to wish Renee all the best in her future endeavors.

Ms O Pappas
Student Volunteering Coordinator
Year 9 Adviser
This semester Year 7 History have been studying ‘The Ancient World’ as part of the NSW National Curriculum and were required to research and create a replica of an ancient Egyptian artefact. The HSIE staff was very impressed with the effort and creativity that was put into this task, as well as the range of replicas presented. Tutankhamen’s Death Mask, the Pyramids of Giza, Shadufs and Sarcophaguses are just some of the outstanding replica’s currently being displayed in the Blakehurst library.
“There are to be no selfies taken from the moment you step foot into this building. If you do so, you could incur a $22 000 fine” were the first instructions given to the Year 12 Legal Studies class on Tuesday the 28th of October when they visited the New South Wales Downing Centre with Ms Pappas.

The Downing Centre is a major courthouse complex in the city featuring Local Courts and District Courts of New South Wales. As’ Crime’ is the first core topic of the Year 12 HSC syllabus, we have been studying the criminal trial process. By visiting the New South Wales Downing Centre we were able to witness these processes and the law in action in both the District and Local Courts.

Once we arrived, it was like a lucky dip in regards to which case we would choose to listen to in the courtroom. Throughout the day, we were able to sit and listen to numerous cases ranging from summary offences such as drink driving and drug crimes, to indictable offences such as attempted murder and assault. At first, most of us felt slightly uncomfortable entering courtrooms during a trial as it was ‘all eyes on you’. There were a number of guidelines that were expected to be followed in the court house, for example, bowing to the Magistrate or Judge when entering and exiting the courtroom.

Finally, a big thank you goes to Ms Pappas for taking us to the Downing Centre to help us put the content we have learned over the past year into context, from inside the courtroom. Most of the class walked out at the end of the day saying “I’m coming back next week”. We obviously enjoyed ourselves 😊

…….Julia Glavincevski
…….Angela Isajlovska

Mr P Slater
Head Teacher HSIE
It was hard to believe that twelve months had passed since our last visit to France but amazingly enough here we were again at the Thai Ticket counter checking in at the airport for our adventure of a lifetime. Twenty three students in total from Port Hacking, Heathcote and Blakehurst High Schools were accompanied by four teachers.

We arrived very early at Charles de Gaulle Airport and were transported to FIAP our accommodation in Paris for the next five days. Paris was a wonderful cultural experience. We visited the famous Notre Dame and climbed the Belfry Tower. They tell me it was 400 steps up and again 400 steps down. We also visited Sainte Chappelle, Sacre Coeur, the Louvre where I paid my annual respects to La Joconde or better known as the Mona Lisa, the Musee D’Orsay, Versailles, The Eiffel Tour, The Arc de Triomphe, the shops on the Champs Elysee, the Catacombs, the cruise down the Seine and of course the many visits to the little cafes or even McDonalds.

Once we left Paris we embarked on our journey up North. Here we visited the Somme Museum, Giverny where we find Monet’s house, the Australian and American War Memorials, Chenonceau, Amboise where Leonardo da Vinci is buried, Rouen where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake, Bayeux and its famous tapestry, Clos de la Luce Da Vinci’s house where there were not only working models of all his inventions in the magnificent gardens but also another version of the Mona Lisa. We also visited Angers and its medieval castle, Mont St Michel and the fortified town of St Malo. No school excursion would be complete without a visit to Parc Asterix or Paris Disneyland. Fun was had by all and a special thank you must be given to the students whose
cooperation and outstanding behaviour made this a most enjoyable trip for me and the other members of staff, Ms Broadbent and Mr and Mrs Sommerfield. We celebrated three birthdays all of which I am sure will be remembered. Our own

Harpal Doad celebrated his 16th birthday at Disneyland, a memory I am sure he will always treasure.

As always the Language Staff have been very busy both during the holidays and at the beginning of term. The Year 10 French class went to France and the Year 10/11 Greek and Italian students visited Melbourne. My thanks to Mrs Loizos and Ms Evangelinos for not only organizing this excursion but also giving up their time to allow the students to experience this cultural immersion.
What a fun loving group this was....

D Day Landing

Villiers Bretonneux

Parc Asterix

Lunch & Shopping..
The newly elected Senior Prefects attended an overnight camp at Stanwell Tops conference centre. Our leadership camps aim to prepare our Senior Prefects for their responsibilities as student leaders.

Through workshop sessions and outdoor team activities such as Orienteering and High Ropes our students gained an understanding of the following.

- Essentials of Leadership
- Attitudes and Leadership
- Position and Responsibilities of Leaders
- Group Dynamics
- Teamwork Challenges
- Problem Solving
- Forming a Mission Statement
- Effective Communication

Our Prefects will be inducted at a formal assembly on Thursday the 13th of November followed by a morning tea in the Library.

40 Hour Famine

We would like to say a big thank you to all the students who participated in the 40 Hour Famine. Thanks to their hard work in gathering sponsors and also giving up something that they usually can’t live without: technology, food, furniture etc. Blakehurst High Students raised $2560 for the World Vision 40 hour famine.

Special mention must go to the following students who worked so hard to raise $100 or more individually.

Rebecca Gray-Schwarz, Annabelle Wong
Chrysanthis Diasinos, Jamie Krstanoski
Michelle Zhang, Sara Sutherland
Josmina Causevic, Sally Ibrahim
Selina Chen, Joshua Lin
Meggie Yao, Jodie Kan
Year 12 students celebrated their graduation on 18/09/2014. After the ceremony, all the Chinese students went to Carss Park celebrating the traditional Moon Festival. Students made and brought some traditional Chinese food and drink to enjoy at the picnic lunch. Ms Chen, their Chinese teacher ordered a big ice cream cake for everyone. Mr Lester our school Principal and Mrs Manos our Deputy Principal were invited to the party also. Year 12 Chinese students had a great time by the beach on their last school day.

Mrs A Mangraviti  
Head Teacher LOTE

Learning Support

Thank you to the following students from Year 10 who assisted as readers and writers for the HSC exams. These students gave up their time; some staying back until 5pm and provided a valuable service for which the school is most appreciative.

Lauren Ognenovski  
Kathleen Nguyen  
Raquel Malaxos  
Isabella Neckovski  
Natalie Wong  
Natasha Fong  
Von Herman  
Jamie Krstanoski  
Howard Feng

Cheryl Hudspeth  
Learning & Support Teacher
PDHPE Faculty Report

Term 4
As we near the end of 2014, it has been a busy start to Term IV with yearly assessment tasks taking place. Year 11 now moving into the HSC course and our Year 12 students having completed the HSC examinations.

I would like to personally congratulate and wish the entire Year 12 PDHPE cohort of 2014 good luck in their future endeavours as by now they have finished all their final exams and look to embark on their career. This year’s PDHPE cohort was an enjoyable group of students who worked hard to complete the syllabus and this culminated in the Teachers vs Students Sporting Games in Week 10.

Teachers vs Year 12 students
This initiative was introduced in 2013 as a friendly competition between the PDHPE students and PDHPE teachers and games played this year included volleyball, netball and soccer. The students gained the early advantage by winning volleyball 24-22 and earned bragging rights for the next few days. The teachers bounced back to claim the victory in netball with a thrilling 12-11 win. So it then came down to the game of soccer and the Year 12 students brought out their big guns with Zdravko Majkic, Stelios Kentzopoulos and Yianni Bakirtsis, while the teachers had Mr Tsattalios and an enthusiastic Mr Ovens. The students started strong and attacked from the whistle and shot out to a 2 goal lead but were quickly reeled in and overtaken by the teachers who levelled with a scorcher from Mr Tsattalios and Mr Ovens. In a hotly contested final five minutes, the teachers out manoeuvred their younger opponents to win 4-3 and defend their title against the students. Congratulations to everyone who took part in these games.

Congratulations to Nikole Gorscak who was 1st in PDHPE this year.

Year 12 2015
Year 11 have now progressed to the HSC Syllabus and will be studying the following content:
- Core 1 - Health Priorities in Australia
- Core 2 – Factors Affecting Performance
- Option – Improving Performance
- Option – Sports Medicine

It is essential that these students refer to the Year 12 PDHPE syllabus and carry this with them everywhere as every assessment task, including the Trial and HSC exam will be derived from this booklet.

Year 10...
...students are sitting their final yearly exams which will contribute towards their ROSA and everything learnt this year will be examinable. Units of work studied throughout the year include Driver Education, Harm Minimisation and Protective Factors.

Year 9...
...students have or will engage in a Sport Education in Physical Education Program (SEPEP) practical assessment task where students will have the opportunity to adopt a certain role and take control of the class. Roles include Coach, Publicity Officer, Grounds People, First Aid Officer, Scorer/Timekeeper and Referee. This task will empower students to challenge themselves and take on a leadership role within their group whilst taking control of their peers.

Year 8
Their final assessment task is to create a song that has an educational purpose to promote a healthy lifestyle and make informed decisions for individuals and their peers.

Year 7
The final unit of study is looking at Summer Safety and the dangers that are associated with activities/sports that teenagers engage in during the warmer months. There is a lot of emphasis placed on the water environment and how we can minimise the risk of injury to ourselves and others and behaviours we can adopt to live a healthy lifestyle.

Activities Week
During Week 11, Monday 15th December to Wednesday 17th December, students will be participating in a variety of activities for their particular year group. These are compulsory school days and it is essential that all students attend these three days as not only are they extremely valuable, they are a lot of fun as it is spent with their friends.

Compulsory year group activities include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Planned Activities</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Swim School – the aim of this program is to improve their water awareness and increase their confidence - at Carss Park Pool.</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Various activities – students choose from a wide variety of activities that are conducted on school premises and away from school grounds.</td>
<td>$TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost will vary depending on choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Peer Support – students are engaged in a Peer Support program that empowers them to take on future leadership roles. The final day is a day trip down to Jamberoo.</td>
<td>$TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Transition Program – students engage in a worthwhile course that includes study skills, a board endorsed ‘all my own work, money matters workshop and guest speakers.</td>
<td>$TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cross Roads – This is a compulsory 25hr course that all Year 11 students must complete before entering Year 12. This course includes motivational speakers; students will complete a resuscitation certificate and attend a day at Cataract Activities Park.</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students will receive further information about their activities towards the end of term.

Yours in Sport

Mr A Yelavich
Head Teacher & PDHPE Team
With the commencement of the summer grade sport competition and the beginning of the senior grade sport finals we have a few crucial grade sport rounds coming up.

As you’re reading this report we will be nearing the senior grade sport grand finals with junior finals to follow in 3 weeks. Good luck to all teams and coaches who are involved, I am sure all students will be doing their best both on and off the field. I would also like to thank all Year 12 students for their effort in all grade sport competitions and K/O’s throughout the last 6 years.

Brazilian Jujitsu
Recently Brock Kirby of Year 7 competed in the Pan Pacific Brazilian Jujitsu tournament held in Melbourne. Brock competed in the 56kg, 13 Years division; finishing in 2nd place. On behalf of Blakehurst High School I would like to congratulate Brock on a fantastic achievement.

Upcoming Events
Senior Grade Sport Summer Finals – Oct 29 & Nov 5
Junior Grade Sport Summer Finals – Nov 19 & Nov 26
St George Zone Presentation Day – Nov 14
BHS Presentation Night – Dec 10

Sport web sites
The following sport web sites are useful for School sport notices, Zone sport information and Sydney East knock outs and representation.

Regards,

B Kemp
Sports Organiser
2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate

Apply before Midnight 16 June 2015

2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM
https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/ *eligibility criteria apply

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?
The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2014-2015 the rebate gives:

- A $150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer
- A $165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?
To be eligible you MUST:
- Be a NSW resident; and
- Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2013-2014 financial year, and have received an FTB payment in respect of that eligibility; and
- Be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?
Before you apply, here’s a quick checklist. Have you:

- Lodged your tax return for 2013-14 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you are not required to lodge a tax return?
- Received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2013-2014?

HOW TO APPLY

- ONLINE – it takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- PAPER – download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the residential community where you live.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88
EMAIL fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au
On Wednesday 19 November 2014, Council in partnership with the Community Drug Action Team (CDAT) will hold a free parenting seminar focusing on safe celebrating for teenagers. The seminar will feature the following three presentations:

**Ngaio Chandler - Project Officer for the READY Project at St George Youth Services;** Providing practical information about alcohol and other drug use and the effects

**John Dangas - Team Leader / Youth and Family Worker for Reconnect Youth and Family Service at St George Youth Services;**
On establishing a dialogue and negotiating with your young person.

**Senior Constable Peter Hughes - Youth Case Manager, St George PCYC - Youth Command;** On navigating social media and on how teens use it.

Following the presentations, there will be a Q&A session.

**Wednesday 19 November**
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Jubilee Community Rooms,
Level 2, Jubilee Oval,
entrance off Jubilee Ave, Carlton

Light dinner will be provided. This is a free event, **bookings are essential** and can be made by emailing youth@kogarah.nsw.gov.au or calling 9330 9455.
LOWES

SPECIAL PROMOTION FOR

BLAKEHURST HIGH SCHOOL

SPECIAL SALES

DAYS x 3

AT LOWES STORE - HURSTVILLE

Thursday 11th – Friday 12th – Saturday 13th December 2014

RECEIVE 15% DISCOUNT

Off the regular price on all uniform items for Blakehurst High School

PLUS

BONUS EZY-WAY 5% DISCOUNT

additional for Lowes Ezy-Way customers

OR 5% REWARDS

Lowes Rewards Card holders receive in-store Gift Vouchers to the value of 5% of their purchase

PLUS

Lowes will pay your school annual 5% rebate on every uniform purchased in-store.
Sans Souci Public School
Rocky Point Road Sans Souci

School Fair

Rides & Amusements • Face Painting • Food Stalls • Car Show Performances • Craft & Retail Stalls • Devonshire Tea

10am-4pm NOVEMBER 8th

SSPC would like to thank our COMMUNITY SPONSORS

[Logos of sponsors]