Anzac Day Ceremony
The school had a very successful Anzac Day ceremony on Thursday the 1st of May. Congratulations to the Year 9 students – Sandy Ng, Callista Wong, Zalika Azam, Geeann Li, Monica Gee, Alexia Mouratidis, Rachel Huang, Caitlin Su, Elaine Yeung, Stella Hung, Joy Liu and Meggie Yao - who planned and ran both the Junior and Senior Assemblies on this day. As is traditional, the South Hurstville RSL Branch donated money ($500) for student Anzac Day awards. This year’s winners were:

1. 2014 Peace Prize - this award is in recognition of the outstanding contributions by one student who has shown ongoing commitment to maintaining peace and school spirit. Dylan McCuaig-Walton, current Vice Captain, received this award at the ceremony for his constant and ongoing involvement in all aspects of the school community. Well done Dylan!

2. Anzac Day Essay Writing Competition – a number of Year 9 students participated in an essay writing competition with a central theme, “Effect of War on Women at Home”. The prize winners were:

   1st Place – Triston Naumoski
   2nd Place – Nathan Driscoll
   3rd Place – Zalika Azam
   4th Place – Lillyanna Oleik

A Busy Term So Far!
This term has certainly started with a bang. So far we have had our Anzac Day Ceremony; a Parent and Teacher Evening for Years 8, 9 and 10 and a P&C Meeting, featuring a discussion about the new Australian Curriculum by the Head teachers affected. Not to mention numerous Assessment Tasks, including NAPLAN for Years 7 and 9; a Year 7 Camp to Tea Gardens, as well as various other Excursions and Sporting events.

Thanks to all parents who attended/supported these events and for your ongoing support of the school and staff. Without a supportive school community we would not be able to achieve all the things we do throughout the school year.

NAPLAN
Years 7 and 9 sat for the 2014 NAPLAN exams between the 13th and the 15th of May. The results of these exams will be posted to the parents late in Term 3. Thanks to Ms Alison Peachy for her co-ordination of the NAPLAN exams again this year.

P&C Meetings
Our next P&C meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday the 11th of June in the Staff Common Room. All parents are welcome to attend.

Year 9 and 11, 2015, Subject Selection Evening
Just an early reminder for all students and parents of Years 8 and 10, that the Subject Selection evening for Year 9 and 11, 2015 will be held on the first Wednesday evening of Term 3 i.e. 16th July 2014. This evening is designed to give students and parents an overview of the RoSA and HSC requirements as well as an opportunity to talk to staff regarding subjects of interest.

The session will begin with a brief talk in the hall for each Year group, followed by time to discuss subject specifics and requirements with the teaching staff and students who are presently studying the subjects. Details of actual times for each year group are contained in flyers at the end of this newsletter. It is important that all Year 8 and 10 students and their parents attend this evening.

School Fees
Thanks to the many families who have already paid their school fees for 2014. These fees assist greatly in the running of the school, and all fees received are used to enhance your child’s education this year. General contributions are used to pay for things such as photocopying, textbooks, teaching resources, library books etc. The school would simply not have enough money to pay for all of these things without parents paying the General Contribution. So again, thank you.
Subject fees vary in their amount based on the amount of consumables used in the teaching of the subject. As a result, some subjects have NO fees but others such as Visual Arts, Woodwork, Construction, Food Tech etc. have higher fees due to the resources/consumables required and used by the students undertaking these subjects.

The P&C Student Enhancement Fee is used by the P&C to fund worthwhile educational projects/resources around the school, again to improve the educational outcomes of students this year. In 2013 the P&C funded over $40,000 worth of projects which included the funding of the SMS Attendance System; the online Study Skills resource; Science resources; Software for Mathematics to name but a few.

It would be great then, if all outstanding fees could be finalised this term, as we could allocate it effectively to further enhance your child’s education this year. If you have trouble in paying your fees please feel free to contact Kim Morris (Office Manager) or myself to organise payment in instalments or to discuss other arrangements. All information provided will be held in confidence.

---

**Blakehurst High School**

**PLEASE USE THIS FORM FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ONLY**

Student Name: ___________________________ Roll Class: __________

Payment For: _________________________________

PAYMENT DETAILS: {Please tick on box}

Please debit my credit card for $ __________________________

Visa [ ] MasterCard [ ]

Name on Card: _________________________________

Card Number: __________ _________ _________ _________ PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Expiry Date: __________/__________ Signature: _________________________

(Receipt will be sent home with student)

---

**2014 SRC Trivia Night**

Please keep the night of Friday the 15th of August free for the 2014 SRC Trivia night.

The evening will begin at 7:15pm and I am assured the SRC are organising a fun night for all, with plenty of prizes.

Put together a table of your own or join another table for a night of challenging Trivia questions and games.

**Nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability**

Blakehurst High School is taking part in a trial this year of a new national data collection on school students with disability. From 2015, it will be compulsory that this information will be collected in every school across Australia, every year. This has been agreed upon by all Australian Governments.

I have attached an information sheet for you below. Please be aware that all information included is confidential, and no students will be able to be individually identified through the process. All data will be presented as by school only.

If you do not wish your child’s information included in the national data collection please ring the school and ask for the Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning, Ms Sklavounos or myself to discuss by the end of Term 2.
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data
School Students with Disability

Information for Parents/Carers

Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability.

The data collection is being introduced in stages over three years, and started in 2013. From 2015, this information will be collected in every school across Australia, every year.

All Australian governments have agreed to this.

**WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?**

All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school should have a high quality education. It shouldn’t matter what the individual child’s circumstances are – every child should have the same opportunity to succeed at school.

The aim of this new data collection is to have better information about school students with disability in Australia.

Better information about school students with disability will help teachers, principals and education authorities to support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

**WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?**

There is nothing new about schools collecting information about students with disability – in fact, schools have had to do this by law for some time. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory.

With the new data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect this information – that is, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. It will help to put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without a disability.

**WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO?**

Every school in Australia is likely to have a student with disability at some point. Schools need to be able to support students with disability by removing any obstacles for them to participate in their education.

By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability. These responsibilities are outlined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. This means that schools need to talk to the student and/or their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments. These are things the schools do now and this won’t change.

The new data collection will record students who have been identified by a school team as meeting the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and provided with an adjustment.

**WHAT IS AN ADJUSTMENT?**

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (like ramps into classrooms), in the classroom and at an individual student level (like extra tuition for a student with a learning difficulty).
WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?
Your child’s school will collect and report information every year about:

- the level of adjustment provided
- the number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- where known, the student’s broad type of disability.

Some students who are not provided with an adjustment at the time of the collection will meet the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and will be eligible to be included in the data collection.

WHO WILL COLLECT MY CHILD’S INFORMATION?
Teachers and other school staff from your child’s school will collect the above information based on:

- consultation with parents/carers
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for making sure that the information collected about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?
Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is very important. With the new data collection, this will be done in the following ways:

- Personal or confidential information will not be given to anyone not authorised to see it.
- When the information is sent by your child’s school to the local or federal education authority for combination with information from other schools, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.
- When the information is reported from 2016 onwards, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.

WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE DATA BE AVAILABLE?
When all Australian schools are taking part in the new data collection, the information will be reported on the My School website from 2016 onwards. It will be by school only – no student names are recorded as part of the data collection.

CAN I DECIDE WHETHER MY CHILD’S INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
It’s your decision about whether you want your child’s information to be included in the national reporting or not.

Including every school child who is being provided with an adjustment because of disability in this new national data collection each year will help schools, education authorities and governments to better meet students’ needs.

Your school will tell you what you need to do if you don’t want to have your child’s information included in the national data collection.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, your school is still required to provide support to your child with disability and any adjustments that may be needed to help him/her participate at school.

FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may affect your child.

You can also visit www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability
STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR MAY – THINKING AHEAD!

Are you riding a rollercoaster at school? Rollercoaster study is where you stay up late doing last minute assignments, then you take it easy for a while and do very little, then panic again when something is due and have to spend huge amounts of time at the end completing the work. If you plan ahead and are prepared, you will find school much less stressful and more rewarding.

![Avoid 'Rollercoaster' Study](image)

Here are the top tips for thinking ahead:

1. **STUDY NOTES:** If you know that you have a test at the end of each topic or examinations approaching, then on the nights you do not have much homework start working on your study notes and summaries. File them in folders at home so they are ready to go when you need them.

2. **ASSIGNMENTS:** Always start the assignment the day it is given to you, even if it is just a little bit. Make sure you understand the requirements and if you don’t ask your teacher straight away the next day. Brainstorm the steps the first night and do a rough plan of when you will do each step.

3. **ASK FOR HELP EARLY:** There is nothing more frustrating than a student who says ‘I haven’t understood anything we did in the last 3 weeks’. Ask for help as soon as you have a problem. Keep a list of questions for your teacher on a post-it in your textbook or sticky notes on your computer or a list in your phone. Don’t let problems or issues build up, ask for help early and often.

4. **THINK ABOUT WHO YOU SIT NEXT TO:** Choose wisely who you will sit with in class. This can make a world of difference to your results. If you sit with someone where it is a productive relationship, you encourage and help each other and stay on task in the classroom you will understand your work better and have less to do at home.

5. **CONSIDER YOUR WEEK:** Plan ahead for busy times. If you know you have nights where you can’t do much work or a busy weekend, plan ahead and get things done early. Always look ahead for possible times where you could be caught short of time and make plans to avoid problems.

Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) – our school’s access details are:

Username: blakehursths
Password: 186results
Reforms to P & C Federation

The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action.

While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P & Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P & C Associations.

Each school’s P & C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management.

More information will be available on the Department’s website at:

Mr B Lester
Principal
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S Report

IMPORTANT MESSAGE RE STUDENT HEALTH

I am writing to advise you that our school currently has a student who is receiving treatment for cancer. Currently she is actively involved in the school community in between having treatment and dealing with the side effects.

As this student has a compromised immune system (which makes her more vulnerable to disease), it is important that you do not send your child to school if he/she is unwell. For example, if your child has an infectious disease (such as the measles, chickenpox or flu), he/she should stay at home until no longer contagious. For more information about how long an illness is contagious, contact your GP or visit the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au

I would also appreciate it if you would notify the school if your child has an infectious disease. This will allow us to assess the potential risk of the disease and, if necessary, notify the student’s parents and medical team.

We appreciate your cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

CyberSafety

The Australian Federal Government through the Australian Communications and Media Authority’s (ACMA) has set up the Cybersmart program which provides information and education to empower students to be safe online. http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Home/Parents.aspx

Cybersmart has developed Chatterbox, an online platform that allows parents to ‘tune’ in to a series of short videos and conversations by Cybersmart experts on a wide variety of cybersafety topics and to ask questions. Each video and conversation, released monthly, addresses the specific issues, behaviours and safety essentials to help parents make sense of what’s happening in their child’s online world. So that all parents can make the most out of this resource, they are encouraged to ask the Cybersmart experts questions and share their stories with fellow parents via online discussion forums and Facebook.

Friendships and Peer Relationships

Friendships cause stress in all students at some stage throughout their high school years.

Your teen’s friendships and relationships with peers are the most important thing in his or her life. Everyone needs to belong, to feel connected with others and be with others who share attitudes, interests, and circumstances that resemble their own. While many families help teens in feeling proud and confident of their unique traits, backgrounds and abilities, peers are often more accepting of the feelings, thoughts, and actions associated with the teen’s search for self-identity. The influence of peers, whether positive or negative, is of critical importance. Whether you like it or not, the opinions of your child’s peers often carry more weight than yours.

At its best, peer pressure can mobilise your teen’s energy, motivate for success and encourage your teen to conform to healthy behaviour. Peers can act as positive role models and demonstrate appropriate social behaviours. They understand the frustrations, challenges and concerns associated with being a teenager.

The need for acceptance and belonging is vital during the teen years. Those who feel isolated or rejected by their peers or family are more likely to engage in risky behaviours in order to fit in with a group. In such situations, peer pressure can impair good judgment and fuel risk-taking behaviour and engaging in behaviour that his or her values might otherwise reject.

Parents can support positive friendships:

- Give them love, time, boundaries and encouragement to think for themselves.
- Get to know their friends. Learn their names, invite them into your home so you can talk and listen to them and introduce yourself to their parents.
- Don’t attack your child’s friends. Criticising their choice of friends is like a personal attack.
- Help your child understand the difference between image (expressions of youth culture) and identity (who he or she is).
- Keep the lines of communication open.
- Encourage independence by supporting decision-making based on principles, not other people.
- Encourage reflective thinking by discussing immediate and long-term consequences of risky behaviour.

Mrs L Paton
Deputy Principal
The majority of Year 7 attended the Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens at the start of this term where they had an enjoyable experience undertaking challenging activities and socialising with their peers. The students participated in a range of activities at the camp site as well as a fun excursion to Jimmy’s Beach where they had some time to chill out. The students fully embraced their camp experience and got to know their peers and teachers better.

Special mention must be made to Mr Slater, Mr Van Munster and Ms Nozica who helped supervise the camp. We all had a great time, particularly as the ‘ninjas’ during Commando spotting teams in the dark as they tried to rescue the ‘hostages’.

Ms Camilleri / Mr Roff Year 7 Advisers

The giant swing was the best bit of camp because we went up so high and pulled a rope and it dropped you and left you swinging.

Jackson

The helpfulness and attitude of the staff was great. The activities were absolutely amazing.

Sardar

The camp was fun. It taught us to be brave with all the activities. After the three days we learnt to be away from our parents to learn to be individuals.

Emiko

I thought the activities were great. I liked staying at the beach and going to the sand dunes. It was a great camp.

Marina
The best bit of camp was when we went on the beach. It was a lot of fun in the water.

Biyush

The best bit of camp was all the fun activities and everyone really got to know one another at the campfires and Commando.

Isabella

We got to glide over 100m with a buddy on the flying fox. We raced on it, which was fun.

Charlie
Term 2 has had a very busy start for the CAPA team! So much news to tell!!

CHOIR
The Choir proudly represented our school at the ‘In-Concert 2014’ choral performance at the Sydney Town Hall on Monday 19 May. We rehearsed during the day and the performance began at 7.00pm. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were outstanding ambassadors for our school. The repertoire included the Handel’s Zadok, The Priest, Find My Way, conducted by Liz Scott and two of Stevie Wonder’s songs: Isn’t She Lovely and Never Dreamed. Both of these songs were arranged by the very talented Australian Acapella group, Idea of North, who also sang with the choir and performed two other songs at the concert. The repertoire was challenging but magnificently performed by the combined choir of more than 900 secondary students in ‘surround sound’. The combined choir occupied the entire gallery section of the Town Hall.

Hopefully The Arts Unit will provide us with an edited version of the concert, which I will publish in a subsequent newsletter.

The Choir will continue rehearsing on Friday mornings for performances later this year.

All students welcome.

BHS Choir at Sydney Town Hall
Rehearsals will be under way next week for BHS’s Night of Nights - Music Night. Once again we have a ‘star-studded’ evening planned!

Tickets will be available at school from the beginning of Week 7 – 9 June 2014.

All single tickets $5.00
Family ticket (2 adults 2 children) $10

Make sure you ‘Save the Date’ – Wednesday 25 June at 5pm!

Music Night provides a fantastic experience and opportunity for our students and hopefully will encourage more performances on a regular basis from all our talented students.

Congratulations to Tobius Kreiger and Ellen Huang (Year 11) who have been selected to perform on the stage of the Sydney Town Hall at the Festival of Music Primary Proms Concert in September. Very exciting for the students and for BHS!! They will be performing Beethoven’s Piano Sonata Opus 6 for Four Hands. Ellen and Tobius will also be performing their premier performance of this duet on Music Night!

Idea of North

Mrs J Jacobson
Head Teacher/CAPA
This semester, Year 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory - Textiles students have been working hard in the Technology classroom designing and creating products.

The Year 7 students have been learning all about the sewing machine and have put their new practical skills to good use in constructing a pair of shorts.

The Year 8 students have completed a Diorama of their 'dream' bedroom and produced some amazing work. They have also constructed a pillow using many different techniques and design applications.
Our Year 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory - Food students have been busily creating and designing products as well.

Year 7 students have all been learning about healthy eating and good nutrition. They have also been learning practical cooking skills and have been making a variety of healthy snack foods and meals.

Year 8 students have been using Microsoft Publisher to put together a website which includes images of their practical work and recipes which aim to encourage teenagers to eat well and choose a healthy lifestyle.

Mrs N Dexter
Head Teacher TAS Home Economics
Blakehurst High School entered Year 8 students into the 2014 Write 4Fun competition. Some of these students successfully progressed past the initial judging.

This year the competition was held throughout Primary and Secondary schools within Australia and Write4Fun received over 11,500 entries. Blakehurst High School has been recognised for the outstanding standard of writing these students displayed.

This Certificate of Excellence was awarded to Blakehurst High School in recognition of our students’ efforts.

The winners of the competition were announced on Wednesday May 14, and can be viewed on the website at www.write4fun.net.

Once again congratulations to those students on their outstanding achievement.

Ms J Hinson
Head Teacher English
On May 3 and 4 2014, members of the Blakehurst High School Interact group and other students and teachers from Blakehurst High School, formed teams and took part in the annual Sutherland Shire Relay For Life. Interact is very enthusiastic about playing its part in helping charities and community groups achieve their goals and the Relay For Life event is a perfect way to show that.

What is Relay For Life?
This is a fun overnight, community event where teams of around 10-15 people partake in a 24 hour run or walk to raise funds for the Cancer Council. It is also a way to remember those who have lost their lives to cancer; to celebrate with those who have survived and to thank the carers, friends and families of all cancer sufferers.

Despite the bad weather on the day, everyone who participated from Blakehurst High School enjoyed the great food, fun activities and unlimited exercise during the day. There were also a number of teachers and students who stayed all throughout the freezing weather of the night, yet their spirits were continually kept burning thanks to the hot drinks, loud music and warming exercise that was sustained until 9 am on Sunday.

Overall, the Sutherland Relay for Life was a fantastic event and we hope that future events are just as successful!

....Remy Blatch-Williams
....Interact President

Special thanks to all those who participated!
Ski Trip 2014

July 27 - July 30

The ski trip is getting closer. Preparations are well underway for the 2014 Ski Trip to Thredbo for students in Years 10 & 11. The dates for this trip are from Sunday July 27 to Wednesday July 30.

Students will have 3 days skiing with lessons on each of the days to help them progress. After 3 days it is expected that all students will be competent enough to tackle the entire Beginner, and some of the Intermediate runs on the mountain.

Included in the price of the trip, are all Lift Passes, Lessons, Meals and Transport as well as Hire Skis and Boots.

Final payments will be due before the end of term and Medical forms will be distributed to students in the next couple of weeks. The proviso on attending the trip is that all elective school fees are paid and up to date and also that school performance and behaviour has been satisfactory.

If there are any questions regarding the trip they can be directed to me at the school.

Mr P Slater
Head Teacher HSIE/Ski Trip Coordinator
On Wednesday the 7th of May, Blakehurst High School's Year 12 Geography class, accompanied by Ms Wiryakusuma, undertook Observatory Hill's Urban Dynamics excursion to Pyrmont.

After an exciting trek by train from Hurstville Station to the City, our class started the program along with other schools at Customs House in Circular Quay. Inside, we made our way up to the library, where an introductory presentation on Pyrmont, followed by a trivia quiz was conducted by two presenters from Observatory Hill.

The group then boarded a ferry from Circular Quay with these two presenters and made our way to Pyrmont, identifying the key land uses of Sydney Harbour and the urban dynamics that dominate Sydney along the way.

Upon arriving at Pyrmont, we compared a historical map from of the area dating back to 1910 with a recent map and marveled at how the renewal and consolidation of Pyrmont has drastically changed the landscape and land use.

Our class then travelled through the suburb, picking three locations to observe and rate how well the town planners' planning goals have been, according to how livable the area is. These three areas received a high rating from all members our geography class as we were impressed with the suburb as a whole.

Finally, the day ended at the Pyrmont Community Centre, where we viewed a DVD of local residents being interviewed about the area and how livable it is. Among many points made, residents claimed that its availability of public transport, its availability of jobs and its close proximity to the city all made Pyrmont a very livable suburb. Our class thought this as well.

Overall, the excursion was enjoyable and extremely beneficial to our studies as geographers as we can now use the knowledge gained from this trip to apply to our Geography HSC exam.

Madelaine Fitzmaurice
Year 12
Konichiwa,

On the 10th of May we, Roshan Cosgrove, Angela Isajlovska and Michael Amey were involved in a Model United Nations Assembly, organised through various Rotary clubs. We were given a country for which we had to argue from their perspective, our country being Japan. We had to research extensively the views of Japan on various issues and why Japan took such a stance, as well as researching other countries opinions to use in rebuttal.

Three different resolutions were given to us including the principle of sovereign equality of all member states to liquid their nuclear stockpiles and pursue complete disarmament as required by the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty. Japan’s point of view on this subject was that we were strongly against it due to the devastation nuclear warfare and nuclear power has had on Japan, including the bombings of Hiroshima and the Fukushima accident.

Our next resolution involved the protection and promotion of Indigenous people while recognising their individual culture and languages. As Japan, we resolved that recognising the Indigenous people of their nation and surrounding nations is of the upmost importance any nation not engaging in peaceful and unhindered conduct should re-examine their values extensively. Our next resolution was that Israeli people have settled in Palestinian territory in breach of international law. Japan resolved that the resolution was correct and in fact breached many Geneva conventions.

The day was extremely successful and enjoyable as we were able to experience a replica United Nations Assembly. It provided us with a greater insight into the political issues of the world while also giving us a say of our opinions. We have achieved an understanding of Japan’s views and issues which shaped their history.

Overall, we had a great day and we thank Mrs Maricic and Ms Pappas for taking us!

From Left to right: Angela Isajlovska, Roshan Cosgrove and Michael Amey

Mr P Slater
Head Teacher HSIE
Selected classes will be trialing our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) scheme in Term 2 with the view to extending the scheme to the whole school later in the year. A copy of our BYOD policy is available on the school’s web page.

We recently welcomed Optus’ free digital education program, Digital Thumbprint to deliver their workshops to students trialing the BYOD (bring your own device) students. Delivered in class to students by a facilitator, the program’s fun and interactive workshops are tailored to the needs of specific year groups. Designed to empower and inform Australia’s young digital natives, the workshops taught students the advantages of having a positive online presence and armed them with the vital information they need to stay safe online.

Our school has proudly joined Optus’ Digital Thumbprint program in its commitment to ensuring our students are savvy, responsible and proactive members of Australia’s online community. Overall, the program proved to be a highly beneficial experience for students and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. For more information on the program and each of the workshops we encourage you to visit www.digitalthumbprint.com.au.

Amanda Alchin
Technology Coordinator
Blakehurst High School Environmental Team has been very busy this term organizing a variety of events:

**Green Day**

**Our Green Day Ideas and Activities**

It's Fun! - Green Day is a great time to plan fun, educational, and action-oriented activities. Celebrating Green Day on 6th June can be a great way for our school to promote environmental awareness, highlight efforts to "green" the school facility, or engage the whole school community in making a difference.

It’s Flexible - A Green Day activity can be done in one class period and can be a school-wide activity or fair. The best activities offer opportunities to both teach about an issue and make a tangible environmental impact.

We’ve compiled a list of fun and meaningful ideas in order to use our students' creativity. Green Day will be a Mufti Day “Wear something Green” to promote caring for the environment and nature. There will also be a stall selling mini cupcakes and flower accessories during recess, to raise money for purchasing citrus trees and a worm farm for our Garden project.

**St George Environmental Education Network**

On the 4th June, the second St George Environmental Education Network meeting will be hosted at Brighton Le sands public school. Ms Jan Rasborsek a ranger from Royal National Park Environmental Education Centre will run the event. Ms Georgopoulou is to represent our school at this event. The meetings focus on sustainability curriculum support and examples of successful environmental initiatives of schools in the area.

**The Garden project**

**Early Days**

Our work on the new Blakehurst High School garden has progressed significantly. We cleaned up an area near the Gym for our garden instead of the Mad Mile that was originally proposed.

The new area has access to the rain water tank which is essential in making our garden sustainable. The new area was firstly cleaned from existing dry bushes. We then used mulch to level it as it was slanted.

**Recent Developments**

Mrs Georgopoulou/Co-ordinator
Exams and Reports

The Science staff has been busy marking Half Yearly papers and writing reports for all students from Year 7 to Year 12. The faculty prides itself on writing constructive comments so that parents can help students realise their potential. Parents are encouraged to contact the Science Head Teacher should further information or clarification be needed regarding their child's report.

YEAR 8: Wollongong Science Centre:

Orvilla (8s2) and Janet (8s1) wrote:

Last Thursday, the 22nd of May, 8s1 and 8s2 went by bus, on an excursion to Wollongong Science Centre in Fairy Meadow. We stopped off at Stanwell Tops along the way, to have a look at the view, and then drove over the Sea Cliff Bridge. When we arrived we were taken into the Planetarium where we saw the southern night sky and watched a movie about the birth of the Solar System. It was so dark in the Planetarium that we had to hold on to each other!! We saw and interacted with other hands-on scientific exhibits, and read many of the explanations attached to the displays. We also watched a Liquid Nitrogen Show and then we had lunch in the shade, outside. It was an awesome and educational day.

(The remaining 4 Year 8 Science Classes will be attending the Science Centre in Term 3)

By Leah Ingram-Brouwer (8S1):

On the 22nd May the students from 8S1 and 8S2 were all ready for their science excursion. We were in for a long journey and we were all going to make the best of it.

After roll call we all enthusiastically walked up to the front of the school and got our names marked off. Getting on the bus, everyone made sure that they got to sit next to their friends. About twenty minutes after the bus had departed, the noise level dropped and the rest of the journey was peaceful.

About an hour into our trip, the bus made a brief stop at a beautiful lookout. We all filed off the bus and some ran to the ice-cream van. We all took some terrific photos and soon enough we had to get back on the bus. We all settled down a bit and took in the fantastic views as we drove over the bridge.

The bus slows down and we all look out and realize that we were here! The two classes got off the bus and we gathered around the teachers. We were introduced to our guides for the day and we then walked into this dimly lit room. We then tried to get the best position in the room because from what we could tell the movie was on the ceiling. This was the planetarium! It had a dome shaped roof and it was lined with a soft white material which was probably designed like that to make it easier to see.

The light turned off and we all look up. Slowly white dots on the ceiling became visible and more and more stars appeared. We were shown constellations and we were told the history of the stars and then we started to look into the planets. Slowly one by one the mysteries of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune were revealed. We also got an insight into how massive the universe is.

The lights slowly came back on and our eyes adjusted to the light. We exited the planetarium and we got some time to explore all the hands on activities. There was a metal bar that you had to hold on to and it measured your strength. There was a dark room with a wall that lit up when you drew on it with light pens! There was stuff about microscopic organisms and things made by 3D printers. Downstairs they had mechanical dinosaurs that you could control with wheels. The most impressive part was a massive mechanical elephant that you could move. Each wheel moved a different part of the body and as a team you can make it walk! After a bit, we were taken into the liquid nitrogen show! First of all, he got a bouncy ball and dropped it into the liquid nitrogen. When he got it out he placed it in my hand and it wasn't freezing anymore! He then poured liquid nitrogen all over the carpet but it immediately evaporated. He did the same thing but instead he poured it over his arm! The liquid nitrogen evaporated the same as before. He put a balloon on top of the bottle and it exploded, pieces of balloon flying everywhere! It was a blast!.

After we finished eating lunch many people lined up to grab a treat. We then went into the gift shop and purchased a little souvenir. We then waited outside for the last people to come out of the gift shop. We got on the bus and most of us slept on the way back! When we arrived at school they handed out the ‘fun’ bags.

In conclusion, it was a fantastic day! It was super fun and I'd like to thank all the teachers for organizing. I would also like to thank the bus driver and guides who also helped make this excursion possible!
At Stanwell Tops, looking at the view.

Where we went

At the Wollongong Science Centre

At the Liquid Nitrogen Show

The demonstrator at the Liquid Nitrogen show

Mrs O'Brien
Head Teacher Science
News from the LIBRARY

Premier’s Reading Challenge.
As we head towards the busy end of the challenge we’re pleased to see that the following students have been well organised and have already completed their Reading Logs.

Well done Sandy Ng, Nadia Affouf and Aya Tanana!

Remember you must hand in a signed Reading Log AND complete the online log to be eligible. Don’t leave it to the last minute or you may miss out.

New Books!!!!
A very large book order including a wide variety of resources has been placed that will allow us to receive a $500 Book Bonus courtesy of Walker Books. They should be available before the end of term so keep an eye out for them on the new book displays.

Book Café
Book café members are going to start writing recommendations to display on the shelves (along the same lines as employee recommendations in book shops). This will help other students as they select books to borrow.

Library Moodle Page
All students have access to the Library Moodle page which is constantly being updated. The latest addition is a link to the Student IT Help Webpage. This will help students to change passwords, print from laptops, access videos on clickview, etc.

Don’t forget if you haven’t collected your new library card yet you need to do so ASAP.

Don’t forget to have a look at our e-library at http://bhs.wheelers.co/.

Amanda Alchin/Anne Larson
Teacher Librarian
Welfare Report

As part of our welfare program at BHS we offer students the opportunity to be an audience for live shows. These performances are designed to entertain yet challenge students to consider the decisions they make and the impact these decisions have on their own lives and those around them.

This term we have had two performances:

1. Year 7: Bully Busters

At Blakehurst High School we believe bullying in any form is unacceptable and will not be tolerated and that students have a responsibility to:

- Be aware of bullying and help to prevent it
- Treat others how you would like to be treated
- Appreciate the rights and beliefs of others.
- Respond to incidents of bullying by reporting it to teachers.

This performance reinforced these responsibilities in an amusing yet thought provoking way.
The play explores all facets of bullying, including:

- Sexual Harassment
- Peer Pressure
- Rumours
- Racism
- Judging Others
- Tolerance
- Family Problems
- Electronic forms of bullying
- Resilience

2. Year 9: Cheap Thrills:

Educational theatre that tackles the consequences of risk taking and substance abuse.

- Risk Taking
  - Substance Abuse
  - Alcohol
  - Drugs

- Cigarettes
  - Safe Partying
  - Choices
  - Consequences

This performance left students considering how their choice of friends and their ability to make good decisions has a dramatic and lasting effect on their lives.
2014 National Adolescent Vaccination Program

- Visit 2 – June 6, 2014
- Visit 3 – October 24, 2014

**Vaccinations All Year 7**

- Visit 2
  - 06/06/14 (HPV) Human Papillomavirus Vaccine
  - Varicella Vaccine (*chicken pox*)

- Visit 3
  - 24/10/14 (HPV) Human Papillomavirus Vaccine

**Vaccinations Year 9 Boys Only**

- Visit 2
  - 06/06/14 (HPV) Human Papillomavirus Vaccine
  - Varicella Vaccine (*chicken pox*)

- Visit 3
  - 24/10/14 (HPV) Human Papillomavirus Vaccine
  - (includes catch-up if missed Visit 1 & 2)

**Vaccination Catch-Ups Year 8**

- Visit 2
  - 06/06/14 (HPV) Human Papillomavirus Vaccine 'catch up' for students who missed any vaccination in Visit 1

Mrs J Smith
Welfare Coordinator
ENGAGING YOUR ADOLESCENT...

A FREE COURSE FOR PARENTS

Friday 30th May

TIME: 9am - 10.30am

WHERE: Blakehurst High School
        270A Woniora Road, Blakehurst

TOPICS

- Understanding adolescence: A time of change.
- Understanding your role as parent of a teenager - strategies to remain calm and consistent.
- Asking the question - Is it serious? What’s worth reacting to and what’s not...
- How to hold the difficult conversations more successfully.

COST

- Free to parents of Blakehurst High School.

PRESENTER

Leanne Roth
School Counsellor Blakehurst High

RSVP

Ph: 9546 3281
email: leanne.roth@det.nsw.edu.au

Ms L Roth
School Counsellor
**Mental Health and Well Being.**

As part of our Welfare program we had a volunteer guest speaker from the [Black Dog Institute](#) come to speak to our Year 10, 11 and 12 students about Mental Health and Depression.

The presentation covered the topics below and delivered in a very personal way, an insight into the lives of young people suffering from depression in our society and the importance of recognising the signs of depression and seeking help.

It is often difficult to open conversations about mental health and this presentation enabled students to consider Mental Health issues and the impact on young lives in our society.

Below are the numbers of some of the institutions who offer support.

**Beyond Blue**

1300 224 636

**Kids Helpline**

1800 55 1800

**Lifeline**

13 11 14
It is hard to believe that we are half way through Term 2. Language students in all classes have been engaged in a variety of activities. Year 7 Italian students researched either a region of Italy, the Latin Class a Roman God, The Japanese Class researched a Provence of Japan, similarly the Chinese did a Provence of China while the French class researched a francophone country and the Greek Class researched Greek myths. Each student presented their findings in a box and there were some outstanding presentations.

All in all this has been a fantastic start to the term with all students engaged in their learning.

Whilst Year 7 was creating their boxes Year 8 Language students were promoting their country through a promotional brochure.
News from the Greek corner

We have been very busy this term covering the syllabus as well as learning about many Greek cultural aspects.
Year 9 students have the opportunity to share some Greek food with our Japanese visitors during the period of Lent.
Year 8 students learnt about the symbolism of the worry-beads- Komboloi and actually made their own in class.
Year 7 students learnt about Greek customs during Easter, cracking red eggs and tasting sweet bread. (tsoureki).

International Students Excursion

On 11/04/2014, Yr.11 international students had an excursion to Watsons Bay with Ms Chen their Chinese teacher and Mr Yan their Maths Teacher.

During the trip, the newly arrived students from China enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Sydney Harbour and learned about the different culture in Australia.

It was an unforgettable experience for many of them.

Mrs A Mangraviti
Head Teacher / Languages
News from

Mathematics Faculty....

Remaining Exams for Term 2 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thursday 12 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Thursday 19 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Friday 13 June (General and Mathematics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 16 June (Extension 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Friday 13 June (General 1, 2 and Mathematics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 17 June (Extension 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 6 June (Extension 2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Excellent websites for revision

www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au
This website has a wealth of excellent, practical help for parents and students. Have a browse and find tips on organising your time with a weekly schedule. We in Maths are particularly taken with the audio from ABC Maths guru Adam Spencer talking with James O’Loghlin. Listen to the audio and read more. The maths homework and study sections are also great, as are sections for other subjects.

ABC Splash
Loads of content for many subjects, the link here is for the secondary Maths section. Students usually love the games, a great way to reinforce learning from the classroom.

Reminder: your child always has work to do on www.mathletics.com.au

No homework? ALL students from Years 7 – 12 have a login and password for Mathletics. Your child’s teacher will periodically set homework tasks that need to be completed, but more often it is intended that the students use the program as a revision tool, choosing the topics they wish to work on. If you would like your child’s username and password please contact us (blakehurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au, attention: Maths Head Teacher) and we’ll email it back to you.

You will enjoy this short video.... A University student shares her experiences of when she tells people she studies Maths, on purpose...

Ms Alison Peachey
Head Teacher Mathematics
Congratulations, to all Yr. 11 VET students who have successfully completed their first work placement. Please remember that it is your responsibility to catch up on all missed work, see your classroom teachers for help. Hopefully all VET students found that work placement allowed them to:

- Apply knowledge he/she has learnt at school in a work environment and vice versa
- Gain additional generic and industry specific skills through learning in a workplace
- Improve self-confidence, self-esteem and communication skills through learning in a workplace
- Demonstrate capabilities and gain possible opportunities for further casual, part-time or full-time work with the employer
- Better manage transition from school to further education and training and to the workplace
- Work towards an industry accredited qualification that is recognised throughout Australia

Second work placements for all Frameworks are coming around at the beginning of Term 3.

- **Hospitality** Term 3 Week 4 and 5
- **Business Services** Term 3 Weeks 4
- **Construction** Term 3 Week 3

Once again, for insurance purposes it is essential that all paperwork is completed correctly, no students will be permitted to attend Work Placement unless all signatures have been collected on the required forms and these are returned to the class teacher prior to the placement. For further information on Work Placement please use the following link: [http://www.southernsydneyben.com.au/](http://www.southernsydneyben.com.au/)

Year 12 VET students please remember that you must complete the Trial HSC examination. However, if you want to opt out of the HSC examination you must see Mrs Simpson after the Trail Exams. Keep completing your class work to ensure you get the most out of your training, i.e. your Certificate II. If you have not met the requirements in some competencies please see your teacher to for the work that is outstanding.

Mrs J Simpson
Head Teacher VET
Dear Parents/Carers,

My name is Ms Evers and I am currently working as the Relieving Careers Adviser at Blakehurst High School whilst Mrs Centorrino is on long service leave. Careers at Blakehurst has had a very busy start to term two with students participating in many exciting events. Some of the highlights have included:

**The Careers Compass Excursion:**
On Thursday 15th May Mrs Simpson and I took a group of Year 10 students to the Careers Compass Excursion at Hurstville Aquatic Centre. Students had the opportunity to speak with representatives from institutions such as TAFE, universities, the Australian Defence Force, the Whitehouse Institute of Design and successful local businesses. Students also participated in a lively industry panel discussion. The students below are pictured at gaining information on the various TVET courses on offer at local TAFE institutions.

![Image of students at Careers Compass Excursion]

**The Yamaha Industry Partnership:**
On Thursday 8th May Mr Martin Dwyer presented at the Junior Assembly. His exciting presentation showcased some of the hands-on experience students will gain through their participation in the Yamaha Industry Partnership. Mrs Lyons took twenty Year 9 motorbike enthusiasts to Yamaha on Tuesday 20th May for the initial Work Inspiration Day.

![Image of students at Yamaha Industry Partnership]

**The UNSW Engineering Day:**
On Thursday 22nd May five Year 12 students participated in the UNSW Engineering Day. All students who attended found the day to be extremely worthwhile. Students had the opportunity to learn about different fields such as Civil, Mechanical and Environmental Engineering; speak one-on-one with university lecturers; and chat with friendly university students. One student in attendance commented that the experience "was extremely enjoyable and I had such a great time that it has cemented my decision on choosing surveying as a career path. I would like to thank Ms Centorrino and Ms Evers from Careers for allowing me to attend this day and UNSW for their hospitality and for holding such an enjoyable day. Without having this experience, I may never have completely decided on a career path."
Year 10 Work Experience:

Blakehurst High currently offers a continuous work experience program throughout the year for students in Year 10 and Year 11.

Students are encouraged to see me in Careers this term to discuss their work experience options and collect the necessary documentation.

Recently some Year 10 students gained extremely valuable experience on school work experience. Sally Farran worked at Princes Highway Vet, where she had a fabulous week assisting in looking after animals and James Downie had a very successful week of learning at St George Hospital. He spent the week in various sections of the hospital such as the Nuclear Medicine Dept. and the Radiology Dept. On the day I visited, James was in the Biological Sciences Lab and we both learned from Senior Scientist Nazmul Hasan how bacteria are prepared in the laboratory.

James Downie pictured right assisting in the Biological Sciences lab at St George Hospital

Sally Ferran looking after an injured cat at Princes Highway Very
Careers Websites:

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 there is current information on such topics as university & TAFE open days; scholarships and apprenticeships.

BHS Careers: [www.blakehursthighcareers.com](http://www.blakehursthighcareers.com)

To register for Job Jump:

Students may register with or without an email address. Type in Blakehurst High in the school section and the password is: swallow.

To register for Blakehurst High School Careers:

Students will need a valid email address. Click on For Students then Student Secure Area and finally registration. Be sure to keep a record of your username and password.

Students needing any assistance with any Careers matters please see me in the Careers/Learning Support staffroom at recess or lunch. Parents/Carers are most welcome to make an appointment at any time to discuss their children’s future work, training and education options.

Mrs Lisa Evers  
Acting Careers Adviser
Industrial Arts Projects

**Design and Engineering**

"F1 for schools challenge" is a competition that our students from Year 9 & 10 have competed in over the last 4 years with great success. The competition requires students to design and engineer cars that are raced down 25m long tracks. The cars must be drawn using CAD programs then cut from balsa using CAD/CAM machinery. The students working in teams must design then draw their cars, they then convert them to a computer cutting program that will be emailed away for machining from balsa. Students also use other software to streamline their designs to make cars competitive. When the cars arrive back at school students then arrange for spraying and decals for their cars. The competition is not just about the race, teams must show and explain their engineering decisions to an Engineer. They also must explain their management and marketing strategies, as well as their successes at organising sponsorship for the team to another panel. Students from each team display their work and cars in a “pit” area.

Students from Year 9 compete in the “F1 for schools challenge” in a junior competition. We are pleased with the results the students have achieved, although, we are competing against schools that have had far more exposure to the competition. The junior competition will give students a better idea of what is involved in a successful F1 challenge. These students are currently building experimental cars to experience working with balsa during practical lessons. The cars will be raced at school to experience the racing procedure and to have an opportunity to examine the effect of the racing process on a range of car designs. During computing lessons, students are designing cars using CAD software and organising their teams by selecting and starting to work in the roles of manager, marketing, designing, drafting and manufacture.

**Construction**

Students in Year 11 studying VET Construction are currently undergoing work placement. Work placements are organised through the Education Department in selected industries. Before businesses are accepted by the Department for work placement they must pass an inspection. The inspection is to insure that the industries used will be able to provide a range of suitable experiences that will help the students understand what it would be like to work in that industry. Students will have the opportunity to experience a range of activities that are not available in schools. Most importantly they will see industrial practices firsthand, many that we can only discuss and explain at school, being used at a building site. The industries that are used all pass safe work practice checks before students can attend the work placement.
Information Software & Technology

One of the topics studied in Information Software and Technology is robotics. Students have been having a great time learning about robotics in Year 10 with the Lego Nxt robots.

Year 10 students work in groups with their robots, learning about how to make robots for specific purposes like mining and also for fun purposes like Sumo wrestling.

Robots are created and programmed to race around a track, push each other out of a circle, check colors of balls and place them in the correct basket and many other enterprises. The students have a lot of fun while they are learning and we hope to increase the implementation of the robots. One area that we would like to investigate is attending RoboCup Junior which is held in August.

Industrial Technology

Industrial Technology students are currently working on the assembly stage of their major projects. These need to be coming to completion by the end of the term. The final due date is the 1st August, however, time is needed for timber finishing, printing and organising drawings in graphics and rendering in multimedia. Folios need to be finalised as well. We have started to set particular periods as “folio periods” during which students will need to bring their folios to class so that they can be checked and corrected. Sample work and templates are available on Moodle to help students achieve their best. It is most important that students appreciate that the folio will be a story about their project. It will need to be understood by others who are unfamiliar with the industry.
PDHPE Faculty Report

A number of year 10 students have been selected to participate in the SALSA (Students as Life Style Activists) Program. Physiotherapy students from Sydney University will train our students to deliver information to year 8 classes regarding healthy lifestyles and good nutritional habits. The program gives the year 10 students the opportunity to develop leadership and communication skills whilst teaching the year 8 classes.

Congratulations to Nathan King and David Hughes who have progressed from completing their Rugby League refereeing course last year to now refereeing competition matches in the St George JRL competition on weekends. They also referee regularly in the local PSSA Association to ensure professionalism and safety in these competitions. They are certainly spreading the good name of Blakehurst High School by their efforts.

Year 12 2 unit PDHPE have recently completed their half-yearly exams with some outstanding results. Congratulations to all the students who worked very hard to achieve excellent results in this exam. It is imperative that all students complete all assessment tasks to a high standard, study their course notes and revise these to ensure that they achieve the best possible result in the HSC which is only two terms away.

Year 12 Sports coaching class are close to completing all competencies for this course, although, each student needs to also complete their 35 hour work placement before the end of term 3. Each class member is working very well with Jack Conan who has been outstanding. Year 11 Sports coaching are making good progress on their competencies. Mr Yelavich is very happy with the effort and application that all students are showing particularly David Hughes who is completing all competencies to an excellent standard. All students must complete their 35 hour work placement by the end of term 3.

The Year 12 SLR class is working hard and participating with enthusiasm and effort to complete the course outcomes. Lance Jackson is making particularly good progress as is Nathan King.

Year 11 PDHPE camp details and photos in another section.

Year 11 2 unit PDHPE is approximately half way through the Preliminary course. It is pleasing to have 3 classes comprising 56 students participating in this subject. All students are studying the fundamentals which are required to successfully complete the HSC. It is essential that all students work to the best of their ability and complete all class work and assessments to have a strong grounding for the HSC course. Information and pictures of the outdoor education are published later in this magazine.

Year 9 and 10 PASS classes are working hard to achieve their respective outcomes with students completing both practical and theory components of the course.

Years 7 to 10 have completed their Cross Country and Athletics units in Physical Education lessons in preparation for the school carnivals. All students will gain experience in each athletic area including: shot put, javelin, discus, sprinting and relays during PE lessons which will give them the confidence to participate in these activities at the school carnival on Tuesday 3rd June.

Year 7 to 10 PDHPE classes are currently completing units of work on:
Year 10 - Protective Strategies including Harm Minimisation
Year 9 - What's the Big Issue including drug use and abuse
Year 8 - Positive Relationships
Year 7 - Body Wise including Fitness and Nutrition

The information that students learn in PDHPE will give them the knowledge and understanding to make and act on informed health decisions and lead healthier and more active lifestyles.

Yours in Sport

Mr A Yelavich
Head Teacher & PDHPE Team
PDHPE Sports Report

Winter sport has commenced for 2014 with grade sport being held at various venues around the St George Zone. Many Blakehurst High Teams are performing extremely well and are in a promising position to make the semifinals which will be held in the middle of Term 3. With further improvement in playing as a team, I'm confident Blakehurst will have success in the Winter Grade Sport Competition.

Cross Country
The annual cross country championships were held at Carss Park on Monday 12th May. With beautiful weather and enthusiastic students ready to compete to their best, a great day was enjoyed by all. The top 10 runners in each age group have guaranteed their position to represent the school at the St George Zone Cross Country Championships which was held at Scarborough Park on Tuesday 20th May. The age champions for cross country this year are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td>Marija Drakulovic</td>
<td>Filip Trifunovski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Natasha Ow</td>
<td>Kyriacos Malaxos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Years</td>
<td>Nicole Harrington</td>
<td>Max Poulton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>Laura Seib</td>
<td>Dean Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Years</td>
<td>Julia Glavincevski</td>
<td>Drew Aftanas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+ Years</td>
<td>Herlinda Brandon</td>
<td>Dylan McCuaig-Walton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The St George Zone Cross Country was run on Tuesday 20th May and with Mr Smith being Team Manager, the team were highly motivated and excited to do well. Outstanding results were achieved by many runners by qualifying for the Sydney East Championships, but most impressive was the overall behaviour and sportsmanship shown on the day by all competitors. Out of 12 individual events, Blakehurst won 3. What a fantastic achievement and the competitors qualifying for the Sydney East Carnival include:

- 12 yrs. girls Marija Drakulovic 4th
- 12 yrs. boys Filip Trifunovski 2nd
- 13 yrs. girls Natasha Ow 2nd
- 13 yrs. boys Riki Totsukawa 3rd
- 14 yrs. boys Max Poulter 1st
- 14 yrs. girls Nicole Harrington 3rd
- 15 yrs. girls Shelly Gaddes 8th
- 15 yrs. boys Dean Jackson 9th
- 16 yrs. girls Julia Glavincevski 1st
- 16 yrs. boys Tim Tyshkevich 5th
- 16 yrs. boys Drew Aftanas 7th
- 17 yrs. girls Herlinda Brandon 11th
- 18 yrs. boys Dylan McCuaig-Walton 1st

Sports Achievements
Congratulations Sheridan Smith who has recently gained selection into the NSW Swimming Team to compete at the Australian Championships.

Congratulations Saraphheinna Woulf from Year 9 who has been selected in the Sydney East Girls Open Netball Team to compete at the NSW Championships.

Congratulations Brittany Ristevska who recently qualified to compete at the NSW Dragon Boat Championships in NSW. Well done Brittany on a great effort.

Congratulations to all these students who are excelling in their sport of their choice and I look forward to promoting their efforts in the weeks to come.

Upcoming Events
- Sydney East Cross Country Championships – Wednesday 11th June
- BHS Athletics Carnival – Tuesday 3rd June (The Ridge-Menai)
- Zone Athletics Carnival – Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th June

Sport Web Sites
The following sport web sites are useful for school sport notices, Zone Sport information and Sydney East Knock Outs and representation.

Blakehurst High Sport Information – http://www.blakehurst-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/sport


Regards,
B Kemp
Sports Organiser
SUBJECT SELECTION NIGHT

FOR

YEAR 8
STUDENTS & PARENTS

Wednesday, 16th JULY 2014
5:15pm Start

SCHOOL HALL

DISCOVER YOUR OPTIONS FOR YEAR 9, 2015
MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE

On the night there will be:

♦ INFORMATION ABOUT:
  ♦ Courses
  ♦ Work loads
  ♦ Homework/Study

♦ A SUBJECT MARKET:
  ♦ Staff and students to answer questions
  ♦ Seek advice for choosing suitable Year 9 electives
SUBJECT SELECTION NIGHT
FOR
YEAR 10
STUDENTS & PARENTS

Wednesday, 16th JULY 2014
6:00pm Start
SCHOOL HALL

DISCOVER YOUR OPTIONS FOR YEAR 11, 2015
MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE

On the night there will be:

- INFORMATION ABOUT:
  - Courses
  - Work Loads
  - HSC Eligibility
  - Homework/Study

- A SUBJECT MARKET:
  - Staff and students to answer questions
  - VET and T/VET displays
  - Careers Advice
Finding it difficult to cope but don’t know where to turn?

Call the South Eastern and Northern Sydney Family Referral Service on 1800 066 757.

- We can help you find useful services in your local area
- You can speak to us by telephone, you can visit our offices, we can meet you in your home or somewhere convenient for you
- We link young people, children and families to culturally sensitive services wherever possible
- We provide free interpreters

For more information contact us on:
Phone: 1800 066 757
Email: senstfamilyreferral@barnardos.org.au

We can link you with services to help with:
- Domestic violence
- Migrant and Settlement
- Financial assistance
- Counselling and mediation
- Child and Parenting programs
- Youth support
- Housing and accommodation
- Mental health support and any other services you may need
All children under 18 years of age are eligible for** FREE DENTAL CARE**
at NSW Public Oral Health Clinics

**NSW Health recommends that all children have a Dental check-up**

Toothache can cause children to miss school. Pain can stop children playing, eating and sleeping.

To make an appointment, contact:

- Your family dentist; or
- The Public Dental Service

**PUBLIC DENTAL ACCESS CENTRE TELEPHONE**

(02) 9293 3333
Glisten
A group for same-sex attracted, gay, lesbian, gender diverse & questioning young people (under the age of 25)

Autumn Activities: Music Workshops
4pm–6pm over 4 Mondays: 2, 16, 23 & 30 June at Carlton.

...Drumming, singing, music production...

Phone Emily on 9556 1769 or Txt 0438 061 074

Free!
Meet new people!
Learn new things!

St George Youth Service
Kogarah Community Services Inc.
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YOURLSAFESPACE
Information for Parents and Students:

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Great news! Our school has subscribed to the ELES Online Study Skills Handbook.

The ELES Online Study Skills Handbook provides a comprehensive and interactive online guide for the school community (students, parents and teachers) as to the study skills needed for success in high school studies. This approach taps into students' affinity with technology to create a new and effective way to improve students' study skills.

This is a great online resource for parents and students to address all their study skills issues and concerns and enable students to learn new ways to improve their results at school. The handbook has a huge amount of information for both students and parents as well as a large number of interactive activities.

To access the handbook, go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and login as a subscriber with these details:

Username: blakehursts
Password: 186results

The topics currently covered by the handbook are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>at home</th>
<th>specific skills</th>
<th>extra 'general' mini-units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Organisation and Filing</td>
<td>2. Writing Skills</td>
<td>2. Becoming a Senior Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Dealing with Distractions</td>
<td>5. Research Skills</td>
<td>5. Your Brain and Memory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Goal Setting</td>
<td>8. Assignment Skills</td>
<td>+ Living Across 2 Houses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Lifestyle and Balance</td>
<td>tests and exams</td>
<td>+ Travel: A Motivator to Learn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Please note:
The above user name and password is for the use of the secondary school parents and students AT OUR SCHOOL ONLY. Please do not pass our school's details onto students or parents from other schools or other individuals or organisations as this is a prosecutable breach of copyright and also will result in frequent password changes for our school. Please also ensure you read through the terms of use the first time you access the handbook.

We encourage all parents and students to take advantage of this opportunity to further develop their students' study skills abilities through this online resource.
The Sutherland Dyslexia Support Group offers families in the Sutherland Shire and St George area a forum where parents can talk, exchange ideas, information, resources and experiences with other parents. The support group meets over coffee on the 4th Monday of the month during school terms at 10.30am at a café in Sutherland.

For those families working or out of area there is a Yahoo group, email and telephone support.

For further information or to join the support group contact
Paula Goulden on (02) 9528 4638 or
email psgoulden@tpg.com.au

Famous People With Dyslexia
Affordable Coaching College = Maximum Success

Hurstville & Jannali Centre Locations

Term starts week of April 28 – Flexible Payment Plans
Years 7-10
• English - Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation, Reading Comprehension
• Essay Writing Skills
• Public Speaking
• Maths

Specialist HSC Classes
• English - Standard, Advanced & Extension
• Maths- General, Advanced & Extension 1 & 2

For more details please ring
St. George & Sutherland Community College
Tel: 9528-3344  or visit our website
www.sgscc.edu.au