

## NEWSLETTER

No 2 – 5 March 2010

AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED SCHOOL INSPIRING RESPECT FOR PEOPLE, COMMUNITY AND TRADITION, POSITIONING OUR STUDENTS FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY.

### CALENDAR

#### Monday 8 March

Adelaide Cup Day-holiday

#### Tues 16 March

2011 Yr 8 Info session +  
Open Night 6.30pm

#### Tues 23 March

Yr 8 Hepatitis B & HPV 1<sup>st</sup>  
vaccination

Govern. Council Mtg 7pm

#### Thurs 25 March

Yr 12 Solo Perf. 7.30pm PAC

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#### Mon 29 March

Yr 11 Driver Ed Assembly  
SSSSA Athletics at SANTOS

#### Thurs 25 March

Yr 12 Solo Perf. 7.30pm PAC

#### Wed 31 March

Yr 12 Dance Technique  
exam

#### Thurs 1 April

Last day of Term 1

#### Fri 2 April

GOOD FRIDAY

#### Mon 19 April

First day of Term 2

#### Wed 21 April

Term 1 REPORT  
COLLECTION by  
appointment with CG  
teacher

#### Tues 27 & Wed 28 April

Principal's Tour 9.15am

#### Fri 30 April

Prim Sch. Music Festival  
Auditions in PAC

#### Tues 4 & Wed 5 May

Yr 11 Aquatics

#### Thur 6 May

Principal's Tour 9.15am

#### Fri 7 May

STUDENT FREE DAY-Staff PD  
Yr 12 Formal - evening

#### Tues 11 May

2011 Yr 8 Info session 7pm  
for families unable to  
attend tours.

### SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE

Here we are half way through term 1: how time flies! The teachers will be preparing mid semester reports in the next few weeks. **Report collection occurs on Wednesday 21 April (term 2).**

The term 1 report is an interim report for semester one which closes at the end of week 9 term 2, that is, 18 June. Exams for semester one subjects in year 8 to year 11 will be held in the weeks before that date starting on 31 May and finishing on 11 June. Parents/carers can support their child by.

- encouraging your child to put aside the time to study and revise.
- Ensuring that they have a quiet place to do homework where you can supervise them.
- Asking your child to show you exactly what they have done after each session.
- Asking to see the assignments and due dates.

Insisting that your child uses the diary to record homework set, homework done, due dates and the marks for each assessment task.

The audit of the use of the diary has shown us that about 10% of students never use their diaries, 23% sometimes use their diaries and 67% use their diaries regularly. If your child says that no one uses their diaries then you now know that it is not true. We know that our most successful academic students use their diaries as the backbone of their organisation for study.

If your child says they do not have homework, I would advise not to believe this in the first instance. Please contact the care group teacher who can follow up with subject teachers and help your child to set their own H/W.

#### **Supporting positive relationships**

As you know, an important aspect of high school life is social relationships, and we know that adolescents regard it as especially important. One of the school's functions is to help parents to support their child through this sometimes confusing stage of their development. As young people grow up, they have to determine what sort of

person they are and what sort of people they want to have as friends.

Most young people find this development a smooth process, even if it is sometimes a bit confusing. Gradually they work it out and by the time they get into the senior school these matters are usually settled.

One of the things that confuses the development of positive relationships is the prevalence of gossip; which is rife in the adolescent's life, and sometimes it is not pleasant. As adults, we know that gossip is unproductive because it is mainly negative, is bound to be exaggerated and then hurt someone. This process encourages participants to take sides and then more people get hurt and sometimes angry.

In these times the amount of gossip that young people can generate and the rate that it can get around is exacerbated by social networking sites such as facebook. This type of socialising happens after school hours. The Student Counsellors tell me that they spend all day Monday and sometimes longer dealing with the issues that are generated on facebook and by text messages over the weekend.

This week we have had one of these incidents, one that directly involved about 60 of our students, 30 of whom participated in the facebook gossip in their own homes. During our investigations we were able to read the unkind things that some of the students wrote to each other. When we contacted parents some had no idea that it was going on.

The advice from the police and other groups concerned about **unsupervised use of facebook** by children and adolescents is this:

- Learn how to use facebook yourself.
- Become a facebook friend of your child so that you can read what is going on (you don't need to contribute and it's probably better if you don't!).
- Make sure that you know your child's login so that you can, from time to time, see what is written on their wall and in the messages.

(continued on page 2)



- Make sure that your child sets the security profile to a high level, that is, by regulating the settings that allow others to see their personal information.
- Make rules about who your child allows as facebook friends. (One 13 year old at this school had over 700 friends and did not know the great majority of them, which is quite alarming really.)
- Learn what is allowable by law, for instance, threats can be used by the police in evidence.

My guess is that your child will resist this supervision, however, their wellbeing could be jeopardised by the unthinking actions and words of others.

My other guess is that you might be thinking that you can trust your child. Please keep in mind that adolescents are renowned for telling mum and dad things on a “needs to know basis”. They are also not that good at judging how their actions might affect another person.

Over the next term or so, students will participate in sessions to help them understand the responsibilities in the use of the social networking sites and electronic messaging systems. If you have any questions about this issue and need help please contact me or your child’s care group teacher.

**News from the Governing Council**

The AGM was held on Tuesday 2 March. The following parents were elected to council.

Chairperson	David Pressley
Vice Chairperson	Chris Murfitt
Secretary	Ann-Marie Simes
Treasurer	Tony Lemish

**Additional Members**

As the council can have up to 21 members, we do have vacancies should you wish to join us. Being on Governing Council is an excellent way to understand the school better.

If you are interested please contact Sandy Dorshorst on [sandy.dorshorst@bhs.sa.edu.au](mailto:sandy.dorshorst@bhs.sa.edu.au)

*Susan Hyde, Principal*

**BLACKWOOD HIGH ACHIEVERS**

- ◆ Congratulations to Laura EVANS (11E) who has been selected in the State U17 Lacrosse team to compete at the Championships to be held in Sydney over Easter this year.



**FLOTILLA FOR KIDS – SUNDAY 7 FEBRUARY**

One of life’s most precious gifts is our good health and for many adults and young people, they are challenged by long term or short term serious illness. The IBMYP encourages our students to develop and become responsible community minded people who are active, compassionate lifelong learners. For this reason, for the last 3 years, BHS has chosen to support the Rotary and Camp Quality initiative,



“Flotilla for Kids”. Flotilla is completely run and organized by unpaid volunteers. Started 5 years ago by grandmother Annette Rogers who lost her 4-year-old grand-daughter to cancer, the annual flotilla of over 150 boats travels from the Royal SA Yacht Squadron at Outer Harbour up into inner harbor at Port Adelaide. Led by the “One and All” filled with young cancer sufferers and their carers, it is a proud spectacle that provides joy and respite for the young mariners as well as raising hundreds of thousands of dollars.



This year the “Pirate Crew” from BHS was an all female team. Fourteen of our students gave up their Sunday to rattle donation tins, and to “persuade” spectators to purchase wristbands and make generous donations to support children with cancer, filling brightly coloured helium balloons and delivering them to youngsters.



flodgling English used charm and lots of smiles to greet, communicate with and collect significant donations. Well supported by Kerrie Leong and Karyn Jones, the students were publicly acknowledged and praised by media and visitors alike I was very proud to be with this wonderful team of community minded BHS ambassadors.

In the spirit of “we are one, we are the children”, more than half of the “BHS Pirates” were students from our international program. Eager to help, the girls, some with only

*Jude Hines*

## VIETNAM TEACHING EXPERIENCE

During January this year, I was privileged to be able to travel to Vietnam with a group of teachers from several states of Australia, as well as one from New Zealand, under the auspices of the University of Melbourne's Asia Education Foundation.



We taught three classes over three half-days in a special English Language focus school on the campus of the University of Hanoi, where we were able to meet students with varying English language proficiency.

We had been warned to expect classes of up to sixty students, but ours were not much larger than forty. It was important to note that although the school was a privileged one by comparison with the majority of Vietnamese schools, there were significant differences in the resources available to both teachers and students ... we were provided with a new stick of chalk, for example, on our first day of teaching, and our gift to the school (which they selected) was a tape recorder to replace the non-functioning one which all of the staff were vying to access in order to teach English to their 2000 students.

We were impressed by the speed with which students learned to sing the Australian songs which we taught them, to play English language games, to follow directions or recite poems and recall other aural prompts. Their extremely good listening skills reflect their need to compensate for scarcity of printed materials by absorbing all of the information that is given to them orally.



As is the case with students anywhere, there were students with varying levels of ability and behaviour. The students in each class were keen to learn more about Australia, and were prepared to spend their break time chatting to us after their two and a half hour lesson. From them, we gained great warmth and the affirmation that kids are kids wherever one travels. I was very pleased to be able to donate some wonderful books created by my BHS Year 9 students in 2009, expressly for children in Vietnam, depicting aspects of life in Australia. A rather different experience in Hanoi came from our visit to the KOTO (Know One, Teach One) school of catering, which draws its students from underprivileged backgrounds, often in country areas, and trains them in all aspects of the hospitality industry, preparing them for employment. Some of the old scholars are responsible for the restaurant which bears the name of the organization. Our task was to take sample menus to the school and to conduct role plays with the trainees on explanation of menu items to potential customers.

The KOTO organization has its base in Australia.

Our other teaching experiences were as spectators in a Ho Chi Minh City school and as an audience to a Mekong

Delta University lecture on Water management in the area.

After our intense three days of focus on teaching in Hanoi, we were able to enjoy a most rewarding ten days as tourists, experiencing many of the best-known attractions of beautiful Vietnam, engaging with many delightful people, and being sobered by the lingering reminders of the unhappy events of Vietnam's history.

*Lyn Underwood*

## SPORTS NEWS

### Open Cricket

Blackwood had the toughest start to the open Knockout A Grade competition, drawing Adelaide High in the first round. We won the toss and elected to bowl. Kostas and Sam started well, keeping Adelaide's batsmen honest. After 45 overs we restricted them to 4 for 248. That was the easy bit done now we had to bat, which was always going to be a struggle. We ended up being bowled out for 78. Three of our batsman were dismissed by their state bowler. The boys were competitive, considering the differences between the two sides in cricket ability.

### 8/9 Cricket

Our 8/9 boys are playing in a round robin competition with Sacred Heart, Adelaide and Brighton. In Round 1 we played Brighton at Blackwood, where the boys got off to a good start after winning the toss and batting. We lost our first wicket at 69. Todd Eshmade batted brilliantly only to be retired on 50 because of the new rules of 8/9 cricket, which cost him many more runs. Martin Foster was the next to go after batting for 27 overs and making 38. The rest of the team failed to make double figures with Todd coming back in to bat with one over to go, finishing on 54 not out. Blackwood finished all out after 35 overs for 137. We needed a good start with the ball and after 2 overs Brighton were 0 for 13. We fought back hard with the first wicket falling at 35. They had one of their batsman retired on 50, yet the others were struggling to make runs. When we got wicket number two for the score of 60 with 20 overs left, we were in the game. Unfortunately the game slipped away in the next 10 overs, with 59 runs being scored and only one wicket taken. Brighton required 18 runs off the last ten overs. They made those runs comfortably. Our next game is against Adelaide with the date yet to be decided.



*Dan Smith*

### SSSSA Stableford Golf Championships

On Monday Week 6, Blackwood entered two teams of four students to play at The Vines Golf course in the SSSSA Stableford Competition. We competed against Westminster, Woodcroft and Reynella East in round 1. Will Snook, Dylan Thomas, Sam Earl, Mitch Foster, Jess Lemon, Mitch Mead, Reece Jackson and Harrison Vince, and represented our school well. Team 1 included Dylan Thomas, Sam Earl, Will Snook and Mitch Foster who came second to Westminster, making it through to the finals. They will now play in the finals on Tuesday 23 March at Thaxted Park. Good luck boys.



*Brett Ellis, Sports Trainee*

## **GUESS WHO IS TURNING 50!**

**Blackwood High School will celebrate its 50th birthday in 2011.** It opened in Feb 1961 with 225 children and there are 900 currently enrolled.

In 2011 the school community will celebrate the 50 years of achievements, history and friendships associated with the school. It will be an opportunity to reflect on the past but also a time to look forward and plan for the future.

Planning is underway for the 50th birthday events, so we are keen to receive memorabilia, anecdotes and photos from past scholars, teachers and friends of the school. We also want to get back in touch with as many of our alumni as possible. The more old scholars and staff we can spread the word to, the more meaningful we can make our celebrations. If you have anything that may be of interest to the organising committee, are available to volunteer some of your time or just want to be informed of upcoming events, please contact Jodie Kelley, 50th Birthday Coordinator on 8278 0900 or email her on [jodie.kelley@bhs.sa.edu.au](mailto:jodie.kelley@bhs.sa.edu.au) Jodie is a parent of the school who has been appointed for 4 hours per week to assist in organising this very important school milestone. She will be available at the school most Thursdays from noon to 3pm if you wish to catch up with her. Keep an eye on the school website for updates relating to event dates and details.



## **MUSIC IN THE PARK – Saturday 20 March 6.30-10.00pm**

COME ALONG to a family evening hosted by the Coromandel Community Centre, and be entertained by several bands. Bring along a picnic or purchase dinner from the catering offered. **Venue** is Weymouth Oval, 442B Main Rd, Coromandel Valley.

Bands are donating their time to play at this event and for a **\$2 donation** (collected on the evening) come and enjoy 'Onkaparinga Big Band', 'The Mighty Nightowls' a local blues band and 'Breach', an up and coming band that features lots of young talent.

## **SCHOLARSHIP WINNER'S OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE**

Last year I was lucky enough to win a scholarship to go to Japan to study in December. Thousands of students applied for this program but only 25 students won it and I was the only student from South Australia. I stayed with a host family in a remote area near Nagoya for 25 days. While in Japan I attended school. To get to school every day I caught a train and then rode my bike to school from the station. Foreigners were rarely seen in the area I lived so in public I received many stares.

Though the school was co-ed there were only girls in my class. I studied subjects such as Math, English, Japanese History, Business Studies, Economics, Politics and Domestic Skills. After school I sometimes attended softball club. At my school I was the only female foreign student so I received a lot of attention, especially about my curly hair which they all thought was a perm. I made many friends at this school and often went to restaurants or shopping with them after school. On the weekends I went to touristy places with my host family and new friends. I went shopping, to the movies, bowling and to a place called Meiji Mura which is like Sovereign Hill; it's a town set in the time of the Meiji period.

I was in Japan for my birthday and Christmas so both of these occasions were very different for me. I went to school on my birthday where my classmates surprised me with a party, cake and presents. My host family had a party for me too. I had my Christmas dinner on Christmas Eve. On Christmas day my host sisters and father had school club commitments and my host mother had work! So rather than staying home alone with just the dogs, I went to the movies and shopping with two new Australian friends and a Hungarian exchange student from my school. Though it was very cold, snow was highly unusual in December, however I was lucky enough that it snowed once. 4 inches of it! The first time I had ever seen snow.

I was very lucky to receive this scholarship and go to Japan for my fourth time. The company that sent me was AFS. You can apply to them to go on exchange to almost any country in the world. I highly recommend that everyone has a look at their website because it was a great experience for me and it's an experience that is available to anyone. By Elise Macoustra.



## **AVIATION CAREER INFORMATION EVENING**

If you are in Years 10, 11 or 12 this year & you are interested in a career as an Airline Pilot, RAAF Pilot or Air Traffic Controller, you need to attend the **Adelaide Information Meeting on 22nd March 2010 @ 5pm, 6pm or 7pm**, at the Virgin Blue Lounge - Adelaide Airport. Bring your parents and learn about Aviation Studies in High School.

If you wish to attend, please go to see Mr Luke Northcote, the Careers Adviser at Blackwood HS or phone him during school hours on 8278 0930.

## ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2010

On Wednesday 24 February, the Blackwood High School annual athletics carnival was held. The day included track and field events as well as a range of team novelty events. Points were awarded for participation and performance and were allocated both to individuals and their Houses. Students and staff embraced the team spirit dressing up in their house colours and supporting their team-mates. Led by their House Captains, the students readily participated in the fun, creating a positive and competitive atmosphere for the day.

The House Competition was close with the final results as follows:

Ashby	1482.6 points
Russell	1361.8 points
Mills	1295.8 points
Madigan	1115.8 points



Special congratulations to the following students who were presented with best performing male or female awards for gaining the highest points in their respective age group:

U/14 Female Champion	Jasmine McIvor	Madigan	70.0 points
U/14 Male Champion	Taylor Moore	Madigan	55.0 points
U/15 Female Champion	Zoe Smet	Madigan	64.0 points
U/15 Male Champion	Martin Foster	Russell	46.0 points
U/16 Female Champion	Molly Fletcher	Madigan	67.0 points
U/16 Male Champion	Shannon Chiappini	Ashby	90.0 points
U/21 Female Champion	Frances Collett	Ashby	53.4 points
U/21 Male Champion	Kostas Kubilius	Ashby	47.0 points



There were also some exceptional efforts by a number of students who broke existing records. Congratulations to the following students:

**M U21 Boys 800m KUBILIUS, Kostas ASHB 2:19.88**  
Old Record: 2:22.65 HAMILTON, Ross (ASHB 2008)

**F U21 Girls 800m COLLETT, Frances ASHB 2:45.70**  
Old Record: 2:53.61 DAWS, Meghan (ASHB 2009)

**F U16 Girls Triple Jump DISCOMBE, Tessa MILL 8.18**  
Old Record: 7.92 COLLETT, Frances (ASHB 2009)

**M U16 Boys Discus CHIAPPINI, Shannon ASHB 39.07**  
Old Record: 36.7 CORNISH, Mason (MILL 2009)

**M U16 Boys Long Jump CHIAPPINI, Shannon ASHB 5.17**  
Old Record: 5.13 GOVENDER, Theolan (MADI 2009)

**F U16 Girls Shot Put FLETCHER, Tess MILL 8.47**  
Old Record: 7.74 Melanie Gerlach (1995)

**M U15 Boys High Jump FOSTER, Martin RUSS 1.6**  
Old Record: 1.54 FOSTER, Mitchell (RUSS 2009)

**F U14 Girls Discus STRATTON, Kerri ASHB 17.88**  
Old Record: 17.5 SMET, Zoe (MADI 2009)

**F U15 Girls 200m LANGHAM, Rachael MILL 32.33**  
Old Record: 32.53 FLETCHER, Molly (MADI 2009)

**F U16 Girls 200m FLETCHER, Molly MADI 30.51**  
Old Record: 32.65 ZADOW, Jacinta (RUSS 2008)



Congratulations to all staff and students for their positive contributions in making the carnival a success.

The Blackwood High School Athletics team will now compete at the Interschool Athletics Carnival to be held at Santos Stadium on Monday 29 March (week 10). **Morning training sessions** will commence in Week 7 on **Wednesdays at 7.30am**. Lunchtime trainings will also be held and will be advertised in the daily notices.

*Glen Little, Physical Education and Health Coordinator*

**REGISTER NOW for a FREE Asthma Control Pack ring Asthma SA on 8238 9300 or website [www.asthmasa.org.au](http://www.asthmasa.org.au) or phone and speak to one of the educators on 1800 645 1300 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.**

## ARTS NEWS

We are right in the middle of the Fringe and the Festival at present, so there will be lots of exciting excursions and theatre visits to report next time, once we've caught our breath! (*Fringe excursion photos right*)

We welcome **Phil Barbuto** to our team of Instrumental teachers as our new **electric guitar teacher**. Phil brings a wealth of experience as both a performer and a teacher of guitarists up to Year 12 and beyond and we look forward to his input to the **Sunset Festival** later in the year. We have located a local **piano teacher** who has a few vacancies to teach either at school or in her own home (she lives in central Blackwood).

Please direct any enquiries to me on 82780946 or by email to [robyn.trebilcock@bhs.sa.edu.au](mailto:robyn.trebilcock@bhs.sa.edu.au).

Rehearsals have started for **BEE WOOD COMBO** (formerly known as Stage Band) and we have a great group of talented musicians meeting on Thursdays after school at 3.20–4.30pm. Several members have commitments at that time, so we have organised an extended rehearsal on Blackwood HS **OPEN NIGHT Tuesday 16 March**, to work on our repertoire and organise some performances in the community this year.

Rehearsals have also started for **BEE BAND** our new jazz ensemble, convened by Frances Collett and led by our fabulous Bass Teacher, **Mike Haynes**. Our terrific BEE WOOD JAZZ all graduated last year and have gone off to pastures (and gigs) new, so we look forward to hearing the new group very soon.

Auditions for our **VOCAL GROUP** are underway and we have some amazing vocal talent in the school. We meet on Wednesday lunchtimes and are hoping to organise some community performances later in the year.

**DANCE AEROBICS** are well and truly up and running, with some brilliant routines being developed. We are happy to welcome HARRY BREESE back as a guest choreographer, and also welcome Josh to the choreographic team.

*Robyn Trebilcock, Arts Coordinator*



## bhsforest **BLACKWOOD FOREST SOCCER CLUB**

Blackwood Forest is the Blackwood High based club that plays in the Noarlunga leagues on Saturday mornings. Games are played on a 'home and away' basis with official referees supplied by the association. In the last years it has been tremendously successful in engaging students in weekend sport and has been an extremely positive factor at Blackwood High. This year, as in previous years we will field teams for both boys and girls in the Under 18, 16 and 14 divisions. The club philosophy encourages all students to participate and improve their fitness and team work. Registration forms can be obtained from student services and must be returned with \$60 registration fee by the middle of March. With every successful club there are many voluntary positions available, coaches, managers and in transport so if you can help in any way then please contact Andy Gilpin at [andyg3@optusnet.com.au](mailto:andyg3@optusnet.com.au) or ring James Connell at school on 82780900.

## NEED A PART-TIME JOB?

If you love football, know the rules and want to stay fit....we need you! **A great way to earn Money!**

The Hills Football League requires boundary and field umpires for season 2010. Training is on Wednesday nights at Mount Barker Football Club 6.15-7.00pm. Uniforms are provided, and you will learn the skills of umpiring while earning excellent money. Even if you play there are opportunities to umpire throughout the weekend.

For further details give Mick Taylor (umpire's coach) a call on 0415 614 400 or Andrew Holmes (assistant coach) 0410 152 425

## BABYSITTING COURSE – 15+ YEARS

Australian Red Cross is holding a Babysitting Course (of 4 sessions) at the Blackwood Library, 215 Main Rd, Blackwood on Thursday 4.30-7.45pm from 11 March to 1 April, for \$20 (supper included).

Statement of Attendance is given at the completion of the babysitting component, and a Statement of Attainment is given at the completion of the Essential (Basic) First Aid.

Bookings are essential, ring 82785200 or 82710999 for more information.