

# NEWSLETTER

No 7 – 30 July 2010

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

## CALENDAR

### Tues 3 August

Principal's Tour 9.15am

### Wed 4 & Thurs 5 August

Yr 12 Drama Performance  
7.30pm in PAC

### Thur 5 August

Canteen Meeting 2.30pm

### Fri 6 August

Yr 12 Reports distributed

### Mon 9 August

Yr 10 SACE Counselling by  
appointment

### Wed 11 August

Current Yr 9 Subject Parent  
Info session 7.30pm in PAC  
Yr 12 Dance Moderation all  
day in PAC

### Thur 12 August

Yr 12 Dance Mod Perf 7.30pm

### Fri 13 August

Yr 10 PLP As signmnt 3 due

### Mon 16 – Fri 20 August

Yr 10 Work Exp/Ski Trip Week  
Yr 11 SACE Counselling by  
appointment

### Tues 17 August

Governing Council Mtg 7pm

### Thur 19 August

Parents & Friends Mtg 1.30pm

### Fri 20 August

Yr 8→9 & Yr 9→10 subject  
selection forms due

### Wed 25 August

Yr 12 PE Moderation

### Fri 10 September

SHOW DAY-school closure

## FAREWELL

Over the last five and a half years we have had the privilege as a school community, of being led by an exemplary Principal, Susan Hyde.

Susan has led Blackwood High School through exciting times. Particularly significant in our school and across the state is Susan's expertise with 21<sup>st</sup> century learning technologies, notably our groundbreaking laptop program.

Passionate about all learners, she has led two IB internationally accredited programs through implementation and evaluation, the achievement of the largest number of Advanced Skills Teachers in the state and the ongoing development of connected, on line curriculum for all students. Blackwood has now also added a Special Football program to its offerings, hence providing opportunities for boys as well as girls in elite sports.

Susan is known for her humour and insight, but most particularly for her unwavering support for the staff, families and most of all, the students at Blackwood High School. As a school community we wish her well as an Associate Professor and Principal at the ASMS, knowing that BHS will always have a place in her memories and esteem.

## Course Counselling for 2011

At BHS in Term 3, is when our partnerships as teachers and families are particularly important. On the first day of term, all students were issued with a Prospectus CD including information about all subjects for each year level, a counselling timeline, a letter including an **appointment slip** and subject selection forms.

The process for students moving for Year 8 to Year 9 and from Year 9 to Year 10 is quite straightforward, but for students moving into Years 11 and 12, the implications of choosing pathways and subjects into the new SACE and the world of employment and careers are significant. To support you and your sons and daughters there are a range of meetings both in school time (for students) and after school (for parents and family members supporting students).

Should you have concerns or queries, please contact your child's Care Group teacher (last Newsletter had lots of information about how to contact teachers and the school). They will have answers or be able to refer you to resources and information for help. If your son or daughter is entering Years 11 or 12 in 2011, we ask that you attend the subject selection interview with them. This ensures that we are all clear about pathways and future courses. More importantly, it is about your unique relationship with your child.

What if your child says that they have a day off school for this? If they are in Year 10 or Year 11, that is true! **Individual appointments are made between 8am and 8pm, with you and your child.**

Students who are currently in Year 12 already have, and will continue to receive TAFE and University information for 2011. Extensive support is also being provided by the school through care group and Seminar sessions. I commend the widely advertised University Open Days, as excellent resources for students, particularly in Years 11 and 12. Good luck as a family with Course Counselling. It may be challenging, is always a busy time, and is a great opportunity for families and the school to work together for your child.

## Dicing with Disaster

Sadly, we have received calls from members of the community complaining about and commenting on large groups of students crossing the road en masse, often running within metres of a safe pedestrian crossing, particularly during peak hour Shepherd's Hill Road.

Please impress on your sons and daughters that in winter drivers, have even less control over stopping time on wet roads, often with poor visibility. We know that kids often think that it will not happen to them, but 2 years ago, it did happen to and nearly cost the life of a BHS student who was careless. PLEASE have that chat with your children. It may make all the difference.

*Jude Hines, Principal*



## BLACKWOOD HIGH ACHIEVERS

- ◆ Congratulations Ziqiao Chen and Colin Han of Blackwood High School, who have won first prize in the National Schools Packaging Design Challenge! It began as a mathematical challenge but ended up being a combination of maths, problem solving and creative design skills, very much in keeping with the philosophy of integrated learning in the International



Baccalaureate curriculum offered at Blackwood High School.

In total they have won \$400 to share and \$1000 for the school to be presented on

Thursday 7 October at the Australian Packaging Awards Presentation Dinner at the Docklands in Melbourne.

Both students will be flown to Melbourne attend the dinner, with their parents and Art teacher Jenny Remete, which will be attended by around 500 guests. The winners of the tertiary student awards as well as the industry design awards will also be presented on this evening, so the students will be amongst some of the high flyers in the Design Industry. MC for the evening will be Julia Zemiro.

- ◆ Congratulations to Year 12, Eddie CHITTLEBOROUGH (17 years old) who has just returned from a successful trip to Melbourne, as the Goalie in the South Australian, Men's U21 Field Hockey team. The ROTHFIELD 2010 U21 Men's Australian Championship was held during the July holidays. A good result for the South Australian team who finished third.
- ◆ Congratulations to Year 10s, Daniel EVANS, Dylan SEARLE and Simon WHITEHEAD, who were selected in the U17 State Lacrosse team that played in the Championships held in Perth during the July holidays, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Three BHS students out of 16 team members is a great achievement. Unfortunately, Simon broke his hip playing Gridiron and was unable to travel with the team.

## REMINDER DATES FOR COURSE COUNSELLING FOR 2011

The key dates for the remainder of the course counselling process are outlined below.

**Monday 9 August** – Current Year 10 Course Counselling day for students and parents by appointment (no year 10 lessons)

**Wednesday 11 August** – Current Year 9 Parent Information session at 7.30pm in the PAC.

**Friday 13 August** – Personalised Learning Project (PLP) assignment due.

**Monday 16 August** – Current Year 11 Course Counselling day for students and parents by appointment (no year 11 lessons).

**Friday 20 August** – Current Year 8 and Year 9 Subject Selection forms due back to school.

**Thursday 23 September** – Report Collection and confirmation of subject selection:

Year 8s from 2.00-8.00pm

Year 9, 10 & 11s from 4.00-8.00pm.

**Friday 24 September** – Additional Report collection option 8.15am to 12.35pm. No lessons on this day.

**Glen Little, Assistant Principal**

## EDUCATION TAX REFUND REMINDER

Just a reminder that eligible families are able to claim up to 50% of their children's education costs as tax deductions. Eligible expenses include – school uniforms, laptops, USB drives, home internet connection and use, software, textbooks, computer repairs and the like. Check with your accountant or go to the ATO website for more information. [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)

Please refer any further queries to your accountant.

## Reading, The Premier's Reading Challenge, Literacy and the NAPLAN

The Project Manager of the Premier's Reading Challenge, Alle Goldsworthy recently wrote about what most teachers and parents know intuitively.

In a study of the 2009 NAPLAN results of DECS students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, those students who participated in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) 'showed better rates of reading growth over the past two years than DECS students who did not participate in the Challenge. Students participating in the PRC had a higher percentage in the High Growth category and a lower percentage in the Low Growth category across all year levels.'

Goldsworthy concluded that these results prove that consistent reading is one of the activities which can improve reading skills. We knew that, right?

Teachers encourage students to read class novels and non-fiction material. We also encourage students to read independently. We quiz students about what they read in our efforts to develop their comprehension skills, too.

Whatever you think about the NAPLAN, literacy is a fundamental goal of education. Literacy provides people with employment and social opportunities.

Ask your students if they're participating in the PRC. Encourage them to read. Quiz them about what they are reading.

**Chris Bourlioufas, Literacy Contact Person**

## POSITIVE THINKING

### **Gaku Fukushima studying at Blackwood High School.**

#### **What prompted him to study abroad?**

As an only child, Gaku is quite reserved and from an early age he enjoyed making things, leading to his love of technical studies in junior high school. At the time he was already thinking about a career in the manufacturing industry and thought that if he could speak English he could open new opportunities worldwide. Gaku's parents understood his ideas and supported him by arranging his study here in Adelaide through a friend.

#### **Looking forward**

Before graduating from junior high school, Gaku didn't make any special effort to learn English, so his first year of high school was spent undertaking a special intensive English course for international high school students known as ISEC. Gaku admits that he found English very difficult at first. **"I didn't know what they were saying but I knew that they were waiting for a response. In the beginning I was always looking downwards."**

But as time passed, Gaku became more and more accustomed to both English and his new surroundings and he thought to himself, **"I really can't keep looking downwards"**. He summoned his courage and began to look forward. **"Even though I couldn't really understand much English, I could still play soccer with everyone else"**. By becoming more positive, Gaku began to make friends and his English improved.

During the second six months of the ISEC course, in addition to English Gaku began to take part in the studies that local students took, making his life more fulfilled and introducing him to even more friends. **"As an international student, the most important thing is to make friends"** says Gaku. "I'm really happy because my host family is really kind to me and my school teachers are also very positive". Gaku feels very satisfied with his life as an international student here in Adelaide.

#### **Future Dreams**

"Recently study is getting more and more difficult" says Gaku, but he plans to graduate from high school in 18 months. After that he would like to start working in manufacturing, in particular his interest in cars makes him want to learn more about mechanics. **"At the moment environmentally friendly engines are receiving lots of attention, and one day I would love to make a new type of engine myself"**, says Gaku with eyes gleaming and head held high.

*Article featuring Gaku FUKUSHIMA, Blackwood High School, supplied by You Yu Adelaide Magazine*

## BUY FROM THE CANTEEN - CHANCE TO WIN

The Canteen currently purchases Ingham Chickadee products. The more chicken products that students purchase from the School Canteen, the more chances we have of winning one of 40 Panasonic Electronic Whiteboards during the 'Buy Ingham & Connect Your Classroom' competition running from 12 July to 12 October this year.

*Barb Darby, Canteen Manager*

## BLACKWOOD FREEMASONS DONATIONS

Thank you to the Blackwood Freemasons Lodge who generously donated \$200 towards the BHS Solar Cycle

Team being organised to travel to Kangaroo Island in October.

Jeff Harrison from the Blackwood Brethren is donating three Midnight Oil Albums, signed by Peter Garrett, to be auctioned off at a World Challenge Quiz night held later in the year.

## SPECIALIST FOOTBALL NEWS

### **Port Power Player Visit**

To conclude the semester program the class was fortunate to have Daniel Webb as a visiting coach. Daniel is a former Blackwood



High student (2003-07) and is currently playing for Port Power and West Adelaide. Daniel shared his experiences as a recently drafted AFL player and the pathway that he has taken to achieve this. The players enjoyed listening to Daniel's journey so far and took away some valuable information on the work ethic and commitment required to play at AFL and SANFL levels.

### **Recent Match results**

On Wednesday 23 June the Blackwood High football class played Concordia College and on Wednesday 21 July our concluding game was against St Johns. It was again pleasing to see players adapt to playing in positions that they do not normally play in at their local clubs. A positive team spirit was displayed in both games.

The results of the matches were:

**Blackwood 7-5 - 49 defeated Concordia 5-14 - 34**

Best players: Brett Turner, Todd Eshmade,

Chris Perrotta, Aron Hunt, Justin Wicks, Cory Sawyer

Our last game of the program was held on Wednesday 21 July.

**Blackwood 11-8-72 defeated St Johns 5-5-35**

Best Players: Chris Perrotta, Brett Turner,

Todd Eshmade, Beau Rossi, Beau Wakely

### **Specialist Football in 2011**

Students currently in the program will need to indicate on their evaluation form (to be posted home soon) if they wish to continue with the program in 2011.

These students do not need to reapply. Students who are not currently in the program but would like to join in 2011 should see me to collect an application form. The football program will be offered to year 8, 9 and 10 students next year.

**Ben Rutten (current Crows player) and old scholar of Blackwood High School from 1996-2000,** came to borrow one of our football Guernseys to wear at a special Crows training last week.

*Glen Little, Manager of Football*



## YEAR 10 GERMAN BIG DAY OUT

On Thursday 22 July, the Year 10 German class attended a Big Day Out at Adelaide University. The introduction to the day was a presentation by Andreas Jaeger from the DAAD (Deutsche Akademischer Austausch Dienst – German Academic Exchange Service) outlining the opportunities for students who continue with their German studies. These included scholarships to study in Germany. The audience of over 200 Year 10, 11 and 12 students of German then heard from five students about their experiences on exchange to Germany. They shared interesting stories about life with a German host family, learning the language, culture shock (both on arrival in Germany and back home in Australia) and making friends. We learnt, for example, that you shouldn't say "Ich bin voll" when you have had enough to eat, as this means "I am drunk". You should instead say "Ich bin satt".

After Bienenstich (Beesting cake) for morning tea we attended language workshops with students from other schools. We learnt German songs from The Wiseguys, played German games, acted out German fairytales and participated in an electronic quiz (Ellie and Georgia were winners!).

Lunch was traditional German food – Brezeln und Bratwurst (with Aussie chips on the side).

We then enjoyed a Rap/Hip Hop concert by Damion Davis and Nico Suave. These German musicians believe 'music is the language' and they tried to teach us German through their lyrics. During the Big Day Out we heard some of the good reasons to keep up our German language studies and learnt German while having fun.

(There was bit of excitement on the way back to the station when we witnessed a police chase!)



**Year 10 German Students**

## NETBALL TRIP TO MELBOURNE 2010



The Blackwood High School Specialist Netball Program again made the Trip to the Waverley International Netball Championships during the last week of Term 2.

Peta Maher (the Netball Manager) and Janet Bradley took two teams of ten to play in the Senior Girls Netball competition. Thirty one teams in total took part in this division. The Blackwood Red team finished in 13<sup>th</sup> and Blackwood Green team 16<sup>th</sup> positions (the highest our second team has finished). The girls faced teams made up predominantly of year 12s and some teams even consisted of under 17 Australian players and representatives from the VIC and NSW U17 & U19 teams. They also had victories over International teams from Singapore (*below pictured with our girls*) and New Zealand.

The girls were able to

experience playing against players who were strong, fast and knowledgeable on the court. The Blackwood players put in a great effort and stayed mentally and physically strong, even though many of the times they played against girls who were much taller and stronger.

Each year the Championship has a Banner competition in which we came second. The group had terrific support from past Sports trainee, Nat Gollan and parent Frai Stapeldon.

The girls represented our school proudly and to the best of their ability. Well done on a fantastic job.

Blackwood Red Team: Tayla Stapeldon  
Armour Stephanie Fotheringham

Maddie Jo Boots  
Kellie Bennetts  
Lauren Grigg  
Claudia Love  
Bridget Smith  
Tamika Mansell

Blackwood Green Team: Georgia Mandemaker  
Diana Jennings  
Simone Posthuma

Kelsey Knuckey  
Kayla Worden  
Brittany Kernick Peyton Gross  
Caitlin Pettman  
Rebecca Aikman

**Janet Bradley, Sports Coordinator**



**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS FOR SALE - \$65!** Please purchase an Entertainment Book from the front office to support our trip to Spain. Part proceeds will also be donated to TIA INTERNATIONAL a non-profit organization to support children in orphanages in Bolivia. **Jenny Arezina, Spanish Teacher**