WELCOME TO THE 2015 SCHOOL YEAR

The 2015 school year started smoothly on 27 January. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our 180 Year 8 students and their families as well as the many new students who have enrolled across Years 9 to 12. Welcome back to our continuing students and families as we continue on the journey of learning together.

2015 will continue to see a focus on strengthening progress over the last four years including providing high quality teaching and learning and broadened opportunities for students.

This year has seen the appointment of a number of new teaching and support staff. We have welcomed:

- Mr Trevor Clarke, Physics and Mathematics teacher
- Ms Vanessa Crane, Mathematics teacher
- Ms Renee Daish, German and Humanities teacher
- Mr Wesley Dennis, Design and Technology teacher
- Mr Aaron Jacquier, Handyperson
- Ms Hannah Knight, Intensive Secondary English teacher
- Mr Nick Kusmanoff, Learning support
- Mr Hue Plumtree, Design and Technology teacher
- Ms Natalie Reinboth, Mathematics and Science teacher
- Ms Jade Vanzo, Psychology and Mathematics teacher
- Ms Michelle Zirngast, Food & Hospitality and Child Studies teacher

We have welcomed back:

- Mr Chris Brookes, English and Humanities teacher
- Ms Katrina Holmes, Science and Mathematics teacher
- Ms Adrienne Kajewski, German and Humanities teacher
- Ms Liz MacAuslan, Student Services
- Ms Adelle Matthews, English and Humanities teacher
- Ms Bianca Reddy, Specialist Netball Program teacher

FACILITIES UPGRADE

Work has commenced of the upgrade to the Front Office area of the school. When the work is completed there will be a disabled access ramp, a new entrance door and a glass enclosure to the front of the school. It is anticipated this work will be completed by the end of March. In the meantime, entrance to the school is via the Student Services entrance. We are eagerly awaiting this work to be finished and apologise for any inconvenience it is causing.

SCHOOL BUSES

The beginning of the school year has seen a number of bus issues. Each issue is followed up with the bus company by me. This includes, late arrival or buses not arriving, buses not stopping to pick up students and driver behaviour. If your child(ren) tell you about any bus issues please let me know by either ringing or email the school at blackwood@bhs.sa.edu.au.

CHANGES TO PARKING ARRANGEMENTS ON SEYMOUR STREET

Changes along Seymour Street will come into effect from the beginning of the 2015 school year. These changes include:

- ‘No Stopping’ zone at the cul-de-sac at the end of the street.
Adjacent to Blackwood High School side of the street there will be a ‘Kiss and Drop’ area. This means there is no parking for Monday to Friday from 8am to 9am and 2.15pm to 3.30pm. At other times there 30 minute parking can occur between 9.00am to 2.15pm.

These changes have been negotiated with the City of Mitcham to assist in alleviating some of the issues along Seymour Street.

Parents and caregivers of Blackwood High School are asked to drop their students off in Seymour Street or along Shepherds Hill Road or Beaconsfield Terrace (at the back of the school). In the interests of the safety of young children, please do not use the Blackwood Primary School car park as a thoroughfare.

Please make note of the Parking Control information from the City of Mitcham on the last two pages of this newsletter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

To support families planning ahead to arrange supervision for your child(ren), the Governing Council has approved the following Student Free Days:

- Monday 27 April First day of Term 2
- Tuesday 9 June Adjacent to the June long weekend
- Monday 7 September Royal Adelaide Show week
- Friday 4 September School closure, coinciding with the start of the Adelaide Show

Our focus on student free days will be continued work in planning for teaching, learning and assessment for the Australian Curriculum consistent with the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IBMYP) and the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). An additional student free day will occur, date will be confirmed later in the year.

GOVERNING COUNCIL AGM

The Annual General Meeting for the Blackwood High School will be held on TUESDAY 3 MARCH at 7pm in the Performing Arts Centre. Please put this in your diary.

The Governing Council welcomes new parents and caregivers in its work to plan strategic directions, plan for facilities improvements and ensure sound financial budgeting. More details about being involved with the Governing Council will be provided later.

ENROLMENTS AND THE 2015 TIMETABLE

As the student enrolments at the school firm up, we may need to make changes to some classes to balance the number of students. Where additional classes are created or combined, parents and caregivers will receive a letter from me outlining the change. Where we balance the number of students in classes within a subject, parents and caregivers will not receive a letter from me. We anticipate that if there are any changes they will occur over the next two weeks.

If parents and caregivers have any concerns about their child’s timetable, please contact the school.

HOT WEATHER AND BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Blackwood High School is air-conditioned. Therefore, we do not dismiss early on hot weather days. The school has a number of drink fountains for students to top up their water bottles. On inclement weather days including very hot or very wet, each year level has a designated indoor space that is supervised by staff at recess and lunchtime. These are Year 8s – OSB, Year 9s – Library, Year 10s – Main building, Year 11s – Performing Arts centre and Year 12s – Senior Learning Centre. It is important that as we enter the hot weather in February and March, students maintain their hydration and are sun-smart using sun protection on the way to and from school as well as outdoor activities.

BUSHFIRE ACTION PLAN

The updated Bushfire Action Plan approved by the Governing Council in late 2014, is available on the school’s website www.bhs.sa.edu.au. Blackwood High School remains open at all times, including designated ‘catastrophic’ days. Our evacuation point is to the Blackwood Recreation Centre. School buses run as usual, unless they are directed not to by the police or emergency services. In the near future, we will conduct an evacuation drill to ensure that all new students are familiar with the evacuation procedure.
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
At Blackwood High student attendance at each lesson is recorded using Daymap. Later this term parents and caregivers will be able to log into Daymap to look at their child(ren)’s attendance.

Attendance at school every day and for every lesson has been shown to increase student achievement. It also ensures that students are developing the sound habit of being in the right place at the right time. Through experience, we know that when students start to fall behind in their work they are tempted to stay at home to try and catch up. There begins the cycle of falling further and further behind and trying to catch up more and more. At the school we provide additional support to students who need assistance with their work; some of it in class and through the Teaching and Learning Centre.

Late arrival and early departure from school may also impact on student achievements. Where possible, we are asking that student appointments out of school hours or during school holidays.

When students are absent we are required to code the absence. It is important that all absences are explained. Parents and caregivers can notify the school when their child is away by:

- writing a note in their child’s diary for the Care Group teacher
- emailing student.absence@bhs.sa.edu.au with the student’s name and reason for absence
- phoning the school on 8278 0900

LIONS YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM
Young people between the ages of 16 and 21 years can undertake an experience living with a Lions family overseas during the end-of-year summer holidays.

The Leo Club provides a focus for teenagers and adults between 12 - 30 years old.

Further information about these opportunities can be sought at the website links.


SACE RESULTS
The graduates of the 2014 Year 12 class achieved solid academic results with many achieving results which will provide them with a wide range of options and opportunities.

The Dux for 2014 is Eduardo Pistorius who achieved an Australian Tertiary Achievement Rank (ATAR) of 98.90. Eduardo achieved A’s in Chemistry, Physics, Mathematical Studies, Specialist Mathematics and Research Project. Eduardo will study a Bachelor of Health Sciences (Advanced) at The University of Adelaide.

In addition to Eduardo three other students achieved an ATAR of 95 and above.

- Daniel Hill achieved A’s in Psychology, Specialist Mathematics, Modern History, Spanish (Beginners) and Research Project. Daniel received Merit Certificates in Research Project and Mathematical Studies. Daniel got an ATAR of 98.80 and will be studying a Bachelor of Economics (Advanced) at The University of Adelaide.
- Corey Bridger achieved A’s in Chemistry, Mathematical Studies, Physics and Specialist Mathematics. Corey got an ATAR of 98.30 and will be undertaking a Bachelor of Science (Advanced) at The University of Adelaide.
- Marina Dellar-Evans achieved A’s in Early Childhood Studies, Food and Hospitality, and Research Project. She also undertook Extension Studies at Flinders University achieving Distinctions in English. Marina got an ATAR of 96.05 and will be undertaking a Bachelor Creative Arts in Creative Writing at Flinders University.

We are pleased with the overall results of our 2014 Year 12 class including:

- an increase in the number of students who completed the SACE
- 90% of students received an ATAR
- 11% of students achieved an ATAR of 90 and above
- 12.1% of students achieved an ATAR between 80 and 89.99
- 55 students achieve at least one ‘A’ with 13 students getting two or more ‘A’s
- 94.6% of students received a TAFE Selection Score.

The 2014 Year 12 class is to be congratulated on their achievements through their commitment to completing twelve years of schooling. We wish them all the best as they embark on their continued journey to further education, training and employment.

2014 SATAC OFFERS
A high percentage of our students have achieved entrance to their chosen course of study at tertiary level. These courses covered many of the different discipline areas. Some of these courses include Bachelor of Science (biomedical Science) Pharmacy, Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Law, and Legal Practice, Bachelor of Health Science and Human Movement, Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical and Civil) and (Chemical), Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Media, Bachelor of Interior Architecture and Architectural Studies, Bachelor Creative writing,
Bachelor of International Tourism and Bachelor of Medical Science to name a few. Students who applied to TAFE were successful in their applications and offered a placement in courses of their choice such as a Certificates in Travel and Tourism, Business and Pet Grooming.

Student successes included a completed Certificate III in Christian Ministry, Sport and Recreation, Children’s Services and Media. 8 Students used their VET completed Certificate III to gain an ATAR. This reflects the flexibility of the school and the SACE to help students achieve their goals in different ways.

It was wonderful to see that 86% of our Year 12 students received a first round offer to gain entry into a large range of courses which spanned across numerous University and TAFE Institutions. Congratulations to all the students for their persistence and determination which has resulted in opportunities to follow their chosen career pathways.

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS

♦ Congratulations to Olivia Wheeler in Year 8, who has been selected in the South Australian Junior Track Cycling team which will compete at the National Championships to be held in Melbourne in the last week of February. During this track cycling season Olivia competed in the National Junior Track Series which consisted of four rounds(Sydney, Melbourne, Launceston, and Adelaide). She finished first overall and cemented her number one ranking as the best under fifteen female track cyclist in Australia. Olivia backed up her performances in the recent State Track Titles by finishing with three gold medals and one silver out of her four events and also broke two state records which ensured her spot in the state team.

♦ Congratulations to Asha Thurlow in Year 12, who has been selected in the SA U19 Netball Team to play at the National Championships to be held in Sydney during April 2015.

♦ Congratulations to Daniel Hill who graduated in Year 12 at Blackwood High School in 2014, has been awarded a University of Adelaide Principals’ Scholarship.

HOMESTAYS NEEDED FOR EARLY NEXT MONTH!

We will be hosting another Japanese group of nineteen students from Morioka Chuo High School, Japan from 2 - 13 March 2015. Thank you to the families who have volunteered to host the girls and a few boys. However, we still require homestay families for several boys.

If you are interested in hosting a young Japanese visitor or would like more information, please contact me here at the school. karyn.jones@bhs.sa.edu.au or phone 8278 0900. A homestay payment is made to families hosting a student.

Karyn Jones, LOTE and International Student Programs

CONCO-PHILIPS SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

From 2-4 December 2014, one Year 9 and three Year 10 students, Cam Crawshaw, Jaimee Bruer, Ethan Lambros and myself attended the ConocoPhillips Science Experience at Flinders University.

There was a fantastic line-up of guest speakers and workshops that the Young Scientists of Australia (YSA) and Flinders staff had arranged. We had presentations about how to get enrolled in university, where design and innovation can take you, finding a suitable career, the relationship between wind flow and sand dunes and animal behaviours. There was a fun quiz at the end of the first day where we had to deliver our answers to the judges in a unique manner, like “tangoing” or “leapfrogging”. All participants were set to attend five workshops. They were about cooling gasses, environmental health, electronics and marine biology.

The final workshop was an innovation workshop, where each team chose a certain product that they would make, which would then be vigorously tested by the members of the YSA. The products ranged from aerodynamic aeroplanes to bionic arms, all made out of everyday materials. The program finished off with the announcement of the winning team and all attendees were presented with certificates. It was truly beneficial for those who took part in regards to our future career choices.

Nathaniel Ramesh, Year 11 student 2015
YEAR 8 AND 9 FINAL AWARD ASSEMBLY 2014

On Wednesday 10 December, the achievements of students in Years 8 and 9 were celebrated with the presentation of a range of Academic Awards, Service Awards and Sport Awards.

We are very proud of the achievements of all our students and look forward to their continuing success as Year 9 and 10 students in 2015.

YEAR 8

Yr 8 Girl Sports Awards – Rhianna Manfield and Year 8 Boy Sports Award – Luke Karran

Dux of Year 8: Joint winners – Cameron O’Connell, Erin Jenner, and Jing Lim (pictured right with Marion Coady the Principal)

Academic Excellence Awards were presented to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cameron O’Connell</th>
<th>Erin Jenner</th>
<th>Jing Lim</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jaidyn Maidment</td>
<td>Chelsea Roper</td>
<td>Yaqi Wei</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morgan Warren</td>
<td>Amelia Needs</td>
<td>Tabitha McLoughney</td>
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<td>Kingsley Rosman</td>
<td>Jemima Virtue</td>
<td>Madison Davies</td>
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<td>Indigo Platt</td>
<td>Holly Reynolds</td>
<td>Rhianna Manfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabel Vardas</td>
<td>Reece Milsom</td>
<td>Hannah Wilmshurst</td>
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<td>Georgia Tuck</td>
<td>Ciara Walsh</td>
<td>Imajen Oliphant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darcee Hobarth-Hage</td>
<td>Cheyenne Kolyn</td>
<td>Henning Ostendorf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ella Watts</td>
<td>Julia Jenkins</td>
<td>Misa Hirahara</td>
</tr>
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YEAR 9

Yr 9 Girl Sports Awards – Hiromi Hill and Year 9 Boy Sports Award – Bailey Dyer

Dux of Year 9: Joint winners – Hiromi Hill and Hattie Waters (pictured right)

Academic Excellence awards were presented to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashley Platt</th>
<th>Cooper Goss</th>
<th>Thomas Brown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Shillabeer</td>
<td>Ainal Hasna</td>
<td>Jesse McKinnon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punlapati Wechkunanukul</td>
<td>Casey Rutter</td>
<td>Joshua Aranibar Sabah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Nachazel</td>
<td>Ella Burton</td>
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STEM PATHWAYS FOLLOWED BY BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

It is again most pleasing to see that a vast number of our students have chosen to study university courses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Once again Blackwood High School students are making a significant contribution towards the national STEM strategy. The range of STEM related courses that our graduating students of 2014 have enrolled in include Science, Applied Science (Human Movement and Health Studies), Nutrition and Food Sciences, Health Sciences, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Science (Advanced), Nursing, Medical Sciences, Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Marine Biology and Animal Science.

Jarrod Chave, Senior Leader: Innovations in Science & Technology

YEAR 9 & 10 ACQUAINTANCE AND INFORMATION EVENING - WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2015, 7.00PM – in the Performing Arts Centre Auditorium.

You are invited to attend a combined Year 9 and 10 Parent Acquaintance and Information Evening on Wednesday 11 February, at 7.00pm in the Performing Arts Centre.

The purpose of the evening is to welcome students, parents and new staff to the 2015 school year, and for us to provide information about special programs, opportunities and expectations of students in Years 9 and 10 at Blackwood High School.

Letters were sent home last Wednesday. Parents are asked to return the reply slip to Care Group teachers by Tuesday 10 February.
SPORTS DAYS and WHOLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY
Please note the dates below when all students will attend their School House meeting to discuss their participation in the whole school athletics day on 27 February. Students wear their house colours on the day and can wear fun outfits to compete in the fashion parade at the end of the day.

At the House meetings held on Tuesday 3 February the following students were voted as House Captains and Vice-Captains.

**RUSSELL**
- **Captains** Bailey Mandemaker and Chris Williams
- **Vice Captains** Brooke Jenner and Tim Scott

**ASHBY**
- **Captains** Monica Hart and Adrian Albanese
- **Vice Captains** Melissa Pisano and Nick Congedy

**MILLS**
- **Captains** Emily Pettman and John Lim
- **Vice Captains** Leia Glenn and Dale Eshmade

**MADIGAN**
- **Captains** Megan Roper and Brad Nottle Justice
- **Vice Captains** Charlotte Meldrum and Ronan Naidu

House meeting - Wednesday 11 February at 11.00am
Year 8 Sports Day - Thursday 12 February 8.40am to 12.50pm
Whole School Athletics Carnival - Friday 27 February 2015.

ARTS NEWS
We are still organising **INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC LESSONS**, with most lessons starting this week.

Parents of students new to the school; if your child selected Music as a subject but it does not appear on their timetable, they may be scheduled to take classroom music in Semester 2. All **Music students should have instrumental/vocal lessons from the beginning of the year.** If your child has not yet organised lessons, please ring me on 82780946 or email robyn.trebilcock@bhs.sa.edu.au and I’ll be happy to answer your questions.

Parents of new Year 8s; our records show that a number of our new enrolments have some sort of experience with learning a musical instrument. If your child is interested in continuing lessons or beginning lessons in a musical instrument, please ring or email and I will be able to help you organise this. We also have quite a few pre-loved instruments which we are able to hire to parents at very affordable rates.

Robyn Trebilcock, Arts Leader
YEAR 8 ORIENTATION DAY and POOL DAY

Year 8 has started in earnest with not one, but two major events to start the year. On Friday of Week 1 all Year 8 students took part in our inaugural Orientation Day.

Orientation Day involves all students in the school, but this was the first year that the Year 8 program was separate from Pool Day. It gave Care Group teachers a great chance to continue introducing new students to school processes, as well as allowing students to get to know each other. I also had the opportunity to talk to the whole year level about our Pastoral Care Program, and the enormous benefits of adopting a Growth Mindset.

The final session of the day was devoted to fun and games. Care Groups bonded over Vortex throwing, basketball free throws, a treasure hunt, Weetbix eating and final group cheer. Points were awarded, and the winners for the day were the 8C Cheetahs.

We all went home exhausted but excited, only to return on Monday for Pool Day! Approximately 200 Year 8 students, Year 9 Peer Support Leaders and staff crowded onto the train and headed to the Unley Outdoor Swimming Centre. The schedule of events was designed to maximise fun and give students another chance to get to know each other and their Care Group teachers. This time the 8G Gold Unicorns came out on top of the leader board. Points will be tallied across a number of Year 8 events this year, and the top Care Group will be awarded the Burfield Shield.

Thank you to all of the staff and students who helped organise and run the events on both days. They were both very successful, with many students and teachers commenting on the high level of bonding, engagement and enjoyment.

Rogan Tinsley, Year 8 Level Leader

2015 VET COURSES: STARTING NOW!

As you will be aware many of the VET Courses have already started and your child may have already attended the first day of training. For those who have not yet started, please make sure that you know: dates, times, locations and what to wear for the first day. This information would have been provided in the information either emailed or posted home to successful students.

Timetable Changes:
Students with concerns about their Timetabled lessons may be able to change lessons by making an appointment to see Mr. Winter (Year 10) or Ms. Buesnel (Year 11-12). Where students will be missing lessons (usually single lessons), it is the responsibility of the student to negotiate with the teacher how they will catch up on missed time and how the teacher can support them in their learning.

Invoices:
Training organisations or host schools will soon invoice Blackwood for the training costs clearly outlined during the application process. Once the school has invoiced families, you can choose to pay these costs either up-front or in instalments. Arrangements can be made through the school’s finance department.

IMPORTANT: Fees
• Students beginning a course and withdrawing before the first week of training will incur a processing fee.
• Students withdrawing from a course after the second week will be required to pay full course costs for all courses hosted by Inner South Schools. Courses run by private training organisations will have a withdrawal process and fees will also be incurred.

Requirements:
Students completing their VET course at a different location (off-site) must remember that they:
• are required to adhere to the rules set by the training organisation or host school. Failure to do so could result in enrolments being cancelled. No refunds will be provided in these circumstances.
• are required to notify Blackwood high School AND their course provider if they will be late or absent from their training.

If you have any queries, please contact me through the school on 8278 0900.

Luke Northcote, VET Coordinator
YEAR 9 ORIENTATION DAY 2015

The Year 9 year level participated in a variety of activities on Orientation Day. In the morning they completed a Photo Treasure Hunt on the school grounds and in Wittunga Botanic Gardens in beautiful weather.

After recess Care Group teachers got to know their class further by organising some interactive activities and catching up on administrative tasks.

After lunch Craig Duguid led a Positive Education session on Noticing Positive Emotions.

The variety of activities, efforts by Care Group staff and positive attitudes of the students contributed in making the day a success.

Janet Bradley, Year 9 Level Leader

YEAR 10 ORIENTATION DAY 2015

Orientation Day helped us get Year 10 off to a flying start, and we’re very proud of the way that our students entered into the activities. Work experience, the IBMYP Personal Project and learning about their character strengths were the three main topics for the day.

Preparation for work experience

The day began with Luke Northcote’s introduction to the work experience program. Due to changes in legislation and Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) requirements we now need to be absolutely sure that students are well prepared for work experience. This means that work experience placements must be organised well ahead of time and we need to be sure that students understand their own and employer responsibilities as well as what the law says about work, health and safety so that students will be safe while on their placements.

Luke began this process with a strong message that students must be organising their work experience placements for Week 8 Term 2 now. Students now understand that the school needs to have work experience forms completed and returned to the school by the end of Term 1.

Preparation for the Personal Project

Blackwood High School Year 10 students have opportunities that are not available in many other schools. One of these is the IBMYP Personal Project, with students investigating an area of personal interest. This provides them with a great sense of achievement, increased knowledge and skill, and preparation for the Research Project that is a compulsory requirement of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE).

Under the guidance of IBMYP Leader Nick Gillies, we are preparing students to complete the Personal Project better than ever. Students worked with their Care Group teachers to identify areas they can investigate and begin the process of planning. The important thing at this stage is for students to settle quickly on an area of personal interest and a goal for what they would like to learn about that interest. Nick informed the students that the project is comprised of three main components, a process journal that is completed throughout the project, a product which is the ‘thing’ they create in their project – this could be anything from something they have built or written to an event they have organised, and finally a report.

At this stage students should be reading the Personal Project Guide closely and clarifying anything they are unsure about with either their supervising teacher or Care Group teacher, as well as completing their Personal Project Proposal Booklet.

VIA Character Strengths

We would like to assist our Year 10 students to better understand themselves and learn to develop the personal resources they need to live healthy and successful lives. One way we can do this is to help them identify and use the strengths of character they bring to life, work and study.

Students undertook a short survey that identifies and ranks 24 character strengths. They then generated a report that shows their particular combination of strengths. Students can print their reports to bring home and talk about with families. During the year we will ask students to think about how they can use their strengths to improve their wellbeing and become more effective at school.

Care Group teachers enjoyed working with their classes during the day and we were all very impressed by how well the students cooperated and participated. During lunchtime I heard one boy exclaim exuberantly to his friends that this was the best day of his life. For a moment I thought that this was because of the exceptional program that we were providing until I realised that he had just gobbled down his third hot dog after being offered left overs by Year 10 Leader Lindy Bartlett. I think he might have enjoyed the program as well.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal
YEAR 12 ORIENTATION DAY 2015

The Blackwood High School Year 12 Class of 2015 attended Flinders University for their Orientation Day on Friday 30 January.

The day was designed to give the students two main experiences. The first half of the day was about equipping students for the coming year. The class of 2015 was lucky enough to have Deputy Vice Chancellor Professor Andrew Parkin address them to discuss their coming year and the opportunities that exist for them in the future. Students also spent time in their Care Groups discussing topics including motivation and time management. Once again in 2015, Blackwood High School is pleased to have the services of Kirrilie Smout and her team at Developing Minds. Kirrilie’s first session for the year was on time management and provided some very honest and achievable strategies on how to make the most of what you have. As always Kirrilie’s session was delivered in an approachable way with a great mix of humour and honesty for the students.

The second half of the day was designed to give the students some new experiences in a new environment. Students had the opportunity to participate in a number of interactive tutorial sessions with current Flinders university academic staff. These were not just designed for perspective University students but for any student to experience higher level content in an adult learning environment. While some students may not have thought the world of University was for them, many were definitely entertaining the idea further by the end of the day. Faculties that kindly offered their time included Health Sciences, Business, Law and Criminology, Psychology, Forensic Biology and Optometry. All Staff and student ambassadors were very pleased with the mature nature of our students and were delighted that so many had an enjoyable day away from the regular Blackwood High School campus.

Ben Dening, Year 12 Level Leader

IAIN EVANS TALKS ABOUT HIS LIFE IN POLITICS

The Blackwood Rotary Club is hosting a dinner meeting to give people the opportunity to quiz Iain Evans, recently retired member for Davenport, about his 20+ years in politics.

It is open to everyone in the community. The cost of the evening will be $25 (two course dinner and coffee/tea)

Venue  The Belair Country Club
When  6.30 for 7pm on Tuesday 17 February, 2015
Cost  $25 (two course dinner)

Bookings are essential. Contact Rotarian Jeff Hunter, jpchunter16@bigpond.com or Mobile0433 149977.
WORK EXPERIENCE: IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR 2015

For the 2015 school year, arrangements for Work Experience as part of the Year 10, 11 or 12 programs have undergone significant changes, designed specifically to ensure your child’s safety in the work place.

This year, Year 10 Work Experience is Week 8, Term 2 (June 15 – 19)

The most important changes that will impact on students are:

- All Work Experience Agreement Forms must be completed and signed by the end of Term 1
- Students undertaking Work Experience will be required to complete a minimum of 5 hours of Work Preparation which will address the relevant aspects of the:
  - Workplace Health and Safety Act 2012
  - Children’s Protection Act 1993
  - Equal Opportunity Act 1984

This preparation must be signed off by the Care Group teacher and Workplace Learning Coordinator before students are able to complete their placement. As part of this process, the school will also assess each student’s suitability for the arranged placement.

- Any student working with vulnerable persons (child care, aged care, disability care, etc.) are now required to have a DCSI (Department for Communities and Social Inclusion) Clearance. These can take up to 8 weeks and cost approximately $55 for school students. Arrangements must be made early Term 1 for students to receive their clearance in time.
- Any student accessing a construction or building site as part of their Work Experience must have completed the 1 day White Card Training. Opportunities are provided through the school in Terms 1 and 2 at a reduced cost of $90 through TAFE SA.
- Students who have not met the time or training requirements will undertake an alternative program at school during Work Experience Week.

Year 11 and 12 Students undertaking Work Experience, Structured Workplace Learning as part of a VET Course or a School Based Apprenticeship will also be required to complete a mandatory refresher course. This was covered in part by the Orientation Day held in Week 1 of this term and will be further supported by student learning in Workplace Practices.

If you have any queries, please contact me through the school on 8278 0900.

Luke Northcote, Work Experience Leader

PERSONAL PROJECT

Our Year 10 students are currently busy planning their Personal Projects after we kicked off the process for 2015 at ‘O-day’ on Friday 6 February, Week 1, Term 1.

The Personal Project is a compulsory component of the IB Middle Years Program. It provides an opportunity for students to explore a topic that is of genuine interest to them and to develop their approaches to learning skills further in order to create something truly individual.

While every Personal Project is unique, all must contain three core components:

- **A process journal** – this documents the student’s process, challenges, successes and outcomes throughout the course of their project.
- **A product or outcome** – the outcome / event / ‘thing’ that the student produces as evidence of their learning.
- **A Personal Project report** – completed at the end of the project. This is where the student reflects on their process and presents an overview of what they have achieved, learnt and experienced during their project.

To begin their projects students will need to outline a detailed plan for their project and have this approved by their supervising teacher. Students began this process at O-day.

In 2015 the school is again putting a real focus on the Personal Project in the first half of the year, with the goal of having all projects completed and submitted before the Term 2 holidays. This will allow for the second half of the year to be dedicated to the other ‘PLP’ tasks for our Year 10s.

As in 2014, a Personal Project Display will again be held in the Resource Centre in early Term 3, which will include an evening session that will be open to parents.

I look forward to working with both students and parents to make sure that students have the best opportunity to be successful with their projects. Please contact with any questions or queries about the Personal Project.

Nick Gillies, IB MYP Coordinator
SAPOL ROAD SAFETY INFORMATION
Please find attached the link for current Talkin Road Safety School Edition, Issue 12, January 2015
This newsletter is now published on the South Australia Police Internet page under Road Safety.
The edition discusses:-
- Fatigue and Driving
- Back to School with Sergeant John and Humphrey B Bear
- Safer Driving Tips: Child Restraints
- Using other functions of a mobile phone
- What are the conditions for a learner motorcyclist
- Building Safer Roads
- Protective clothing for motorcycle riders.

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME MEETING
Eden Hills Primary School are holding an information session for parents on the National Disability Insurance Scheme on **Monday 9 February at 7pm** at Eden Hills.
All interested parents are invited, particularly those with children with disabilities. There will be plenty of opportunities for questions.

**Gaye Glade-Wright, Principal Eden Hills Primary School**

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE
There is up to $1 million available in scholarships, bursaries and prizes for students for 2016. Students who are considering tertiary study in Sydney can find further information at: standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/scholarships-and-prizes/
Bursary Assistance information can be found at standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/bursary-assistance/
The bursary assistance is means-tested and can include packages up to full fee relief, depending on need.
St Andrew’s has a Scholars program of merit-based scholarships are awarded to five new students each year. The successful applicants are young people with the capacity and commitment to realise their potential to become leaders in the university, the nation and the world.
The University of Sydney also offers scholarships to undergraduate students: sydney.edu.au/scholarships/

Who’s In Charge? Term 1
An 8 session course for those struggling with children or adolescents that use violence and abuse towards them and other family members.

Parenting strategies for coping with difficult situations and behaviours!

Week 1: Tuesday 10 February
Week 2: Tuesday 17 February
Week 3: Tuesday 24 February
Week 4: Tuesday 03 March
10.00am – 12.00pm Morning Tea provided

Parents are not the problem but part of the solution...

at Mulberry Court
Address: Unit 2, 100 Dyson Road, Christie Downs SA 5164
Facilitator: Sheila Davidson
Bookings and enquiries to: Junction Australia
T: 8384 7877
Junction Australia www.junctionaustralia.org.au
Located on the corner of Acklands Hill Road and Cherry Gardens Road, the Ironbank Cherry Gardens Football Club is less than ten minutes from the centres of Blackwood and Stirling, and takes pride in providing a family-friendly, country style atmosphere with a focus on skills development and participation. We are currently looking to recruit junior players in the Under 9, Under 11, Under 13, Under 15 and Under 17.5 age groups for the 2015 Season. If you would like to try Club Football for the first time, or perhaps do not feel you are getting a fair go at your current Club, then we invite you to join us as we embark on an exciting 2015 Season.

For further information, please contact John on 0412 637 205, or visit our website at www.ironbankfootball.com.au.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE
All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend the School Dental Service. Dental care is FREE for most children.
SA Dental Service participates in the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. A small fee may apply for children who are not eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule.
All dental care provided is FREE for preschool children.
To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, please visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au.

FREE STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION EVENING IN ADELAIDE
Hear from returned students, find out more about discounts and scholarships available and ask questions.
Wednesday, 18 February - 7.30pm
Hutt Street Library, Conference Room, 235 Hutt Street, ADELAIDE
Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call 1300 135 331 for more information
NEWSLETTER NO. 1 – 6 February 2015

PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT SCHOOLS ARE FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN

Local Councils impose a variety of parking restrictions at and near schools to achieve a safer environment for your children. These restrictions are also to optimise traffic movement and safety.

NO STOPPING ZONES -
These zones are usually adjacent to school entrances and the approach and departure sides of school crossings.
You must not stop your vehicle in a no stopping zone or on a solid yellow line, not even for a few seconds.

NO PARKING ZONES -
You may stop in a No Parking zone to immediately pick up or set down your child, and drive off as soon as possible.
No Parking zones are to ensure a quick and smooth turnover of vehicles.
You must not leave your vehicle parked or unattended. If you are going to collect your child from this zone, have your child wait nearby in the school grounds so they can see you arrive. On your arrival they can then leave the school grounds, enter your vehicle and you can then drive off.

CONTINUOUS WHITE CENTRE LINE -
If a road has a continuous white centre line, there must be 3 metres between the vehicle and the white line.

SCHOOL CROSSINGS -
You cannot stop within 20m of the approach side or 10m of the departure side of a school crossing.

SPEED LIMITS -
Speeding vehicles in a school zone are highly dangerous for children. There is a speed limit of 25 kph, designated by the signs and a zigzag line below, any time when children are present or when the lights are flashing (depending on the type of crossing).

INTERSECTION OR T-INTERSECTION (Restricted Area)
You cannot park within 10m of the intersection.

CROSSING PLACES (driveways)
You may park so that the front of your vehicle is level with the approach or the back is level with the departure side of a driveway to any private or public property so that vehicles can enter and depart safely.

FOOTPATHS / NATURE STRIPS -
Parking is prohibited at all times. It creates dangerous situations for both pedestrians and other vehicles in the vicinity.

DOUBLE PARKING -
Creates dangerous situations anytime, however the danger is increased near schools, especially when children are entering or leaving school.

AUSTRALIAN ROAD RULES
CHILDREN SCHOOLS & TRAFFIC
A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS COMBINATION

PROUDLY DISTRIBUTED BY THE CITY OF MITCHAM
BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE NOT LITTLE ADULTS YOU NEED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND CONCENTRATION NEAR SCHOOLS

WHY ARE CHILDREN AT RISK

- Their size means that sometimes they cannot easily see or be seen in traffic.
- Parked vehicles, light poles and other street furniture all block a child’s view of the road and also make it difficult for drivers to see them.
- Their concentration is limited and they are easily distracted.
- Their actions are often spontaneous and unthinking (that’s why the will dart out on to the road to fetch a ball or weave about when riding their bikes) without checking to see if vehicles or pedestrians are coming.
- Their sight is not fully developed, especially their ability to “scan” for things.
- They are lacking the ability to estimate the speed of vehicles, the gap between vehicles, where a vehicle is coming from or how far way it is.

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILDREN

FOR UNDER 5 YEARS
Make sure your children have reliable supervision at all times when in or near traffic, especially when crossing roads.

FOR 5 TO 8 YEARS
Help your children to become familiar with all aspects of the road environment – signs, traffic lights and crossing places. Teach them cycling skills in a safe area – in a park or playground etc. If they are riding a bike to school, plan a safe route for them to take.

FOR 9 TO 12 YEARS
Take the time to explain the road rules in simple terms e.g.: Right of way, what to do at intersections etc. Go for bike rides with your children to make sure they have safe cycling behaviour.

ABOVE ALL, BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU ARE DRIVING NEAR SCHOOLS, THE SAFETY OF ALL CHILDREN DEPENDS ON YOU