Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr. Rogan Tinsley who is a finalist in the 2013 South Australian Science Excellence Awards.

Congratulations to Year 9 student Georgie Waters who has been successful in getting an STS exchange program in Austria starting in September 2013.

Overseas Travel

I wish both of our groups of students travelling overseas during the forthcoming school holidays a safe and enjoyable trip.

- Two students, Payton Plummer–Height and Lachlan Hunt, both of Year 10, will be accompanied by Craig Duguid to compete in the International Ecopolicyade Competition in Haipong Vietnam. We wish them all the best as they compete in an online game which looks at the impact of a range of socio-economic and political decisions which influence on their decision making.
- Five students and a student from Glossop High, accompanied by Jenny Arezina, will be travelling to Salamanca Spain to study at the Hispano Continental. The students will be furthering their Spanish as well as learning cultural aspects including cooking and dancing.

Interstate Travel

In the last week of this term, 37 Year 9 to 11 students will be travelling to Waverley Melbourne. They are competing in the Australasian Schools Girls Netball Competition. We wish the girls a great time as they compete and build friendships with students from other schools.

Student Skills and Abilities – Demonstrated in a range of contexts

Over the last few weeks, I have been privileged to see our students in a range of contexts. This has included:

- Five dance teams competing in the South Australian Dance Stars Competition. The teams demonstrated commitment, collaboration, support and a sense of enjoyment as they performed together. What was also evident was the support students gave each other, cheering and being there for each other. Congratulations to the four teams what have progressed to the State Finals on 29 June at the Norwood Concert Hall.
- Rebecca Leung, and Eleana Willmot, both in Year 9, who performed as members of the Secondary School Strings Orchestra on 19 June at Norwood. Rebecca and Eleana demonstrated their skills and abilities on the cello and violin respectively, through practice and commitment.
- Year 12 Drama student performed ‘Kill Jill’ on 12 and 13 June. Congratulations to them for their hard work and commitment to working together, learning their lines and continual rehearsals leading up to the performance.

Year 12 Examinations

Best wishes to the Year 12 students who have examinations from 1 to 4 July. Preparation is important and the examination feedback will provide valuable information about the efforts that need to be sustained or increased in Term 3, towards all students completing Year 12.

Semester 1 Reports

Semester 1 reports will be distributed on Thursday 3 July. Students will take them home. Year 12 reports will be posted home. I would urge parents and caregivers to discuss the reports with their children. There is still another semester where students:

- Can continue to improve their work through attempting and completing all set tasks.
- Doing the necessary homework and formative work building towards summative assessment tasks.
- Seeking help from others – teachers and other students.
In particularly, we have reached the two thirds of the courses in SACE Stage 2. Year 12 students should be using the forthcoming school holidays to catch up on their work, complete summaries of each of their topics, complete assessment tasks and prepare for their final term. The more work that is done before Term 3 starts, the smoother the term goes. Participation in paid employment needs to be balanced with study demands for the remainder of Year 12. Students should be increasing their time spent on their studies for the short term until they finish all Year 12 requirements.

2013 Cybersafety Summit
Congratulations to Michael Winter, our student counsellor, who has been selected to attend the 2013 Cybersafety Summit in Melbourne on 2 August. Michael will meet with representatives of government and industry to discuss cybersafety issues. The program will involve activities and workshops aimed at promoting cybersafety awareness and education as well as developing cybersafety resources.

Why do we have a Resource Centre?
Blackwood High School has a comprehensive book, journal and article collection. We also have, through our emphasis on digital learning, access to the World Wide Web with its array of books, journal and articles. Recently, our Year 12 Physics class went to Flinders University to undertake in a physics practical and students were shown the wealth of resources in the Flinders University library.
It is important that students access a range of written materials including hard copy and online resources to support independent reading. Research has shown that people who read widely build a broad vocabulary. Sourcing diverse information that provides students with reliable information to support their viewpoints, is an important skill and often makes the difference between those who will achieve satisfactorily compared to those who achieve highly.
We might use the equation:

More books (reading materials) = increased reading = more capable readers

There are many reasons people read. Reading nurtures the intellect, emotions and creativeness. People read to escape . . . to visit a faraway place . . . to get smarter . . . to find answers to questions . . . to ask new questions . . . to discover . . . to be scared . . . to satisfy a curiosity . . . to imagine . . . to relax . . . to open their mind . . . to find inspiration. These are just a few of the reasons for reading.

NEITA National Teaching Awards
The National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA) is an independent awards program where parents, School councils, parent associations, students, Council and Community organisations, can acknowledge and reward their inspirational educators.

Flinders University : New Courses
Flinders University is offering a new course in 2014.
The new and innovative degree is the Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical activity.
Other new degrees include:
- Bachelor of Engineering (Civil).
- Bachelor of Environment.
- Bachelor of Information Technology (Network Systems).
- Bachelor of Justice & Society (Criminology).
- Bachelor of Media Arts.
- Bachelor of International Studies.
Information about the new degrees will be available on the Open Days of 16 and 17 August.

UNI SA
UNI SA is introducing two new degrees in 2014.
The Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical & Renewable Energy Systems) and the Bachelor of Psychological Science (Cognitive Neuroscience).
Open Day is 18 August City West Campus 9am – 4.30pm.
Further information available at: unisa.edu.au/infosessions

Seeing Stars SKA Competition
Students can enter the Art Competition design to celebrate art and astronomy. The SKA is the Square Kilometre Array.
Further information: ska.gov.au/artprize

Marion Coady, Principal
STEM PROGRAMME

The first of our year 6/7 programmes has concluded and has been an overwhelming success! We were so impressed with the quality of the products and the presentations students demonstrated in the final week. From energy efficient houses, robotic mobile solar panels that follow the sunlight to the production of electricity from natural disasters to name a few they were all very innovative and creative. We are very much looking forward to our next group of primary school STEM students starting this Friday 28th June and delivering this most exciting and rewarding programme to another group of students.

HERE’S WHAT SOME STUDENTS AND PARENTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT STEM PROGRAMME 1:

“The most fun part of the programme for me was actually building and creating things. I found it a lot of fun how we could experiment with things”

“I really enjoyed making our own project, because we could use all of the things we learned and make a wonderful project and it was really fun”

“I enjoyed challenging myself with realistic problems that I would find in real life situations. I enjoyed because it actually connected to real life situations”

“I didn’t dislike anything about the programme! It was all very fun exciting and educational. I really enjoyed it and had a fantabulous time”

“I loved it so much! It is a great idea and I have learned a lot over the last few weeks. I am so glad I got to be a part of the STEM programme.”

“Fantastic way of getting students from different schools to work together. A great introduction to high school. Shows it’s not all that scary. Our child really enjoyed the practical tasks and team work”

Jarrod Chave, Leader: Innovations in Science & Technology

YOUNG WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE: ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY 12th JUNE 2013

On Wednesday 12th June, 10 Year 9 girls went on an excursion to the University of Adelaide to learn about engineering, maths, science and computer science. It was a day about pathways for women in engineering and there were a number of girls from other schools there too. We went to five different activities to do with chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical and electronic engineering, mathematical sciences and petroleum engineering. They were all very interesting, and we listened to talks from university students themselves. We did many practical activities like build bridges with straws that were as light as possible, but could hold a certain amount of weight. As well as program robots to dance whilst making various noises and displaying images. We had plenty of fun whilst learning about these things and it was a very successful day.

STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED THE YOUNG WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE WERE:

Emily Crump, Aleisha Hubbard, Brooke Taylor, Erin Garrity, Emily Lauritsen, Hannah Thompson, Arpita Addhay, Brenda Chigwidden, Erin Hegarty and Tori Mason.

Jarrod Chave, Leader: Innovations in Science & Technology

SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

The members of Blackwood High School sustainability group went to St Catherine’s School on the 14 of June. Our goal in our school is to reduce the litter in the yard, and find better ways of keeping the yard clean at Blackwood and in turn preserve our natural environment.

At St Catherine’s, we attended a youth forum run by the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative. These people help schools get their sustainability projects going and give support and ideas. There were about eight schools at the forum, and we each learnt new ideas from each other.

We started with an ice breaker, and then were given a tour of St Catherine’s School. This is because they have a huge amount of sustainability projects and wetlands in their school, and we got ideas from their previous projects. We started actually planning our projects and getting them underway. We also worked on our leadership and presenting skills, and performed a little skit about an environmental statement. The day was a great success, and we hope to get our project running at Blackwood High.

Kate Westphalen, Taylor Thomas and Jasmin Gallagher-Bohn
**DANCE SUCCESS**

Congratulations to the five teams that competed in the 2013 Dance Stars competition on Saturday, 1 June. It was terrific to see all the students supporting each other.

Teams through to the finals included:
- Senior contemporary – came second
- Senior Hip Hop – came third
- Junior theatrical – came fourth
- Senior theatrical – came fourth.

**FLASH-MOB**

Year 9 & 10 Blackwood High School Dance students were invited to be part of a state wide flash-mob performance organised by the DECD Centre Education program as part of the launch for the 2013 Come-Out Arts Festival.

“Come Out Festival is a time to be adventurous, to dance out loud and have lots of fun learning about Dreaming the Future through dance!”

The dance students participated in dance workshops learning the choreography, and on the day of the flash mob, they spent the morning rehearsing with all the participants to bring this project together.

They performed on the lawns of the Museum alongside 200 dance students from other schools and performers from Cirkidz.

A recording was made of the event and posted onto the Come-Out and Adelaide Festival Theatre Education websites, so that all participants can share in what they have created. It is also a positive promotion of the Performing Arts at Blackwood High.

Students reflected on the performing experience by responding to these questions:

- What did you learn?
- What could be improved?
- What is the one thing that you remember?
- Did the YouTube clip reflect your learning experience?

If you wish to enjoy the performance, go to [http://youtu.be/HYPyLH_Sy9I](http://youtu.be/HYPyLH_Sy9I)

Katrina Constantopoulos, Dance Teacher

**CYBERSAFETY**

Year 11 students have participated in two important sessions this term on the issues of cybersafety and looking after your friends.

The internet is part of our daily lives, so it is essential that teenagers learn how to navigate the web safely. Guest speaker Sonya Ryan (from the Carly Ryan Foundation) presentation aimed to create awareness, and educate the students about online safety.

Parents should take the time to discuss and negotiate safety issues around internet use. The link below is an online contract developed for parents and their children.


Our second presentation was by Neil Davies from the Sammy G foundation. Neil shared his story with the students and his aim was to raise awareness around the issues of teenage binge drinking, safe partying and looking after your friends.

Student quotes: “To have the parents of both Carly & Sammy speak to us about the tragedy of losing their child made the presentation so real and powerful.”

“The stories and experiences from both guest speakers were very emotional sad and tragic”

Katrina Constantopoulos, Dance Teacher
YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP ON CYBERSAFETY

Our school was invited to participate in the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) on Cybersafety. The YAG program is run by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. Those selected needed to have internet access outside of school hours as the YAG communicate with each other using a website forum. The website was open for two weeks between 28 May - 7 June. In this online forum, members talked to each other safely and securely about cybersafety issues and topics. The YAG website was monitored by YAG moderators. We were allowed to start forum threads on any cybersafety topic and these topics were opened for discussion with all other YAG members. The YAG forum gave students an opportunity to voice their opinions on a wide range of topics from sexting, cyberbullying and addiction. It was interesting to have these open and safe discussions with other students around Australia. We were all proud that we have been able to be part of a forum that will shape cybersafety initiatives and programs.

Chris Williams & Zachary Stolinski - Year 10

GLOBAL LEADERS CONVENTION

The World Vision Student Leader convention brought thousands of Australian student leaders together for one day to learn about the underlying causes of poverty, the stark inequalities of the world we live in and how they can contribute to lasting change. The South Australian event was held at Seaton on Friday 24 May, where students from all over the State took part. The Blackwood High School students who participated were Rachael Thompson, Zac Howell, Suma Hassan, Fern Buranasak, Razia Sahib and Vismadh Chahal. They listened to dynamic keynote speakers, saw multimedia presentations, and were involved in small group discussions, peer to peer learning and an interactive global simulation game. Suma is pictured bartering for resources in the simulation game. As a result of their participation, the students are keen to share their new knowledge and skills. They want to become global citizens in our school and are interested in taking on leadership for the 40 Hour Famine challenge. This year the 40 hour famine focusses on Southern Malawi where 1.9 million people don’t have enough food to eat.

Sam Thomson, Christian Pastoral Support Worker

OPEN BOYS KNOCKOUT BASKETBALL

On Tuesday, Week 6, the Open Boys Basketball squad hosted the first round matchup of the Knockout basketball competition, competing against Christies Beach High School. Blackwood High School started quickly through some good offensive play and solid defence, keeping Christies Beach scoreless and leading 18-0. Everybody in the team played well, with highlights of great team work. The team continued to stretch the lead throughout the rest of the game, winning 80-28. Some highlights included Jasper getting a dunk in the third quarter, Hussam was on fire from the three point line, while Harry and Brett lead the team well from the start. Will, Ben, Daniel, Yuto and Sievlong all played their role while D’Arcy stepped up as a Year 8 and played a great game. Overall, it was a very enjoyable game and a great win. The team comprised of:

Brett Turner (Captain)  Harry Davenport (Vice Captain)
D’Arcy Mitchell      Will Knight       Jasper Young    Ben Anderson
Sievlong Phu          Houssam Elsayed  Daniel Hutton  Yuto Fukabori

A special thank you to Tom Oliphant for coaching the side and organising a number of trainings leading up to the game.

Thomas Gibbs, Sports Trainee

10 GIRLS PE

On Thursday 13 June, the Year 10 Girls PE class travelled into the city to visit Fernwood Women’s Gym. This exclusive 7th floor gym is situated in Rundle Mall. The girls participated in a one hour Body Pump class which resulted in some stiff and sore bodies the following day. It was an excellent experience for the girls who were brilliant role models for Blackwood High.

Janet Bradley; Year 10 Girls PE teacher.
KNOCKOUT NETBALL
Over three days in week 6, Blackwood’s Year 8/9, Year 10 and Open Girls netball sides played the first round of their SSSSA Knockout netball competitions.

YEAR 8/9 GIRLS KNOCKOUT NETBALL
On Wednesday week 6, the Year 8/9 K/O side Blackwood faced Cardijn College, Glenunga and Charles Campbell College at Blackwood in a round robin style of matches. Cardijn came prepared and started the game strongly; Blackwood went into the half time break trailing Cardijn by 7 goals. In the second half, Blackwood showed their fighting spirit and began to capitalise on Cardijn’s errors. Blackwood came within 2 goals in the final 2 minutes only to have the game slip away. A disappointing start to the day, Cardijn 33 defeated BHS 28.

The second game of the day once again saw Blackwood on the back foot in the 1st half with Glenunga doubling Blackwood’s score. We went into the long break down 18 to 9. Blackwood’s defence end rallied keeping Glenunga to only 3 goals in the 3rd quarter. This allowed Blackwood to get back into the game and move into the final quarter with a one goal lead. Unfortunately, the new found spark didn’t last, and the final quarter saw Blackwood relinquish the lead and finish 3 goals down. Glenunga 29 defeated BHS 26.

Blackwood resolved to finish the day on a high note and regrouped to face Charles Campbell College. Displaying the best netball they had played all day, Blackwood finally started strongly and charged ahead. The girls pressured their opposition forcing errors and worked over time in attack to capitalise on all turnovers. A great finish to a tough day BHS 57 defeated CCC 8.

OPEN GIRLS KNOCKOUT NETBALL
On the Thursday, the Open Girls team faced Cornerstone College, Murray Bridge and Concordia College. In the first game, Blackwood started brightly, jumping out to an early lead against Cornerstone and never looking back, running out comfortable winners. BHS 47 defeated Cornerstone College 16

In the next match, Blackwood met Concordia in a much tighter contest. The lead seesawed between the teams. Blackwood went into the final quarter 3 goals ahead, and with a show of strength from the attack end, we were able to extend the lead to finish 9 goals in front at the final whistle. BHS 34 defeated Concordia 25

In the final game, Blackwood played Murray Bridge, and we were able to complete a clean sweep of the day with a comfortable win and advance through to the next round. Blackwood Open Girls will face Immanuel in Round 2 to be played at Immanuel College Tuesday Week 2 Term 3.

YEAR 10 GIRLS K/O NETBALL
On the Friday, the Year 10 Girls travelled to Tatachilla to play against Tatachilla and Willunga. Upon arrival the BHS team was able to watch a tight tussle between the Tatachilla and Willunga teams. Blackwood faced home court favourites Tatachilla in their 1st game. Goal Shooter, Asha Thurlow led from the front, shooting 26 of Blackwood’s 30 goals by half time to set up a handy 10 goal lead. All 11 players were able to take the court and contribute to a satisfying win. BHS 57 Defeated Tatachilla 33

Blackwood needed to secure the win against Willunga to ensure a place in the second round of the Knock Out championships. Willunga’s defensive pressure in the first quarter set Blackwood on the back foot. Goal Defence Georgia Brown pulled out some handy intercepts and allowed Blackwood to take the lead moving into the long break 3 goals up. A great effort and execution of the team plan ensured Blackwood came away with the win. BHS 44 defeated Willunga 35. Blackwood Year 10 Girls will face Seymour College in Round 2 to be played at Seymour College Week 1 Term 3 Year 10 K/O Netball Team

SPECIALIST SCHOOLS PLAYOFFS
On Tuesday of Week 8, the Year 8 and 9 netball class travelled to Netball SA Stadium to participate in the Netball SA Specialist School Playoffs. Blackwood fielded 4 sides, competing across 4 different grades, with girls from the 11 Specialist netball class coaching the sides.

All teams had challenging games against the other specialist netball schools and it was a great opportunity to test all players. Blackwood had three teams competing in the Year 9 competition with a number of Year 8 players in each team. The girls had an enjoyable day with the Red team narrowly missing out on finals, due to percentage. The sole Year 8 team reached the grand final and facing Trinity College. Trinity jumped to an early lead in the first quarter, and despite our girls fighting hard, we were unable to close the gap, eventually going down.

Bianca Reddy, Netball Coordinator
YEAR 8/9 KNOCKOUT FOOTBALL
On Wednesday 12 June, the Year 8/9 football team played Round 2 of the Statewide Knockout competition. This included matches against Sacred Heart College and Heathfield High School. In the first game, Blackwood started slowly and at quarter time had only scored 1 point to the oppositions 5 goals. To the team’s credit, they persevered to have a closer contest for the remainder of the game. The second match against Heathfield was a tight contest for the entire match. Unfortunately Blackwood lost by 4 points.

Results
Sacred Heart 12 - 7 – 79 defeated Blackwood 1 -2- 3
Best players – Matthew Walton, Tynan Carney, River Moore, Bailey Badcoe
Heathfield 5-4 – 34 defeated Blackwood 4-6-30
Best players – Tim Scott, Callum Coleman-Jones, Matthew Walton, Tom Beard

Glen Little, Dan Smith, Thomas Gibbs: Sports Department

YEAR 8 SPECIALIST FOOTBALL CLASS – ADELAIDE FOOTBALL CLUB EXCURSION
On Thursday 13 June the Year 8 Specialist Football Class visited the Adelaide Football Club. The students were privileged to experience a ‘behind the scenes’ tour incorporating all of the Crows training facilities. Students gained a valuable insight into a range of football related topics including: careers in football, the daily schedule of an AFL player, training programs and nutrition. To conclude the tour students participated in a short training session in the Westpac centre.

Glen Little, Leader: PE & Health

YEAR 8 AND 9 SPECIALIST FOOTBALL CLASS – WEST ADELAIDE FOOTBALL CLUB EXCURSION
On Thursday 20, June the Year 8 and 9 Specialist Football Class visited the West Adelaide Football Club. The excursion included a presentation from Andrew Marks (Football Services Manager West Adelaide Football Club) on the professionalism required by elite footballers and the operations of football clubs in the AFL and SANFL. To conclude the tour, students participated in a training session on Richmond Oval.

Glen Little, Leader: PE & Health

ARTS NEWS
KILL JILL played to small but appreciative audiences over two (rainy and inhospitable) nights, including two SACE external markers on 13 June. The Year 12 Drama class performed at their best, the sets – borrowed from Urrbrae HS – added to the atmosphere, the (fake) blood flowed at the right time, the terrifying gunshots rang out at the appropriate times, and when the beanstalk came crashing to the ground, the audience really felt it – courtesy of a sub-woofer cunningly hidden under the seats by our Technical Manager, Brendan Maidment.

A picture is definitely worth a thousand words, so I’ll let these photos say the rest.

At time of writing, the Dance teams are putting in their last rehearsals for the finals this weekend. I’m sure next newsletter we will be able to share with you all their triumphs. Meanwhile – it’s not good luck to say ‘break a leg’ to dancers, as you might imagine, so an Aussie expression is “chookas”. Its origins are a convoluted story about bread and chickens, but it is a ‘safe’ way to wish everyone every success this Saturday. Chookas!

Robyn Trebilcock: Arts Leader.
LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013
From 20 – 30 May, our Language students participated in the biggest online languages competition in history. Around the world, an outstanding 172,946,801 questions were answered over the ten day period with Blackwood High School students answering a staggering 331,340 questions. We were ranked seventh in South Australia out of 35 schools, coming third for German and forth for Japanese. There were some very impressive individual efforts with one Year 8 student, Wima Kardon, achieving an amazing score of 14118 points which qualifies her for an Elite Award. Congratulations, Wima! Other award winners were:
Gold Awards (3000+ points) Georgie Waters, Kabilan Venkatasalam, Parsa Shorofi
Silver Awards: (2000+ points) Vandy Wechkunukul, Nick Graham, Isaac Jurecky, Lucy Shillabeer, Rebecca Leung
Bronze Awards: (1000+ points) Ian Douglas, Kate Westphalen, Dylan Smith, Maya Tlauka, Robyn Meyer, Hattie Waters, Brooke Jenner, Natalie Macarthur, Yoshua Aranibar, Ben Liu, Lorelei Davis, Lindsey Green, Myles Marjanac, Emma Roberts
26 students achieved Credit Awards (500+ points)
We also conducted our own mini competition with Ms Matsumoto’s Japanese class winning the Year 8 competition and Ms Jones’ German class becoming the Year 9 champions. Both classes will celebrate with a pizza lunch.
The Language Perfect program is a fun way for students to practise vocabulary, and we will continue to use it as a learning tool in our language classes. Some comments posted during the competition included:
“This game is fun and makes it easier to learn numbers”
“Language Perfect really helps a lot! I’ve found that I can memorise more words and all while I’m having fun!”
“Language Perfect does help.”
“Facebook is nothing compared to Language Perfect!”
Karyn Jones, Leader, International Student Programs and LOTE

URGENT! - HOMESTAY FAMILIES WANTED!
USHIKU SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, JAPAN – STUDY TOUR 2013
Since our last newsletter was published, we received word from Japan that Senyo High School won’t be visiting Blackwood High School as planned this year. The current economic situation in Japan is one of the contributing factors to the postponement of the trip. We are hopeful they will return to Adelaide next year. In their place, we will be hosting another Japanese Study Tour group, Ushiku High School. The school is located in a rural setting about two and a half hours by car from Tokyo in Ibaraki Prefecture, and it will be their first visit to Adelaide.
The group of 18 - 20 students will be with us from Thursday 8 to Monday 19 August. So far, we only have three confirmed host families. During their stay in Australia, the Japanese students will travel to and from school each day with their hosts. At school, they will have a full schedule of activities that will include English lessons, a chance to experience classes such as Aussie Sports and Home Economics and some excursions. Host students will be invited to join the Japanese students for some activities, and a bus trip to Victor Harbor on the weekend. Our visitors will also welcome the opportunity to experience our typical Australian lifestyle – a visit to relatives, a drive or short trip, watching their host play sport, a picnic in the park, a game of cricket at the beach, shopping or any routine family activity. You will also be invited to attend a farewell ceremony/dinner for the visiting group.
A payment of $380 will be paid to each host family to defray expenses for the eleven night visit.
If you are interested in hosting a student or would like more information, please contact me at school via email karyn.jones@bhs.sa.edu.au or phone 8278 0900.
Karyn Jones, Leader, International Student Programs and LOTE

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE IS URGENTLY LOOKING FOR TWO HOST FAMILIES.
Can you help?
Two Spanish boys are due to arrive on Saturday 13 July, and they don’t have a host family yet.
Gabriel is almost 16, loves sailing, enjoys playing his guitar, has lots of friends and says “I am much excited about coming to Australia.” He says he wants to learn as much as possible about Australia and its people.
Ander is 17, and knows four different languages. He likes photography but says he’s not much good at it. He enjoys video games, but most important is his friends. Ander has two cats and says he likes animals.
For more information please contact Jenny Hanson either by phone: 8556 2208 or email: jeh1313@bigpond.net.au

FACTORS AFFECTING TEENS: CYBERBULLYING AND SLEEP PUBLIC LECTURE
Dr Barbara Spears, Senior Lecturer in the University of South Australia’s School of Education will explore:
Cyber Relationships: What parents need to know about cyber-bullying.
Barbara will discuss cyber-bullying and how the merging of offline and online environments make monitoring young people’s social relationships challenging.
Professor Kurt Lushington, Head of School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy at the University of South Australia, will discuss: The Importance of Teen Sleep.
Kurt will explore the causes of teen sleep issues and the consequences of too little sleep. This public lecture will give a great insight into teenagers and how adults in their lives can support them. This will be held at 6.00pm for 6.30pm start Wednesday 31 July 2013 At the University of South Australia - City West Campus, Bradley Forum Level 5 Hawke Building, 55 North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

Drinks and canapés will be provide

For more information visit unisa.edu.au/helpingteens

Argie Buesnel, Student Counsellor

CAREER INFORMATION

Bond University scholarship applications are now open. For details, go to the website www.bond.edu.au/scholarships to view the scholarships available to Year 12 students finishing in 2013. Students are able to apply for many Bond University scholarships online. Please contact Mr Matt Stubbert on 0408 951 122 for more detailed information or see Ms Buesnel.

Scholarship applications close on 31 July 2013.

Bond University Film & Television Awards: Bond University provides a full tuition scholarship for a student to study a Bachelor of Film & Television. The scholarship is awarded to the successful applicant in the BUFTA competition – a competition requiring the applicants to submit a short film. Entries close 27 September 2013. For more details, including selection criteria, go to www.bufta.com.au or see Ms Buesnel.

Argie Buesnel, Student Counsellor

MITCHAM HILLS COLLEGE COMMUNITY AND SERVICE DAY AT MONARTO ZOO

On Friday 14 June, four Year 9 Peers Support Leaders (Georgie Waters, Deanna Kelley, Megan Buchanan and Aleisha Hubbard) represented Blackwood High School on a Mitcham Hills College Community and Service Day at Monarto Zoo. Tree planting was the main Community and Service activity of the day. This excursion was an opportunity for our students to work with Year 6 & 7 students from our local Primary Schools towards a common Community and Service goal. The students enjoyed the experience, and their reflections are included below:

“This was a great experience and gave us a better understanding of how we can contribute to the community and environment. It was expected that planting the trees was going to take about two hours (to plant 1100 trees), but because the whole Mitcham Hills College worked together as a team, it only took one hour. The trees would contribute to create a substantial environment to make Monarto Zoo a better place to be. Some of us learnt how to plant trees because it was not a skill we had before. Through this experience, we learnt how to work as a team and collaborate with many other local schools for the benefit of the community”.

Georgie Waters, Deanna Kelley, Megan Buchanan and Aleisha Hubbard.

SRC - CITY OF MITCHAM YOUTH FORUM

On Wednesday 12th June, nine students from the SRC went on an excursion accompanied by Ms Matsumoto to the City of Mitcham Youth Forum. It was hosted by two representatives from the Youth Affairs Council of SA, Ms Anne Bainbridge, and the Youth Development Officer of City of Mitcham, Mr Ulus Fuat. The forum was also attended by three other schools from the Mitcham district; Urrbrae High School, Unley High School and Mercedes College.

We shared our ideas about what a community is and brought our thoughts to life with hands on activities. Later that day, we mixed in with other schools and discussed the issues that our community might face. We identified the troubles faced by charities, various solutions for various issues, how to make things happen and how to decide if a goal is achievable. By the end of the day, our team had made friends, learnt about our community as a whole and learnt how to achieve goals.

Ebony Young and Siviana Sivam (year 10)
I have recently presented a seminar to students on how to revise effectively for exams. A summary of this seminar is below for your information. Please feel free to email me with any specific questions, or you might like to go to www.developingminds.net.au for more articles on supporting senior school students through tests and exams.

1. **Short chunks of revision – from now on – will be more effective for students than waiting until the exams.**
   Students should start revising for five minutes **every day from now on**. This might happen at the start of homework or study time, during the ‘ads’ on TV or while waiting at the bus stop. Spending five minutes per day going over something learnt last week will save hours of revision time overall because when tests and exams arrive most of the information will already be familiar. Research shows that people retain more information when they revise for **short periods of time more frequently** than people who revise for **longer periods less often**.

2. **During revision sessions, the most important thing students can do is to activate their brains.**
   The worst thing students can do is passively reading over notes. Revision should take mental effort. Students need to activate their brains and really think about what they are reading or doing while revising. I suggested some ways for them to do this in the seminar, and I’ve outlined them for your interest below:
   - Make information you revise visual where possible. Use diagrams, colour, make things big, make models, pictures, put information on posters, and use visual stories.
   - Make the information you revise connected to other information you already know. Find out how information is related to other school subjects, and find out how it is related to what you learnt previously. Make information connected to things in real life; connect information to words you know about.
   - Organise information into groups or categories. Look at tables of contents, ask your teacher or use your own brain to put information you have to learn into categories and subcategories
   - Predict what you will be tested on. Write out a list of specific questions or essay topics you might be asked. Not only does this help you know what to revise, it also activates your brain in a different way, which means you are more likely to remember it.
   - Make the information you revise provoke emotion. Use humour, make up jokes about your work, and connect concepts to sexy things, shocking things, and scary things. Make up a song about ideas. Imagine the emotional impact of concepts.
   - Explain information to others – being forced to explain or list things out loud makes our brain process this information in different ways, meaning it will be more likely to be remembered.
   - Constantly test yourself as you revise. Make up cards or revision books, (you can download apps to do this too) that consist of sample questions/answers and use spare minutes in the day to test yourself. Do practice tests and exams – and not just the night before the test.

Parents can be a huge help to revising students. A couple of suggestions for parents are:

**Spend time interviewing the student about what they are learning.**

One of the best methods to cement material in our minds is to actually teach somebody else. If your teenager is willing, ask them to spend some time teaching you about what they need to know for their exam. Start by asking lots of questions about the subject matter. Have a text book on the subject open in front of you and ask about what words and concepts mean. Let your own curiosity about direct questions. Try to be genuinely interested in what they are doing.

Also be careful that this is not a “grilling” for the student. This exercise needs to be something that helps them rather than increases their stress. Be wary - if you find yourself getting frustrated, then cease the exercise!

**Another similar method is to get the student themselves to come up with a list of written questions and answers, and then “test” them by asking them these questions.**

This doesn’t have to be done all in one sitting. For example, you could create a routine during the week before exams, to do this exercise ten minutes every morning over breakfast or after lunch. If you are really lucky – you could ask the questions and they can answer while they clear the table after tea! You could make this more fun by using rewards (an M&M) for each correct answer!

This method of revision is far more useful than simply reading over or writing out notes. Asking and answering questions ensures that the student is actively learning. They will radically improve their recall rate by using this method of revision.

**What else can parents do?**

1. Encourage balance. A relaxed and happy student is more likely to learn more effectively. This means that there should still be time for fun, socializing and down time – even in this busy time of the year. Anything you can do to help them feel good about life at this time, will have a pay off with their study abilities.

2. Ask about study – ask questions about what they are doing, how they are feeling about it, and what they are most worried about. BUT (and it is a big one) these questions need to be asked in a relaxed, casual way. Don’t be offended if students don’t want to talk then and there – just come back to it the next day. Also make sure you are actually asking questions rather than giving lots of advice or nagging. Finally, make sure that this is not the only topic you are asking about – also ask students about things they enjoy talking about rather than making the only focus of conversation schoolwork.

3. Help students look after their health. Sleep, exercise and nutrition are vitally important for the brain to function. Support students in eating breakfast, having healthy snacks available, getting to the gym/sport and not staying up all hours of the night. This is tricky, I know, but do as much as you can.

Finally, keep showing love and encouragement to students

Exams are a stressful experience for most teens. They need people around them who love, support and encourage them. Parents are best placed to do this. Make a few allowances, tell them you love them, ask them how they are going and feeling and ask them how you can help.

*For more information on helping students through senior school, go to Kirrilie’s site - www.developingminds.net.au*
SAFE AND WELL ONLINE STUDY

The Safe and Well Online Study is part of an Australian Government supported initiative called the Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre. Using online environments including social media, this four year study aims to positively influence safe and well practices in young people, and to promote respect and positive attitudes and behaviours online.

We are now recruiting parents and young people to do two surveys this year about cyberbullying, respect and body image. We need a minimum of 1,200 parents and 1,200 young people aged between 12 and 17.

If you are interested in joining our study we would love to hear from you.

The web address below offers more information and the chance to register.

Parents can then enter into a prize draw to WIN MOVIE TICKETS and young people who complete the survey can go into a draw to WIN an iPad. Last year’s iPad winner was: S. Edwards, SA.

Please have your say and help this important project to make a difference to young people’s health and wellbeing.

This study is approved by the UniSA Human Research Ethics Committee, if you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the project you may contact the Executive Officer of this Committee, Tel: +61 8 8302 3118; Email: vicki.allen@unisa.edu.au. The Research Ethics Officer is not connected with the research project and can facilitate a resolution to your concern in an impartial manner. If you have any questions about the study please contact: Dr Barbara Spears on (08) 830 24500 and Barbara.Spears@unisa.edu.au; or Dr Carmel Taddeo on (08) 830 24012 and Carmel.Taddeo@unisa.edu.au

Please note: Approval to advertise research in DECD sites is not to be interpreted as official departmental support for or endorsement of any aspect of the research or of its outcomes or recommendations. Such approval is granted conditional upon the researcher’s compliance with the department’s Research Guidelines and national standards of ethical research conduct.

STUDY AT THE OTHER END OF THE WORLD!

AFS – one of the world’s largest not-for-profit intercultural students exchange organisations – is on the lookout for young Australian students willing to embark on the experience of a lifetime and to become a cultural Ambassador.

Are you ready to step out of your comfort zone to...

- Become a part of a whole new family, making friends from all over the world
- Learn about a new culture and be immersed in the language
- Represent Australia with pride

In 2013/14, AFS has over 50 destinations for the high school exchange program ranging in duration from 2 to 11 months. All you need to do is to choose where you’d like to go!

It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity you’ll never forget!

Feel up to the challenge? Checkout www.afs.org.au, call 1300 131 736 for everything you need to know to make your dream a reality.

DARREN LEHMANN CRICKET ACADEMY HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The Darren Lehmann Cricket Academy is giving young cricketers the opportunity to train in its world acclaimed cricket academy this winter.

The winter program is running from Wednesday 7 August through to Sunday 8 September in a 5 week, 10 session program.

This program will mirror the International program that has had 9 players go on and represent England.

To enrol or for further information, contact Shaun Seigert on email: sseigert@dlca.com.au or mobile: 0422 435 203.

School Holiday Soccer Clinics

Soccer Clinics to be held:

Week 1: Westminster School 8-12 July 2013
Week 2: Oakbank Area School 15-19 July 2013

Coerver® Coaching SA the “World’s No.1 Soccer Skills Teaching Method” is offering players the opportunity to participate in a school holiday clinic.

For all levels of youth players (girls and boys) aged 6 - 16

The Programs will be conducted by former Socceroo, FFSA Hall of Fame member and Player Life Member Steve Maxwell.

For further details and registration forms visit www.coerversa.com.au

Or contact Steve Maxwell on 0411 797 227 or email steve.maxwell@coerver.com.au.

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange

Is pleased to invite interested students and parents of Blackwood High School once again to attend the first Public Information Session in Term 3, to be held Tuesday 30 July (7 pm) at Marion Cultural Centre, 287 Diagonal Rd, Oaklands Park.

This info session will be an excellent opportunity for students from Years 9 – 12 to learn first-hand about applying for an overseas student exchange program. S.C.C.E. staff will be available to answer questions such as program selection, closing dates, departure dates, suitability, hosting families, etc. Exchange students who have returned from their programs will also be sharing their experiences and what they have gained.