

# NEWSLETTER

No 11 – 15 November 2013

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



## TERM 4

This term has been characterised by significant events that have showcased the many skills and abilities of our students.

On 6 November the Year 11 Drama performance of *'Lizzie Borden Took an Axe'* occurred. The evening performance saw piano solos, duets and guitar and vocals as a prelude to the talented students who gave an engaging drama performance. The rehearsals and obvious preparation saw a polished performance that was wonderful to attend.

The ongoing commitment of the school to link with the community culminated in our students being at the official launch of the mural at Colebrook Reserve on 6 November. Leading up to the event, a number of Blackwood High School students were involved in working with an Aboriginal artist, Roger Rigney, developing the mural as part of the Statewide Landcare Conference. I would like to acknowledge the work of Ms Jenny Remete, in leading the involvement of our students in this community activity.

## Student Free Day

The Governing Council approved the final Student Free Day for Friday 6 December. Steve Francis will be working with the staff on student engagement including strategies we can use to stimulate the interests of adolescents and young people. This day is related directly to our strategic priority 'Learning through Engagement' and 'Achievement in Learning'.

## Bushfire Action Plan

At the last Governing Council meeting the updated Bushfire Action Plan was approved. Blackwood High School remains open on days designated as 'Catastrophic'. In the event of an evacuation we move to the space in the Recreation Centre designated to our school. School buses will run unless directed not to by the police or emergency services. Please ensure you are familiar with our plan by visiting the school website.

## World Challenge Teams

We wish both the World Challenge teams safe and rewarding trips to Asia and Africa. They depart on Monday 25 November and return on Monday 23 December.

## Remembrance Day

On Monday 11 November, the whole school acknowledged Remembrance Day with an assembly. The students heard from our three MC's Nicole Taylor, Rachael Thompson and Daniel Hill. During the assembly students heard about the significance of the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. Rachael Thompson gave a speech based on the letters of an Australian soldier, and Georgia Cosercas and Heather Smith provided a personal perspective of the significance of Remembrance Day. Three students Fern Buranasak, Caitlin Merlin and Ethan Quigley accompanied by Ms Naoko Matsumoto, laid a wreath on behalf of Blackwood High School at the Remembrance Ceremony held at the Blackwood Memorial.

## 2013 Remembrance Business Breakfast

On Friday 8 November, Fern Buranasak, Caitlin Merlin and I represented the school at The Repat Foundation Remembrance Business Breakfast. We had an early start, leaving the school at 6.15am, travelling to the Adelaide Convention Centre. We joined many other students and school staff to hear Dr Gill Hicks MBE talk about her experience of being injured in the London training bombings of 7 July 2005. Gill talked about her choices between living or dying, and the support, determination and care of other people who attended the scene of the bombings. Gill was severely and permanently injured in the bombings, resulting in her being a double amputee who has learnt to walk again with the use of prosthetic legs. She has established the charitable organisation M.A.D. (Making A Difference) for Peace. Her story was poignant, humorous and full of messages of hope.

## New School Website

The school will be launching a new website in a week or so. Further details will be provided when it goes live. We would welcome any feedback about the new website including any suggestions of information to include.



## CALENDAR

### Mon 18 to Fri 22 November

Yr 11 Exam week  
Yr 8-10 exams final week

### Tue 19 November

Finance Advisory Mtg 7pm

### Thur 21 November

Ritsumeikan Study Tour arrive

### Fri 22 November

Mitcham Hills Cluster Sports Day hosted by Blackwood High School.

### Mon 25 November

World Challenge teams depart for Asia & Africa and return on 23 December.

### Tue 26 November

2014 Year 8 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm in the PAC.

### Wed 27 November

Performing Arts Tour Day to Primary Schools.

### Tues 3 December

Governing Council Mtg 7pm  
Yr 11 Presentation Assembly

### Wed 4 December

2014 Yr 8 Orientation Day & ID photos  
Yr 10 Graduation 7pm at the Blackwood Hills Baptist Church  
Ritsumeikan Study Tour depart

### Fri 6 December

STUDENT FREE DAY-Staff PD

### Wed 11 December

Year 8 & 9 Presentation Assembly.  
Reports & Cambiums distributed.



TIA South Australian Government Schools  
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### Visual and Performing Arts Showcase

On 13 November the evening started at 5.30pm with the Sunset Festival. This saw a student compere introduce a number of musical performances displaying the diverse musical interests of our students. The evening also included the Visual Arts Open Night where we viewed visual, design and photographic works of our Year 12 students.

At 6.30pm a Year 9 Drama class staged their public performance of the melodrama 'Evil Shall Not Triumph'.

At 7.30pm we saw the PAC Auditorium packed for 'Blackwood's Got Talent'. Students from Years 8 to 12 demonstrated their instrumental, singing, comedy and dance talents. Behind the scenes our students worked to provide the technical support for the show. I would like to acknowledge the work of the Arts teachers, Robyn Trebilcock, Brigitte Esvelt, Michael Winter, Ben Dening, Jenny Remete, Naoko Matsumoto, Katrina Constantopoulos and Jeanette Beadnall who supported students and coordinated this evening of events.



### Know Before You Go

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Services have developed a short presentation aimed at Year 12 students who may be heading overseas for end of school celebrations. The presentation called 'Know before you go' website [www.customs.gov.au/knowbeforeyougo/default.asp](http://www.customs.gov.au/knowbeforeyougo/default.asp) has some key messages that students should know before leaving on holidays overseas. We have put the brochure onto our school website. At the customs website, the brochure is available in different languages. Also, the Smart Traveller website, [www.smarttraveller.gov.au](http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au) has a Schoolies and Leavers page, with information and potential risks when overseas.

### Parent Opinion Survey

As the end of year approaches, we will be seeking feedback from our parents and caregivers about Blackwood High School. This year we will be using an online survey developed nationally to gather the feedback. We are currently generating the list of families to survey. This list is generated using a set of instructions provided by DECD. If there are families who do not have access to computers we are able to provide a copy of the survey. We would appreciate the parents and caregivers who are selected to complete the survey. Your opinions are important and the information will help us plan for 2014.

Should you wish to receive further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

*Marion Coady, Principal*

### YEAR 10 GRADUATION

#### Wednesday 4 December, 7.00 pm for a 7.30 start, Blackwood Hills Baptist Church

Year 10 is drawing to a close as students ready themselves for moving into Year 11, Senior School and the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE).

At Blackwood High School we mark this transition into the final phase of schooling at a graduation event that celebrates student achievements and acknowledges completion of Year 10 by every student. Pictured are the Year 10 valedictorians Daniel Hill and Jessica Mayman-Kemp from 2012.



Parents, caregivers and students are welcome to join us at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church on Wednesday 4 December. We invite you to join us for an informal gathering at 7.00 pm in the foyer to meet teachers and other families. We will commence the Graduation Ceremony at 7.30 pm sharp.

So please celebrate with us as we show case a variety of our students' talents, listen to student presentations, and recognise all student achievements through the presentation of certificates of graduation.

*David Garrett, Deputy Principal*

### YEAR 10 END OF YEAR ARRANGEMENTS AND PERSONAL LEARNING PLAN COMPLETION

Parents/caregivers can expect, to receive a letter to be sent home next week outlining the end of year arrangements for Year 10 students.

Important dates to remember include:

- The last official day for Year 10s is Thursday 5 December (Week 8) due to the school closure on Friday 6 December.
- The Year 10 Graduation evening is Wednesday 4 December, commencing with an informal gathering at 7.00pm, with the ceremony beginning at 7.30pm sharp.

We will be providing additional support to students who have not completed their Personal Learning Plan (PLP). The PLP is a compulsory part of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). Students are required to achieve at least a C in the PLP to complete the SACE.

Students who have not reached this standard will be provided with **additional support on Thursday 5 December** rather than attending their usual classes. Care Group teachers will contact the families of students who have still not satisfactorily completed their assessment tasks, requesting that these students attend school in the final week (Week 9) to finalise the required work.

*David Garrett, Deputy Principal*

## YEAR 8 BOYS BASKETBALLERS – STATE CHAMPIONS!

On Wednesday 13 November, the Year 8 Basketball squad travelled to Wayville Sports Centre to compete in the Pool A Year 8 State finals. The first match in the qualifying rounds was an early start at 8:30am against Sacred Heart College. In what a tight game throughout, Sacred Heart led for the majority of time, before a couple of clutch buckets nearing the game's end gave Blackwood the lead. Blackwood was able to hold on for a 30-27 win.

In the second game, Blackwood faced Henley High School. Blackwood started fast, getting out to a 10 point lead in the first half, Henley were not able to close the gap, with Blackwood running out winners by 12 points, 36-24. In the final game of the minor rounds Blackwood played Tenison Woods College. After getting to a fast start and leading 19-6 at half time, Tenison went on a 15-2 run and took the lead 23-21 midway through the second half. The boys responded and ground out a tough win 32-26. Blackwood went through to the semi-finals undefeated, qualifying second only on percentage, and were drawn to face Mercedes College for a place in the grand final.

In a high scoring match, both teams scored quickly and at half time Blackwood had edged ahead 26-22. However, in the second half, it was more one sided with Blackwood eventually running out easy winners 49-36, advancing to the grand final.

In the final, Blackwood came up against Trinity College. The first quarter went back and forth, with Trinity coming out of the blocks fast, and Blackwood reeling them in. The second quarter was much the same, with Trinity able to take a narrow lead into half time at 19-16. The second half was very strategic, with a number of players from both teams involved in fouls. In the third quarter, Blackwood was able to work back into the lead, leading by 1 point at three-quarter time. In the last quarter, Blackwood were able to stretch this lead to 4 points with 5 minutes to go, before Trinity's star player was fouled out. With this, Blackwood were able to run out eventual winners by 9 points 45-36, becoming State champions! Congratulations to D'Arcy Mitchell (captain), Daniel Nash (Vice captain), Nathan Beenham, Callum Coleman-Jones, Ryan Mountford, River Moore, Bailey Dyer, Cam Clohesy, Willy Bae and Tynan Carney on their fantastic efforts over the past few weeks. A big thankyou to Tom Oliphant for coaching and organising a number of training sessions, as well as Year 10 student Will Knight for scoring on the day.

**Thomas Gibbs, Sports Trainee**



## COLEBROOK PARK MURAL

Earlier in the year students from Blackwood High School and St. Johns Grammar were invited by Yvonne Caddy, Chair, Blackwood Reconciliation Group, to be involved in creating a mural for Colebrook Park. This is a significant historical site for all Aboriginal people in South Australia and was where the 'Stolen Generation' of children grew up, far away from their families and traditional way of life. The Aboriginal Lands Trust coordinated the project and liaised with the schools. It was a wonderful experience for local students to be involved in a community art project of such significance.



We were guided and mentored through the process by skilled and gifted artist, Roger Rigney, who generously worked with us between his time in the field working as an Aboriginal Natural Resource Management Officer. A group of Year 9 students worked on the mural, both on-site and back at school. *Jarred Clarke, Jakeb Honan, India Plummer, Melissa Pisano* and their



classmates, supported by Sam Thomson and Jennifer Remete, worked with Roger who has considerable experience in developing murals for Aboriginal Community organisations and Schools.

On Wednesday 6 November, the unveiling of the mural coincided with a visit to Colebrook by delegates from the State-wide Landcare Conference. Visitors to the site were welcomed by Elders of the Tjitji Tjuta (the Colebrook children) with Lowitja O'Donoghue unveiling the mural. It was an honour to have many of the former residents of Colebrook House, the 'Colebrook Kids' attend this ceremony.

**Jenny Remete, Art Teacher**



## YEAR 9 AQUATICS DAY

On Tuesday 12 November the Year 9 students travelled to Port Noarlunga for a day of aquatic activities. Students chose from snorkelling, kayaking, sail boarding, fishing, surfing and body boarding. Despite there being little surf, students participated fully, enjoying sunny conditions and a BBQ lunch.

Thanks to the Year 10 Netball class helpers, Emily Pettman, Shannon Gaskell, Megan Roper and Carmel Britton who helped cater for lunch. Thanks also to the Year 9 Care Group teachers for their supervision on the day and to all the Year 9s, who continued our fantastic reputation at the Centre.

**Janet Bradley, Year 9 Leader**



## BEACH VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

In late October Blackwood High School had nine beach volleyball teams enter in the Volleyball SA, Beach Volleyball Carnival held at Glenelg. While we only had one team progress to the semi-finals, all teams were competitive and enjoyed the exercise and fun in their teams!

**Janet Bradley for the Physical Education Staff**



### YEAR 9 NETBALL TRIP TO MT GAMBIER

During Week 4 of this term the Year 9 Netball class, with two mini vans and two cars headed to Mt Gambier to play in a South East Netball Carnival. Pictured below are the Tenison Wood College, Blackwood High School & Mt Gambier High School teams. The girls were split into two teams and trained hard in skills and set plays in the lead up weeks to prepare themselves for what they knew would be a tough few games of netball.



After a long convoy trip on Wednesday 6 November, we arrived at Mt Gambier and settled into our cabins at the Blue Lake Holiday Park.

The girls were taken for a hike to look at the Mt Gambier Blue Lake and surrounding areas by Ms Bianca Reddy. Pictured right are the girls at the Umpherston Sink Hole.



It was then time for one of the teams to cook dinner for us all. After a little mess but excellent team work, we ended up with some great tasting pasta bolognaise for all to eat.

The next day was game day, with four games for each team. The carnival was held at Tenison Woods College inside their Gym. It was a great atmosphere for netball, not too hot or cold, and air sprung floor boards to play on.

Blackwood A had a tough game against Mt Gambier in the first match, taking the lead slightly by half time. After some tough pressure from the Mt Gambier defence, the game ended in a draw.

Blackwood B went through their first game with a comfortable win over Mt Gambier B.

Both teams had losses to Tenison in their second games.

After lunch the finals started. Both teams again faced Mt Gambier, and although they were pressure games, both Blackwood teams were successful, showing some great tactics and skill.

The grand final for both grades were between Blackwood vs Tenison. The girls already feeling exhausted from the days games, and with both teams carrying injuries, played as hard as they could. Unfortunately, both teams finished runners-up.

After a long day of netball it was time for some recovery, into the swimming pool for stretching and a lot of screaming!

Then it was cooking time for dinner, hamburgers on the BBQ salad and potatoes, another well cooked meal by the girls. I would like to take the opportunity to thanks all the parents who assisted with this trip, without them it would not have been possible!

Also congratulations to all the girls who were fantastic ambassadors for our school.

Award winners for the trip - Best and Fairest Players of the Carnival:

Blackwood A - Darby Knight, Rachel Millington and Victoria Nicholls

Blackwood B - Jessica Kendell and Kathryn Laity

*Peta Maher, Netball Manager*

### WE'VE BEEN BUSY IN THE ARTS

**On Tuesday 5 November: 'Lizzie Borden Took an Axe.....'** The Year 11 Drama end-of-year production was set in a playground and poses the question "What would Lizzie Borden have been like as a child?" Set in America in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century it centred on an American woman who was tried and acquitted of the 1892 axe murders of her father and stepmother. The play looked at schoolyard bullying, juxtaposed with excerpts from the real-life trial transcripts.

Caitlin Merlin held the stage as a malevolent Lizzie, supported by a superb ensemble performance from the rest of the Year 11 class.

*Robyn Trebilcock, The Arts Leader*



## BLACKWOOD'S GOT TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA – WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER

### YEAR 9 MELODRAMA – 'Evil Shall Not Triumph'

Encore performance for friends and family on Wednesday 13 November at Blackwood High School PAC.

A great crowd of parents, family and friends came out on Wednesday night to revel in the budding talents of our Year 9 Drama class in their encore performance of 'Evil Shall Not Triumph'.

The half-hour melodrama was replete with a villain, good guys, a damsel in distress and several one-liners, giving the lively audience plenty of opportunity to laugh, boo, hiss and cheer at the humorous action on-stage. The melodramatic mood was enhanced by a delightful piano accompaniment that complemented the actors' comic timing and overblown actions and reactions. Everyone had a rollicking good time, with gleeful reports from both students and audience members alike. The students are to be congratulated on their professional and enthusiastic approach to presenting their theatrical work for the Blackwood High School community and encouraged to tread the boards in future presentations for the entertainment and enrichment of all.

*Brigitte Esvelt, Drama teacher*

### SUNSET FESTIVAL ON THE SCHOOL FRONT LAWNS (photos next page)

**At 5.30pm:** Bands were buzzing – revved up by irrepressible Marty Foster as MC - at the start of the **Sunset Arts Festival**, kicking off a brilliant – if a little cool – evening of *all Arts: Music, Dance, Drama, Art and Design!*

**At 6.30pm** - an encore performance of the melodrama "Evil Shall Not Triumph!" on the Main Stage in the PAC, featuring our wonderful Year 9 Drama Class.

**Also at 6.30pm** - the Visual Arts Area and covered outdoor learning area showcased the wonderful artwork of our senior students in

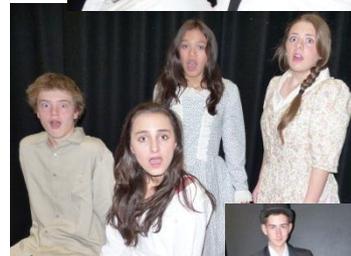
**Stage 2 Art/Design Exhibition**, as well as the striking work by our **Year 12 Photography students**. It was wonderful to have so many people stop in to view this student work (pictured right).

**At 7.30pm** the Auditorium will be packed for the annual indoor Blackwood's Got Talent Show, with guest judges, amazing acts and prize money (shared amongst the indoor and outdoor acts) of \$275.

The whole evening was a brilliant effort from the entire Arts Faculty and their students; all the people on stage and the many more behind the scenes.

*Robyn Trebilcock, The Arts Leader*

*Below: Photos of some of the performers in the Auditorium*



# SUNSET ARTS FESTIVAL 2013

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BLACKWOOD'S GOT TALENT WINNERS! *(some winner below)*

**BEST OUTDOOR ACT:** "Radars" with Chris Williams, Ryan Williams & Jackson Pagett

**BEST INDOOR ACT:** Matt Albrecht & Rhys Hopkins

**2nd Prize:** Ronan Naidu & Ryan Williams

**3rd Prize:** Tosh Glenn

**ENTERTAINMENT AWARD (Inside):** "Madz & the Sass Dolls" – with Madeline Winter, Beth Upton, Chloe Yates and Madeline Torquati

**ENTERTAINMENT AWARD (Outside):** Georgia, Mollie, Caitlin, Alex & Mr. D

**CHOREOGRAPHIC AWARD:** "All That Jazz" Dancers

**JUDGES AWARD:** Sam Upton

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD:** Marnie Fiebig





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**Date:** Wednesday 20 November 2013  
**Time:** 6:30pm – 8:00pm  
**Location:** Room A51 in Building A (Enter via gate A)  
TAFE SA Urrbrae Campus, 505 Fullarton Road, Netherby SA 5062

**No registration required.**

For enquiries please contact Client Services:  
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[tafesa.edu.au/info-sessions](http://tafesa.edu.au/info-sessions)



## Stage 1 Exam Timetable Semester 2, 2013 - Student Copy

	MONDAY 18/11/13	DAY Person setting up	TUESDAY 19/11/13 Constantopoulos	WEDNESDAY 20/11/13 Hodson	THURSDAY 21/11/13 Constantopoulos	FRIDAY 22/11/13 Constantopoulos
Exam Revision		8:50am - 10:30am Lessons 1 & 2	Eng. Comms (OSA/87 students)	Maths Studies. (OSA/45 students)	Maths Apps & Specialist Maths (OSA/ 23 / 46 students)	English Studies (OSA/71 students)
		Person setting up	Hodson	Constantopoulos	Hodson	Hodson
Exam Revision		11:10am - 12:50pm Lessons 3 & 4	Physics OSA/21 students)	Languages-German/ Japanese/Spanish (OSA/10 students)  Drama (Drama Space PAC)	Physical Education (OSA/32 students)	Chemistry (OSA/20 students)
Setting up	Constantopoulos	Person setting up		Hodson	Constantopoulos	Constantopoulos
Lunch & lesson 5 1:00pm – 2:30pm	Biology (OSA / 50 students)	1:30pm – 3:10pm Lessons 5 & 6		Psychology (OSA/47 students)	Tourism (OSA/ 18 students)	History (OSA/28 students)

The examinations will be 1.5 hours (plus 10 minutes reading time)

Please note only one exam scheduled for Monday due to Year 12 exams still running. Starting time will be 1.00pm for the Biology exam only.

### DENTAL CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN

It is important for children to have strong, healthy teeth and gums. All children (0 – 17 years) are welcome to attend **School Dental Service** clinics.

Dental treatment is free at **School Dental Service** clinics if:

- Family Tax Benefit Part A is paid for your child, or
- Your child is covered by a School Card, Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

The **School Dental Service** will bulk-bill under the new Medicare *Child Dental Benefits Schedule* that starts in 2014. Under this scheme, most children aged between 2-17 years will be eligible to claim up to \$1000 of Dental services over 2 years.

If your child already attends a SA Dental Service clinic, contact us when their next appointment is due. If your child does not already attend one of our clinics, please phone us to make an appointment in 2014.

For more information contact your local clinic. Clinic list found at [www.sadental.sa.gov.au](http://www.sadental.sa.gov.au)



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