Opportunities for our students

The first half of this term has been full of opportunities for our students to demonstrate their skills and abilities. We have seen performances at the Year 12 Dance evening and matinees on 7 and 8 August. The Year 12 students demonstrated their dance techniques and capacity to work in a group. Supporting these students were other performing Arts students of Dance and Music. The two spectacular evenings were witnessed by about 400 people.

On 13 August, Blackwood High School participated in the Science Fair at the Marion Fitness Centre. Two teams demonstrated the use and application of robotics and quad copters. We linked in thirty students from Blackwood, Coromandel Valley, Eden Hills, Belair, Bellevue Heights and Hawthornedene Primary Schools, who had the opportunity to interact with secondary science students to discuss science and technology. It was wonderful to hear our students talk about robotics and quad copters using specific terminology and explaining how things work. The wonder of science and technology captures the capacity of humans to be innovative and creative. As an added bonus, our quad copter student team took away the award from the expert judges. These judges were from business, industry and tertiary education. Well done to the award winners pictured: Brayden Whellum, Nathan Munn, Josh Holmes, Ian Douglas, Tim Rowley, Albert Pistorius.

We have seen 78 Year 10 students travel to the Ski Fields to try their hand at skiing and snowboarding. Supervising staff reported on how well our students cooperated and behaved whilst having a great time. They coped well with the delay due to a landslide causing a road block.

At Blackwood High School, we always look for ways to value add to the opportunities for our students. Two years ago we developed a program for the Year 10 students who didn’t go on the Ski Trip. The program has continued this year with the additional opportunity of students achieving a SACE 10 point credit in Stage 1 Integrated Learning. As part of the program, students have covered:

- Respectful Relationships
- Risk Taking and Traffic Safety
- First Aid including Red Cross Certificate
- Cooking
- Physical Education

I would like to acknowledge the support we have received from SAPOL, Drug Arm, Red Cross, New Day and Uniting Communities. As always, it was pleasing to hear the compliments of our visitors as they talked about how well students behaved and participated.

I would like to remind parents and caregivers that we have a School Closure on Friday 6 September and a Student Free Day on 9 September, when staff will continue work on the Australian Curriculum, IBMYP Unit Plans and development of assessment tasks.

Buses

I have been liaising with the bus company to resolve issues raised by parents on behalf of the school. I have been informed that the 600B departing Marion to Blackwood Station leaves from Marion at 7.58am. This new time has been effect since 12 May. The earlier departure time is to accommodate the Belair Train timetable.

Course Counselling for 2014

Thank you to all of the parents and caregivers who came with their children on 12 August to discuss subject and course choices for 2014. From student selections, the process of constructing the timetable for 2014 will commence. Wherever possible, we will try to ensure students get as many of their choices and this should be confirmed by the end of this term. If there are any concerns or issues that arise, please contact the school so we can explore possible solutions.
SACE & SATAC Information
This year a South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) session was held on 13 August. The evening outlined to parents and caregivers the timelines, process and range of options students have in making informed decisions about tertiary study. Jarrod Benson, from Flinders University, and a former student of Blackwood High School, was able to give informed advice and places to seek further information. Our Year 12 students have also been given information in order to work through the process in applying for courses through SATAC.

The University of Adelaide – Bonus Points
Students at Blackwood High School will receive 3 bonus points to be added to their ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) for entry to The University of Adelaide for 2014. Previously Blackwood High School students have been able to receive up to 6 bonus points as part of the Fairway Scheme. The arrangement for 2014 is interim. From 2015 Blackwood High School students will no longer be eligible for bonus points. Students who study SACE Stage 2 Specialist Mathematics or SACE Stage 2 Languages other than English also receive bonus points.

Flinders University – High Achievers
Flinders University introduced the Bachelor of Arts – Enhanced Program for High Achievers (SATAC Code: 224561) for the first time in 2013. The degree targets high achievers underpinned by an inquiry and research methodologies approaches to the Arts disciplines. Students with an ATAR of 90 or higher are guaranteed entry into the degree. Applications are open from 5 August, 2013.

Flinders University – Bachelor of International Studies
Flinders University has updated their Bachelor of International Studies (SATAC Code: 214221). The course is for students who are interested in, and passionate about world events, circumstances and challenges.

2013 Short Story and Poetry Writing Competition
Students can enter this competition by writing a sixteen line poem or 500 word story. Prizes include $1000, Xbox One, Playstation 4, iPad Touch and Xbox 360. Entries close on 13 September. For further details: www.write4fun.net.

Asia Pacific Autism Conference
From 8 to 10 August, two staff, Graham Hook and I, attended the Autism conference in Adelaide. The conference saw 1200 delegates from 22 countries come together to hear about research about autism and strategies to support people on the Autism Spectrum. At Blackwood High School we have one of the three State-wide programs that support students on the Autism Spectrum who do not have an intellectual disability. We heard key note speakers, many who had been diagnosed with Autism discuss their work and their experiences in growing up being the ‘same but different’. The theme of the conference was ‘Be Bold, Be Brave, Be Brilliant’.

One of the speakers talked about the ‘Autism Paradox’ which I have reproduced below:

The Autism Paradox
1. It’s easy to recite an entire book but difficult to make up a story.
2. It’s easy to line up toys but difficult to stay in line.
3. It makes perfect sense to climb on the sofa but little sense to sit on it.
4. Memorizing the Presidents in order – 10 minutes. Packing a school bag – 10 hours.
5. Family pictures on the wall are boring but that speck of dust next to it, now that’s fascinating!
7. Ability to focus on spinning objects – timeless. Ability to focus on homework – 3 seconds.
8. Being called by name – can’t hear it. Some owl hooting in the distance – clear as a bell.
9. How to operate the remote control – zero instruction. How to button up pants – intensive instruction.

One of the main themes that came through the key note speakers and workshop presenters is the importance of focussing on what people can do – playing to their strengths. This message was important as all too often we can always focus on what we can’t do or haven’t done or could have done better. We also had the opportunity to work with the two other schools and Associate Profession Brenda Smith Myles who works in Ohio Centre for Autism and Low Incidence. Brenda has expertise in the Ziggurat and Comprehensive Autism Planning System (CAPS) tools that are being used to support our students involved in the program. Often at conferences we hear many things. One of the profound quotes that I heard used was from Albert Einstein:

“Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.”

This quote gives us all food for thought in what we say to others.

Marion Coady, Principal

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS
♦ Congratulations to Jake in Year 9, who has been selected to represent South Australia at the Swimming Championships at the AIS in Canberra from 19 to 23 September.
♦ Congratulations to Nicholas in Year 9 who has been selected to represent SA in the Secondary School Sport interstate Orienteering Championships from 28 September to 6 October in the ACT.
SCIENCE EXCELLENCE AWARDS SA
The 2013 Science Excellence Awards were held on 16 August. The awards recognise excellence in science and technology research and education. The gala dinner was opened by Grace Portolesi, the Minister for Science and Information Economy and hosted by Dr Paul Willis, Director of the Royal Institute Australia (RiAus). The keynote address was given by Professor Brian Schmidt, who won the Nobel Prize for Physics, in 2011, for providing evidence that the universe is accelerating.

One of our teachers, Dr Rogan Tinsley (pictured with Nobel Laureate Prof Schmidt), was selected as a finalist for Early Career STEM Educator of the Year. The grand prize of SA Scientist of the Year was awarded to Professor Graeme Young, for his work at the Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer.

Jarrad Chave, Senior Leader: Innovations in Science and Technology

CAREERS AT SCIENCE ALIVE!
On Friday 9 August, a group of 16 Year 10 students attended Careers at Science Alive! a free, full day event held in the Goyder Pavilion (Adelaide Showground) as part of the celebrations for National Science Week. There were over 50 interactive booths (with an emphasis on advanced technologies), a large range of study and career information, amazing and spectacular science shows, presentations by keynote speakers (leaders in their research fields), “hands on” entertaining science activities and opportunities to meet practising scientists from numerous disciplines.

Student comments mentioned: dusty round rings produced by beating an air cannon; using a metal detector to prospect for gold foiled chocolates; touching/holding lizards/snakes and petting the Tawny Frogmouth; the Voxiebox which used camera images to produce 3D holograms; dry ice experiments – balloon that inflates when it warms up; Forensic Science – fingerprinting, DNA testing, Luminol light to identify blood stains; Chemistry Show – explosions; specific University Science challenges and talking to “interesting and motivated” University students. The following were excellent ambassadors for the school:

Sheridan Bartlett
James Herriman
Reina Hirahara
Stephanie Clarke
Louis MacConnell
Suma Hassan Areef
Jenny White
Zoe Craggs-McCaul
Luke Meharry
Quincy Li
Taylor Fey
Valerie Sameli

Kathleen Gibbs
Vismadh Chahal
Siviana Sivam
Ayumi Fujiwara

Mrs Bartlett, Year 10 Level Leader

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (NRM) EDUCATION PHOTO COMPETITION
Calling all student photographers! Enter the Engaging with Nature Student Photo Contest for your chance to win a $100 gift voucher and a 12 month National Parks SA pass. The contest is open to ALL pre-school to year 12 students living in or attending schools or pre-schools within the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges.

Competition opens 19 August and closes 27 October. There are four categories:
- Local native animal
- Local native plant or fungus
- My country
- Young people in nature

The competition is split into two age groups: Pre-school to Year 7 Year 8 to Year 12


ZONE SPORT – SEASON 2 SUCCESS
Week 4 of Term 2 was the beginning of the second season of Zone Sport for the year. Blackwood entered nine teams in four competitions in Netball, Basketball, Badminton and Table Tennis. Over 60 students competed over the season, which lasted ten weeks including finals, with everyone learning something new.

Particular congratulations to our Year 9/10 Boys Basketball team for finishing first in their season, defeating Hamilton 61-47 in their Grand Final and also to our Boys Table Tennis and Badminton teams for finishing runner-up in their respective competitions.

In Netball, we had five Year 8/9 teams competing across four divisions, ranging from A1 to C1, with our best finish being 3rd from Blackwood 1 in Division A defeating Unley 28-14. Well done to all our netballers.

Without coaches and umpires the Zone Sport season would not go ahead, so a big thank you to Steve Aulert, Robin Rabanus-Wallace, Dan Smith, Riley Mitchell and Bailey Dyer for their assistance. Thank you to Janet Bradley, Bianca Reddy and Bianca’s Year 11 Netball class for organising and coaching the netball teams. Overall, it was a very successful season with all players learning something new along the way. Season 3 begins in Week 7, Term 3.

Thomas Gibbs, Sports Trainee & Steve Aulert, Sports Coordinator
**OPEN BOYS KNOCKOUT NETBALL**
Blackwood High School played Mt Barker High School and Glenunga International School in the first round of the Open boys Knockout Netball on Monday 5 August.
Blackwood dominated the first game against Mt Barker High to win 52 to 21 goals. Highlights included the slick passing between Taylor Moore, Brett Turner, and Harry Davenport. Jasper Young impressed with his slam dunk at goal shooter and rejections in defence. Chris Williams was well balanced in attack, and Damian Coleman and Daniel Bartle slotted into this dynamic team well. Jack Wilkins dominated at goal defence.
Glenunga defeated Mt Barker in the second game, 46 to 21, so the final game decided who would go through to the finals at Netball Park.
Blackwood played exceptionally well as a team in the game against Glenunga, but this time the defence of Taylor Moore, Max Gava and Jack Wilkins was the most impressive aspect. Blackwood went on to win 58 goals to 20, and will progress to the finals in Week 5 on the Thursday 22 August.

**OPEN BOYS BASKETBALL – RUNNERS UP**
On Thursday 15 August, our Open Boys Basketball Squad travelled to Wayville Sports Centre to participate in the State Open Pool B Finals. After qualifying by defeating Christies Beach HS and Marryatville HS in the preliminary rounds, the boys were one of six boys teams contesting for the state title. In the first game, Blackwood came up against Roma Mitchell. In a tightly fought contest, no one could break away in the first half, with the scores tied 18 apiece. In the second half, Blackwood were able to control the match and finished off a good win with a breakaway steal and dunk to Harry Davenport.
In the next match, Blackwood faced Modbury High School. Blackwood started slowly but were able to reign in Modbury and won 40 - 36. In its final pool match, Blackwood came up against St Francis de Sales. After once again starting off slowly and being behind by two points at the half, Blackwood once again finished fast thanks to some strong offensive work from players coming off the bench, winning by 6, 39-33. Blackwood advanced through to the finals undefeated and once again faced St Francis de Sales. With a few tired bodies from our starting five, Blackwood once again started slowly to be trailing by 13 midway through the last half. However, finished strongly once again to eventually win easily 43-35.
In the State Final, Blackwood faced Aberfoyle Park High. In a tight struggle, neither team was able to get a lead out past 3 points, with scores being tied at 45 at three-quarter time. In the last quarter Blackwood’s players looked exhausted, and despite giving it their all, came up short, losing 63-57. An unfortunate end to a great day! Thanks to Tom Oliphant for coaching the team and to a majority of the boys for taking time out of their Year 12 studies for the day.

**OPEN GIRLS AND BOYS VOLLEYBALL**
Congratulations to our Open Boys and Girls Volleyball teams for their competitive efforts in the Southern region’s Knock Out round on Wednesday 24 July. The boys narrowly missed out on progressing onto the State Finals by a loss to Mercedes College by four points. They convincingly defeated William Light School.
The girls edged out Adelaide High by one set to progress to the State Final on 7 August. They defeated Unley, William Light and Adelaide High Schools and luckily a narrow loss to Glenunga did not deny us overall victory on the day.
Congratulations to our Open Girls Volleyball team who came 3rd in the State in the Pool B Knock Out Championships. At Marion Leisure Centre on Wednesday 7 August, the girls defeated Windsor Gardens and lost to St Mary’s College on points to finish second in their pool. This meant they had to play eventual winners, Mercedes College who defeated us 2-0. We then played off for 3rd position against Henley High who we defeated 2-1 in a very tight match.
Congratulations to Alisha Thompson, Talia McIntosh, Dayna Will, Emily Wardle, Lauren Hegarty, Asha Thurlow, Bailey Mandemaker and Lauren Bowshall. Special congratulations to the five Year 12 girls who proudly finished their many High School volleyball experiences on a high!

**BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FOREST SOCCER CLUB** is having its end of season Presentation Night on Wednesday 18 September at 7.00pm in the Year 12 Centre (OSA).
All Players to attend the event and parents are most welcome. No entry fee required, pizza & soft drink will be provided and $2 gold coin donation for adult drink. A fantastic effort by all players, coaches and volunteers this year, so come and enjoy the night.
An AGM will precede the night at 6.30pm for those interested in supporting the club next year.
Thank you Mark Bridger – BHS Forest Soccer Club President
STUDENT DRIVERS AND VEHICLES

At this time of the year, many of our senior students are gaining their Provisional Drivers Licences and beginning to drive to and from school. In the interests of student safety and welfare, it is timely for us to remind students and parents/caregivers about our school policy regarding student drivers and vehicles.

Consent to drive a motor vehicle

Any student with a driver’s licence may drive a vehicle to and from school provided they have filled in the Consent to Driver a Motor Vehicle form, had it signed by a parent/caregiver, and returned to the Year Level Leader. This is valid until the end of the calendar year.

Student parking

We provide parking spaces for student cars in the lower car park (Beaconsfield Road entrance). Students must park in the designated student car park, or alternatively park outside the school grounds. Students requesting permission to park in the student car park, need to fill in the Parking Permit form.

Purpose is for traveling to and from school only

Student vehicles may not be used for any purpose other than travelling to and from school. Vehicles may not be used during the school hours when students are expected to attend programmed lessons and private study periods, or during recess and lunch times. This means that students are not able to use their vehicles for travelling to any organised school activity, such as excursions or recreational activities, or for personal reasons such as driving to Blackwood to buy lunch. Parents and caregivers need to provide the school with written permission on the day if they authorise student use of a vehicle during school hours for a private reason.

Student passengers

Finally, students are not permitted to ride as passengers in vehicles driven by other students unless the Student Passenger Consent form providing parental consent has been received by the Year Level Leader. This includes carrying siblings to and from school. This consent is valid for the period nominated by the parent/caregiver nominated on the form.

Young drivers carrying passengers is of particular concern as research shows that drivers under the age of 21 carrying two to three peer passengers (who are not family members) increases the risk of a young driver crashing by four to five times compared to driving alone. In South Australia, 27% of drivers aged 16-19 years involved in fatal crashes from 2008 to 2012 were driving with two or more passengers, compared to 13% of drivers aged 25 and over (Talkin’ Road Safety, Issue No 2, September 2013). If you would like to know more, the article has been saved on the Blackwood High School website. Look for ‘Community Information’ under the ‘News’ tab.

Our policy regarding student drivers is consistent with expectations in many other secondary schools. We appreciate the support of parents and caregivers in our school community as we work together to protect students and ensure their welfare and safety.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal

QUAD-COPTERS AT BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

As part of emerging technologies and in line with the Advanced Technology Project, Blackwood High School has developed a program that both promotes cross curriculum development in the areas of science, technology, electronics and mathematics as well as hands on experiences with relevant technologies currently taking industries world-wide by storm. That technology is a fuse between microprocessor programming and automated quad-copter flying.

Students are exposed to the basics of microprocessor programming in Year 8, developing anything from street smart street lights, to alarm systems and heat censored cooling systems. Students build upon these skills in Year 9 and 10 through the use of microprocessor controlled quad-copters. Students build these kits from scratch obtaining components from various suppliers and investigating the reliability of a number of components. Once the copters have been constructed and put through initial set up and testing, students are met with a series of ‘Missions’ that will test their skills in mathematics, physics, geography and technology. For example students need to complete a Delivering Aid Mission that has them looking at Australian natural disasters such as the Queensland Floods in 2010-2011. Students are provided with a set of coordinates and are required to use these to program the copters flight path. The accuracy of their programming and interpretation of the coordinates will dictate the success of their flight. If successful, they will progress to level two and a slightly more demanding flight path. If not successful, it’s back to the drawing board to nut out where their calculations may have been wrong.

This project has kept students engaged and incredibly enthusiastic about using the copters. Although in the early stages of development, much success has been evident with Year 9 and 10 students taking out the Expert Judges Award at the recent Advanced Technology Project Science fair in August. Stay tuned!

Thomas Oliphant, Technology teacher
NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2013 AT BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
Blackwood High School celebrated National Science Week (10-18 August) with a range of activities that many of our most passionate budding scientists were involved in. Activities included:
- Careers @ Science Alive excursion for Year 10 students (see separate article on this).
- Professor John Long, our partnered scientist within the “Scientists in Schools” program, from Flinders University gave a presentation about his fascinating work in Paleontology as well as general careers in science.
- A “Spectacular chemical reactions” show at lunchtime.
- “Elephant’s toothpaste” – another lunchtime activity where students used various chemicals to create a reaction that produces a substance resembling something that an elephant may use to maintain its oral hygiene.
- Community Science night at Hawthorndene Kindergarten. Blackwood High School presented a stall at this event giving young students the opportunity to participate in colour chromatography and observe the colour dynamics that occurs when smarties are put into water.

Professor John Long, from Flinders University displayed to the students one of his many pre-historic discoveries during his presentation at Blackwood High School.

Thank you to all students who participated in these activities and staff who helped out in particular Mary Smith our laboratory manager for all her hard work and efforts in organising these activities for our students.

Jarrod Chave, Senior Leader: Innovations in Science & Technology

WARRIPARINGA WETLANDS EXCURSION
My Year 9 class and I were lucky to visit the Warriparinga Wetlands during Week 3. The site is home to the Living Kaurna Cultural Centre, who arranged a tour for us, led by Jamie, a Kaurna and Narangga man.

Warriparinga is culturally important, as is marks the start of the Tjilbruke Dreaming trail. As Jamie (pictured left) led our class around the wetlands he shared the significance of the area, and described the many uses of the local flora and fauna, and explaining the production and symbolic meaning of the Kaurna shield. Students (pictured right) tasting the fruit of the Ruby Salt Bush.

Students recorded their learning experiences:
“I learned about the many ways that plants were used. They could be used for medicine, food, weaving and many other things.”

“I learned how strong the connection with themselves and the land that they live on. They had learned all about the survival techniques that the plants could give them.”

“They are very connected to the land. And even though they were forced to participate in English customs, their traditions survived and are living on.”

At the end of the tour, Jamie graciously provided us with a music lesson, explaining and playing his didgeridoo. It was a powerful and moving performance, which brought together our scientific and cultural learning.

Dr Rogan Tinsley

2013 YEAR 12 DANCE EXAM PERFORMANCE
The Year 12 Dance students performed their choreographed dance works entertaining audience members with their excellent technical and performance skills. Students performed in a range of dance genres including contemporary, hip-hop and lyrical. Lighting design and multimedia further enhanced the production this was designed and operated by Drama students Brendan Maidement and Devin Langford.

The Year 12s were supported by the Year 9, 10 & 11 dance students. The Year 10 class engaging the audience with two choreographed works ‘She Wolf’ and the intriguing & newest dance work ‘Hysteria’ This piece was inspired and devised after attending open rehearsals, workshops and performances by the Australian Dance Theatre.

The Year 9 class performed an energetic Flashmob dance that showcased not only dance skills but gymnastics and acrobatics. The five successful dance star teams also performed in this production.

Special guest performances during the evening also included talented Blackwood High School vocal students and Precizion dance school.

We wish the Year 12 students well in their performance exam results.

Katrina Constantopoulos, Dance teacher
JUNIOR KORFBALL CHAMPIONS IN “GOLDEN GOAL” WIN

Congratulations to a zealous and committed group of Year 8 - 10 students who entered the Metropolitan Area Schools Korfball tournament on Thursday 15 August. This tournament, held at Netball SA Stadium, was comprised of 12 teams (junior division and senior division) from both Government and Independent schools. With limited prior knowledge and experience about the game of korfball, our students eagerly listened, watched and practised their skills to quickly transform into a competitive and capable korfball outfit.

Becoming familiar with a scoring ring which was inside the playing area and markedly higher than netball, and refraining from shooting when an opponent has their arm elevated, were key to their rapid improvement.

After winning easily in their first two matches, the team struggled when they were challenged and although defensively strong, found scoring difficult against skilled opposition. Some matches were narrowly lost yet the team remained positive as they came up against the undefeated pacesetters, Reynella East High School. A tough and tight defensive match ended in a draw but the one point helped our team into the Grand Final. The exciting final, again against Reynella East, ended in another hard fought draw which took the competition to a ‘Golden Goal’ play off. Well done to Jane Whitehead who bravely took the shot when unguarded, to win the trophy for Blackwood. Thanks to Liv Vardas who did a great job as coach and ensured our 18 students all gained great exposure to this sport.

Well done to Kaitie Harris, Emma Oliver, Rachael Thompson, Lucy Vardas, Jess Hutton, Paige Keenihan, Ryan Williams, Amy Buckney, Will Lawry, Sheridan Bartlett, Ruby Williamson, Cameron Watts, Nelson Edwards, Brad Nottle-Justice, James Edwards and Brayden Whellum.

Steve Brown, Teacher & Coach

LETTER FROM THE PREMIER RE GAMES THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

“I have become increasingly concerned about the types of games that children can access through social media and mobile phone apps. Some of these seemingly innocent games have features similar to those used in gambling.

Gambling experts are also concerned that children’s exposure to these games can increase the likelihood of problem gambling in adulthood.

That is why the State Government is seeking legal and policy advice about our ability to deal with this problem.

I also want to hear your views. Have you experienced this issue, what do you think about it and what solutions might we consider?

To have your say, visit our online discussion forum at: http://splan.org.au/yoursay/children-technology-and-gambling.

The discussion forums will close for comment on SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2013. We do not want to stop children having fun, but we also do not want to risk a generation of children becoming problem gamblers.

I look forward to hearing about your views on this important issue.”

You can read my blog post on this issue at: www.jayweatherill.com.au

Jay Weatherill, Premier of SA

CYBERSMART – TIME TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Sonya Ryan, whose daughter Carly was the victim of an online predator in 2007, spoke to a number of schools this week about the importance of online safety. The bravery of this woman is indisputable as she honours her daughter’s memory by using her time and energy to educate young people and their families on how to stay safe online.

We talk to students at school about how to stay safe and act appropriately online but the reality is that they spend their greatest time online when they are at home!

If you haven’t had a talk with your child recently about how s/he uses social networking to communicate with others, now is a really good time. The students involved were impressed and engaged with Sonya Ryan’s presentation and have continued with online safety discussions and what can happen when online. One of the resources that the Carly Ryan Foundation provide is a good conversation starter about an “Online Contract” that families can consider setting up with the young people in their house who use the internet (copies of these are available).

One of the confronting topics was the prevalence of people online with fake profiles. According to Facebook’s own data, over 8% of Facebook profiles (around 83,000,000 worldwide) are fake. So if your child is communicating with someone online who they do not know in real life, there is a reasonable chance that this person is not who they say they are. Many students claim to have hundreds of online friends – are they sure that all of those people are just who they say they are?

This stuff can sound like a scare campaign, but we would not let our kids go somewhere like Hindley Street on their own after dark and talk with strangers, so shouldn’t we be making sure that where they go online is also safe? We want to be able to trust our kids when they’re online, but sometimes they don’t have the life experience to understand the possible dangers of internet use.

Good resources are available to support conversations with your children and staff members are happy to talk with families to help work with your kids to help them have safe and positive online experiences. The internet is a fantastic resource so let’s work as a community to help our kids get the best possible experience from it.

Some other good sources of information are - The Carly Ryan Foundation: www.carlyryanfoundation.com

Cybersmart Contact Centre: www.cybersmart.gov.au
YEAR 10 SKI TRIP
The Annual Blackwood HS Ski Trip departed at 10:30 pm on Saturday, 17 August with 78 Year 10 students and 10 adults headed for Falls Creek. Skiing conditions were the best they had been for years with snow falling every day. Our highly organised group settled into their rooms at Halley's Lodge and collected their ski equipment. The pool table soon became the focus of lodge activities and a week-long tournament commenced.
Ski lessons early each morning meant that, within a few days, all students were successful in skiing down the home trail at least, while our experienced skiers and quicker learners progressed to blue slopes. Night skiing was enjoyed by a brave group of boys on Wednesday night. Poor visibility on the mountain on Thursday gave an opportunity to explore the Village and do some souvenir shopping. A massive snowman was created in the form of Mr R. while others toughed it out, skiing in poor conditions with Sam.
A fantastic week was due to come to a close on Friday but Mother Nature had other ideas. A landslide on the Falls Creek Road meant we were trapped on the mountain overnight Friday with 7000 others. Luckily we could stay at Halley's Lodge and the staff helped feed us for a further two meals. Our Saturday morning departure meant we were 17 hours overdue and many sports events were missed. This massively resilient group coped well and we are really proud of their achievements, behaviour and organisation.
Great week guys, with lots of life long memories made!
Jeanette Beadnall, Sam Thomson, Janet Bradley, Tom Oliphant, Robin Rabanus-Wallace, Mal Clarke, Mary Hodson, Chris Plummer, Damien Henderson and Barry Ellery.
USHIKU HIGH SCHOOL STUDY TOUR
From 8 – 19 August, Blackwood High School hosted a group of 20 students and their teachers from Ushiku High School in Ibaraki Prefecture in Japan. It was the school’s first visit to Adelaide, and they enjoyed the experience so much they are returning to SA next year with 130 students! Their program included ESL lessons, dot painting, football and netball and excursions to Cleland, the city and Warriparinga Living Kaurna Cultural Centre where they learnt basket weaving with local Aboriginal Elders. The Ushiku students also loved cooking – and eating – meat pies and rocky road with one of our Food and Hospitality classes.
Once again the parents and students of Blackwood High School are to be congratulated on the way they supported our group of visitors. At school, our students were excellent hosts and buddies and made a genuine effort to ensure the visitors felt welcome and involved in the school program. At home, the Japanese students loved spotting a koala across the street, making pizzas, watching a local footy game, walking on the beach and playing cards with their hosts.
I offer my sincere thanks to the families who hosted a student and to the students who acted as buddies at school. Without your generosity, we wouldn’t have an international program and I look forward to your continued involvement.

HIMEJI YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM
At the same time as the Ushiku visit, we also hosted a group of two students and their chaperone from Himeji, Adelaide’s sister city in Japan. The Japanese students participated in a range of cultural activities including a meeting with the Lord Mayor of Adelaide and a tour of the Town Hall.
The Himeji Cultural Ambassadors Program was developed as a direct family to family exchange program and provides students with the opportunity to live with a family in Japan during the September holidays and experience a range of Japanese cultural traditions. Unfortunately, this year we don’t have any Blackwood High School students making the return trip to Himeji, however, we will offer the program again in 2014. Applicants do not need to be studying Japanese at school, but should have demonstrated a commitment to promoting intercultural understanding and friendship between young people from other countries and cultures. Details will be published in the newsletter next year and interested students will be asked to apply at the end of Term 1.

HOMESTAYS WANTED!
Planning is already underway for our next visit from Ritsumeikan High School in Kyoto. Ritsumeikan is bringing their entire Year 9 cohort (more than 230 students!) to Adelaide and they will be hosted by 16 different high schools. Our group of 7 boys and 7 girls are arriving in Adelaide on Thursday, 21 November and departing Wednesday, 4 December. If you are interested in hosting a student from Ritsumeikan or are interested in getting more information, please contact me here at school.

Karyn Jones, Coordinator LOTE and International Student Programs, karyn.jones@bhs.sa.edu.au
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROJECT - SOUTHERN SCIENCE EXPO
BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL: WINNERS EXPERT JUDGE’S CHOICE AWARD 2013.

The DECD Advanced Technology Project (ATP) Southern Schools hosted the annual “Science Expo” on 13 August at the Marion Fitness and Leisure Centre. This event allows ATP schools in the southern region to showcase some of the various Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) learning that takes place at their schools. The exhibitions are interactive and visited by primary school students in the earlier part of the afternoon and then by members of industry, tertiary institutions and the Advanced Technology Project in general. 30 students from a number of our feeder primary schools (Blackwood, Belair, Eden Hills, Hawthorndene and Coromandel Valley) attended this event as guests of Blackwood High School guests. It was an enriching and exciting day for these upper primary students who were able to interact with a “snapshot” of STEM activities that may await them when they reach secondary school. Students from Blackwood High School along with their science & technology teachers, Rogan Tinsley and Tom Oliphant, showcased their respective Robotics and Quadcopter programs. These were both very well received by the participants and stimulated rich questions and dialogue between our students and their audience.

The visitors had an opportunity to vote for the exhibition they found the most engaging, interactive and authentic in terms of STEM learning. One category of voting, known as the “expert’s choice” category was carried out by the industry, tertiary and ATP guests. I am extremely pleased to announce that Mr Oliphant and his students - Josh Holmes, Brayden Whellum, Nathan Munn, Albert Pistorius, Ian Douglas and Tim Rowley won first prize in this category for their amazing Quadcopter exhibition. Blackwood High School’s Quadcopter project allows students to interact with relevant 21st Century technologies. It focuses on cross curriculum development in science, maths and electronics with exposure to automated flight controls and micro-processing. I would like to thank Tom Oliphant and his students for all of their hard work and efforts in showcasing this programme in such an inspiring manner as well as their dedication and engagement to this highly beneficial and authentic STEM program.

Thank you also to Dr Rogan Tinsley and his students - Hiromi Hill, William Bae, Casey Rutter, Shelby Adams, Brenda Chigwidden, Tori Mason, Eleana Wilmott for their outstanding robotics exhibitions and commitment to the integration of robotics across our science and mathematics curriculum.

Dr Tinsley’s science students (pictured right) Tori Mason, Brenda Chigwidden and Eleana Wilmott using robotics to demonstrate the physiology behind the urinary system.

Jarrod Chave, Senior Leader: Innovations in Science & Technology
DONATIONS FOR HOMELESS PLEASE
For my Year 12 Health Investigation, I am researching and completing a health promoting activity about the health and wellbeing of homeless people. As a part of this investigation I will be volunteering at the Hutt Street Homeless shelter, serving and preparing meals for people in need. I am also planning on donating a food basket on behalf of Blackwood High School and am seeking donations from families willing. Any non-perishables are gratefully welcomed, and can be guaranteed to help a homeless person in need. A donation basket will be situated in student services from Friday 23 August until Tuesday 3 September. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Kate-Lee Pagett, Year 12 Health Investigation

IMPORTANCE OF A GOOD NIGHT SLEEP
Sufficient sleep is crucial for teens as it plays a vital role in the bodies proper functioning as well as resting and repairing ALL body systems. Teenagers need between 9 and 10 hours sleep per night which is more than a seven year old needs! However sleep research shows 25% of teenagers get less than 6.5 hours of sleep on school nights. Regularly not getting enough sleep can affect a teenager’s academic performance and increase their risk of emotions problems including depression. So try to encourage your child to:

- Stop using technology earlier
- Dim the lights earlier
- Start to relax earlier

Even half an hour extra sleep per night can make a dramatic difference so at this stressful time of year ensure your teenager is getting enough shut eye!

For more information visit http://www.sleepfoundation.org/article/sleeptopics/teens-and-sleep

By Chelsea Drews, Year 12 Health Student

STURT COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES (CFS) CADETS - NOW RECRUITING IN THE BLACKWOOD AREA.
Cadets are both male & female, aged 11-16 and train weekly/fortnightly.
If you want to learn new skills as a Firefighter, receive some recognition towards your SACE and make some friends along the way, please contact Tom Painter: 0400 594 280, Sturt Group Cadet Coordinator, tom@gapsolutions.com.au.

INTERESTED IN PLAYING TENNIS THIS SUMMER?
Blackwood Tennis Club Junior Tennis Trials - Just turn up with your racquet on the dates below and join in the fun at Hewett Sports ground, Blackwood.
- **Saturday 31 August** – Boys 12noon to 2.30pm and Girls 2.30 to 5.00pm.
- **Sunday 8 September** – Boys 10.00am to 12noon and Girls 12.30 to 3.30pm.
- **Sunday 15 September** – Boys 10.00am to 1.00pm and Girls 1.30 to 3.30pm.
- **Sunday 22 September** – Boys 10.00am to 12noon and Girls 12.30 to 3.30pm.

FREE SEMINAR – GUERILLA TACTICS FOR PARENTS OF TEENS
Are you the parent of a teen or pre teen? Wondering how to survive the emotional rollercoaster? Come and hear Dr Andrew Fuller, clinical psychologist, author and ABC presenter talk about strategies that will help you.
Parenting SA presents a free parent seminar on Monday 23 September, 7.15 – 9.00pm in the Florey Lecture Theatre Medical School, Frome Road (eastern side), Adelaide. To book: Online – http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au/ Phone 8303 1660 or email: Health.parentingsa@health.sa.gov.au.
BUSHCARE’S MAJOR DAY OUT
SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 2013 in BELAIR NATIONAL PARK
Enquiries to: the Friends of Belair National Park friendsofbelairpark@msn.com or phone 8278 6736.

TWO FREE GUIDED WALKS LED BY BIRDS SA IN BELAIR NATIONAL PARK
SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 10am and 2pm (finish at approximately 4pm). These Annual FREE walks are in memory of Professor Sir John Cleland.
Meet at the Volunteer Centre, Long Gully, Belair National Park. FREE PARK ENTRY for participants, and free tea and coffee from the volunteers. BYO lunch, snacks, water. Wear walking shoes, a hat, sunscreen and jacket.
Enquiries: the Friends of Belair National Park friendsofbelairpark@msn.com or phone 8278 6736.

THEATRE MAKING WITH ACTNOW THEATRE
All workshops will be held at The Arts Centre, 22 Gawler Street, Port Noarlunga. Bookings by email Alysha Herrmann Creative Producer on expresswayarts@carclew.org.au or phone 0416 267 391.
Tutor | Edwin Kemp-Attrill Assistant Tutor | Phoebe Shaw, Southern Youth Theatre Ensemble
Theatre Making with ActNow Theatre - workshops will be offered during school terms:
Every Tuesday: 5 - 7pm Term 4 | Commence 15 October (Weeks 1 – 8)
Workshop fees: $85 per term - age suitability for 12 - 16 years of age.
Circus Skills (manipulation based) with Circus Elements – Tutor Scott Griffen. Age 13 years and over : 6.00-7.30pm
Circus workshops will be offered Term 3 commenced 15 August (Weeks 4 -10) & Term 4 17 October (Weeks 1-8)
Every Thursday: 6 – 7.30pm. Cost $150 for both terms or $80 per term.

STUDENT EXCHANGE
FREE city information evening in Adelaide at the Adina Apartment Hotel, Adelaide Treasury, corner King William and Flinders Streets, at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4 September, 2013. Come and meet staff, hear comprehensive information on all aspects of the exchange, ask questions, list to other families questions and meet other students considering an exchange. Scholarships are available.
Phone 1300 135 331 or www.studentexchange.org.au

STURT FALCONS SOFTBALL CLUB
2013/14 Season Registration Day was on 25 August. If you are interested please attend Trials/pre-season training on Sunday 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 September
Waite Oval - corner Fullarton Road & Claremont Avenue Netherby.
Season start 12 October - New players welcome!
For further information please email sturtfalcons@gmail.com

COERVER SA OCT 2013 SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC
Soccer Skills Clinic for all levels of girls and boys aged 6 – 16. Clinics are from 9.00am to 3.00pm at Marion Primary School, Malcolm Avenue, Marion from Monday 30 September to Friday 4 October. Cost is $130 or $30 per day.
Further information is available from the Managing Director of Coerver Coaching South Australia, Steve Maxwell. Steve is a former Socceroo, FFSA Hall of Fame inductee and Player Life Member. Contact Steve on steve.maxwell@coerver.com.au or visit www.coerversa.com.au.

ACTIVE EDUCATIONS SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS
Kids Camp: 1-3 October 2013 at “Escape to the Coast” at Wallaroo
Teens Camp: 1-3 October 2013, Bushwalking & camping in Mt Crawford
Book Now!!! For more details or to book visit www.activeed.com.au
Please note: Should we not achieve minimum numbers by 20/9/13 these camps will not go ahead!

VOLUNTEER TO DOORKNOCK!
The Heart Foundation is looking for 120,000 big-hearted people to join the fight against heart disease during September. Sign up today via their website: http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/ or call 1800 55 22 55 to find out more.
The Big Heart Appeal runs from Sunday 1 September – Monday 30 September.