TERM 3
The first five weeks of this term have seen students exhibiting their knowledge, skills and abilities to the community and beyond in a range of ways.

DANCE STARS TEAMS
Twenty eight girls travelled to the Gold Coast for the National Dance Star Competition. I would like to acknowledge their outstanding behaviour and commitment to this event.
The Senior Contemporary Team came away with a Bronze medal and the other three teams performed very well showing the reason why they had gained a place in the National Competition. Our students were complemented on their behaviour by the hotel management.
It is always pleasing to hear about how well behaved our students are. I would also like to thank the parents and family members who travelled to the Gold Coast in supporting the teams, organising costumes, hair and make-up and providing the much needed settling of nerves. It was also terrific to see the support the older students provided for the younger students.
Well done girls.

SOUTH SCIENCE EXPO AT TONSLEY PARK
On 21 August three teams of students exhibited at the South Science Expo at Tonsley Park. The 3D Printer demonstration took the award for Innovation. Well done to all three teams who were able to explain their knowledge in relations to mine craft gaming, 3D printers and energy generation.
Our winning team has been asked to be involved in an exhibition in the foyer of the Department of Education and Child Development on 17 September. More information about this event is in the newsletter.

WHOLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION
On 12 and 13 August there were four performance of the whole school production ‘What Show is it, Anyway?’ Two matinee performances saw the auditorium filled with primary school students. The two evening performances saw the auditorium filled with family, friends and community members. The audiences were provided with an integration of all to the performing arts – dance, drama and music. Well done to all of the students who performed and assisted offstage, including our technicians.

I would like to particularly congratulate Robyn Trebilcock our Arts Coordinator who wrote and produced the production, our music teachers, Ben Dening and Michael Winter, our dance teacher Katrina Constantopoulos and costumes and drama mentoring teacher Brigitte Esvelt.

SCHOOL CLOSURE AND STUDENT FREE DAY
A reminder that Friday 5 September is a school closure. On Monday 8 September we will have our third student free day.

Our focus for the day is how we establish and development environments that support wellbeing including growth mind sets and curriculum approaches for learning.

2015 WORLD CHALLENGE
The 2015 World Challenge teams will be hosting a quiz night on 5 September at the Goodwood Community Centre. There will be an interactive quiz, silent auction, pre-ordered dip platters and a bar. Tickets cost $10 each. Have you got your table of supporters? Tickets can be booked online at http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=96299
YEARS 10 SKI TRIP WEEK
Eighty three Year 10 students accompanied by ten staff travelled to the ski fields to learn, practice and take on the challenge of skiing and snowboarding. Students on the trip were involved in a lead up to this opportunity by completing a beep test (fitness measure), practicing exercises to strengthen muscles in the legs and increasing their endurance.

As we would expect, their participation and commitment to this co-curricula learning opportunity was characterised by enthusiasm, cooperation and great behaviour.

The remaining Year 10 students participated in an integrated learning program which saw a range of community and government agencies present information to the students.

Both groups of students will be able to achieve 10 credits undertaking a SACE Stage 1 Integrated Learning Program.

2014 OPINION SURVEYS
A part of the school’s Annual Report we include opinion survey results for parents/caregivers, students and teachers. The survey provided useful information that will assist us identifying aspects for improvement for 2015.

A sampling process is used to generate the list of people to survey. Parents/caregivers will be informed if they have been selected to participate and they will be provided with the link to the survey. The survey can be completed online or a hard copy can be requested from the front office.

We will be using the ACARA National Opinion Survey for parents/caregivers as we did last year. The National Opinion Survey will be open from the 8 to 26 September. I know that being asked to complete a survey can be inconvenient. However, if you receive the information about the survey, it will be very helpful for us if as many parents/caregivers complete it as possible.

PROMOTING GROWTH MINDSETS
In a previous newsletter I wrote about the difference between a growth and fixed mindset. Some work our teachers are engaging with requires us to think about our responses to students in order to support them in seeing that they can learn, and the capacity to learn is not pre-determined. Self-talk constantly occurs during our waking hours. This is the way we talk to ourselves, the voice inside our heads. It is often a running commentary going on in the background of our minds. However, it can have a significant impact on how we feel about ourselves. Positive self-talk supports us feeling good about ourselves and about our lives promoting an optimistic view. Negative self-talk has the opposite effect. It makes us feel not good about ourselves or our lives promoting a pessimistic view. It is important that young people are supported to develop positive self-talk. This can be through:

- Listening to what they are saying to themselves
- Monitoring their self-talk
- Changing their self-talk


So what can we do to help our young people? We can promote a growth mindset and positive self-talk.

If a young person says ‘I am not good at this’ get them to think about what they are missing. Instead of, ‘I give up’ we could think ‘I’ll use some of the strategies we’ve learnt’. Rather than ‘this is too hard’, reframe to ‘This will take some time and effort’. Instead of ‘I made a mistake’ support them to reframe to ‘Mistakes help me to learn better’.

Positive self-talk is a protective factor in minimising the risk of mental health issues.

STUDENT STUDY TOUR OPPORTUNITY
International Education Services, in collaboration with Seoul National University of Education, Korea, are providing an opportunity for twenty South Australian Government School students and three teachers to travel to Korea in January 2015.

Blackwood High School is eligible to nominate five students and one reserve student for this experience. The selected students will live in Seoul National University of Education dormitory accommodation, spend time in classes with Korean students and participate in educational excursions across Seoul.

Details
- Dates: 5 – 16 January 2015
- Students from Year 6 – 10 (10 – 15 year olds)
- Total cost AUD $2,300.00 for students (including airfares, accommodation, meals and travel insurance)
- The trip is for 12 days which includes 3 days of excursions and sightseeing and 9 days of classes

Interested students should contact Ms Karyn Jones, coordinator, International Student programs by Friday 5 September for more details on how to apply or email Karyn.jones@bhs.sa.edu.au.
AMY LEVAI ABORIGINAL TEACHING SCHOLARSHIPS

Students in their last year of School who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders can apply for the Amy Levai Scholarship. The scholarship provides $5000 per year to undertake a teacher education program at an Australian Tertiary institution. Applications and frequently asked questions are available at http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/hr/pages/jobscareers/aboriginalemployment. Applications close Friday 10 October 2014.

HISTORY BOWL QUIZ

At Blackwood High School we are always seeking new opportunities for students to challenge themselves and link with others. This year we have forged a relationship to offer the History Bowl Quiz where our student teams compete against other schools. Blackwood High School will be hosting the Australian version of the American History Bowl on 10 September. Our students will have the opportunity to put their knowledge against other students.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES EQUITY SCHEME – 2015

For 2015 all South Australian universities have agreed to have a single SA Universities Equity Scheme. Details of the scheme are available at http://www.satac.edu.au/pages/changes-for-year-12-in-2015. Universities have determined which schools will automatically attract a bonus for their students under the new scheme in 2015. Blackwood High School will not automatically attract a bonus.

All students at our school will still be eligible to apply for consideration under the scheme on an individual basis. Applications for individual student can be made from August 2015 via the SATAC website. www.satac.edu.au.

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS

- Congratulations to Bailey Dyer in Year 9 who has been selected as a SAPSASA Basketball umpires for the forthcoming competition.
- Congratulations to Jack Zuvich in Year 9 who has been selected in the Under 15 Western Reds Lacrosse team and being named as one of the captains of his team to represent South Australia at the Lacrosse National Tournament in Perth from 28 September to 4 October.
- Congratulations to two students Callum Goodhand and Georgie Waters who received a Bronze Certificate in the Education Perfect Social Sciences Championships 2014. These two students are ranked in the top 20% of the 10,000 competitors around the world.
- Congratulations to Harry Ashwell who has been selected to play in the National Squash Tournament representing South Australia in the U15 State team being held in Perth from 26 to 30 September.
- Congratulations to Asha Thurlow who will receive a Pierre de Coubertin Award on 29 August in front of her family and some staff.
- Congratulations to Angela Winter 8G. Angela and her team won the South Australian Irish Dancing Championships Open mixed four hand ceili. Angela, aged 13 was the youngest competitor in this open adult event.

NAPLAN

In May, Australian school students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertook the NAPLAN in the areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

Each Blackwood High School Year 9 student’s NAPLAN report will arrive at the school during September. The reports will be distributed to parents/caregivers at the parent/teacher interview scheduled for 25 and 26 September 2014. The NAPLAN report will show student’s results in comparison with all other students from Year 9 in Australia who sat the NAPLAN.

Included in this newsletter is an open letter from the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). This letter outlines the purpose of the NAPLAN and contains tips for parents/caregivers about how to read the report. As indicated in the letter, further information on how to read the report can be found on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/student-reports.html.

The NAPLAN report forms just one element of the information we have about our students at Blackwood High School. Through our reporting procedures at Blackwood High School you will already have been provided with information about your child and their learning.

If you wish to discuss the results with your child’s teacher or Mr Craig Duguid, please phone the school to make an appointment.

Marion Coady - Principal

Craig Duguid - Assistant Principal Middle School and Student Wellbeing
Bringing NAPLAN home: The results and your child

As parents and carers, we all take great interest in our children and their paths in life. We know it is really important that they develop key skills such as literacy and numeracy to help them through school, work and life.

NAPLAN (the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) is a national test undertaken by all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students, designed to provide information on your child’s literacy and numeracy achievements. This year NAPLAN was taken on 13, 14 and 15 May.

NAPLAN results provide additional information, which can be used along with school assessment and testing. It allows you to compare your child’s achievement with other children across Australia. By itself, NAPLAN does not improve the quality of education, but it gives us a national snapshot of how our children are doing in those important skills of literacy and numeracy.

NAPLAN is important to your child as it provides information for school authorities and schools to review the effectiveness of their programs and to address any areas requiring improvement. It is important that you know as early as possible about your child’s strengths or if your child needs assistance. NAPLAN helps with this.

Sometime in August and September you will receive your son or daughter’s NAPLAN report. I encourage you to read the report in the context of what you already know about your child’s academic performance and in conjunction with other assessment information and reports you may already have received from your child’s school. Further information on how to read the report is found on the NAP website: [www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/student-reports.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/student-reports.html)

Your son or daughter’s results will be reported against six levels of achievement. Your child’s results will be indicated by a black dot. The black triangle shows the national average for children in that year level.

This means you can compare your child’s performance to children in the same year level. As with all tests, small differences between students’ NAPLAN scores do not reflect real achievement differences.

Using this information, you can then take the time to celebrate the success that you see and/or identify areas for improvement. You should talk to your child’s teacher about what you should do next if you see areas that need improvement.

If your child is concerned with their results, remind them that NAPLAN isn’t a pass or fail test and there are no rewards or penalties for the result your child achieves. Rather, the NAPLAN student report is a point in time snapshot of your child’s achievements in the important areas of literacy and numeracy. This snapshot gives an indication of how your child compares with students across Australia.

ACARA is committed to improving learning for all young Australians through world-class curriculum, assessment and reporting. This year, we are aiming for NAPLAN results to be returned to you more quickly than in previous years.

As teachers and parents continue on with the rest of 2014, I urge you to keep NAPLAN student reports in context. Don’t stop any activities your child enjoys; don’t focus your child only on literacy and numeracy. Evidence shows that a well-rounded education, including the pursuit of other activities such as sport and art, contributes to the development of literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills. All activities are crucial to the school program and contribute to developing informed, happy children who are confident in their own abilities.

Robert Randall
Chief Executive Officer, ACARA
YEAR 10 PERSONAL PROJECT

The Personal Project is an integral and compulsory part of the IB Middle Years Programme (IBMYP), undertaken by all students at Year 10. The project is based on a topic of the student’s own interest and is carried out over the course of at least a semester, primarily in the student’s own time. A wide variety of different projects can be undertaken, provided that the student is learning something new and can produce the following components:

- A process journal which records their progress, ideas, and challenges throughout the project.
- A product of some description (e.g. a book, video, design, creation, etc.) which they develop to show their learning.
- A report completed at the end of the project.

The end of Term 2 saw our Year 10 student working hard to complete their Personal Projects in time to submit them before the holidays. For the majority of the cohort this was a project that they had been working on from the start of the year or even as early as late last year. Following submission, each project was then marked by a panel of teachers against the IBMYP assessment criteria. After this, students were asked to display their projects in the resource centre. In all, more than one hundred students participated in the display, filling the Resource Centre with a range of terrific projects.

Across the two days the Personal Project display was open, all Year 8 – 10 classes were scheduled to visit. For Year 10 students this was a great opportunity to celebrate their own work and that of their peers. For students in Years 8 and 9 it was an opportunity to gather ideas and inspiration for the year(s) ahead. On top of this, we invited the entire Year 6 – 7 cohorts from our IBMYP partner school Coromandel Valley to come and check out the display. This was both to gather ideas for their own ‘mini personal projects’ they will be starting this term and, for some of them, to begin to think about what they might like to do when they join us in a couple of years’ time. Lastly, on the Tuesday night the display was open to interested parents who came in to see the excellent work of our students.

Parents are advised to keep an eye out for the Personal Project display in early Term 3, 2015!

Some of our Personal Projects from 2014: everything from clothing and textiles, to woodworking, to writing books and guides, to learning photography.

SA SCIENCE AWARDS GALA DINNER

I was recently selected as a Finalist in the Science Excellence Awards, after receiving a nomination for STEM Educator of the Year. STEM refers to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. STEM Education is an exciting field, with many teachers world-wide engaging and challenging their students with tasks which span multiple learning areas and link to emerging career areas. Blackwood High School has a strong track record in STEM teaching. Recently, the Industry Pathways Program, STEM Primary School Program and successes in the Southern Schools Science Expo and Royal Show Advanced Technologies Competition have highlighted this strength. The Science Awards Gala was held at the Adelaide Town Hall. Professor Anthony Thomas was announced as the SA Scientist of the Year. His research aims to unravel the rich and complex structure of subatomic matter.

‘I had the opportunity to discuss science education with Tony Harrison (Chief Executive of DECD, left of photo) and Jayne Johnston (Chief Education Officer DECD, right of photo).’

Dr Rogan Tinsley - Science, Mathematics and Biology Teacher Year 8 Leader
**STEM-TACULAR TERM 3**

Term 3 is one of my favourite terms! Mainly because of the enormous array of STEM events, activities, celebrations and fun that is available. In Term 3 we have had STEM coming out of our ears!

**SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE**

The Science and Engineering Challenge is an annual event conducted by the University of Newcastle and held at various locations across the country. This year on 25 July thirty of our most enthusiastic and talented Year 8 - 10 science students travelled to Flinders University to take part in this exciting and enriching opportunity. The challenge provides the opportunity for schools to compete against each other on a range of problem-based activities. Students, working in teams of 3-4, earn points for their school based on how well they achieve the various objectives of their challenges. Blackwood High School performed well, achieving high scores consistently across all challenges and finishing fourth overall. Well done to all those who participated.

**SCIENCE ALIVE**

Around seventy students across Years 10-11 from Blackwood High School attended this annual event at Wayville Showgrounds on 7 August. There were plenty of interactive experiences, science shows and general promotion of science as a career by tertiary institutions and relevant associations, businesses and industries. A few of our students even experienced a fleeting moment of fame as they were interviewed by Channel Ten news and appeared on it that evening. This event is always enjoyable and popular for students!

**SCIENCE AND COMPUTING COMPETITIONS 2014**

Congratulations to all students who participated in the various National Science and Computing Competitions at Blackwood High School. Again as a school we performed well, achieving above state and national averages in most year levels! These competitions are an excellent experience and opportunity to develop problem solving and analytical skills as well as test and examination technique. Not to mention the opportunity to compete at a National level! I encourage students to participate especially if you like your Science! An extra congratulations to the following students who achieved either a Credit (10-30% of the country), Distinction (top 2-10%) or High Distinction (top 1%).

**ICAS COMPUTING SKILLS COMPETITION**

Kingsley Rosman (Yr 8) - Distinction  
Jing Zhan Lim (Yr 8) - Distinction  
Kelly Whitehead (Yr 9) - Credit  
Tim Rowley (Yr 10) - Credit  
Nathaniel Ramesh (Yr 10) - Credit  
Parsa Shorofi (Yr 10) - Credit

**ICAS SCIENCE COMPETITION**

Kingsley Rosman (Yr 8) - Distinction  
Jing Zhan Lim (Yr 8) - Distinction  
Ian Douglas (Yr 10) - Distinction  
Matthew Albrecht (Yr 10) - Distinction  
Emily Crump (Yr 10) - Credit  
Emily Lauritsen (Yr 10) - Credit  
Lachlan Hunt (Yr 11) - Credit  
Parsa Shorofi (Yr 11) - Credit

**RIO TINTO BIG SCIENCE COMPETITION**

Jing Zhan Lim (Yr 8) - HIGH DISTINCTION  
Emily Lauritsen (Yr 10) - Distinction  
Kelly Whitehead (Yr 10) - Distinction  
Phoebe Bourne (Yr 11) - Distinction  
Louis Down (Yr 10) - Credit  
Lachlan Hunt (Yr 11) - Credit  
Ben Rowett (Yr 11) - Credit  
Parsa Shorofi (Yr 11) - Credit  
Sivi Sivam (Yr 11) - Credit  
Kabilan Venkatasalam (Yr 11) - Credit  
Jenny White (Yr 11) - Credit  
Corey Bridger (Yr 12) - Credit
NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK
The celebration of National Science Week from 16-24 August, saw Blackwood High School go back to nature with a ‘wildlife extravaganza!’ Many thanks to Ms Katrina Holmes and Ms Mary Smith for providing lunchtime activities giving students hands-on experiences and education on green tree frogs, blue tongue lizards, dunnarts, a bearded dragon called ‘milo’ and the crowd favourite ‘Loki’ the python! In addition Blackwood High School was a part of Hawthorndene Kindergarten’s Community Science Evening providing fun science activities for our early learners in colour chromatography, microscopy and chemistry with a demonstration of the spectacular ‘elephant’s toothpaste’ reaction.

STEM EXPO
On 11 August schools from across Adelaide who are a part of the DECD Advanced Technology Project convened to showcase the promotion of STEM that is occurring in their respective schools. Our fellow educators were suitably impressed with our presentation of the details and successes of our primary school STEM program. Jarrod Chave and Dr Rogan Tinsley led this presentation, but the highlight was the testimonies given by three of our Year 8 students who participated in the STEM program last year. A big congratulations and thanks go to Angus Hampel, Ben Davies and Jared Kloeden who very confidently articulated their experiences and the benefits they received from being a part of this program, to a collection of education professionals. Jarrod Chave, Dr Tinsley and our colleagues were most impressed at how our students presented themselves and the quality of their public speaking skills.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM (ATP) SOUTHERN SCIENCE EXPO
The third annual Southern Science Expo was held on 21 August at the new Tonsley TAFE. Again Blackwood High School had a strong presence with interactive displays of ‘MineCraft Maths and Engineering’, a hand-made generator with quite a buzz and 3-D printing. Even more exciting was for the second consecutive year we won the expert judges first for the most innovative STEM activity with our 3-D printing display! Congratulations to Martin Nachazel, Ryan Hutton and Zac Morrison for a marvellous showcase of their 3-D printing expertise that saw them win first prize. Well done and thank you also to Brayden Whellum, Nathan Munn, Cameron Watts, Zac Morrison, Maddie Locke, Jaydyn Maidment, Ally Maynard, Jessica Meldrum and Tash Candy for their impressive displays and Jenny White, Sivi Sivam, Zoe Craggs-McCaul and Kathleen Gibbs who were tour guides for the primary school students who attended. In addition thank you to Dr Rogan Tinsley, Mr Philip Pearce, Mr Tom Oliphant and Mr Malcolm Clarke who worked with and supported these students in the preparation of their displays.

Jarrod Chave - Senior Leader: Innovations in Science & Technology
ARTS NEWS

What a show! The 2014 Whole School Production WHAT SHOW IS IT ANYWAY? was a great success. We played to capacity audiences for both matinees, with visitors from Blackwood Primary School, Eden Hills Primary School, Belair Schools and Westbourne Park Primary School filling the auditorium with delighted laughter at the antics of the comic characters and enthusiastic applause for the fabulous singers, dancers, actors and band musicians. The evening audiences also nearly filled the auditorium and the feedback we received was wonderful:

“We just wanted to say what a fantastic show the students put on last night. We enjoyed it immensely and felt the actors, dancers and singers performed to a very high standard, plus the band sounded fantastic. It was a very entertaining show. Congratulations.’

I was lucky enough to attend your production of "What show is it, Anyway?" today with Belair Primary School. This was a truly fabulous production and I enjoyed every minute of it. Everyone involved have obviously put so much work into this and the results speak for themselves. Please pass on my congratulations to all involved and thank them for performing for us today. This was a fine example of what talent and hard work can produce and a brilliant advertisement for your school.’

‘Thank you for a great show and a wonderful opportunity you have given to everyone involved (including parents). It was very clever and professional (I have no idea how you fitted so many on stage without incident!’

‘The singers were outstanding – I couldn’t believe the standard The two narrators were a huge laugh, very comical I had a smile on my face the whole show.’

Under the guidance of old scholar Brendan Maidment we had a technician team of five in the Bio Box, including three newly trained Year 8’s running the audio and media effects. We were very excited when we found that turning the custom built canvas wall hangings back to the wall gave us a perfect ‘blank canvas’ to screen film clips and colour effects as a backdrop to our big stage numbers. The students on stage were wonderful, working professionally and as a team to put on the show, but it all could not have come together without the work of Katrina Constantopoulos in choreography and our I-movie opening, Brigitte Esvelt in costumes and Drama mentoring and the arranging and rehearsing of the band numbers by Ben Dening and Michael Winter.

I would also like to mention my hardworking Year 10 Drama class, who ran the show as part of their Stagecraft Unit. All the stage management, props, hair and makeup, filming, photography and media effects were their responsibility. Kaytlyn Gisborne and Stephanie Clark managed costumes and backstage as part of their SACE Stage 1 Drama course, the foyer music was composed and recorded by my Year 8 special music students, and the cameo performances by the rioting students at the door, who later snuck on in several of the music numbers dressed variously as a cow, a panda, ballerinas, security or in their PJs, were by my Year 8 special drama and special music students. I think they really added to the show!

We couldn’t have done it without the support of the families of our cast and crew, who ferried students to weekend rehearsals and were a warm and supportive part of our audiences. People are already talking about ‘next year’s production’!

Robyn Trebilcock - Arts Leader
GERMAN BIG DAY OUT

On Friday, 25 July, the Year 10/11 German class went to Adelaide University for the German Day Out. This was an opportunity for us to meet German students from across the state and to explore future languages pathways. After listening to some of the speeches about learning German and living in Germany we completed a quiz. We worked as a class, completing questions about grammar, music, culture and sport. We then broke into groups to complete different activities.

My group visited the Migration Museum. Before we entered the museum, we learnt about when and where people came to Australia, as well as why they migrated and what they did to earn a living. We were then taken on a guided tour of the museum. The Museum exhibits we looked at included Aboriginal history, the history of Adelaide and immigration to Australia. In particular, we focussed on the history of German settlers who came to live in Adelaide. We discovered that Germans came and settled in the areas of Hahndorf and Klemzig. We found visiting the Museum to be a very enjoyable and valuable experience.

In the second activity we learnt about how languages are ever changing and evolving. We viewed a TED Talk by a woman who discussed the use of new words in the English language. With the popularity and use of technology on the rise we are now using and being exposed to a whole range of new words. We discussed some of the words which are currently popular among people of our age including, YOLO and swag. We learnt that this is not only the case with the English language but also other languages, including German. We were shown examples of new words currently used by youth in Germany. My favourite two words were ‘Gammelfleischparty’ and ‘Egosurfen’. ‘Gammelfleischparty’ is used to describe a party with the majority of attendants being old people or adults, literally translating to ‘rotten flesh party’. The second word, ‘egosurfen’, describes the action of googling yourself, which I’m sure we all have done before. After this we partnered up with a student from a different school and attempted to come up with our own words, which was a harder task than we had anticipated. Overall we had a great day and learnt a lot about the benefits of learning a foreign language.

Niklas Kropp, an International Student from Germany, recently left for home after spending two months at Blackwood High School. Here are his reflections on his time with us.

My stay Down Under

G’day mate. My name is Niklas and I had a very good time at Blackwood High School in Adelaide. Australia has fascinated me because of all the open and friendly people, the beautiful landscape and the great facilities at school.

First of all I would like to talk about my stay at Blackwood High School. It is a beautiful school which offers a lot of opportunities for International Students. I have really enjoyed the great location of the school in the Blackwood Hills. The six subjects that I have studied were: English Studies, Mathematical Studies, Psychology, Biology, Physical Education and German. My favourite subject was Psychology because I had the chance to study a subject that I’m not able to do in Germany. Another important factor why I have recently enjoyed my stay was that I felt very welcomed by all the students and my teachers. I was very surprised about the good relationship between the students and the teachers! Another thing I really liked about the lessons was the way teachers tried to transfer their knowledge to the students. For example: when my English teacher Mrs White made a cake for our class, we were able to use describing words while answering questions about the taste of the cake and the memories it reminded us of.

I am very thankful for my host family. They were just awesome! I had a very fun and enjoyable stay in their lovely house. I especially enjoyed the delicious food and all the different activities we did together.

All in all I had the best time of my life with all my amazing Aussie friends and I am looking forward to coming back and visiting you again soon.

Niklas Kropp – German student
ZONE SPORT TERM 2/3

During the Term 2/3 competitions we had strong interest from students in playing Zone Sport. We had a number of teams participate in a variety of sports, including Open Boys Basketball, Girls Netball (five teams) and Open Table Tennis.

Every team displayed exceptional sporting conduct and participated competitively. Congratulations to our basketball team who were fantastic all the way through, taking third spot against Hamilton Maroon. All the girl’s netball teams were competitive throughout the whole season with Blackwood 5 winning the Yr 8/9 Girls, Division C1 Competition. Blackwood 1 ended up losing the grand final in a thriller against St John’s Grammar. The table tennis boys did well throughout the whole season, finishing off with winning a couple of the last rounds and finishing the season in fourth place. Well done to everyone!

Thank you to the coaches that put their hand-up to take the students to participate in Zone Sport and also the umpires. They included staff and students: Tom Oliphant, Peta Maher, Steve Aulert, Janet Bradley, Riley Mitchell, Emily Pettman, Madison Steer, Britt Smith, Riley Mitchell, Carmen Britton, Bailey Mandemaker, Taylah Revink, Amy Buckney, Jane Whitehead, Shannon Gaskell, Taylor Fey, Sarah Wardle, Ellie Bain, Courtney Phillips, Asha Thurlow, Georgia Brown and Ashton Gaskell.

Overall, it was a great season for everyone involved with all of the players learning something new along the way. Season 3/4 for Zone Sport is starting in Week 7 with five teams entered.

Adam Delcano, Sports Trainee & Steve Aulert, Sports Coordinator

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL RAISING FUNDS FOR THE HIMEJI TRIP

The new 2014 | 2015 Adelaide Entertainment™ Memberships are available now and packed with thousands of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers.

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Use just a few of these offers and you’ll more than cover the cost of your Entertainment™ Membership!

WINE ORDER – RAISING FUNDS FOR THE Himeji Trip

We are fundraising again with the fabulous clean skins from Serafino Wines for the Himeji Exchange Trip in September 2014.

The Shiraz has gone already but we still have 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon and 2012 Chardonnay. The Order Form is attached and all orders should be handed into the front office.

If you would like an order form emailed out please contact linda.bain@bhs.sa.edu.au

Jenny Arezina – LOTE Teacher
WORLD CHALLENGE
QUIZ NIGHT
Goodwood Community Centre – 7pm, Friday 5 September
Tickets -$10 /per person; Pre order Mediterranean dips platters $12

Come and support the 2014/15 World Challenge teams in their first fundraiser for the year as they raise funds to support their Community projects through Zambia and Botswana.

Our interactive quiz night will include movie and music clues, raffles, table competitions and a silent auction. Our esteemed chef Terry will create Mediterranean dips platters that can be pre ordered, or you can choose to bring your own goodies from home. Drinks will be available at the bar where you can get your soft drinks, beer and wine at great prices.

All the proceeds of the night will go toward ensuring our community projects are truly meaningful and sustainable.

If you would like to join the fun, tickets can be purchased from the school or online at http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=96299

If you cannot attend but would like to contribute by making a donation or supplying a prize for auction please contact Daniel Smith on 82780938 or at daniel.smith@bhs.sa.edu.

BLACKWOOD TENNIS CLUB
Thank you to Jeremy Quast and the team at the Blackwood Tennis Club for their generous donation of tennis balls to the Physical Education Department recently. This will allow greater student involvement throughout our Year 9 and 10 tennis units. Please support the generous donors who support our school.

SOCCER WORLD CUP
In Week 7, 8 and 9 of Term 2, the World Challenge team hosted a Soccer World Cup during lunchtimes. We had five junior school teams, three senior school teams and an entertaining staff team that played a fast and exciting brand of soccer through the knockout stages. In the junior competition the Year 8 Spanish team were too strong for the Year 9 team from 9G despite a spirited half time pep talk from Care group teacher Ms Jones.

In the senior competition we were treated to some really high quality games, none more so than the staff game against the Dutch Year 11 outfit. An unfortunate driving incident resulting in the Dutch team losing a player before the game which meant the staff went in very confident. However, spearheaded by Jacob Donk and Liam Krenn, the staff team were forced to repel many attacks and battle a very large ‘pro student’ crowd. After a tense game, the match was decided on penalties with the winning goal scored by Gaby Grant.

Meeting the 12F Brazil team in the final, a huge crowd saw the Dutch overwhelm their older rivals to record a 3 – 1 winning margin.

Thanks to all the player spectators and the World Challenge team that made the competition such a success. The money raised from the player fees and cake stall will go toward supporting our team’s community project on Expedition in 2015.

Dan Smith - World Challenge School Coordinator
Health and Physical Education Teacher

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FOREST SOCCER PRESENTATION EVENING
Blackwood High School Forest Soccer Club is having its end of season Presentation Night on Wednesday 17 September at 7.00pm in the Senior Learning Centre (OSA).

All Players are to attend the event and parents are most welcome. No entry fee required, pizza and soft drink will be provided and $2 gold coin donation for adult drinks. An outstanding effort by all players, coaches and volunteers this year, so come and enjoy the night.

For those interested in joining our committee and supporting this successful club for 2015, an AGM will precede the night at 6.30pm.
NEWSLETTER NO. 8 – 29 August 2014

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Hi Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

My name is Lucy Vardas and I am currently studying Stage 2 Health. For my most recent assignment I have undertaken researching what children are doing online, how much the parents know and how it is affecting their health and wellbeing.

I surveyed people aged between 14 and 18 as well as some parents and the results I received were shocking. The majority of the children believed they spent roughly 8 – 10 hours on any device that is accessible to internet equating to approximately 60 hours a week, which is way above the guidelines. Australia’s Physical Activity Recommendations recommend that this age bracket of children should spend no longer than 2 hours in total per day on the internet, excluding educational purposes. This then means that they can go outside and undergo physical activity or exercise and stay active and healthy.

Another question I asked in my survey was ‘Do your parents know everything you do on these devices?’ where 58.82% replied no which is more than half the people! This is a worrying result as there are many types of predators online that can harm and affect your children in more ways than one. Research shows that you know that by age 18, most boys and girls have seen pornography online and most people are now aware of this including parents. Online Pornography is classified as any pornography that is accessible over the internet, most of which are free to access. People watch these pornography websites believing it is a harmless hobby and no consequences will be a result of it, however they are terribly wrong. This ‘harmless hobby’ can affect and change the health and wellbeing of teenagers in more ways than one. One way this can and will occur is through the rise of sexual assault/ rape victims and bullies. People who are watching these videos online may start to believe that others want sex that rough and they like it when they are hurt during sex, which can lead to these ‘bullies’ finding their victims and re-enacting the scenarios they had once seen before.

This rise can be dramatically decreased or stopped, by parents knowing what their children are doing online and stopping them from experiencing this ‘harmless hobby’. Another consequence that online pornography does to the health and wellbeing of teens is it distorts body image and the way we should look to have someone attracted to us. In my survey I asked for people’s opinion on whether they believe it distorts body image which most people agreed and had something to say about it, however earlier on in my survey most of these people said they did watch these pornographic websites on a regular basis. If people were to begin to believe that they needed to look one way, they may start going on excessive diets, or even worst case scenario; stop eating. This affects the health of teenagers majorly as they start developing illness easier, they look unhealthy, and they are destroying their body as it isn’t getting the nutrients it needs.

In conclusion, to be able to stop these increasing trends, parents need to understand what their children are doing online and make sure the children understand the difference between reality and these scenarios online. More than half the people who answered my questions said they wouldn’t tell their parents if they came across these websites, so I think that you could use this letter to open up a dialogue with your children about managing their online behaviour, and encourage parents to become more active in monitoring their online behaviour. Thank you.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2015

The City of Mitcham recognises positive contributions to the community through our Citizen of the Year Awards and Awards for Excellence held as a part of our Australia Day Celebrations each year. I would like to invite you to nominate any exceptional citizens, young people or groups that you may be aware of for the City of Mitcham’s Australia Day Awards. The nominee does not have to reside in our council area; if the person(s) have demonstrated contributions to our community they are also eligible. The award categories are:

**National Australia Day Council Awards**

- Citizen of the Year - [click here for nomination form](#)
- Young Citizen of the Year - [click here for nomination form](#)
- Community Event of the Year - [click here for nomination form](#)

**City of Mitcham Awards for Excellence**

- Award for Excellence in Environmental Achievement - [click here for nomination form](#)
- Award for Excellence in Community Service - [click here for nomination form](#)
- Awards for Excellence in Design - [click here for nomination form](#)
- Awards for Excellence in Sport - [click here for nomination form](#)

Nominations will be accepted up until 5pm on Friday 14 November.

The judging panel will be meeting during December to review the nominations and make a decision on the award recipients and commendations. The winners in the categories of Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year or Community Event of the Year will be forwarded to the State awards for consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Lucy Vardas – Stage 2 Health Student

Chris Bartlett - Civic Events Officer
The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider. All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend.

Dental care is FREE for most children. Children who do not qualify for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule can also attend – a small fee will apply for each course of general dental care provided.

All dental care provided is FREE for preschool children.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au
The Australian Veterans’ Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) is a not-for-profit organisation. AVCAT administers scholarships to help children, and in some cases grandchildren, of the Australian ex-service community with the costs of full-time education. The most deserving candidates are provided with financial assistance to facilitate their tertiary studies.

AVCAT relies on the generosity of the ex-service and business community as well as private donors. If you would like to find out more about supporting AVCAT or applying for a scholarship, please contact us:

T: 02 9213 7999 E: avcat@hwa.gov.au W: www.avcat.org.au

APPLICATIONS OPEN 18 AUGUST

A photo courtesy of the University of Adelaide.

“The means the world to me that someone doesn’t lose care about my education and believes I have potential.”

2014 Recipient

For over 150 years, AMP has been helping Australians realise their dreams. Now AMP’s Tomorrow Fund wants to help amazing individuals, who are doing great things, realise their dreams to the next level and create a better tomorrow for everyone.

AMP’s Tomorrow Fund

AMP’s Tomorrow Fund is a new programme offering up to $10,000 in grants to Tomorrow’s health professionals, helping young people to help others who have a diagnosis and are often may facing it.

Through this programme, AMP and the Government of South Australia aim to achieve a number of desired outcomes - Formal Qualifications, Tomorrow’s tomorrow, youth cancer research.

Who can apply?

A student or member of a team interested in helping others can apply to the AMP Tomorrow Fund. We welcome applications with great ideas who need extra funding to make their dream a reality.

They may be medical, nursing, para-medical staff. They can be a group project or an individual who is working on helping others. Tomorrow’s Tomorrow Fund wants to support work that is helping young people with medical needs.

The work needs to be in a field of endeavour that is formal qualifications. It can be research with a clinical focus or helping other understand their data.

The application needs to be a good idea that tomorrow’s tomorrow.

What can the grants be used for?

Grants ranging from $100 up to $10,000 will be awarded to help with the costs of activities, such as study fees, equipment, materials and small equipment.

The total of all grants awarded will be $20,000 to the end of the application period.

Please note, AMP’s Tomorrow Fund grants are for individuals or not-for-profit organisations.

Closing our Tomorrow Makers

A panel of judges from the AMP Foundation will assess the applications and the winners will be notified from 1 to 15 August 2014.

How to apply

If you think this is a good idea, apply online tomorrowfund.amp.com.au before 15 August 2014. It’s as easy as filling in a form. If you then need more information, it’s as easy as sending an email.

Spread the word!

If you know someone who might be interested, please share it. The more people know about this, the more amazing the outcomes will be.

For more details, visit tomorrowfund.amp.com.au

Apply before 31 August at tomorrowfund.amp.com.au

Are you the parent of a 13–18 year old? Are you concerned about their sleep?

Come and hear Dr Sarah Smid, sleep researcher, talk about the importance of sleep for this age group. Find out how:

- sleep needs change during adolescence
- sleep impact on physical and mental health
- technology affects sleep
- to help your teen get enough sleep.

To book:

Online: http://parentingqaustralia.com.au
Email: K8013@nhs.uk

Health parentingaustralia@health.sa.gov.au
Presented by Parenting SA.

For more information about caring for your child go to www.qph.com.au

Government of South Australia

Free Parenting Seminars

Sleep and your teenager

Seminar 1 Tuesday 9 September

Time: 7.15 – 9.00pm
Where: Bell Hotel Building Lecture Theatre, Uni SA City East Campus, Frome Rd, Adelaise (Building H, entry via gate 3)

Seminar 2 Tuesday 16 September

Time: 7.15 – 9.00pm
Where: Catherine Community Centre, Nazareth Catholic Community, 17 Critten Road, Tindale (parking in college carpark off Critten road)