END OF TERM 3

In looking over the term it is amazing how busy our school is. Students have continued with their learning programs and co-curricular opportunities have been ongoing. Students have been involved in debating, the Southern Science Expo, the International History Bee and Bowl and fundraising supporting the 2015 World Challenge Community projects. The forthcoming school holidays will see five students and two staff travel to Himiji Japan to be involved in the cultural exchange. We wish these students and staff an enjoyable time and safe travel.

On 25 and 26 September Mid-Semester 2 reports for Year 8 to 11 students and the final reports for Year 12 will be distributed at Parent/Teacher interviews. Interviews are scheduled from 3.45pm to 8pm on 25 September and 9am to 1.30pm on 26 September. Further details about booking appointment times are included in this newsletter.

The Year 9 NAPLAN reports will be distributed to parents and caregivers as part of the interview process. A first level analysis of the 2014 Year 9 NAPLAN results is presented in this newsletter.

I will be on leave from 22 September until 14 October. David Garrett will be Principal during my absence.

The forthcoming school holidays will see the Year 12 students preparing for their last few weeks before submission of final assessment tasks and examinations. The holidays also mark an opportunity for students to look back over Term 3, and consider their achievements and some aspects they want to improve on their return for the final term of the 2014 school year.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing you on my return from overseas.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND GAMING

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who recently attended a parent seminar given by Kirrilie Smout.

Kirrilie explored the advantages and disadvantages of young people using social media and gaming. Her advice to parents and caregivers included:

- Be familiar with technology, especially Facebook and other social networking sites. Browse, have a profile and most importantly, understand the privacy settings so that you know how your child can protect themselves.
- Appreciate the positive; however, be alert to the dangers.
- Learn to ask questions of your children so they talk about their experiences, their knowledge, their views and opinions and most importantly, the strategies they use for wise use of social networking.
- Support them to develop the skills to understand how to stay safe, how to resolve conflict, how to avoid offending or hurting others, how to manage their sleep and study and how to avoid the temptations of saying and doing things that are inappropriate.
- Have specific expectations relating to the internet and gaming. This includes the amount of time, when, sites and details not to put on social network sites.

Included with this newsletter is an insert for parents/caregivers as a follow up from the Kirrilie Smout parent seminar that was held in the Senior Learning Centre on 27 August.

Further information about assisting young people is available at www.developingminds.net.au.
STUDENT FREE DAY
On 8 September teaching and support staff were involved in professional learning relating to Positive Education. The day linked previous work the staff had undertaken in 2013 with Steve Frances about engagement for learning. This year the professional learning was led by the team of our staff who had attended the Geelong Grammar Residential on Positive Education. We explored the five elements, PERMA which support people to ‘Flourish’.

Each of these elements is able to build wellbeing and is from the work of Professor Martin Seligmann who was a recent Thinker in Residence. Each of the PERMA elements is learnable, teachable and liveable. Some significant quotes aligned to some of the elements for PERMA include:

Accomplish I don’t divide the world into the weak or the strong, or the successes and failures. I divide the world into the learners and non-learners.  
Benjamin Barber
Positive Relationships More compassionate, more sense of concern for others wellbeing is a source of happiness.  
Dalai Lama
Meaning A meaningful life must feel worthwhile. However, for a life to be meaningful it must be worthwhile.  
Todd May

Essentially we can develop skills and abilities to build our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others. Key to this is the development of growth mindsets which help us to develop some of the capacities required to bounce back when things do not always go well and to tackle new challenges knowing that we may not always succeed in the first, second or many attempts.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE – FAIRWAY ACCESS SCHEME FOR 2015 ENTRY
We have recently received notification that students from Blackwood High School will receive six bonus points through the Fairway Access Scheme.

Also students who are studying SACE Stage 2 Specialist Mathematics and/or a Language other than English will receive bonus points in addition to the Fairway Access Scheme.

For further information is available at [http://www.adelaide.edu.au/study/high-school/getting-in/access/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/study/high-school/getting-in/access/).

UNIVERSITIES ADMISSION CENTRE (UAC)
The UAC has a range of equity scholarships available for 2014-2015. The scholarships provide financial assistance for the costs associated with higher education. Some of these scholarships are for year-round admission.

Key dates for the scholarships include:

- Applications Open: 6 August 2014
- On-time applications Close: 30 September 2014
- Closing date for Equity: 7 January 2014
- Scholarships to be considered in Main Round Scholarship of fees: 22 January 2015
- Equity Scholarship offers: 22 January 2015
- Final Applications Close: 17 July 2015


2015 NATIONAL SUMMER ART SCHOLARSHIP
Students who will be studying Year 12 in 2015 can apply to be involved with the national Summer Art School to be held 10-17 January in Canberra. The scholarships include airfares, accommodation, meals and workshops with trained staff supervising the students at all times.

Application close 20 October 2014. Further information is available at [www.nga.gov.au/summerartscholarship](http://www.nga.gov.au/summerartscholarship) or [summerartscholarship2015@nga.gov.au](mailto:summerartscholarship2015@nga.gov.au) or (02) 6240 6632.

INTERNATIONAL HISTORY BEE AND BOWL
On 10 September Blackwood High School hosted the inaugural International History Bee and Bowl. Students from three schools visited our school to compete in the two parts of the competition: the Bee where students competed individually to answer questions on history and the Bowl where teams of students undertook rounds with four quarters including quarters with bonus questions and bounce backs. The competition was run by David Madden, coach of the USA International Geography Team.

Congratulations to Kingsley Rosman Year 8 and Ethan Keen Year 9 who were gold medallists in their Bee divisions. Congratulations also to our two teams who were finalists and winners of their two Bowls divisions. The winner’s plaques are on display in the school’s front office area. All of the students who participated enjoyed themselves. A students’ perspective on this event is included in the newsletter.
AUSTRALIAN VETERANS CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST (AVACT)

The AVCAT aims to help children and grandchildren of ex-servicemen and women to receive higher education including TAFE, University or a private college. Scholarships are open to children and in some cases grandchildren of veterans and are based on need and merit. Applicants can be high school leavers starting university or current university students and eligible for Youth Allowance.

Applications for the scholarships close 31 October 2014. Further information is available at www.avcat.org.au or avcat@dva.gov.au.

NAPLAN RESULTS

The results for the Year 9 National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2014 have been received. Parents and caregivers of Year 9 students will receive their results as part of the upcoming parent-teacher interviews in the last week of term. Below is a summary of the school results since 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>590.9</td>
<td>551.9</td>
<td>581.8</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>595.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>596.3</td>
<td>559.6</td>
<td>590.4</td>
<td>589.2</td>
<td>595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>594.8</td>
<td>554.4</td>
<td>589.1</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>588.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For 2014 schools were not informed about the writing genre. On the writing task day, students had to write a persuasive test in response to a prompt.

Overall the trend shows improvement in reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy since 2012. Fluctuations will occur from one year to the next due to differences in the student cohort. Gains made over the last few years have been maintained. One important piece of information is student progress, which we refer to as ‘value adding’. We aim to have our predominate growth in the middle and upper levels. This refers to the growth that has occurred since students sat the NAPLAN as Year 7’s.

For our current Year 9 students who sat the NAPLAN in 2014, their progression from Year 7 to Year 9 is as follows:

- In Reading, 83% of our students showed progress in the medium to upper levels.
- In Numeracy, 87% of our students showed progress in the medium to upper levels.

With the exception of Writing, which was 88%, the percentage of students who achieved the National Minimum Standard was 93% and above, with 100% of students achieving it in the numeracy component.

As has been our past practice, we will be analysing the results by question type to identify adjustments to curriculum delivery that we may need to implement. The results for each of the questions gives us information about aspects that our curriculum is supporting and reinforcing, as well as areas where we may need to consider when and how concepts are delivered, how and ongoing reinforcements. NAPLAN data provides one piece of information that helps us to make important decisions and learning our curriculum.

Marion Coady, Principal
NEWSLETTER NO. 9 – 19 September 2014

WELLBEING FOCUS AT THE RECENT STUDENT FREE DAY

Wellbeing has become increasing important for schools, reinforced by the release of the new Department for Education and Child Development Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017, with a priority to improve health and wellbeing. Over the last two years Blackwood High School has been exploring what this might mean for our staff and students. Eight school leaders and staff have completed residential Positive Education courses at Geelong Grammar, and in February this year twenty five teachers and School Services Officers heard world renowned Psychologist Professor Martin Seligman speak at Adelaide Oval about ways that people can improve their own mental health in order to flourish in life and work.

At Blackwood High School we want to ensure that all staff has access to what was learnt at Adelaide Oval and Geelong Grammar. We also want to help our students develop healthy thinking and lifestyles in order to make the most of their abilities. Learning skills to improve mental wellbeing is one way to achieve this.

On the Student Free Day Monday 8 September, all teaching and non-teaching staff was introduced to ways to improve their own wellbeing using strategies learnt at Geelong Grammar. Some of these approaches have already been introduced to students through Pastoral Care, learning area subjects and special programs such as the Adelaide Football Club’s PLAY program which was trialled with our Year 9 special Football and Netball classes.

On the student free day staff was introduced to Professor Seligman’s PERMA model, which is one way of looking at positive mental health and wellbeing.

PERMA is made up of five elements of wellbeing:

- Positive Emotion
- Engagement
- Relationships
- Meaning
- Accomplishment

We recognise that physical health is also important; however this was not the focus for the day.

Staff heard a number of lively and entertaining presentations about each topic and was introduced to simple and practical activities that psychologists say can significantly boost wellbeing.

We look forward to further investigating these approaches to broaden our already impressive range of programs that support our students to make to most of their potential to grow into flourishing young adults.

If you would like information about PERMA and wellbeing, please contact either of us at the school.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal
Craig Duguid, Assistant Principal

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEW AND REPORT COLLECTION

Thursday 25 September and Friday 26 September 2014

We would like to invite parents/care givers to attend interviews with Care Group teachers on either Thursday 25 or Friday 26 September.

Interviews may be booked from 3:45pm – 8:00pm Thursday 25 September or on Friday 26 September 9:00am – 1:30pm.

At the interview the Care Group teachers will provide Term 3 reports, discuss overall student progress as identified by subject teachers, and recommend strategies for improvement in learning and achievement. They will also confirm the subjects students have indicated they would prefer to study in 2015. Parents of Year 9 students will also receive their child’s NAPLAN results.

We ask that parents/caregivers who cannot come to the school to attend the interview and collect their child’s report, phone the Care Group teacher by Wednesday 24 September. Reports are retained at the school until contact has been made to discuss student progress.
NEWSLETTER NO. 9 – 19 September 2014

Parent/Teacher Interview and Report Collection continued...

Interviews may be booked until Wednesday 24 September.

1. Book online by going to:
   - Type in Keywords box: Blackwood High School
   - Select Parents click here
   - Insert your Email, Name, Contact, Child’s Name and select Child’s Year Level
   - Click Book Interviews, select Child’s Care Group Teacher, Time Slot and SAVE

OR

2. Indicate when you can come to the school to attend your appointment by returning the slip at the bottom of the letter sent home on Monday 15 September. A copy of the letter may be downloaded from the Blackwood High School website.

Interview times and venues will be confirmed on stickers that will be placed in student diaries with the confirmed time and venue. Phone the school on 82780900 / 82780970 on school days if you need assistance.

We wish to remind parents/care givers that there will be no programmed lessons for Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 on Friday 26 September. Year 12 lessons will continue as scheduled.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS

- Congratulations to Bethan Mounfield who has been selected into the South Australian Swimming team competing at the State Teams Championships in Canberra from 24 September to 28 September.

- Congratulations to Georgia Brown (Year 11) who received a Local Sporting Champions Award. This was in recognition of her netball success and in particular her involvement as an U17 State representative. As a recipient, Georgia received a certificate and grant presented by Jamie Briggs (Federal member for Mayo) from the Australian Sports Commission.

- Congratulations to Kaitlin Litchfield who will be participating in a student exchange program to Italy from 27 November 2014 to 23 January 2015. Kaitlin has been selected through the Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

- Congratulations to Storm Burpee who has designed, coded and build a software program that enables a company to manage staff deployment. Storm also created a program to support a company with about 700 staff.

- Congratulations to Bailey Dyer who has been selected to umpire the finals of the SASPSASA Basketball Championships on 18 September.

- Congratulations to Ross Maxwell who won the School-based Apprentice of the Year in Certificate III in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery) at the SA Training Awards on Friday 12 September.
BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS THE INTERNATIONAL HISTORY BOWL AND BEE

On Wednesday, 10 September, Blackwood High School hosted and competed in the first South Australian International History Bee and Bowl tournament. The Bee is an event held for individual students while the Bowl incorporates teams of up to six students, with a maximum of four competing at one time, with the competitions divided into Junior Varsity (Year 9 and 10 students) and the Middle School (Year 8 and under) students. The competitions feature comprehensive paragraph-length questions that emphasise critical thinking and long-term knowledge of all aspects of history. The format is similar to certain quiz shows in that it incorporates a buzzer system.

The History Bee was held during the first half of the day, with twenty-two Blackwood High School competitors, four competitors from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College and a primary school student. The competitions began with three preliminary rounds, after which the four students with the highest points in their division went through to the finals. The Junior Varsity Division finalists were Ethan Keen, Matt Albrecht, Daniel Watts and Vivian Heng (Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College), while the Middle School Division finalists were Kingsley Rosman, Oran Levi, Kelsey Duffield and Levi Jagers (primary school student). After a competitive finals round, Ethan Keen was awarded first place and Vivian second. Kingsley and Levi were level during the entirety of their round, however Kingsley won the tie-break to place first ahead of Levi.

The History Bowl was held during the second half of the day. Blackwood entered four teams into the competition: facing teams from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College and Mitcham Girls High School. Teams took part in three rounds, at the end of which the top two teams with the highest point average from each division progressed to the finals. All four teams from Blackwood defeated the opposing teams. In the Junior Varsity Division, Blackwood B, comprising of Ethan Keen, Ronan Naidu, Kabilan Venkatasalam, Daniel Watts, Kynan Saurbrey and Parsa Shorofi, continued their winning streak by defeating Blackwood A 220-100 to take the winners trophy. In the Middle School Division, Blackwood C, comprising of Kingsley Rosman, Oran Levi, Toby Edwards and Zachary Lim, won first place against Blackwood D with a final score of 180-80.

Congratulations to all other students who took part in the event:

Matt Albrecht
Emily Crump
Erin Jenner
Oran Levi
Ronan Naidu
Kynan Saurbrey
Kabilan Venkatasalam
Jaimee Bruer
Kelsey Duffield
Ethan Keen
Zachary Lim
Chelsea Roper
Ashleigh Stain
Daniel Watts
Manuela Cokara
Toby Edwards
Kate Kendall
Charlotte Meldrum
Kingsley Rosman
Chanel Trezise
George Woodcock

I would like to thank Mr Madden for organising the tournament, Ms Coady and Mr Zadey for helping adjudicate the event and organising the lunch, which was greatly appreciated by all students. I would also like to thank the participating students and supporting teachers from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College and Mitcham Girls High School for taking part in the day and being great competitors.

Parsa Shorofi, Year 10 Student
MATERIAL AND SERVICES CHARGES 2015 – PARENTS INVITED TO MEETING

Thank you to all those families who have paid their Material and Services charges for 2014 and those families who are continuing their part payments.

The Finance Committee has recommended to the Governing Council that the Materials and Services charge in 2015 be set at $785 for the year with subject levies for Dance, Drama, Music, Electrotechnology, Material Products, Football and Netball. The Material and Services charges have increased by $20 from last year.

The Material and Services Charge contributes to the cost of providing essential items and services used or consumed by individual students during the course of their learning. See the attached 2015 Material and Services Charges ‘Notice’ on pages 19 and 20 of this newsletter. It has been watermarked to verify that the composition of the charge complies with the DECD Material and Service Charges Policy and Guidelines.

It pays for printed and electronic materials, access to text books, consumables such as science chemicals, art supplies, food, timber, sports equipment and a range of other curriculum materials for the eight areas of study, printing and copying for handouts in the education program, library resources and information, communication and technology resources.

We believe that the annual Material and Services levy represents excellent value at approximately $19 per school week.

Parents/caregivers are invited to a public meeting to approve the Materials and Services Charges for the next school year. This public meeting will be held prior to the Governing Council meeting on Tuesday 28 October at 7.00pm in the Conference Room. If you are unable to attend this meeting, you can express your views in writing to be presented by Jenny Pearce, chairperson, on the night. If you have any questions in relation to the proposed 2015 charges, please call the Business Manager, Chris Plummer on 82780906.

YEAR 8/9 BOYS NETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS

On the 10 September our Blackwood High School 8/9 Boys Netball team secured the State Championship title for the second year running. To get there they defeated Wirreanda, Burra, Banksia Park High Schools and in the grand final they defeated Endeavour College 27 to 14. The boys played with impressive skill and sportsmanship. Our team had great depth which meant we could rotate positions throughout the day. Captain D’Arcy Mitchell, was the mainstay in defence while Daniel Nash was a reliable goal shooter. In the mid court the team was well served by Nathan Beenham, who provided great drive and reliable passing into the goalies.

Congratulations to all players:

D’Arcy Mitchell
Daniel Nash
Nathan Beenham
Bailey Dyer
Ryan Williams
Deqlan Files
River Moore
Cameron Clohesy
Tynan Carney
Dylan Smith
Willy Bae

Janet Bradley (Coach), Year 9 Leader

SRC PRESIDENTS VISIT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

On 16 September Rachael and Daniel attended a reception for school leaders at Government House. Governor Hieu Van Le personally welcomed all the students, who had come from across South Australia. He told them about how his experiences in leadership when seeking asylum and his work ethic to establish himself in Australia opened him to the opportunity to become Governor. He also encouraged us to use our education and leadership to open up our own opportunities.

After the Governor finished his speech refreshments were served and we were able to explore the lower level of Government House. The rooms were decorated as you could expect places such as the White House would look like and contained floor to ceiling portraits of members of the previous English monarchy including portraits of Queen Adelaide, the Queen Mother and Queen Elizabeth II. Prefects and SRC Presidents from different schools all over the state were represented and it was interesting to see the variations between each school. It was also nice to be able to meet leaders from other schools and to catch up with some that we had previously met at other leadership events. Overall the event, though only brief, was an interesting experience and it was nice to meet the new Governor and to see inside Government House.

Rachael Thompson, SRC President

SRC Presidents Daniel Hill and Rachael Thompson with Governor Hieu Van Le
YEAR 12 END OF YEAR INFORMATION

Report Collection and Parent/Teacher Interviews

Year 12 Graduation
On Tuesday 21 October 7pm our Year 12 Graduation will be held at the Adelaide Town Hall. This event will celebrate successes achieved and the completion of Year 12 students’ school experience.

Please RSVP by the end of Week 1 Friday 17 October 2014.

Farewell Assembly
Friday 24 October at 9am a whole school assembly will be held in the school gym to farewell our year students. All parents are welcome to attend this event.

SATAC
Applications close Tuesday 30 September. Any applications past this date incur a late fee. For more information go to www.satac.edu.au.

Year 12 Examinations
Year 12 Examinations are from 3 November to 19 November. These will be held in the Senior Learning Centre.

Year 12 DVD 2014
Place your order NOW for your copy of the Blackwood High School Year 12 DVD. This DVD will showcase many talents of our Year 12 students from the 2014 school year.

Look back as we feature the Year 12 Formal and Baby Photos. The DVD’s will be $12 each and must be ordered by Friday 17 October 2014 and collected from Student Services from Monday 27 October.

The DVD can be ordered at Student Services at recess time.

Mary Hodson, Assistant Principal
Ben Denin, Year 12 Leader

SKI TRIP 2014
On 16 August through to 23 August eighty three Year 10 skiers and snowboarders with a contingent of ten staff headed for the Victorian Alpine area of Falls Creek for one of the most exhilarating and exhausting times of their lives. The skiing group lucky enough to have some of the best weather conditions for skiing over the last five years.

Forty two of our eighty three students participated in the night skiing on the Wednesday night, much to their delight. The feedback from those involved was fantastic with Blackwood High School skiers and snowboarders tearing up Wombats Ramble.

On the Thursday 21 August all of the able bodied students and staff walked down to the Village Bowl and caught the lift to the top of the mountain to be dazzled by some amazing community fireworks whilst looking through cardboard glasses that created snowflake images, and watching skiing displays from the international skiers who work at Fall Creek during the snow season.

All the students represented their school well and had a wonderful experience with lots of them enjoying skiing for the first time.

Jeanette Beadnall, Ski Trip Coordinator
LAW COURT AND PARLIAMENT HOUSE EXCURSION

Our trip to the courts with the Legal Studies class was eventful; we were able to experience and appreciate the processes that take place in a court room. The education officer Mr Cavouras shared with us his wealth of information and proceeded to show where the accused are held before their appearance in court and explained the process of what occurs after being found guilty. He also explained the different roles of the court personnel and the significance of our Legal System. We learnt that this is a complicated and lengthy process that involves the presentations of much evidence and many court dates. It was an interesting experience as we were also shown the dress requirements for the Magistrates, Judges and Prosecution, depending on the seriousness of the issue, and in which court cases are heard. Students had the opportunity to dress in the silk robes and wigs made from horse hair.

Later that day we attended Parliament House and were given a guided tour of the two Houses and shown key features in the décor such as the pictures on the carpet, the embellishments on the ceiling and the blood lines drawn in the Lower House. Our guide explained the various features but also went into great detail about how our parliament works and the roles of the various people in each House.

Overall it was an interesting outing and we now have a new understanding of what happens in court and how significant our Parliament is.

Razia Sahib, Year 11 Student

On the 10 September, our Year 11 Legal Studies class ventured into Adelaide, to experience the wonder of South Australia’s legal system. The first location we journeyed to was Adelaide’s Magistrate Courts, just off Victoria Square. This court handles criminal and civil matters such as, theft, assault, driving offences, and minor drug offences, without a jury. Our class had the joy of seeing how this court room was run by watching several cases throughout our morning there.

Our party then trekked to the Supreme Courts across Victoria Square. The Supreme Court handles far more serious criminal and civil offenses, including but not limited to rape, murder, and manslaughter. Unfortunately, only one trial was being heard that day, and due to the sensitive nature of the case our class was unable to witness this trial. Unlike the Magistrates, the Supreme courts rely heavily on a jury and a judge rather than a judge alone.

The last location our class attended was Parliament House which is located almost directly next to the Adelaide Railway Station. We were lead through the original building before being directed to the House of Assembly (the Green Room), and the Legislative Council (the Red Room). By being given the opportunity to see first-hand how these sections of Parliament are run, we gained an appreciation and better understanding of South Australia’s Parliamentary System.

Isaac DeLorenzo and Tayla Randell, Year 11 Students
MATHEMATICS NEWS

Numeracy Week
Our Year 8 and Year 9 Students were involved in the week long AFL Mathematics Challenge. This event was held across Australia and open to all schools. In the secondary section Blackwood High School finished in ninth position. This is a great result in a National competition and demonstrates the perseverance and dedication of our students. Also in Numeracy Week a daily lunchtime time mathematics problem solving quiz was held. Each day a new and more complex problem was set. This proved very popular with as many as 20 students from all years attempting the problem each day.

Australian Mathematics Competition
This competition was held on 7 August with nearly fifty students from Years 8 to 11 participating. Involvement in competitions like this one demonstrates our students’ willingness to step outside their comfort zone and take risks. Overall Blackwood High School students achieved 13 Distinction, 11 Credit, 12 Proficiency and 10 Participation certificates. This is a great result for our school. Certificates will be presented to students at assemblies next term.

VET AND CAREERS

South Australian Training Awards
Congratulations to Ross Maxwell who on September 12, was voted South Australian School Based Apprentice of the Year. This highly prestigious award was presented to Ross at the Entertainment Centre at a Gala Dinner. Ross will now go on to compete in the National Awards held during November and we wish him all the best in this endeavour.

Huge thanks and congratulations must go to Ross for his hard work and dedication, Ross’ employers at Windy Point Restaurant and Café, his parents Victoria and Lee Maxwell, Apprenticeship Broker Sam Ricci and everyone at Blackwood High School for their continued support.

VET Courses for 2015
Students hoping to undertake a VET Course in 2015 are encouraged to see me before the end of Term 3. Many courses are reaching their capacity and it is essential that applications are submitted in a timely manner if students hope to be successful in gaining a place.

It is important when applying to check all factors, such as day and time of the training and consider such things about transport, the cost of the course to the family and the suitability of the training for the student. Once a course begins providers do not offer refunds for students who withdraw. Choosing wisely is essential.

Also, students over the age of 16 by the start of 2015 are eligible for the Training Guarantee for SACE Students in certain qualifications. The ‘Funded Training List 8.0’ can be found at http://www.skills.sa.gov.au/training-learning/training-for-school-students/training-guarantee-for-sace-students.

If students are considering any vocation and would like to know more, please contact me via phone on 0401 121 193, email luke.northcote@bhs.sa.edu.au or students can see me any time during last week of Term 3.

VOCATION EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

Young Endeavour 2015 Sail Training Ship
In 2015 the national sail training ship Young Endeavour will set sail for an extraordinary voyage around the world. With crews of 24 youth and 12 Navy staff, the ship will sail the Roaring Forties, across the Atlantic Ocean, through the Mediterranean Sea and the English Channel, and into the North Sea, returning via the Cape of Good Hope and the Indian Ocean.

The ship will represent Australia in the Sail Training International Tall Ships Races, promoting international friendship and furthering education and development for young people of all nationalities.

The World Voyage ballot is open 1-30 September 2014 at www.youngendeavour.gov.au. Applications are open to eligible youth who will turn 18 prior the departure of their selected voyage/s in 2015.

The Young Endeavour Youth Scheme invites Blackwood High School to share this once in a lifetime opportunity, and to encourage young Australian in your community to join a circumnavigation of the world aboard STS Young Endeavour. Apply Now!
UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS

STEP UP Program
We are very excited about introducing a brand new program in the Arts, working with young people from our feeder primary schools who are interested in Dance and Drama, or a career in film making or using sound/lighting technology. The ‘Tech Team’ will have the opportunity to develop skills in operating the lights and audio of our Performing Arts Centre, including training in the use of our new Clarity Lighting system and sound desk, as well as using the sound mixing tracks using Audacity and producing a DVD. The ‘Performance Team’ will build and refine their performance skills, taking them to a more advanced level while they prepare a public performance, filmed and backed by the techies. Applications are coming in and we start auditions next week!

SACE Drama production
The SACE Stage 1 Drama students are busily rehearsing ‘Wasting Away’, a play which examines the serious social issues of eating disorders and body image. Performances will be early next term. We will keep you updated on progress.

Year 8 Band
Under the leadership of Mr Michael Winter, our Year 8 band has been going from strength to strength this year, performing at a number of assemblies. They also will be performing at the Blackwood Rotary Christmas Fair on the 9 November at Karinya and hopping on a bus for our annual Primary Schools Tour. We have an amazing number of talented singers, drummers and guitarists, and we have some new saxophone and flute players that we are hoping will be ready to join us soon!

Performers – get your acts together! The Sunset Festival Blackwood’s Got Talent show is not far away. The program begins at 5.30pm on Wednesday 12th November on the Front Lawns with live music acts while the World Challenge Team puts on a sausage sizzle and refreshment stall.

At 7.30pm the Auditorium plays host to yet more talent with dance acts, singers, acoustic music acts, jugglers, comedians, magicians and acrobats. $300 in prize money will be spread between the indoor and outdoor acts. Auditions begin early next term.

Visual Art and Design are currently working overtime to put the finishing touches to their year’s work. On the 12 November at 6.30pm the Visual Arts Area showcases the wonderful artwork of our senior students in Stage 2 Art and Design Exhibition.

Robyn Trebilcock, Arts Leader

OZ ASIA EXCURSION
The Year 9 dance students participated in a pop up performance and cultural workshops at the OZ Asia Festival.

This festival is a wonderful showcase of the rich artistic offering from Asia in theatre dance, music and art and provides an opportunity for students to be immersed and celebrate cultural diversity.

Students were part of a group of 250 who performed at the Adelaide Railway Station as part of this year’s celebrations. The dancers performed an Asian inspired dance lead by dancers from a Chinese dance troupe and featuring the Chinese dragon.

The students also participated in arts workshops including Chinese porcelain art, silk screening and shadow puppets, and also viewed art exhibitions silk legacy and the Rizahao farmers paintings.

Karina Constantopoulos, Leader Year 11
DANCE STAR

Blackwood High dancers’ perseverance was finally rewarded with an invitation to the National competition held on the Gold Coast. Four of the five teams achieved a nationals berth representing South Australia and Blackwood High School in Hip Hop Theatrical and Contemporary Dance. The teams competed at the Convention Centre at Broad Beach against teams from Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales with the standard being the highest we have seen and experienced.

The Blackwood High School teams performed at their exceptional best with the contemporary team achieving third place for a bronze medal and the Junior and Senior Hip Hop teams placing fourth in Australia in very tight scores. The hotly contested Senior Theatrical category meant a fifth place for the Blackwood High School team.

Students had a fantastic day at Movie World, shopping at Surfers and Pacific Fair and enjoyed walks on the beach. A big thank you to the parents who accompanied the group on the Gold Coast trip. I would like to acknowledge their support as audience members, and assistance with makeup, costumes and photography.

Congratulations to all the 2014 Dance Star competitors and coaches and their fantastic achievement in representing South Australia and Blackwood High School at the National I Dance Star Competition.

Auditions for a place in the 2015 squad will take place in Term 1 2015 and we look forward to expanding the program.

‘Fantastic opportunity to see the standard of competition by the other states and teams. The whole experience was a once in a lifetime opportunity.’

Manny, Dance Star Team Member

‘Fantastic dance learning experience and so much fun and bonding with the girls in my team.’

Maddi D, Dance Star Team Member

Karina Constantopoulos, Leader Year 11, Dance

HIMEJI CULTURAL AMBASSADORS VISIT BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

For the past four years Blackwood High School has been involved in a student exchange program with our sister city in Japan, Himeji. From 6 – 17 August five Japanese students, selected from high schools in and around Himeji, were hosted by their Blackwood High School exchange partners. Our students will make the return journey to Japan in the October school holidays.

During their stay in Adelaide, the Japanese students introduced Himeji and Japanese culture to our students using Powerpoint presentations and demonstrations. They enjoyed Aussie cooking, netball and aboriginal art and a day trip to Urrimbirra Wildlife Park and Victor Harbor with other international students and their buddies. The exchange students also participated in a tour of the Adelaide Town Hall and attended a reception with a representative of the Lord Mayor.

The group leader, Natsume Wada wrote the following reflection:

‘I went to Adelaide in August and I was accepted by Blackwood High School. Teachers in the school were very kind. Students were friendly and active. Especially, the musical which was held in the school was so good. Students in the school looked very bright to me. Their smiles gave me courage. I learned not only about Adelaide as a sister city, also cheerfulness of people in the city. Many memories and experiences have become my treasure, I am really grateful to them.’

We wish our cultural ambassadors, Rebecca Candy, Ebony Young, Sheridan Bartlett, Ellie Morris and Cooper Goss and the accompanying teachers, Ms Jenny Arezina and Mr Jason Gleeson a safe trip to Japan and look forward to hearing about their experiences after their return home.

Karyn Jones, Coordinator and International Student Programs
TOYO UNIVERSITY USHIKU STUDY TOUR VISIT

From 19 – 30 August Blackwood High School hosted the second Study Tour group of students from Toyo University Ushiku High School in Ibaraki-ken in rural Japan. After a very successful pilot program at Blackwood High School in 2013, the school returned to Adelaide this year with one hundred and thirty students staying in seven city and regional high schools. The group of twenty students at Blackwood enjoyed a range of activities including baking meat pies, learning the skills of netball and football, aboriginal basket weaving and boomerang decoration, designing an earthquake proof straw house and English lessons. Excursions included a trip to the city and Central Market, Cleland and ten pin bowling with their hosts and buddies. The Ushiku students also made presentations about various Japanese topics including Japanese industry, food, festivals and history to our Japanese language classes and to students during a visit to Blackwood Primary School.

At the farewell celebration dinner, the Ushiku students demonstrated a traditional Japanese festival dance. A highlight was when the Japanese students presented their red and blue Happi coats to our students and then invited them to join in the dancing. The Happis, imprinted with the name of their school and the Japanese character for ‘festival’ on the back, were then presented as gifts to our students.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the twenty homestay families and school buddies involved in the visit. Your warmth and generosity made the Study Tour an experience the Japanese students will never forget.

The next opportunity to host a short term international visitor will be in March next year, when we welcome our sixth group of visitors from Morioka High School to Blackwood High School. I hope you will consider hosting a student from this group. Please contact me if you would like more information.

LANGUAGE PERFECT SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION

For one week from Monday 1 September our Language students were involved in an online language competition and achieved some amazing results.

- Questions answered in SA in the competition: 2,051,971 questions
- Questions answered at Blackwood High School: 260,705 questions
- Blackwood High School Score: 89,424 points

We were ranked first in our category of schools (251 – 500 students) earning five times the number of points for both German and Japanese as our closest competitor. This included many large metropolitan schools. Overall Blackwood High School came first for Japanese and second for German out of forty two schools.

There were some amazing individual performances. Some students must have spent the entire long weekend on-line earning points! Cooper Goss, Jayde Whitehorn, Misa Hirahara and Faith Maddison, were ranked in the top ten in the state for Japanese out of a total of nearly 1000 students. In German, Aishwarya Manumari, Madeline Locke and Michelle Herriman were in the top 13 of 650 students. Here at Blackwood High School, Ms Arezina’s Year 8 Japanese class were the Japanese winners, with Mrs Brockhoff’s Year 8 class winning the German prize.

Well done everyone on an amazing effort. Certificates and canteen vouchers were distributed in class. Watch out for the next competition in 2015.

Karyn Jones, Coordinator and International Student Programs
WORLD CHALLENGE QUIZ NIGHT HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2014

The 2014/15 Blackwood World Challenge teams held their first major fundraiser at the Goodwood Community Centre on Friday 5 September. Our quiz night drew around 220 people as we aimed to raise funds to contribute to the team’s community projects when they commence their expedition in November next year.

It was a great night with three interactive quiz rounds, a silent auction and also a live auction to complete the evening. Both teams travelling to Africa next year, were auctioned as ‘Slaves for a day’ both selling for $300.

The winning team, The Dark Mass, achieved a come from behind win to provide drama through until the end of the night.

Raffled gift baskets raised $305 to assist the orphanage in Siem Reap, Cambodia that was visited by our 2013 South East Asian team. This will assist with basic living materials, food and education for students at the Aspire school.

Thanks must go to everyone who attended, and our donors who supplied the huge array of auction items and the parents and students who helped coordinate the evening. Please support the organisations that support our school.

Dan Smith, World Challenge Coordinator

AUSTSWIM would like to inform you that they will be offering the Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety training course at the following venues

The Parks Centre 8 & 9 October
Port Pirie 18 & 19 October
Thebarton Aquatic Centre 19 & 19 October
Noarlunga leisure Centre 25 & 26 October
Port Lincoln 25 & 26 October
Mt Gambier Leisure Centre 1 & 2 November
Clare Lifestyles Centre 8 & 9 November
Gawler outdoor pool 15 & 16 November
Keith Community Pool 22 & 23 November
Kadina Farm Museum 29 & 30 November

Candidates may enrol as young as 16 years of age with secondary school students gaining ten Stage 2 SACE points on completion of the qualification. The AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety accredited training also appears on the recognised VET training register

AUSTSWIM as the peak industry body offers swimming and water safety teacher accreditation for those wishing to work in the aquatics industry. Students can enrol at 16 years of age and gain accreditation when they turn 17. The AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course aims to develop positive attitudes and competencies to teach swimming and water safety in swimming pools and confined shallow water venues

Following successful completion of the training, candidates are recognised as being able to teach swimming and water safety to persons of at least four years of age to adults.

The AUSTSWIM Certificate is the industry standard for swimming and water safety teachers and is an essential qualification in gaining employment as a swimming instructor by employers in Australia.

People wishing to work within the Vacswim program 2015 are required to hold an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety Licence

Interested candidates can enrol online at www.austswim.com.au. Or by completing and returning the attached enrolment or by telephoning the business centre on 08 83540873
Does your teen have a sleep problem?

The Child & Adolescent Sleep Clinic in the School of Psychology at Flinders University is running treatments for adolescents aged 13 to 20 years, who are unable to fall asleep at a conventional time and experience difficulty waking up early for school, university or work.

For more information please email casc.enquiries@flinders.edu.au or call 8201 7587.

The Langhorne Creek Young People’s Writing Competition returns for 2014

This year’s writing topic is Food. Competition is open to South Australian students only. There are fantastic individual and school prizes available for winning entries across the 5 categories......

Rec/Year 1 – Picture Book
Year 2/3 – up to 500 words
Year 4/5 – up to 1000 words
Year 6/7 – up to 1500 words
Year 8-10 – up to 2000 words

Shortlisted entries from each school, in each category will be invited to a special presentation day at Langhorne Creek Campus – Eastern Fleurieu School. Published authors will be running workshops on the day to further inspire the budding young writers.

All details including teacher’s notes, entry forms and requirements can be found on our website at http://www.langhorncreek.com/events/regional-events/2014-lcwf-young-peoples-writing-competition

Any other enquiries, please contact via e-mail at writing@langhonrecreekwritersfestival.com

HOST FAMILY NEEDED!

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is looking for a volunteer host family for a 16 year old Swiss girl who arrived in Australia in July 2014 and is currently attending Blackwood High School. She is a very open minded and social girl interested in outdoor activities and meeting friends. Together with her host family she would love to experience new activities and simply be part of her host family’s daily life.

We are looking for a family who is able to host her from the end of November until April 2015.

If you can help, please phone Isabelle at the Student Exchange Office: 1300 135 331. Thank you very much for your help.

We are delighted to advise that the next deadline for Student Exchange Scholarship applications is Friday 31st October 2014. This is for all Semester and Year Programs departing between April 2015 - September 2015.

Scholarships are open to students, aged between 15-18 years and offer the unique opportunity to live and study overseas. Students’ language skills improve, their independence and maturity is enhanced and they gain an important edge when it comes to future career and study opportunities.

There are 12 scholarships on offer each year, valued from $2,500 up to $10,800. Students don’t need to be A-grade to apply and the top language student doesn’t necessarily win. Your career advisor, creative art and/or language teachers may be interested to promote our scholarships.

• 2 x Indigenous Scholarship. Valued at up to $10,800 each - these scholarships are available to eligible indigenous students from Australia and New Zealand.
• 5 x Language Scholarships. Valued at up to $3,500 each - these scholarships offer language students the chance to immerse themselves in the language and culture of their choice.
• 2 x International Affairs Scholarship. Valued at up to $3,500 each - these scholarships offer those with a keen interest in international affairs a chance to sample the world first hand.
• 3 x Digital Video Scholarships. Valued at up to $3,500 each - these scholarships offer creative students the chance to immerse themselves in the country and culture of their choice by demonstrating their personal story and goals for an exchange through a creative video.

Students can also make a saving of up to $1,000 off the program fee with an Early Bird Discount: Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call 1300 135 331 for more information
NEWSLETTER NO. 9 – 19 September 2014

Seacliff Surf Life Saving Club

Open Day
& Come’n’Trys

Have fun, meet new friends, learn life saving skills.
Seacliff Surf Life Saving Club is having an Open Day & two free
Come ‘n’ Try sessions to start the season.

Open Day:
Saturday October 11th 2014, 12.30 PM
Seacliff Surf Life Saving Clubrooms

Come “n” Try:
Saturday October 18th & 25th, 1PM
Where:
Seacliff Beach, end of Wheatland St.
All ages from 5 years old welcome

For more information go to www.seacliffslsc.com.au

SpringFair

- Live Band
- Blender Bike
- Wine & Cider Tasting
- Food & Beverages
- Mobile Farm
- Emergency Services
- Clancy the Jelly Bean Train and lots more...

- Water Cylinders
- Giant Games
- Fresh Produce
- Bouncy Castle
- Photo Booth
- Over 100 stalls

Proudly Sponsored by

Mitcham Pool Action Group

A POOL FOR ALL

A POOL FOR MITCHAM

7.30pm
Monday 13 October 2014
Hawthorn Community Centre
(ie Mitcham 50s Plus Club)
5 Primley Grove, Hawthorn

RSVP: Terry.kent@bigpond.com
or 0433-427-000

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Live and study overseas
Put yourself in the picture!
Join a 2, 2.5, 3, 5, or 10-month exchange program
to a country of your choice in 2015

Tuesday 7-9pm
14 October 2014
Tuesday 7-9pm
11 November 2014

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Information Sessions

U.S.A.

FRANCE

ENGLAND

GERMANY

ITALY

JAPAN

DENMARK

SPAIN

SWEDEN

FINLAND

NORWAY

IRELAND

CHINA

MEXICO

ARGENTINA

1800 500 501 scceast@scce.com.au www.scce.com.au

.16.
SUPPORTING STRESSED TEENS: KIRRILIE SMOUT, PSYCHOLOGIST

Parents are vital in helping teens through tough times. Be on the lookout for their struggles, ask questions, empathise and problem solve WITH the teen, not FOR them.

I talked with the students recently about how they could cope with stress and tough times. We talked about understanding our brains, how to avoid making things worse and how to cope. Parents are vital in helping teens through difficult times, and can help significantly. Here are some ideas for how to do this.

Understand that many teens do find life difficult: Teens struggle with school assignments, exams, looming deadlines, friend issues (feeling on the outer, dealing with conflict, feeling worried about their friends), relationships (break ups, decisions, feeling lonely about being single), body image (for many young women this is ongoing), their future and just feeling down. They don't always tell us that they feel worried, insecure and down, but just act moody instead. It helps to see the pain underneath the irritability.

Check in regularly and ask questions: One of the most important things parents can do is to take the time to just ask the teenager how they are going. Ask how they are feeling about friends, school, relationships, future, themselves. Also ask about feelings, for example: “any bits of today that were worrying?”, “What part of the day felt best/worst to you today?” They might not always want to share lots of information – don’t nag and pester – but don’t give up asking either. Casual, and with care, keep checking in every week or so. Make excuses to go on drives with teens, walk the dog together, be folding laundry while they are on Facebook, weeding while they shoot hoops etc – try to put yourself in places where conversations happen.

Always Empathise First: If a teen expresses stress, worry or sadness – our first response must be empathy. Sometimes this goes against our instincts. Instead we will want to give advice (“well, maybe you should.....”) or to reassure (“it’s not that bad, just think about.....”). Unfortunately if we jump into advice giving or reassuring before we have fully heard their pain, they will disconnect. So don’t reassure or give advice yet. Just empathise. Say, “I’m really sorry to hear you feel like that”, “That sounds hard” or “I’m sure I’d feel really upset if that was me”. Keep doing it until the teen feels heard. This might take some time.

Brainstorm and problem solve WITH the teen, not FOR them: Once a teen feels understood, sometimes they are open to parents problem solving or brainstorming with them. This means asking questions to help them think the issue through, not telling them what to do. Questions that help this process are “Is there anything I can do?”, “What do you think would help in this situation”, “What would make this a little better”, and “What are your options?”

Look out for Sleep, Exercise and nutrition: Sleep, exercise and nutrition all have a major impact on our mood as humans. If teens get a bit of extra sleep, a little bit more physical activity and healthier food intake into their day, then often they cope much better. Suggest they go for walks with friends, help them have healthy food available and get phones out of bedrooms if at all possible.

Get them to talk to others: Stressed teens need a community of supportive adults around them, not just parents. Parents can proactively set up appointments with school counsellors, year level co-ordinators, a GP, psychologist or even organise for an aunt/uncle/family friend to take the teen out for a chat. Even if the teen seems reluctant, gently pushing teens to be connected with other supportive adults in their life – can be the most important thing a parent does.

Finally, if you are worried about your teen, get support and ideas yourself: Talk with other parents, come in to talk with teachers yourself, talk with your GP, visit myself (or another psychologist) for advice. Parenting teens is a hugely tough job and you need all the support you can get. Good luck!

For more ideas and free short videos/articles on supporting teens with sleep, friendship, stress and social networking go to www.developingminds.net.au or like Developing minds Psychology on Facebook for ideas and advice in your newsfeed.
BREATHE. SLOWLY. To kick your body out of fight or flight response – slow and deepen your breathing. Practice breathing slowly (less than 12 breaths per minute) and from your diaphragm. In other words, imagine a balloon in your stomach – as you breathe in – blow the balloon up, as you breathe out – let the balloon deflate. Do this several times a day, and whenever you feel irritated, stressed or worried.

PAY LESS ATTENTION TO UPSETTING THOUGHTS. You can learn to switch your attention away from your distressing thoughts. Write our your depressing/upsetting thoughts and label them as catastrophising, mind reading, black and white thinking or future predicting. Then remember that you are not seeing the whole picture - your brain is designed to try to make you focus on the negative. So consciously and deliberately, add in some positive and realistic thoughts with sentences that start like: it’s not the end of the world if........ I can survive it if........ the good thing about this is........ I am capable of........ and so on. Write these things down. You don’t have to believe them 100% for them to help you feel a little better.

KEEP TALKING AND DOING. Don’t obey those withdraw and avoid instincts. Keep doing things that you used to care about, even if you don’t care about them as much anymore. Keep talking to people. Ask for help from teachers. Tell parents what you need. Go see a counsellor if you need to. Stay connected with people, even if it feels pointless right now. The more active you can be in doing important stuff, and the more conversations you have – usually the better you feel.

Finally – look after yourself.

Your brain can’t cope with managing your mood unless you have the basics in check: Sleep, Nutrition and Exercise. Get as much sleep as you can, especially in times of stress...your body will use your sleeping time to manufacture some more “good” neurochemicals and help you feel calmer. Nutrition: Don’t diet. Just eat healthily. Eat foods without wrappers. Check you are getting enough iron and calcium (many teenagers are not getting enough). Exercise: get a little bit more than usual...exercise also produces endorphins – kind of a morphine – which makes you feel more relaxed. It also helps you feel better about yourself.

I hope some of these things help you get through the difficult parts of being human. Good luck with the last part of the year, with deadlines and exams. Please let me know if I can help.

Best wishes,

Kirrile Smout

(email: kirrile.smout@developingminds.net.au, web: www.developingminds.net.au, phone: 83571711)
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Blackwood High School - 0905
Notice of Materials and Services Charges for 2015
Notice of Charges for Years 8 - 13

These subject charges are in addition to the M&S Charge above for those students undertaking the following subjects:

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