Welcome
It is amazing how quickly time passes during a term at school. We are now half way through with three weeks to go until teachers complete their assessments before preparing end of semester reports. While we see high quality learning in every classroom every day, this newsletter tells a story about the many special events and highlights that have happened over the last few weeks to challenge, extend and enrich the learning opportunities available to Blackwood High School students. The stars of the story are of course our wonderful students and teachers. At the conclusion of the Year 8 camp, Arbury Park Outdoor School teacher Louise Petherick wrote that, “Your students are a wonderful group of kids” and, “Blackwood High School has one amazing leadership team. Your organisation, support and passion for your students shone.” This is typical of the feedback we get about our students and staff in just about every interaction we have with the community.

NAPLAN
In Week 3 (May 12 – 14) our Year 9 students sat for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This year we had a high participation rate as students completed tests in Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy, which included solving problems both with, and without calculators. Results will be distributed to and discussed with parents as part of the parent teacher interviews conducted at the end of Term 3.

Year 8 Camp
This year the school conducted a Year 8 camp, largely due to the enthusiasm and hard work of our Year 8 leadership and teaching teams. All of our Year 8 students had the opportunity to enjoy the activities and facilities provided at Arbury Park Outdoor School over three days and two nights. I had the privilege of participating in one of the evening programs, and a bush survival activity with a student team the next morning. What struck me was how well the students worked together, with staff and with each other. Each student had the opportunity for their strengths and talents to shine: humour, vitality, fairness, creativity, kindness, persistence, leadership and teamwork, plus many others. Students and teachers used the opportunity to strengthen relationships that we expect to translate into a stronger Year 8 community back at school.

Pre-service Teachers
We have been pleased to welcome a number of pre-service teachers this term. In the first half of the term seven pre-service teachers from Flinders University have been working with our students and staff. We will be joined by others from the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia in coming weeks. Our highly experienced and qualified staff provide excellent mentoring to the next generation of teachers, while pre-service teachers being new skills, knowledge and enthusiasm into the school.

Principal Tours
Parents of interested prospective students are invited to attend a Principal Tour to hear about learning at Blackwood High School and touring our facilities. Tours will be held from 9.00 – 10.30 am on:
- Tuesday 2 June
- Tuesday 30 June
- Tuesday 4 August
- Tuesday 1 September

(continued on page 2)
Come Out Opening and Flags For Peace
Blackwood High School design and dance students participated in the bi-annual Come Out Children’s Festival which is the largest children’s festival of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Design students worked really well with guest artists and teachers in the ‘Flags for Peace Project’ to make two large and seventy small flags that were suspended from the Festival Centre footbridge. 18 dance students featured as ‘moving art’, by staging a flashmob, choreographed by pre-service teacher Jamie Veneman in front of the flags at the Come Out opening on 22 May at the Festival Centre Plaza.

Student will be performing t other Come Out events. Our dance students are also competing in the Dance Stars Preliminary Finals at Norwood Town Hall on Saturday 30 May. We wish the teams all the best. More about this will appear in the next newsletter.

Year 10 Careers Day
During the Year 10 Careers Day on 8 March our entire Year 10 cohort were provided with a work experience induction and an afternoon session at the Inner South Career Expo. The induction session was a compulsory part of training that needs to occur before students go on work experience in Week 8. The Inner South Career Expo is a new initiative that provides a local alternative to the statewide expos at Wayville and the Adelaide Convention Centre. It provides students with the opportunity to talk with local trainers and employers in a personal setting. The Careers Day is a part of the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) as students investigate possible career directions before they go on work experience in Week 8 (15 – 19 June).

Support for families
Kirrilie Smout, local psychologist and well known specialist in supporting adolescents, spoke a group of interested parents about helping teens to stay calm, manage stress and frustration and cope in tough times. Parents appreciated Kirrilie’s lively and engaging presentation as she discussed simple and practical ideas, and answered questions.

Although Steve Biddulph’s live Raising Boys, Raising Girls event on 1 July at the Adelaide Convention Centre booked out his presentation can be viewed via live webcast by registering at http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au

Supervised Assessment Tasks, Examinations and Semester Changeover
The conclusion of the semester is rapidly approaching. Students are looking to complete their final assessment tasks and revise for their examinations. This, together with a range of sporting and performance activities, means that some students feel under particular pressure. It is important that they plan, use their time effectively and communicate with their teachers. Sleep, exercise and good nutrition all play a part in feeling and being successful.

- Students in all Year 8 to 10 subjects complete supervised assessment tasks or examinations in double lessons during Weeks 6 and 7 (1 to 12 June). They attend school as usual.
- Year 11 students have their exam week in Week 6 (1 to 5 June). Year 12 students have their exam week in Week 10 (29 June to 3 July). Students in both Year Levels only attend school in these weeks, wearing correct school uniform, to sit for their examinations.

Semester 2 commences at the beginning of Week 9 (22 June).

Forward Planning
Please refer to the Calendar published in this newsletter and the School Calendar published on the school website, http://www.bhs.sa.edu.au/ for details about many school activities. Coming events that affect the whole school community include:

- Queen’s Birthday public holiday on Monday 8 June and a Student Free Day on Tuesday 9 June with teachers working on delivering the Australian Curriculum
- Year 11 examinations that are coming up in Week 6 (1 – 5 June)
- Year 8 – 10 Supervised Assessment Tasks in Weeks 6 and 7 (1 – 5 June and 10 – 12 June)
- Teachers prepare written reports
- End of the Semester 1 on Friday 19 June
**Whooping Cough notification**
A letter of notification about several students who have been diagnosed, and the accompanying information about whooping cough was emailed to parents for follow up with their doctor if required.

**Wellbeing and Student Leadership at Blackwood High School**
At Blackwood we are interested in developing healthy, active and involved young people who have the personal resources they need to thrive at school and in life beyond school. We are particularly interested in investigating approaches with an evidence base, meaning approaches that research shows are effective. Hence our developing relationship with the University of Adelaide’s School of Psychology and Professor Deborah Turnbull. PhD student Amber Halliday (featured in The Age Review Saturday 23 May [http://www.theage.com.au/good-weekend/double-recovery-20150522-gh63jv](http://www.theage.com.au/good-weekend/double-recovery-20150522-gh63jv)) is commencing research into the effectiveness of students acting as researchers and advising the school about programs to improve student wellbeing. Honours student Victoria Branson is building from Amber’s 2014 research to investigate whether there is a ‘good’ level of stress and factors that might influence this.

Meanwhile over the last few weeks many students have taken up opportunities to participate in wellbeing and leadership programs. SRC students were introduced to some of the concepts and language of Positive education so they could make an informed choice about signing up as a student researcher. The SRC also participated in the annual Leadership Training Day where they learned about leadership from people such as the Mayor of the City of Mitcham Glenn Spear and discussed ideas for taking the school forward.

Our Year 9 Footballers have been working with current Adelaide Football Club players Ricky Henderson and Kyle Hartigan to participate in the resilience building Crows PLAY program.

A group of girls attended the ‘SHE Leads High’ conference to be inspired by women in leadership, including the ex-Blackwood High School student Susan Close, Minister of Education and Child Development. Other girls participated in the Relationships Australia ‘Value Me’ program.

**Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**
Continuing our STEM at Blackwood High School provides exciting opportunities to engage and challenge our students. Our highly successful primary schools STEM program has kicked off with 30 students from our partnership primary schools entering the project phase of the program. Blackwood High School students are also taking up the opportunity to sit the ‘Big Science’ and ‘International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Digital Technologies’ competitions. Our Technology staff are proud to welcome the new arrival of additional 3D printers to bolster our already impressive technology programs.

**2015 SA Excellence in Public Education Awards**
Members of the community are able to nominate teachers and leaders for outstanding contributions made to education through the SA Excellence in Public Education Awards. Community nominations are open from 27 April to 3 July. Details about how to nominate can be found at [http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards/pages/default/home/](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards/pages/default/home/)

David Garrett, Principal
BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS

♦ Congratulations to Tynan Carney in Year 10 who was selected as Vice-Captain in the South Australian Under 15 State Football team to represent Secondary School Sport SA and the SANFL at the School Sport Australia Boys Australian Football Championships, which will be held in Geelong from 18 to 25 May 2015.

♦ Congratulations to Asha Thurlow in Year 12 who has been selected to attend the Netball Centre of Excellence Tall Athlete Camp Program focusing on the development and progression of tall shooters and defenders. To be conducted at the Netball Centre of Excellence, AIS Canberra from 11 to 14 June 2015 and 10 to 13 December 2015. The May 20 Adelaide Hills Messenger featured an article on Asha and her rise as a goal shooter with the Woods Panthers netball club on page 33.

♦ Congratulations to Georgia Brown in Year 12 who was selected to attend the U17 Australian Squad Development Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra from 14 to 17 May 2015. Georgia was selected while competing at the National Netball Championships in April.

♦ Congratulations to Deqlhan Files in Year 10 who represented South Australia in the All-nations team in the 2015 AFL Diversity Championships which were held in Cairns in the last school holidays. Deqlhan was selected as one of five SA players for the World Team Squad from the Championships.

NETBALL ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2014 I was lucky enough to be selected in the Woods Panthers State Premier League Squad for 2015; it was from this squad of 32 players that the Premier League, League Reserve and AMND teams would be selected.

Pre-season commenced in November with 3 to 4 training sessions a week (both before and after school) initially focusing on fitness before the introduction of game skills. After pre-season training the squad trained together before spitting into the respective teams and I was successfully placed into the State Premier League team and although games commenced in March we are still committed to train up to 3 times a week. Playing at this level also comes with greater responsibilities. I had to find myself a sponsor, which was challenging because you have to sell yourself, the Club and the benefits of sponsoring you to businesses.

Luckily Mesh Learning, a tutoring business located at Flagstaff Hill Shopping Centre agreed to sponsor me as they like to emphasise that with commitment it is possible for students to achieve academically and still participate in other activities. I also have commitments to assist with Club activities such as regional and club skill coaching sessions and trials, fundraisers, buddying a younger team, presentation days and attendance team building events. But one of the biggest changes is that both the teams and my own individual performance as a goal shooter is in the public arena for all to see. Match reviews which may include comments about individual players are posted to the Nine News Netball Cup web site and also featured in ‘The Advertiser’ and the ‘Mitcham & Hills Messenger’ whilst my shooting statistics are ranked against all the players in both the League and Reserves team on the website for all to see.

This opportunity has required me to make a far greater commitment not only to the Club and extended netball community but also to ensure my school marks do not drop.

Asha Thurlow, Year 12
SRC WELLBEING TRAINING DAY

SRC students will have the opportunity to work as student researchers as a part of Amber Halliday’s PhD Program. They were introduced to the ideas of Positive Education to provide them with some background to their research.

"On Wednesday 6 May the SRC took part in a Wellbeing Training Day. It was held in the Conference Room from 9.00 to 2.30 pm. During the day the SRC learnt about, Positive Emotion, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning and Accomplishment PLUS, Physical Activity, Nutrition, Sleep and Optimism (PERMA+). The day was very interesting and informative.

At 9:00am the SRC, Mr Chave, Ms Buesnel, Ms Hodson and several guests Amber Halliday and Carla Ford, all gathered into the conference room. Everyone was welcomed and debriefed on what was going to happen. Throughout the day we had several teachers come and talk to us about PERMA+ and Positive Education.

First thing in the morning the SRC completed the Values In Action (VIA) Character Strengths survey and then we pinned on a wall what our top five strengths were and compared which were the most common and which weren’t. After recess we learnt about Positive Emotions with Mr Duguid and then looked at Relationships with Mr Chave. For the last lesson we were introduced to the concepts Accomplishment and Fixed and Growth Mindsets with Dr Tinsley.

Overall, this was a great day not only for the SRC to meet new people within the group but for us to learn about PERMA+ and Positive Education. It was a wonderful experience for all of us and I know that it was thoroughly enjoyed by all."

Charlotte Thomson, Year 10

INVESTIGATING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STRESS AND WELLBEING AT BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

At Blackwood High School we are continuously striving to find ways to improve our students’ overall level of wellbeing. It is widely recognised that this can have a significant impacts on student learning. This term all Year 8 to 11 students will be invited to participate in a stress and wellbeing survey, forming the basis of a study by University of Adelaide Honours Psychology student Victoria Branson. Supervised by Professor Deborah Turnbull, Victoria is conducting a study into the relationship between stress and wellbeing in our student body.

This study continues our partnership with the University of Adelaide’s School of Psychology and follows up Amber Halliday’s 2014 research on the levels of wellbeing at Blackwood High School.

Victoria’s project is investigating the relationship between stress and wellbeing, whether there is a ‘good’ level of stress, and what factors might influence this. This research will provide us with better understandings of stress and wellbeing in our student body. The insights gained from this research will be valuable for informing future wellbeing interventions at this and other Australian schools.

More detailed information on this study will be provided in the participation information package sent home to all parents and caregivers of Year 8 to 11 students. We are encouraging parents to allow their children to participate in this exciting research, by returning consent forms to their Care Group teachers by June 12 (Week 7).

If you have any questions regarding this project you may contact Victoria Branson from the University of Adelaide’s School of Psychology at victoria.branson@student.adelaide.edu.au or by phoning 8313 5693, alternatively you can contact Jarrod Chave or Luke Northcote by phoning the school or by emailing at:
jarrod.chave@bhs.sa.edu.au or luke.northcote@bhs.sa.edu.au

Watch out for news about our continuing work to build a positive culture that supports our students to flourish in their lives as well as in their studies.

Jarrod Chave, Assistant Principal
SHE LEADS HIGH CONFERENCE

On Friday 8 May, four Year 11 students, Amy Frankel, Lily Jervis, Chloe Tippett and Tarah Wills along with Ms Buesnel attended the inaugural YWCA Adelaide SHE Leads High Conference at the Stamford Plaza Hotel. YWCA of Adelaide has been providing a voice for young women and girls in South Australia for over 135 years and is well respected for its work in encouraging greater gender equality. 140 students from country and city schools attended the day to hear from inspiring young women leaders.

Speakers included Minister for Education, Child Development and the Public Sector, Dr Susan Close, South Australian Greens Senator, Sarah Hanson-Young, Musician Rachael Leahcar, Councillor at City of Onkaparinga, Marion Themeliotis, Leading Seaman in the Royal Australian Navy, Carly Maxwell and Kristin Carson, Senior Medical Research Scientist at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital to name a few. Three important messages that resonated from this great conference:

- There is nothing to stop you from whatever you want to do
- Surround yourself with good people
- It’s not what you know, it’s what you do with what you know

Amy Frankel and Lily Jervis, Year 11

OPERATION FLINDERS 2015

I am excited to inform you that we have the opportunity to send a team of boys to Operation Flinders Exercise, situated at the far North Finders/Gammon ranges. The boys undertake an eight day wilderness experience that involves a team of ten boys with two counsellors from Blackwood high School and two Leaders from Operation Flinders Foundation. The boys travel over 600kms to reach Yankaninna Station (50kms North of Leigh Creek) during Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 3. Sam Thomson and I will be accompanying the boys on this expedition this year.

During their exercise the boys will walk over 110 kilometres carrying all their own gear such as tents, sleeping bags, clothes, personal items and supplies. A 900m climb up Mt Rose’s steep slopes, abseiling, team challenges, swimming in water holes, eating bush tucker and learning about local Aboriginal customs are some of the highlights of the trip.

Following the exercise we return to Adelaide tired yet absolutely invigorated by the achievements and learning the boys will have discovered about themselves, others and team work.

The trip can act as a catalyst for change to help young men to think about life differently.

There are a limited amount of vacancies open to any boys from Years 9 – 11 to accompany us on this trip. Besides the enormous achievement of the exercise, the boys also pick up 20 SACE credits each and the opportunity to start a Duke of Edinburgh Award.

If you and your son are interested in accompanying us on the trek, please contact Michael Winter at the school as soon as possible.

Please have a look at the website www.operationflinders.org.au to gain more information about the foundation and the program.
ADVENTURES AT MYLOR

On May 4, 13 Year 10 girls had the opportunity to participate in an out of school activity at Mylor Baptist Camp organised and run as part of the Value Me Program by Relationships Australia Youth Services.

The Value Me Program will continue at Blackwood High School throughout Term 2 and part of Term 3 every Monday in lesson. The program will explore the issues of social media and self-branding, mental health resilience and self-preservation.

We travelled by mini bus arriving at 10.00am. We met the instructors and learned the safety tips. Once we were ready we went over to the giant swing. The giant swing is a 10 metre high swing where you control how high you go. The leaders called it ‘courage by choice’. All 13 girls had a go and went as high as they felt comfortable or some tested their limits and went higher.

After lunch we went over to the high ropes course. A high ropes course is a challenging outdoor personal development and team building activity. The elements are constructed poles and require a belay for safety. You climb up the poles with a harness and then try to get from one pole to another, whether on just a rope or jumping on hanging obstacles.

‘The leap of faith’ can be the most challenging activity of the high ropes course. You climb to the top of a pole and straight ahead about one metre away is a trapeze bar. The aim, to jump off the pole and to catch the hanging trapeze bar, before letting go and returning safely back to the ground. We all had an awesome time and were very proud of our achievements. The day was all about building self-confidence, identifying your fears and trusting in others.

Robyn Meyer and Natalie MacArthur

POSITIVE LESSONS: ATHLETES FOR YOUTH (PLAY) PROGRAM

The PLAY Program is an initiative that utilizes athletes as positive role models to improve the lives of young people by sharing the benefits of Positive Psychology and Positive Education whilst introducing simple exercises that students can use to sustain or improve their wellbeing in a structured ‘Mental Fitness’ program.

The objectives of the program are:
1. To use positive role models to improve access to information and support for youth for the betterment of their physical and mental wellbeing.
2. To provide an opportunity for students to link physical and mental wellbeing as an important aspect of their lives.
3. Create a platform for students to create their own mental fitness approach related to their sporting context.

The Year 9 Special Interest Football Class have not participated in two of four sessions of the PLAY program working in partnership with the Adelaide Football Club. Current Adelaide players Ricky Henderson and Kyle Hartigan conducted the lesson with students undertaking a number of introductory activities. Students are looking forward to the future sessions and have shown a keen interest in increasing their knowledge of and strategies for improving their mental well-being.

Glen Little, Leader PE and Health
YEAY 8 CAMP

I love being out in nature, and having the opportunity to share that with our students at the Year 8 camp at Arbury Park was a highlight of last week. Along the way there were many stand-out moments: watching a group of students weave through the bracken and fire-scorched stringy barks, sharing a moment of silence on the slopes of Mount George, seeing their strategies for building a fire, and witnessing their evolving appreciation of the land, and sustainable ways of living with it.

The real treasures of camp, however, are the positive relationships which form during the week. Students learned to appreciate each other’s hidden talents, and saw their teachers in a new light.

I have gathered some of their reflections below, as well as some very positive feedback from the camp coordinator.

Dr Tinsley, Year 8 Leader.

“On camp we learned lots about the Aboriginal people that lived in that area, the Peramangk, and what their culture was like. We did lots of fun activities, orienteering, hiking, and a quiz night. I would definitely recommend going on this camp.” - Aimee

“I think that the Bush Survival activity was very cool, and at the same time very educational. We had the freedom to choose what to use, and when to use it, in order to ‘survive’ in the bush.” - Ashton

“The Bush Survival activity was very fun, and I learnt some valuable skills. There was a wide variety of food, and the camp was enjoyable.” - Oscar

“Camp was fun, especially the hikes, which were ‘awe-full’. I also enjoyed the quiz night.” - Harriet

“In the Bush Survival activity we learned to work together and save people if they were lost. We learned about reading a map in orienteering. We also learned about the Peramangk people, and what they did to survive.” - Stephanie

“The catering was amazing. There were lots of hands-on activities, and the teachers were encouraging and nice. I really enjoyed the night activities and the dormitories were good. Bush Survival and the Web of Life Game were certainly highlights.” - Noah

“I have really enjoyed working with your students, they are a wonderful group of kids and the staff have been so positive and ensured all of our programs were covered and supported.”

Louise Petherick, Program Coordinator, Arbury Park Outdoor School.

YEAR 8 STUDENTS RE-TRACING THEIR STEPS

I would like give a big thank you to the following Year 8 students who assisted me in promoting Blackwood High School at their former primary schools. These students were outstanding ambassadors for our school and very articulately shared their transition journey from primary school to high school with our future 2016 cohort of Year 8s. Both the Year 6/7 students and teachers were most pleased to see and hear how successfully their former students have navigated their way through this transition. Well done and thankyou to the following students:

Jake Berndt Luke Bull Harriet Cooling Isabella DeYoung
Gypsy Donk Darian Dragun Tyler Emshwiler Lachlan Gillespie
Ashlee Hills Jackson Hughes Kira Jacobs Tiana John
Zoe Johns Owen Kelly Maiya Mathwin Lucy Robertson
Mackenzie Rutter Aimee Tulloch Katie Turner Colby Wallwork

Jarrod Chave, Assistant Principal
YEAR 9 ASSEMBLY
In the Year 9 assembly on Monday 18 May we welcomed Margaret Riches from STS Student Exchange Program. Margaret let students know of the varied opportunities available to them to live and study in another country. This included length of overseas stay and countries available. Many students took away information packs. Further information is available in Student Services.

Janet Bradley, Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE
Most students have now organised their Work Experience Placement for Week 8 of this term (June 15-19). Please note that there is a program running at school during this week for students who have placements at a different time or who were unable to find a suitable placement. This program will provide students with a range of suitable opportunities to meet the requirements of the compulsory Personal Learning Plan (PLP) and to explore the SACE Capabilities.

Students undertaking Work Experience must also have completed and had signed, by their Care Group teacher and a parent / caregiver, that they have completed at least 5 hours of training and instruction. This will be recorded in the Work Experience Booklet that will be provided to all students in the lead up to their placement. This training can include hours from any or all of the following, but must add up to at least five hours:

- The Year 10 Orientation Day (Week 1, Term 1) – 1 Hour
- The Year 10 Careers Day (Week 2, Term 2) – 2.5 hours
- The online Passport to Safety (Weeks 5 – 7 Term 2) – 2.5 Hours
- VET Course Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) training – up to 2.5 hours
- White Card Training – 6 Hours (completed by some student through their vocational training programs)

Passport to Safety – ‘How to Enrol’ and complete the Passport to Safety will be provided to all students via Care Group this week. Students may be provided some class time to complete the certificate; however any work not completed during school hours must be completed for Homework. Certificates must be completed and handed to the Care Group teacher no later than Week 7.

If you have any queries, please contact me via the school.

Luke Northcote, VET and Work Experience Leader

YEAR 11 BRAINSTORM PRODUCTION –CHEAP THRILLS
Brainstorm Productions presented the play ‘Cheap Thrills’ to the Year 11 students in extended care group as part of the Year 11 Pastoral Care Program. ‘Cheap Thrills’ is a one man show which highlights the difficulties adolescents encounter in the face of peer pressure to indulge in unsafe behaviour. It dispels the myth that drugs, alcohol and fast cars are cheap thrills. Your children will see that substance abuse is expensive – it will impact on their money, their health, their relationships. This show was action packed with an important message for students on risk taking behaviours.

Care Group teachers engaged with follow up discussion and class activities on the themes explored in this production.

For more information about the company follow this link or go to www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

Katrina Constantopoulos, Year 11 Leader
YEAR 12 INFORMATION

ROAD SAFETY PRESENTATION

SAPOL’s Road Safety Section recently attended Blackwood High School and delivered a road safety presentation to Year 12 students entitled “Getting Home Safely”, presented by a currently serving police officer. This presentation is designed to empower young people to make informed choices, educated decisions and to foster change through open discussion on subjects such as peer group pressure, choices, risks and consequences associated in driving a motor vehicle. The session documented an actual fatal crash which occurred on ‘Muck-up Day’, the final day of school when an 18-year-old driver crashed the vehicle he was driving while unlicensed, drink driving and speeding. The crash killed one friend and seriously injured the driver and another friend. SAPOL’s presentation explores the crash and the subsequent social and legal consequences with the students.

There are a number of web sites which may be of further value to families and the students.

- raa.com.au
- mylicence.sa.gov.au
- sapolice.sa.gov.au
- howsafeisyourcar.com.au

For any further information on Road Safety please feel free to contact the Road Safety Section on 82076586 or by Email: DLSAPOLRoadSafetySection@police.sa.gov.au

UNIVERSITY VISITS

Continuing our visits from Flinders University academic staff, the following course will be presented in upcoming sessions during Extended Care Group on Mondays.

- Mon 1 June: Environmental Science
- Mon 15 June: Paramedic Science
- Mon 22 June: BA (+Enhanced)

In most cases a lecturer and current student/tutor come along to meet students in an informal manner. The sessions are an outstanding opportunity to get specific information and ask questions about possible study and career options. Any student who has the slightest interest in these courses should definitely register their interest to attend on the sign-up sheet in the OSA.

Ben Dening, Year 12 Year Level Leader

OLD SCHOLAR RETURNS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS

Gaku Fukushima from Okazaki in Aichi Prefecture, Japan was an International Student at Blackwood High School from 2008 to 2011, when he graduated with the SACE. When he arrived, Gaku’s English skills were very limited. He says, “I didn’t know what people were saying, but I knew they were waiting for a response. In the beginning I was always looking downward.” But as time passed, Gaku’s confidence grew (along with his language skills) and he summoned the courage to start looking forward. Gaku credits his success to his helpful teachers, “Who were always willing to explain things to me in a way I could understand,” to the friends he made, his lunchtime soccer matches and to his kind host families. After graduating from Blackwood High School, Gaku returned to Japan to visit his family, but then came back to Adelaide and commenced an Engineering Science degree at Flinders University, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. This year Gaku has returned to Blackwood High School as a part of the Inspire Mentor Program and spends time each week mentoring a group of our current Year 12 students. Gaku is delighted to have the opportunity to give back to the school community that supported him. Gaku’s dream is to work as an engineer in the area of water purification and he is hopeful of finding work in his adopted home, Australia.

Karyn Jones, Coordinator, International Student Programs

NEW 3D PRINTERS – DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

As part of an improving and ever evolving Design and Technology Curriculum, Blackwood High School was recently awarded a grant to purchase three new 3D Printers. This now gives Blackwood High School one of the most advanced 3D printing workshops in the state. 3D Printing is no doubt a way of the future and it is great to see our students using these across a range of curriculum areas. Ongoing interest has prompted the introduction of a lunch time 3D Printing and Inventor Club which will be introduced at the start of Term 3, hopefully this can keep up with student demand! Shown are Year 9 Electronics students Ted Tairli and Amilga Sunarko with the 3D printers.

Thomas Oliphant, Coordinator Innovation in Technology
ART NEWS
COME OUT PEACE DANCE FLAGS PROJECT

Blackwood High school students participated in a peace pop-up dance and flag pageant as part of the Come Out Children’s Festival celebrations. The performance was based on Come Out Children’s Festival theme of ‘Building bridges for a peaceful future.

Blackwood High School was offered dance and flag making workshops prior to the event. All components culminated in an exciting performance that comes together in a flash leaving the flags flying throughout the Come Out Children’s Festival to be forever remembered on YouTube. The Art students worked with professional flag makers and were tasked with creating flags that will be on display out and around the festival centre. The flags reflected the theme of peace and building bridges between different issues relevant to them and the school. Students also had the opportunity to participate in workshops with a choreographer for a peace themed dance flash mob that was performed just after the opening parade. The performance and flags were amazing features that added to the festival launch.

‘An amazing experience, so much fun and a great opportunity for all. Hope there are more events like this soon.’
Georgia Tuck, Year 9

‘Amazing experience and great atmosphere, loved getting to know people better It was such a fantastic and enjoyable day. It was such a great experience to be able to do a flash mob in front of everyone. Thanks so much.’
Palace Thorley-Conry, Year 8

Katrina Constantopoulos, Year 11 Leader and Jamie Veneman, Pre service teacher

On Friday 22 June a representative group of our visual artists were able to join the performing artists for Blackwood High School’s contribution to the Come Out opening parade. For the students involved it was a very exciting moment to walk out of the Railway Station towards the Festival Plaza and see our flags flying high over the footbridge. Congratulations to all the students involved on a job well done.

Jennifer Remete, Jeanette Beadnall and Brigitte Esvelt
ART NEWS (cont.)

LIFE, ART & POLITICS - PEOPLE ARE EXPENDABLE

You wouldn’t think that politicians and commercial artists had a lot in common, but in ‘Life, Arts & Politics’ you find that is not the case. What price the life of a mere ‘domestic employee’ versus a controversial and award winning piece of artwork? And in the race to be prime minister in a post-apocalyptic world, the consequences can be fatal. As I flagged last newsletter, the Senior Drama class is now in rehearsals for the production ‘Life, Arts & Politics’ scheduled for June 23 and 24 tickets will be on sale in early June or at the door. Adults $10 and Students/Concession $5. We’re looking forward to using the new lights we had installed in the PAC over the holidays to add to the performance spectacle. It promises to be an entertaining evening!

A TASTE OF THE ARTS

On Tuesday, 26 May our senior Music students and Dance students came together for ‘A Taste of the Arts’ at Blackwood High School, in front of an audience of invited primary school and middle school students. The audience was greeted in the foyer and Drama Room with a display of skill and creativity from our Visual Arts students. In the auditorium the muse’s wowed the audience with numbers from two dynamite bands and an awesome solo guitarist, and the Dance Star teams dazzled in their amazing routines and fabulous new costumes (sewn by an intrepid band of teachers and parents in an ‘extreme’ afternoon session in Week 4) in their last public performance before the competition this Saturday 30 May at Norwood Town Hall.

VOcal LESSONS AND VOCAL GROUP

We are delighted to be welcoming Jessica Reed to our staff of private music teachers. Jessica will be taking Vocal Group and also private or small group singing lessons for students who are not eligible for Government provided singing tuition. Any students who are interested in singing lessons should come to the Performing Arts Centre any lunchtime to leave details with me.

Robyn Trebilcock, Arts Leader

‘BIG SCIENCE’ AND ‘ICAS’ COMPETITIONS

A number of our students from Year 8 to 12 have taken part in the national ‘Big Science’ competition. The online competition challenges students to think critically and solve scientific problems using everyday examples. The questions are aligned to the Australian Curriculum – Science.

Our students are also competing in two of the ICAS Competitions (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools). These are run locally by the University of New South Wales: the Digital Technologies round, which was held last week, and the Science round, which will be held Wednesday 3 June.

Good luck to all of our students.

Dr Rogan Tinsley, Science Leader.

STEM PRIMARY SCHOOL PROGRAM – PROJECTS COMMENCE!

We have reached a turning point in the Primary School STEM Program. Part way through the ten-week course the emphasis has shifted from students learning about science and technology from us, to them teaching us about innovation and creativity. We call this the Project Phase. The cohort of 30 students from our local primary schools has divided into 7 teams, each of which has devised a company name. We have Hydrobirds, Company SmileyFace, NRG International, Colair Industries, Water+, Energy&Beyond and Solar Connection. These teams have been challenged to identify a sustainability issue facing the world, and generate a prototype product which will address this challenge. Companies will present their prototypes to mock investors in our showcase event in Week 10.

Ideas are in the early stages of development, but as you can see from their brainstorming sheets, some innovative solutions are already emerging.

Dr Rogan Tinsley, Science Leader
SPORTS NEWS
SOUTHERN ZONE 9 A-SIDE FOOTBALL CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 6 May Blackwood High School participated in the annual 9-A-Side Football Carnival. This year four teams participated including students from Years 8 and 9. As part of the Specialist Football Program we had a strong presence from students in Years 8 to 11 with a total of 87 students representing the school on the day. This included the Years 8s and 9s as players, Year 10’s as Umpires and Year 11’s as Coaches. The contributions from all football students enabled the carnival to run smoothly and also enabled students to further develop their leadership skills.

The competition comprised of 12 teams with Blackwood High School entering four teams. All teams played well throughout the day with every team winning at least one game. Blackwood 1 was the most successful playing off in the Grand Final against Brighton High School. Unfortunately, they went down in a nail biter by four points with a Brighton player kicking a goal after the siren to win the game. The final positions for our teams were Blackwood 1 finished second, Blackwood 2 in fourth, Blackwood 3 in seventh and Blackwood 4 in eleventh.

Liam Clarke, Pre service teacher

YEAR 8/9 BOYS KNOCKOUT FOOTBALL

On Monday 11 May the Blackwood High School Year 8/9 Football team played Heathfield High School in the first round of the Knock-Out Cup. The game was played at Mount Lofty oval in wet conditions. The boys got off to a slow start and inaccuracy in front of goals saw them down by three goals at the end of the first quarter. The boys fought back in the third quarter with some good team work and some individual brilliance had the boys down by a goal leading into the last quarter. We had all the play at the beginning of the last quarter but were unable to finish off in front of goals losing by 15 points. The final score was Heathfield High School 6.9 to Blackwood High School 4.6.

Goal Kickers: Darnell Tucker 1, Jackson Pole 1, Reece Milsom 1, Troy Hocking 1.
Best Players: Hayden Kernahan, Ethan Dinning, Jai Brown, Byron Drage, Damon Nancarrow, Lewis Whitcombe.

Liam Clarke, Pre service teacher
HOMESTAY FAMILIES WANTED!
USHIKU SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, JAPAN – STUDY TOUR 2015
Planning is underway for our next Study Tour visit from Ushiku High School in Japan. The school is located in a rural setting about two and a half hours by car from Tokyo in Ibaraki Prefecture. In 2013 Blackwood High School was selected to host the pilot Study Tour program for Ushiku. The twenty students and accompanying teachers had a very positive experience here and a study tour visit to Adelaide is now a permanent fixture on their school calendar. The dates for this year’s visit are 18 - 29 August and the group will comprise 15 – 16 students and a chaperone. During their stay in Australia, the Japanese students will travel to and from school each day with their hosts. At school they will have a full schedule of activities that will include English lessons, a chance to experience classes such as Aussie Sports and Home Economics and some excursions. Host students will be invited to join the Japanese students for some activities. On the weekend, our visitors will welcome the opportunity to experience our typical Australian lifestyle – a visit to relatives, a drive or short trip, watching their host play sport, a picnic in the park, a game of cricket at the beach, shopping or any routine family activity. Homestay families will also be invited to attend a farewell dinner for the visiting group. A payment of $430 will be paid to each host family to defray expenses for the visit. If you are interested in hosting a student or would like more information, please contact me at school via email karyn.jones@bhs.sa.edu.au or phone 8278 0900.
Karyn Jones, Coordinator, International Student Programs and LOTE

HIMEJI CULTURAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS
Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent Blackwood High School on a two week exchange visit in September to our sister city Himeji in Japan: Ethan Lambros, Amelia Needs, Lindsey Green, Aaron De Koning and Hattie Waters. The exchange is reciprocal in nature and the participating students will host their exchange partner from Himeji for twelve days in August. In Himeji the students will attend school with their host, join in club activities, enjoy an excursion to another city (e.g. Kyoto, Nara, Kobe or Hiroshima) and experience a range of Japanese cultural traditions such as Shodo (calligraphy) and tea ceremony. They will also meet the Mayor of Himeji and have a tour of the World Heritage listed Himeji Castle. We wish the students well in their role as Cultural Ambassadors.
Karyn Jones, Coordinator, International Student Programs

Order your Entertainment™ Books and Entertainment™ Digital Memberships.
For every Entertainment™ Book and Entertainment™ Digital Membership we sell, $13 contributes to for the Himeji Trip 2015!
The new Entertainment™ Memberships are available now and are packed with thousands of up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers that you can use through to 1 June 2016.
The more Memberships we sell, the more we raise! Please tell your family and friends
For enquiries, please contact: Sharna Granpre-Moliere ph.: 8278 0929
Email: sharna.granpre-moliere@bhs.sa.edu.au
Blackwood High School raising funds for Himeji Trip 2015
Positive Parenting Seminar

Help Kids Navigate Sibling & Peer Rivalry
Wednesday 10 June 7.30pm
Presenter – Bill Hansberry

What fuels children’s rivalries? How do adults unwittingly compound them? Bill Hansberry, co-author of Raising Beaut Kids, has some practical strategies and ideas to help you identify when to step in or when to step back and just observe your kids conflicts.

Learn tips on how to help children take ownership of their own problems.
For more information and bookings essential online at
www.effectiveliving.org/positive-parenting

Need help managing stress or anxiety?
If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8-17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8-12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.
Come and join the fun!
Blackwood High School’s
World Challenge Cabaret
Fundraiser

- Raunchy Sugar and The Artisan Rabbits
  performing exclusively with support acts from
  students.
- Pre-ordered Gourmet Chicken Souvlaki
  platters, dip platters and bar available.
- Silent Auction
- Proceeds going towards community projects
  in Botswana / Zambia.

7.00 pm 12 June, Tickets - $25p/head
Goodwood Community Centre

Book tables of 8 today at
http://www.trybooking.com/126193