Principal’s Welcome

The end of Term 3 is approaching quickly. With it, our Year 8 to 11 students will be receiving Mid-semester 2 Reports and Year 12 will have their Term 3 reports on our Parent-Teacher interviews on Thursday 24 September. Before we know it Term 4 will be here with students having the opportunity to reflect on their achievements and areas they need to improve. All efforts to improve application to learning can have benefits. Preparing for the rapidly approaching end of Year 12 assessment requirements, including examinations, building a determination to complete all assessment tasks, asking more questions or putting in more effort all of these will result in improvements. It is important that students put in a maximum effort in all of their courses between now and the end of the school year.

Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT)

During the last two weeks of Term 3 all Year 8 to 10 students will be undertaking the Progressive Achievement Tests in Mathematics and Reading. The ACER Progressive Achievement Tests are an Australian, nationally normed series of tests designed to provide objective, norm-referenced information to teachers about their students’ skills and understandings in a range of key areas. At the centre of each PAT test is a described proficiency scale, providing both quantitative and qualitative data on student performance, making the PAT tests ideal for understanding students’ current strengths and weaknesses, informing teaching and learning, and monitoring progress over time. You may have heard recently that the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) has committed to the use of two of the tests in every DECD school. Blackwood High School will be getting every Year 8 to 10 student to sit the PAT Maths and PAT –R (reading comprehension). Our school has been using the PAT –M for the last three years and have found these tests particularly useful as they are done online and give teachers an immediate picture of each student’s strengths. We use the information in a range of ways including to look at what aspects of the curriculum we are developing well, where we need to put more emphasis as well as how to support individual students. The tests also enable us to measure student growth in conjunction with their achievements in each of their subjects. The tests will be done in lesson time supervised by subject teachers in the last two weeks of Term 3.

Contribution from an old scholar

On 24 August Dr. Alan Watchman, a former student of Blackwood High School presented the school with copies of his books ‘Yaraman Gold’, ‘No Time for Tears’, ‘Secrets of Hanging Rock’, and ‘Love in War ’and ‘Who Killed the Girls.’ Alan has also published under his pen name Jane Bell. Alan was a student at the school, leaving in 1966, and appears three times on the school’s Honour Board. He trained as a geologist and has written more than fifty articles for publication in academic journals. In his spare time he writes short stories and novels. We would like to thank him for his generous donations. He will be visiting English classes to talk to our students about the creative writing process.

(continued on page 2)
Growing you intelligence through exercising your brain

One of the great myths is that our intelligence is fixed and we are from either ‘smart, average or dumb.’ However, the brain is like a muscle – it changes and gets stronger when we use it. One of our common sayings is ‘use it or lose it’. This is so true of the brain. When we practice and learn new things, parts of our brains change and get larger. This is similar to developing our muscles as we exercise. When we learn new things, changes in the brain result in new connections and neural pathways. The more we challenge our minds to learn, the more brain cells grow. This results in a stronger and smarter brain. If we don’t challenge ourselves to learn new things because something is ‘too hard’ or ‘we can’t just do it’ means we are not growing and strengthening our brains. Having a growth mindset is an essential part of growing the brain, creating new connections and neural pathways.

Below are some things that people can say to themselves to support a growth mindset rather than a fixed mindset. Our self-talk can assist in developing a growth mindset.

Instead of Try thinking
I’m not good at this What am I missing?
I give up I’ll use some of the strategies I’ve learnt
This is too hard This may take some time and effort
I made a mistake Mistakes help me improve
I’ll never be as smart as him/her I’m going to figure out what he/she does and try it
It’s good enough Is this really my best?

UniTEST for entry to Flinders University

Flinders University has expanded on extension of UniTest as an entry pathway in 2016. The UniTest is an aptitude test designed to assess generic reasoning and thinking skills that underpin studies in higher education and that are needed for students to be successful. Flinders will select students on their Year 12 results (60% weighting) and UniTest performance (40%). A full list of eligible courses is available at www.flinders.edu.au/unites/courses. Year 12 students have been provided with a number of dates when they can sit the uniTEST at Flinders University.

Variety SA Show of Hearts Scholarship

The Variety SA is offering scholarships for children who experience illness, disadvantage or have special needs and are aged under 18. Scholarships are available in two areas: sports and the arts and are designed to assist children to fulfil their talents and achieve their life goals. For further information contact Sarah on 8293 8744.

National Summer Art Scholarship

Current Year 11 students interested in the visual arts can apply for a scholarship at the National Gallery of Australia Canberra from 9-16 January 2016. The scholarship includes airfares, accommodation, meals and workshops. Sixteen students from across Australia will be selected, two from each state and territory. Applications close 30 September 2015. More information is available at nga.gov.au or by contacting Adriane Boag summerartscholarship2016@nga.gov.au or 02 6240 6632.

Universities Admission Centre Equity Scholarships 2015-16

A number of scholarships are available for universities interstate. These include Institution Equity Scholarships (IES) and Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships. Applications for the scholarships are online at www.uac.edu.au/equity/apply. In logging into the website applicants will be given an ES application number and a four digit PIN. A series of questions will appear to determine whether an applicant is available for the available scholarships. Further information at www.uac.edu.au/enquiry or 1300 275 822.

University of South Australia

For 2016 the University of South Australia is introducing scholarships for high achievers. The following is a summary.

- Uni SA 25th Anniversary Outstanding Achievement Scholarships for students who achieve an ATAR of 99.95 (excluding bonus points). The scholarship of $10,000 per annum to a maximum of $40,000.
- Uni SA 25th Anniversary Excellence Scholarships for students who achieve an ATAR of 99.0 (excluding bonus points). Valued at $5,500.

Scholarships will automatically be offered to eligible Year 12 students who commence undergraduate studies at Uni SA in 2016. More information at unisa.edu.au/academic-scholarships

Marion Coady, Principal
BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS

Congratulations to Zara Glowinski in Year 12 who recently became a National Champion in two divisions at the Federation of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu 2015 Australian Cup National Titles on 22 and 23 August at the Titanium Arena Adelaide. She won the gold medal in 17 year old female division and in a female adult division winning against a 23 year old from Adelaide and Sydney. This year she has also won gold at the Victorian State Titles for the 16 year old female division and gold at the South Australian State Titles in the 16 year old division, plus the women’s division.

Congratulations to Brodie Macbeth in Year 11 who has been selected to represent South Australia in the School Sport Australia Pacific Games Baseball Championships to be held in Adelaide from 21 to 29 November.

YEARE 10 INTEGRATED LEARNING PROGRAM

While the Ski Trip was happening the school also ran an Integrated Learning Program for Year 10 students who remained at school. The program is designed to provide a break from the usual class routines and enable students to learn skills and knowledge that can help them as they move into senior school and greater independence as young adults. Guest presenters from New Day Employment Services, the Commonwealth Bank, Red Cross and SAPOL provided entertaining and informative workshops on preparing for work, personal presentation, how to be smart savers, earners, spenders and investors, first aid, along with young people and the law, risk taking and safe partying. Teachers from our school also ran workshops on topics such as developing growth mindsets, memory and personal resilience, preparing resumes and career development. 54 students took up the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised CPR certificate from Red Cross.

Some of the students commented:

I learnt so many new things that can become handy in the future.
So much useful information that I can use outside of school.
It was fun to learn new things.
The first aid course was informing and interesting.
SAM’S PRESENTATION (Smart Spending, Saving, Earning and Investing)
The first aid course and the smart money courses were really entertaining and influential.
Being able to grow as a person.
Made you want to work hard and achieve much greater.
Humanities with Ms Kajewski.
Having a break from normal lessons.
All the talks were great, and some were interesting.
It has inspired me to use different safety measures and think about my education post school.
The Smart Saving and Sexting talks were interesting and relevant.
Filling out the book allowed us to reflect on the courses which allowed us to reflect on the courses which was a good look back.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal

ICAS ENGLISH TESTS

In late July three particularly intrepid students chose to participate in the nationally, indeed internationally, recognised UNSW ICAS English tests. Year 11 students Nathaniel Ramesh, Jaimee Bruer and Ian Douglas achieved scores that met or exceeded national averages in all areas. Their results reveal an outstanding grasp of literary concepts, an ability to extract factual content from texts, understanding of literary devices, an awareness of the intricacies of syntax and mastery of vocabulary. Nathaniel achieved a Distinction, while Jaimee and Ian achieved Credit outcomes. We can be especially proud of these individuals because in addition to scoring some very pleasing results, they also extended themselves beyond the comfort zone in order to gauge their language skill levels.

Raphael Zadey, Leader English and Humanities
BLACKWOOD SHINES AT SCIENCE EXPO

The Southern Schools Science Expo continues to grow each year, with a fantastic array of student projects on display. This year’s Expo was held at the impressive TafeSA Tonsley campus. The Expo provides an opportunity for secondary schools in the southern region to showcase student projects which promote learning and engagement in science and technology. Primary school students are invited to view the displays.

This year, Blackwood High School entered four teams:

- Edison Programmable Robots (Cameron O’Connell, Toby Edwards and Angus Hampel)
- Goldenrod Robotic Arms (Cameron Crawshaw and Martin Nachazel)
- Chemical Clean-up (Ellie Beaton, Mackenzie Rutter, Olivia Wheeler and Coldy Wallwork)
- Renewable Design Challenge. This team presented projects from our STEM Primary School Program, and consisted of Louis Sheppard and Alex Wilcox (Eden Hills Primary) and Katherine Childs and Caitlin Selge (Belair Primary)

I am pleased to announce that the Renewable Design Challenge team were runners up for the People’s Choice Award, decided after tallying of votes from the over 400 in primary school students who attended.

Our teams were supported by two teachers, Wesley Dennis (Technology) and Joanna Princi (Science). I would also like to thank Jarrod Chave, who brought a busload of primary school students to view the Expo, and our student tour guides: Maya Tlauka, Kate Westphalen and Ronan Naidu.

Dr Rogan Tinsley, Science Coordinator.

Over 20 teams, 400 primary school students, teachers, special guests and expert judges packed the Tonsley TAFE venue.

The Renewable Design Challenge Team - Eden Hills Primary and Belair Primary students.

WEAR A BEANIE FOR BRAIN CANCER AWARENESS DAY 2015

My name is Melanie Rudd I am a Year 8 student at Blackwood High School. With the help of the Blackwood High School Student Representative Council (SRC) I organised the Wear a Beanie for Brain Cancer Awareness Day on Friday 28 August. I also approached Blackwood Primary School to support the worthy cause. Consequently, they also held their fundraiser on the same Friday. Together with my family we managed to raise over $1,000. This donation will be sent to the Mark Hughes Foundation. I would like to sincerely congratulate everyone on the amazing amount of money raised from both the primary and high school students and staff including my family and friends. This donation will go to great use, such as funding research for brain cancer and assisting people and their families fighting the disease. I would like to give a special thank you to Ms Buesnel and SRC members who helped with the organisation of this event.

Melanie Rudd, Year 8 SRC Member
MELINDA TANKARD-REIST

On Wednesday 2 September Melinda Tankard-Reist gave a one hour presentation to around 100 of our senior students. Melinda is a nationally acclaimed writer/speaker/advocate on issues such as supporting young people in an era of explicit sexual imagery, how hyper-sexualised messages harm kids, exposing the harms of pornography and how to be safe in the digital age. These relevant issues are discussed in our senior Health classes at BHS and aims to educate and empower this generation into enacting positive change. Melinda was impressed with the maturity of our students as her talk raised the awareness of our students on these issues. Melinda has a range of resources that supports our community in responding to the influence of sexually explicit imagery. If you are interested in these topics please contact Janet Bradley. Melinda also has a website www.melindatankardreist.com.

Thank you to our Pastoral Care Support Worker, Sam Thomson for helping to secure Melinda for her valuable presentation.

Janet Bradley, Health and PE Teacher

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEW AND REPORT COLLECTION – THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2015

All parents are caregivers are invited to attend an interview with your son / daughter’s Care Group teacher on Thursday 24 September.

A letter inviting parents and caregivers to this important event and outlining how to book interview times was sent home with students and via email during Week 8.

Care Group teachers will be available for the interviews from 1.30 pm – 8.00 pm on Thursday, 24 September. Students will be dismissed at 12:50 pm on this day to accommodate parent/teacher interviews and mid semester report collection. We understand that early dismissal causes difficulty for some families who require their children to be supervised until 3.10 pm. Please also note that school bus times will remain unchanged.

Students who remain at school will be supervised during lunchtime (12:50 – 1:30 pm) in a designated area of the yard and then in the Year 11 Study room to do personal study from 1:30 – 3:10 pm.

Lessons will run as normally scheduled on Friday 25 September.

Interview locations on Thursday 24 September:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1:30pm – 8:00pm</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td></td>
<td>In the Year 8 Learning Centre (OSB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td></td>
<td>In the Resource Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td></td>
<td>In the Senior Learning Centre (OSA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subject teachers will not be available for interviews on these occasions. However, we encourage parents to contact subject teachers by telephone if they have specific subject related concerns. Care Group teachers will also pass on requests to subject teachers after the interview.

Please contact the Care Group teacher by Tuesday 22 September if you are unable to attend the interview and collect your child’s report. We ask parents/caregivers who are unable to attend an interview to please make contact with the Care Group teacher to discuss progress and organize the release of the report.

A positive partnership between parents, teachers and students is vital in supporting your child’s learning. We thank you in anticipation for meeting with the Care Group teacher to support your child’s academic progress.

Craig Duguid, Assistant Principal Information Systems and Learning Technologies
SKI TRIP 2015

Week 5 of Term 3 is a much anticipated week for many Blackwood High School Year 10 students. It is in this week that the annual Ski Trip travels to Falls Creek for 5 days skiing and snowboarding. The trip has been going for over 30 years now and has developed from staying in Bright and Harrietville and travelling up to the snow each day, to staying in the snow at Halley’s Lodge in Falls Creek.

This year 63 students made the journey, all mastering skiing or snowboarding. As a whole, the group were fantastic. They were cohesive, cooperative and organised. Many pool games were played and card games fought out. The skiing thrills and spills were retold every night and many laughs had over individual frustrations, ski lift mishaps and great feats.

Wednesday night offered night skiing which many students participated in. A pro ski demonstration was enjoyed on Thursday night followed by a spectacular fireworks display. Congratulations to all students for their success and great company for the week.

Thank you also for the input from all staff and the behind the scenes SSOs that made the Ski Trip so successful.

Janet Bradley, Jeanette Beadnall, Sam Thomson
SPORTS NEWS

Year 10/11/12 Open Boys Knockout Netball Finals
On 2 September the Open Boys Knockout Netball finals were held at ETSA Park.

Game 1  Blackwood V Golden Grove
Lost 16-19

Game 2  Blackwood V LeFerre
Win 23-8

Game 3  Blackwood V Banksia Park
Win 25-14

Game 4  Blackwood V Trinity
Lost 14-23

The Open Boy’s Knockout Netball Team finished the minor rounds in first position after only losing one game. In the Grand Final against Trinity, Blackwood continued to play excellent netball but were defeated 14-23. With only three out of the eleven players unavailable in 2016 as they are Year 12’s, the future looks promising.

GS – Kristian Ciabattoni – amazing accuracy
GA – Daniel Nash and Brad Nottle-Justice – great goals and goal assists
C – (captain) James Edwards – steady hands and decision making
WD – River Moore – determined and fierce
GD – Isaac Jureky and D’Arcy Mitchell – amazing reading of the play
GK – Cameron McGree and Brayden Whellum – great rebounds and pressure over the ball

Chris Olenich, PE teacher

Year 8/9 Open Boys Knockout Netball Finals
On Wednesday 2 September, the Year 8/9 Boys Knockout Team competed in the State Netball Finals held at Netball SA Stadium. It was a fantastic result for quite a young team, finishing as runners up in the state. There were four minor rounds throughout the day, where Blackwood played against Modbury, Golden Grove and Banksia Park.

In the first game, Blackwood won convincingly against Modbury which was a great warm up for the day. In the second game, Blackwood had a tight tussle with Golden Grove, coming away as winners by two goals in the dying minutes of the game and showing great composure. In the third game against Banksia Park, Blackwood didn’t have a great start with a few silly mistakes and missed goals, meaning we trailed at half time. The second half was a good battle and an even score line, but the deficit in the first half was too much to regain, resulting in our first loss.

After lunch was the Semi Finals, with winners progressing to the Grand Final. Blackwood played against Banksia Park, coming away with a fantastic win after a draw and having to play extra time. Getting through to the Grand Final was very exciting, and surprisingly it was against Modbury – the team who lost all minor round games. Modbury had obviously found great rhythm throughout the day, because they came out very strongly and were in control for most of the game. Modbury ended up winning the Grand Final by six goals, and after a great effort from the Blackwood team it was a successful and enjoyable day.

The participants on the day were:
Harry Ashwell   Jai Brown   Cooper DeZylva   Toby Edwards
Tyler Emswiler  Fletcher Lewis  Jules Marjanac  Reece Milsom
Jackson Pole   Elijah Tlauka  Darnell Tucker
Laura Packard, Netball teacher
2016 C.A.S HAWKER SCHOLARSHIPS
The 2016 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarships open on Monday 7 December 2015 and close on Friday 8 January 2016.
C.A.S. Hawker Scholarships are one of the most generously privately funded scholarships available to undergraduate students in Australia. Each residential scholarship is valued at up to $45,000 over three years. Information about the C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship and an application form are available at www.hawkerscholarship.org or by contacting the secretary to the Trustees on 08 8127 1654.

SNOW SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP
In an effort to help more students keen on a snow sports career make it a reality, EA are offering two partial scholarship places for students from your school. The students will take part in an EA instructor training course including a job offer at a ski school in Canada, all at a discounted rate.
EA Ski and Snowboard training will sponsor 50% of the course costs and provide professional one on one support to gain a visa, book flights and for the duration of the course.
Students receive instructor training, gain an internationally recognised qualification and get the opportunity to work as a paid instructor.
How to apply? To be considered for this partial scholarship students need to demonstrate a passion for the snow, a positive work ethic and a desire to travel and learn.
This is ideal for a gap year or to start a potential career. Obtaining an instructor qualification and experience teaching allows students to gain professional skills and develop a work ethic. This will be valuable no matter what career path is taken. More information at www.easkiandsnowboard.com/ski-instructor-courses/training-courses-ski

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE
Department of Education for Child Development - registered and approved Southern Cross Cultural Exchange (since 1983) is providing such a unique experience to help your children and family learn through bridging cultures, grow closer with one another, understand one another better and see the world in a new light. International exchange students from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Canada and the USA are arriving in Australia to live as a local with volunteer Australian families and attend a local secondary school. The students, aged 15 – 17, arrive from February 2016 for three, five, or ten months and are fully insured, with their own pocket money. If you have a spare room or bed, and a place at the family table, why not be the “heart” of cultural exchange by becoming a volunteer host family?
Expand your world for the whole family – all without any air tickets. Call S.C.C.E. now on 1800 500 501 or email scceaust@scce.com.au or visit www.scce.com.au and ask for our incoming student profiles, choose the nationality you prefer, and start having fun matching up your hobbies and interests.

DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE IN HEALTH SCIENCES, NURSING OR PSYCHOLOGY
There are still places available for the Health Sciences, Nursing and Psychology degree showcases at the University of Adelaide.
When: Saturday 19 September 2015
Where: The Braggs Lecture Theatre, North Terrace Campus, The University of Adelaide
Information Talks:
• 11.00am - Bachelor of Nursing
• 12.30pm - Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences (Advanced)
• 2.20pm - Bachelor of Psychological Sciences
Tours of the Nursing Clinical Skills facility, Pathology Museum, Abbey Museum and the Medical Science Labs are available before and after the sessions. We encourage you to share this invitation with others. We hope to see you on campus for the event.
MEDIBANK WAVE WARRIORS JUNIOR CHALLENGE INTRODUCES THE NEW MEDIBANK OCEAN SWIM RUN!

It is with great excitement that we wish to announce the new Medibank Ocean Swim Run - a fun community event for ages 5 - 60+. It's an awesome addition to Ironman Champion Zane Holmes' Medibank Wave Warriors Junior Challenge which is now in its 5th year! Check out all the info on the below flyer and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all the latest updates. Visiting QLD, NSW, SA and WA, there's sure to be an event near you! It kicks off in October so be sure to enter now so you don’t miss out! Visit www.wavewarriors.com.au and follow all the Swim Run links.