Principal’s Welcome

As we approach the end of the school year it is important that students continue to attend school regularly. Term 4 is characterised with students needing to complete the final weeks of their programs of study. These last and important weeks enable student to continue to put effort into their studies. They should be able to look back and feel that they have made the maximum commitment required.

A reminder our final Student Free Day for 2015 is on 4 December. There will be no lessons for students. The day will focus on assessment with this focus continuing in 2016. Year 11 students have finished their formal lessons with examinations starting on 16 November. Year 11 students will return after examinations from 23 to 27 November to have introductory sessions for their SACE 2 subjects for 2016. Our Year 11 students will come together to celebrate their achievement at the Year 11 Presentation Assembly on Tuesday 1 December at 9am in the PAC followed by a morning tea.

The Year 10 Graduation will be held on Wednesday 2 December. Year 10 parents and caregivers should have received a letter of invitation to the event. We would like to see as many parents and family members at this event as we mark Year 10 students moving from the middle school to the senior school.

Year 8 and 9 students will have their achievements acknowledged on Wednesday 9 December. This week we have been treated to the range of learning opportunities within the Arts. On Wednesday 11 November the visual and performing arts teachers hosted the Arts Factor (photos on page 4). The event saw the Year 12 Art and Design Exhibition and music under the COLA. The culmination of the evening saw nineteen acts of dance, music and drama to a full house in the Performing Arts Centre. As teachers we are very proud of our student’s range of talents and their confidence in performing to an audience. It was really pleasing to see how supportive our students are of each other as they step onto the stage to perform.

In The Advertiser on 12 November an article appeared about Georgia Brown, one of our Year 12 students. Georgia received the Caltex Allrounder Award. In the newspaper article Georgia’s achievements in netball as the captain of the State’s U17 in the National Championships team and her selection into the Australia Institute of Sport (AIS) development squad were highlighted. Georgia has consistently demonstrated a commitment to her academic studies and netball and is a great example of a committed young person. Well done Georgia.

International Visitors

The last few weeks have seen a number of International visitors to our school. We are currently hosting eight teachers from West Java. During their visit with us, they are having information sessions about school organisation, curriculum and other areas they are interested in finding out about. As well, they are observing teachers at work in classrooms looking at the range of methodologies used to deliver learning.

(continued page 2)
On 5 November we hosted twenty Vocational Education and Training (VET) leaders from Shanghai. The educators heard about how we organise VET within our school and within a collective of schools. As part of their visit they visited the Certificate II Electronics class watching students work, looking at student folios of work and spoke with Mr Tom Oliphant about the program.

**Remembrance Day**

Remembrance Day was acknowledged with a school assembly. During the assembly students presented collections from young men who participated in World War I. This year Kate Westphalen and Nathaniel Ramesh attended the Blackwood RSL Remembrance Day Service which was held at the Soldiers Memorial Gardens. Our students lay a wreath at the end of service on behalf of our school community.

**Remembrance Business Breakfast**

On 6 November two students represented Blackwood High School at The Repat Foundation Remembrance Business Breakfast. Our students were able to meet Lady Olive Weston. Lady Weston is the subject of a book by Peter Fenton entitled Olive- Olive Weston: The Heroic life of a World War II nurse. Lady Weston worked with General MacArthur as a wartime nurse. Our students also spoke with Tich Tyson a Vietnam Veteran. Tich is a volunteer with the Men’s Health Peer Education Program designed to increase awareness of men’s health issues and encourage veterans to manager their own health and wellbeing.

**World Challenge 2015**

On Sunday 22 November our determined twenty-seven Year 10 and 11 students will leave to participate in the World Challenge being away from home for four weeks. We wish them safe and exciting travels whilst they are in Africa. The World Challenge has proven to be significant in the lives of the young people who have previously participated, developing a strong sense of independence, community and collaboration. We are looking forward to the four staff and the student’s safe return prior to Christmas.

**Blackwood Rotary Club SACE Stage 1 Food and Hospitality and Christmas Fair**

The school’s connection with the Blackwood Rotary Club has seen two events supported by our staff and students in the last week. On Tuesday 10 November the Rotary Club held its meeting at our school hosted by the SACE Stage 1 Food and Hospitality class. The evening saw our students prepare and serve a two course meal supervised by their teacher Mrs Mary Oleschenko. In addition to the meal a number of our students, including our International students, greeted and assisted with the logistics of this occasion. Many thanks to our students, Mrs Oleschenko and Ms Karyn Jones for their work. Also on the evening Mr David Garrett provided a tour of the Advanced Technology area and the Performing Arts Centre (PAC). Blackwood Rotary Club provided significant funds to the school when the PAC was being developed.

On Sunday 15 November, Blackwood Rotary Club ran their Annual Christmas Fair. Groups and individual Blackwood High students performed musical items from 10.15 until 11.15am. Our students were supported by Michael Winter, Ben Dening and Robyn Trebilcock.
Use of technology

In a recent edition of Generation Next, there was an article about tips for parents developed by the American Academy of Paediatrics. Technology is prolific in our community and the following tips will assist parents in ensuring their children learn to use technology in way in order for them to be responsible citizens. Two of the tips posted in the article are below.

- **Treat media as you would any other environment in your child’s life.** The same parenting guidelines apply in both real and virtual environments. Set limits; kids need and expect them. Know your children’s friends both online and off. Know what platforms, software and apps your children are using, where they are going on the web, and what they are doing online.
- **Remember: Kids will be kids.** Kids will make mistakes using media. Try to handle errors with empathy and turn a mistake into a teachable moment. But some indiscretions, such as sexting, bullying or posting self-harm images, may be a red flag that hints at trouble ahead. Parents should take a closer look at their child’s behaviours and if needed enlist supportive professional help.

Parenting SA

Parenting SA has produced short videos to provide advice and support for parents of teens and pre-teens. The videos cover

- Helping teenagers stay safe online
- Teenagers and feeling
- Managing conflict with teenagers
- Living with teenagers

Each video has a link to a parent’s easy guide. The videos can be watched by going to the Parenting SA website. [www.parents.sa.gov.au/videos.htm](http://www.parents.sa.gov.au/videos.htm)

Write 4 Fun

Students from Reception to Year 12 can enter the Write 4 Fun competition. Students can write either:

- Poem – 16 lines or less
- Short story – 500 words or less

There are a range of prizes. Further information can be found at [www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net).

Entries close 20 November 2015 at 5pm.

Bushfire Season and Safety

On the last page of this newsletter is information about the opening of Fire Safety Refuge. Please take the time to register for information if you live within the City of Mitcham.

Marion Coady, Principal

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH ACHIEVERS

- Congratulations to Yasmin Hardy in Year 8 who has been selected to attend the Australian National Junior Surfing titles which will be held at Stradbroke Island at the end of November. Yasmin is the Under 16s State Junior Surfing Champion for 2015.

- Congratulations to Marnie Fiebig in Year 11 who has been accepted at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) to complete a Diploma of Dance (Elite Performance). She was required to complete an interview and audition in Western Australia as part of the selection process.

- Congratulations to Kyle Collier in Year 11 who has been selected for the Australian Federation Internationale Roller Sports (FIRS) World Championships Junior Men’s Team for 2016. This will see Kyle travel overseas in 2016 to compete.

- Congratulations to Callum Goodhand in Year 12 who has achieved an Outstanding Academic Achievement in French at the School of Languages. His award will be presented on 24 November.

- Congratulations to Maya Tlauka in Year 11 who has been accepted into the 2016 STAR Youth Leadership Camp. The camp is run by SAPOL.
Congratulations to Shiying (Sunny) Yang in Year 12 whose art work has been selected for the SACE Board Art Exhibition 2016.

Congratulations to Alina Tairli in Year 8 who received an award from the Australian Mathematics Trust for Best in School. Alina was presented with her award on 10 November.

STAGE 2 PREPARATORY CLASSES
This year at Blackwood High School we will have preparatory classes for Year 11 students who are studying Stage 2 for 2016. The sessions will be held during week 7 from the 23 – 27 November for a double lesson. A timetable will be provided to all students. The aim is to provide a program that can help us to prepare students for Year 12. Students will receive information on the course requirements and preliminary materials to begin preparation during the school holidays. Students will only attend for the subjects they will be studying in 2016.

BLACKWOOD ACTION GROUP
A superb day to build community spirit, practically apply the learning in science on ecosystems and build in the core values of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IBMYP). On Tuesday the 20 October, 22 Year 9 students from Blackwood High School participated with the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) to clear weeds and tidy areas of the Coromandel Railway station. The students enjoyed the challenge making a contribution to our wider community and a positive impact within our local environment.

ARTS FACTOR EVENING WINNERS AND THE OUTDOOR PERFORMERS

FIRST

SECOND

THIRD

CHOREOGRAPHIC AWARD

ENTERTAINMENT AWARD

BEST NEWCOMBER
YEAR 10 IMPORTANT END OF YEAR DATES
Parents and students are asked to take special note of the following dates and requirements.

Week 8 - Monday 30 November to Thursday 3 December
Normal lessons will operate for all Year 10 students from Monday to Thursday of this week. Teachers will return examinations and assessments to students and may commence lessons that will introduce students to Year 11 study skills that are applicable to their subject areas.

Wednesday 2 December – YEAR 10 GRADUATION AND PRESENTATION EVENING
All school library books, texts and other resources must be returned. Families may be charged fees if books and materials are not returned in good condition.

The Year 10 Graduation will be held at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church, beginning promptly at 7.30pm. Students are asked to arrive at 7.00pm, dressed in their correct school uniform including black school shoes. To avoid confusion, please note that this event was advertised earlier in the year for Thursday 3 December.

Thursday 3 December – FINAL DAY OF FORMAL LESSONS FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS
Lockers must be cleaned out and a final check of books returned will occur. Students who have not completed their Personal Learning Plan (PLP) will be withdrawn from their usual classes and provided with additional support to complete the compulsory SACE PLP to a C standard.

Friday 4 December - STUDENT FREE DAY
Students in all year levels will not attend school as staff will be involved in Professional Learning Activities regarding Child Protection Curriculum.

Week 9 - Monday 7 December to Friday 11 December
During Week 9 Year 10 students are offered the opportunity to take leave with parental permission or to attend school to take part in an activities program combined with Year 8 and 9 students. Details and a permission slip in regard to this week was provided in a letter sent home on Tuesday 3 November. It is important that all students return this slip to their Care Group teachers by Monday 23 November.

Any students who have not completed the PLP to a C standard will be asked to return to school to complete the work to a required standard. We will notify parents and care givers informing them of the situation, requesting that the student attend school to complete the work required.

SEMMESTER 2 REPORT AND CAMBIUM (SCHOOL MAGAZINE) COLLECTION
WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER FROM 9.00AM – 12.00NOON - REPORTS AND THE CAMBIUM WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE SENIOR LEARNING CENTRE.
- Students must sign for their copy of the Cambium.
- If your child is unable to collect their report and Cambium at this time, families may provide $2.50 in stamps to be placed on an A4 envelope (available from Student Services) and write their postal address on it. The Cambium and report will then be posted to you.
- Alternatively, reports may be collected from Student Services from Monday 14 – Wednesday 16 December between 9.00am and 3.00pm.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal

YEAR 10 GRADUATION
7.30pm Wednesday 2 December at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church
Parents are welcome to join us in for the graduation of our Year 10 students at 7.30pm on Wednesday 2 December at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church.

The end of Year 10 is important at Blackwood High School. It is a time that we celebrate a range of student achievements. It marks the end of Middle School and transition to Senior School. Students shift from the International Baccalaureate to the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). Their learning programs go from a blend of required and choice subjects to self-selected subjects that follow personal interests and prepare for post school pathways. They move from learning that is completely supervised by teachers to programs that incorporate independent study. At Blackwood High School, Year 10 Graduation marks our students’ transition into young adulthood.

Year 10 Parents/Caregivers, please put Wednesday 2 December into your diaries and onto your calendars so that you can be there to celebrate with us.

Information about our end of year arrangements was sent home in the form of a letter to parents/caregivers on Tuesday 3 November.

David Garrett, Deputy Principal
PLEASE DONATE TO THE SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to the Blackwood High School Community who have already donated money or non-perishable food donations for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. We are still collecting non-perishable food items until Friday 27 November. Donations can be made into the red box in the foyer by the front entrance.

The Salvation Army’s mission is to help and give hope to people in need.

Thank you for your generosity towards our community.

Emma Roberts, SRC student

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL VISIT TO THE COURTS AND SA PARLIAMENT

On Wednesday 21 October, the Year 11 Legal Studies class, along with Ms Buesnel and Sam Thomson, visited the Magistrates Court, Sir Samuel Way Building and State Parliament. Peter Cavouras, the Education Officer of the Courts, welcomed us on the steps of the Magistrates Court and took us on an extensive tour of the building. We got to see the underground tunnels from a viewing panel, dress up in the official gowns of Supreme Justices, District Court Judges and prosecution and defence lawyers silks. We also got to see the courts in action with Magistrate Susan O’Connor presiding. We heard drink driving, fatigue driving and speeding cases. After that, we made our way to the Sir Samuel Way Building, where the Supreme and District Courts are housed. We heard from a Sheriff’s Officer about how the Sheriff’s Department works with juries and defendants, followed by Detective Anthony van der Stelt informing us of his role in collecting evidence for the ongoing Louise Bell trial. We were struck by the detail in which court cases are undertaken and the strict rules of procedure.

Once we had our lunch, we met with Sam Duluk MP, the Member for Davenport. He took us on a Parliamentary tour of the 126 year old building and showed us the different sections including the Parliamentary Library and the Premier’s Office. Most importantly, we saw the two chambers of parliament, the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council. It was a very insightful, fun and interesting day, which we enjoyed tremendously.

Nathaniel Ramesh, Year 11 student
NEWSLETTER NO. 11 – 13 November 2015

REMEMBRANCE DAY BUSINESS BREAKFAST

On Friday 6 November, Kate Westphalen, Ms Coady and myself attended the Remembrance Day Business Breakfast at the Adelaide Convention Centre. All proceeds from the breakfast went towards The Road Home- The Repat Foundation (the newly launched brand name of The Repat Foundation). After we were served our delicious breakfasts, we heard the keynote speaker, Lieutenant General David Morrison AO, Chief of the Army from 2011 to 2015. He talked about how much more potential the army would have if it was inclusive of everyone, no matter their gender, race, religion or sexual orientation, which was very insightful and inspirational. At our table, there were two World War II veterans who were determined to motivate us not to give up in anything that we pursue or that we come across. This really impacted me because I realised that if they ever gave up on the field, they would have died. After the event, we went back to school, rather tired from the early morning but definitely more inspired. I am very thankful that Blackwood has been a part of the breakfast in previous years and I would recommend attending it in the future, should you have the opportunity.

Nathaniel Ramesh, SRC Member

INTERNATIONAL HISTORY BEE AND BOWL

On 27 October, our school hosted the South Australian division of the History Bee and Bowl, a competition that allows students to compete in a statewide test of history knowledge and understanding. We entered three teams into the team competition, the Bowl, one in each division. Our Varsity team was ranked third overall and won one of their three games, while our Junior Varsity team came third, with the second highest overall score. Finally, our middle school team also came second, and qualified for both national and international games. Ethan Keen (Varsity) and Harriet Cooling (Middle) both came second within their respective divisions of the History Bee, the one-on-one competition, and qualified for entry in both the national and international competitions. All teams competed well, and an enjoyable day was had by all.

Eleana Willmott, Year 11 student and Allaina-jean Chadwick, Year 9 student

LEGAL STUDIES AND CRIMINOLOGY UNIVERSITY INDUCTION

On 29 October, we, alongside fifteen other prospective Year 11 and 12 Legal Studies students, attended the 2015 Legal Studies and Criminology Education Pathways Induction at Flinders University. The day consisted of a series of four classes, including law and justice, forensic psychology and criminology. In these sessions, we were educated by Flinders University tutors and students as to what a university course in subjects related to law and criminology would entail. One of our favourites was the forensic psychology class, in which we were able to test our eyewitness memory throughout tests and videos. Another stand out session was the Criminology class, which many of us had an interest in pursuing in the future. This lesson was very informative and interactive and was taught by a very friendly and approachable lecturer. In this session we were introduced to Criminology and what professionals in this field study and explore as their careers. We were allowed an insight into the world of a Criminology major through questions and activities which helped us engage and develop an understanding of Criminology as a future career pathway. Throughout the experience we were given the opportunity to familiarise ourselves with the Flinders campus, this allowed us to establish a basic insight into university life. Our hosts were current law and criminology students enrolled at flinders and were very encouraging, as they urged us to consider pursuing educational pathways at flinders. It was very interesting to obtain knowledge regarding the aspects of a law degree. All in all, the induction was a wonderful experience to be able to explore the area in which many of us could be studying in the future.

Hiromi Hill, Jesse McKinnon and Isobel Stolinski, Year 10 students
YEAR 9 ACTIVITY DAY 2015

The large cohort of Year 9s this year meant that the school offered Ice Skating at Ice Arena as well as the usual Aquatics activities at Port Noarlunga for a day away from the classroom.

Fifty students enjoyed a three hour ice skating session, travelling by train to Ice Arena at Mile End. The weather was perfect for the one hundred students who bussed down to Port Noarlunga and participated in a morning and afternoon session of either surfing, wave skiing, canoeing, fishing, body boarding, windsurfing or snorkelling. Sam Thomson cooked a barbeque for lunch and the sale of sausages and drinks raised $300. The Year 9s will donate this money to Compassion Australia to support our African orphan’s Grace and Neema. Thank you to the Year 9 Care Group teachers who helped with organisation and supervision both prior to the event and on the day.

Janet Bradley, Year 9 Leader

STEPUP 2015

For the last four weeks we’ve working with young people from Belair, Bellevue Heights, Blackwood, Coromandel, Eden Hills and Hawthornedene Primary Schools interested in Dance and Drama, or a career in Film Making or Sound/Lighting Technology.

Working with performing arts teachers Katrina Constantopoulos and Brigitte Esvelt and technical crew leader Brendan Maidment, students explored themes under the title ‘What Are You Afraid Of?’: ‘Growing Up’, ‘The Dark’, ‘Creepy Crawlies’, ‘Secrets’, ‘Being Trapped’ and ‘Hysteria’. The result was an exuberant, scary and innovative piece of theatre using film footage, voiceover, multitudes of cardboard boxes and live performance front of parents, friends and invited guests on Friday 6 November. Everyone in the audience was stunned by the amazing standard of work achieved in five sessions. A brilliant effort by all concerned. The DVD including the performance and the highlights is in final editing and will be sure to be a collector’s item!

Robyn Trebilcock, Arts Leader

YEAR 8 AQUATICS DAY 2015

On Tuesday 10 November the Year 8 cohort attended Aquatics at Port Noarlunga Aquatic Centre. Students were involved in snorkelling, wave skiing, boogie boarding, fishing, surfing, canoeing, wind surfing, and beach activities throughout the day. Even with overcast weather the students stayed engaged in their activities and really enjoyed the day. Thank you to the Year 10 Netball Class, Laura Packard and Sam Thomson who organised the barbeque lunch and the sale of sausages and drinks raised $389.80. The Year 8s will donate this money to Compassion Australia to support our African orphan’s Grace and Neema. Thank you to all the Year 8 Care Group teachers for their support of their students enjoying the day’s activities.

Renee Daish, Year 8 teacher

I enjoyed sailboarding the most because it was fun.

Kyra Cooke – 8A
I enjoyed that we could choose our sports. Beach cricket was by far the most enjoyable.

Afif Basheer – 8C
The waves were really good to learn to surf.

Angus Williams – 8C
Make sure you receive your SACE Results

To ensure you can access your SACE results when they are released on 15 December 2015, you need to:
1. Check you can log in to Students Online before 1 December 2015.
2. Once logged in, check your postal address is correct, to ensure you receive your SACE certificate in the mail.

Logging in to Students Online
You can access Students Online at:
www.sace.sa.edu.au/students-online

Student Login
Student Registration Number: 
PIN: 

Students use Students Online to:
• view their SACE
• check their progress in the SACE
• access their results.

You have been granted a PIN or
Log in using your SACE registration number and
PIN.
Your registration number is six numbers and a
capital letter (e.g. 123456A).
If you have not been granted a PIN, or if your PIN is the
first four digits of your date of birth in the format
DMMY, e.g. 1st July = 0107.

Can't remember your PIN?
Click on the request a PIN reset link on the
Students Online login page and complete the
form. If all details submitted are correct, the
SACE Board will reset it and send an email
confirming your new PIN.

Check your postal address
Once you have successfully logged in, go to the
Personal information section and check your postal address is correct. This will ensure you receive your results in the mail. You need to do this before 1 December 2015.

Updating your information
If your postal address needs to be updated, please contact the SACE Coordinator at your school.

Need help logging in?
Call the Support Team on 8372 7412 or email SACE.StudentsOnlineSupport@sa.gov.au

Results release day
If you can log in, you're all set to access your results online as soon as they're released on
Tuesday 15 December 2015.
Official documentation will be posted to you progressively from Tuesday 15 December, with all students expected to receive results envelopes by the end of that week. You will also be able to print an unofficial copy of the Record of Achievement directly from Students Online.
For more information about accessing your results, visit the Students > Assessment and results section of the SACE website and click My results.

October 2015
ICE: THE COLD HARD FACTS
POLICE AND COMMUNITY-PARTICIPATE IN THE FORUM

SAPOL AND OTHER COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES WILL PRESENT ON ISSUES RELATING TO ILlicit DRUG USE IN THE COMMUNITY.

- Hear about illicit drugs and how the use of drugs is impacting on the local community
- Find out what services and support are available for those affected - from addicts, friends, family or professionals.
- Learn about the dangers associated with the drug and how easy addiction occurs.

When: Thursday 3 December 2015
Where: Marion Cultural Centre Theore, 287 Douglas Road, OAKLANDS PARK.
Time: 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm
(doors open at 6.30 pm)
Limited spaces available.
To register, your internet contacts should be: Prevention Section, 8297 6779

MC - Amanda Blair

With guest speakers from South Australia Police, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia, The Clinical Services Coordinator from The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and SA Ambulance Service.

Catch up Immunisation Clinic

The City of Mitcham is conducting a FREE catch up immunisation service for students who have missed their immunisations at school.

Vaccines that will be available for Year 8 students include:
- HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) - Gardasil
- Diptheria Tetanus Pertussis (dTP) - Boostrix
- Chicken Pox - Varicella

Where and When

Thursday 26 November 2015 - 4.30pm - 6.30pm
Room 2 - Mitcham Community Centre
242 Belair Road, Lower Mitcham

For further information contact Mary Anne McNicholl on 8372 8816.

Fire Safety REFUGE

Available during the Fire Danger Season starting 17th November until 30th April 2016 as declared by CFS.

Free, Community Organised, Plain's Venue

In the event of a Catastrophic or Extreme Fire Risk day do you need a safe place to shelter? You are welcome to spend the day at a designated community centre in the plain's area of Mitcham Council.

What do you need to do?

PREFERRED OPTION:
If possible, please PRE-REGISTER, before or at the beginning of the Fire Danger season to receive an e-mail during the evening before every extreme or catastrophic fire risk day (except 25th December).
This e-mail will indicate which council community centre will be open as a Fire Safety Refuge on the following day.

To pre-register for this service please phone either 8278 2150 or 8278 5130 or email bbdcahills@ozemail.com.au

OR:
After the CFS advises at 4:30 p.m. that the following day will be rated extreme or catastrophic in the Mount Lofty Ranges, phone Mitcham Council on 8372 8888 (any time after 6:00 p.m.). A recorded message will indicate which community centre will be operating as a Fire Safety Refuge.

ON THE DAY:
The community centre will be open as a Fire Safety Refuge from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.
Tea/coffee and water will be available. You will be close to either Big W or Mitcham Square shopping centres so you may choose to bring food or pop out to the shops.
Children (up to 16 years of age) must be with a parent/guardian at all times.

Supported by The Blackwood/Belair and District Community Association
We all need to be Bushfire Ready.