



EVENT

Burwood Girls High School Newsletter

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Vol. 7, Issue 5, 18 August 2008

For Your Diary

TERM 3, 2008	
Aug 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr.11 Options 2009 booklets distributed HSC Textiles projects due Trial HSC Exams continue (to 22/8) Yr.11 Jindabyne trip 18-22/8
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Trial Examinations continue Yr.11 Jindabyne trip continues
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Trial Examinations continue Yr.11 Jindabyne trip continues P&C Meeting, 7:15 pm, Room 27
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Trial Examinations continue Yr.11 Jindabyne trip continues FIELD STUDY DAY #3
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Trial Examinations conclude Yr.11 Jindabyne trip returns HSC English Ext.2 major works due HSC Drama STUVAC
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Drama exams Evacuation Practice Week SRC Meeting, lunchtime
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Drama exams
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNSW Computer Skills Comp School Council Meeting, 6:00 pm Yr.10/11 Subject Selection Evening, 7:00 pm, Hall
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr.10 Interviews re: subject choices
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr.10 interviews re: subject choices
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSC Speaking: Italian Continuers
Sep 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSEMBLY – Italian Logbook Week HSC Visual Art BOWs due Yr.10 Drop-In Evening, 5-7 pm
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXO DAY
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr.7/8 Immunisations Yr.10/11 Subject Forms due
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr.9/10 Immunisations CHS Athletics Italian food stall, lunchtime Prefects Meeting, lunchtime
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHS Athletics
P&C MEETINGS	
3 rd Wednesday of month, 7:15pm, Room 27.	
Next Meetings: 20 August, 17 Sept 2008	

From the Principal...

Term 3 is a very busy term for most students and we are off to a flying start. We welcome back our overseas travellers from Samoa and will soon farewell Year 11 as they head off to Jindabyne.

We would like to wish our Year 12 students every success with their upcoming Trial HSC exams in Weeks 4 and 5 and with their preparations to submit major projects and performances for their HSC this term.

I would like to thank everyone in the school community for being so patient with the disruptions caused by the building works. The good news is that the Library roof is scheduled for completion next Monday and should be open for 'business as usual' on Tuesday 12 August.

We had a surprise visit from the Premiere, Mr Morris Iemma last Friday to see our new science laboratories in action. Both he and Virginia Judge were very impressed with the new facilities for our students.

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend our Parent/Teacher/ Student evenings at the end of last term. It is always a wonderful opportunity for parents and students to talk to teachers about their progress and learning outcomes achieved. Feedback indicates that the bell was a winner so you may hear it again next year.

Karyn O'Brien, Relieving Principal



VACANCES EN NOUVELLE CALEDONIE

These past July holidays **Vipasha Mukherjee**, **Maddison Georgiou** and myself visited New Caledonia on an educational tour for a week from 9 to 16 July. We traveled in a group of 15 students with three teachers. The people we were with came from all over NSW. Whilst on the tour we attended C.R.E.I.P.A.C. which is a school developed for international students learning French. This improved our French and helped a lot with going out and around in the city. But it wasn't all work – we also greatly enjoyed ourselves. We visited a patisserie, went to an island with an operating lighthouse which we climbed, we were lucky enough to watch a live shark feeding.

We did all this while we were staying with a New Caledonian family who all spoke French. All in all it was a wonderful and enriching experience. Many thanks to Ms Barr for helping us organise this trip. We have learnt some very valuable language and life skills to use in the future.

Lauren Confalonieri, Year 11

CAREERS IN VISUAL ARTS

Kate Disher-Quill, ex-Year 12 Burwood Girls High School 2005, gave a presentation about the Bachelor of Design in Visual Communications and International Studies at UTS, in a lunchtime session at school for interested students on Friday, 1 August. Kate gave an overview of the course, presented some of her artwork and fielded questions about the course and career options. Our students really benefited from having this direct contact with Kate. We wish Kate well for her upcoming year of study in Mexico. We hope to run more of these sessions where former students speak to our students about their studies and careers.

Michelle Kals, Head Teacher Creative Arts



MUSIC NEWS

Recently, our Year 12 Music 1 class held a charity concert in order to practice their upcoming HSC performance repertoire. This was organised and held on July 30 of this year. Not only was it a beautiful and inspiring musical event, it was also an opportunity for the girls to raise money for a cause of their choice, the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The audience was truly involved and inspired by this event, and it was a great success overall.

The evening's proceeds of \$191 were sent to the National Breast Cancer Foundation on the girls' behalf.

We are extremely proud of the girls' achievements, as the concert was their own idea, and was planned mainly from their own efforts. They suggested to us the idea of a fundraising component, and saw it through to its completion. This affirms our school's motto, "Not For Ourselves Alone", which is a strong element of the school's culture.

Congratulations: **Sarah Dharamdas, Anna Hopson-Boulter, Lucy Kiely, Lila Malmberg, Katie McCarthy, Jing Zhang, Joey Zeichner.**

Ynping Mak, Music Teacher

BUILDING WORKS

The new Fitness Studio is taking shape.....



...and the new boundary fence is being installed.



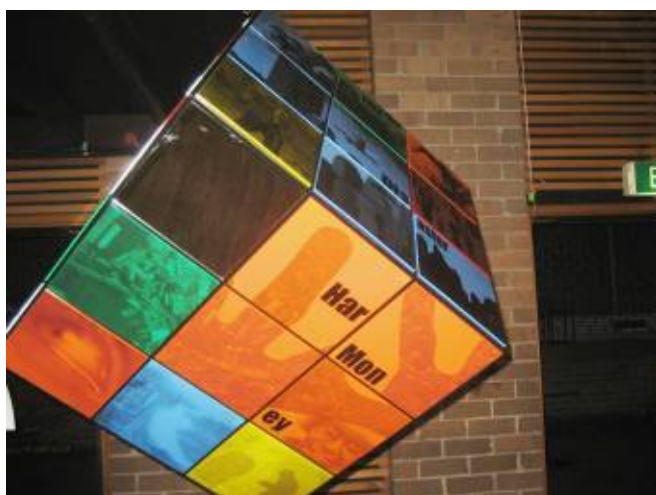
YEAR 10 REMINDER

Important reminder to Year 10 students – your Subject Selection Evening will be held on Wednesday, 27 August (Week 6) at 7:00 pm in the Hall. It is important that all students with a parent/caregiver attend this evening.

HSC BODY OF WORK DISPLAY

Year 12 students displayed their HSC Visual Arts Bodies of Work in the Hall in Week 3. As always, parents, staff and students were treated to an impressive display of artistic talent, a wide range of

genres and a group of relieved and tired Year 12 students!



BEP NEWS

On Friday, 23 July, **Lilli Woolaston** (Year 9), **Anthea Kakaroubas** (Year 11) and myself were put in a taxi and driven to the Holy Spirit Croydon. The Holy Spirit is an aged care facility in the Catholic Health System. Lilli, Anthea and I played at the dedication of their new flagpole. This flagpole was donated by the Enfield-Croydon Park RSL sub-branch because many of their members reside there. We played *Abide with Me*, *Oh God Our Help in Ages Past* and the national anthem. Afterwards we were given afternoon tea. We were much appreciated.

Evie Buckley, Year 9

On Sunday, 27 July the members of the Junior Concert Band played at the NSW Band Festival, and were awarded a Silver Award. They also won an achievement award in the form of a \$100 voucher which they immediately spent on a copy of the Theme from Wallis and Grommit, which they look forward to playing at their next public engagement.

Simon Bartlett

On behalf of the students that attended Sandakan service on Sunday, 3 August to represent Burwood GHS, a special thank you. My thanks to Mrs Thrussell for being band mother for this event.

Elaine Browne

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: Stage Band - Dance to be held at Wests Sports Club, Queen St, Croydon, on Saturday, 6 September, 7:30 pm. Bookings through Mrs Browne, 9747 3355 - \$12 pp or \$100 for a table of 10.

MATHS & ENGINEERING REPORT

This term, three Year 8 students, **Leah Emmanuel**, **Zoe Vivic** and **Adriana Music** spent any free time they had designing and building a bridge. This was for a competition sponsored by Connell Wagner to celebrate Engineering Week.

On Wednesday, 6 August they took their bridge to Powerhouse Museum for the big "weigh-in". These students had to comply with strict building codes and use only designated materials. Students from all over NSW attended, proudly showing off their bridges which were of all shapes and sizes. Some more aesthetic than others.

Each of the bridges was then tested by a panel of experts. The bridge which could hold the maximum weight was the winner. The BGHS bridge held 27.2 kg, other schools had bridges which held 4 kg, 10 kg and up to 56 kg. So congratulations to our three bridge builders on their great effort!

Lynne Openshaw, Mathematics Faculty



FEEDBACK FROM PARENT SURVEYS

Thank you to all the parents who answered our surveys at Parent/Teacher/Student evenings in Semester 1.

In the Year 7 survey it was reassuring to know that 99% of parents felt that their daughters had made successful transitions from Year 6 and were happy to be enrolled at Burwood Girls HS. 77% of parents were satisfied with the amount of homework issued and comments reflected that some parents felt there was too much, and some too little.

The Years 8/9/10 survey reconfirmed that parents strongly support the school's uniform policy and follow-up for attendance issues. Areas that could be improved include communication from the school and clarifying the roles and responsibilities of members of the welfare team. 38% of parents were interested in attending a workshop with the Police Liaison Officer on cyberbullying, and this will be organised during

Semester 2. We also gathered useful information on parents with interests, skills or professions that could be used to enhance the learning of our students.

Year 11 parents provided feedback that 82% felt the new and improved subject selection process last year was useful. We will be implementing these new strategies again in 2008, including interviewing every student and holding a Drop-In Evening (personalised counselling for families).

Year 12 parents were concerned about their daughters' ability to cope with the pressures of the HSC – only 65% felt their daughter was coping well with time management and 53% felt she was coping well with stress management. In response, the school implemented a series of HSC Success workshops for Year 12 students providing guidance and advice from a range of teachers.

In all year groups we have seen a steady increase over the years of the number of parents accessing our website. In 2008 it is 56% in Year 7, 48% in Years 8/9/10, 51% in Year 11 and 37% in Year 12. We are conscious of the fact that the website needs more work and we are trying to make it as informative and useful to families as possible.

Karyn O'Brien, Relieving Principal

P&C MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 20 AUGUST

NOTE NEW TIME: The P&C Meeting will be held in Room 27 at 7:15 pm on Wednesday, 20 August.

Remember the meetings will be held in Room 27 (enter via front door of school) until further notice due to the building works around the school.

Elaine Browne, President P&C

P&C UNIFORM SHOP

Trading hours: every Tuesday, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm (students: recess and lunchtime only).
Ph: 9747 3355.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

HEARING AWARENESS WEEK 24-30 August 2008

One in six – it's more common than you think

Hearing Awareness Week brings to our attention that many people have hearing problems. The incidence of noise induced deafness is increasing, because more people are wearing iPods and listening to music through earphones for lengthy periods of time at a high level. **Remember – once you damage your hearing it never comes back.**

Tel: 02 6262 7808,

www.hearingawarenessweek.org.au,

www.deafnessforum.org.au

2008 SYDNEY REGION NETWORK PARENT FORUM

Giving parents and carers, community workers and school staff a voice in how Home and School can work **together** to support student learning. Come along... Ask your questions... Find out more... about how to support your child at school.

Wednesday, 20 August 2008, 9:30am – 2:15pm,
NSW Teachers Federation Building, 23-33 Mary

Street, Surry Hills (near Central Station). Morning tea and lunch provided. Children welcome. Five workshops available: a) What do parents want to know about school?; b) How can parents talk to their school?; c) How can parents participate in school?; d) Starting primary school; e) Starting high school.

RSVP and further information: 9582 2835 or www.sydneyr.det.nsw.edu.au

ASHFIELD COUNCIL PARENTING PROGRAM July – December 2008

FREE parenting information sessions for mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers!

Helping Your Teenager Manage Stress

Presenter: Robyn Mitchell, Centacare

Tuesday, 16 September, 7pm-9pm, Ashfield Boys

HS. Adolescence can be a particularly stressful time especially in the lead up to the HSC. This seminar will help you understand the impact of stress on the body and give you strategies to support your teen through this time.

Managing Technology: Keeping your Children Safe

Presenter: Aust. Communications & Media

Authority

Tuesday, 4 November, 7pm-9pm, Ashfield Boys HS.

The increasing use of technology can be a positive thing however there are risks associated with its use. This seminar will give you ideas about how to keep your children safe on the internet, mobile phone and with other new technology.

Other seminars available.

Bookings: Phone Ashfield Council on 9716 1844 or email camillec@ashfield.nsw.gov.au

BRING HOME A BROTHER OR A SISTER

Student Exchange Australia

In February 2009, students aged 15-18 years, from over 15 countries will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis.

Host families help provide our students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To learn more about this opportunity call Student Exchange Australia on 1300 135 331 or visit our website www.studentexchange.org.au

PLC PET SHOW – SATURDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER

Raising money for Guide Dogs NSW/ACT, 10am–3pm

A family day filled with pet competitions, food, auctions and stalls. Organised by the Year 9 students of PLC as a charity fundraiser. Please support this worthy cause. PLC, Boundary Street, Croydon.

Enquiries: 9704 5666, www.plc.nsw.edu.au