



EVENT

Burwood Girls High School Newsletter

Website: www.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au Email: burwoodg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au Tel: 9747 3355 Fax: 9744 2797

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For Your Diary

TERM 1, 2008	
FEB 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House Meetings (Monday Assembly bell times) SRC Meeting, lunchtime Year 10 Parent Info Evening, 7:00 pm, Hall
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheryl Gleave's retirement function, RSVP 9744 1060
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 9 & 10 Immunisations Sydney Region Opening of School Year, 1:00 pm P&C Meeting, 7:30 pm, Library
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SWIMMING CARNIVAL, Ashfield Pool (Years 7-12)
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly (Monday Assembly bell times)
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duke of Edinburgh meeting for Year 9 & parents, 7:00 pm, Library
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Camp School Council Meeting, 6:15 pm
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Camp Prefects Meeting lunchtime
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Camp
MAR 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRC Meeting, lunchtime Year 6 Parent Info Evening, Hall
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 11 Welfare Day
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIFEM Breakfast Year 6 Tour of the School
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly – International Women's Day (Monday Assembly bell times) Logbook Week BEP Finance Committee, 7:30 pm
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone Swimming
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day Meetings during DEAR
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prefects Meeting lunchtime
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment Free Week Event #2 distributed International Day Meetings (Assembly bell times) SRC Meeting lunchtime
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Swimming
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INTERNATIONAL DAY P&C Meeting, 7:30 pm, Library
P&C MEETINGS	
3 rd Wednesday of month, 7:30pm, Library. Next Meeting: 20 February 2008	

From the Principal...

We have had a successful start to a new year – building refurbishments well underway (gym has been demolished), more students (1063), new uniform procedures (proper black school shoes), roll call (each morning 8:45-8:55 am) and thirteen new members of staff in English, Science, Creative Arts, History and Social Sciences. Welcome to all, especially our newly appointed Deputy Principal, Janina Longman (centre, with Karyn O'Brien and Mia Kumar).



Thank you to parents for your support for our recent school meetings. The Year 11 Parent Information Evening, and Year 7 Welcome Evening were well attended. Next Monday we look forward to meeting Year 10 students and parents regarding the procedures for the School Certificate.

The Higher School Certificate results for 2007 were quite outstanding with 75 students receiving 170 merits in 39 subjects. This represented 41% of the total candidature receiving a merit. It was particularly pleasing to note that 23% of the mathematics students received a merit. In the Sydney Morning Herald, it was reported that Burwood GHS was third best performing comprehensive school. There were 56% of our students receiving Band 5 or 6 in their subjects. Four students have their projects displayed in either ArtExpress, Textiles, or Encore and six girls will receive Premier's Awards. More details of HSC and SC results will be outlined by Ann Fletcher at the next P&C Meeting on 20 February.

Look forward to seeing you there to discuss our successes.

Mia Kumar

BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO REMEMBER

LATENESS TO SCHOOL

Lateness to school is a 'problem' as students who are not present in class on time miss important learning. It is often at the start of a lesson where instructions and explanations are given and late students find it difficult to catch up. Effective learning must be the school's core business and the school must therefore establish policies and procedures to ensure that this happens. For this reason we have a policy to address student lateness to school each day.

Students must arrive at school by 8.45am for roll call. If they are 5 minutes late they can go to their roll call room and the roll can be adjusted. However, if they are late to school they will not be accepted into classrooms without a late pass from the office.

Students who arrive late to school without a letter of explanation from their parents, providing an acceptable excuse for their lateness, will be recorded as having an unexplained partial absence. If no note has been provided, students will be expected to bring a note on the following day.

When there is a legitimate bus or train problem, lateness will be recorded, however our records can be amended if parents provide a note of explanation. Parents are advised to contact the bus company if there is an ongoing issue.

Students will be closely monitored and periodically given after school detentions for 'continual lateness to school'. This also applies to Year 12 students arriving late for their first lesson of the day.

EARLY LEAVERS

If a student has to leave the school during school hours she **must bring a permission note from home and place it in the blue box in the office before 8:45 a.m.** A Deputy will consider her request and if approved will issue her with an **Authority to Leave School Early**. This authority is to be collected from the Front Office at the time of leaving school.

REQUESTING EXTENDED LEAVE

According to the DET attendance policy, applications for student leave in excess of fifteen days in a twelve month period must be considered as applications for exemption from school attendance.

Students must apply in writing to the Principal for extended leave and she will apply to the Regional Director for exemption. Please ensure you apply as soon as possible to enable this process to occur prior to leaving.

WEARING SCHOOL UNIFORM

The majority of students this year have looked wonderful in their full school uniforms.

Students must wear enclosed black leather shoes as there are safety requirements in Science Laboratories, Food Laboratories, Technology and Visual Arts rooms. **Thongs are not acceptable footwear for school.**

In an emergency, the school will accept a student out of uniform. The student is expected to:

- bring a note from a parent or a caregiver to provide an explanation
- obtain a **uniform pass** for that day

In some cases, parents will be contacted **immediately** to address the issue of an incomplete uniform. Students over 16 years of age may be sent home to change. For persistent offenders disciplinary action may be necessary if the matter does not improve.

If there are welfare issues concerning school uniform, the Head Teacher Welfare may make the necessary arrangements.

ANTI – BULLYING POLICY

All members of the school community are committed to ensuring a safe and caring environment in which the rights of others and individual differences are respected.

At Burwood Girls High School bullying and harassment will not be tolerated in any form.

The full school policy is available in a booklet form from the Head Teacher Welfare and Deputy Principals or can be accessed on the BGHS website.

MOBILE PHONES / CAMERAS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

Mobile phones/ cameras and other electronic devices such as: iPods, MP3 should not be used, heard or be seen in class.

Mobile phones and other devices are carried by students at Burwood Girls High School. It is important that students develop good mobile phone etiquette so that when they join the workforce they have developed acceptable usage habits. In order to minimise disruption to teaching and learning and confrontation between teachers and students over their use, the following will apply:

1. Mobile phones and iPods may be brought to school but they should be **switched off** and stored out of sight during school time, which includes any face to face instruction in class, assembly and afternoon detention.

Phone calls and text messaging must not occur during class time.

2. Mobile phones/cameras and iPods should not be brought into any assessment or exam situation. They may be left in bags or surrendered to the teacher in charge.
3. The school takes no responsibility for the safety or loss of mobile phones and other electronic devices.
4. As the Library is part of the school the same policy applies to mobile phones and iPods as if the student was in a classroom.
5. Students who are sick should not use mobile phones to contact parents about going home. Students must report to the front office where parents will be contacted by the school if students are too sick to remain at school.
6. If there is a family emergency we request that parents phone the school on 9747 3355 and the student will be contacted.
7. Students should NOT take photos during lessons unless it is a designated part of the lesson.

If you have any issues or questions please contact either Karyn O'Brien (Years 7, 9 & 11) or Janina Longman (Years 8, 10 & 12)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME REPORT

In 2007 the students involved in the DEAS were busy moving along at their own pace, as is part of the philosophy of the award scheme. I would like to thank Mrs Kumar for her support for the scheme during 2007. She is interested in and assists the program to run by arranging for staff to go on walks and helping solve problems that arise.

Another congratulation to Lucy Johnston who achieved her Gold Award last May and was presented with her Gold certificate at Government House by the NSW Governor, Dr Marie Bashir.

The Bronze participants were challenged in the adventurous journey section in 2007 as they had to battle inclement weather on several camps. These adverse conditions taught the girls that goal setting and good preparation are vital elements in being successful. The obvious, 'well we're just not there yet' also helps to spur them up the never-ending steep mountain.

This year I am on a year's leave from teaching but intend to run the DEAS at Burwood GHS with the help of the wonderful Ms Samantha Grech. There will be a meeting for parents and interested girls of Year 9 on Tuesday, 26 February, to explain what the Duke of Edinburgh is all about. The meeting will commence at 7:00 pm in the School Library.

Jennie Campbell

ARTEXPRESS SUCCESS

Congratulations go to **Hannah Fenton** of Year 12 2007 whose artwork was selected for the ArtExpress Exhibition at the College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales. ArtExpress showcases the best works from the HSC Visual Arts examination. Selection for ArtExpress is a fine achievement as only 270 works are chosen from 9000 submissions.

Hannah's work "Where Will the Children Play?" is a vivid orange and black painting with a strong environmental theme.

Hannah has generously given the work to the school on a long term loan, so it will soon be on exhibition for all to enjoy in the main school building.

We wish Hannah every success in her future studies at Sydney College of the Arts.



Michelle Kals, Head Teacher Creative Arts

YEAR 11 JINDABYNE CAMP 2008!

Deposits are being accepted at the school office for the Year 11 Jindabyne Camp. Deposits need to be paid to the school office **before Thursday 28 February** so that the school can secure its booking for this year's camp.

Deposits may be made by cash, credit card or cheque payable to Burwood Girls High School. Credit Card payment may be made by phone to the office, on **9747 3355 ext. 114**.

The Jindabyne Camp Information Brochure is available online at the school website **www.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au** at the School Information page.

John van Leeuwen



TOURNAMENT OF MINDS

As part of its gifted and talented program, Burwood Girls will again be entering teams in the Australia-wide Tournament of Minds competition. This is a competition in problem solving and lateral thinking for Year 7 to 10 students. Last year the school entered two teams both of which performed exceptionally well with one of the teams being awarded Tournament Honours.

The competition provides students with the opportunity to participate in creative activities involving stimulating open-ended challenges and experimentation. It is about learning and developing as an individual within a team structure.

Students will have the opportunity to compete in the following disciplines: Language Literature; Social Sciences; Maths Engineering and Applied Technology.

Teams are made of seven students from years 7-10. Training for the competition will begin this term and final team selections will take place at the end of the term 2.

All students are welcome to participate and try out for team selection. Meetings will be announced through the Daily Announcements during Roll Call.

Jurate Janavicius, English Faculty

BIG NIGHT OUT

This annual concert is always a fantastic night's entertainment for parents and friends – everyone's welcome! Come along and enjoy performances by the talented staff of BGHS Music Department.

Proceeds to assist the Burwood Ensemble Program

Date: Tuesday, 25 March 2008, 7:30pm

Venue: Ermyrn Krippner Hall, Burwood GHS

Tickets: Adults \$18, Concession \$12, Families \$45 - available at the door or ring 9747 3355 for bookings

P&C MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY

The P&C extend a special invitation to all parents, especially parents of Year 7, to attend our first P&C Meeting for 2008, to be held in the Library at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, 20 February. Focus on 'Values'.

This is your information evening – meet the executive of the P&C and see what the P&C do within the school. Also, the principal and other staff members will be in attendance and available to answer any questions you may have. We will also be presenting our HSC results from 2007. A light supper will be served.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Elaine Browne, President P&C

P&C UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop has resumed normal trading hours: every Tuesday, 9 am – 3 pm (students: recess and lunchtime only). Ph: 9747 3355.

WELCOME

Welcome to our new exchange students.



Hanna Seemann (Germany)
Ana Zajd (Argentina)

NOTES FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Car Park: The car park at the front of the school (Queen Street) is a staff car park. Parents are asked to please refrain from entering this car park unless arrangements are made with the office (eg. collecting a sick child, attending an interview). Students are also to avoid walking the length of this car park due to high volumes of traffic, for safety reasons. Please enter the school by the end gate near the Music rooms or the Cheltenham Rd gate near the English Staffroom.

Wet weather: Students are reminded that they must sit outside during recess and lunch in fine weather. Students are only allowed to sit inside the corridors when it is raining.

Running late? Parents: if you are aware your child is away or coming late to school, please phone the school on 9747 3355 before 9:15 am to let us know (or fax 9744 2797).

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CELLO LESSONS

Cello lessons are available from Burwood GHS during and after school hours. Cellos available for hire. Contact Luda: 9387 4836, 0412 189 714.

COFFEE AND PRAYER NIGHT

Wednesday, 27 February, 2008, 7:30pm – 9pm.
An invitation to all parents and teachers of BGHS for a night of great coffee and prayer for school.
80 Acton St, Croydon. Contact: Mrs Ev Aguilera (Year 8 parent), Mob. 0419 626 481 or mrsev@bigpond.net.au

MANAGING CONFLICT FOR COUPLES

Relationship Australia is leading this 4 week course on Tuesday evenings at Drummoyne Community Centre starting 19 February 2008. The course will help couples develop new and more effective ways of communicating with each other and dealing with difficulties. If interested please phone 9719-8102.

DRUMMOYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The DCC has a wide range of classes/programs for adults and children in Term 1 2008, eg The Triple P Parenting Program; Caring for Kids First Aid Course; The Grandparenting Group; and children's classes in Cooking, Fabric Fun, and Children's Art. Visit www.dcc.org.au to see what is available, or phone 9719-8102.

BURWOOD SOCCER CLUB

Join us in 2008!

Burwood Soccer Club invites girls aged 13-16 to play soccer with us in 2008.

We are a friendly, community club with a track record of success. We are **your** local club. If you are interested please email us or contact our women's coordinator Lesley Furneaux-Cook (details on website). We will be having grading sessions at Blair Park on Feb 17 and 24, Queen St, Croydon. The season starts April 6. For updates and more details about the club go to www.burwoodsoccerclub.asn.au or email us on inquiries@burwoodsoccerclub.asn.au.



Jindy is great!! (see page 3)