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## Burwood Girls High School Newsletter

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Vol. 8, Issue 5, 17 August 2009

### For Your Diary

TERM 3, 2009	
<b>AUG</b> 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SRC Meeting, lunchtime</li> <li>• Trial HSC exams commence (conclude 28 August)</li> </ul>
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNSW Mathematics Competition</li> <li>• P&amp;C Meeting, 7:15pm, Library</li> </ul>
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 Vaccinations</li> </ul>
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSC Speaking: French/Indonesian Extension</li> </ul>
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textiles HSC Major Works due</li> <li>• Year 11 Jindabyne trip (one week)</li> <li>• Expanding Horizons Concert, Sydney Opera House</li> </ul>
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 11 Options 2010 booklets distributed</li> </ul>
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIELD STUDY DAY</li> <li>• Year 11 return from Jindabyne</li> <li>• Last day of Trial HSC exams</li> </ul>
31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evacuation Practice Week</li> <li>• ASSEMBLY – Band</li> <li>• SRC Meeting, lunchtime</li> <li>• Year 10 into 11 Subject Selection Evening</li> </ul>
<b>SEP</b> 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 Interviews</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 Interviews</li> <li>• School Council Meeting</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 Interviews</li> <li>• CHS Athletics</li> <li>• Year 8 Welfare Day</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 Interviews</li> <li>• CHS Athletics</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSC Speaking: Italian Continuers</li> </ul>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 into 11 subject forms due</li> <li>• Prefects Meeting, lunchtime</li> </ul>
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSC Speaking: Italian Extension/ Japanese Beginners</li> </ul>
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASSEMBLY – Band</li> <li>• SRC Meeting, lunchtime</li> <li>• Event #6 distributed</li> <li>• Year 8 into 9 Subject Selections Evening</li> </ul>
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 7 Vaccinations</li> </ul>
<b>P&amp;C MEETINGS</b>	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month, 7:15 pm, Library.	
Next Meetings: 19 August, 16 September	

### From the Principal...

Term 3 began with a flourish. All staff involved in technology training on the first day. Since then our school is preparing for wireless technology, delivery of laptops for Year 9 (scheduled 24 August) and the appointment of a technology support officer. Our technology Head Teacher, Jeff Stubbs, is on leave this term and Fiona Diakos has taken on the role and responsibilities. She is providing excellent advice and support.



Term 3 is also a significant one for our Year 12 students who are preparing for their Trial HSC exams. Everyone has been delighted with the quality of Year 12 practical work demonstrated in Drama, Dance, Visual

Arts, Music, Society & Culture and Textiles & Design. The enthusiasm, energy and dedication shown in their major works has been outstanding. We all wish Year 12 students an excellent completion to their studies this term and remind everyone that the Graduation takes place on 30 September.

Term 3 has also seen successful outcomes in sport. Last Thursday our soccer team earned their place in the finals. Well done!

Congratulations to all students who have made such significant contributions already this term. Some of these successes will be shown at the next P&C Meeting on 19 August. Special feature "Samoa 2009" in the School Library (parking off Cheltenham Road).



*Mia Kumar*

## SAMOA 2009

The July school holidays were sundrenched and tropical for 33 students and six staff members who participated in the Society and Culture / International Studies Study Tour to Samoa. To complement their lessons in Intercultural Communication and Cultural Tourism, the girls spent a week with local families on the traditional island of Savai'i, totally immersing themselves in the local culture and learning all about life in a collectivist community.

Initially, there were four days at Aggie Greys in the capital, Apia, and the last two nights were at Le Vasa, a beautiful tourist resort, so they could make the comparisons necessary for the HSC component, Social and Cultural Continuity and Change. We visited two schools, Loto Taumafai for children with special needs, and also, Tuasivi College, with whom Burwood Girls has had a sister school relationship for ten years. Both of these days were full of very happy and emotional experiences.

There were many opportunities to develop winter tans at the palm fringed beaches and natural waterfalls, but all the girls say that the best times by far were when they were with their Samoan families. All the girls who went are to be congratulated on their tremendous sense of fun and adventure, their cooperative nature and most of all, on the wonderful manner in which they represented Burwood Girls High School.

*Patrice Simpson, Head Teacher Social Sciences*



*More wonderful photos from the Samoan cultural tour on the back page. Special feature at P&C 19 August also.*

## YOUNG EINSTEINS SHINE AT BURWOOD

More than 200 Burwood students again demonstrated a high level of understanding in Science when they participated in the Australasian Schools Science Competition during last term.

Competition results were received at the beginning of Term 3, and individual performance assessments and certificates have been distributed to students who entered the competition.

This year, 56 Burwood Girls High School students received Credit Certificates and eight students received Distinction Awards for their outstanding performance in the competition. These students were **Samantha Russell, Sarah Said-Smith, Ella Williams, Sylvia He** and **Lucinda Fretwell** from Year 7, **Yvonne Chow** from Year 8, **Lucy Li** and **Lucy Tremain** from Year 9.



Year 9 students have also recently received the results of the ESSA (Essential Secondary Science Assessment) Test which students completed while in Year 8 in November of last year. ESSA results were posted directly to parents from the DET. In addition, the school has posted performance information it received from the ESSA test to parents of Year 9 students.

*John van Leeuwen, Head Teacher Science*

## YEAR 8 CHINATOWN EXCURSION

On 18 June 2009, 35 eager Year 8 students from the two Chinese classes visited the bustling streets of Chinatown. Accompanied by Ms Yeung and Mr Wines, all the students walked excitedly to Burwood train station to take the train to Central. The train ride was particularly enjoyable as everyone had their own private conversations, practising their Chinese of course. Nothing was heard but the chattering of us talkative girls.

Arriving at Central, the roll was marked but everyone could not keep their enthusiasm bottled up. The names of girls were often blurred into the continuous conversations. At last, the roll was marked and we set foot out into the streets of the city. Our first destination was the Chinese Gardens.

At the Chinese Gardens, everyone almost scattered immediately, after a few group photos. Girls

went off to every corner of the gardens to explore the traditional Chinese beauty of the many plants on display. Unfortunately, our excitement was stopped short as the weather was not on our side. It began to pour. Some girls did not mind the rain, whilst others found covered shelter to settle for a while. In awe, many students admired the graceful ripples made in the ponds by the raindrops. Eventually the rain eased and everyone was back to work, trying hard to complete the assigned question booklets given.

The time at the Chinese Gardens soon ended as we had to make our way together to the Marigold Chinese Restaurant for a delicious lunch of Yum Cha. Rushing into the lifts, we flew into the restaurant and quickly took our reserved seats. In an instant, plates upon plates of steaming food were delivered onto the tables' lazy susans. The food that we were offered was steamed dim sims, buns, noodle stir fry and some special Chinese delicacies, for example, marinated chicken feet. The enjoyable meal was followed by a treat dessert. Mango Pancakes! Everyone had a wonderful time as our once empty stomachs were filled with the many flavours of Chinese Yum Cha dishes.

Concluding Year 8's field study day, we were dismissed from the restaurant to explore and learn more about Chinatown. The sights, sounds and smells of the various interesting shops, laneways, restaurants and other establishments fascinated us as we finally completed the questions in our booklets. Of course, we all did our bit for the economy of Chinatown, buying little Chinese trinkets to take home, and snacks to devour – even though we had eaten our fill at Marigold, somehow our tummies were still tempted ...

The time eventually came for us to make our way back to Burwood. Walking to Central Station once again, the train ride home was filled with laughter and recaps of the day. Arriving at Burwood, the roll was marked and the students who had given in their permission slips to leave from the station were dismissed, with the others continuing their chatter on the walk back to school.

Year 8 Chinese enjoyed the field study day very much, with thanks to Ms Yeung and Mr Wines. We hope to visit Chinatown as a group again.

*By Alexandra Vassilevski and Celeste Ly*



## **TOURNAMENT OF MINDS**

As part of its gifted and talented program, Burwood Girls will again be entering teams in the Australasian Pacific Tournament of Minds competition. This competition provides students with the opportunity to participate in creative activities involving stimulating open-ended challenges which demand experimentation and reward divergent thinking. It is about learning and developing as an individual within a team structure.

This year, two teams made up of students from Years 7 to 10, will be representing the school in the competition. This will be held on August 29 at Sydney Girls High.

The team members are:

**Blue Team - Lucy Skillen, Lisa Feng, Niamh Kyriacou, Remy Keldoulis, Jessica Mudiliar, Ella Williams and Lucy Wilcken.**

**Gold Team - Annabelle Young, Deniz Emul, Ta-Seen Monzoor, Jaimee Lai, Lucinda Fretwell, Georgia Mason and Anneka Jolly.**

*Jurate Janavicius, TOM Coordinator*



**BLUE TEAM**



**GOLD TEAM**

## **EXPANDING HORIZONS CONCERT**

Burwood Girls have been given the opportunity to participate in the *Expanding Horizons Gala Concert* which is being held at the Sydney Opera House on Monday 24 August. This concert will bring together

200 students from China and hundreds of students from schools around the inner west. We have 20 girls who will represent us in the mass choir and our school's dance group is one of only two dance groups selected to perform at this prestigious event. Both groups have been working hard rehearsing and it promises to be a spectacular concert.

If you would like to attend this concert tickets are selling fast and are only available from the Sydney Opera House Box Office on 9250 7777. It will be an amazing spectacle and one not to be missed.

*Janina Longman, Deputy Principal*

## PREFECTS REPORT

2009 had a great start, with our prefects being involved in many activities such as helping out on Year 6 Information Night, attending and hosting our very own afternoon tea and organizing successful events such as the Year 7/8 Disco. Being Term 3 already, all the building and construction in our school is almost finished with our school looking better than ever.

The money raised from Year 7/8 Disco will be donated through childhood to sponsor a 9 year old child, Felismina, in Angola. The money will provide for her health, schooling/education, sanitation and basic necessities of her community and herself for two years.

The Year 12 study room has been fully furnished and completed. Many thanks to our captains, **Rebecca Tong, Rui Dai** and **Liana Paolino** for all their hard work and dedication. The Year 12 study room is the captain's project and it is a great legacy which they leave for all future Year 12 students.

We wish the Year 12s well for their upcoming HSC Trials and expect some kick-butt results! We also wish Year 11 well for their Preliminary exams in Week 8.

On 21 September, Ms Urbano (Prefects Coordinator) and our captains will be attending Jesse St National Women's Library Luncheon.

We look forward to continuing work within our school community.

*Shalaka Parekh, Year 11 Prefect*

## YEAR 8 FRENCH FIELD STUDY DAY

The French classes started the day in the computer rooms, using the Quirky Comics program and playing French computer games. Then we were very happy when the teachers organized a taste testing of French food. We ate croissants, Camembert cheese, blue cheese and pâté. We all liked it very much. After that we made posters on French subjects, for example Coco Chanel, Asterix and Obelix, French products and the French alphabet. All our posters were beautiful and we hung them on the walls. After lunch we watched "Asterix and Obelix Against Caesar". The movie was very entertaining and very funny and we laughed a lot. We had a very enjoyable day. All the Year 8 French students would like to thank our teachers, Ms Barr and Ms Maroc.

*By Freya Ashton, Year 8 French*

## YEAR 8 INDONESIAN FIELD STUDY DAY

Field Study Day was a day to remember. Even though we weren't going outside for the day, we were lucky enough to be inside where we were protected from the rain and the cold winds.

We started off the day with a relaxing activity which was painting our very own Indonesian style masks. The end results were very colourful, and we got to take them home afterwards.



In the second session the Indonesian Cultural Attache, Pak Dhanny, Siobhan the English-Indonesian translator, and four dancers came to lead a session on Indonesian dance and music. They came in full dance costumes, performed different regional dances, and taught us some of the movements.



We took some time to get the steps right but it was fun. Then we had mi goreng with ayam (fried noodles with chicken) for lunch, delivered by Indonesian caterers.

We ended the day with an Indonesian movie about teenage love. Relaxing with a cup of Bali coffee, a sweet sensation in one hand, I doubt that there are any more coffee haters. Thank you, Ms Gray, for a memorable day.

*By Juliana Masina & Trish Kellcurcy, Yr.8 Indonesian*

## YEAR 8 ITALIAN FIELD STUDY DAY

On Field Study Day, 18 June, the Year 8 Italian classes took a trip to the Italian Forum on Norton Street, Leichhardt. Before we left we watched an Italian movie called 'Iris' and then discussed how Italians contributed to our society.

At the Forum we went to an Italian restaurant called La Giara. There the friendly waitresses served us garlic bread, Penne al Sugo, tortellini Boscaiola, cheesy Margherita pizza and soft drink. After our

stomachs were filled with divine Italian cuisine we headed out to the Forum. We explored the Forum for five minutes then headed back to school. Even though the weather was cold and rainy the good food made up for it. We enjoyed our day out.

*By Raisa Mushrafi, Claudine-Jayne Serrado, Katrina Piercy, Demi Veris, Year 8 Italian*

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### WHAT ARE OUR ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS FOR?

Being part of our thriving and stylish Senior Band, or indeed any ensemble, involves these three levels of preparation.

1. **Private preparation** of one's own part; perhaps with assistance from one's private instrumental teacher, and certainly involving thoughtful analysis, learning and practice at home.
2. **Sectional rehearsals** allow us to bring this private work together to play with other members of our section. Focus at this point should be on unity of approach to each piece, balance between different parts of the section and the production of a whole, balanced, well tuned and resonant tone throughout the different parts of each piece.
3. Finally, in the weekly **band rehearsal** we bring all sections together to ensure a unity of stylistic interpretation for each different piece of music and well balanced, accurate and well integrated ensemble playing as a whole.

Therefore, it may surprise many band members, but a conductor should not be teaching ensemble members their parts! Rehearsal is not the time for the learning of parts. The job of the conductor is to ensure all parts fit well together, to ensure that the sound of the group is balanced and rich, to provide a stylistic overview of each piece that will provide for the unity and clarity of each different piece in its performance. The role of a rehearsal is to find out how one's part fits with others and to modify one's already accurate playing to contribute to the greater whole that's produced by every individual's combined preparation.

Please help our conductors by organising regular private practice time for band music!

*Glenn Armitage, BEP Director*

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### WESTS ASHFIELD CDSE GRANTS GENEROUSLY AWARDED TO BURWOOD ENSEMBLE PROGRAM

Wests Ashfield has awarded the Burwood Ensemble Program two generous grants this year through the clubs NSW Community Development and Support scheme. The first grant is for the purchase of brass instruments and the second is to support the production of the Inner West Festival of Bands which is scheduled for November this year.

Mrs Browne took our senior clarinet trio, **Indigo Elliott-Phibbs, Meladie Cao** and **Michelle Sverdlhoff-Bruer**, to play for the presentation ceremony at Ashfield Infants home on 10 August. Indigo accepted the cheques on behalf of the program from our MP Ms Virginia Judge. The afternoon tea was also a generous and sweet affair and the fact that the event was hosted by ex-weatherman Mike Bailey was a treat.

*Diana Springford, BEP Tutor*

### SANDAKAN MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday, 2 August, the BGHS Senior Concert Band assembled in Burwood Park to perform at the Sandakan Memorial Service. This ceremony acknowledges those who suffered in the Sandakan Death Marches in Borneo that took place in World War Two. Prayers and speeches were made in their honour, wreaths were laid in remembrance and one of our trumpet players did a great job of performing the Last Post. The band played before and after the ceremony, as people arrived and left, and also performed the National Anthem during the service. The band sounded great and it was a pleasure to perform as such an important event.

*By Lily Tansey, Year 10*

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### TOPS AT STANWELL TOPS

The DET's Arts Unit held a Senior Music Camp for 280 young musicians and singers from high schools all over the state. The camp is held at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre which is an enormous and very pleasant and comfortable location. They arrived on Saturday afternoon, July 4 and had their closing concert on Thursday night, 9 July.

They were divided into groups according to their instruments, ability and orchestras. There were skilled tutors for each group. There were various sport and recreational activities available as well.

Seven girls from BGHS successfully auditioned for the camp and one of them, **Jemma Thrussell**, Year 10, one of the 12 cellists chosen, was appointed Principal Cellist.

It is a very stimulating and exciting time, as well as working with new and challenging music they make friends from all over NSW.

The finale for the concert was excerpts from Sir William Walton's oratorio, *Belshazzars Feast*, a mega-choral work, which was a demanding challenge for the orchestra and vocalists.

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### SOCCER WIN!!

Congratulations to the BGHS Knockout Opens Soccer Team in a great 1-0 win against Kelso High School (Bathurst) on Thursday 13 August. The goal was scored by **Freya Hickey**, from a fantastic corner kick executed by **Maree Patikas**.

All the girls played exceptionally well and are looking forward to maintaining their winning streak in the Finals. The final knockout game will be held in Week 5.

We wish the girls all the best.

*PDHPE Staff*

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### GRADE/RECREATIONAL SPORT SELECTIONS

As of Term 4, all sport information, including sport selection, costs and permission note, will be placed on the school's website.

Please ensure that you and your daughter check the list before each term.

*Janelle Gianotti, Sport Coordinator*

**CAREERS NEWS**

Don't forget to check the school's website to get the latest information from institutes including universities, TAFE, private providers and industry. Included on the website is an up to date calendar of upcoming careers events.

*Hugo Floriani, Careers Adviser*

**P&C MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 19 AUGUST**

Our next meeting is Wednesday, 19 August, 7:15 pm in the Library. Special feature "Samoa 2009". All welcome. Parking available off Cheltenham Road.

*Elaine Browne, President P&C*

**P&C UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform Shop's trading hours: every Tuesday, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm (students: before school, recess and lunchtime only).

*Elaine Browne, Manager*

**FROM THE FRONT OFFICE  
ATTENDANCE**

- Notes for student absences must be handed in **within seven days**. Failure to comply with this DET requirement will result in a student's absence being recorded (permanently) as "unexplained/unjustified".
- Parents wishing to apply for extended leave for their daughter must make the request to the principal in writing at least one month prior to the leave.

**Accounts**

Student accounts have been sent out for the term and you should receive them in the mail shortly.

- If there are any discrepancies in your account please contact me on 9747 3355 (ext 114).
- If you are having any financial difficulties please contact Mrs Maroc, Head Teacher Welfare, to arrange to pay in installments or to receive some assistance.
- If you are an overseas fee paying student please return your account to me.

*Bronwyn Hatzis, Office Manager*

**More photos from Samoa 2009**

