



BLACKWATTLE BAY CAMPUS

# Bay Side

## September 2017 Issue

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### Upcoming Events – Term 4

October 9-10	Year 12 Learning Conference
October 11	College SRC Meeting
October 16 – November 7	HSC Examinations
October 18	Bligh Zone Touch
October 23	Parent Teacher Student Report Interviews 4.30-7pm
November 8	Year 12 Sign-out Day

## Principal's Report

We are almost at the end of our busiest term and Graduation is upon us. Our Year 12 Farewell Assembly held a couple of weeks ago was a lovely occasion. Year 11 did a wonderful job hosting the event and paid tribute to the four outgoing school leaders: Imogen Biggins, Deaglin Godwin, Isobel Barry and Lucas Knight. These leaders have been highly involved in the organisation of school events and their strong work ethic and commitment has been greatly appreciated by both the staff and students. They have been excellent role models and are well liked and respected by both Year 11 and Year 12. Our newly elected school leaders: Davy Chung, Zofia Francis, Minna Kilpelainen and Liam Bourke are waiting in the wings ready to assume their leadership roles next term. Their first responsibility will be to welcome the new Year 12 cohort to the Learning Conference organised for the first two days next term. I am looking forward to working with our new leaders and to hearing their plans for improving our school.

### Year 11 Exams, Interviews and Subject Changes

Exams are almost over for Year 11 and staff are busy marking and finalising end of course marks. I have been impressed with the serious attitude the students have shown both in the lead up to and during their first formal exam period. Parents will be receiving Academic Statements online from 5pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October, via the Parent Portal.

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held on Monday October 23 from 4.30pm. Interview bookings will be available for parents to access first week back. Students will be advised of the process for changing their pattern of study from 12 Units to 10 Units in Week One, during the Learning Conference.



### Music In The Park

It is always a delight to join colleagues, students and parents from our three campuses for the annual Music in the Park spectacular held at Pioneers Memorial Park in Leichhardt. This year some 230 performers took to the stage to wow the audience with familiar tunes and jazz classics. These occasions provide us with a wonderful opportunity to show off the amazing talents of our students and to meet and get to know prospective parents who are enrolling next year.

Congratulations to our IMP director Mark Stevens and his team of expert music tutors who put in so much time and effort to get our students to performance standard.

It is hard to believe the term is at an end. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their wonderful work and to wish everyone a very happy and well deserved holiday.

Sharon Roberts

Principal

# *The SRC Report*

## *Annual Winter Sleepout 2017*

Our students, including year 11 and year 12 SRC members, contributed to our annual Winter Sleepout event which was held to raise awareness and money for homeless youth. Money raised was donated to the Wayside Chapel.

Thirty students came to school between 5 and 7pm to participate. Ten students met Mr Mansfield in the school kitchens and made delicious chicken, vegetable and roast pumpkin soup. All of the soup was devoured by the group along with cups of Milo, tea and coffee.

Mr Hockey, the school chaplain, who has been working tirelessly for decades to provide support to disadvantaged youth and their families in the Inner West community, came to address the students. Everyone was respectfully attentive and learnt a lot from Mr Hockey.

After failed attempts to stream an episode of channel 10's show *"The Bachelor"* on the big screen, students participated in team building games, including Mafia and card games and enjoyed compelling modern history stories delivered by Ms Hawkin.



Above: Becky and Minna prep for dinner.



Above: Team building games continue way past the teachers' bed time.

The question “shall we turn off the lights?” was asked at 1:45am and everyone eventually settled into their niches in the library. Thank you to all the students who packed up the library the next morning and also to those students who helped prepare and cook the food and clean the kitchens.

Thank you very much to Ms Roberts, Ms Phair and Ms Hawkin who attended, to Mr Hockey for coming between 7 and 8:45pm and Mr Pascoe in the library for letting us sleep there. Everyone had a great night.

The school would like to acknowledge *Coles Broadway* for generously donating a \$50 gift card for us to buy food and *Bakers Delight Glebe* for generously donating 50 bread rolls.

Thanks again everyone for your support.

## ***Farewell to our Year 12 SRC***

In week 8 Year 11 SRC (school representative council, student leadership) members purchased food and threw year 12 SRC members a farewell party to celebrate the conclusion of their educational studies and their pursuit of life outside of high school.

We all wish year the year 12 SRC members the very best for the future and would like to acknowledge the hard work, commitment, generosity and time they’ve given over the last year and a half. The SRC has contributed to special events as the *Wear It Purple* assembly, *White Ribbon* assembly, *Splendour at the Bay*, *Diversity Day*, *Taster Week*, fundraising mufti days, pizza fundraising days, *Winter Sleepout*, *Jeans for Genes* day and representing college SRC events at Balmain and Leichhardt campuses.

I would like to especially thank Rebecca Flint and Suugloria Tun for being our SRC presidents and social media correspondents and Tim Owe-Young for being our SRC secretary. All three students were very reliable and we are all very proud of the commitment and positive attitudes they displayed whilst running the fortnightly meetings. Without their help we wouldn't have had such successful meetings, communicated topics of importance to students in our school and wider community or emailed out minutes and kept track of deadlines.

Ms Phair and I would like to wish all Year 12s the very best of luck for their HSC studies, during their exams and life after high school. Once again, you are all reliable, respectful and fine young adults.

Many thanks,

**Mr Mansfield**



Above: most of the Year 12 and Year 11 SRC members.



# Japanese Cultural Tour Group Visit

On Friday September 15 our Year 12 students studying Japanese were lucky to experience a cultural visit from Ehime Japanese University in Shikoku. We started off the day with our students giving the Japanese students a school tour. The Japanese students were impressed by the amazing city surrounds and by the variety of subjects offered at our campus.



Following the school tour we began our morning tea picnic together, where we sat on the grass lawn and students served up all sorts of “typically Australian” foods, including lamingtons, vegemite sandwiches, Tim Tams and Anzac biscuits! We also had some amazing home-made foods. Lily Fletcher made a lemon meringue pie, Patty Mai made pizza, Glittika Gerdmanee made two different types of brownies and Lucas Knight’s mum made yummy sushi!



It was so much fun meeting the Japanese university students and chatting with them about their lives in Japan. The Japanese students also enjoyed finding out about the lives of our Australian students. After our morning tea Blackwattle Bay students and the students from Japan enjoyed a game of soccer. We had such beautiful, warm, weather and the students built up a real sweat!

The second part of our time together was spent in the Japanese classroom; Glittika did a lovely musical performance for us, singing a Japanese song and playing her guitar. Lucas and Finlay Strom did presentations on Australia and cultural differences between Australia and Japan. The Japanese students thoroughly enjoyed our hospitality and the entertainment provided.



Thank you to all our students and their families who helped provide food, drinks and their time for this wonderful cultural exchange to successfully take place. We look forward to many more interesting cultural visits in the future.

**Joanna Goodman**



## *HSC Music Success*

A big congratulations to the Music 1, Music 2 and Extension Music students who successfully completed their practical and musicology HSC Examinations in weeks 8 and 9. All students demonstrated maturity and control of their nerves to complete their programs. The examiners commented on the polite attitude of all our students.

A big thank you to all the accompanists and the Jazz Ensemble for your efforts in supporting our students.





# Year 12 VET Student Achievement

On Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of September, Lachlan Paterson and Miss Natalie Szymanski attended the Southern Sydney Business Education Network (SSBEN) VET Excellence Awards breakfast at Bonnie Doon Golf Club, Pagewood. SSBEN provides opportunities for students who study VET courses to practise the skills learnt at school or TAFE as part of their Higher School Certificate. These courses provide students with a national qualification under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).

The event aims to recognise and acknowledge the outstanding commitment and achievements of students, teachers and employers participating in the Structured Workplace Learning Program. Lachlan has been a dedicated student at Blackwattle Bay since 2015 and has been enrolled in several Vocational Education and Training courses including Hospitality, Business Services and Information Digital Technology.

Lachlan was the only student on the day to receive an award for two VET subjects (Business Services and Information Digital Technology). The delicious breakfast overlooking the golf course was a perfect way to celebrate the efforts of our outstanding student with a bright future ahead of him. Congratulations Lachlan!





# STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK

## Learning Collaboratively

We are all different in the way we prefer to learn. Some students like to work in groups, and others prefer to work alone. Some students like to discuss things over Skype or messenger and some like to work together in person. There is a reason why we have the saying “two heads are better than one”, so let’s see how this applies to different types of students.

*If you think you always prefer to work alone:*

- It is great that you are very self-sufficient. Students who prefer to work alone are often confident in their own abilities. However sometimes these students make it more difficult for themselves by not asking for help when they need it. So if you are this type of student, don’t struggle on alone when you get into difficulties or don’t understand something. Being able to ask for help when you need it is an important skill for academic success. Just become more aware that you don’t always ask for help and instead try reaching out a little more when you need help.
- The other area to consider is that when you talk about things with other people it can often help you to see things from a different perspective. By discussing ideas with another person, you also may find you clarify your own thoughts. By not being open to collaboration, you might not develop your ideas as well as you could or you might not see potential issues that a fresh pair of eyes and ears might discover. If you haven’t done much collaboration, give it a try and you might find yourself surprised at how valuable you find the experience.

*If you already love working with other people:*

- Make sure that you always contribute equally and don’t expect other people to do all the work for you.
- Collaboration doesn’t mean cheating. For example, it is ok to discuss an assignment and what you think it is about and how you might approach it, but it is not ok to write the assignment together and hand in similar pieces of work.

- Collaboration also doesn't mean wasting time. If you are working with other people make sure you are staying on task and not getting distracted.
- Every now and then you have to do things on your own. If you always do your Maths homework with your friends, you might not really know what you can and can't do on your own. The first time you find this out could be a test which could be a big issue. Always ask yourself if the work you are doing is going to be enhanced by collaboration or if it is more appropriate to try the work on your own.
- It is important each night to have a certain amount of homework time on your own. If you want to collaborate when you are working at home, make specific times to do this. Don't skype the entire night with your friends. Instead have set times for collaboration and set times for independent work.

You and your parents can learn more about group work skills at

[www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)

by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units.

**Username: SSCBlackwattlebay**

**Password: 56achieve**

## *Wear it Purple Day*

In case you missed the photos full of purple, Wear It Purple Day took place on Friday 27th of August. Wear It Purple Day is a significant day for the LGBTQI+ community, helping to raise awareness and money for the mental health problems of young LGBTQI+ people as well as acting as a show of support and solidarity for those who aren't a part of the community.

To celebrate the day, we had a wonderful assembly, with purple streamers and balloons turning the hall into an exciting burst of colour. Thanks to Mr Pascoe, the Year 11 Year Advisor and school Librarian, we all had the opportunity to listen to the inspiring speeches from two famous homosexual and transsexual celebrities, Catherine McGregor and Matthew Mitcham. It was amazing to hear both of their stories and advice for the future, as well as Matthew's rendition of *Somewhere over the Rainbow*. Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Tanya Plibersek also provided some encouraging and thoughtful words.

At lunch, our students were able to dance along to some great tunes provided by celebrity DJ Victoria Anthony. All in all, it was a truly fabulous day, topped off by an amazing Black Forest Cake that our students were able to share with our special guests. Thank you again to the amazing Mr Pascoe as well as the SRC, who after a sleepless night at the School Sleepover, decorated the hall.

**Deaglan Godwin**  
**Year 12 School Leader**





