



Bankstown Senior College

Newsletter

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Inside this issue:

Principal's Report	1
Deputy Principals' Reports	2
English Report	3
Careers Advisor/Library Report	4
Welfare Report	5
Pitt Water High School Excursion	7
Archies	7
Body of Work	8
Visual Arts	9
Year 12 Graduation and Formal	10 13
Sculptures by the Sea Excursions	14 15
EFS	15
Coffee Course	15
Science Report	15
Year 11 construction Report	16
Digital Literacy Project	16 17
RTP Report	18 20
Transition Team	20
Past Student's Visit	21
SRC Report	21
Clark Island Excursion	22
Canberra Excursion	23

From the Principal

It is with great pleasure that I write this report for the last newsletter of the year. As we come to the end of another year of learning and achieving I continue to be impressed with the friendliness and supportiveness of both students and staff. Bankstown Senior College is a great place to teach and learn. Our core belief is that students can achieve growth in their personal learning no matter who they are, where they come from and what their educational experience has been.

If you read these newsletters carefully, you might think the above paragraph looks very familiar. It does and for a good reason. It enunciates my beliefs about this College and the vision that we share for our students, one of personal growth and 'value-added' in education. We have not swerved from this vision in the six years that I have been Principal. It underpins our planning, our use of financial and human resources and the everyday management of the College.

In any enterprise, it is a good thing to stop from time to time and take stock of our progress – to ascertain how successful we have been and to use that information to help us plan for the future. 2016 provided an important opportunity for the College to do just that. Part of the Department of Education's self-assessment process for all government schools consists of the School Excellence Framework, which we complete each year. Each school measures their progress against fourteen elements, which are grouped under the domains of Learning, Teaching and Leading – our core business as a school. Once in a five year cycle, schools undergo an external validation, when a panel of peer Principals look at all the evidence used to complete the School Excellence Framework and 'validate'

the school's judgement as to their progress.

Our College underwent this process in Term 3 this year. It gave us an excellent opportunity to look very carefully at the direction our College is taking, and the evidence we had gathered to support our analysis of progress.. The College Planning team took leadership of the process along with the College executive staff. A huge amount of data was provided by staff, which could be used as evidence in the process. Although time-consuming, the experience was extremely valuable. We took the time to look closely at our data, to ascertain its usefulness and then to use it as a basis for future goal setting. The Panel were very impressed with the evidence presented, and thanked us for the opportunity to hear the story of our school. The Convenor describes us as 'weaving Quality Teaching and wellbeing in a culture of trust, giving students their 'best chance'. The College was rated excellent in seven of the fourteen elements across all domains and sustaining and growing in the others. I feel this gives us a fine basis for future planning and development in 2017 and beyond.

I would like to take this public opportunity to thank the two Deputy Principals, Mrs Byron and Mrs Gardiner for their support and extremely hard work during the Validation process, along with all the staff who sourced evidence for the panel. A special thank you to Mr Culligan, the Learning Support team coordinator, who did all the technological part of the process.

Anne Doyle



From the Deputy Principals

As I look back on the College year, I would like to take this opportunity to make some observations about the diverse nature of our College and why I believe that Bankstown Senior College is a wonderful place to learn, teach and achieve one's personal best.

At Bankstown Senior College:

- We are unique in that we have students (and staff) from a wide range of ages, backgrounds and educational experiences who work for and with each other in an adult learning environment.
- We accept and celebrate our differences while we focus on what keeps us together as one.
- We embrace the 'Australian' qualities of acceptance, tolerance and the belief that everybody deserves a 'fair go'. We look out for each other and support each other in a supportive and constructive manner
- We celebrate success in whatever form it takes, from improvement in English to doing well in the HSC to competing in sporting challenges against other colleges. We acknowledge that success is different for each individual!
- We care for others, whether they be our classmates, staff or our many visitors to the school
- We participate in a wide range of programs which lead to further learning or the world of work. We are supported to "have a go" without fear of failure. We realise that the only way to learn is to try.
- We accept that sometimes we make mistakes but that's ok because we know that we learn and grow from these setbacks.

These things and so much more are what make us an outstanding college community, and we should continue to recognise and celebrate our existing qualities and strengths whilst striving for improvement and excellence in everything we do in the future.

Congratulations to all those students and staff who have worked to the best of their ability throughout 2016. The effort and teamwork you have shown is bound to set you in good stead for a successful 2017 and beyond. The end of the year is always a good time to reflect on our goals and reaffirm our future plans. I hope that every member of our college community can look back on 2016 and honestly say that they gave their best, helped others to be their best and were led by the best of intentions. If you can do this then 2016 has been a successful year! If not, then it is back to the drawing board and thinking about how you can be the best version of yourself in 2017.

In conclusion, to those students and staff leaving us this year, I wish you all the best for the future. For

those returning in 2017 (staff and students), have a safe and restful holiday, you deserve it!

I look forward to seeing you in 2017, ready for another year of celebrating growth and achievement and working towards excellence in all aspects of college life.

Sharon Byron

Deputy Principal J. Gardiner

Term 4 has been very busy at Bankstown Senior College. Year 12 students have finally completed their Higher School Certificate exams. Hopefully they were able to use the study skills and strategies they learned from Elevate Education and Learning Support lessons to maximise their marks. They celebrated the end of their HSC journey with a wonderful formal dinner at L'Aqua restaurant overlooking Darling Harbour. I attended this event and would like to commend Ms Aravanis and her team, Ms Pandelis (Year Advisor), and the students from the SRC for organising such a fabulous evening. The students all looked amazing in their formal dresses and suits and a lot of fun was had by all. The students were even partying all the way home on the bus!

Year 11 has started their HSC journey with the 'Elevate' study skills program. The first session called 'Study Sensei' covered skills such as note-taking, working consistently, conceptual learning and standing out from the crowd. It provided students with a road-map for what work they need to be doing over the next year and how to go about doing it. The students felt that this was a valuable program as it gave them some practical ideas and the motivation to kick-start their HSC study program. One student wrote; "You get an E for EXCELLENT! If you know how to raise the power and potential within the younger society, you sure have elevated us."

Year 10 students have been incredibly busy developing their employability skills this term. The students learned how to apply for a job, create a cover letter and resume and practise their personal presentation and interview skills through the Authentic Project. This project involved students applying these skills in a real interview situation where they applied for an advertised job and faced an interview panel of employers from relevant industries. Although this was a daunting experience, it gave the students valuable practice at developing their interview skills. Ms Dokmanovic was very proud of our Yr 10 students and the panel of employers were very impressed with the positive attitudes of our students and the quality of their applications. The RTP program has also helped to develop the employability skills of students through the provision of short courses and workshops such as the Coffee Making (Barista) course, the RSA and RCG courses and the Waiter and Bar Skills course.



The Connected Outcomes Group (COG) with Year 10 students has been highly successful this year. The students were involved in a Project Based Learning opportunity where they had the opportunity to present their ICT projects at Macquarie University. The students were excellent representatives of the College and the teachers were very proud of their efforts. Year 10 PREP students were also involved in connected outcomes programs this term. The Dance group are learning new moves and having a lot of fun and the Creating Chances program is developing teamwork skills through the boys and girls lunchtime soccer games.

There were so many exciting activities and excursions offered to students this term and there are still more to look forward to. These include gymnastics workshops, practical concreting tasks, as well as visits to the movies, Sculptures by the Sea, Pittwater High, Clark Island and various universities. Macquarie Mentoring staff and students are very excited about their overnight excursion to Australia's capital city, Canberra which will be a fabulous learning experience for those students. We are also all very much looking forward to being entertained and inspired at the sensational BSC Talent Showcase and most importantly we celebrate student academic success at the annual Presentation Evening where students are recognised for their outstanding achievements in 2016.

To Year 12 students, good luck in your future endeavours and to everyone else, we hope to see you all back again next year. Have a safe and relaxing holiday.

English/EAL/D Report

As another year comes to an end, the English/EAL/D faculty would like to reflect on the many achievements and events that took place.

Year 12 students made it! They completed their HSC and their results will definitely reflect their effort over the past two years. On behalf of the English/ EALD teachers of Year 12 2015-16, I would like to wish every Year 12 student all the very best in the future. They will be making many 'discoveries' in their life and the skills they have gained through the study of English will be invaluable in their ability to communicate critically and articulately.

The Preliminary English courses are also completed and congratulations to the many students who achieved their best in the final exams. We know that the Fundamentals of English course undertaken by so many of our students in Year 11 will have added to their skills in being able to complete all other courses. The HSC English courses have begun and so have the assessments, so I strongly advise all students to be aware of when assessment tasks are due so

that they have plenty of time to prepare for them and complete them on time. Assessment tasks determine rank, and this is extremely important when considering an ATAR. English Studies students enjoyed an authentic assessment task involving the excursion to the movies as part of their study of film.

Year 10 continue their learning this term with extensive work on essay writing and an introduction to Shakespeare, which will involve a brief study of the play "Romeo and Juliet". This is a great opportunity for students to experience theatre written over 450 years ago.

During Term 3, Year 10 spent a day creating a short film, with amazing results. Working in small groups, students were able to create a Claymation, complete with sound effects and music. The faculty and students acknowledge and are grateful to the Refugee Transition Program for funding this very worthwhile event and allowing the students to experience authentic learning.



Preparation students continued with their study of English, where students were provided with an opportunity to experience Stage 5 outcomes. This year the Area of Study focus was Relationships and all Preparation students were able to complete assessments in the 4 important language modes. We look forward to seeing these students next year in Year 10 or 11 in our English courses. This term we also welcomed our Prep W Transition class, who completed a COG based on Community.

EFS students completed their CSWE modules and worked hard to achieve the outcomes. Despite their limited English skills, many students attended regularly and put maximum effort into their learning, resulting in greatly improved ability to communicate in speaking, listening, reading and writing English. The excursion to Sculptures by the Sea was an excellent opportunity for our students to explore even more of what Australia has to offer. We are grateful to the Refugee Transition Program and the organisation of Ms Pascalis for making such an event possible.

So many exciting experiences take place each year in the English/EAL/D faculty and I would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work done by all of the staff in this faculty.

Maria Georgiou
Head Teacher English/EAL/D



Year 10 Creating Future Pathways Day

On Wednesday 2 November 2016 a series of guest speakers from a variety of organisations visited Bankstown Senior College. The Tiered Learning Space facilitated our guests and Year 10 became better informed on possible future pathway options available to them as they navigate their way through their senior years of study.

It is vital that Year 10 is prepared to make the correct subject selections for Years 11 and 12 and that they are working towards their future goals. They became better connected with The University of Wollongong who are opening a new campus in Liverpool for 2017. UOW have a College base where students can do Foundation Studies and Diplomas before they embark on more rigorous university study. One student in Year 10 Sara Yai Elia Noha Dada is leaving us to take up this option. She will begin a FREE University Access Program beginning in November 2017 for 14 weeks and then will automatically enter her first year of University doing a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Wollongong Liverpool Campus. We congratulate Sara for taking this possibly life changing opportunity.

One of the Nurse Educators: Joanne Prior came across from Bankstown Hospital with whom we have strong links. Joanne has been delivering the VET Human Services Certificate III in Nursing Assistance course for many years and some of our students on completion of this course have gained employment either at Bankstown, Liverpool or Fairfield Hospital. Joanne informed Year 10 about the type of work involved in Nursing and students gained a better insight about possible job prospects from her informative talk.

Other guests were The Australian career Business College, The University of Notre Dame and TAFE NSW. ACBC provided a dynamic speaker Destiny who focused on the point of difference about her College. This college offers Diploma courses with a strong work experience component. Gaining skills and being work ready set this College apart from many and they also expect students to wear a uniform which prepares the student focus on a professional attitude to study and work. Amelia spoke about Notre Dame which is a university where the application is direct and not through UAC. Notre Dame also have a strong focus and success rate with employment on completion.

Nikki Heald did a talk on Interview and Presentation Skills so that Year 10 is prepared for their Authentic Project Interview Day on Tuesday 22 November 2017. Students engaged with Nikki and listened attentively. Year 10 are developing confidence through the knowledge they have gained from this invaluable experience and will hopefully be able to put this into practice and enjoy their interview experience.

Bankstown Senior College through its vast array of programs across all faculty areas strive to give students as many varied experiences in order to better prepare them for their future studies and employment prospects.

Careers Adviser
Divna Dokmanovic

Book week in the Library

In term 3, teachers, staff and students celebrated book week in the library. The theme for 2016 is Australia as a country or land of stories. There were displays featuring a big map of Australia, books written by Australian authors and information about people who have made this country great. A highlight of the week was when Miss Doyle spoke to students in EFS 2B about the importance of reading and her favourite authors, and then read a story out loud.



Principal Anne Doyle reading a book in the college library

An activity that the students, teachers and staff found particularly enjoyable was the short documentaries that were played in the library. These documentaries compiled by the Sydney Morning Herald for its 175th anniversary featured a number of stories about how the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge were built, among other things. Thanks also to Ms Pandelis for reading so beautifully to the students one lunch time.

Library Reading Surveys

Over the course of 2016, the BSC library compiled information from two surveys about the reading habits of students and teachers here at BSC. The surveys were handed out by Mentor teachers and completed by teachers and students. Some interesting findings from the first survey were as follows. The number of students who agreed that it is possible to enjoy reading and learn something new at the same time was 92. The number of students who enjoy reading in English was 97. A good skill to use, when reading a book, is to think about its cover, the title and the summary on the back cover, before beginning to



read the book. Eighty-six students agreed with this. Some interesting findings from survey two were: the amount of students and teachers who felt that our library has a good variety of books to choose from was 57. If the library purchased a range of e-books and e-audio-books to read or listen to 57 stated that yes they would use them, and 55 stated that yes they would use them sometimes. For 22 students and teachers, Bankstown city library is their preferred library after that of BSC. The genre that the most teachers and students like is romance – 49.

The findings from the surveys will be a big help and make the library collections more responsive to the needs of everyone here at BSC. Thank you to all who distributed the surveys and filled them out.

Geoff Lowe

Wellbeing at BSC

During the year Bankstown Senior College has offered students many opportunities to foster and develop their wellbeing. The college runs a daily Mentor program which focuses on attendance as well as running wellbeing programs. During term 3 the Mentor sessions focused on motivation, overcoming procrastinating, good study habits and organisational skills. The HSC and Preliminary students participated in an Elevate program in preparation for their examinations. This term the Mentor program is focusing on personal health, keeping fit, good eating habits, positive relationships, domestic violence and safe partying. As part of fostering the wellbeing of our students the college also organises incursions. Last term the college invited Brainstorm Productions to run programs on cyber bullying and overcoming depression. Both productions were valued by the students as they were a great educational tool. Our college aims to support our students emotionally, mentally, spiritually and intellectually.



The college is always seeking ways to encourage our students to become more responsible and to be safe. Year 10 students participated in a B- Street Smart program encouraging the road safety for our students. The college invited The Corner Youth from Bankstown to encourage and educate our Year 11 students on consent and relationships.

The college is a very caring place and is conscious of the welfare of our students. This year The Breakfast Club ran for 15 weeks and provided over two thousand breakfast meals for our students. Breakfast Club was very popular during the winter months as it provided a great opportunity for students to socialise in the morning and have a substantial and nutritious breakfast ready for the school day ahead.





The wellbeing of our students is also supported by our annual Wellness Day, a day filled with a mini expo, a free BBQ and afternoon activities for all the students and staff. The mini expo provided our students with valuable resources from external agencies and local providers. Students were able to seek information on legal issues, housing, tutoring, medical issues, depression and much more. The BBQ lunch was enjoyed by all and the activities were enjoyed as many played cricket, volleyball, novelty games, chess, beading and painting with water colours. The feedback from the day was positive as students commented on the college being a great place.

The key to the success of the college is the creation and maintenance of an inclusive, supportive and accommodating environment where students can find a sense of belonging and flourish.

Niki Skourtis



Participants organisations on Wellness Day



Students Collecting information



Many activities took place on Wellness Day



BSC Students NETWORKING with other Schools

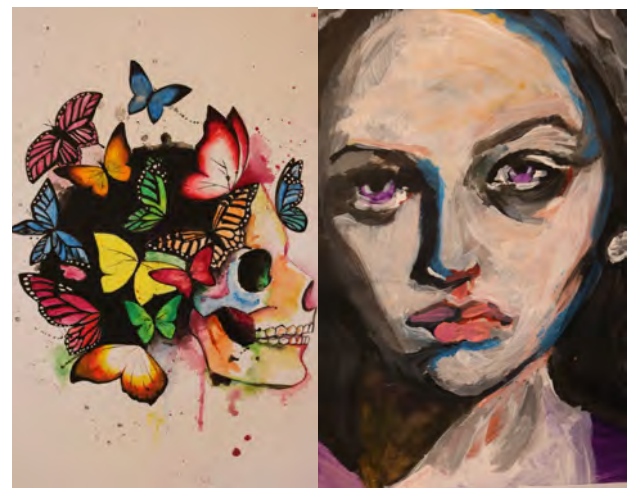
BSC students attended Pitt Water High School as part of a global empathy program. Many different schools attended and discussed global issues and how students can become ambassadors.

It was a rewarding day as we immersed in deep discussion and networked with other students.



Archies at BSC

Our annual Archies exhibition was well represented by both IEC and BSC students. The foyer of the college was brightened up with the submitted portraits in painting, drawing, and digital technology. Congratulations to all the students who participated and to the finalists. We hope to run this competition next year in 2017 and look forward to even more submissions.



BSC Archies Entries



HSC Body of Work

Visual Arts this year offered many opportunities for students to explore both two and three dimensional art making practice. The Year 12 students worked within a variety of expressive forms ranging from drawing, painting, collection of works and sculpture. The HSC Body of Works this year were very interesting in their choice of subject as students expressed their ideas and experiences on their personal journeys as refugees, their cultural backgrounds, their interests, gender and identity and subjects from nature.



Shazia Ali



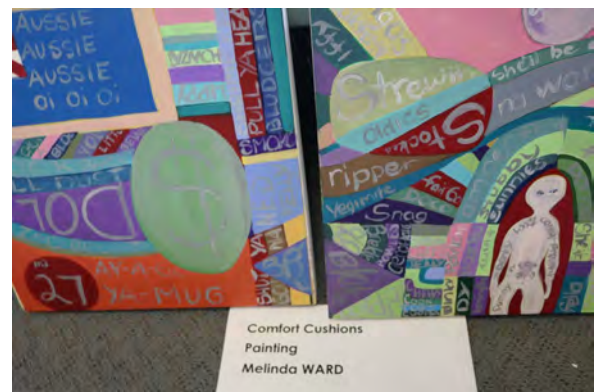
My Hao



Reza Iemanirad



Vaylira Kayvex



Melinda Ward



Caren Gibson



Marwah Abbas



Visual Arts at BSC

Both Year 10 and Year 11 students were offered many opportunities to experiment with a variety of media and produced many creative artworks. Ceramics was very popular as the class filled up very quickly. Students were engaged with hand building large forms and created impressive sculptural forms. Photography was also very popular with Mr Culligan joining the team, and teaching the class, sharing his photographic skills.



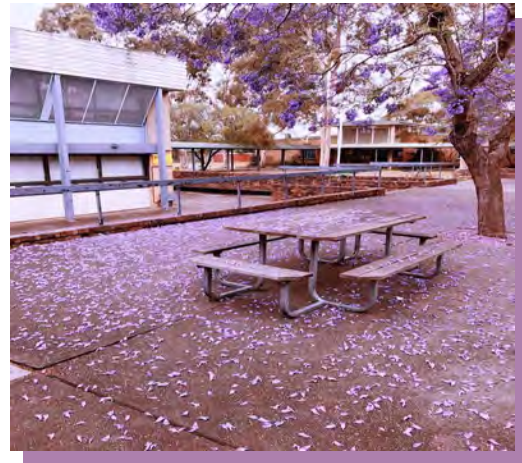
Year 10 and Year 11 Students Work



Field of Purple

The Jacaranda trees are carpeting the quadrangle in a royal purple, adding a special feeling of success in the College. The purple petal carpet leads the way to the Library and Learning Centre, where students and staff alike work to achieve truly Royal marks. As the year comes to a close graduating students from all years focus on the future.

Best wishes and good luck to all. Take a well earned break until the college reopens in January next year to help educate the new influx of eager students.





CONGRATULATIONS



CLASS

OF 2016



Congratulations to the Class of 2016!

The Year 12 Graduation was a very meaningful and emotional College ceremony and celebration. We recognised some outstanding achievements praising every individual in the class of 2016 for different strengths and talents. A mammoth event of this nature requires weeks of preparation by countless members of College staff. We sincerely thank and praise the efforts of key staff for making it the great success that it was. Members of staff worked well beyond their call of duty and they were well supported by other staff who worked hard quietly unnoticed. The key speakers, Ms Pandelis, the Year Advisor and Ms Byron, the Deputy Principal addressed the student/parent forum delivering some powerful messages about study, work and life ahead. In the final part of her speech, Ms Byron appropriately quoted Dr Seuss whose words were simple, colourful, didactic and accessible to our students-

***You're off to Great Places! Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting! So...get on your way!***

Ms Pangelis





YEAR 12 FORMAL 2016





Sculptures by the Sea - Year 10 excursion

Tuesday 25th October was our excursion to Bondi to visit the 20th annual exhibition of Sculpture by the sea. The weather was beautiful which made the outlook over the water perfect with the sun shining. We met the tour guide at St Marks Park and she filled our heads with lots of information about the various sculptures. We had the opportunity to discuss our opinions as to what we saw in the sculptures, as we all see different things in the sculptures. Many of the sculptures are made by international artists and are from 16 various countries as well as many Australian artists.

The sculptures are made from many different materials such as stainless steel, bronze, clay, stringy bark, glass, bamboo, powder coated steel, local flowers and grass. The size of the sculptures varied from small to large. Some of the sculptures were very heavy and had to be lifted in with special machinery for the exhibition.

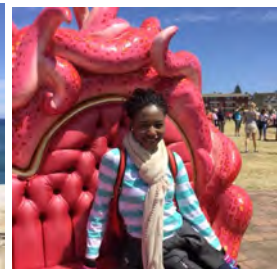
We saw beauty, unusual objects, weird sculptures, geometrical sculptures and even sculptures made from waste recycling products. Everybody enjoyed having their photo taken with the stunning Coast in the background. A few people had tired feet from the walking done during the day.

On the bus on the way home many students were singing together showing the good mood of the day.

Ms Holloway



Staff and students at Bondi Beach



Sculptures by the Sea

Year 11 Visual Arts excursion

On Tuesday 25 October at 9 am, Year 11 Visual Arts and Year 10 Maths students visited the "Sculptures by the Sea" at Bondi Beach. Luckily the weather was perfect, with a gentle, cool breeze to help everyone relax and enjoy the day. Each sculpture was uniquely conceptual and abstract. It engaged with the audience and was crafted with advanced skill and wit. Artists confronted the audience with their sculptures. The unconventional works captivated the viewers on the day. We ended our long, tiring journey with a heavy heart and a gleeful smile towards the sea-side gallery as seen in our photographs.

By Sarah Ahmed and Sara Kim



An excursion to the Sculptures by the Sea

On Wednesday, the 2nd of November 2016 EFS classes and I went for an excursion to visit the Sculptures by the sea in Bondi.

First, we met at the cafeteria. Then, about 8:30 am the bus took us from the school to Bondi. After, about 10:00 am we arrived in Bondi. Next, we walked from the bus zone to the Sculptures. When we got there we saw amazing sculptures, took many photos and selfies. About 11:00 am we ate some lunch. After lunch, we went with a guide who explained what each sculpture meant. Finally, about 1 pm we walked back to the bus zone then the bus took us from Bondi to school. We arrived at school about 2:45 pm.

We liked the excursion because we had lots of fun and we learnt new things. Everyone was happy and we had a wonderful day!

By Alaa

Learning Outside and Inside the Classroom

EFS2A, Ms Ginis and Mrs Pandelis combined reciprocal reading, understanding formatted texts and some practical work when they made oombleck. Cornflour, salt and water make oombleck which is hard when pressure is put on it but a fluid when there is no pressure. We all enjoyed ourselves.



Coffee Course

In this course, we learn to practice the art of coffee making as well as appreciating the effort that goes into brewing the perfect cup of coffee. It is all in the minute details that makes the coffee rich. For us beginners, it was a difficult task pouring the steamed milk to make a beautiful leaf pattern. But the instructor was very patient with us and let us try again until we got the presentation right. Students not only learn the ways in making coffee, but



also the proper protocols in dealing with things hygienically. The course also offers responsible service of alcohol skills, where students are required to execute certain scenarios on how to turn away a customer when he/she is intoxicated. Presenting the scenarios were hilariously fun, especially for the other person playing the drunk patron. Establishing a bond with the teachers made the course very enjoyable. They showed professionalism and kindness towards us and most importantly, patience.

Scientific Passion Rewarded

A year 11 student Gia Hau Tran recently received the Victor Chang Cardiac Institute award, at a special ceremony which took place at Bankstown. The award recognises gifted year 11 science students with a passion for scientific discovery and encourages the pursuit of a career in science.



Gia joined other students from schools across the region who also received awards. Ms Bauer, Science Head Teacher from the College, watched as Gia went on stage to receive his award. The science faculty is very proud of Gia, as is the entire college. We all hope he continues his dedication and that the award inspires him to a wonderful future in the area of Science and Medicine. Congratulations from the entire college community!



Annual Presentation Night

Tuesday 6 December 2016

6PM - 7:30 PM

Please be seated by 5:45 PM

Bankstown Senior College Hall



Year 11 Construction Report

This year the students worked towards achieving competencies both at school as well as in the workplace. After consultation with the BIEC, Mr Ram and his class came up with a design brief to concrete two areas around the IEC. They managed to calculate, pour and level the required area within the time frame and budget. Students learnt invaluable skills in measurement, aesthetics and environmental constraints. Mr Kametopoulos was very happy with the quality of workmanship and teamwork by the students.

In 2017 the students will focus on constructing a pergola outside the IEC.



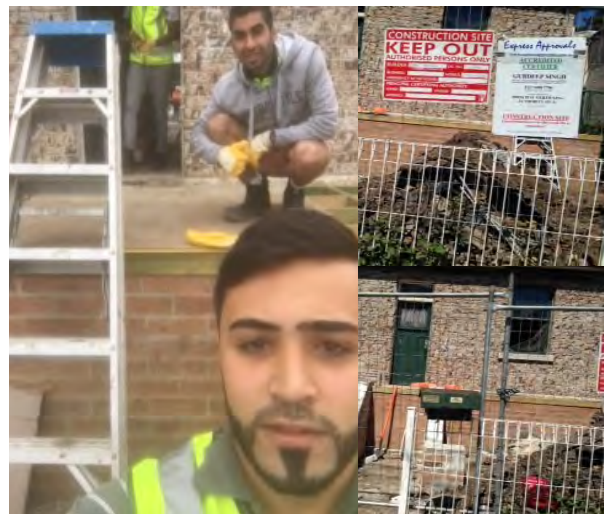
Preparation for pouring slab



Levelling concrete slab



Celebrating the completion of project with Ms Doyle



Ssam and Fraiden at workplace in Petersham

All students in Year 11 successfully completed their 35 hours of work placement at various sites.

Macquarie University Digital Literacy Project (PBL)

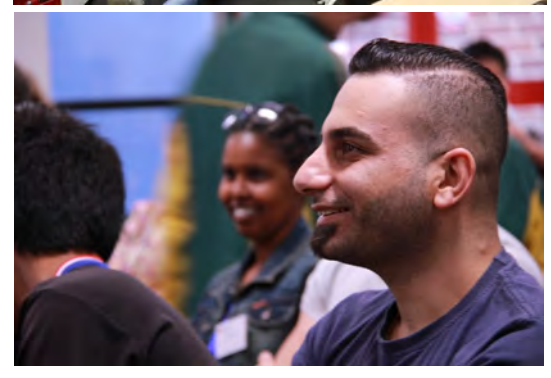
Earlier this year teachers at BSC were approached by the Macquarie University to take part in a Digital Literacy Pilot Project through PBL.

Project based learning involves both staff and students working collaboratively together with other schools in the region to complete a project. The students in Class 10B worked on producing resources depicting war titled "In the Trenches". Our college collaborated with Granville Boys' High School. On the 16th of November, students presented their project to a wide audience, including the staff involved in "Widening Participation Unit" within the Innovation Centre at Macquarie University. Ms Sethi, Mr Niazi, Ms Bauer and Mr Hicks worked very hard to make sure that all students were working in their groups to showcase their ICT skills using PowerPoint, iMovie and Excel Spreadsheets. Students not only excelled in public speaking, they gained confidence in carrying out research using authentic sources, gathering and planning their information, seeking feedback and improving their finished projects.

The project Leader, Raewyn Burden is coming to BSC to complete her indepth evaluation of the pilot project next week.

The students in 10B class celebrated their success by having lunch with Ms Doyle and Mrs Byron.

Ms Meissner



Digital Literacy presentation Day



COMMITTED TO SHARE HIS MUSIC SKILLS WITH THE COMMUNITY

During the school holidays September/October B Bpi and Rami Suleiman were invited by Settlement Services International to perform at a large Youth Community Kitchen event in Auburn. Unfortunately Rami was sick on the day, so Bpi organised for a newly arrived student at the Bankstown IEC to join in the performance. Bpi and his friend were joined by two other Karen young people, one of whom is an ex-student of Bankstown Senior College and a Youth worker at ADSi Auburn. At the end of October B Bpi was once again invited by Settlement Services International to perform. This time was in Sydney at a major national event organised by the "Welcome to Australia" organisation. Bpi was the opening performing number to the "Walking Together" Sydney event.

For his community service commitments Ms Doyle has nominated Bpi for "The Jason Clare MP, 2016 Community Service Awards, Bankstown.



Bpi at "Walking Together" Sydney

Performance at the Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood

The 'Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood' project is a joint community education initiative of the Auburn community. The project involved creating a simulated 'refugee camp' in the grounds of the Auburn Centre for Community from 1 - 12 August 2016. This is the third year the project has taken place. On Saturday 6 August 2016, a cold but sunny winter day, Mrs Rahimi and Mrs Brunet and her son met Bpi at the 'Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood', in Auburn. Bpi was a successful applicant in performing on the day in two different occasions. Bpi enchanted the audience by singing in his native language, Karen, and in English. Dressed in traditional Karen clothes and accompanied by his guitar, Bpi performed a song he used to sing often in the refugee camp in Thailand where he grew up, a song that tells about

the daily struggles and the dreams of a better life. In English Bpi sang a song of hope and he dedicated this positive song to Ms Lisa Fajou, his Music teacher. Bpi made us all proud with his singing and for the way he interacted with the young audience, keen to learn more about how to play guitar.



Bpi at "Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood"
Auburn Community Centre

STARTTS helping BSC look good

Thanks to STARTTS and their excellent ongoing initiatives, RTP has been able to offer 15 of our female students in the EFS and Prep courses a 7 week course on grooming. The course is called *I am beautiful* and it has been offering some great practical advice to students about managing their hair and make-up. This has been an excellent learning experience to make students aware of their appearance and presentation. It has helped to build their confidence and self-esteem.

Students were presented with a complimentary, colourful and useful grooming kit to help them pamper themselves.

From week to week, there have been a variety of guest speakers who have visited to present and focus on hair and make-up. We are very grateful to Georgia Lethbridge and Lina Ishu who have arranged for this very worthwhile program offered for free to our College and our students. We also thank Mrs Harwood and Mrs Rahimi for their availability during the course. We look forward to more exciting short courses offered to us by STARTTS for 2017.

H Brunet & M Pascalis





Make-up and Hair styling course

This course took place at Bankstown Senior College for students from Prep and EFS to learn how to put make-up on and also how we can make different types of hairstyles.

On the first day of the course, we met new teachers who taught us how to do different types of hairstyles. They taught us just 2 periods per fortnight. Then we talked about ourselves to know each other better. Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet organized this course for us.

After 2 weeks, we had a make-up course and it ran for 4 weeks, 2 hours each week. First of all, we learned basic steps about what we needed to do. Firstly we started with cleaning the face, then applying some moisturizer. Next we must apply some primer and some concealer. The important thing is choosing a foundation colour that matches your skin tone. After that we applied foundation. We did also highlighting and contouring. For highlighting, we used a colour one or two shades brighter than our face. We put it: under our eyes, and the bridge of our nose and chin. Contouring is the opposite of Highlighting. We contoured with a colour one or two shades deeper than our base tone and we focused on: hairline, the cheekbones, jawline and neck.

To sum up, personally I learned many things on this course and also we had lots of fun. I hope everyone enjoyed this course. I want to thank Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet for organizing this course for us. Thank you very much.

Mumina Saburi PrepT



Students practising makeup on each other



WSU invitation to Bankstown campus

On 7th September, an excursion was arranged for some Year 12 students who were invited to attend a university taster experience at the Western Sydney University (WSU) Bankstown campus. Students were accompanied by Mrs Pascalis, Mrs Milgate, Mrs Rahimi and Mrs Brunet.

This was a most informative day with current tertiary students from new emerging communities speaking about their positive and challenging experiences at WSU. There were key presenters who gave an outline of course requirements, a brief outline about scholarships and a focus on an excellent Literacy movement called Sweatshop. This is a great writer's workshop program from Western Sydney which invites emerging and established writers from the region to develop their creative writing skills.

Students were taken on a walking tour of various faculties of the university to view the outstanding learning facilities. After this, there was a brief presentation acknowledging Year 10 students Rami Suleiman and Bpi who performed at a recent WSU Community Forum in July.



Beauty Builds Confidence... and Confidence Amplifies Beauty



Students at Western Sydney University



The message delivered to students on the day was that no matter how little formal education and how few qualifications you have, if you show commitment, there are countless great opportunities for you to gain a solid education which can lead you to a very promising and satisfying future.



Students and staff at WSU Bankstown Campus

We are very grateful to Oliver Maboreke, the Project officer for Engagement Education program who was the main host and organizer of this special day. His warm reception, his offer for a complimentary lunch and transport were truly appreciated. We look forward to our continued links with WSU and their upcoming projects and events.

M. Pascalis

Transitions Team

Wow! What a HUGE term! It could never be said of Bankstown Senior College that life is boring! As we reach the end of this term rich with learning experiences, the transitions team hopes that students have enjoyed the various activities as much as we have.

Our students including Prep W have been working with an external agency; Creating Chances who has been facilitating enriching tasks and activities through sport. Creating Chances has been running exciting and motivating workshops to help promote values including: positive thinking, leadership, responsibility and community to name a few.

The BSC transitions team has also been working hard to develop meaningful and relevant programs to promote the theme of "Community". Term four marks the launch of Bankstown Senior College "Building Community Values through Dance" program (BCD), a weekly interactive dance workshop in our own boutique dance studio (Dance express café) which hosts

our students who are keen and eager to learn the various hip and contemporary routines. The dance workshop also has some dedicated teachers (S. Byron, I. Hatgifotis, M. Georgiou and S. Maguire) who sacrifice their non-teaching period to come give a hand (feet). The workshop aims to promote "Australian values" of acceptance and tolerance and we hope that through dance we can build a community where everybody belongs. Enjoy the holidays, be safe and hope to see you next year...

A thought for the holidays: **"You never really lose until you quit trying."** – Unknown



Students performing Dance

Drama Activated

We, Preps, started drama a few weeks ago with the most amazing and talented Randa in the school hall. She teaches us new exciting games every week. I had so much fun playing the zombie game with my friends. We also had a great time playing the chair game and the zap game. I got to know the students in the other prep class and we got closer very quickly. At first I was so nervous to choose between drama or sport because I like them both and at the last second I chose drama because I wanted to see Randa more because she makes us laugh and excited to play the games. I like her confidence and her high energy. I would like to thank the school for this amazing opportunity.

Heather Mohsen Prept



Students performing Drama



Role Model visits the College

Past students of Bankstown Senior College return to up-date teachers about their successes. Recently **Shamiran Waddington** visited.



Shamiran used to be known as Shamiran Shiba. She was born in Iraq and escaped Iraq during the Gulf war to Syria and lived there as a humanitarian refugee for 3 years. She arrived in Australia in November 1994," I didn't know how to speak English but only knew some English words"

She started learning English at Bankstown IEC in February 1995 and completed 2 terms there then she was moved to year 11 at the beginning of term 3. She completed 8 units of year 11 and in 1996 was doing 3 unit Maths in the preliminary course and 8 units of year 12.

Between 1996 to 2016

She completed a:

- Diploma in Web Development
- Diploma in Networking
- University Certificate in Teaching Communicative Languages
- Certificate III in Educational Support
- 13 units of online study undergraduate degree in Information Technology (programming) but postponed due to personal reasons
- Currently studying Certificate in Makeup and Diploma of Child care

She also worked as an Educational Assistant, Web Assistant and Student Learning Support Officer.

She volunteered as a Language Teacher then managing School Administrative Officer and currently as a Language School principal.

She also develops Language Educational Books.

She is currently employed by the Department of Education and is willing to learn more skills.

Shamiran Waddington

BSC Sponsored Child

BSC has been sponsoring Claude Vyumvuhore from Burundi for a while now. Not long ago we received an update on his wellbeing. Claude is 8 years old now. We are proud to say that with our help Claude has had good health this year and attending school. His favourite subjects are Mathematics and French. He is in grade 1. He wants to become a teacher. We will continue to make Claude's dreams come true.



Leadership Day

On Friday 21st of October we felt honoured to be selected to represent the school at the Parliament House for Leadership Day. Two Year 10 students from various schools were selected to represent their school for Leadership workshop about Dignity. We really enjoyed working with other High School students.



PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Rami Suleiman and Hani Abdile

We would like to thank our amazing and wonderful members of the SRC for their excellent leadership skills and tireless efforts throughout the year, in trying to make the College a better place.

S. Ginis and Z. Miglionico



Clark Island and the Royal Botanical Gardens

It is an amazing feeling to explore some human cultures especially if it is the indigenous people of the country that you live in. Prep classes of BSC had this chance on 16 November when they went on a trip to Clark Island and met Aboriginal people with their history teacher and year adviser. **(Marwa)**

Everyone had to be in front of Hungry Jack's at Circular Quay at 9 am. Some people had breakfast and then we waited for the ferry to take us to the island. We had a fun conversation with our guide Terry on the sea. After 30 minutes we arrived. The first look we had of the island showed it is not so big and because of the king tide we couldn't see the whole island. Terry showed us how to use leaves to make a basket and a bowl. Secondly he showed us how to trap the fish in holes between rocks because when the water comes up and cover the rocks, the fishes will come in and then when the water goes down the fish will get stuck in the holes and they can be speared. **(Chris)**

When we arrived there the guide started talking about the island, the Aboriginal lifestyle and the most useful part was when he explained about the plants and how it has many different ways to use. They can get water from it, bush tucker, but what I really liked is we can make lovely stuff like baskets and hats from it. **(Marwa)**

The best thing about the Aboriginal guides is that they were friendly and they joked with us and they taught us songs, dances and some words in Aboriginal language. They talked about history and the women being the boss. **(Maher)**

We learned some Aboriginal words like "YA LO" which means thank you and "OO BA LOO" means I love you. Also, we learned about the kangaroo dance which is called "Bunda Bunda." **(Kaldoun)**

It was a wonderful day. We all were happy to see new amazing parts of Sydney and especially to hear the stories about the Aboriginal people, their life here and how they used to dance, sing and play music. And to know that listening is an important part of life for them as they didn't know how to write. **(Ramsina)**

I had an awesome day learning new things. To see and get more knowledge about Aboriginal people, to see and hear a real song and dance was great. The guide showed us how Aboriginals protect their children from dangerous things like snakes. **(Hien)**

In the Botanical Gardens we saw nice views, big trees and beautiful flowers. There were too many people and I saw a lot of joggers on this hot day and I also saw school groups who were on excursion like us. I had a fun day because I was with my friends. **(Heather)**

There were beautiful flowers in the Botanical Gardens, also a lot of big trees. I'm really interested in palms – beautiful plant. There was a large palm garden. Later on we went into a tropical room with many plants inside. That was amazing. We also had a work sheet to study. It made us get more knowledge about the Botanical Gardens's history. **(Le)**





Canberra Excursion

Students who completed the Macquarie Mentoring program over the last two years were privileged to go on an overnight excursion to Canberra during Week 7. 41 Students from EFS, Year 10, Prep and Year 11 boarded the coach early on Wednesday morning and headed enthusiastically to Canberra. For nearly all of them, it was their first time in Australia's capital city and they looked forward to two days of discovery.

The War Memorial was the first stop and it was obvious the impact that this war museum had on everyone. Students commented on the emotional impact that it had on them and it was clear that more time was needed for everyone to experience all that such a place had to offer. The wreath placed earlier in the day by the King and Queen of Jordan lay in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and students paused to remember fallen soldiers.



After this, it was a short drive to the colourful Australian National Museum, a rather contemporary collection of Australia's social artefacts. Students were able to discover what helped shape Australia, from the early days of the settlement, the wool industry and the rise of the Holden car. So impressed were most students that selfies were taken at almost every exhibit!



What better way to see the city of Canberra than from the top of Mount Ainslie! The lookout was breathtaking and students took even more selfies with this amazing view.

Weariness was soon showing and students looked forward to spending quality time with their roommates. For most of the students, this experience was very new and exciting.

Day 2 involved an extra early breakfast at 6:45am, and a visit to both Parliament Houses at 8:30 am. The steps of old Parliament House made for a great photo opportunity, while at the new Parliament House, heavy security was evident as Parliament was sitting on this day. The tour guide was very informative and explained the difference between the House of Representatives and The Senate. Pauline Hanson entered the Senate and took her seat as the guide explained what was happening. Students were made aware of the importance of the symbolism both inside and outside Parliament

House. Following this, the coach drove through the Embassy Drive, pointing out the many embassies that are in Yarralumla. Almost everyone's homeland was represented in this area.



The final venue was the Australian Mint, where students found out where Australia's coins are made. Of even greater interest was discovering the history of currency in Australia, and how it has changed over the years. The holey dollar was of great interest to all!



This excursion to Canberra was very significant and valuable for our students. It provided an important opportunity for them to extend their understanding of the Australian way of life. The huge number of photos taken by our students will help them to remember this experience forever. This excursion would not have been possible without the commitment of the current Macquarie Mentoring coordinator, Mrs Ginis, and Mrs Georgiou who has been coordinating the program since 2011. A special thank you to Mr Russell and Mr Georgiou for attending the excursion and providing support as well.





2017 CALENDAR

For your diary / notice board

Term Date:

Term 1:	Monday 30 th January - Thursday 6 th April
Term 2:	Monday 24 th April - Thursday 29 th June
Term 3:	Monday 17 th July - Thursday 21 st September
Term 4:	Monday 9 th October - Thursday 14 th December <small>TBC</small>

Classes Begin 2017:

SDD 1: Staff Return to College	Friday 27 th January 2017
Enrolment Day	Monday 30 th January 2017
HSC & Preliminary Students Return	Tuesday 31 st January 2017
Yr 10 Students Return	Wednesday 1 st February 2017
EFS Students Return	Thursday 2 nd February 2017

On behalf of the College Community I would like to wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ms Rahimi -CLO

