



# Bankstown Senior College

## Newsletter

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## From the Principal

It is with great pleasure that I write this report for the last newsletter of the year. We have had a year dedicated to personal learning – to support the growth of all students regardless of their background or educational experience. Our Intensive English Centre has supported the learning of a large group of new arrivals to our country and have provided them with a stable base from which they can grow and develop in their learning journey.

We have undergone some major change in our staff in 2017. In the wake of Mrs Gardiner being appointed substantive Deputy Principal, the position of Head Teacher Human Society and its Environment has been filled by Mrs Litsa Fedes, who comes to us with a wealth of experience. I would like to publically thank Ms Vicki Makridis, who has been filling the role so capably over the last two years. Our Head Teacher Science, Ms Margaret Bauer retired after ten years at the College, as did our much-loved Physics teacher, Mr Jean Azzi, who had been at the College for twenty seven years. They will be missed, however we wish them the best for a long and happy retirement. Mr Mark Lowndes has been successful in gaining the position of Head Teacher Science.

I would like to update you on developments in College planning over the last term. The College will have a new plan for the next three years (2018 to 2020) and much time and effort has been spent by staff in the evaluation of our present projects and the plan for implementation of new projects in the future. Executive staff completed an intensive evaluation through the Self-Assessment survey and then repeated the process with all staff. We hope to gain valuable feedback and input

from parents at our community forum meeting this term.

The new plan will concentrate on providing individualised support to students to attain their particular educational goals. Preparation for the introduction of the Minimum Literacy and Numeracy standards for students who complete the Higher School Certificate from 2020 onwards will obviously be a major focus of the College plan, along with the provision of support for students to attain employability skills. There will be a focus on students developing life skills that will support them in becoming happy, healthy productive citizens in the future. Staff continue to focus on constant improvement of their teaching practice with the help of the Performance Development framework. The achievements of our students this year would not have been possible without the constant support and hard work of our staff. The teaching staff (both College and IEC), the support staff and all administrative staff go out of their way to help students achieve their goals. We will be celebrating those achievements at the College Presentation Night on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December and I invite you all to join us for the occasion.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all staff, especially the Executive team and the two deputy Principals, Mrs Gardiner and Mrs Georgiou for their support and constant commitment to the learning of our students.

At the end of the year, students of the College will take many different paths. Some will be leaving the College for further study at university or TAFE, others will be joining the workforce and many will be coming back in 2018 to complete Year 10 or the HSC. To the students who are not returning next

year, I would like to say that irrespective of what you do in the future, we hope that you find it an advantage to proudly say that you are a graduate of Bankstown Senior College and that some of your success in life has been due to the education and support that you have received here.

Anne Doyle

## From the Deputy Principals

It has been a very busy term at Bankstown Senior College. Year 12 students have finally completed their Higher School Certificate exams, and now they are free to celebrate their successful completion of the HSC. The students and staff all had a wonderful time aboard the floating Pontoon restaurant in Sydney Harbour at their Year 12 Formal. I attended this event and would like to commend Ms Fajou and her team 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.

Year 11 have started their HSC journey with a study skills program called 'Elevate'. This program 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.

Year 10 have been incredibly busy developing their employability skills this term. Ms Dokmanovic has been teaching the students 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 involves students applying these skills in a real interview situation in which they apply for an advertised job and face an interview panel consisting of both teachers and employers from relevant industries. Although this is a daunting experience for Year 10 students, it provides them with valuable practice at developing their interview skills.

The Connected Outcomes Group (COG) with Year 10 Preparation students has also been highly successful. The students created some amazing tiny houses which they presented to IEC classes, the senior executive and other staff members. I was very impressed with the students' knowledge and understanding of environmentally sustainable practices and their newly acquired skills in model-making. Congratulations to the Prep classes and their teachers for completing such a fabulous project! The tiny house models are currently on display in the Library so be sure to have a look on your next visit.

EFS students are completing their final assessments and they are looking forward to graduating soon. Hopefully we will see you all back again next year.

Finally I would like to congratulate the newly elected School Captains, Rami Sulieman and Tiara Adeliandy and the Year 12 SRC representatives, Jamie Jameel and Hani Abdile. I am sure you will be outstanding leaders and represent the student body with confidence and enthusiasm!

*Have a safe and relaxing holiday!*

Jenni Gardiner

As we approach the end of another school year, I would like to thank and congratulate everyone for working hard to achieve improvements in their learning. As Deputy in charge of EFS, Year 10 and Prep, I have been able to celebrate the many achievements of these students in the areas of academic progress, outstanding attendance and overall improvement in effort and attitude. The huge number of Gold awards presented at the recent assembly is a reflection of how passionate students are about achieving their best at all times.

Congratulations also to the hard work done by all staff in providing outstanding teaching and learning opportunities for our students. The Literacy team is continuing its focus on supporting our students in meeting NESA's Minimum Standards to ensure they receive an HSC in the years to come. With so many changes in the HSC courses for most subjects, teachers have been very busy programming throughout Term 4 in readiness for the new Preliminary courses starting next year.

I would also like to congratulate all Year 12 students who completed their HSC courses this year. Awaiting results can be quite nerve wracking. I hope students enjoy their time away from study and make the most of any opportunity that comes their way. Our new Year 12 students need to stay focused and achieve their best over the next twelve months by taking advantage of all the support that the college offers. As well, The Tiny Houses project that the Prep classes completed was an excellent example of teamwork, critical thinking and problem solving. The quality of the work produced was outstanding.

This semester, I again had the pleasure of being invited to attend the Macquarie University campus visit which is an important part of the Macquarie Mentoring program. It is very rewarding to see students from Bankstown Senior College take on such a valuable program.

Bankstown Senior College is truly a unique learning environment that supports the growth and development of students from a diverse range of backgrounds and cultures. I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday and I hope that students continue to communicate in English as much as possible while they are on their break.

Maria Georgiou

## English/ EALD Report

The year is rapidly coming to an end, but for our new Year 12 students, Term 4 is the beginning of the HSC course. By the end of the year Standard and Advanced students will have completed the Area of Study, "Discovery", ESL will have completed the "Living and Working in the Community" Elective and English Studies will have completed the unit entitled "Playing the Game". Full attendance is required and all work taught in Standard, Advanced and ESL will be examined in the HSC next year.

Year 10 students have recently finished their exams. Students should look carefully at their results and comments made by their teachers, and make sure they spend time during the six week break improving their reading, writing and listening skills in readiness for next year. In fact all students are advised to spend at least an hour every day reading, writing, speaking and listening to English, so as to keep improving their skills. This includes students in EFS and the Preparation classes.

The English/EALD department is also planning to run its famous 'Shakespeare Day', a day when our Year 10 students rehearse and perform 'Romeo and Juliet'. So actors in Year 10, get ready to shine!

I would also like to personally thank all members of the English and EAL/D faculty for their enthusiasm and hard work in programming for the new HSC courses due to start next year for Year 11. Staff have been busy carefully selecting texts which they feel would best suit our students.

Finally, I would like to welcome back Ms Delmas, who has been on maternity leave for the past year.

**S.Ginis**  
Head Teacher English (Relieving )

## Macquarie Mentoring – Semester 2

What an absolutely fantastic day we had travelling to Macquarie University with our extraordinary Preparation students!



Students got to see Macquarie University and see what life is like in a tertiary institution in Australia. Students enthusiastically took part in all the activities on the day including the tours to the lecture theatres, library, science labs and other facilities. They heard informational talks, saw a science show, had an amazing lunch and took part in the dancing. In fact our Preparation students were, without a doubt, the best dancers out of all the schools represented there on the day.



This program has helped to inspire the Prep students to strive even harder to achieve their goals. The sessions at school every Thursday afternoon with the mentors gave them useful strategies to cope with stress and anxiety, as well as information about their future goals and the different ways to get there.

I would strongly encourage everyone to take part in this worthwhile program next year.

**S.Ginis**  
Coordinator



Our famous Prep students - the stars of the day



## Writing Competition

Writing well is an essential part of learning a new language. Writing affects all areas of your life. It requires constant practice and effort. Recently the college ran its annual Writing Competition. There were many excellent entries, demonstrating our students' desire to improve their writing. The talented winners were announced at the Term 4 assembly. I would like to thank the Refugee Student Support officers, Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet for kindly providing the prizes.

### Year 11:

- Equal 1<sup>st</sup> place - Thi Hong To Kelly
- Equal 1<sup>st</sup> place - Eisha Yawarish
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Thi Lan Anh Nguyen
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Najiba Hussain

### Year 10:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Karmeen Yalda
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Farzana Zarger
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Noor Atisha

### Preparation:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Riyam Al Khamis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Klara Aysha
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Wisam Kabaha

### EFS:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Thein Tu
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Maria Aziz
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Salin Hanna Shmuni
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place - Mohamad Al Ali

### IEC:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Marwah Al-Khameesi
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Rita Sheikho
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Amanda Homos
- 4<sup>th</sup> place - Ledyia Azeez

The following group from the IEC comes highly commended.

- Klawdiya Butrus
- Phillip Huang
- Ameer Asaedi
- Raha Qaryo
- Toma Tamo
- Mursal
- Fadi Ralloran
- Fabronya Gorgees
- Vanya Gorgees
- Laeth Kanoon

**Congratulations to these students. Next year we would like every student to enter this competition.**

S.Ginis

## SRC Report

The SRC has worked very hard this year to make sure College life is as enjoyable as possible for all students. The new funky kitchenette located in the cafeteria looks amazing. Soon we will be getting our new

fridge. Students are reminded that food is not to be placed in the cupboards. **Food that is placed in the cupboards overnight will be thrown out to avoid unhygienic decomposition. When the fridge arrives, we also ask students not to leave food there over the weekend. Food will be thrown out from the fridge every Thursday afternoon.** All students are asked to treat the area respectfully. Students are reminded to keep the sink clean. There is to be no spitting in the sink! **Students who are seen using this area inappropriately will be reported to the Principal.** We would like to again thank Ms Doyle for kindly allowing us to establish this facility for students to use.

The SRC would also like to thank everyone for buying bandanas to support the Cancer Council. We would also like to thank Ms Miglionico for her help.

The SRC along with many other students also assisted staff with the barbeque on Wellness Day. The tastiest sausages ever! A big thank you goes to these students.

Recently, Mrs Rahimi and I attended a Zonta Birthing Kits assembly day, where volunteers come together on a Saturday to put together Birthing Kits which will be taken around the world to disadvantaged countries to reduce the risk of infection and death in childbirth. Next year, the SRC, women's group and Exploring Early Childhood class will be taking part in this worthwhile project, along with any other interested students.



Ms Rahimi and Ms Ginis at Padstow RSL putting 1000 Birthing kits together

Last week we hosted our first ever cupcake day to raise money for the victims of domestic violence. We thank everyone who purchased a cupcake or donated money for this very important cause.

Finally, the new College Captains and SRC members for 2018 were elected. I would like to congratulate all the applicants for their outstanding promotional speeches.

### The new captains for 2018 are:

- Rami Suleiman and Tiara Adelianty

### The Year 12 SRC members are:

- Hani Abdile and Jamie Jameel

**Mrs Ginis**  
SRC Coordinator



## Cupcake Fundraising for White Ribbon Day

Students from the SRC, College and IEC joined Ms Rahimi, Ms Miglionico and Ms Ginis in making cupcakes to raise money for the victims of domestic violence.

Some students had never baked cakes before and for them it was an exciting experience. It was made even more rewarding because of the worthy cause we were supporting, and because of the joining up of the College and IEC students together in friendship.



Alieu Turay and Ramatullah Asghari



Marko Chiba Toma Tamo IEC

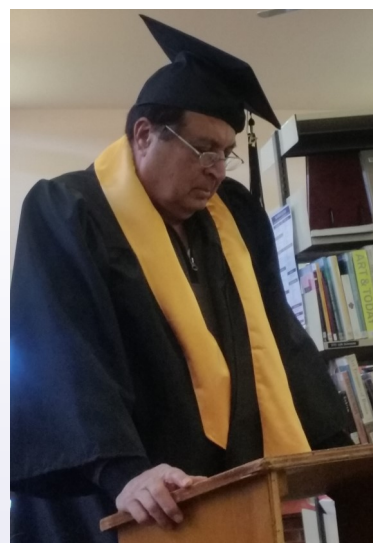


Jamileh Ahmadi



Fareed Murad Hanna and Jamie Jameel

We hope that many more of these joint IEC and College activities will take place in 2018.



Best wishes for a very happy retirement to John Azzi



Good luck and best wishes to Margaret Bauer on her retirement

## Presentation Evening

Presentation Evening for the College and IEC will be held in the school Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6:00 pm. Please be seated by 5:45 pm. Students who have performed well are invited to presentation night with their families to receive their awards. This is a very special night for everyone.

## VET Award



Zaid Alsaberi and one of the Directors

On Monday 14 August Public Schools, Ultimo RTO 90072 held their annual VET (Vocational Education and Training) Awards evening at Revesby Workers Club. Bankstown Senior College wishes to congratulate year 12 student Zaid Alsaberi

on being a finalist for Construction. He was presented with his certificate by one of the Directors and received a prize which was supported by MWLP, the Workplace Provider who organises work placement for the students at the College.

Zaid has studied this course over the past two years and as well as receiving a Higher School Certificate he will be eligible for a Certificate II in Construction Pathways. Well done Zaid for all your hard work.

Lyn King VET Coordinator

## A well-deserved Rotary Youth Vocational award

Each year, the well-established Rotary Club, hosts a most eventful ceremony for the Youth Vocational awards. BSC was very proud of its recipient, Asaad Fadhil Alshekhly who was worthy of this award for his outstanding progress in Information and Digital Technology. Ms Meissner, Ms Doyle, Ms Gardiner, Ms Balchin and Ms Pascalis attended this momentous event on Tuesday 12 September to honour Asaad's great achievement. This presentation attracted 20 schools from the private and public sector offering awards to nominated students from various Vocational courses ranging from Hospitality to Construction to Retail Services to Sports Coaching. The inspiring speeches and entertaining musical performances made this event most enjoyable for all.



Mrs Balchin, Ms Pascalis, Ms Meissner, Asaad Fadhil Alshekhly, Ms Doyle and Ms Gardiner

We are so proud of Asaad and congratulate him on such a fine achievement. We sincerely wish him well in his pursuit of further tertiary studies and a successful career pathway. Thank you to Ms Meissner and Mrs Pascalis for their efforts in nominating Asaad and arranging for this special achievement.

Ms M Pascalis and Ms Meissner

## ARCHIES AT BSC



Portrait of Principal Anne Doyle by Christine Madjus

Our annual Archies exhibition was well represented by both IEC and BSC students this year. The foyer of the college was brightened up with the submitted portraits in lino printing, painting, watercolours, and pen and pencil drawings. Congratulations to all the students who participated and to the finalists. This year the Archies 2017 overall winner was Year 12 student Christine Madjus with her portrait of our principal Ms Doyle in addition to her extensive portfolio of portraits of the BSC staff. There were a further three finalists selected Ali Aqa Ashraf and Marina Wassfy both from the IEC and Karmeen Yalda from Year 10 as well as two highly commended Sandra Alzebari from Year 10 and Remon Kami from the IEC.

Special thanks to the judges Ms Paras from the IEC and Mr Culligan. Special thanks also to our principal Ms Doyle who has been supporting the Archies as well as our head teacher TAS CAPA Ms Meissner.

Ms Skourtis

## YEAR 10 HOSPITALITY

The Year 10 Hospitality class spent a day at Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL's School of Hospitality, learning how to "Prepare and serve espresso coffee." Everyone had a great day, summed up with Hani's comment, "100% good!"

Khadiga said, "I knew how to make coffee before, but not like this. The teacher explained everything well; we understood everything, he helped us and showed us how to make the different coffees." The students learned a lot about how to make coffee, the different names and kinds of coffees. They also had lots of fun with 'coffee art' – decorating the finished coffees with chocolate patterns.



The teacher, Cameron Stone, was equally impressed with our students. After they had cleaned the area at the end of the day, he repeated several times that it was "the cleanest I've ever seen this place."



## HSC Legal Studies Excursion Report

The Year 12 Legal Studies class visited the NSW Supreme Court and NSW Parliament as part of their study of NSW criminal law.

The class was lucky enough to watch part of the retrial of Katherine Abdallah who was previously convicted of manslaughter after stabbing her cousin and flatmate, Susan Sarkis during an altercation at their Brighton Le Sands home. We watched two witnesses, Daniel and Natalie Nicole, give evidence that they saw two women fighting in the street and that the taller one had the other in a headlock. The students were really interested to see the Prosecutor and Defence Barrister in action and were surprised to see Katherine Abdallah freely walking around due her being granted bail. Under Australian law everyone is innocent until proven guilty.



After lunch we had a tour of Parliament House where our state laws are made. We visited the Legislative Assembly chambers where bills are debated and we did a role-play in which we discussed a bill to change the legal drinking age to 21 years. Hani got to sit in the Speaker's chair and Hava was the Shadow Minister for Granville. (see photos) Mr Niazi showed he would make a great politician and Tiara (our new School Captain), demonstrated her skills in arguing a case on behalf of the people in her role as NSW Premier! We also visited the Legislative Council chambers where bills are reviewed and either passed to become laws, sent back to the Lower House for amendment or rejected.



We were surrounded by great history and tradition in Parliament House. We saw the incredible Mace and the Black Rod which signify when the House is in

session (Dejin is checking it out in the photo below) and the priceless President's Chair only used by the Queen or her representative, the Governor-General.

Ms Gardiner



Hani in the Speaker's chair, Hava acting as the Shadow Minister for Granville and

## Tigers From EFS1A

The EFS1A class completed a cutting out and creating task. They saw the worksheets for Module O Visual Literacy from EFS2 and wanted to make the tigers too. They followed the directions and created 3D models from 2D images. The tigers and zebras are on display in D14.

Ms Pandelis







Congratulation to Mr **Rod Leonarder** a former principal at **BSC** from **1997-2002** for completing his PhD in September 2017!

**Dr Rod Leonarder  
and  
his wife Jill  
at the  
PhD Ceremony 2017**

## RSSP Report

### Hani Hosts SSI'S New BEGINNING Festival



Hani Abdile, Vice Captain of Bankstown Senior College and high profile poet was invited to host (Settlement Services International) SSI's New Beginnings Festival on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at Darling Harbour. For seven full hours, there was great cultural entertainment from countless countries around the world celebrating the migrant, refugee and asylum seeker communities and the

great musical talents and performances that they offered. It was also good to see an IEC student, Sinan Bayeed perform on his guitar and an ex-student, Deyana Butres, performing as part of "The Peacemakers Ensemble" choir. Hani's bubbly personality, dynamic and enthusiastic voice brought great energy to this special and mammoth event as she confidently and proudly introduced all the performers throughout the day. As always, she was so animated and colourful in her manner which really engaged the audience. BSC staff – Ms Rahimi, Ms Brunet, Ms Maguire, Ms Pascalis, Ms Arango and Mr Russell went to this special event to honour Hani in this great public role.

**Ms Pascalis**

## STARTTS Continues To Help BSC Look Good

Thanks to STARTTS and their excellent ongoing initiatives, the Refugee Student Support Program has been able to offer a second round this year of the Hair & Make-up course. Twenty female students in the EFS, Prep and Year 10 courses are enjoying a 5 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 2018.

**H Brunet & M Pascalis**

## 20– Voices Youth Symposium

On Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of September a group of students from Year 10, Prep and EFS went to an excursion to Fairfield Youth and Community Service with Ms Rahimi and Ms Sethi. The day started when we met at Fairfield Station at 9am, and then we walked about 8 minutes to the Fairfield Youth and Community Service Centre where we sat with other

school students and listened to the DJ playing music.

Firstly, we had a gentleman of African background dancing lightly and pleasantly; some of our students joined him. Then he taught us how to play on African instrument called a Djembe, which is similar to the drum. We made rhythms using the Djembe and clapping with our hands. We had so much fun learning and playing the Djembe.

Further on, we had a speaker who was only 22, whose name was Apajoc. She talked about her journey and how she is part of an organisation that helps and advocates for people of refugee backgrounds and makes others aware of the reasons, the ordeal and the misery that these people had back in their country. She showed us and told us that being 22 or younger will not stop us from changing the shape of our community nationally and internationally. Young people can make a change and they even told us how to do it. She encouraged us to find our passion in life, what motivates us and what is our drive because at the end of the day if we know what motivates us and what is our drive that is the only thing that can get us through the challenges. She also told us to identify who are the people that can support us. If we are only 22 or younger we can still get to where we want to be and what we want to be, by our passion and our hard work.



Then the organisation separated the schools into three groups.


Our school separated into groups of four and they set an alarm for 5 minutes for each group to talk with speakers from TAFE. The person listened to us about our dream jobs and they explained the path that we could take to get there more easily.




Later on, our students sat in a circle with other school students and with people from the organisation of "Link2home". They informed us about different causes of homelessness that we didn't know about. They served sandwiches to students for lunch. There were activities like AFL that the students participated in after lunch.

To end our day we had a lecture with SSI (Settlement Service International) community service speaker who talked about the opportunities we can take and the experience we can have by volunteering in our community during school holidays. We had such a good time and we surely gained good new information to help us in the future with our decision.

Merna Yalda Year 10



### CARDS FOR SALE








Do you need cards to say "Happy Birthday", "Thank you" or "I love you"?

The Year 10 Business Services 2 class will sell hand made cards. The cards will have some gorgeous portraits made by IEC students on the cover. The cards will be blank inside so you can write your personal message. They will be sold in small bundles of 3 or 4 with envelopes. The profit of selling these cards will be donated to charities supporting refugees and asylum seekers.

**PRICE?? – Cheeeeeaaapp!! Between \$3 and \$4!**

**GET YOUR GOLD COINS READY TO SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE.**



## Congratulations To The Class Of 2017!





## Year 12 Graduation

The Year 12 Graduation ceremony was a very meaningful and emotional College assembly celebration. We recognised some outstanding achievements praising every individual in the class of 2017 for different strengths and talents. A mammoth event of this nature requires weeks of preparation by countless members of the 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 Fajou, the Year Advisor and Ms Gardiner, the Deputy Principal addressed the student/parent forum delivering some powerful messages about study, work and life ahead. Ms Fajou thoughtfully acknowledged the efforts of all the supporters related to the Year 12 students as she cleverly requested that staff, family and friends who supported any Year 12 student be upstanding and all Year 12 students remain seated to applaud and praise the important and invaluable support that they received throughout this challenging year. It takes a whole community to raise and support an individual. Further to this, Ms Gardiner's strongest message to Year 12 was to keep their options open in terms of their study, work and life choices. She stressed that they should be prepared to have choices as long as the English alphabet so they seek and gain the happiness and fulfilment that they deserve. With their thoughtful gift, the students wholeheartedly expressed their gratitude to Ms Fajou for her genuine interest, tireless efforts and youthful spirit as a warm, caring and loyal Year Advisor to them throughout their College life at BSC.

**M Pascalis**

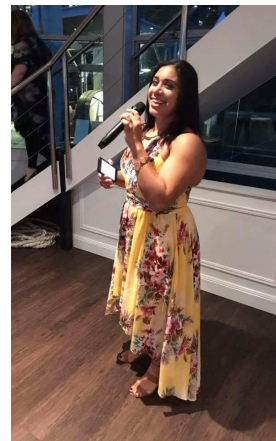
## Year 12 Sailed To Celebrate Their Closing Chapter Of College Life

Year 12 students and BSC staff cruised the Starship Aqua Pontoon from Darling Harbour to celebrate their end of College life on Thursday 23 November 2017. Sailing Sydney Harbour, seeing and savouring the spectacular views was a magical experience for many students who may never have this opportunity in their lives.



For many of our students who are relatively recent arrivals to their new homeland, seeing Sydney off shore was a sensational experience. This night was about capturing selfies, reflecting on merry moments of BSC, happy friendships, great achievements and chatting and looking forward to the new exciting pathways that lie ahead for our class of 2017. This event was interesting and surprising in many ways. Even though, we were faced with a musical challenge on the night, it did not affect the strong party spirit of all guests. This night was still fulfilling and most memorable. Our warm and heartfelt wishes are expressed to all Year 12 students as they await their examination results and plan their future. May it be a fun, fulfilling and fruitful one for all!

**Ms Pascalis**



## Welfare Report

### Wellness Day

Wellness Day at the College is a key component in ensuring we all have healthy, happy and productive lives.

Keeping a balance in our physical, emotional and mental wellbeing is essential to success and maximising everyone's potential. To remind the entire College community of this, a fun and informative day replaced the "normal" school day recently.

The morning had a market style expo which saw agencies such as Bankstown City Library, Metro Assist **MRC**, Dress for Work, The Corner Youth Health Service, Legal Aid NSW, Auburn Diversity Services INC **ADSI**, Settlement Service international **SSI**, Auburn Youth Centre, Muslim Women's Association, Immigrant women's speak out, Community Migrant Resources Centre **CMRC**, Macarthur Diversity Services, Western Sydney University **WSU**, Service for The Treatment And Rehabilitation Of Torture And Trauma Survivors **STARTS**, Creating Links, TAFE NSW, University Of Wollongong **UOW**, Western Sydney University **WSU**, Human Services, Lebanese Muslim Association **LMA**, Oral Health Promotions and Youth Off The Street/Community Drug Action Teams **CDAT**.

Providing a point of contact for anyone who may need to use or access their services.

After lunch saw a fun afternoon in the sunshine where team work and communication were the keys to success.

Thank you to all the providers and to everyone that participated and made the day one to remember!



### Breakfast Club

Throughout winter, the College generously provides students with free Breakfast to beat the cold.

This is an initiative that allows all students in the College to connect with one another and also start the day off right and go to class eager to learn.

Thank you to the staff who volunteered their time to supervise Breakfast Club and thank you to the SRC students that assisted in cleaning up.

Ms Fajou





## Thank you immensely to our super supportive Mercy tutors

Since 2010 the Refugee Student Support Program (RSSP) has been able to offer academic and welfare support to our students of refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds through the well-established Mercy Connect Program – Sisters of Mercy in Australia & Papua New Guinea. This worthwhile initiative invites, recruits, trains and supports former teachers and professionals of various fields and industries to volunteer their high level of expertise and lengthy experience to support students as they settle into primary and secondary schools in both the private and public education systems. The volunteer tutors provide support that nurtures well-being and self-esteem and improves students' literacy and numeracy skills.

The Mercy Connect Program in Sydney has 67 volunteers and operates in 27 primary and secondary schools assisting more than 450 students each year. We are grateful to this program for increasing the number of tutors at our College from year to year reaching a peak of seven tutors in 2016. In 2017, we had the benefit of the support from four highly committed tutors: Ms Chris Jinga, Ms Bronlyn Schoer, Dr Allen Conduit and Ms Sue Cook. In previous years, we have also been thankful for the efforts of Margaret Mayger, Evelyn Foltyn, Anastasia Tsitsioka, Marion Arango and Alison Edye. The tutors show incredible commitment, patience and flexibility to sincerely support our needy students with their school work, offer advice about study habits and simply provide emotional and mental satisfaction and stability. We thank them wholeheartedly for stretching their good will to fulfil our students' needs.

We thank the highly supportive co-ordinator of this incredible program Ms Jennie Ryan and the professional staff for the amazing direction and support for Ms Brunet and Ms Pascalis who constantly liaise with them to operate this program in the most effective way in our College.

Mrs Brunet & Ms Pascalis  
RSSP team



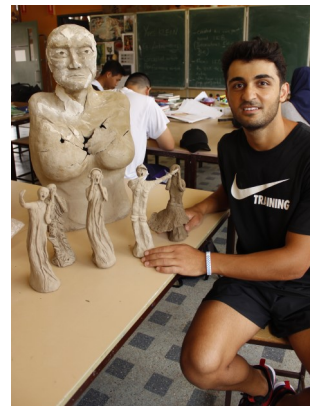
## Visual Arts At BSC



Sandra Alzebari Year 10



Zinat Al Samarae Year 10



Eisha Yawarish Year12



Karmeen Yalda Year 10



Mehdi Hussaini Year 10



All parents are welcome to come  
to the  
Term 4 Parents' Focus Group

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017

10:00 am to 11:30 am

Bankstown Senior College





## 2017 CALENDAR

*For your diary / notice board*

### Term Date:

Term 1:	Tuesday 30 January - Thursday 12 April
Term 2:	Tuesday 1 May - Thursday 5 July
Term 3:	Tuesday 24 July - Thursday 27 September
Term 4:	Monday 15 October - Tuesday 18 December <sup>TBC</sup>

SDD 1: Staff Return to College	Monday 29 January 2018
Enrolment Begin	Tuesday 30 January 2018

### Classes Begin 2018:

Year 12 and 11 Students Return	Wednesday 31 January 2018
Year 10 Students Return	Thursday 1 February
EFS Students Return	Monday 5 February 2018
IEC Return	Tuesday 30 January 2018

### Term 4: 2017

Gold Excursion	30 <sup>th</sup> December
Parents Meeting	5 <sup>th</sup> December
Presentation Evening	5 <sup>th</sup> December
EFS Graduation	6 <sup>th</sup> December
IEC Graduation	6 <sup>th</sup> December
IEC Picnic Day	7 <sup>th</sup> December
Prep Graduation	7 <sup>th</sup> December



On behalf of the College Community I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a prosperous New Year and a vacation that provides many opportunities for staff and students to relax and enjoy time with families and friends!

Ms Rahimi -CLO

