



Bankstown Senior College

Newsletter

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Inside this issue:

Principal's Report	1
Deputy Principals' Reports	2-3
English EAL/D Report	3-4
SRC Report	4
Welfare Report	5
Library Report	5
Refugee Student Support Report	6-13
Careers News	14-17
TAS Photos	18-19
College Calendar	20

From the Principal

I am pleased to report a very positive start to the year at Bankstown Senior College. Most of our new students have successfully completed their probationary period and are now settled into their studies. A very successful orientation program was run by the two Head Teachers Wellbeing, Mrs Balchin and Ms Fajou, culminating in a Team Building Day and a barbecue, put on by Year 12. Due to a large growth in enrolments in Years 10 and 11, we now have a waiting list of students and I am expecting a large Preparation class intake in Term 3.

Interim reports have been issued to EFS, Years 10 and 11 and it has been very satisfying to see so many students with 100% attendance. Any students of concern have been interviewed by their Year Adviser and an appropriate member of the Senior Executive. May I thank the Year Advisers for their hard work during this time. Some changes of subjects are happening now as a result of these reports. No further changes will be allowed.

A new Mentor and Learning Support program has commenced this year, after feedback from students and staff. It aims to provide a coordinated approach to support students preparing to sit external examinations,

with the goal of lowering student stress and anxiety and allowing students to perform at their best in the upcoming exams. I encourage all students, especially Year 12, to take advantage of the support being offered in the Library – from the tutors to the trained staff. This resource is funded through the College's RAM funding and is there to be used.

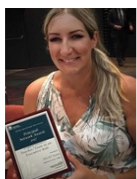
School Development Day was held on the 16th March and all staff underwent mandatory training in CPR and anaphylaxis, along with professional learning in the areas of growth mindset and technology. Teachers are the leading learners in their classrooms and I commend the Bankstown Senior College staff for their readiness to further their own professional learning. The College welcomes parent and community involvement and I would like to take this opportunity to invite all parents and caregivers to our first parent meeting on 10th April.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns about your son or daughter, please feel free to contact me at the College. I will be on leave during Term 2 but my Deputy Principal, Mrs Jenni Gardiner, will be filling my position most ably.

Anne Doyle

Bankstown Network Awards – Principals Celebration

Teacher/Team in an Executive Role



The School Professional Learning and Teaching team was established at Bankstown Senior College by Mrs Sharon Byron in 2012. In the years since, it has established itself as an integral part of the College's quest for excellence in Learning, Teaching and Leading. Under

the leadership of the present Deputy Principal, Jenni Gardiner, the team plans and conducts in depth Faculty Evaluations each year and provides leadership of our Lesson Study Project across the College and the Intensive English Centre. The team has provided, over the years, opportunities for a large and diverse number of teaching staff to develop leadership skills and the confidence to take on leadership positions across the College. In the College's external validation in 2016, the evidence of the team's efficacy was crucial to the College's rating of Excelling in Leadership.



Congratulations to the SPLAT Team



Congratulations to the SPLAT Team

School Administration and Support Staff



Roslyn Wood and the Front Office staff have been integral in the smooth implementation of LMBR at Bankstown Senior College in 2017. Roslyn, Narelle Greensill and Eptessam Mekho attended training sessions and in turn provided all necessary training and support for the Principal, Senior Executive and all School Administrative staff. The transition proved to be more complex due to the presence of the Intensive English

Centre, whose separate systems needed to be absorbed into the main College operating system. As a result of the hard work of all concerned and their professional approach to dealing with new and unfamiliar processes and procedures, the implementation of LMBR was achieved with minimal disruption to the everyday operations of the College. Student learning was not impacted at all during this transition process.



School Administration and Support Staff

From the Deputy Principals

Deputy Principal J. Gardiner

Welcome all students of Bankstown Senior College to a new year! The start of a school year is always an exciting time, getting to know your teachers and other students and preparing for the year ahead. New students seemed to enjoy orientation week and hopefully you are settling well into College life. I look forward to getting to know you all as the year goes on.

I would like to congratulate the students who were elected to be on the Student Representative Council, their election speeches were very impressive and delivered with confidence. I look forward to hearing your new ideas to ensure the College continues to be a healthy, safe and social environment where students feel a sense of belonging, build positive relationships and actively participate in the school community. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank last year's SRC for the outstanding job they have done with fitting out the Cafeteria with a fridge, sink, microwaves, hot & cold water urn, benches and storage cupboards for students to use. It looks great and students are utilising these kitchen facilities every day. Please encourage each other to use the equipment safely and share the facilities patiently and respectfully.

Parents are invited to attend the first Parent/Community meeting for the year on the 10th April. It is important for parents and community members to have an understanding of the College's 2018-2020 School Plan and gain some insight into various programs and activities being run by the College this year. Some activities planned for this term include; the RTP Swimming Program, a Year 10 Geography excursion to Cronulla Beach, a History excursion to the Jewish Museum, visits to universities, Valentine's

Day, Crazy Hair Day and International Womens' Day activities, Health Expo visits and the VET Work Ready Day.

Another important event coming up soon is Harmony Day the on 29th of March. I hope to see all students attending this fun event. It is a chance for students to get involved in a variety of activities celebrating the many cultures represented at Bankstown Senior College. There will be music, art, dancing, food and drinks, sports games and competitions so make sure you don't miss it!

Year 12 students: Be aware that your Half-Yearly exams are coming up in Weeks 10 and 11 and these marks will count towards your overall assessment mark for the HSC. It is very important that you develop a study routine so that you are prepared for these exams. To assist you in your quest for top marks we have invited guest speakers from 'Elevate Education' to present a study skills session called "Ace Your Exams" which will prepare you for your half yearly exams by providing you with strategies to study effectively and online resources such as practice exam papers. Remember to make use of the skills you have developed in your Learning Support classes and the stress management techniques you have learned in Mentor to help keep you in the best frame of mind during the exam period. Don't forget to seek help from the Learning Support teachers and tutors in the Library if you need it. Good Luck!

Deputy Principal Maria Georgiou

Welcome to another year of learning at Bankstown Senior College and welcome to all our new students and families. With the support of the Literacy Team, this term has begun with a strong emphasis on improving the literacy skills of all students, especially in the areas of comprehension and writing. The teaching staff has been provided with many effective strategies that will ensure students continue to meet and exceed minimum standards in reading and writing, as Year 10 students will be sitting the mandatory Literacy and Numeracy tests later in the year. In particular, there is a continued focus on Reciprocal Teaching for reading and the use of TEER for writing, and additional emphasis will be on the use of context clues, questioning techniques and glossaries to promote the importance of independent learning. It is important that our students also spend as much time as possible reading a variety of real-world texts such as newspapers, magazines, posters and other materials

to expand their vocabulary and increase their comprehension. To ensure students improve their capacity to complete online style literacy tests, the WordFlyers program is used as a major focus during the weekly Literacy period in Year 10.

As assessment tasks approach, it is important that students demonstrate how much they have been learning in their courses by organising study plans and completing homework. Effort is vital if students are to achieve the best possible results during their time at the college. Hopefully students will access the many support staff that are available to assist them in their learning. Year 12 half yearly exams will require revision of the work studied in Term 4 of last year as well as Term 1, so a rigorous study plan is very important at this time. The Year 11 Interim Reports indicated that many students are working very well and have shown a strong commitment to their studies through their outstanding attendance and performance so far. Some have made changes to their pattern of study and therefore need to ensure they have caught up all the work in their new subjects.

Congratulations to the students who have already achieved a Silver Award this term. This shows how hardworking and motivated students are at Bankstown Senior College. I look forward to presenting more of these in recognition of effort and achievement.

Above all, I hope 2018 is a successful, enjoyable and productive year for everyone.

English/EALD Report

The year has started well for students studying English at BSC. Year 12 students are half way through their HSC year and are about to start their Half-Yearly exams. Students need to remember that their results will only reflect the effort they are prepared to put in.

The new courses for Year 11 Advanced, Standard, EAL/D (English as an Additional Language/Dialect) and English Studies have commenced. Two additional courses, 2 Unit Drama and 2 Unit Beginners French, have been offered to Year 11 this year by members of this faculty. I would like to thank Mr Hicks, Ms Maguire and Ms Richards for allowing students to broaden their knowledge by choosing to study these courses, with such talented staff.

Year 10 is working through a new English program, designed by our staff, which will better meet the literacy needs of our students. The inclusion of a Literacy period will be of great assistance for Year 10 students in readiness for the mandatory online literacy tests they will face later in the year. The College has once again funded the Word Flyers on-line literacy

program to provide additional and continuous literacy support. The majority of Year 10 students are also eligible to study the CSWE course as an elective, which focuses on improving students' reading, writing and spoken skills.

The English faculty is an extremely hardworking and dynamic group, who is constantly evaluating what we teach, to meet the needs of our students.

Mrs Ginis
Relieving Head Teacher English/EAL/D

SRC Report

Our new leadership team for 2018 has been finalised and we are excited that for the first time we have members of the IEC joining the College SRC.

The team, along with many helpers from the student body, have already been immersed in a number of activities. On Valentine's Day on the 14th of February we raised \$220 for our World Vision sponsor child in Burundi, Africa. Students also assisted Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet on International Women's Day, in wrapping and distributing a gift of dates to all staff and students of the college.



On March 28th, the SRC will be holding Crazy Hair Day to raise money for Leukaemia research. Please consider allowing your hair to be painted in various colours for this worthwhile cause.

The SRC will also help with Harmony Day on the 29th March, selling tokens, cooking delicious food, and giving out badges and ribbons. Make sure you support the school on this day by wearing orange or your traditional costume.

Finally, the SRC members of 2018 are:

Year 12 Captains: Tiara Adelianty, Rami Suleiman

Year 11 Vice Captains: Karmeen Yalda, BPI

Year 12 SRC: Jamie Jameel, Hani Abdile

Year 11 SRC: Karlo Yalda, Ramsina Oshana

Year 10 SRC: Nilofar Aziz, Hajatullah Asghari

EFS SRC: Kamila Asghari

IEC SRC: Mahboba Alizadah, Ali Aqa Ashraf, Freshta Alizadah



Please feel free to approach your representatives with any suggestions you may have to improve College life.

Mrs Ginis
SRC Coordinator

Welfare Report

Meet the new Mentor!

Mentor has seen some new positive changes for 2018. All BSC students have a weekly forty-five minute lesson in their year group. Years 10, 11 and 12 are on Tuesdays and EFS are on Wednesdays. There have been some interesting and interactive activities programed by Head Teacher Welfare, Ms Balchin, co-ordinated by Ms Fajou and delivered in lessons by Mentor teachers. Students have responded very well to the variety of relevant and fun activities making the Mentor session a highly worthwhile learning experience. Topics discussed and explored have ranged from Orientation to Stress management to Healthy eating to Personal and Educational goal setting. One great highlight in the Year 12 program was the balloon activity which required students to label some balloons with the stressors in their lives and then to take those balloons and juggle them for as long as possible keeping them floating off the floor in order to resemble their life management of stressful factors. This of course was a highly challenging exercise but very entertaining too! Relaxation activities and group discussions with complimentary fruit took staff and students out of the classroom making sessions varied and fun-filled.



Year 12 Stress management balloon activity



Please remember how important attendance is in order for students to achieve course outcomes and eventually their course certificates. Your Mentor teacher will check your attendance record and advise you regularly as well as reward you with a merit certificate as you achieve 100% attendance fortnightly. Your Mentor teacher is your BSC parent so please discuss with him or her any concerns that you

have regarding your life in and out of the College and how it impacts on your study at BSC. Enjoy the rest of the term!

We look forward to more exciting new Mentor sessions in Term 2!

Mentor/Welfare Team

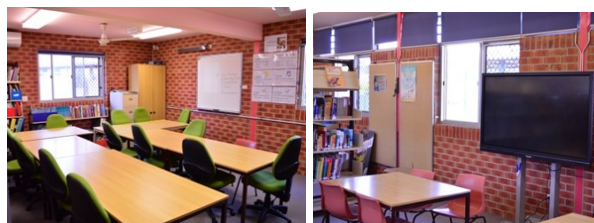
Library Report

Hi everyone. It has been an exciting beginning to the year for the BSC Library. In week 2, Year 10s received an orientation to the library. While it was a lot of information in a short time it was a great start and I would like to thank Ms Ginis for her support. I would also like to thank Mr Hicks and Ms Richards for bringing their classes to the library for the orientation.

As with last year, the library has continued to conduct orientation lessons with IEC classes. The students are always very enthusiastic learners and very keen to learn about what they are entitled to borrow, how long for and how to borrow. It is hoped that I will be able to do orientation lessons with all classes in the IEC, either this term or next. I would especially like to thank Mr Kametopoulos for his encouragement and support and Mr Bhindi for bringing many classes to the library to receive lessons.

There have been some changes to the library décor. The whiteboard in the LLC has been moved from near the door to the brick wall. This placement will make this board much more accessible and central to the teaching and learning in the room. It and the reorientation of the furniture in the room will also help to minimise outside distractions.

The pin boards from the LLC and LCR have been moved and mounted on the library walls near the windows. This will enable posters and sheets of information to be put up on the walls without unsightly blue tac and glue dot residue.



Mr Ram has very kindly given the library some flat pack shelving. Some of this has been put around the library, including in the small rooms LAs 3 and 4. While they as yet have nothing on them it is hoped that they will add to the pleasant and more modern feel of the library.

Mr Lowe

RSS (Refugee Student Support) Report

Praising our precious students at Presentation Evening for Humanitarian efforts and Community leadership

Bankstown Senior College is proudly culturally diverse with around 80 percent of its student population having a refugee or asylum seeker background, with at least 30 countries around the world represented in its small number of only 400 students. With this unique setting, the College provides a Refugee Student Support (RSS) program co-ordinated by Ms Brunet, Ms Pascalis and Ms Rahimi. One of the countless goals of this program is to recognise, praise and reward selective students who show outstanding commitment to the College community in a humanitarian or leadership role. With the input of executive and teaching staff, Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet presented awards to the following worthy students for 2017. They received these honorary certificates and rewards at Presentation Evening in December 2017. We are so proud of our deserving recipients: Tiara Adelianty, 2018 College Captain, Hani Abdile, College SRC member, and Asaad Fadhil Alshekhly. Further to this, a most prestigious award from Settlement Services International (SSI) was presented to our current College captain, Rami Suleiman for his very impressive commitment to the College community and beyond, recognising his leadership role and tireless community efforts. We are extremely grateful to SSI, particularly Ms V Roumeliotis, CEO and Ms K Price, CEO Assistant who efficiently organised this valuable award. BSC sincerely thanks SSI for their continued generous contributions to the RSS program and many BSC events.



The RSS staff are eagerly looking for new recipients of these awards for 2018. Therefore, students are encouraged to be active in College events and activities, make valuable contributions for the benefits of their fellow students and the College as a whole. Moreover, they should partake in their community outside the College presenting their strengths and building their skills in order to create a strong profile for themselves and achieve success with ease.

Ms Pascalis & Ms Brunet



Harmony Day 2018

EVERYONE BELONGS



Thursday 29th March

1:30 pm-3:30pm

**Please wear orange
or**

Traditional Costume

STARTTS Swim Smart for BSC Students

How fortunate are 30 BSC students who have been offered swimming lessons for free by STARTTS in a five-lesson program over February and March! This has been a fantastic initiative where 15 male students and 15 female students in separate gender groups have engaged in intensive hourly lessons in the pool at Auburn Aquatic Centre every Friday. All students have made impressive, fast progress from overcoming fear to wet their face to holding their breath under water for lengthy periods to learning free style techniques. The instructors, Ruth and Michelle have been very encouraging and effective in making sure the students learn well, learn fast and have great fun in the process. These sessions have brought with them other great benefits offering stress relief for Year 11 and Year 12 students who are facing demanding senior secondary courses. It has also enabled students to spend time together and bond with their peers or across the two-year groups. This aquatic experience has been a real winner!



Further to that, Eisha Yawarish's exceptional swimming strokes immediately impressed the staff who admired his torpedo performance in the pool. The Centre has identified his great skills and potential to be a swim instructor and have encouraged him to prepare himself for a job offer.

The program will finish with an intensive water safety session as an excursion to Collaroy Beach whereby students will learn the theory of: coastal geography and the environment, surf zones - dangerous and safe areas, rips - identification and easy escape methods, negotiating waves, returning to the beach safely and sun safety. They will then have the opportunity to enter the beach and learning how to body surf, tread water, float and catch waves.

This has been an extremely worthwhile experience and BSC is immensely grateful to the STARTTS team-Grace Joo, Lina Ishu and Adina - for their organisation and funding of this initiative and Brittany, Ruth and Michelle, the staff from Auburn Aquatic Centre who have successfully delivered the lessons.

We have voiced the need and interest of this valuable life learning experience and appreciate all

the work from the organisers in making this program a reality.

Maria Pascalis, Hedy Brunet & Qudsia Rahimi



SOME FEEDBACK ABOUT SWIMMING LESSONS

Mammy

swimming is great and fun and I get to learn so much about swimming and I met new friendly people.

Somaya

The swimming glass is good but I wish the classes will be more than 5 lessons because I enjoyed that and I can learn more.

Rand

I love trying to flow over the water. I'm so excited to improve my swimming skills and to be a good swimmer in the future.

Priscilla

I am so happy to learn how to swim and it helped me to swim very well in my life.

Narges

I just would like to say that would be better to be in deep place or water. It's very basic and low

Neven

I improve my swimming little bit.

Farzana

I really like the swimming sessions. I would like them to be for longer time. Not only 5 sessions it would be better 10 sessions.

Majeany

It was an experience. I improved my swimming skills.

Nourhan

I've been improving my swimming skills.

Umulbanin

This experience is really good, because I learn very well and instructors are also good.

Shahnaz

This experience is really good for us because we learned so much about swimming.

Tahereh

Swimming is really the healthiest exercise any one can do and it's enjoyable and I'm very happy to learn that. I say big thank you to the college for that.

Mariam

It is a fun and relaxed time you will have ever. There are lovely teachers help you in amazing ways.

Rami

It was a very nice experience, especially as we are learning how to swim correct way. We are very thankful for this opportunity.

Jesus

For me it is a new experience because it is my first time swimming so I had enjoyed so much these lessons.

Mahmood

It is a very good experience. They teach us the proper techniques for swimming which are really good.

Jamie

I have gained a lot of experience throughout these swimming sessions comparing to the past which I didn't have any experience, it's good and fun and really beneficial.

Marko Chiba

I thought I knew how to swim but after the first lesson in the course I realized that I am still a very beginner and those lessons help me to develop my swimming skills. Also, the swimming teachers are doing very well in helping us developing our swimming skills.

Timoor

I absolutely appreciate such activities that school provides for us. This opportunity helped me to learn a new skill.

Nasrollah

I really enjoyed the first days of my swimming. As I didn't have past experience, it was really fun when I was leaving the swimming pool with my friend and it was fantastic.

Ardoan

The swimming lessons were so good. I've learned a lot and improved my skills in swimming, I have to say a big thank to the school and teachers to give us this opportunity.

Eisha

Nice staff, they have good communication skills.

Ramil

A truly tremulous experience, filled with fun. Just what we needed as we approach HSC exams. Even though it was one hour a week, it taught me how to swim accurately. Plus all my friends were there. Yeah, super fun! Thank you!

Fareed

It was Good! And I'm enjoying it so much.

Fadi

It's very good.

Rami Suleiman receives 2017 Jason Clare Award for Community Contributions

Every year, the Hon. Jason Clare, the local MP for Bankstown holds a special ceremony to recognise and praise the impressive efforts of our students in the school community and beyond. A group of BSC staff confidently nominated Rami Suleiman, our College Captain to receive this prestigious award. This annual ceremony is an excellent initiative by the Hon. Jason Clare and highlights the importance of community participation and leadership.

Rami was selected for this impressive award and for his incredible portfolio of engagements, commitments and contributions to the College and wider communities. Rami is a highly talented student, studying at in the HSC course. Since arriving to the College early 2016, Rami has made impressive progress in all areas of his studies especially in Music and the College community. His enthusiasm, consistent energy and highly motivating attitude have enabled him to achieve subject outcomes successfully throughout all his courses. His personable nature and high level of confidence have contributed to his popularity with students and staff giving him a high profile in the SRC and College community. His genuine passion for music has accelerated his ability, making him a most impressive performer.



In Australia, he joined a choir performing at multiple concerts in the Chaldean community exploring his musical knowledge/talent on another cultural level and travelling to parts of Australia performing with the Subhi Brothers.

Rami's musical ability escalated with the multiple/ varied opportunities to perform inside/outside the College - BSC Principal's conference, 2016 Talent Quest, College assemblies/ Presentation Night. His outstanding musical profile has been recognized with performances at Western Sydney University Community Forum, SSI, other major cultural/refugee events in collaboration with musically talented fellow students. From this, he has received ADSi Western Sydney Refugee Youth award for 2016 and 2017 for Performing Arts.



Ms Maguire, his Year Advisor, and Ms Brunet and Ms Pascalis, Refugee Student Support Officers, attended the ceremony and were all very proud of Rami's incredible achievement. It was most pleasing his family was able to attend this momentous ceremony to share in this special achievement. Congratulations Rami!

Ms Pascalis & Ms Brunet

Thank you STARTTS for the Shrek performance



As soon as the Term started, a group of twenty students were offered free tickets to the live performance of Shrek at Parramatta Riverside Theatre. Shrek is a classic children's fairy tale movie which is very comical and has been well received worldwide. The students who attended valued this great experience as it entertained them and inspired their English and musical skills. We are grateful to Georgia Lethbridge from STARTTS for this thoughtful initiative. We welcome such free opportunities for our students who do not get the chance to view live performances. We also encourage all BSC students to go to view films and plays as often as possible as they develop their understanding and appreciation for such visual and spoken texts which are important for their English studies in Preliminary and HSC courses.

Ms Pascalis & Ms Brunet



BSC Delivers Delicious Dates for International Women's Day

In the efforts to celebrate International Women's Day and promote good health, BSC generously gave a small gift of dates to each of its staff and students during period 3 on Thursday 8th March.

The date palm is a flowering plant grown since 6000 BC. It is the sweetest fruit offering a great source of energy, sugar and fibre. Its origins are from the lands in and around Iraq. Its benefits: a great brain booster, healthy bowel movement and control, reduces risk of stroke and other health related diseases, it reduces night blindness, boosts the nervous system, prevents abdominal cancer and cures intestinal disorder.

This healthy treat was a great idea initiated by Ms Rahimi who worked solidly with other staff – Ms Cathy, Ms La, Ms Brunet and Ms Pascalis- and SRC students and friends to prepare and deliver this nice, healthy treat. Thanks to the organisation of Ms Ginis, SRC students and friends from the College and the IEC who sacrificed their recess, lunch and precious lesson time to work tirelessly and effectively as a great team to prepare 490 cello bags with ribbon and cards within one hour. This great achievement is a true reflection of the impressive, dynamic community spirit at BSC. These students will be rewarded with a merit certificate and their efforts will contribute to their strong College reference and resume. This is a great way for students to build their College profiles.

We hope, on this day, you all acknowledged and celebrated the great contributions that female family members and friends have made in your lives!

Ms Brunet & Ms Pascalis



The ConocoPhillips Science Experience 2018
The University of Sydney 8th -12th January 2018
Group "staffie" with the YSA



We all had that emptiness and thinking after the school year ended, wondering how to fill our weeks with activities that will improve our literacy skills and will help with our future. I was one of the lucky people who was invited

to join a program which is called The ConocoPhillips Science Experience that took place at Sydney University. Luckily for me I had the spare time to volunteer and gain this valuable experience. The ConocoPhillips Science Experience is run by The University of Sydney. The science school is for students from Years 9 and 10 who have a passion for and want to build further knowledge in Science. The program is run by magnificent people and volunteers from the YSA (Youth Scientists of Australia). The YSA is a youth run organisation for young people aged 14-26 who are interested in Science. The YSA is involved in staffing of Science Schools and organising public science events. I had the opportunity to volunteer as a group "staffie" for 3 days and worked with the family of YSA. Our job after two days of training was to lead, help and support a group of students to gain experience in using science lab equipment as forensic scientists to solve a crime as well as explain further on how the experiment took place. We also guided them to the labs and meeting rooms at the University of Sydney.

The 8th of January was the first of the five days of volunteering. The day started as we gathered in one of the Sydney University meeting rooms. We started ice breaking games to help us to know each other and to practice on how to break the ice between the "staffie's" and the students. Following on the senior "staffie" left us with benefits, tips and knowledge on how to take care of the student's health and how to keep the students safe. The most important task was to keep communicating with each other and breaking the ice between the students. At the beginning of the second day, I got to know more about the program and the timetable, as my confidence increased I was excited to meet the students and participate in the activities scheduled for the day.

The big day started as I took the "Redfern Run", which is simply waiting for students who are going to gather in Redfern station and guide them with other "staffies" to the university. The students registered their names, took their name tags, a bag with some snacks and a timetable. There were six different groups. I was in the yellow group that had 20 students and two other "staffies". The students were introduced to a case of 'the murder of a professor' and to the six suspects. The suspects were divided in groups, with each group having a "staffie". They had

to solve the case and reveal the criminal. They were given details of the crime scene, profiles on the suspects, police statements, and evidence to assist them in solving the crime. The student group objective was to prove their staffie's innocence and reveal the real killer. The students analysed the evidence in the labs of Chemistry, Biology and Physics. For example, in the Physics lab students had to investigate whether the victim had fallen or had been forced to fall from a high place. In the Chemistry lab the students tested whether the juice that the victim had drunk was poisoned or not. In the Biology lab students learned how to analyse the fingerprints that were found on the glass. All these were to be considered as evidence to determine the killer. As the students compared the results they attained six suspects and they became more confident in identifying the criminal. On the final day of the science experiment, a court was held to reveal the final decision. Each group had to prove that their staffie was innocent by applying strong evidence that persuaded the judge to make the right decision. The discussions were heard in the court and it was difficult to prove who the real criminal was. A fun and interactive learning environment helped us acquire the knowledge to analyse and reveal the correct result.

They had some other activities like the Real Quiz, the Engineering Challenge and a Mock Trial. The final activity of the ConocoPhillips Science Experiment was the Mock Trial: each group of 10 students was given an egg and some tools to be used in designing a protector for the egg which protected the egg from breaking while falling from a 2m height. They had to leave a 10 cent area of the egg free. My group qualified for the finals. Even though our egg broke in the final stage, we were still happy because we had so much fun in designing and participating in the competition.

In conclusion, the successful experiment to fill in my free time during the school holidays proved to be a valuable and rewarding experience where I gained self-confidence through cooperating with others as well as gaining new skills in scientific analysis. I also enjoyed the atmosphere of Australia's oldest University with its sandstone buildings and relaxing open spaces. I hope that I will return as an undergraduate after my HSC.

If you would like more information about YSA, check its website: <http://www.ysa.org.au/sydney/>.

Merna YALDA (Year 11)

International Women's Day Celebration

On 8th March, 2018 Ms Rahimi and Ms Richards took 14 young women from BSC to celebrate International Women's Day at the Salvation Army Hall, in Auburn.



The annual event was hosted by Auburn Diversity Services Inc (ADSi) and our students joined over 450 women from a variety of backgrounds to listen to guest speakers promote gender equality. Our very own Hani Abdile, from Year 12, was invited as a guest speaker to empower and inspire the audience through sharing her experiences and performing the audience her poetry. Hani captivated the audience as she passionately recited her original poem "I write".



In addition to Hani's inspiring presentation, successful business women shared their experiences and discussed how they overcome inequality in a male dominated workforce. Our students enjoyed a range of cultural performances and enthusiastically participated in the dancing activities.

Thank you to Ms Pascalis, Ms Brunet and Ms Rahimi for helping organise such a positive day.

Ms Richards
Girls Supervisor

EFS Get Healthy!

On Thursday 15th February, an excursion was organised for all EFS students to visit the 2018 Health & Wellness Expo organised by Community Migrant Resource Centre. This event was well supported by government organisations which enabled students to learn about important health and medical services relating to Mental health, Nutrition, Cancer prevention and screening, Dental and Oral health, Smoking and Quitline as well as much more informative areas. This event took place at Auburn Centre of Community which was a suitable and central venue for many activities and games taking place on the day. Despite the hot weather, our students found this excursion a valid way to learn more about the various services available to them. Mr Thai, Ms Pandelis, Ms Fajou and Ms Rahimi accompanied the students on this very worthwhile experience.

Ms Brunet & Ms Pascalis





**All Parents/Caregivers are welcome to the
Term 1
Parent Focus Group**

**Tuesday, 10th April 2018
10:00am to 11:30 am
Bankstown Senior College
C10 (above the cafeteria)**



Careers News

2017's Year 12 successfully progressed to their post-school destinations for 2018 realising their next phase of education or work. They were able to make good their pathway plans developed at Bankstown Senior College with the assistance of all the dedicated staff.

Congratulations are extended to all of our students and we acknowledge the success of Gia Tran's exceptional performance with an ATAR of 95.8 who is now studying Advanced Medical Science at Western Sydney University and Alice Thai is commended for her effort in achieving an ATAR of 90.1 and was offered a place in the Bachelor of Data Science and Decisions at UNSW. Of the 29 students who made an application to university, 21 were successful and 72 per cent received an outstanding result.

Students at BSC are supported in making applications based on disadvantage which increases their chances of accessing university study. There is the Educational Access Scheme as well as the Schools Recommendation Scheme. We also use the Principal's Recommendation Scheme accordingly.

Asaad Alshekhly received an Equity Scholarship of \$20K to support him through his study of Electrical Engineering at Macquarie University. Rojeen Fazeli and Thiri Nan Dar Soeharnar were successful in receiving a UTS Asylum Seeker Scholarship for full tuition beginning with a Diploma in Medical Science at UTSInsearch and progressing into the Bachelor of Medical Science at UTS.

Many of our students are attending TAFE and or working. Many will eventually progress to university as they build their qualifications for successful employment in professional fields as skilled and knowledgeable citizens.

Shahnaz Bidkhori and Atifa Noori successfully achieved their Certificate III in Health Services Assistance as well as their HSC. Atifa Noori along with Zeinab Rezai and Han Le are doing a Diploma in Laboratory-Technology Testing at Ultimo TAFE. They have spoken to UTS and will then progress to the Bachelor of Medical Science after completing their Diploma.



Five students in Year 10 in 2017 successfully completed a highly competitive entrance test in Literacy and Numeracy to commence Human Services - Certificate III in Health Services Assistance at Bankstown Hospital and at Fairfield Hospital as part of their Year 11 & 12 study. This qualification will enable them to gain employment as an assistant nurse with NSW Health. The students are Fadi Ramoran, Marwah Al-Khameesi, Ramsina Oshana, Farzana Zargar and Zinat Al Samarae. This is an excellent achievement.

Year 12 in Term 4, 2017 attended UDay at Western Sydney as well as University of Wollongong Discovery day this year in Term 1, to get first hand information about tertiary study.



On Wednesday 14 March 2018, 6 students from Year 10 Ezzatulla Asghari, Hujatulla Asghari, Shokofa Karimi, Yalda Muradi, Batool Mohammed Hussein and Ranya Al-Abbood went to UNSW School of Medical Science – Museum of Human Disease and gained new knowledge about the Human Brain at a series of workshops as part of Brain Awareness Week.



Lastly two students Karmeen and Karlo Yalda were successfully accepted to do the Cochlear Autumn School of Engineering in the April school holidays for a week through Engineers Australia and UNSW.

Ms Dokmanovic

Journey to our Dreams

Last term, Western Sydney University provided an opportunity for Year 11 students to experience a day on the Campbelltown campus. The main aims of the event were to experience life on a university campus, to get a hands-on experience at interactive workshops and explore different types of courses and pathways for our future. They were also given the opportunity to speak to current university students and academic staff for first hand advice.

The university kindly provided us with a bus to get to the campus. We arrived at the university at 9:20am with our Year Adviser, Ms Maguire and our Careers Adviser, Ms Dokmanovic who guided us towards the main campus.

When we arrived, we received a warm welcome from the university staff and students. They gave us information, booklets, water and fruit for breakfast. All students were very excited. Their eyes were full of curiosity and eagerness, as we split up to attend our chosen lectures. School Captain, Rami Suleiman attended a lecture on music, while I attended a Mathematics show. Others attended a science experiment to observe.

Afterwards, the university provided a delicious lunch for all students. While we relaxed with students from other schools, the university arranged an instant photo print through Instagram to remember our day, which is how we got this photo!



The Year 12 students at Western Sydney University from left to right: Sakibul Bhuiyan, Timoor Rahimi, Irfan Mohammadi and Nasrullah Zahedi

After all the events ended, we headed back to the bus. Our school captains, Rami Suleiman and Tiara Adelianty assisted the teachers in making sure we all made it back to the bus!

Although we had a short time on campus, we were given an insight into university life. This event inspired us to do our best in our studies so that we can

achieve our desired futures. I would like to thank UWS and Ms Dokmanovic for organising this wonderful event.

Written by Sakibul Bhuiyan, Year 12 student

Year 12 Excursion to University of Wollongong

During Term 1, Year 12 students were taken to experience a Discovery Day at the University of Wollongong. This event was organised by our Careers Advisor, Ms. Dokmanovic. Approximately 50 students departed the college early at 7:45am to arrive at the university at 9am. There were other students from many other local schools who also attended the event.

Firstly, we gathered in the University's Great Hall to receive our timetables and guidebooks. Then all students went to the university's keynote session where a current student shared his personal experience of university life, which was very interesting. After that, we separated into groups and everyone went to different buildings according to their timetables. There were a lot of different sessions being run about different subjects such as health science, communication and midwifery. There were also some other interesting sessions such as 'The Power of the Situation', 'How to Fall in Love' and 'What's Uni Really Like?'

At lunchtime, all students went to a party where a DJ was playing. We danced for one hour and we had a great time there! Afterwards we attended two more sessions and returned to the college.



Picture of Year 12 students at the University of Wollongong's Discovery Day

It was such an amazing experience to see what university is really like and to see what subjects and degrees are available at the University of Wollongong.

Written by Soraya Hussaini, Year 12 student

Youth Pathways & Placement Project



Are you aged between 15 –24 years
and available to work two weekdays per week?

Do you live in Inner South West Sydney,
Blacktown, Greater Liverpool or Fairfield Area?

Settlement Services International (SSI) is offering a three month paid work experience program that provides unemployed young adults hands-on work experience and support to get their foot in the door of the job market.

It's called the Youth Pathways & Placement Project (YPPP).

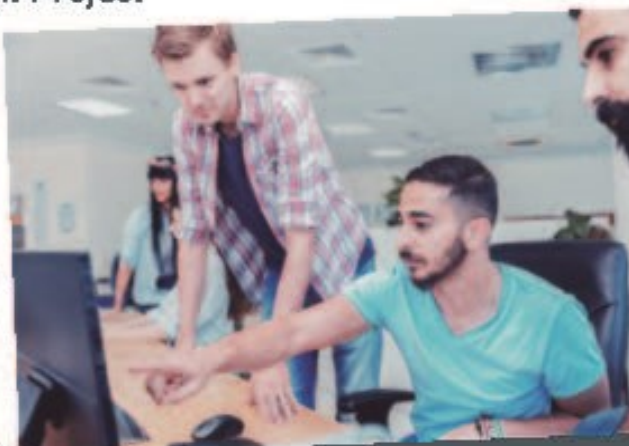
The Youth Pathways and Placement Project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment as part of the Empowering Youth Initiatives.

SSI
settlementservices
International



empowering
YOUTH
initiatives

The Youth Pathways & Placement Project



The program includes:

- Training and work experience in retail and/or administration
- One-on-one support to transition into external employment
- An employment and training plan
- A work reference
- Job-readiness workshops including resume & cover letter writing.

There will also be a wide range of free team building activities including:

- Cooking lessons
- Team sports
- Art, craft and more!

And when you find a job, we'll still be around to provide career advice and transition support.

Selection Criteria:

- Ability to speak English without a translator
- Aged 15 – 24 years
- Available to work 15 hours over two consecutive weekdays per week
- Have work rights in Australia
- Reside in Inner South West Sydney, Blacktown, Greater Liverpool or Fairfield Area
- A refugee or newly arrived migrant, young parent, early school leaver, have a disability, have a non-vocational barrier to employment such as homelessness, in out-of-home care, or exiting juvenile justice.

For more information contact SSI:

t: 02 9784 2400

e: employment@ssi.org.au

ssi.org.au

SSI is a community-based not-for-profit organisation providing a range of services in the areas of refugee settlement, migrant support services, asylum seeker assistance, housing, multicultural foster care, disability support, employment services and youth support in NSW.

SSI is committed to ensuring that people in vulnerable communities in NSW are supported and resourced to fulfill their potential as members of the Australian community.

Year 11 Information Processes & Technology

Students during a practical lesson looking at the main components of a typical personal computer.



Photography Class 2018



Dalya Al Zuhairi



Sandra Alzebari



Merna Yalda



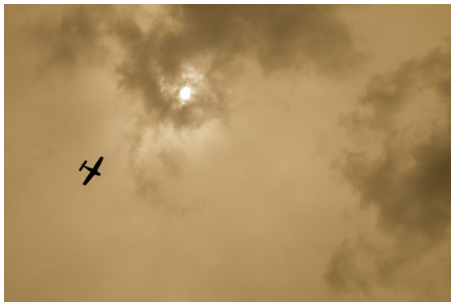
Sandra Alzebari



Sandra Alzebari



Sandra Alzebari



Mustafa Al Zubaidi



Mustafa Al Zubaidi



Mustafa Al Zubaidi



Farzana Zargar



Narges Bagheri



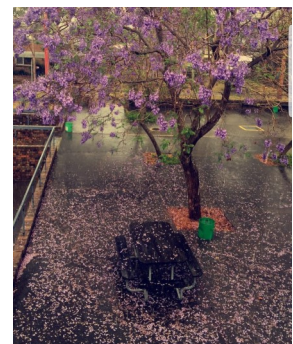
Sanra Alzebari



Ram Naeem



Somaya Karimi



Tara Alqus Hana



2018 CALENDAR

For your diary / notice board

Term Date: for Students

Term1: Tuesday 30th January to Thursday 12th April 2018

Term2: Tuesday 1st May to Thursday 5th July

Term3: Tuesday 24th July to Thursday 27th September

Term4: Monday 15th October to Tuesday 18th December TBC

Exams:

HSC 1/2 Yearly: Tuesday 3rd to Thursday 12th April

HSC TRIALS: Monday 13th August to Thursday 23rd August

PRELIM Yearly: Monday 17th to Thursday 27th September

HSC EXAMS begin on: Monday 22nd October 2018

Term 1:

Harmony Day: 29th March

Good Friday: 30th March

Easter Monday Public Holiday: 2nd April

HSC Half Yearly Exams: 3rd April

Parents Meeting: 10th April

HSC IPT Excursion: 4th April

Year 10 and 11 Hospitality/Coffee Course: 10th April

