



Bankstown Senior College Newsletter

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From the Principal

I am pleased to report a very smooth and positive start to the year at Bankstown Senior College. Most new students have satisfactorily completed their probationary period and have now settled into their studies. We have closed our enrolments in Year 11, due to the large number of new students enrolling in Stage 6 for 2019. We continue to welcome other new students, either into courses now running or in anticipation of the Preparation class intake in Semester 2.

Interim reports have been issued to students in Years 10, 11 and EFS. These reports provide a means for staff to identify students who are struggling with the demands of their courses of study. Any students of concern have been interviewed by their year Adviser and the appropriate member of the Senior Executive. May I thank Ms Fajou and the Year Advisers for their hard work during this time.

Year 12 are preparing for their mid-course examinations in Week 11. Although these exams are not necessarily compulsory assessment tasks, they provide students with valuable experience in sitting formal examinations and are excellent preparation for the Trials and the HSC itself.

It has been very satisfying to see the majority of students involved in whole College activities, including Harmony Day and Team Building Day. Students gain great benefit from these days as they help to build a sense of community and connectedness in the College.

To further achieve this aim, the College has implemented Mentor classes twice a week. These groups contain ten to thirteen students and provide the staff with an opportunity to closely monitor

student attendance and to help students with issues as they arise. The students build connectedness to other members of the College community, as they work through the various activities appropriate for each year group.

I very much enjoyed meeting so many parents at our first Parent Focus group meeting this term. The group meets once a term and I really appreciate their thoughts and input into their children's education. Parents of new students are always welcome. Please contact our Community Liaison Officer, Ms Qudsia Rahimi, if you wish to attend the meeting.

I would like to thank all the College staff (teaching and non-teaching) for their hard work in Term 1. It is what teachers know, do and care about that contributes to improved student learning outcomes.

If parents have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Enjoy the rest of the term.

Anne Doyle



Term 1, Parent Meeting

From the Deputy Principals

Deputy Principal: Jenni Gardiner

Welcome to all the new students to Bankstown Senior College and welcome back to all the returning students. There are lots of exciting events and activities planned for this year and 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. Your ideas and contributions are vital in ensuring 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.

Parents are invited to attend the first Parent/Community meeting for the year on the 9th 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 offered by the College. Some activities planned for this term include; a Year 10 Geography excursion to Cronulla Beach, RSS water safety workshops, Whitecard training, floristry courses, visits to universities, Team-building Day, Valentine's Day, Crazy Hair Day, International Womens' Day activities, author visits, Macquarie Mentoring and the Young Humanitarians Conference.

Harmony Day is a very special annual celebration of Australia's cultural diversity, reinforcing the message that "everyone belongs". This message of inclusiveness is promoted at Bankstown Senior College with a showcase of cultural performances and activities. This year's event was spectacular with performers from many different cultures including; Aboriginal storytelling and music, Afghan traditional dancers, African drummers and Lebanese community music and dancing. There was also a very talented Henna artist who was extremely popular; students were queuing up to have her paint a beautiful design on their hand. The Year 12 Drama students did a fantastic job of keeping the crowd entertained as MCs of the event. It was great to see students dressed in their traditional costumes or dressed in orange to represent harmony. Students and staff from all cultures and backgrounds worked happily together, painting the banner and cooking sausages and pasta. These events require a lot of work and planning so a special thank you to all who were involved in making this important celebration a success.

Year 12 students need to be aware that your half-yearly exams are coming up in Week 11. It is very important that you develop a study routine so that you are prepared for these exams as they provide

you with practice for the HSC exam. To assist you in your quest to gain more marks we invited guest speakers from 'Elevate Education' to present a study skills session called "Ace Your Exams" to prepare you for your half yearly exams by providing you with strategies to study effectively as well as online resources such as practice exam papers. Remember to make use of the skills you are developing in your Learning Support classes and the mindfulness and wellbeing strategies you have learned in Mentor to help keep you in the best frame of mind during the exam period. Good Luck!

Deputy Principal: Maria Georgiou

2019 promises to be another year of ongoing learning at Bankstown Senior College. To all of our returning students, welcome back and I wish you continued success in your educational endeavours. To our new enrolments, welcome to the college and I hope your journey with us is a successful one.

There is much to be done this year in the area of HSC Minimum Standards. All of our Year 10 students will be attempting the Minimum Standards tests in Reading, Writing and Numeracy and will hopefully achieve the required level by the end of the year. This will mean that they will receive an HSC when they complete Year 12 in two years' time. Year 10 students will have two opportunities to attempt these tests this year and students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the Literacy and Numeracy Support periods to develop their skills in these areas. The WordFlyers program will provide students with even greater support in their development of reading and writing skills. Some students in Year 11 will also be required to achieve the appropriate levels in the Minimum Standards tests and will also be attempting them this year as well.

Year 12 students will be completing their half yearly exams this term. The most important purpose of these exams is for students to develop their exam techniques as the countdown to the HSC exams grows ever closer. All Year 12 students are encouraged to develop study plans that are workable and effective so that valuable preparation time is used to their advantage. It is during the study time that students will improve their understanding of their courses so that they are thoroughly prepared for their exams and assessments. As the Deputy Principal associated with Year 12 this year, I would like to encourage all students to make the most of all the support that is available to them by the College so that they can achieve their personal best this year. The Elevate program also provided Year 12 students with a great deal of advice in the area of exam preparation and study, and now is the time for its implementation.

Silver and Gold awards have already been achieved this year by a number of very hard working students, and I hope even more students are able to share in this achievement by the end of the year. Receiving these awards shows commitment, effort, perseverance and pride in learning.

Personally I would like to welcome all the new staff to Bankstown Senior College. They join a very committed and supportive staff whose priority is to provide the best possible learning opportunities for all students.

Have a great year!

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. They must work on suggestions and feedback given to them by their teachers.

Year 11 Advanced, Standard, EAL/D (English as an Additional Language/Dialect) and English Studies students have commenced their study. This year we are fortunate to have a new staff member, Ms Sheng to take one of the new EAL/D classes. Students have completed an assessment task and once it is marked must look carefully at the feedback from their teachers, in order to improve. Some students have not as yet achieved the HSC Minimum Standards in Reading and Writing from last year. These students will have two opportunities this year to attempt these tests. Students must take every opportunity to improve their reading and writing.

Year 10 is working through a new program, which will better meet the literacy needs of our students. This, along with a continuation of the "Wordflyers" computer program, will be of great assistance in readiness for the online literacy tests in Reading and Writing that the students will face later in the year.

EFS has begun the year with lots of productive learning happening in all classes under the excellent leadership of Mr Thai. We are also fortunate to have two new teachers, Ms Ang and Ms Nordstrom join the English/EAL/D staff teaching the EFS classes. We warmly welcome all our new staff.

Mrs Ginis
Relieving Head Teacher

SRC Report

Our new leadership team for 2019 has been finalised. The SRC members are:

Year 12 Captains	Karmeen Yalda Karlo Yalda
Year 11 Vice Captains	Hsu Htet Adam Eid
Year 12 SRC	Mahmood Marlin Shasho
Year 11 SRC	Batool Mohammed Hussein Ali Ashraf
Year 10 SRC	Mahboba Alizadah Mohamad Ali Emami Shikofa Malistani
EFS SRC	Kamila Asghari Malak Alied Iman Abbood

The team, along with many helpers from the student body, particularly year 12 students including Dean Ross, Ramsina Oshana, Mirna Yalda, Khadige Shariff, Nargis Bagheri, Mansyour Karimi, Nour Moslli, Noor Atisha, and Jesus Funez among many others, have already been immersed in a number of activities. On Valentine's Day on the 14th of February we raised \$513 by selling chocolates and cherries. This money has been donated to World Vision. Crazy Hair Day was also a great success raising \$232 for Leukaemia research. Thank you to all students and teachers who allowed their hair to be coloured. Lucas' hair truly was amazing!

Mrs Ginis
SRC Coordinator



Students from the SRC, EFS and Year 10 also assisted Ms Pascalis and Ms Rahimi on International Women's Day, in wrapping and distributing a gift of watermelon and grapes to all members of the college, for a gold coin donation. The generosity of the students and staff helped to raise over \$500, which will go to severely disadvantaged women in Africa.

The SRC helped with Harmony Day on the 21st March, selling tokens, cooking delicious food and giving out badges and ribbons. I'm sure everyone enjoyed this unique and wonderful day.

Ms Doyle has kindly agreed to the SRC's request of providing air conditioning in the cafeteria. This will make a huge difference to the comfort level of students in the hot summer months as well as in winter. We thank Ms Doyle sincerely.

Make sure you treat the student kitchen in the cafeteria with respect. Make sure you wipe clean anything you spill in the microwaves or fridge. Use the tap hygienically. Do not leave food in the cupboards or fridge overnight. Following these simple rules will ensure the area remains clean for everyone to use.

Lastly, please feel free to approach your representatives with any suggestions you may have to further improve college life.

Mrs Ginis
SRC Coordinator



A successful fundraiser for a great cause on IWD



International Women's Day is a global day where we celebrate and reflect on the vital and wonderful ways women have impacted our lives and the world we live in, as well as the vast achievements of women socially, economically, culturally and politically.

Marie Curie was a Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity.

Marie Curie was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, the first person and only woman to win twice, and the only person to win a Nobel Prize in two different sciences. She was part of the Curie family legacy of five Nobel Prizes. She was also the first woman to become a professor at the University of Paris. In 1995, she became the first woman to be entombed on her own merits in the Panthéon in Paris.

In honour of such reputable women as Marie Curie, the hardworking, dedicated SRC members and volunteers organised and prepared lovely watermelons and grapes to sell to raise funds for the Catherine Hamlin foundation supporting African women in their post-natal stage. We express a warm thank you to the generous students and teachers as we managed to raise a whopping \$555 which is an incredible amount. We are so grateful to the teachers and students for supporting such a good cause for International Women's Day. Lastly, a special thank you to all the students and teachers who were so kind and quick to give up their time to put in so much effort to make this happen, your help is very much appreciated.

Thank you for a great job everyone!

By Dean Ross, Year 12 student



RSS Report

Our students swimming to success

Rami (Suleiman) Botani, Eisha Yawarish, Fareed Murad Hanna and Marko Chiba were in a group of ten male students back in March and April in 2018 who trained hard to acquire swimming skills, their First Aid, CPR and Royal Life Saving certificates to gain life guard positions kindly offered to them by Belgravialeisure at Auburn Aquatic Centre. Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet were so happy to visit them at the pool in the January holidays. It is appropriate to use the pun swimming in the fast lane because that is what they did as they were all praised for their impressive work ethic and efforts and as a result all gained promotions. Fareed was recently titled Employee of the Month, Eisha became swimming instructor at three centres Auburn, Cabarita and Drummoyne, Marko is in the process of becoming duty manager and Rami became duty manager last year and gained permanency earlier this year. Ibrahim Almanawy also worked hard at the Centre for a couple of months increasing his swimming fitness and achieving well. Behind their success, there was a great collaboration of organisations to provide these opportunities. The College worked with STARTTS, ADSi, Jeff Moss, the trainer and Belgravialeisure forming a powerful network. The College and students are truly grateful to these excellent organisations whose efforts were so effective. This immediately gained media attention as the students appeared in the Torch newspaper last year and Rami and Eisha were interviewed and presented on SBS news in December 2018 in a story which focused on refugee swimming teachers breaking down cultural barriers in the pool

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-refugee-swimming-teachers-breaking-down-cultural-barriers-in-australia>

Recently, Mrs Pascalis attended a meeting with Belgravialeisure which has requested an official pathway of training for potential work positions for BSC students seeking lifeguard, supervising and teacher assistant roles in the immediate future. Belgravialeisure is taking great powerful steps in meeting the disability and culturally diverse needs of its community. We are immensely grateful for this major facility and the efforts of David Burns, the Regional Manager and his team who have accommodated our students and brought great benefits to their lives through their working roles. There is currently a team of female students training hard to potentially gain work. Narges Bagheri, Farzana Zargar and Karmeen Yalda are in the process of becoming teacher assistants. We are immensely proud of all these students especially Eisha, Rami, Fareed and Marko who have secured a good reputation for BSC in the wider community. It is

inspiring to see BSC students re-uniting at the pool supporting each other and finding such great solidarity outside the College.

Ms Pascalis & Ms Brunet



Ms Pascalic, Ibrahim Almanawi, Fareed Murad, Eisha Yawaris, Rami Suleiman and Ms Burenit in Auburn Swimming Pool

Mercy Connect celebrates a ten year commitment in supporting BSC students

Since 2010, our College through the Refugee Transition Program (RTP) has been fortunate to offer academic and welfare support to our students of refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds through Mercy Works – Sisters of Mercy in Australia & Papua New Guinea. This worthwhile initiative holds the Mercy Connect program which 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.

In 2018 the Mercy Connect program in Sydney had more than 70 volunteers and operated in 38 primary and secondary schools and campuses assisting more than 750 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 2019, we have the pleasure and benefit of the support from four highly committed tutors: Ms Chris Jinga, , Dr Allen Conduit, Ms Bronlyn Schoer and a new member, Lorraine Manning. 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 support and stability. We thank them wholeheartedly for stretching their good will to fulfil our students' needs. Please approach them when they are available in the library

to help you with your school work. They are very keen to meet you. We thank the executive staff of this incredible program Paul Taylor, the Co-ordinator and Jennie Ryan, the Manager and their 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.



In 2018, at the end of year gathering, Mercy Connect presented BSC with a ten year commitment certificate honouring the partnership between BSC and Mercy Connect in its support program for the students. Ms Brunet and Ms Pascalis were pleasantly surprised to receive this wonderful gift on behalf of the College. Mercy Connect executive staff were full of praise for their professional volunteers and school liaison officers and offered complimentary delicious homemade treats and special gifts. It truly was a very memorable occasion!

Ms Pascalis & Ms Brunet
RSS team

Young Humanitarians Conference

On 26th and 27th of February, selected students from Bankstown Senior College and Bankstown IEC attended the Young Humanitarians Conference organised by MYAN (Multicultural Youth Affairs Network), Red Cross, SES (State Emergency Services) and STARTTS. Students from 14 different schools gathered at Bryan Brown Theatre in Bankstown and had the opportunity to listen to inspirational speakers, participate in workshops and dances and to ask questions to Members of the NSW Parliament. Ms Rahimi, Ms Brunet, Ms O'Reilly and Ms Mraovic accompanied the students during the two days. The conference gave our students the opportunity to become aware of various volunteering groups and to be involved in activities and workshops helping them to broaden their experiences and build self-confidence.

Here is the report from Hsu HTET (Year 11):

I am really grateful that I got a chance to attend the Young Humanitarians Conference. That was absolutely awesome!

There were 7 workshops in this conference and I tried three of them. In 'Speed Mentoring', I got the chance to talk with and learn from people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, community development workers and people with refugee experiences. I had meaningful conversations in the areas of arts, culture, education, well-being, the legal system and employment. 'Taboo Talk' is really interesting and I loved it the most. We were able to talk about uncomfortable and difficult topics with a full and open mind and no one would judge us. I loved it so much and I chose to be a volunteer for 'Taboo Talk'. The last workshop I tried was the 'Art of Public Speaking'. I learned how to speak in public using my voice, body and motion and how to get the right message across through persuasion, presentation and how to release our stress caused by the presentation. And we did weird dance moves too!

Listening to Isaiah Dawe's inspiring speech about his life and his determination in life made me a lot stronger and braver than I was.

"Never give up!"

"Find your role model!"

"Know it's possible!"

Face and embrace your fears!" His mottos were totally inspirational.

The dance performances were so enjoyable and amazing. When talking about this conference, I can't forget about the food too. It was so delicious. We also got a chance to ask whatever we want to some politicians: Jenny Leong (MP for Newtown) and Jihad Dib (MP for Lakemba, the first Muslim man to sit in the NSW Parliament).

Throughout this great experience, I have learned to become more confident, believe in myself and stop doubting my decisions. Thanks, Mrs Brunet for this



amazing opportunity!



French Speaker visiting Year 12 French Beginner Class

Last Monday, the 18th of February, the Year 12 French Beginners class were honored by the visit of Ms Elaine Parent. Elaine is a lovely lady living at Lille, in the north of France. During the visit, Ms Elaine introduced herself by saying she is from London but after meeting her husband, who is French, she moved from London to Lille, France. They have three children, the oldest lives in London, the second in Australia and the youngest lives in France near her. Ms Elaine used to work for the Embassy of Great Britain and worked closely with English prisoners in jail in France. However, she is retired now.



On that day, Ms Elaine helped the French Beginners class to improve their communication skills. After a session with all students, she taught them some new vocabulary and grammatical words such as "un époux- une épouse". Also, the definition of some words like "piplette". After each session, each student had the opportunity of a private discussion with Ms Elaine.

Ms Elaine is a delightful and admirable person. Her openness and care are shown in her bright face. She has demonstrated availability to assist all students with joy and care and took time to come back to the school on Monday 25th February to say goodbye before she goes back in France.

And for whom who understands French:

Madame Elaine est une femme avec un grand coeur. Elle a su nous amener dans son univers avec sa délicatesse et la joie qui est reflétée dans son visage. Elle a une telle grandeur d'âme que personnes n'avaient pas de problème à communiquer avec elle. Au nom de toute la classe, je remercie Mme Elaine d'avoir pris le temps de venir nous rendre visite et de partager son savoir avec nous.

By Aminata Yr 12 French Beginners

International Women's Day Celebration at Auburn Diversity Services Inc

A small group of EFS and Year 10 students accompanied by Ms Rahimi and Ms Pascalis attended a celebration of International Women's Day at the Salvation Army Hall at Auburn organized by Auburn Diversity Services Inc (ADSi) on Thursday 7th March. This event showcased some musical performers from various cultures, a cultural costume parade and some meaningful speeches from key female figures in the community.



BSC students with their teachers were active participants as they confidently danced to the Middle Eastern drumming performance. Our students also participated in an artistic expression exercise relating to the world and role of a woman. The students received a gift bag filled with a hat, stationery and other small practical hygiene products as well as small accessories. Lunch was also provided at the end of the day. It was most enjoyable for us all to go out and learn in a different way and interact with each other outside the classroom. It was a pleasant change and a positive one for all women.

Ms Pascalis and Ms Brunet

Life is unpredictable when chasing a wave *Past the Shallows*

Living on a remote, mysterious island like Tassie, loving to surf yet frightened of the deep, dark ocean, the young Australian novelist Favel Parrett finds it an inspiration for her intriguing first novel, *Past the Shallows*.

Favel Parrett's debut novel, *Past the Shallows* published by Hachette Australia was the winner of the newcomer of the year, Australian Book Industry and the Dobbie Encouragement Awards in 2012.

Parrett captivates all with her warm humility, her humble intelligence, her bright smile and her talented literary works. The HSC English courses invite her intriguing novel as a new, fresh prescribed text into the classrooms as students explore the module, *Texts and Human Experience*. *Past the Shallows* was an obvious winner for the staff of Bankstown Senior College, Ms Ginis, Ms Pascalis, Ms Kormondi and Mr Hicks who chose it and appreciated its simplicity yet meaningful narrative expression, its complex intriguing plot, its authentic characters and its great wild Aussie ocean setting which is important for the native students to read and relate to in Standard English and for the CALD students of the EALD course to learn more about the Aussie landscape and culture. Set in the south east of Tasmania, the ocean becomes the powerful and ferocious character which reflects the violent character of Dad. He is the abnormal father figure of a dysfunctional family of three sons. The sons, Harry, Miles and Joe draw the sympathy of the readers and they hold a strong brotherhood through their many challenging moments in their young lives as they struggle with the absence of their mother and the abusive behavior of their dad. The mother death in a car accident is a mystery which travels through the plot as a secret for both the characters and the readers who try to discover it. Parrett expresses in person how "a secret can destroy a person and a family".



BSC was most fortunate recently as Parrett kindly accepted to fly in from Victoria to visit the College on Wednesday 20th March and offer a presentation which truly engaged the students even further into her novel. The students were fascinated by her "show

and tell" session of three items that she circulated including the seahorse, the shark egg pouch and the abalone shell which are strong sea symbols in her story. We discovered more about this 44 year old, fair skinned, talented, red head as the audience were fascinated by her background of surfing, travelling in Africa and caring for animals in her regular volunteer efforts.



Dean Ross, one of the English Standard students chose to read an extract from the novel which showed the genuine relationship between George and Harry. As a reader, he is drawn to this connection because it is fully developed and reminds him of his personal connection with his grandfather during a similar fishing experience to Harry and George.

Parrett speaks lovingly about her beautiful birthplace of Tasmania on the 18th May 1974 where she spent years of her childhood and the settings make their way into her novel particularly the home of the disfigured character of George. Parrett moved off the island to Victoria with her family but she repeatedly tells how the sweet memories of her birthplace stay in her heart like a beautiful image. Mahmood, a student from the EALD course forms a connection at this point, as he expresses "Most of us refugees can also relate to this as we have fled and left the place where we spent all our childhood years".

Marwah and Karmeen read significant parts of the novel with passion which were heart felt moments for Parrett. The presentation was an incredible experience for many who had never met the author of a book, had their copy signed and enjoyed a quick photo as well as a very sincere Instagram text from Parrett.

One of the best days of my writing life – talking to bright, amazing and passionate asylum seekers and refugee students at Bankstown Senior College. These students are studying PTS in a language which is not their first language and they are doing an incredible job. I was moved to tears many times today when students talked about what they loved about my book. I'm telling you – there was enough love in the room to light up the whole of Sydney. Thank you to the amazing teachers and students of Bankstown Senior College. My heart is full.

As students left the presentation, it was evident that the feelings were mutual. Students embraced Parrett by promising to go home to read the whole novel (if

they had not done so already) and those who were introduced to it for the first time borrowed copies for bedtime reading. We look forward to Parrett's return with the next cohort of students who have already felt the positive vibes from her original visit.

BSC students and staff 2019

Chasing the Light in the Ocean



Living in a remote isolated land, loving to surf while frightened by the deep dark ocean, the debut novelist, Favel Parrett now finds it an inspiration, writes MEHIDI HUSSAINI.

Favel Parrett is an Australian author. She is from Czech. She was born in Tasmania; the land that is golden and crisp, with an almost violet sky. The shore to the Indian Ocean holds a breeze with a cold wind of Antarctica.

She was a surfer, a postman girl and a DJ. She explored different jobs until her brother inspired her to follow her dream as a writer.

It was not long after the TAFF writing course that she started writing *Past the Shallows*. She has reflected the teenage voices of three brothers especially the engaging and vulnerable younger brother, Harry. The prose indicates the brusque family situation after their mother's mysterious loss on a very isolated harsh environment.

The novel reveals many human experiences such as loss, friendship, despair, tragedy, families and the challenges to communicate with the important people in one's life.

In the beginning, I thought Dad has this isolated way of life because he lost his wife but then I realized that the behaviour of Dad has been outraged by a mysterious relationship which mum had with another man.

The book is a moving tragedy reciting social and human experience to engage the readers in an eventful manner. "So real, so true this novel sweeps you away in its tide." said Robert Drewe.

Socially and culturally, the novel sets itself on the small, coastal settlement where the main work is a fishing industry and especially abalone harvesting. In this novel, the Ocean is representing a character. "I am in love with the Southern Ocean," the author said. The Oceans setting also imply the unsteady situation in a family in the rigorous environment of Tasmania. *Past the Shallows* has intrigued readers with prejudice, sympathy and empathy.

Past the Shallows is the winner of several awards such as Newcomer of the Year, Australian Book Industry Award (ABIA) 2012 and also shortlisted in different awards like Miles Franklin Award 2012 and ABA Booksellers' Choice Awards 2012.

Past the shallows is a story of the bond of brotherhood and the fragility of youth. The loss of a loved one and the anomaly of surrounding relatives. Its unique mystery made this novel most appealing for BSC students and staff.

By Mehidi Hussaini Year 12



EFS has Flower Power

Ten EFS female students enjoyed three sessions of training in Floristry. Each Tuesday, after their English lessons, the students met in the Meeting room to learn how to cut, arrange and prepare some interesting arrangements thanks to the initiative of the Lebanese Muslim Association (LMA). We are grateful to Tamana Mirzada and her team for organizing this fun-filled and worthwhile course for free. The students arranged a bouquet of beautiful long lasting Australian native flowers in the first week and then went on to do some box arrangements of roses and other floral varieties. This was truly a feel-good course as the students left every session with some colourful and fresh flowers which put a smile on everyone's faces. For the next three weeks, the students will look forward to a simple cooking/nutrition course.



Ms Pascalis



Female Student Leadership

On 7th march, two female students from each school got a chance to visit Parliament House for International Women's Day. At 9:30, Maddison O'Grady-Lee gave us an inspirational speech about her journey navigating leadership, gender barriers and finding balance. Throughout the speech, she encouraged us to be a leader of our own lives. She taught us that we don't need a position or title to be a leader. After that, we were given a tour around parliament house and asked questions.



We were told that members of the parliament meet in the chambers to debate bills (proposed laws) and represent the people from their electorate or state. The house of the representatives is the lower house of the bicameral parliament of Australia, the upper house being the senate. Red colour is used for the senate and green for the house of the representatives. Green colour is used for the house of representatives due to green dye traditionally being cheaper. TV camera and microphones are used to broadcast proceedings. In 1925 there was only one woman elected in the house. There are ten female representatives out of 42 in the chamber which is about 23%.

At 11:30, two female members of the parliament gave a speech encouraging us that society need more female leaders. She told us to take space because that is what men did. It finished at 2:30. It was such an incredible moment in parliament.

By Shokofa and Hsu Year 11 Students

HSIE Report

Handmade cards for a good cause

At the end of the school year in 2018, some Year 10 students from Mrs Brunet's Business Services course, together with a student from Mrs Azzi's Business Services class achieved an outstanding feat by making and selling 400 greeting cards, using photos of portraits and self-portraits made by 2017 IEC students, thanks to the involvement of Ms N. Parras and by 2018 Ms N. Skourtis Year 10 Visual Arts students who kindly took photos of their work. Each card was individually cut, folded and attached to it, was a trimmed photo which was placed in a cello sleeve with a bright coloured envelope. The cards were sold in packs of 10, with a few singular cards sold separately.



This project started last year thanks to the creative ideas of Ms C. Jinga, Mercy Connect Tutor. In its second year, after some guidance by Mrs H Brunet and by Year 11 student M. Saburi this authentic project was taken on board by a committed group of students who worked collaboratively, allocating to themselves the various roles. In a week, Shokofa, Somia, Yahya, Batool, Masoud, Meena, Maryam A and Zahira made and sold 400 cards achieving a net profit of \$460. Students also decided to whom they wanted to donate the funds raised. UNICEF and SAVE THE CHILDREN received \$230 each from Bankstown Senior College. When asked why these two organisations were chosen, the students' answer was a unanimous chorus: "Children are the adults of tomorrow. We need to look after them".

Mrs H Brunet
VET Business Services Teacher

TAS Report

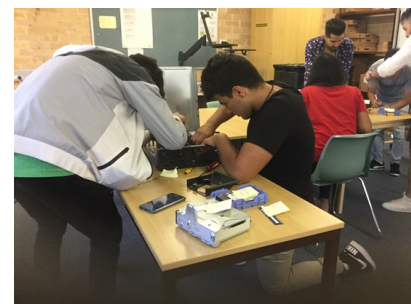
Information Processes & Technology Report

Year 11 students had their first hardware practical where they worked in groups to identify the main components of a typical desktop computer.

Four groups competed against each other to identify various parts correctly, follow correct procedure to isolate and remove components and put them back after testing each component.

Students learnt invaluable skills by working in groups after assigning roles: team leader, note taker, time keeper and report writer.

Ms Meissenr



Mammy and Jesus take steps to pursue the world of hospitality with Kenvale College

Thanks to the great initiative of Ms Parenzee, Mammy Kamara and Jesus Porras Funez, Year 12 students of Hospitality were supported by Ms Pascalis to enter a scholarship pathway in the Get Real Events program offered by Kenvale College of Hospitality, Randwick last year in November. We were so pleased with their success at interview to be chosen in a group of seven. They were given a great opportunity to participate in a worthwhile one week work placement exposing them to some valuable experience in the hospitality industry. Ms Parenzee and Ms Pascalis attended a Morning tea in January to honour their roles in this program. They were most fortunate to gain this opportunity with Kenvale College as it is a very reputable institution guaranteeing success to all its students who pursue courses with them.

Ms Pascalis and Ms Parenzee

By Mammy Kamara Year 12 Student

During January 2019, I enjoyed participating in a work placement course at Fairfield RSL Club. In my role at the front of House, I was asked to dress the tables in the morning and redress them after a customer finished eating. I was also taking orders and serving the customers as well as working in the function room.

I developed my skills as I listened and communicated effectively, learnt to stay calm while working under pressure and worked on my organisational and time-management skills. Through this work, I developed the confidence to talk to customers.

I learned that Event Management is about interacting with people and also working front of house.

I have learnt a lot of things about myself that I did not know and what I am capable of doing during this work experience and my experience has really influenced me to pursue a career in Events.

Winning this scholarship means achieving my dream to work in the hospitality industry. This scholarship means everything to me and it is very important to me because if I didn't get this scholarship it would be difficult for me to pursue my career in the future.



By Jesus Funez Porras Year 12 Student

The Get Real Events program is the name of a scholarship for hospitality. While you apply for the scholarship, Kenvale College offer you 5 days of work placement which helps you to know if that is what you really want. When I was doing my work placement at the Meat & Wine Co. I was learning a lot of things. Some chefs were teaching me how to prepare skewers of chicken and even kangaroo meat. I have learned how to make some salads and some other tips from one of the best chefs there and the executive chef too. On one of my days, I was really nervous because the executive chef was there supervising and the meat master chef, the head chef and the others were also there. So having all of them on the same day watching me, put a lot of pressure on me because being a beginner in the kitchen made it hard for me to do things in a perfect way. Apart from that, the work experience was very nice and now I am able to make a better choice about my career. This is just one more door I opened to see if I really wanted to pursue a career in the hospitality industry. But at this moment, I am still not sure what I want to study. I would really like to be a marine biologist and at the same time, a chef. So time will decide what career I will choose.

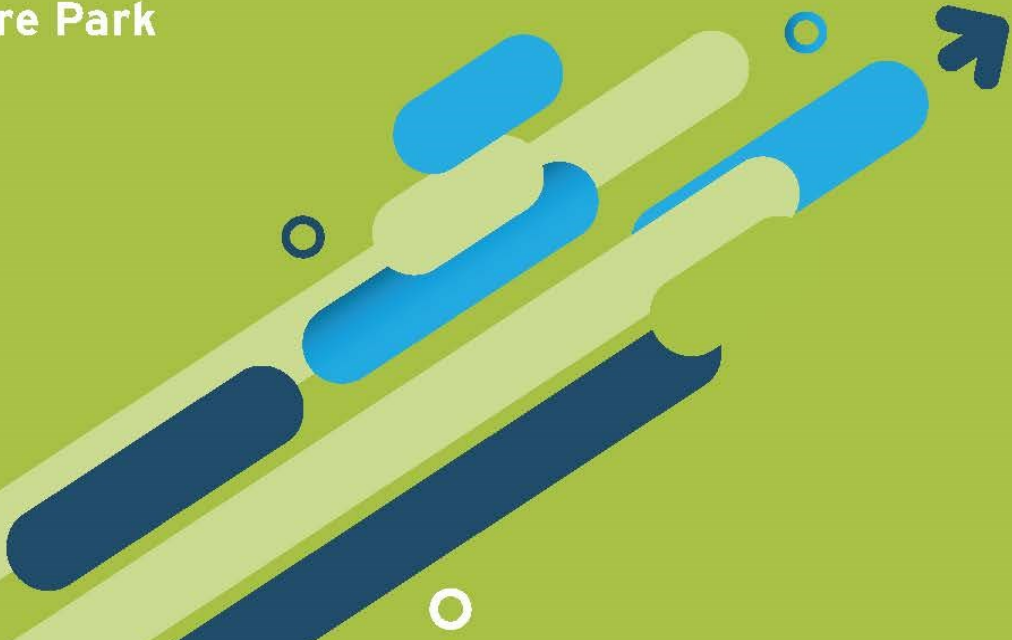




HSCAND CAREERS EXPO 2019

30 May and 31 May, 9am-3pm
1 June and 2 June, 10am-3pm
Hordern Pavilion
Moore Park

VISITOR GUIDE



hscandcareers.com.au

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Everyone enjoys Harmony Day at BSC

On Thursday, 21st of March, Bankstown Senior College celebrated Harmony Day. The day was intended to show cohesion and inclusion in Australia and promote a tolerant and culturally diverse society. As our college is very multicultural and diverse, Harmony Day is always a great opportunity for us to celebrate and recognise the many cultures that make up our college community.

As all the students and teaching staff at our college come from different cultural backgrounds, celebrating Harmony Day allows us all to respect, appreciate and celebrate a sense of belonging for everyone. To start our Harmony Day celebrations, all the students created a collaborative artwork with multi-colored banner, illustrating how diversity is our strength and that everybody belongs. The day also created an opportunity to think, talk about and recognise how our differences make Australia a great place to live.



Students and staff were encouraged to dress in traditional clothing from their culture or in orange, the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day.

The day was a great success. It was filled with laughter, excitement and enjoyment. The Student Representative Council was able to raise \$505 through Gold coin donation and sausage sizzle on the day.



It was another successful year celebrating Harmony day with joy and togetherness at BSC. We will continue to celebrate this cultural diversity every year.

Ms Rahimi
Community Liaison Officer


Harmony Day Celebration

Harmony Day is a special day and one of the favourites at the college to celebrate. It's when all the cultures and backgrounds come together to embrace and share their culture or to take part in another's culture, to bring all of us together in harmony through music, dancing and Mr Prior's top notch didgeridoo skills. We were so lucky to have such talented performers put on a show for us. From the Tribal Warrior Group we had some indigenous music and dancing; from the Coffee Coloured Group we witnessed an African style of drumming that gets into your soul, a traditional Afghan dance from the Settlement Service International Group that was just beautiful with some of our own students who were such great dancers, and a thumping Lebanese drumming performance that got so many up and dancing from the C Darz Entertainment Group.

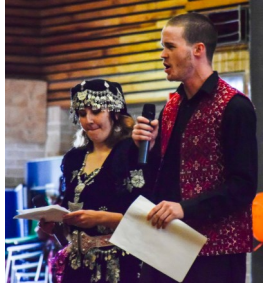
On a personal note it was such a privilege to be able to MC such a beautiful event alongside the supercalifragilisticexpialidocious school captain Karmeen Yalda. I would strongly encourage everybody to do it, as it's an experience I won't ever forget and will always warm my heart when I remember it, so many smiles laughs as well as some red hot dance moves from students and teachers (Ms Kojic Mr Kametopoulos) made it the best day I've had all year. I'm so very thankful to be at a school with so much diversity and friendship where everyone belongs in harmony with one another. It's simply inspiring and a perfect reflection of what harmony day is all about.

Lastly on behalf of everyone at the college I would like to extend our deep gratitude and thanks to Ms Rahimi, Ms Fedes, Ms Fajou for organising the event and all the SRC members and students who helped pull it all off without a hitch - thank you so very much.

*To see all in harmony, is a calming Master piece.
All belong all are welcome, to be.
Whatever you want, live your dream, Find your peace,
and if help you seek, a friend you'll see whatever you need.
We are free, because we are all living in Harmony.*

By Dean Ross Year 12 







2019 CALENDAR

For your diary / notice board

Term Dates 2019:

Term 1:	Wednesday 30 th January - Thursday 11 th April
Term 2:	Tuesday 30 rd April - Thursday 4 th July
Term 3:	Tuesday 23 th July - Thursday 26 th September
Term 4:	Monday 14 th October - Tuesday 17 th December

Term 2: 2019

IWAA Citizenship Talk Recess TLS	02 nd May
Year 10 Beach Excursion	11 th May
Coffee Course Canterbury Hurlstone Park Club	6 th May
Coffee Course Theory at BSC Year 10-11	8 th May
Careers Search Excursion Year 10	21 st May
Wellbeing Expo	11 th June
College Assembly	18 th June
ZONTA Birth Kits Day	2 nd July
Parent /Teacher Night	2 nd July
Last Day	4 th July

