



Bankstown Senior College Newsletter

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From the Principal

As we enter Term 3, I would like to say how pleased I am at the number of students who are continuing to attend the college every day, despite the trying times in which we are living. Almost all students have returned refreshed for a very important term of learning, especially for our Year 12 cohort. We have also welcomed a new preparation class, most of whom are recent graduates from our Intensive English Centre.

HSC students and Year 11 students have recently received Semester 1 reports, and Year 10 and EFS will be receiving their reports in the next two weeks. Although there will be no formal Parent Teacher evening this year, due to COVID restrictions, parents are more than welcome to contact the college by phone or email and talk to teachers about their child's progress.

I would like to reassure you that Bankstown Senior College is following all Department of Education protocols regarding COVID restrictions. Every classroom is provided with hand sanitiser and disinfectant and students are expected to clean their desks and hand sanitise at the beginning of each lesson.

Students are constantly reminded (and encouraged) to remain at least 1.5 metres from each other in the quadrangle at recess and lunchtime. The cafeteria is only for takeaway purchases. Finish times have been staggered to minimise disruption and overcrowding at the bus stop after school and all staff have had training in infection control protocols. Although we cannot control practices in the wider community, in our College community, we are doing everything we can to keep students and staff safe in these unprecedented times.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to a safe and productive Term 3.

Anne Doyle

From the Deputy Principals

Deputy Principal: Jenni Gardiner

It was great to welcome all students back to the College for face-to-face learning in Term 2. Our students should be commended for the way they have adapted to the new Covid-safe protocols such as sanitising hands, disinfecting desks and following physical distancing guidelines. Please remember not to send students to school if they are unwell, even if they have mild symptoms.

We understand the disruption to learning during Term 1 has made some students feel anxious about their assessments and exams so we have provided extra learning support, particularly for Year 12 students. The Department of Education's [learning from home](#) hub has links to educational resources to support students learning from home for all stages of learning and Year 12 students can visit the [HSC hub](#) which contains high-quality, on-demand resources to help them prepare for their exams.

BSC teachers are very busy developing their knowledge and skills in order to best teach and support student learning. We understand that staff professional learning is vital for successful student learning so the staff have undertaken professional learning and training in problem-solving and strategic planning, along with "What Works Best" – effective practices to support school improvement and enhance the learning outcomes of our students. Teachers have also spent time reviewing the NSW curriculum reforms which should give teachers more time to concentrate on deep learning by reducing the hours teachers spend on non-essential learning and compliance requirements and better prepare Year 11 and 12 students for future work and study with new learning areas and career pathways.

Deputy Principal: Maria Georgiou

Term 2 has indeed been very different for the students and staff of Bankstown Senior College. Despite the challenges of the Covid-19 virus, students and teachers have worked hard to ensure that teaching and learning has continued to occur in the best possible way. We all experienced remote learning and realised very quickly how important it is for us to learn together, face to face. Many students and teachers also learnt very quickly that Google Classroom is a very important way of communicating and learning in the absence of the actual classroom, and we also realised very quickly that this type of learning can be quite frustrating in the absence of adequate technology and internet access. We certainly learnt a lot this term!

Many additional educational events and activities which would normally have taken place in Term 2

have been cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions. We have been unable to conduct assemblies or excursions, but as restrictions are lifted over the next few months, we will return to these events. Staff are constantly undertaking online professional learning on ways to improve learning and teaching in the areas of literacy, numeracy, technology and assessment, which will promote effective and improved teaching and learning processes.

Bankstown Senior College maintains its commitment to helping students in Year 10, Year 11 and 12 meet the minimum standard in literacy and numeracy. So far, the majority of Year 10 students were successful in achieving the minimum standard in reading and are in the process of completing the numeracy and writing tests. We will continue to give our students more opportunities to achieve the minimum standard throughout the year.

I would like to also acknowledge the tireless work done by the BSC and IEC Transition Teams which meet regularly to discuss and support the transition of students from the IEC to the College. Many students have expressed their gratitude for having a team of people who help make their transition into "high school" a smooth and comfortable one. Congratulations to the graduating EFS and IEC students this semester. I am looking forward to getting to know our new Preparation and EFS class which will be starting next term. Congratulations too, to the many students who achieved Gold and Silver certificates this term through their hard work, determination and citizenship qualities. This is an outstanding achievement in one term.

I wish everyone a safe and restful holiday and hope Year 12 students make the most of this coming break before their Trials begin next term.

Bon Appétit! Year 12 French Excursion 2019

At the end of last year, Year 12 French Beginners students went on an excursion to the *Alliance Française* and French restaurant 'The Little Snail' with Madame Maguire and Madame Brunet. The excursion supplemented students' understanding of the unit: *French Food, Dining and Eating Habits*. Students had the opportunity to learn about French cuisine and experience a typical 3-course French lunch.

First stop was the *Alliance Française*, the French cultural organisation that promotes French language learning in Sydney. Here students quickly brushed up on their food vocabulary and fearlessly took turns ordering some *chocolat chaud* and *croissants* in French with the waiter. They also took turns interviewing the waitress in French. Keen not to ruin

their appetites, students took turns directing Madame Maguire and Madame Brunet in French to the restaurant.

Once we arrived at the restaurant, students ordered their meals in French with some brave souls ordering *les escargots* (snails). Even though we were all full after the *entrée* and main course, we still had room for *le dessert* - *bien sûr!* The teachers were extremely proud and impressed by the confidence students showed speaking French with native speakers and trying a new cuisine. Students thoroughly enjoyed the experience, so much so, that a few students have already been back to visit the restaurant for a second time! C'était magnifique!

Here are some of the reviews that students gave of their favourite dish *en français*:

Student: Binh Giang Nguyen

Favourite dish: *le pâté*

« J'adore le pâté maison parce qu'à mon avis c'est délicieux. »

Student: Vivianne Hamik

Favourite dish: *les escargots*

« Mon plat préféré c'est les escargots, cependant tout était parfait. »

Student: Elias Karimo

Favourite dish: *les crêpes*

« J'aime la crêpe le plus parce que c'était trop délicieux et formidable. »

Student: Khairiyah Rauf

Favourite dish: *le dessert*

« J'aime le dessert le plus parce que c'était sucré. »

Written by: Mme Maguire



Eating pâté and escargots



Enjoying croissants Alliance Française



At The Little Snail Restaurant

Refugee Students Support (RSS) Reports

We are very proud of BSC's Friends of Zainab scholarship recipients. At the end of term 4, 2019, The Public Education Foundation proudly presented a vast array of scholarships to worthy students in the public school system. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 social distancing conditions, a special ceremony at the majestic Sydney Town Hall which traditionally takes place in May had to be cancelled. This is a very prestigious event with inspiring speeches and entertaining and highly talented performers which makes this night most memorable.

However, the necessity of online learning due to the virus has enabled all applicants of the scholarship to be winners and receive necessary support. A large group of BSC students were successful recipients of the Friends of Zainab scholarship offered to refugee students. The successful applicants for the Senior Secondary category included Ali Ashraf, Batool Mohammed Hussein, Masoud Karimi, Mohammed Al-Juboori, Ranya Al-Abbood, Riyam Alkhamis, Sandy Ajo, Shokofa Karimi, Vivianne Hamik, Zahira Yosufi, Najma Osman and Fatima Alizada. The successful applicants for the Tertiary category included Farzana Zargar, Karmeen Yalda, Marwah Al-Khameesi, Mehidi

Hussaini, Narges Bagheri, Noor Sako, Ramsina Oshana and Wisam Kabaha. The Tertiary category of this scholarship provides financial assistance for the first two years of full time university study for the successful students. There were special category scholarships offered for Rand Al-Zuhairi and Merna Yalda who received \$1000 each and Mahmood Mahmood who received the NSW Teachers Federation Refugee Scholarship TAFE Tertiary award. Mohammad Kharwarnia was offered the Western Sydney Leadership Dialogue award.

Fortunately, the unsuccessful applicants from 2019 were also winners when PEF contacted them in April to offer them refurbished laptops, free of charge to keep, which they then kindly delivered to the College. We are most grateful to Karen Griffiths, the Head Scholarship Administrator, for her efforts in fulfilling this great initiative. The following students who were offered these laptops and an OPTUS data package for internet access: Shir Ali Mohammadi, Fatima Mohammed Hussein, Rebal Jbeil, Aram Shmoni, Sameer Alkhamis, Soghra Yari, Azal Alkuheli, Shahzada Taqizada, Rafid Dawood, Semat Al-Khameesi, Mamlakat Yari, Eh Gay Doe and Eh Ler Wah.

We are so appreciative that BSC students are generously supported annually by the Public Education Foundation.

Overall, BSC had a record achievement of scholarships and we are most grateful to the scholarship donors and judging panel of the Public Education Foundation. We sincerely thank all the Refugee Student Support team, Year Advisors, executive and teaching staff for their assistance with online applications and written references. The students have carefully spent their funding from the scholarships on educational technology and other school related expenses. We are currently supporting applicants for 2021 and look forward to their success.

Ms Pascalis, Ms Brunet and Ms Rahimi



Shahzada and Rabel Laptop Recipients, generously offered by the Public Education Foundation

Refugee Week 2020 – WELCOME

The Refugee Council of Australia has declared 2020 the "Year Of Welcome." Every year Bankstown Senior College acknowledges and celebrates the contributions made by refugees and asylum seekers to the Australian society, at the Term 2 assembly and with various activities. This year, due to COVID-19, we celebrated in a different way: during LMN students learnt the difference between the terms "migrant, asylum seeker, refugee and internal displaced people" and answered questions in a PowerPoint Presentation. Students were shocked to learn about the staggering statistics linked to this global issue. The students in the two photography classes helped acknowledging the theme "Welcome" by taking photos. Others made a video clip with interviews of students about what the word "Welcome" means to them. Students watched the video during LMN and Year 12 students watched a short clip that Favel Parrett sent us about the same theme. Parrett, the author of "Past the shallows" (a book studied for HSC English) was very grateful of having the opportunity to share her ideas on this year's theme for Refugee Week.



Refugee Week 2020 also has a sub-theme: "Share a meal, Share a story". The health restrictions we must follow due to COVID do not allow us to share a meal,

but two Year 12 students have generously donated their time and cooking skills to share two recipes by recording themselves cooking these recipes from Afghanistan and Somalia. These videos were watched during LMN and both students and staff were amazed by these students' culinary abilities.

Moreover, thanks to our Community Liaison Officer, Ms Rahimi, we have started a new initiative: "share a recipe from your country". Before the end of the year, all the recipes shared by students and staff will be collated in a special BSC College Cookbook. We would like to thank the SRC members who went to the different classes during LMN to explain to the students about this initiative. We invite all the students to contribute their favourite recipe to this cookbook, but please make sure to use the template available in "**Collaboration/HS/Composite/Refugee Week 2020/Recipes**".

We would like to thank Mr Hicks, Ms Pascalis-Assi and Mrs Ginis for their support.

JRS Women's Space

JRS Women's Space kindly delivered 50 dignity kits to the College with essential hygiene products including sanitary pads, facemasks, hand sanitizer and other essential goods to ensure women and girls have their rights met. They also included some service information in the bags, including information from Family Planning NSW.

We are most grateful to JRS, for their efforts to fulfil this great initiative. 30 female students from Bankstown Senior College and 20 from Bankstown Intensive English Centre were offered these bags. Please note that JRS services are confidential and for women's only. They are supporting women across Western Sydney who are seeking asylum, temporary visa's and are refugees .

If you are interested in the services at the JRS Women Space, you can contact them on 0422 065 549 or drop-in to 4 Victoria Road, Parramatta on Wednesdays 10am-4pm.

Remember: you need to look after yourself first, before you can look after others.

Q. Rahimi, H. Brunet and M. Pascalis
Refugee Student Support Team



TAS/CAPA Report Visual Arts

Students in Year 10 Visual Arts course created self-portraits which reflected their individual personalities. They experimented with principals and elements of design, including aspect, ratios, tones, depth, proportions, colour and textures.

Stylistics representations gave the portraits lots of expressive forms.

Ms F. Pascalis



Year 10 visual Arts self portraits

Hospitality

Year 10 hospitality students preparing and serving sandwiches as part of their mandated assessment task. Staff were most impressed with the skill and professionalism demonstrated by the students.



Great Achievement - Congratulations!



Najma Osman has been accepted for a double course at Kenvale College for Cert IV Commercial Cookery and a Diploma in Hospitality Management. She has been accepted for the Smart Skilled and Funding program by the NSW government. A successful career opportunity after studying VET Hospitality at BSC.

Ms Parenzee

Construction

As part of their mandated assessment task, the year 12 Construction students undertook a project to make new picnic tables. They also worked out how much concrete and other materials were required to construct areas that can be safely used by the school community. Students used jigs to lay concrete slabs.

Mr Ram



Year 12 Visual Arts and Ceramic Artworks



**Ziweh, Fatima, Bano, Camila,
shamsia,Duy Cam,Luy Year 12**

Ms F.Pascalis



2020 CALENDAR

For your diary / notice board

Term Dates 2020:

Term 1:	Wednesday 30 th January - Thursday 9 th April
Term 2:	Tuesday 28 th April - Thursday 2 nd July
Term 3:	Tuesday 21 st July - Thursday 24 th September
Term 4:	Monday 12 th October - Tuesday 15 th December

Term 3:

SDD : Professional learning	Monday 20 th July 2020
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Classes Begin 2020:

HSC Trial Exams	Monday 17 th August-Thursday 27 th August
Year 11 Yearly Exams	MONDAY 14 th September to Thursday 24 th September