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# Newsletter

No.7

15 November 2021

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Year 12 students Primary School Day

## In this issue:

- Principal's Report
- Dunlop House
- Freeman House
- Hollows House
- Melba House
- Y9 Cryptography
- U2 Studio Art
- Green Team

# Principal's Report



On behalf of the Blackburn High School community, congratulations and well done to the Year 12 graduating class of 2021 and all the best during the examination period. We are very proud of your fantastic achievement and thank you for enriching our school community over the past 6 years. I know that Mr Vezey, who sadly passed away earlier this year, would be very proud of you too. At the farewell breakfast on Thursday 21st October, we celebrated and reminisced about the wonderful experiences and memories at Blackburn High School that have shaped the people that they have become and the values they have developed along the way that will be put in good stead for the next phase of their lives. We acknowledge the families, dedicated teachers, and Education Support staff, who encouraged and believed in them. Well done to the Year 12 student leaders, who have been exceptional ambassadors and outstanding role models and provided a crucial 'sounding board' on all aspects of school life: Sarah Cotterell, Seb Valle, Koby Crothers, Lauren Antoniou, Jasmine Kellock, Jake McCall, Georgia Ord-Steel, Madeline Aujard, Umesh Ravivarman, Jason Yang, Jason Kelly, Victoria Lazaris, Ella Mason, Ruby Jones, Henry Shand and Krystal Martin. To the Year 12 Class of 2021, we commend you for your incredible resilience, hope and optimism. It can feel like the end with your formal 13 years of schooling concluding shortly, however, it is truly the beginning of your next journey. In whatever path you take, keep the school values as your moral compass and use what you have learnt to make your mark in the world by making it a more compassionate and inclusive place for all people.

It was a privilege to meet one of our students recently, Kendall Gaudion, who blew me out of the water with her incredible humanity and creativity as she spoke about her artwork that is on the cover of the 2021 Yearbook titled "Under Construction". She explained "When creating the cover for Under Construction, I decided to take inspiration from our school's current state. Although we're all separated and things can seem a bit hectic, we're connected by this lovely time of reconstruction. This is our time to take a step back and admire the beautiful things in the making. I hope this cover brings you joy and a bit of colour during this crazy time :)"

Kendall's words and artwork are inspirational and capture a unique moment in time for our School community that evokes a sense of hope, gratitude, and renewal following the two years of COVID lockdowns. There is plenty of physical construction going on around us, with the new relocatables, new staff carpark, the Freeman locker bay, and the much-anticipated STEM Centre, as well the social and emotional re-construction of all of us as human beings as we emerge out of isolation.

Congratulations to the 2022 Student Leaders and we look forward to working with them next year together with the School Council Student Representatives, Year 7 Leaders and Mentor Leaders, as part of the extensive Blackburn High School Student Leadership Team.

**Ms Joanna Alexander**  
Principal

2022 STUDENT LEADERS	STUDENTS
School Captains	Jamie Ryan and Jeremy Chen
Dunlop House Captain	Fletcher Irvin
Freeman House Captain	Dylan Hosken
Hollows House Captain	Mia Barrett
Melba House Captain	Ashleigh Perkin
International Captains	Cici Zhang and Max Sun
Music Captains	Laura Vosinthavong and David Goddard
Environment Captain	Joey Armstrong
Performing Arts Leadership	Kendall Gaudion
Social Justice & Wellbeing Captain	Amelia Rutherford-Lemon and Harvey Warren
Sport Captains	Rebecca Hedley and Grace Phillips

# Dunlop House



## Farewell to our brilliant Year 12's

On the 27th October we had a wonderful celebration of our Dunlop Year 12 Class of 2021. It was an emotional time saying farewell to these students who have been an integral part of our House and school. This year's group had the added issue of dealing with COVID and remote learning. This group were such a tight knit unit and are a credit to themselves and their families. On behalf of all the Dunlop teachers we wish you well for the upcoming exams and for the future. It has been a privilege to have played a part in your education.

For our other students we look forward to a period of normality and want students to make the most of this final month of schooling. It has been a year when students have had to adapt quickly and we have been very proud of how resilient students have been. A strong last month will stand us in good stead for a productive 2022.

*Mr Mark Pasquali*  
*Proud Dunlop House Leader*



# Dunlop House



## MEET OUR 2021 YEAR 12s

*Our Year 12s are such an important part of our House and we have decided to feature Year 12 student profiles throughout the year.*



**Name:** Hadeel Almusalami

**Been at BHS since:** 2016

**Favourite Subject:** Design Technology & Materials

**Plans for next year:** Going to Uni

**If you won a million dollars, what would you do?** Help people in need

**What are you most looking forward to this year?** Going back home to see my family after finishing Year 12

**What is at the top of your bucket list?** Going camping for an entire month with friends and family.



**Name:** Jaya Burchill

**Been at BHS since:** Year 7

**Favourite Subject:** Physics

**Plans for next year:** Go to university

**Favourite food:** Korean Barbeque

**Favourite animal:** Monkey

**Who is your hero?** Muhammed Ali.

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?** Japan.



**Name:** Hansi Mamidi

**Been at BHS since:** 2016

**Favourite Subject:** Biology

**Plans for next year:** University

**Favourite food:** Woolies mud cake

**Favourite animal:** Dolphin

**What is at the top of your bucket list?** Travelling to Italy or paragliding.

**Who is your hero?** My mother

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?** Spain



**Name:** Zoe Jephcott

**Been at BHS since:** Year 7

**Favourite Subject:** Geography

**Favourite food:** Peanuts

**Favourite animal:** Koala

**What is something you are proud of?** Going to America for basketball

**What is at the top of your bucket list?** To drive through a puddle and absolutely drench someone

# Freeman House



## House Leader Introduction

It has been exciting seeing the students back onsite after an extended period of Remote Learning. I would like to acknowledge the Freeman students for their engagement during Remote



Learning and for the flexibility they have shown in returning to onsite learning. The staggered return gave the House and Mentor Teachers a good opportunity to reconnect with students and allowed everyone to adjust back to the school environment.

The new Freeman locker bay was completed as a nice gift to the Freeman students upon their return to school. It was fun seeing the confusion and chaos that took place—watching students find where their locker had been moved to when they returned. The locker bay has freed up the corridor in the Old Freeman building and there is plenty of space in the new building for students to access their lockers. We are very fortunate to have these facilities and I am sure all students will take pride in maintaining these for all current and future Freeman students.

## Year 12 Celebrations

We celebrated and farewelled our Freeman Year 12s who have been fantastic contributors to the Freeman culture during their time at Blackburn. We held an assembly in New Freeman where we handed out goodie bags and had a good laugh at their Year 7 school photos. I would like to acknowledge the Freeman Year 12 students who held leadership positions during 2021 while balancing their final year of secondary education. The House appreciated the extra support in the running of activities during the year. I would like to thank the Freeman Class of 2021 for their passion and commitment to the House and we wish them all the best in their exams and their future endeavours.



# Freeman House



## YEAR 12 PROFILES



### Julia Gangur

**What's your favourite subject?** Health and Human Development

**What are your plans for after Year 12?** Probably university

**What's an imaginary subject that you wish you could take?** Broomstick flying classes from Harry Potter

**What's your dream job?** Pilot or customs/border protection officer

**If you could choose any two famous people to have dinner with, who would it be?** Harry Styles and Dylan Obrien

**If you were a wrestler what would your entrance theme song be?** Golden by Harry Styles

**If you were a vegetable, what do you think you would be?** Corn



### Lianna Liu

**What's your favourite subject?** Studio arts

**What are your plans for after Year 12?** Entering culinary school and finding a part-time job

**What's an imaginary subject that you wish you could take?** Criminology

**What's your dream job?** Owning a cafe and/or bakery

**If you could choose any two famous people to have dinner with, who would it be?** Vivienne Jaeggi and Riku Fujimura

**If you were a wrestler what would your entrance theme song be?** I have no absolutely no clue whatsoever

**If you were a vegetable, what do you think you would be?** Hm, maybe a potato because of the different ways to can be cooked?



### Madelene Bishop

**What's your favourite subject?** Health

**What are your plans for after Year 12?** Uni

**What's an imaginary subject that you wish you could take?** NA

**What's your dream job?** Queen Elizabeth III

**If you could choose any two famous people to have dinner with, who would it be?** Jacinda Ardern and Jazz Thornton

**If you were a wrestler what would your entrance theme song be?** Another one bites the dust - Queen

**If you were a vegetable, what do you think you would be?** Chilli



### Jasmine Kellock

**What's your favourite subject?** Methods

**What are your plans for after Year 12?** Studying some form of science at uni

**What's an imaginary subject that you wish you could take?** Jedi training

**What's your dream job?** Something in neuroscience research

**If you could choose any two famous people to have dinner with, who would it be?** Lin-Manuel Miranda and John Mulaney

**If you were a wrestler what would your entrance theme song be?** Supermassive Black Hole - Muse

**If you were a vegetable, what do you think you would be?** Cauliflower

# Hollows House



# H

Well, to say it's been an interesting start to the term is an understatement!

We began our term much like the last one ended, with remote classes and bit of extra time to sleep in. First we were able to welcome back our Year 12 students onsite to complete their last few weeks of class, and we are so happy for all other year levels to finally be back with us as well! Students and staff have adjusted and adapted to the quick changes that have brought students back on site sooner than anticipated. It is great to see our classrooms filled with life again.

Hollows would like to welcome our newest staff members, Ms Diane Patron our new French teacher,

and Mr Kai Yin our new Science teacher. Mr Yin will also be taking over as the new Mentor Teacher for H6. Welcome to the Hollows Family!

Sadly we are also saying farewell to our Administration Assistant, Ms Hayley Jones, who is moving on to a fantastic new career opportunity. We wish her the best of luck in her new role!

Replacing Hayley is Ms Tina Tian who has joined us from the International Support Team. Welcome Tina!

***Ms Kelly McGrath, Hollows Assistant House Leader***



# Hollows House



# H

## GLAD TO BE BACK!

I've really enjoyed returning to on-site learning at school. I found it hard to stay motivated during online learning and even though school this week has been tiring, it's been really amazing to see all my friends and learn inside an actual classroom again. Everyone has been really supportive towards our return to school and I'm so excited to finish the school year off strong!

*Mia Barrett, Year 11 Hollows student*



I have enjoyed my time back at school. I have loved being able to see my friends and teachers again. Yes, I have to get up so much earlier now, but I can easily cope with it. Doing schoolwork is generally easier when we are doing it onsite.

Overall, being back at school is great and it's good knowing that we most likely won't need to go back online again.

*Malik Alamin, Year 7 Hollows student*



# Melba House



# M

## HOUSE LEADER

Term 4

Welcome back to onsite learning for all of our Melba students. On behalf of the Melba House staff, a massive thank you to parents for supporting the students to complete classes during the remote learning period. We understand that this presented many challenges to families but know that you tried your best which is all we could ask given the circumstances. To our students, thank you for your engagement during this time and for quickly adapting back once again to Teams, OneNote and many other learning platforms. Our Mentor Teachers did a fantastic job during this time checking in daily with their mentor students and offering support where required.

## ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

Melba Class of 2021

Congratulations to the Melba Class of 2021 who have completed their final year 12 classes and are now undertaking the VCAA examination period. Melba has been incredibly lucky to have this group of students as members of the house for the past 6 years and we thank them all for their contributions during house events and within the mentor program. We are incredibly proud of the way this group of students persisted with their studies throughout the year and wish everyone all the very best with life after Blackburn High School.

The year 12's had a great final week dressing up in a range of themes.



# Melba House



## EVENTS

### Melba House Fundraiser

The Melba House Fundraiser has been rescheduled and took place on Friday, 5th November.

We are looking forward to raising much needed funds for the Eastern Emergency Relief Network who have supported a large number of families throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.



## HOUSE STUDENT LEADERSHIPS

### Returning to Onsite Learning- Q & A- Melba House Student Leadership Team

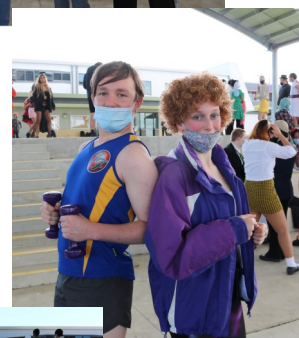
#### What have you enjoyed about returning to onsite learning?

- Alana- *Social Connections*
- Ashleigh- *Being able to learn face to face again*
- Beatrix—*Working in groups and being able to focus more easily*



#### What did you learn in remote learning that can help you during onsite learning?

- Kira- *How to be more adaptable to changes in the learning environment*
- Cyanne- *Improving ability and learning through ICT*
- Disha—*How to work more productively and at a faster pace*



#### Are you missing anything from remote learning?

- Markus- *Sleeping in and extra time after school*
- Jacqui- *Having my own space to work*
- Sienna—*Freedom of going out at lunchtimes on walks with the dogs*



#### What are you looking forward to in 2022?

- Emily- *Getting to meet new teachers*
- Natalie- *Attending onsite for the whole year*
- Lavi- *Being able to enjoy school social events with no restrictions*



# YEAR 9 CRYPTOGRAPHY

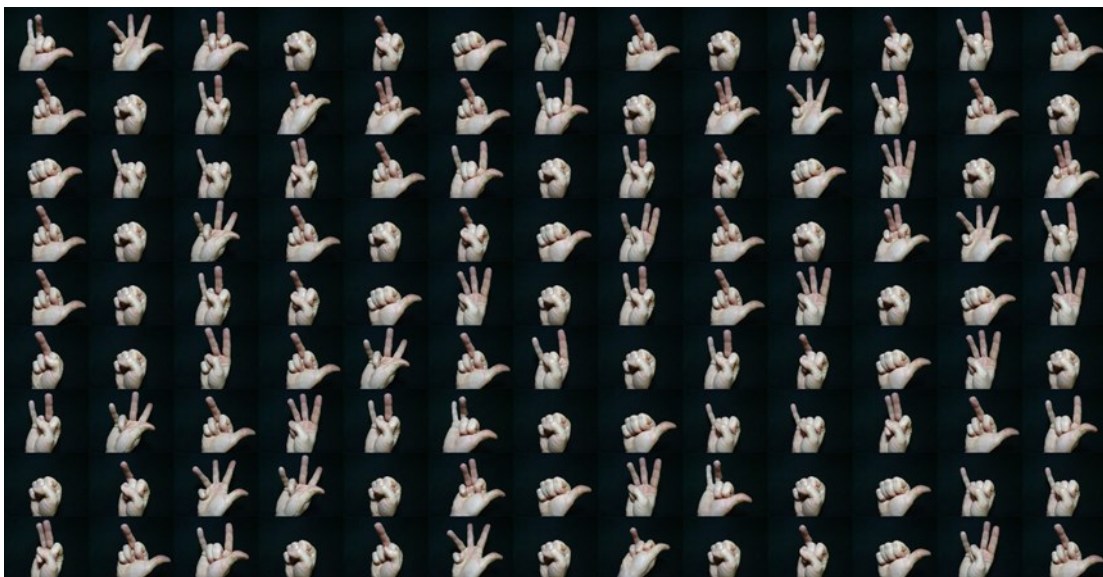


## CRAZY COMPLEX COLLABORATIVE CODE-CRACKING CONUNDRUMS IN CRYPTOGRAPHY CLASS

During the first few weeks of remote Cryptography classes, Mr Bulman's Year 9 Cryptography class were divided into teams in order to complete the "Alan Turing Cryptography Challenge", named after the famed British cryptanalyst who was instrumental in helping the Allies decipher the Nazi's communications which were encrypted using the Enigma machine. You may have seen Benedict Cumberbatch play Mr Turing during the film "The Imitation Game".

With each lesson came a new code-cracking challenge. Almost immediately after the day's puzzle was posted, the class groups excitedly collaborated to decrypt it. During these lessons, the Teams channels became a buzzing hive of activity. As expected, the most consistently effective teams were the ones where all members of the team consistently contributed – the scoring system was designed to reward group collaboration as well as accuracy and speed.

Here is an example of an encrypted message that Blackburn High's Year 9 students attempted to decipher (most of them succeeded!) Each unique hand signal (except the closed fist) represents a letter of the alphabet, and each raised finger represents a different numerical power of 2. Can you decipher the message and answer the question?



Mr Bulman encourages all future Year 9 students who enjoy doing puzzles and problem-solving in their Maths Pathway classes to choose Cryptography as an elective.

*Mr Adam Bulman, Cryptography teacher*

# U2 STUDIO ART



# GREEN TEAM



Earlier this year, the Green Team created collection points in each House area for used batteries and bread tags. Over time, each House has collected these items to be recycled, and this week the Green Team tallied up all of the results. The House with the most collected items was Hollows, but closely followed by Dunlop, then Freeman and Melba.

All up, as a school we collected a whopping 25.7 kilos of batteries! This is an amazing effort, because now all of these batteries will be diverted from landfill. Normally if batteries end up in landfill, they will let out toxic chemicals that are terrible for the environment, but now the Green Team will send these to a recycling facility where they will be properly sorted and turned into new items.

We also collected several boxes of bread tags, which are normally far too small to go through the normal recycling system. By collecting these, we will send them to a charity that processes them and uses them to make wheelchairs. We are so happy to support a great cause, while also saving plastic from landfill.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection of these items, and also the amazing Green Team for sorting them all and taking them off to be recycled.

*Ms Kelly McGrath  
Green Team leader*