



Blackburn High School

20 September 2019

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Principal's Report

We are very proud of the students at Blackburn High School and would like to congratulate them for their hard work and endeavour throughout the term. In particular, well done to the students who were formally recognised for their outstanding achievement and effort at the Award Assemblies. I would also like to acknowledge the dedicated teachers and education support staff who continue to provide encouragement and support for the students.

On Tuesday, 17th September, we held the Term 3 Whole School Assemblies, which reflected on the theme of *Citizenship*, which is one of our school values. *Citizenship*, is about contributing in a positive way to our school community and beyond and to make it a better place for everyone. At Blackburn High School, we believe that what we do, say and how we behave towards one another, matters as it has an impact on the people and the environment around us. I regularly get wonderful feedback from members of the public, who comment on how impressed they are with the manner in which our students conduct themselves when they are on public transport and in the wider community.

Last week, our Environment Captain, Ellen Tobin-Spaull together with Ms Kelly McGrath, addressed the teachers at a staff meeting and discussed the importance of adopting a sustainable approach to our lives. It was a very compelling presentation and we are now considering adding to the existing solar panels at the school as well as continuing our war against waste.

Ellen and the other student leaders are great ambassadors and role models who exemplify the school values of *Respect, Pursuit of Excellence and Citizenship*. The selection process to determine the 2020 Blackburn High School student leaders will take place at the start of Term 4.

The Junior and Senior Ensemble Concerts were conducted this week to very appreciative audiences who marveled at the wonderful performances of the various bands, orchestras, ensembles and choirs. At the Senior Ensemble Concert, we said farewell to the nineteen Year 12 music students and wished them well for their future endeavors.

On behalf of the Assistant Principals Jane Richards and Geoff Vezey, we wish you all a safe and enjoyable term break.

Joanna Alexander
Principal





D

Dunlop House

THANK YOU MR MCGIRR

It is with enormous thanks that we farewell Mr Anthony McGirr this week. Mr McGirr has been an Assistant House Leader for the past two years for Dunlop House. During this time, he has been a wonderful contributor to both the school's Music Program and to Dunlop House. He has also led the school's tech crew, and has establish a terrific D&D lunchtime club.

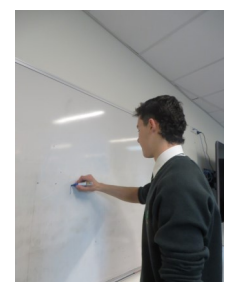
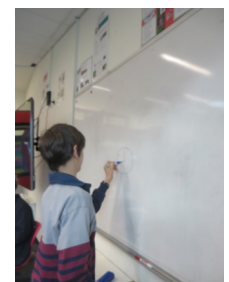
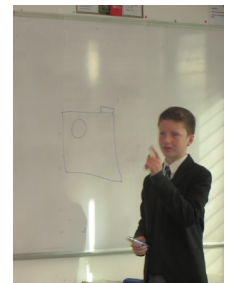
We are so grateful to Mr McGirr for being so giving of his time and energy to support many students. We will miss him greatly. We wish him every success and happiness for the future.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Our terrific Dunlop student leaders recently helped to organise and run a week of intra-house games during Week 6 of the Mentor Program. The students created several fun challenges for the Mentor Groups to compete against each other. These included a Minute-To-Win-It challenge, a Basketball challenge, a Pictionary challenge and a Spelling Bee.

Congratulations to Mentor Group D12 who won the overall competition and a pizza lunch! Congratulations also to Kai Morks for winning the Dunlop Spelling Bee, Jamie Messenger for winning the Basketball Competition and Mr Bulman for winning the teacher Basketball Comp for bonus points!





D

Dunlop House

DIVISION AND REGIONAL ATHLETICS

Congratulations to all the students who represented Blackburn High School and competed at this year's Division Athletics. We had an enormously successful day, winning the overall school competition for the third year in a row! We wish the following Dunlop students the best of luck for the upcoming Eastern Metropolitan Region Athletics meet on 11th October: Tim Antoniou, Belal Ghulami, Grace McMahon, Emerson Murphy, Daphne Papamichael and Madeline Snaidero.

NETBALL STAR

Congratulations to Harrison Lefebure who has been selected for the U17 Victorian Boys Reserve Netball Team. This is a huge coup for Harrison who is a bottom-aged player, being only in Year 8. We wish Harrison every success with his training and the upcoming National competition in April 2020.

BIG SCIENCE COMPETITION

Congratulations to Alec Garrison and Billy Glenn for their participation and achievement of a High Distinction in the recent Big Science Competition.

VICTORIAN LANGUAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to the following Year 8 students for their participation and achievements in the recent Victorian Language Championships: Peri Blacket, Elouise Davey, Golden Luu, Karlo Rivera, Issac Goddard, Vishwa Ramkumar, Isabella Gaspero, Charly Andrew, Tamanna Bharaneedharan and Ayla Wilson.



Ms Claire Greve, Dunlop House Leader



F

Freeman House

Well done to all the Freeman students who have been involved in the many school activities this term. We wish our students doing Unit 3&4 subjects all the best for their practice exams in the holidays.

Today we celebrated Ailsa Davidson's last day as Mentor Teacher to Mentor Group F4 as she goes on family leave. We wish Ailsa all the best and want to acknowledge her great work as a Mentor Teacher.

Ailsa is pictured below with some of her Mentor Group.





H

Hollows House

HOL-LYMPICS

Our Mentor Groups participated in the first ever Hollows Olympics (Hol-Lympics) recently. It was great fun for all as students pitted themselves in various activities of the mind and body. Activities consisted of the spelling competition on Monday (I may have made the words too hard!!). The tug of war proved a great test of teamwork and physical strength whilst the paper plane contest tested the budding scientists. Wednesday and Thursday saw outside games in the freezing cold Melbourne weather. Mr Cairns' physical challenge proved very difficult (all those squats!!). Friday was back to Mentor Groups for picking up M & M's with chopsticks as well as a Hollows trivia test.

In the end it was H9 who came out on top and took out the fish and chip lunch. They were closely followed by H7 and H14. As you can see from the photos great fun was had by all. Next year we are planning for a summer and winter Hol-Lympics. Well done everyone.





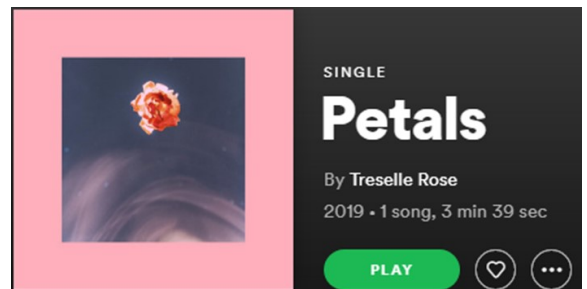
H

Hollows House

ACHIEVEMENTS

Treselle Peters

At the last Hollows assembly, we were treated to a rendition of a recently released song called "Petals". The song was the work of our Year 9 student Treselle Peters. You can hear Treselle's awesome song on Spotify. Congratulations Treselle.



Jericha Edillon

Speaking of great voices, our Year 11 student Jericha Edillon was part of the Australian Girls' Choir that last week backed Hugh Jackman's show at Rod Laver arena. A huge congratulations Jericha.



Lauren Baker

Lauren was awarded best speaker at a recent debating event. The team was asked to debate the topic, that we should ban junk food in schools. The Blackburn High School team was arguing in the affirmative. Lauren was 1st speaker and outlined the team's key arguments.

Lauren spoke incredibly clearly and acted like the group leader on the evening. She was a good support to her team on the evening and also ensured they were well stocked with chocolate.





Melba House



Whitehorse Division Athletics and Eastern Metropolitan Region Athletics

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the Whitehorse Division Athletics on 27th August. We had a total of 37 Melba students attend and we know they gave it their all!

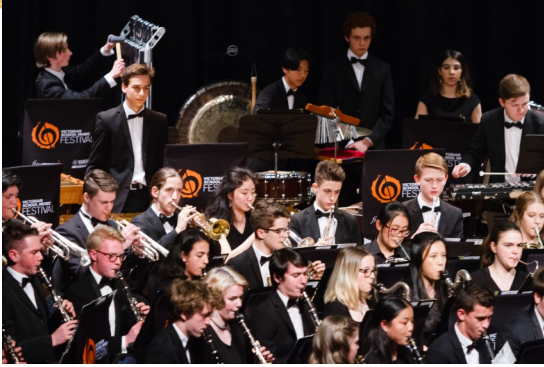
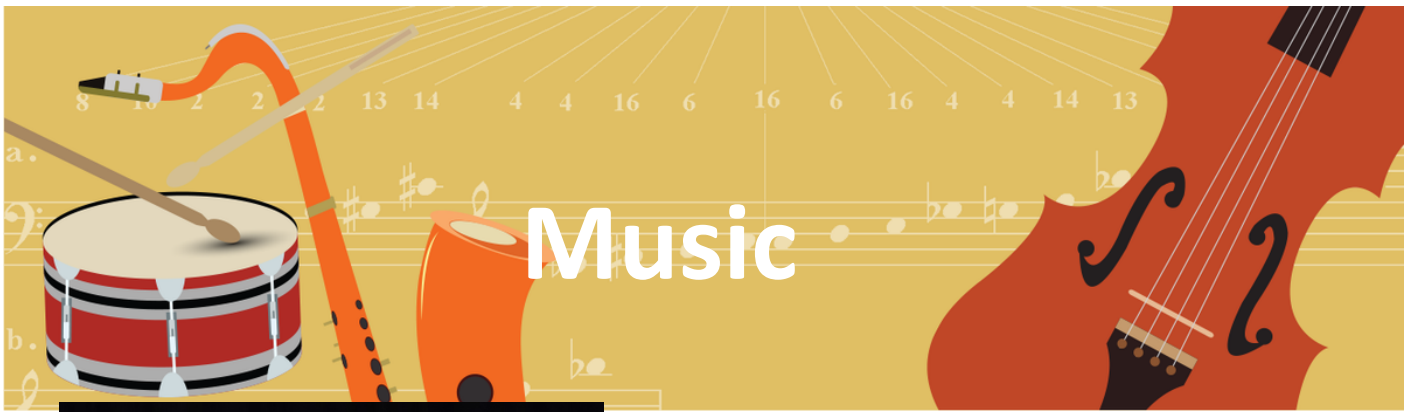
We also congratulate our two Melba Age Champions from the event:

Bethany Hayen – 17 Years Girls

Keith Ngugi – 20 Years Boys

Well done also to all of the students who qualified through to Eastern Region for Athletics to be held on the 11th October.

ATHLETE	EVENT
Joel Carter	15 Years 1500m
Joel Casey	17 Years 1500m
Sarah Cotterell	16 Years Shot Put
Rachael Curwen	17 Years 800m 17 Years Triple Jump
Bethany Hayen	17 Years 100m 17 Years Long Jump 17 Years High Jump 17 Years Discus 17 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Grace Hayen	15 Years 90m Hurdles 15 Years High Jump 15 Years Shot Put
Louise Hewitt	17 Years 100m Hurdles 17 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Adam Joseph	17 Years 110m Hurdles
Carlos Lai	16 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Ethan Maea	20 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Jade Maea	14 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Keith Ngugi	20 Years 110m Hurdles 20 Years Long Jump 20 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Nathan Philactides	14 Years 100m Hurdles
Kayla Pratt	17 Years 4 X 100m Relay
Maurice Valle	20 Years 800m 20 Years 1500m 20 Years 400m 20 Year 4 X 100m Relay



VICTORIAN SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

The VSMF invites school bands and orchestras to perform in some of Victoria's premier performing spaces to present the results of all that hard work and dedication of ensemble rehearsals, and experience the thrill of performing for your peers. It's the full sensory experience where our musicians have the opportunity to make music, listen to themselves and their peers making music, watch how it can be done differently and analyse their own performance afterwards by listening to the recording provided.

The structure of each event consists of three basic activities:

Performance – Ensembles perform works from a proscribed music list or guidelines. All works on the music lists have an educational focus, allowing students to experience music composed specifically for this idiom.

Education – There is a panel of two adjudicators. Ensembles receive a recording of their performance with audio adjudication. Hearing what the adjudicators think of your performance in real time helps teachers develop their rehearsal strategy for the rest of the year.

This is accompanied by a written adjudication as per a set of criteria developed in conjunction with music educators. Immediately after performing, each ensemble receives an "on-stage" tutorial with the Chief Adjudicator where the students work on aspects of their performance (that's the magic bit).

Listening – Each ensemble listens to other groups perform within their section. The students are encouraged to use their critical and analytical listening skills. Maybe they will hear something that could be used in their own ensemble rehearsals/performances.

This is a great opportunity for us to reflect on our progress throughout the year.

For our efforts this year we have been awarded:

Quattro String Orchestra - Participation
 Junior String Orchestra – Silver Award
 Concert String Orchestra – Gold Award
 Chamber String Orchestra – Gold Award

Novice Band - Participation
 Junior Band - Platinum
 Concert Band - Platinum
 Symphonic Band - Platinum

Junior Big Band - Platinum
 Intermediate Big Band - Platinum
 Senior Jazz Orchestra - Platinum

Concert Choir - Gold
 Vocal Ensemble – Platinum

We are very proud of the work that our students do through their participation in instrumental music, their effort and commitment to working at their highest level possible to represent themselves, their ensemble and their school in the wider community.

Thanks to all of the Blackburn High School staff who have supported students, following them up with missed work, checking missed work and generally encouraging their schooling and musical life at the School.

A big thanks to the work of all the instrumental music teachers who support the strive for excellence. To those involved directly in the taking of the ensembles or in teaching instrumental music in weekly lessons, your contribution to these results does not go unnoticed. It is a very big team effort that supports our students to do well in music.

The Royal South Street Eisteddfod has been followed up with a celebration of all the year's work at the Junior Ensembles Finale Concert on Wednesday 18th September and Senior Ensembles Finale Concert on Thursday 19th September.



ROYAL SOUTH STREET EISTEDDFOD

Royal South Street Eisteddfod is done and dusted for 2019. It was a great year for amazing performances across the board with adjudicated feedback providing great support to the conductors and ensembles. Students represented themselves, their ensembles and their school at the highest level.

We are very proud to release the results:

Concert Choir 2nd place in Young Prize for Choirs (Open Section)

Vocal Ensemble 1st place in Secondary School Choir

Junior Band 1st place in Junior Concert Band Section

Concert Band 3rd place in Intermediate Concert Band Section

Symphonic Band 1st place in Peter Clamp Memorial

Premiere Grade Concert Band Section

Junior Big Band 1st place in Junior Big Band Section

Intermediate Big Band 1st place in Intermediate Big Band Section

Senior Jazz Orchestra 1st place in Senior Big Band

Junior String Orchestra - played in Junior String Orchestra Section. Students performed at their highest level and received positive feedback for further improvement.

Concert String Orchestra – played in Intermediate String Orchestra Section. Students performed at their highest level and received positive feedback for further improvement.

Chamber String Orchestra 3rd place in Senior String Orchestra Section

Symphony Orchestra 3rd place in D’addario Open Area Symphony Orchestra

Flute Ensemble 1st place in Instrumental Ensemble

Clarinet Ensemble 3rd place in Instrumental Ensemble

Congratulations to all of the staff in Instrumental and Classroom Music for their amazing work and their commitment to the pursuit of excellence in our Music Program. Thanks to the whole school staff for their ongoing support of the students as they come in and out of classes. We so appreciate your support. And to our parent music community for their cheering us on in person, on email and online.



Ms Jemima Bunn, Director of Music

Student Leadership and Community Links

On the evening of Wednesday, 28th August, Daniel and I, accompanied by Mr Bai, visited State Parliament on the annual School Captains' Tour of Parliament House.

We started the night conversing with other School Captains from all around Melbourne and with some of the politicians who work in the Upper and Lower Houses. From there we split into groups and were given a tour by the politicians, including their private offices, basement level, the Upper and Lower Houses and the Queens Room where we saw her statue. Throughout the evening we talked about how parliament is run and how anyone who wishes to can become a politician, represent Victoria and do good in today's society.

The tour was very informative with interesting facts, for example the width of the table in the Green House had to be two sword lengths apart so the leaders couldn't kill each other and that the mace was stolen one hundred years ago and its whereabouts is still unknown.

We learned a lot and it was very rewarding. We would definitely recommend future School Captains attend this event! Thanks to Mr Bai for accompanying us and to Denise and Ms Richards for organising our attendance.

Ashley Burton, School Captain





The English Department has also hosted a number of guest speakers during the term including an Indigenous Culture workshop run by Dean Stewart, poet Cameron Semmens who spoke to the Year 7 students and got them writing their own poetry, and Complete Works Theatre Company performances and workshops for our Year 12 English students of their texts this year— The Crucible, Year of Wonders, Macbeth and Romeo & Juliet.

WRITING COMPETITION

Alana Saunders in Year 10 recently entered an Education Week writing competition hosted by North Blackburn Square Shopping Centre, with the support of her English teacher Ms Kate Potter, and won a \$1000 prize for the English Department.

Part of this prize money has been used to purchase books for the Resource Centre and also included a visit by Alanna and two friends to the Melbourne Writers' Festival. The girls spent several hours in Readings at the State Library Victoria selecting books, and were thrilled to hear some of their favourite authors speaking at the Writers' Festival.

Congratulations Alanna!





YEAR 7 AND 8 INTERSCHOOL SPORT

This week saw the last of our winter sports for the Year 7 students take place, with Blackburn High School fielding 4 table tennis teams, 4 basketball teams and 2 hockey teams. The students had a fantastic day out and represented the Blackburn High School community with pride. The major success of the day was the Year 7 Boys Hockey Team who won all of their round robin games and have made it through to the Eastern Metropolitan Final to be played at the Hawthorn/Malvern Hockey Centre on Tuesday 22nd October.

The Year 8 students have their winter competitions for table tennis, basketball and hockey next Thursday, 19th September. We wish them the best of luck with their endeavours!

THE OLYMPIC CHANGE-MAKER

The State Olympic Change-Maker forum was incredibly inspirational and motivating. The environment of 140 young people all coming together with the same drive and passion was awe-inspiring. I feel honoured to have been nominated for this award and for the opportunity it gave me to meet Olympian's and hear their stories. By coming together, we were able to learn from each other's points of view and discuss the difficulties we were facing in making a positive change in our communities. The forum, in its first year, was an unforgettable experience in which I feel privileged to have been a part of.

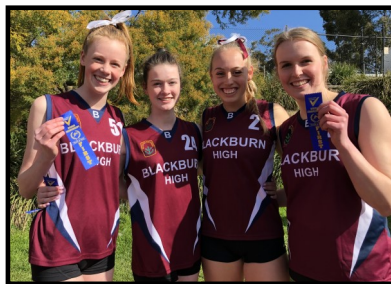
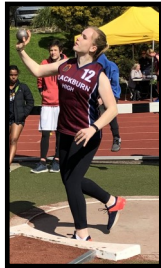
Bethany Hayen





Sport

Whitehorse Division Athletics



On 27th August, approximately 150 Blackburn High School students headed out to the Doncaster Athletics Track for the Whitehorse Division Athletics competition. It was a fantastic day, we had some amazing individual results and for the third year in a row Blackburn finished way out in front of the other schools in the division. The final placings were as follows:

Blackburn High—1st Place—1,867 Points

Box Hill High—2nd Place—1,341 Points

East Doncaster Sec—3rd Place—1230 Points

Koonung Sec—4th Place—982 Points

Box Hill Sen SC—5th Place—258 Points

SEDA College—6th Place—35 Points

We also had some outstanding individual results and have 47 students going through to the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Finals in various events which will take place out at Knox on 11th October. In particular, congratulations to the following students;

Hannah Linnett—14 Years Age Champion

Elise McWilliams—16 Years Age Champion

Bethany Hayen—17 Years Age Champion

Keith Ngugi—20 Years Age Champion

Nathan Philactides—14 Years 100m Hurdles Record

Ms Nadine Roche, Carnivals Coordinator



Resource Centre

Over the last few weeks we have increased our Library resource collection by adding to our catalogue a large number of websites relating to the areas of study which are in the curriculum for our students this year.

The benefit of using websites retrieved through our Library catalogue is that these have all been checked for accuracy and credibility by the Schools Catalogue Information Service. That is, you can be quietly confident that information contained in these websites is current, correct—not dodgy!

Websites recently made available through the Blackburn High School Library catalogue cover the following topics:

- Ancient civilisations
- Ancient Egypt
- Natural disasters

To browse our book, electronic and website collections from your own computer:

Open the Resource Centre tab, log in to the catalogue using your normal log in details, type your topic in the search field and see the results.

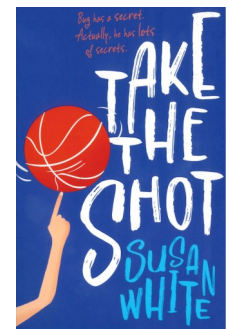
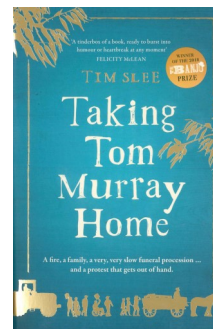
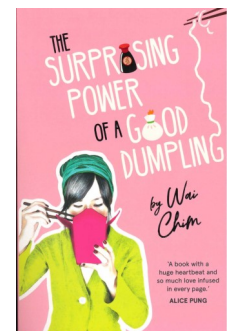
VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to those students who completed this year's Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge: Alana, Catherine, Genevieve, Hannah, Lauren, Rachel, Sayuri, Christopher, Anna and David.

Many of these student read well beyond the 15 books required by the challenge—well done everyone!

Ms Liga Darzins, Resource Centre Manager

While you are in the catalogue, have a look at our new fictions titles:



Reader recommendation

For lovers of suspense—*Panic*, Jeff Abbott

When filmmaker Evan Casher is summoned home urgently he finds his mother brutally murdered on the kitchen floor and a hitman waiting for him. It is then he realizes that his parents are not who he thought they were, his girlfriend is not who he thought she was—his whole existence is an ingeniously constructed sham. And now that he knows it, he is in terrible danger...

An absolute page turner!

