Friday, 4th March 2011 ........No 5

HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS
Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the House Performing Arts festival last Friday evening. The array of talent on display was unbelievable. Well done to Landy for their 1st place overall. A huge thank you for the many hours of time our staff put in to help stage this event, particularly Steve Hardie, David Howes and Ron Hansen with the tech crew. Great to see the large turnout of parents, student and staff on the evening.

I had the pleasure of spending last Thursday with the students and staff on camp. What a great day, great location and activities. The students were fantastic and it was nice to relax with them. I particularly enjoyed the beach with the students taking many happy snaps. Thanks to the staff who organised the camp, in particular, Geoff Vezey and Greg Hlasko, as well as all those who gave up their valuable time to spend it building relationships with our Year 7 students. This is a very important part of our Year 7 program.

I was lucky enough to attend the VCE Season of Excellence on Tuesday and heard Elana De Gleria Clark’s composition performed by our orchestra. This was an outstanding performance.

Cyber safety

Cyber safety refers to the ways students keep both themselves and their friend’s safe on the internet.

Students are now producers of web content on sites like MySpace and Facebook. Much of that occurs outside the school environment. However all students are reminded to be very careful of who you allow into your social networking sites, such as Facebook.

Dangers can include:

- bullying or harassment (cyber bullying)
- accessing inappropriate content
- contact with strangers
- posting private information
- using (or stealing) content owned by others eg images, music or videos
- plagiarising: taking ideas or information created/owned by others without referencing their origin
- not using critical thinking skills when using the internet
- not seeking support offline when there is an issue.

At home, it isn’t uncommon for students to be ‘doing their homework’ with six or seven screens open for different tasks and activities. They might be chatting, sending real time messages, listening to or downloading music, contributing to social networking spaces like MySpace or even gaming or sharing videos from their mobile phones.

Using the internet at home can be an appropriate leisure activity that is enjoyable and fun. Visiting this online space is virtually no different to any night out your child may have.

Most parents want to know:

- where their child is going and why
- who their child is with
- what are they doing
- when they should be home.

These questions when applied to an online space change very little. Parents can ask:

- where their child is going online and ask whether these places are safe
- who their child is with online and are they real life friends or ‘online friends’ who they have never met
- what their child is doing and saying. Are they revealing information that may make them unsafe or writing or receiving information which is harmful or hurtful
- if their child is spending too much time online. The availability for this as a 24/7 activity can affect students’ time offline and needs to be appropriate so it is reasonable to question how much time is being spent online.

Sandra Woodman
Principal
UPCOMING CONCERTS

Sunday 20 March S Stage Band perform at Parliament House
Wed 6 April Autumn Concert – Beaumont Hall

Concert Dress

The Music Performance Uniform is worn for all concert performances. Due to our profile as a music school, we regard our onstage presentation as a very important aspect of our stagecraft.

The music performance uniform is divided into two codes within the major ensembles. Performance ensembles are divided thus:

A) Junior – Intermediate Dress

Concert Band, Junior Band, Novice Band, Junior String Orchestra, Quattro Strings, Junior Stage Band, Intermediate Stage Band, Concert Choir.

Male
- Black cotton shirt; black trousers; black shoes; socks.
- Boys’ shirt to be worn tucked in.

Female
- Black cotton shirt: preferred ‘fitted’ w. ¾ sleeves; black pants or skirt; black shoes; socks.
- Girls’ shirt may be worn (tail) ‘out’.

B) Senior Dress

Symphonic Band, Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Senior Stage Band, Senior String Orchestra.

Male
- Black Suit (or dinner suit), white shirt, black bow tie, black shoes, socks.
- Hair: Any long hair to be tied back with all-black hair accessories

Female
- The senior girls’ outfit is an ‘own choice’ selection and they may choose their own black evening dress/pants, as long as they conform to the following strict guidelines:

Evening Dress

- Dress Style: formal, modest, below knee when seated. Opaque black material. (No t-shirt material)
- Neckline: no cleavage. Black undergarments to be worn
- Arms: may be sleeved or sleeveless, but must have at least three-finger’s width straps across shoulder.
- Hosiery: black.
- Shoes: may be open or closed black evening shoes. Heels must be practical for onstage / backstage steps, wet or outdoor conditions etc.
- Hair: All longer hair to be tied back with all-black hair accessories
- Jewellery: Modest use of jewellery is permitted.

Symphony Orchestra Performs at Melbourne Recital Centre

Symphony Orchestra performed on Tuesday a work written by Elana De Gleria Clark (2010) ‘All That Is Gold’. The Melbourne Recital Centre is the newest venue in Melbourne and is modelled on the European design concert halls. Sounds produced are very clear and resonant and provided students with a very different performing opportunity.

Re-Enrolment of Instrumental Music Students

All families of students intending to take Instrumental Music Lessons or participate in BHS ensembles, please note that you must return an enrolment form with levy payment to the Front Office as soon as possible so that lessons can commence.

New BHS students with Previous Music History

New students to the school who already learn an instrument and intend to continue this at BHS, please return your enrolment forms as soon as possible Come and see Maureen (Music Secretary) between 8:30am-12:30pm, if you still need to pick up a form.

Instruments For Sale
Jacob Smith Trumpet
One Owner, Original Hard Case, Includes Essential Elements 2000, $250 ONO, Suit Beginner
Phone Margaret 0409 196 887 / 9878 8834
Last Friday the school community was fortunate to be entertained by four diverse and well presented productions as part of the House Performing Arts Festival. What is perhaps the most exciting aspect of this festival is that the whole thing is rehearsed and prepared by our students. Throughout the final week sets were constructed and filled the music store room. Trees, cars, a fireplace and even a large TV have emerged.

During the day, each house performed the set song – ‘Africa’ by Toto – with accompaniment. All houses put a strong performance together but in the end it was Landy that sang with strength and clarity to win the section. Bradley Todd won Best Direction and Best Accompaniment went to Landy.

Our houses took us on a rollicking ride through Hairspray (Porter), Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Landy), The Blues Brothers (Strickland) and Peter Pan (Cuthbert). Well performed overtures were the standard for all. Highlights of the night include six foot dwarfs, a euphonium playing Admiral, cardboard cars, animals who could speak to humans, and speedy scene changes. Students showed a great sense of fun, which especially came through with all the slapstick humour and all those who participated did so with real energy and cooperation.

The evening showcases the extended talents of our students and the way in which they can produce superb results is something that our school community can be very proud of.

The evening was well attended with standing room only left. I would like to thank all student leaders who spent two weeks working with their houses, Friends of Music for their front of house work, music staff and their work in directing the ‘traffic’ and Mr Steve Hardie who put the whole event together.

**Festival Awards**

- Best Musical Arrangement: Selene Messinis
- Best Male Actor: Jasper Cornish
- Best Female Actor: Yana Millane
- Best Choreography: Laura Harris
What is Keys Please?

Keys Please is a positive and proactive program for learners and their parents/guardians that introduces the different driving skills and experiences a learner needs to become a responsible and safe licensed driver – including the importance of forming a positive partnership with their parent or supervising driver, and the need to acquire 120 hours of driving experience in all driving conditions.

Good drivers aren’t born. They are made. And the best way to become a good driver is to get plenty of driving experience.

But sometimes, learning how to change gears, or even how to change lanes can seem a breeze compared with the challenge of getting your parents/guardians to hand over the car keys.

Keys Please can change that.

Keys Please is the first step into the driver’s seat. It’s an informative and interactive forum for you and your parents/guardians that introduces you to the different skills you will need when learning to drive, including some valuable tips to help you get that all-important licence.

And if you can convince your parents/guardians to come along, they’ll hear how important it is for you to practice driving as often as possible, because getting your licence is all about getting enough practice, and you can’t do that unless they hand over those car keys.

So come along to the Keys Please forum on Wednesday, 9th March at Period 1 & Period 2.

Background Information

Most of your year 10, 11 and 12 students are desperate to get their driver’s licence the minute they turn 18 – often without adequate exposure to the wide variety of driving conditions they are likely to face as a solo driver.

Although learner drivers rarely have crashes, this statistic changes dramatically once young drivers obtain their probationary licence. P-Plate drivers are 3 times more likely to be killed or seriously injured in their first year of driving than at any other time. This probability almost halves once a newly licensed driver has accumulated 6 to 8 months of driving experience.

Research suggests that to minimise the high number of fatalities and serious accidents involving P-Plate drivers, a learner should now clock up at least 120 hours of driving practice before they obtain their licence. This experience should cover all conditions: wet, dry, day, night, country and city driving.

Learners rely on their parents/supervising drivers to gain this experience. However, these supervising drivers are often reluctant to provide learners with the appropriate exposure to the more difficult driving experiences, such as peak hour traffic or driving in the rain.

This is where Keys Please fits in. Keys Please is the first step into the driver’s seat.

It is a positive and proactive program for learners and their parents/supervising drivers that introduces the different driving skills a learner needs to become a responsible and safe licensed driver – including the importance of forming a positive partnership with their supervising driver.

VicRoads would like to hold a Keys Please forum in your school. The forums are run by trained facilitators, and are conducted free of charge for schools. Forums usually last for approximately 1 hour 20 minutes.

Keys Please has been developed by VicRoads, in conjunction with the Victoria Police, Transport Accident Commission, Department of Education and Training, and Community Road Safety Councils.

VicRoads understands the escalating demands that are being placed on schools and their staff. Keys Please forums are self-contained, and require little additional staff time, other than to confirm the venue, and to champion the importance of the forums to students and their parents/supervising drivers.

Further Information

This program is available to all Year 10 students. For further information, please contact Mr Jarrod Main, Year 10 Co-ordinator.
JUNIOR SCHOOL

On Monday 28th March interim reports will be given to students. I am challenging all students to get their best possible interim report. At home you can assist by asking them about classroom learning, homework and home study daily. Get them to talk about the subject concepts and activities. Ask your child what type of interim report would make them proud. Are they working towards achieving an interim report that would make them proud? Documenting their interim report goals and strategies to achieve the goals would an ideal working document and reference point.

The student progress conferences are on Thursday 7th April. I look forward to meeting more parents during the conferences.

Starting School on Time

The official starting time for school is 8.50 am. Students should be at school at approximately 8.40 am to allow them time to go to their locker to get organised for classes. They also like to have a morning chat with their friends before classes commence. Help your child at home to get to school on time. Late students impact negatively on their learning, their grades, other students learning in the classroom and the teaching.

Uniform

I have been speaking to all Junior School students about wearing the correct uniform. If your child cannot wear the correct uniform, please send them to school with a note explaining the situation. Students are to take their note, explaining why they are not wearing the correct uniform, to their Year Level Coordinator before school. We recommend students wear an approved school hat (cap or bucket hat) when outside during the day. This is particularly important during terms 1. Students are to wear an approved school hat when participating in Sport and PE classes.

Dobsons, our uniform supplier, have placed an order for more bucket hats for you to purchase. It should take approximately two weeks for bucket hats to be available in store. Last week there were 29 caps in store and no bucket hats. If you do not have an approved school cap or bucket hat, please write a note stating they are going to wear another type of sun smart hat (not school approved) in the interim until more bucket hats are available at Dobsons. I would suggest you call the store to check the availability of bucket hats before travelling to the store.

Geoff Vezey
Junior School Leader

YEAR 8 NEWS

Year 8s have been working steadily in class. The cooler weather has allowed them to be more focussed and “stay on task”. This was very difficult to do on some of the hot afternoons we had a few weeks ago.

A reminder that for Year 8s during the period March 18th to March 30th, apart from Sport and PE, the normal teaching and learning program will be suspended. Students will have to identify and select a person (a “notable”) who inspires them, research and present their findings to a parent audience; their learning journey must include an ICT component. The procedures for choosing a “Notable” are still being refined and students will be informed next week about these. Night of the Notables Presentation Nights Dates : 8A and 8B Wed 30th March/8C and 8D Thur 31st March

A reminder also about Year 8 camp. The dates are 9-13 May. The total cost for the camp will be $400. The emphasis of the camp is on outdoor education, cooperation, teamwork and social interaction. Notices to confirm a place on the camp attendance list are due this week by Friday March 4.
Upcoming Sporting Events

Monday 7th March—Intermediate Summer RR 1—Cricket, Volleyball
Wednesday 16th March—Year 8 Summer RR
Monday 21st March—Division Swimming
(Team to be announced in the next week)
Tuesday 22nd March—Intermediate Summer RR 2—Baseball, Softball, Tennis
Friday 1st April—Year 7 Summer RR
Tuesday 5th April—Division Golf
Friday 8th April—House Athletics Carnival

Intermediate Summer Round Robins
The Intermediate Summer Round Robins are coming up in the next couple of weeks. It is very important that Year 9 and 10 students keep their eyes on the bulletin for tryout and training sessions. As we are now limited with the number of teams we can enter with 7 schools in our division, you must turn up to meetings and training sessions otherwise you will not be chosen.

HATS

A reminder that it is compulsory in Terms 1 and 4 to wear Blackburn High School hats in all Sport Ed. And Physical Education Classes

We all know that excessive sun exposure can cause sunburn, skin damage, skin cancer and heat stroke. It so important that you ensure you are sending your child to school with a hat.
BUILDING UPDATE

Over the past week we have been blessed with reasonable weather and therefore good progress with our building works. The following has been achieved:

- Language Centre has seen the frame completed and inspected, the roof now completed included insulation and the carpentry work to commence (which won't be interrupted by rain)
- Year 7 building has seen the slab poured and frame will be commenced this week
- Administration building has all the services roughed in and now the concreters are starting the footings and form work for the slab
- Gymnasium has had the site cleared of old services, re-laying of new services and fill being compacted for the slab
- Movable walls are complete in the VCE Centre giving our Year 12's a study space

Our problems have continued with no detailed plans of where the old services are. This has seen the phone and fax lines being cut and at times has seen the phone system working spasmodically. My apologies for those parents who have been unable to contact the school. Hopefully this problem is resolved. The water leak under the 500 Block (which has nothing to do with the building works) was rectified on Wednesday.

Tim Dalton
Assistant Principal
On Tuesday Night myself and a number of students and parents attended the SYN FM Awards night. The night was a celebration of achievements at SYN FM. Our school had been nominated with two other schools for best “on air” school’s radio show. In Term 4 last year the Year 9 Music Tech class had a regular show from 11am till 1pm every Monday. Joe McCarthy, Chris Lamperd and Matt Demaria were some of the enthusiastic students who hosted a show last year (Joe was able to do 3 shows, Matt and Chris 2). Roxburgh Park SC was the school that won the award but it was great to be at the night. The evening was well hosted and funny and included a couple of great comedy skits. The act “Luis and family” made people laugh about a death in the family. It was strange to be laughing so much and embarrassed about laughing what I was laughing about at the same time.

SYN FM is a community radio station (and now has a TV section) and is operated by youth volunteers. The final awards of the night were for people who had volunteered at the radio station for a number of years but had to leave because of their age. SYN (Student Youth Network) only allows volunteers to be under the age of 26. There were a number of tearful speeches from people who were leaving the station and they stated how much they had learned in their time there. I doubt there are few places where young people can develop so much responsibility in such a supportive environment. Many of the volunteers had hosted their own shows (often current affairs or music shows). They had conducted interviews and if they were the producers of a show had organised content and guests for the particular show. Through the course of volunteering many had met famous people in the media.

Two boys from BHS have now become volunteers at the station. One boy was so moved by the whole evening at the awards night that he stated about volunteering “I have another 12 years to go before I have to leave!” It was great for me personally to see young people so passionate and engaged doing something they enjoy. We were given free “Pringles” sample on the night which also helped the enjoyment factor (maybe that would get more people to school music concerts?).

Ron Hansen
Music Technology Teacher
On March 23rd and 4th May from 1.30 – 2.30pm all Year 11 students will be attending a seminar run by Elevate Education. In each of these sessions students will be placed in small groups of approximately 20 students with their own presenter.

On March 23rd the seminar titled STUDY SENSEI will cover the Study Skills students need to be successful in their learning

In this session students learn:

- Dynamic Reading – how to read a text and pull out the key points, not just summarise every sentence.
- Note-taking – how to get those ideas the students have extracted from their readings into an organized set of notes that will facilitate effective learning.
- Conceptual learning skills – teaching students how to break the information apart into its relevant parts as opposed to simply rote-learning the material.
- Independent learning – what independent learning means and how to get it done.

On May 4th the seminar titled TIME MANAGEMENT will help students find time to fit in the work with!

Elevate’s acclaimed time management seminar introduces students to a range of time management techniques which will ensure that they stay balanced and productive across the final years and stay on top of their workload.

In this session students learn:

- Study Routine – How to develop a study routine that allows for socializing, a part-time job, sport, extra-curricular activities but still ensures academic productivity.
- Working Smart – How to identify the work that is going to get students the most marks across years 11 and 12 and how to ensure that it gets done.

In study groups – Students are shown how to leverage their time across the year by using study groups. This is a particularly powerful technique for those

- students who are time poor.
- Procrastination – Students are introduced to the most common reasons for procrastination and how to get around it.

Any queries please contact the Year 11 coordinator Ms Hsu
Chaplaincy AGM Notice

Supporters and interested persons are most warmly invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Blackburn High School Chaplaincy Committee, which will be held in the Staff Room at Blackburn High School on Wednesday 9th March 2011 at 7.30pm.

Light refreshments will be serviced from 7pm.

CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE
BLACKBURN HIGH SCHOOL

FRIENDS OF MUSIC WISH TO INVITE PARENTS TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON TUESDAY 15TH MARCH 2011 AT 7PM IN THE 600 BLOCK.

Friends of Music, Blackburn High School are a friendly group of parents who are interested in helping the wonderful teachers who comprise the Music department. We are the back up support for the department. We provide the ‘manpower’ to do the physical side of the amazing concerts and events in which our children perform. The work in general is not arduous, and, as we must attend each of the main concerts, it is nice to be part of the mechanics of the nights. Parents provide Front of House, refreshments, stage crew and other duties at each of the concerts. We fundraise to purchase new instruments and equipment which are used by the students.

Friends of Music is one of the very few areas in the high school where parents are able to play an active role in their children’s education by directly supporting the teachers.

We need at least five new parents to join our wonderful committee this year. Please consider joining the Friends of Music committee, we only have about six or seven short meetings during the year, but we achieve a lot!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2011 – Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28th February – Friday 4th March</td>
<td>Camp Forms A &amp; B (28-2 Mar), Forms C &amp; D (2-4 Mar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th March</td>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Immunizations</td>
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<td>Wednesday 9th March 2011 at 7.30pm</td>
<td>Chaplaincy AGM Notice</td>
<td>7.30pm in staffroom</td>
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Term Dates 2011 – 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Feb – 8 April</td>
<td>27 April – 1 July</td>
<td>18 July – 23 Sept</td>
<td>10 Oct – 22 Dec</td>
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Our Chaplaincy Committee numbers have dwindled and we desperately need your support to continue this very important work that occurs behind the scenes at our school.

The Chaplaincy Committee is primarily responsible for fundraising to support the Chaplain and the welfare needs of the school community. Our fundraising events are the Book Fair and the Second-hand Text Book Sale. We also support the Year 7 BBQ and have a yearly Chaplaincy Church Service. The committee meets for 1 ½ hrs monthly in the main staffroom at school.

If you are interested in hearing more about the Chaplaincy Committee please come and join us on 9 March at 7pm for light refreshments before our AGM which commences at 7.30pm.

DIRECTIONS TO BLACKBURN HIGH SCHOOL

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Music Department:

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Facsimile: (+613) 9894 2751

PE & Sport Department:

Telephone: (+613) 9877 7215
Facsimile: (+613) 9877 8417

www.blackburnhs.vic.edu.au