Friday, 14th October 2011 …….No 31

Work Experience
Year 10 Students

School Captain: Lingyun Li

School Captain: Caleb Webb
Term 4
I would like to warmly welcome back all our students and their families to Blackburn High School for the Term 4. I hope that our students have had a well earned rest and an opportunity to share a relaxing and enjoyable break with their families. We also welcome back staff from Long Service Leave: Cheryl Angus, Greg Hlasko and Jan Hsu. This term is traditionally a very busy time in schools as we complete our school programs and undertake planning and preparation for the 2012 school year.

Sth Korea/Hong Kong Study tour
Both Arlene Roberts and I were participants in an Asia Education Foundation educational field trip to Hong Kong and South Korea, as part of our involvement in an Intercultural Understanding Program. Our purpose for the trip was to gain greater understanding and engagement with Asian Educators and develop connections with schools for our Global Learning Program. This was an interesting experience that has allowed us to gain insights into Asian education systems and the beliefs that underpin their education philosophies and the impacts for our students.

Internationalising Education and Engaging with Asia are part of the Victorian Education Department and our Regions’ forward directions with the imperative of ensuring we develop students who have the capabilities to be global citizens. This is the underlying philosophy for our Year 9 Global Learning Program. It was quite clear throughout our visit that students in Asia recognise they are part of a global world and are developing their skill sets to meet these needs.

We had the opportunity to visit many schools and universities as well as the Australian embassies in both countries. The importance of education from both the government and society’s perspective was very evident. All parents want the best education for their students and have high expectations, whether here in Australia or overseas, and it is incumbent upon us to ensure that is achieved. We are truly moving towards global education with many opportunities to further our links.

I believe that as a society and community we need a strong public education system with equal access for all. This is being achieved at Blackburn High School through the provision of outstanding teaching and learning resulting in strong academic achievement, diverse co-curricular programs, supported by state of the art facilities and technology. This must include teaching 21st century skills. These are exciting times; particularly with the new facilities and programs on the way for 2012.

The year is far from finished however and there is much to be done. Students need to be focused on maximising opportunities for attaining their best results during this important stage of the year.

Sandra Woodman
Principal

Industry Leader Visits as part of the Principal for a Day Program
Mr Nathan Armstrong, Business Development Manager, Intel, Australia stepped out of the corporate world to spend a day with me this week as part of the Principal for a Day Program. Mr Armstrong left his corporate offices in the city to join us in a very different environment with so much building activity currently underway.
The Principal for a Day program gives a wide range of community and business leaders from all walks of life a first-hand experience of a normal day in a Victorian Government school. Other participants have been Premier of Victoria Mr Ted Bailieu, Former Premier, Mr John Brumby, Radio Personalities, sports stars, community luminaries.
It was a great pleasure to host Mr Armstrong. He keenly participated in a variety of activities such as leading classes, sharing ideas with staff, meeting the parents and exchanging insights with them.
His visit provided us with an excellent opportunity to give someone from the corporate world a unique insight into the learning environment at our school.
“Through this experience I gained a new perspective on the work being done in schools. It’s a great way for schools and the broader community to work together in preparing our children for the future” Mr Armstrong said.
After his time at Blackburn Mr Armstrong and I will have the opportunity to discuss the common ground we share around leadership and ways of creating ongoing and productive relationships.
Principal for a Day is delivered by the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER) in partnership with the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. (DEECD)
Year 9 City Experience

Year 9 students will be investigating: Is Melbourne a Sustainable City?

I am sure parents and students already have views on this topic. What do you think? How would you answer this question?

This program will run between Monday 24th and Friday 28th October.

The City Experience Program offers students the opportunity to participate in learning experiences in the city. These learning experiences challenge them to accept responsibility, work in teams, keep safe and reflect on their learning. They will participate in morning activities in groups of twenty. During the afternoon they will work with their team where they will be expected to make decisions to collect evidence to address the ‘key question’ and be responsible for their learning. Each day they will have a block of self-managed time during the afternoon where they work independently of teachers. On Tuesday 6th September members of the Police Force spoke to the Year 9 students about travelling safely to and from the city. An Education Officer from Metro Trains spoke to students about using public transport.

The venues they will visit during the week include:

- Eureka Skydeck 88
- Immigration Museum
- National Sports Museum
- Federation Square
- Queen Victoria Market
- The Shrine of Remembrance
- Aquarium
- Grocon’s Pixel Building
- Arcades and lanes
- State Library
- China Town
- Council House

We will meet at Federation Square each morning at 9.10 am for a 9.15 am start in front of the stage, under the large screen.

Students have started to complete activities to support their learning in the city. This will allow them to have a deeper learning experience in the city. They would have completed two weeks worth of activities preparing for tasks to be conducted in the city.

Students will receive their booklet soon. I would encourage parents to read through this information with their child. I would like parents to also remind them to carry their workbook with them each day. Completion of these books is part of the assessment. I appreciate you taking the time to do this.

Thank-you to those parents who have returned the permission forms. We care busy preparing for the program and your assistance is appreciated.

Geoff Vezey
Junior School Leader

Senior School Report

Exam Preparation
Our Year 12 students are currently attending their final two weeks of classes. In these classes teachers are focusing on a structured program of revision and examination preparation. These programs must be supported by continued work at home if students are to achieve the results they deserve. Even if you have developed good study habits, it is worthwhile considering some different approaches. We all learn in different ways! Our memories respond in various ways and I have suggested these techniques to students in the past:

- Posting notes around your room
- Making up acronyms or acrostics to memorise information or approaches
- Colour coding information
- Reading information aloud
- Using graphic organisers such as concept maps, flow charts, tables
- Using physical movements to aid in memory
- Repeated writing out of points
- Making cue cards with short pieces of information on them

In addition, the school has organised the final aspect of the Study Skills Program to run on Wednesday October 19. This will involve all Unit 3/4 students being involved in program called ‘Ace Your Exams’. Something I’m sure that we are all working very hard toward achieving.
The program will run from 1.30pm to 2.30pm on that day and be held here at the school.

**Year 12 Graduation**

Year 12 students bid farewell to students in Year 7-11 at an Assembly on Monday 24 October. We are looking forward to ‘Celebratory Day’ as Year 12 students enjoy breakfast with their teachers and their own final assembly. We also look forward to celebrating the formal conclusion of secondary school with parents at the Valedictory Dinner on that evening, Monday 24 October, 7:00pm at The Karelyka Centre, Ringwood.

**Examinations**

The final VCAA written examinations will commence with the English examination on Thursday November 3. It is important that students and parents have a clear idea of the attendance expectations and special arrangements for the examination period. Students completing Unit 4 examinations have received an individual exam timetable and a copy of the ‘Exam Navigator’ that sets out all relevant information. This VCAA publication can be found at:


We wish our students well during the examination period and hope that their efforts will be rewarded accordingly.

Please remember, that in the event of illness or other events likely to detract from a students’ performance there is the option of applying for Special Provision. For this to occur, the school needs to be informed of the circumstances as soon as possible so that the appropriate steps can be put in place. It is our strongest possible advice that, wherever possible, students actually sit the examination and then complete the application.

Martin Baxter  
Senior School Leader

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**BHS DEBATES AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE**

On Wednesday, 21 September, select Blackburn High School students were given the chance by our local Member of Parliament, Dee Ryall, to participate in a debate against Mullauna College in the Victorian House of Representatives Chamber of Parliament.

On very short notice our School Captain, Caleb Webb, along with two Year 11s, Brooke Gibson and Taylah Jones, agreed to argue that Australia should have compulsory national service after the end of high school. Two Year 7s, Evette Harris and Alex Barker were also delighted to come along as timekeepers.

Our three debaters gathered together some very compelling arguments, almost convincing Ms Ryall to introduce a National Service bill to parliament. The Mullauna College students also argued very well for what was perhaps the easier side of the debate and by the narrow margin were able to take home the converted ‘Victorian Award for Excellence in Debating’.

This is going to become an annual event between Blackburn High School and Mullauna College. We relish the chance to take our revenge next year.

Aaron Bear  
Debating Coordinator
CAREERS CORNER

• Congratulations to our Year 10’s on impressing so many employers during Work Experience and being great ambassadors for Blackburn High School. Many glowing comments from visiting staff also. Well done.

YEAR 9s - WORK EXPERIENCE IN 2012 WITH VICTORIA POLICE - Those wishing to apply for a position with VICPOL next year please see Mr McGann in the Pathways Office ASAP and certainly by Friday 21st October. There is a detailed application process to follow and we can only nominate ONE applicant. So it’s definitely only for those Yr 9s seriously considering policing as a career who need apply.


NEW COURSES (NOT IN VTAC GUIDE) – New courses are accredited after the VTAC Guide is published. Go to www.vtac.edu.au and find New, Cancelled and Amended Courses near the bottom of the screen. For example:

• ENGINEERING/ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AT MONASH – This double degree is for students interested in civil engineering, with a thorough understanding of how buildings function. The architectural component enables students to express their building design in an innovative way while the civil engineering part enables students to understand the load path and design safety issues associated with architectural design. Graduates, while not eligible for architecture registration, will be qualified engineers providing solutions to engineering and social problems through creative thinking and realistic applications to sustainable building. Prerequisites: English and maths methods; one of chemistry or physics; VTAC Code: 29401 CSP.

• NURSING (PRACTICE LEADERSHIP) AT ACU – This is a stream in the B. Nursing, designed for students with outstanding academic ability and leadership potential. The intake is 25 students, offering mentoring by experienced clinicians and academics in nursing scholarship and practical leadership. VTAC Code: 10081 (Ballarat), 12401 (Melbourne).

HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE OF TAFE has announced that it will operate a city campus next year, located at 332 St Kilda Rd. Course offerings include business, fashion, architectural and graphic design, recreational, fitness and health, early childhood education, language programs and interior decoration. Info – email: citycampus@holmesglen.edu.au.

APPLYING FOR THE VCA – Videos about courses and the selection process for B. Fine Arts are on the VCA website under “Course Overview” for each course. Eg the one on Film and TV is at: www.vca.unimelb.edu.au/bfaftv/course_overview. Applicants for this and other B. Fine Arts specialisations will find the videos useful (make sure you meet the Supplementary Application Form deadlines – see page 474 of VTAC Guide).

APPLYING FOR NURSING? If you are applying for Division 1 nursing at university and are concerned that you may not obtain a high enough ATAR for the course, you are advised to consider studying Division 2 nursing at TAFE. Some TAFEs allow you to apply through the VTAC system (eg RMIT). Others require you to apply direct to the TAFE. In this case you are advised to apply soon, not when you find you have missed out on a university place.
SCHOLARSHIPS for current YR 12s are advised to apply; applications close Fri 21 Oct. See VTAC website www.vtac.edu.au/scholarships.html. Also check scholarships on institution websites (eg www.monash.edu.au/scholarships). NOTE: RMIT has new $5,000 scholarships for property, construction or project management; See: www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships.

WHAT IF MY ATAR IS NOT HIGH ENOUGH
Some Year 12 students are concerned that they will not be able to access the university course of their choice due to their inability to achieve the required ATAR. This is NOT the finish...

✓ If you want to go to university but your ATAR concerns you, there are schemes, courses and pathways to consider, including the following (many have lower ATAR requirements):
  - Complete the Diploma of Tertiary Studies at Monash in arts, business, business and commerce, education, IT, health promotion, nursing, social welfare, or science. See: p 300 VTAC Guide;
  - First complete a course at Monash College; see page 277 of the VTAC Guide
  - First complete a course at MIBT (Deakin Uni link); see page 272 of the VTAC Guide
  - Apply for the Early Achievers Program at ACU (www.acu.edu.au/eap)
  - Complete a Foundation Studies one year pathways course at Victoria Uni; application form at www.vu.edu.au/courses/applying
  - Swinburne (Lilydale), La Trobe and RMIT universities have access schemes applying to some schools www.lilydale.swinburne.edu.au/atarbonus; www.latrobe.edu.au/access/SALT.htm and www.rmit.edu.au (search SNAP)
  - If eligible, apply for the Uni. of Ballarat's REEP scheme, www.ballarat.edu.au/reep
  - Consider studying a related university course with a lower ATAR; if you do well you MAY be able to transfer to your desired course later
  - Start with a TAFE course in a related field; two years at TAFE often equals one year at university
  - Complete a TAFE Diploma of Liberal Arts – a pathway into arts, social science and humanities. Chisholm, Holmeaglen, Kangan, Swinburne and VU have this Diploma, some with guarantees and points towards a degree
  - Consider a country/rural campus. ATAR's are often lower due to lower demand; most have accommodation
  - For nursing consider first completing Division 2 at TAFE or a private provider; apply early and complete the VETASSESS Test
  - Complete Cert IV in Design (eg Box Hill, Chisholm, Holmeaglen, NMIT, RMIT, Swinburne TAFEs) and work on your skills and folio; apply the following year for your desired course

Terry McGann
Director of Pathways

SCHOOL CAPTAINS FOR 2012
Nominations are currently being called for from our Year 11 Students who are interested in being School Captain for 2012.

Nomination forms are available outside the General Office and must be submitted by Friday October 28th.

Mark Pasquali
Student Leadership Leader
Upcoming Events

Sat 22 Oct St. Peters Fete 11am ISB
Thr 27 Oct Senior Ensembles Concert 7.30 Besen Centre
Thr 24 Nov Junior/Intermediate Ensembles Concert 7.30 Yarra Valley
Sat 3 Dec Mont Albert PS Fair 4 – 4.30pm JB
Dec 5-7 String Workshop
Thur 8 Dec Dance Sports SSB
Tues 20 Dec Presentation Night

Senior Ensembles Concert
This year the Senior Ensembles Concert will be held on Thursday 27 October and will include all Senior music students. It is sure to be a wonderful concert so please make sure the date is in your diary. Held at the Besen Centre in Burwood it will be for many of our students their last concert at BHS and we would like to see a large audience to celebrate their contribution to the department over the years. Tickets can be purchased from the music office at Adult $18 Family $36 Child/Pensioner $10.

PHOTOGRAHS OF MUSIC STUDENTS
Order your music photo now!
For any parents who forgot or were unable to order photos of their children in their black music outfits with instruments on the night of the Winter Concert, you can still order and pay online at http://www.johntraversphoto.com.au/bands/
Select : View your photos
Select from the list: Blackburn High Band Solo Portraits Ref 211405
Password: Blackburn

(See proofs in the foyer at the end of year concerts)

Auditions
Auditions for all music students will be held from November. All music students will be required to present the appropriate material for the purposes of ensemble placement next year. Audition material will be available from today (Friday) from the kitchen in the Global Learning Centre.

YOUNG BRASS STUDENTS TO MIFB

On Friday 23rd of September, brass students from Year 7-9 went on an excursion to the Victorian School of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS) for the Melbourne International Festival of Brass (MIFB 2011) along with many other young brass players from around the state to attend the ‘Just Brass’ Youth Day, which opened the weeklong festival.

We enjoyed recitals and performances from brass ensembles including the entertainment of ‘shrewd brasses’ and international artists of the ‘Warsaw Brass Trio’. We were also treated to a special performance by American trumpet superstar, Adam Rapa, which was a highlight for the aspiring young trumpet players at the festival. In addition to these wonderful performances, we attended an educational brass lecture ‘Mystery to Mastery’ by Greg Spence, a well known Melbourne trumpet player. We hope everyone picked up lots of tips and inspiration from the festival.
BUILDING UPDATE

Music and Global Learning Centre
Demolition of the Hall is completed. Work has commenced on preparing the ground for the new Music facility although there are some issues with damp ground which have to be resolved before compaction works can commence.

Gymnasium
Construction of the gym is progressing well with the steel work is complete. Roofing is completed except for the flashing. The electricians, plumbers and mechanical trades have roughed in their services. The carpenters have framed up the internal walls and installed window and door frames. The external block work is almost complete and plasters are starting to line the walls.

Year 7/Admin building
Certificate of Occupancy has been issued this week for these buildings with the water tank, walkways outstanding. When the paved access is completed we will start using these two buildings. This is planned to occur on the 27th October for the Admin. On this day there maybe disruptions to the school phone system as we are updating the entire system from analogue to digital system. The benefits of this technology will be discussed later when it comes on-line.

The furniture for the Year 7 and GLC Buildings (Global Learning Centre, formerly BER) will arrive this month. We will be setting up the building to run all the Year 10, 11 and 12 exams in this centre. Having recently been in the building with work going on outside it is very quiet and therefore ideal for exams.

Work has started on all the paving and front car park area and will be completed before the exams commence.

200 Demolition
From the General Office to the Eastern end (Williams Rd) of the building will be demolished at the end of the year. All staff will be relocated by the 24th November into their new house areas. In January before the students return the site works in the court yard which involves a great deal of earth moving from under the current 200 block will be completed.

Timelines
- Gymnasium early Feb 2012
- Music late May 2012

At this point in time we are finalising the allocation of House areas and this information will be relayed to the School Community when it is finalised. It is anticipated that all staff and students will be in new House areas from the beginning of the school year. Obviously some of these areas will be incomplete as building works continue.

Tim Dalton
Assistant Principal
UPCOMING SPORTS DATES

Friday 14th October—Eastern Zone Athletics

Wednesday 19th October—Intermediate Boys Cricket Eastern Zone

Year 8 Boys Cricket Division—Wednesday 19th October

Year 7 Boys Cricket Division—Friday 21st October

Sport and House Leaders

2012

Attached to this weeks’ newsletter is our application for students to nominate themselves for leadership positions in sport for 2012.

Students have the opportunity to apply for our ‘School Sport’ leadership positions — School Sport Captains, Swimming Captain and Athletics Captain

As you all know, 2012 is going to be an exciting year at Blackburn, with the introduction of our new house system.

It is a wonderful opportunity for you to be involved and take on a role as one of our new house leaders.

A reminder that the House Leader positions are open to all students, including those of you in the Junior Years (including current Year 7 students) and we really encourage students in junior year levels to take this opportunity to develop some leadership skills. Students can also apply for more than one position.

Please see one of the PE teachers if you have any questions or contact Ms. Roche (roche.nadine.nr@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Applications for our Leadership Positions in Sport for 2012 are due

Friday 11th November
ART CORNER

Year 8 Hand Coloured Lino Prints
Theme : Butterflies

Teacher - Ms Marina Crescia
BLACKBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Sport and House Leaders 2012

Application Form

POSITIONS
(Please circle the position/s you are interested in)

School Sport Captain
Swimming Captain
Athletics Captain
Junior House Leader (Yr 8-9, 2012)
Senior House Leader (Yr 10-12, 2012)

NAME: __________________________ FORM GROUP

Sporting Involvement and / or Leadership roles at school.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Why would you like to be a sport or house leader?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please return Applications to Ms. Roche or one of the Phys.Ed teachers.

Applications Close Friday 11th November
ATTENTION

YR 12 STUDENTS & FAMILIES

* UNIFORM DONATIONS *

If you would like to donate your school uniforms please note a box has been placed in the Year 12 Common Room for collections. Uniforms donated will be sold in the second-hand shop by the Chaplaincy Committee and funds raised go towards student needs at the school.

UPDATE FOR 2012

BIG ANNOUNCEMENTS NEXT WEEK

We are currently in the process of finalizing lists of students into houses for next year. Students will find out their houses next Friday.

We will also be announcing new House Names, House Colours, and House Locations.

STAY TUNED

**Dates for Your Diary**

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<td>Year 7 Immunizations</td>
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<td>VCE Indicative Grades Due</td>
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<td>Year 12 Final Day</td>
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<td>Year 12 Valedictory Dinner</td>
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<td>Year 9 City Experience</td>
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<td>PD Day all Staff</td>
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**Step Up Program – Whole School**

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<tr>
<td>28/11</td>
<td>All students 7 to 11 promoted to levels 8-12 for start next year’s work</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/12</td>
<td>VCE step up concludes</td>
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<td>9/12</td>
<td>Year 10 step up Concludes</td>
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<td>2011 Year 9 Qld Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/12</td>
<td>Year 8 &amp; 9 step up concludes</td>
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**Term Dates**

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