Friday, 4th November 2011 ..........No 34

City Experience
Year 9
It's all about the Students

I have been invited to some fantastic experiences this week which have showcased our students' talents in many ways.

Firstly, we had the Senior Ensemble Concert on Monday night. David Howes and his team are clearly very talented and produce the best from our students. It is easy to see why Blackburn High School is regarded as The Premier Music School in the State! Well done to everyone involved, both on stage and behind it in support. It was great to see so many parents and staff enjoying the entertainment, including the Minister for the Teaching Profession, Peter Hall.

The Year 9 City Experience was also underway last week. The students met at Federation Square and then proceeded to the Old Melbourne Gaol, and various other Melbourne icons. Our students are to be commended for their excellent behaviour and cooperation and the students clearly enjoyed their experience. Congratulations to Geoff Veze and Rod Bate and the team who created and implemented the program, the hard work was worth it!

Our Year 12 students began their exams this week and we wish them well over this period. The Year 11 students will be preparing for their exam period ahead.

Our Year 7 students engaged in a new learning experience 'rich tasks' which culminated in a parent afternoon for the students to display their learning. Congratulations to all involved as the array of outcomes was impressive.

Jamie Oliver

Some more exciting news for our school. Blackburn High School, is the first school in Victoria to be selected to run Jamie Oliver’s Home Cooking Skills Secondary Schools Program.

Blackburn High School is excited to announce its involvement in this food technology initiative designed by UK celebrity chef, Jamie Oliver and adapted for Australian schools by leading education provider, Pearson Australia. The launch will take place at school on Thursday, with special guest Callum Hann, runner–up master Chef 2010.

Chaplaincy Program support

Thanks you to the many parents who responded with their support for the continuation of the Chaplaincy Program at Blackburn High school. We certainly appreciate the time that many of you took to express how the Chaplaincy Program has been of benefit to your family. We have made application for continuation of funding for this program.

New Buildings

It is with much excitement that we have moved into the new Administration building. Access for visitors will occur on the South Side of the building until paths and driveways have been constructed. Year 12 students are sitting their exams in the new Year 7 building. I would ask parents to please be tolerant during this time as all of our staff will face packing and moving towards the end of November. In addition, parents who use the drop off zone in the morning, please move to the far end of the driveway to let your child/ren out, rather than stopping immediately as you enter the area, as this is creating traffic congestion.
The news this week is that we have moved some of our Administration into the new Administration building. We have the new phone system working to some extent with the new numbers and answering service installed. Please bear with us as the features come on-line as we are looking to the future when all the functionality of the system is able to be accessed. Optus, the DEECD provider, still need to do some work on the system to get all the lines working. The new number for the school is 88046464, this number as well as the old number 98784477 are both working at the minute. If the school community can note the new number and place it into their contact list. When you dial the school you will be asked what House you wish to contact. This is set up for next year when we have implemented our new House structure and you want to contact someone about administrative matters such as absence, notes etc. For the remainder of this year you simply have to press 2 to get the General Office receptionist.

Last Monday staff were allocated to House areas which will mean by the end of the month all staff will have moved into new offices. At the moment we are working to have these areas ready for that shift. The reason for this move is to enable the builder to demolish the Admin (East) end of the 200 Block before Xmas so that the site works in that area can be done in January. As a result of this move we will have a great many teacher desks available for removal, if anyone would like to have one at home please contact the school and we will reserve one for you. They would make excellent student desks with a draw, cupboard and hutch (shelving).

New furniture for the Year 7 and Admin areas has arrived and been installed. The Year 7 building is set up for our Year 10 to 12 exams. Entry to this building is from the courtyard side. Work on the car park in the front will cease during this exam period.

We have ordered all new locker doors in the House colours which will be installed over the summer break. Year 12 students will need to get all their possessions out of their lockers as soon as possible as these lockers are being sent to the scrap metal recyclers in the next couple of weeks. We have organized for the lockers to be moved into their new house areas in December. All students should ensure that their lockers are empty by Monday 5th December so that the doors can be removed. In the future students will have the one locker for their time at Blackburn.

At this stage building works are continuing with the Gym due for completion early next year and the Music Block by May 2012

Tim Dalton
Upcoming events

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

Reviews
The Senior Ensembles Concert was held last week and showed once again that Blackburn High School performs at an exceptional level. The wonderful Besen Centre was the venue and with its’ ambience and clean acoustic treats our ensembles very well.

Performances were given by the Symphony Orchestra, Clarinet Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Senior String Orchestra, Senior Stage Band, Jazz Ensemble, Senior Percussion Ensemble, Senior Flute Ensemble and Symphonic Band. It was a concert that celebrated the talents of our students, their hard work and the way in which they work together.

We were able to congratulate our Award winners: Caleb Webb - Instrumental Award, and Robert Williams – Ensemble Award and reflect on their achievements. It was also an opportunity to farewell our Year 12 musicians who after their final year at BHS have set standards for other students and provided them with guidance through rehearsals and sectional rehearsals that they themselves have run.
Concerts such as this take considerable planning and I would like to thank Maureen Saliba for putting together another large program. Steve Hardie and his percussion students - and their parents – for the loading of gear at either end and then unloading back at school.

I would also like to thank the Friends of Music who ran all front of house tasks such as selling tickets and CDs, stage crewing and acting as ushers. FoM is a wonderful group who enjoy taking on the non musical aspects of the Department and in doing so take a great deal of pressure off staff.

From the many people who were there I congratulate our students on a very enjoyable evening.

Junior and Intermediate Concert
The Concert will be held on Thursday 24 November at the George Wood Performing Arts Centre, Yarra Valley Grammar School, Kalinda Rd Ringwood beginning at 7.30pm. Tickets will be available from the music office from Next Thursday(10 Nov) @ $13 Adults, $28 Family and $7 Child/Pensioner

Details
Arrival time: all performers no later than 7:00pm

Dress: Performance Dress. (NB: Black socks and clean shoes)

Large Instruments: Students are responsible for transport of the instrument they play. If it is a large school instrument (eg: Bari Sax / Double Bass) and they wish it to be taken on the truck, it MUST be signed onto the “Large Inst Transport List” in the Percussion room, by the student. (There is very limited truck room, and only school instruments will be taken on the truck)

Pre-Concert
- Percussion (Junior Band, Concert Band and Inter / Jun Stage Band percussionists) will be required to pack the truck after school and set-up at the George Wood Centre until approx 5:45 / 6:00pm. Likewise, to return to BHS after the concert. See Mr Stephen Hardie for any further details here.
- 7pm all performers arrive. Deposit all instruments in backstage area first.

Concert
- Students must be assembled backstage, TWO items before they perform. Otherwise, go to upper balcony as audience.
- Good tuning and personal presentation is your responsibility!
- Best behaviour is expected during the concert. There should be no talking during items and ALL phones will be turned off.

After Performing
- All music needs to go back in crates immediately after playing.
- Return to your seat in Balcony to support the other groups
- Please go backstage and help carry gear to truck. This will only take a few minutes if everyone helps.
- We anticipate the concert will conclude by approx. 10:20pm.

Parents and students: please stay for the entire program. This is the culmination of the year’s musical work for our students and it is important that all students remain to support other ensembles and also assist in moving all gear backstage.
Year 9 City Experience.

The Year 9 students are busily preparing for their City Experience presentation. In groups, students will present their research findings. The topic is: Is Melbourne a Sustainable City? From the topic students developed a hypothesis which they had to test by collecting evidence during their time in the city. During their science lessons, students completed activities to prepare them for the week in the city, as well as to start to collect evidence to test their hypothesis.

I was impressed with the way students arrived before the scheduled meeting time each day at Federation Square. Students were eager to check in each morning and make a start on the day’s activities. Many students went to venues they were seeing for the first time and visiting parts of Melbourne they don’t often visit. They handled travelling to the city and around the city very well. Some students took the ‘long way’ to some venues, but many students learnt it takes more time than expected to travel between a number of venues and activities. Many students commented they know Melbourne more now after spending a week in the city. They are more aware of Melbourne’s sustainability (or lack of). This topic has been discussed amongst students and staff.

I would like to thank all Year 9 students for their eager participation in the program. There was a lot of debate about whether Melbourne is a sustainable city. I look forward to viewing their presentations. The program would not have operated as smoothly, if it wasn’t for the enthusiasm and willingness to get involved in the program.

Thank-you to staff who participated in the program. The students and I appreciated their guidance and advice during our time in Melbourne. I would like to thank Year 9 Science teachers who taught students about a range of topics in the program and for preparing students for their presentations.

The Presentation Night is on Thursday 10th November between 6-7 pm in the Global Learning Centre. If you have not notified the school of your attendance, would you return the RSVP slip to the General Office to help us prepare for the evening.

Year 9 Gold Coast Trip

Mr. Bate and other teachers are taking the Year 9 students to the Gold Coast between Monday 12th – Friday 16th December. I am sure everyone who is travelling to the Gold Coast at the end of the year is looking forward to the trip. What a nice way to finish the year. More details will follow in future newsletters.

Year 7 Rich Task

Last week the Year 7 students participated in a ‘rich task’ on the topic of discovery. Students selected a discovery to investigate and present. Throughout the week subject classes were stopped to allow students to conduct their research. On Friday (28th October) afternoon students presented their topic to other students, teachers, as well as family and friends. The feedback from students has been positive where many have commented it was the highlight of the year. Congratulations to the students on their presentations and to Ms. Beer for organising a successful learning project. Thank-you to the staff who assisted students with their discovery presentations.

It is really positive to see a range of successful programs and learning opportunities being offered to students. A lot of hard work by many staff members goes into preparing these programs for students. The positive results are evident when you view the programs operating and hear feedback from the students and parents. I am pleased to see students engaged with the curriculum and learning new things.

Mr. G. Vezey.  
Junior School Leader
SCHOOL FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP IN 2012

An amazing opportunity for Year 9 students.

In 2012, Blackburn High School has once again been given a place in the school for Student Leadership (Gnurad-Gundidj) campus. Places at the school are highly sought after and Blackburn High has been allocated 4 places (2 Male and 2 Female) in Term 4, 2012. Below are some further details about the school for Student Leadership.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP

School for Student Leadership is a Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development initiative offering a unique residential education experience for Year Nine students. The curriculum focuses on personal development and team learning projects sourced from students' home regions. There are three campuses in iconic locations across Victoria.

WHERE IS GNURAD-GUNDIDJ

It is at Glenormiston, near Camperdown in Victoria’s western district. The name is indigenous in origin and means “belonging to this place”. The campus opened in 2009.

HOW LONG DO I STAY

You live and go to school at the campus for a whole 9 weeks. You have one weekend off where your parents come and visit you. The program will run from early October to early December 2012.

WHAT DO WE DO

Students still attend classes but they are not regular subjects. There are many leadership activities, global learning work, courses and guest speakers. Students work in groups on a community learning project which they complete when they return home. The classes are in small groups with a mentor teacher and are interesting, self directed and interactive. Students also go on two expeditions which take place over a number of days.

WHAT IS THE COST

The cost of the program is $110 per week. That is a total of $990*. However this includes all food, accommodation and expeditions. There is no more to pay. *Based on 2011 prices

HOW DO I GET SELECTED

If more than 4 students apply then a selection process will be undertaken. Details of this will be given to students after they apply.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION

Please visit the comprehensive Gnurad-Gundidj website on www.gnurad-gundidj.vic.edu.au There is a fantastic video you can watch and lots of other information. You can also speak to Mr Pasquali or Mr Hansen.

HOW DO I APPLY

The first step in applying is to fill out an ‘expression of interest’ form. This means you are interested and would like find out more information about the program. This will take place through student and parent meetings over the next few weeks. The forms are available from Mr Pasquali or Mr Hansen.
On Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} November three of our students were invited to the awards ceremony for the Lions Club Peace Poster Competition.

Congratulations to Amber Kendrick from 7D who won first place, Annabel Agius from 7D who won second place and Emma Billinge from 7A who won third place.

The three posters from Blackburn High were displayed at the Senior Citizens Centre in Blackburn. At the end of the function, the First Place posters will be packaged and handed over to the Lion’s Club District Governor who will be attending. Second and Third place winners should take their posters home when they leave.

Thanks also to Selene Messinis who played piano to entertain the parents, Lions Club members and students present.
2nd Prize: Annabel Agius 7D

3rd Prize: Emma Billinge 7A

Selene Messinis
This month is **Movember** and here at BHS we have assembled a Mad Mo Bros team to raise awareness and funds for men’s health, specifically prostate cancer and depression in men.

Over the next month **Mr Main, Mr Dalton, Mr Hansen, Mr Scoullar, Mr Pas, Mr Keeble** and **Mr Bear**, along with **Mr Mauer** and **Mr Bourke** will be growing the maddest moustaches.

If you would like to support our efforts, you can make a donation by going to [http://mobro.co/AaronBear](http://mobro.co/AaronBear). Alternatively, you can give a donation straight to me or Michael Mauer and we’ll get a receipt for you.

Thanks for your support.

**Aaron Bear**  
**Blackburn Mad**
BLACKBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Sport and Sport House Leaders 2012

NAME : __________________________________________ FORM GROUP __________________________________________

Sporting Involvement and / or Leadership roles at school.
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

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

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

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

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

Applications Close Friday 11th November
YOUTH SPACE:
Youth Space at Maroondah Festival
10am-5pm, Town Park Croydon
Sunday 6th November 2011
10AM – 5PM
Free Entry

YOUTH STAGE:
Youth Talent Competition, McPhilly,
Games & Prizes

Bands: Sunday Chairs, Miyazaki, Hometown,
Through the Window, Madison, Breaking
Tradition, Cruel to be Kind, Way with Words

Free Youth Space:
Airbrush Art Workshop, Photo Booth,
BMX Demos

For more information contact Maroondah
Festival Hotline 9294 5604
www.maroondahfestival.com

The school is publishing this
advertisement because it may interest
some students, but the school is unable
to endorse this.