Friday, 25th November 2011 …….No 37

Year 9 Food Technology
Gingerbread Houses

School Captain: Lingyun Li

School Captain: Caleb Webb
Congratulations to Madeline Coleman-Bock who has been awarded Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholarship at Melbourne University. This is a highly sought after prestigious award.

Congratulations to Bethany Nette on receiving the The Dick Lack Award, a scholarship made possible by Arts Nunawading, a fantastic achievement, see later article.

Step Up Program

A reminder for all students in Years 7-11 that our Step Up Program begins this week and this entails all students moving into their 2012 classes and beginning their program. This material will not be recovered next year and it is essential all students attend.

Moving Day

It’s been a big week for all staff at Blackburn, as every staff member has had to move office to a new location in their new House area. Thankyou to parents and students for their patience with the disruptions that this inevitably entails. Thankyou to our staff for their patience and positive attitude to what at times have been trying circumstances. It is very exciting as we begin our new House organisation.

Junior and intermediate Ensemble Evening

Congratulations to our students, David Howes, Steve Hardie and their music staff, and the behind the scenes parents who put on a magnificent concert on Thursday evening. This concert showcased the talents of our Junior and Intermediate musicians and they were very impressive. It was great to see the large number of parents and friends in attendance and all would have enjoyed the performance. I continue to be amazed at the calibre of our students and their level of achievement in performance.

Uniform

An interesting article was in ‘The Age’ last Saturday regarding School Uniforms and the symbolic message they send to the school and extended community. It discussed the growing number of schools moving to update their uniform to a smarter, more formal style., that show identity and school values through the uniform. It also indicated students were wanting a smarter fresher look, particularly in regard to a blazer and tie, in line to that offered in a Private School uniform. The article indicated that research by Helen Proctor, Sydney University, an education historian has found a ‘clear link between a secondary school’s reputation in a community and untidy student dress codes.’ ‘Parents deciding on a secondary school for their children are heavily influenced by how students look and behave in public spaces such as shopping malls and train stations.’ This is just one comment on the issue of uniform but it does reflect the thinking of our school about the importance of uniform and a similar rationale underpins our actions this year in regard to introducing new smarter elements to our uniform. We will be phasing in these new elements, and the blazer will be available for purchase next year.

Sandra Woodman
Principal
Volunteers make a difference

The school said “thank you” last week to a group of about 30 very special people – our volunteers. Attendees at the supper came from groups within the school including Friends of Music, Garden Helpers, Chaplaincy and School Council.

The generous contribution made by this valuable team contributes enormously to the positive culture within the school, and much of what happens during a year would simply not be possible were it not for them.

I would particularly like to thank those in volunteer leadership positions in 2011….Louise Williams and Helen Crisp who co-convene Friends of Music (FOM), Dennis Eastwood (President of Chaplaincy), and all the School Councillors. Blackburn High is a richer place because of your commitment and hard work throughout the year.

Thank you,

Carolyn Nette,
President, School Council

Movember: Remember to donate before it's too late!

Check out our latest moing efforts! Our toughness is clearly increasing at an exponential rate.

Please remember that it is all in the name of raising awareness and funds for men’s health, specifically prostate cancer and depression in men.

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

The month is drawing to a close, so if you would like to make a donation, get in before it’s too late!!

Thanks,

Aaron Bear
English/ESL/Humanities
VCE trumpet student Bethany Nette, has won The Dick Lack Award, a scholarship made possible by Arts Nunawading. The annual award honours Richard (Dick) Lack, whose foresight and hard work resulted in the building of the Nunawading Arts Centre (Whitehorse Centre).

The judges chose Bethany to be the 2011 recipient, saying they were “greatly impressed with her music growth during her time at Blackburn High School, and are happy to support her on-going efforts to pursue excellence in her chosen field”.

The award includes $4000 which will assist Bethany as she goes on to tertiary music study next year. Congratulations!!

Upcoming events

Sat 3 Dec          Mont Albert PS Fete       JSB
Dec 5-7            String Workshop
Wed 7 Dec          String Workshop Concert, Mullauna College 7.30pm
Thur 8 Dec         Dance Sports            SSB
                   Novice Band tour of local primary schools
Tues 20 Dec        Presentation Night

Reviews

Both the Junior Stage Band and junior String Orchestra performed at Donvale and Whitehorse Primary Schools on Monday 21 November. It was a busy schedule with students loading and unloading the coach on three occasions. Performances were eagerly awaited by students at the school and staff made comment on the terrific standard of the music presented.

All junior and intermediate ensembles performed at the Junior and Intermediate Concert last night. It was in every way a very exciting night of music making. A full report will be in next weeks newsletter.

My thanks to the many students who assisted with the packing of percussion gear and loading of the truck on Thursday during the moving day. It is always a considerable task assembling the gear that needs to go to our concert venues and many hands certainly makes light work.
String Workshop

A number of our string students will be involved in the String workshop held in the first week of December. The workshop involves musicians from across the region and involves a number of staff assisting who also teach at other schools. Many of these students do not have the regular opportunity to play amidst a large body of string instruments, and as such this is an important opportunity for them to have such an experience. My thanks to Robyn Carrington and Maureen Saliba for their work in putting it all together.

SHARING THE JOY OF MUSIC MAKING IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH TO LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Mr David Howes and Mrs Robyn Carrington together with the Junior String Orchestra and Junior Stage band visited Whitehorse and Donvale Primary Schools this week as part of the Music Program’s community outreach to local primary schools.

Both the orchestra and stage band provided an excellent program. The music was fantastic and Mr Howes and Mrs Carrington made the musical performances interactive. They introduced the variety of instruments and the students demonstrated the different sounds they make. The double bass player used the scary, impending shark attack theme to demonstrate the way the double bass was played. It certainly got a reaction at both schools.

Mrs Carrington also demonstrated the importance of the conductor. She explained to the audiences that it is the conductor who ensures all the musicians are playing at the right speed. She demonstrated this by conducting a piece of music the audience had just heard but varied the speed through her conducting – very slow, then fast, then very fast, then slow. It certainly kept the musicians on their toes and it was a great way to demonstrate the role of the conductor.

Mr Howes had to fill in for the bass player in the stage band because the student had an exam. Mr Mick Freeman from Donvale PS offered the school’s thanks to Blackburn at the end of the session and said – “The music was sensational, we have had other schools visit us however none have sounded as good as this” He obviously knew a bit about music because he went on to explain to Donvale PS students why Blackburn was so impressive.

He then quipped “The students were excellent but I think they were let down by their bass player!”
Mr Howes, Mrs Carrington and the students are to be congratulated for providing a memorable musical occasion for the students of Whitehorse and Donvale PS.
MARK WILSON DANCE COMPETITION

The way the competition worked was that each dance was run in heats of about 8 couples per school. (There were 60 couples in total) From each heat, 4-6 couples were chosen to move on to the next round. This would continue until 9 couples were left for the Final. As you can see from the results below, we out-qualified our opposition in each and every dance for the day.

In between each of the main dances, the students had some other dances to perform including a progressive jive, where both schools made one big circle and danced the jive progressively.

PLEASE REVISE TOP PARAGRAPH

Cha Cha
1st—Jordan Spaull & Loren Holland
3rd—Samantha Wheeler & Ben (Forest Hill SC)

Finalists in Top 12- Joanna Hewes & James Kearney
Aimee Tonkies & David Woods

Modern Waltz
1st- Jordan Spaull & Loren Holland
4th– Daniel Singh & Jessica Coyle
5th– Matt Todd & Zoe Stenos
6th– Joanna Hewes & James Kearney

Finalists in Top 12- Aimee Tonkies & David Woods
Josiah Kop & Janna Beh
Samatha Wheeler & Ben (Forest Hill SC)

Rock & Roll Jive
3rd– Jordan Spaull & Loren Holland

Finalists in Top 12– Daniel Singh & Jessica Coyle
Amanda Waddel
Matt Todd & Zoe Stenos
Antony Baldwin & Samantha Wheeler
James Kearney & Joanna Hewes
Anysia Shung

Congratulations to the following Year 9 students who participated in the Dance Competition:
Central Australia Camp 2012 (for students in 10 & 11)

A number of students have expressed an interest in the Central Australia Camp for 2012. The type of tour for 2012 will be a 10 Day Northern Territory Tour (express coach/air) at the cost of $1600 to students. The tour will start with an express bus trip to Central Australia and will fly back from Darwin.

The tour will visit significant places of interest in Central Australia (Kata Juta, Uluru, Alice Springs) as well as places further north (Kakadu and Litchfield National parks, Katherine George, Darwin). There will be much bus travel as the distances between places of interest are quite large.

The 2010 tour was quite significant as a number of previous tours had been cancelled due to insufficient interest from students and parents at BHS (also, the Year 10 Formal was cancelled this year due to a lack of deposits being made). A minimum number of students (40) need to be attending for the tour to proceed.

The cost: 10 Day Northern Territory Tour (express coach/air) $1600

The time schedule for regular payments:

- $100 deposit by Friday December 2 (for tour to proceed)
- $170 Instalment by 10 February 2012
- $300 Instalment by 30 March 2012
- $300 Instalment by 27 April 2012
- $300 Instalment by 25 May 2012
- $300 Instalment by 29 June 2012
- $130 final payment by 20 July 2012

Ron Hansen and Christine Simpson – tour organisers
Email: hansen.ronald.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

__________________________________________________________

Please return to the school office by: Friday December 2

I am interested in my child ____________________________ of class ________ attend the Central Australia Camp in 2012. The tour will leave Melbourne on Monday September 17 and return on either 27 or 28 September 2012 (depending on flight availability).

☐ 10 Day Northern Territory Tour (express coach/air) $1600

A $100 deposit is included with this note (unless already paid) to confirm a place on the tour

___________________________  ___________
Signature of parent/guardian  Date

Please note: A minimum of 40 students need to pay a deposit in 2011 for the tour to proceed. In the event that less than 40 students are interested in the tour then the deposit will be refunded.
Class of 1991 20th Year Reunion

Venue: Belgian Beer Café Bluestone, 557 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne, enter via Moubray st. We will be in the garden area if weather permits.

Date: Saturday 26th November 2011

Time: 12pm—onwards

How to get there: Car/—recommend public transport—Get off at Tram Stop 26, St Kilda Rd.

Name Tags Provided on the day.

Food and Drinks: People can purchase their own food and drinks at the venue. Lots of beers and Belgian food to try out, as well as your traditional pub meals.

Web Link: www.bluestone@bbcmelb.com

BOOKLISTS

Booklist will be posted home last week. The package includes re-enrolment information and information about the secondhand book sale. Booklists are due back on Wednesday 14th December.

Dates for Your Diary

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<td>Whole School Step Up program</td>
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<td>Year 12 Exams Continued, Year 10-11 Exams</td>
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<td>28/11 All students 7 to 11 promoted to levels 8-12 for start next year’s work</td>
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<td>9/12 Year 10 step up concludes</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/12-16/12 2011 Year 9 Qld Tour</td>
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<td>16/12 Year 8 &amp; 9 step up concludes</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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Blackburn High School
60 Springfield Road, Blackburn 3130
Telephone: (+613) 8804 6464
Facsimile: (+613) 8804 6499
Absences: absences.bhs@blackburnhs.vic.edu.au
P.O. Box 114
E-mail: blackburn.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au
Web: http://www.blackburnhs.vic.edu.au

Music Department:
Telephone: Facsimile: