Friday, 17th February 2012 ........No 2
School Captains: Andrew Woods & Selene Messinis

Welcoming Our New Year 7

Welcome Year 7s and their Families
We would like to remind parents that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians should be reminded that they are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students and that student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers.

Sunsmart
Parents are requested to discuss with their child the importance of being ‘Sunsmart’ at school. Whilst this is actively and continually reinforced at school and the vast majority of students are very sensible about this, I am still concerned with a significant number of students who sit or play out in the hot sun. Whilst students can get sunscreen from any of the House Offices, Sickbay and the General Office, it would be preferable if they come to school prepared with Sunscreen and suitable headwear. For your child’s health and wellbeing could parents please support us by having a conversation about this with your children and encouraging them to be sensible and protect themselves from the effects of the sun, particularly on hot summer days?

School Council Elections
Nominations are now open to all parents for Blackburn High School Council and close on Wednesday, February 24th at 4pm. Nomination forms are attached to this week’s newsletter and can also be obtained from the General Office. This is your opportunity to be involved and assist with setting the key directions of your school within centrally provided guidelines. We welcome your interest in being involved.

Sandra Woodman
Principal

BUILDING UPDATE
Since the start of the year we have seen some real progress in many parts of the building program. The frustrating thing for staff and students has been the lack of access between Freeman House (Year 7 and old 200 Building) to Dunlop House (the GLC to old 400 Building). I have been informed by the builder that these paths and fencing will be back by the beginning of next week. This will enable us to access the change rooms and greatly improve access to the rest of the school. Until further notice students are allowed to wear full PE/Sport uniform on the days they have these subjects. Thank-you to all staff and students for putting up with the inconvenience, one positive is that we are all getting some exercise.

Progress so far:-

Gymnasium
- Food room has been painted, tiled, floors covered and just awaiting a clean
- Gym internal walls almost complete, light, heating, fans installed, floor about to commence
- Canteen floors, painting, shelving work benches, serving area all complete this will be ready for Term 2. The school is buying the appliances needed.
- Paving around the building has now been completed
- Water tanks about to be installed

Charlton Music Centre

Retirement
On behalf of the school community I would like to wish Jenny Turner, all the best for her retirement, which is effective this week. Jenny has made a significant contribution to the Music Program, particularly in the area of Voice teaching, at Blackburn High School and to state education in general. I wish Jenny a happy and productive retirement and I know that she will be actively pursuing current and new interests.

Year 7 BBQ
What a fantastic night was had by all last Wednesday evening at the Year 7 BBQ. Congratulations and thanks to the Chaplaincy Team who organised the event for our new Year 7 families. It was great to see a large number of students and their families turn up to enjoy the opportunity to meet their House Mentor Teachers and other families. It was great to see a large number of staff including the Mentor Teachers chatting with our parents and students. In addition there were representatives from School Council. It just goes to show the wonderful level of community and parent support the school enjoys, encourages and appreciates.

The Music Expo was also held on this evening and many students and parents took the opportunity to try the many different instruments on show. Thanks to David, Steve, Sue W and the Music Department for the entertainment and setting up of instrument trials.

A GREAT start to the year!

Arrival Time
Thank you to all parents who have been helping our students arrive on time for Mentor Group, as I stated in last week’s newsletter, it is extremely important that all students arrive at school in time to be prepared for their learning. We expect that all students will be here by 8.30am, to allow time to go to the lockers. The first bell goes at 8.35am and they are expected in their Mentor Group to start at 8.40am. Please help your student by creating a learning climate for them that enables them to be well prepared and at school on time.

REMEMBER: PARENT VEHICLES USING DROP OFF ZONE
Parents are requested to use only the drop off zone on the left hand side to let their children off and not stop just inside the gate. Please do not enter the staff car parking area at any time, this includes the drive down to Dunlop House where Music is currently residing. Thank you for helping keep our students and yours SAFE!

Student Accident Insurance Arrangements

A  GREAT start to the year!
• Has the roof complete, internal/external wall frames, external brickwork, window frames all complete. Services are being roughed in.
• New roof replacing the existing Music roof which will hopefully stop the flooding of the building which has occurred in the past.

Courtyard
It is hoped that access around the courtyard will be greatly improved by the beginning of next week.

The Mud
I ask that all staff, students and parents try to stick to the paths, especially when it is raining. People who have muddy shoes will be asked to remove them before they enter carpeted areas.

Car parking and student drop-off
Students can be dropped off in two places, North Blackburn Square and use the pedestrian crossing or the Drop-off Zone in the Springfield Road car park. The drop-off zone in Springfield Road car park is next to the fence on the left hand side of the upper level (there are sign posts). For parents who wish to stop and go to the office they should park on the other side (right hand side) which is designed for short term parking. The lower car park is for staff parking only.

For all parents in Dunlop or dropping students with instruments please use the drop off zone at the front of the school. Do not drive around the 200 to the GLC building. This roadway is designed for student access and deliveries only. We have already had some near misses between students and cars. Signage will soon be erected in this area for the safety of students, your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

Staff should also not park in this area for the same reasons.

Tim Dalton
Assistant Principal

School Photos
Students will have school photos taken on Thursday 23rd February (next week). It is important that all students are in full school uniform. This means that students need to bring their PE Uniform to change into if they have PE/Sport on Thursday. Students were given envelopes and a letter about the photos on the first day of school. Spare copies can be collected from House Offices.

Jane Richards
Assistant Principal

THE SCHOOL HOUSES
DU N L O P N E W S

Dunlop House is located in the Global learning Centre and the 400 Block.

As outlined in last week’s newsletter, Dunlop House is named after Sir Edward Weary Dunlop who was a remarkable Australian. He was a doctor, who showed great leadership as a prisoner of war in Changi. He led a life of service to others distinguished by courage, unselfishness, humanity, dignity, compassion and hope. These are great values to which the students of Dunlop can aspire. In assembly we have used the following quote to encourage students to do their best and let their star shine:

“Life is not a brief candle but a splendid torch to be made to burn even more brightly.”

Sir Edward Weary Dunlop.

Earlier this week we have had interviews for the first Dunlop House Captain. Students have certainly taken on the message to aspire to be their best if the calibre and number of the applicants for House Captain is anything to go by. Congratulations to all those students who put in applications for this position. We will announce the first Dunlop House Captain in next week’s newsletter.

Our Mentor Teachers have worked hard to ensure that your child has made a smooth transition to the 2012 school year. The Mentor Teachers for Dunlop are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mentor Group</th>
<th>Mentor Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Aaron Bear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2</td>
<td>Janice Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Arlene Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D4</td>
<td>Steve Hardie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D5</td>
<td>Greg Hlasko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D6</td>
<td>Cheryl Angus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D7</td>
<td>Nadine Rochel/Claire Leavold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D8</td>
<td>Rod Bate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D9</td>
<td>Marina Kourelis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D10</td>
<td>Cathy Tzaikou</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Assistant Head of House for Dunlop is Rod Bate and our Administrative Assistant is Liga Darzins. We encourage parents of students in Dunlop to contact the House Office if you have questions. You can make direct contact with the Dunlop House Office on 88046410.

Students were given their Dunlop House T-Shirts on the first day of the school year. We also enjoyed a Barbeque lunch. My thanks to the teachers of Dunlop for their efforts on the barbeque on the first day of school. We also enjoyed meeting many families at the Year 7 Barbeque on Wednesday of this week.

We will be having a House welcome lunch for the Year 7 students in Dunlop next Wednesday 22nd February.

Students in Year 8 – 12 are reminded to put in applications for House Mentor Representatives which are due by 3.30pm Monday.

Claire Greve
Head of Dunlop House
HOLLOWS HOUSE MAKES FABULOUS START

WELCOME YEAR 7s

Hollows House has made a fantastic start to the 2012 year. On the first day we welcomed 49 Year 7 students to Blackburn High school. The students came from almost 30 primary schools across Melbourne. The Year 7s have had a great first week with a feature being the interaction and assistance that the senior students have provided.

We had a great night welcoming many of our Year 7 parents at the year 7 BBQ on Wednesday night.

All Hollows students have been provided a locker in the revamped 500 Block corridor which is being kept clean and tidy.

HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

Our Hollows House Assistant Kaye Sampson has been kept busy with lots of requests from students and the whole place has a busy and vibrant feel. A reminder to parents that you can ring the house office directly on 8804 6409 from 8:30am to 3:30pm each day. If your child will be absent please call the house office between 8:30am and 9am.

A reminder to all parents and students to be on time for school each day. Mentor Program begins at 8:40am sharp and it is important that all students are punctual. A lot of work has gone into the Mentor Program and we hope it provides students with a valuable educational experience as well as a vehicle for important communication.

My Assistant House Leader this year will be Tess Monda and our Mentor Teachers are as follows

H1  Mr Terry McGann
H2  Ms Christine Simpson
H3  Ms Jocelyn Purcell
H4  Ms Tess Monda
H5  Ms Naomi Jallais
H6  Ms Nadia Zylan/Ms Erin Hall
H7  Mr Krish Joseph
H8  Ms Robin Carrington
H9  Mr Steve Thompson
H10 Ms Julia Beer

House Leadership

No fewer than 8 Year 12 students have applied to House Captain and our selection process is being completed this week. Congratulations to all the Year 12 students who applied. A reminder that applications for the House Mentor Groups Leaders will close on Monday February 20th at 3:30pm. All Year 8-12 students may apply for these positions. Year 7 rep positions will be open after the year 7 camp.

HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS

A number of meetings have been held about the House Performing Arts Festival at the end of this term. It has been decided that our house will perform “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”. Any students interested may have a role in this musical. We will be looking for major cast members, minor cast members, costume and prop makers etc. Stay tuned to the notice board for news. The House Performing Arts Festival is great fun and we particularly encourage Year 7s to be involved.

THE GREAT FRED HOLLOWS

Hollows House is named after the great Australian Dr Fred Hollows. Students will soon receive a presentation of the great work done Dr Hollows as well as a presentation by the Hollows Foundation outlining the great work still being done to this day. The Hollows Foundation will be the official charity of the House.

Mark Pasquali
Hollows House Leader

TOURS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Parents of primary school students who are considering their secondary school options are able to tour Blackburn High School each Tuesday morning at 9:30am. If you have family, friends or associates who may be interested in choosing Blackburn High School for their child’s/children’s education please invite them to book a tour. Bookings are essential. Phone 8804 6464.

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Firstly, a reminder that the Second Hand Uniform and Text Book Shop is now open every Wednesday morning from 8.15am. Many families access this facility as a way of ensuring that their teenagers are in appropriate uniform. We are still desperately needing donations of dresses. Jumpers are also in short supply. Teenagers do grow very quickly so if you have items of uniform that are no longer needed, please consider donating them to the Chaplaincy shop. Items can be left at the General Office or House Office at any time. Money raised from the sale of uniforms and text books assists students with essential educational materials.

Over the past few years some Christian senior students have facilitated a Mustard Lunchtime Group with some support and encouragement from youth leaders from local churches. Mustard Lunchtime Groups are Christian communities within schools led by students helping other students to follow and explore the Christian faith. If there are any senior Christian students interested in leading a Mustard Lunchtime Group for 2012, please see me. You can either visit me at my office in the old section of Freeman, or leave a note for me at the General Office.

The Chaplaincy Committee Annual General Meeting for 2012 is scheduled for Wednesday 14th March at 7.30pm in the new Year 7 Centre. If you want to know more about the role of the Chaplain and have any questions answered this is an ideal opportunity. All are welcome.
I was reminded again this week as young people settle into their second week at school just how welcoming students are here. Young people who are new to the school (both in Year 7 and in older groups) generally find friends and a space to belong very quickly. However, for some students who may be a little shy it can be difficult and it can take a little time to settle in. It helps us all to remember that the best way to have friends is to be friendly towards everyone we encounter. If you have concerns please don’t hesitate to seek some support from your Mentor Teacher or come and see me.

Part of the welcome (and settling in process) was the very successful Year 7 BBQ held on Wednesday night this week. It was fantastic to see so many families here and thanks to the significant number of staff who came to offer support and meet parents. Students had lots of fun with a quiz that encouraged them to introduce themselves to every staff member present. Which staff member once starred on Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? And, who once held a world record for the longest continuous basketball match? Ask any young person in Year 7 and they should be able to tell you!

Megan Thompson
Chaplain

CLASS OF 2002 10 YEAR REUNION

The Class, 2002 are very keen to catch up with all teachers from the year 2002. In particular they were wondering if anyone still has contact with Ms. Sparks, Mr. Reidy, Ms. Purcell and Ms. Hagley so they could invite them. If so would you please contact Margie Lanyon via her email – lanyon.margaret.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

When: Sunday 22 April, 2012
Time: 2pm
Where: Cherry Tree Hotel,
53 Balmain St
Melbourne Vic 3121

STUDY SKILLS DAY

On Tuesday this week the Year 12 students participated in a variety of sessions for their Study Skills Day.

Darren Pereira delivered a highly motivating presentation on VCE Success Strategies in the morning at St. Alfred’s Church. This was followed by three very different sessions back at school that focussed on maintaining a healthy lifestyle (healthy eating and yoga), stress management and developing effective organisational skills.

Many thanks to Ron Hansen, Amelia King, Terry McGann and Tess Monda for preparing and presenting their very worthwhile sessions.

Ron Hansen has offered to run weekly yoga sessions for Year 12 students and these may also be offered to Year 11 students at a later date depending on numbers.

Year 12 students that are interested in participating in this excellent (and free!) opportunity should come to the library after school on Mondays.

Christine Simpson

YEAR 7 ORIENTATION CAMP – THE BRIARS OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP, MT MARTHA

REMINDER: PAYMENT AND PERMISSION FORMS

DUE ON MONDAY

The Year 7 camp is a three day orientation camp designed to help students get to know other students as well as the staff. The camp is a memorable way to begin secondary school,

Accommodation: The camp is fully catered for and has bunkhouse style accommodation.

Cost: The total cost of the camp is $260.00 (less any deposit you may have paid when enrolling your child). The balance should be paid to the General Office by Monday 20th February 2012.

Payment should be accompanied by:

- the Permission Form / Student Contract Form
- the Medical Form (including the asthma plan for those who have asthma).

Each House Secretary has a copy of the permission forms for students/families who require them.

The General Office is open during school hours but payment cannot be made after school due to banking arrangements. It is advisable that students pay by cheque, or direct money transfer to the school account but if they bring cash to school, it should be paid into the General Office as soon as they arrive at school. Money should not be left in bags or lockers.

make new friends, and experience a variety of outdoor educational activities.

Dates: 7F - 7D, 7M – Monday 27th February to Wednesday 29th February.
7H1 & 7H2 – Wednesday 29th February to Friday 2nd March.

Location: The camp is located adjacent to the Briars Historical Property at Mt Martha on the Mornington Peninsula. The Briars outdoor Ed Camp, Briars Park, 450 Nepean Hwy, Mt Martha 3934.

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Christine Simpson
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 29 February 2012 for the first instalment and 3 August 2012 for the second instalment. The EMA provides an annual amount of $235 for primary students and $470 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Students turning 16 years in 2012 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

**Contact:** School Office for application form and further information

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### PAYMENT AMOUNTS FOR EMA

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<th>Instalment</th>
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<th>Secondary school*</th>
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<td>One</td>
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<td>$ 82.25</td>
<td>$ 164.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
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<td>$ 164.50</td>
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<td>Two</td>
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*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will form the basis for calculating the amount payable to parents and schools.

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### TRANSITIONAL CHANGES FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM

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<td>Tie – Summer (optional)</td>
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<td>X</td>
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✓ = required
Shirt (see Note 2)

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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Polo ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nil</td>
<td>New crested white shirt ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Note 1 – Jumper**
The jumper can be optional to purchase when purchasing the Blazer but is available for extra warmth. For 2012, the jumper is to be the outer garment when required. For 2013, the Blazer will be the outer garment required. The jumper can be worn with the Blazer for extra warmth.

**Note 2 – Polo shirt**
Polo Shirts are required for 2012, however if you are required to purchase a new shirt from Term 3 this year, as the polo shirt supply is low it is suggested you purchase the new crested white shirt and this can be worn in the lead up to 2013.

### Girls Summer Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Exceptions</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Exceptions</th>
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<td>Shorts (Grey)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Socks (White) (see Note 3)</td>
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### Girls Winter Uniform

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<th>Exceptions</th>
<th>2014</th>
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### Boys Summer Uniform

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<tr>
<th>Change</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<th>Exceptions</th>
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<tr>
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### Boys Winter Uniform

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<tr>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>nil</td>
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<tr>
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<td>nil</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>nil</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 3 – Socks**
Please note anklets are not allowed, they must completely cover the ankle.

**Sport/PE Uniform – To be worn also on out of school sporting days**
Sport/PE Uniform can be worn, in its correct entirety only, for the whole school day when going outside to represent the school on sporting days and when you have scheduled sport classes.

Eg. Year 7 – Friday  
Year 8 – Wednesday  
Year 9 – Tuesday

### Unisex Items/Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change</th>
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<th>Exceptions</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Exceptions</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polo Top</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
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<td>Yr 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rugby Top</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
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<td>Yr 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spray Jacket (see Note 4)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sneakers</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks (White)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackburn Hat</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 11/12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Yr 12</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 4 – Spray Jacket

The spray jacket can be worn for 2012 as an outer garment with the academic uniform. The Blazer is optional for 2012 and will replace the spray jacket for 2013 as the outer garment. The spray jacket can be continued to be used as part of the Sport/PE uniform as an extra warmth garment.

MUSCt NOTES

Friday, 10th February, 2012
Director of Music: David Howes   Tel: 8804 6526   Fax: 9894 2751
A School of Musical Excellence

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Feb</td>
<td>Mordialloc Sunset Festival</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 Mar</td>
<td>Autumn Concert</td>
<td>One Community Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 13 Mar</td>
<td>Friends of Music AGM</td>
<td>GLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 17 Mar</td>
<td>Blackburn Lake Prm Schl Fete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 18 Mar</td>
<td>Grand Prix Performances</td>
<td>ISB, SSB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 23 Mar</td>
<td>Performing Arts Fest Gala</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 26 Mar</td>
<td>Ensemble rehearsals recommence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Music Expo

The Music Expo was run on Wednesday this week with a very large group of Year 7 students and their parents attending. As always, this event is an opportunity for students to not only choose an instrument but also to play all the instruments that we have on offer. My thanks to Sue Wedding for her organising of the night and to all music staff for running their ‘try out’ stations. More details will be in next week’s newsletter.

Autumn Concert

This year we have made a change to our performing calendar and put the Autumn Concert at the start of the year. It will be held on March 8th and will be held at the One Community Church, Surrey Rd, Blackburn. It will be an opportunity to hear all of our ensembles. Tickets will be available at the door and will be $5 for adults. FoM will be running a BBQ at the venue for those who need a bite to eat.

Terry Murray

Elective music students were treated to a presentation by Terry Murray on Tuesday afternoon. A long time performer, Terry took students on a trip around the history of the guitar and also looked at its influence on Rock ‘n’ Roll across the decades. Interspersed with his individual humor, he captivated students with some very energetic playing.

Lesson Enrollments

So that students can begin lessons, it is important that enrolment forms are returned first. Payment for lessons needs to be made by Friday 24 February for lessons to continue, or a payment plan needs to be made at the General Office.

Friends of Music AGM

The Music Department is very fortunate to have a support team of parents. The Friends of Music is a body of parents who meet once or twice a term to plan the non musical aspects of concerts, fundraising and other matters relating to the music department. FoM is available to all parents in the school community and you are very welcome to attend the AGM on Tuesday 13 March at 7.30pm in Dunlop House.

Performing Arts Festival

This year the House Performing Arts Festival will be held on Friday 23 March. We are hopeful that our new venue will be available but we have also booked the Box Hill Town Hall in the event that it is not. Students from across the school will have the chance to be involved in their houses and share in some very enjoyable performances.
Have you done something really good in French or German? If so, your parents may get a postcard congratulating your efforts. There are four different postcards to collect for the LOTE you study. Once you get all four, bring them back to your LOTE teacher and you will be further rewarded with a prize.

Remember, there are many good reasons for learning a LOTE: it opens up greater job opportunities; you can travel widely and make yourself understood; it means you are a confident, out-going problem solver; you get free bonus points added to your ATAR score just for studying a LOTE to VCE. These are just some of the reasons.

NOT EVERYONE IN THE WORLD SPEAKS ENGLISH.

Year 8 Melba students started their French classes this year with a creative and thoughtful project. They produced poems in French containing a powerful anti-racist message. They demonstrated a profound respect and understanding of other cultures. Every nation in the world has made a valuable contribution to modern life and we should all be grateful to be part of such diverse community. Here are some excerpts from the students’ poems. Try reading them even if you don’t speak French. You will understand more than you may think!

**TON VÉGÉMITE EST AUSTRALIEN.**
**TES SUSHI SONT JAPONAIS.**
**TES CRÊPES SONT FRANÇAISES.**
**TA BIBLE EST JUIVE.**
**TA TECHNOLOGIE EST CHINOISE.**
**TA LANGUE EST ANGLAISE.**
**TON BASKETBALL EST CANADIEN.**
**TON SURFING EST HAWAIEN.**
**TON PÉTROLE EST DE DUBAI**
**TON VAMPIRE EST TRANSYLVANIEN.**
**TON MONDE EST INTERNATIONAL.**

“We have to consider this and be more sensible to other countries” (Scarlett Rixon)

“Don’t judge your neighbour when you love their culture” (Amber Kendrick)

“You cannot blame your neighbour for being a foreigner”

Madame Beer
### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2011

#### TERM 1
- **Thursday 23rd February**
  - School Photos
- **Thursday 15th March**
  - Whitehorse Division Swimming and Diving Interim Reports available on Campus
- **Friday 16th March**
  - House Performing Arts Festival
- **Tuesday 20th March**
  - Student Progress Conferences
- **Friday 23rd March**
  - Whitehorse Division Golf
- **Tuesday 27th March**
  - House Athletic Carnival
- **Friday 30th March**
  - House Athletic Carnival

#### YEAR 7 – TERM 1 DATES
- **27th Feb to 3rd March**
  - Camp
- **Tuesday 20th March**
  - Immunisations 1
- **Thursday 22nd March**
  - Volleyball/Baseball/Softball

#### YEAR 8 – TERM 1 DATES
- **Monday 19th March**
  - Night of the Notables Learning Program
- **Wednesday 21st March**
  - Volleyball/Baseball/Softball
- **Thursday 29th March**
  - Parent Presentation

#### YEAR 9/10 – TERM 1 DATES
- **Monday 20th February**
  - Intermediate Cricket/Volleyball
- **Friday 9th March**
  - Intermediate Tennis/Baseball/Softball

#### VCE – TERM 1 DATES
- **Thursday 1st March**
  - Senior Volleyball/Baseball/Softball
- **Friday 2nd March**
  - Senior tennis/hockey/cricket

### TERM DATES 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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### A Special Reminder

For parents making Direct Deposit and Bpay payments to our school account. We thank you immensely for making these arrangements however, we remind you that you must include your child’s student number in the detail. If you can not fit all the information in this section could you please ensure you send me an email to advise that you have made the payment and for how much and for what items. This information is imperative as we have been receiving monies in our account with very little detail and we are unable to complete the process and allocate it appropriately.

If you have made any payments to the school for your child’s account over December or January, could you please email me the date of the transaction, how much you paid, who it is for and for what items.

My email address is taylor.nicole.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Once again, I thank you for making these necessary arrangements.

Nicole Taylor
Business Manager
School Council

Have you considered nominating for School Council this year?

Nominations are now open to all parents for Blackburn High School Council and close on Friday, February 24th at 4pm.

This is your opportunity to be involved and assist with setting the key directions of your school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, the school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that we provide for our students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three categories of membership with the total number of 15 members:

- **A mandated Parent category.** Majority of the total members must be from this category – eight members.
- **A mandated DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council – four members.
- **A Community member category.** Two members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences.

The term for all members is two years. Half of the members are due to retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

Parent participation on Council is vital to the organisation of the school so standing for election as a member of the school council is both rewarding and essential to the operational management of the school. You could also encourage another person to stand for election. The Parent Nomination form is included or alternatively you can ask for a copy at the office.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future. The emphasis on Council work is through its subcommittees and every member must be a participant on at least one subcommittee. These are: **Finance, Education and Policy, Buildings and Grounds and Publicity and Promotion.**

What happens if there are more nominations than vacant positions?

An election will be required for all parents to vote for the five representatives on Council. Further information will be posted should this be required.

2012 COUNCIL ELECTIONS – nominations now open and close on Friday, February 24th at 4pm.

There is 1 Parent vacancy for 2012.
There are 4 Parent vacancies for 2012/13 (2 years)
There are 2 DEECD vacancies for 2012/13 (2 years)
There is 1 DEECD vacancy for 2012
1 vacancy for 2012/13 for co-opted community members. (2 years)

Nomination Forms are attached to this issue of Newsletter and additional nomination forms are available at the General office and on the website.

Thankyou to our Parents Representatives:
Carolyn Nette, Andrew Jeffery, Jenny Clear and Joanne Dema have all completed their two year terms (2010/2011), and Gerard Young is retiring after 1 year of service. I would like to formally thank them for all their input and many hours of tireless work for Blackburn High School.
As a result of these changes the coming election is for:
4 parent representatives – 2 years (2012-2013) and 1 parent representative for 2012.

Thankyou to our Department of Education and Early Childhood Development representatives
Jane Richards and Martin Baxter have completed their terms and I would like to formally thank them for their contribution to School Council. There is also 1 existing vacancy. As a result of these changes the coming election is for:
2 DEECD representatives – 2 years (2012-2013) and 1 DEECD representative for 2012.

There are two separate electorates within the electorate of the school i.e. parents nominate and vote for parent members, DEECD employees nominate and vote for DEECD members. DEECD employees can stand as parent members of the school their child attends.

Accompanying this newsletter there is a “Notice of Election and Call for Nomination” form and a Nomination Form for the Parent member category for the upcoming election of School Council. 
Completed Nomination forms must be lodged with me by 4pm, Friday, February 24th, 2012.

Should an election be required, votes may be posted to me or placed in the Ballot box at the General Office on any day up until the close of the ballot which is 4pm Friday, March 9th, 2012. Further details regarding the need or otherwise for a ballot will be published once nominations close.

The new Council takes effect immediately the Poll is declared. The new Council therefore comes into effect from Friday, March 9th, 2012, and will have its first meeting on Wednesday, March 28th, 2012.

The following dates are listed for meetings in 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Policy</td>
<td>Monday 13 February</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Principal’s office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Wednesday 15 February</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Principal’s office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Council #1</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday 15 February</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td><strong>Freeman House-</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Centre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>Wednesday 7 March</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Conference Room-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin building</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Policy</td>
<td>Monday 19 March</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Principal’s office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity &amp; Promotion</td>
<td>Monday 19 March</td>
<td>4.00pm</td>
<td>Principal’s office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Wednesday 28 March</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Principal’s office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parent electorate of the school
The Parent electorate of the school includes each parent (except the Principal) of a student of the school, other than those who are DEECD employees engaged in work at, and for, the school. A parent of a student of the school who is a DEECD employee but does not work at and for the school, is included in the Parent electorate. Parent includes a guardian or person who is liable to maintain or has the actual custody of a student of the school.
If a DEECD employee is elected to the Parent category where their child is enrolled but where they do not work, they are counted in the DEECD employee category for quorum requirements.
Parent members must comprise more than one-third of the Council’s total membership.
The Notice of Election and Call for Nominations and ballot papers must be posted or delivered to each parent.

DEECD employee electorate of the school
The DEECD employee electorate of the school includes the Principal of the school and DEECD employees engaged in work at, and for, the school. The Principal of a school is, and can only be, a DEECD employee member of the School Council of his or her school. The Principal means the person who is in charge of the school.
“DEECD employee” means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or a fixed term of at least 90 days:
by the DEECD under the Public Administration Act 2004 (Victorian Public Servants employed by DEECD);
by the School Council of a government school (for example, maintenance or grounds person, casual relief teacher, cleaner),
(iii) under Part 2.4 of the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (members of the teaching service including education support officers); or
(iv) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iii) above.

For further information please contact the Principal, Sandra Woodman, or the President, Carolyn Nette via the school.
Schedule 3  Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Blackburn High School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by **Friday, February 24th at 4pm**.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Friday, March 9th, 2012.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Sandra Woodman

Principal
School Council Elections

Schedule 5A  Self-Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the

……………………………………………………………………… school council.

Name…………………………………………………………………………………………

Residential address
…………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………………………………………………………
Home telephone:  …………………………………
Business telephone:  ……………………………
Email:  …………………………………………………………………………………

I am the parent/guardian of  ……………………………………………………………, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development:  
Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate:  ………………………………………….  Date:  …………

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.
School Council Elections

Schedule 5C  Self-Nomination Form for DEECD Employee Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a DEECD employee representative on the

……………………………………………………………… school council.

Name:…………………………………………………………………………………

Residential address:
…………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………………………………………………………

Home telephone:  ………………………………
Business telephone:  ………………………………
Email:…………………………………………………………………………………………

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development:
Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a DEECD employee member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate:  ……………………………………

Date: ……………………

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.