**Bonnyrigg Matters**

I Shall Strive for the Best

**From the Principal**


The Iraqi Australian University Graduates Forum sponsored the Sunday, 11th February, Presentation evening. This is the first event of this type and is set to become an annual occasion. The evening was attended by the Iraqi Ambassador to Australia/New Zealand.

**Bonnyrigg top results in 2013 HSC**: Ninos Mansor - 99.25; Branden Lim - 97.65; Tan Dang - 97.3; Daniel Trinh - 96.6; Ivan Thien Hoang Dang - 95.25; Trang Nguyen - 95.6; Eric Tieu - 92.

Our school has for some time been in negotiation with the NSW Department of Education and Communities to establish a **sister school relationship with a school in China**. The Department has contacted Bonnyrigg High School with the good news of an opportunity with the Hubei Provincial Department of Education (HPDE). As yet we do not know which particular school within the Province. Hubei is a province of the People's Republic of China, located in the easternmost part of Central China. The name of the province means "north of the lake", referring to its position north of Lake Dongting. The population was 58 million in 2011. The sister school relationship, once signed, means that students and staff from each school will visit each other, generally, in alternate years. We will be contacted shortly by the DEC with more specific details.

**Parent Forum**

**Wednesday 25th February**

6.00pm till 7.00pm in the School Library

Interpreters available: Arabic, Khmer and Vietnamese

Be Informed ~ Be Involved ~ Make Decisions ~ No Fund Raising

Communication between School and the Home is of the utmost importance in your child’s education. With the implementation of the ‘new’ Local Schools, Local Decisions government initiative, it is imperative that Parents, Caregivers and Community Members attend Parent Forums to be informed, be involved and make decisions towards the running of the school. All parents are invited to attend the ‘new look’ Parent Forums. No fund raising will take place as this is left up to the P&C meeting held at another time.

**Planning for success in high school.** Each year in high school brings new academic and personal challenges for parents and their teens. For example, if your child is commencing Year 8 or 10, they’ll need to start thinking now about the electives they want to choose later in the year.

Continued over…

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**Bonnyrigg High School**

Partially Selective and Local Enrolments from 2010

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Principal: M N Bryce: BA (Hons). Dip Ed., MEd.  
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Elizabeth Drive, Bonnyrigg. 2177
...This year-by-year guide will help you navigate the challenges and decisions your child will face as they commence Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. Year-by-year tips: [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/tips-for-starting-years-7-12](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/tips-for-starting-years-7-12). **Attending non-core educational activities such as school camp.** Bonnyrigg High, like most schools, has a policy of requiring parents to pay subject fees and contributions prior to students attending these activities. The fees are spent on your child in their activities at school. Parents are asked to please pay all school fees and contributions before sending in money for such things as camp.

**School uniform** is important and while most students are able to meet the requirements, some students deliberately choose not to wear the correct uniform. We will be vigilant again this year, pushing full school uniform and that includes Sports/PE uniform. All students must be in the correct sports uniform when playing Sport or PE. Mrs Bond spoke to Years 9 and 10 concerning sports uniform. Students must be in the correct uniform to play sport.

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**Staff Profile**

**Mrs Narvaiza - Head Teacher - Administration / Social Science Teacher**

Eight years on, coming to Bonnyrigg High is still a delight because of the many wonderful students we have here. What keeps me busy? Apart from my family, I play basketball and enjoy going on bike rides. I also love to travel and last year I had the opportunity to travel to the Philippines, experiencing life on the beautiful islands and their fine white sand. It was also there that I encountered devastating Typhoon Haiyan, with the strongest winds ever in history. Ask me about my experience.

At school, in addition to my regular teaching and administration duties, I have taken on the challenge of trying to improve the school’s natural environment. Last year, a group of keen gardeners from Years 5 to 10 worked on improving the garden along the bus bay (adjacent to Cabramatta Road). It has now been revegetated and regenerated into a beautiful native bush garden. Also, you may have noticed that an Aboriginal bush tucker garden was created alongside Portables 1 & 2. One day, we will be able to harvest the many resources that the garden will have to offer.

If you would like to be involved in greening our school, or you have any great ideas, feel free to approach me.

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**Student News**

**Jessica Shaves For a Better Future**

My name is Jessica Tran and I shaved my head on the 18th December last year to fundraise for UNICEF (The United Nations Children’s Fund). UNICEF is a worldwide organisation that helps children and mothers survive in developing countries by supporting their rights for health, sanitation, education and protection. I raised $2,770, of which approximately $1,000 was donated by members of Bonnyrigg High School. I would like to thank every teacher and student that contributed to this event. Also, thankyou to Jenny Nguyen for all the assistance she gave me. I ask that you all consider assisting those less fortunate.
Hello Bonnyrigg.

This is the first report from the History/LOTE faculty for 2014 and we are excited about the year ahead. 2013 was an extremely successful year for the department in all of our History and Language courses. HSC students worked hard and were rewarded with some outstanding results in Ancient History, Modern History, Extension History, Legal Studies and Vietnamese. This year’s Year 12 will have a lot to live up to in terms of Band 6 numbers. Special recognition should be given to Tan Quoc Dang who received three band 6 awards in History – in Ancient, Modern and Extension and to Ninos Mansor who received a band 6 in Modern History.

The year is flying by so fast it is hard to believe we are almost half way through the term. We have also entered a new lunar year – the Year of the Horse. I would like to wish everyone a Happy Lunar New Year. I recently attended the Vietnamese New Year Tet Festival at Fairfield Showground and was impressed by the number of our students performing there. The good word of Bonnyrigg High is spreading and many a compliment for our school was heard there.

Congratulations are due to Ms Goodsell, who has recently had an article published in the professional journal of the NSW Legal Studies Association. It is wonderful to see the name of our school and one of our staff members in such a prestigious publication. This makes it two years in a row for History, as Mr Brown had an article of his on Pompeii published last year in “Teaching History”, the journal of the NSW History Teachers’ Association. Mr Brown will also be running professional learning workshops for teachers of Ancient History at the upcoming Ancient History Conference in April at Macquarie University.

In 8 weeks, Mr Brown and Mr Foti (Science) will be leading a study tour to Italy. This is the first combined History/Science study tour for Bonnyrigg HS and will be an amazing two weeks for a large group of students, parents and other staff. Whilst in Italy the group will be exploring Florence, Pisa, Rome, Pompeii and Sicily as part of enhancing the study of both Ancient History and Science for the HSC and Year 10 courses. A particular highlight will be climbing two active volcanos; Mount Vesuvius and Mount Etna.

Although we are only in the early stages of organisation and planning, the potential to have a third elective in Years 9 and 10 in 2015 has the faculty excited. Work has begun on planning for an elective archaeology unit with the hopes of having our own archaeological site to work on. More on this as things develop.

A reminder the school will be holding its ANZAC Ceremony in week 11 of this term as ANZAC Day again falls during the school holiday period.

Onwards to Victory and Glory Glory,

Mr S Kurtz
Head Teacher History/LOTE

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**Parents and Community**

**BHS Trivia Night**
Fri 7th March
7.00pm start
in the HALL
Teams of 10 welcome

**RACISM IT STOPS WITH ME**
The Australian Human Rights Commission is running a campaign to stop racism.
We encourage all students, staff and members of the Community to register their support to stop racism by going to the below link and filling in their details.
individual-supporters
Welcome back everyone!

What a great start to the year we’ve had. The English faculty has been very busy with the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in Years 7 and 9. I decided to take the opportunity to totally overhaul our teaching programs, resources and texts for Years 7 - 10, as while it is mandated to introduce the new curriculum for Years 7 and 9 this year, it needs to be implemented for Years 8 and 10 next year, so why not do it all at once? And, so far, so good! The faculty and students are immersing themselves in their new units of work and texts for study; while it is a busy time, it certainly is rewarding as a teacher to sometimes take stock, refresh and revitalise the curriculum to ‘keep it real’ for the students.

As usual, we have many exciting opportunities coming up for the students of Bonnyrigg High. At the time of writing, Miss Van Munster took an excursion of Drama students to see ‘On Stage’, which is a display of the best of the best work from HSC Drama in 2013. Having taken students to this before, I know it will be a real eye-opener for some of our Year 12 students…perhaps even, the motivation they need to do really well in Drama this year. We also have various excursions coming up to complement the teaching of dramatic texts in English, such as Twelfth Night, The Shoe-Horn Sonata and Pygmalion, to name a few. Seeing a play on stage is such an enriching experience; one many students wouldn’t ordinarily get to see. If such an opportunity arises for your student, please consider making the most of it, as the benefits are great – not only does it help your student understand the work covered in class, it exposes them to the art of drama (what’s not to love!).

Year 12 are about to embark on their mid-course exams, so I take this opportunity to remind them to knuckle down, prioritise and complete all work. Speak to teachers about anything you don’t understand. Remember, we are only part of the equation…you have to work hard, too.

Keep in mind, also, that Miss Van Munster is running the Drama Club, Mr Acosta is still offering karate training after school, and Mrs Freeman is running the newspaper group. If you have any questions about these groups, or would like some information on how to become involved, come up to the English staffroom to get some more information.

Until next time,

Ms Simpson
Head Teacher - English

Parents and Community