**Bonnyrigg Matters**

**From the Principal**

**Bonnyrigg School High**

“CHAMPION OF THE WEST” (Education)

We entered our Student Newspaper team, led by Mrs Freeman, into this very competitive event. There were over 250 applications and Bonnyrigg High not only made the finals…. WE WON!! You voted!! The winners were announced on the 3rd June at Rooty Hill RSL at the ‘Fair Go For The West’ Campaign Gala Event. Bonnyrigg High School’s Media Team received the prestigious trophy and $10,000 for equipment and to cover production costs of the student newspaper.

**National Sorry Day & National Reconciliation Week**

National Sorry Day, 26 May 2014
National Reconciliation Week, 27 May to 3 June 2014

Do you know someone that has not downloaded the Bonnyrigg School Bag App? Then please tell them to do so. Easily found in the ‘free’ app stores for iPhone and Android.

Changes at Bonnyrigg HS. Year 8 will be selecting their Elective subjects for Year 9, 2015. This group will be the first to have a choice of a third elective line. The subjects offered in this line are designed as ‘interest’ electives and as such are not from the normal subjects offered at school. The purpose of their introduction stems from the external Curriculum Review held some years ago and we have been gradually introducing the recommendations. The new elective line is the last one to be adopted. We look forward to what the choices of the students will be in the vast array of new subjects on offer. From this year, no information booklets will be produced, it will all be electronic, saving the school over 15,000 sheets of paper.

**POVERTY AID 4 Cambodia**

is a project to raise funds to assist students in Cambodia to obtain an education. Last Saturday, I attended the fundraising event at the Golden Palace, Warrick Farm as a special guest. The event is part of the Ross Hutchison Foundation and the organisation of the evening is led by Dr Rinna Ly, a former teacher of Bonnyrigg High School. The night is quite entertaining and profitable for the project. The group is going to raise enough funds to build a series of schools in the poorer parts of Cambodia. Dr Ly will be speaking to our students in the near future to encourage them to help this worthy cause.

In each newsletter, I pass along information about Parenting, a High School aged child. This time it is about ‘Teenager’s Seeking More Independence’. Knowing how much freedom and responsibility to give your teenager is difficult, especially if they’re your eldest or only child. To become capable adults, teenagers need to learn to make good decisions on their own and have opportunities to show you they can. The Raising Children Network website has a wealth of expert information and guidance for parents of teens and younger children. If your child is testing the boundaries and pushing for more independence, you may find the article ‘Shifting Responsibility To Your Child’ worth reading. Go to www. bit.ly/1jCxKhe

Until next time,

MN Bryce - Principal
Staff Profile

Mr Stewart - English Teacher

Hello!
My name is Mr Stewart. My mother wanted me to be a teacher, so she called me Mister. I rebelled during my teenage years and joined a traveling circus, mucking stables for the menagerie. It was there I learned to ride tigers, an occupation I pursued with rigorous passion until I learned how to fly helicopters. I spent quite a few years thereafter as a stunt helicopter pilot, and was the first pilot to a double backflip 360°.

These endeavours however lacked a certain sense of excitement, so I decided to become a teacher and enrolled in University. I am currently just finishing the last semester of my Masters, and it is the best decision I have ever made. I have always loved books and reading, and am so far thoroughly enjoying being an English teacher. Bonnyrigg is a great place to work.

Outside of teaching, I spend most of my time reading, playing video games and watching sport. I love Arsenal, and have seen a game in London, and a champions league match in Holland, during which we beat Ajax 2-1 with a Freddy Ljunberg chip and a Robert Pires penalty. It was awesome. I also follow Sydney FC and was at the games to watch us win both titles (two more than the Wanderers). I have recently added Ice Hockey (Go Kings) to the long list of sports I watch, much to my girlfriend's joy.

As you can probably tell, I like having fun as well and try to make my classes as fun as possible. That being said, you probably have homework to do so stop reading this and do it!!

Attendance

Mrs Sander-Burns - Head Teacher - Lateness, Attendance and Truancy

<table>
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<th>Poor reasons for not coming to school</th>
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<td>Absences for reasons such as some of the following may not be justified:</td>
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- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding siblings/other children/older relatives
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts
- Weather conditions: Rainy / Windy / Hot day
- Frequent car problems
- Frequent late train/bus
- Excursions/Carnivals/Sports/Camps...
- Airport/Visitors from overseas or other states
- Other member of the family is sick
- Hospital Visits to relatives or friends
- Head Lice
Curriculum

Science

The ever growing number of students at Bonnyrigg High has once again led to the requirement of another Science teacher at the school. In the meantime, Ms Hernandez has been and will continue to fill in, in this position. I would like to also thank Ms Hernandez for all her hard work filling in during this time.

The last holidays saw ten students from Years 8 to 12 and 8 teachers from Bonnyrigg High venture overseas to Italy where they had some intensive studies in both Science and History. The places they visited included Florence (Museums of both Da Vinci and Galileo), Rome (Roman History), Pompeii Scavi, Mt Vesuvius and more (Ancient History/Science) and Sicily (Archimedes-Science, Mt Etna-Science, Siracusa-Roman and Greek History). Let’s not forget experiencing the culture, people and very importantly the food (Kosta and Sarah know all about that! Yes, can they eat!!). Our next planned trip is for October 2016. Do you want to come? Start saving now! (All teachers are invited also)

By now if you have a child in Year 9 you should have received their ESSA exam results (Science external exam sat for during November last year). If you have not seen it, ask your child. I am sure they can help you with that! Once again BHS students have performed very well. The 5 year trend shows that over 28% less students achieving in the bottom two levels (1 & 2) and 26% more students achieving in the top two levels (5 & 6). The hard work of both the science teachers and students is continuing to show. We hope to see even more improvements in the years to come.

Well we are getting towards the report writing time of the year. Year 10, 11 and 12 have sat half yearly exams and reports have been completed. In Science, Years 7, 8 and 9 do not do half yearly exams, it is important to note that teachers are continually setting topic tests and assignments throughout the semester. It is a requirement of students to complete all work including class and home-work and prepare themselves well for the topic tests. These areas make up a big part of the half yearly mark on the reports. It is the responsibility of the student to be always up to date, which means catching up on work missed due to absences.

On Wednesday 21st May 2014 students in Years 7-11 at Bonnyrigg High School sat for the Rio Tinto Big Science Competition. Although the mark they achieve does not go directly to their Science result at the end of the year, it does provide valuable practice in exam writing skills. Good luck to the selective and non-selective students involved. I am sure they have tried to do their best. A price of $7.70 is a small amount to pay for such valuable experience. On that note, selective students that have not paid for the exam will be bill in their Science fees. If you have paid you Science fees, the Science Competition was included in the price. A big Bonnyrigg “thankyou” to Ms Samil for her organization.

During week 6, Year 10 sat their half yearly Science exam. Last term they completed their first task, which was an analytical task. Later on in the year, they still have a research task and yearly exam to complete. If they are ill and can’t attend school when an assessment task is being handed in or being conducted, they must on the next day they are back at school, see the Head Teacher, Science with a doctor’s certificate. First thing in the morning.

Year 11 have now settled down and begun to adjust to the increase in work load that senior high school brings. All the Science subjects have had at least one assessment task. Even though half yearly exams are over, I urge students to ask for their teachers’ help, if they are struggling. Remember your teacher is not a mind reader. It is up to you to ask for help, whether with an assignment or preparing for exams. I always say if you want to get good at something you need to practice, practice, practice! Attempt as many
Curriculum

Science continued.....
exam type questions as possible.

The completion of Year 12 half yearly exams brings them closer to the end of their high school years, but now is not the time to celebrate! Well, not yet anyway! Now is the time to look closely and evaluate your progress. Students doing Science subjects (actually all subjects they are studying) need to have a serious look at their results. Students need to ask themselves questions like; Is this a mark I am capable of? Will it help me achieve my goals? What do I need to do, to improve? Your Science teacher is always available to help you with these questions, so just ask them.

Up and coming Science events include:
- Year 12 Excursion - Kick start - Friday 6th June
- Year 10 Selective - Science and Engineering Challenge - Wednesday 25th June
- Year 9 Selective Science and Maths Exposed - Friday 1st August
- Year 12 Biology - Museum of Human Diseases Saturday 31st August

See you around G-Block!

Mr Foti
Science Head Teacher and the Science Faculty

Parents

Booking Sheets are NOW in the mail!!

Year 10 and 11 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Wednesday 25th June 2014
4.00pm - 7.00pm
School Hall

Parents / Caregivers will receive academic reports on arrival at the school
Interpreters will be available on request

Teachers and Year Advisers will be available from 4.00pm

Student: ....................................................
Social Sciences

Hi from the Social Sciences faculty…

This term has been extremely busy for all, as students undertake exams and teachers complete marking and reports. I’d like to congratulate all students who worked hard this semester and achieved great results. To those students who weren’t too happy with their results, there’s always room for improvement next semester. I encourage Year 10 and Year 11 students to make an appointment with their teachers for Parent/Teacher Night, which will be held on Wednesday 26th June. Constructive feedback is a must in order for all students to improve.

In March, a number of Geography students took part in the Australian Geography Competition and I would like to congratulate the following who performed exceptionally well. Receiving a distinction score: Daniz Abbaspour, Cindy Nguyen, Sebastian Young, Thomas Antcliff, Anthony Chung, Lili Darcy, Stefan Dukic, Ricky Kha, Rebecca Kung, Natalie Le, Laura Lu, Sebastian Nguyen, Vinh Nguyen, Raymond Pich, Najifa Rahman, Timothy Tran, Judy Vuu, Janey Xiong, Alan Zhong, Joshua Souksay.

Receiving a high distinction score are: John Dao, Andy Him, Ryan Ly, Anthony Ly, Jackson Ngo, William Nguyen, Stefan Vujanic, Brandon Chen, Jacob Grech, Weland La.

Mrs Narvaiza and Ms Hurney took Year 10 Commerce to the Police and Justice Museum and the Downing Centre District Court. This excursion was organised to supplement work done in the class in ‘The Law and Society’. While at the Police and Justice Museum students went on a tour of the different areas: the magistrate’s court, a recreated police charge room and remand cells. Students also took part in a mock trial in the magistrate’s court. At the District Court students had the opportunity to be part of the public gallery and observe various court cases and witness to role of each court room personnel.

Year 11 Work Studies will take part in Work Experience during Week 8 of this term. Both Mrs Gersbach and Miss Kay have encouraged students to source a workplace to visit for the week. Students will implement the skills and knowledge delivered so far in the course regarding Work Health and Safety, and Communication. Good luck and enjoy your time!

Mrs Magoutas took Year 11 Geography on an excursion to the Blue Mountains. The aim of this excursion is to study the impact that tourism has on this environment and to also allow students to use geographical skills and tools in the field.

Enjoy the rest of the term.

Ms Poulos :-)  
Head Teacher - Social Sciences

Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge PIZZA PARTY

We are celebrating the halfway mark of the PRC with a free pizza party in the library on Tuesday 24th June. Attendance is by invitation only and invitations will be extended to all students who have registered at least 10 books for the challenge. So, all you readers out there, logon to the PRC site on your portal and record those books you have read since September last year. Remember there are hundreds of the books on the list plus you can list up to 5 ‘free choice’ books. We hope to make this our biggest halfway party yet, so keep reading and recording to receive your invitation!

Mrs Sander Burns & Mrs Sander 
Teacher Librarians