Bonnyrigg Matters

From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 3 and we wish Year 12 the very best in their Trial HSC exams.

Congratulations to Ms Gilmour and Ms Trees on a very successful BBQ fundraiser at Bunnings last Sunday. I wish to thank the staff, students and parent helpers for giving up their time on the day. A special thank you to Eddie’s Meats for their donation of the meat for the day. Eddie’s Meats have been a very strong supporter of Bonnyrigg High School.

As reported in the last newsletter I was travelling overseas for the last school days of Term 2, as I attended my daughter’s Masters’ Degree Graduation at Cambridge University. The experience was very different to an Australian Graduation. The ceremony and its trappings were very traditional. Firstly, it was all in Latin and the focus was on welcoming the graduate into the university’s higher degree ‘family’ rather than just giving out the document. Held in the ‘new’ Senate building, only 500 years old, was something very different for someone from such a young country as Australia. The traditions of the world’s one university were evident everywhere. Tradition is an important aspect of life and Bonnyrigg High has gradually built up many traditions of which to be proud. At the end of this term is the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony which is one such tradition.

Tradition and excellence are the hallmarks of any great institution. Bonnyrigg has built a fine reputation and is going from strength to strength. However, we appear to have a problem with getting to school on time. The numbers of students turning up late, that is after 9am, is a significant problem. The issue often lies with the parents dropping off younger students at primary school then coming to the high school. Bonnyrigg starts at 8.40am and all students should be on the grounds before that time, not being dropped well after the start of Roll Call. Parents and students are reminded that all absences, including partial absences, are recorded on reports handed to families. Prospective employers look at reports and it is impossible for students to justify why they are late so often to school, starting well after most jobs commence. Who will an employer choose to employ? Someone with a great attendance record or someone that is constantly late? Students may say they will be on time but how can they prove it? One way is to have no partial absences on their report cards to show prospective employers.

More changes at Bonnyrigg High School. After a considerable wait, the new toilet blocks are being installed this week. They are located near the demountable classrooms and will be available by next week for recess and lunch times. The new Industrial Arts buildings are being installed this week. They are located near the demountable classrooms and will be available by next week for recess and lunch times. The new Industrial Arts buildings are being installed this week. They are located near the demountable classrooms and will be available by next week for recess and lunch times.

I would like to remind all parents of the two different parent groups providing opportunities for parents to be involved and informed about the school. First, the traditional Parents and Citizens (P&C) Committee meeting every second Friday of term at 6pm. Mr Howard Chen is the President. Parent Forums are the second opportunity, meeting every week 5 and week 10 of each term on Wednesdays. The difference between the groups is simple. The Parent Forums provide information only about what is happening at the school. Sessions are delivered by staff and students and we do not discuss fundraising. The P&C is linked to the St John Ambulance Cadets and has been responsible for gaining funds for the cadet division. They will look to gain funds for wider school activities, if the opportunity arises. I invite parents to join us at either or both of these groups.

Until next time,
Mr MN Bryce - Principal

Like our Newsletter to be emailed to you?
Send your email address via the school email address bonnyrigg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Year 12 Food Classes 2014

Year 12 Home Economics food subjects have had a successful year in 2014. Hospitality classes have been busily achieving their competencies and the Extension Hospitality Class prepared and served a wonderful dinner for a Head Teachers Executive Conference during Term 2.

The Year 12 Excursion to Sydney Tower was a great day out. The ‘All-You-Can-Eat Buffet’ was a big success.

We wish our Year 12 students all the best in their upcoming trial exams and the HSC.

Enjoy our photos below and a favourite Hospitality recipe for Sticky Date Pudding.

**Sticky Date Pudding**

1½ cup (210g) chopped pitted dates
1 cup (250ml) boiling water
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of (baking) soda
100g butter, chopped
¾ cup (135g) brown sugar
2 eggs
1 cup (150g) self-raising flour
double (thick) cream

**Butterscotch Sauce**

150g butter, chopped
1 cup single (pouring) cream
1 cup brown sugar

Preheat oven to 180ºC (355ºF).

Chop the dates, add to hot water in a saucepan and bring to the boil. Add the bicarbonate of soda and allow to stand for 5 minutes. Place the date mixture in the bowl of a food processor and process until well combined.

Cream the butter and sugar in a bowl until light and fluffy. Add the eggs slowly and beat well. Fold in the flour until just combined. Pour into a lightly greased 26cm x 16cm tin lined with non-stick baking paper.

Bake for 30–35 minutes or until cooked when tested with a skewer. Cool in the tin for 10 minutes. Cut into squares.

To make the **Butterscotch Sauce**, place butter, cream and sugar in a saucepan over medium heat and stir until butter is melted. Bring to the boil and cook for 5 minutes or until thickened slightly.

Spoon over puddings and top with cream.

Serves 6
Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you enjoyed the half time break and are refreshed, ready to start the second semester on a positive note. While last term was a short 9 weeks there was no shortage of action in and around PDHPE. World cup fever surrounded the globe and the PDHPE faculty was no exception. Students would have noticed the Germany themed staff room, our team as allocated in a staff competition. Classes were given daily score updates, and Year 9 PASS and Year 11 SLR classes did battle in a BHS mini world cup.

In term 2 we had our annual Athletics Carnival. A sunny day greeted us at Dwyer Oval and a fantastic day was had by all and the PDHPE staff would like to thank staff and students for their participation on the day. A very competitive team then attended the two day Bernera Zone Carnival at Campbelltown Athletics Centre. Our boys team did particularly well, finishing 3rd in the Boys competition, helping us to a 4th place finish in the overall competition. Special mention goes to Richard Peng who dominated in a number of events and was named as the 12 Years Boys Age Champion. A selection of students will now go on to compete at the Regional Carnival this term.

With an increase in staffing we have been able to enter a few new competitions in 2014. Year 7 and 8 teams were entered in a region wide Oztag competition. The girls team made it to the semi-final of their competition, but unfortunately they came up against a red hot side who eventually went on to win the Grand-final. The Boys team went one step further; a slow start in the final game ended up seeing them fall just short of winning the day. Year 7 and 8 teams were also entered into a statewide netball competition in term 2. Miss Trees and Miss Propst spend many lunch times training teams and the hard work paid off. The girls lost 2 games and the boys were undefeated. The boys progressed through to the state finals to be held later this term.

Finally, a huge Congratulations to Jimmy Khoun in Year 8. Early in term 3 he will compete in the NSW CHS All Schools Cross Country championships. This is a huge effort and we wish him all the best in his race.
Curriculum

Mathematics News

Welcome to Term 3. No doubt we need to do some catching up!!

The Maths faculty allows students to access the tutorial software, Mathletics, from home. It is very encouraging to see that a lot of our students are making good use of this self-learning tool and, if used consistently and properly, it provides learning feedback on a continual basis, promoting remedial learning. Miss Miller has continued APSMO (Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads) for selective students in Year 7 and Year 8. It is designed to stimulate creative and lateral thinking in Mathematics. Another skill builder, ‘Khans Academy’ is available on the web at no cost: open to all stages with a topic, focus. Challenge yourself to a huge range of very innovative questions or try some mathematical puzzles. Try some FIFA challenges.

If you are experiencing difficulties doing homework or research at home, especially if you do not have internet at home, you may use the A4 computer room during lunchtime any day with Miss Miller and/or other support staff. Be reminded that this support is for homework only and others may be asked to leave to use A4 another time. The “Brain Pop” software is another piece of technology Bonnyrigg has found quite useful as a teaching learning tool. This software has the added advantage of quizzes, mini-lessons, student worksheets plus a feature used to ask questions as well. With more technology that we are now currently enjoying at Bonnyrigg, facilitation of learning has never been so encouraging and invigorating. We hope you will enjoy the journey as much as possible.

The Australian Mathematics Competition for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia Awards will be held on two consecutive days this year: **Friday 8th August, Week 4 for Year 8 and Thursday 7th August for the other years.** More than 200 very keen students have entered the competition. We endeavor to keep the positive participation growth rate of the competition; it started from a score or two of competitors a few years ago. It is mandatory for all selective students to enter this competition. Other students who wish to take advantage of such an opportunity are reminded that the competition will be on again next year at a similar time. The Maths faculty has always stressed the importance of this competition. Students who still haven’t paid the entry fee must do so urgently. See Mr Ta, the competition organizer, if you have any enquiries. We are confident that this competition will help out students who wish to have an edge above others in developing good ‘working mathematically’ skills.

Thanks to Mr. Howard and his team of Mathematicians for their immense selfless contributions to the education of our students during Term 2 vacation. Over 80 of our students in Year 11 and 12 Mathematics had the opportunity to attend one or more of 6 three hour tutorials. The tutorials helped prepare students for their upcoming Trial Examinations. The feedback was very encouraging and positive. There is a good chance that a repeat session will be run during Term 3 vacation for HSC students. Look out for details on the faculty noticeboard.

It is hoped that all Year 12 are giving it all they’ve got in terms of preparation, and are keen to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in the upcoming trials. We believe that success does not come about as an accident but is well planned and executed. The Maths faculty is always eager to help. Remember, if you do your best, you have done your share. Happy studying!!

Yoga: Mr Pacha has kindly extended his services on Monday to Wednesday afternoons after school; Wednesday afternoons being advanced Yoga. In Australia where problems of unrest amongst young people are acute, some successful experiments showed ‘Pranayama’, when introduced, allayed the restlessness of the young minds. Pranayama, a breathing technique, helps to silence the agitated centres of the mind and adjusts faulty endocrine secretions. Similarly ‘Laughter Yoga’ is anti-stress and helps to relax muscles, expands blood vessels, brings instant relaxation, strengthens the immune system…!!! Experience it and enjoy the benefits; the only cost is your own yoga mat.

Year 11 General are reminded that their assignment 2 ‘Mathematics and Driving’ will be due at the end of week 5 and soon after all Year 11 would have to appear for their Preliminary Examinations. The Year 10 Accelerants will be attempting their Advanced Mathematics paper; we salute their resolve and offer them our full support. Look out for our “10 Hot Tips” about how to be ‘exam smart’. Time is of essence here, be wise about it.

Keep smiling!!

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**Bonnyrigg High School’s Parent Forum**

**Wed 13th August**

**6.00pm start**

School Library

Interpreters available: Arabic, Khmer and Vietnamese

*Be Informed ~ Make Decisions ~ No Fund Raising ~ Supper Provided*
Parent News

Parents Make a Difference

Working Together

"Understanding Your Teenager" Feat. Graham Hyman
Australia’s most popular presenter on successfully parenting teens

Session 1: Tuesday 12th August 2014
Time: 6:45pm
Venue: Prairiewood High School

Session 2: Wednesday 13th August 2014
Time: 6:00pm
Venue: Bonnyrigg High School

Session 2: Thursday 14th August 2014
Time: 4:00pm
Venue: Fairvale High School

Understanding Your Teenager is a one insightful, practical and hilarious presentation. It provides understanding of why teenagers behave like they do, what is often tricky in parent's thought and exposes much of their bizarre behaviour. It focuses on the real world of a home that holds teenagers. It provides strategies, ideas and hope for parents and gives them resources to promote well being, hope and successful living in their adolescent child. In comparison to those workshops students and teachers will take part in similar presentation to encourage a unified approach.

Reserve your seat now! The first 20 bookings will receive a valuable resource pack. To register, call the number and school to links@parkscommunity.org.au or call 9609 7400 extension 102.

ADMISSION IS FREE

ENTRADA GRATIS
PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE – Who says reading is dead?

The 2014 PRC is off to a brilliant start with a record 63 students attending the ‘halfway there’ party in the library. These students from Years 7 and 8 were rewarded for their efforts in reading at least ten novels so far this year. Amongst them were an unprecedented fifteen students who have already completed the challenge by reading the prescribed twenty novels!

It isn’t too late for students to be involved and attend the end of challenge party next term. So, keep reading and keep recording the books you’ve read on the PRC website.

— ”No matter how busy you may think you are, you must find time for reading – or surrender yourself to self-chosen ignorance.” Confucius

BHS Library hosts Cartooning Workshop

Did you know Bonnyrigg High School students read more manga books than anything else?

On Tuesday, 24th June, twenty students from Years 7 to 11 were treated to a cartooning workshop presented by Cartoon Kingdom. These enthusiastic students learnt classic Manga techniques, focusing on drawing, developing story plots, creating characters and comic strips. This was a wonderful cross curricular opportunity for students to combine creative and literacy skills.

Can you Climb Sydney’s Tallest Building?

We would love to invite BHS students to be part of the ‘School’s Challenge’ at this year’s Sydney Tower Stair Challenge on 24th August. This is a great chance for teams of 4 to take on the 1504 stairs from Pitt Street Mall to the Observation Deck at the Sydney Tower Eye. Participants have to be 12 years or older. Each stair climbed will assist Giant Steps who operate a school and intervention service for children and young people (2-20) who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

For more information and to register simply go to www.active8change.com.au. Alternatively you can contact Steve Corrie at Active8Change on 0439 975 759 for specific event day information or Michelle Jocum at Giant Steps on (02) 9879 4971.
SCIENCE WEEK CELEBRATIONS

BHS 2014

National Science Week for 2014 is between 16th – 24th August and in celebration of this, Bonnyrigg High School on Thursday 21st August is having a “come dressed as your favourite scientist (fiction/non-fiction) day”. This year we are asking students to choose a scientist (fiction/non-fiction). It may be a famous scientist (fiction/non-fiction) or one they may be interested in.

To partake on the day students need to:

1. Research as much as possible about their chosen scientist (fiction/non-fiction) before the day.
2. They will need to talk to the class about their chosen scientist.
3. Come to school on Thursday 21st August dressed up as the Scientist would have been dressed. Students will be judged on; how well they have dressed up as their scientist and their presentation to their class. There are prizes to be won, including movie passes and iTune vouchers. Students will also be able to purchase “space ice cream” during recess or lunch time, in support of the day.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not a multi-day. Students wishing to partake on the day must be dressed as their chosen scientist (fiction/non-fiction) otherwise they must be in full school uniform. ALL students whether partaking or not must wear their proper school shoes-no excuses!

This is open to all students from years 7-12. So BHS get involved. I challenge you to beat the Science Faculty! LOL as if that’s going to happen!!

Mr Foti
HT Science

Mr M.N. Bryce
Principal