**Bonnyrigg Matters**

**From the Principal**

Congratulations Bonnyrigg High School! 2015 New Confucius Classrooms announced last week, Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban), China, has approved the establishment of six new Confucius Classrooms under the Department's Confucius Institute to commence operation on 6th February 2015. These schools are: Bonnyrigg High School, Chatswood High School, Concord High School, Homebush Boys' High School, Hurstville South Public School, Rouse Hill Public School.

邦尼里格中学孔子课堂 - Confucius Classroom at Bonnyrigg High School

The news regarding the establishment of 6 new Confucius Classrooms under the NSW Department of Education and Communities Confucius Institute is now published on the Confucius Institute website at: [http://www.confuciusinstitute.det.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.confuciusinstitute.det.nsw.edu.au/) The NSW Department of Education and Communities Confucius Institute is a collaboration/joint venture between the NSW Department of Education and Communities and the Office of Chinese Language Council International in China (Hanban), in partnership with Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education. It is managed by the NSW Department of Education and Communities Business Systems. The NSW Department of Education and Communities Confucius Institute is a non-profit organisation. Its role is to deliver high level support for Chinese language and cultural education in NSW Public Schools, including support for affiliated Confucius Classrooms. Bonnyrigg High School will join 8 other schools previously established.

Bonnyrigg’s Confucius Classroom will:

- collaborate closely with the Department’s Confucius Institute
- deliver exemplary teaching and learning programs for Chinese language and culture
- provide professional learning opportunities for Chinese teachers in the region, including opportunities to observe and share teaching and learning programs
- contribute to a resource bank of quality assured teaching and learning materials for Chinese, including multimedia, for use by schools in the region and across the state
- establish a technology hub to facilitate communication between schools in the region and schools in China
- provide support in the region for the Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) Chinese language proficiency tests for teachers and students and the Chinese Bridge-Chinese Proficiency competitions for secondary students
- provide opportunities for school community engagement with Chinese language and culture events.
- Promote a sister school relationship between a school in Hanban Province and Bonnyrigg HS. Students and staff from both countries will visit each other. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) needs to be signed first, once a Chinese school has been selected. Bonnyrigg HS will also be working closely with our local partner primary schools in the connections with the Chinese sister school.

Reminder school fees need to be paid as soon as possible. The money you give us is used on your children in all subjects. The school is not given enough funds to fully meet the needs of running the school. Without contributions we could not provide the up to date library resources, textbooks for the new courses or online learning programs to which the school subscribes. To provide the most up to date resources requires money; let alone meeting all the normal expenses a school encounters. Our school charges are at least 60% cheaper than other local schools. The money pays for the materials used in class, the paper for worksheets, new technology, and school updates. Without the subject contributions, our school would not be able to function as effectively.

Until next time, MN Bryce - Principal

**Bonnyrigg High School**

Partially Selective and Local Enrolments

Email: bonnyrigg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Principal: M N Bryce: BA (Hons). Dip Ed., MEd.
Phone: 9823 -1184 9823 -1186 Fax: 9823 -7662

---

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**WEEK 5A**
Monday 23rd February
Whole School Assembly
Yr 12: Black Dog survey period 2

**Wednesday 25th February**
SRC Leadership Training Day
Parent Forum 6:00pm start

**Thursday 26th February**
Bernera Zone Swimming Day 1
Yr 9

**Monday 2nd March**
WEEK 6B
Whole School Assembly
Yr 9 Geography Oral Task

**Wednesday 4th March**
Bernera Zone Swimming Day 1

**Thursday 5th March**
Yr 5 Headstart - Bonnyrigg

**Friday 6th March**
U/16yrs Girls & Boys - TouchTrials
Bernera Zone Trial Day 3
Staff Profile

Mr Youkhana - Social Sciences Teacher

Hello everyone, my name is Mr Youkhana and I’m glad to have joined the Bonnyrigg High School teaching team, as part of the Social Sciences faculty.

A little background information about myself…I am a local to the area and I graduated with a Business degree in 2007. I worked in a few different jobs since graduating, mainly in the finance/banking/customer service side of things. I realised I needed to make a change early on, but never really acted on it. Daydreaming about teaching, while doing the corporate thing, sustained me for a while. Then I moved to London, lived there for a couple of years and came back to Australia, having decided to go back to university and finally become a teacher.

Since then, I have worked at a few local schools, completing my practicums at Cabramatta and Cecil Hills High Schools, and doing a some casual work at St Johns Park High School. I am excited about this new opportunity at Bonnyrigg High School, and I hope to make a positive contribution and get to know all of you. See you all around.

Student LAT

Lateness, Attendance and Truancy Update

Now that we are making headway into Term One, attendance, lateness and truancy data is beginning to be collated. Attendance issues are beginning to surface for some students of Bonnyrigg High School. We will endeavour to work closely with parents and children to address issues associated with habitual school lateness and absenteeism.

Meetings, interviews and interventions will begin to be conducted by myself, Year Advisers and the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO), Mr Craig Maloney.

Attendance that falls below 85% is immediately flagged by the school. Unless there are special circumstances, including genuine illness or serious family issues, there is no excuse not to arrive on time and in uniform every school day.

Thank you for your cooperation in working together to achieve the best educational outcomes for your child.

Ms H Stafford
Head Teacher - Lateness, Attendance and Truancy

Library News

February Update

A big welcome to everyone, especially Year 7.

We have started another fantastic year of literature and learning. I hope you all visit the library as often as you can to get the most out of all the resources we have to offer. Apart from a good air conditioner we have a wide range of magazines, the latest novels, a fantastic graphic section, board games, nonfiction books to support your curriculum needs and over 30 computers and 20 iPads.

Students in Year 7 may borrow four fiction books and four nonfiction books. These can be renewed as often as need be. We also have an E library located at https://bonnyrigghighschool.wheelers.co/

This year we are pleased to welcome Ms Herbert who is here Wednesdays and Thursdays. She comes to us with a rich background in Teacher Librarianship. Ms Vlasic continues to support us all in the library.

If you need help with an assignment, or just want to chat about a good book you have read or want us to purchase, please come and see us. We are here to help you get the best out of your learning journey.

Happy reading and learning!

Mrs Sander Burns - Teacher Librarian
Curriculum

History and Languages

This is a very exciting and significant year for all of us at Bonnyrigg High. The ANZAC Centenary is upon us, and as the nation commemorates this landmark event, Bonnyrigg High has some wonderful initiatives to recognise our community’s contribution and respect for the occasion.

On April 24th and 25th Mr Kurtz and Ms Goodsell will be taking 12 of our students to “Camp Gallipoli.” It will be a great honour for these students, as they will be ambassadors for the school and represent the staff and students at the dawn service, ANZAC morning. “Camp Gallipoli” is a unique event bringing people together from across Australia and New Zealand to commemorate 100 years of ANZAC history. The camp in Sydney will be at Centennial Park. This is the spot where our young Australian soldiers camped before leaving for Gallipoli in 1915. We will be holding a special assembly and morning tea later in the term to recognise these students.

An ANZAC Centenary display is being organised in the library by Mrs Sander-Burns. Staff and students are bringing in artefacts and all sorts of items about Australia’s ANZAC legacy. We are also expecting contributions from the local RSL and Moo’s Military Museum at Canley Vale. If any parent would like to lend the school something for the display, please contact me or Mrs Sander Burns. You may have had a family member serve in the defence forces and any medals, records, letters, photos, stories or artefacts would be a great addition to the display and school’s military history.

There will also be an ANZAC Centenary writing competition and art competition, as well as a commemorative badge design competition. Keep your ears open for further details about these events.

In other news, the Medieval Garden looks wonderful at the moment and is full of all sorts of herbs and vegetables. Year 8 students in particular have enjoyed incorporating it into their medieval studies.

The Lunar New Year is here, and we begin the Year of the Goat. I am looking forward to attending the Vietnamese Luna New Year festival at the end of February. This event attracts more than 60,000 people through its gates each year. I hope it is a great new lunar year for all the students of the school. The Language teachers, Mrs Ly and Ms Ellis will be celebrating the Year of the Goat with their classes through events at school as well as visits to some of our fabulous local restaurants.

Finally, with the winter football codes about to start, I’m hoping for back to back titles for the Rabbitohs and another cup for the Swans.

Mr S. Kurtz
Head Teacher - History and Languages
#glory glory onwards to victory

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

We are delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

We want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9th March and 2nd April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27th February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Ms Miller and Mrs Dunsing - Organising Teachers
Welcome back everyone!

To start with, I’d like to offer sincere congratulations to Mrs Freeman and her husband on the birth of their son. He is quite the little bundle! Mrs Freeman will be on maternity leave all year, returning in 2016. Ms Gladovic is filling in for her during this time.

Also, welcome to Mr Ryan. Mr Ryan comes to Bonnyrigg with a wealth of experience, having taught English at the Conservatorium High School and Strathfield Girls High School. An asset to the faculty, we welcome him with open arms.

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 8 and 10, so we are fully into the swing of things in the junior school. The faculty and students are immersing themselves in their new units of work and texts for study, after our review at the end of the year. We examined what worked well, what not so well…so we have some new and exciting texts to study this year, as well as classics. 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, we also have various excursions coming up to complement the teaching of dramatic texts in English, such as The Shoe-Horn Sonata and Of Mice and Men, 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!).

With the introduction of new HSC prescriptions for the 2015 HSC, the English faculty are taking the opportunity to ‘upskill’ themselves and attend Professional Learning sessions about the context, content and delivery of new texts. It’s fantastic that we have such a dedicated and committed staff who ensure the best for your students. A vast majority of these sessions take place after school and on the weekends, so that means giving up our precious family time. Know that it is done with your students’ interests at heart.

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 Ms Le 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

---

**Immunisation**

Attention Parents / Caregivers of Year 7 students. This year your child will be offered free vaccinations to protect them from Human Papilloma Virus, Varicella (Chicken Pox) and Tetnus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Whooping Cough). Registered nurses will visit the school three times over the course of the year to provide this vital service.

**Vaccination Dates:**
- 9th March
- 15th June
- 16th November

It is important that you read the parent information pack provided and sign the consent card for each vaccine that you would like your child to receive.

Please remember to bring in your notes before the day.
Parent Forums for 2015

Wednesdays at 6.00pm till 7.30pm
in the
School Library

TERM ONE
25th February
1st April

TERM TWO
20th May
24th June

TERM THREE
12th August
16th September

TERM FOUR
4th November
9th December

“To discuss a range of educational topics to assist your child’s learning needs”

Be Informed - Make Decisions
Your point of view is important to us!!

We need your talent!

Do you have an interest, hobby or skill
that you could teach our Staff and Students!!

Do you train a sport?
Are you a great cook?
Do you have a craft or hobby?
Do you play and instrument?

Our Staff and Students are willing to learn from you!!

See Sharon Borg, your Community Engagement Officer
or phone on 9823-1186 or 9823-1184
Stepping Out School of Dance

Unit 9/45-47 Whyalla Pl, Prestons NSW 2170

www.steppingoutdance.com

e-mail: rain.drops@bigpond.com

Christine PH: 96057472 Mobile 0409548396

Jazz  Hip Hop  Tap  Ballet  Irish  Drama

Singing  Acrobatics/Tumbling

Families Together

invites mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers to

KEEPING MY CHILD SAFE

"helping children cope with the challenges of everyday life"

Presented by

Brigit Gurton
Forensic Psychologist
Kids Connect Psychological Services
B.A. (Hons) Psychology
M. Psychol Forensic

The Protective Behaviours program develops personal safety skills that can be used by children and young people to keep them safe. The program strategies can provide the basis for helping children cope at school and address problems associated with social media, bullying, drugs, alcohol and peer pressure.

The program focuses on everyone feeling safe, being safe and talking about it.

The session will explore how you can:

- help your child to develop skills to protect themselves and develop positive relationships;
- develop positive lines of communication so children can talk about problems or difficult situations they face;
- help your child to feel safe and act to keep themselves safe.

This seminar is for families with children from 5 to 12 years.

Bookings are essential and places are limited.

Please call 0407 708 626 to book your place

Families Together is for parents living in the local government areas of Fairfield, Liverpool and Bankstown.

Children's services workers, teachers, family support workers and other professionals will not be given a place.

DATE: Thursday 26th March 2015
TIME: 6.30 - 9.00pm
PLACE: Carley Heights CSL and Sporting Club
26 Humphries Rd
Wakerley

CHILD MINDING is not available for this session. Children are not permitted to attend.

Families Together is funded by the Department of Education and Communities and sponsored by Fairfield City Council.
Fairfield

STANDING TOGETHER

Soccer tournament and free BBQ

Time and date: 3-6 pm on Tuesday 24 February, 2015

Venue: Mounties Bowling Club on Ulestone street, Fairfield (five minutes’ walk from Fairfield train station)

Who can join?

- Young people aged 15 – 22 years old
- Make a team of six players or join a team

For more information and registration contact Abdul on 97270477
Free Health Forum

Saturday, 28th February 2015
Assyrian Sports & Cultural Club
52-54 Stanbrook Street, Fairfield Heights 2165
1:00pm for 2:00pm start - 5:00pm

we care about your health

Do we have to worry about diabetes?
How to achieve a healthy weight & why?

Free afternoon tea provided

South Western Sydney Medicare Local

Dr Mariam Joseph
Geriatrician & Consultant Physician

Dr Albert Youssif
General Practitioner

Dr William Menashi
General Practitioner