

Barham High Newsletter

Find us at: Gonn Street Barham NSW 2732



Term 3 Week 2

28/07/2016

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome Back

A warm (metaphorical), welcome back to staff and students to another busy term. Term three is filled with many varied and interesting learning opportunities as the weather slowly becomes more comfortable. Year 12 students are in the process of finishing off the last of their assessment tasks as they begin to prepare for the Trial HSC examinations. Now is the time for them to consolidate their knowledge and utilise the teachers who are subject matter experts and who can also provide excellent advice and preparatory instruction.

We welcome Miss Frizell to Barham High School who has replaced Mr Westacott in our Agriculture department. I would like to thank Mr Westacott for all the fine work he carried out during his stay.

Staff Development Day

We were spoilt for choice on our staff development day at the beginning of term. Some members of staff elected to drive to Hay War Memorial High School to attend professional learning on the scaffolded teaching and assessment procedure called "A Learning and Responding Matrix" (ALARM). This teaching and learning foundation has become a major focus in our curriculum delivery and is integral in increasing student learning outcomes as we move forward. Staff members who elected to drive to Hay received professional learning from Max Woods, the creator of the ALARM process.

Some other staff elected to catch the bus to Deniliquin where they engaged in a "Behavability" course. During this course, participants learned about managing challenging behaviour, school culture and development of school systems support, and the importance of nutrition on students' behaviour.

The third group of staff members remained at school where they engaged in six hours of online learning modules around a variety of topics ranging from leadership, analysing NAPLAN results to inform students' needs, Work Health and Safety requirements and engaging with the teaching standards.

As I have indicated before, I am extremely impressed with the level of commitment and dedication our staff display in the pursuit of increasing their professional knowledge.

Year 10 Subject Selection Information Evening

Thank you to all of the Year ten students and their families for their attendance at the Year 10 Subject Selection Information Evening. The subject selection process is very involved and important and I thank the staff members present for providing their expert knowledge. Please do not hesitate to contact the school for any further information or to book an interview for more advice.

School debating

Good luck to our students involved in a variety of public speaking and debating competitions occurring this week. Some students will be travelling to Hay for a Debating carnival, whilst others will be involved in “virtual debates” with other schools via video conferencing technologies.

State Cross Country Carnival

Hearty congratulations go to Dempsey Coote and Morgan Turvey for ably representing our Region at the State Cross Country carnival which was held in Sydney last week.

Everyone at BHS is very proud of their efforts.

Glenn Buchanan

Principal



FROM THE DEPUTY'S DESK

It has been a busy start to Term 3 and with a major computer system upgrade in the break and the usual gremlins in the system, there have been a few teething problems. I extend my apologies for any inconvenience caused and thanks to those working hard to sort the problems out.

We welcome some new faces to our student body and we have finally sorted out their timetabling issues with the new system. We wish them a happy and productive time with us at Barham High School.

The Rewards Excursion held on the last day of Term 2 was a great success. The Zone is a terrific venue and our students enjoyed go-karting, laser tag and ice skating. The management complimented Barham High School students on their manners and behaviour. Not all eligible students attended the day so we will conduct a student survey to find out why and to explore alternative activities for a rewards excursion that might be more inclusive.

Our Year 10 into Year 11 subject selection information evening was well attended on Monday evening. Your support was very much appreciated. Just a reminder to parents to contact the school if you would like further information or to discuss any concerns over selection issues. As discussed on Monday evening these initial selection sheets are due back to me by Friday 5th August but if you require further thinking time this deadline can be stretched a little.

Our Year 12 students may require a little TLC as their assessment period comes to a close prior to preparation for the Trial HSC which begins on Friday 12th August and runs through the remainder of week 5.

Ian McConnell

Relieving Deputy Principal

YOUTH PARLIAMENT



Youth Parliament

I was a member of the Gannawarra Shire Youth Council team and we tried to pass a bill for lowering the Probationary Division 1 Driver's Licence to 17 in Victoria. Very disappointingly our bill wasn't passed, but all in all it was still a worthwhile trip. I made tons of new friends who were all just as passionate about their bills, school and their futures as I am and that was something I was really happy about. We were in the Victorian Parliament House for three full days and our team was in the Legislative Assembly (The Lower House - green room) because our opposing chamber had the youth governor. Youth Parliament was an amazing opportunity that I'm happy to volunteer to do again next year. I was surprised about the lack of interest that was shown by young people in our area for this. It is nothing but an amazing 'once in a life-time' opportunity that I'd highly promote to anyone - you don't even have to have an interest in politics to love it. My favourite part of the trip was on the last day when we all sat in a large circle and were given a number from 1-4. Everyone was asked to close their eyes and a number was asked to stand up. As everyone kept their eyes closed the people standing were asked a number of questions, like 'Who inspired you?' or 'Who stepped out of their comfort zone this week?' and were then asked to go and touch someone on the leg or shoulder who they believed best answered the question. It was so rewarding to know that I impacted so many lives within such a small amount of time and it was really warming. It was by far the highlight of this experience.

Emma Carter

Gannawarra Youth Council

The last GYC meeting was held on Thursday the 21st, in Cohuna. Mikayla, James, Harry and Emma attended and it was a day for great progress and we were all excited to receive our GYC tops with our names on them as well. First, we had a few lovely ladies talk to us about the development of the youth strategy and a website for the youth in our area where four other people on the GYC and I put our hands up to help (see photo). We then spoke about the things we have been doing since the last meeting, like YMCA Youth Parliament, an update on the Barham skate park upgrade and the Gannawarra Shire Council meeting, which was held the night before and Emma presented on behalf of the GYC. We then split off into our major projects to finish the meeting. James and Emma are working on the YMCA Grand Final Skate competition which will be held this year in November. We are coming up with ideas for



sponsors, activities, little competitions, fun water games, food and entertainment, as well as the promotion of the Barham Skate park upgrade. This event will be equally shared between the YMCA, GYC and FreeZa. Mikayla and Harry are organising a series of short videos to be featured on our Facebook and YouTube pages. Be sure to give them a like! It was a very productive meeting and we saw a lot of projects get underway thanks to our awesome members and our amazing team co-ordinator, Penny Scanlan.

Youth Council members showing off their new shirts

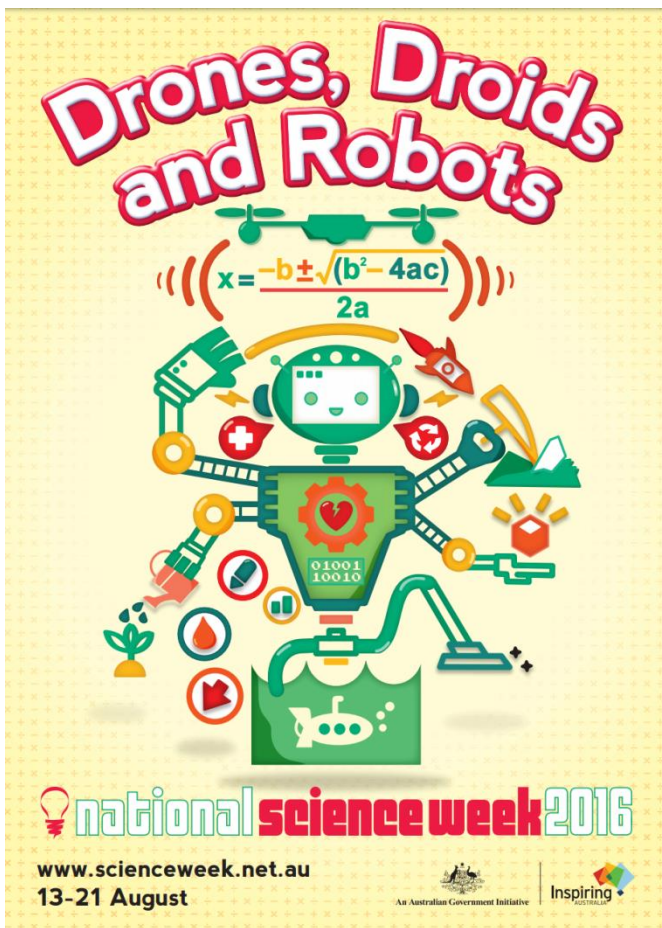
Emma Carter & James Lang



Youth Strategy mental health meeting

National Science Week 2016

Barham High School will once again be celebrating National Science Week in 2016. Week 5 will see students engaging in a range of hands on challenges and trivia days.



On Monday 22nd August from 4.30pm, we invite the community to join us for our Science vs Art Open Night. All members of the community will contribute to an art installation based on the theme 'Drones, Droids and Robots.' There will also be student demonstrations and lots of fun to be had!

Keep your eyes on the Newsletter and the Facebook page for more updates! We can't wait to see everyone there!

- Miss Dennis and the Science Club

CHECK THIS OUT!

Pictures of winning 2015 BHS Crystals are at:

<https://www.raci.org.au/document/version/2362>

Changes to the HSC

The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Studies has recently released information about changes to the HSC.

Draft syllabuses have been published for the new English, Mathematics, Science and History courses that will be taught for the first time in 2018.

As well as these new courses, students who are currently in Year 8 will need to meet a minimum literacy and numeracy standard to be eligible for an HSC when they complete their studies in Year 12 in 2020.

Students will be able to demonstrate that they have reached this standard by achieving at least a Band 8 in their Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests.

From 2018, there will be an online literacy and numeracy test available for students to demonstrate that they have met this standard if they did not achieve the required standard in Year 9.

Careers News.....

Bendigo TAFE Experience Day

Twenty-two students attended the BRIT Experience Day on Thursday 21st July. The students selected three workshops to attend at either the City or Charleston Road Campus. They enjoyed practical hands on activities such as building a cubby house frame, making a metal key ring, taking blood pressure and pulse readings, cutting and styling hair mannequins, massage therapy and cooking white chocolate pancakes. The students also learned about TAFE course entry requirements, career outcomes and pathways to higher education.

Luke Nicholas gained notoriety by being interviewed by Star FM & is now considering a career in media. Whilst other students were able to eliminate career choices or confirm options after these first hand experiences at BRIT. With a number of Year 8 students attending, it confirms that early career planning is invaluable.

Barham High School is very grateful that BRIT fully funded the bus transport as well as lunch. This generosity enables our students to overcome geographic isolation and experience career options at no cost other than the time involved. Thank you to Mr Yu for accompanying the students to the Charleston Road campus and Darren for driving. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the students for their excellent behaviour and involvement.



Our students participating in a beauty therapy workshop

Right – BRIT city campus
Below – BRIT Charlton
Road Campus



Below:
Left – Jack Shannon
Right – Jake Vallence

Both boys participated in the
Automotive workshop

