From the Principal

Term 2 marks a very important point in relation to the year's academic work. HSC students have recently received their Semester One reports and Preliminary, Year 10 and EFS students will receive their reports at the Parent-Teacher afternoon on June 23rd. (Students have been given information about this important occasion in Mentor class.)

Thus, I feel that this is a good time for students to stop and reflect on why they decided to study at the College. When asked, students generally reply that they want to gain an educational credential that will allow them to access further education or vocational opportunity. In order to gain the maximum benefit from their learning, each student should ensure that they attend regularly and participate in all learning activities in their classrooms. Our staff instruct and guide students but, ultimately, it is each student’s efforts and perseverance that will lead to success. The College provides a wide range of support structures, academic, social and emotional, and students should avail themselves of this help as they prepare for important examinations.

The new College plan for 2015-2017 has been completed and can be viewed on the College website, www.bankstowns.h.schools.nsw.edu.au. The College plan was discussed at the Parent meeting on the 19th May, along with information about how parents can support their child’s learning. We welcome any parents, who would like to attend our Term 3 meeting in August.

Further information will be sent to you shortly.

The end of the term will witness the graduation of students from the Intensive English Centre (IEC) and English for Study (EFS) courses. A number of these students will be joining preparation classes which commence next term. To others, you leave with our best wishes for your future educational endeavours.

Lastly, I am more than happy to speak with any parent about their child’s progress. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me at the College. When teachers and parents work together, we achieve success.

Anne Doyle
Principal
Deputy Principal 2015

It’s great to see that term 2 has gone smoothly at BSC. As Deputy Principal at BSC, I look forward to supporting students, staff and parents throughout the year. Students have shown academic excellence in the classroom, demonstrated their capabilities as performers and established their prowess on the sporting arena throughout the term. Our student success can be partly attributed to the variety of teaching and welfare programs offered at the college which cater for both the academic and well-being needs of the students. Our aim at BSC is to provide a quality educational environment that recognises and promotes the importance of the whole person.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the tireless work of all staff at the college. I would also like to inform you of the many teams that are working collaboratively to support the individual student at the college. Examples of some of the dedicated teams can be seen below:

- **The College Professional Learning and Teaching Team (SPlaTT)** is led by Deputy Principal Ms S. Byron and maps out professional learning for teachers at the college. This team of dedicated staff identifies student needs and ensures that teachers are well equipped to support individual students to better transition them into TAFE, University and the workforce.

- **The Student Support Team** is led by our Student Support Coordinator Ms Khoury and consists of all senior Executive members of staff, our dedicated Year Advisers, School Counsellor, the Careers Adviser and Enrolments Officer. The team meets weekly to discuss any student welfare issues and devise strategic plans to support each and every student at the college.

- **The Learning Support and Engagement Team** is led by our relieving Head Teacher Support and Engagement Mr Culligan. He is supported by the Support Teachers Learning Ms Z.Karpin and Ms Harwood. The team identifies students that require greater learning support in the classroom and devise strategies to improve student learning in literacy, numeracy and student engagement and regulation. Additionally, these teachers are supported by two ESL staff and university tutors in the Learning Centre which is located in the school library.

- **The Secondary Connected Outcomes Groups Team (COGs)** is led by Ms Jenni Gardiner. The team is made up of representatives from all faculties. This exciting project aims to engage the Term 3 Preparation class in learning via a theme approach and authentic task and learning experiences, whilst developing student skills in literacy, numeracy and ICT.

- **Faculty Teams** are led by Head Teachers IEC, English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE and TAS/CAPA. All teaching staff are integral members of these teams and are the keys to ensuring learning comes alive at BSC.

- **The School Administration and Support Staff (SASS) Team** work tirelessly to ensure the needs of students and staff are met on a daily basis. The team is led by Ms R Wood and consists of school Administrative Officers, SLSO’s and University Tutors at the college. It is this team that is in the ‘engine room’ to support quality teaching and learning at BSC.

- **The Executive Team** is led by the Principal Ms. M. Doyle and the Deputy Principal Mrs. S. Byron. It includes all faculty and non-faculty Head Teachers, School Administrative Manager, Enrolment Coordinator and Student Support Coordinator. This team provides leadership and direction in the college, and direction for all staff in the implementation of the school plan which can be found on the school website.

I look forward to highlighting the work on other teams within the college and celebrating our successes in upcoming College Newsletters. To our students, parents and community, have a safe and happy holiday break.

Mrs S. Byron
English/ESL Report

Half a year has sped by and so much has been achieved in the English/ESL faculty. Year 12 have completed their half yearly exams and are well on the way to completing their Trials next term. These important exams will be excellent preparation for the HSC exams in October. Success in all of these exams is dependent upon a lot of study, revision and hard work. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all English classes and discuss with their teacher any issues they may have concerning the work studied. Any HSC student interested in developing their creative writing skills on the topic of Discovery should participate in the Creative Writing Focus classes after school on Wednesdays.

Preliminary students have experienced their first formal exams and have realised that time management in exams is very important in being able to finish an English exam in any course. Students in Preliminary English will have also experienced an oral task, in the form of a formal speech or Viva Voce. We wished all students the best of luck in this task.

Year 10 have completed a number of assessments and exams this semester, whereby improving many aspects of their literacy. It has been very pleasing to see how motivated and hard working the majority of students in Year 10 have been in preparing for all of the set tasks. Improvements in Year 10 will ensure better results in Years 11 and 12, where the English course remains a mandatory and very important subject.

Congratulations to EFS students who graduate at the end of Term 2. Students in these courses always have important decisions to make about their future studies, with the guidance and support of their classroom teachers. It is strongly recommended that all advice given by teachers is closely considered and followed before the beginning of Semester 2.

The English/ESL faculty is looking forward to even greater things happening at Bankstown Senior College next semester, such as a writing competition with great prizes, excursions, more Macquarie Mentoring and public speaking competitions.

Maria Georgiou

Macquarie Mentoring Campus Visit

As an important part of the Macquarie University Mentoring program (LEAP), Bankstown Senior College students from Year 11 were invited to spend the day at Macquarie University finding out what universities are really like in Australia.

They were treated to inspirational presentations at the start of the day, where mentors from refugee backgrounds spoke about their difficult past journeys and their success as university students today. Our students also participated in the African Drumming show, thoroughly enjoying the inclusive nature of the talented presenters.

Our students were then taken on a tour of the University, where they were able to see as much of it as possible before sitting down to a huge lunch to discuss the day with their Mentors.

After this, students were invited to participate in a science display, where they could do a number of experiments that the university had put on for them. Students made everything from slime to traffic light solutions to volcanoes.

We had a great day and even though it was a Friday, we didn’t mind giving up our day off.

Maria Georgiou
HT English/ESL/Mentoring Coordinator
CAREERS NEWS

During Terms 1 and 2 this year there have been regular guest speakers coming into the school to provide students with current information about their future career pathways and post school options.

Lunchtimes in C10 we have had presentations from the University of Western Sydney, UWS College, the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, the University of Wollongong, UTSInsearch, the Defence Force, the Australian Catholic University and the University of Notre Dame. Students can speak to the ambassadors about entry requirements, courses, scholarships, generally about university life and the facilities available on campus.

At Bankstown Senior College we endeavour to link students with as many opportunities in order that they can easily make connections and build their knowledge of the networks available to them for further study. Students are actively encouraged to plan their transition pathway and make informed decisions.

The University of Western Sydney returned to further inform students on Tuesday May 19 for those who may not have had the opportunity to come along for the previous presentation. The Australian Careers Business College spoke the following Tuesday 26 May.

An excursion for both Year 11 and 12 students to attend UWS Day, where they can explore what UWS had to offer. They found out first-hand about courses, scholarships and career pathways, participated in interactive workshops and spoke one-on-one to UWS students.

Free tickets are available from the Careers Adviser if students wish to attend the Western Sydney Careers Expo in June. Please feel free to see Ms Dokmanovic for your ticket.

Year 12 students are currently making appointments for an interview with the Careers Adviser and are preparing their documentation for their Educational Access Scheme application. This scheme helps students who have experienced long-term educational disadvantage gain admission to university.

This year some students in Year 10 have done work experience which is an optional program provided by the school. Tony Daoud (pictured) spent a week at Bankstown Hospital doing nursing. Yamin Rayhaf, Ea Pu and Thiri Rayhaf (pictured) did a week at Target – Bankstown Central. These students gained valuable workplace skills and experience and now have an Employer’s Assessment Report and BSC Work Experience Certificate as part of their resume.

If students in Years 11 and 12 wish to explore a workplace, they are welcome to see the Careers Adviser and can access the Work Experience Program which Mariessa Lai has done in Year 12 where she gained an insight into an Accountancy Firm in preparation for her future goals.

Ms Divna Dokmanovic
Careers Adviser
2015 College Captains

It’s been an amazing experience to be College captain at Bankstown Senior College, everyone at this school is lovely and happy to help at any time. I began at BSC 4 years ago and wasn’t sure if I wanted to be here as there was many older students. After while I realised that the college community gives a lot of help and support, to make all students feel comfortable and ready to study. As College Captain I enjoy being in this college because everyone in here is like my family.

Delarse Zoori

Firstly I would like to thank the College for giving me this opportunity to be one of the college captains for 2015. It has been 4 wonderful years at BSC. I feel part of the college & treat it like my family with dignity, respect and pride. We are very lucky at BSC to have such hard working teachers that help us and I would like the opportunity to work with our teachers to make this college better than any other college. I feel very proud of the person I am and what I have achieved so far during not only my time at BSC but also outside of school.

Rasa Aziz

Leadership Program At NSW Parliament

On Thursday 14th of May the BSC College Captains were invited to attend the Secondary Schools Leadership Program at NSW Parliament House. Rasa Aziz and Delars Zoori said ‘they enjoyed meeting the Governor General and students from various Secondary schools.

EFS B Maths Game Day

With Mrs Naim & Mrs Hollowood

“I had fun and learned some more maths”. Rashida “It was amazing and we spoke with each other about how to play the games. Lots of fun”!
Noor “It taught me to calculate faster playing the games”, Shama “I enjoyed working in the group and helping others”. Tamara “I liked group work and it was fun. We used multiplication”. Khal

“I learnt some new words (tri) means 3 for example tricycle, triangle”. Tiba “I enjoyed working together as a group to play the new games. I had never played these games before”. Rana “I learned new words like cheaper, saving, difference. These mean minus. It was fun”. Taghreed “The game made me think quickly and I won the game”. Yousef “When we played the game we used addition and subtraction”. Dhan
Construction Report

This semester all students in the Construction course have looked at ways to improve the physical environment at Bankstown Senior College.

Students used the different stages of the build cycle to do their authentic project. They included the following stages:


Evaluate the project against original design brief

Students were very pleased to be given the opportunity to participate in an authentic project. They constructed and installed 2 picnic tables outside D Block. Currently they are laying concrete slabs to re-locate the two picnic tables outside the Library.

Mr Yad

From The Library

We have always called our study room the library.

There is alley after alley; shelf upon shelf- all full of books.

A pleasant smell of printed paper; makes you knowledge hungry.

Then computers came and mice with them.
Quiet as a mouse can be, they sit on top of tables, with their lifeless long tails.
No cats no mouse- traps, nobody seems to care- they hold them in the hand.

The book-house has become, unofficially, a mouse-house.
Traditionally we still say library; it makes us feel more studious.
In fact we are more play-full playing with the mice.

The greatest thing man learns from nature.
When in a cage, the mouse runs the spin wheel.
In the library the spin wheel, on the mouse, run the mouse.

Technologically it is a genius discovery.
But the problem of innovation still remains.
Should the book house be called mouse house; or should library remain?

By: Tihomil Badurina
Excursion to the Art Gallery of NSW

Visual Arts students from Years 10, 11 and 12 all attended an excursion to the Art Gallery of New South Wales during term 1. The day included lots of activities such as the study workshop run by ex HSC students, visiting the Art Express exhibition and viewing sections of the permanent gallery collection. To our surprise one of the two presenters in the study workshop was a Bankstown Senior College HSC student George Auiter. He presented his body of work in a slide show and explained all the processes and techniques he used to create his series of nine abstract paintings. We were so proud of his presentation in front of such a large audience in the gallery’s auditorium. We would like to thank Ms Skourtis and Mr Stratiotis for organising our excursion, we had lots of fun on the day.

Mrs Skourtis

Hospitality Students Learning Skills for Future

Hospitality students in Years 10 and 11 have been learning about the importance of following hygiene procedures when preparing food. Students learn in an industry standard commercial kitchen. The hospitality industry is one of the largest employers in Australia. Hospitality students are able to continue their studies as apprentice chefs or specialise in patisserie or cake decorating at TAFE or college. Most students agree the best part of the Hospitality course is getting to eat the dishes they have prepared. Yum!

Mrs Parenzee
Harmony Day

As you may have heard 21st of March is Harmony Day. So what is Harmony Day? Harmony Day is a national day of cultural respect and acknowledgement of all those who call Australia home, from the indigenous traditional owners to those that have travelled from many countries around the world. As we take pride in both our individuality and cultural diversity, it is important to remember that we all stand collectively shoulder to shoulder as Australians at Bankstown Senior College.

Harmony Day began in 1999 and has been enthusiastically celebrated across Australia. This year at BSC we celebrated Harmony Day on 19 of March. Harmony Day plays an important role at our school. Being a high school of over 360 students we have a large culturally diverse group of students and teachers, all with a rich, colourful heritage and history with many students with different cultural backgrounds. Bankstown Senior College takes pride in this with many students coming from over 20 different countries including; Afghanistan, Iran, Korea, Sri Lanka, India, China, Lebanon, Egypt, Pakistan, Thi, Vietnam and many more.

Once again this year with such a diverse community, we shared cultural music, dance and the colours of the painting which still surrounds the cafeteria. Many thanks to our Lion Chinese Dancers who brought the sound of Asia to the day. The Australian Bush Dance was a joyful outpouring of energy, communication and was a fun activity. Belly Dancing, Henna Art, sport, class activities and a BBQ. We wouldn’t be able to make the Harmony day work without the help of our staff, SRC and other students.

I am sending this message to all the BSC community, to celebrate Harmony Day, talk to your friends about their background, share stories and spread the spirit of Harmony. Make new friends and try talking to someone you may have never talked to before as Harmony Day is all about living together cheerfully. Set aside differences with other and ultimately work towards making BSC a better place to learn and have fun.

Mrs Qudsia  CLO
ANZAC Day

The 25th April 2015 marked the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey. This day — ANZAC DAY — is one of Australia’s most important national occasions and marks the first major military action by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. To acknowledge the sacrifice of more than 10,000 ANZAC troops at Gallipoli and the sacrifice and service of all Australian military personnel, the 25th April is an occasion of national remembrance that is acknowledged in a variety of forms. Commemorative services are held across the nation at dawn, the time of the original landing at Gallipoli.

Bankstown City Council in conjunction with the Bankstown Returned and Services League of Australia held their commemorative service on Saturday 25th April. Numerous students from 35 schools and accompanying teachers from across the region were addressed by the Honourable Jason Clare, MP for Blaxland and the Deputy Mayor of Bankstown, Councillor Allan Winter Bottom. At the conclusion of the event students, teachers and more than 1500 general public were treated to a BBQ courtesy of Bankstown Sports before the live telecast of the Gallipoli Dawn Service commenced.

On leaving, patrons received a copy of the book “The Thirty One” by Adam Courtenay, a book dedicated to the Bankstown ANZACs who never came home. “It was a great honour attending this historic event, be part of it and proudly represent Bankstown Senior College.

It is important for current and future generations of Australia to remember their sacrifices. It was a great day and proud moment for me and my family,” Masoud Faraji said.

All the original diggers from World War One have gone but ANZAC Day is an opportunity to remind ourselves of their ideas of sacrifice and mateship, courage and fortitude.

LEST WE FORGET.

Mrs Qudsia CLO

ANZAC Assembly

On Monday the 27th of April, I had the privilege of organising the Bankstown Senior College Anzac Day Service. I understand that for some of our students, this was the first time they were able to experience a commemoration service whilst living in Australia. I trust that it was meaningful to all who attended.

Both the college and the IEC were able to meet together and learn about the ANZACs, whether it was from the students’ contributions or from the PowerPoint of images that played on the screen. The respect that was shown by all of our students and staff on Monday was amazing, and I know it was deeply valued by many members of staff.

The purpose of the service was not to celebrate or glorify war, but rather, a time to gather together to remember those who have served during conflict or crisis, and to also remember those who have been left behind.

Our school captain, Delarse Zoori, presented a wreath to the school on behalf of the students, which was displayed in the office to pay tribute to the fallen. Students and visitors were able to see the wreath in the weeks following and were able to continue their remembrance.

I would like to thank all of the people involved in the ceremony. A big thank you to our students Delarse Zoori, Crystal McKerlie-Dias, Yousef Almaroof, Abdullah Al Zaben, Masood Faraji, Charles Guo and Elizabeth Glasovac who all contributed to the service. I’d also like to thank Ms Qudsia and Ms Fajou for their work behind the scenes. Without these students and teachers, the event would not have been as meaningful as it was.

Lest we forget.

Mrs Emma Harwood
Parent / Community Focus Group

On the 19th May, Bankstown Senior College held its 2nd Parent / Community Focus Group meeting for the year. It was well attended, with a broad discussion on a variety of issues which included Attendance reviews, School Plan and a power point presentation by Mrs Jenni Gardiner on “how to assist your children and family to organise themselves for school and study”. From this workshop, parents and family members learned some simple strategies to support their children and family members get ready for the HSC and college study.

It was great to see and have a chat with all of our wonderful parents and community members.

A Reminder for students and parents

- All students are expected to be at school on time and stay until the end of their last class period. If you miss lessons and whole days, this absence will be reflected on your school report as a partial or whole day absence.

- The Board of Studies requires students to be in each class for at least 85% of the time. Failure to do so may mean that students are not showing ‘due diligence and effort’. If you have received a warning of N-Determination letter, this means you have missed school work and have not completed it. If you do not complete the work, it is likely that you will be ‘N-Determined’ from the subject and this could mean that you do not receive a Record of School Achievement (ROSA) or Higher School Certificate (HSC).

- Complete all assessment tasks on time and if you are absent on the day of a task, ensure you bring in a doctor’s certificate and complete the appropriate paperwork. Students must see the teacher of the subject on their first day back at school. Remember, if you do not do this, you will receive zero for the task and still be expected to complete it.

Parent / Teacher Afternoon

On Tuesday 23rd of June the annual Bankstown Senior College Parent / Teacher Afternoon will be held in the College Library. The event will begin at 1.30pm and will conclude at 5.30pm. Please use this opportunity to collect your child’s/family member’s report and speak to your child’s or family member’s teachers to get an update on their progress and ways in which they can improve.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

From 2015, all Australian schools are required to participate each year in the annual collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability.

The nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability (NCCD) uses a model that draws on teachers’ professional judgement and practices throughout the year supporting students with disability to access and participate in education. Principals will verify data about students in their school receiving adjustments because of disability in August each year, based on evidences in the school.

The model for the NCCD is based on obligations to students under the national Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA) and Disability Standards for Education 2005. Understanding these obligations and the NCCD model is essential knowledge for principals and teachers.

Mr Culligan
RACS visit to BSC

On Thursday 14 May, we welcomed a most informative presentation by Sarah and Jordan who are solicitors and registered migration agents of the Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS). They offered some excellent advice to the Year 10 students about accessing some first-rate free refugee services.

Their session was clear, concise and easy to understand. The students responded so well to their warmth and welcoming nature which made their presence incredibly powerful. They discussed various issues facing most refugees which included understanding the legal system, preparing to bring family members to Australia and Centrelink matters just to name a few. The word of their services spread very quickly and many students not present at the session came to ask for help including students from the Intensive English Centre.

Ms Apostolopoulos organised a feedback session after the presentation and the students’ comments were very positive.

Those students who did not get the opportunity to attend the session will be given a chance to meet them in Term 3 at our Wellness Day when different organisations set up stalls and offer advice. Students will be informed in their Mentor period closer to the time.

If students wish to learn further about the RACS services, they are advised to see Mrs H Brunet (Mon/Thur) or Mrs M Pascalis (Tue/Wed/Thur) in the English/EAL/D faculty in the Staffroom.

Mrs H Brunet & Mrs M Pascalis
EAL/D teachers & RTP contacts

Crazy Hair Day

A huge thank and congratulations to all staff, SRC and students for supporting our fundraiser Crazy Hair Day, on 11th March. All Funds raised from Crazy Hair Day will help the Leukaemia Foundation to provide free practical care and support for patients with Leukaemias, Lymphomas, Myeloma and related disorders including accommodation and counselling. BSC Raised $280.
From Intensive English Centre – IEC

Graduating students at the IEC had the chance to attend short courses at TAFE at the end of Term 1. Students were able to study in Hospitality, Automotive or Hair and Beauty. It was a great chance for students to study in courses they might be interested in and a chance to experience tertiary education in Australia.

IEC AFL

About 60 male and female students participated in AFL Activities that were run by AFL coaches in Term 1 2015.

The had fun learning new skills, being active and getting to know students from different classes as they played AFL.
2015 CALENDAR
For your diary / notice board

Term 3:
EFS & PREP Began Classes: Mon 27 July
Term 4:
Tues 6 Oct to Tues 15 Dec TBC

HSC Written Exams Begin: Mon 12 October
Trial Exams: 3 August - 13 August
Year 11 Yearly Exams: 7 September - 17 Sept
Year 10 Exams: 2 November - 12 Nov

Upcoming Events:
8 June Queens Birthday Public Holiday
10 June College Assembly
10 June Hospitality Excursion Ryde TAFE
18 June Ramadan Starts
23 June Parent/Student/Teacher Afternoon
25 June EFS Graduation/Last day for Term2

2015 PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER AFTERNOON
Tuesday JUNE 23rd 2015
1.30PM – 5.30PM

University of Sydney
Free English classes for refugees and asylum seekers.
Wednesday evening 4pm - 7pm - Creative Writing Class
Saturday 9.30am - 12.30pm- Intermediate class and Advanced class
Saturdays 1.30pm - 3pm - Computer class. Individual tutoring given.
Tel: Lesley Carnus on (02) 9351 6796
Or Email: lesely.carnus@sydney.edu.au

REFUGEE ADJUSTMENT STUDY
We are conducting a large scale longitudinal study aimed at understanding the mental health impact of settlement experiences amongst refugees and asylum seekers.
Over the next three years, we hope to understand the mechanisms through which wellbeing outcomes impact on psychosocial wellbeing, in order to improve treatments and service provision for those experiencing difficulties relating to the refugee-experience.

What does the study want?
This study wishes to complete an online survey every six months over the next three years.
This survey is currently available in Urdu, Arabic, Tamil and English.
Individuals can register their interest online. After an eligibility check, they will be invited to take part in the study and emailed a link to the first survey.
Eligible participants will be reimbursed $25 vouches after every survey.

What will I be asked to do?
The study involves completing an online survey every six months.
In six months time you will be contacted by the RTTP team and asked to complete another survey.
You will receive a $25 voucher every time you complete a survey.

If you or your family are interested, please contact us at
lesley.carnus@sydney.edu.au

Free Tutoring & L Classes!
We are a collective of Hazara women currently at University, studying degrees ranging in Bachelor of Engineering, Pharmacy, Business, Social Science and Law. Our aim is to help and empower.

We are excited to launch our first program in Sydney. We will be offering:

1. Free Driving Knowledge Test (DKT) preparation for ladies of all ages & licenses
2. Free Tutoring for students of year 11 and 12

Tutoring offered for:
- 2 Unit Maths
- General Maths
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Legal Studies
- English

STARTING
9 April 2015
Every Thursday 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM
At
Auburn STARRTS
1st/44-50 Auburn Rd Auburn NSW 2144

NSW Family Energy Rebate
$150 TOWARDS ENERGY BILLS
Apply before 16 June 2015
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Call: 13 74 61
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