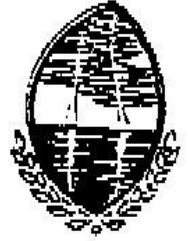


BROADFORD SECONDARY COLLEGE

Box 108, Broadford. 3658.

Telephone: (03) 5784 1200 Fax: (03) 5784 1921
<http://intranet.broadfordsc.vic.edu.au> and homeworkworld.com.au



NEWSLETTER No 11
17 July 2009

BSC 2009 production:

'GREASE'

Performances on:

August 13, 14, 15.

Bookings available soon!



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to Term III

All students should have collected their Semester One report and taken it home. Both students and parents should read the report carefully and set goals for the Second Semester.

Being organised for school is vital. Uniform, planner, being on time to class with the right equipment is not negotiable.

Expectations have been made very clear by Level Co-ordinators. All students know what is expected of them and that it is their responsibility to meet these expectations. Some students have indicated a lack of commitment to this responsibility and they are excluded from the school while they re-assess this commitment.

Please mark in the appropriate dates (see page 2) for the Term; they are important and involve planning for 2010 for students in next Year's 10, 11 and 12.

We welcome back Mrs Annabel Ayres who will be our School Nurse until the end of the year. We welcome Tracy Bonson to our Integration team. Tracy is taking the place of Mrs Chris Moloney while she is on leave.

The Semester One Awards Night will be held in The Forum at 6pm on Tuesday 28 July. Students in all levels will be acknowledged for Academic Excellence, Consistent Effort and Improved Performance as well as the highest achievers in the Australian Science Competition. Students receiving awards will be contacted by phone late next week.

Jim Alsop.

HELP SESSIONS

After-school help sessions run every Monday and Wednesday from 3.30 until 5.00pm in the Library. Teachers are available to help students with their work.

Newsletters may be downloaded from <http://intranet.broadfordsc.vic.edu.au> and homeworkworld.com.au

Upwards through knowledge

2010 VCE/VCAL INFORMATION EVENING

There will be an Information Evening for students undertaking VCE/VCAL in 2010 on Tuesday 4 August. This will be held in the Broadford Secondary College Forum at 7pm. Students and parents/guardians will be presented with important information regarding the VCAL, VCE and VET pathways available to students in their senior years of schooling.

Subsequent counselling sessions will be held for students and their parents. At these appointments, students will discuss and select their subjects for 2010. Current Year 10 students will have their counselling day on Wednesday 12 August. The current Year 11 students will have their counselling day on Wednesday 19 August.

Tanya Hamilton
Senior Curriculum Coordinator.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

If you hold a Health Care Card (current as of 13 July) and did not apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance at the beginning of the year, please call at the school and complete a form for the second instalment.

Parents/guardians who applied for the first half at the beginning of the year, do not need to complete a second form as this is done automatically. However, if your Health Care Card has expired since the first day of Term 1, you do need to present your new card to the General Office for verification as soon as possible.

Closing date for Semester 2 is Friday 7 August

2009 CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Students who live 4.8 kilometres (closest point of property boundary in relation to the stop) from their bus stop may be eligible for conveyance allowance. Forms will be available from the General Office. **Applications for Semester 2 Conveyance Allowance will close 14 August 2009.**

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays from:

8:30am – 9:00am and 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Uniform items may also be ordered directly from the Victorian Schoolwear Company using the order form available from the Office. (The \$10 postage fee is not applicable when ordering through the Office.)

Please note that cheques are not accepted at the Uniform Shop however EFTPOS is available.

WANTED

Plastic bags and containers for the Foods rooms. Please leave at the General Office.

2009 PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

See poster outside General Office for details. Entries close 30 September at 4pm.

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 28 July
Mid-Year Awards Night
Tuesday 4 August
2010 VCE/VCAL Information Evening, 7pm, The Forum
5-7 August
Year 7 Camp
Tuesday 11 August
Round Robin Sports
Wednesday 12 August
Year 11, 2010 Counselling Day
Thursday 13 August
GSSSA Round Robin Sports
13, 14, 15 August
School Production of 'Grease'
Wednesday 19 August
Year 12, 2010 Counselling Day
Thurs. 19 – Fri. 20 August
Year 11 PE Camp, AIS, Canberra
Monday 24 August
2010 Year 9/10 Information Evening
Mon. 24 – Wed. 26 August
VCAL Ski Camp
Wed. 26 – Fri. 28 August
Year 10 Ski Camp
Thursday 27 August
Year 12 Parent-Teacher Interviews, 4-6pm
Tuesday 1 September
Year 9 and 10 2010 Counselling, 9am-7pm
Wednesday 9 September
Parent Information Evening – Puberty, 7pm
Thursday 17 September
Years 7-11 Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday 18 September
Last day Term III

TERM DATES

Term 4
5 October to 18 December

CLAMPDOWN ON STUDENT ABSENCE

We have now completed the first half of the school year and are launching into the challenges of Semester two. At the end of the year, some students will be automatically promoted to the next year level but for others this will not happen.

We have reflected on the attendance of our students in Semester One. While we realise that the bushfires in term one resulted in legitimate absences for some students and that illnesses also occur, we do have serious concerns about the high absentee rates of some students. **Students should attend at least 90% of school days and some students are is well below this, thus affecting his/her chances of success at school.**

The following information will be sent home to the families of students whose attendance has been particularly poor in Semester one but is useful for all of us to reflect upon.

It's Not OK to be Away - Student at Risk Alert

It is important to remember that:

- To reach their potential at school, **students need to attend regularly**. This means a few days off per year due to genuine illness – not a 4 day week (which averages to 80% attendance). This accumulates to 40 days absent, the equivalent of 8 schools weeks absent in a year. How could any student be expected to keep up with work in such circumstances? **Parents-you have a critical role to play in protecting your own child's future.**
- **We (parents and the school) need to work together to help students to understand the importance of being at school whenever possible, and that trivial reasons for absence are not sufficient to discharge parents' legal responsibilities.**
- Studies show there is a far greater chance of students becoming *early school leavers and/or long term unemployed adults*, if they don't attend school regularly.

Some students have now been placed on our, 'It's Not OK to be Away – Students at Risk Alert' register. This means that his/her attendance will be monitored and parents will be contacted by our Attendance Officer. This contact will continue as we work together to improve attendance rates.

There are some very useful articles about student attendance and the many negative impacts of poor attendance on student performance at school and beyond school. We have placed a number of these on our school website: www.homeworkworld.com.au and we encourage families to read through these and discuss them with their child. We also have a brochure that is available for parents to read which includes a survey for parents. These are available at the office. We cannot stress enough the importance of consistent attendance in setting young people up for success.

Please contact your son/daughter's Year Level Coordinator, an Assistant Principal or a member of the Welfare team if you need further support in this area.

We can all work together to make a difference to your child's future.

Mrs Jo Whiteman
Assistant Principal.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back for Term 3. For students undertaking Unit 4 subjects, it is only 13 school weeks or 390 school hours until the end-of-year exams start. Students should take every opportunity between now and then to ensure they are well prepared for the exams.

As highlighted in the first newsletter this year, students should not only be completing set work but should also be developing comprehensive study notes. These notes can then be used for study revision prior to the exams.

If you have after school work sessions, and don't attend these sessions you run the risk of failing the unit for not having met the requirements of the course.

A letter was sent home this week to all parents/guardians of Year 11 and 12 students, outlining the school's displeasure at the number of senior students that were not in complete school uniform last term. Mr Alsop has also mentioned in previous newsletters the school's policy on uniform. As of Monday, any Year 11 or 12 students who arrive at school not in complete school uniform, will be sent home. If it is impractical to send a student home on the day then he/she will be excluded from school the following day.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they complete any work missed, including SAC task or outcomes, due to having missed a school day for not having come to school in the correct uniform. Any day that a student misses for not being in the correct uniform will be classed as an unapproved absence.

'No Regrets'

Rick Avery and the Senior School Team.

ADVOCACY NEWS

Any student who was unable to conduct their SPAC conference last term is asked to promptly arrange a time with their Advocate and parent to make sure they complete their conference.

Now that reports have been distributed, it is important that students spend time reflecting on how they went in first semester. Use the report to set new goals. During Advocacy sessions you will be asked to complete an individual learning plan for this term. This can be a useful tool for your future learning. In each subject report teachers have given advice for future learning and it is important that you use this to help you set new goals. Make sure you read that report again.

Mrs Cathy Coppinger
Advocacy Co-ordinator.

PATHWAYS and CAREERS

VET LEVIES

In order for the school to provide the widest possible VET choice to students it is necessary for us to charge levies for each VET subject. Only by doing this are we able to give the students the extensive pathways options available through VET in the VCE.

Please remember that these are very valuable courses, providing the students with study scores that contribute to their ENTER, credit to either their VCE or VCAL, nationally recognised qualifications and invaluable work related skills.

Recent audits have shown that there is a considerable number of families who have yet to pay anything towards the cost of the child/wards VET, whether that be for the basic levy or for uniforms, equipment and texts.

This is unfair on those who have paid, or have made arrangements to pay, and it severely restricts the schools ability to offer the range of courses we currently offer.

While we are aware that this can be a time of financial hardship, we would appreciate it if parents were able to make some form of contribution by way of instalments in order to ultimately meet the costs of the course. The school has access to funds for families whose financial hardship can be attributed to either the recent fires or drought. Please contact me if this is the case.

Letters will be sent home to parents over the next two weeks detailing the levy situation regarding your child or ward. We would greatly appreciate it if you could contact either myself or the office to agree some payment profile.

The consequences of not doing so may lead to the student being suspended from the program until some form of arrangement or payment is made.

I would remind you that if there are any outstanding levies the student cannot attend the Graduation (if in year 12), will have their certificate withheld and may be precluded from commencing the second year of the program.

VTAC and SEAS

University and TAFE applications via VTAC open on Monday 3 August, and close on Wednesday 30 September for timely applications. Application fees increase substantially after this date for late applications.

It is important for students, and parents, to be aware that they have three opportunities to change those preferences, the main one being after the release of their ENTER score.

For those students considering visual arts, design or media course, they must also be aware of the process of applying, as often they will need to submit supplementary forms, folios and may also need to attend interviews. These time lines and processes must be strictly adhered to.

Mr Dennis is available three days a week for counselling and advice should students require it. There is a booking sheet outside my office for students to complete.

VTAC Guides are available from newsagents late September/early October for \$15.00, otherwise students (and parents) can visit www.vtac.edu.au for further information.

The senior school office has course details from most universities and TAFEs, both Victorian and interstate. These are available for any Year 12 student to study but they must remain in the office.

SEAS (Special Equity and Access Schemes) are available to all students to utilise. They provide a number of categories where students can detail the impact of family or financial difficulties on their VCE studies. This can be for both long and short term difficulties. If students were impacted in any way by the bushfires they are able to describe this via a SEAS application.

SEAS applications can give your child or ward "special consideration" on their TAFE or university applications.

See me for further details and information

I strongly suggest that ALL students considering tertiary application see me to determine which categories they may be eligible for. Parents are advised to visit the VTAC site and read through the SEAS booklet.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE



All students in Year 10 must complete work experience for one week this year.

The set date for this exercise is Monday, September 7 to Friday, September 11.

Students should be investigating employer opportunities NOW, rather than leaving it to the last minute. If a student finds a placement that does not coincide with the above dates, they need to see Mr Bulluss or me.

If parents have any questions they should contact me at school.

Mr Bryan Dennis
Pathways & Careers co-ordinator.

CLICK CLACK CLUB



The knitting group has started up again for this year. We meet every Wednesday in the Forum at lunchtime.

Students can learn to knit or come to the group already knowing how to.

This year we are making scarves for the winter.

Please remember that coloured scarves are not part of the school uniform so this is a great chance to make a black one to wear everyday.

Mrs Cathy Coppinger.

SPORT NEWS

GOOD LUCK!

Best wishes to Matt Smith, Dylan Mills, Brittany Bonnici, Callem Gardner, Eli Stone and Sally Snaith who will be competing in the VSSSA Cross Country State Finals next week.

ROUND ROBIN SPORTS

Term III Round Robin sports will be held on Tuesday 11 August. Any parent able to offer services in transporting students to venues would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me if interested.

Mr Bryan Dennis
Sport Co-ordinator.

THANK YOU GOULBURN VALLEY WATER!

We would like to thank Goulburn Valley Water for kindly donating a box of water saving shower heads.

The Year 11 VCAL class has been involved in community projects. We decided to fix up the change rooms near the old canteen. As part of this we wanted to replace the old shower heads with the new ones. We can now help change the future by saving water.

Andrew Fontana, Aaron Nickson & Nathen Sims.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Useful phone numbers:

Parent help Line	13 22 89
Life Line	13 11 14
Kids Help Line	1800 55 1800
Mens Help Line	1300 789 978

LIBRARY NEWS

CRIME WRITING/DRAWING COMPETITION

This competition is open to all students. The story (maximum 600 words) or illustration must link to this "key":

"The creeping figure was only visible as a series of shadows playing against the crumbling brick wall"

Prizes for best entry in each year level (7-12) and also a chance to have your entry published in a magazine.

Entries must be submitted electronically. For further details see library staff. HURRY don't miss out. Entries close this Wednesday 22nd July.

VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Students enrolled in the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge are reminded that there are only a few weeks left to complete the reading requirements for the Challenge. Students must read 10 books from the recommended list and 5 books of their own choice.

Well done to the 2 students that have already finished.

Mrs M Falloon
Library.

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BECOMING A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY?

World Education Program (WEP) is looking for volunteer host families for International students arriving in February 2010. For more information please contact wep@wep.org.au or toll free:1300 884 733.