Belconnen High School Newsletter

Belconnen High School



Term 3, Week 5 School Newsletter



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the ACT, the Ngunnawal people.

We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

Principal: Rebecca Pearce

111 Murranji Street HAWKER ACT 2614

Front Office: 6142 1690 Student Absences: 6142 1698 Email: <u>info_blch@ed.act.edu.au</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/BelconnenHighSchool</u> Instagram: <u>https://www.instagram.com/bhs2614/</u>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Week 7 and we have faces on screens everywhere.

The start of the remote learning period has been very positive with outstanding attendance numbers for remote learning and staff and students happily engaged in high quality learning. As I look through planning documents, google classrooms and in conversations with staff I hear about learning that certainly captures my interest:

- Headless Romans
- The drama of a Chanel No 5 Ad
- Ethical dilemma's in health
- Delving into Cyberbullying and Online Safety
- Food Studies 'Showstopper' baking
- Virtual Classrooms for Surds

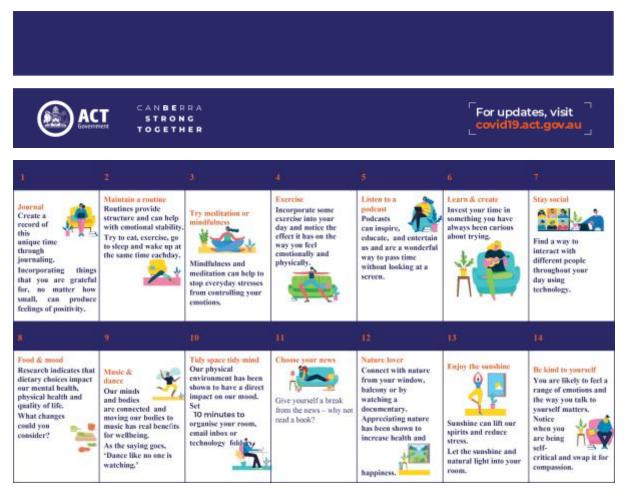
I encourage you to chat about the learning that is taking place on screens in your homes. Check -in on how they are managing the work that their teachers are delivering and remind them that they can make contact with their teacher at multiple times during the week, especially during yellow lessons where teachers are able to connect with individuals. Mid-semester reports will be still be emailed home in week 9 and updates on the plan for parent/teacher interviews will be out when we have some more information about the current situation.

I hope all our families are doing well during this time and encourage you to stay connected. Please keep a look out for emails from the school as this is the best way for us to communicate with you.



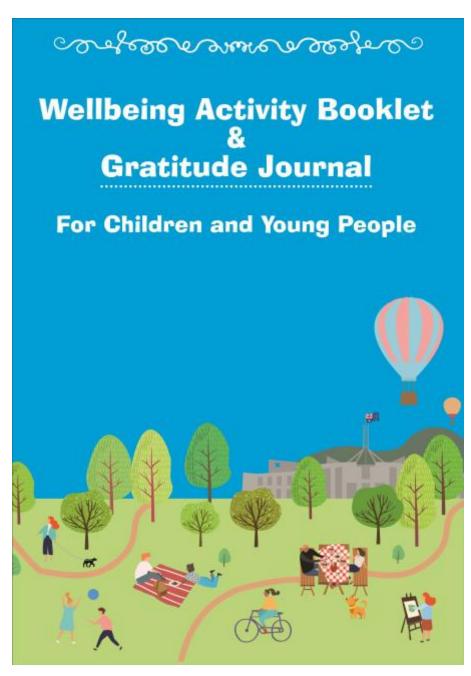
Family and Student Wellbeing

WELLBEING FAMILY ACTIVITY CALENDAR



Family & Student Wellbeing during COVID -19 Lockdown

This calendar has been developed by ACT Health and includes 14 days of wellbeing activities that can be undertaken by families with students of all ages. Each day, a new wellbeing activity will be available on our <u>Facebook</u> page for families and students to complete. The calendar is available for download <u>here</u>



Activity Booklet and Gratitude Journal

This activity booklet and gratitude journal has been developed by the ACT Community Services Directorate and includes activities aimed at a range of different ages. These activities emphasise wellbeing, resilience and gratitude and create opportunities for children's growth and learning, while encouraging positive self-care. The activity booklet is available for download <u>here</u>









The Emerging Minds website has a range of resources available to support families during COVID-19 lockdown. These resources are aimed at parents and carers to help them support their child's mental health. To learn more about how you can support your child's mental health and more at <u>www.emergingminds.com.au</u>



Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.

- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Parentline ACT.

Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.

Phone: 6287 3833

50TH ANNIVERSARY NEWS



50th Celebration

At school our pastoral care classes are busily engaged in the Alumni Project. Each class is connecting with a past student or staff member. Working together to find out more about what school was like at BHS. Many classes are planning interviews with our Alumni members. The information and stories will be collated for our special 50th Celebration Yearbook inclusion.

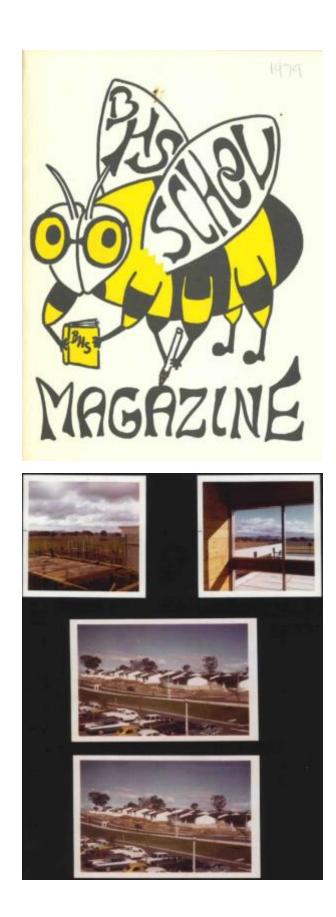
Additionally, each class will be working on our Belconnen Day celebrations. A day to celebrate our BHS community, school and environment. Classes will be involved in many fun activities on the day, setting up stalls at our fair and together celebrate Belconnen High past, present and future!

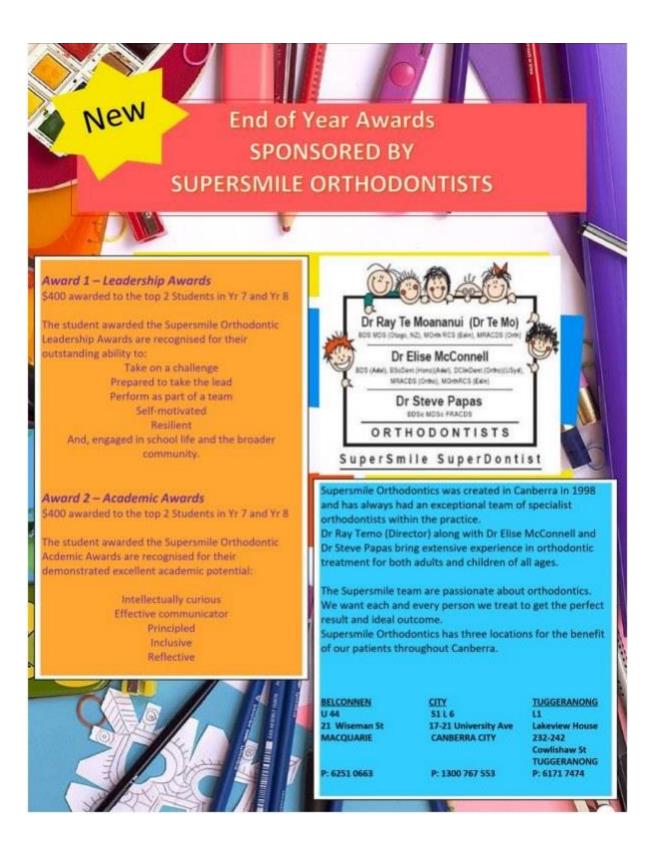
Other events for our community to get involved are the Alumni Tours - if you are or know of a past student or staff member who would like to visit the school to reminiscence and connect with our current building and students the details are opposite. We have had many donations from the community for our Memorabilia Gallery, which are fabulous historical pieces.

You should also check out the "Back to the Trivia" night being held right here in our school hall! Saturday October 23rd is the date. More info below, or see our P&C section for more info!

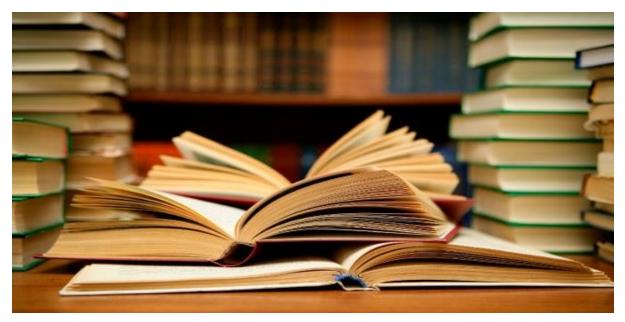


Back to the Trivia - BHS 50th Anniversary Trivia Night Tickets, Belconnen High School, HAWKER | TryBooking Australia





ENGLISH & HUMANITIES FACULTY NEWS



Welcome to term 3! We have some wonderful student work samples so you can see what our students are working on, and the ideas they're coming up with. Please enjoy this look at the hard work of our students and teachers.

This week in Year 7 English we were creating wonderful poetic words inspired by great art from around the world!



Simile:

The walking people are smiling and laughing like a child on their birthday.

The chatting is like music to my ears.

Personification

The night starry night sky watching over us.

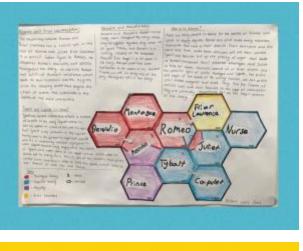
Alliteration

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Stars shining brightly, surprised siblings smile back.

Mutters and murmurs making music until morning.

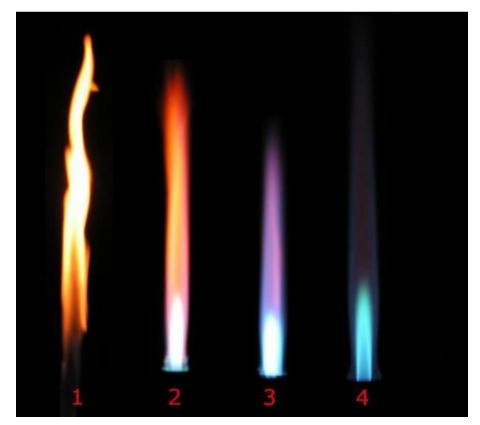
In Year 9 English we read Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* last term, and started this term reflecting on the play through Hexagon-thinking webs. Looking at links between characters, and asking ourselves about who was responsible for the multiple tragedies in the famous love story!





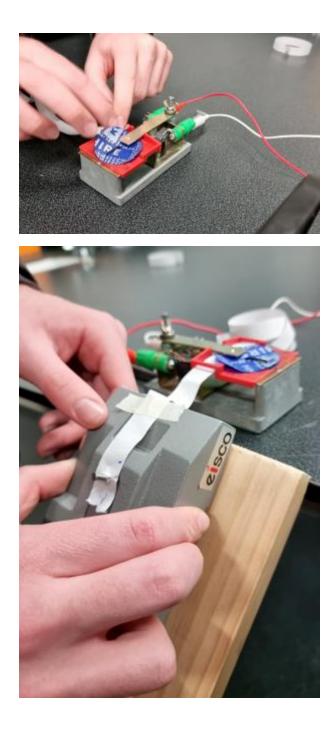
Loursons onto Juliet MATTE BOR

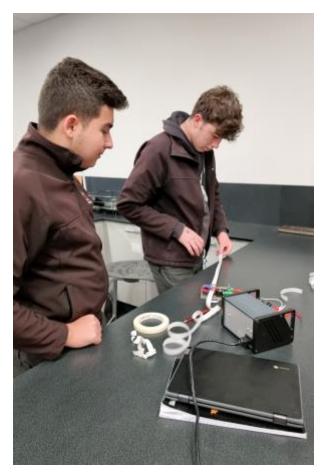
## **MATHS/SCIENCE FACULTY NEWS**

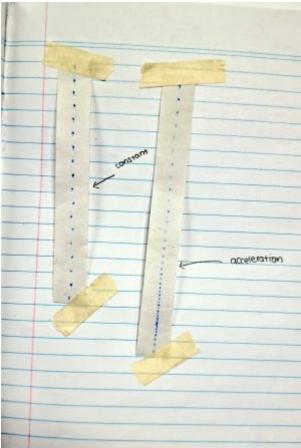


#### Science

This term the Year 10 students have been looking at motion and Newton's Laws of Motion. One practical entailed using ticker timers to show constant motion or acceleration. The dots on the ticker timer tape can be used to determine the displacement of an object (e.g. a trolley rolling down a ramp) which can be plotted on a graph. They also give a quick visual, as if the dots are spread evenly this is constant motion, but where they spread out this shows acceleration.







During Term 2 a group of Year 9 and 10 students went to Hawker College to engage in the WINGS program. Throughout the day students rotated through three modules. The first module that we went to was led by Geoscience Australia on Antarctic Research. During this module students became 'experts' on equipment and supplies they would need for an expedition to different Antarctic locations. The second module was presented by ANU on Geoscience and Seismology. At this module students learnt about earthquakes and got to test a Seismometer. They also took a walk-through time where they explored scientifically historic events on a scaled timeline. During lunch students spoke with a panel of experts who currently work in STEM, explored the careers exposition, and learnt about the Solar Car that a team of ANU students raced over 3,000kms from Darwin to Adelaide. After lunch we moved into our third module run by UC on Robotics and got to learn about the programs that they run. They also got to take plenty of selfies with the robots. During the second part of this module students explored and used samples to test how pregnancy testing and blood typing works. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.











On Thursday Week 4, We had the 2021 Australian Maths Competition. This year, 32 Belconnen High School students from Year 7 to Year 10 have participated. Thankyou to all of the students who participated, we know they al did their very best. We look forward to seeing the results later on in the year



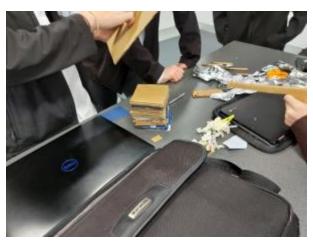
In STEM students have been using a simple engineering design process giving them a structure to spot where they can answer their own questions. They have learned about gears, axles, levers and solar panels in their exploration and have been tasked with keeping a learning journal to help them keep their ideas in line. The final project for this term will be to build and troubleshoot their own design for a model solar car which many are keen to build and explore.

### Here's what some of our students think about STEM:

"I believe that it benefits others through aspects including: information on future job opportunities, deep insight on multiple subjects including math, science, technology/digital tech and engineering as well as their future economic growth towards jobs. Not only is there a high demand for employees among the STEM community but even a college degree isn't required. Open Young Science enthusiasts may also see STEM as an early introduction into the work life of scientists. I personally believe that the class has the goal of innovating and motivating students to take part in surrounding subjects/topics" Student 1.

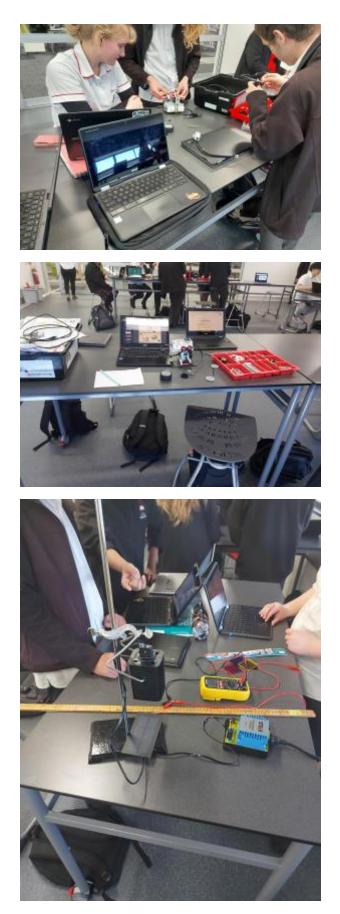
"The STEM class has taught me how to create and use evidence guides which can be used in many different jobs such as engineering and designing jobs. Stem class helps students that wish to go into a field related to technology by teaching different formulas and mechanics. "Student 2





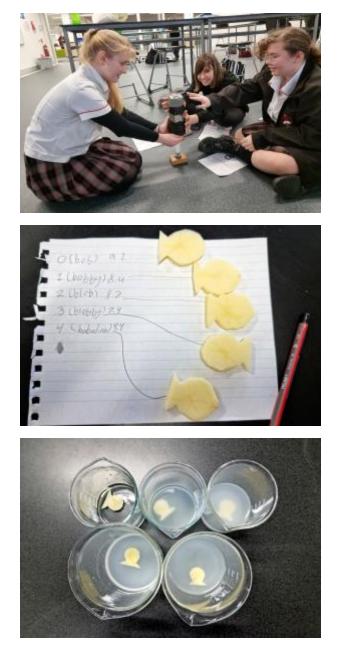






In Marine Biology, students have been looking at factors that can affect marine life. For example, the photo shows Amy, Taisiya and Hayley investigating how Boyle's Law relates to the compression of a

gas, which affects the swim bladder of fish as well as air in the compensator of SCUBA divers. Students also recently looked at osmoregulation by placing "potato fish" in different solutions of different salt concentrations to observe how mass can be lost or gained through osmosis.



## **ARTS & TECHNOLOGY FACULTY NEWS**



#### Limelight Art Exhibition 2021

#### M16 Artspace Griffith

Friday 23rd July - Sunday 8th August

**Step into the Limelight** is the Territory's creative and performing arts showcase event for public schools. Beginning in 2007, it has grown to become the largest youth Arts event in the ACT. As part of this arts celebration, an annual art exhibition is coordinated to display the best our ACT public schools have to offer. This exhibition includes student work from preschool to year 12 in painting, drawing, ceramics, lino-print, collage, photography, textiles, and wood and metal craft.

Each year, art teachers from all public schools across the ACT are asked to select student work that best represents what is being created in their respective classrooms for this showcase.

Representing Belconnen High School this year, the following students were selected for their artistic endeavours in the classroom:



2 - Sculpture Ryan D (Yr 10) 'The Armoured Titan' concrete cast



3 - Sculpture Bethany F (Yr 9) Milena H (Yr 10) 'Kurinuki Yunomi' Japanese inspired tea cups carved from solid blocks of clay



4 - Studio Art Isla N (Yr 9) 'Explain (Hyena)' charcoal on A2. Taylah V (Yr 9) 'Macaw' charcoal on A2.

## Sculpture

This week Yr 9/10 students are finishing up on their first major practical assessment, 'Exposed Coil Pots.' Students have learned how to coil clay by hand, consider a profile and creating strong, organic, designs. Quality and craftsmanship is integral to the visual aesthetic of these creative vessels. Any poorly joined coils can result in a fracture, a crack, or an explosion in the kiln! Kiln firings take place in two weeks!



5 - Charlia signing her name and Lebron rolling his last coil



6 - Lebron Yr 10



7 - Charlia Yr 10



8 - Arabella Yr 9

#### Art Around the World

Students are busy constructing their culturally inspired masks in Art Around the World. This term we have masks inspired from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island, Indonesia, Germany, China, Africa, Japan, Torres Strait Islands, Egypt and Italy.























DRAMA





# **PRODUCTION NEWS**



The Production Cast and the Guitar Group performed 'From Little Things Big Things Grow' by Paul Kelly at our Reconciliation Assembly as well as 'Power to the People' by John Lennon.



The Production Band and Elvis' performed 'Hound Dog' and 'Burning Love' Friday 25th June Break 1 in the BLC and will perform today at the whole school assembly.









## **PE FACULTY NEWS**



#### **Physical Education**

Welcome back to Term 3. Students have returned eager to learn and PE staff are excited about the Term ahead.

#### School Sport:

This term students will have the opportunity to participate in Netball, Soccer and Oz tag competitions. All information regarding trials and training will be delivered through daily announcements. To ensure school sport excursions can go ahead we need to ensure all permission notes are returned to the front office by the due date.

#### Green and Gold Day:

On Friday 30th July staff and students participated in the 'Green and Gold' day initiative in support of the Olympic Games. During break 1 we had staff Vs student Volleyball games and we encouraged

everyone to show their support by wearing Green and Gold or another country colours on the day. Despite the staff going down to a strong Year 9 Boys Volleyball team, it was wonderful to see so many staff and students get involved in such a fun day. Thanks for your support!



### **PE Change:**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind families students are required to get changed in the BHS PE uniform and have appropriate footwear for all practical PE lessons. Thank you for your support with ensuring students only bring roll on deodorant to school to use after PE lessons, this process supports our students with severe allergies.

### 9/10 Sports Development Elective:

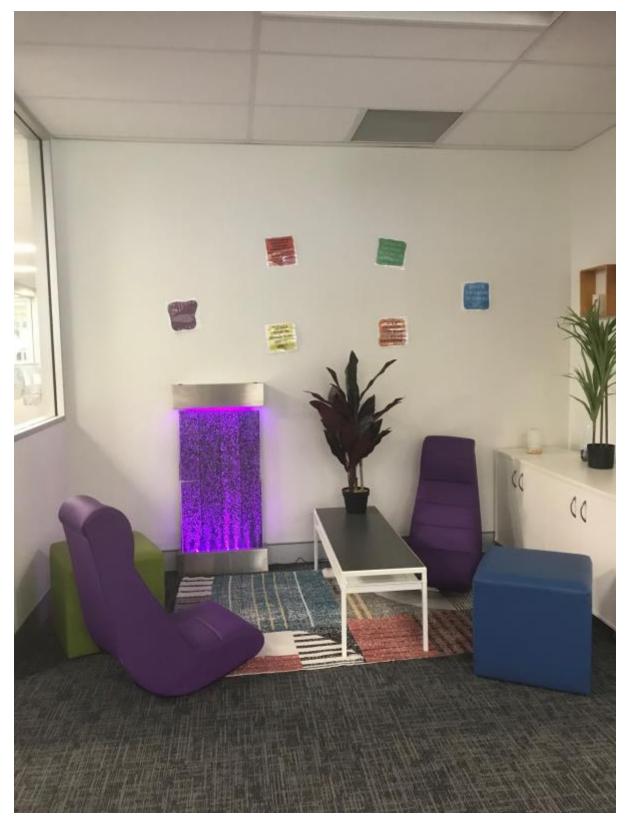
This week the Year 9/10 Sports Leadership class assisted at the Weetangera Primary Athletics Carnival. Students were assigned an activity (Long jump, shot put, novelty events etc) and were in charge of coordinating this event for the day. All students went above and beyond to ensure participating students from Weetangera had fun, felt safe and developed their skills through the events. Feedback from Weetangera Primary staff was excellent. Mr McRea, the organiser from Weetangera PS reported how impressed he was with our students eagerness to assist, politeness and professionalism. Congratulations Mr Bradbury and the 9/10 Sports Development students.

The sports leadership class are now getting prepared to put their skills into practice as they begin to deliver sporting sessions with Hawker Primary each fortnight for the rest of Term 3.





# **LEARNING SUPPORT NEWS**



In Integrated Studies, students are investigating "Their Place in Space". They are exploring the Solar System and have created models that depict their understanding.





# CYBERSPACE



As we settle into our first week of Remote Learning, students are now using their devices more and engaging in collaborative online education where they are interacting in an often unfamiliar online classroom environment.

With this increase in online activity, and the challenges this creates, it is timely to consider online safety.

The <u>eSafety Commissioner</u> website has numerous resources for <u>families</u> and <u>students</u> and covers strategies for you to keep them safe and how to respond if an incident arises.

In addition, <u>Bullying NO WAY</u> has some excellent resources on response and reporting strategies and the AFP's <u>Think U Know</u> has a large amount of information regarding the law and young adults responsibilities online.

If your child is experiencing any IT issue please ask them to complete the Student IT Help Request form found in their year group Google Classroom.

Please direct any other IT enquiries to Info BLCH@ed.act.edu.au.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**



LGBTQIA Rainbow Group Bus Tour of Canberra Support Services Years 7-10



On Wednesday 4TH August 2021 Tim Clement (Youth Worker) & Robyn Neuman (Teacher) took 23 Belconnen High students Yr.'s 7-10 on an excursion to visit three not for profit community service organizations that advocate and support young people 12-25 in the LGBTQIA Community in Canberra.

The goal was to inform, educate and show students/young people services that provide a safe, supportive environment for young people who identify as LGBTQIA.

The three services were AGA (Agenda a Gender) North Lyneham, Meridian (Formerly AIDS Action Council) Canberra City and the Junction (Anglicare) Canberra city.

All three services were excited to see so many students. They were informative, welcoming, supportive, and loved providing a tour of their organisations and what they can offer young people in the LGBTQI community. The students received lots of snacks, goodies, and promotional material to inform them of countless supports and people that can provide for them.

The students had a great time with lots of laughing and smiling. They were respectful, listened and were all amazing ambassadors for Belconnen High School

We visited the Rainbow roundabout in Lonsdale street, Braddon.

The Braddon roundabout was painted in the rainbow colours of the pride flag in 2017 to celebrate Canberra's "yes" vote in the marriage equality postal survey. the rainbow flag and the rainbow colours were an affirmation of the LGBTIQ community.



After visiting the Rainbow roundabout, the students voted that we go to McDonalds for lunch. Everyone was stoked with that lunch option.



• AGA (Agenda a Gender) <u>https://genderrights.org.au/about-aga/</u>

### Staff Alistair and Bella

A Gender Agenda (AGA) works with the intersex, trans and gender diverse community. This includes intersex people, transgender people, gender diverse and non-binary people, and other gender non-conforming people. We acknowledge the important role that partners, family members and allies play, and these people are all also welcomed as part of our community.

AGA is a unique community organisation actively engaged in increasing public awareness and understanding of intersex, trans and gender diversity issues. In addition to training and education, we provide advocacy and support services, information and resources and are actively engaged in human rights and law reform.

AGA is a vibrant community of sex and gender diverse individuals, their families, friends and allies. We hold regular community gatherings with some events being open to the broader public.

• Meridian ((Formerly AIDS Action Council) <u>https://www.meridianact.org.au/</u>We Are Meridian: We are a community-controlled, peer-led organisation that provides health and social support services to our community. We celebrate diversity, strengthen community and empower individuals to live their best lives. Community, health and action are the core of Meridian and how we work.



The Junction (Anglicare)

https://www.anglicare.com.au/services/youth-family/health/

• The Junction Youth Health Service provides primary health care and support services to young people aged 12 to 25, along with their dependent children.

The service is bulk billed so there is no cost to patients who have a Medicare card.

We have a particular focus on young people who are homeless or otherwise experience (or are at risk of) disadvantage. Services include GPs, nurses, smoking cessation support, case management, youth work support in addition to outreach to schools.

The Junction also provides information, education, and advocacy on health issues affecting young people in the Canberra region.

Please note that patients must be eligible for a Medicare card to access this service. Special consideration to non-Medicare patients will be determined on a case-by-case basis.



**Skateboard Program** 

Term 3, week 4 was the commencement of a PE program designed as an alternative option for students who are disengaged from PE class.

The goal is to create a safe, positive environment for Students/Young people to participate in skateboarding for improved social and emotional wellbeing. A positive outlet physically, mentally, and creatively. Educate, inform, build confidence, resilience, and a desire to learn, achieve and progress at an activity the students have a passion and interest in.

The program will bring awareness to the diverse avenues you can access through skateboarding whether skateboarding, photography, videography, Art, graphic design, small business entrepreneurial skills, Music, Brand management, networking, teamwork, social skills, engagement, and relationship skills.

The program will be facilitated to provide positive outcomes for students with a goal to build their awareness of the importance of connecting with them selves, building relationships with their community, fostering relationship with teachers, family, and friends. The program will be structured to cater to all students that educates and enriches them. With a traditional approach to engaging the students naturally with an activity they are passionate about.

Skateboarding improves mental health, fosters community, acceptance and encourages diversity and resilience

The skateboarding community/culture is diverse and accepting of everyone no matter the gender or ethnicity.

Through skateboarding, skaters develop the ability to communicate and build relationships with people from diverse backgrounds.

Skaters are excellent critical thinkers and problem-solvers who view success from a more communal perspective. They bring that insight into other areas of their lives, which is valuable to any university, organization, or workplace they choose to be a part of.

Currently there are two Year 10 students Key S.B, and Cash R participating in the program.

Both students' engagement and progression in the last two weeks is highly commendable they turn up on time, impeccable attendance, they are encouraging and supportive of each other. They have a high level of commitment and resilience to skateboarding and push themselves every lesson. They communicate and engage well in the program; they are open to any advice and support. The best thing is they never want to stop skating, learning, and progressing.



# **COVID'19 NEWS**



### The ACT is in lockdown

Please see the <u>lockdown restriction page</u> for more details.

The ACT is in lockdown from 5:00 pm Thursday 12 August until 5:00 pm Thursday 2 September.

Anyone who entered the ACT after 5:00pm Thursday 12 August 2021 needs to follow the <u>lockdown</u> restrictions in the ACT.

If you have been in any area subject to travel directions, you must also follow the requirements of those travel directions.

ACT Policing will be undertaking compliance checks across the ACT and you will be expected to provide proof of residential address and the reason you are moving about the ACT community.

If you are travelling, regularly <u>check the public health advice in the state or territory</u> you are visiting or travelling from.

Whenever you travel, monitor for <u>symptoms</u> for at least 14 days, get tested with even mild symptoms and keep checking for updates about where you have been.

## **P&C NEWS**



Hi everyone

As you would have hopefully seen in the newsletter, daily notices, or social media, the BHS P&C is hosting a Trivia Night on **Saturday 23 October** to coincide with the school's 50th anniversary celebrations.

Tickets are now on sale and we would love P&C members to support the event as much as possible. Here's how you can get on board at this stage ...

- 1. Book a table with friends at www.trybooking.com/BSVOD
- 2. Take a chance with friends you haven't met yet book individual tickets!
- 3. Share the event on <u>Facebook</u> or <u>Instagram</u>
- 4. Collect a few flyers or posters from the school front office to promote the event on your local noticeboard or businesses.

If you can do number 4, it would be great if you let us know where you put them here (<u>Trivia night-promo and prizes register - Google Docs</u>), so we don't double up 2

Please send any questions about the event to <u>2021bhs50@gmail.com</u>.

Thanks for your support!

P&C Trivia night organising committee

#### WHAT TIME IS IT?? COFFEE TIME!!!

As the days start to get longer and sunnier and warmer it's the perfect time to drink coffee!!!

Thanks to our friends at Neutral Grounds Belconnen everyone can enjoy a "50 years of BHS" coffee.

250g bags of coffee beans are \$15.

Don't have a grinder at home? Just take your BHS logo bag down to Neutral Grounds and they will grind it for you (try the banana bread or egg and bacon roll while you are there!!).

Order by email 2021bhs50@gmail.com



### **UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

All uniform requests via email <u>uniform.shop.bhs@gmail.com</u>

### **FINANCE**



### **CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS**

Due to unprecedented times with Covid 19, Belconnen High School will only be accepting contactless payments until further notice. We welcome your payments via QuickWeb which can be located on the Payments tab on our <u>Webpage</u>.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this process for future payments.

## **FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS**



It is important that the school maintains an accurate and up to date record of family/carer email addresses, home addresses and telephone numbers for all student. Please let us know if there are changes to your contact details by sending an email to <u>info\_BLCH@ed.act.edu.au</u> or phone the front office on 6142 1690. We are always grateful to receive this information.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING:**



STUDENT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT

Schools collect information about injuries and incidents, which occur at school or on school organised activities, on behalf of the Education and Training Directorate. Some of the information may be personal information as defined in the Privacy Act 1988 and the Health Records (Priva cy and Access) Act 1997. The information is usually included in a Student Accident/Incident Report together with any accompanying witness statements or the Notification of a Critical Incident.

#### AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

Ambulance transport for students at school This information is from the ACT Department of Education policy on Student accidents/incidents:

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during approved school activities within the ACT. Free ambulance cover does not apply to students who attend Jervis Bay School.

## **CANTEEN NEWS**



Download the app and register with <u>FlexiSchools</u>