



BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL



Caring for Students and Striving for Excellence

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Term 3 Week 5
21 August 2015

Principal's Report

This term has been a very busy one, with our students and staff involved in a wide range of opportunities. These have included: the Mathematics Competition, Soccer, Volleyball, Hockey and Netball teams, Year 10 Careers Expo and the Outdoor Education Snow Trip. A highlight for me was the opening of the Limelight Art exhibition at the ANU School of Arts. The Exhibition features visual art from all of the ACT public schools. I would like to congratulate all of the students who had their pieces exhibited and both Mr. Harris and Ms. Bridges for their dedicated work and encouragement of our talented students. A special mention goes to Jasmine Robinson in Year 10 as her sculpture (photo below) was chosen to feature on the promotional material for the exhibition.



Welcome Back to Ms. Friedewald

This term we welcome back Ms. Friedewald. I wish to thank Ms. Beattie for her work last term in the role of SLC for Humanities and staffing and for Mr. Brown who admirably guided Year 9.

School Upgrade

Work has been completed and we are now using our new Music facilities in the Hall. These upgrades have transformed this area of the school into a modern and vibrant learning environment for students. I invite all parents to tour these wonderful new facilities.

New concrete works have also been completed at the back of the hall which now gives us a covered walkway that connects the two sides of the school. The new entry ramp into the Hall has also been completed.

Unfortunately, there has been a delay in the start of the landscaping work on the playground. I am confident that we will be able to overcome these issues and have work commence next term.

Coming Events

26 August
Soccer
9/10

Girls & Boys

2 September
PISA Testing

11 September
Athletics
Carnival

14 September
RockSalt
6.30 for 7pm

15 September
Reports Issued

18 September
Belconnen Day

22 September
Immunisations

22 September
Parent/Teacher
Interviews
4-7pm

Belconnen Regional Trade Skills Centre (BRTSC)

Work on the two new facilities is now well underway. The work commenced in the holidays with the entrance to the library being moved to make way for the new café. The upgrade to the kitchen to industry standard is now nearing completion and the construction shed is scheduled to be finished this term.

Year 9 Camp

Last year we introduced year camps for each of the year groups. In week 10 of this term will be the Year 9 camp at Tathra. The camp will focus on leadership skills for students and will encompass the Peer Support training this year. The school leaders for 2016 will be chosen from the camp. I strongly encourage all students to attend this important and fun event. For more information please contact Katie Beattie, the Yr. 9 Co-ordinator.

Arrangements for the Remainder of this Term

I have been asked to be in the Principal's role at Canberra High School from the start of week 6 until the end of this term. I have gladly accepted this opportunity as I am confident of the benefits for both schools and the wider Belconnen Network (please see letter included from Mr. Stephen Gwilliam, the Belconnen School Network Leader). Diana Whymark will be the Principal and Rebecca Pearce will be in the Deputy Principal's role here at Belconnen for this period. I look forward to working with you on my return in Term 4.

David McCarthy

Year 8 Learning Expo

As part of the Year 8 SOSE program, Belconnen High School students will be asked to participate in a project called the 'Learning Expo'. This year, the topic of the expo will be "Movements of human populations". Students will first become experts in this subject through guided research and the creation of a portfolio of research notes and resources. They will then present their learning at the Learning Expo to the Belconnen High School community. The Learning Expo will be held on **Tuesday 27th October from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, at the school**. Parents and community members are invited to attend.

In past years, students have presented their learning in a number of ways, including:

- A 3D model
- A drama production
- A short film
- An artwork such as a painting or collage
- A brochure or handout
- A PowerPoint presentation
- An animation

Students are encouraged to combine several things to present a multi-media display which engages their audience. The expos have always proved a valuable and enjoyable learning experience for presenters and audience alike. We will provide more details of the expo closer to the date.

Stephan Langman
Humanities Faculty



ACT
Government
Education and Training

Belconnen High School

Dear Parents and Carers

Principal Arrangement

I wish to advise that the Principal of Belconnen High School, Mr David McCarthy, will be temporarily reassigned as the Principal of Canberra High School, while Mr Phil Beecher is on extended leave with his family. This arrangement will commence Monday 24 August and will continue until the end of term 3. I wish to thank both principals for their ongoing support in building a strong public education pathway in Belconnen.

Ms Diana Whymark will continue to support the leadership and management of the school as Principal.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Gwilliam
Belconnen School Network Leader

20 August 2015

Policy title: RESPONDING TO STUDENT ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS: SUPPORT, REPORTING AND INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

(This policy can be viewed in full at the front office)

Excerpts from policy

2. RATIONALE

2. This policy and associated procedures inform parents, students and staff of key steps following an accident/incident.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 An accident is an event or mishap involving a student enrolled in an ACT public school which occurs while the student is attending school or involved in an approved organised activity, such as an excursion, where the student is injured and first aid intervention and/or professional medical services are required.

6. AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

6.1. 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.

7. STUDENT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT

7.1 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 (Privacy 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

10. FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING PROCEDURES

10.1 For further information regarding first aid and medical assistance, reporting requirements, insurance arrangements and access to Student Accident/Incident Reports refer to the Responding to Student Accidents/Incidents: Support, Reporting and Insurance Arrangements Procedures.

11. COMPLAINTS

11.1 Where there are concerns regarding the application of this procedure or the procedure itself, people should:

- Contact the school principal or the Governance and Assurance Branch in the first instance;
- Contact the Directorate's Liaison Unit

2015 BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY DAY.



On Friday 18th September, Belconnen High students and staff will be participating in **Belconnen Day**. The aim of BHS Community Day is for us to celebrate as a school community and the SRC will be responsible for the organisation of the day.

The first hour of the day will be taken up with cleaning, renovating and beautifying our school environs. Each Pastoral has nominated to work on a project around the school and all hands will be on deck to complete as many projects as possible around the school.

After this all Pastoral Care Groups will help raise funds for the school by running stalls/activities at Break 1 or Break 2. Ideally the students plan, prepare, set up, run and clean up the stall/activity (with their friendly Pastoral Care leader guiding and assisting them.)

The SRC are also running "Belconnen's Got Talent" where our talented students will perform for the whole school after they have made it through the auditions to be held at Break 1 week 6.

Finally in the afternoon, the SRC will run a trivia quiz challenge in Pastoral groups to see who really is the smartest and best at general knowledge.

Please have a conversation with your child about what their Pastoral Group is doing on the day and if your family could assist in any way, we would love to hear from you.

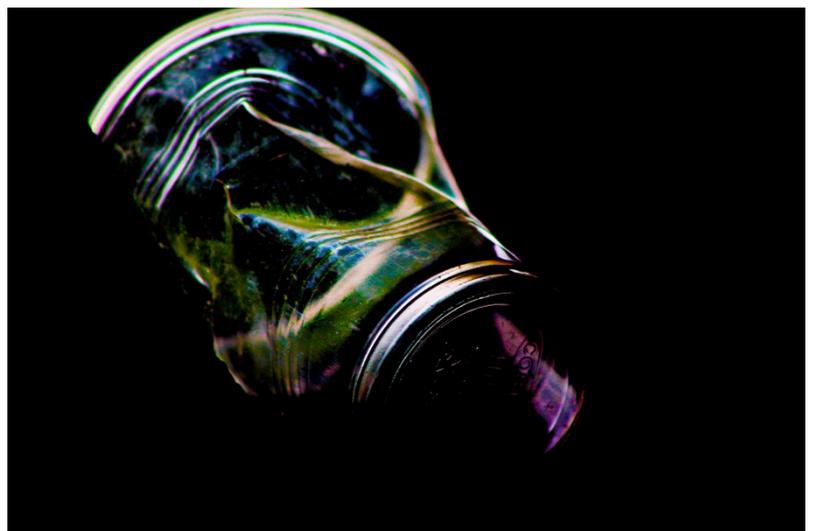
We may need support with things from Fairy Floss machines, chip containers, donations of lollies or ingredients for crepes, to power cords and amplifiers.



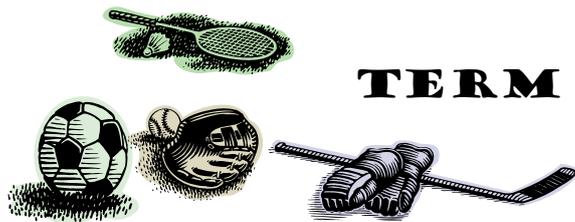
Visual Arts News

Belconnen High School students recently showcased their talents at the 2015 Step into the Limelight Art Exhibition. Nine students were chosen to exhibit their art work at the ANU Art School Gallery. This year's exhibition was opened by the Minister of Education and Training, Ms Joy Burch, on Tuesday 28th of July. The display showcased more than 300 students work from 30 public schools around the ACT. The artwork from Belconnen High included photography, sculpture and drawing. Belconnen High was also privileged to have an image of Jasmine Robinson's sculpture, titled 'Circles', on the official invitation and catalogue.

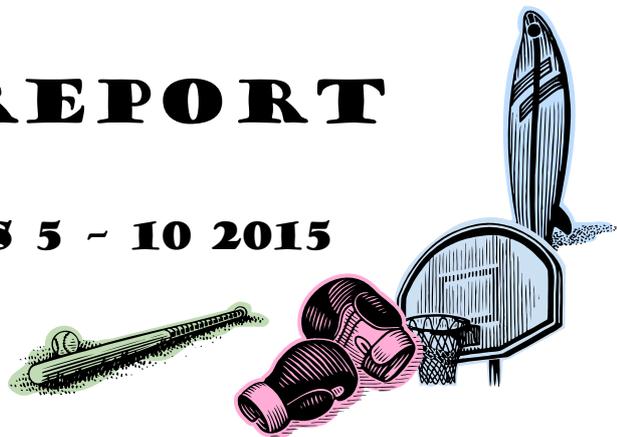
Craig Harris
Art Teacher



PE & SPORTS REPORT



TERM 3 WEEKS 5 - 10 2015



Netball

On Monday 10/8/15 the Year 7 & 8 and Year 9 & 10 Netball teams competed in the Northside Netball Carnival at Lynham. All girls were great representatives of the school and improved individually and as a team throughout the day. The Year 9 & 10 team had a tough draw, and were unlucky to narrowly miss out on winning some games. Not having played together before, the team work and sportsmanship developed was great to see.

The Year 7 & 8 team was more successful, coming 2nd in their pool, after winning 6 out of 7 games in the competition rounds. They played amazingly well in their semi-final but were just beaten by a more experienced team. This meant they finished 3rd overall, the best result we have had from a Belconnen High School netball team in recent years. Both teams should be congratulated for their awesome efforts all day. Special thanks to Jayne Craig (year 8) and Ella Girvan (year 9) who both umpired as well as played without a break all day.

Katie Beattie

UPCOMING SPORTS

- Soccer
- Badminton
- Athletics

OTHER PE NEWS

ACT Representatives

Congratulations to Ethan Heffron who has been selected to represent the ACT Junior Lawn Bowls. We wish him all the best in his interstate competition.

Athletics Carnival

All PE classes are currently studying Athletics units in preparation for our week 8 Athletics carnival. This will be held at Charnwood Athletics field on Friday 11th of September. This is another opportunity to celebrate the fantastic sporting culture that exists at Belconnen High School. Students will be bussed to Charnwood oval shortly after Pastoral Care and will return to school around 2:30pm. Students can be dropped off at Charnwood oval directly by parents. In this circumstance it is vital that students sign in with teachers upon their arrival. The athletics carnival is a regular school day and all students are expected to attend. Participation and fun is the focus of the day and we strongly urge all students to get involved in the spirit of the day.



Whooping Cough

A confirmed case of Whooping cough has been reported in the school. Please see the following fact sheet for more information or call the front office if you have any questions or concerns.

David McCarthy
Principal



WHOOPING COUGH (PERTUSSIS)

What is whooping cough?

Whooping cough (also known as pertussis) is a highly infectious respiratory illness caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*.

Whooping cough can affect people at any age. Infants less than 6 months of age are most at risk of developing serious complications from the disease such as pneumonia, seizures and brain *damage*. Whooping cough can be life threatening for a young infant.

What are the symptoms?

Whooping cough usually begins like a cold with a runny nose, tiredness, a mild fever and a cough. Typically, people can go on to develop bouts of severe, uncontrollable coughing which may result in vomiting. A high-pitched "whooping" sound may also be heard when the person gasps for air while coughing. The cough typically lasts for two weeks or more.

In some cases, a mild but persistent cough may be the only symptom of whooping cough, particularly in older children and adults. Infants are also less likely to have the typical symptoms of whooping cough. They may not have a cough at all but may appear to be gagging and gasping for air. They are often unable to feed well and may become blue around the mouth.

How is whooping cough spread?

Whooping cough is easily spread to other people by droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It can also be spread by direct contact with secretions from the nose or mouth of an infected person. It is most easily spread to those living in the same household or in close contact with the infected person.

It can take anywhere from 6 to 20 days (commonly 7 to 10 days) after coming in contact with pertussis for the disease to develop.

How long does a person remain infectious?

A person is infectious for as long as 21 days from when the cough first begins, or until they have completed 5 days of a course of appropriate antibiotics. The cough can continue for many weeks, despite antibiotics.

Individuals with whooping cough should be excluded from childcare facilities, school, work or settings where there are people at risk of infections, until they *are* no longer considered infectious.

Who is most at risk from whooping cough?

Anyone can get whooping cough. The majority of cases are in adults and adolescents. Parents, grandparents and others in close contact with infants such as healthcare providers and childcare workers are at risk of passing the infection to infants.

Infants less than 6 months of age who are too young to be fully vaccinated, account for the majority of hospitalisations and deaths from whooping cough.

What if I have been in contact with whooping cough?

If you or your child have been exposed to someone with whooping cough while they are infectious, watch out for symptoms and see your doctor if you develop a cough.

If you have a cough and your doctor suspects you have whooping cough, a swab from the back of the nose/ throat or a blood test can confirm the diagnosis.

Babies less than 6 months of age and those who are at risk of passing the infection on to them, who have had significant contact with an infectious person may benefit from a course of preventative antibiotics. Your GP can provide advice on whether you need a course of antibiotics.

Protection from whooping cough Vaccination is the most effective way to avoid whooping cough infection. However, immunity does fade over time and it is still possible to get whooping cough even if you have been vaccinated in the past.

People with a coughing illness should avoid contact with infants less than 6 months of age and other people who may be vulnerable to illness.

Vaccination

Children and adolescents

Whooping cough vaccination is offered to all children as part of the funded National Immunisation Program. The first dose can be given from 6-8 weeks of age, followed by doses at 4 and 6 months and a booster dose at 3 Y.to 4 years of age. A further booster dose is given in high school through the school immunisation program in the ACT.

If your child has missed one or more of their vaccinations, please see your doctor to arrange a catch up.

Adults

An adult booster vaccine is available for purchase on private prescription from your doctor. This vaccine is recommended for anyone in contact with infants, especially health care workers, child careworkers and new parents.

Any adult wishing to protect themselves against whooping cough should discuss vaccination with their doctor.

Pregnant women

The adult booster vaccine is strongly recommended for women during the third trimester of each pregnancy. Ideally it should be given between 28 and 32 weeks, but can be given at any time up to delivery, or as soon as possible following the birth.

This vaccine is free for all pregnant women in the ACT during the third trimester.

More information on Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccination for pregnant women can be found at <http://health.act.gov.au/our-services/immunisation/forms-and-information>

Need more information?

For more information about whooping cough, contact your doctor or call the Health Protection Service, Communicable Disease Control Information Line during business hours on **(02) 6205 2155**

Communicable Disease Control Section at Health Protection Service is responsible for the investigation and surveillance of notifiable or infectious conditions in the ACT in order to control or prevent their spread in the community. This includes the promotion of immunisation, education and other strategies that help to limit the spread of diseases.

Whooping cough (Pertussis) is a notifiable disease. Cases notified to ACT Health are investigated by Public Health Officers.

Acknowledgements

1. Heymann DL, 2008, *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*, 19th edition.
2. NHMRC, 2013, *The Australian Immunisation Handbook*, 10th edition.
3. Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing Pertussis SoNG 2013.

Accessibility

The ACT Government is committed to making its information, services, events and venues, accessible to as many people as possible.

- If you have difficulty reading a standard printed document and would like to receive this publication in an alternative format- such as large print or audio-please telephone 13 2281 or email HealthACT@act.gov.au.
- If English is not your first language and you require the translating and interpreting service-please telephone 131 450.
- If you are deaf or hearing impaired and require the TIY typewriter service-please telephone (02) 13 3677, then ask for 132281.
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www.health.act.gov.au | www.act.gov.au

Enquiries: Canberra 13ACT1 or 132281

Demolition of 'Mr Fluffy' affected Homes

The ACT Government, with the support of experienced licensed asbestos removalists, licensed asbestos assessors and demolition contractors, with oversight from WorkSafe ACT and ACT Environment Protection Authority, have begun the process to safely demolish houses affected by 'Mr Fluffy' loose fill asbestos over the next few years.

Some of these homes are located in the same suburb as schools.

Parents and Carers who may wish to know more about the demolition process can access information from the Asbestos Response Taskforce website: www.asbestostaskforce.act.gov.au

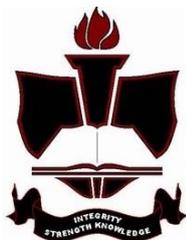
2015 School Satisfaction Survey

The 2015 School Satisfaction Survey is currently underway. The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation & best practice in ACT public schools. Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won't take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing a good job and areas for further development. An email about the parent survey was sent to you on 11th August. The survey closes on 31st August. The key ACT results from the 2014 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published on the Education and Training Directorate website (www.det.act.gov.au) and a summary of our school results is provided in our 2014 School Board Report.

BHS Calendar Term 3 2015

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6	Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28
7 WKA	Aug 31	Sept 1	Sept 2 PISA Testing	Sept 3	Sept 4 Assembly
8	Sept 7	Sept 8	Sept 9	Sept 10	Sept 11 Athletics Carnival
9 WKA	Sept 14 Floriade Band Performance RockSalt Dinner 6.30 for 7pm	Sept 15 Reports Issued	Sept 16	Sept 17 Assembly	Sept 18 Belconnen Day
10	Sept 21	Sept 22 Immunisations Parent/Teacher Interviews 4-7pm	Sept 23 Year 9 Peer Support camp	Sept 24 Year 9 Peer Support camp	Sept 25 Newsletter Year 9 Peer Support camp

**HOLIDAYS - Saturday 26th September to Sunday 11th October
Return Monday 12th October 2015**



BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT FORUM GROUP



NEWSLETTER

August 2015

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Open every Monday
2:30pm until 3:00pm

The jumpers come in and the jumpers go out immediately!!!!
Donations are still being gratefully accepted. Please drop at the uniform shop or front office with your name attached so you can enter the draw for an iTunes card.

We had 3 names in the Term 2 donations draw and Tristan Thompson (yr9) won the \$20 i-tunes card (for the second time!!!!)

There may be changes to opening times by the end of the year and we are asking for new volunteers to help out. This remains a very enjoyable way to engage with the school community.

Contact Lorraine Myatt (0407108621) or Toni Jones (0403848064) for further enquiries.

Coming Events

Monday

19th October, 2015

P&C/ PFG meeting
Teachers Meeting Room
6pm

RockSalt Dinner

@ Hawker Shops

Monday 14th September

6:30 for 7pm

All Welcome

Uniform Shop

Open every Monday

During term

2:30 to 3:00pm



President	Michael Blacksell	Secretary	Michelle Ducat
Vice President	Vacant	Treasurer	Amanda Sheaves
Email	bhspfg@gmail.com		
Web site	http://www.blch.act.edu.au/our_school/p_and_c		

Invitation

The Belconnen High School Parent Forum Group
and
Hawker College P&C

Invite you to a social night for parents,
friends and teachers

Monday 14th September 2015
6.30pm for 7pm
Rocksalt Restaurant, Hawker Shops
\$55 per head for food (drinks over the bar)

ARTWORK FROM STUDENTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY

Come and support your local P&Cs and restaurant
with a delicious menu from Chris and his Chef

*Limited numbers – reserve your places by Friday 11th September
Please email amandash@aapt.net.au or phone Amanda Sheaves (BHS PFG Treasurer) on 0414 914 000 for
tickets*

Rocksalt.

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

Entrée

Spinach & ricotta ravioli,
sautéed wild mushrooms & sage nut brown butter

Crispy skin confit chicken wings & sautéed scallops,
corn puree, corn, shallot and tarragon salad*

Main

Atlantic Salmon,
warm pearl cous cous and bean salad, almond gazpachio

Medium rare sirloin steak,
creamy mash, caramelised shallots & a parsley,
caper and shallot salad, red wine jus*

Dessert

Poached rhubarb,
rhubarb syrup, yoghurt mousse, pistachio nut sprinkle*

Chocolate almond cake,
soft chocolate, orange sorbet*

* Denotes gluten free dish
Vegetarian option available with preorder