This year has been an extremely busy and productive year for the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff, parents and students for all of your hard work for helping us all to be proud of our school.

On Tuesday I attended the Graduation ceremony for Hawker College and proudly watched as Nicholas Chan was awarded Dux of the College. Nicholas graduated from Belconnen High in 2012 and is a wonderful example of Year 7 to Year 12 public education opportunity we have in our local area. My congratulations to Nicholas and his family and I wish him well for the future.

Year 10 Formal
On the 2nd of December the school hosted the Formal for our year 10 students. It was held at the Boathouse, where we were treated to some fantastic arrivals and a fantastic night for students and staff. I wish to thank Natalie Ikin and the staff that attended for the efforts in making this a great celebration for our year 10 students.

Semester 2 Reports
Semester 2 reports were distributed to students in the graduation portfolio. Students that did not receive their reports at this time will be able to collect them from the front office. I would like to thank all of the parents who attended the Parent/Teacher interviews on Tuesday evening.

Staff moving on from the School
A number of staff will be moving on from the school this year. The staff are:

- Ben Williams to Lyneham HS
- Tim Jones to Alfred Deakin HS
- Galen Ashley to Lyneham HS
- Mali Wijesundra to Stromlo HS
- Eryn Lazarides to Amaroo School
- Tracy Kelly to Harrison School
- Steve Butkovic

I would like to thank each of them for their contributions to the school and wish them well in their new endeavours.
Activities
This week the school ran a very successful activities program for the years 7, 8 and 9 students. I wish to thank Mali Wijesundra, Diana Whymark and all of the staff involved for the fantastic array of activities offered to the students and a great way to wind down the school year.

Staffing for 2015
The staffing of the school for 2015 will remain stable. I will send home the list of the 2015 staff with the first newsletter next year.

School Board and the P&C
I wish to thank both the School Board and the P&C Committee for a very productive year. I wish to particularly thank both Rebekah Gupte and Carolyn Fisher for their leadership of the Board and P&C respectfully over the past 4 years. Their work has significantly enhanced our school; particularly the learning opportunities for students. I urge all parents and carers to take up these opportunities next year.

Start Dates for 2015
Year 7 and new students – Monday, 2nd February
All other students – Tuesday, 3rd February

I wish all of the Belconnen families a safe and happy Christmas break and look forward to working with you in the New Year with the new look for our school.

David McCarthy

Excellence Awards

The ACT High Schools Excellence Awards were held at Canberra Theatre on Tuesday 2nd December. We are all very proud of the following 3 girls who received awards in the following categories:

Jhanvi Kotecha - Successful learner - demonstrating excellence in academic achievement

Bethany Jones - Confident and creative individual - demonstrating the pursuit of excellence in the setting of personal goals

Baeckea Driscoll - Active and informed citizen - contributing to the life of the school and the broader community

The girls looked wonderful in their school uniform. Congratulations!

Natalie Ikin
Physical Education Faculty
Year 10 Co-ordinator
Humanities News

The annual SOSE learning expo was held on Tuesday of Week 3 this term. This year, Year 8 students were given the challenge of creating an interactive display to showcase their learning about natural disasters. The library was packed out with students, parents and teachers, as well as eye-catching and original displays about disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and bushfires. It was interesting to see the scale of some of the models, as well as the disaster-management plans presented by the Year 8s. Congratulations to all of the hard-working Year 8 students, as well as Mrs. Wijisundera who organised the afternoon.

Talented Band Member

We would like to take a moment to celebrate one of our talented Band members Tim Schmedding who performed at the ANU School of Music earlier this term as part of the Chamber Music Program. Tim is a multi-instrumentalist and a dedicated musician and we congratulate him on his musical accomplishment.

Miss Herrick
Band Director/ Music Teacher/EALD
Borrowing eBooks through Belconnen High School Library website

The ACT Education Department has been working on an electronic/audio book project, testing is complete and resources have been purchased - I am pleased to advise that it is now available. Students are able to borrow eBooks through their school Library, this can be done at school or at home. The instructions are below:

- It is best to use either IE 11, Chrome, or Firefox, for desktop computers;
- If accessing on a tablet, you will need to download 'OverDrive'. This is a free app;
- You will need a student username and password;
- You will need to allow pop-ups on your tablet;
- You will need to create an account in OverDrive, users under 13 don't have to create an account;
- Loan periods are for two weeks. Loans are automatically returned - after the two weeks, you won't have access to the loan unless you re-borrow it.

1. Navigate to https://backpack.act.edu.au
2. Log in using Student username and password
3. Select School Library
4. Select Belconnen High, in drop down menu
5. You will need to put in the username and password again
6. This will bring you to the search page for the library. Search for the book you would like to borrow.
1. Select the book you want (blue writing)

2. Click on Borrow OverDrive Read eBook

   ➢ If you get a message regarding pop-ups – ‘Allow’;
   ➢ Book opens and you can begin;
   ➢ After you close the eBook and when you are ready to re-open, then

3. Select 'My Portal' > Loans

4. Select Electronic loans

5. Click on the arrow, under ‘Action’ for the book you want to read

6. Click on Download OverDrive Read eBook

- Once you have it open, you can save it to the reading list, or as a favourite and you will be able to go straight to the book through that link, instead of having to go through the steps above.
- Just remember that the link will not work after 2 weeks.
Thank you to MacDonald’s Childrens Wear and Athlete’s Foot

Macdonalds Childrens Wear Jamison, have donated $4411 to the P&C/PFG. This donation is a percentage rebate on school uniforms purchased in the store. We would like to thank Macdonalds Childrens Wear for their considerable support and look forward to working with them in the future.

Athlete’s Foot also donates $5 to the school for every pair of school shoes, sporting shoes and football boots bought by Belconnen High families. You just need to register as a BHS family. This year we received $250. We thank Athletes Foot for their continued support.

Annual General Meeting

Monday 16th February 2015, 6.30pm

Please come to the AGM/GM next year. It’s a great way to keep up with what is happening and allows you a chance to provide your input into discussions. You may like to nominate for a position, the workload is light and the effort rewarding. It is a good opportunity for positive role modelling for your children also. Many hands make light work.

Coming Events

Monday
16th February 2015
6:30pm
Teacher’s Meeting Room
P&C Annual General Meeting

Uniform Shop
Open every Monday
During term
2:30 to 3:00pm
Second Hand Uniform Shop
Open every Monday
2.30pm until 3.00pm

A HUGE thank you to the generous Year 10s who celebrated the end of high school by donating their uniforms. As a result we have more variety, more sizes and more chance of helping people get the uniform they need. What a wonderful legacy from a graduating class. If you have a uniform you want to donate it's NEVER too late!!!!

Thanks to everyone who has supported this fledgling venture over the past 5 terms. A special thanks to Jo and Mara who collect donations, and act as our PAs by taking phone calls, answering questions, delivering iTunes cards (final draw Dec 15th) and promoting the Second Hand Uniform Shop to this amazing school community.

We will be open on the first day of Term 1, 2015, and if there are any parents out there who want to join in the fun of manning the shop please get in touch!

Contact Lorraine Myatt on 0407 108 621 or Toni Jones on 0403 848 064.

The BHS P&C and PFG would like to wish the Belconnen High School community a wonderful Christmas, Happy New Year and a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

President
Carolyn Fisher
Vice President
Michael Blacksell
Secretary
Mirra Mihailovic
Treasurer
Amanda Sheaves

Email bhspfg@gmail.com
Web site http://www.blch.act.edu.au/our_school/p_and_c
Order your child’s school supplies today.

We all know how busy it can be getting organised for the new year. And with 2015 fast approaching, it’s time to start thinking about Back to School.

Your school has already given us their recommended list for next year. This is now loaded to officemxschools.com.au, so all you need to do is view the list, make any changes you’d like for your child and order away. **And, if you’re ordering for multiple children with delivery direct to your door, you can place their orders at the same time and pay only one fee.** So why not visit officemxschools.com.au and get it done now?

There are some terrific incentives to get your order in before 19 December 2014:
- You’ll go in the draw to win 1 of 75 $100 Visa Debit Cards
- You’ll only pay $8.95 for delivery; a discount of over 50%!

Plus for every dollar you spend, your child’s school benefits by receiving a proportion of the value which they can invest back into the classroom.

The more orders we receive, the more your school benefits, so share this email with other parents and get your own [order in today](#).

Happy ordering!

CLICK officemxschools.com.au
CALL 1800 004 427
Year 9 Leadership Camp
Acquittal

Income $17,065.00

Expenditure = $17,065.00

Year 9/10 Snow Sports
Acquittal

Income $10,340.00

Expenditure = $10,340.00

Wee Jasper ODE 2014
Acquittal

Income $2,310.00

Expenditure = $2,310.00

Wet and Wild 2014
Acquittal

Income $3,060.00

Expenditure = $3,060.00
ACT SECONDARY BURSARY SCHEME

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN IN HIGH SCHOOL?

The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme can provide ACT residents on low incomes with financial support for students in Years 7 – 10.

Eligibility: Holders of a Pensioner Concession Card or a Health Care Card with means tested ‘payment codes’
- see application form for more details

APPLY NOW

ACT EDUCATION AND TRAINING DIRECTORATE
Secondary Bursary Scheme
Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning
GPO Box 158 CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Application forms are available at all high schools, colleges, Centrelink Regional Offices and online at
financial_assistance_for_families

Enquiries: 6205 8262
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<td>Apr 1</td>
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HOLIDAYS - Saturday 11th April to Sunday 26th April
Return Monday 27th April 2015