

BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term 2 Week 5 Newsletter



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Principal's Message



Welcome back!

After 29 school days with empty classrooms, we were delighted to welcome back Year 7 in week 4 and Year 10 in week 5. Next Tuesday will see our school full again with the Year 8 and 9 students joining us. We can't wait!

Teaching and support staff have continued to work tirelessly this term to ensure that our students are given the best learning opportunities possible. I would like to thank all of the Belconnen High School team for making this a success and for the care you have shown for our students and community.

The next five weeks will continue to see us adapt and learn as we redesign previous processes and practices to fit the current situation and meet COVID safe requirements. We will continue to provide you with relevant information to best support your child through to the end of the term and prepare for semester 2.

Parent Support and Feedback

I would like to formally thank our families for their support and considered feedback throughout this year. We value the time and energy you have put into supporting your children whilst they were undertaking home-based learning. Our successes are certainly shared. We are keen to hear more from our community so we can capitalise on the positives of this experience. Following the transition of all students back to school we will send out a feedback form via email. Please take the time to

complete this short form to provide us with your insights into the experience of home-based learning.

Parent Teacher Interviews

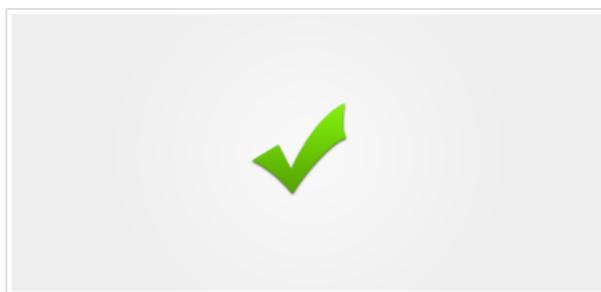
Our virtual Parent Teacher Interviews, in week 1, were a great success. Over 800 interviews were conducted via Google Hangouts. I have received positive feedback from parents, teachers and students who felt it provided another avenue to come together to best support the learning of our students. We will be considering the options for delivering Parent Teacher Interviews in a multi-modal way in Semester 2, considering both preference and flexibility for our community.

Virtual tour

Normally we would have had our School Information Night this past Tuesday. With the COVID restrictions we are unable to open the school for our community at this time. In response we have put together a [Virtual Tour](#) of the school showcasing our amazing facilities and the fabulous teaching and learning on offer. Please take your own tour and share with friends and family. A thank you to Oliver Billington, Kynan Thompson, Karen Rowe, Craig Harris, Tricia Copas and Tina Williams for making this happen.

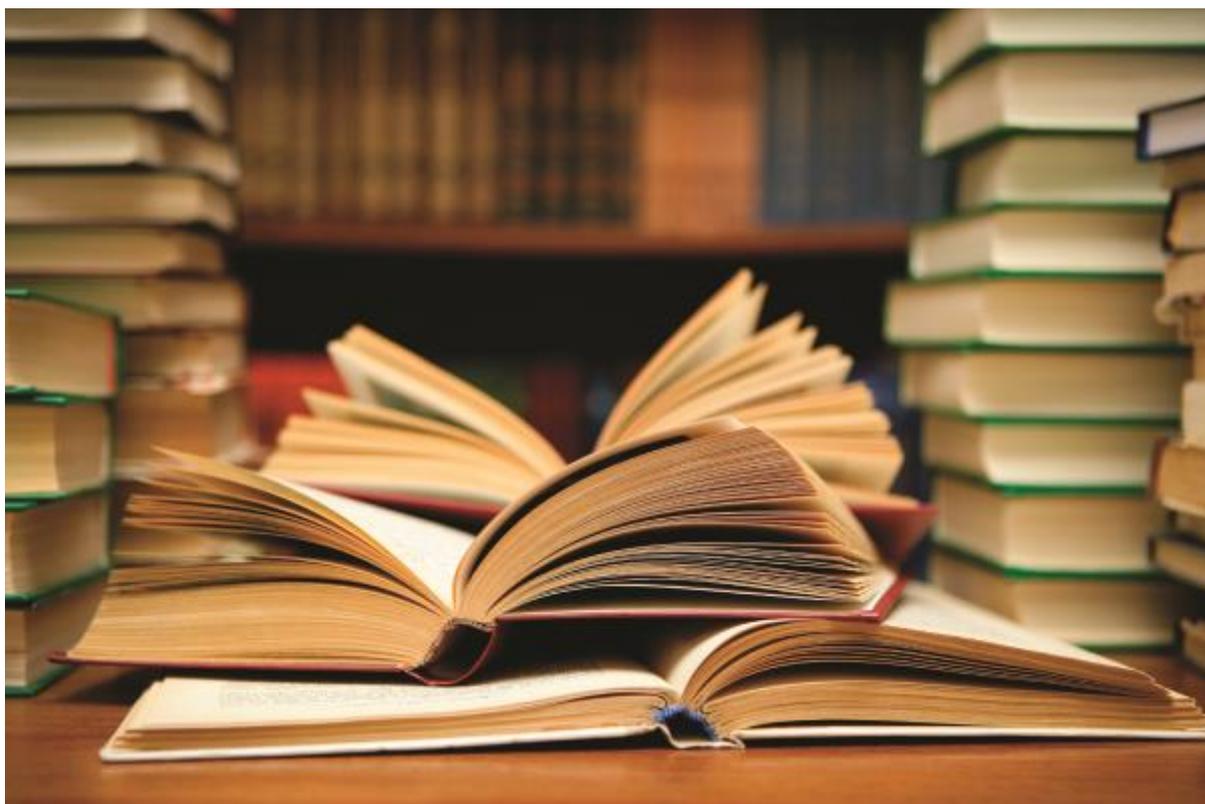
Rebecca Pearce

TERM CALENDAR



- 1st June - Reconciliation Day public holiday
- 2nd June - Yr 8 & Yr 9 return to school
- 8th June - Queen's Birthday public holiday
- 16th June - Yr 10 Immunisation
- 3rd July - Term 2 Concludes
- 20th July - Term 3 Commences
- 27th July - P&C Meeting 6pm
- 18th August - School Board Meeting 5.30pm

HUMANITIES FACULTY NEWS



Walkies!!!

Have you noticed how many people are walking around the suburbs these days? The COVID-19 crisis has had many negative impacts on our lifestyles but one upside has been the huge upsurge in people just walking. "Move and you will be moved" Aristotle said. Well maybe. I wasn't there. But it's like we've all been re-introduced to something so simple and yet so glorious; just walking. I've seen people walking dogs, with their family or friends, listening to podcasts, inspecting the neighbourhood's best (and worst!) gardens.

Our Year 7s are currently learning about 'livability' - how good a place is to live. It can be easy to not see how great Canberra (and Belconnen in particular) is to live in - we just don't notice after a while. But when you are out walking you can put your Humanities hat on and think about how your suburb is designed to include paths, shops, schools, religious centres and so on. If you were in charge of designing a new city, what have you noticed on your walk that you'd include? With a growing population of 400,000 we want our young people to be able to have a voice in how Canberra grows and to use what they know about urbanisation, geography and the history of this place to make Canberra the best city in the world. So, go for walk with your dog or your family and talk about what you see. After all, only crazy people don't talk to dogs.

CONNECTING TO COUNTRY



In the three Connecting to Country classes we have been working on the importance of using the correct source material. Meaning we need to make sure it is from the Elders of the Country. Firstly we looked to Yuin Country, stories and language.

The students viewed the story by Yuin man Warren Foster story from the Elders of Captain James Cook arrival on the Endeavour which can be viewed <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-18/captain-james-cook-first-sighting-of-endeavour-yuin-people/12151356>



1 - Dhurga language of Yuin Country on the South Coast

Walawanni – a greeting meaning did you have a safe journey or have a safe journey as you leave

As the term progressed we moved to Wiradjuri Ngurambang (Country) and the students worked on a task using google maps to work out how large Wiradjuri Ngurambang is. Other tasks students are completing are Wiradjuri Weather and Foods and Wiradjuri Animals.

Here is a small example from the Year 8 Wiradjuri Weather and Foods and Animal work.

<p>Weather - hot and dry Water levels decreasing, many species die or lay dormant. Many greeds only grow after rain. Guya traps were made because of receding water. Clans would stay near the water i.e., swamps, billabongs and rivers.</p> <p>Food - grass, yilli, garril</p>		<p>Weather - cold to warm Rivers become very low. Animals return to the water holes and rivers because there isn't much vegetation on the plains.</p> <p>Food - garrul, dhinawan, galangul</p>
		<p>Weather - cold Rising tide levels fill up billabongs, lagoons and swamps. Land animals move off the food plains.</p> <p>Food - dangarin, gabaga, billyan</p>
<p>Weather - cold to freezing Hardest time of the year to gather food as many animals hibernated, so they had to be dug out which is a lot of effort and time. The people had to move away from the rivers because it was too cold and foggy.</p>		

2 - Brendyn McT

<p>Weather - Spring - cool Billabongs, small creeks and lagoons start to fill up again because of the rising river levels. The land animals start to move off food plains. There was a lot of water vegetation because of the floods.</p> <p>Food - dhinawan, willy, galangul, garril, Deramaay, mumarang, bantilyan</p>		<p>Weather - Summer - hot and dry The water levels are decreasing. Lots of plant starting to die. Many fish traps were getting made. Clans would always stay near the water sources such as the rivers, swamps and billabongs.</p> <p>Food - Guya, Dangarin, Guya, Yabi</p>	
<p>Weather - Winter - cold to freezing Was extremely hard to gather food. Many animals hibernated which meant that they had to be dug out, which took a lot of time and effort. Clans would have to move away from the water sources since it was getting too cold and foggy.</p> <p>Food - ganyil, wily, godi, dhinawan</p>		<p>Weather - Autumn - cool to warm The rivers start to become very low. There isn't that much vegetation on the plains, they return to their waterholes and the rivers.</p> <p>Food - Gadangul, Garal, Ganyil, Dhinawan</p>	

3 - Aadhya S



4 - Lily M budyaan (bird)



5 - Jasmine H - dharramin.gang (tom tit bird)



6 - Josh N - gagalin (golden perch)



7 - Bell P - ngarruriyan. walga, dhirril (kestrel)



8 - Scarlett M - gulambali, gulagali birriyag (pelican)



9 - Parker P - gugaa (goanna)



10 - Lucy R - mungi, munyaa, gugabul, gudung (Murray cod)



11 - Amy W – budyaaan (bird)



12 - Mack F - yabi (yabby)

Reconciliation Week 2020 at Belconnen High School



Reconciliation week 27 May – 3 June

These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the 1967 Referendum acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the High Court Mabo decision, respectively.

Reconciliation Day - Monday 1 June (forms long weekend in ACT)

National Sorry Day - 26 May

On 26 May 1997, the Bringing Them Home Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families was tabled in Federal Parliament.

The anniversary of this significant event is observed each year as National Sorry Day. It is a day to reflect on the grief, injustice and trauma inflicted on many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, parents and families.

Places children were sent to include the Cootamundra Girls Home, the Bomaderry Aboriginal Children's Home and the Kinchela Boys Home.

Watch the following Sorry Day Story <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m32cvvJ0tqE>



Reconciliation Week at Belconnen High School

The 2020 Reconciliation posters '*In this Together*' have been printed and placed in rooms around the school.

Natalie Ikin and her year 10 Leadership class are going to be working with the Year 7 classes in the Week 6 CARE time with leadership projects. It will be exciting to see what they achieve.

In years 8, 9 and 10 in the Week 6 CARE class the PCG teachers will deliver a class to help students to understand Reconciliation Week. You can take a look at the online work at Reconciliation Australia

<https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>

- Information on artwork by Nikita Ridgeway
- 2 min video Reconciliation in Australia – Our History, Our Story, Our Future

The teachers had the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Reconciliation through a number of Professional Learning opportunities including Narragunnawali (the Education platform of Reconciliation Australia), Stronger Smarter Institute's Introductory learning Module and finally the Movie "In My Blood It Runs" and Professional Learning focusing on the movie with Chris Sarra from Stronger Smarter, Maya Newell the director and Narragunnawali Team.

We would like to give you the opportunity to view the Movie "In My Blood It Runs"

<https://indee.tv/screener/view/b12u0Z8UL0F346EpeDqass9PO42TvF4J/>



13 - Number of views: 100

Version: CUT DOWN SCHOOLS VERSION -54 minutes

Expiry: 5 June 2020

MATHS/SCIENCE FACULTY NEWS



Maths and Science

It has been a different start to the term for all of us and we have adapted well in the Maths and Science area. Teachers have been busy in online discussions with their students and having fun creating online videos for their students to access at home.



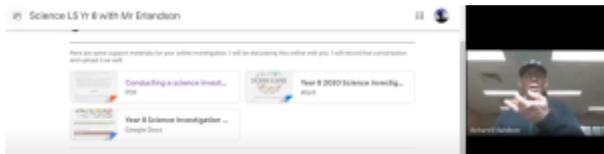
14 - Mr Heeneey showing an example of Forces for his Year 7 students.



15 - Mr Heeney showing an example of Forces for his Year 7 students.



16 - The Year 10 Maths team videoing some trigonometry examples



17 - Mr Erlandson recording his classes Google Meet so that students can access learning at any time.

Simplifying Algebraic Fractions
Factorised Terms B/C questions

a.
$$\frac{(x+2)(x+5) \times (x-2)(x+1)}{(x-1)(x+1) \times (x+5)(x+3)}$$

18 - Image sample of a help video created by the Maths team to support student learning.



19 - Image sample of a help video created by the Science team to support student learning.

At home students have been working hard to participate in a range of learning activities online set by their teachers. We would like to thank all the students for their commitment to learning so far this term and their families who have supported them to do so.

ARTS & TECHNOLOGY FACULTY NEWS



What's happening in the Arts/Performing Arts Department!

3D Art/Sculpture - Creativity Shows No Boundaries!

Working creatively from home has had its own set of challenges but nothing we could not overcome; it just required us to think differently about our resources and what we had access to in isolation. With a range of projects students could select from, their personal interests were able to shine through. A range of three-dimensional mediums were considered including toilet tissue and their rolls along with accessing what nature has to offer. With an emphasis on exploration, discovery, skills and processes, students not only problem-solved their way through these projects but provided a self-evaluation that allowed for reflection on what they learned along the way. The outcome has been nothing short of inspiring.



20 - 'Confessions of a Toilet Paper Hoarder'

Yr 8: Neve Larsen



21 - 'Garden'

Yr 9: Balin Harris



22 - 'The Bridge'

Yr 9: Will Coates

2D Art

Creating 2D Art from an online platform has been challenging but none the less creative and rewarding! Student's have excelled at finding ways to draw, paint and present digital work that demonstrates skill, technique and creative meaning. This Term students were introduced to various art styles and movements, creating in various mediums in order to adapt to their given resources and preferences during isolation. The artwork achieved by 2D Art students has been exceptional and we look forward to viewing their skateboard doc designs over the coming weeks.





FROM HOME

Our Drama students have been delighting us with celebrities. We had no clue that we would have a young Rick Asterley or an even younger Taylor Swift lip synching in character, let alone a solo Run DMC, an amazing Vanilla Ice or a sensational Michael Jackson.

If they weren't lip synching they were creating fake documentaries in true David Attenborough style hunting the elusive monster in the depths of their backyard. The monster always turned out to look very like a family dog or chicken.

If they weren't creating doco's they were creating Youtube clips on gaming or selling products, making sure all their followers subscribed, liked and left a comment.

If they weren't becoming a Youtuber they were writing script scenes and full narratives, usually with dark plots and their characters' demise.

If they weren't writing scripts they were creating an Australia's Got Talent Audition, where parents or siblings announced 'It was a NO from them'

If they weren't auditioning for Australia's Got Talent they were impersonating celebrities. A table cloth and a wooden spoon became a cape and a wand used by Hermoine Granger and a green sheet is one step closer to becoming 'The Hulk'.

Students had a choice of nine tasks to film on screencastify and send in to be marked. Thank you so much to all the families that supported all our stars, filling in parts when they were completing their scripted performances and helping out with their celebrity tasks. With the sincere promise that no recorded performances would be shown to anyone, only viewed for marking, many of our students in the comfort of their own home absolutely excelled. Not that we can prove it. You will have to take our word for it.

PE FACULTY NEWS



Photo Journal task:

During online learning students across all year levels completed a 'Dimensions of Wellness Photo Journal'.

This task required students to collect images, answer questions and reflect on their time in isolation through a specific well being lens (physical or social well being).

It was fantastic to see the range of ways students stayed positive, active and healthy throughout the home-based learning experience.

We are delighted to have our students returning to our PE gyms and classrooms across the next few weeks and commend their efforts at home over the last few months.

Below are a few examples of students journal submissions;



Sports Science update:

Sport science has been nothing short of a whirl wind, as I am sure all subjects have been! This term students are learning how to develop a personalised fitness plan to meet the goal of the client.

This will involve students to think outside of themselves and develop skills that can be applied to others within a fitness format.

When all students are back onsite it is hoped that we can get back into the physical component of our subject which will involve group fitness classes and pushing ourselves to the limit!

Sports Report:

Due to the virus, all physical school sport has been on hold until further notice, however that hasn't stopped a group of year 10 boys from competing in the Meta High School Esports Rocket League tournament. These students have been playing against other schools across Australia and New Zealand the last few weeks and have been putting on a strong performance for the school. They are currently 2nd in the East region after their first loss last week. After the strong start, we will be

looking at continued participation in school Esports for the future, so if you are keen on Rocket League, NBA 2k or League of Legends, start practicing and get ready for next year! If you are interested in seeing the school perform, previous games can be found at <https://www.twitch.tv/metahse> and games are played on Thursday nights at 5pm. Best of luck to the boys for the rest of the year!

Outdoor Education physical knot boards become Indoor Education virtual knot boards

Being a majority practical subject in the great outdoors has been a real challenge for us during home-based learning but I think the students have adapted brilliantly. Outdoor Education, as we are not able to use the climbing wall (pardon the pun), students are still doing the ropes unit with a real focus on knots. More specifically, we are having fun learning essential knots for the outdoors. We are then creating a virtual knot board as well as doing knot tying challenges such as '10 in under 2 minutes' and 'blindfolded knot tying'. We are really enjoying the creativity that some of the students are producing. You never know when you are going to need a good knot!





Did Knot Enjoy Quarantine!

Outdoor Education

Sam Griffin



Decorative knots

By Grace Redfern-Elliot



Cloud knot



Good luck knot

LEARNING SUPPORT NEWS



Life Skills has been getting back to basics! We are currently doing a unit on nutrition, so we are literally starting from the roots up. Life Skills students researched seasonal vegetables that would grow at this time of the year, as well as researching the online Bunnings website for everything we needed to create our own garden. The class made a list, the teachers power shopped, and we all got

our hands dirty putting it all together. We now have a small veggie garden plot, a compost heap and a worm farm. We have an indoor compost bin which is down in our hospitality kitchen so that we can feed our worms and build up our compost. We are looking forward to maintaining and nurturing this space.

Staff are looking forward to seeing everyone back at school next week 🌱







BELCONNEN LEARNING COMMONS NEWS

Belconnen Learning Commons

There are many new books on display in the BLC ready for everyone to borrow. Many of them are titles requested by students such as “Tokyo Ghoul”, Percy Jackson” and “My Hero Academia” series graphic novels. We also have the new “Harry Potter” and “Amulet” series boxed sets.

I am still looking for suggestions of books and magazines to purchase, especially if you see an incomplete series on the shelves, so please let me know.

Our break time activities will recommence in Week 7 and a timetable of activities will be up in the BLC and displayed on the televisions around the building. Remember games are always available for you to use. They are located near the librarian’s desk.

BUSINESS MANAGERS NEWS



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 [Webpage](#).

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

FAMILY TRANSACTION STATEMENTS

Due to COVID-19 family transactions statements will be sent to families in Semester 2.

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 info_BLCH@ed.act.edu.au or phone the front office on 6142 1690. We are always grateful to receive this information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Student accident/incidents

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

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.

COVID-19 NEWS



Thanks to the great work of the community to restrict the transmission of COVID19, ACT public school students and teachers can start attending school from Monday 18 May.

The return to face to face learning will be carefully managed and staged over three weeks to ensure our students, teachers and staff are safe and our schools are fully prepared to have the appropriate measures in place, based on advice from the ACT Chief Health Officer

The three stage return of face to face learning is:

- From Monday 18 May (week 4 of term 2): year 7 students.
- From Monday 25 May (week 5 of term 2): year 10 students.
- From Tuesday 2 June (week 6 of term 2, following the Reconciliation Day long weekend): year levels 8 and 9 students.

COMMUNITY NEWS



The image is a promotional graphic for 2021 school enrolments in the ACT. It features a photograph of a young woman with glasses sitting at a desk with a laptop, smiling. In the background, other students are visible. The graphic has a green and white color scheme. The text '2021 school enrolments now open' is prominently displayed in the bottom left. The ACT logo and 'Education' are in the top right. Two numbered steps provide instructions on how to enrol online and the deadline.

2021 school enrolments now open

ACT Education

- 1. Go to education.act.gov.au** for information on your local school and to enrol online.
- 2. Apply before 5 June 2020** to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. This means there is ample time to submit your application to be included in the initial round of offers.



News from the Uniform Shop

Thank you to everyone who has donated items to the Uniform Shop this year. The Uniform Shop is the P&C's primary fund-raising venture, and it provides a much needed resource to families through secondhand uniforms at heavily reduced prices. We are always happy to accept donated uniforms in good, clean condition. Bagged donations can be left with the front office.

Last week the Uniform Shop reopened its doors "remotely". At this stage we can only service customers who have placed requests on our wish lists.

Please only visit the Uniform Shop (via the Front Office) if you have been contacted by a volunteer.

If you would like to request a secondhand item you can email us at

Uniform.Shop.BHS@gmail.com including the following details:

- Your name
- Preferred contact number (notifications are sent via sms)
- Item
- Size (sizes are mostly 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, S, M, L, XL, 2XL)

- Quantity

Thank you to those who have already emailed requests. A volunteer will contact you when your requested item becomes available.

Introducing Schools online ordering

We welcome you to chat to our friendly Uniform Shop volunteers about this exciting change.

CANTEEN NEWS



 *flexischools*

Download the app and register with [FlexiSchools](#)