Vol. 12, Issue 1, 18 February 2013

From the Relieving Principal…

A great start to the year – new staff have been appointed in Science, Mathematics and IT and our Year 7 students have settled in well with a little bit of help from their Big Sisters in Year 11. We have already held two parent information evenings with an evening for Year 7 parents about settling into high school and last Monday we launched the policy and procedures for Year 11 Assessment. Thank you, parents, for your support of these events.

Our Swimming Carnival was a wonderful success last Wednesday, with a great deal of colour as students and staff wore their house colours with pride.

Our school enrolments continue to be strong. Currently we have 1113 students in Years 7-12. Seating them all in the Hall is quite a challenge.

HSC results for 2012 were outstanding, with all our students’ performances better than expected. Burwood Girls’ overall position in NSW was 75th and the 5th comprehensive high school in the state. We are very proud of the students receiving a Premier’s Award (Band 6 in all subjects).

Other successful HSC students are to be congratulated on receiving sizable high achiever scholarships for their

Rachel Jeon  Charlotte Kim  Brighde-Rose Maher

Joy Wu  Tianqing Zhang
university studies; including Annika van Leeuwen who is studying architecture at Sydney University and Sanha Lee who is studying at Sydney College of the Arts.

We are very excited to be hosting a Proud Schools Day of Celebration on Tuesday 26 February and I would like to extend an invitation to parents to share this special day with us. Proud Schools is an anti-homophobia project our whole school community is working on in 2012-2013. Our celebrations will begin with a whole school assembly at 9:30am, a rainbow flag raising ceremony at 10:10am and student, parent and teacher forums from 11:10-12:30pm. Please feel free to come along to all or part of the day (RSVP: karyn.obrien@det.nsw.edu.au), and don’t forget to wear colours of the rainbow.

I am pleased to see that students have gotten off to a good start in terms of wearing perfect school uniform. I have seen some non-regulation sport shorts though and hope students and parents get the correct pair ASAP. I know public transport can be unreliable at times and we can’t control traffic conditions but please try to leave a margin for error to ensure you arrive at school by 8:45am each day. I remind parents (and students) that the car parks are for staff only. Please drop your daughter off or pick her up on Cheltenham Road or the area near Blair Park on Queen Street to ensure council rangers do not issue you with a fine…they are out there watching, so beware.

I look forward to seeing all Year 7 families at the welcome BBQ hosted by the P & C on Wednesday 20 February at 6:15pm, Year 9 families at the Laptop Parent meeting at 7:00pm on Monday 25 February and anyone who would care to join us on Tuesday 26 February for our celebrations.

Karyn O’Brien, Relieving Principal

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ENGLISH NEWS
Welcome to 2013! We are feeling very excited about launching another productive year in the English and Drama Faculty. Our Year 7 students are focussing on the role of heroes and villains in narratives, looking at a variety of texts including a novel and a film. Our Year 8 students are doing a close study of a novel, and Year 9 students are learning about persuasive language in the module ‘Convince me’. Many students have just given impressive speeches convincing their peers to appreciate their favourite artists. Year 10 are looking at composers who break rules by challenging values and ideas within society through a variety of techniques including narrative voice, genre or grammar.

I am delighted to have been appointed Head Teacher English at Burwood Girls. For the past nine years I have been working at Sydney Secondary College, Blackwattle Bay Senior Campus where I taught English and Drama and was relieving head teacher for the last two years. I am very excited to join such a professional and hard-working team who have all made me feel incredibly welcome.

Mark Dodshon has joined the English team to replace Jurate Janavicius who is on long service leave. Mark comes with a wealth of experience both as a teacher and a journalist and is full of exciting ideas. Jodie Coleman will be going on leave in Week 5 to have her first child. She will be replaced by Mathew Chalmers who has most recently been revolutionising ICT in the classroom at a school in the Southern Shire. Both teachers are passionate about education and make welcome additions to the English and Drama team.

Pauline Hageman, Head Teacher English

DEBATING
AUSTRALIA – THE CLEVER COUNTRY?
If you’d like to know the answer to this question you’ll have to ask our debaters. They argued for two days over this and also the idea that movies and music should be free to download.

Twenty-four girls from Years 6 to 10 participated in the Gala Debating competition held on 9 and 12 November 2012 in the Burwood Girls High Library Annexe. A particular highlight was our guest debaters from Croydon Public School who knocked us out, not literally, of course, with their sensational debating ability.

Our girls, particularly Year 7 (2012), were fantastic mentors as well as fabulous opponents for these young ambassadors, really giving both Croydon and Burwood something to argue about! Despite some complaints over the “NO LOLLIES or JUNK FOOD” policy recently implemented by their mean teacher, the debaters scoffed the healthy brain food down – apples, strawberries, dips etc which no doubt improved their capacity to think under the pressure cooker conditions.

Rochelle Haley, our coach, was delighted with the progress our Burwood debaters have made since the beginning of this year. She worked on improving
method by guiding speakers to develop their arguments. All of our debaters can now sustain a lengthy argument – the timekeepers really gave the bell a work out as girls did not want to wrap it up!

The audience was also involved as Rochelle called on them to contribute to the adjudication. A special mention goes to Georgia Mason, Year 10 (2012) for pinpointing rights and wrongs, or not-so-rights!

Thank you, girls – you were eloquent, fast thinking and well informed. This time Croydon, tomorrow, the world (well, Sydney Uni but we’re getting there!)

Ingrid Benjamin, Debating Coordinator

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YEAR 10 VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE TO ENFIELD POOL MURAL

Ms Kals’ Year 10 Visual Arts class had an interesting and enjoyable workshop at Burwood Community Centre on Tuesday 12 February. The girls worked on a community mosaic mural with students from Enfield Public School under the guidance of artist, Susanna Mills. The mural is a Burwood Council Project which will be installed at Enfield Pool. There are two major murals, one celebrating International Women’s Day and the other, Neighbour Day.

Some students’ comments were, “It was a good experience learning how to use mosaic tiles to create a mural.” “It was fun and enjoyable to teach the younger students how to work with the tools.” “We are looking forward to seeing the murals in place at Enfield Pool.”

Thanks go to the Year 10 students for their participation. They worked very happily with the primary students and made a great contribution to the project.

Michelle Kals, Head Teacher Creative Arts

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) 2013

I am pleased to announce the following girls have been elected into the SRC this year. They will meet fortnightly to represent the views and concerns of their peers and to act as a conduit between staff and students. Part of the school plan this year is to further develop our girls’ leadership skills across a range of groups this year and a camp is planned in the near future. Year 7 students will vote for the SRC leaders after the camp in Week 5.

Year 8
- Lillikan Clarke
- Madeline Dimakis
- Emma Douglas-Oliveira
- Lucy Hutchinson
- Melissa Iosifidis
- Hyein Lee
- Kiesha Mateo
- Evelyn Nikas
- Francesca Parison
- Fotini Theodoulou
- Elinor Zhu

Year 9
- Eda Avar
- Sabrina Barutha
- Ji Hyun Choi
- April-Rose Derebe-Desalegn
- Janey Hwang
- Angelique Kyriazis
- Alice Loveday
- Allegra Short
- Tiffany Vuong
- Amelia Wood
- Fiona Wu
- Lynn Yang

Year 10
- Ellen Balomatis
- Alexandra Giakoumelos
- Landy Hu
- Emily Hung
- Qisthy Kodorusan
- Stella Kouros
- Chantelle Manion
- Emma McCarthy
- Wea Rogerson
- Jayde Tourneur
- Christine Trieu
- Janice Vuong
- Lucy Ward-Gemmell
- Cottie Zamora

Year 11
- Madeleine Callaghan
- Julia Frolov
- Sharon Hung
- Anneka Jolly
- Sharmyn Kayani
- Louise Kim
- Jaimee Lai
- Cindy Lu
- Sharon Ono
- Sophia Palagos
- Cristina Travon
- Ella Williams
- Vivian Yun

Patrice Simpson, Head Teacher Social Sciences/SRC Coordinator

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TAS NEWS

A great start to another exciting year ahead in TAS. We welcome our new staff member Paula Papas. Paula is an “ex-Burwood girl” who has a lot to offer our students and we are happy to have her taking Kathleen Scott’s position throughout 2013.

Thank you to Cheryl Wetsi, Yvette Abboud and Brigitte Perik who did an amazing job in 2012 filling in on behalf of TAS staff. We look forward to working with these wonderful teachers again in 2013.

Congratulations to the Year 12, 2012 who studied TAS subjects – Textiles & Design, Hospitality and Community & Family Studies. The students and teachers should be very proud of their achievements and we look forward to the same great results in 2013.

YEAR 10 – FOOD TECHNOLOGY will be going to Ultimo TAFE – Apprentice Restaurant on either Wednesday 13 or 20 March. They will tour the hospitality facility and enjoy a glorious meal. All monies and notes are to be in by March 4.
YEAR 9, 10 & 11 TEXTILES are off to the Stitches and Craft Show at Rosehill Racecourse on March 7. They will be viewing the TEXSTYLE exhibition which displays the best HSC Textiles works in the state. It will be a great opportunity for them to also source materials for upcoming projects.

Note: All students have received notification regarding Subject Contributions. Please pay these at the front office and bring the receipt to the classroom teacher. Due dates are:

- Friday 22 February (either full payment or Instalment 1)
- Friday 24 May – Instalment 2
- Friday 9 August – Instalment 3

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any queries or concerns about TAS matters, please do not hesitate to contact me on 9747 3355 or 0423 236 666. Looking forward to another eventful year.

Rosemary Patonay, Head Teacher TAS

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BEP NEWS

Welcome back. Our term started with our workshop on School Development Day with all ensembles taking part. We welcomed all our new Year 7 students to the band program. The workshop was followed by afternoon tea with instrumental teachers, new students and their parents.

I would like to welcome our new Senior Concert Band Conductor, Mr Evan Guy, to our program. Rehearsals will start on Thursday 14 February.

Our Brass Ensemble and SCB have a busy time ahead playing at Year 6 Information Night on 4 March, also Brass Ensemble playing for our Rainbow Flag ceremony on 26 February. All ensembles will play at International Day.

The SCB will perform at Anzac Services in the April school holidays – Dawn Service for Croydon Park RSL; ceremony and march for Ashfield RSL; and march for Burwood RSL.

We look forward to a successful first term.

Elaine Browne, Head Admin, BEP

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SPORT

BURWOOD BALL!

Burwood are the 2012 champions for the Northern Suburbs Sport Zone in the 14’s European Handball. Burwood fielded two teams in the eight team competition, with both progressing to the Grand Final, after victories over Ryde and Concord High Schools.

The Grand Final match-up between Burwood Blue and Burwood Gold proved to be an exciting struggle, with the teams locked at 4-4 at full-time. The referee declared the teams to be joint Premiers.

Burwood Gold were well served in goals, with Anna Hall and Qurshill Mazel outstanding with their defence and quick return of ball to attacking players. Eda Avar, Ruby McHutchison and Bethany Conna were outstanding in the midfield. Attackers Jamie Ramjan, Cecilia Martei and Stephanie Pavin scored a bag full of goals with Stephanie being the Best and Fairest award winner.

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CAREERS

Dear Students, Welcome back to school for 2013.

New TVET Students (Year 11, 12) and Parents

TVET applications for 2013 are closed. Students have been informed as to the procedures regarding their TAFE attendance (usually on Tuesday afternoon).

Whilst attending TAFE - I am sure you know to be on your best behaviour. Look at TAFE as an extension of your school responsibilities. If you receive enough warnings about your behaviour, attendance or work output TAFE can have you withdrawn. This would jeopardise your Preliminary...
Year or HSC. Please be diligent on all fronts - remember it is an adult learning environment. Always wear school uniform, unless there are specific requirements otherwise.

**TVET and reducing school-based subject load**
There are strict rules at this school as to when and if this can happen. The senior school Deputy Principal Ms Longman has discussed these rules at the Year 11 Parent/Student night recently. Furthermore, it might not be wise to drop subjects at all this year. For example, if you are doing 12 ATAR units at school, and think "let me drop 2 units at school so I will have 12 in total for Prelim. and still have 10 for the HSC" - this means you will have no extra room to manoeuvre for Year 12 in case you decide "actually I don't like this subject either" - so your flexibility is reduced - so therefore it is generally NOT RECOMMENDED to drop subjects at school for Year 11.

**Year 9 Careers Program**
To complement the excellent School-to-Work program already running here by classroom teachers, I will conduct a short, but intensive careers program for Year 9, late in Term 4. It will centre around doing a lot of interesting exercises where students will be able to discover or have greater self-awareness of the skills and attributes they possess. This helps prepare Year 9 for senior subject selection at a later stage during Year 10.

**Year 11**
Students who are considering paths other than university, such as apprenticeships or TAFE are invited to do the Career Voyage vocational guidance test. I have a limited number of spots available for testing.

**Coming Events for interested students**
- Year 12 only - Sydney Uni. at School Talk, beginning of Lunch 1, Wednesday 27/2, Room 47
- Year 12 only - UNSW at School Talk, beginning of Lunch 1, Thursday 14/3, Room 47
- Years 9,10,11,12 - International Volunteers Abroad Talk, beginning Lunch 1, Wednesday 6/3 Room 49 (limited seating -30 people)

  John Hegedus, Careers Adviser

We are now well underway and hopefully by next week all students will have their lockers.

**Blazers** have now arrived in small sizes, so please come on down and try them on. I am sure you will be pleased with them.

**Book Packs for Year 7** – anyone wanting to purchase one please do so before the end of February. We do not keep stock of book packs after the end of February.

The Uniform Shop’s days and hours each week:
- **Tuesday, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, 1:10 pm – 2:30 pm**

Students may only visit the Uniform Shop before school, recess & lunchtime during opening hours.

Parents may visit any time during opening hours. Any enquiries, please call the school on 9747 3555. 

Elaine Browne, Manager, P&C Uniform Shop

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**YEAR 7 STUDENTS & PARENTS – have you seen your page on the school’s website?**
The school's website has a lot of useful information. Each year has their own page where you can find out what is happening in the next few days, print out copies of letters handed out at school and explore useful links. Why not try it today? Find it at [http://web3.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/year-7](http://web3.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/year-7)

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**FREE PUBLIC DENTAL SERVICES**
Free dental care is available to all children under 18 years of age (including preschool children) from Sydney Local Health District Oral Health Services. Clinic locations include Marrickville, Canterbury, Croydon and Concord. Services can be accessed by calling 9293 3333. For more information:


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**P&C BBQ TO WELCOME YEAR 7, WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY, 6:15 PM – RAIN OR SHINE!**
On Wednesday 20 February the P&C is hosting a BBQ to welcome Year 7 students and their families, and to meet teachers, ‘Big Sisters’ and P&C members. Please meet outside the hall at 6:15 pm.

At the conclusion of the BBQ there will be a very short Q&A session at 7:15pm. An invitation letter has been sent home to parents – please RSVP by 19 February. We look forward to seeing you.

Alice Magoffin, P&C President

**P&C UNIFORM SHOP**
All new Year 7 students have been outfitted and all stock replaced. Lockers are a bit of a problem – sorry if students have to wait but the process is quite slow in freeing up as many as we can for our new students.