From the Principal…

Our teachers have been preparing for the introduction of the Australian curriculum in 2014. This Australian curriculum includes a cross-curriculum priority of ‘Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia’ in every subject from the beginning of schooling to Year 12. For this reason our school implemented an Asia literacy program for Year 7 in 2011 which we are evaluating and revising. The idea of Asia literacy is that by the time students leave school, a growing number will speak an Asian language and will have knowledge, skills and understanding of the histories, geographies, arts and literature of the diverse countries of Asia.

This means, as part of their regular studies, students will (for example) explore Japanese poetry, study the history of the Vietnam war, document the contributions of Chinese people to Australian society, research the biology of Malaysia’s rainforests, use the geography of Indonesia to study sustainability, understand India’s development of mathematics and become proficient in Asia languages including Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian and Korean, all four of which we offer at Burwood Girls High School.

I am passionate about making sure we equip our teachers and students to develop new skills, new understandings and new knowledge about Asia that are essential for them to thrive.

Mia Kumar
WEAR IT PURPLE IS ALMOST HERE!

The School Council supports Wear It Purple.

At our assembly on Monday 19 August ex-student Katherine Hudson will address the assembly to talk about the Wear It Purple campaign which she initiated in 2010 and is now supported by a growing number of schools throughout Australia.

Wear it Purple is a student led organisation which aims to raise awareness of issues faced by GLBTI students and ways that schools can provide a safe and supportive environment for rainbow youth.

Members of our True Colours support group have been busy taking photos of students and staff and making posters to advertise Wear It Purple Day on Friday 30 August.

The True Colours group will have a cake stall on the day and there will be a photo opportunity in the shape of a heart and a chance for students to sign the mural at recess or lunchtime.

This is our fourth year participating in this event and will again celebrate Wear it Purple Day in style. We hope to see an amazing sea of purple.

Please be clear that this is not a mufti day, however, you may wear purple clothes and accessories. Dig through your wardrobes and find purple tops, pants, jackets, scarves, shoes, jewellery and/or hair colour.

Get creative...there will be a prize for the ‘most purple’ student 😊

Karyn O’Brien, Deputy Principal

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS 2013

Thank you to parents who completed surveys at recent parent/teacher nights. We value your input into school policies and practices and the results of these surveys inform our decision making.

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

During 2012 we rearranged the roles of the Deputy Principals to reflect a change in school structure, that is, middle school (Years 7-9) and senior school (Years 10 – 12). In 2013 we asked parents if they knew which DP to contact regarding any issue concerning their daughter. The results were:

In Years 11 and 12 we asked if parents contacted the Year Adviser regarding any issues concerning their daughters. The results were:

To be clear...Karyn O’Brien is our Middle School DP (7-9) and Janina Longman is our Senior School DP (10-12). Year Advisers should be your first point of contact if you have a concern about your daughter.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Following concerns raised by the P&C and School Council, we surveyed parents to ascertain the perceived effectiveness of our school uniform policy. Three questions were asked:

1. Do you support the uniform policy of the school?
2. Do you believe the uniform policy is enforced appropriately by the staff at BGHS?

Do you believe excursions contribute to your daughter’s learning?

3. Do you think that school uniform trousers and shorts should remain as part of the school uniform?

Do you consider the total cost of excursions to be excessive?

Parents, whilst supportive of shorts as part of the uniform, have concerns about how students wear them. Many feel they are too short and do not reflect well on the girls.

**SCHOOL EXCURSIONS**

In 2013 we are evaluating the number and value of excursions organised for students as part of their curriculum. We asked the following questions of Year 8 and 10 parents.

Are you happy with the number of excursions your daughter attends?

We will continue to evaluate our excursion program throughout 2013 to determine if there are improvements which could be made in 2014 and beyond. Please send us an email if you would like to give feedback on this matter.

**TECHNOLOGY PROVISIONS AT BGHS**

The student laptop program will not continue in 2014 and the school is considering the possibility of asking students to “bring your own device” (BYOD), eg laptop, tablet, etc. We asked parents in Years 7 and 8 if they would be willing to purchase a device recommended by the school to enhance their daughter’s learning. Their responses were:

We are in the early stages of investigating our technology options for 2014 and beyond. We have a BYOD subcommittee of the Technology Committee working on this project and they would also value any feedback from you as parents.
SCHOOL WEBSITE
As experienced Burwood GHS parents, we asked Year 11 and 12 parents what information or feature of our website they found most useful. Their responses were:
- Event newsletter
- Templates for notes
- Permission notes for excursions
- Canteen menu
- Calendar – would like excursions included
- Contact information
- Links to useful websites
- Music/Band program
- Email address
- List of teachers names.

We are always trying to improve our website so that it meets the needs of our school community.

CAREERS PROGRAM
Following appointment of a new Careers Adviser in 2012, we asked parents of students in the senior school if their daughters had received support from the Careers Adviser. Their responses were:

Thank you to John Hegedus, our Careers Adviser, who is getting to know all students and support them in their post-school pathways.

Karyn O’Brien, Deputy Principal

VISITING SCHOOLS FROM CHINA
On 23 July, 30 students from Yangzhou Jinghua Meling High School, Yangzhou Zhuxi Middle School and our sister school, Yangzi High School visited Burwood GHS from China for half a day. We welcomed them with a band playing and a speech given by Ms Kumar, Mr Wines and Year 8 student Xinyu Zhang. The visiting students performed a set of acts including singing, dancing and Chinese calligraphy. Both Chinese Year 8 classes were then partnered with a visiting student for the rest of their stay.

We enjoyed morning tea that was prepared by the staff and students and were able to socialise with the buddies. Then they went for a tour around the school taking lots of photos and went to period 2 with their buddies. At 11:55 am we walked them to the main gate and had a group photo taken and it was time for them to leave.

We hope they enjoyed their visit as much as we enjoyed them visiting!

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING AND IT
The Women in Engineering and IT Day at the University of Technology Sydney gave us a great insight into the courses offered. Some of us were even convinced to select IT/Engineering as a possible career path in the future. On that day we arrived extremely early at UTS for the workshop. We were randomly allocated to a group, consisting of students from various schools.

It was an opportunity to not only access engineering and IT skills, but also to meet new people interested in these fields. Most activities were exceptionally interesting;
however there were some that were less enjoyable. We participated in a range of entertaining activities, including building a ‘floating house’, constructing a robotic arm, working with Java script and many more. Although it was a tiring experience, it was worth every moment.

By Grace Zhang, Joanne Huang and Yanling Huang

BRAIN BEE COMPETITION

The Brain Bee Competition is designed to rigorously test students’ knowledge of neuroscience. Burwood GHS was honoured to have Natalie Davies of Year 10 achieve a place in the state finals. These took place at the University of Western Sydney. Natalie demonstrated an excellent understanding of the brain, however was not crowned state champion. The day also included a fascinating workshop where electrodes were used to stimulate muscle action in the arm (pictured).

Deborah Segal, Science Faculty

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES (YEAR 7)

Thank you to Danielle Taylor’s grandmother, Debbie Taylor for her wonderful presentation to our Year 7 class on her experiences as a member of the Stolen Generations. Debbie very generously shared her moving personal story with our students as part of a study of Indigenous Perspectives. In this unit students are required to read and listen to a range of Indigenous non-fiction texts and learn to compose a range of responses. In the process, our students develop their cross-cultural learning and understanding.

Lillian Lee of 7S expressed the feelings of many of the students in her letter to Debbie. She wrote: “...the policies they (the government) set were extremely wrong because they had a bad impact on your childhood and life. To be taken away at such a young age to a foster carer who didn’t love and accept you, is truly upsetting.

You are a brave and strong woman who is proud of being an Aboriginal person. I aspire to become like you because no matter what your past was, you can still move on from it strongly. This has taught me to be strong and be proud of my heritage.”

Jurate Janavicius, English Faculty

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES (YEAR 11)

As a part of the Indigenous Perspectives unit, Year 11 English had the opportunity to create their own dot paintings at the conclusion of Term 2. Organised by Ms Parker and Mr Chalmers, the two classes were able to use their knowledge of dot paintings and put it into practice. Illustrations of landscapes, animals and the natural elements were a central feature of the works. The final paintings came out beautifully and all involved should be very proud of their efforts.

Matthew Chalmers, English Faculty

OUR EXPERIENCE AT THE LEGACY JUNIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

On 29 July we went to the Junior Legacy Public Speaking Competition which was hosted by Sydney Girls High. Legacy is an organisation that is dedicated to helping young people who have lost their parents to war.

It was an interesting experience, it was a good experience and it was also our first experience! Most of the other competitors had been in previous public speaking competitions and were older than us. The three winners who went on to the next stage of the competition were Year 9 students from Sydney Girls High, Sydney Grammar School and MLC.

Event Newsletter  Page 5  Burwood GHS
Some of the topics were very random! Ms Benjamin’s favourite, apart from ours, was the speech about one of the competitor’s love of marine creatures such as the blue whale, the blue ringed octopus and a toothbrush fish. Sophie spoke about Racism and I spoke about Street Art. Ms Benjamin says we were fabulously organised, prepared, entertaining speakers and she’s training us up to be the next big winners! She was delighted with the way we presented ourselves with such sophistication and confidence even though we were the smallest and youngest competitors there!

By Sophia Scales and Alice Moore - Year 7

PREFECTS REPORT
Louise Kim & Andriana Dertouzos, Year 11 Prefects
Hi Girls! The prefects and captains have been fundraising for the captains’ project. We held a barbecue on 1 August which was very successful and we want to thank the whole school for supporting us. A special thanks to the TAS Faculty for facilitating the event for us.

The captains have decided that the project (gift to the school) will be a removable shade/awning for the netball court opposite the music rooms. There will be a BBQ fundraiser on 7 September (Election Day) at the school.

Last week Year 11 attended work experience and Jindabyne and had a great time. In Week 7 Years 10 and 11 will be voting for the 2014 prefects.

We wish Year 11 well for their preliminary exams in Weeks 8 and 9.

Finally, the Year 11 prefects would like to thank the Year 12 prefects and captains for all their hard work and we wish them well for the future.

Margot Alais
Tess Angel
Genevieve Beekwilder
Hajlije Bilali
Arabella Bradley
Yvonne Chow
Elizabeth Daoud
Lolita Emmanuel

Farewell and good luck!

Gifted and Talented Program 2013
The latest progress review of the Year 7 Rich Task Team confirmed a very strong progress in the development of the chosen topics.

A number of students have almost completed research reports and are now working on the creative representations of the topics with the support of teachers. The launch of the program promises to be exciting and rewarding.

The Year 8 team is also working with strong creative energy on the development of oral presentations with the focus on critical, analytical and creative thinking. There is a wide range of topics ranging from Nuclear Weapons to Feminism to Fairy Tales. The team members recognise the value of planning, research and clarity of purpose in their preparation.

Margaret Nowak, Program Coordinator

Big Red Rock Adventure 2013
This year Burwood GHS is proud to be offering an opportunity for Year 10 students to visit Uluru - one of the most important cultural sites in Australia, and one of the most sought after tourist destinations in the world.

A party of 60 (56 students and 4 staff) will be spending five days in the dead heart of Australia engaging in a number of cultural, physical and artistic activities. It is an initiative of the English Department but is being supported by all faculties in an exercise in whole-school learning to ensure maximum absorption of culture, climate and atmosphere! At this stage all student spots are taken and staff attending are Deputy Principal Janina Longman, Kirsty Tottenham (Science), Janice Raynor (ESL and Art), and Mark Dodshon (English).

Mark Dodshon, English Faculty (organiser)

TAS News
It is unbelievable that we are already half way through Term 3. As usual there is a hive of activity going on in TAS in all our subject areas.

We have some exciting news to share – the refurbishment of DD1 to become a commercial Hospitality kitchen is commencing on Thursday 15 August. This will not only mean that the school is compliant for the delivery of Hospitality courses at all levels, but will be advantageous for the school as a whole in the future. We will keep you updated with the developments.

Year 12 Textiles
Year 12 Textiles have finally completed their Major Textiles Projects and they are on their way to marking at the Board of Studies. Well done Year 12! You should be proud of all your efforts. However...the following saying certainly was appropriate ‘if it weren’t for the last minute nothing would be done’. I am sure that my class would wholeheartedly agree with this!

Rosemary Patonay

VET Hospitality Work Placements
Year 11 VET Hospitality students recently went out into the workplace to further develop knowledge and skills in the hospitality industry. Work placement is a mandatory component of the VET Hospitality course. Students doing
the course this year are the first group working towards gaining Certificate II Hospitality – Food and Beverage (Café Skills).

Work places included many businesses, some local and others not too far away from home. We are very grateful to the local cafes Café Juve and Café Marco who gave wonderful experiences to some students. Four Points by Sheraton, IAG Café, Sydney Hilton and The Tea Room (QVB) were some of the larger businesses that embraced our students and made sure they gained valuable knowledge and skills whilst in the workplace. I was very pleased to hear so many positive comments from the employers. Some students were even offered part-time jobs.

During Term 4 students will complete work placement. Again they will be working another 35 hours in the workplace. I am looking forward to hearing the ‘stories’ from the students and more good reports from the employers!

Louise Harper, Hospitality teacher

**YEAR 12 FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

Year 12 Food Technology students have been busy this term working on developing a new food product for a particular target market. The design brief was to develop a muffin that would appeal to adolescent girls as a quick breakfast and yet still be a healthy, low fat, high fibre option. The girls undertook market research, developed a prototype, tested their prototype and analysed consumer feedback. The final products were packaged and labelled to meet Australian requirements. Congratulations Year 12 on the outstanding results you have achieved!

*Julie Perdriaux, TAS*

**Lace HAIRPIECES – FIELD STUDY DAY 2**

On 29 May, Year 10 students participated in a textiles and millinery workshop for their elective field study day. The aim was to construct a floral lace hair accessory of their own unique design, which employed industry standard couture and millinery techniques.

Initially, the girls faced the difficult decision of choosing a colour palette for the base of their hairpiece – a floral lace appliqué. They then worked very diligently and patiently in order to bead their lace, using a variety of techniques. This part of the process took the longest time, but the girls worked through their recess and lunch time to complete it! Once they had entirely beaded their appliqué, they adhered it to a piece of felt with ‘Vliesofix’, and carefully cut around it.
The girls and I then jointly decided on how to position their finished hairpiece to display it to its best advantage. The final step was to put their now expert hand sewing skills to use, and attach it to the top of their headband.

Overall, the finished hairpieces looked very stunning, adding a Gatsby-esque feel to their wearer. I was very proud of the girls’ accomplishments and impressed with their engagement and patience throughout the workshop, particularly as the majority were new to the textile techniques being applied.

Congratulations on your beautiful work Year 10!

Paula Papas, TAS

SOME EXCITING NEWS - We will be having a Fashion Parade in Term 4 to showcase the magnificent work that has been done in the Textiles area in 2013. The staff and your daughters look forward to you coming and allowing them to show their great work. Date to be confirmed.

SUBJECT CONTRIBUTION REMINDER
Thank you to everyone who has paid their contributions for 2013. This has made the purchase of consumables much easier this year. The final date for payments was August 9. I would appreciate any outstanding contributions to be paid up by no later than September 2. If there are any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on 9747 3355.

EARN AND LEARN
Thank you to all the students and staff who brought in all their Earn and Learn stickers. We were fortunate enough to collect 13650 points. This will allow the school to purchase some resources. The school will be participating in the campaign in 2014 so you will be hearing more about it next year!

Rosemary Patonay, Head Teacher TAS

BEP NEWS
BEP has had a busy term with plenty of jobs. Our special thanks to all students who willingly gave their time at weekends and evenings to perform at these special events.
- Sandakan – SCB, singers, readers and bugler. Proud of you all! A job well done.
- Rotary Dinner – SCB made a very entertaining evening. We also received a substantial cheque from Rotary to go towards our purchase of a new tuba.
- Our Brass Ensemble played at the overseas student visits to our school. Also a special performance at the Wyndham Awards Medal Presentation Dinner. Thank you all for a great effort. Special thanks to their conductor, Elina Suuronen.

“BIG NIGHT OUT!” 28 August 2013
A special date to remember – Wednesday 28 August (see poster on last page). It will be our official farewell to Diana Springford, our Director, who is leaving Burwood GHS to take up a teaching position at another school.

Please join us for this special evening. Tickets on sale from Mrs Browne (Music area) – Adults $10, Students $5.

Other Upcoming Events
- 21 August, 9:45 am, Stage Band & Brass Ensemble workshop with Navy Band and concert for all BEP members and music elective students.
- 18 September, Yr.12 Farewell Assembly – SCB
- 19 September, Yr.12 Graduation Evening – SCB
- 18–20 September, Concert Band Tour to Forster. All notes and information has been sent out. Everything looking good for a great tour.

Elaine Browne, Head Administrator, BEP

Special Farewell to Diana from your admin staff
Sorry you are leaving but we wish you well in your new venture. We enjoyed our three years together – it has been great working with you. Please keep in touch or drop in for coffee.

Love and best wishes, Elaine, Sue and Anne.

From Diana – The Ex-Director
Week 6 is my final week at Burwood Girls. I am so sad to be leaving!

I have been a clarinet teacher here for over 15 years, and Director of the Ensemble Program for three and a half. There are many reasons I’ve stayed here for so long, but mostly because I love the autonomy, vivacity and commitment of the girls here, the enthusiasm and support of the parents for all our varied musical projects, the gorgeous BEP team and our BGHS teachers/administrators/GAs who together have taught me how the best things work by the collaboration and sharing of very different people. Thank you all for all that I’ve learned and enjoyed about Burwood Girls and our Ensemble Program! I hope I’ll be invited back to the 2014 Big Night Out.

P&C MEETING, WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST
The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 August in the Library at 7:15 pm. There will be a short talk on “What is Asia Literacy?” by Wendy Gray, HT Languages, Mia Kumar, Principal and Karyn O’Brien, Deputy Principal. Light refreshments available at 7:00 pm. All parents welcome – we would love to see more dads!

Alice Magoffin, P&C President

Minutes of previous meetings are available on the school’s website along with information about the P&C:

Updates on Grounds Beautification Project:
http://web3.burwoodg-
h.schools.nsw.edu.au/ourschool/p/school-projects

P&C UNIFORM SHOP
Attention students who are going into Year 11 in 2014!
Come down to the Uniform Shop and place your order for your senior uniform. The following specials are only for orders placed this term and must be picked up in Week 1 of Term 4 – deposit needed.
1. Blazer + senior skirt + senior shirt = $190 special Term 3
   (normal total $235 – save $45!)
2. Senior skirt + senior shirt = $70 special Term 3
   (normal total $85 – save $15!)

Year 10 may wear senior uniform from beginning Term 4.

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. For all enquiries, please call the school on 9747 3355.  

_Elaine Browne, Manager, P&C Uniform Shop_

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**CAREERS**

**UNIVERSITY NEXT YEAR**

The roll-out of UAC (Universities Admissions Centre) Guides will be completed this week for all Year 12.

**Local/Domestic Students:** I will conduct a seminar of the University Selection Process and Strategy in the Hall, Period 1, on Tuesday 27 August for all Year 12 (compulsory attendance) including International students. This will go for the whole period, and I will be available for questions during the long recess afterwards.

**International Students:** As the university selection process for International students is somewhat different to that for local students I will conduct an additional seminar in Room 47 at the beginning of Lunch 1 on Thursday 5 September. I will also discuss scholarships during this talk.

**All talks at beginning of Lunch 1 in Room 47 (for Year 12):**
- **UNSW Co-op Scholarships** (in a range of courses): **Thursday 22 August**.
- **Australian Catholic University** (wide range of course including a new Law degree): **Friday 23 August**.
- **University of Notre Dame** (wide range of courses including Law and postgraduate Medicine, but many are more expensive than UAC universities, however you can get FEE Help). Courses that are the same costs as other universities (CSPs) include education and nursing, so I would especially advise students to also apply to Notre Dame if interested in these areas. This is an additional application to UAC, so you may get two offers simultaneously. Postgraduate Medicine is a CSP course so the fees are similar to other universities: an interesting pathway: **Friday 30 August**.

**Interested in Commercial Cookery Apprenticeships or any hospitality jobs:**
- **Years 10,11,12** – The Hospitality Training Network (HTN) will give a talk on Wednesday 28 August on the many opportunities they have.
- **Years 10,11,12** – Australian Business Academy has a range of Diploma courses that can be a pathway to university courses. Fees apply.

**YEAR 10**

Students wishing to do **TVET next year** need to lodge their applications with me by **Wednesday 21 August 2013**.

Remember you will still have to do 12 units at school. My advice is if you wish to obtain an ATAR then all the subjects you select at school and TAFE should be ATAR eligible.  

_John Hegedus, Careers Adviser_

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**IMPORTANT STUDENT MEDICAL FORMS**

**Update for Years 7 to 11**

The Department of Education requires all schools to update their medical records systems to ensure the most up-to-date information on all students’ health.

Please download and print these forms from the school website (on “Year” page, eg “Year 7”). You will need to fill them out and return them to the front office by the end of August 2013.

_http://web3.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au_

The new forms will help us collect your daughter’s important medical information and the introduction of new systems will mean better management of the daily and emergency health needs of your daughter. If you have any questions please call the front office on 9747 3355.

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**COMMUNITY NOTICE**

**HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT**

In January 2014 students from over 20 countries around the world, will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 2-10 months. Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today. To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student
Burwood Girls High School presents

“BIG NIGHT OUT”

An evening of fabulous entertainment, dining and dancing!

Please join us as we say ‘farewell’ to our Director, Diana Springford, and make it a night to remember!

Performances donated by our professional tutors. Also featuring all our instrumental ensembles, rock bands & the Musettes led by Patricia Amphlett.

28 August 2013
7pm, School Hall

BBQ on sale 5pm - 6:30pm. Tea/coffee, cakes also on sale. BYO drinks/nibbles.

Tickets $10 Adult, $5 Student
All proceeds to the Band Program. Buy a single ticket or reserve a table of 4 or 10.

Tickets/Enquiries: 9747 3355