



# CONTACT

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## IMPORTANT DATES

6 <sup>th</sup> December, 2012	Enrolment/Orientation Day for New Year 10 commencing 9.00am
7 <sup>th</sup> December, 2012	Enrolment/Orientation Day for New Year 11 commencing 9.00am
10 <sup>th</sup> December, 2012	Enrolment/Orientation Day for New Year 5-9 commencing 9.00am
19 <sup>th</sup> December, 2012	Awards Night Y10 - 12
21 <sup>st</sup> December, 2012	<b>Last Day Term 4</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2013	Year 10 and 11 students commence Term 1, 2013
1 <sup>st</sup> February, 2013	Year 12 students commence Term 1, 2013

***For more information on anything in this newsletter please visit the new website at [www.bhssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.bhssc.vic.edu.au) ! Also, download the calendar if you want to have a handy reference about events.***

### **Principal's report**

As you are aware during 2012 there has been an ongoing industrial dispute between the State government and the Australian Education Union over a new enterprise agreement for Victorian schools. During the course of the year this ongoing dispute has resulted in stop work action and work place bans. As part of this industrial campaign the College has been notified that the Australian Education Union has imposed a ban on the provision of any written or numerical assessment data on end of year student reports by AEU members. Please note that the reporting of VELS progression points and satisfactory/unsatisfactory for VCE and VET are still included in the reports.

This ban will not affect the submission of results to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) for Unit 3 and 4 subjects. At the year 12 level there are no formal end of year reports. Instead students are issued VCE certificates by VCAA and the College writes formal references for each year 12 student. The AEU report bans will not extend to the completion of these references.

Box Hill Senior Secondary College has a very clear and comprehensive student reporting policy and the expectation is that teachers will report on student achievement in accordance with College policy. However, those teachers who choose to participate in the industrial action and provide less assessment detail than the College would normally require, are participating in protected industrial action provided the teacher is a member of the AEU.

For this reason you may find some reports will contain numerical assessment details and written comments. These reports have been completed by teachers who are not protected by the industrial action.

I certainly understand the inconvenience and parental concerns associated with this work place ban on reports. While all students will receive reports indicating their progress, there will not be the comprehensive assessment information usually provided in reports by those staff involved in the protected industrial action.

My hope is that both sides to this industrial action work more productively to ensure there is an immediate resolution to the dispute and a new enterprise agreement is reached before the start of the 2013 academic year.

On behalf of College Council and the teaching and Educational Support staff at the College, I wish students and parents a very safe and happy Christmas. For those returning to the College I look forward to working with you again in 2013. For those who are now exiting the College I trust that your chosen pathway is both productive and successful.

Steve Cook  
Principal

### **Compass is coming to BHSSC in 2013!**

Box Hill Senior Secondary School will be introducing a community portal called 'Compass' from the commencement of 2013. This will become an important means of communication between the college and home. Parents will be able to login to Compass via Quick links which will be located on the updated college website ([www.bhssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.bhssc.vic.edu.au)).

Each family listed in the school administration database will have a unique login for Compass – this will be sent to families at the commencement of the 2013 school year.

Compass provides the school community with a range of facilities which will streamline communication and provide enhanced access to information. It will also improve many of the school's administration processes.

#### Parent role:

Parents will play an important role in this initiative. It will be essential that parents log in via the link on the college website at least once a fortnight to access the news feed. It is also essential that parents monitor their son/daughter's attendance and approve absences to ensure that the college attendance requirements are met.

#### Parent Information nights

Compass is intended to be self-explanatory and easy to use. The Compass portal will be demonstrated at the Parent Information nights to be held in early 2013. Once these evenings have been held, please contact the school if you require further assistance.

There are a number of parent modules available in Compass and the school will be introducing these over the next twelve months. The various modules and a timeline for their introduction are detailed below.

### **2013**

#### **Terms 1 - 2**

1. **Email address and mobile phone number** - update your details through the portal. The details listed will be used to send emails and SMS alerts.
2. **News Feed** – the school will post news to parents to remind you about events and activities at the school. Your news feed will be customised, showing only the information relevant to you and your children.
3. **Attendance** - view your child's attendance online, approve absences, and indicate future absence.
4. **Reports** – commencing from the first GPA in Term 1, view your child's report as an electronic PDF file. Accordingly, the school will transition to no longer printing paper-based reports. This will also include end of semester reports.
5. **Parent/Student/Teacher interviews** - make appointments with teachers.
6. **Excursions** – approve your child's participation in excursions and other special events. You will also be able to pay for these online.

### **2013**

#### **Term 3 - 4**

1. **Newsletter** – the newsletter will be published on Compass and parents will be able to login to view it each month.
2. **Teacher email** – parents can email their child's teachers directly.
3. **Course Confirmation** – confirm your child's subjects, and make school fee payment, for the following year.

## Student Diaries

After extensive surveys **of our students** it has been decided not to publish a Box Hill Senior Secondary College student diary in 2013.

Many students prefer to use their mobile phones and Netbooks and there are excellent Apps such as myHomework that can be downloaded for free.

The VCE/VET Handbook which outlines the VCAA rules and regulations is published electronically and emailed to students undertaking a VCE subject early each year.

The college will also continue to publish a Handbook for Year 10 parents, which is distributed at the Year 10 Information evening early in the year.

Fiona Erwich  
Assistant Principal (Information Resources)

## **Royal Command Performance**

Congratulations to Year 11 Music student Odette Grummisch who performed for Prince Charles and Lady Camilla at the Victorian College of the Arts on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November. The performance was given by selected students who had performed

in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular.

Odette had a lead singing role in the Spectacular which did two sold out shows at Hisense arena on September 8<sup>th</sup> and was televised on channel 7 on October 14.



## **Other Music News**

Students from BHSSC have been chosen to perform at the upcoming Victorian Instrumental Music Teachers Conference. Kelsey Barkla, Nick Sinis, Ryan Cara, Keagan Callen and Ruby Moxey-Fithall will work in their group under Aria hall of fame inductee Bob Spencer (Skyhooks, Angels etc). The workshop aims to demonstrate how a rock group rehearsal can be run.



## **Year 10 Foods students 'Taste the World'**



As part of a unit of work on International Foods the Year 10 Foods students researched foods and culture from a country they selected. They then prepared a dish from their chosen culture. All of the foods were then shared and enjoyed the following lesson.



## Year 10 Advocacy Cup

The “Advocacy Cup” was an opportunity to celebrate the year with the year 10's. It consisted of a series of sports including tunnel ball, egg and spoon race, three legged race and tug of war. After all the activities, results were tallied and 1G emerged victorious and was awarded the advocacy cup at the end of year assembly. As the day was a great success the event will be run annually in future.

