



## CONTACT NEWSLETTER

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February – No 1 – 2012

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### IMPORTANT DATES

February 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Year 10 NetBook distribution
February 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Photos
February 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Yr10 Information Night – 7.30pm in the Hall
February 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2012	School Council
February 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2012	VCE Information Night – 7.00pm in the Hall
February 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Y11 Outdoor Ed to Belgrave
March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Y12 Outdoor Ed - Phillip Island (Group A)
March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Y12 Outdoor Ed - Phillip Island (Group A)
March 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	<b>Public Holiday – Labour Day</b>
March 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Y12 Outdoor Ed - Phillip Island (Group B)
March 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Y12 Outdoor Ed - Phillip Island (Group B)
March 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2012	Unit 3 Chemistry to Victorian Space Science Centre
March 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	School Council
March 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	Student/Parent Conference (Parent/teacher night)
March 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	End Term 1

### ***Study Tip No. 1 – Use lots of colour!***

*As colour is processed in the part of the brain that stores long term memory, using colour in your note – taking and study will increase your ability to remember and recall information.*

### **Communicating by email**

Thank you to all those parents who have provided their email address assisting us to provide faster and more efficient communication and accessing of information on our website.

All email addresses provided to the College have been entered on our database, therefore you should have already received the link to this document in your mailbox. **If you have not received the link to your email address**, please send an email from your correct email address to [ghurren@bhssc.vic.edu.au](mailto:ghurren@bhssc.vic.edu.au) and your records will be amended.

It is important to remember to contact the College if you change your ISP (Internet Service Provider) which will change your email address.

We operate a system whereby we notify parents by e-mail about progress reports, upcoming events, messages, reminders, newsletters etc. Please refer to our website for further information.

The College requests that all parents who have access to e-mail make use of this system.

## RollCall (should be available to access on 15/2/2012)

Instructions on how to access RollCall are on the second last page of this Contact newsletter. **All families (ie all families returning from 2011 and new in 2012), will need to set up a username and password** according to the instructions provided. Your current access will not be accepted.

### Principal's report

**"I can accept failure. Everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying."- Michael Jordan**

Welcome to all members of the Box Hill Senior Secondary College community. I welcome back all previous students and their families and extend a special welcome to those who are joining our school for the first time in 2012.

As Principal it is my expectation that all students will strive to achieve their personal best throughout the year. One of the key features of this college is that we provide students with varied pathways for life after secondary school. Students come into the college to follow different VCE pathway options such as entry into University and TAFE, the USA college system on sporting scholarships or into key apprenticeship areas.

Whatever the post secondary pathway a student aims to undertake, they must be prepared to accept the workload and responsibility that goes with being a senior student. There is no shortcut for success at VCE. It is imperative that students follow the rules and advice of classroom teachers and coordinators. With the support of parents at home and staff at school, all students are capable of achieving a realistic and sustainable post VCE pathway.

In a senior school context, the above quote from the legendary basketball star Michael Jordan is very pertinent for all our students. If you are passionate about what you want to achieve this year and you do not allow yourself to be distracted by obstacles that might be put in your way, you can and will achieve success. If you are prepared to work as hard as you can in fulfilling your pathway, you are less likely to surrender your goals when things get a little hard or tough. Not giving your full commitment to your studies this year is unacceptable.

One of the new wellbeing / pastoral care initiatives that we are introducing this year to help support students achieve personal success, is the ADVOCACY program. Please read the information provided by Amy Pascoe, who is the Assistant Director of Student Management (Advocacy and Wellbeing) and is coordinating the program. Feel free to ring Amy if you would like any further information about ADVOCACY.

### **India trip – Student Expression of Interest**

In November 2011, I accepted an invitation from the Neerja Modi School in Jaipur, Northern India to visit their school and take part in a cultural awareness program. The purpose of my visit was to set up an educational partnership that would allow students and staff from both schools to travel to either India or Australia as part of an educational and cultural exchange program.

The Neerja Modi School have indicated that they would like to visit Australia in 2013. For our students however, there is an opportunity to take part in the first Box Hill Senior tour of India in late November of this year.

Students will travel with two members of staff. The tour will provide our students with the opportunity to work alongside their student counterparts at the Neerja Modi School, to also work with the disadvantaged girls of Nischay (which is a special campus of the school) and then spend time travelling to a number of places of cultural significance such as the Taj Mahal, the Red Fort, the town of Pushkar, taking part in camel riding in the Pushkar sand dunes and visiting the Tiger National park in Ranthambore.

Accommodation and meals are provided at the Neerja Modi School's halls of residence. Travel around India will be by private bus and students will stay in excellent hotels when they are touring places of cultural significance.

I am therefore looking for expressions of interest from any student who would like to be part of this 10 day cultural exchange program to India once the end of year exams have been completed in late November. At this stage I am hoping to keep the cost of the tour to around \$3000 - \$3500. This cost will be split between:

- Airfares – about \$2000 - \$2500
- Meals, accommodation, bus travel – about \$800 –\$1000

If any student is interested in being part of the tour then I would ask that you send me an Expression of Interest via my email address.

For any queries concerning this trip or any other matter pertaining to the education of your child at this College, please contact me at the following email address:

**scook@bhssc.vic.edu.au**

## **College Council Elections**

As per DEECD regulations we are required to form a new college council at the end of this term. The following Council members complete their parent representation tenure in March, 2012:

- Mandy Burns
- Dawn Vanderhorst
- Louise Phillips

Parent members Andrew Simons and Chris Ramsay, will serve another year.

Please read the information about the college council elections process in the following pages of this newsletter. I look forward to having two new parent representatives to work with on Council during 2012 and 2013.

**Steve Cook**  
**Principal**

### *College Council Elections 2012/13*

#### ***What is a college council and what does it do?***

All government schools in Victoria have a council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a college within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a council is able to directly influence the quality of education that is provided for students.

#### ***Who is on the council?***

There are three possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's college as long as they are not employed at the college.

**A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of council. As Principal of Box Hill Senior Secondary College I am automatically one of these members.

**An optional Community member category.** These members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members. During 2011 we had two parents who served as community members.

The term of office for all council members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for an annual college council election.

The retiring parent members from 2010/11 are Mandy Burns, Dawn Vanderhorst and Louise Phillips. Current parent members Andrew Simons and Chris Ramsay will continue until March 2013.

#### ***Why is Parent membership so important?***

Parents on college councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the college. Those parents who become active on council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging to the college.

#### ***How can you become involved?***

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

#### ***Do I need special experience to be on school council?***

No. What you do need is an interest in this college and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the college's future.

### ***What do you need to do to stand for election?***

As Principal of Box Hill Senior Secondary College I am formally calling for nominations for two parent members to serve on the college council until March 2014. If there are more than the three required nominations a council election will be completed before the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can simply nominate yourself in the Parent category. A self nomination form is contained in this newsletter. DEECD employees who have a child/ren enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the Box Hill Senior Secondary School Council.

### **The closing date for nominations is Monday March 5, 2012.**

Once the nomination form is completed, please return it to me within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail upon receiving your completed nomination.

### ***Remember***

- Please contact me for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Be sure to vote in the election if required.

I look forward to working with the elected parent representatives over the next two years.

**Steve Cook**  
**Principal**

### **Box Hill Senior Secondary College 2012 College Council Elections**

The timeline for the election process is as follows:

#### **Monday March 5 - Nominations Close**

##### **If no election required**

Tuesday March 27 - new Council  
and AGM

##### **If election required**

Wednesday March 7 - distribute ballots  
Friday March 16 - ballot closes  
Tuesday March 20 - declare poll results  
Tuesday March 27 - new Council meets / AGM

**Nomination forms for Parent Representatives are available in this newsletter or from the General Office.**

### **College Charges**

Invoicing of families for 2012 fees and charges is currently being finalised and statements will be sent out to families in late February or early March. However families should note that if an agreed payment plan is **not** in place:-

- Elective fees are now due
- Instrumental music lesson fees – the first instalment was due on 10/2/12
- Sport Development Programs – the first instalment was due on 10/2/12

Many families have an agreed payment plan in place and if these plans are being managed by College staff, payments will be processed on the dates agreed. Please ensure that the information we use to process your payments is kept up to date and if there is a change in your credit card details, please advise staff in the College office of this change as soon as possible.

Payments can be made to the College by cash, cheque, credit card or BPAY (details available upon request).

If you have any queries regarding the College fees and/or are experiencing difficulties in making payments, please contact Karen Leeder (Acting Business Manager) on 98951101 or email. [kleeder@bhssc.vic.edu.au](mailto:kleeder@bhssc.vic.edu.au).

### **Dates to Remember:**

16 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	Sports Program	2 <sup>nd</sup> Instalment
27 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Sports Program	3 <sup>rd</sup> Instalment (Final Instalment Football)
10 <sup>th</sup> August 2012	Sports Program	4 <sup>th</sup> Instalment

### **Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to low-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card or are a foster parent you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is split evenly between the parent and the school and is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

Application forms are available from the College office and the application form must be lodged at the school by:

**29 February 2012** for the first instalment or  
**3 August 2012** for the second instalment.

Late applications cannot be processed.

More information on EMA is available at the end of this newsletter and/or on the DEECD website.

## Science News

### The Science Experience at Monash University

By Jaimee Barreiro

The Science Experience, (or TSE) is a science holiday program run throughout the January holidays. It is aimed at students who have just completed year nine or ten and have a passion for science. Jordan Stewart and I were sponsored to attend by the Rotary Club.

The Monash University program was run by the Young Scientists of Australia (or YSA) and ran over three days. During the program, I, along with 80 other students took part in a range of activities, scientific experiments, tours of different science faculties and we were also privileged enough to hear several lectures by the Monash faculty professors.

Some of the activities included driving in a car simulator, taking part in chemistry experiments, finding and analysing the DNA of insects and identifying and analysing different geological minerals. The highlight of TSE, for me, was the tour of the Anatomy Museum where we could view different anatomical parts of human bodies!

TSE was a fantastic experience where I broadened my knowledge about science, was able to experience a bit of university and also where I made many friends. I was very sad for the program to end, although I was able to join the Young Scientists of Australia youth group, where I will have the chance to remain in contact with and interact with other likeminded students.

## Applied Learning News

Year 12 Students enrolled in the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning have begun the Jamie Oliver Home Cooking Skills Program. Jamie has designed the program to give Australian students the basic skills and knowledge to be able to cook for themselves in a healthy and cost-effective way for the rest of their lives, and the confidence to share these skills with friends and family. The students will also be setting up and running an online virtual business called Healthy, Wealthy and Wise. It is a simulated business environment designed to train and equip students with real life employability skills. Students run and work in the virtual enterprise company trading with other virtual enterprises locally, nationally and internationally if desired. Students will be supported by our Mentor Heath Fitzgerald, a McDonalds Licensee. We appreciate his support and look forward to working with him.

Catherine Manning  
VCAL Coordinator

## Student Leadership at BHSSC

BHSSC embraces Student Leadership. Student Leaders not only represent themselves in a variety of school and community forums, they represent the entire school body. They are expected to emulate school rules, lead by example and initiate activities with passion and energy that will inspire fellow students and the College Community. The duties of student leaders include speaking at assemblies, actively participating in School events and engaging in community volunteering. Student leaders must be able to manage their studies and extra-curricular activities as well as their responsibility as a leader.



The Student Leadership Program encourages students to be involved in their College Community, to initiate events and activities of interest to them, and to the benefit of the College. Students, who can do this, will not only be leaders, they will go on to motivate others for many years to come, in line with our College focus – Learning to make a Life, Learning to make a Living, Learning to make a Difference.

A range of Student Leadership positions are available at BHSSC in 2012. In the coming weeks students will be informed of a variety of ways they can be involved in the BHSSC Student Leadership Program. I encourage all students to consider roles of Student Leadership, and look forward to assisting students achieve maximum potential in all initiatives and Leadership Programs.

For more information, please contact me at the College on [mclark@bhssc.vic.edu.au](mailto:mclark@bhssc.vic.edu.au), or 9890 0571.

**Michelle Clark**  
**Box Hill Senior Secondary College**  
**Yr 12 Student Management Team**  
**Performing Arts Faculty**  
**(03) 9895 1102**

Students interested in the month-long **BHSSC World Challenge Borneo Expedition** in November of this year are encouraged to see Michelle Clark in Student Services for more information.



## **Sport**

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate some teams and people for their wonderful efforts at the end of last year.

- The college won the inaugural **Tennis Australia “Tennis School of the Year Award”**. Congratulations to Liz Peers and her staff for their wonderful efforts.
- The senior boys and girls basketball won **silver medals** at the **National basketball tournament** in Bendigo. Again, congratulations to Natasha Main and Kevin Goorjian for their efforts in achieving this wonderful result.

### ***SSV Competition***

This year we look forward to some strong competitions from other colleges throughout the state. A new innovation for **basketball will be the introduction of the Premier League**. Top basketball schools in the State Schools Victoria (SSV) competition will play each other and this will result in a far better standard for all schools.

BHSSC senior boys' football will again continue in the Premier League after its inaugural year last year.

There are many sports in the SSV competition. Everyone in the school may compete. Interested students should see Steve Kennedy if interested.

### **Physiotherapists available to Sport students**

Once again Bounce physiotherapists will be in attendance at the school on Tuesday mornings from 9.00am. It is important that students from basketball and football programs book in with the booking sheet outside the PE office. Due to testing etc this service will operate from Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. Tennis students will need to book in at MYSC.

### **2012 Basketball USA trip**

All senior basketball students have received notification for an important information night on the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb regarding the USA trip later in the year. Could all students return their forms to the basketball office as soon as possible. Hope to see you there at 7.30pm in the Hall.

Finally, all students in the sports program will be doing fitness testing and screening. The dates begin on the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb and students should ensure that they wear correct gear and footwear. Please see attached flyer for more detail.

Myles Ashton  
Director of Sport Development



# **FITNESS TESTING: Sport students**

- All sports students need to perform their fitness tests during the week of February 20 to 24.
- Injured players are expected to attend even if they can't do all the tests, as all athletes will also complete a physiotherapy screening procedure while the fitness tests are being conducted.
- All athletes are expected to be wearing appropriate clothing and footwear for each test.
- **You need to arrive at the time scheduled below to allow adequate time to warm up prior to the tests starting.**

## **MONDAY FEBRUARY 20**

9.00am: Year 9 Boys Basketball

10.30am: Year 10 Boys Basketball

11.50am: Year 9 & 10 Girls Basketball & Grade 5-7 Tennis

## **TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21**

8.30am: Senior & Year 10 Boys Football

## **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22**

8.30am: Year 8 to 12 Tennis

10.30am: Senior Girls Basketball & Football

## **THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23**

9.00am: Senior Boys Basketball A & B squads



## Wellbeing Section February 2012

### Dad's matter – Reach out for Dad's

The “Reach Out 4 Dads Program” is for fathers who want to improve their skill in parenting. Some of the topics we cover in the course are:

- \_ Why Dads Matter
- \_ How You Want Your Family To Look
- \_ Communication And Closeness
- \_ Dealing With Stress And Anger

When: Starting Thursday 16th February 2012

Where: At ROK 8-10 Silver Grove Nunawading (Melways 48 E10).

Time: 7.00 to 9.00pm

Cost: \$60, Concession \$30 (negotiable)

Parking: Ample free

Facilitated by John, parent and grandad, who works in various roles with men, including Mensline Australia, and Ingrid Crosser: parent, grandmother, counsellor, with 32 years experience as parent educator and Parent Resource Worker with Parentzone for 12 years.

Places Limited

Bookings Essential - Phone Ingrid on 9721 3643

Offered by Parentzone/Reach Out For Kids, 9721 3646 - ([www.anglicarevic.org.au](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au))

### Are you worried about your teens alcohol/drug use?

Do you wonder what you can do about it?

Wondering how to maintain boundaries whilst encouraging independence?

How to keep them safe ?

Do you want to keep a connection with them?

Come and join us for a chat around the everyday highs and lows of parenting.



Who: Dads, mums & carers of young people under 18

When: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Where: Anglicare, 666 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater

Cost: Free (bookings essential)

Contact: Helena on 9721 3688 or 0488 550 490





**BOX HILL SENIOR SECONDARY COLLEGE**

[www.bhssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.bhssc.vic.edu.au)

email: [box.hill.senior.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:box.hill.senior.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**ATTENDANCE AND PROGRESS REPORTING SYSTEM 2011**

To Parents

It is an expectation that all parents/guardians will access the College Electronic Attendance and Progress Reporting System and your email address is vital for all college electronic communication e.g. College newsletter, notices, daily attendance, progress reports and other information.

**\*All new families** who received this notice via email sent in December will note changes.

**\*Current families** - We are updating our system which will require changes to your username & password - Please follow steps below.

**Rollcall Access:**

The following information is to advise you of your Username & Password and how to access the system. (Students will be aware of their College ID as soon as they commence in 2011)

1. Logon to the college website [www.bhssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.bhssc.vic.edu.au)
2. Click on the **LINKS** button
3. Click on the **ROLLCALL** link
4. Enter your codes (steps 5 & 6)
5. Username: **Your son or daughter's College ID** (e.g. ABC0000)
6. Password: **Your son or daughter's first name** (e.g. benjamin) all lowercase no space
7. Click **LOGIN**
8. Click **NO** to 'remember this password'
9. **PASSWORD CONFIRM** screen
10. At this point you will be asked to change your password. This guarantees your privacy (please keep it short & simple). We recommend that this be done immediately
11. Click **ENTER** on the warning page
12. Click **STUDENT ENQUIRY** (left hand column)
13. Full student name & code will appear in box, top left of screen. Timetable and progress reports are there for your information.

**\*Any changes to email addresses please contact the College ASAP**

**\*Please include your son or daughter's name on any communication**

Any problems please do not hesitate to contact the College.

**Box Hill Senior Secondary College**  
**Dunloe Avenue, Mont Albert North 3129**  
**Tel: 9890 0571**  
**Fax: 9899 4093**

# Box Hill Senior Secondary College Council Elections Self-Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

(The closing date for nominations is Monday March 5, 2012.)

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Box Hill Senior Secondary College Council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

**Name**.....

**Residential address** .....  
.....

**Home phone:** ..... **Business phone:**  
.....

**Email:** .....

I am the parent/guardian of ....., who is/are currently enrolled at this college.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development:  
**Yes / No** (please circle)

**Signature of Candidate:** .....

**Date:** .....

You will be notified by mail when your nomination has been received.

**Steve Cook**  
**Principal**