

BSHS Newsletter – Term 1 - Issue 1 – 2019

From the Principal

I am pleased to welcome staff, students and their families to the 2019 school year at Bunbury High and give a special welcome to anyone who is new to the school. The year is now well under way and I am pleased to report that we have had a smooth start and the new Year 7 group has settled in well. We are extremely proud of the 2018 Year 12 group who saw the school placed at number 38 in the state for ATAR performance. We were ranked as the top public school and second top school, outside the metropolitan area. This was an amazing result and a reflection on a talented group of Year 12s, excellent teachers, outstanding parent support and a great school. All those who contributed to this result should be very proud of their work.

I also keep the result in perspective and I am fully aware that it is based on measuring the performance of a small percentage of the school population over one academic year. In addition to the ATAR group who achieved outstanding results I also commend those young people who achieved VET Certificates, School Based Traineeships and/or had tremendous successes in their respective workplaces.

Two significant changes in 2019 have impacted positively in the school. The bring your own device (BYOD) model has seen up to 93% of students in some year groups participate in the program and undoubtedly an increase in the use of technology in the classroom.

The removal of Home Room has also resulted in some positive outcomes, one being the number of students now arriving at their first class on time. There may still be some minor teething problems, but I am confident that once students are used to the new system, this will not be an issue.

Again, I welcome all new families and encourage you to be a part of your child's school throughout the year. You can do this in a number of ways including attending P&C meetings, applying to be on the School Board, helping out in the canteen and keeping in touch with your child's educational program by accessing Connect and maintaining a line of communication with teachers.

I wish you all the very best for the year ahead.

Mr Craige Pettit, Principal

ADMINISTRATION

2019 Financial and General Information

The 2019 Financial and General Information for Parents can be found at the following link on our website. [2019 Financial and General Information for Parents.](#)

The booklet outlines the costs associated with sending your child to Bunbury SHS. We have continued our commitment to keep costs to a minimum while maintaining an interesting and engaging curriculum. All costs outlined in the booklet have been endorsed by the School Board in accordance with the Education Act 1999.

Itemised invoices will be posted out in Week 5 once subject selections have been finalised. We encourage early payment and accept various forms of payment detailed below.

Payment Options:

Payment can be made at school administration between 8.00am and 4.00pm during school terms by:

- Cash or cheque

- EFTPOS
- Credit card - in person or by telephone – **9781-2500**
- Direct deposit to the school bank account – **BSB: 016 560** **Account #: 3408 25826**

If you wish to discuss alternative payment options or set up a payment plan, please contact the Accounts Officer on 9781 2500.

[2019 Secondary Assistance \(SAS\) Application Form](#) - The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold a Department of Human Services (Centrelink) or Veterans' Affairs card that represents a statement of income for the family. Forms need to be submitted by **Friday 12 April 2019**.

The allowance consists of two components:

- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school.
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.

Mrs Sue Gledhill, Manager Corporate Services

OLNA

Some students in Years 10, 11 and 12 will be required to sit the OLNA commencing in Week 5 through until the end of Week 6. OLNA stands for the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment. In order to demonstrate the required literacy and numeracy standards for the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE), some students are expected to sit this assessment. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) awards the WACE at the end of Year 12 to students who have met all the requirements. You can find more about the requirements on the Authority website at www.scsa.wa.edu.au. Students who are required to sit OLNA will be advised and a schedule provided. Catch up sessions will also be made available should a student be absent on day of their scheduled testing. Students will have the opportunity of practice sessions in Week 5.

Mrs Kylie Ward, Manager Education Services

Connect MarksBooks

Connect is the Department of Education's online communication and learning platform, allowing teachers and administrative staff to communicate electronically with students and parents. Through Connect, students and parents can see a range of information relating to each student's classes in a secure environment. In Week 1 of this term, parents who were new to the school, or who had not previously registered with Connect, were emailed their Connect login details (a 'P' number and password).

Connect can be accessed at <http://connect.det.wa.edu.au> or by using the link on the Bunbury Senior High School website.

A key feature of Connect is the availability of each teacher's Assessment Outline (Marksbook). Students can access this via their 'My Connect' tab, and parents through their 'My Children' tab.

Using the Assessment Outlines feature, parents can view their child's individual task marks, comparative performance, and ongoing achievement across all subjects/courses in real time. Connect Assessment Outlines are the key mechanism through which teachers communicate each student's achievement to their parents. Correspondingly, parents with immediate concerns about their child's performance on an assessment task can contact teachers by phone or by using the email feature provided within Connect, rather than waiting for a Parent Night or a semester report.

If you have any problems accessing Connect, or you have lost, or failed to receive your Connect login information, please contact the school at bunbury.shs@education.wa.edu.au.

Marks and Grades

Following the distribution of Semester 2 student reports last year, I responded to a number of questions from parents concerning the relationship between a student's final mark for a subject and the grade that they had been allocated. In almost all cases, the confusion related to what happened 'in the old days' compared with what happens now.

Until fairly recently students were ranked according to their total mark at the conclusion of an assessment program (end of the semester or year) and were allocated grades strictly according to their mark. In most learning areas 75%+ equated to an A grade, 65%+ earned a B grade etc. Today, however, a student's grade is determined by comparing the quality of their total body of work for the semester/year with a range of reference materials provided by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

In lower school, these reference materials are called the Judging Standards (and Assessment Pointers) and, in senior school, the Grade Descriptions. Heads of Learning still rank students in this process and still apply cut-offs, however the cut-offs are determined by Judging Standards and Grade Descriptions, rather than a notional score (number). While the process used currently is clear to teachers and helps to ensure consistency of grading across schools, it can sometimes lead to confusion for parents when grades appear inconsistent with known cut-off scores from a by-gone era, such as when a mark of 82% is, for example, awarded a B grade. Hopefully this information helps to clarify why this might occur.

If you have questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Ian Lockhart, Vice Principal

LOWER SCHOOL

Year 7 & 8 Immunisation

In 2019, the school-based immunisation program is moving from Year 8 to Year 7. Students in both year groups will be offered the vaccines as part of this transition. From 2020 onward, the program will routinely be offered in Year 7 only.

Parents/guardians must read, sign and return the immunisation consent form provided by the school. The program is delivered in two visits across the school year.

If your child misses any vaccines offered at school, visit your GP, Aboriginal Medical Service or community immunisation clinic (consultation fees may apply).

Vaccines offered : Human papillomavirus (HPV) / Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)

IMMUNISATION SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

TERM 1

YEAR 7 Monday, 11 March (Week 6)

YEAR 8 Monday, 18 March (Week 7)

Mrs Kylie Ward, Manager Education Services

Between the Lines Excursion

Students who have secured a placement and paid for this excursion will need to assemble on the front lawn at 8.30am on Thursday 28 March, for an 8.40am departure.

Mr Mark Woodland, PC English

SENIOR SCHOOL

Parents as Partners for Year 11 students

Ms Anderson (ATAR) and Mr Walker (VET) invite parents and carers to attend an information session about senior school and how to support your teenager through their study program. This meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 March 6-7pm in the school Library.

Ms Kelly Anderson, Deputy Principal

Academic Support Program

Parents of Year 11 and Year 12 students please be advised that a letter was emailed to you regarding our Academic Support Program for this year. The program is focused on providing support to those students who need it. Queries regarding this program can be directed to Ms Anderson (ATAR) and Mr Walker (VET).

Ms Kelly Anderson, Deputy Principal

Country Week Speech and Debating

If your student is in Year 10-12 and would like to participate in Country Week as part of the Speech and Debating team, they will need to register their interest with Mr Woodland or Ms Fielder.

Mr Mark Woodland, PC English

ALL STUDENTS

Talented Young Writers' Programme

Students participate in 4 full day writing workshops with published Australian authors.

Young Writers' Day is for Year 7-8 students

Venue: Bunbury Senior High School Library

Dates: Friday 29 March, 21 June, 8 August, 24 October

Time: 8.30am to 2.30pm

Youth Literature Day is for Year 9-12 students

Venue: Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School Library

Dates: Thursday 28 March, 20 June, 7 August, 23 October

Time: 8.30am to 2.30pm

Expressions of interest close Friday 1 March 2019.

Mrs Tracey Malone, English Teacher

WADL Debating

If your student would like to participate in the 2019 WADL Debating Competition, they can register their interest with Mr Woodland.

Mr Mark Woodland, PC English

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

School Photo Day

All students will have their photograph taken on Monday, 25 February 2018, unless absent. Catch up day for absent students is Tuesday, 12 March. All students must return their envelope issued this week on photo day whether purchasing or not. Students must have a school polo shirt without any undershirt showing. Please remember that these photos are a formal record of attendance at this school and will be proudly added to the 100 past year groups of Bunbury SHS students.

Mrs Kylie Ward, Manager Education Services

Studiosity

FREE study help, anywhere. Get live help online in Maths, English, Science and more.

Year 10, 11 & 12 students have been given an activation card for Studiosity with instructions to activate your free account. If misplaced, a replacement card is available in Administration.

Studiosity is also available on mobile. This app can be downloaded from Apple App Store or Google Play. Download the app so you can:

Save a question for later

Snap & upload a photo of a problem

Get notifications and review your writing feedback

Use voice to text

Review past sessions

Mrs Kylie Ward, Manager Education Services

The Role of the School Nurse

Hello, I am Penny Thornton, your School Nurse at Bunbury Senior High School. I am an experienced Community Health Nurse and am skilled in assessing adolescent health needs. School Health nurses frequently engage in health counselling with young people to identify issues, risks and protective factors; provide advice; provide brief intervention; assist with access and referral to other services, and provide follow up care.

A recent survey (2018) of Community Health Nurses in WA secondary schools indicated that students present with a wide range of health issues. The ten most common issues are; anxiety, stress, depression or low mood, relationship problems, sexual health, sexuality, reproductive health, nutrition, lifestyle or health behaviours, and drug misuse. It is also common for Community Health Nurses to encounter young people who self-harm, who have considered or attempted suicide, and those seeking help for sexual assault and/or domestic violence.

The school health centre is a place where adolescents can drop in or make appointments to discuss physical & mental health and wellbeing issues. Young people may independently seek assistance from a Community Health Nurse, but can be referred by parents, teachers or student services teams.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH SERVICES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS?

- Access to health services for students, to address a range of health issues as mentioned above;
- Support for teachers to provide health education in the classroom, eg. sexual health, mental health, drugs and alcohol.
- Facilitation of (health-related) professional development for teachers, e.g. asthma or anaphylaxis;
- Student health and wellbeing programs, e.g. stress management, sexual health and relationships;
- Support for school health promotion initiatives such as anti-smoking or mental health programs;
- Assistance for school staff and parents to develop health care plans for students with special needs (eg chronic disease; physical disability or other complex health conditions);
- Assistance for school to establish systems to deal with injury and illness in the school community;
- Support with medical emergencies, if available. (Schools must have first aid plans which are independent of the Community Health Nurse, as they are often not on site.)

As a general rule Community Health Nurses;

- Do not provide first aid. (The school is responsible for this.)
- Do assist with serious injury or illness, eg. anaphylaxis, altered consciousness or trauma;
- Do not administer medication;
- Do not conduct invasive physical examinations;
- Do not conduct checks for head lice; or,
- Do not undertake long term counselling about psychological/ or educational problems.

I work Monday -Thursday and can be contacted by phoning the main school administration. I look forward to supporting our amazing youth here at Bunbury Senior High School.

Mrs Penny Thornton, School Nurse

Chaplain's Corner

I am a support person for students, staff and parents/carers. I work fulltime at Bunbury High and have an office in Student Services. Feel free to contact me if I can be a support or encouragement to you or your child.

I also have brochures for the Scripture Union (S.U.) Holiday Camps in April, and the Scripture Union Year 12 Leavers Camps in November if any students are interested.

Mr Deon Throne, Chaplain

House Point Application

Many students at Bunbury Senior High School are selected to represent their region, WA or Australia in various fields of endeavour, or they participate in significant competitions/events out of school. The school seeks to acknowledge these achievements within our House System through awarding of House Points.

The specific categories are as follows:

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION/RECOGNITION

Representing Australia in an International Competition.

STATE REPRESENTATION/RECOGNITION

Representing an organisation at a State competition.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION/RECOGNITION

Representing Western Australia at a National level.

OUT OF SCHOOL EVENT

Representing Western Australia at a National level.

Significant representation/participation in a non school organised competition/event.

In order to be awarded House Points, students can apply for recognition by completing and submitting an online form (available on our website). Please attach evidence to support your application. Points gained by students, contribute to the totals of their respective House.

The House Application is available on our website:

<https://www.bunburyshs.wa.edu.au/policies-publications.html>

COMMUNICATION

Correct Contact Details

It is important to keep the school updated with your current email address as student information is generally distributed in this format. Please notify the school if you have changed your email or wish to identify another email address as your preferred point of contact. We are also now on **Twitter** @BunburyShs

Social Media

Bunbury SHS Facebook Page. Join us on Facebook! We regularly update our page with notifications of school and community news & events. www.facebook.com/BunburySHS/

Parents of students in Specialist & GAT Programs, we now have a Facebook page for each of these programs:

- VASP - [Bunbury SHS VASP Program](#)
- BEST - [Bunbury SHS Best Program](#)
- GAT - [Bunbury SHS Gifted & Talented Program](#)

Student Achievement

We want to get to know our students and school community better and hear all about your life out of school. If you have been kicking goals out in the community - whether you've had sporting success, are volunteering somewhere fun, or have an interesting or unusual hobby we want to know about it. Email Kylie.Ward3@education.wa.edu.au and you might be featured on our Facebook page in the near future.

Mrs Kylie Ward, Manager Education Services

IMPORTANT DATES

25 February 2019	School Photo Day
25-26 February 2019	Year 7 Wellness Event – School Library
26 February 2019	Year 12 Meeting, Period 2
27 February 2019	Interschool Cricket
27-28 February 2019	Year 9 Wellness Event – School Library
28 February 2019	Board Meeting, 5pm
4 March 2019	Labour Day – Public Holiday
5 – 29 March 2019	OLNA Testing
5 March 2019	Year 11 Meeting, Period 2
6 March 2019	World Maths Day
7 March 2019	Interschool Cricket
9 March 2019	Year 12 School Ball
11-12 March 2019	Year 7 GAT Camp
11 March 2019	Year 7 Immunisation
12 March 2019	School Photo Catch up day
12 March 2019	Year 12 Meeting, Period 3
13 March 2019	Interschool Cricket
13 March 2019	Interschool Swimming Trials, Period 4 & 5
13 March 2019	Year 7/8 AIME excursion
13 March 2019	Criminology excursion (during class time)
13 March 2019	Student Filmmaking Masterclass ECU – Year 11 – GEMPA
13 - 14 March 2019	ATAR Visual Arts and VASP excursion
14 March 2019	Criminology Excursion in class time
15 March 2019	HASS Year 8 Market Day
15 March 2019	Senior School – Have Sum Fun Maths Competition, BCC
18 March 2019	Year 11 Meeting, Period 5
18 March 2019	Year 8 Immunisation
18 – 29 March	Year 12 Work placement