

BSHS Newsletter – Term 1 - Issue 3 – 2018

From the Principal

Those parents who had children at Bunbury High in 2017 will be aware of the changes made to reporting in Semester 2. Our school moved toward a generic comment and made changes to the categories in Attitude, Behaviour and Effort. In making the changes, there was a commitment that parents would receive early and regular information on their child's progress, in particular, when that progress was limited.

The feedback on the change has been very positive, and in this semester parents are regularly receiving updates through Connect and Department email. Management of notifications from Connect can be made easier by downloading the Connect Now App for both iOS and Android devices.

Connect Now will send you push notifications to your iOS and Android device or tablet. Simply tap on the notification and you will be taken directly to the Notice, Discussion or Submission message. You can respond immediately via the app, or use the Bookmark feature to revisit the notification at a more convenient time.

Electronic communication is fast and easy but I still encourage parents to make direct contact with a teacher when they have concerns about their child's progress.

I want to congratulate the students and staff for their commitment to the recent Athletics carnival. We picked the wettest day in March, but this did not deter the enthusiasm from students and the encouragement from the staff. Thank you to the Physical Education staff for their work before, during and after the carnival, and to everyone else who participated in some way. The winning house and age group champions will be recognised at the whole school assembly on 11 April.

NAPLAN will be on the agenda when we return in Term 2. This year students will complete the NAPLAN tests online and a significant amount of preparation has been undertaken to ensure the system operates smoothly. Tests will be conducted in the Library. The wi-fi access in this area has been improved so that it will cater for large numbers of students online at the one time.

Finally, I hope all students, staff and their families have a fantastic Easter break followed by a relaxing vacation period at the end of this first term.

Mr Craig Pettit, Principal

Administration

Contributions and Charges

Bunbury Senior High School is committed to keeping costs to a minimum, whilst maintaining an interesting and engaging curriculum that provides equitable access to all students.

Schools rely heavily on parents meeting their commitments in respect to these contributions and charges. Our capacity to continue to provide students with the consumables that enable us to present a quality curriculum is directly affected by your commitment to meeting these contributions

and charges. Some optional courses have a higher charge based on the cost of consumables for that course.

We understand the cost of schooling can be a burden for many families particularly at the beginning of the year. If you wish to discuss payment options or a payment plan please contact the Manager Corporate Services, Glenda Smith on 9781 2500.

Glenda Smith, Manager Corporate Services

2018 Secondary Assistance Scheme

The West Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. 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.

Application is made by the parent or guardian for students enrolled in Years 7-12 at a secondary school. To meet the eligibility criteria a parent or guardian must hold one of the following cards:

- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card

Please Note: the only Veterans' Affairs Card that meets the criteria is a blue card that is issued annually and expires in December each year. This card is income means tested.

The parent/guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid some time during first term. The only exception to this is when a student holds their own health care card and has been declared independent by Centrelink (eg: living away from home). In this instance, a letter of confirmation from Centrelink needs to accompany the application.

The allowance is paid up to and including the year the student turns 18 years of age. Applications are available from the school or from our website. Applications close 13 April, 2018.

Glenda Smith, Corporate Services Manager

Parent-Teacher Interview Afternoon

On Wednesday 11 April (Week 11), classes will finish at 1.00pm and students will be dismissed. Starting at 1.30pm (and concluding at 5.30pm), teachers will be available to meet with parents to discuss individual student progress. Students who are unable to make their way home at 1.00pm will be supervised at school until 3.00pm. The bus schedule will run as normal.

Details of how to access the online system to arrange interviews with your child's teachers were forwarded to each family last week and the booking system is currently open.

Parent-teacher interview sessions are an important component in how secondary schools report student achievement information to parents, therefore all parents are encouraged to be involved.

Mr Ian Lockhart, Vice Principal

School Arrangements for Parent-Teacher Afternoon

Due to the early closing arrangement for the Parent - Teacher afternoon on 11 April, time allocation to classes will be modified on that day. The school day will be organised as follows:

Home Room: 8.40 - 8.50
Period 1: 8.50 - 9.35
Period 2: 9.35 - 10.20
Period 3: 10.20 - 11.05
Recess: 11.05 - 11.25
Period 4: 11.30 - 12.15
Period 5: 12.15 - 1.00

Please note, the school canteen will be open before school and during the recess break (only).

Mr Ian Lockhart, Vice Principal

Assessment Policies

The school has recently revised the assessment policies for lower school (Years 7 - 10) and senior school (Years 11 and 12). The policies are consistent with recommendations to schools by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority. All parents are encouraged to consult the new policies, which can be found on the school website (<https://www.bunburyshs.wa.edu.au/>) under the Curriculum tab.

Areas from the policies that may be of particular interest to parents include the status of family holidays during the term, managing student absence when an assessment task is scheduled (or due to be submitted), and the selection of cut-off marks for grades in senior school.

Mr Ian Lockhart, Vice Principal

Connect for Parents – Marksbook Feature

I recently emailed information to you regarding the newly available Marksbook feature on Connect. I hope that you have valued the range of information that this facility provides about your child's current achievement in each subject or course.

If, at any point, you feel that the volume of emails you are receiving through Connect is a concern, the email notifications can easily be switched off in the settings menu. The settings are accessed by clicking on the 'screwdriver and spanner' icon towards the top right of each page. Notification options, including email, are found in the My Notifications tab. Please don't forget to save any changes that you make.

Should you choose to turn off email alerts, I encourage you to consider installing the My Connect app that is available free of charge from the Apple or Android app stores. The My Connect app can be set to provide only push notifications, and the interface to read notices is simple and very user-friendly.

Should you have any questions about Connect, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Ian Lockhart, Vice Principal

Lower School

NAPLAN ONLINE 2018

Year 7 & 9 students are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN tests which for the first time, will be conducted online. Testing will occur in Term 2 from 15 May until 25 May.

NAPLAN Online uses an adaptive test design, which presents questions that better match student achievement levels and provides more precise results for teachers and schools. Students are presented with questions that test the same range of difficulty, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, therefore results for both formats will be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale (with which parents would be familiar).

Students will be given their NAPLAN schedule closer to the testing date and if students are absent on their scheduled testing day, catch up sessions will be provided.

To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment .

To understand what the tests look like, visit the public demonstration site at www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site .

Kylie Ward, Manager Education Services

Julius Caesar Theatre Production

Your child has been invited to attend the Bell Shakespeare Theatre Company's production of Julius Caesar at Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre (BREC), 6.40pm, Thursday 16 August 2018.

If you would like to attend, please collect a permission form from Mr Woodland.

Cost: \$20 (discounted for Bunbury Senior High School students).
Arrival: 6.40pm.
Departure: 9.30/9.45pm.
Location: Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre
Transport: Students are to make their own way to and from the venue.

Payment must be paid directly to Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre in person or over the phone on 1300 661 272. Parents/guardians who wish to attend the show with their child will also be offered discounted tickets by BREC.

Mr Mark Woodland, PC English

All Students

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.

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/

We are also now on **Twitter** @BunburyShs

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

Chaplain's Corner

Well done to all the staff and students for making the Athletics Carnival a fun event, even though it drizzled for most of the day. I also enjoyed catching up with parents/carers and grandparents who were watching. Thanks for coming along.

Please feel free to contact me at the school if I can be a support to you or your child.

Mr Deon Throne, Chaplain

IMPORTANT DATES

30 March – 3 April 2018	Good Friday, Easter Monday & Tuesday Holiday Break
4 April 2018	P & C AGM 6pm General Meeting – followed by AGM 7pm
4 April 2018	Nola Marino visit - HaSS
4 April 2018	Between the Lines
5 April 2018	Science and Engineering Challenge – Year 9/10 GAT students
9-10 April 2018	Year 7 GAT Camp
10 April 2018	Year 12 Sport & Rec Surfing Camp
11 April 2018	Parent Interview Afternoon & Evening
11 April 2018	Whole School Assembly, Pd 3
12 April 2018	Senator Visit, Year 11/12 PAL & Year 9/10 GAT Students
13 April 2018	Whole School Assembly – ANZAC Service, Pd 4
14 April 2018	School Holidays commence

TERM 2

30 April 2018	School Development Day – Staff only
1 May 2018	Term 2, Students Commence
3 May 2018	WADL, Round 1
4 May 2018	Year 10 Criminology Excursion, Perth
7-25 May 2018	Year 12 General Courses, Externally Set Exams
9 May 2018	Interschool Athletics Carnival
14-18 May 2018	Have Sum Fun Maths online, Year 7-10
15-25 May 2018	NAPLAN
17 May 2018	WADL, Round 2
21 May 2018	2019 Enrolments Open
21-25 May 2018	Year 12 Exams
21 May – 1 June 2018	Year 11, WPL
22 May 2018	Board Meeting, Library 5.30pm
23-27 May 2018	Bunbury Eisteddfod
23 May 2018	Australian History Competition
25 May 2018	2019 BEST/VASP Applications close
28 May – 1 June 2018	Year 11 Exams
30 May 2018	Youth Literature Day, BCGS
31 May 2018	WADL, Round 3
1 June 2018	Young Writer's Day, BSHS Library
4 June 2018	WA Day, Public Holiday