Welcome to the 2014 school year. It has begun purposefully and positively, and our newest school community members have settled in with ease. At Brunswick Secondary College, we are dedicated to drawing out the very best in all students. We know that this requires three interrelated elements. While academic learning is our first goal, we also have a strong commitment to social and emotional wellbeing. The Brunswick Star for 2014 celebrates effective, generous teaching. The 2013 VCAA statistics are available at http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/StatisticsSchoolStatistics/index.aspx. As the class of 2013 embark on a new world of tertiary study, work or travel and we support our youngest students to adjust to the world of secondary school for the first time, we are mindful that the start of a new year is a transition for all students as they advance to stage of schooling. My message in the first Brunswick Star is therefore tailored to students and families at each year level.

Year 7 – you may be the youngest students in the school but we know that only months ago you were the leaders of your primary school and many of you had very responsible roles. I hope you flourish at secondary school and enjoy the many specialist subjects and opportunities on offer. Consider trying a co-curricular program that challenges you to learn something new. Even it is only of slight interest, go along and see. There are lots of CCPs to choose from and you can do several. Think about joining the Junior SRC, or learning an instrument or joining a sport team, especially if you have not done so before. Make new friends, ask as many questions as you like (people will be happy to help you), get to know the Peer Support Captains, Liana and Nivan, who are eager to get to know you and enthusiastic about supporting you during your first year at High School.

Year 8 - you were a confident and successful year 7 group last year. Congratulations and keep up the good work. Just imagine being at a year level if you maintain the same work ethic and enthusiasm throughout year 8 and all the remaining years of secondary school. This year we are introducing an exciting Science Week Inquiry Project that will allow you to learn in depth about a question that really interests you. You will use ICT to research and present your findings. The presentation evening will be similar to Images of Greatness in Year 7 where all students present to your parents, peers and teachers. The work will become harder so make good use of your teachers feedback and the various homework clubs on offer at the school.

Year 9 – you are the oldest year level in our Junior School. With this title comes the responsibility to be role models for the Year 7 and 8 students. In Year 9 you will start to think seriously about the subjects you wish to pursue through school and consider possible career paths. I know this may sound early but we find that once students begin to think even broadly about study and work options after school, school work is then seen as a way of achieving longer term goals and becomes more relevant. In term 3, students who meet all criteria are eligible to apply for an early start VCE subject for 2015 when they will be in Year 10. Each year there are a few students who are disappointed that they are not eligible, usually because their work practices are not at the required level of 3.7 out of 4.0. Take the time to read about what is required now. http://www.brunswick.vic.edu.au/Learning/Curriculum/Pages/Senior-School-Yr-10-12.aspx. Even if you do not want to do an Early Start VCE subject, aim for work practices of 3.7 out or 4.0 or higher. It will show you and us that you are working toward your best.

Year 10 – Have you ever wondered why we divide our school in to Year 7-9 and Year 10-12, and not Year 7-9 and Year 10-12? The answer is you! We see Year 10 as the foundation for a successful VCE or VCAL, and include Year 10 as part of the senior school so that we can draw out the best in you. In planning what you learn and study in Year 10, the teachers of each subject look ahead to what you need to know in Year 11 and Year 12. The Year 10 program is designed to prepare you for success in the senior certificates of VCE or VCAL for those who prefer applied learning. Step up to the challenge.

Year 11 – Your time starts now! The VCE and VCAL are two year courses. I am sure you will not be surprised to learn that the students who achieve their best possible result in Year 12, have worked solidly from the outset of Year 11 and have maintained excellent work practices across both years. Remember you are not just learning the content and skills of specific subjects. Year 11 is the year to develop effective time management, note taking, exam techniques, revision strategies and other important study skills. Use Year 11 to learn how to do your best at the VCE level so you can walk into Year 12 confident and prepared.

Year 12 – In this whirlwind year you will need to work harder and smarter than you ever have before. Part of working smarter is taking full advantage of the many supports that Brunswick SC provides for you. From homework clubs and study groups, to wellbeing support and individual guidance from year level, wellbeing and career/ pathways coordinators, I know that you have a strong and dedicated team working together to bring out the very best in you. The greatest determinant of your success, however, is your own efforts and actions. As I said at the Year 12 assembly the other day, remain accountable to your dreams and goals. I encourage you to re-watch the Lost Generation You Tube. Just google it, there are several versions.

I would like to share with you the two words that I regard as most important to success at Year 12 – Feedback and Revision. Seek and act on feedback from your teachers in every subject. Don’t leave a topic or concept until you are confident you have fully understood it to the best of your ability. Learn how to revise properly and develop an ongoing revision strategy for every subject that starts now. Be smart about revision. Prioritise the areas that you find most difficult. Do the revision for theses when you are most alert and work best. Don’t fall into the trap of allocating more time to your favourite subjects to the neglect of the ones you find more difficult.

Finally enjoy the challenge, learning, friendships and special occasions that make Year 12 such a momentous year. Your graduation on Friday 24 October will not only be a significant milestone for you, it will be for us too. While we care greatly about your achievement at school, our greater purpose is to equip you to lead constructive and rewarding adult lives beyond your time at BSC.

Vivienne Telferson
Principal
BSC Curriculum Priorities for 2014

Below are three important curriculum priorities for 2014 that we would like parents to be aware of and support. In the future editions of the Brunswick Star, we will outline our Student Engagement and Wellbeing, and Pathways priorities for the year.

1. A Shared Approach to Formative Assessment
   Our commitment is to ensure that every student achieves to the best of their ability. This is what we mean by our core school goal: for all learners to make or exceed their expected progress." Put simply, formative assessment is what teachers do throughout a lesson or unit to check students' understanding. Teachers use formative assessment to review or tailor their teaching to better meet the needs of individuals or groups of students. While formative assessment is used already by all teachers and incorporated into all new unit plans, we are sharing this information with parents as we would like you to ask your children questions about what they are learning and how they know they are being successful. A really good question starter is "Tell me about your learning in ...?" rather than the "What mark did you get?" or "What did you do?" type questions which make the student focus on the end mark rather than the progress they have made.

2. Learning intentions and success criteria
   Learning intentions and success criteria are essential components of formative assessment. A learning intention is a statement that tells the students at the beginning of a lesson or unit what the teacher wants them to know, understand and do by the end of the lesson. While learning intentions frame the start of a unit or lesson, success criteria are used at the end. Success criteria help teachers and the students themselves determine whether they have met the learning intentions. Each year our teachers form Professional Learning Teams to develop their understanding of the best strategies for our students. In 2013, a number of Professional Learning Teams focused on learning intentions and success criteria. The work that we have done in developing Year 7 and 8 History and Science Australian Curriculum units incorporates learning intentions and success criteria in every lesson. These units, along with our VCAL template, will shortly be published on the VCAA website as examples for other schools.

   Congratulations to all staff who have contributed. In 2014 learning intentions and success criteria are being used by all teachers and incorporated into all new unit plans. We are sharing this information with parents as we would like you to ask your children questions about what they are learning and how they know they are being successful. A really good question starter is "Tell me about your learning in ...?" rather than the "What mark did you get?" or "What did you do?" type questions which make the student focus on the end mark rather than the progress they have made.

3. Work Practice 6
   At Brunswick SC we measure eight common work practices four times per year. Of the eight, WP6 (Work Practice 6 - punctuality in meeting deadlines) is the lowest from Year 7 to 12. Improving WP6 is part of a larger project, "Giving our Kids their Best Chance." Throughout the year we will be communicating more about this project to families and asking for your support.

   In response to parent requests for better communication about when work is due, all teachers in 2014 will be using the Learning Task page on Compass to inform you of the due dates for all major assessed work and tests. Your child will be able to show you the location of the tasks. However, please do not hesitate to let us know if you need assistance in accessing the Learning Tasks or need your Compass password sent. You will have the same online view of Learning Tasks as your child.

Towards Victoria as a Learning Community

The goal of Victoria as a Learning Community is to strengthen the school system with new initiatives in school leadership and teacher development so your child has the best possible education. These reforms put your child at the centre of Victoria’s education system. The learning community will help your school’s principal and teachers bring out the best in your child and help them achieve their full potential. Your child will benefit from:

- an education that will help them succeed in the job market and in society
- an individually-tailored approach to every child
- more choices, as schools offer specialised programs that suit the needs of the local community.

A central part of the learning community will be your involvement in your child’s learning combined with their teachers’ expert knowledge and skills. This partnership will give your child the support they need to achieve their best. You can help your school and your child by supporting their learning at home and providing feedback to the school.

With your help the school and teachers will make sure your child has all the skills and knowledge they need to be confident, creative and successful in the changing world and in our society. Parents can read more about TVLC on the DEECD website and view a video on the topic at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/vic/Pages/parents.aspx
Hello, my name is Tamara Brennan and I am excited to be joining the teaching team here at Brunswick Secondary College. I am looking forward to sharing my passion for Maths and Physics with you in 2014. I have studied Engineering, Commerce and more recently a Master of Teaching at Deakin and Melbourne Universities. My professional background is in Engineering, Logistics and Finance. I look forward to meeting you all and becoming a part of the College community.

Hello, my name is Caroline Hart and I am joining the Brunswick Secondary College community in 2014 as the new Student Wellbeing Coordinator and an English teacher. For the last three years, I’ve worked at St Helena Secondary College in Eltham North as an English/Humanities teacher and Student Wellbeing Coordinator. Prior to becoming a teacher and working in a wellbeing role in education, I worked in a number of community mental health settings across Melbourne, in a variety of roles, for a little over eleven years. I have majors in linguistics and sociology through La Trobe University, and I am currently studying psychology at the University of Melbourne, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Adolescent Mental Health. I love working in education and I am passionate about youth mental health. I look forward to working with you all in 2014, working in and with the Brunswick Secondary College community.

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My name is Jessica Sartori and I will be teaching at John Fawkner College the Brunswick Secondary College Community. I have been teaching Maths and Science at Craigieburn Secondary College for many years. I have a passion for Maths and enjoy making it relevant to students through activities and real life applications. I am really looking forward to being part of the dynamic and vibrant Brunswick Secondary College community!

Hello, my name is Tas Michael and I will be teaching Maths at Brunswick Secondary College. I will also be responsible for co-ordinating the Maths learning area. I have been teaching Maths and Science at Craigieburn Secondary College for many years. I have a passion for Maths and enjoy making it relevant to students through activities and real life applications. I am really looking forward to being part of the dynamic and vibrant Brunswick Secondary College community!

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A year and a half ago we were given the opportunity to sign up for a trip to Africa with World Challenge. It required us to step out of our comfort zone and raise money. The trip allowed us to test our abilities and become more independent. We were given the opportunity to organize the daily money and communicate with locals to make sure that everything went smoothly. The highlights of the trip were definitely interacting with the children, seeing the animals at the national park but more so at the Okavango Delta. We were given an incredible opportunity when we worked on building a netball court and a veggie garden on the project. The project was not only a rewarding experience but it allowed me to get out of my comfort zone and participate in physically demanding activities which I would not usually.

**Aoife Carli Hannan**

During our main trek, we walked the Waterberg Plateau. At our main campsites, we were woken every morning at 5am by baboons running around our campsites! They went through the bins, and even stole things from inside tents that were left open. Suffice to say, we all learnt pretty quickly to keep the tents zipped up! While we were walking on one of the days, we saw a buffalo about 20 metres away from us. It was terrifying, but our local guide scared it away by yelling and throwing things at it. We were lucky to have him; because he said it was about to charge us!

Overall, the trip was lots of fun. Despite some fights, conflicts, and arguments, we all grew much closer as a team and learnt to really listen to everyone, and consider all opinions before making a decision. We all had responsibilities during the trip, such as budget, travel, safety, rest and relaxation, food, and accommodation. I was on the latter, with Evie, and it was hard work to organise places for us all to stay. However, we learnt to split up the work, cooperate with everyone’s wants, and were ultimately successful in finding great places, even if some of them had a few bugs running around the rooms…

I would love to go back, and recommend World Challenge to anyone considering it next year; it is a really great experience.

**Emily Wood Trounce**

**World Challenge**

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**Emily Wood Trounce**
In Africa we grew...

We grew in our knowledge enriched by culture, through sights smells and sounds.
We grew tired of the heat and fed up with each other, and at meals were hungry as hounds.
We grew understanding and became a big family.
Learning how to be just and fair.
We grew beards… and we grew leg hair.
We grew tired anxious and afraid, not knowing if we could make it all the way.
We grew wise intrepid and resourceful, excited for the adventures of the next day.
We grew scared of scorpions and wary of 'wait-a-while's' (spikey bushes).
We grew fond of the harsh beauty of the landscape that would stretch on for miles.
We grew to love instant coffee and sleeping out in the night cool and starry.
We grew to enjoy a good safari.
We grew in all of this and so much more but most of all we grew better than before.

Nathan Watson Kruse
Frankie is to be commended for his improved work habits in Maths toward the end of last year. He displayed maturity and initiative in working cooperatively with other students as well as a general improvement in his classroom behaviour.

Jack Toreyides  Maths Teacher

Frankie Colaiacovo  Year 10

Half way through last year I made the decision to put my head down and work harder to improve how I was going with Maths. I started by not sitting with my friends and talking during class. This meant I could ask questions whenever I was not sure how to do something. This helped me in Maths just so much and now I can do things like algebra that I had no chance of doing before.

Tristan is a determined, conscientious and hardworking student. Throughout 2013 he worked very hard in Science and PE classes and showed huge improvements in his confidence in contributing to class discussions. I congratulate Tristan and look forward to seeing the further improvements and the great things he achieves in his future years of schooling.

Kelly Turner  PE Teacher

Last year I made an effort to improve the work practice about participating in class and asking questions. By getting better at asking questions and joining in discussion I found I was learning a lot more. I feel much more confident in class because of this.

Tristan Francis  Year 8

Hayley is to be commended for the effort she displayed in VCE Politics last year as a Year 10 early start student. Taking pride in her work she developed subject specific vocabulary and revision skills that enabled her to top the class for the final end of year exam. Great work Hayley.

Oki Gardner  Politics Teacher

Last year I made a real effort to be organised and keep on track with Politics. With Ms Gardner’s help, passion and enthusiasm for the subject I often did extra reading and was always attentive in class.

Hayley Boyce  Year 11

Over 2013 Kam showed persistence in turning around his approach to classroom work. Kam proved to be a dedicated and responsible student who took pride in his work and achievements. I congratulate Kam on demonstrating these important school values.

Chris Tipping  PE/Health Teacher

Last year my mum mentioned that I needed to improve at school as I was not in Year 7 anymore – that it was in my best interests to do well. I explained to my good friends that I needed to balance having fun with getting the work done. This meant I didn’t talk in class and if I was behind in anything I would go to the library at lunchtimes to catch up.

Kamol Paschalis  Year 9

THE BRUNSWICK STAR

SUCCESS STORIES
I have been very fortunate to be given significant opportunities in my life including the chance to help shape our community. I was very fortunate to work in the Federal Parliament and to draft legislation to eliminate cigarette advertising and then to work with the Australian Conservation Foundation on the introduction of stricter air quality standards, a ban on ozone-depleting substances, the removal of lead from petrol and the introduction of universal recycling.

The net result of these has been the saving of tens of thousands of lives and a more sustainable community. I have also had the opportunity to be active locally including participating over 12 years in developments at Brunswick Secondary College.

I thank Viv for her leadership and feel very proud of the growing reputation of the school, the joint use playing fields, that are also a home for Brunswick Hockey Club, for our water tanks and most recently our massive solar array. All of these things that I have been involved in have been team and community efforts and my selection for this award is shared with all of those who have worked together.

I take great heart in the efforts of young people in our community who are committed to make this a better place for others. I acknowledge our young citizens and the School Council of Brunswick Secondary College, and through their endorsement I was greatly moved.

I was supported for this award by Mike Hill who I consider to be a community giant and the School Council of Brunswick Secondary College, and through their endorsement I was greatly moved. To then be chosen for this has truly humbled me. When I was informed that I would be Joint Citizen of the Year I thought of sport, and wondered whether there would be a tiebreaker required. Perhaps it would be a 100-yard dash. When I read Rhonda Jenkins’ experiences I was relieved that we didn’t go down that path. I am honoured to be sharing this award with Rhonda.

I would like to thank Janet Kruse for nominating me, and I would also like to acknowledge my mother, Beryl and particularly my wife Jill who helped shape my values. Moreland has been my home for the past 30 years. My children have been born, schooled and become adults here. My family first settled in Moreland in the 1850’s and through the O’Connell’s, Flowers and Grays we have been here ever since. I think it is fair to say we feel at home in Moreland with its diversity of backgrounds, incomes/occupations and traditions. Today we welcome more people who have travelled, many over the sea, to join our original inhabitants of the land who I pay tribute to.

May we be more welcoming of those risking lives to come here in the future. Australia Day is a time to reflect on what sort of community and nation we want to be. As a nation we are not very good at self-assessment or learning from what is done well in other countries. Perhaps Moreland can help play a leading role in adopting world’s best practice in creating vibrant caring sustainable communities. Already we are providing this leadership in our becoming a carbon neutral Council and we need to build on this. In the past week Brunswick Secondary College became the largest solar energy generator in Moreland through community donations. I hope the Council takes back that title soon with solar system installations on many of our civic buildings.
POSITIVE EXCITED ENGAGED AND PROUD

Positive, Excited, Engaged and Proud is our teaching and learning mantra at Brunswick Secondary College. The phrase was developed in 2013 through an Appreciative Inquiry reflection where teachers were asked to identify the times when they thought that teaching and learning was at its best in their classrooms. The results were collated to form our PEEP (Positive, Excited, Engaged and Proud) Charter. In the final days of 2013, all teachers documented one of their PEEP moments from the year. Some of these were shared with staff in the first days of 2014. Others will be shared in this and future editions of The Brunswick Star.

When teachers are asked why they have chosen teaching as a career, the most typical answer is ‘to make a difference.’ As you read on you will see that making a difference to student learning and opportunities is a driving force for our teachers. You will see how greatly each teacher takes pride and delight in seeing their students grow, develop and accomplish what they could not do before.

Year 10 (2013) Celebration Day

Celebration Day was held on Tuesday the 5th of November, the last COGS session of the year. The whole session was devoted to recognising the positive work and achievements of students in the cohort, and gave them the opportunity to show their peers and teachers some of the excellent work that they had completed throughout the year.

Seventy-two (72) certificates were awarded to students for a variety of reasons: excellent work ethic, improvement, leadership, citizenship and sporting achievements to name a few. Throughout the day, students were given the opportunity to showcase their work.

It was rewarding to see a variety of presentations from a number of different students, and see the enthusiasm and pride that they felt when presenting their work to others. Their enthusiasm was infectious.

The audience was engaged and showed genuine appreciation for the work done by their peers which was evident by the loud applause and the positive and enthusiastic comments made by students to each other at the conclusion of the day.

Peer Leaders for 2013 and our future School Captains were congratulated for taking on positions of responsibility and supporting others within the school community. They were celebrated by the audience in a sincere and respectful way which ensured their efforts had not gone unnoticed.

Year 9 Bushwhacked Class

It was a great year!

Engaged – As students kept a high level of engagement throughout the year in Bushwhacked, it was inspiring as a teacher to see students respecting and supporting their peers as individuals as well as demonstrate the practical skills and knowledge they gained throughout the year in Bushwhacked. It was a great year!

Sarah Mead

Year 8 (2013) Camp

One of the many highlights from this year at Brunswick Secondary College that made me feel positive, excited, engaged and proud is the Year 8 Portsea Camp.

To have the privilege of spending three days with such an enthusiastic and well-mannered group of young people was one of the many 2013 PEEP moments that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Positive – The compassion and support the students demonstrated towards staff and each other during the activities was heart-warming and inspirational. Understandably, this positivity spread throughout the camp staff and supervising teachers.

Excited – Many times throughout the camp were filled with great excitement as I had the opportunity to complete adrenaline pumping challenges such as the Giant swing [blind folded] with many students cheering in the background.

Engaged – As students kept a high level of engagement and involvement throughout each of the programs, I had no choice but to also become engaged as they experienced all of the challenges the camp had to offer. I did not want to miss a beat!!!

Proud – I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to share such a positive and evolutionary experience with such an outstanding group of students.

Thank you! Tony Martinson

Year 10 (2013) Celebration Day

This event was initiated by Yijie Xu, 2013 Chinese (LOTE) Captain. I was amazed by how dedicated she was when organising various activities for the day and equally surprised by how much help she received from the other student leaders to make the Dragon Boat Festival such a truly whole school event. It was also a great fun to see the students race with the Dragon Boat model and enjoying the special Dragon Boat festival food, Zongzi.

Jiwei XU

Dragon boat festival day

Thank you !
Wheelchair basketball
For me this event is a highlight during the year. The aim of the event is to raise awareness of people with a disability. The students seemed very inspired by the presenter and the feedback they give me as a teacher is very positive. We are always running out of time to play the game but it was great to see so many Year 7 students take the opportunity to participate in a game they would likely never play again as well as supporting Disability Sport and Recreation Victoria with a small contribution.

Wendy Kenbeek

Budding Artist
When Jack Sambell began VCD this semester, Photoshop was a mysterious entity. Then he got stuck in. At the end of the semester I was pleased to visit him in his other elective, Year 9 Art, and to see him using his newfound technical skills on a range of photographs he’d taken for that class. He’s very exacting these days about the technical specifications of his work and when you see them now, you just know – that’s an original Sambell portrait, that is.

Mitchell Brannan

Rashi’s Global Citizen Award
This year I was really proud to see Rashi Singh step up and fulfil the International Student Captain role. She was an incredibly positive influence on all International Students. I was particularly impressed when she undertook interviews with different media outlets and spoke about Brunswick Secondary College with such great enthusiasm. I was also proud to see her receive her commendation for work promoting global citizenship at the school and her initiative in organising the International Student Appreciation Breakfast.

Megan Conley

Ratbags Nick Tranter
The moment the cast of Ratbags came offstage after their first evening performance was full of excitement and energy. The students were so proud of themselves and each other, but not as proud as I was of them. Many of them began the Year 8 Centre Stage class with reservations about performing, but they had spent the semester building relationships and skills. Students were congratulating each other on their work, providing support and celebrating their successes. The positivity was tangible and I know that many of these young performers will be back on stage as soon as they can.

Nick Tranter

All the fun of the Circus
One of my positive, excited, engaged and proud moments at Brunswick Secondary College during 2013 was taking the Year 7 Circus elective students out to perform and run workshops for primary school students. My students showed leadership beyond their years assisting the primary students to learn new skills in a safe, fun and inviting way. They had worked hard in preparation to create engaging performances. On the day I could see that they had taken on board all the performance techniques and ways of involving an audience we had spoken about in previous classes.

Hillary Gilbert-Wilson

Geography Fieldwork Excursions
At secondary school parental involvement isn’t the same as it is in primary school. But it is still important and asking parents to volunteer to help with excursions has been a wonderful way to allow parents to be part of their children’s education. The contribution of parents enriches the whole school community and the feedback from parents who have helped out on the Geography fieldwork excursions this year has been very, very positive. Parents said that they really enjoyed meeting other parents, their children’s class mates and teachers and coming on excursions has given them a chance to show their children they are still care and are interested in what they are learning.

Geography Fieldwork Excursions, Parent Participation – Marilyn Hardy
Facing Up to Reality

Last December, Nadine and I were lucky enough to be able to go to an Open Channel media conference called Facing Up to Reality. The conference is part of their Generation: Nest series which aims to create pathways into the media industry. With a focus on reality television, we heard from people such as Lawrence Mooney, Russell Howcroft and producers of shows including Big Brother, MasterChef and The Block.

It was a really interesting experience, and I felt I learnt a lot about the film and TV industry that will be really valuable when making my film project for year twelve media this year.

Maggie O’Shea

Over the summer holidays, Maggie and I were given the opportunity to attend a media conference on the way that reality TV shows go from a drawing board to the TVs in your living rooms. We attended a wide range of lectures on everything from script writing for reality TV and building a narrative structure where multiple stories take place, to casting for shows such as a Big Brother and MasterChef and how to create and maintain a format show such as Thank God You’re Here.

The experience on a whole was amazing. We got to meet Lawrence Mooney and Russell Howcroft, as well as many other behind the scenes heavy weights in television. If there was one thing I could take away from this conference (which there are many!) it would be that you really can do anything you want, many of the speakers started as assistants and now they producer some of the most successful shows in Australia and around the world. The media industry is growing by the second and I personally can’t wait to see what comes next!

Nadine Brown

Growing up on Isolation Day

Rachael Hocking is a graduate of BSC. Having spent a gap year teaching English to children in Vietnam, Rachael is now poised to commence the third year of her Journalism Degree at RMIT. Here are her compellingly personal and cultural perspectives on the celebration of Australia Day.

Between the ages of eight to about 11, I hated the fact I have Aboriginal heritage. Those were years lived in Darwin, when I attended a primary school with some kids who had ‘Aussie Pride’ heavily instilled in them from a young age. My first encounter with racism, innocent as it was, is a vivid memory I’ve replayed countless times over the years.

The experience on a whole was amazing. We got to meet Lawrence Mooney and Russell Howcroft, as well as many other behind the scenes heavy weights in television. If there was one thing I could take away from this conference (which there are many!) it would be that you really can do anything you want, many of the speakers started as assistants and now they producer some of the most successful shows in Australia and around the world. The media industry is growing by the second and I personally can’t wait to see what comes next!

It was a really interesting experience, and I felt I learnt a lot about the film and TV industry that will be really valuable when making my film project for year twelve media this year.

Facing Up to Reality

Last December, Nadine and I were lucky enough to be able to go to an Open Channel media conference called Facing Up to Reality. The conference is part of their Generation: Nest series which aims to create pathways into the media industry. With a focus on reality television, we heard from people such as Lawrence Mooney, Russell Howcroft and producers of shows including Big Brother, MasterChef and The Block.

It was a really interesting experience, and I felt I learnt a lot about the film and TV industry that will be really valuable when making my film project for year twelve media this year.

Maggie O’Shea

Over the summer holidays, Maggie and I were given the opportunity to attend a media conference on the way that reality TV shows go from a drawing board to the TVs in your living rooms. We attended a wide range of lectures on everything from script writing for reality TV and building a narrative structure where multiple stories take place, to casting for shows such as a Big Brother and MasterChef and how to create and maintain a format show such as Thank God You’re Here.

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Growing up on Isolation Day

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Nadine Brown
This year I’m honoured to be representing the school as a School Captain and am looking forward to what my last year of education will bring. Brunswick is an incredible place – a community committed to both academic success and personal development. The teachers of Brunswick are a force of nature – forging lasting connections with their students whilst really pushing us to surprise ourselves with what we are capable of. I am constantly staggered by the lengths our staff will take to support their students; giving their time, expertise and passion every day to grow each of us individually. The tight-knit community our school fosters has inspired me to become more involved in its leadership and in representing its students. This year, in my position, I hope to connect the student body more closely with decisions made about their learning, to strengthen inter-year level bonds and to develop Brunswick’s already strong, sense of diversity and social justice. I’m excited to be working with Maggie, who has been a friend and team-mate since Year seven. We have worked together on various projects, academic work and school productions and I have seen firsthand her commitment to Brunswick and passion for the school’s success. I hope to make my final year at Brunswick my best, and believe that the 2014 SRC’s legacy will be a powerful and positive one.

School Captain Lucy Payne Year 12

As School Captain there are many things I am really looking forward to this year. One is working with the SRC; having been a member of the SRC for the past two years, I know how productive and committed our student representatives can be and so I’m very honoured to be one of the leaders of that team. I also look forward to continuing the school’s adoption of the ‘appreciative enquiry’ learning style, encouraging positive mindsets and optimistic attitudes in our students. I’m very proud to be able to say that our school community represents over 50 nationalities, and so I’m committed to promoting the school values of respect and teamwork – I particularly want to help Brunswick honour our commitment to the Safe Schools Coalition which we joined last year. The school community is something I have always valued at Brunswick, so I’m excited to be able to contribute to our growing house system and co-curricular program. I look forward to 2014 and know that I can make my final year at Brunswick a good one.

School Captain Maggie O’Shea Year 12

Hi, I’m Elowen and I’ve been at Brunswick since Year seven and am now in Year eleven. For my whole time at the school I have found that the science program and the way in which it is taught at Brunswick, the passionate teachers and great class environment make classes enjoyable. Since its creation at the beginning of 2013 I have been involved in the BSC science club, where people who are interested in science are able to meet up with other like-minded people and perform the experiments that they are interested in. My role as science captain this year involves assisting with the organisation of the weekly science club, raising the profile of science around the school and providing students with various science related opportunities throughout the year. I look forward to working with the SRC through the year to try and make the school a more positive place.

Science Captain Elowen Amos Year 11

Hi my name is Syed Shabeeh Haider Raza, you can call me Shabeeh. I’m the International Student Captain this year and at your service. My role would be to help the new and current international students adjust in our college and also enjoy it as much as they can. However, this doesn’t mean that I’m only for them. All of you can contact me anytime you need to ask something. I’ll be aiming to hold more events this year that would allow all of us to blend the cultures in our school even more as well as giving the new students an idea of what Melbourne is like and how much fun it is to live here. Another thing I’m planning is to make a video tour of our school and have it on our school website which would be great for all prospective students. Those are all my plans for now, if you have more suggestions for me they’re more than welcome. Have a great year everyone.

International Students Captain
Syed Shabeeh Haider Raza
Year 12
Hi. I'm Conor - one of your Sports Captains for 2014. I became one of the Sports Captains after Ms Allibon asked if I was interested. I had been thinking about putting my hand up for the position, but Ms Allibon's suggestion gave me the little push I needed, so I applied. I am pretty pleased to have been appointed. Over the last 4 years at Brunswick Secondary College, I have participated in school cricket, footy and hockey. Two of those hockey teams made State level. As part of the Sports Leadership subject in year 9, I coached the year 7 cricket team in the inter-school sports super 8 competition. I am looking forward to a few things in 2014. These include: working with BSC students, family & friends, SRC and the Brunswick and wider community to make BSC a better school; attending sports days and witnessing Brunswick’s sporting success; and finally, but most importantly, I am looking forward to working with all students and the other Sports Captains to create more participation in school sports at BSC.

**Sports Captain Connor Martin Year 11**

I was encouraged to run for Sports Captain by the Sports Coordinator, Mr Nolan. Mr Nolan advised me to run for Sports Captain as I had plenty of experience being involved in the sports curriculum at Brunswick Secondary College. Over my years at Brunswick Secondary College, I have participated in a plethora of sports. On numerous occasions I have assisted teachers in coaching teams in the junior level. I have been guided by the different kind of sporting teachers who have taught me different kinds of things over the years. I look forward to working with all kinds of junior students over the next year helping promote sports in Brunswick Secondary College and most importantly promoting a healthy lifestyle.

**Sports Captain Luqman Samuri Year 11**

Hi, I'm Luqman - one of your Sports Captains for 2014. I am currently in Year Eleven and I've been involved in the music program since Year seven playing both trumpet and guitar. During this time I have been involved in many of the bands including Jazz Band, Concert Band, Brass Ensemble and VCE band. This year I am honored to be the School’s Music Captain.

During my time as Captain I hope to create a positive environment for the students, and help encourage people to join the music program, as well as motivating the people already involved. I look forward to helping the younger students have the same opportunities that I have had through my time at Brunswick Secondary College, so they can enjoy their time at the school as much as I have.

**Music Captain Gus Cox Year 11**

My names Nadine, and this year I have been given the opportunity to be one of Brunswick’s first ever Media Captains. Media is becoming quite popular at our school and it means so much that I will be able to work in a subject that I love with other students who feel the same. This year I am looking forward to all things media related, including working with my wonderful co-captain Liam, as well as our fantastic media teachers. I am also looking forward to the new Media Club that will open for all media students and anyone else who is keen on learning the ins and outs of editing. Ultimately, I look forward to next year being a year that I will never forget, and thankfully media is going to be a crucial part of it.

**Media Captain Nadine Brown Year 12**

I applied for Public Speaking and Debating Captain because it was the captaincy position with the longest name, and I thought it'd be fun to say such a mouthful every time I introduced myself. I also applied because I am truly passionate about public speaking and debating and feel as though Brunswick Secondary has really opened me up to these two wonderful things. It is evident that the number of students participating in debating as a co-curricular activity as well as our annual Chatterbox Public Speaking Competition is growing. This year, I hope to involve even more students in not only public speaking and debating related activities, but also in the school community through SRC organised events. Look out, because I am more than ready to persuade everyone to participate.

**Public speaking and Debating Captain Elise Louey Year 10**

The presence of communication within a community is often the driving force of its growth and thrive. Put simply, without communication within our school community, it would struggle to be as innovative as it currently is. As one of the two Media & Communications Captains of 2014, I aim to provide and maintain media as a way of communicating throughout the school. Whether by simply advertising upcoming fundraisers through hanging posters in the school, or creating a short commercial to promote an upcoming drama performance. Moreover, the captaincy, in part, exists to promote the ever-growing Media department within the school. The subject is offered to students of every year-level, and it is my job to guide anyone who is interested in partaking in Media, during their VCE or otherwise. I want to provide every one of my peers with the opportunities I had, and will continue to have, throughout my time at Brunswick Secondary College. If I have helped to communicate to the entire student body what's happening within the school at any one time, I'll have fulfilled my duties as a Media & Communications Captain.

**Media Captain Liam Jenkins Year 12**

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**Public speaking and Debating Captain Elise Louey Year 10**
I have been lucky enough to have been appointed one of the two Peer Support Captains for 2014. I am really looking forward to working with my co-captain Nivan Kaya, the new SWC Caroline Hart and the rest of the SRC team. Being a Peer Support Captain means promoting anti-bullying within our school in order to maintain a safe and happy school environment. It also entails working closely with Year 7 to ensure their first year of high school is as fun and easy as possible. Nivan and I, along with the help of the new Year 10 Peer Support Leaders, will achieve this by running various activities for the year 7s and be spending time with them to make sure that they are settled and coping with all of the changes that high school brings. I am super excited to be a part of SRC and I can't wait to start working with the new Peer Support team. 

Peer Support Captain  Nivan Kaya Year 11 

I’m very excited to be the LOTE Captain for 2014. Brunswick’s multiculturalism is one of our greatest assets, and Brunswick students can experience firsthand how important learning other languages is and the value of engaging with a range of cultures. The Language School located in A Block is also important because English speakers and those at the Language School have the potential to practice additional languages with a native speaker.

I feel that LOTE is underappreciated by many students at the school, which is unfortunate because language is what allows people to connect – communication. Personally I find languages very interesting – in addition to Italian, which I’m doing for VCE, I’ve looked at Auslan (Australian Sign Language), Russian and Latin. In addition to wanting to increase LOTE’s profile because of my enjoyment of it, I want to improve its integration with other areas such as Music, in which Italian is used for many technical terms. I look forward to working with the other members of the SRC, and am hopeful that I’ll be able to make an impact in the way other students treat LOTE.

LOTE Captain  Xavier Dupé Year 12 

Hi, my name is Emily, and I’m really excited to be BSC’s Environment Captain for 2014. Hopefully I will be able to encourage a more environmentally-friendly perspective at our school, and promote sustainability for a long time after I have left. I plan on starting small, working on getting more recycling bins for rooms that need them, and moving on to bigger things like tree-planting as the year progresses. We will keep the Environment Club running on Tuesday recess, so if you are passionate about making our school more eco-friendly, come and join us, and feel free to approach me at any time if you have an idea for something that could help our cause. This year I hope we can get a big turnout for the club, so I will try to promote it to as many people as possible, ensuring those who wish to join know how. Hopefully we can all really make a difference to BSC’s sustainability, through projects both big and small in the year ahead. Looking forward to it!

Environment Captain  Emily Wood Trousseau Year 11 

This year I am incredibly thrilled to hold the position of the Art Captain for 2014. I feel that our new SRC team will bring in a great deal of positivity and motivation to our school community and the new plans that we will hopefully undertake in the coming year. I am very much committed to my new role, as being one who is greatly passionate about Art and the environment that surrounds us as well as also having the ability to reach out to others about the joy of the subject and how it stands for individuality, is something that I am profoundly excited to share with everyone. Having learnt from my previous experiences in teamwork and leadership, I have gained insights and skills which will allow me to actively participate in the school community, work in a leadership team and assist students in finding opportunities for themselves. I also hope to gain further experience from SRC, which will benefit me in the future. I aim to encourage students to be confident in themselves and the things they like, and understand that Art is not just the ability to paint or draw, but something that can be combined with other passions.

Art Captain  Adrina Lim Year 11
I am pleased to be the 2014 VCAL Captain and have the opportunity to make more people within our school aware of VCAL and the opportunities and responsibilities that we VCAL students have at Brunswick. I would like students in all year levels to be more aware of what we do in VCAL. When I was in the junior years I did not think that I would ever be a student leader. I have presented to Year 11 COGS and spoken at School Council. Being in VCAL has given me a lot more confidence and I want to encourage other students who do not see themselves as leaders to believe in themselves and believe that they can do new things. I also want to encourage the 2014 VCAL classes to become involved in events like the Car Boot sale and night market and to make them even better than last years. I know the teachers really appreciate what VCAL do as we support what is happening in the school community and the wider community. The garden project is a good example of this. Most of all, I want Year 9 students going into Year 10 to know that they have the choice of VCAL and it is a great choice.

VCAL Captain Dylan Pellis Year 12

I have always had an interest in social justice but have never found a way to share and teach others about this passion until the opportunity rose to become Social Justice Captain, which I quickly jumped at. Being Social Justice Captain also complements my involvement in the 2013 World Challenge team, which saw two teams of Brunswick Students travel to Africa. Apart from the usual sight-seeing we also completed a ‘project phase’ were we went and renovated school classrooms. My time in Africa was such an eye opening and amazing experience. It really made me feel privileged to live the life I live and taught me to enjoy the simple things in life and not take things for granted. As Social Justice Captain I hope to inform and highlight global issues such as human and animal rights, equality and climate justice as well as smaller but just as important issues like whether we feel equal in workplaces and schools. I feel extremely grateful to be given this opportunity and cannot wait for the year ahead.

Social Justice Captain Sophie Van Dartel Year 11

VCAL
Our 2013 Yr 12 VCAL students had worked very hard on developing their employability skills and we are proud to report that our students have moved into a variety of industries with 60% going straight into employment, 27% in an apprenticeship or looking for an apprenticeship, 6% going to TAFE and others looking to take a gap year to do some work/travel before committing to further training or apprenticeships or traineeships. The main fields of interest are building trades, allied health, retail and hospitality.

VCE
Offers = 83 students received a first round offer via VTAC (94%)
- 56% received their 1st preference
- 18% received their 2nd preference
- 8% received their 3rd preference
- Special Entry Access Schemes (SEAS) applications with Latrobe, RMIT and Victoria University assisted our students to gain offers at their preferred university

Top Destinations based on first round offers
1. RMIT = 23
2. Latrobe = 20
3. Melbourne Uni = 9
4. Victoria Uni = 8
5. ACU = 6
6. Monash & Swinburne = 4 each
Others = Deakin, NMIT, FED Uni, Homesglen, SAE

Popular areas of interest
Nursing/Health sciences/science
Engineering
Arts/Social Sciences/International and global studies
IT/ Business/ Finance
Exercise & sport science

Catherine Jones Career Counsellor

2014 DESTINATIONS of the 2013 co-hort
Last October I started going to the Moreland Oxygen Youth Center in Coburg, it has a large multipurpose activity space. There is also an internal courtyard. This facility has helped lots of people to learn new skills and form new relationships with other people. The facility provides spaces for young people to play music, DJ etc. There are different workshops that run every week and if you were bored they have Xbox games to play with friends. I’m currently a committee member/treasurer of Oxygen committee. I have learned lot of different skills and made new friends through the center. I encourage any young people who live in the area who need supports or want to have some fun. Please come down and join us!

Gary Mao Year 11

Oxygen’s mission is to provide a creative, safe and supportive space for young people to learn, connect and socialize. Oxygen has been open since 12 July 2013 and is open from 9.30am – 6pm providing a wide range of programs and opportunities for young people with fitness sessions, DJ workshops, music rehearsal space, Photoshop training, screen printing workshops, Oxygen art collective, youth counselling, study spaces, free Wi-Fi, computers and iPads available for use, Xbox, pool table and more.

For more information please visit our NEW Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oxygen-Centre/698704770169762 or Simon Wilson on 9389 8645 or email swilson@moreland.vic.gov.au OR better yet come visit us at 4-8 Gaffney Street, Coburg North.

Just under two weeks ago, I attended the University of Melbourne’s first Youth Humanities Forum. I was amongst about 80 other students who also shared a common interest in the humanities. For the next two days I sat amongst newly made friends and listened to and learned from the stories of the many inspirational speakers who had made careers out of their love for the humanities. It assured us that something that you love could lead to a career and contribute to our community. On the last day of the forum as a special treat, three notable Australians, Raimond Gaita, Robert Manne and Alice Pung shared with us their stories. Raimond Gaita made a point of looking into the past to protect from disillusionment and cynicism of the present. Robert Manne spoke of his drive to understand the cause and meaning of history where silence of his Holocaust background dominated his home. He sees the written and the spoken word as a weapon in the struggle to build a better world. Alice Pung was a very entertaining presenter, speaking of her beginnings as a nine-year-old writer where she used it as an outlet. I saw this event as a great success and recommend it to those who are also interested in the humanities.

Parissah Ebrahimi
The Brunswick Mallet Club staged a Croquet demonstration followed by the opportunity for students to play. Students at first looked on apprehensively, but soon joined in. Reports from a few participants follow.

On the 5th of February, during lunch, I participated in a game of croquet. I thought I would play for a little while, but I enjoyed it so much that I ended up playing for the rest of lunchtime.

**Abraham Taleb** Year 8

On the 5th of February, a whole group of students joined in to play croquet at lunchtime. Though it looked a little bit difficult, I enjoyed it. In future it would be good to see more girls join in.

**Alanna Mancuso** Year 9

At first I was unsure of whether or not to join in the croquet playing. But after some consideration, I did, and I am glad I did. It was really fun to play a new sport that we don’t usually get to play. It was a completely new technique to me and also I saw many people there having lots of fun. I am glad my school brings in new activities for us to experience.

**Sushen Satturu** Year 9
From November 21 to 27 we held the Brunswick Secondary College Art and Design Exhibition. Students exhibited their work in textiles, wood, jewellery, painting, sculpture and visual communications, displaying the wealth of talent, skill and creativity that BSC has to offer. The exciting diversity and high quality of students' work was a delight for all visitors to the show. During the lunchtime opening hours of the exhibition, many students voted for their favourite artwork in the People’s Choice award. Congratulations to Andre Akritidis, whose impressive woodwork piece received the most votes. Congratulations as well to Nick Garefallos, Sarah Elhay, Prativa Tamang, Amy Lee, Ben Lawrie and Sarah Rahmadi, who also received awards for their work on the opening night.

Mitchell Brannan Art Coordinator
My name is Hannah Rutherford and I am currently making the transition from primary school to secondary school. I am especially looking forward to the sporting program because I know that it has so much to offer. So far the school has made it an easy transition and many of my friends agree that we will settle in just fine here. I hope that the school’s sporting program will be very educational and physical. I like to compete in all different kinds of sports and I’m looking forward to potentially winning for Brunswick Secondary College.

At my primary school I was really pleased to get into the regional athletics and to come 1st in the 200 meter sprint for 8 races in a row for under 13 year olds. I also did well in cross-country gaining a medal in the 3-kilometer race for four races. I can’t wait for this year’s athletics and cross-country events to start! The other great thing about Brunswick Secondary sporting program is that it keeps you fit and healthy and you don’t need to win (even though we all like to just getting involved and taking part is fun in itself!)

Hannah Rutherford Year 7

I am really looking forward to my transition into Year 8 after my first year. I found last year that the sports program at Brunswick was exceptional and PE quickly became my favourite subject. BSC offers all students the opportunity to try different sports including Volleyball, AFL, hockey and netball. Just to name a few. It is a lot of fun learning new skills and trying to play well for your team. It also provides you with an opportunity to create new friends within the exciting team environment.

Over the past few years Brunswick has been immensely successful within Hockey and Table Tennis because of the wonderful facilities and programs based around these sports. We are lucky enough to be one of the only schools in our area with a hockey pitch which has aided us to achieve so highly. We also have access to experienced staff members to coach us. The support the schools staff provides us with also plays a major part in the success of our teams. They encourage all students to be involved and have confidence in playing against other schools. This has allowed us to have full teams attending each year levels sporting days.

I look forward to the challenges of year 8 and also getting back into the interschool sport competitions that I have missed over summer.

James Kharma Year 8

My name is Luke Johnstone and this year I have transitioned from Year 10 to Year 11. The transitioning process was made easier by the two weeks of Year 11 orientation that all Year 10s had to complete. It gave us a chance to have a look at the topics we were studying in all of our classes and to begin working on them. However, despite how useful orientation was, the jump to Year 11 is still a big one and it is clear that I will have to put a lot more effort in if I still wish to obtain good results.

Putting extra stress levels aside for a moment though, Year 11 is the first year in which students can pick exactly what they want to do meaning that school should become a lot more interesting. As I have a real interest in science, I am very excited to be doing both chemistry and physics, in separate classes, as we will go into a lot more detail and delve into some really interesting critical thinking.

Taking everything into account, Year 11 should be thought of as an opportunity to enjoy school more rather than anything else. If you do your work and put all you have into every subject, you will find it to be a very fruitful year.

Luke Johnstone Year 11

2014 is my first year entering the senior school of Brunswick Secondary College, as I am now in year 10. The transition between the Junior and Senior areas of school was drastic on the first day this year. The once familiar area of F Block was gone—after long three years of dwelling, now replaced with the packed hallways filled with Year 11 and 12 scrambling and talking, was shocking, exciting and somehow comforting as I felt I was now ready to mature and move full steam ahead into the bright unknown of my last years at Brunswick.

Last year’s school production FAME! brought upon a new excitement for performance within me and the rest of the student body with students scrambling to be a part of the fresh new ideas of Tracy Eastwood and Nick Tranter, the exciting newcomers for that year. Being a part of FAME! has made me all the more excited for the coming school production - High School Musical! The Musical - due it’s obvious success and familiarity to the generation that now attends high school. This new co-curricular, only one of the many offered at this school. This coming year will be filled with fun and accomplishment which makes me all the more excited for the events ahead. I hope to become a more organised and involved student at Brunswick, as I believe the teachers and coordinators make the experience of helping a fun and helpful task rather than a painful persuasion or compulsory chore as being a part of group is something I am drawn to.

I know these last years will be a fun, highlighted memory of my teenage years, because of our community’s acceptance, modernity, excellence and the fundamental attribute needed by students; individually, which could only be achieved as well as it has been, at a school like Brunswick Secondary College.

Adrienne Awad Year 10

I haven’t spent much time as a Year nine yet. However, thinking about what it will actually be like on the holiday, I was stressing about the higher work levels they would be expecting. “What will it be like? What if I fail?” Things that shouldn’t be racing through my head while I’m relaxing on the beach. However, I was wrong! My teachers are really nice, so far, and seem to be know what they’re doing.

However, what I’m most looking forward to is the drama and music aspects of this year! This will be my 3rd year learning guitar and I would recommend getting into music because it’s never too late to join if you always wanted to learn an instrument! Also, it’s great to see all work together at events like the Junior Soiree! I’m also looking forward to the whole school theatre production this year! You meet so many new people who share the same passions as you and you make so many new friends along the way.

My first experience with the musical arts was in Year seven drama. However, it wasn’t until year eight centre stage that I really grew to love it. We performed “Ratbags” and I enjoyed all of it and you meet so many students from other year levels that you wouldn’t normally talk to. It’s great fun! I can’t wait to see what this year brings to the table but I know I’ll have fun with it!

James Heywood Year 9

Starting Year 12 is incredibly daunting. Everyone is quick to share their war stories about how hard it was or how stressful it was. Upon seeing the horrified look on my face however, people also enlighten me with tips and advice; telling me it will all go so quickly.

Moving from Year 11 to Year 12 is a relatively smooth transition, except that you know it’s not a practice run this time, it’s the real deal. How well you do this year can affect what you do for the next few years. It’s exciting though, being in my final year of school, knowing that a 13 year chapter in my life is coming to a close. But not without some fun first! I finally get a Year 12 jumper (the one thing I have been looking forward to since Year 7). I get to be a part of the school musical one last time, I get to go to formal, and I get to graduate! After that I get to make my own way in the world, but for now, I think I’ll stick to the challenge of Year 12! I’ve got all of my finger and toes crossed and ready to study; it’s time to step up!

Ellen Campion Year 12

2014 Transition

Brunswick Secondary College, as I am now in year 10. 2014 is my first year entering the senior school of Brunswick Secondary College, as I am now in year 10. The transition between the Junior and Senior areas of school was drastic on the first day this year. The once familiar area of F Block was gone—after long three years of dwelling, now replaced with the packed hallways filled with Year 11 and 12 scrambling and talking, was shocking, exciting and somehow comforting as I felt I was now ready to mature and move full steam ahead into the bright unknown of my last years at Brunswick.

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Ellen Campion Year 12
From Brunswick Secondary College to...

George DI Ciero
As a part of his VCAL Course George completed Cert 1 and 2 in Construction at Northland, and over those two years he had a Work Placement with a builder. George also spent time working with his father in the Building and Construction business. At the end of Year 12, George attained an apprenticeship in construction with his Work Placement builder. He began his apprenticeship the week following his graduation, thereby realising a long held and worked towards career ambition.

Matt Holmes
Matt undertook Certificates 1 and 2 in Plumbing as a part of his VCAL VET studies. Since the end of the school year Matt has been steadfastly searching for a Plumbing Apprenticeship and the combination of his determination and industry specific skills has resulted in Matt finding an apprenticeship in Plumbing which he will commence in April, something to which he is very much looking forward.

Jake Frost
During Jake’s VCAL studies he developed a comprehensive set of administrative and managerial skills through his extended part time employment in administration at Hall’s Taekwondo and at McDonalds. This has resulted in Jake commencing a Manager’s Course at McDonalds in the near future.

Andrea Faubel VCAL Coordinator

Midwifery
This year I am enrolled in La Trobe University to complete a Bachelor of Nursing and Midwifery over the next four years, I’ve learnt so much in the last months, from being independent to understanding what my goals are for the next few years. Furthermore, I’ve come to understand just how much my hard work at Brunswick SC has been worth.

Mimi Awad
Philosophy
In 2014 I am studying Arts at La Trobe University. Although this was not my first preference I believe that it is most likely for the best as it was my preferred University and the course will still do wonders to open my mind to the larger world outside of high school. I am planning on majoring in Philosophy which I believe will be a wonderful way to expand my mind.

Christian Rogan
I am very excited to get started after a long break and am looking forward to be learning about what you want to learn rather than following a specific curriculum like we had to in high school. I would love one day work in the field of Engineering making objects that can fly like we had to in high school. I would love one day be sent into space.

Christian Rogan

Still time for BSC
Hi I am Hai Nguyen. I graduated from Brunswick Secondary College last year with an ATAR score of 99.15. I have been accepted into Bachelor of Bio - Medicine at University of Melbourne, where I will concurrently enrol into the Diploma of Mathematics. I want to be a doctor in the future, but I also enjoy doing and teaching Maths and that’s why I have chosen this combination of courses, to give me flexibility. I am looking forward to tutoring Year 12 Specialist and Methods students during Study Skills sessions in 2014.

2013 College Dux Hai Nguyen

A Career in Policy
This year I am starting an Arts course at Melbourne Uni. That was a bit of a surprise considering I took Maths Methods, Specialist Maths, Chemistry and (a year earlier) Biology. Yet doing Global Politics, with a great teacher, sparked an unexpectedly strong interest in that area. Now I’m looking to major in Politics and International Studies as well as explore Economics and Indonesian which are new things for me.

Bridget Pennington
A Practising Artist
At the completion of Year 12 I was lucky enough to get a place at the VCA to complete a Fine Arts course. I am most looking forward to getting to be around people with the same interests and goals and being able to learn from them in classes and in practice. I am looking towards one day being a practising artist.

Lucy McMillan
Aerospace Engineering
In March 2014 I am beginning an Aerospace Engineering course at RMIT. I am very excited to get started after a long break and am looking forward to be learning about what you want to learn rather than following a specific curriculum like we had to in high school. I would love one day work in the field of Engineering making objects that can be sent into space.

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Daniel Lee
International Relations
I was fortunate enough to get an offer for the course International Studies at RMIT in 2014. Despite making an error with preferences and being unable to remove VCA as my first preference, I was still offered a place at RMIT through the SNAP program which I am extremely grateful for.

The course allows me to gain knowledge about global political issues and processes, including the opportunity to learn a language and take part in an overseas internship in my 3rd year. Having now decided that I would like to pursue a career in politics and development, I am excited to see where this course will take me in the future!
Brunswick Secondary College offers a comprehensive Instrumental Music Program. A number of visiting Instrumental Music Teachers come to the College each week to give lessons on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, voice, guitar, electric bass, violin, viola, cello, double bass, keyboard, piano, drums and percussion:

Wayne Simmons – Guitar and Electric Bass – Mondays, Fridays am
Nick Adams – Drumkit/Percussion – Mondays, Thursdays
Sophie Dunn – Strings – Tuesdays
Michael Hanley – Guitar and Electric Bass – Tuesdays, Wednesdays
Bec Russell – Voice – Tuesdays, Wednesdays
Kathleen McGuire – Saxophone – Wednesdays, Thursdays
Michiko Morita – Piano/Keyboard – Wednesdays
Lyndal McLean – Flute and Clarinet – Thursdays
Marc Matthews – Brass – Thursdays

Lessons are held weekly with students withdrawn from regular classes on a rotating basis so that the same subject is not missed each week. Assessment and reporting is completed as in other subjects. Students are also expected to attend weekly practice in an ensemble such as Stage Band, Concert Band, String Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Brunswick Voice etc in preparation for performances. These ensemble practices are compulsory for all Instrumental Music students and take place outside of class time (eg before school, lunchtime, after school). They will also be counted as a Co-Curricular subject.

The yearly tuition levy is $400. A number of instruments are available for hire from the College for $250 per year. If you are keen for your child to learn an instrument/voice, please feel free to contact Suzanne Kurick at the College. There are still some vacancies and instruments available for hire. Students who learn privately are encouraged to participate in the College Instrumental Music Ensemble Program. We look forward to seeing our students take part in some of the exciting musical performances and events planned this year.

Suzanne Kurick
Head of Learning: Music
9387 6133

Last year I had so much fun in my singing lessons. It made me more confident and helped me with my self-expression and not being afraid to perform in front of others. In Brunswick Voice I had a really good time making friends and enjoying myself with students from other year levels. I love my singing lessons! I’m looking forward to learning harder songs and performing.

Kiana Carta Davis Year 8

I have been learning to play the drums for six years in primary school. Now I’m in Year 7 and I am looking forward to learning lots of new pieces of music and covering wide genres of music. I also hope I’ll be able to do my A.M.E.B. examination for grade 1 ‘cello. It will be my first time doing an exam.

Xavier Venville Year 7

One of the most exciting things about learning my two instruments (saxophone and ‘cello) is to play in different musical groups alongside other music students, helping them and being helped, making new friends and encouraging new students to keep playing and following through in their musical adventures. It will be fun to get to know the new saxophone and ‘cello players, a fine addition to the group they will make!

Jeremy Mafescioni Year 9