Principal's Message

I am greatly looking forward to the 2015 School Year following an especially rewarding and exciting 2014. Its highlights included:

- The development of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan
- Significant progress in our facilities planning
  - Our best ever VCE results with a median (middle score) of 32
- All this is in addition to the continued expansion of curriculum, well-being and co-curricular programs and the most important element of all, our commitment to high quality teaching and learning daily in every classroom.

2015-2018 Strategic Plan

The new Strategic Plan will guide us to an even higher level of achievement over the next four years. Developed with significant student, parent and staff input, it provides a clear and aspirational direction. The Strategic Plan will be published to the school community once it is signed off by the Region later this term. We are committed to finding varied and effective ways of communicating the goals and key improvement strategies of the Strategic Plan to its many different audiences - School Council, parents, staff, students and the wider community. We want it to be a living reference and guide, not a dusty file. As part of engaging students planning for Brunswick Secondary College’s future, students were asked to visualise their ideal school in the form of a magazine cover. I hope you enjoy reading the sample from each year level shown in this Brunswick Star.

Land Exchange and Facilities

Persistence is one of our school values. We regularly emphasise its importance and rewards to students. We were very pleased, therefore, when after nearly two years of negotiations, we have been rewarded with a positive outcome to the RMIT house land exchange request. Over the holidays, the house has been demolished and the site remediated. Above ground foundations for our School Council funded double court gymnasium are scheduled to begin in the next week or so. The final completion date for the gym is mid-October but we are hopeful that it will be ready earlier. It will be a wonderful asset. Look forward further ahead. Brunswick Secondary College was the first school to receive a pre - election pledge by the Victorian Labor Party. We look forward eagerly to the government announcing when our $10 million upgrade can commence.

2014 VCE Results

No matter how value adding a building program might be, it is student learning outcomes that matter above all. The 2014 VCE results were received with deserved pride and excitement. A median study score of 32 is an excellent result in itself. For a school with our profile and diversity, it is an outstanding result not only as a statistic, but also because of the life choices and further opportunities it gives to our graduating students. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who contributed to this important success – the students, their parents, Year 12 teachers, teachers who taught these students outside the curriculum and support staff and those who may not have taught this cohort but who are preparing our Year 7-11 students in turn, take their places as a proud and successful graduate. I am sure parents and students will be interested in reading about our VCE and VET graduates diverse destinations beyond school.

The Year Ahead

Our Centenary - This year the red brick administration building, previously Brunswick Technical School, is 100 years old. Planning for our celebration is in the very early stages. Parents, staff and students who were interested in being involved on the planning committee are asked to contact Lindell Bell, bell.lindell@edumail.vic.gov.au

Literacy for Learning - We know that the explicit teaching of language and literacy is essential if we are to continue to improve student achievement levels. Sometimes it must seem to students that there is a language subject for every subject. With the support of consultant and School Council member Brian Dare, we have invested significant time in developing our teachers’ skills in helping students to unpack and make meaning of how language works in different subjects.

This literacy for Learning approach is based on the same grammar model on which the Australian Curriculum is based. Brian and the five teachers who have undergone this three day tutor training course in this approach presented to teachers on our first student free day for 2015. It is pioneering work in Victoria and we are pleased that Brunswick Secondary College is taking a leading role in it.

Positive Psychology - Last year we completed three of an eight module Positive Psychology course with well-known psychologist and presenter, Maria Ruberto. We completed the fourth module, Character Strengths on the day before students commenced this year. This work supports our whole school focus on wellbeing. It also fits with our school wide commitment to using Appreciative Inquiry, a change and improvement model, on developing an organisation from a strengths based perspective. We know that when parents and teachers work in partnership to support a positive learning and wellbeing, the results are powerful.

2015 VCE Results

We are very grateful to the Rotary Club of Brunswick who are sponsoring a session for parents of ISC students that Maria will present on February 24th at 7:30pm. Parents who attended the Creating Confident Kids evening session last year gave very positive feedback. See the ad near the wellbeing page towards the back of the Star for details about registering for this year’s session. I highly recommend it.

Staff Changes

We farewell and thank the following teachers for their dedicated service to Brunswick Secondary College:

- Peter Ruting, who is retiring
- Pauline Pearse and Chris Tipping who have taken up leading roles at other government schools
- Megan Conley who will spend 2014 travelling in Europe, Lara Alexander who is making a change and teaching at Surf Coast Secondary College in Torquay and Luke Steward who has accepted a full time Voice position at the school he attended as a student. I know you will enjoy reading about and welcoming our newly appointed teachers – all of whom have been recruited from a very strong field of applicants. Our new teachers are joining, and will be mentored by, a talented and dedicated staff community who place a high value on collaboration and professional learning.

Year 7 2015

We are pleased to welcome Year 7 and other new students to our school. We have seven classes of Year 7 students as usual. There are more girls than boys in Year 7 this year so we do not have a boys-only class at this level. Our new Year 7 students come from 24 different primary schools and 36 different cultural backgrounds. I am especially looking forward to meeting them as I was in Spain on long service leave throughout December and so missed their Orientation Day.

I take this opportunity to thank Heather Scomb for her dedicated work and leadership as Acting Principal while I was on leave for the second half of Term 4. I look forward to meeting you all during the year at Parent Teacher Interviews, concerts, interschool sport and the many other school community events that we have at Brunswick Secondary College. Welcome to the 2015 School Year and your child’s transition to their next stage of their education.

Vivienne Telietson
Principal
Student Leadership Team

The senior student leadership team is representative of the student body. Made up of 22 student captains, this team is comprised of representatives of the many different aspects of life. Together, these school captains make up the Student Representative Council (SRC) who regularly meet to discuss student matters and concerns.

The SRC plays an increasingly important role within the college; it provides a dynamic link between the student body and the BSC staff. Continuing from this, the SRC plays a consultative role, providing feedback and recommendations to School Council and the wider college community. The SRC also provides the opportunity for the various captains to work collaboratively on student projects (such as the Peer Support program), to encourage friendships and interest groups across the year levels, to build school spirit and to shape a student culture that supports and actively promotes the school values of excellence, achievement, teamwork, persistence, responsibility and respect.

The junior leadership team for 2013 will be finalized in Term 1 and will feature in a later edition of the Brunswick Star. The senior student leadership team is looking forward to an exciting, challenging and dynamic year ahead – here are your representatives for 2015:

Hello, I am Massimo - one of the two VICAL captains for 2013 at BSC. I feel honored to be awarded this opportunity and I have a whole range of ideas and knowledge to bring to the role. I chose to run for the position of VICAL Captain primarily as I have a strong passion for the VICAL Program and all that it has to offer. I also believe that I have the qualities necessary for the role - a willingness to do my best, an ability to communicate well and to work with others. Most importantly, I have a positive and enthusiastic attitude to whatever job is at hand. The main thing that I want to achieve as a VICAL Captain is to show the VICAL program to raise the profile of the program and to demonstrate its importance and relevance to the college community. I look forward to what’s to come in 2015 and to working with my co-captain, Tina Karra.

Massimo Lantiieri-Bartley
VICAL Captain
Tina Karra
VICAL Captain

I have the privilege of being the Music Captain for 2013, it really is an honour to be given this role, and I am very excited about working with this amazing band and contributing to the developing program. I began learning piano when I was about 6 years old. However music isn’t my only interest in life, until I started school here in Year 7. Performing at the many school events and participating in music classes have been big highlights for me, so I want to do my very best as Music Captain and contribute to the school’s music program. I really hope students can have the same great experiences that I have enjoyed. I want to see the Music Department grow along with number of students involved with music in the school. I am really going to enjoy helping to run the music events and I hope more and more people will come along and benefit from them.

Toby Muller
Music Captain

I applied for Public Speaking and Debating Captain because I have always been interested in making and expressing my ideas. Public speaking is a conduit through which you can connect and relate to your audience or connect with the people around you in a truly special way. BSC has given many opportunities for me, and has really opened me up to public speaking and to the world. Every year the number of participants in the public speaking and debate groups has grown and I really want to make sure that students keep on following this fantastic path! This year it is my goal to further encourage the junior year levels into public speaking and debating as I feel these students may be shy or may not have realised the many wonderful public speaking opportunities around them. I am hoping to create an environment that is friendly, passionate and fun. Get ready for public speaking in 2013 everyone, because it won’t leave you speechless!

Sasha Gillisses-Lekats
Public Speaking & Debating Captain

Humble greetings to the fine folk of Brunswick Secondary College. A lot of you know me as the funny guy – that’s absolutely correct, but I’m more than that. I’m a young man whose priority is to do the right thing – not like me, but by my school and the students that look up to me not just as a fellow student, but as a leader. My priority lies in making sure that all Brunswick students (and teachers) feel happy, safe and comfortable in their school environment. I will do so by being a friendly face that you can feel comfortable with. This comfortable-ness comes with happiness. School is definitely an essential part to growing up and is what will lead you into the next chapter of your life. You only do it once, so do it with a smile on your face and some pop in your step.

Blake Everett
School Captain

Elowen Amos
School Captain

The development of the Performing Arts Program at BSC over the last two years has been extraordinary. I have always known that we had it in us to be something great and dedicated about the performing arts, which is why I am extremely excited to be the 2013 captain of such a prominent field. I hope to lead an active and enthusiastic Performing Arts Committee that represents the growing number of performers, musicians, back-stage and technical crew within the school. I would also like to inspire even more students to involve themselves in the school productions and performance events such as Centre Stage and StageFest. I believe that many more will fall in love with the performing arts and see it as captivating as I have. With the talent and teamwork that we have at BSC, there is no doubt that the performing arts community will only expand from here. Let me tell you once you’ve got a taste for a BSC musical, you can’t go back!

Eline Louey
Performing Arts Captain

Hi – my name is Selina and along with co-captain Brigitte Williams, I am incredibly looking forward to being a part of the Peer Support Captain team for 2013. The Peer Support program focuses on creating a safe school environment, where students are supported through the transition from primary to secondary school. A major focus of Year 10 Peer Support Leaders will assist us in running activities that revolve around teambuilding and positivity at school for all Year 7 students. Additionally, we would like to make the voice of Peer Support more present within BSC and aim to create the best environment possible for every student. We do however, understand that our school isn’t perfect; we hope to also put further emphasis on issues such as mental health, respect for diversity and safety & well-being in order to achieve a better school environment for us all. Brigitte and I want to be approachable figures within the school, so if you have any suggestions for Peer Support or are in need of assistance, feel free to talk to us. Looking forward to the year ahead!

Selina Moh-Wilson
Peer Support captain
Brigitte Williams
Peer Support captain

It’s a great privilege to be able to spend my final year at BSC serving as School Captain. Within this position there are many things to which I am looking forward, especially working with the SRC in order to connect the student body with their learning and enable students to have a more direct role in determining the school’s future. Last year the school developed a strategic plan in which students were asked to share their visions of BSC’s future. Over the coming year I look forward to seeing some of the proposed changes and projects realised. The results of this plan demonstrated the diverse nature of our school and I was very proud of the importance students placed upon our core values of respect and teamwork - values which will drive to represent during the year. I see BSC as a second home, and I hope that our fantastic school community allows others to see it in the same way. 2015 is going to be an amazing year and I am sure for many, an unforgettable one.

Elowen Amos
School Captain

Hi there, my name is Irene and along with co-captain Brigitte Williams, I am incredibly looking forward to being a part of the Peer Support Captain team for 2013. The Peer Support program focuses on creating a safe school environment, where students are supported through the transition from primary to secondary school. A major focus of Year 10 Peer Support Leaders will assist us in running activities that revolve around teambuilding and positivity at school for all Year 7 students. Additionally, we would like to make the voice of Peer Support more present within BSC and aim to create the best environment possible for every student. We do however, understand that our school isn’t perfect; we hope to also put further emphasis on issues such as mental health, respect for diversity and safety & well-being in order to achieve a better school environment for us all. Brigitte and I want to be approachable figures within the school, so if you have any suggestions for Peer Support or are in need of assistance, feel free to talk to us. Looking forward to the year ahead!

Selina Moh-Wilson
Peer Support captain
Brigitte Williams
Peer Support captain
Hi, my name is Jamie. I am honored to be the Language Captain for 2015. I applied for this position as I am passionate about learning new languages and participating in school language programs. I have been a member of Year 7 and am capable of speaking fluent Mandarin and have also joined both the Conversation clubs. For me, language study not only enables us to connect with others, but it also helps us to build a better understanding of other cultures. This year, I will promote the various Chinese and Italian related school activities and hope to raise student interest in learning foreign languages. Hopefully, these activities will encourage more students to undertake language studies at school. Besides my role as a Language Captain, I will be a part of the SRC team and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the other members. We will work cooperatively to create a more abundant and enjoyable school life for our school community.

Jamie Zhou
Language Captain

Hi, my name is Georgia Rowley and I am excited to be the Art Captain for 2015. Since Year 7 at BSC, I have studied Art subjects such as VCE, Textiles, Photography and Media, all of which I have really enjoyed. As you have likely guessed, I am incredibly passionate about Art. This is something that I wish to show through my work as Art Captain. I hope to share this same passion in other students who take part in any of the wonderful classes that BSC has on offer. I am very lucky to be a part of a school that has so many diverse art programs and clubs, as well as an industry of talented students and teachers to work alongside. Throughout this year, I would like to be able to promote these wonderful programs and the amazing work that goes on within each of these classes through all year levels of the school. The wonderful achievements of the BSC student body are certainly worth celebrating!

Georgia Rowley
Arts Captain

I have been lucky enough to have the privilege of being an SRC for two consecutive years in a row - this year is Environment Captain. I will endeavour to promote Environment Club within the school this year and to gather a team of strong and enthusiastic students from all year levels who are as equally passionate as I am about creating a healthy physical and learning environment for our school. Working as a cohesive and competitive team, I hope to lead the students of Environment Club to creating a healthier, more eco-friendly school in order to benefit students and the community alike. I am very excited to be on SRC again and I can’t wait to begin working with the environment team and implementing more environmentally friendly actions within Brunswick Secondary College.

Liana Tonace
Environment Captain

Hi, my name is Blahke and I am very excited to be the EAL Captain for 2015. I am currently in Year 12 and I came to Brunswick Secondary College from Mongolia in Year 9. As an EAL student, I understand how challenging it can be for students who come from different countries and different language backgrounds to study and get along in a new environment. I hope to establish a bridge between EAL and local students, and also hope to encourage every EAL student to be more active and to participate in the events and extra-curricular activities at Brunswick Secondary College. I’m looking forward to working with the SRC team, teachers and staff, as well as students within the school.

Blahke Otqancheghe
EAL Captain

Hi, my name is Wei Xiang Mao, but you can call me Gary. I’m honored to be International Student Captain this year. As a mentor to help new and current international students at our school to be able to make new friends and to enjoy school and classes as much as possible. As we all know, BSC is a unique school with 50 different nationalities making up the student body. My aim this year is to promote relationships between students from different nationalities, to acknowledge and respect each other’s cultures. International students are just one of the smaller communities inside of our larger community, so if you need to ask something or if you have any ideas or suggestions, you are all more than welcome to contact me. I look forward to working with SRC through the year and believe that we will be a powerful team - making this school an even more positive place to be.

Gary Mao
International Student Captain

Hi, I am very excited to be the Media Club Community Captain for 2015. My role as College Community Captain is to help new and current international students at our school to be able to make new friends and to enjoy school and classes as much as possible. As we all know, BSC is a unique school with 50 different nationalities making up the student body. My aim this year is to promote relationships between students from different nationalities, to acknowledge and respect each other’s cultures. International students are just one of the smaller communities inside of our larger community, so if you need to ask something or if you have any ideas or suggestions, you are all more than welcome to contact me. I look forward to working with SRC through the year and believe that we will be a powerful team - making this school an even more positive place to be.

Alanna Marshall
Media & Communications Captain

Hi, I am very excited to be your Science Captain for 2015. Since Year 7, I have found the Science Program at BSC to be enjoyable and well-rounded. It is my wish to contribute my efforts to show students how useful and undoubtedly enjoyable, science can be. I hope to be able to encourage more and more people to attend and perform any number of science experiments in which they are interested. Also, as a part of my role, I will attempt to raise the profile of the Science faculty within the school in general and provide all students with as many different science related opportunities as I am able. I feel that the science can be fun and the more students who discover this will see a range of career options open to them. I hope you enjoy the 2015 Brunswick Secondary College Science Program.

Luke Johnstone
Science Captain
I am very excited to be Social Justice Captain at BSC for 2015. As Social Justice Captain I hope that I can bring current social issues that are affecting our local community to light. I plan to get my peers involved in speaking out about current social issues by holding a collection of fundraisers and forums, as well as getting guest speakers into our school to give the students of Brunswick Secondary College an idea of how these issues affect those involved and how we can help to support them. I also hope to celebrate specific days like National Coming Out Day, LGBT Awareness Day, International Women’s Day, White Ribbon Day and many more to highlight what a diverse society and school community we have.

Sophie O’Connell
Social Justice Captain

Hi my name is Jenna and I am one of your Sport Captains for 2015. I was encouraged and supported by my family and friends at school to apply for the position of Sport Captain because I have a passion for sport. I am interested in all sports - even if that means trying something different and new - but mostly I enjoy Hockey. I have played Hockey for about 11 years with Junior and advanced teams, as well as having been selected to play at Hockey Victoria’s Junior Country Championships and Senior Country Championships. On behalf of the other Sport Captains I can say that we look forward to promoting healthy lifestyle choices to our community and we will welcome and encourage more BSC students to become involved in the many school sport activities that BSC has to offer.

Jenna Beli
Sports Captain
Lugman Samuri
Sports Captain
Conor Martin
Sports Captain
Hisham Ali
Sports Captain

Promoting Resilience in Adolescence

Brunswick Secondary College parents and those from other local schools are warmly invited to our parent workshop, Promoting Resilience in Adolescence.

Presented by Maria Ruberto, a highly regarded psychologist who works with our school on an ongoing basis, this session is focused on Positive Psychology and will offer practical advice and strategies that parents can employ to promote the wellbeing of their child.

Date: Tuesday 24th February
Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Location: BSC Auditorium
Cost: We are grateful to the Rotary Club of Brunswick who are sponsoring this event. While there is no fee for attendance, a small donation to State School’s Relief would be appreciated.
RSVP: Email: brunswick.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Telephone: 9387 6133

During this workshop, we will explore the main contributing theories within Positive Psychology, and how these can benefit our relationships with our children and guide our parenting with strategies that are simple and effective. These strategies become the foundation to help prevent mental illness later on in life and provide families with research to help validate what they see in their children.

This workshop aims to:
- offer a psycho-educational approach to understanding mental health
- explain challenges from a neuropsychological perspective

Proudly sponsored by

Rotary Club of Brunswick
District 9800, Melbourne-Victoria Australia
Rising Stars
Our most recent graduates share their plans beyond Brunswick Secondary College.

This year I will begin a Bachelor of Education (Primary) at RMIT Brunswick. This course was my first preference and throughout Year 12 it was my dream goal. Although I am sad to leave Brunswick Secondary College I am also excited to begin this new chapter of my life and broaden my horizons. BSC helped me to develop skills in Art and Design which I will be able to extend within my course. I look forward to a fresh start in a diverse and new environment and I am excited to work toward my dream career as a primary school teacher. Although I am scared of entering the world of university, I know Brunswick Secondary College has prepared me fully for this next chapter of my life.

Ellen Wood

My passion has always been acting, so this year, I’m taking some time to get as much experience as possible – as well as to earn some money for study the year after! I’ve deferred a Bachelor of Arts (Drama) at University of Melbourne as a last minute. I’m looking forward to the development of my skills and the flexibility I’ll have this year.

Xander Dupe

Brunswick Secondary is one of the most multicultural schools in Victoria. People from 50 different cultures are learning there. BSC is full of pride with the best teachers who are very kind and helpful to students. I started at Year 10 at BSC and graduated last year. I enjoyed every second of my life at BSC because my teachers were amazing and the students were very friendly.

I have been accepted at RMIT in the Justice course. Brunswick Secondary College gave me the opportunities I needed to be accepted at RMIT.

Khalil Qasimi

Brunswick’s performing arts and social justice programs have been instrumental in shaping my goals and vision for the future. Being involved in both has given me a passion and interest in international relations, law, acting and performance – all of which I plan to follow to some extent or another in my life.

At the end of 2014 I auditioned for a number of performing arts schools with a view to making myself known in an industry that often requires students to have life experience before they can be accepted into a course. Unsurprisingly, I was not accepted but my experiences were encouraging enough to keep me strongly focused on the performing arts. However, when my TFAV came out and was better than I had expected, many more options were available to me.

I placed Arts at the University of Melbourne at the top of my list, with the idea of majoring in前者an area of study and continuing on to a law degree. I was extremely excited to be offered a place.

I was also successful in my interview with the Whitehouse Institute of Design, to study Stage and Creative Direction. Despite these wonderful options, my heart still lies with acting and I have therefore deferred my enrolment for both Melbourne and the Whitehouse to take a gap year and explore the whole new world of work and constant auditions.

Lucy Payne

Probably one of school’s greatest ironies is that everything you do is designed to help you leave. In the BSC logo, you’ll notice that above the large star that represents our school community, a single gold star rises. It symbolises our graduating students as they go on to live into the world as adults, equipped with the academic, social and personal skills they learned at BSC.

Last year’s graduating students were a perfect example of this: having not only proved their diligence and maturity throughout 2014, they are now going on to pursue their dreams and interests with drive and persistence.

Some students will go to university, like me. I was pleased to receive a first round offer in January to study the Bachelor of Communication (Media) at RMIT; other BSC students, as described in their own words, are studying university degrees ranging from science to the arts to nursing and social work. But of course, university isn’t the path for everyone and we have students also studying apprenticeships, TAFE courses, or going straight into the workforce. Others still are taking the opportunity to celebrate their newfound maturity via travel and soul-searching. No matter what they are doing, each and every member of BSC’s class of 2014 goes on with the confidence and persistence to pursue their ambitions and on behalf of myself and the Brunswick community I wish each and every one the best of luck.

Maggie O’Shea

Ever since Year 7, I knew I wanted to be a nurse. Over the years, and through work experience in the maternity ward at Sunshine Hospital, I was pretty certain that I wanted to be a midwife as well. My heart was set on a Bachelor of Nursing/Midwifery at La Trobe University and I was fortunate enough to receive an early conditional offer in October through the new ‘Aspire’ program. Year 12, especially the last few months were hard and sometimes stressful, but knowing that I had an offer made life just a little easier. I recommend anyone looking to study at La Trobe in the future to consider the ‘Aspire’ program – which highlights the importance of getting involved in your school and local community, something which BSC thrives on. I will definitely miss the family and warmth of the college but feel confident that I’m ready for whatever the future holds. In 2015, I simply can’t wait to start my double degree and be one step closer to my scrub-wearing, baby-holding dream! In a few years’ time, I hope to be making a difference in the lives of new and growing families as well as caring for the future generations who pass through the Special Care Nursery.

Larissa Li

The first term assembly on February 20th will celebrate the achievements of the 2014 College Dux and school Award Recipients. These awards and further details about the destinations and pathways of the 2014 cohort will feature in the March edition of the Brunswick Star.
I started a customer service position with Officeworks. I became interested in this area of work following my VET Work placement with the same company. I found the workplace enjoyable to work in with good conditions and opportunities to develop my career pathway in this industry. My advice for students is to do what you want to do and to believe in yourself.

Dylan Pelesi

I took up a first round offer from Rangari TAFE where I am studying the Advanced Diploma in Justice. I was also successful in applying for a Smith Family Tertiary Scholarship which will cover my study costs. I became interested in this area following my VET Certificate IV in Justice and my involvement in the Defence Cadets. The course is a good pathway for my plan to join the Australian Federal Police or the Victorian Police in the future. I am drawn to the excitement and adrenaline of the work, the friendships and opportunities it offers and knowing that my work is helping others. My advice for students is to give it everything you have, you have to work at it.

Maddie Holt

I have a part-time carpentry position with a builder and am working part-time in the clothing retail business. I became interested in carpentry through my VET Building and Construction studies and work placements with builders. I enjoy being able to contribute to making something from an idea and like being hands-on in my work. My advice for students is to make sure that you have a good hard think about what you want to do and then to give it everything you have.

Luke Hollan

I am currently doing a trial apprenticeship plumbing placement with a plumber. Following my placement I will commence a four-year plumbing apprenticeship with the plumber while attending TAFE college for three years. I enjoy working outdoors where every day you are doing something different. My advice for students is to pay attention and to make the most of school as the time flies by and you will never get it back. Follow your dreams.

Jayden Panagiotidis

I started a first-year apprenticeship with a builder straight after school finished. I will continue this for the next four years which includes completing Building and Construction studies at NCAI. My plans at this point have been a qualified builder aim to eventually start up my own business. I have always enjoyed building where you start with something and take pride in what you end up producing. My advice for students is to stick to what you want to do and not be discouraged. If what you are doing gets too much then do something else.

John Kotsanoumis

I am starting the Electrotechnical Engineering pre-apprenticeship at NCAT TAFE which will lead me becoming an Electrician after further studies and work placements. I became interested in this pathway after completing my Integrated Technology VET subject last year and looking further into the industry. I like hands on work and the problems you need to work out in plumbing. My advice for students is to have fun but make sure that you keep your focus on doing your best in your school work as well.

Connor Krilis

The VCE Baccalaureate is a new initiative from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and was awarded to students for the first time in 2014. It is designed to encourage more students to continue studying languages and higher level mathematics through their senior years of schooling. It also provides an additional form of recognition for students who successfully complete this level of demanding study.

To be eligible for the VCE Baccalaureate students must satisfactorily complete their VCE to achieve a study score and their VCE program must include:

- Units 3 & 4 sequence in English or Literature or English Language with a study score of 30 or above;
- or a Units 3 & 4 sequence in EAL with a study score of 33 or above;
- Units 3 & 4 sequence in either Mathematics Methods (CAS) or Specialist Mathematics;
- Units 3 & 4 sequence in a VCE Language;
- At least two other Units 3 & 4 sequences.

The 2014 recipients of the VCE Baccalaureate are:

- Ioannis Avaridis
- Alexander Bachmann
- Michael Chen
- Nicholas Collins
- Xavier Dupe
- Marcus Ho
- Lewis Ingram
- Nagi Roslie
- Shannon Zhong

Congratulations on your achievement and good luck with your future endeavours.

Warren Evert

Senior School Leader

I chose to study Italian as part of the VCE Baccalaureate as I enjoyed the subject, but also do that I would have more options for studying abroad in the future. In 2016 I hope to study in Italy as part of my university course in Science and Nanotechnology.

Alex Bachmann

I did the VCE Baccalaureate as I had a wide range of interests in various subjects and I felt this gave a balance to my VCE program and helped my performance in all subjects.

Xavier Dupe
Every year more than 3000 international students choose to study at Victorian government schools. In 2014, five international students successfully completed their VCE at Brunswick Secondary College with two achieving ATAR scores above 90. Here’s a little bit about our international stars:

**Taejin Song (John)**
John has followed in the footsteps of his older brother who studied at Brunswick Secondary College a few years ago. He has been an exemplar student for all students at the college, but especially to international students. John moved to Melbourne from Korea. He has consistently balanced his academic studies with extra-curricular commitments and used all possible supports within the school to achieve a high academic standard. John’s interests were spread across Maths, Sciences, Economics and Legal Studies. His hard work and disciplined approach earned him an ATAR of 93.4. John will join Shabeen in studying Commerce at the University of Melbourne.

**Shujun Liu (Julia)**
Julia is originally from China and started with the Brunswick English Language Centre in 2011 before moving into Year 10 at Brunswick Secondary College where she quickly made friends within the cohort. Julia’s main interests were in the Business and the Design and Technology field. Julia is still considering her options for her courses next year, and hopes to continue her studies in Melbourne within the Design and Technology field. Congratulations on passing your VCE and good luck in 2015!

**Jinyeop Oh**
Originally from Korea, Jinyeop also started with the Brunswick English Language Centre in 2011. Building on his strong maths/science focus, Jinyeop included Maths and Language (Korean) in his first year. Like many of the Year 12 students, Jinyeop was grateful for the help he received from teachers outside of class hours through the co-curricular program. He believes that the extra attention helped him to pass his VCE. Congratulations on your VCE result, Jinyeop!

**An Interview with Shabeen**

Q: What were your highlights?
A: My first highlight would be that I was able to smoothly and quickly adjust to my studies and surroundings which allowed me to enjoy my time at the school and work effectively towards my post-VCE goals. I was also selected as the International Student Captain in Year 12 which was a great chance for me to give back to the school and my fellow students. These experiences are truly memorable and were surely my highlights not only for VCE but also for the rest of my life.

Q: What advice do you give to other international students and local students?
A: I would strongly advise international students to make new friends at school, especially with local students, since it allows them to explore the school, the community and Australia itself. Similarly, I would also advise local students to form friendships with international students and accept them as a part of Brunswick Secondary College since it will allow them to learn about new cultures and countries.

It is my belief that it is in the mutual interest of both local and international students to become friends leading to a very enriching experience that I will certainly cherish forever.

**Syed Shabeen Haider Raza**
Shabeen joined Brunswick Secondary College in 2013 from Pakistan to complete his Year 11 and Year 12 studies with us. Shabeen’s positive attitude helped him to adjust to his new school environment and to make friends quickly. His popularity also earned him the role of International Student Captain in 2014. Shabeen was a wonderful role model for all students, as he worked well with everyone. Shabeen’s subject interests lay in the Accounting and Business Management field and his disciplined approach earned him an ATAR of 93.4. Shabeen is studying Commerce at the University of Melbourne in 2015.

**Afriena Azhar**
Afriena has studied at Brunswick Secondary College since 2013 and has praised the supportive environment of the school. Afriena moved to Melbourne from Malaysia and her highlights include the friends she has made here, attending the Year 12 Formal and especially the homework clubs that she joined as part of the co-curricula Program. Particularly the Maths help classes. Afriena’s study interests were in the areas of Biological Science and Maths and she is looking forward to her tertiary studies in Melbourne in 2015. Afriena looks forward to her tertiary studies in Melbourne. She has been accepted into Science at RMIT, City Campus. Well done Afriena.
The new year brings new faces to Brunswick Secondary College and we extend a warm welcome to staff joining our team in 2015:

**Sarah Hobday-North**
**Visual Communication Design & Art**
Hello! I am Sarah Hobday-North and will be teaching Visual Communication Design at BSC. I am a registered Architect and Associate of the Australian Institute of Architects. I completed a Master of Architecture degree at the University of Melbourne in 2007, having previously completed a Bachelor of Planning and Design in 2003. From 2008 to 2010 I worked with Building Design Partnership, London, as an Urban Designer. In that role, I worked on master-planning projects which integrated sustainable design, residential architecture, retail, transport, health and other community infrastructure. The most successful projects I have worked on have always involved community consultation; I enjoy working collaboratively and believe the best results are achieved when ideas are shared. Since 2010 I have worked as a Project Architect with NO Architects [Perth] working in education design including primary and secondary schools, residential and community architecture.

Building on my experience in tutoring and developing work experience programs, I made a formal move into teaching in 2012. This is driven by my belief in the importance of visual literacy in our increasingly visual and digital world. I am delighted to be supporting the next generation of designers at Brunswick Secondary College.

**Marianne Hicks**
**Humanities**
Hello, my name is Marianne Hicks and I’m excited to be joining Brunswick Secondary College as a Humanities teacher. I’m a passionate teacher and have been involved in education for a number of years, although this is my first time as a secondary teacher. I taught history and international studies at Monash University for four years, including a two-year stint at the campus in Johannesburg, South Africa. Before teaching at Monash, I finished a Bachelor of Arts (With Honours) and a PhD at the University of Western Australia in History. My dissertation was on Scottish film. My doctorate was a critical biography of an Australian film and theatre entrepreneur who reigned in Germany under the Nazis and after the war. His greatest story as a journalist was reporting on Nuremberg and the trial of the War criminals after WWII, and in creating a sensation when he returned to Australia by flying the inverter that he thought Hitler had "used eyes"! I’ve also worked as an educational designer where I helped academics to use educational technology in their teaching. I spent 2016 studying in the Masters of Teaching at the University of Melbourne and working part-time on an educational research project for the Eliminate Dengue Program at Monash. It’s an amazing program that aims to reduce the incidence of Dengue Fever worldwide! I am also an avid gardener and love cooking and eating fresh produce from our vegie patch. I’m delighted by the prospect of teaching at BSC and am looking forward to becoming part of the College community.

**Jarrod Warmington**
**Physical Education**
I am Jarrod Warmington and I join the team at Brunswick Secondary College in 2015 to teach in the area of Physical Education, Health and VCE. Having completed a Bachelor of Business at La Trobe University and earned a Bachelor of Applied Science (Majoring in Physical Education, Health and Nutrition) at RMIT University, I have previously taught Physical Education and Health at Werribee Secondary College. I grew up in the outer suburbs of Melbourne and embraced the sporting culture from a young age with a passion for both playing and coaching sport in my local area. I look forward to being part of the BSC community and to building relationships with staff and students.

**Emily Pellekis**
**Voice & Classroom Music**
Hello, my name’s Emily Pellekis and I am very excited to be the new Voice teacher at BSC! Recently I have worked in secondary schools teaching voice and VCE dance, previously I have performed, choreographed and directed shows throughout Australia and overseas. I have completed a Bachelor of Music/Theatre, a Post-graduate Diploma in Arts Management at Melbourne University and a Graduate Diploma in Education through Monash University. I have a passion for singing and performing and hope to create an environment that supports and promotes the Arts across all year levels. I want every student at BSC to have an opportunity to share their passion and find their voice. I look forward to getting to know you all, having a sing and being a part of the BSC staff and community.

**Fiona O’Meara**
**Mathematics**
Hi, my name is Fiona O’Meara and I’m excited to be joining the team at Brunswick Secondary College. I will be teaching Maths, which is a subject that I love, and I plan to inspire the students to enjoy it just as much as I do. Previously, I have taught at St Columba’s College and Elwood Ritter College. Prior to joining the teaching profession I held various roles supporting Actuaries in financial and administrative capacities within the Superannuation, Insurance and Mining industries. My favourite way to spend my time is to socialise with family and friends; I also enjoy keeping fit, travelling and cooking (especially baking!).

**Emily Doyle**
**Media**
Hi, my name is Emily Doyle and I’m very excited to begin teaching Senior Media and Junior Drama at Brunswick Secondary College in 2015. I love teaching. Within the Arts and I have taught for four years previously in the independent sector. Prior to completing my Dip Ed I lived overseas and worked as a Radio Producer in London. I’ve always been drawn to interesting and creative storytelling which is why I became interested in Cinema Studies during my undergraduate degree and did a foundations course in Film and TV at VCA. I also love photography, music and travel and try to do as much of these things as possible. In my spare time I’m really looking forward to joining the vibrant arts community at BSC and helping to run co-curricular programs that promote the creative arts.

**Stephen Milligan**
**English & Literature**
Hello all, my name is Stephen Milligan. I am delighted to be joining the BSC community as an English and Literature teacher. I am an English and History major, having received my Bachelor of Arts from La Trobe University and my Diploma of Education from Melbourne University. My passion for reading and writing is only matched by a deep interest in literature, history, politics and good conversation. I look forward to engaging with the wonderfully diverse student group at BSC in the English and Literature classrooms and to learning more about the community in the coming year. Thank you.
Personal Glimpses

Media Star
Emily Wood-Source is the epitome of the Brunswick Media student. Her dedication and passion for the subject is reflected in her refined analytical and creative skills, which resulted in a VCE and impressive Study Score of 49 for VCE Media in 2014. As an Early Start student, Emily approached the subject in a mature manner. Not limiting herself to her fundamental responsibilities of homework, research and seeking guidance from teachers,

Emily elected to go above and beyond assisting with filming of school events such as the Star Community Projects as well as attending the Lahoya's Choice Awards.

As with all Media students, Emily's organisational skills were tested by her major film project in 2014 - a documentary entitled 'Sentiment'. Emily was able to employ sophisticated camera and editing techniques to evoke a plethora of emotions from her audience. She has a keen ability to deconstruct texts, using technical language and insight into this was reflected in her end of year results.

Emily is a positive, caring and thoughtful student who always strives to achieve her best. She is engaged in class, works willingly and listens to feedback. Emily's outstanding Early Start VCE result is testament to her character.

Lara Alexander
Media (2014)

Language Star
Congratulations to Nivan Khem on her outstanding success in VCE Turkish. Nivan studies Year 12 Turkish. When she was in Year 11 last year, achieving an impressive study score of 49 out of a possible 50.

Nivan is one of a number of Brunswick Secondary College students who choose to study a language at the VCE Victorian School of Languages. We acknowledge Nivan's Turkish teacher and the VCE more generally.

Did you know that the VCE is the largest single VCE language provider with over 5,000 VCE students? Students attend classes on Saturday mornings. It is a government school that has a vital role in enabling students to study a language not offered in their mainstream school.

Nivan is a wonderful role model for other students. Through commitment, organisation and an exceptional work ethic, she achieved strong academic results across her Year 11 subjects at BSC and close to perfect score in Year 12 Turkish while giving generously to the school through her role as 2014 Peer Support Captain. Best Wishes for Year 12, Nivan.

Vivienne Tellies
Principal

Moving on up
Moving up to Year 12 level always presents new challenges, but perhaps the hardest transition is for our new Year 7 students entering a completely new educational experience as they arrive at high school. For the two students I interview, it's a transition not without anxiety: "I'm a bit nervous," says Joy Cole. "I'm glad I have my sister at BSC, so I know how everything works." The increased workload is a bit daunting; Rohan Amish mentions "harder work" as a key difference between primary and high school while Jo cites "keeping up with the homework" as one of her worries. However, both are excited about the opportunity to learn in a wider range of areas.

Jo is excited about the possibility of having "more freedom" with her work, while Rohan says, "I feel like I'm going to learn more." He's looking forward to "Arts and Religious," because he likes art and "I'm not a good painter." Jo, on the other hand, is most looking forward to Science because it "seems fun and interesting, and something that I've never done before." She also seems keen to join one of Brunswick's performing arts programs, saying "I'd like to do musical at some point," although both Rohan and Jo are yet to settle on their choices for co-curricular activities. They also both reference the size of a high school, with Rohan mentioning that "there's a lot more people in the school," but the fact doesn't seem to fa "Running around with my friends at lunch and stuff?" What Rohan replies when asked where he's most looking forward to, while Jo says she's excited about "making new friends" and "having a new social group to hang out with."

Maggie O'Shea

Recognition
We take this opportunity to highlight Dr. Rick Finek for his generous contribution to Brunswick Secondary College community. Now retired, Rick previously taught Math and ESL at both secondary and tertiary levels and his wealth of teaching experience has been put to good use at BSC via the Time Help Volunteer Program over the past three years. Rick has provided one-to-one tutoring sessions for many BSC students on a voluntary basis through the college's Maths Help and Senior Maths Study Skills sessions.

"I volunteered as a way of maintaining my professional skills and interests," says Rick. "It is also a way of contributing to my local community: I have lived in Brunswick for many years."

Rick believes that the volunteer work at BSC is in rewarding for him as it is for the students ''. I enjoy working with individual students to help their understanding of concepts that they are finding difficult; it is very satisfying to see the students confidence in their mathematical ability grow.''

Whether working with individuals who find the work challenging or with those looking for extension, Rick finds the work very fulfilling. Because he has been working at the college on an ongoing basis, he has been able to provide support to individual students who previously attended Maths Help as they have progressed through the school years. He has also had the satisfaction of witnessing his ongoing improvement in work practice and achievements.

We thank Rick for his positive influence on our students, staff and the broader community.
Welcome Year 7 2015 First Day

First Day Feelings
• I feel excited and nervous – I had butterflies in my tummy!
• A mixture of nervous, excited, anxious and curious
• I'm excited, now that I have settled in
• I feel confident and excited
• It feels weird, I am happy and nervous at the same time

Surprises
• The school is so big
• I am surprised that I wasn't nervous
• I am surprised about the fact that there are so many rooms to be taught in!
• I am surprised that I haven't found anything surprising so far
• I am surprised that we haven't received any homework yet (it said at the start of period 2 on the first day!)
Welcome Year 7 2015 Time to Learn.

Looking ahead
I am looking forward to:
• Learning how to be better at maths
• Meeting new people in my year level and getting to know teachers better
• Learning how to play the drums
• Knowing things I have always wanted to learn
• Sports and graduating!
Welcome Year 7 2015 Welcome To Our Parents Too
Every student at BSC has to overcome obstacles to reach their goals, but for 2013 graduate Adam Saad, the dream of playing AFL football seemed to be getting further out of reach. After just missing out on selection in 2012, Adam had to again face disappointment earlier this year when, after a promising season in the VFL, he was passed over for the AFL National Draft.

However, the plucky halfback - who told mates “I’m gonna get there, I don’t care how long it takes” - is not one to shy away from a challenge and proved that persistence pays off when, six days later, he was selected by the Gold Coast Suns in the Rookie Draft.

If you keep persisting, anything can happen.

After years of dreaming, the moment was understandably tense: “On the day I was pretty nervous, I called my close mates over...” Adam describes. “We were flicking through the picks and it kept going and out of nowhere... I saw my name, and I got up, and I couldn’t believe it, neither could my Mum and sister. It was an amazing feeling...”

The very next day Adam was on a plane to the Gold Coast to start training with some of football’s greats. “Training with Gary Ablett” is the first highlight he mentions, describing the man as “very humble, someone who makes everyone feel very welcome, and just does everything right. Gary does everything he can to be better himself.”

But, despite the excitement, Adam recognises a benefit in the delay to his football career: “Thinking about it now, as an 18 year old I wasn’t as mature...” However, it’s not just life experience that helped Adam decide where he is today; he’s keen to mention the efforts of one Freddo Stringer, a BSC maths teacher who supported Adam not just with his sums but with his work ethic and ambitions. “He’s had a massive role in the way I’ve gone about things. He also mentions the impact Jack ‘Hex’ Hexenolt’s took in his football.” In fact, Adam speaks highly of his entire high school experience, saying that “My six years at Brunswick SC were probably the best years of my life.

I enjoyed every single minute of it and I’ve got friends now that I’ll have for life... I just want to thank everyone at the school that helped me through year twelve. I appreciate it, and I’ve finally gotten to the great place I am now.”

For now, Adam is enjoying the AFL dream that he’s made come true. His advice to current students? “It’s never over,” he says. “If you just keep persisting and keep going and put your head down and work hard, anything can happen.”

Maggie O’Shea Year 12 Graduate 2014

The goals of the Parent Association are to foster community and school spirit, to enhance the educational process through a variety of activities and events and to support the growth of facilities and programs. All parents and carers of BSC students are automatically members of the PA and all ideas and suggestions are welcome. In 2014 key school events that the Parent Association supported included the annual Trivia Night, the Twilight Market/Car Boot Sale, the Parent Information Evening for Prospective Parents and the and the NAB student-led Teenagers’ and Technology forum for parents.

In 2013 and 2014, the Parent Association and the SRC jointly raised funds to enable the three hottest north facing rooms in the school to be air-conditioned in time for the 2014 school year. The PA also organized a successful second hand uniform sale. To receive updates of upcoming meetings, events and opportunities, or to find out more about the BSC Parent Association, please email the convener, Helen Shanahan at shannah41@fastmail.fm

All parents must welcome

Find out more at the Year 7 Parent Social Evening
Members of the PA will attend the Year 7 Parent Social Evening, 7.00pm Tuesday 17th February. You will have an opportunity to sign up for or find out more about the BSC Parent Association. Meetings will be set once we know parents’ preferred day of week and starting time. Everyone must welcome. Look out for the letter on the Compass Portal.
In December, I was fortunate enough to travel to America to participate as an Australian ambassador in the AUS/NZ Youth Leadership Program, involving 18 young people from across Australia and New Zealand, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

The program focused on the actions young people can undertake to address climate change. We were fortunate enough to work with NGO’s, climate policy think-tanks and members of Congress. Moreover, the program also encouraged the development of effective leadership and communication skills.

Overall, my journey across America was an enlightening and humbling experience. I found myself chastened by the disparity between the rhetoric often espoused by many internationally typecasting America as the ‘land of opportunity’, and the realities of poverty, disadvantage and exploitation that infused even supposedly ‘developed’ cities such as Los Angeles and Seattle. Notwithstanding this, the trip was thoroughly enjoyable and educational, and I am eternally grateful for the opportunities provided to me. I return to Australia with aspirations of establishing a youth climate dialogue within Victoria for secondary school students alongside my fellow Australian ambassadors.

David Vadori 12R
**Wheelchair Basketball**

During term 4 2014, all Year 7 students participated in a Wheelchair Basketball session. Gary O’Connor from Disability Sport & Recreation Victoria gave an inspirational talk to BSC students about his disability and how it has impacted on his life. More importantly, Gary talked about all the things he is able to do and the importance of ‘getting back up when you fall down’. As part of the incursion, all of the students had the opportunity to try wheelchair basketball for themselves and to experience first-hand the demands of this sport. Gary’s speech was both engaging and motivating - the students appreciated and benefited from sharing in his story.

*Wendy Kenbeek*
Teacher

**Comments/Reflections**

Wheelchair Basketball was heaps of fun and everyone enjoyed it – but it was also quite an eye-opening experience. It was really hard to pass and shoot – it’s incredible how easy the professionals make it look. On behalf of the Year 7 students I would like to say a big ‘thank you’ to Gary for giving us this wonderful experience.

*Avra Monahan 7N (2014)*

Our experience with Wheelchair Basketball was amazing! It is really cool how easy to move the chairs are and I am really sure everyone enjoyed the experience. I really hope that Gary O’Connor (our instructor) comes back next year so that we can have even more fun.

*Alex Johnson 7U (2014)*

I felt very emotional during Gary’s speech and it made me feel that I am very lucky with what I have.

*Paris Papakotbrias 7N (2014)*

Just hearing Gary’s story, I was amazed and inspired. He is a very strong man – I hope to be as strong and as brave. I am sure a lot of people will never forget Gary and his story.

He was very kind – he gave us the chance to ride in the wheelchairs, taught us the safety skills we needed and made sure that everybody had a turn.

*Nadia Tabbitt 7N (2014)*

Wheelchair Basketball was really inspiring and exciting. Gary is a paraplegic and is in a wheelchair for life; he spoke to us before we had our session in the wheelchairs. He spoke about what he has accomplished and told us that nothing should ever stop us going for our goals. He also told us that you should never say no to the chance to do something new, as you don’t know what will happen to you tomorrow.

*Xavier Vennille 7U (2014)*

During the wheelchair basketball we had short wheelchair races just so we would get used to steering a wheelchair. We then split into 5 different coloured teams. We played a couple of short wheelchair basketball games and then finished off with some more racing. I had a great time and I would definitely recommend it to anyone.

*Max Haywood 7W (2014)*

On Friday 17th October we got to participate in wheelchair basketball. We were versusing in teams of five and we got to pick some of the people in our team. It was fun because we got to spin around and move backwards. Each time we got the ball in the hoop, everyone cheered and shouted. Overall it was a very fun experience for everyone involved.

*Klara Bella 7W (2014)*

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On Sunday November 23rd, 2014 the Moreland City Band held their inaugural Fleming Park Festival featuring live music from 11am–6pm, with bands such as Big Band Frequent, Mc’Bones Trombone Ensemble, and the Moreland City Band Phoenix Project.

First up was our own Brunswick Secondary College Senior Concert Band and Jazz Combo. They played a selection of favourites ranging from the contemporary “Hunger Games” to Quincy Jones’ “Soul Bassa”, “Swe” made popular by Michael Buble, and “Superstitione” by Stevie Wonder. Students braved the heat and blazing sunlight and impressed the audience with their energy and professionalism. Their sound was tight and dynamic and had the audience buzzing and the high level of musicianship did the school proud. It was great to meet members of the Moreland City Band and to share this special day with them.

For more info check out the following: alleviate@boum@fleming-park.festival/27624667248573

*Lyndal Mclean*
School Sport Victoria Table Tennis Championships

2014 was another big year for the BSC Table Tennis Squad as we had three teams - Years 7 Boys, Year 8 Boys and Intermediate Boys (Years 9 & 10 combined) - all making it to state finals held at MSAC during Term 4. This alone is an amazing achievement - getting one team into state finals is hard enough, let alone having all 3 teams across the year levels! The teams did very well throughout the day with all three battling their way to the semi-finals.

SSV Table Tennis Championships - Year 8

Going into their first matches the Year 8 Boys team were confident, having been awarded Metro Champions in 2013, they were hoping to again make it to finals. Through the first two rounds the boys played well, winning by good margins against Warrnambool College and Bembrigg South East College (to make it through to the semi-finals placed top of their pool). It felt very much like 2013, at the point - playing very tight matches against Mildura Secondary College (we won in 2013) and again progressing to the grand final to play Barwon High School (who were runners up in 2013). There was some excellent play throughout the matches during the grand final round, as both teams earned it out to try and gain the state title. In spite of putting in their very best effort in BSC, it was not able to claim victory. Our team came away with the (still very impressive) 3rd place of State Championship Runners-Up for 2014.

SSV Table Tennis Championships - Year 7

Congratulations to the Year 7 Boys team who earned the title of Victorian State Champions at the annual competition in 2014. The day did not start well (with a loss to Warrnambool College) but the boys were not beaten and managed to go through the rest of the competition with no further losses. As later would have it, they managed to fight their way into the finals to once again do battle against the Warrnambool team. The final literally came down to the wire as both teams were so evenly matched - the result in the end was Warrnambool’s way by only one game! Well done on a great team effort.

As the teacher in charge of the teams, it was great to see the boys sharing the competition workload - taking turns in each match and volunteering themselves to sit out and rest throughout the day. Their behaviour, eagerness to play well and support for each other represented BSC and the school values well. No matter what the score was at the end of the day, the school is very proud of their achievements! Well done to everyone involved and special thanks to Josh Nolan, Hillary Gilbert and Esti Gann for their ongoing support and coaching of the teams.

Shang Wang
Table Tennis Coach

Students of Years 7 to 11 completed this activity during Term 4 2014. Students formed groups and were asked to contribute their ideas in order to get student input into future planning for Brunswick Secondary College.

Students were asked to visualise their ideal school in the form of a magazine cover with title, subheadings and illustrations which symbolised what the school would represent and achieve. These are some examples of the covers produced.

Thank you very much to all students who contributed their time and effort to this activity. Your feedback is appreciated and will influence planning for your future!
Alison Sanza
In Term 4, 2014, 14 students from the Year 11 VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies Class, Miss Tunor, Miss Gilbert, Mr Ewart and Mr Martinson set out for a five day bushwalk in the Alpine National Park.

We were split into two groups, and over the five days we walked over 50 kilometres. Both groups walked along the same trail, but in opposite directions; one travelled from Harrietville to the top of Mount Feathertop, along the Razorback to Mt Hotham then down and up the Cobungra Valley to Falls Creek. The other group started at Falls Creek and finished at Harrietville.

There were lots of memorable moments and new experiences for all involved. We were lucky enough to play in snow drifts, see wild brumbies, watch the sunrises and sunsets over the mountains, walk to the top of Victoria’s second highest mountain, drink from fresh, clean, mountain streams, explore the many mountain huts along our track and spend time appreciating the beautiful views.

Kelly Tunor Teacher
Outdoor Education Camp (cont)

My highlight was when I climbed to the top of Mount Hotham and Mount Feathertop... I learned that if I try my hardest I will succeed.

**Owen Kittelty**

My highlight was walking alone for a good three or two. You really notice the surrounding environment. It gets you thinking a lot. It's like one of those long showers you take when you're just thinking about life. I learned that being more calm, open and humble in stressful situations, being away from urban environments, being away from technology and social media and being out in the open really makes you appreciate what this world has to offer.

**Hisham Ali**

I really enjoyed being in such a breathtaking environment with a really rare and amazing group of people. My favourite thing to do each night, after we had reached camp, was spend some time alone just taking in the world around me. My mind, for the first time in 17 years, would be silent.

**Madeleine Borg** 12U

The whole time we were walking, I could see Feathertop in the distance. Finally reaching it on the last night was a real highlight.

**Tom Harms** 12U

What a wonderful view from Mount Feathertop! I have never hiked that far before, so it was nice to complete the challenge.

**Anthony Thomas**
The annual Real Industry Job Interview (RIJ) event gives BSC students the opportunity to experience what it is like to be interviewed for a job. Our students attend the Coburg Town Hall where representatives from a range of real industries conduct mock interviews just as they would in a real-world workplace. These professionals volunteer their time in order to support and educate our community's youth. Students spend significant class time in preparation for the event — learning about and discussing workplace etiquette and how to behave throughout the job application and interview process.

Paige Palmeri
10K 2014

Before going to RIJ I was nervous because I needed to prepare a resume and a cover letter. I was scared that it wasn't going to be good. On the day, we rode down to Coburg Town Hall via the Sydney Road train. At the beginning of our trip, I was very nervous, but as we got closer to Coburg, I became more relaxed. I was getting more and more confident the closer we got to the Town Hall.

As I entered the hall and lined up to receive my name, my heart began to beat faster, but I entered the interview room and my heart rate slowed down. As I was asked questions, I began to feel more comfortable and I wasn't as scared. My interviewer was a male teacher who worked at Glenroy College and Frankston Secondary College. He was friendly and kind before the interview started and we had a good chat about football and my experiences in secondary school. Our conversation was fluent and I had definite answers to my questions. When the interview finished, I came out with my head held high and a smile on my face thinking that it wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. I now feel like I can accomplish anything.

Jacob Adams
10K 2014

Preparing my cover letter and resume wasn't too difficult, but I went into the interview with a racing heart. I was sweating and more nervous than an AFL player on Grand Final Day! I had made my way to Coburg and was getting ready to call my name. This was the most nerve-racking part of the day. Walking inside and meeting my interviewer, Suzie, was such a relief. She made me feel so comfortable, telling me there was nothing to worry about. I was nervous, but I knew everything was going to be fine. I didn't have time to prepare anything. I was given the opportunity to ask questions and I took full advantage of that. I was able to show my interviewer that I was a confident and reliable person. I was able to express my interest in the company and I was able to prove that I was the right person for the job.

Frankie Cocolacone
10K 2014
Hello, my name is Alanna Marshall and I am extremely proud to be BSC Media and Communications Captain for 2015. Although Media is a relatively new subject to the school it has already obtained a following. Its popularity has spread and I hope to spread it even further. Although there seems to be an idea that Media is a ‘boys’ subject and that an immense amount of knowledge about computers is required, this is simply not true. Media is open to everyone and tailors to everyone’s tastes. It is both creative and analytical, with equal amounts of both. The skills gained in studying Media can be used in many other subjects like English, Drama, Literature and heaps more. And as for the technical side of it, you learn as you go with students who have a similar understanding to you.

Brunswick Secondary College has certainly embraced Media - and we seem to have the knack for it. The first VCE Media class graduated last year with spectacular results: nearly half of the students’ ATARs were over 40 and all students did their best. This also includes the fantastic work of the Early Start students who rose up to match their Year 12 peers. A special mention is definitely in order for the VCE Media Early Start student Emily Wood-Trounce who achieved an outstanding score of 49 while also creating the documentary film, ‘Sentiment’, which won Best Documentary at Lahoya’s Choice.

You can read more about Emily in the Personal Glimpse article of this Brunswick Star. BSC’s annual Media film night, Lahoya’s Choice, was a fantastic success and was made all the more special by the fact that it was held at Cinema Nova. It was great to have the opportunity to see films from across the year levels up on the big screen with quality visuals and sound.

Lahoya’s Choice celebrated BSC’s talent and love for Media, cementing its place in the school. However, the night also brought some sadness as Lara Alexander, BSC’s incredible VCE English and Media teacher, announced that she would be leaving the school to live and work in Torquay. Her endless enthusiasm for her work was refreshing and motivating for the students she taught, and the amazing VCE results for Media are proof of her alert and ability as well as a reflection of the hard work of the students. She will be missed and we wish her all the best at her new school.

But now, I am delighted to announce that there is a new recruit to the Media family at BSC. Bringing her experience on the committee of ATOM (Australian Teachers of Media), we welcome Emily Doyle, our new VCE teacher to our school. Personally, I am really looking forward to Media in 2015 and am excited to expand the subject’s community as well as to develop more Media activities that involve more of the school. So get ready Brunswick, because Team Media is ready to soar even higher!

Alanna Marshall
Media & Communications Captain 2015
BSC’s second annual junior production, Seussical Jr, exploded onto the stage on December 9th, transporting audiences into the charming, entertaining and wonderfully whacky world of Dr Seuss. Drawing on the considerable talent pool within our Junior School, this production was the culmination of the hard work and commitment of students enrolled in our Centre Stage (Year 8 and 9), Junior Production (Year 7) and Stagecraft (Year 9) elective classes. The Junior production is an opportunity to introduce younger students to the musical theatre experience, providing a platform for students to hone their talents and gain confidence.

Some learn valuable stage skills, including singing, dancing and acting; others learn how to play instruments in an orchestra pit or explore their interests in the technical aspects of stage production such as scenery, costume, program or props design, audio and lighting operations and various back-stage processes. The Junior production invariably identifies hidden talent within the student body and Seussical Jr was no exception: we look forward to seeing many of the cast and crew bringing their considerable talents to the whole-school production in 2015!

Trade Eastwood
Kathleen Maguire
Nico Tranter
In Term 4 2014, the Year 9 camp provided a fabulous opportunity for students to engage with their year level while immersing themselves in some of Australia’s most famous and valuable natural, historical and environmental sites.

On arriving in Hobart we visited the Museum of Old & New Art, which was a very different experience for most of our students. Moving on, the students had a ball in the Cadbury Chocolate Factory where they stocked up on a year’s supply of chocolate! At Zoodoo Wildlife Park students saw a wide variety of native and non-native animals including the Tasmanian Devil, white African lions and Red Tail Boa Constrictors, as well as had the opportunity to feed some very curious emus and ostriches. At Port Arthur we enjoyed ghost tours and historical tours, hearing gripping tales of our convict past. Our journey then took us to Freycinet Peninsula, Richardson’s Beach and Coles Bay where we participated in sea kayaking in the picturesque bay. We then made our way to Devonport where students enjoyed spending time in the scenic national parks. We travelled home to Melbourne on the Spirit of Tasmania - a very tired, but well-travelled group.

I take this opportunity to extend a big thank you to all the staff members who made the journey over the sea with us - Simone Vukotic, Lynn Kyle, and John Roberts. It was an absolute pleasure to travel and spend time with these students. I am sure we will cherish a lot of fond memories from our adventures in Tasmania.

Sarah Meads: Year 9 Coordinator

The 2014 Year 9 trip to Tasmania was my first experience of travelling with the BSC students and I congratulate them on their outstanding behaviour. Such an amazing group of young people! The whole experience was delightful and all the students can be very proud of themselves. It was a fantastic trip: loads of fun, lots of new experiences, ghosts (J), chocolates, MONA - what more could you ask for? Well done to all involved.

John Roberts: Student Wellbeing Team.