In this final newsletter for 2011, I would like to wish all families a safe and happy Christmas and holiday season and to thank you for your contribution to Brunswick Secondary College throughout the year. Our thanks and best wishes are extended to the staff who are leaving, Katie Archibald, Natalie Wood and Bianca McKechnie. We thank each of them for the value that they have added to our students’ experience of school and wish them well in their new school. Best wishes and thanks to Patrick Denison, Bec Rutter, Liz Rumler and Lilian Zhou for their dedicated work throughout 2011. We also wish Esta Ganci and Wayne Simmons well for their long service leave in first semester.

On behalf of the school community I would like to acknowledge Miranda Tzefaris and her team in the canteen for their service to the school over 16 years. While the canteen staff have changed over the years, Miranda, the owner and manager, has been the constant and we thank her in particular for her care, helpfulness and commitment to the students. School Council is in the process of appointing a replacement. I will leave it until 2012 to introduce our new staff. We have had large and strong fields for each vacancy and are very pleased.

This last fortnight has been especially busy with the expanded orientation program, ‘VCE 2012’, Parent Information Night, orientation for Year 7, Health and PE Week, selection panels for new staff, planning for 2012 and report writing. Reports will be available on the Parent Portal shortly, parents will be informed via email once reports have been uploaded. If you want a printed copy, please let the office know. A report follow up session will be held in February 2012 where there are concerns about students’ progress.

Next Tuesday, we look forward to welcoming back our World Challenge team, currently trekking in Vietnam. Do take the time to read their report later in the newsletter. It was written for our final school assembly on Friday. The trip has, as expected, been a life changing experience for the students involved. We are particularly proud and chuffed that the funds our whole school raised have been put to purchasing among other animals a breeding bull called Brunswick for the Cambodian village where students spent the first few weeks of their trip. Without question, Brunswick Secondary College will participate in World Challenge in the future.
As many of you will have heard, Suzanne Kurick was involved as a pedestrian in a motor cycle accident a few weeks ago. She has fortunately been moved from hospital this week to a rehabilitation centre and we wish her all the best for her recovery. A highlight for Suzanne has been to watch the Chamber Concert on DVD. Thank you to the instrumental music staff, particularly Wayne Simmons, for ensuring that all the music events that Suzanne had planned still continue and also for organising a very successful series of BSC performances at Veri Koko over three Sunday mornings. Special thanks also to Lyndel McLean and Marc Matthews for a truly rousing Concert Band Performance at Federation Square's BMW Edge during the week.

Tomorrow, VCE results will be available for students. Irrespective of their results, I would like to reiterate my congratulations to the 2011 Year 12 class for their consistency of effort throughout the year. Based on their high work practices and effort throughout the year, we can be confident that most students will achieve to the best of their ability. They are already a success.

Vivienne Tellefson
Principal

Christine Jolly Young Career Practitioner Award

I was very humbled to receive the Christine Jolly Young Career Practitioner Award from the CEAV. This award recognises a practitioner's contributions to Career Development in Victoria and the services to Brunswick Secondary College and its students. This award is a scholarship which provides financial assistance towards further professional development opportunities. I am very fortunate to be able to do a job that I am truly passionate about and am extremely grateful to Brunswick Secondary College for providing me with the opportunity to begin my career education with students within such a vibrant, dynamic and diverse school environment. The staff at Brunswick are very supportive of the careers related activities and have warmly welcomed me into the role over the last two years which has only enhanced my motivation to do the best I can to assist the students in their career development. Working with the students and families of Brunswick is very rewarding and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to contribute to every child’s learning through the careers education program.

Catherine Jones
Dear, Brunswick Secondary College,

Sin chow from Vietnam! We’re halfway through our expedition now and have already accomplished many a task including our community project, acclimatisation trek in Cat Tiem National Park and day to day adventures.

At our community project we helped out at the Don Bosco Technical School in Cambodia, which is a school for disadvantaged kids mostly from farms who cannot afford to continue academic education. We worked on the farm, which self sustains the entire 800-students school. We also helped teach English with the students which was absolutely fulfilling. The students we got to work with ranged from 4 to 27 years of age and the smiles they gave us were indescribable, nothing could compare!

The money that you (students, parents, teachers) have helped us raised has been contributed to the Don Bosco Technical School, which helped us to purchase 7 cows and 1 breeding bull (named Brunswick!), two weeders for the rice fields, one drumseeder for rice, a mushroom farm and two rented tip trucks to move soil for the sewer-age water filtration area. This will help will assist the sustainability of the communities environment.

The experience of being in a country where the culture is so different from our own has taught us all a thing or two: everybody should ride a Cambodian tuk-tuk at some point in their lives! The people here are all extremely friendly and you can start up conversations with any random person on the street, an experience hard to come by in most modern societies. We are preparing to embark upon our most physically strenuous challenge yet... 

OUR HECTIC TREK IN DALAT!!

Okun-mocaploo □

World Challenge Team.
Year 7 Home-Made Musical Instruments

Year 7 classroom music students met the challenge of being creative and innovative, using a variety of recycled and/or simple household materials to make instruments capable of playing melodies and/or rhythms. Their presentations were exciting as string, wind and percussion instruments were demonstrated and the room was filled with plucking, blowing, banging and scraping sounds!

Pan-pipes
To make my instrument I looked up lengths that would work well with the PVC piping to create the sound I wanted. Then I retrieved a hacksaw and put a Zyliss in place so my father could cut the PVC piping to the right measurements. Then we cut the right measurements and I sanded each pipe with sandpaper. Then I stuck them all together with gaffer tape. For this project, I explored using bamboo and PVC piping and found that PVC piping was more accurate because it wasn’t natural, had a wider width and it was more consistent. To get the sounds, I blow across the top of the pipes. To get the panpipes to have the right pitch, I needed to use specific measurements: C=31cm, D = 28cm, E = 25 cm, G = 21 cm, A = 18cm. The three things I did well for this project was cutting the PVC pipes and the bamboo, experimenting with different materials and talking in front of the class. I enjoyed making my instrument because it was something I hadn’t done before and it really made me enjoy the different ways music can be produced and made.

Brigitte Williams

Bamboo Flute
The most difficult thing about making my instrument was making the holes because you had to keep the flute steady so that the holes can go through. It was good to make because I got to do it with my Dad and it was pretty cool. I was eager to see what it would turn out like.

Perry Kyrou

PVC Trumpet.
I got the idea from a Youtube site Ms Kurick showed us. The most difficult part was keeping it all together because it kept falling off. I used some tape to make it tighter but it didn’t work so I ended up using superglue to keep it all together. It was really good to make this instrument because I have never made one before. I enjoyed it because I did everything. My dad only helped cut the pieces.

Ethan Bonderenko

The Tribal Blower
I was inspired by a TV program on SBS. The most difficult part was searching through the garbage around my suburb for wood. It was yuck! It was also difficult to measure the pipes because I was very tired at the time. I could have improved my instrument by blocking off the ends so it would sound better. This project was better than just writing about it on paper. It was fun when I got to play it and fool around with it for a bit.

Fab Perez-Quintela

Chimes
I got the wood, fishing line, steel pipes and hooks from Bunnings Warehouse. I found cutting the wood difficult because I was a bit worried because I didn’t want to get hurt but my Dad showed me and I did well. It was good to spend time with my Dad.

Samantha Rigazzi

Hand Guitar
I got my materials from my pencil case at home. I found it difficult to create a louder sound because there was no sound box. Next time I would cover up the side to create a soundbox. I tried to make a lot of instruments but they failed. The sounds were too faint to hear. I changed it a lot and this is what I was left with. I am happy with it but I know it took a lot of time to do for a simple instrument. But I did enjoy the painting part and was happy with my idea of using a bendy ruler.

Anushka Gaire
**Chimes**

I enjoyed making my instrument because it was fun painting it and putting the chimes on and watching my Dad cut the wood and metal.

*Paige Palmieri*

**Marimba**

I used plywood, eye hooks, nails, spray paint, masking tape and sandpaper. I got my materials from Bunnings and from around the house. The most difficult was drilling. I had to be very careful not to split the wood while drilling the pilot holes then I had to be extra careful screwing the screws in.

*Murray Leonard*

**African Barrell Guitar**

I got the strings, two tin lids, a 20litre drum, string tensioners, metal rods, washers, felt, foam pad, paint, welding rods, stencil, nuts, bolts and wire clamps from the backyard, Dad’s shed and his toolbox. I did well getting around the problem of the strings not holding and three of them breaking. Also, getting the sound out of the strings and welding all the pieces together cleanly. I enjoyed making the instrument because of the trial and error involved and the time spent thinking rather than doing other things. It was also very interesting to think what the finished product would be like.

*Stephen Simons*

**Curry Guitar**

First I painted the tin grey/black. I cut a circle in the middle for the sound to come out. Afterwards I put the piece of wood at the top of the tin, then I put hooks at the front of the wood. I tied the strings on to the hooks and straightened them. I taped the whole box and painted it again. I had trouble putting the strings on because one of them broke so I used three of them. It would have been better if I put a bridge under the strings to that it would make a better sound. This was a fun and not a boring assessment task.

*Rafay Khokhar*

**Plucker Tube**

I went to the post office to get a mailing tube, cut a hole in it and laid the rubber bands around in order of thick to thin. It was so much fun to make.

*Emily Mazye-Strong*

**Hot Bass**

I got my materials mainly from the kitchen, the strings from Ms Kurick and the masking tape from the two dollar shop. I didn’t enjoy making my instrument because I didn’t have a lot of materials so I worried it wouldn’t work out and it didn’t. I could have bought some wood and nailed my instrument together as well as tightened the strings so it would make a good sound.

*Toby Miller*

**One-Stringed Guitar**

What I think I did well was making a guitar using only a few objects. I used 3 screws, a guitar string, a jam jar (bridge), a plank of wood (neck), a metal funnel (amplifier), a plectrum (to strum) a glass bottle (slide) and spray paint.

*Nicholas Kainey*

**Dish Shaker**

My sister gave me the idea. I put small stones on a silver dish and then super glued another silver dish on top.

*Eddie Joijode*

**Slide Guitar**

My Dad and I cut out the wood for the sound box and glued it together. Then we added the neck and I drilled the sound holes. I sawed the fret lines and added the wood for the bridge. I added the machine head and strings from my Dad’s guitar.

*Sage O’Donnell*
Brunswick Secondary Art and Design Exhibition

People’s Choice Awards

During the Brunswick Secondary Art and Design exhibition visitors were asked to vote in the People’s Choice Award, selecting their favourite piece of art or design in the show. With over 100 votes in the competition and a huge range of work to choose from the competition was high. Last week I counted the results. In third place was Sebastian Kainey with a series of digital photographs; in second place was Savanna Kruger with her installation and video piece; and the first place winner was Daniel Leggieri! Daniel’s large Copic marker drawing of a dramatic hooded figure was a clear favourite with many people who visited the show. Daniel will receive a $50 art supplies voucher. Congratulations to all three students. It was great to see so many students, teachers and families at the opening night, and we hope to see you there next year.

Gemma Teese, Art Captain

Year 7 News

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As the end of the school year is almost upon us, I take this opportunity to congratulate the Year 7 students for their efforts. This year students adapted to room changes and learned to regularly check their timetable. Over the year, I have seen students build friendships and develop confidence to attempt work that may at first appear challenging, seek help and problem solve when presented with difficult situations. At our fortnightly extended pastoral sessions students were recognised for their achievements; they set and reviewed their goals and they were informed of and encouraged to enter various competitions and apply for extracurricular activities. Many of the students who entered external competitions (Science, Maths and English) received excellent results and consequently were awarded certificates. Throughout the year I have seen many students develop their leadership skills, raise their hand and do extra work to support college events, and expand their friendships. Students volunteered to help with the Art Show, Transition, Orientation Day and more. Students involved in the Rock Eisteddfod worked hard and showed their commitment to work as a team and do well by giving up their personal time to rehearse and make stage props. At inter-school sports the students were often commended for demonstrating true sportsmanship, commitment and teamwork. The various music performances were outstanding and again demonstrated their ability to persevere with tasks and work as a team. As Year 7 Coordinator, I am proud of the students’ individual achievements. These are different for each student as each student is unique, with different needs and capabilities. Reviewing students’ reports and work practices, I am pleased to note that many students have worked hard to improve their work practices. We believe that having good work practices can help them to manage future work demands and succeed in achieving their goals.

This term’s snapshot of the students’ learning experiences in a number of subjects include students using graphic organisers to visualise their thinking, and students accessing ICT as a learning tool across the various Domains. In Art the students have worked on designing and creating letter and word pics, 3D sculptures and totems. In their English classes Fairytales was the focus for the term. Students watched and analysed the film “The Princess Bride” and wrote their own fairy tale. Economics and Government were the major foci in Humanities. Students learned about ‘supply and demand’, the ‘goods and services’ tax, and the difference between ‘needs and wants’. In Maths, the focus has been on thinking like a mathematician to create four cube houses using isometric dot paper. In Science, students studied forces and gravity before designing, creating and testing their own Operation Goog Buster.

My role as Coordinator is complex but rewarding, especially when I see students actively engaged in their learning, problem solving so that everyone in the group benefits, and being good citizens by supporting other students in need. At the forefront of all my actions I have placed a great importance on the rights of all individuals, fairness, and the students’ and teachers’ welfare. The caring nature in our current Year 7 students is commendable.

During the year I have met and spoken to many parents/caregivers, and I express my sincere gratitude for their support and for their positive feedback as when parents and teachers work together, the best possible outcome for their child can be achieved. Each student is important to me. I truly believe that a successful school is a school where parents, teachers and students work together so that the students’ learning and welfare needs can be addressed and school goals achieved. At BSC the student is at the centre of education and we endeavour to ensure that all students get the best education that the school can provide.
I thank the teachers of Year 7 students for their dedication, hard work and support throughout this year. All teachers work hard in ensuring the best for their students. Although we are very close to the end of the school year, the teachers’ focus is on providing a meaningful classroom program.

I wish to thank Tim James (Assistant Coordinator) for his support, commitment and work with the Year 7 students this semester. Working as a team has enabled us to support students, resolve issues quickly and effectively, and ensure that the students’ needs were addressed.

To the Year 7 Students: My wish for each and every one of you is that you always do your best, be the best person you can be, follow your dreams, work hard so that you can achieve your best, and be successful in whatever it is you choose to do. I am confident that this can happen because you have had a good start at BSC, and this foundation will carry you through to the following years and whatever you do after leaving school.

Congratulations to the students who were successful in their application to be Mentors to the 2012 Year students. Their help on Orientation Day was greatly appreciated as they made connections with the incoming Year 7 students and supported teachers on the day. I look forward to working with them next year.

Nadia Cavallin (Year 7 Level Coordinator)

Whooping cough on the rise in 5-14 year olds
The number of children aged 5-14 years old catching whooping cough has increased dramatically in Victoria over the last four years.

Whooping cough, also known as pertussis, is a highly infectious disease causing a severe, persistent cough. Whooping cough is spread by coughs and sneezes from an infected person. While most children and adults eventually recover, often after weeks or months of illness and household disruption, there is a serious risk if infected people pass the disease to young babies. Around one in every 200 babies under six months of age who catch whooping cough will die. Some babies will suffer permanent disability from brain and lung damage.

Family members, including siblings and parents, are the main source of whooping cough infection in babies. Timely immunisation offers the best chance of preventing the spread of whooping cough. Whooping cough vaccine is provided free for children at two, four and six months, at their fourth birthday, adolescents in Year 10 of secondary school and parents of newborn babies. The two month vaccine can be given early at six weeks to start protection earlier.

Parents are urged to ensure their children are vaccinated on time and to consider their own whooping cough vaccination needs. Vaccination is recommended for all adults caring for or working with young children, including school teachers, as well as all health care workers.

Parents should talk to their doctor or nurse if they have questions about the whooping cough vaccine.

For more information search ‘whooping cough’ on www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Student Scholarships 2011–12
Students in Years 4–12 are invited to apply for student scholarships administered by the Department of Education. Some scholarships are offered to VCE students who intend to enter a teacher training course after completing their VCE.

Applicants will be required to submit their 2011 end-of-year results, which must be verified by their principals. Many of the scholarships identify financial need as an eligibility criterion. Parents/guardians receiving the Education Maintenance Allowance or students receiving the Youth Allowance meet this criterion.

Critical Dates
- Applications open on 14 November 2011.
- Students must lodge online applications by 31 January 2012.
- Principals must verify students’ 2011 end-of-year results by 3 March 2012.

Additional Information
For further information on the student scholarships, see the attached documents or visit the website: www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships
Brunswick Secondary College advertises local community-based events and activities that might be of interest to students and families.

Please contact the relevant organisation for further information about these events and to check that the event meets your family’s needs.

BNC netball Club (Brunswick Netball Club)

Are you interested in playing netball on Saturdays? BNC netball Club (Brunswick Netball Club) are looking for players now to join an existing U15 team in 20112. Your birthday needs to be either 1997, 98 and we will consider those born in 99.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact us. Please contact BNC netball club directly by emailing your interest to the following email address: brunswicknetballclub@gmail.com You might also want to check out the website http://brunswicknetballclub.org.au/bnc

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Student Medical Conditions

Could parents of students who have anaphylaxis or other serious medical conditions please hand in a completed action plan for your child to the front office. If your child has a medical condition that the school needs to be aware of, please contact the level coordinator or Jeremy (school nurse).

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**BSC Office hours** are between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Phone calls and office enquires outside these hours will be recorded by the answering machine.

NB: If you are contacting the school to let us know your child is going to be absent, you can also e-mail the school on Brunswick.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
What is the February asthma spike?
Throughout the year there are significant increases, or ‘spikes’, in asthma presentations to hospitals and emergency departments\(^1\). Approximately 1 in 9 children in Australia have asthma, and for children and adolescents with asthma these ‘spikes’ usually occur towards the end of holiday periods as they return to school and preschool\(^2\). A significant ‘spike’ in asthma presentations and admissions to hospital of children and adolescents, experiencing severe asthma exacerbations, occurs throughout the first few weeks of February\(^3\).

Why does the spike occur?
While there have not been direct links established, the February ‘asthma spike’ is believed to be largely due to children and adolescents coming into contact with asthma triggers that they have had time away from, as they are now returning to school.

Triggers that can be encountered are:
- Dust and mould spores from poorly ventilated, or insufficiently cleaned school rooms
- Respiratory viruses, such as cold and flu viruses
- Cleaning products that leave behind strong smells, aerosols or airborne dust
- Anxiety and stress due to returning to school

What can we do to avoid asthma exacerbations in our school?
- Ensure your school’s asthma emergency kits contain fresh and in-date reliever medication (e.g. Ventolin, Asmol or Airomir), a clean spacer, alcohol swabs, record sheet and kit card detailing the emergency procedure to follow
- Ensure student Asthma Action Plans are updated and returned
- Ensure staff education and training is current, arranging a free staff asthma education session as required for all new and ongoing staff
- Ensure your school’s asthma policy is current for both onsite and offsite situations, and first aid posters are displayed in key locations
- Ensure staff receive asthma first aid training every three years, are aware of which students in their class experience asthma, and know where emergency kits are stored
- Ensure all classrooms are opened, cleaned and aired out in the weeks before students return to school. A helpful technique can be to turn on all fans, as well as any heating/cooling systems, to begin to clear dust before students arrive

For more information, or to book a free staff education session, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on (03) 9326-7088 or visit: www.asthma.org.au

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\(^2\) Ibid.

\(^3\) Ibid.
RMIT University

2012 Certificate of Education Integration Aide Courses

Designed for those already employed or seeking work in schools as Integration Aides, or for parents or carers of children with special needs.

8 Saturday classes (9:30 – 4:30)

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<td>18 February</td>
<td>5 May</td>
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<td>Pakenham</td>
<td>12 May</td>
<td>28 July</td>
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<td>Brunswick 2</td>
<td>4 August</td>
<td>13 October</td>
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<td>Bundoora</td>
<td>20 October</td>
<td>15 December</td>
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15 Thursday evenings (6:30 – 9:30)

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<td>Mt Waverley 1</td>
<td>9 February</td>
<td>31 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt Waverley 2</td>
<td>19 July</td>
<td>8 November</td>
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For further information contact us on 9925 6617

Email: cdu@rmit.edu.au

Or go to our website

www.rmit.edu.au/education/integration-aide
SKILL UP TO HELP ANIMALS THESE HOLIDAYS

RSPCA
YOUTH PROGRAMS AT THE RSPCA
15–18 YRS

Vet Day, Pet Paramedics, Certificate II in Animal Studies …and heaps more!

EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY BREAK

Numbers are limited so book early!
All sessions are held at RSPCA Burwood East.
Call 03 9224 2286 or visit www.rspcavic.org for more information.

“If you’re crazy about animals, this is definitely an experience worth having.”
-Kim age 16 Pet Paramedic attendee

“I would definitely recommend it. I liked how practical it was.”
-Marcus age 17 Vet Day attendee

“It’s a great experience! You will miss out if you don’t have a go!”
-Joseph age 16 Vet Day attendee

SEE YOU THERE!

RSPCA
START YOUR ANIMAL CARE CAREER WITH US

CERTIFICATE II IN ANIMAL STUDIES
RSPCA VICTORIA AND VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, LEADERS IN ANIMAL WELFARE AND EDUCATION, NOW OFFER STUDENTS AGED 15-20 THE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN A CERTIFICATE II IN ANIMAL STUDIES.

This nationally recognised qualification is designed for students wanting to expand their companion animal knowledge and learn the skills required to work in the animal care industry.

**Topics include:**
- General animal care
- Food and nutrition
- Basic first aid
- OH & S in animal care environment

The Certificate II in Animal Studies course structure is a combination of online learning, contact hours and assessment at RSPCA Burwood East. This course is eligible for government subsidised TAFE charges and will be run over the school holidays.

If you are between the ages of 15-20, still at school and want to work with animals, this is an excellent opportunity to familiarise yourself with the industry. Please keep in mind that places are limited.

Visit [www.rspcavic.org](http://www.rspcavic.org), phone Victoria University on (03) 9919 5580, or email animalsstudies@vu.edu.au for further information.