Principal’s Report

Life at Box Hill High School continues to be extremely busy for all our teachers and students. Just to give you a small taste of what is happening at the moment. Our Year 12 students are currently doing their exams (and of course we wish them every success). Our Year 11 students are getting ready for their exams. Our Year 9 students have just completed their outstanding Australia projects. Our beautiful Mali Garden is almost completed, and the IT department is busily getting ready for the introduction of iPads for 2013 Year 9 students.

End of Year Reports

I need to advise all parents that of course teachers at Box Hill High school are still doing all their usual assessments for their students, however the end of year report that you will be receiving for your child will be less detailed than you would normally expect.

As you may probably be aware, the Australian Education Union has been negotiating with the Baillieu Government for a new enterprise agreement for more than a year now. Still there is no agreement. This term, AEU members have begun a ban on providing written comments and numerical assessments in student reports. Parents and guardians will therefore receive a written assessment of their child’s achievement against the Victorian Essential Learning standards, VCE, VET and a record of attendance. AEU members will not provide any other written information or comments. Please understand that AEU members do not take such action lightly.

Mrs Kate Mitchell –Principal

Year 9 Presentation Night

On the evening of Wednesday 7 November, parents and staff were treated to a fabulous showcase of ‘products’ designed and made by our clever Year 9 cohort. With the common theme ‘Australia’, the students initially produced design plans of something which was of interest to them. Then they had to work out how to create the finished product from their design, including sourcing materials and planning to achieve their expected outcome. Many students had to learn new skills to be able to make their products a reality.

The actual products ranged from a beautiful stained glass window, films about the history of video games, fashion, bushfires and Australian music, clothing designed by students, recipe books, painted landscapes, indigenous-inspired dot paintings, models for a city, The Ghan and trench warfare, and a service on a car in the quadrangle. There was even a ‘flash mob’ which was a surprise to the school population when a group of energetic Year 9s jumped up onto the performance stage and danced for 5 minutes.

We had buskers, a beautiful model of Sydney Harbour Bridge, a knitted map of Australia, a cooking show, and a fantastic book designed to show an alternative side to Melbourne and all the features which tourists love. There was a lovely botanical book with photos and specimens of actual plants, and some actual stuffed animal toys designed to show a variety of Australian native animals. The students showed great creativity and tenacity in achieving such wonderful outcomes. Many of them must have spent hours and hours, producing their final product.

As teachers, we appreciated their enthusiasm and commitment and it was very pleasing to see so many families involved on the night. We would like to give special credit to all the Year 9 and other teachers, who helped evaluate and shepherd these budding artists and film-makers. All those involved enjoyed the experience, and the comments made about the projects reflected this interest and recognition of the amount of work involved. We look forward to the next year’s Year 9 Presentation with even more anticipation, now that the bar has been raised so high.

Ms Ros Green and Ms Dee McQueen, Project Co-ordinators
The Australia Project

Congratulations to all of our Year 9 students who presented outstanding projects for the Year 9 Australia Project. Here is just a sample of some of the outstanding projects.

Lija learnt the art of lead lighting from her grandmother especially for the Australia Project.

Dewansh designed and made a skateboard for his project.

Thien-An drew a comic-style history of the Ned Kelly gang. His skill was admired by all.

Isabel designed artworks with Aboriginal artistic ideas and materials as her inspiration.

Michael created a solar thermal updraft for his project.

Mikaela and her friend Emily researched busking in Melbourne for their project. They did some busking themselves and dressed up as angels for the evening, taking part in the flashmob performance and showing the ability to stand still and stare without a wing flicker. Even Bridget could not distract Mikaela from her solemn stance.

Monique and Jacqui organised a flashmob - no easy task when secrets are so hard to keep in our school. They marshalled their forces and danced on the stage in the quadrangle during the evening. A crowd gathered to applaud their performance.

Ms Ros Green - Projects Coordinator
Art News

Year 8 Art and 3D Design Pop Art themed Plaques.

Students are working hard on their portraits for our Annual Archibox Exhibition which opens on Friday 7 December 2012.

Mrs Donna Nevard – Art Coordinator
Music News

BHHS Vocal Concert

Singing students of Box Hill High School will be presenting an interesting afternoon Concert on Wednesday 21 November from 5-6pm in P09. The guest accompanist will be Mrs Angela Chander. Members of the school community are welcome to attend.

Surrey Hills Probus Club Christmas Lunch

The singing students of Box Hill High School have been asked to present a Christmas Concert at the Christmas Luncheon of the Surrey Hills Probus Club. The luncheon will be held at the Eastern Golf Club in Doncaster on Monday 26 November at 1.30pm. Good luck to all those involved!

Mrs Elizabeth Cohen- Singing Teacher

Junior Music Night – Please note change of date

The Year 7 Band, Concert Band, Guitar Ensemble and Small Groups and Soloists will be performing at a Junior Music Night on Wednesday 28 November. The night will commence at 7:30pm and will take place in the Hall. Looking forward to seeing our junior students perform!

Mr Troy Rogers- Instrumental Music Co-Ordinator

End of Year Activities

We have a special, exciting end-of-year program which is compulsory for all Year 7, 8 and 9 students who are not attending an end-of-year camp. This program will run from Monday 10 December to Friday 14 December. The range of activities the students will participate in will include:

- Luna Park, Funfields, Movies, Dancing, Trout Farm, Dark Zone, Aquarium, IMAX, Bowling, Sports and many other activities.

It is expected that all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 (who are not attending an end-of-year camp) will take part in the end-of-year activity program.

The cost of this week’s program is $100. Students are also expected to have their own train ticket or MYKI (depending on the mode of transport for that day). For some activities, travel will be by bus.

If there is any unavoidable reason why your child cannot attend, you must notify the school in writing immediately, preferably by email; box.hill.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au.

To enable us to complete the arrangements for these activities, please pay no later than Thursday 15 November. Our preferred method of payment is via Compass. If you prefer to pay by cash you will need to download the form from Compass and return the completed form with payment to the General Office.

We are confident that the students will find the week an interesting and fun way to finish off the school year.

Mr Mark Whitehead – Sports & Events Co-Ordinator

Canteen News

After 10 years of working tirelessly in the school canteen as both Manager and Canteen Attendant, Maureen Holcombe is off to enjoy new adventures and a life of relaxation with her husband and family. Maureen has been a valuable member of staff at Box Hill High School for many years, and we wish her the best on her retirement. Happy retirement Maureen!
Booklists for 2013

Booklists for 2013 have been distributed to students recently. If you prefer to order on-line, you can access on-line ordering through Campion - you will find the link on our website under the Parents/Information for Parents tab, or click here http://www.campion.com.au/

Sustainable School Shop offers a service for buying and selling second-hand books and uniforms. You can access their website through the same link or click here http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/ to place ads for both buying and selling your books.

Uniforms

PSW are offering 5% off purchases of school uniforms in November. Details of the location of the shop are on our website under the Parents/Uniforms tab. Or click here http://www.psw.com.au/retail/schools/6472.aspx

Please note that as from the start of next year, Year 10 students (as well as Year 11 and 12 students) will be required to wear the white school shirts/blouses, instead of the blue shirts/blouses.