Principal's Report

In my last newsletter I informed our school community about just what a great school BHHS is. Since then the press have also discovered this fact and the Herald Sun highlighted our outstanding data. Channel 9 news then featured our great Naplan performance. The piece commenced by listing BHHS as the fifth best State Government High School in the State with only the four Select Entry High Schools (where the children commence at Year 9) above us!

SATERN Official Opening

The highlight of last week for me was the official opening of our new facility SATERN, by Anna Burke Federal MP for Chisholm. It was a great celebration. We had activities for local primary school students and excellent speeches were given by Mr Greg Hunt, our School Council President and Ms Meryl Andrews explaining the history and philosophy of the project.

“SATERN will provide innovative science and technology learning and teaching for the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. It is a network of local schools and supporters. SATERN wishes to work with further agencies and companies to inspire the engagement in science and technology that we will all need for our future prosperity.”

We would like to invite any organisations or businesses that would like to support or sponsor this endeavour to contact me at the school.

Year 8 Picnic Evening

A further highlight was the Year 8 Picnic Evening. We spent a very enjoyable and relaxing evening with the Year 8 students, parents and staff. Thank you so much Mr Warton (Year 8 coordinator) for organising such a delightful evening.

School Council

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our outgoing school councillors for the hard work and commitment they show to our school, Mr Greg Hunt, Mr Bob Jenkin, Mr Bill McMahon, Mr Andrew McNiven, and Ms Wendy White. It is also my pleasure to congratulate and welcome our new parent school councillors Mr Peter Johns and Mr James Pun, and our new DEECD member Mr Justin Bond.

I would like to especially thank Mr Bob Jenkin for the great work he did as Treasurer of the School Council for the past two years. As his son has now left the school, Bob’s very long and close association with the school council is now sadly at an end.

I would also like to thank Mr Greg Hunt our superb School Council President. Sadly he too has decided to retire this year. He has given incredible service to the school, as a member of council for 11 years and as School Council President for 3 years. During his tenure he worked tirelessly for the school in countless ways. These included writing letters, canvassing Parliamentarians and being a major part of the parent group who worked to make the
dream of SATERN a reality. We are really going to miss him and the marvellous contribution he has made to our school.

**Staffing update**

Finally, but by no means least, I have just been informed by Ms Evans Hayes, our wonderful Careers Counsellor, that she will be leaving our school at the end of this term to take up a position at Rowville Secondary College. She has been a loyal and incredibly valuable member of staff for the past 25 years. She is a remarkable woman in many ways - she is an excellent Maths teacher, a drummer extraordinaire and an incredibly knowledgeable and diligent careers teacher. We will miss her dry sense of humour, her extraordinary organisational skills, her depth of experience and her delightful manner when supporting students. We wish her every success at her new school.

So with all these changes occurring perhaps it is timely to remember -

*“If nothing ever changed there’d be no butterflies.”*  Unknown

Kate Mitchell  
Principal

**SEAL Parent Support Group Meetings**

The next meeting will be on the Thursday **22 March at 7.30pm** and will be held in the **SATERN building** (enter via the gate between the main building and the outdoor basketball court, it will be signposted). The approximate finish time will be 9.30pm.

The main event of the evening will be a presentation and question and answer session with Amanda Sironic. Amanda is situated in the Department of Psychological Sciences at Melbourne University and currently completing her PhD on the subject of Perfectionism. Perfectionism is a trait common to so many gifted students and can present as both a positive and negative trait. Amanda is an accomplished speaker and has put together a great presentation for us. Time has been allocated to provide you with the opportunity to ask her any questions that you may have on the subject after her presentation.

We will also have some discussion on some common affective (social / emotional) characteristics of gifted learners, and a presentation by the curriculum coordinator, Meryl Andrews, on the ways in which parents can best support their child's learning.

Tea, coffee, snacks and the opportunity to socialize with staff and other parents.

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Martin Jellinek - Gifted Education Coordinator*
A.C.E. so far in 2012

The Year 10 A.C.E. Program provides an opportunity for students to move outside the traditional school curriculum through a variety of activities that allow the students to ‘Achieve, Challenge and Explore’. These experiences are specifically designed to stretch students both mentally and physically, while developing initiative, communication, teamwork, problem solving and leadership skills.

A.C.E. has kicked off to a great start in 2012, with the students heading out to Sandringham Yacht Club & Life Saving Victoria to participate in Surf Life-Saving, Sea Kayaking and Raft Building, and Sailing activities. We were blessed with the weather conditions each week, and the students had a fantastic experience, developing new knowledge and useful skills, as well as having a lot of fun!

In the next few weeks, the students will be attending a Drug & Alcohol seminar, Cyber Bullying & Internet Safety program and participating in the 'Urban Orientation' activity, similar to Channel 7's Amazing Race- visiting historical monuments & famous facilities in our great city of Melbourne.

To check what's happening in the A.C.E. program this year, feel free to log onto the A.C.E. BLOG:  mrhowlett.edublogs.org

Mr Howlett - ACE Coordinator

VCE Drama

At the beginning of March VCE Drama students were given the opportunity to work with Carla Kissane, a 2009 VCA graduate currently performing for the Australian Shakespeare Company. Ms Kissane worked with students for just under two hours, taking them through various vocal exercises before undertaking a workshop on performance analysis. Students were given the opportunity to critique and direct a staged performance as well as work with Ms Kissane on character development, Shakespearean performance ideals and further question her on the finer points of technique and her career.

It was a wonderful opportunity for students to work with a professional actor and discuss the skills and industry practices undertaken by a professional performer.

Students will be given further opportunity to see the work undertaken by the Australian Shakespeare Company in May when they see Henry IV Part I as part of their analysis of a professional performance.

Mr Toby Wilkins
Open Night 2012

Open Night is nearly on again! This year’s Open Night will be held on **Tuesday 24 April** and I need volunteer Tour Guides from all Year levels.

The benefits of being a Tour Guide / Ambassador for Open Night are many. Students share a pizza dinner before our visitors arrive, are given a colourful helium balloon to hold and keep and get the pleasure of showing visitors around the school. Student volunteers need to be available on 24 April from 5.30pm until about 8.15pm.

Would you please let me know by email if you would like to be a Tour Guide on Open Night by replying to **cohen.elizabeth.c@edumail.vic.gov.au**. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Mrs. Cohen - Transition Co-Ordinator*

Uniform Blitz

There is going to be a blitz on students uniform, especially arriving to and leaving from school in incorrect uniform. This INCLUDES: runners, non-uniform jumpers, t-shirts, etc. (all the things that are covered in our uniform policy). The Principal, Assistant Principals and Coordinators will be around to get a list of students, who will then be given detention the following day at lunchtime in room 211.

**STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE:** It is NOT OK to change your shoes/jumper at your locker before or after school. You must travel to and from school in proper school shoes.

Games Club

Games Club meets on **Friday lunchtimes in room 303**. Students play a range of gaming systems from electronic consoles to card games to *Warhammer* and *Magic: The Gathering*. A highlight of Games Club is the end of year Games Camp, where students participate in a week of activities and tournaments.

Students of all ages and experience welcome – if you don’t know any games, we’ll teach you!

For further information, please contact Miss Templeman.

Student Absences

If students are intending to take extended holidays, they must inform Sonia Francis by letter or email: **francis.sonia.s@edumail.vic.gov.au**, their Year Level Coordinator and their teachers. They must do this **before** they leave on holidays.

If students are sick during the day at school, they must report to the General Office who will then contact their parents. Students are **not** to contact parents themselves.
If your child has been vomiting at home before leaving for school, please keep your child at home, as there has been a lot of illnesses going around.