Principal’s Report

Farewell and Thank You Class of 2012!

The Year 12 exams are finally over and last Thursday night we enjoyed the Valedictory Dinner. This is a very special night in the school calendar that I always look forward to. It is a fabulous evening where family, friends and staff celebrate the end of 12 years of schooling with our Year 12 students. Sincere thanks are extended to Mr Johnson and Ms Touvoli for organising the evening and also all the various awards and certificates that were handed out to our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers who taught our Year 12 students whether in their early years or in their final year of schooling. Students at our school are indeed fortunate to be taught by our team of dedicated, talented and hardworking teachers.

I would also like to thank our School Captains, Silakra Harvey and Liam Hartley and our wonderful team of Prefects. Together they have worked so hard and have cheerfully and willingly taken on many extra duties.

Finally I must thank every Year 12 student. You have been superb ambassadors for our school and we wish you every success for the future!

End of Year Reports

I would like to remind parents that as a result of Union action not all reports will contain written comments - please refer to campaign letter below.

Mrs Kate Mitchell –Principal

Why is the campaign being escalated?

A message from AEU Victorian Branch President, Mary Bluett

You may have heard about the ban on comments on students’ reports and other work bans being put in place this term as part of public school staff’s EBA campaign.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain this in more detail because I understand the concern this may cause. We recognise the impact industrial action can have on parents, students and community members and I can assure you that the wellbeing of students is always at the forefront of our minds. The decision to escalate the campaign was not taken lightly – in fact, it has been taken as a last resort.

This December, the Baillieu Government will have had the AEU’s log of claims for over 2 years. We believe this action is necessary to pressure the Baillieu Government into making a reasonable offer and putting this industrial dispute to rest.

Ultimately, our main priority is attracting and retaining the best educators to our schools to ensure that every child in this state receives the quality education they deserve.

The AEU has imposed a range of bans that have been targeted at the Department in the first instance and at Coalition politicians visiting schools. However, this has not led to the Department changing its position.

This means that we had to escalate the bans to get the Government to change its position. In escalating the bans we have chosen to highlight the enormous number of hours teachers spend outside the 38 hour week in preparing reports. Teachers work an additional 30 to 70 hours preparing the reports. This work is unpaid.

We need to pressure the Premier into resolving this dispute. We are trying to get a negotiated outcome that would allow schools to return to normal reporting arrangements. We need you to direct your anger towards your local Coalition Member of Parliament by telephoning them to point out that Ted Baillieu should honour his election promise and resolve this dispute immediately so that students do receive reports with comments.

We regret any inconvenience or disappointment our action is causing you but the Government must know that there are consequences when you make promises that you do not intend to keep.

On behalf of all public school staff, I would like to thank parents, students and community members for their support during this testing time.

If you have any further questions, I encourage you to get in touch with the AEU via melbourne@aeuvic.asn.au

With thanks, Mary Bluett, AEU Victoria Branch President
BHHS Student-led Musical “Six-Feet Underground”

Box Hill High School’s first ever student-led musical, “Six Feet Underground”, is opening on **Wednesday 5th December 2012**. Don't miss out on this four-day extravaganza of a musical: entirely written, produced, directed, choreographed, staged (the list goes on) by students of Box Hill High. Let all your friends know about it and come along to enjoy some terribly lame puns, extremely talented cast, amazing band, and fun songs in a hilarious comedy about zombies and all things dead. Tickets which are $10 for concession, $15 for adults and $40 for a family (2 adults and 2 children) can be purchased with credit card on-line via the Bookings tab on our website, or for cash at the General Office. So, come along from December 5th till the 8th to sit back, relax, and have a scream-filled ride six feet underground. *lame puns begin* See you there!

Music News

**Junior Music Night**

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!

**Saxophonist Achieves Outstanding Results**

Congratulations to Eric Zhang for gaining an A in his recent Grade 8 Alto Saxophone Exam. Eric has worked hard over the past year and thoroughly deserves this excellent result. He is proof that a disciplined practice routine yields good results. Good luck wherever music may take you in the future Eric. Well done!

*Mr Troy Rogers* - Instrumental Music Co-Ordinator

**Girls Softball**

Last week the Year 8 girls’ softball team set out to the EMR finals to become the best team in the Eastern Region. The girls have taken all before them and that continued in their pool games last Friday. Big wins against Lilydale and Croydon High Schools (21-1 and 14-2 respectively) put us on top and that meant a grand final against Camberwell High. Unfortunately, the girls lost 9-2 to tough opposition but fought gallantly. Big congratulations to the girls for not only getting this far, but even being complimented for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship by numerous other schools. Finally, a big thank you to Mark Whitehead for organising transport, equipment and even coaching the team on occasions.

*Mr Stephen Christofakakis* – Softball Coach
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.

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.

MyHood –Community Reporting System

Are you offended by graffiti? Do you wish abandoned shopping trolleys would be collected faster? Do failed street lights make us less safe at night? Do you want potholes repaired faster? MyHood is a free mobile community reporting system which allows the Australian public to work collaboratively with government organisations to report and resolve community issues such as graffiti, abandoned trolleys, potholes, litter, broken streetlights and much more. Most importantly, the service is free to public users and government employees.

The service allows people with iPhone or Android Smartphones to submit reports of concern to their local council, public utility, or public transport authority. A companion website at www.fixmyhood.com.au displays each issue and is used by government managers to resolve the issues. MyHood is available at the Apple App Store and Google Market Place, or follow the link at www.fixmyhood.com.au.