Principal's Report

I am delighted to announce that our school was successful in receiving by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations under the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program. I would like to thank Mr Hamley and Mr Davis for the work that they put in developing the application and also I would like to acknowledge the support of our local Federal Member for Chisholm, Anna Burke. This is a very important initiative at a time when school funding appears to be diminishing, so we are very grateful for any additional monies that we can get to provide better educational opportunities for our students.

A very big thank you to the Prefects, the Tech crew and all the students who participated in this year’s Talent Quest. I really enjoyed the performances and I am very much looking forward to the finals. Thank you also to our wonderful students who made up the audience every lunchtime. I was very impressed by the support and encouragement that you offered to all our performers. Thank you and well done!

Last week all the Year 8 students visited Box Hill TAFE to gain an insight into the operation of a TAFE college and to explore different pathways available in addition to those provided by a University. Our TAFEs provide excellent opportunities for students and it is wonderful that our students have the opportunity to view a TAFE in action and start to think about the many courses that they offer.

The Year 8 students also had sessions exploring the issues surrounding cyber space and appropriate use of the internet and digital technologies. The internet and digital technologies are now very much a part of life and learning. As an increasingly interactive medium, digital technologies bring with them exciting new opportunities to engage children and young people in their learning. At the same time, these technologies also bring some risks. Increasingly schools are dealing with incidents of cyberbullying or unacceptable behaviour that have occurred in the online world or using technology such as mobile phones. It is therefore appropriate at this time to remind parents that it is important that you adequately supervise your children and their use of computers and the internet. It is important that together we promote safe use of digital technologies and highlight the risks involved in disclosing personal information on line.

Some key things to remember:

- Facebook time should be limited.
- Students should not have computers or iphones in their bedrooms.

Mrs Kate Mitchell, Principal

Year 7 Study Skills

Many students making the transition to high school find themselves overwhelmed by the volume of work expected of them. All Year 7 students will be participating in a Junior Time Management Seminar run by Elevate Education on Friday 1st June during periods 3&4, which will aim to give students the skills to effectively manage their increased workload.

Skills covered in this seminar include:

- **How to develop a study routine**: How to develop a study routine that allows for socialising, sport and extra-curricular activities and still fit in time to study.
- **How to complete homework on time**: Students are introduced to 4 homework skills that ensure that all homework is handed in on time and that homework does not pile up.
Revision: Students are introduced to key revision concepts. What does revision actually mean? When are you meant to do it? How do you fit revision in with other required homework?

Managing deadlines: One of the most difficult skills for a junior school student to develop is the ability to manage long-term deadlines associated with exams and assignments. Students are guided through a 4-step process to help them project manage exam preparation and assignments.

To help consolidate these skills we would appreciate you taking the time to talk to your child about what they have learnt and some of the improvements they could make to their study plan. If there are any further concerns about your child’s study habits please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support.

Annie Eastwood, Year 7 Coordinator
eastwood.anne.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Heide Gallery

Inspired by the natural landscape during our visit to Heide Gallery early in May, our Year 9 and 10 Art students have reflected their new found knowledge about the artists and the environment they lived in at Heide in their artworks produced since the visit.

Learning about the different techniques the artists used, we observed the sculptures at Heide and how they were made within the environment the artists lived in, the materials used and their availability in an area as remote as Heide was in the early 1970’s.

The relationship between the residents affected the creation and interpretation of their artwork. In particular, the relationship between Sunday and Sydney provided lovers of fine art with a place to visit and experience different styles of art that Sydney created, and also gave the picturesque landscape a romantic and loving feel.

All in all, we thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Heide and learnt many different things on techniques, how different materials are affected by different environmental factors and, most importantly, how two peoples need to exhibit different types of artwork to Australia have contributed greatly to the way many Australian artists perceive the natural and urban landscape and how they interpret and paint these scenes.

Plain English Speaking Awards

Box Hill High School was represented by Ashley Hanson of Year 10 in the regional finals of the Plain English Speaking Awards (PESA) held recently at Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School.

Ashley’s engaging speech entitled “The Blindness of Society” was very informative and well-received by the judges and the audience. Ashley was the only public school entrant and male participant in this final, comprising of students from Avila College, Carey Baptist, Sienna College and the host school, Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar.

Ashley had an excellent stage presence and delivered his speech with great poise and clarity. His impromptu speech “At the last minute” highlighted his skills as a public speaker. I know that Ashley has spent a lot of time preparing for the finals. He has represented Box Hill High School to the highest of standards and should be congratulated for his fine efforts.

Debating Report

Box Hill High School competed in the third round of the Schools Debating Competition run by the Debaters Association of Victoria (DAV) at Ivanhoe Girls’ Grammar on Thursday 17 May.

Controversial topics such as “That we should drastically increase the price of alcohol”, “That we should pay parents to stay at home to look after their children” and “That we should not allow people under 18 to compete in professional sport” were hotly contested.

All of our debaters performed well, with a convincing win for C Grade and a win in D Grade against Northcote High School. Our A Grade and C Grade teams had only one hour to prepare their speeches, as a secret and an advised topic was given, respectively. So, both teams had to literally “think on their feet”.

Congratulations to Evangeline Yong, Jerome Yong and Pamoda Guruge who were awarded “Best Speaker” for their debates.

The teams on the night were:

- **A Grade** Grady Barrett, Erin Wait and Amanda Guruge
- **C Grade** Shelley Dalapu, Wynona Chin and Evangeline Yong
- **D Grade 1** Harshdeep Kaur, Vasish Vasan and Alan Yin
- **D Grade 2** Nina Chin, Jerome Yong and Gregor Campbell
- **D Grade 3** Ruchita Pandey, Spencer Harvey and Rami Jarrar
- **D Grade 4** Winstina D'Souza, Pamoda Guruge and Andrew Wilson

Ms Wendy Grant (Public Speaking and Debating Co-ordinator)

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**Senior Boys Soccer**

Discipline, determination and no small amount of skill, contributed to our Senior Boys Soccer Team making the final in a round robin competition at Darebin State Soccer Centre, against Koonung Secondary College.

In a heart-stopping climax the winner was decided in a penalty shoot out. Normally, five penalties for either side is sufficient to declare a winner. However, on this occasion it took ten spot kicks from either side to produce an outcome and unfortunately the boys lost 10 goals to 9. All players are to be congratulated for the way they played this ‘beautiful game’ in a spirit of fairness and cordiality.

I would like to especially thank Gino Ballentos and Patrick Satorie for their invaluable skills in leadership and training.

Congratulations to the team members: Nicholas Anderson Qui, Gino Ballentos, Simon Chiem, Tom Delaney, Jack Deng, George Fagridas, Hansen Han, Donal Joseph, Tim Kehnohan, Kit Mun Lee, Jacky Luu, Nick Pastore, Flavius Pop, Patrick Satorie, Liam Swift, Ivan Tang, Will Tee and Andrew Yuen.

Mr Alan Whittaker

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**Music Camp 2012**

Once again, the picturesque Oasis Camp in Mt. Evelyn was the venue for this year’s Music Camp. The Wind Symphony (Senior) and Concert Band (Intermediate) spent three wonderful days focusing solely on music and getting to know each other, making it a worthwhile musical experience as well as a fun social event. Students spent some time before lunch getting to know their new surroundings, and were kept very busy all day in rehearsals and tutorials before playing ‘get to know you games’ after the evening meal. Everybody participated in the talent quest which resulted in some very funny acts from each of the cabins.

Our guest conductor, Mr Brian Hogg, worked throughout the next morning with the Wind Symphony. Brian works with the Salvation Army and has previously worked as a music teacher in several schools. He is also an accomplished composer and arranger, winning many awards for his work. His presence on camp was a privilege, with students gaining much from the experience. After more rehearsing and tutorials in the afternoon, students also had the opportunity to get out for a bushwalk guided by Andrew, one of the camp staff. Students learned many interesting facts about the environment and were ready for refreshments after the uphill climb back to the camp. The theme for the dinner was “Australiana”, where many students dressed up vying for the first prize of a Alans Music Voucher. Competition was close, but after much deliberation, Tiffany and Emma as a BBQ, Indigo as a Swagman and Ashley as a Jar of Vegemite won the prizes on offer, followed by a movie night watching “Red Dog”.

On the final day, the bands played a short concert for each other. The camp was a success thanks to the dedication and professionalism displayed by the students throughout the camp and the commitment from staff. Thanks to parent helper Cathi Walker for helping supervise the camp and thanks to Adam Watson, Gianni Marinucci, Travis Easton, Martin Corcoran, Vivienne Tate, Cate Johnston, Brian Kemp and Ronnie for helping make the camp a great success.

Don't miss our “Winter Concert” on Tuesday 26 June at 7.30pm in the Hall - Featuring all school-based ensembles.

Mr Troy Rogers, Director of Music
Six Feet Underground

is the new student-led musical... about zombies!

It was written and organised by and for the students of Box Hill High - so we'd love to see as many of you involved as possible! Auditions for the cast and band will be happening in the last two weeks of this term (term two). For audition forms and further information (on auditions requirements for both band and cast) please visit http://sixfeetunderground.webs.com Don't forget: application forms need to be handed in to the box in the Year-12 coordinator's office by June 6th, so get on filling in those forms ASAP! The musical will be staged in December. We look forward to seeing your application forms soon, and good luck with auditions!

Also, anybody who is willing to donate old black and/or white clothes, large sheets of cardboard, and/or unwanted glass jars (a quirky combination indeed) please contact us on the website or bring in the items to the Year 12 Coordinators office. Thanks heaps!

The student-team at Six Feet Underground