



# The Belmont News

Strive For The Highest

Belmont High School

Issue No. 16

belmont.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au

Friday 2 November, 2018

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Belmont High School Art Exhibition

Our Art Exhibition was a spectacular event, displaying a large array of student work, ranging from paintings, photos, ceramic pieces, furniture pieces to beaded dress designs. The talent of our students was evident in their excellent work that was displayed throughout the library. As is tradition, I chose four drawings created by Hannah Hall which was called; Visions of Nostalgia; Unique Being. A number of our students received awards and certificates. Congratulations to all students who had art pieces displayed at the Exhibition and to the teachers who have worked throughout the year to inspire and work with each student. I would like to thank the large number of families and community members that attended the exhibition, which was held in the Art and Technology Centre. Their support and encouragement of our students and teachers was great to see.

### New School Captains for 2019

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our new school captains for 2019.

Congratulations to **Theo D'Agostin** 11 Red and **Casey Collins** 11 Silver. They were selected by their peers after 14 of our nominated students presented their speech to the Year 11 cohort.



Our new Vice Captains are **Jesse Hasell** 11 Silver, and **Tommy Doggett-Williams** 11 Purple. Together the four leaders will be running our assemblies and leading the student voice program at Belmont High School.



I wish them every success and look forward to working with them throughout 2019.

### Facilities Update

Our Library has been reinstated. The library furniture and resources will return in the space. We have created two VCE Study areas, which will allow students to study silently in the main library and work collaboratively in the closed room.

We will be gaining a new portable that gives us an additional two classrooms. This will be placed in the North side of the school and as part of the Middle Years precinct. The SEALP classes will be organised in these two new spaces.

The Performing Arts Centre is progressing well and should be ready for the start of 2019. There has been a large hole dug out for the installation of water tanks to manage the storm water from the school.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2018

### Monday 5 November

General Assembly  
Yr 7 & 8 Cricket finals  
Parents Association meeting, 7.15pm, Conference Room

### Tuesday 6 November

Out of Uniform Day—gold coin donation to State Schools Relief  
Yr 8 Docs/Teens program

### Wednesday 7 November

Intermediate WRM Cricket finals  
Yr 9 Strive excursions  
Yr 8 Docs/Teens program

### Thursday 8 November

Yr 9 Science (2 classes) - Barwon River  
Yr 7 WMR Cricket finals  
Yr 8 WMR tennis & cricket

### Friday 9 November

Junior Jazz Mandama PS Fair, 5.15pm  
Yr 7 WMR Tennis & Cricket  
Yr 8 WMR sport

### Monday 12 November

House Assemblies

### Tuesday 13 November

Yr 11 Small Business Day  
School Council extraordinary meeting, 5.30pm  
Victorian Schools Music Festival, Deakin Edge Federation Square

### Wednesday 14 November

Yr 8 Docs/Teens program  
Yr 7&8 WMR Girls Cricket

### Thursday 15 November

Yr 9G BioLAB & Barwon Valley Mentor Program

### Friday 16 November

Yr 9G BioLAB & Barwon Valley Mentor Program  
Yr 9 Strive excursions  
Year 11 Last day of classes

24 hr STUDENT ABSENCE LINE  
5241 0090

### Farewell to the Class of 2018

It was a very special time for our Year 12 students as they said farewell to the staff and students of Belmont High School. During the past few weeks the Year 12 students have had graduation dinners with their House Leaders and teachers. This was a very emotional time, with mixed feelings as they leave their secondary school and look forward to their next chapter in their life. The staff organised a breakfast for the students followed by a whole school assembly where we celebrated with them before they were dismissed from the school for the last time. The VCE students have returned to meet with their teachers in preparation for their exams. The exams have started very positively with all students in attendance. We wish all the students every success in the future and hope that they think of their time at Belmont High School with fond memories. I would like to thank all the families of the Year 12 class for their continued support to the school throughout the years.

**Sandra Eglezos, Principal**

## AUCTION UPDATE

The end of the school year is fast approaching. After feedback from parents, staff and students, it has been decided that due to festive commitments, our school auction, originally planned for the 28th November is now postponed till next year. However, just to remind everyone, if you know of any businesses that could donate goods or services to be auctioned next year in order to raise the funds needed, please provide the details to the school, or contact them if you feel comfortable in doing so. If you have any goods or services that you are willing to contribute, then we would welcome your donation. Many thanks to those who have already made donations.

Sandra Armitage

## MIDDLE YEARS REPORT

### Student Learning

Students are well underway with their Term 4 learning! Our Year 7 students are busy learning about the art of Persuasion in Literacy they are thinking like Entrepreneurs in Rich Task. They have been busy creating mini-golf courses throughout their study of angles in Numeracy and are also currently emerged in a study of Earth and Space Sciences following their trip to ScienceWorks at the end of last term. Health this term prepares our students for the warmer weather whilst looking at the topic Sunsmart.

As our Year 8's prepare to leave the Learning Centres and enter Year 9 they are thinking about their opportunity to become Junior School Captains! We wish all applicants the best and encourage all interested students to apply. What a terrific opportunity! Students in Year 8 are building on their knowledge on Entrepreneurs from Year 7 and moving on to look at bigger businesses and the marketplace in Rich Task. They are working hard to create an informative and engaging magazine complete with articles for Literacy and are busy working away on their Measurement and Geometry and Body Systems units in Numeracy and Science.

We encourage all students to reflect on the feedback given to them by their teachers at the recent Student Parent Teacher conferences and if unsure of how they are tracking in class, to simply ask!

### Interschool Sport

A big congratulations to all our students who have represented BHS in interschool sport recently. From all accounts our students have displayed good sportsmanship, excellent team work and have been supportive towards their teammates and students and staff from other schools. Keep up the great work!



### Incursions

#### Verbal Combat - Year 7

Brainstorm Productions visited our school to present a show about Bullying. The play was about a new girl at a school, her name was Emily, she went to that school that followed strict guidelines about who you were supposed to be friends with, and what you were supposed to do. When she went to this school however, no one one knew her place and they all thought she was weird. She had a diary that all the other kids were obsessed with. The diary was a coping mechanism but none of the other kids knew that and they thought it contained judgy notes about them. She ends up going through a lot of bullying without once telling the teacher. At the end of the play the producers explained everything in the play were based on real life events and how it could have been prevented. We hope this encourages our students to be kind to one another and not tolerate bullies or be bystanders. - *Isla Anderson and Toby Davidson, Year 7*

#### Michael Panckridge (author) visit - Year 7

Michael came to the library to tell us about his life and how he started writing books. He inspired us by telling us about his passion for sport and desire to get reluctant readers engaged in books. Michael also said he put his mind to the job of creating a series of engaging, fast paced sporty books. Books for kids who, let's be honest, would probably rather be out there playing the game, than reading about it! Michael had a quiz to win a book he wrote but unfortunately no one won the book. We were extremely happy when Michael also told us some of his story ideas which he was turning into a book. He showed us the process of writing a book and how he struggled with publishers. - *Izzy Hawkes and Levi Nicholson, Year 7*

#### John Salvardo (author) visit - Year 8

Over the past few of weeks, Year 8's have been learning how to write a magazine. As a part of this unit, an author and interviewer, John Salvardo, shared some of his stories with the students. Taking notes and asking questions, the students learnt about what makes a good feature article and interview along with some tips about how to create good interview questions. The students were thankful for the tips and tricks, giving applause to John. - *Kels Logan, Year 8*

### Staffing changes for Term 4

Ms Marissa Dewan has taken on the role of teaching Middle Years, 7P and 7G for the remainder of the year and is teaching Numeracy, Science and Health. New to Geelong last year she has worked casually at the school after moving from Perth. Marissa has taught at various schools in Vic, WA and England. She is also an experienced PE teacher and has a love of sport and recreation.

She will be replacing Erin Prendergast from this week until the end of the year. We welcome her to the Middle Years team and hope she has a great time working with our wonderful Year 7 students!

A big congratulations to Ms Erin Prendergast who will be taking on the role of Assistant Principal for the remainder of 2018. Ms Erin McKenzie will be taking over the role of Middle Years Leader.

We look forward to a productive and exciting Term 4!

Middle Years Leadership Team,  
Erin Prendergast, Erin McKenzie and Tara Robertson



### Mango Newsletter

Mango students were represented in the recent Belmont High School Spring concert. Well done to; Bowen Prosser, Grace Brown, Nicki Badii and Lauren Kar.

*"On Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> we were fortunate enough to attend the school's annual spring concert. We even got the chance to perform amongst the line-up of some of Belmont's talented musicians. It was good to see so many students from Mango House being amongst the line-up. All in all it was a great night and being able to watch everyone come together and support talent was sight to watch. Good job to all the Mango house students for all their efforts!!!" Nicki Badii 10M*



Year 12 Mango celebrated their Valedictory Dinner on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. It was a wonderful night, with lots of fun reminiscing. The most laughter was had when viewing the film of the students in Year 7 speaking about what they wanted to do when they left school and Mr Mackenzie told some funny stories about the students from 6 years ago. It is always difficult to farewell Year 12 students and this group is no exception. They have all grown into wonderful individuals who will leave Belmont High with good memories and we trust, the skills to take on the world. Mr Pugh and I thank them for their leadership in Mango House; we will miss them all and we hope they will visit in the future to say 'hello'.

### MUSIC NEWS

On October the 16<sup>th</sup> the music department showcased the work of our music students at the **2018 Spring Concert**. This was held in the Geelong West Town Hall, and involved 120+ students, performing solo items and participating in both large and small ensembles. There were fantastic performances from all the groups, and it was wonderful to see senior students supporting junior students in the various combined performances. The "final Countdown" was definitely one of the highlights of the night, and a triumph for the trumpet players in the school!



Congratulations to all the music students who received awards for their outstanding contribution to the music program in 2018, farewell and to our Year 12s who have contributed so much to the program over their six years of involvement in music at BHS.

A huge thank you to our music staff, **Chris Henzgen, Rohan Laird, Donna Zaharaopoulos, Amanda Linton, Kristine Mellens, Rob Gador and Lynne Morton** for their extraordinary commitment to ensuring the success of the concert. They organised students to be ready to perform, made programs, moved equipment from Belmont to Geelong West, organised the PA and mixed sound on the night, and crawled around in the band trailer and on the back of the ute at the end of a long night, packing the gear to take back to



BHS. The Spring Concert is the product of 12 months of planning and hard work preparing ensembles, and actively creating a positive and supportive atmosphere in classes and rehearsals, so that students feel comfortable performing in public.

This would not happen without the energy and commitment of the music staff.





Our Band Support group worked tirelessly leading up to the concert, and on the night, setting up tables and decorating the hall, making sure that the audience were well fed and hydrated, selling raffle tickets, and welcoming parents new to the program. We are lucky to have this group of parents, who are so supportive of our music program.

There will be a band support group meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in the Bandroom. All music program parents are most welcome to attend.

Our Year 6 music transition program began this week, and we have 28 students participating from the following 13 primary schools: Oberon, Newtown, Mandama, Highton, Montpelier, Belmont, Clairvaux, Fyans Park, Bellaire, Roslyn, South Geelong and Lara. These students will have 6 weeks of music lessons on their chosen instrument, and come together to perform in a concert for family and friends and showcase their achievements. Thanks to all the instrumental music staff for managing to fit these students into their already busy schedules!

Our Tour Band has started rehearsals, and will be touring to Primary schools on December 10<sup>th</sup> to promote our school and music program. They will also perform at the Roslyn Christmas Carols on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Junior Jazz are off on Friday November the 9<sup>th</sup>, performing at the Mandama Fun Fair, and we wish them a great performance.

Congratulations to our Geelong Summer Music Camp Band Support scholarship recipients: **Allison Hollins, Claire Breakey, Lewis Roberts and Liz Hooper**, who will attend the Camp at the Geelong College from January 13 – 18<sup>th</sup> 2019. No doubt they will bring lots of new skills and knowledge back into the BHS music program and we wish them a fantastic experience at the camp.

#### Still to come this term:

Beginning Band: Junior Music Showcase, Mount Clear College, Ballarat, Friday November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Junior Jazz: Mandama Fun Fair, Mandama Primary School, 5.30pm

Beginning Band: Victorian Schools Music Festival, Deakin Edge, Federation Square, Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup>

All IM music students 7-10: Ensemble Performance CAT, Tuesday November 20<sup>th</sup> 7pm, Bandroom 1

Tour Band: Primary Schools Tour, Monday December 10<sup>th</sup>

Year 6 Music Program Concert, Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup>

Tour Band: Year 7 Orientation performance, December 11<sup>th</sup>

Senior Band/Jazz Syndicate: Rehearsal Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup>: Senior Band 10.30am – 12pm, Jazz Syndicate 12.15 – 1.15pm, Bandroom 1

Senior Band/Jazz Syndicate: Awards Day performance, Costa Hall, December 17<sup>th</sup>

Jazz Syndicate: Year 7 parent information evening, December 11<sup>th</sup>

Tour Band: Roslyn Christmas Carols, December 14<sup>th</sup>

AMEB exams: flute, piano, percussion. Good luck to those student sitting exams in November.

Such a full Term 4 calendar! It really highlights how our students share their talents with a wide cross section of our community.

**Rose Humphrey**  
Director of Music

#### PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE AND AMBULANCE COVER

Parents and carers are reminded that the school does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. We strongly encourage all parents and carers to have up-to-date ambulance cover. Parents and guardians of students who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of any medical expenses such as ambulance costs if their child is injured or requires an ambulance at school, or whilst participating in a school activity. Parents and carers can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

#### SPORTS REPORT

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> of October we had 8 students attend the State athletic carnival. Congratulations to D'Artagnan Reed-Broekman on placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in triple jump, Tess Rhodes on 2<sup>nd</sup> in 3000m, Olivia Hobbs on 1<sup>st</sup> in 3000m and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 1500m and Jaron Hobbs on qualifying for nationals in the steeplechase. Our senior boys relay team also ran very well on the day, well done Rohan, Roshan, Terpase and Henry.

Our year 7 interschool sports went out on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October, congratulations to the cricket and baseball teams who were successful and will go on to the next round in the coming weeks.

We wish our year 8 cricket, baseball and tennis teams and our Western Metropolitan teams all the best for their competitions over the next week.

**Laura Aylmer**



## YEAR 8 FEATURE WRITING

Meet Allison Dwyer. A strawberry blond with a pinch of spunk.

Allison Dwyer isn't like you and me. No. She's different. You will find Allison roaming the corridors with confidence and determination. Ali is the teenager whom girls look up to. She doesn't let your boss her around for she has a lot more self-respect than that.

Allison moved in 2017 to Belmont from Fitzroy, Melbourne. You'd think that on her first day she'd be nervous. Actually, Ali was the complete opposite. She was ecstatic. Allison is special. She's unique. And you know why?

She accepts everyone and never is involved in ugly behaviour. Maybe if girls were a little more like Ali then kids and teachers would have one less thing to worry about.

Every girl says that they would give anything to live a day in the shoes of Allison Dwyer. But what they don't know is that Ali holds a secret. A secret about her past. A secret about her family. Allison Dwyer's real name is Allison Adler. She is adopted for her parents abandoned her at birth.

This is the memory that make Allison strong. Perhaps her parents weren't strong enough to keep her. But Allison wants to show them, wherever they are, that to be strong, you just have to be you.



On April the 14<sup>th</sup> 2017, Allison held an event. An event for all the girls who needed more self-confidence. At this event, Allison presented a speech that touched many. She said "Confidence. Self-respect. Kindness. We all have these things, just sometimes they are harder to find. But how do we find the bits that are hiding? We

don't. At least not alone. We all know that friendships are the blessing that high school gives us, beside our education. So there is no need to use the power you have to bring others down. Do you want to be that girl who has a great education, a great group of friends and a ton of self-confidence? Start with being yourself. For a smile is the greatest gift you can give anyone."

Today in 2018, Allison has provided counselling to many girls who lack self-confidence. She is a rose among sunflowers. She's different

Will you be the Next girl to move mountains?

Allison Dwyer. The girl who changed the world.

Written by Bronte Lillico, 8 Blue

### LIBRARY NEWS

#### MICHAEL PANCKRIDGE VISIT

Recently the library hosted local author Michael Panckridge, who spoke to all Middle Years 7 students about his own challenges as a young reader, his path to having his writing published, and his tips on creating stories that grab readers' attention. He kindly shared his key to successful writing: 'It's all about having a great idea'. Students also had the chance to order signed copies of his novels. We will be placing the orders with Michael next week so please ensure all forms and money are returned by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. (Learn more and check out the word search competition at <https://michaelpanckridge.com.au/>)





Michael Panckridge is an Australian author who has written over 35 fictional novels, which are designed to appeal to teenagers. He visited Belmont High School on the 19th of October and talked to the year sevens about his books. Michael started his writing career with a series of sporty books with the idea of getting young teenagers engaged in reading when they would rather be outside playing sport. He has now expanded his genre to include adventure and mystery thrillers.

After his presentation, I got talking to Michael and showed interest in his new book, called 44 hours. The book is still in draft mode; Michael is editing his initial draft. The initial idea that Michael had for this book is:

"A boy is walking out across an oval. There is a tent on the oval with a sign that says 'Enter and find out something about yourself you didn't know'. The boy is intrigued so he enters the tent. A strange and creepy girl is in the tent. She turns and looks at the boy then suddenly turns away as if there is something wrong. After a while, she finally tells him that he has 44 hours to live". Will he die? Does

she kill him? Or is it something completely different?

Because I showed interest in the book, Michael emailed me his manuscript for the book 44 hours, as he wanted constructive feedback. I felt so lucky and excited to be asked to read the book and give Michael feedback that I read the book in a day, well definitely within 44 hours! It is an awesome story that is full of suspense; it gets you hooked, I did not want to put the book down. The book is full of surprises, ending has a twist that you will not see coming.

Harrison Whelan 7E

#### YEAR 8 READERS' CUP

All 8 teams should be busily working on their "Skeleton Creek" video task. These are due next Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November. The actual Readers' cup competition is on FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER DURING PERIODS 3 AND 4. All participants should have read all three books by this stage, and be re-reading.

#### CHARGING STATION

The library now has a charging station with both power and USB connectivity. If you wish to charge your laptop, phone or other device please bring a charging cord. You can then securely lock it away for charging, with a code you create. The library has a limited number of laptop chargers that you can borrow but no phone chargers.

Lee Suter, Rennai McCarthy  
Librarians



# FYANS PARK PRIMARY

Camden Rd, Newtown

**Friday 30th Nov**  
**4-8pm**

Come along and enjoy the fun with  
rides & showbags  
delicious food & drinks  
Santa & his Wonderland  
cakes & preserves  
Raffles

Recycled hand made homewares  
Live music with The Young Hearts  
& Denis Walter and more

Gold coin donation welcome at the gate

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**bethany**  
community support

**saverplus**

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Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Garry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies including Bethany. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.