Premier, Gladys Berejiklian and Minister for Education, Sarah Mitchell visit Bossley Park High School to announce the extension of the ‘Best in Class’ program, part of the quality teaching unit.
Year 12 Graduation and Formal

While the Premier announced that Graduation assemblies for Year 12 could be held in this Term or in Term 4 after the HSC examinations, in both cases it is still subject to the capacity of the school venue to follow the 4 square metre rule for each external visitor. We have 208 students in Year 12 and our MPC doesn’t have the capacity to have parents socially distance as per the requirements. As a result we have decided to have the Graduation Assembly this Term on Thursday at 4pm for students and staff only. The ceremony however, will be videoed and made available for all Year 12 students, carers and families. This is the first time that we will have a recording to create a lasting memory of the 2020 Year 12 Graduation. The Year 12 Formal is now likely to be held at school, weather permitting, ‘Under The Stars’ at school after the HSC examinations.

Changes to Roll Call

From Term 4 Roll call at will no longer occur. Students will move directly to Period 1 from 9:15am on Mondays and 8.40am Tuesday – Friday. It is not acceptable for students to arrive late to school and all students are encouraged to arrive 10 -15 minutes before school starts to ensure they are not late to school.
16-17 SEPTEMBER
LEARNING CENTRE

2020 HSC SHOWCASE

VISUAL ARTS
IT FURNITURE
DESIGN & TECH
TEXTILES

CONSTRUCTED REALITIES
AN EXHIBITION OF 2020 YEAR 12 PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO & DIGITAL IMAGING WORKS
Exhibition open from 16th September in Gallery B until the end of Term 4, 2020
Year 11 students have now completed their Year 11 course lessons with the last two weeks of this term dedicated to their final course examinations. They start their HSC courses when they return to school next term. They have voted on their Year 12 jackets that look like this:

With NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian’s surprise visit with Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, Sarah Mitchell, to announce the expansion of the Best in Class team that includes our very own Melanie Cassin, on 7 September 2020, it was nice to see our students’ reaction to Eddie Woo being on premises. A mathematics teacher with a rock star following - that’s very cool! Of course, the Premier’s announcement that Year 12 formals will go ahead in 2020 will forever be known as the Bossley Park High School culture. I am sure parents and students share this view. As a school we will continue to develop our school culture through our motto Focussing on excellence and success; thus ensuring BPHS is still the place to be. The recent ‘Tell Them From Me’ survey in which staff, students and parents participated will provide information for which the school can continue to develop a positive school culture.

Year 8 and 12 Update

With NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian’s surprise visit with Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, Sarah Mitchell, to announce the expansion of the Best in Class team that includes our very own Melanie Cassin, on 7 September 2020, it was nice to see our students’ reaction to Eddie Woo being on premises. A mathematics teacher with a rock star following - that's very cool! Of course, the Premier’s announcement that Year 12 formals will go ahead in 2020 will forever be known as the Bossley Park High School culture. I am sure parents and students share this view. As a school we will continue to develop our school culture through our motto Focussing on excellence and success; thus ensuring BPHS is still the place to be. The recent ‘Tell Them From Me’ survey in which staff, students and parents participated will provide information for which the school can continue to develop a positive school culture.

Year 8 and 12 Update

Anti-bullying strategies and procedures have been a strong focus at BPHS for many years now. As part of our Anti-bullying Plan, staff consistently provide the following message to all students in regards to bullying behaviour. This is:

- We are here to support and help victims so please speak up
- If you witness/know bullying is occurring: take a stand and also speak up
- If you do display bullying behaviour including cyberbullying: STOP it or expect serious consequences
- Can I encourage parents to support the school in regards to issues of bullying (including cyberbullying) by reinforcing the above message

2021 timetable is progressing well with Year 9 electives currently being worked on. In due course, Year 8 students will be notified of the electives they have been given for Year 9 2021. They will continue with these electives for Year 10 2022.

Very successful HSC trial exams were held in Weeks 4 and 5. It is very pleasing to report that attendance, punctuality and conduct were excellent. High levels of engagement were noted and this was especially evident during the exams greater than 2 hours. As these exams were the last assessment task and the most weighted of the 4 assessment tasks, it was encouraging to see so many students working hard to put their best efforts in. Students knew and understood the rules with very few students arriving late. Equipment and mobile phone procedures were followed together with administration duties (e.g. filling out writing booklets etc).

All of this was great preparation for the real thing next term. Please note that for the HSC exams, if you apply for Illness and Misadventure, supporting documentation including medical certificates must contain good detail explaining the reasons why you are applying for Illness and Misadventure.

Important dates

- Monday 21st September: Normal lessons
- Tuesday 22nd September: Normal lessons
- Wednesday 23rd September: Normal lessons + Graduation Rehearsal for period 4 in MPC
- Thursday 24th September: Year 12 Picnic day on school grounds. 8.30am to 12.30pm
- Thursday 24th September: Year 12 Graduation @4pm in MPC. Live streamed and recorded.
- Thursday 24th September: Week 1 term 4 - Online learning platform lessons
- Tuesday 20th October: HSC examinations begin. See timetable here
- Monday 2nd November: Clearance period begins. Students to return all texts to Library.
- Wednesday 11th November: HSC examinations conclude. Assessment ranks released to students via Students Online
- Monday 16th November: Clearance period closes. (Last chance to obtain formal ticket)
- Wednesday 18th November: Year 12 Formal (by invitation only) if allowed to proceed with Covid-19 Guidelines in place. School quad ‘under the stars theme’ (weather permitted) or MPC. It is unlikely LeMontage will be able to accommodate us but this may change depending on Government and Department of Education rulings. A final decision to be made shortly.
- Friday 18th December: HSC results. ATAR released from 1pm

Thank you to Year 12 parents and students for the past 5 years. It has been an honour to work with you all as DP. It has been a journey filled with success, challenges, personal growth and building resilience. My advice to students: ‘finish the job’ Put in a maximum effort until your last exam so you can look back and say ‘I did all that I could to ensure my personal best’ My advice to parents: continue to support your child and provide them every opportunity to ensure they can achieve their personal best.

In closing, what makes Bossley Park a great school?

Wonderful staff, fantastic students, supportive parents and community.
Year 10 students received Recognition Letters last week and it was great to see the number of students that received letters for demonstrating a pleasing attitude and substantial effort in classes. Approximately 60% of students received recognition for six or more of their eight courses, which is an outstanding result. I encourage all Year 10 students to apply their best in the coming term in order to achieve RoSA grades they can be proud of.

The subject selection process is progressing well with course lines being formulated. Students will be notified of the selections they have received in Term 4. I would like to publicly acknowledge our amazing Year Advisors; Ms Melville and Mr Zantiras, who have been working extremely hard to assist students who have failed to obtain preferences to ensure they select appropriate courses, which are available on the formulated lines.

Weeks 9 & 10 of Term 3 and the first three weeks of Term 4 are extremely important periods for Year 10, as the final assessment tasks for many courses are scheduled. I encourage all Year 10 students to plan and prepare thoroughly for these tasks to ensure they are able to demonstrate an extensive knowledge and understanding. All students should also ensure that they complete any incomplete work to ensure that they satisfy the outcomes required for the accreditation of the RoSA.

The (Youth Engagement Strategy Program) YES + program has been running as part of the Educational Pathways Pilot (EPPP) and is supporting students to explore vocational education and build skills for the world of work through their participation in a range of taster courses. The TAFE + program has been running one day per week during Term 3.

Five students have completed taster courses in Health and Wellbeing/ Medical Admin/ Hair and Beauty at Liverpool TAFE and another student has completed the taster courses of Paint and Panel/ Civil Construction/ Wall and Floor Tiling at Macquarie Fields.

With Year 12 HSC Exams coming up I asked junior students if they had any messages for Year 12. Here are a few things they said:

- Mr Hooke
  Deputy Principal - Year 10
  A growing trend among some female students is to have very long acrylic nails. We'd like to remind parents and students these are not permitted at school. Long acrylic nails prevent students from participating in everyday classroom activities, in particular practical subjects and this can impact their learning. If students wish to have acrylic nails they should be short in length, not pointy and natural colours. See examples provided, please save long elaborate designs for school holiday periods.

- Ms Ager
  Deputy Principal - Year 9
  Good luck in your HSC exams, we hope you all get good results and succeed in your future.

- Manila and Angela Yr 8
  Good luck I wish you all the best and don’t forget to keep studying.

- Julia Yr 8
  To Luca, thanks for being there when I needed and not giving up on me, also for putting up with me when I was bad and you taught me. I know you will do good after school.

- Joshua
  To Truc and Winston, good luck on your HSC Exam! I’m gonna miss you guys playing volleyball with me. From being toxic and scoring points! Come visit us if you can!

- Sopriya Yr 9
  Good luck in your HSC. Always believe in what you’re capable of and what you want to do in life. Always believe you can do anything that you put your mind to. Don’t always follow what your friends are doing do what you’re good at.

- Alyssa Yr 8
  Wassup my guy! You got this!

- Diego Yr 9
  Fight On!! Best of luck to you all

- Kimia Yr 9
  You guys did such a good job this year, especially since there was a pandemic going around. I know for sure that if you got through this year so well, then you will be just fine for the future.

- Ariana Yr 8
  You will do good after school.
Wellbeing Update

Ms Sari-Daher
HT Wellbeing

This Term we had our annual Wellbeing focused Week Gr8. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions this year we were limited with activities we could run to promote positive mental health message to our students. Our fantastic Youth Mental Health Team which consists of senior student ambassadors, took the time to promote the message to the students by giving every student an R U OK? Day Kit to encourage everyone to “Have a break and ask a mate!” The message for R U OK? Day 2020 was: “THERE’S MORE TO SAY AFTER R U OK?” 2020 has been a challenging year for everyone and circumstances to our students. Our fantastic Youth Mental Health Team which consists of senior student ambassadors, took the time to promote the message to the students by giving every student an R U OK? Day Kit to encourage everyone to “Have a break and ask a mate!” The message for R U OK? Day 2020 was: “THERE’S MORE TO SAY AFTER R U OK?” 2020 has been a challenging year for everyone and circumstances have made it even more important for us all to stay connected and, for those who are able, be willing to support those around us. You don’t have to be an expert to keep the conversation going when someone says they’re not OK. By knowing what you can say to help someone feel supported and access appropriate help long before they’re in crisis, which can make a really positive difference to their life. Remember a conversation can change a life.

Thank you to the parents and members of our community who have already completed this survey. To access the survey for our school go to http://www.tellthemfromme.com/bphs2020.

Wellbeing Update

There’s more to say after R U OK?

Ask then listen, encourage action and check in

1. Ask R U OK?
Or say something like:
- “Have you been feeling like this for a while?”
- “I’ve noticed a few changes in what you’ve been saying lately. How are things for you at the moment?”
- “I know things can be a bit tough right now. How are you?”
- “I’ve noticed you’re not yourself lately, want to talk about it?”
- “I’ve noticed you’re not yourself lately, want to talk about it?”
- “You’ve got a lot on your mind right now, how are you doing?”

2. Listen
You could say:
- “I’m here to listen if you want to talk more.”
- “I know when I went through something similar, talking to a professional really helped me out. Would you like me to help you book an appointment?”
- “How’s your day been so far?”
- “Have you been feeling like this for a while?”
- “I’m here to listen if you want to talk more.”
- “I know when I went through something similar, talking to a professional really helped me out. Would you like me to help you book an appointment?”

3. Encourage action
You could say:
- “What do you think is a first step that would help you through this?”
- “What can I do right now to support you?”
- “Have you spoken to your doctor or another health professional about it? I might be able to help with that.”
- “Have you had much support around you?”
- “What do you think is a first step that would help you through this?”
- “What can I do right now to support you?”

4. Check in
You could say:
- “What’s been happening?”
- “Have you been feeling like this for a while?”
- “I’m here to listen if you want to talk more.”
- “I’m here to listen if you want to talk more.”
- “I’m not going to pretend I know what it’s like for you, but I’m here to listen to how you feel the way you do.”
- “I’m not going to pretend I know what it’s like for you, but I’m here to listen to how you feel the way you do.”
- “I’ve noticed you’re not yourself lately, want to talk about it?”
- “I’ve noticed you’re not yourself lately, want to talk about it?”
- “I’ve noticed you’re not yourself lately, want to talk about it?”
- “I’ve noticed you’re not yourself lately, want to talk about it?”

Learn what to say after R U OK? at ruok.org.au

Thank you to the parents and members of our community who have already completed this survey.

This Term, our school is participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the Tell Them From Me suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents’ and carers’ perspectives on their child’s experience at school. These include: communication between parents/ carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school’s support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted over Term 3 and early Term 4. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

Remember a conversation can change a life.
Term 3 Rewards
Junior students need to achieve 20 PBL points while Senior students need to achieve 10 PBL points by the end of Week 8 to be eligible for the Term 3 reward. Year 7-10 and 12 students will receive their reward in Week 9 due to a busy Week 10 with Year 12 Graduation activities. Year 11 students will receive their reward in Term 4 after they return from exams.

These points are awarded by classroom teachers for one of the following reasons:
• Actively engaged in activities/discussions
• Completed all classwork to the best of their ability
• Demonstrated positive relationships through collaboration with their peers

Students should be constantly thinking - Am I being safe? Am I being respectful? Am I being a learner?

- Students can play soccer or touch football games on the oval during Recess 2 and Lunch.
- These games must be played within year groups (for example, only Year 7 students can play a game against each other).

Term 3 Focus: Oval

With the weather warming up and students flooding to the oval to spend their recess and lunch times, it is important to remember what being a safe, respectful learner on the oval means. Over the last few weeks, there have been some issues with students not moving to class when the warning bell rings. Students must use the first bell at the end of lunch as an indication to end the game and move off to class. By following these rules and adhering to the expectations, students can play safely and ensure they are able to arrive punctually to class.

- Students should not touch the goals for safety reasons. They may use their bags to act as a goal.
- Be mindful of the other games occurring. Allow others to play by sharing the oval and the space respectfully.
Write a Book in a Day

On Tuesday, September 1st, a group of 20 students, split into two teams, participated in the Write a Book in a Day competition. These teams had to complete a fully illustrated chapter book consisting of a minimum of 3500 words, all within a 12-hour timeframe; between 8 am and 8 pm. This competition is organised by the Kids’ Cancer Project, a charity organisation dedicated to raising funds which will go towards scientific research focusing on finding cures for various forms of cancer that are unfortunately affecting hundreds of children each year across Australia. The purpose of the Write a Book in a Day competition was to provide a book for cancer patients between the ages of 10 and 16 to help make them feel more cheerful during difficult times.

When writing the book itself, each team member had a role to play, such as writing, editing and illustrating. Each team had its own set of parameters unique to them, which provided a basis for writing the story. These parameters included having specific characters, themes, complications, settings and random words throughout the entirety of the story. An example of one of the parameters given was that a story was required to have a mermaid, cyclist and photographer as the main characters whilst the story had to be set in a garden.

Alongside the story, an acknowledgement and blurb had to be included in the book. Another requirement was to have an illustrated front and back cover, with the option of including artworks for each chapter. The intricate illustrations were either hand drawn, painted and then scanned or created digitally. Through the blood, sweat and tears, the teams produced two fantastic books, titled ‘Snap Dragon’ and ‘Quills and Trills’. Overall, both the writers and illustrators from both teams did a superb job in completing the competition, which wouldn’t have been possible without Miss Nassif’s fantastic organisation, dedication and assistance throughout the entire event. We would also like to thank Mrs Weir, Miss Pabiona, Mr Vasiliou, Miss O’Neill and Miss Yalda for accompanying us along this amazing experience.

Stage 5 Premier’s Debating Challenge

This Term, the Stage 5 Debating Team consisting of Owen Wilson, Quindira Supriyono, Jayden Olmos and Riyanka Ramamoorthy participated in Round 1 and 2 of the Premier’s Debating Challenge via Zoom. The first topic was ‘That classes at school should be organised by ability instead of age’. Our BPHS team were the negative team and they won against Wiley Park Girls’ High School. Students then went onto Round 2, debating against John Edmondson High School. The topic was ‘That we should ban social media for people under 18’. Our BPHS team were the negative team, arguing against this notion. Our team worked very hard and came up with some excellent ideas to argue their stance. Unfortunately, they lost against John Edmondson High School. Congratulations on a tremendous effort this Term!

Year 7&8 Debating

The Year 7 and 8 Debating Team won this round of the Premier’s Debating Challenge, against Birrong Girls on Thursday the 27th of August! The topic for the debate was: ‘Students in Year 8 and below should only ever receive feedback instead of grades or marks.’

Our team was affirmative and did a great job debating for the first time over Zoom.
Visit from the Premier and Minister

A big thank you to all the people that have passed on lovely messages of congratulations over the past few days. It was a huge surprise to hear that Minister Sarah Mitchell was coming to our school to announce the Best In Class initiative. This excitement (and nervousness) was then accelerated when we learnt on Monday morning (7th September) that The Premier was also coming!!

It was my greatest pleasure to not only talk to both of them about the work I have been doing as part of the HSC Strategy, but to speak about our wonderful school.

The Minister took the time to come in to my classroom and speak with Year 12 students about their work. It was definitely a career highlight to have The Minister of Education, Director of Teaching Quality - Stacey Quince, Our Director - Marianne Siokos, Vera and all the Deputies, Livia Bolanca from HSC strategy and Eddie Woo all in my classroom supporting me and our wonderful students. The comments about of school, especially our students were so glowing:

"A beautiful and supportive school in which you all have warm and positive relationships."

"The students are so talented, and articulate so well, what amazing students!"

Thank you everyone for your on going support. Bossley Park High is the place to be!

The Year 10 Food Technology classes are studying the topic ‘Food Product Development.’ This topic gives students the opportunity to plan, prepare and present safe, appealing food that reflects contemporary society.

If you spend any time looking at food pictures on Instagram, you’ve probably come across the latest trend to sweep across the café world ‘Freakshake’, it’s the insanely indulgent mega-milkshakes.

Students had to design each Freakshake around a theme, so every element of the Freakshake must work with the other.

For the uninitiated, a Freakshake is no ordinary milkshake. They are presented in a mason jar filled with a milkshake and then piled high with as many goodies as possible to make it unique, impressive and… Instagrammable. Freakshakes are not a drink, they are a meal. And that’s the influence of social media.
Follow us on Social Media:

FACEBOOK:
https://www.facebook.com/BPHSWellbeing/

INSTAGRAM:
@BossleyParkHS

TWITTER:
@bossleyparkhs