IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
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<td>14 Dec, 2015</td>
<td>Last Day for Enrolments – Current and New students - All Year levels - 9am</td>
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<td>16 Dec, 2015</td>
<td>Awards Night</td>
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<td>18 Dec, 2015</td>
<td>Last Day Term 4</td>
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<td>29 Jan, 2016</td>
<td>Y10 &amp; Y11 Commence - Hall</td>
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<td>1 Feb, 2016</td>
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<td>17 Feb, 2016</td>
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Principal's report

End of the road for the class of 2015, work begins in earnest for the class of 2016

The end of the academic year is rapidly drawing to a close and most of our students have now completed all of their examinations and for those undertaking a Year 12 subject in 2016, the Flying start program. This program allows students a final opportunity to commit to their selected Year 12 studies. It is also an opportunity to begin the course work and take advantage of the summer break to begin their studies. The program also incorporates a Study skills session.

This year we will farewell four members of staff from the college community after many years of service, Jim Ellison, Karl (Charlie) Gilbert, Liz Abbinga and Susan Harris. Jim has been an integral part of the Leadership team at Box Hill Senior for 16 years. He joined the college in 2000 as a Leading Teacher in student management before being appointed as an Assistant Principal and taking on the role of Acting Principal on a number of occasions. Amongst his many contributions to the college has been the implementation of the GPA system. This has assisted student managers with the monitoring of student progress and allowed timely intervention to enable students to achieve their personal best. He is also credited with the existence of the Red Shed which is an important asset for the Sport programs. Jim plans to spend more time cycling and traveling. He tells me that whilst he has overseen our maintenance that he has neglected a very long list of maintenance issues at home that he will now have no excuse not to tackle. I know that the many students and staff who have benefited from his commitment to the teaching profession will join me in wishing him all the very best for his future.

Susan Harris is also retiring after having been a long serving and valuable member of the Art department at Box Hill Senior. Susan was first appointed in 1991 to the then Box Hill Technical School.

Charlie Gilbert officially retired in September after a period of extended leave. He was responsible for our Electrical course for many years. Liz Abbinga who was a valued member of the English faculty, retires at the commencement of 2016 after a period of extended leave.

I wish to congratulate Katrina Katz, who has been appointed to lead the student wellbeing team at Wantirna College, from the commencement of the 2016 school year. Katrina has contributed significantly to the ongoing development of Literacy at the College in the 5 years she has been here.
The Department of Education & Training recently released details of the Education State initiatives and targets. They clearly had the Box Hill Senior College motto in mind (Learning to make a Life, Learning to make a Living, Learning to make a Difference) when they framed their targets which they call:

Learning for life
Over the next 5 years:
- 25% more Year 5 students will reach the highest levels of achievement in reading and maths.

Over the next 10 years:
- 25% more Year 9 students will reach the highest levels of achievement in reading and maths.
- 33% more 15 year olds will reach the highest levels of achievement in science.
- More students will reach the highest levels of achievement in the arts.
- More students will reach the highest levels of achievement in critical and creative thinking.

Another of the Department of Education & Training targets that aligns with our college philosophy is:
Happy, healthy and resilient kids
School will be a positive experience and nurturing environment for our children to develop confidence, social skills and healthy life habits.
Over the next 10 years:
- The proportion of students who report high resilience will grow by 20%.
- The proportion of students doing physical activity for an hour a day, five times a week, will grow by 20%.


Whilst the students may be winding down the staff are now very busy, writing reports and planning their programs for 2016. The Leadership team of the college have reviewed the Education State initiatives and found that they align with our Strategic Plan which was developed in December 2014. Our strategies and targets are reviewed annually to ensure we are on track to achieve the goals set out in the Strategic Plan. The Annual Implementation Plan will be presented to the College Council at the start of 2016.

We look forward to seeing many of you at Awards Night which will be held in the College Hall on **Wednesday December 16** from 7pm to 8.30pm.
I wish you all a safe and enjoyable break over the Christmas period.

Fiona Erwich
Acting Principal

**FLYING START**
Year 12 classes began on Tuesday 17 November for the 2016 Year 12 cohort and students undertaking an advanced placement. Classes ran for the week and all the teachers were very impressed with the respect, organisation and work ethic shown by the students. Students have been given their holiday homework which is due first week of term 1 next year.
2016 Year 12 students who missed Flying Start are asked to come into the school to collect their holiday homework. Students in Year 11 next year completing a Year 12 subject can collect their Flying Start homework from Student Services on Enrolment day.

**Year 12 Students - End of Year Results & Tertiary Places**

VCE results and ATAR are available on the following website [resultsandatar.vic.edu.au](http://resultsandatar.vic.edu.au) from 7.00 am Monday 14 December until 5.00 pm Friday 18 December - VCAA student number (not VTAC number) and PIN are required. By default, the Results Service PIN is the first four digits of the student’s birthdate, e.g., 3 February is 0302.

Results will arrive in the mail from Tuesday 15 December to your home address.

Students can change their tertiary preferences up to 12 noon on 21 December.

First round tertiary offers will be made available on the VTAC website [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) from 18 January 2014.
Further information regarding Yr 12 results and ATAR is attached to this newsletter. Students requiring their VCAA number should contact Frank De Melis before Friday December 11. Students are welcome to ring or come in and see Frank De Melis once results are published if they require assistance in changing their preferences.
India Trip 26/11 – 6/12/2015

BHSSC has set up a very successful partnership with the Neerja Modi School. From 2012 and every year thereafter, staff and students have taken advantage of the opportunity to be part of the Box Hill Senior tour of India in late November / early December.

For each tour, students have travelled with members of staff and are provided with a unique opportunity to work alongside their student counterparts at the Neerja Modi School, support the disadvantaged girls of Nischay (which is a special campus of Neerja Modi) and then spend time travelling to a number of places of cultural significance such as the Taj Mahal, the Red Fort, the town of Pushkar, taking part in camel riding in the Pushkar sand dunes and visiting the Tiger National Safari park in Ranthambore.

This year, our students and school community raised in excess of AUD$6,000 to purchase school supplies, clothing and bicycles for some students who travel a long distance to school.

Each day, students send an email to the college giving a rundown of their experiences that day. Below are 2 student emails covering the first few days of their trip.

And so it began, 11 students and 3 teachers, embarking on a ‘once in a lifetime’ journey. Before we got to enjoy the India adventure, we had to endure the gruelling and seemingly never ending plane flights. First off, we had a 9 hour or so, trip to Bangkok, there did not seem to be one person who was happy about that. However, with good food and numerous choices of entertainment to choose from, it helped ease the pain. The flight seemed to go on forever, but eventually we landed, stepping off the plane into the humid, muggy weather that was Bangkok. Thankfully, there was no long lay over waiting for us and we were straight through security right onto our next plane headed for New Delhi.

Fortunately, we did not have another long haul ahead of us (it was only a 4 hour trip this time), to our final destination. Once again, with food and entertainment, everybody was happy, well, as much as they could be, being stuck in a ‘tin can’ 35,000 feet up in the air. As we could start to see India in the distance the excitement levels rose. It hit us that this is actually happening, we are about to be thrown head first right into the Indian culture, and there is no turning back!

After we landed, we found ourselves nervous, yet excited. We met our tour guide for the 10 days Sanjay, and with him was our bus. Our first stop was a nice buffet lunch with amazing food and dozens of choices for us all. What a way to start the trip. Experiencing the local culture, seeing the streets, how everyone lived, immediately the cultural shock we all knew had arrived.

From lunch, we had a 5 hour bus ride to the Neerja Modi Boarding School. With help from the jet lag, most of us managed to get a well needed and well deserved, rest. With 5 hours staring at the roads, there was plenty to see. A massive difference between where we are, and where we have come from. From how people drive around, to the things we saw on the side of the road. Cows casually walking about, rubbish releasing harsh fumes into the air. Families walking from point A to point B, ripped and dirty clothes, dust all over them, broken shoes or none at all, carrying as much as their arms would let them, this is not what we are used to.

We finally reached the school, and after a lovely meal, we all made our way to our rooms and made ourselves familiar with our pillows. Lights out!

The next day we all woke up well rested, energetic and ready for the day. First off we were given a tour around the school facilities for the Neerja Modi School. We were shown around the classes, saying hello to all the kids, having a look at the fundamentals of the school and how they worked. We then moved onto the Nischay Girls School. We were split up into the different class groups. 2 students from our group went to one class each. We introduced ourselves to the girls and we started to play some games, dance, chat to the students, just have an all-round enjoyable time, for all.

What happened next was something that was a big eye opener for myself. I’m not sure how the others felt, but for me it was amazing. We gave the girls gifts. Things like clothing, beanies, bracelets, soaps and shampoos, pencils, just lots of essentials. The thing that hit me was just how appreciative the girls were. How
even a grey-lead pencil, could bring a huge smile to their faces. Things that we take for granted, and that we assume will just be there on a daily basis. The girls were more gracious for a little bracelet, than I've seen someone back home be for a laptop or even a car. We always hear people talk about how much of a shock it is seeing people live in a 3rd world country and how it is something that will change the way you think, but we all just brush it aside and assume it can't be that shocking, surely it's not that bad. I can tell you nope, you have to experience it to understand. It made me think about everything back home that I just take for granted and that I am so lucky to live the life I do. To have a nice meal in-front of me everyday, 3 times a day. To live in a nice house, in my own room, with a nice comfy bed to sleep on. To have the education and privileges I have.

If this is what the first couple of days have brought to light, I can only start to imagine how amazing the rest of the trip will be.

*Patrick Cotter Y11*

Saturday 28th November 2015

7:45am brekkie, so we could get on the road to the Amber Fort. It was about an hour and a half bus ride and we passed the Water Palace which was literally a place in the middle of the water, quite incredible to witness.

When we arrived at the Amber Fort we rode an elephant to the top of the hill where the Fort was situated. The view was incredible and to think I was looking at it whilst sitting on an elephant was just something I couldn't comprehend. Upon our arrival at the Fort, we left our elephants and our tour guide Sanjay, took us around the Fort and told us all the interesting history. This Fort is truly amazing and if you were to visit India it is a must! On our way down we were stopped everywhere by people trying to sell us pens, elephant pendants, photos and other souvenirs - this is all part of India!

On the bus back to the Neerja Modi school we stopped at a jewellery precinct where we found an amazing little store which had incredible handmade gem stone rings which were so cheap! I ended up buying 6 because I couldn't control myself, but I wish I got more!

About 2:15 we went back to the school for lunch and then left for Mr Modi's Palace, where we were staying for the night. When we arrived we could not believe what we were seeing, one of the most beautiful places I've ever stayed in my life. We were all so honoured to have been given the chance to stay there. They set up a dance floor and speakers for us and we all had a boogie, especially Pete, who showed us all some great moves!

Georgia, Liv and I went to the roof top of the palace and just tried to take it all in, it was spectacular!

The perfect way to end an amazing day.

*Daisy Grimshaw Y11*
Monday 30/11/2015

Today after a good night's sleep at the Palace, we woke up at 8am for breakfast at 8.30am. We had some time after breakfast to get some last minute photos of the Palace, shower and pack up our bags and get ready for the long bus ride ahead of us.

The bus ride was longer than expected because of a massive traffic jam, but it was enjoyable with some card tricks and brain teaser games from Andy and Pete's great singing. Around 2 o'clock we arrived at Pushkar Resorts and had a delicious meal for lunch. We then chose our rooms for the night and put our bags inside.

After lunch and setting up our rooms, we got back in the bus and left to visit Brahma temple in Pushkar. It is a very important temple in India because of their religion and it is one of 5 places that they must visit in their life to prove their religious dedication.

We then had a look around at some markets whilst walking to where we would find the camels that we would be riding through the desert during sunset. It was an amazing experience and one that I loved and will never forget. The sunset was beautiful and definitely the highlight of the trip for me so far. We each rode a camel back to the resort and everyone loved it.

We had some leisure time afterwards where most people showered and made the most of having some wifi for a while. At 8.00pm we went down to the grassed area for the Rajasthani dance performance and it was great fun when we all joined in. We had another amazing dinner outside by the fire.

It was a great day, and I can't wait to see what other exciting experiences we will have in the next week. It is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity which we are definitely making the most of.

Tarsha Jones Y11

Sport News

1. Football – Each year coach Ian “Beaser” Aitken runs a pre season camp that runs for three days (Dec 21 – 23). This is open to any new student in the BHSSC football program. Places are limited. Please see attached flyer in this newsletter for further details.

2. Fitness testing – All sports students will be doing fitness testing in the New Year. The following dates have been designated at this stage but may be subject to change:

   Football Thursday 28th Jan 8.30am -1pm
   Tennis Tuesday 2nd Feb 8.30am – 11.50am
   Basketball Boys Tues Feb 9th
   Girls Wed 10th Feb 9.00am – 12.50pm
   Future Stars Wed 10th Feb 9.00am – 12.50pm
   Netball Wed 10th Feb 9.00am – 12.50pm

   **Please remember to bring a water bottle, sunscreen and cap for any activities that may be completed outside.

3. Another BHSSC footballer into the AFL!

   James Parsons has been selected by Geelong FC in the Rookie draft. Congratulations!
PARENTS OF ADOLESCENTS (12-18 YEARS)

Boroondara
Boroondara Youth Services
Counselling referral and support service information and support groups for parents. 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn Weekdays 9am-5pm. Phone 9835 7824.

Knox
Stronger Families Program - Addressing Youth/Parent Conflict 12-17 year olds Uniting Care, Knox Ozone, 1012 Little Burwood Highway, Wantirna South. Mondays to Fridays ongoing from 9am-6pm. Phone Intake Team 9871 8700.

Family Reconciliation
Uniting Care Harrison, 1012 Little Burwood Highway, Wantirna South. Phone for information 9871 8700.

Headspace
Knox Ozone, 509 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna 9801 6088

Relationship Counselling, Parenting
1248 High Street Road, Wantirna South. Ongoing throughout 2014. Moderate fees apply and after hours appointments available. Phone Intake contact Gennene Mitchell on 9871 8900.

Knox
Knox Youth Info/services (information service for young people and the parents in Knox area)
Building 2, Capital City Blvd, Knox Ozone Precinct, Wantirna South Mon-Thurs 1-5pm. Free brief counselling and referral. Phone 9298 8000.

Toughlove (children with unacceptable behaviour)
CAV Centre, 8 Ashley Street, Wantirna Wed 7.30pm, $5 per person per week. No childcare available. Phone Wantirna Parent Support Sally 0488 706 221 info@vic.toughlove.org.au

Templer Youth/Teenage Group
Monthly activities at various venues. Phone Susi Richter on 0400 764 257.
**Eastern Kinship Care Network**
Glen Park Community Centre, 30 Glen Park Road, Bayswater Nth Monthly Thursdays during school term Lilydale Lake Community Room, 435 Swansea Road, Lilydale Every 2nd Friday during school term. Ring Jessie Lobley at Anchor 9801 1999 for details or kinship.info@anchor.org.au

**Same Sex Attracted Young People Support (12-25 years)**
Referral to a wide range of services - Eastern Region Gay & Lesbian Youth project including “Purple Bus” magazine. **Refugee homework support.** Phone Kate at Knox Youth Services on 9298 8686.

**Maroondah**

**Youth Health Clinic**
Eastern Access Community Health, 46 Warrandyte Road, Ringwood Phone 9871 1802
youthandfamilyvic@each.com.au

**Who’s In Charge** - for parents of young people 8 – 18 who are violent or defiant 21 Oct – 2 Dec 12 – 2.30 pm Ev’s Youth Centre, 212 Mt. Dandenong Road, Croydon Contact: Lea at Connections 9724 2222

**Maroondah Youth Services**
Monday to Friday from 9am-5pm. Services and programs for young people 12-25 years. Phone 9294 5709. www.maroondahyouthservices.com

**Manningham**

**Manningham YMCA**
School services, counselling & support, personal development and leadership, youth events, skate services, LAP and youth activities. Phone Youth Services on 9848 0088.

**Monash**

**School Refusal Program**
Catholic Care, 510-512 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham. Cost according to income. Phone 9873 4344 or email mitcham@ccam.org.au.

**Youth Connections (programs and support to young people and families)**
Whitehorse Youth Services open Mon-Fri 1-5pm daily. Phone 9898 9340. Anglicare Youth & Family Services (family counselling-Meridian) 7-11 Shipley Street, Box Hill. Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. Adolescent (10-22) and parent mediation.

**Yarra Ranges**

**Youth & Family Counselling** (for young people 12-25 years and their families) Yarra Ranges Youth Services, Shire of Yarra Ranges. Phone 1300 368 333

**Youth Health Clinic** Yarra Valley Community Health Service, Healesville High School on Thursdays from 11am-2pm and at Upper Yarra Secondary College on Mondays from 10am-2pm. Phone 1300 130 381. Bulk billing. During term time only.