Vale Year 12, Class of 2013!
The end of the academic year is rapidly drawing to a close. The past few weeks have been a particularly busy time for year 12.

The internal assessments and work requirements are completed, with students now clearly focused on preparing for their external exams.

I wish those year 12 students who have formal external exams all the best over the next few weeks. Keep in mind that the exams are about testing your knowledge of work that has been completed throughout the year – it is not about introducing new work. If you have completed class work throughout the year and you have used your revision time productively, then you will be able to cope very well with the exams.

I always encourage my students to enjoy the exams as a celebration of what they have learned and what they feel passionate about. Remember, you are the first audience of your exam paper- not the examiner- so do yourselves proud and enjoy displaying your knowledge and skills. Always strive to achieve your personal best.

During October, the College again held an exam revision period where Yr. 12 students completed formal practice exams. These exams gave students the opportunity to practice examination techniques under formal test conditions. At their completion, all students had the opportunity to reflect on their progress and areas for improvement, in consultation with their subject teachers.
On Tuesday October 22 we held our annual Year 12 Celebration dinner. It was wonderful to see so many students, parents and teachers come together for the night. The Celebration dinner provides an opportunity to highlight the achievements of every year 12 student. Many of our music students had one final opportunity to display their musical talents. Thank you to all members of the College community who attended this night and a special thank you to Andrea Wood, Amy Pascoe, Cameron Black and Michelle Clark for their support and guidance of our Year 12 cohort throughout the year.

On Wednesday, October 23 we held our final assembly and farewell ‘brunch’ for the Year 12s. It was a delight to see both staff and students mixing so comfortably at this event. Our year 12s behaved very well during their last week of formal classes. I congratulate them on the mature and responsible manner with which they approached their end of year activities.

Past BHSSC student awarded selected to study at prestigious US music college.

Alec Houston (2010) has been awarded a place a Berklee College of Music. Alec’s brother Dylan is a current music student at BHSSC. Alec and Dylan’s father, Jim, emailed me the following message:

“Dear Damian,

Thanks once again for providing both Alec and Dylan with such a great education and the support and encouragement to pursue their dreams.

As I mentioned last night we were thrilled to be informed recently that Alec has been offered a place to study contemporary guitar in the Bachelor of Music Degree at Berklee College of Music in Boston USA.

Alec graduated from Box Hill Senior Secondary College in 2010 and has been working and practising guitar since this time, with the goal of gaining entry into a college in the US to study music.

He submitted a video of his performances to Berklee College in March this year and was invited to an interview and audition in Sydney in May.

He then had a long wait until the results were announced in late September. Alec was fortunate enough to not only be offered a place in this prestigious school, but was also offered a partial scholarship.
As you are probably aware, Berklee is the world’s leading college for the study of contemporary guitar, with its graduates having won over 250 Grammys. Past students have included Al Di Meoli, Gavin De Graw, Elliot Easton, El Hefe, Chuck Loeb, Pat Metheny, and John Mayer. It is in effect a passport to a professional career in music.

We are delighted that Alec has been given this opportunity to follow his dream of working as a professional guitarist in the USA and would once again like to thank BHSSC for providing such a great environment where he could dream big and follow these dreams.

Regards,

Jim

Congratulations to Peter Ryan and the Music Department for their continued dedication and it is wonderful to hear about the great success stories of our students.

Damian Dwyer
Acting Principal

College Fees & Charges Reminder
The fees for all electives and the sport development programs should now be finalised and statements will be sent out to all families with fees still outstanding within the next 2 weeks. In regard to the Sport Development programs, please note the following College policies:-

- Enrolment/re-enrolment in these programs requires the payment of a deposit which forms part of the program fee.
- Enrolment in the Sport Programs will not be accepted unless all arrears, from the previous year, have been paid

If further information is required, please contact staff in the General Office.

Fashion Parade 2013
The Fashion parade “Revolutions” was held on the Thursday October 10th and was a huge success. All fashion students ranging from Years 10 to 12 had the experience of walking on the catwalk and showcasing their work. All students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

We would like to offer a huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the night possible. We truly could not have done it without you. A big thank you to all makeup and hairstylists, Lighting and sound by Eddie Wired 4 Sound, DJ Liam Denny, stage and catwalk set up by Lucas Williams. Graphics and design by Selena Repanis and Seri Kol. And last, but certainly not least, our amazing fashion teachers Maria Repanis and Susan Connell.

I can’t wait for next year’s fashion parade!

Kate–Lyn Mundell (Year 11 fashion)
Science News

On October 14, Megan Borondy, Year 11, accepted her position from the Director of Rotary at the National Youth Science Forum at the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories.

In January next year, Megan will join a select group of high achieving National and International Science students, to take part in the 2014 National Youth Science Forum in Perth.

Recently, Unit 2 Biology classes had a day trip to Barwon Heads, where they spent the morning performing a survey of the distribution of various species within the rocky shore community. The seal was the most popular organism.

In the afternoon the students had a visit to the Queenscliff Marine discovery centre. Pictured, students can be seen exploring the touch tanks.
Visual Arts News

The annual Art Exhibition was officially opened on Tuesday October 15. The incredible talent of Visual Arts students was exhibited in a dazzling array across a wide variety of art forms and techniques. All the work on display showed impressive imagination, skill and refinement. Congratulations to all who exhibited. A selection of work will remain in the foyer gallery until the end of 2013.
Sport News

Basketball

Friday October 11: McDonalds Cup final - our senior boys played Caulfield Grammar in the final and unfortunately were defeated by a better team on the day. Our Intermediate boys played Rowville SC and after being up at the half way mark were also defeated by a taller team.

Friday October 18: Eastern Zone Intermediate finals - our Intermediate boys and girls played in the Eastern zone round robin, unfortunately both teams were defeated by Rowville SC.

On another note, it is very pleasing to see two former students, Greg Page and Owen Odigie play for the Melbourne Tigers in the first 2 games of the season.

Fundraising for Nischay Girls school

A special thanks to the Nunawading basketball Stadium for their generous donation of three autographed basketballs signed by the Melbourne Tigers, Melbourne Boomers NBL and WNBL 2013-14 teams. We rattled these and raised $400.00 for the Nischay girls school in India.

Steve Kennedy