Brentwood Secondary College Newsletter

Principal’s Report

The talented students in our Performing Arts program have wowed audiences this week with their performances of ‘Catch Me If You Can’. 90 students from years 7 to 12 participated in the show which was directed by Joel Batalha, musically directed by Ben Franklin and choreographed by Sophie McCluskey. These three teachers are to be commended for their ongoing commitment to this program. In excess of 2,000 people will have attended this year’s production when the final curtain falls on Saturday night. We also thank Daniel Mackay and his team for their remarkable set building and Brenton Van Vliet for his efforts on the visual spectacle. The orchestra, consisting of current Brentwood students, ex-students and members of the extended Brentwood community, complemented the overall production and made the whole experience one that the participants and audience will not forget. Once again, the college is extremely proud of all members of the community who were involved in this amazing production.

The upcoming ‘B Factor’ will be another opportunity for students to demonstrate their talents in this revamped talent show that replaces ‘Music Madness’. Students are busy auditioning their singing, dancing, stand-up comedy and instrumental acts in preparation for the show on 26 August.

Peter Rhodes, Assistant Principal

Upcoming Events

5 August
College Production 7.30pm

6 August
College Production 1.30pm & 7.30pm

8 August
Curriculum Day – Student Free Day

10 August
Intermediate Round Robin
Year 12 English SAC Periods 1 & 2

15 August
Education Sub-Committee
Meeting 6.00pm
Resources Sub-Committee
Meeting 7.00pm

16 August
ICAS Maths Competition

26 August
B Factor Music Concert

29 August
School Council 7.00pm

30 August
Division Athletics

31 August
Learning Conferences 12.00pm – 8.00pm

2 September
Sustainability Festival

8 September
Junior Round Robin

12 September
Year 12 English SAC Periods 1 & 2
Student Learning Conferences

Student learning conferences are coming up on Wednesday 31 August, from 12:00pm to 8:00pm. Learning conferences are an opportunity for a three-way conversation between parents, students and teachers. Learning conferences also provide a forum for parents to ask questions about the feedback teachers have posted as Compass Learning Task comments. Please keep monitoring Learning Tasks for the most up-to-date feedback on your child’s learning progress. As active participants in their own education, students are expected to attend the learning conferences with you.

Brief Interim reports will be available to download via Compass from 4pm on 26 August. Bookings will open for individual learning conference appointments at 9am on 17 August and will close at 4:30pm on Tuesday 30 August. Booking times and a map of the college will be uploaded to the Compass news feed to help you in planning your learning conference appointments. To optimise your learning conferences it can be helpful to leave a break between appointments with teachers. If you have any questions about learning conferences please contact the college on 8545 0300.

Peter Rhodes, Assistant Principal

Note: Monday 8 August is a curriculum planning day for teachers. Students are not required at school.

Are you GO-ing Pokemon crazy?

By: the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner and the Australian Communications and Media Authority

Pokémon Go is the latest craze in online gaming that has cartoon monsters dominating the news and eating up the data of millions of gamers across the US, New Zealand and Australia.

Within two days of its release in July, the game had been installed on 5.16 per cent of all Android devices across the US and downloaded at least 15 million times worldwide on Apple and Android smartphones ... that’s a lot of PokéStops!

What’s the big deal?

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the original release, Pokémon Go uses your smartphone’s internet connection, GPS and camera to overlay the ‘Pokémon world’ on to the ‘real world’ you see through your smartphone’s camera. This is commonly known as augmented reality.

Players use a real-time map based on their smartphone’s current location to identify wild Pokémon (Pocket Monsters) and find other landmarks such as interactive PokéStops and PokéGyms. Players hunt and catch Pokémon, then use them to battle against other players at one of the PokéGyms—real-life locations nearby the player.

Why has it hit the news recently?

While Pokémon Go has the advantages of getting kids (and their parents) outside and encouraging exploring and adventures in your local environment, recent media coverage has highlighted risks, including:

- locations that could be unsuitable for young players and also adults
- child players being too young to play the game unsupervised
- the real risk of interacting with others who are not suitable for the child
- safety risks of walking while looking at a phone while playing.

Remember—no Pokémon is worth risking your safety and those around you.
How to get GO-ing

Tips for users

Download the app from an official store—Apple’s App Store for iPhones or the Google Play Store for Androids—so you don’t get a potentially dangerous fake version (malware) of Pokémon Go.

Watch out for, or restrict, in-app purchases of PokéCoins to avoid any unexpected charges. The current cost of PokéCoins ranges from $1.49 for 100 to $159.99 for 14,500. Arrangements for in-app purchases vary across app and mobile providers. There are a few ways you can be charged. The most common is through the Apple App Store and Google Play, where the purchases are charged to the credit card or other payment arrangement linked to your account. You can disable in-app purchases made this way by changing the settings on your smartphone (find out how for iPhones and Androids). The other, less common way you can be charged is through direct carrier billing (DCB), where the purchases are charged to your phone bill. If your mobile service allows DCB, you may need to contact your mobile phone company if you wish to limit or disable this functionality.

Keep an eye out for your spend management alerts (also known as usage notifications) and track your data usage to avoid bill shock. Using the app is estimated to consume between 5 MB to 10 MB per hour. Check your security settings and make sure you are comfortable with any access that the game has to other apps and content on your phone. Keep an eye on your battery level—using the GPS, camera and internet connection can suck your battery life. Read these tips on how to save battery life while playing Pokémon Go.

Download and install any updates—this will fix any bugs and update software.

Remember the real world … look up!

Tips for parents

Talk to your kids about the games they’re playing and understand what’s involved. Playing it with your kids is fun, and will give you a better understanding about what’s involved and any risks.

Set boundaries based on your child’s age and family values. Work out how you want to approach the game, and make sure your child has clear guidelines they understand.

Remind your kids to pay attention to safety while playing—if they are walking with a phone at any time, they need to be aware of their surroundings. Look up, look around and always walk safely.

Find out more:

Parents can find loads of valuable information on the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner’s website at: www.esafety.gov.au/iparent

The ACMA also has a range of helpful advice about staying safe online, visit: www.acma.gov.au/webtips


Year 12 Biology – Genetics Workshop

On Friday 22 July, 108 Year 12 Biology students visited the Molecular Biology Department at Melbourne University for a Genetics and DNA manipulation workshop. The workshop allowed students to immerse themselves in a working university laboratory and use some of the DNA tools and manipulation techniques under the guidance of PHD genetics students.

Students investigated the genetics of Drosophila melanogaster, the vinegar fly. They had to anesthetise the flies and use microscopes to examine their physical characteristics. Students then analysed two fly variants and their offspring to determine the dominant and recessive characteristics. The Mendelian pattern of inheritance for the wing size characteristic was observed and calculated in the successive generations.
Students also explored key aspects of recombinant DNA technology, including the use of restriction enzymes to isolate a gene for copper resistance (CopR gene). Gel electrophoresis, a laboratory technique used for studying DNA was used to visualise the CopR gene. Students were required to have very steady hands as they used the micropipettes to transfer small amounts of DNA into the wells on the agarose gel.

The workshop provided students with hands on experience in the field of genetics and gene technology. The knowledge and skills of gene technology and its applications will be used in the upcoming SAC for Unit 4 Biology.

Cathy Hunter, Year 12 Biology Teacher

**Brentwood Goes Renewable!**

Brentwood has reached another significant milestone in its journey towards sustainability, thanks to the grants provided by the Pratt Foundation. Over the recent school holidays, a 30 kW solar PV system was installed on J-block. The system comprises of 115 solar panels and is expected to generate electricity to meet a quarter of Brentwood’s annual energy requirements. This renewable energy is not only going to save money on our monthly electricity bills but it will also reduce our CO2 emissions by 40 tonnes every year.

Venkata Kalva, Sustainability Coordinator
## Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Beginning 8 August</th>
<th>Week Beginning 15 August</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Curriculum Day – Student Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>S Myers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>J McDonald, M Renshaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>V Cheah, K Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>M Kocsis, G Burke</td>
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</tbody>
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## Parent Volunteer Vacancy

We have a vacancy for the 4th Tuesday and the 4th Thursday of the month. If anyone can spare 3 hours from 10.00am to 1.00pm, could you please ring the canteen on 8545 0313. Thank you.

*Carol & Liz*

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**What's better than a good cup of coffee or tea?**

**Answer:** Two good books to read with it.

For less than the price of a cup of coffee the Lions Club of Wheelers Hill have just the book for you to buy at their Second Hand Book Sale at Blackflat Community Centre, Cnr Springvale & Waverley Rds, Glen Waverley on **6-7 August 2016**

There will be **9,000 books** for sale and all readers are catered for. To make it easy to find your favourite authors, all fiction books are sorted alphabetically by author.

Our non-fiction books are sorted into 25 subject groups, including Art, Travel, History, Military, Humour, DIY, Cooking, Gardening, Sport, Biographies and many more. We also have separate sections for kids and teenagers.

All funds raised from this sale will be returned to the community through our Lions Projects.

**The doors open at 8.00am on Saturday and at 9.00 on Sunday.**
Charity Auction
Saturday 15 October 2016
at 7:00pm
Milanos
4 The Esplanade, Brighton
$30 - $35 per person
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT
(no ticket sales at the door)

GRANDPARENTING SEMINARS
SESSION 1:
• What does it mean to be a grandparent in today’s world of changing expectations and needs?
• What are YOUR needs?

SESSION 2:
• Self-care. How do you look after yourself?

SESSION 3:
• How do you manage your relationships with your children now they are parents?
• What does discipline look like now, compared to when you were parenting?
SESSION 4:
• Financial considerations. How do you help out whilst meeting your own financial needs

SESSION 5:
• Resilience. How do you manage to offer support whilst maintaining your own mental and physical health?

WHO:
Grandparents and carers.
WHERE:
Twice a month
TIME:
Ipswich
WHERE:
Malvern Neighbourhood House
BOOKINGS:
Please contact Julia at Parentzone on
03 9735 6134 or anglicare@victoria.org.au
Email: julia.moss@anglicare.vic.org.au
COST:
$15** (refreshments are essential. 10 places per session.)

MOBILEMUSTER
The only not-for-profit government accredited mobile phone recycling program
Annual Collections
In recognition of your contribution towards creating a better environment
From 1 Jul 2015 to 30 Jun 2016
Brentwood Secondary College, Glen Waverley
collected 2.40kg of mobile phones, batteries and accessories for recycling.

Thank you for helping us keep old mobiles out of landfill.

Syrna Kalis
Manager, Recycling