



Building Harmony and Success

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to elders past and present

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Thanks for 2017

A big thank you to all staff and parents for their support of the students at Belmont High School in 2017.

Our presentation evening held recently was certainly fitting recognition of the successes of our students in academic, cultural, community and sporting activities. Congratulations to all of our students on their success.

At this time of the year, we need to say farewell to the following staff members who are retiring from the Department of Education:

- Deborah Patfield and Christine Blundell from the Mathematics faculty
- Sandra Riorden from the Social Science faculty
- Helen Cook, Head Teacher Technology and Applied Science

Thank you to these staff members who between them have 60 years of experience at Belmont High. This experience and knowledge of the school will be hard to replace.

Also thanks and farewell to David Lembke from the Social Science faculty who has received a transfer to Warners Bay High School. We are still waiting to receive notification from school staffing on replacement for these staff members.

We also appreciate the work done by our casual and temporary teachers over the year and we hope to see many of them back at BHS in 2018.

In 2018, a new multi-categorical special education class will also be established at Belmont High. This will be in addition to our three existing special education classes so we are looking forward to this valuable addition to the school community.

HSC

Congratulations to Year 12 students for their great HSC results. Despite some media league tables published recently our overall results in 2017 were better than those obtained in 2016. Students achieved 10 band 6 (the highest) and 78 band 5. Band 6 was achieved in English Extension 2, Food Technology, Mathematics General, Mathematics, History Extension, Music, and Society and Culture. Band 5 was achieved in Biology, Business Studies, Community and Family Studies, Engineering Studies, English Standard, English Advanced, English Extension 1, Geography, Industrial Technology, Legal Studies, Mathematics General, Mathematics, Mathematics Extension 1 and 2, Modern History, History Extension, Music, PDHPE, Senior Science, Society and Culture, Visual Art, Japanese Continuers, Hospitality, Construction, Travel and Human Services.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

15 Last Day for Students

January

29 Staff Return
30 Years 7, 11 and 12 Return
31 Years 8, 9 and 10 Return

February

5 Swimming Carnival
6 School Photos
13 Yr 7 Vaccinations
21 P&C Meeting

Many of our students have already received early offers for entry to university so congratulations to them as well.

Thanks to the staff at Belmont High School who have supported year 12 through this crucial phase of their education and in particular thanks to year advisers Karen Newman and Seanne Jones and Careers Adviser Natalie Hilder for their efforts.

Building Upgrade

It was hoped that concept plans for the building upgrade would be available for community consultation before the end of the school year. Unfortunately, this has not happened but we are again hopeful that these plans will be available at the start of the new year.

Come Play Summer Pilot Program

Schools are the heart of our communities and offer a range of quality recreational and play facilities. Over the coming summer holidays, the NSW Department of Education is trialling a program at a number of schools across the state which will open up the playgrounds, ovals and sports fields for the whole community to enjoy over summer.

Our school will be participating in the program during these school holidays. The Henry Street (bus bay) gates will be open from 23 December 2017 to 21 January 2018 from 8am – 6pm.

Regular security patrols through the day will be in place to monitor safety and security, and gates will be locked at 6pm each evening. As always, if you need to report a security issue at the school, you can call security 24 hours on 1300 88 00 21.

Rewards Events

The wellbeing team are currently reviewing rewards events for students who follow our school values particularly in academic, attendance and behaviour areas. It is hoped that these rewards events will continue to be a part of the school culture but at the same time become more relevant to student needs. From 2018, the school will not be organising a rewards evening for year 10 students.

Geoff Robinson
Principal

Come play these school holidays

Your school is a vital part of our community, and we want you to use it. During the summer break participating schools across NSW will be opening up their play areas for your enjoyment.

Visit schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au for more details.

This pilot project is an initiative of the NSW Department of Education.



Remember you can now view your students report via the Sentral Portal

HAVE YOU FOLLOWED US ON FACEBOOK YET?
<https://www.facebook.com/BelmontHS/>

P&C MEETING
The next P&C meeting will be held
Wednesday February 21, 2018 at 5.30pm in the staff common room. Everyone welcome to attend.

DEPUTY'S REPORT

2017 has been a very busy year for the students and staff of Belmont High School. Students have been well supported by staff in the classroom and through a large variety of welfare initiatives to improve their wellbeing. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Learning and Support Team comprising all of our hard working year advisors and acknowledge their leader Natalie Proudlock (Relieving HT Well Being) and Karen Sawyer (Student Support Officer) for all their hard work to support our students.

We have been very busy working with our local primary schools to start the transition process for our incoming Year 7 students. They have been involved in our Year 6 Fun Day in third term, and attended Orientation day on 5th December. We look forward to seeing them all start the next phase of their schooling at Belmont High School on Tuesday 30th January 2018. We would like to thank the Year 6 teachers of all our incoming pupils for their support in the transition process. Congratulations to our Year 12 students who received their results on Thursday. We would like to wish them well in their future studies and/or work opportunities that they choose to take up. They have been a wonderful group and great role models for their fellow students.

Year 11 have already progressed to the Year 12 courses at the start of Term 4 and have commenced the HSC assessment process. With only three terms of high school left at the start of term one we would like to remind students to make a consistent effort and utilise the support offered by your teachers, Year Advisors, Learning HUB etc.

Our Year 10 students will now move on to their senior schooling and will be accessing the Year 11 curriculum for Terms 1-3 before they commence their Year 12 studies in Term 4 2018. Students who are struggling at any time should also access the above supports rather than let any stress build up. We are here to work with you and support you and your family through what can sometimes be a difficult time.

On a final note, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our students, their families and all the staff at BHS for their ongoing commitment to making BHS a great school. Merry Christmas and please have a safe and relaxing holiday. See you in 2018!

Michele Spinks and Michael Allenby
Deputy Principal's

THANK YOU BHS P&C COMMITTEE

Thank you to the Belmont High P&C committee for your continued support of the students and staff of Belmont High. We have had a wonderful year and look forward to continuing the strong connection with you into the New Year.



YEAR 10 REWARDS EVENING 2017



WELLBEING TEAM

It has been a busy last Term for the Students and the Wellbeing Team with lots happening around the school.



Year 10 participating in LOVE BITES, an extremely successful school-based Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault prevention program that evolved on the Mid North Coast of NSW.

Love Bites is based on best practice standards for education programs as recommended by the Federal Government funded Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearing House and other leading academics in the area of violence against women.

Some fabulous artwork was produced by students in the afternoon reflecting on the day's messages.



Year 7, 8 and 9 participating in THE REACH FOUNDATION workshops during Term 4

Year 7 participated in *Connections*, a program that encourages empathy and support of authentic and positive expression. They also worked on *Identity and Influence*, helping empower students to gain a greater sense of self and to understand what influences their identity.

Year 8 participated in *Respectful Relationships*: In this program students explored the reasons behind their behaviours and the impacts of their actions on others. They also worked on *Resilience*, which assists students to develop the resilience they need in everyday life.

Year 9 participated in *Self Esteem and Positive Peer Dynamics*, a program that shifts the peer dynamic to encourage respect, empathy and awareness. *Finding Your Voice* explored the group dynamics with a focus on individual strengths, core values and passions.



Year 9 and 10 also had a visit from **batyr**, an organisation that believes student empowerment and student led initiatives are fundamental to reducing stigma around the topic of mental health and encouraging help seeking behaviour.

batyr@school chapters equip students with the resources and tools to achieve these goals and help them continue to develop a positive culture within the school around mental health and wellbeing.

We have many smaller group wellbeing programs running during the year to support and empower students to reach their potential, letting them know that there is support for themselves and help them learn ways they can support others. These programs are available to all students and are referred by staff, parents or themselves.

The programs we have run this year and will be running again during 2018 are:

Top Blokes: A 16-week interactive schools program that uses peer mentoring to tackle issues that teenage boys aged 14-17 struggle with including risk-taking, peer pressure and mental health.

Rage: Re-Navigating Anger and Guilty Emotions.

Seasons for Growth: Companion Grief and Loss.

Girls and Boys: Resilience and Self Esteem Program.

Managing the Bull: Building resilience in bullied teens through games, activities and discussions in a safe, supportive environment.

SenseAbility: The development of six senses that act as protective factors against mental health problems: Sense of self-worth, control, belonging, purpose, future and humour.

If you would like further information on any of these programs or future programs please contact Karen Sawyer (Student Support Officer).

Health Minds and Health Bodies Day – 14th December 2017

We finished the year this year with a very successful Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies Day encouraging students with presenters and activities on ways to stay positive, be active and be an encouraging member of our community, not only with how to look after themselves but to look after others around them.

This was followed by the PDHPE department organising a Colour Challenge on the oval with a waterslide, obstacle course and of course lots of colour distributed by exuberant staff. This was a whole school activity in which everybody had a fantastic time putting smiles on everybody's faces and a lovely way to finish off 2017.

We wish you all a Merry Xmas and A Happy New Year and look forward to seeing lots of fresh, relaxed faces in 2018.

The Wellbeing Team 2017



SUPERCARS EXPERIENCE

On November 24 some very lucky Belmont High students attended the inaugural V8 Supercars in Newcastle's CBD.

The day started early and we got to experience the race trackside. We saw many different race categories throughout the day. The supercars also hosted a "Junior Journalist" for students where Kelly Lindus of year 10 got to ask Craig Lowndes a question.

We would like to thank all the teachers who made the day possible. It was terrific day for everyone involved.

Kai Bates and Ethan Perrin



YEAR 8 REWARDS DAY EXCURSION – LUNA PARK

On Tuesday December 12, 94 Year 8 students attended Luna Park as a reward for maintaining high standards of conduct and application throughout the year. This excursion served many purposes but perhaps most importantly provided an opportunity for us (Year 8) to come together and recognise our shared journey at Belmont High.

With the sparkling Sydney Harbour providing an unparalleled backdrop, the students embraced the fervour of the occasion, bustling from one attraction to the next with a perpetual smile etched on their faces.

The pluto pups were piping hot, the fairy floss was generously proportioned and the ice cream provided sweet respite from the summer heat. The Big Drop thrilled, the Haunted House chilled and the Wild Mouse roller coaster defied gravity. Both Side Show Alley and Coney Island were a hive of activity.

The day passed without incident, albeit there were some minor cases of sunburn and queasy stomachs. As a whole, student behaviour was exemplary.

Thanks to Mr Bell and Mr Kiely for clocking up some long hours. They provided excellent supervision and matched the enthusiasm of the students throughout the day.

Thanks to our fabulous year group for a rewarding 2017!

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

Mr Druery & Mrs Gill (Yr 8 Advisors)



THIS YEAR IN ENGLISH...

It has been quite a big year in English. There have been excursions to live performances, visiting authors, creative revision for the HSC exams and exciting and engaging assessment tasks.

We are always looking for ways to engage the students in our subject, and through the hard work and dedication of all staff, I'm confident this has been achieved. The results from the HSC were pleasing with 7 Advanced and 6 Standard students achieving a Band 5, and one student in Extension 2 receiving an E4. That's quite an accomplishment!

Excursions

This year, Year 12 Standard students attended a live performance of the play *Away* that they were studying for the Area of Study: Discovery at the Sydney Opera House. By all accounts this performance cemented their knowledge and gave them much deeper visual knowledge.

Year 12 Advanced attended live performances of the plays that they studied, *The Tempest* and *The Crucible*, helping them visualise and hear the characters delivering their lines.



Both excursions were enjoyable and the students were impressed with the staging and acting.



Bell Shakespeare

**BELL
SHAKESPEARE**

This fantastic theatre company visited our school to perform *Macbeth* and *Romeo and Juliet* for our Year 10 and Year 8 students who were studying the plays this year. The best thing about Bell Shakespeare is that the actors find new and exciting ways to perform these plays that appeal to students. The students enjoyed the performances and

stated that they understood the storylines much better after seeing them. Thank you to Mrs Murphy for organising this wonderful experience.

RevisOlympics

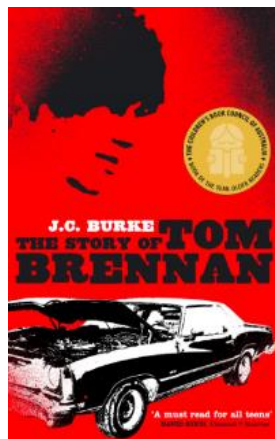
Miss Callan and Miss Madden were quite creative in helping their Standard classes revise for the HSC exams this year. They were very thorough in their organisation of Olympic events and how they could link with the English Modules. In teams of 4, students participated in running, cycling, diving and relay events. They really played the part, dressing up as coaches whilst hosting the events and medal ceremonies. I'm sure this added to the wonderful results students received.



JC Burke

We were very lucky to have JC Burke visit and host a seminar for our Year 12 students on her novel *The Story of Tom Brennan* which they studied in Module C. She provided many insights into her thought process for developing the storyline and characters and explained how her novel fitted into the module.

Students were very interested in the information provided and asked many relevant questions at the end. Jane remarked on how wonderful our students were and that they were a captive audience. It was a very beneficial experience for students and teachers, and hopefully she will be available again next year.

**Quality Assessment Tasks**

This year we have really been thinking about our year 7-10 curriculum and how we can further engage our students. It is the aim of the English faculty to provide quality learning experiences for students and therefore there has been a focus on quality teaching.

We have redesigned each year's programs and assessments so that students are taught necessary skills and those skills are built on from year to year.

There has been a larger focus on incorporating technology, alternative speaking tasks and more reflective thinking and writing as the learning progresses. All staff this year have been trained in the Seven Steps of Writing Success so that creative writing skills in particular are taught consistently over Stage 4 and 5. Students will receive their Scope and Sequences at the beginning of next year so that they can see where the learning will take them and what skills they will be gaining and enhancing.

New Syllabus

It is very exciting to be introducing a new syllabus to Year 11 next year. All staff have been busy attending training courses and planning and preparing to implement the new modules. It has been 20 years since the Stage 6 English syllabus has been changed, so it has been a long time coming.

The changes include an equal focus on skills and knowledge, a reduction in the amount of assessment tasks over the courses, an increase in technology use and a new HSC examination arrangement. This will assist students in improving their skill base and therefore the ability to adapt their knowledge to the demands of the questions.

These changes will occur in all courses: Advanced, Standard, Studies and Extension, and will begin Term 1, 2018. Please note that our current Year 12 will continue with the old syllabus with no changes.

2017	2018		2019
	Term 1	Term 4	
Schools will continue to teach the current Stage 6 courses	<p>Schools will start teaching new Year 11 courses for English, Mathematics, Science and History</p> <p>Schools will start implementing new Year 11 school-based assessment requirements for all Board Developed Courses (excluding VET, Life Skills and Content Endorsed Courses)</p>	<p>Schools will start teaching new Year 12 courses for English, Mathematics, Science and History</p> <p>Schools will implement new Year 12 school-based assessment requirements for all Board Developed Courses (excluding VET, Life Skills and Content Endorsed Courses)</p> <p>Schools will implement new HSC examination specifications</p>	First HSC examinations for new English, Mathematics, Science and History courses



I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of the English faculty to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thank you all for your continued support.

Debbie Waters
Head Teacher English

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education team would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our students and families for your support throughout 2017. The students have experienced many opportunities in their learning through; Community access, work experience, curriculum, Star struck, Coffee shop and the Sensory Room at Lakeside School. It has been great to see these students participate in a wide variety of learning experiences to equip them for the adult world.

During this term we have been busy transitioning our year 6 students into year 7. We will have eight students entering our support unit from a variety of schools.

We have three students leaving us to explore the next phase of their journey; Haylee, Georgia and Kacey and we wish them all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

Merry Christmas and enjoy the holidays. See you all in 2018.

From the Special Education faculty.

YEAR 7 READING PROGRAM

Belmont High School operates an intensive Literacy Program. This involves working with a tutor on a one to one basis on specific areas which will enhance reading, comprehension, fluency, as well as writing and spelling across all subject areas.

If the NAPLAN literacy results suggest that your child could benefit by this extra support, he/she will be invited to join the program, which runs on Wednesday mornings. It will involve one lesson per week and all teachers at the school are very supportive of this intervention.

All students in the program will have individual analysis of their reading and a program designed specially to meet their needs.

Students offered a position in the program will receive an invitation through the mail.

Tutor volunteers for this program are always needed, and will certainly be made very welcome by the dedicated community members who support our students.

If you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact me on 49 450600.



Yvette Fulton
Learning and Support Teacher

BHS LITERACY PROGRAM

The Literacy Program at Belmont High School will continue into 2018. This program involves students working with a tutor on a one to one basis on specific areas, which will enhance reading, comprehension, fluency, as well as writing and spelling in all subject areas.

If you would like to help our students by volunteering as a tutor please give Mrs Fulton a call on 49450600.



HSIE/LOTE

This has been a busy year for the HSIE/LOTE faculty. Term 1 was the move to our new staffroom in E block, which has created a large, humorous and loud staff of 12.

There will be a few staff changes in 2018. Mrs Kelly Biram, who has been working as a LOTE with Mrs Louise Gibbs, has been appointed to Merewether High school in a permanent position. We wish Kelly the best for 2018 at her new school.

Mr Andrew Kiely, is also leaving to greener, agricultural pastures. He is going to Gunnedah High School in 2018 as a HSIE teacher. We wish him well as he has been a great team member this year, despite his love of Chelsea FC in the English Premier League.

Finally, a huge thank you to Mr David Lembke. He has been appointed to Warners Bay High School in 2018. He has been an integral part of the HSIE faculty in developing new programs, VET Retail and GATS programs. Good luck at Warners Bay High School.

As the last Quantum for the year, we would like to thank all the office staff, general assistants and cleaners for their hard work this year. Without these staff, our school would not function and we are truly grateful for their tireless efforts this year.

On a personal note, I wish to thank Todd and Chloe Anning for their work with our Aboriginal students. We have achieved significant results in attendance and academic fields with a whole school awareness of the Aboriginal culture through the dance and didge group, NAIDOC days and OZ TAG days to name a few. Your efforts for our students is greatly appreciated and makes my job as Aboriginal Coordinator easy.

To our wonderful students, we have enjoyed teaching you the wonder of the Humanities subjects in 2017. You have made our jobs easy and enjoyable this year. Thank you. Finally, we would like to wish all the staff, students, parents and community members a great Christmas and the HSIE faculty look forward to seeing you in 2018, bigger and better than ever. Stay safe everyone.



Mrs Patricia Dybell
HT HSIE/LOTE

END OF YEAR JAPANESE REPORT

Year 8

Students have finished up their year of Japanese study learning all about Japanese food culture including how to use chopsticks correctly. Students went head-to-head in dried bean challenges and also participated in team chopstick relay races using lolly snakes. They were interested to find out the dos and don'ts of chopstick usage in Japan so when they eat Japanese food they should now be able to do it confidently and culturally aware.

Year 9

Students got to put their Japanese language and food etiquette knowledge to the test with a recent excursion to a Japanese restaurant at Honeysuckle in Newcastle.

Well done to the adventurous students who tried many new foods for the first time including sushi, green tea noodles, octopus dumplings, raw salmon and miso soup. It turned out the favourite item was the ice cream with a caramel sauce made with miso paste.

The waiter was impressed with the students particularly for their chopstick skills (not too much food dropped on the floor!) and for trying to use as much Japanese as possible.

Year 10

Students have enjoyed finishing off their three years of Japanese study with some interesting Japanese activities including making *kyaraben* (character bento lunch boxes) where they got creative and made rice balls into characters such as Snoopy, Pikachu and a variety of cute animals. They looked too good to eat (but tasted really yummy too!).

We also had a Japanese assistant teacher come to teach them the traditional art of calligraphy with the students using ink and brushes to write a variety of Japanese kanji symbols including love, peace, dream and spirit.

Good luck to the three students who have chosen to study via distance education next year to continue their Japanese study for the HSC.

Arigatou (thankyou) to Briam-Sensei for filling in for Gibbs-Sensei this year. All the best at your new school next year!

Look forward to seeing the new Year 8s in the Japanese classroom next year for a great year learning all about Japanese language and culture.

Louise Gibbs
Japanese Teacher





ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ROOM

We have moved into our new room, upstairs in B Block. We now have access to computers and a bigger learning space. We have now named our room, The Bahtabah Room.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is important that all our students are wearing the appropriate uniform and have appropriate footwear.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is going to be our biggest focus. It is important our students are at school. If they cannot attend school their needs to be contact made to the school via phone or letter.

PULLI

What's Deadly!!

ABORIGINAL DANCE GROUP

Our Aboriginal dance Group recently performed for the Special Education Year 6 Aboriginal students who will be attending Belmont High next year.

Shakayah Edwards, Tyrese Edwards, Caitlan Johnston and Neville Simon ran a dance workshop at Charlestown South Public School.



BRAD TIGHE

Brad came and spoke to all our Aboriginal students about the importance of setting goals and also about his NRL career.

DANIEL MATEO

Daniel has recently performed with Flipside. He is currently on trial at NAISDA Dance School.

CAITLAN & KEISHA JOHNSTON

These students recently played for the NSW Indigenous Rugby League teams in the Harmony Cup.

Caitlan has also recently been selected in the Newcastle Knights Under 18's Women's side.

JUNIOR AECG

We have had our Junior AECG AGM.

The following students hold the positions;
President -Maddy Schumacher

Vice President - Caitlan Johnston
Secretary - Emily franklin

Assistant Secretary - Keisha Johnston
Treasurer—Daniel Mateo

Recently our Junior AECG mentored our Year 6 students who are coming next year. They took them around the school, did some artwork and taught them dance.



WALK-A-MILE KOORI- STYLE

We had students participate in this event, which is a walk against Domestic Violence. One of our Students, Daniel Mateo, led the walk and stated the oath in front of all participants.



MESSAGES

From Chloe and Myself, We hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable break over the Christmas Period. Looking forward to working with you all in the New Year.



Please feel free to contact Chloe or Todd Anning (AEW) on 49450600

TAS NEWS

It has been a busy term for the TAS department. We have continued with our inspiring programs and students have produced some excellent practical projects. Our TAS team always strives to deliver meaningful and interesting content relevant to today's student needs.

Over the past 18 years, Belmont High have been fortunate enough to have such a caring and compassionate Head Teacher of our TAS department. Mrs Cook has decided it is time to retire and enjoy time with her family.

We have appreciated her professionalism and leadership and we are all very sad to see her leave. She will be greatly missed!

The BHS TAS Team



CAPA

Well as our year draws to a close we take the time to reflect on the achievements of our students, ensembles and programs running here at Belmont High.

Year 12 have received their HSC results and we wish to offer our students congratulations for their fantastic results.

Year 11 after three terms of the Preliminary Course has completed their first term of the HSC Course. In class they have been looking at Music from the 20th and 21st Centuries and some of the weird and wonderful ways of composing using such styles.

Year 10 finished up the year by studying Film Music and looking at how composers use scores to compel their audiences. Their assessment tasks were of an extremely high quality preparing them all for senior music next year.

Year 9 has spent all term working on the Jazz genre and learning all about how the world and politics have impacted on a whole idiom. They too completed assessment tasks of a good standard and are all looking forward to year 10 music next year.

Year 8 Semester Elective has had a mad-capped term playing ukulele, guitar, keyboard and at times drums. They have learnt to play many different pieces including Christmas Carols which drove the whole class crazy. It was a very silly lesson.

Year 7 has ended their busy year playing the old classic hit "Proud Mary" as rock bands in small groups. Some of them found the whole task so much fun they laughed through the whole song and needless to say the corridors were ringing with the youthful voices of "Rollin, Rollin, Rollin on the River".

Special Ed Music have had amazing year in class this year. After a small grant we were able to purchase some new classroom percussion instruments and these student have had a most exciting time testing them all out. There has been singing, performing and maybe even a bit of Mary Poppins filling the corridors of "J" Block. Thanks to Mrs Johnson for inspiring our wonderful Special Ed students in "Music Land".

BANDFEST

This year Bandfest was totally awesome, epic and unbelievably brilliant. BHS had seven ensembles entered in four different sections. The Flute and Clarinet Ensembles were newly started groups of keen students who gave up their own time to practice before school, at recess and lunch to perfect their pieces. Performance day was utterly nerve-racking and terrifying but they all got up there and played to the best of their ability and even surprised themselves.

Results are as follows:

Concert Band - Winners – Secondary Premier Bands
 Stage Band - Winners – Secondary Jazz Ensembles
 "Empire" Band - Winners – Open Secondary Ensembles
 Junior Concert Band – Highly Commended – Intermediate Secondary Bands
 Percussion Ensemble – Highly Commended - Open Secondary Ensembles
 Flute Ensemble – Commended – Open Secondary Ensembles
 Clarinet – Commended – Open Secondary Ensembles

CONGRATULATIONS to all students involved. These results are a perfect example of how hard work, dedication and commitment pay off in the long run. You are all a credit to yourselves and deserve to be commended for all your efforts.

TRINITY MUSIC EXAMS

There was a small group of students who sat their Trinity Music Exams on Saturday November 17th 2017 here at Belmont High in the music room J6 thanks to our beautiful Grand Piano.

Ex-student/Tutor Dylan McElhone Grade 8 Jazz Saxophone, Emily Gill Grade 6 Trumpet, Chloe Gill Grade 4 Trumpet, Danielle Griffiths Grade 4 Clarinet, Heidi McBriarty Grade 3 Clarinet, Ewan McKenzie Grade 3 Trombone and Tim Prentice Grade 4 Alto Saxophone all sat their exams after months of rehearsals and practice. The great news is they all received **DISTINCTION** Grades for their work. Well done everyone.

Bethanee Swilks Grade 6 Clarinet sat her exam in Sydney a couple of weeks later and we are still waiting on her results, while Hannah Richens of year 10 also completed a Trinity Exam in Musical Theatre also receiving a **DISTINCTION**. Well done to all our super talented students!!!

SYDNEY SCHOOL SPECTACULAR

This huge event was on our radar again this year thanks to Isabella O'Brien in Year 11. Isabella was selected to be part of the Core Choir. The whole combined choir is a very large group of vocalists from many schools from all over the state. The Core Choir sit up the front, each singer with their own microphone and provides backing vocals for the soloists on the stage performing. Isabella spent many hours rehearsing with the choir members and participated in the four shows at QUDOS Arena in Sydney. Well done Isabella on this fantastic achievement.

On top of all of that, Isabella is also off to Spain/Portugal during the January School Holidays as part of the Hunter Wind Ensemble's Tour. This ensemble continues to be National Champions for the third year in a row after competing at the National Canberra Eisteddfod back in May where they won a number of Gold Awards.

Isabella continues to share her passion for music and composing by writing a flute piece for the Flute Ensembles debut performance at this Year's Music and Art Festival. After such a busy year, we wish Isabella a well-earned rest during her holidays once she returns from her band tour.

CALIFORNIA HERE WE COME....



Belmont High has a strong tradition in a number of external ensembles. Of all of them, the Marching Koalas are well represented by students from Belmont High. After 35 years of Entertainment on the Move, the BHS members of this famous band are off to America on December 27, 2017. While the majority of students will be wiling away their holidays lazing around on the beach, 14 lucky students will be representing BHS, themselves and Australia at a parade known as the "Grand-daddy of them all" the Rose Parade in Pasadena, California on January 1, New Year's Day.

This Parade has been running for over 100 years and gathers bands from all around the world to perform at this very prestigious event. This year only four bands from outside America were selected to be part of this event and Australia's Marching Koalas will be "on song" and ready to perform.

Come January 1, these students will be marshalled before the sun comes up and then they will perform in the 8 km parade (which lasts for over 3 hours) down Colorado Boulevard the main street of Pasadena before thousands of people lining the streets and over one million people as it is beamed to TV's world-wide to over 36 countries.



The Koalas will then parade through Disneyland's Main Street as part of the Magic Music Days event, as well as many other locations throughout America's West Coast on a two week tour during early January. We would like to wish Mr Gill (Marching Koalas Band Director), Mrs Gill and the 14 lucky students (Isabella Alexander year 11, Brandon Bourke year 10, Ayden Cuskelly year 11, Toby Chensee year 11, Amy Davies year 12, Jay Fairclough year 7, Lily Gibson year 11, Emily Gill year 11, Chloe Gill year 8, Ewan McKenzie year 8, Callan Rickford year 11, Emily Squires year 10, Bethanee Swilks year 8 and Hannah Swilks year 10) going on this amazing adventure, all the best for a successful tour and Rose Parade.



Eight ex-students will also accompany these students from BHS who are very excited to carry the Belmont High flag. They are Dylan McElhone, Kathryn Jones, Aidon Jardim, Emily Bourke, Kyle Barrett, Amy Huff, Indiana Harold and Cooper Gallucci. It is exciting to have so many students past and present to continue their musical ventures across to the other side of the world as part of the Australia's Marching Koalas. Bon Voyage and safe travels to all.

This article made it into the Newcastle Weekly Magazine featuring Bethanee Swilks of Year 10 on Clarinet, Ewan McKenzie from Year 8 on Trombone and Chloe Gill of Year 8 on Trumpet.

time out

Koalas bound for USA

They're a Hunter institution; identifiable by their iconic sunburnt orange and coal black uniforms from a mile away.

The region's own youth marching band, The Marching Koalas, is celebrating its 35th birthday in spectacular fashion, being one of only two non-American bands invited to participate in the 129th annual Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade in California on New Year's Day.

The eight-kilometre parade rings in the new year in front of a crowd of more than 750,000 people, plus millions more around the globe as the event is televised.

The Koalas were selected as one

of 22 participating bands from more than 100 applicants.

Almost 70 students aged 12 to 22 will join a 110-strong contingent, departing on 27 December for two weeks.

They will be hosted by Arcadia High School, with which the band has built a strong relationship since its inaugural American tour in 1983.

During their tour, the Koalas will perform at a number of other locations, including Bandfest, Disneyland California, Knott's Berry Farm Theme Park – the oldest in America, Hollywood, and the local farmers' markets.

It will be the band's 16th international tour since it formed in



The Marching Koalas' Chloe Gill on trumpet, Bethanee Swilks on clarinet, and Ewan McKenzie on trombone, of Belmont High School. Photo: Peter Stoop

1982, having travelled to the USA, Canada, Britain, France, China, Japan and New Zealand, among other countries.

Music director John Gill, who teaches some of the band members at Belmont High School, says the band has had a profound impact on many young musicians' lives.

"Certainly, they learn to refine their musical skills and get a sense of

marshing and formation work, but I think one of the things about the band is that we're one big family," John said.

The Koalas are also heavily involved in the local community, performing at national celebrations such as Anzac Day and the 2013 Special Olympics. Visit marchingkoalas.org.au to learn more.

- Georgia Osland

A WEEK OF PERFORMANCES GALORE...

Week 9 was a very busy week for all our ensembles.

It all started with Sunday Evening Carols at the Salvation Army for the Vocal Ensemble. A lovely group of our singers performed with vigour at this annual event held at the Salvation Army church. It was a wonderful evening of carolling and singing, and as usual our singers were extremely excited to be performing for a receptive audience. Well done Vocal Ensemble.

Monday evening the Stage Band performed for Year 6 Parents who were visiting the school to find out what their students are in for next year when they arrive. The Stage Band were ready and played up a storm for a receptive audience who enjoyed the pieces performed.

Tuesday was Year 6 Orientation Day for all our new Year 7 students. The CAPA Faculty provided a concert with great and entertaining items for our Year 6 friends. The Percussion Ensemble (Ayden Cuskelly on quad drums from Year 11, Jack Beeton on quad drums from Year 10, Billy Croese on snare drum from Year 10, Brandon Bourke on snare drum from Year 10, Ewan McKenzie on bass drum from year 8, Liam Stott on bass drum from Year 8, Kristian Bunt on bass drum from Year 8 and Riley Stobbs on cymbals), wowed them with their outstanding cadences and funky beats, while the Junior Band performed three pieces for the excited audience. The Vocal Ensemble also featured with one of the songs they performed at Choralfest earlier in the year. "Sing!" is an appropriately named piece that allows our vocalists to really sing about what they love to do and that quite obviously is..."Sing!"

Students were also entertained by Dance troupes from Year 10 and Year 9 (thank you to Miss Fagg for organising all our wonderful dancers) and our Indigenous Dancers (thank you Todd and Chloe Anning for all your work with our fabulous Indigenous Students) who were outstanding with their cultural interpretations.

The concert closed with the Stage Band playing again a few great charts for year 6.

Wednesday was our Annual Presentation Night. This is always a highlight evening for the Concert Band. One of the largest bands in a long time performed so brilliantly that some audience had to restrain themselves from dancing in the aisles. It is always wonderful to highlight the achievements of all students and the Band students always present themselves with such dedication and commitment that they all deserve to an award. Well done to all the Concert Band Performers at Presentation Night. You never cease to amaze me!

Thursday morning was our Merit Assemblies. Once again, the Stage Band was there to provide the students with some great tunes during period 1, while the Emily Gill from Year 12 Dance Class performed a solo for the second merit assembly period 2. After this, the trailer was packed for another performance at Belmont North Public School's Christmas Carols. Once again, the commitment is overwhelming and 12 amazing students gave up their Thursday Afternoon for an hour to perform for this feeder school event. The Principal of Belmont North Public School was extremely appreciative of your efforts and presented each student with a certificate of appreciation and a school pen.

That concludes a monster week of performances for the Ensembles of Belmont High School.

Next week we conclude with the Stage Band and the Vocal Ensemble performing for shoppers at the Belmont Citi Centre. On Wednesday December 13th from 10am, you will find us just outside Coles performing some Christmas Tunes for all those who are out and about that day. So bring your Santa Hat and best "carolling" voice, and come and join us to help spread the Christmas cheer to the community of Belmont.

Well that about wraps it up for another fulfilling and successful year at Belmont High with our sensationally awesomely talented music students. It is always a pleasure to work with students who are keen and enthusiastic and always want to make the most of every opportunity on offer. It is wonderful to see you grow musically and we want to take this moment to wish all our wonderful students a very safe and Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! For those of you travelling far and wide, take the safe road and return to us well rested for a spectacular 2018.

We all feel a bit like Santa on Boxing Day...TIRED! So sleep is on the agenda. Catch you on the flip side...



Cheers from Mrs Gill, Mrs Johnson and Mr. Gill
Over and out!
Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz.

SPORT REPORT

Abbey O'Toole

Abbey competed at the NSW CHS Waterpolo Championships on the 21st-24th December as a member of the Hunter Team. Her team took out Gold, winning the Championships! Abbey played well and played most of the grand final game against North Sydney, winning a very close game 3-1. Congratulations Abbey!



Luke Muddle

Luke was recently selected to be a member of the NSW U18 Country Team to compete in Tamworth from December 17th. Congratulations and Good luck Luke!



Ky Willott

Ky has recently been to Adelaide as captain of the NSW CHS All Schools U16's Hockey Team competing at the SSA Pacific School Games. Ky's team were undefeated leading into the grand final where they played a close game against Queensland, placing 2nd with a score of 2-0. Ky has also just completed a 3 day training session in Wollongong, training with the NSW 16 All Schools Hockey Team.

Earlier this year Ky attended a European Hockey Tour with the Australian All School Team, playing and travelling through The Netherlands, Belgium, France and Germany. His team placed 2nd and Ky received an award from the team as one of the two best players. Ky has had a very successful year in Hockey and we look forward to hearing more successes in 2018!

STOP PRESS: In even more impressive news, Ky has just been selected into the Australian Hockey Team and will travel to South Africa in June-July 2018. Fantastic effort Ky!



Hunter Sport Trials 2018

The procedure for students wishing to trial for a Hunter Team has changed. Students now need to download the form from the website listed below and bring the form in for Miss Fagg and Mr Robinson to sign. Please read the below information carefully.

2018 HUNTER SPORT TRIALS

Students who wish to trial for any of the teams listed below **MUST** follow the following procedure:

1. Note the date of the trial and then go to the [website nominated](#) on the information sheet to gain details and other information.
2. Complete the consent form online and then print and return it to your school Principal and sport coordinator to sign.
3. **YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO ATTEND ANY TRIAL** unless you have **SCHOOL PERMISSION**. If you turn up at the trial without school permission you will be sent **BACK TO SCHOOL**.
4. Once the Sport Coordinator has your permission note they will seek the advice of both the Convener and School Coaches as to your eligibility to attend Trials. Students that are too young or are not of the standard or calibre of a Hunter team cannot attend Trials.
5. Once the Sport Coordinator signs off on your attendance then you take the completed permission note to the trial.
6. NOTE that no transport or direct supervision is supplied by your High School.

Date	Team	Date	Team
Term 1		Term 2	
February 9	Girls Volleyball	May 25	Lawn Bowls
February 22	Boys Volleyball	June 14	WAG/MAG/RG Gymnastics
February 26	Golf	June 26	Boys Tennis
February 27	Diving	July 3	Girls Tennis
March 1	Boy/Girls Touch U/16s	July 3	Orienteering
March 7	Boys Basketball	July 5	Trampoline Sports
March 8	Girls Football	Term 3	
March 13	Boys AFL U/15s	August 7	Mountain Biking
March 13	Girls Basketball	September 26	Boys Cricket
March 14	Boys Football	Term 4	
March 15	Boys/Girls Water Polo	November 20	Girls Softball
March 16	Netball	November 20	Boys Softball
March 21	Rugby League 15's and Opens	November 29	Girls Cricket
March 26	Squash	December 11	Boys Baseball
March 28	Rugby Union		
March 29	Boy/Girls Touch U/16s Opens		
April 4	Boys/Girls Hockey		

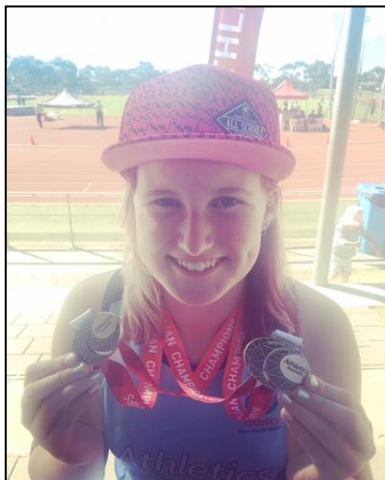
Trial dates and time printed on this form are subject to change. Please refer to the Hunter School Sport website for the most up to date information.

Internal Sport Changeover

Tony Salaris has decided to step down from his role as Weekly Sports Organiser after 20 or so years! I would like to thank Tony on his awesome efforts over all the years on behalf of the staff. He has efficiently run sport, ensuring that weekly sport offers many options to students, runs smoothly and is enjoyable for all! Miss Fagg will now be taking over the role, and what a big space to fill!

Year 6 Orientation

PDHPE faculty staff were excited to be a part of the Year 6 Orientation day, organising fun and engaging physical activities for Year 6 students. Mrs Davies, Mr Lambkin and Mr Godfrey introduced students to the Gymsticks and played some fun minor games. Great work staff! I think Year 6 enjoyed it!

Ashlyn Blackstock

Ashlyn Blackstock of Year 8 has made her stamp once again in the sport of Athletics. Competing at the NSW All Schools Athletics in Adelaide. Ashlyn won both Discus and Shot Put, making her an Australian Champion!

The following article was written by Athletics NSW

Congratulations Ashlyn, what a busy year you've had!

Under-14 girls

Belmont High's Ashlyn Blackstock was the NSW star in the under-14 girl's age division with two convincing wins in the shot and discus. Under the coaching of **Gerry Target**, Blackstock won the shot by nearly two metres with a distance of 14.13m - a big improvement on her winning distance of 13.77m at the NSW All Schools.

Dance

We have had a fun Term in Dance. We had an enjoyable dance performance morning with Year 9, 10, 11 and Aboriginal Dance performing for the Junior IO class. There was a mixture of Christmas songs, contemporary and cultural music. We loved having an audience too!

We had two Year 10 groups, the Year 9 Elective class, Jemma Kedwell of Year 11 and the Aboriginal Dance group also perform at the Year 6 Orientation day concert and Emily Gill of Year 11 performed at the Merit Assembly. All performers did a great job and made us all proud. Well done!

Year 5 Gats Dance workshop was also running during Thursday Sport, with a group of very energetic and enthusiastic Year 5 students!







Mel Fagg
Sports Organiser

ANNUAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2018

The Belmont High School Annual Swimming Carnival for 2018 will be held on **Monday, February 5 (Week 2) at Swansea Swimming Centre.**

This event is a **compulsory day** for all students and attendance will be monitored. Attendance from senior students (11-12) is also expected.

TRAVEL: Bus travel to and from the venue is provided, with buses leaving the bus bay from 8.45am at a cost of **\$5.00** return. Students may also travel to the venue privately.

ENTRY FEE: Pool entry is **\$3.50** with the correct amount preferred to speed entry into the pool. The carnival begins at 9.00am and concludes at approximately 1.45pm. Students will not be allowed to leave the pool between these times.

Students are encouraged to wear HOUSE colours and sit in their house groups. Points are awarded to students that participate in events.

Houses according to student surname:

CULLEN House	A-D	- Yellow
LEWERS House	E-K	- Blue
MARKS House	L-Q	- Green
SCHOFIELD House	R-Z	- Red

Please ensure that suitable hats, sunscreen, water bottle and protective clothing is taken on the day as shelter at the pool is somewhat limited.

WHATS ON: The program includes:

- Zone qualifying events: 100m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly and 200m freestyle
- 50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly
- 4 x 50m freestyle relays
- Student vs teacher swim
- Continuous swims
- Novelty events

Parents/Family/Carers Welcome!

Miss Fagg
Sports Organiser/PDHPE Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The Uniform Shop will be open on the following dates in **January 2018:**

- Tuesday 16th - 7.00am - 9.00am
- Friday 19th - 4.30pm - 6.30pm
- Monday 22nd - 5.00pm - 7.00pm
- Thursday 25th - 7.00am - 10.00am
- Monday 29th - 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Entry via **Albert Street** gate

Information on our physical activity program...



Active kids do well in class!

Research shows....



Kids who are active...

... and eat well



Do better in class!

This is why our school has introduced the PA4E1 program.

Did you know?

- The Government recommends kids do at least **60 minutes** of moderate-to-vigorous activity each day.
- This is activity which makes kids huff and puff!
- Sadly, only **1 in 5** kids meet the guidelines!*

* NSW SPANS Survey 2015

Physical Activity for Everyone (PA4E1)

Our school is now part of PA4E1. This will help us in our aim to increase student physical activity levels. Some ways we will do this are:



More activity in our PE lessons

Creating physical activity plans



Resistance training at our school

More activities during our breaks



More information sent home

More links with our community



For more information, visit: PA4E1Online.com.au



Education
Public Schools



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District



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AUSTRALIA

SCHOOL SHOE REQUIREMENTS

The school must abide with the WH&S safety rules that are now law in all DEC schools across the state. When purchasing your child's footwear, use the following images as a general guide.

All shoes **MUST** be full leather, black shoes. Our uniform code states that these shoes are to be worn on all school days except Thursday, when full leather sports shoes must be worn.

- **Correct Footwear** – for use with our school uniform – **black leather, lace up shoes**. Must not extend over the ankle or have a platform. The leather must cover the whole foot for safety.



- **Incorrect Footwear** – Due to WH&S policy and the safety of your child slip on shoes and shoes that do not cover the whole foot are **NOT** acceptable.



- **Correct Footwear for Sport** – Sport shoes should be predominantly white, either lace up or Velcro. Shoes should be supportive of the feet during exercise. The whole of the upper foot must have a solid cover.



- **Incorrect sports shoes** - Slip on sports shoes are **not permitted**, these include canvas shoes as they are not supportive or appropriate for sport and PE.



Country Feeling at "THE CAGE"

Belmont High School Uniform Shop

Opening Hours
Term 1 2018

MONDAY	12.40pm - 1.20pm
TUESDAY	3.00PM - 4.00PM
THURSDAY	8.15am - 9.15am

EFTPOS available

All cheques to be made payable to
COUNTRY FEELING

Entry outside school hours via Albert Street

Belmont High School Uniform Shop Price List	
<u>Girls Uniform</u>	
Blouse - Junior and Senior	\$31.00
Skirt - Junior and Senior	\$45.00
Rugby Sports Shorts	\$22.00
Dress Shorts	\$40.00
<u>Boys Uniform</u>	
Blue Polo	\$32.00
Sports Shorts	\$29.00
Senior S/S Shirt	\$26.00
Senior White Polo	\$26.00
<u>Unisex Items</u>	
Sports Polo	\$30.00
Jacket	\$56.00
Polar Fleece Jumper	\$35.00
Sloppy Joe	\$30.00
Knit Jumper - size 8	\$65.00
Knit Jumper - size 10/12	\$70.00
Knit Jumper - size 14/16	\$75.00
Knit Jumper - size 18	\$80.00

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14 – 17 Jan 2018

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- **Writing Workshops**
Covering all ages from senior primary to senior high school, we run a number of workshops designed to boost your writing skills & strategies
- **HSC Preparation**
Year 12 students, hit the ground running in 2018 with some extra help from HSC specialist teachers

Individual and small group holiday lessons in Maths, Sciences and English can be arranged by contacting our office. Tutoring during terms also available.

Over 40 years of helping Newcastle students succeed

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