

Birrong Girls High School

Established 1957

www.birronggir-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

HSC Results 2014

Birrong Bulletin Issue No. 1 February 2015



An excellent public comprehensive school for girls in the south west.

- Dux Phuong Mai Tran, 97.45 ATAR
- 19 Band 6 in Advanced English (68%)
- 50 Band 6 and 174 Band 5
- 6 Band 6 in Mathematics



Phuong Mai Tran
DUX



Zhi-Qing Huang
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER



Priya Gauchan
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER



Anita Trieu
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER



Amy Nguyen
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER

Outstanding HSC results 2014

Phuong Mai Tran

Band 6: Advanced English,
Mathematics and Chemistry
ATAR: 97.45

Zhi-Qing Huang

Band 6: Advanced English, English
Extension 1, Ancient History, History
Extension and Visual Arts
ATAR: 96.75

Priya Gauchan

Band 6: Biology, Business Studies,
Chemistry and Mathematics
ATAR: 95.9
Course: Bachelor of Psychology,
UNSW

Anita Trieu

Band 6: Advanced English,
Mathematics and Economics
ATAR: 95.65
Course: Commerce, Sydney University

Amy Nguyen

Band 6: Advanced English, English
Extension 1, English Extension 2 and
Visual Arts
ATAR: 95.2
Course: Arts & Education, Sydney
University

Julie Nguyen

Band 6: Advanced English,
Mathematics and Business Studies
ATAR: 94.2
Course: Business, Sydney University

Betty Nguyen

Band 6: Advanced English, English
Extension 1 and Legal Studies
ATAR: 92.45
Course: Laws & Arts, UWS

Vivian Le

Band 6: Advanced English and
Mathematics
ATAR: 92
Course: Business, Sydney University

Kim Thanh Vo

Band 6: Advanced English and
Business Studies
ATAR: 91.60
Course: Economics, Sydney University

Najwa Haydar

Band 6: Advanced English
ATAR: 91.45
Course: Applied Science (Diagnostic
Radiography), Sydney University

Da Won Bae

Band 6: Advanced English
ATAR: 91.15
Course: Medical Science, Sydney
University

Sarah Zeidan

Band 6: Advanced English, Business
Studies and Legal Studies
ATAR: 90.6
Course: Midwifery, UTS

Dounia Abdallah

Band 6: Advanced English,
Mathematics General 2
ATAR: 90.4
Course: Midwifery, UTS

Zahraa Alcheikh

Band 6: Advanced English
ATAR: 89.95

Erin Mosmann

Band 6: Advanced English
ATAR: 89.2
Course: Animal Science, UWS

Gadir Sabih

Band 6: Advanced English
ATAR: 87.45
Course: Speech, Hearing &
Languages, Macquarie University

Dana Nguyen

Band 6: Advanced English and
Society and Culture
ATAR: 87.4
Course: Secondary Education,
Sydney University

Jennifer Lam

Band 6: Mathematics
ATAR: 87.15
Course: Nursing Advanced Studies,
Sydney University

Malak Alameddine

Band 6: Advanced English
ATAR: 86
Course: Oral Health, Sydney
University

Nina Trieu

Band 6: Advanced English and
Senior Science
ATAR: 84
Course: Primary Education, UTS

Lily Lei

Band 6: Senior Science
ATAR: 83.5
Course: Medical Sciences &
Business, UTS

Anna Nikoliouk

Band 6: Music 1 and Senior Science
ATAR: 82.8
Course: Music & Media, UNSW

Michelle Dang

Band 6: Advanced English and
History Extension
ATAR: 82.65
Course: Primary Education, Sydney
University

ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This is the first edition of the *Birrong Bulletin* for 2015, and I warmly welcome to the school community our many new students, especially our enthusiastic and keen Year 7 students, and their families.

In addition, I am very pleased to welcome our new teachers and staff: I am confident that they will all complement and support our school's strong culture and values.

I encourage all new students and parents to come along to the **Welcome Barbecue** to be held on **Wednesday 11 February from 5-7pm**. This is an excellent opportunity for all new parents to meet your daughter's teachers and class mates in an informal and relaxed setting. Take a moment to introduce yourself to your daughter's teachers and find out the best ways to support her learning.



Outstanding HSC results

The class of 2014 maintained our school's impressive record of achievement in the HSC. Congratulations to the 123 successful students who achieved an HSC and especially to the high achievers whose names were published in the Board of Studies' High Achievers' List for marks over 90 in a course. These achievements have been profiled in the opening pages of our bulletin.

All teachers of the girls in Year 12 2014 were delighted with our 50 Band 6s (above 90 in a course) in 16 courses shared amongst 23 students.

Many of our 2014 HSC class achieved very high Australian Tertiary Achievement Ranks (ATARs) and were offered places at university.

Congratulations girls, we are very proud of you all!

2014 Achievements Celebrated

Our 2014 Presentation Day was held at the Bankstown Town Hall and was a whole school celebration of the academic, sporting and civic achievements of our students. Doctor Julie Mundy-Taylor, an ex-Birrong girl and lecturer at Newcastle University, was our entertaining and inspirational guest speaker.

Ms Fedes and her team ensured that this event was a great showcase of our students' success. Thank you too to all the families who came to share the celebration.

Congratulations to:

- Hawa Bah, Jessica Banh, Nina Chen, Sandra Dang, Nadine El-Jamalaoui, Gabriela Pineda, Tamara Garces, Edeline Huynh, Diana Jaber, Felicity Lam, Eva Ly, Christina Nguyen,

Sharon Phan, Trishna Ramlochun, Narelle Scerri, Michelle Truong and Shirley Zhao from this year's Year 11 who were very successful ambassadors for our school at The University of Technology Summer School, Sydney, during the January holidays.

- Taylor Baker, Ghada Alameddine and Miqat Alsodany (all of Year 12) who have been awarded FACS Youth Scholarships for 2015.

School Uniform Policy

Our School Code of Behaviour requires students to **wear the school uniform with pride**.

It is my expectation and the expectation of the entire school community that **full uniform is worn by every student not only at school but to and from school every day**. Our school community is very supportive of our Uniform Policy because they see it as an important aspect of our school culture. Uniform helps girls develop their sense of belonging to the school and items like fully enclosed leather school shoes help ensure their personal safety. I will arrange interviews with the parents of girls who do not comply fully with the Uniform Policy.

Parent Involvement

All parents are invited to be a part of the school's parent committee. Supporting the school and being involved in the school's planning and decision-making processes can be very motivating for students as it shows that their parents are interested and know what happens at school.

This year P&C meetings will again be held in the Common Room on the Wednesday of Weeks 3 and 8 of each term. Parents are encouraged to attend the year's first P&C meeting on **Wednesday 18 March at 5pm in the Common Room**.

Privacy and Communications

Throughout the year, the school will be publishing examples of student work as well as names and photographs of our girls in publications such as the local newspapers, the *Birrong Bulletin*, the school magazine and even the school's website. If you have any objections to your daughter's work, name or photograph being published in this way could you please inform the Acting Principal in writing as soon as possible.

Coming Events

- Welcome Barbecue for all new parents and students will be held on Wednesday 11 February from 5-7pm.**
- The school's **Swimming Carnival** will take place at Birrong Leisure Centre on **Thursday 26 February**. All students must attend this important date in our sporting calendar. Even if your daughter is not a swimmer or competitor it is

important that she attends to maintain her record of school attendance and to support her class mates.

- **A meeting of the P&C** will be held in the Common Room at **5pm on Wednesday 18 March**. All parents are invited to attend and show their support for their daughter's education by getting involved in the P&C.

I invite you to contact the school to make an appointment with me (Tel: 9644 5057) if you have any issues that you wish to discuss about your daughter's education.

I wish you all a very happy and rewarding 2015.

Margaret Fletcher
Acting Principal

REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

...Only as high as I reach can I grow, only as far as I seek can I go, only as deep as I look can I see, only as much as I dream and work - can I be... Karen Ravn (author)



As we begin 2015 the Deputies wish every student from Year 7 to Year 12 success in meeting all the challenges which await you in 2015. We trust that this will be a year during which each student can take pride in her academic growth and in the personal excellence she is able to apply to all areas of her life. Now is the time to set goals so that each of you can achieve your *personal best!*

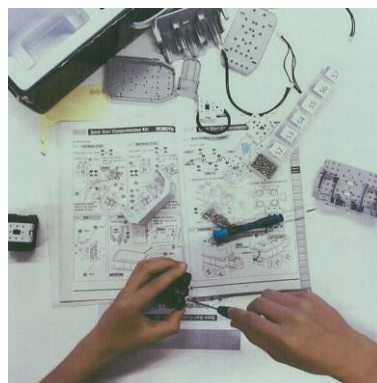
We are glad to begin our first Deputies' Report of 2015 with stories of students setting goals and working towards successfully achieving their ambitions. Last year, when they were still in Year 10, about twenty three students completed an expression of interest to attend the UTS Summer School and then underwent a selection process which included written applications and interviews. The successful candidates, seventeen 2015 Year 11 students, showed determination and motivation when they participated in the UTS Summer School which took place during the last two weeks of the school holidays. Studies undertaken by our successful Year 11 UTS Summer School participants included: Business, Engineering and Information Technology, Media Production, Health, Science Investigations and Creative Design.

What did students actually do in these courses for the two weeks they spent as undergraduate

students at the University of Technology? On graduation evening teachers and parents heard about how Business students pitched ideas for small business ventures and then had to create business plans; Engineering and Information Technology students designed and created computer games with striking animations or created amazingly animated robots; Health students practised suturing wounds and delivering babies from very life like dummies; Science students investigated diseases such as those caused by the ebola virus which they studied under the microscope looking for markers to confirm their judgements; Creative Design students conceived some astonishing ideas and crafted clothing and furniture which was displayed in the university foyer; and finally, the Media Production students wrote, directed, marketed and acted in their own films.



UTS Summer School



We felt very proud of our students, many of whom took leadership roles during summer school, starring in movies, speaking on behalf of their peers at graduation and leading teams in design and construction. We know that the skills they learnt at university will only make them more determined to do well and to achieve their ambitions. Some students called the experience "life changing."

We hope this is a positive and inspiring year for all students of BGHS.

Ad Astra!
Ms Crossan, **Deputy Principal** and
Mrs George, **Relieving Deputy Principal**

INTRODUCING THE NEW TEACHERS

Rhys Eveleigh Music



My name is Rhys Eveleigh and it's a pleasure to join the CAPA faculty at Birrong Girls High School. You won't catch me painting any artworks or sketching any drawings but I will be bringing plenty of sound to the classroom. Music is my subject area and I'm looking

forward to teaching students how to develop their skills in performing, studying, listening and composing music.

After graduating from UNSW I spent over a year working for Career Connections as a Partnership Consultant which supported students in their education. From that role I moved back into focused teaching where I completed a couple short stints at Lucas Heights Community School and Caringbah Selective High. I have performed professionally in a number of jazz and classical ensembles including time as primary trumpet for the Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra. I'd like to thank both teachers and students for the kind welcome and I'm excited about being part of the school community.

Melissa Petrovska Technology and Applied Studies (TAS)

My name is Melissa Petrovska and I have joined the Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) faculty at Birrong Girls High School in 2015. I completed my Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Food Technology, at the University of Western Sydney (UWS) in 2013 and also completed my Master of Teaching (Secondary) at UWS.



My first university practicum teaching block was completed at Bossley Park High School, and my second teaching block at Liverpool Girls High School. I have also taught at a range of schools across Western Sydney, including Prairiewood High School and Ingleburn High School.

The subjects I teach include Technology Mandatory, Food Technology, Community and Family Studies and Hospitality (Commercial Cookery). I have a Certificate II in Kitchen Operations and a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. I am extremely passionate about food, and I aim to instil this passion for food and cooking in my students.

I would like to thank all the staff and students who have made me feel very welcome. I look forward to working with everyone at Birrong Girls High School.

Karolina Magnay Technology and Applied Studies (TAS)



My name is Karolina Magnay and I am very excited to be joining the TAS faculty at Birrong Girls High School this year. I have been teaching since 2010 and joined the NSW teaching system in 2013.

My tertiary education includes a Bachelor of Nutrition Science followed by a Graduate Diploma of Education. I have taught in many schools and have enjoyed the different experiences they all bring. I really enjoy teaching Food Technology as it's such a well-rounded subject. I have been studying two hospitality courses since re-entering the workforce following maternity leave. I am passionate about cooking and experimenting with recipes.

My favourite part about teaching is getting the students excited about cooking and helping them to make informed choices about health and their future. I look forward to working with the girls and the dedicated staff at Birrong Girls High School.

**To all new 2015 parents;
(and especially Year 7 parents)**

You are invited to a

B B Q

**on Wednesday, 11 February
from 5.00pm – 7.00pm**

for a welcome to Birrong Girls High School



We hope to see you there!

STUDENT ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Welcome to the start of another fantastic year. Our motto for attendance is ***“Missing School Leaves Holes in Your Learning.”*** Attendance and on time arrival to school are vital ingredients for quality education. Birrong Girls High will continue to award and reward students who have displayed commitment towards their attendance and on time arrival to school throughout the year.

It is always a good time at the onset of the school year to refresh our memories about the attendance procedures for Birrong Girls High.

What do I do **IF I COME LATE TO SCHOOL?**

- School starts at 8:30am.
- If you are late you must go to the late desk (near the finance office) and get a large blue late note.

What do I do **WITH THE BLUE LATE NOTE?**

- Show the blue late note to your class teacher and then see Ms Shinas at recess.
- Take the blue late note home to your parents and ask them to complete the reason for your lateness.
- Return the blue late note the next day to Ms Shinas – Relieving Head Teacher Administration.

What do I do **IF I KNOW I WILL BE LATE TO SCHOOL?**

- You should bring a note from home explaining why you are late.
- Hand this note in at the late desk (near the finance office).
- You will be given a small blue note.
- Show this small blue note to your class teacher and see Ms Shinas at recess.

What do I do **IF I COME TO SCHOOL AFTER ROLL CALL IS FINISHED?**

- If you arrive late to school, no matter what time, you must always sign in at the front office.
- Do not just go to class. The school must know that you are here and you must see Ms Shinas at recess.

What do I do **IF I AM ABSENT FROM SCHOOL (TEXT MESSAGING)?**

- Your parents are asked to ring and notify the school before they receive a text message.
- Your parents are to reply to the text message on the day of your absence.
- The text reply should include your name, roll class, date of absence and reason for absence.
- The phone call or text reply explains the absence and there is no need to write an absence note.
- If you are away for a few days your parents are to ring or reply via text and send a Doctor's Certificate to school when you return.

What do I do **IF I AM GOING ON A HOLIDAY?**

- You must inform the school that you are going on a holiday. Do not just leave.
- Your parents must provide a letter explaining where you are going, your date of departure from school and your date of return to school.
- If you are going overseas you must bring a photocopy of the plane ticket.



What do I do **IF I NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY?**

- You must never just walk out of the school.
- Bring a note from your parents explaining what time you must leave and why you must leave.
- Include your name, roll class and date on the letter.
- Give this letter to Ms Shinas – Relieving Head Teacher Administration no later than 8:20am on the day you need to leave. You will be issued with a School Leave Pass.

What do I do **IF I AM AT SCHOOL AND I FEEL SICK?**

- Never just ring your parents to pick you up.
- Get a note from your class teacher to leave the room.
- You must then see Mrs Paul (Science staffroom) or Mrs Russell (Finance Office). They will contact your parents or family member.

What do I do **IF I AM MARKED ABSENT AT ROLL CALL BUT I WASN'T?** (eg work placement)

- Speak to your roll call teacher.
- If you receive a letter asking where you were, bring this letter to Ms Shinas or Ms Pirie (Reception).

Please monitor your daughter's attendance by recording in a diary or on a calendar the days that she has been absent from school. Please ring the school when your daughter is absent so that we can ensure a greater system of monitoring.

If you have any concerns with your daughter's attendance please feel free to contact us at the school.

Thank you.

Mrs George and Ms Shinas
Relieving Deputy Principal and Relieving Head Teacher Administration

WELFARE MATTERS

Welcome back to all students and families, especially to our Year 7 cohort and newly enrolled students. The Welfare Team wishes all students and their families a very exciting, successful and enjoyable year. We look forward to working with families in our school community to support the growth, development and wellbeing of our students.

The Welfare Team includes the School Counsellor, **Ms Athena Tselepi**, the Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers, as listed below, and the Head Teacher Welfare, **Ms Cathy Salvagio**. From Week 3 to Week 7 **Ms Livia Bolanca** will be in the role of Relieving Head Teacher Welfare whilst Ms Salvagio is on leave.

Parents and guardians can make an appointment to see our School Counsellor, the Head Teacher Welfare or the relevant Year Adviser if there are issues or concerns that they wish to discuss.

Below is a list of the Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers for this year:

YEAR 7
ADVISER - Ms Rothwell
Assistant - Ms Jarvis

YEAR 8
ADVISER - Ms Waltho
Assistant - Ms Sirris

YEAR 9
ADVISER - Ms Hawk
Assistant - Ms Haken

YEAR 10
ADVISER - Ms Gallard
Assistant - Mr Hobbs

YEAR 11
ADVISER - Ms Bolanca
Assistant - Mr Trott

YEAR 12
ADVISER - Ms Boyle
Assistant - Ms Shinas

Home Contact Details

It is important that the school has the correct address and telephone/mobile numbers on record so that in the event of students being ill at school or an accident occurring, we are able to quickly contact parents or guardians. If you have had a change of address or telephone/mobile numbers please inform the school of the new details immediately.

Student Assistance Scheme

Each year the school is provided with funds from the State Government to help students from families who are experiencing financial difficulties. The school is able to help families by allocating some of these funds towards the payment of uniforms, either new or second hand, excursions and subject fees.

Parents of Year 7 to Year 10 students can telephone the school to speak to Ms Salvagio or make an appointment to see her. Parents of Year 11 and Year 12 will need to speak to Ms Fletcher about their financial difficulties. Parents must be able to show that there is financial need. Pensioner Concession cards or Centrelink cards can be used to show the need of the family.

The Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool is situated on the top floor, near Room 1. Students and parents can buy or donate good quality used items of school uniform and P.E. uniform. The items are sold at very reasonable prices. Mrs Paul can assist students and parents with the purchase of these uniform items.

School Uniform Policy

It is our school policy that all students wear full school uniform. Our uniform can be purchased at Berelle School Wear, 3 Bellona Avenue, Regents Park, phone 9738 1264. The trading hours are Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm and Saturday 9:30am to 1:00pm.

Our uniform includes enclosed **black leather school shoes** for safety, especially when working in the Science laboratories and the kitchens.

For students who wear long sleeves the school has a long sleeved blouse. Wearing a short sleeved blouse with a long sleeved undergarment is not considered to be part of the uniform and is not acceptable.

If for a very good reason an item of uniform cannot be worn on a given day the student is required to have a **note of explanation signed by a parent or guardian** which the student presents to her Year Adviser **before** school to obtain an Out of Uniform Pass. If the student fails to follow the appropriate procedure consequences will apply. It would be expected that students have more than one school outfit and that their uniform items are washed and ironed regularly so that they are in a clean uniform at all times. Excuses such as "it's dirty" or "it's in the wash" are not acceptable.

The **hems on school trousers and skirts** should be neatly sewn and should not drag on the floor. Ragged and torn hems are not acceptable and are a safety concern.

Being in full school uniform demonstrates a student's commitment to being a positive member of the school community and enhances the good image of our school.

Study Skills Program

Year 12 students will participate in the Elevate Education HSC preparation seminars on **Wednesday 25 February during periods 2 and 3** which will focus on study strategies, examination techniques, goal setting and time management to assist students to be more effective learners and to cope better with examinations. Students will also be provided with access to the Elevate Education website and online resources to assist students with HSC resources, study, assignments and exams throughout the year.

All students must attend these very beneficial seminars which will be of a reasonable cost as the school will pay part of the cost. A note with details about the seminars will be issued to students closer to the time.

Year 11 students will participate in Elevate Education HSC preparation seminars on **Wednesday 4 March during periods 2 and 3** which will focus on effective learning strategies, time management and study techniques to enhance students' performance as a senior student. Students will also be provided with access to the Elevate Education website and online resources to assist students with study, assignments and exams throughout the year.

All students must attend these very beneficial seminars which will be of a reasonable cost as the school will pay part of the cost. A note with details about the seminars will be issued to students closer to the time.

Year 7 students will participate in a study skills program during their DEAR lessons in Term 1.

Ms Salvagio
Head Teacher Welfare

white box. In the second white box enter your email address and then click the Login button. A new screen will appear which asks you to type in lower case the school's password: **puppies**. You will then be asked a few extra questions, then click the green register button and you will receive the news on your favourite careers.

Year 10

This is a very exciting year ahead for you, especially when it comes to Careers. You will be completing the compulsory two weeks of work experience, with the first week coming up in Week 5, Term 2. Workplace learning programs form part of the NSW secondary school curriculum. Work experience enables students to spend a planned period of time in a workplace of their choice, enhancing their classroom learning, assisting their career choices and building their industry skills. Over the next few weeks in your careers lesson you will be learning all about work experience, including the whole process, what to expect and paperwork. Our first work experience block is Term 2, Week 5, from Monday 18 May to Friday 22 May. Students and parents, please start discussing and thinking about where you would like to complete your first week of work experience. Placements and work places will need to be finalised by the end of Term 1.

Year 12

Please use the booking sheet located on the Careers Office door to book a time to have a one-on-one interview to start discussing your plans for when you finish school. To ensure a smooth transition into life after school, you need to be well-informed, have up to date information and a clear and realistic career plan. Also listen out for important careers notices in roll call and spend time reading through your careers newsletters.

Parents if you wish to make an appointment to discuss your daughter's plans, please phone the school on 9644 5057.

Mrs Wailes
Careers Adviser

CAREERS NEWS

All Years

Birrong Girls High School subscribes to two fantastic careers services which allow students and parents to be kept up to date with Careers News and Events.

www.mhscareers.com – On the website have a look at the news pages, events calendar and the many other useful careers pages. To register to receive the newsletters use the CONTACT US page stating your name, email address, school, whether you are a student or parent and the state(s) you are registering for. To login please use the following: Login – **Birrong** and Password – **bg414**.

www.jobjump.com.au – When you register you will receive the news on the careers you like sent to your home email address. Plus you will be able to use all parts of the JobJump website to help you plan and achieve your career dreams. To register go to the home page and enter your school name into the first

BIRRONG GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR *For your diary / noticeboard*

February:

Wednesday, 11th

Thursday, 19th

Thursday, 26th

- Year 7 (and new enrolments) Welcome BBQ, 5-7pm
- School Photos
- School Swimming Carnival at Birrong Leisure Centre, 8:30am – 2:15pm

March:

Thursday, 5th

Tuesday, 10th

Wednesday, 11th

Wednesday, 18th

- Year 5/6 Open Morning
- Parent/Teacher interviews, 2-6pm
- Year 7 Vaccinations
- Zone Swimming Carnival
- P&C Meeting, Common Room, 5pm

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2015

The school swimming carnival is just around the corner so let's start thinking about the cheers for your house. This year's carnival will be held on Thursday 26 February at Birrong Leisure Centre, Wellington Road, Birrong.

Students are to make their own way to and from the venue and the carnival will start at 8:30am and conclude at 2:15pm. Students are required to pay \$4.00 entry on the day. **This is a compulsory school day so all students need to attend the day and support their house.** Remember all students can score points for their house by either competing in events or chanting your house song.

A few things to remember...

Students are to wear recognised swimming attire and suitable clothing in their house colours. Students are to bring a towel, hat, sunscreen and wet weather gear. The canteen will be available during the day; however, it is recommended that students bring their own food and plenty of water.

For any enquiries please contact the PDHPE faculty. Looking forward to a fantastic start to the school year.

Miss Sirris
Carnival Organiser
PDHPE Faculty

CAPA REPORT

Congratulations to our 2014 Year 12 Visual Arts and Music students who achieved excellent results in the 2014 HSC and particular mention to those who achieved Band 6. Their hard work and persistence along with their teacher's passionate commitment and dedication to their subject has resulted in these notable achievements. The current Year 12 Music and Visual Art students are working hard on their own journey towards their HSC this year.

We are pleased to welcome a new Music teacher to our school since Mr Blair has left to take up a permanent position at another school. Mr Eveleigh has joined the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) faculty and can be found in the CAPA staffroom. Our other Music teachers, Mrs Weir and Ms Caponas, are both back teaching part time at our school this year. Our Visual Art teachers, Mr Colley, Mrs Anthony and Ms Winchcombe can also be found in the CAPA staffroom, which is located in the Ross McBride Art Centre.

Keep an eye on our CAPA report in the next Birrong Bulletin issue and see what exciting events, camps and excursions are planned by the CAPA faculty for this year's Visual Art and Music students.

By: CAPA Faculty

LIBRARY NEWS



Welcome to the school library for 2015! Library hours are 8am to 2:50 pm [including lunchtime and recess (except Tuesday)]. Junior students can borrow 4 fiction and 4 non-fiction books for a period of two weeks. Senior students can borrow 6 fiction and 6 non-fiction books. There are 30 computers in the library for use during class, before school, recess and lunchtimes. The library Inquiry <http://web1.birronggir-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/library/> is online so you can see what books the library has even when you are at home. New library cards will be distributed in Week 3. Students are responsible for all library books borrowed under their name and should NEVER lend their card to anyone else. It is easy to renew books and avoid overdue fines. Overdue fines are 10c per day and borrowing rights are suspended after 2 weeks if the books are not returned.

We are excited about all the programs and projects we have planned this year. The library administers Scholastic Book Club for students who like to buy their own books. We are continuing to participate in the "Wrap With Love" knitting and crocheting project <http://www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/Wrap.htm>, the Chess Club runs once a week, and the Premier's Reading Challenge for Years 7-9 begins in March. Children's Book Week celebrations and competitions will be held in August to the theme of "Books light up our World". We will continue the KOALA program this year after its successful introduction last year. (See <http://www.koalansw.org.au/>). KOALA provides children with a voice within the general Australian children's book industry. Young readers from all over NSW judge their very own literary awards and vote in the KOALA awards for Australian children's books that have most inspired, amused, terrified, enlightened and engaged them. In Term 4 a group of students will meet the most popular authors and hear them talk about their work. We will also have some video conferences with famous authors and share our creative writing for them to give feedback.

Year 7 students will come to the library during the year to study Information Literacy and Narrative Structure, learn to find information and learn about stories. They will also be shown how to log on to the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) in library lessons from Week 6 to record their reading list at <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>. Years 8 and 9 can be assisted with PRC in the library at recess or lunchtime during March 2015. In the meantime, students should make a list of the books they have read since September 2014 so that they will be ready to enter them into the PRC. Students can also borrow PRC books from local public libraries. We work closely with the Bankstown and Auburn public libraries.

We are always looking for new books to buy for our school library collection, so if you have any suggestions please email Mr Davidson at Victor.Davidson@det.nsw.edu.au. You can also comment on your reading and make requests by logging onto the Library iRead Blog at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/blog/217077-birronggirlshighschoollibraryireadblog/>

Mr Davidson, Mrs Dyer and the Library Monitors look forward to helping you in the library this year.

Mr Davidson, **Teacher Librarian** and
Mrs Dyer, **Library Technician**

ENVIRONMENT TEAM REPORT

Birrong Girls High School was extremely fortunate in 2014 to have a dedicated team of students from Year 10 who made up the Environment Team for that year.

Throughout 2014 they participated in several fundraising activities for the school and were particularly involved in the Clean Up Australia campaign. Many of the members of the team had the privilege of attending the annual Youth Environmental Network Forum where Jane Goodall was a key note speaker. Some of the members of the team were also able to attend two leadership camps during the year where they met with students from other schools with the aim of focusing on environmental issues within their schools so that they could bring back to their schools feasible methods of resolving some of these issues. During one of these camps the students decided to dedicate their energy into fixing what is fondly called the "Frog Pond" in an area of the school grounds named Tumbalong. Their efforts in seeing the work through from a plan of action to completion was admirable and earned a grant of \$500 to go towards the project. They undertook much of the labour intensive work themselves making a great contribution to the school community. They have left behind a lasting legacy through their work. My thanks go to Mr Frank Calabria and Mr Peter Mitchell who arranged for the grant and assisted the students while they were working on the pond. Thank you also to the

Principal, Ms Jenni Wilkins, who provided the extra funding, to the Deputy, Ms Sandra Crossan, for her continued support of the Environment Team and to Mr Noah Vongratsavai for his efforts in purchasing the necessary supplies and also for his continued assistance.



The pond before its restoration



Mr Mitchell, Mr Calabria and the Environment Team



The restored pond as it looks today

Most of all, my thanks and appreciation go to the students of the 2014 Environment Team. May the team of 2015 be as enthusiastic and industrious as you were. You will be a hard act to follow.

Ms Stachiw
Social Sciences Faculty

CANTEN SERVICES

CANTINA

BREAKFAST served from 8am – Great way to start your day

Fresh fruit salad - GF	\$4.00
Fresh baked croissant	\$2.50
Fresh baked cheese bread	\$2.50
Fresh baked cheese & ham roll	\$2.50
Toast with Vegemite, Jam	\$1.50
Raisin Toast with butter	\$1.50
Gourmet yogurt topped with fresh berries – small - GF	\$2.50
Gourmet yogurt topped with fresh berries – large - GF	\$4.00
Cheese & Tomato Toastie	\$3.50
Cheese & Ham Toastie	\$4.00

CANTINA SIGNATURE BURGERS – Made on site with fresh ingredients daily

Char grilled chicken burger with lettuce & mayo	\$4.50
Halal chicken burger with lettuce & mayo	\$4.50
Halal sweet chilli chicken burger with lettuce & mayo	\$4.50
Deluxe grilled beef burger with lettuce, tomato & beetroot – Halal	\$4.50
Vegie Burger with sour cream sweet chilli, lettuce & tomato	\$4.50
Fillet of Fish burger with lettuce & tartare sauce	\$4.50
Deluxe Seasoned Chicken burger with lettuce & Mayo	\$5.00

PIZZA – Stone baked

Margarita or Ham & Pineapple	\$4.00
Meat lovers	\$4.50

HOT FOOD

Nachos – GF	\$4.50
Fried Rice – GF	\$4.50
Potato wedges – small	\$3.00
Potato wedges – large	\$4.00
Macaroni & cheese OR Lasagne	\$4.00
Chicken coujons	\$4.00
Spring Rolls – Vegetarian	\$4.00
Chicken Wings	\$4.00
Sour cream & sweet chilli sauce	\$1.00
Garlic bread	\$2.00

PIES & PASTRIES

Beef traveller pie, pepper steak or beef cheese & bacon	\$3.50
Lite Sausage rolls	\$3.00
Gluten free pie or sausage roll	\$4.50
Villies gourmet flavoured pies – Chicken, beef curry, chicken curry	\$4.50
Villis Beef gourmet pie – Halal	\$4.00
Villis sausage roll – Halal	\$3.50
Cheese & spinach pastry – Vegetarian	\$4.00

CANTEN SERVICES

CANTINA

SANDWICHES – White or wholemeal - Made fresh on site daily – Gluten Free bread \$1.00 extra

Vegemite	\$2.00
Cheese & tomato	\$3.00
Egg & lettuce – free range eggs	\$3.50
Salad	\$4.00
Salad with chicken, ham, tuna or avocado	\$5.00
Chicken, sundried tomato, feta & mesculin lettuce	\$5.50

WRAPS

Chicken ceasar wrap	\$5.50
Vege Wrap – mesculin lettuce, sundried tomatoes, cucumber, capsicum & feta	\$5.50

SALADS

Caesar Salad - char grilled chicken, cos lettuce, egg, parmesan cheese & croutons	\$6.00
Tuna Salad – Tuna, lettuce, tomato, cucumber, carrot & tasty cheese	\$6.00
Pasta salad	\$4.00
Garden salad bowl – lettuce, tomato, cucumber & carrot	\$4.00

SOMETHING SWEET..... All made fresh on site

Seasonal Fresh fruit per piece from	\$1.00
Homemade jelly cups	\$2.00
Homemade Chocolate mousse – Yum	\$2.50
Custard cups	\$2.00
Homemade cup cakes	\$2.00

DRINKS

Bottled water	\$2.00
Flavoured milk from	\$2.50
Juice boxes	\$1.50
Flavoured minéral water	\$2.00
Freshly squeezed juice from	\$3.00

.....CANTINA GOOD EATING SPECIAL

ORDER ANY SALAD BOX PLUS A PIECE OF FRUIT AND RECEIVE A FREE BOTTLE OF

WATER SAVING OF \$2.00.....

- GF indicates gluten free

- H indicates Halal

- All items green or amber approved