From the Principal

External Validation

On 27 October 2016 Broken Hill High underwent external validation led by two principals from outside the Far West Network of Schools. The process involved mapping the school against the Schools Excellence Framework, which has fourteen elements linked to the domains of Learning, Teaching and Leading.

The school executive and other members of staff produced evidence linked to the standards in the areas of: The Learning and Support Team, ALARM, the Literacy Continuum, Positive Behaviour for Learning, Aboriginal Education, Head Teacher Welfare, Alternative Programs and RASP, Policy, Staff Leadership and Student Leadership.

The visiting team, led by Mr Graham Small, was pleased by the depth of the evidence and quality of the responses. The team agreed with the majority of judgements made by the school except for three areas. One area was to go down one level and the other two were to go up one level in Curriculum and Learning, Collaboration and Resources respectively. The visit was instructive for future directions for school planning. Mr Small was particularly pleased with the teamwork exhibited by the staff and their willingness to work on new initiatives.

Areas for future consideration were linked to further generation of data on student wellbeing and also the way students use assessment data to reflect on their own learning in the domain of Learning. Feedback to students, accreditation and classroom observation improvements were linked to the domain of Teaching. Encouraging staff members to build their leadership capacity and consider higher levels of accreditation were linked to the area of Leadership.

The process will be undertaken every five years by schools across New South Wales. Broken Hill High School will continue to develop sources of data to better inform planning and be ready for the next Validation process.

2016 Presentation Night

Thursday 6 December
7pm in the School Hall

Students will soon be receiving a letter to notify them of awards. Broken Hill High School has a proud tradition of awarding outstanding achievement and look forward to everyone attending.

Make Online Payments

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card, and can be made via computer, tablet or mobile phone. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting $ Make a payment. Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called ‘Other’ this is to cover items not covered in the previous headings. ‘Other’ can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter:

- the students name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the students name, and
• Date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them; these are optional fields OR there is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number. These are not used at our school, please leave blank.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed. Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.

Students Who Are Late To School or Leave Early

Students are NOT allowed to call their parents during school times to collect them. If students have a valid reason to be collected, they are to either go to the Front Office or the Deputy Principal for someone to call their parent/caregiver to come to the school and collect them.

Students who have a doctors/dentists appointment at a certain time can either have the parents attend the school to collect or supply their child with a note. This note must have a valid and reasonable reason for the child to be signing out of school with a time, date and signature.

It is recommended that if your child attends a doctor or other appointment, that they request a certificate and a copy is given to the school so their time out of school can be justified and explained properly.

If a student is late to school, they must provide a note or a phone call from parent/carer with a reasonable and valid reason. Personal and family reasons are not a valid reason.

If a student is late to school without a note it will be documented as late and unjustified, which affects their final attendance rate, unjustified and unexplained.

If a student continues with this behaviour the following will occur:

3rd offence – call home from the Year Advisor to discuss with parents.
5th offence – 20 days Individual Attendance Plan.

Right Place, Right Time

There has been an increase of students not being in the right place at the right time at Broken Hill High School. To eliminate distractions and ensure all students are getting the most out of their time at school we have revised our truant procedures that will come into effect in the coming weeks.

It is essential students attend Roll Call every day as this ensures your child is present at school and this then doesn't affect their attendance. However, if your child is late they MUST sign in through the Front Office. Your child MUST have a legitimate reason and be supplied with a detailed note signed and dated by the parent/carer.

If your child is truanting class then the new system will ensure your child is spoken to and the following consequences will occur.

First offence – receive a written warning. This will be handed to the student.
Second offence – referred to relevant DP for pre-suspension and yellow monitoring card.
Seniors – one week loss of senior privileges
Third offence – Timeout Room for the Day
Fourth offence – SUSPENSION – 1 day
Fifth offence – SUSPENSION – 2 days

Parents/Carers can check on their child’s attendance through the Parent Portal. If you have not received the access key for the parent portal please call the Front Office to receive one.

Regards, Paul Gauci
Deputy Principal (8,10,12)

Sign Out Procedures for Year 12 Students

If you are signing IN/OUT because you have free periods, you MUST sign in/out using the kiosk only.

This will only work if you have
1. Your flexible card (if you have lost this you will need to pay $2 for a replacement card)
2. Returned your signed permission form to the Front Office.
If not you will NOT be signing out early and if we sign you in it will be Unapproved and will count towards your 3 late arrivals and a Deputy Detention will be issued.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS

If you have changed your address, phone number or have a new emergency contact person (in case we can’t get in contact with you if your child is sick
or in case of an emergency) please let the Front Office know so details can be updated.

**Assessments Due**

HSC Legal Studies Assessment Task. Contemporary Issues in Human Rights. 15% due Wednesday 7 December 2016

Year 12 Biology pH and CO₂ First-hand Investigation (20%) due on Thursday 1 December, before 9 am at the Front Office.

All assessment tasks will be posted through the parent portal by their classroom teacher.

If there are any concerns or enquiries please contact Mr Gauci at school.

Please submit your assessment tasks as due to your teacher by 9:00 am on the above due date(s).

**Upcoming PBL student activities**

During Week 9 and 10, as we approach the end of the year, there will be various exciting activities on offer to students. It will be fantastic to see as many students as possible making the most of these events.

**December 8-9.** An overnight trip to Mildura will be held for selected students who have consistently displayed the core values of the school throughout the year. Activities on the trip include the House of Bounce, Splashpark and movies. Those students who meet the selection criteria will have already received notes from Mrs Usher and require a deposit of $50 to be paid to the front office to secure a place.

**December 13.** Students who have reached Conqueror Award status of 500 B’Hillians will be invited to a free afternoon at the pool with an included BBQ lunch. The slide and inflatable will also be available for students to use.

**December 14.** Students with 95% attendance or above will be treated to a free BBQ lunch. During Periods 5 and 6 the Monster Draw will be held, with many fun activities and prizes up for offer!

**Visit by South Australian Author Rosanne Hawke**

On Wednesday, 26 October 2016, Rosanne Hawke, author of such notable novels for young people as *Taj and the Great Camel Trek, The War Within* and many others, came and conducted a guest seminar in the library’s Reading Room.

Rosanne spent a week in Broken Hill, visiting both primary and high schools; the middle of the week saw her at Broken Hill High School.

The Year 9 and Year 11 students who attended the seminar were extremely impressed by Rosanne’s talk. A number of students commented, after the seminar, that Rosanne gave them many new ideas about how to write stories, particularly about the skills needed to turn historical fact into entertaining fiction. Students were convinced that Rosanne’s talk would help them with any future creative writing tasks.

Ms Hawke has spent many years in Pakistan, near the border with Afghanistan, and this extended stay has influenced a number of her stories. Quite often a character, in one of her novels, will have a Middle-Eastern heritage, but emigrates to Australia and then is confronted with the harshness of the new environment and the differences in culture.

At the end of the seminar, both Lachy Gepp (Boys’ Captain) and Joelene Galea (Girls’ Vice – Captain) gave separate votes of thanks to Ms Hawke, on behalf of BHHS, for her interesting and informative seminar on the process of creative writing.

There was a light morning-tea afterwards, and everyone appeared to enjoy the refreshments. At this time, students got the chance to talk to Ms Hawke, on a one-to-one basis, about their ideas for writing stories.

Luke Cripps, Librarian BHHS.
Farewell from Mr Griffiths

Across both the CAPA and TAS departments at Broken Hill High School, I have had the opportunity to engage in some exciting projects for my final University placement and my Art Education Curriculum Project. These highlights include the Selfie Photography Project, a photography excursion to Silverton, the Monet painting project, Mug Shot a ceramic printing project and experimenting with the equipment in the Industrial Arts KLA. The staff at BHHS, have been incredibly supportive and I would like to thank them for their ongoing commitment to quality student teachers. The students have been fantastic in all the projects I have facilitated and I have thoroughly enjoyed their interest and enthusiasm in the classroom. There has never been a dull moment.

The Mug Shot project ran with the year 9 Information and Software Technology was a project using the Dye Sublimation printer and heat transfer oven. This is a process where special dyes are printed on transfer paper and wrapped around a ceramic surface to enable the dye to embed into the surface of the ceramic. Students learned how to create their designs on Photoshop and create digital files that are suitable for dye sublimation printing. The designs reflect new Photoshop skills and show quirky, experimental and witty designs that the students could take home on their ceramic mug.

The Photoshop mug shot design assessment task was a great learning experience for all the Year 9-IST students, we previously had little to no experience with Photoshop and I believe it had strongly improved our skills. The Assessment was mostly a success except for a few minor flaws in the printing and applying to the mugs. – Jett Mercer

It’s been a blast Broken Hill,
Mr Griffiths!

Year 12 HSC Artworks Exhibition
Geo Centre
Friday, 11 November 2016, opening 6pm

The combined High Schools 2016 HSC Art Exhibition will be held at the Geo Centre on the 11 of November. The exhibition will open at 6pm and feature the work of Year 12 students from Broken Hill High School, Willyama High School and Menindee Central School.

Tyler Brown, Hailey Golding, Phebe Whitelaw and Lizzie Wilson will represent Broken Hill High School. Tyler’s body of work is titled ‘Life Is Strange’. He has created 4 sculptures from hollowed out books that communicate growing up in Broken Hill. Hailey has created an extensive range of Pop Art style acrylic paintings that represent objects from her life and interest. Phebe’s body of work is titled ‘Talis Est Vita: Such Is Life: Aspiration, Contentment, Strife, Solace’. It consists of 4 beautifully detailed tonal pencil drawings representing a female’s journey from childhood to old age. Lizzie’s collection of works is called ‘Retrospection: The Cruellest Invention’. It features 5 hand woven baskets and 5 precisely inked pointillist dot drawings. The baskets and drawings sequentially reflect humanity’s increasingly negative impact on the environment.

All of the artworks are very well resolved and communicate interesting personal stories. Please come along to the exhibition opening and help celebrate our students’ wonderful achievements.

Hailey Golding
Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding

Hailey Golding
Thieves are at work! If they're not after your vehicle, then you can bet they’re after any valuables you’ve left inside. In this local area, thieves are stealing laptops, cash from consoles, mobile phones, sunglasses, CDs, wallets and handbags left in vehicles.

You can reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of theft by parking smarter. You should always:

• Remove the ignition keys and lock your doors and windows
• Take everything of value from your vehicle each time you leave it
• Avoid parking in dimly lit or isolated areas
• Remove any documents in your vehicle which identify where you live – your home might be the thieves’ next target
• Don’t hide any spare keys inside or under your vehicle – thieves know just where to look
• Engrave or mark your vehicle’s accessories with your licence number.

Remember, security is important all of the time. Protect your property by following these tips and contact your local police or Crime Stoppers on 1300 333 000. (TTY 9211 3776 for speech and hearing impaired)
Application Forms

Application forms and further information on the 2017 United Space School Program are available from:

Mr. Trevor Dart
Broken Hill High School
Phone: (08) 8088 1522

Mr. Matthew Cawley
Willyama High School
Phone: (08) 8088 1055

Kathie Naden
Broken Hill University
Department of Rural Health
Phone: (08) 8080 1245
Kathryn.Naden@health.nsw.gov.au

Deb Jones
Broken Hill University
Department of Rural Health
Phone: (08) 8080 1200
Debra.Jones1@health.nsw.gov.au

Parent Information Session will be held on Monday 21st November 2016, 6pm at the Broken Hill University Department of Rural Health, Corrindah Court, Broken Hill.

Applications Close:
2nd December 2016
An experience… of a lifetime

Are you a girl in Year 9, 10 or 11 who has an interest in attending the 2017 United Space School Program to be held in Houston, Texas, in July-August.

Do you want to experience the adventure of a lifetime, make friends from around the world, visit the Johnson Space Centre NASA and join in planning a Mission to Mars.

If you are adventurous and think this great opportunity may be for you why not have a go.

Want to know what it’s like? Ask Neve Robins (Year 11) from Broken Hill High School about her United Space School experience.

My experience…

By Neve Robins

2016 United Space School Participant

During my two weeks at United Space School, I toured NASA, participated in activities all around Houston with my host family and made lifelong friends from all over the world. As a school we had the chance to learn from astronauts, experience different cultures and visit some iconic places like the Apollo 11 Mission Control Room.

The basis of the space school was to work in teams to form a mission to Mars and I was a member of the Green Team. We were in charge of designing the building for the Mars Habitat as well as maintaining the health of the crew whilst on the planet.

During my time in Houston, I stayed with a host family and they made sure I was fed and rested as well as giving me a taste of their culture.

To make sure we felt more comfortable with our families, we shared with a host sibling. My sibling was a girl from Bolivia and she was in the Red team which was responsible for the transit to Mars. After school each day, all students would normally meet up and do a fun activity like a soccer match or even paintballing. We would also go with our host families and do things around Houston.

Throughout the two weeks you truly learn the ins and outs of space travel through your mentors, numerous speakers and the stories of workers in the space industry all of whom were really inspiring. It was a fantastic experience and I certainly met some amazing people during my time there.

What Parents Need to Know!

1. Only 1 student can attend the 2017 United Space School program from either Broken Hill High School or Willyama High School. The opportunity is open to girls only at this stage as the United Space School has a policy of accepting 1 male and 1 female student from each participating country and a male student is already attending from Perth.

2. Students will need to arrive in Houston Texas on the 22 July through to 7 August, 2017.

3. All costs associated with travel, school fees, spending money etc. need to be covered by the family (approx. $5,000 - $6,000). Please note that where necessary, there will be student support in fundraising the required funds through a variety of fund raising events and we are also actively seeking sponsorship.

4. Students are hosted in pairs (generally from different countries) with Houston families in the Clear Lake area. Accommodation and transport to and from events and venues is all covered.

5. Students get to participate in lectures, work as teams, enjoy cultural events, sporting events and games evenings whilst they are away.

6. The 2016 student and their family are happy to provide support and information to the successful 2017 student and family. (A great way to avoid potential pitfalls and ensure your child is well prepared for their adventure).

7. Students from the following countries will be participating in the 2017 program Australia, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, France - Brittany, Germany, India, Isle of Man, Italy, Mexico, Navajo Nation - Arizona, Netherlands New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Russia, Scotland, South Africa, US – Kentucky and Wales.

8. Kids don’t have to be a genius but do need to be proficient in English, Mathematics and Science.

9. There is preparatory activities that do have to be completed prior to the student attending United Space School and these include reading a fiction and non-fiction science book and completing a book review on both, completing several mathematical equations relating to space travel. (Support to complete these tasks will be available from the school, they are not as hard as they sound).

10. Kids wishing to apply will need to have a level of maturity and independence. They are considered cultural ambassadors representing Australia. They also need to be able to get themselves through the travel procedures, customs and immigration. The 2016 student is happy to walk the 2017 student through the process prior to their departure.

Three Australians at the Culture Faire.

Neve’s team and Irish Mentor.