In this issue...

The BUZZ Media Team is…

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Special thanks go to all of our additional contributors!

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We find ourselves mid-way through the term and much has happened that is exciting and of great importance to you.

I recently was invited to the University of Western Sydney where the school was one of a number recognised for participating in the Pasifika Achievement to Higher Education program. The UWS has worked with you to promote the opportunities that can be offered through higher education. As part of the program groups of current University students come out to the school and conduct workshops with our Pacific Islander girls on preparation for University. I had the privilege of listening to a current University student speak about his journey and the influence of teachers on his views of education. He was extremely passionate about how much education and the influence of teachers inspired him to enter into University and pursue further education after completing High School. It was pleasing to see the University of Western Sydney invest in working with schools to promote higher education and highlight the difference higher education can make and how it is possible to succeed when you work hard and are motivated. One of the next areas the University is looking at expanding on is working with parents and having a greater connection with the family to support their children’s education and success. We are lucky to be working closely with a number of Universities on a variety of programs and I would like to encourage all of you to keep an eye out for opportunities that are announced and become involved. Don’t be afraid to give something a go and take a risk.

The school was represented by a group of our SRC students early this term in celebration of 100 years since Australian Troops landed at Gallipoli. The ceremony was held at Bankstown Memorial Oval on the 25th of April and the Honourable Jason Clair MP has sent the school a number of photographs to mark the day. These have been displayed in the front office for you to see. The school has also been presented with a sapling that is descended from the original lone pine that stood on the Gallipoli Peninsular. The school is grateful to Bankstown Council for providing us with this seedling and it will be planted on a site in the school grounds.

The school has undergone a lot of work since the flood at the end of 2014 caused an incredible amount of damage to classrooms, staff rooms and resources. Teachers have worked hard to work around the problems that were caused and we are now at a stage where much of the damage has been rectified and resources set up for your use. I have spoken previously about the installation of new carpet, repairs made to rooms and painting of walls and ceilings. We have now had network cable replaced in A Block, a computer room refurbished with new furniture and computers and interactive projectors installed in classrooms to replace equipment that was damaged. Recently, I have also been informed that the roof for the hall is to be replaced. This will be much appreciated by everyone who uses the hall and provide a dry secure area for activities during wet weather.

I hope all of you are working hard to do your best in the final assessments of the term and that your reports will reflect all of the great things that you have achieved and are involved with.

Mr M. Leary
Relieving Principal
Bankstown Girls’ High School
Parents and students,

I believe that student success relies heavily on attendance, positive behaviour and a commitment to learning. In light of this, it is of paramount importance that all students attend school regularly and make a strong commitment to their learning. If your daughter is away from school for any reason you must supply the school with a note explaining her absence. Satisfactory attendance is calculated at 85% and we as a school are striving to improve that minimum standard for all students at BGHS.

I would like to remind all parents that school starts at 8:45am and we expect the girls to be punctual. Often times the girls blame late buses, trains or parents driving them to school too late. These excuses are not acceptable as lateness eats into valuable learning time. As parents, please ensure that your daughters are not late to school. If your daughter arrives late, a note is required to explain the lateness.

Term 2 has continued to be very busy and now we are in the serious period of assessment and reporting. The girls all have assessment weeks where they will be required to demonstrate what they have learnt so far this year. Therefore the expectation is that girls do regular revision work at home and submit all their work for assessment.

Good luck to you all during this assessment period.

Mrs Porreca
Deputy Principal
(Years 7, 9 & 11)
Bankstown Girls’ High School

From Deputy Porreca’s Desk
As a new face in the seat of the Deputy Principal's chair, I look forward to working in a very different capacity with the school and the community for the remainder of 2015. I am proud of what this school represents and the quality work that takes place in the classrooms and beyond. Our students are presented with such rich learning opportunities and embrace these with vigour.

This term is a very busy term for both staff and students. The half yearly examinations have taken place and reports are being written across the school. It is very important that communication is open and productive between teachers and parents as this is the vehicle to improved learning. Many hours of marking and report writing are put into very individualised and specific pointers that will assist in your daughter's learning journey. I encourage you to attend Parent/Teacher evenings and engage in discussions around your daughter's progress.

The parent/Teacher evenings for this term are:

Year 12: Wednesday 13th May, 3:30pm-5pm
Year 10: Wednesday 17th, 5pm - 6pm
Year 8: Wednesday 17th June, 3:30pm-5pm

Both Year 8 and Year 10 have some important decisions to make this term in regard to the electives they select for next year. These decisions should be considered ones, as they become the subjects that students attain their ROSA and HSC certificates in. Students have been issued with course overviews in their careers lessons and are discussing the best options for their chosen career paths. Students will then have the opportunity to participate in a ‘subject market’ where they get the opportunity to ask questions of the teachers who teach these courses. Finally, both students and their parents are asked to attend a ‘transition evening’, where the selection form will be issued for students to make their final choices. This evening will also outline the Board of Studies expectations of your daughter as they undertake their chosen subjects.

A parent portal is currently being trialled by the school to allow for greater communication between school and home. Parents should have received a letter in the mail that indicated an individualised password that provides you with access to some of your daughter's records at school. Once you log onto the system from home, you type in your daughters ID number and you can access her school timetable and record of attendance. I encourage you to access this information and feel free to offer suggestions of how we can further improve communication between school and home.

Social awareness amongst the student population is very important. We should always look beyond our immediate circumstances and see what we can contribute to the world. This month the 'Butterfly Foundation' is promoting an awareness campaign about reducing judgement. As a community we are often falsely judged by individuals or the media. I encourage you all to support this promotion by symbolically painting your middle nail red to show you don’t support judgements that are made about appearance.

Ms L. Carmody
Relieving Deputy Principal
(Years 8, 10 & 12)
Bankstown Girls’ High School
ANZAC CEREMONY
PHOTO – A – WEEK COMPETITION

Last term, Photographic & Digital media students participated in a challenge where they had to submit a photo representing a different theme or subject each week. Students were encouraged to think ‘outside the box’ and produce photos with unusual viewpoints and interesting compositions. Below are each week’s winning entries:

WEEK 1: Reflection **Nhu Pham**

WEEK 2: Silhouette **Nadia Bahsa**

WEEK 3: Button **Sama Mirzarabi**

WEEK 4: Moving Portrait **Amar Soueid**
WEEK 5: Water  
**Jessie Dardar**

WEEK 6: Food  
**Natalie Veljanovska**

WEEK 7: Frame It  
**Natalie Veljanovska**

WEEK 8: Animal  
**Raeanne Chami**

WEEK 9: Repetition  
**Linda Abdulkader**

WEEK 10: Wood  
**Jessie Dardar**
STUDENT EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

A new feature of our Wednesday Assemblies this term is the presentation of Student Excellence in Learning Awards. The Head Teacher on Duty presents up to three awards to students who have demonstrated great commitment to their learning in his or her faculty. Each student receives a certificate and a letter goes home to parents to let them know about their daughter’s great achievement. So far the following students have received awards:

**TAS:**  Jasmine EL-Chafchak (Yr 11)  
           Sereen Omran (Yr 10)  
           Hadeel Salem (Yr 9)

**English:**  Mona El Kassar (Yr12)  
              Nurjus Al modafer (Yr12)  
              Queenie Nguyen (Yr 10)

**CAPA:**  Tracey Ta (Yr 11)  
           Asma Alaslani (Yr 10)

**Maths:**  Thao Vu (Yr 11)  
           Soumaya Rafei (Yr 10)  
           Sefulu Iakopo (Yr 9)

CONGRATULATIONS GIRLS, KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

Ms D. Dymond
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE GALA DAY

By Natalie Veljanovska

On Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April, the selected group of girls who were apart of the Football United Program had the opportunity to go to the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace Gala Day. Our girls paired up with the Football United Coaches/UNSW students to participate in various competitive activities and of course have FUN! After a long day of sweat, laughter and food, our participants received certificates for their commitment and enthusiasm, an Australia soccer jersey and a soccer ball. We would also like to say a big thank you to Ms Karceska for her support throughout the day.
SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

On the 29th of April Bankstown Girls High School held their annual Cross Country carnival at Bankstown Memorial Oval which involved Year 7 through to Year 10. Competitors from 11 and 12 who wished to participate registered their names for the event. The course was 3km long and required the girls to run on both ovals, surrounding streets and Bankstown Gardens. The talented girls from Year 11 and 12 SLR classes were responsible for the organisation and running of the day. Year 12 SLR recorded the events and Year 11 SLR had the job of time keeping. Both classes were efficient and productive in their respective roles. The participation and effort that all students displayed made the day a success and we were able to get all age group races completed before the rain set in. Well done to those who participated in the Cross Country Carnival and a big congratulations to the students who made the zone team. Thank you to the teachers who did a wonderful job at the check points and allowed the day to run smoothly. Good luck to the winner for the zone Cross Country which will take place at Flinders Slopes on 27th May, 2015.

2015 AGE CHAMPIONS

12 years – Ivy Nguyen
13 years – Rhonda Butt
14 years – Jehan Chendeb
15 years – Tepapa Bellam & Alpina Bou-Sleiman
16 years – Adama Jalloh
17 years + – Taylor Stoten

FASTEST RUNNER 2015

Rhonda Butt
Time: 16.34
ENRICHMENT DAY

Written by Sabrina Sadek

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 7A and 8A were invited to take part in an enrichment day program held at Bankstown Girls high School. It was a day where all the girls in the class were split up into groups of 3 or 4 to compete against the other groups based on trivia booklets and certain class activities chosen by the teachers. The names of the groups were the ‘Amazings’, the ‘Fantastics’, the ‘Wonderfuls’ and the ‘Brilliants’. These groups were then broken down into smaller groups, for example Amazing’s 1 and 2. Once we all were handed a timetable the groups all raced to their classes feeling determined and eager to win. There were various activities that included cooking, news reporting, computer activities, maths problem solving, poetry, art painting and science. At the end of each challenge, the teacher selected the most deserving and talented group to win a small prize and also get extra points for their team. This was continuous for a total of 4 periods until it was the last 15 minutes of the day where all the groups gathered in the library to find out the winner to receive the prize of 25 dollar JB-HI-FI voucher. All the scores were extremely close, however the amazing’s 2 managed to win. Luckily no one walked out empty handed as we all received an award and a lolly. It was a great day which will be remembered!
BUSINESS STUDIES EXCURSION

On March 30th, 2015 Year 11 Business Studies went on an excursion to the IMAX theatre to conduct research for their assessment task. Mr Lukins assigned everyone a worksheet task that had to be completed before the end of the day and to be discussed in the class the following day.

It was a stormy, rainy day so it was hard to walk around the city street when it was pouring. We were splashed with water, wherever we went, and the water level of rain reached up to our ankles. We made our way to the stores around Pitt Street Mall to take photos and answer the questions required to complete our worksheet. Mr Lukins designated a time and place for us to meet, so that we can arrive at the IMAX theatre on time. Our Business Studies class soon headed off into separate smaller groups. Majority of the groups wandered around the shops first, while others took photos and answered questions. Some groups went to get breakfast or snacks for the theatre.

At 11 am, everyone met up and we headed towards the IMAX theatre. It was approximately a 15 minute walk to the theatre. When we arrived at the IMAX theatre, we watched a 45 minute documentary Antarctica. The day was both educational and fun. We would like to thank Mr Lukins for organising the excursion and ensuring we all arrived safe and sound back to school before 2:59pm!

HIP HOP CLASSES AT BANKSTOWN

Bankstown Girls High School has organised hip hop dance sessions for all students across Year 7 to Year 12. The price is affordable, only $5.50 per session. The class runs from 3pm-4pm every Thursday in the school hall. It’s an opportunity to learn to dance whether you’re a beginner or experienced. A choreographer comes to instruct a dance that we will be performing at our school musical! The lessons are great fun and assists us all with developing electrifying dance skills. Every move is taught slowly and thoroughly until each member is comfortable to move to the next step. Our choreographer is understanding, cooperative and friendly and motivates our girls to gain confidence and work as a team. Everyone learns together and of course, you learn from mistakes, so never be afraid to make one! Also, in case you forget the dance, the choreographer has offered you to add her on Facebook where she will then invite you to a secret group. She posts videos of herself dancing there while she verbally goes through it so we are able to practice at home. Everyone is most welcome to participate. You will not want to miss out!
DIY: JEWELLERY STAND

By Vy Hoang

What you need:

- Silver paint
- Paint brush
- Glass vase
- As many branches as you like

What to do:

Step 1

Paint all branches to give it a classy and edgy look.

Step 2

Place your branches into the vase/jar.

Step 3

Place your jewellery on the branches.
What makes a good poem? Do they have to rhyme? Have a beat to it? Or follow specific rules like ABBA?

On Wednesday 6th May, 9ENG1 had the privilege of being the audience to an astounding performance by Zohab Zee Khan. Zohab Zee Khan is a nomadic spoken word artist whom originally hailing from Wagga Wagga in New South Wales. In 2014, he was named the Australian Poetry Slam Champion and from then on, founded an organisation called 'Zee Poetics", aimed to inspire a new generation of poets through performance based workshops.

Sitting in the library, excitingly waiting but at the same time confused with many hesitant questions in our heads. Few minutes felt like hours for we heard so many interesting things about Zohab Zee Khan prior to his arrival. But, at last, he entered the library; there, the Australian Poetry Slam Champion commenced.

Zohab Zee Khan introduced himself and told us his journey to becoming a slam poet and performed a few of his very own poems that blew the girls minds away as he incorporated many modern issues of society into them such as racism and a few others. Not only was he a sensational poet, he was a man with many talents. We found out that he is a hip hop artist, photographer, basketballer, nomadic traveller and also can play with didgeridoo.

From beginning to end, Zohab Zee Kham brought so much energy into the room, leaving us girls with mouth-dropping expressions. I’m fairly confident to say this on behalf of the girls that, his performance has coated us and inspired us to achieve the greatest of the great. With this day, the girls and I can take back everything Zohab has taught us in order to help us with our upcoming task of producing our own Slam Poem.

On behalf of 9ENG1, I would like to thank Mrs Hawkins for allowing the session to be in the library and I would like to extend my thanks to Mrs Arambatzis, the teacher behind this successful day.

Stay tune for the Poetry Slam that’ll be produced by 9ENG1!
When I was 12 years old, I used to love writing stories and creating characters. I’d spend hours hand writing drafts of my little manuscripts and each time we’d go to our local newsagent, I’d beg my mum for the expensive pad of lined paper to publish my stories. My biggest goal was to become an author – it didn’t happen but hey, there is still time!

I tell you this little story because one of your fellow students in year 7 has actually fulfilled my own personal dream! At the age of 12, she has, in fact, become a published author!

Some time ago, Asfira Khan entered a writing competition with Bankstown Council. She had to write about the theme, It starts with us. In term 1, I was notified that she was a finalist in the competition and this was great news. Asfira was invited to attend the awards evening at the Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre to see if she would take out first place.

The finals event happened one night in the school holidays and we waited patiently to see if Asfira’s story was selected. Unfortunately, Asfira did not win first place, but every cloud has a silver lining...

Asfira was one of several finalists to receive a high commendation. That means that the judges thought her story was excellent and needed special recognition. Better than everything though:

ASFIRA’S SHORT STORY WAS PUBLISHED AND WILL LIVE ON FOREVER

IN A BEAUTIFULLY BOUND BOOK IN THE STATE LIBRARY OF NSW!

Asfira’s story, My Bankstown, has been included in a publication called Dark Skin, Black Hair and Wide Wary Ways. The title of this Buzz article is in fact, the ISBN of her book. Asfira will do a reading of her story at our next formal assembly.

Congratulations on your success Asfira! You’re a published author!

B Arambatzis
SRC/Guided Inquiry Teacher
GUIDED INQUIRY PROGRAM

In term 1, 9HSIE1 participated in the Guided Inquiry Project. Within the unit of What Makes Australia Unique, 9HSIE1 split up into teams and took one subject each to study, in depth. The topics included Flora and Fauna, Natural Resources and Climate and Vegetation, to name a few.

In Inquiry-based learning, students are free to explore their topic which naturally, leads to them asking questions. Once the students formulate a really great question, they begin to conduct research and look at ways to present their findings in a unique and interesting way.

This year, all of the presentations were video clips with some examples being role play, animation and a manipulation of popular culture computer graphics. Each video was creative in its own right and every student worked hard to produce their final product.

The judges of the presentations were Mr Lukins and Mrs Porecca. They agreed that the team that best met the criteria were Climate and Vegetation. Their computer animation video was engaging and packed with information about their topic. They shared a great deal of knowledge but what set this video aside was that they presented their knowledge in a very appealing way – they kept the attention of their audience right until the very end. It was clear that the girls worked very hard on their video and were deserving winners.

Congratulations to the girls in this group: Hadeel Salem, Rebecca Le, Aimee Pham and Lan Anh Vu. Well done to all of the girls who participated in the Guided Inquiry Project.

B Arambatzis
Guided Inquiry Coordinator
Youth Week is a national event which celebrating young people across Australia from the 10th of April to the 19th. Bankstown celebrated with a range of events from Bankstown's Amazing Race, Get Outdoors, Writing and Film Fest Publication Launch, Skate Party at the Roundabout and Movie Night. Bankstown’s main event took place on Friday 17 April at Bankstown Paul Keating Park, ‘Youth in Colour’.

A number of girls from our school participated or volunteered in the events and had great fun; enjoying the colour zone, live entertainment, unlimited free rides, sport activities, a Health and Wellbeing Zone, Education and Career Planning.
HOT READS THIS MONTH!!

By Angelina Kosena

THE RED QUEEN by Victoria Aveyard: This book is about the two different kinds of people in the world of America: The Reds and the Silvers. In other words the inferior vs. the superior. Mare Barrow is a Red like any other until fear somehow stimulates powers within her- powers of Silver.

SIMILAR TO: The Hunger Games trilogy

RECOMMENDED TO: THG lovers and YA Fiction lovers, and anyone in general😊

RATING: ★★★★★

GENRE: YA Fiction, Mystery, Adventure, Romance, Thriller

THE BANE CHRONICLES by Cassandra Clare, Sarah Rees Brennan & Maureen Johnson: Magnus Bane has finally arrived in our library! *squeal*... Well, not literally but the Bane Chronicles are here! This book is jam-packed with all the most memorable moments of Magnus’ (many) 300 years alive! It goes from the love affair he had with Camille and even the moments when he met Edmund and James Herondale*ahhhh*. This book is to die for and is one of the best bonus stories of the Mortal Instruments and the Infernal Devices series.

NOTE: Don’t read this book unless you’ve read the Mortal Instruments series and the Infernal Devices trilogy as you may not be able to understand some of the references in the book.

Genre: YA Fiction, Adventure, Romance, Thriller, Fantasy.

RATING: ★★★★★
NRL UPDATES!!!!

**Origin Notification**

**Origin Game One:** NSW vs Queensland – Wednesday, 27 May 2015, 8.00pm AEST – ANZ Stadium, Sydney

**Origin Game Two:** NSW vs Queensland – Wednesday, 17 June 2015, 8.00pm AEST – Melbourne Cricket Ground

**Origin Game Three:** Queensland vs NSW – Wednesday 8 July 2015, 8.00pm AEST – Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

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**Most Tries**

1. Curtis Rona (Canterbury-Bankstown) 9
2. James Roberts (Gold Coast) 9
3. James Tedesco (Wests Tigers) 8
3. Pat Richards (Wests Tigers) 8
5. Alex Johnston (South Sydney) 6
5. Manu Vatuvei (Warriors) 6
5. Marika Koroibete (Melbourne) 6
5. Solomone Kata (Warriors) 6
9. Akuila Uate (Newcastle) 5
9. Justin O’Neill (North Queensland) 5
9. Shaun Kenny-Dowall (Sydney Roosters) 5
9. Valentine Holmes (Cronulla) 5
9. Will Chambers (Melbourne) 5
15. Dane Gagai (Newcastle) 4
15. Dean Whare (Penrith) 4
15. Michael Jennings (Sydney Roosters) 4
15. Reece Robinson (Parramatta) 4
15. Sam Perrett (Canterbury-Bankstown) 4
15. Steve Matai (Manly) 4

**GO THE BLUES!!!!!**
2015 WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Friday 5th JUNE 2015

The Environmental students with the help of the SRC and faculties will be conducting a number of activities including musical performances, Henna drawing, nail painting, hair braiding, raffle tickets and much more during recess and lunch.

Come to school in full school uniform but wear green accessories and donate a gold coin to help make a difference.

Theme: Seven billion dreams, One planet, Consume with care.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY COMPETITION

The WED competition is to promote this theme amongst our school community. Students are asked to design and colour an A4 size poster that illustrates how our school community can take action to be more sustainable.

Posters should be designed in a way to encourage students to take action to be more sustainable using the 3R’s reduce, reuse and recycle. The best 3 posters will win a gift card. All meaningful posters will be put on display to promote sustainability on the 5th of June during the World Environment Day celebration.

Entries should be a single A4 size poster submitted as hard copy to the science staffroom or sent as an email attachment to the ENVIRO Committee, Randa.el-haddad@det.edu.au with full name and year. Entries will close on Monday 1 June 2015. Prizes will be awarded to the 3 best posters. The name of the winners will be announced on the 10th of June at Wednesday’s assembly.

Sustainability means living and using the resources of the planet wisely without damaging the environment now or in the future.
Dear Parents,

Bankstown Girls’ High school will be celebrating World Environmental Day on Friday the 5th June 2015. The monies raised will go towards updating the garden around the school hall.

On the day at recess and lunch, the Environmental Committee and the SRC will be conducting a number of activities such as hair braiding, musical performances, henna drawing, photo booth and nail painting. Prices are as indicated below:

Hair Braiding: Fishtail $1.00, Fringe braids 50c, Corn Row 50c per row. Bring your own comb for hair braiding. Nail polish: $1 for a full set. Henna: $1.00 to $5.00. Photo booth: $2.

There will also be a gold coin donation during ELP.

Students must come to school in full school uniform including school shoes; however they are encouraged to wear green accessories such as green head bands or hats.

The Environmental Committee are very committed and are working towards building awareness concerning our environment and sustainability. We do appreciate your generous donations and support.

Yours faithfully,

The Environmental Committee 2015