

# BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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HAWKER  
Collegiate

**Friday 19th  
February 2010**

## From the Principal

On Tuesday 16 February we held our year 7 Parent Information evening, which was attended by over 50 families. The evening was a huge success, with parents rotating through classes on a mini-timetable that mirrored their children's. Parents commented on the success of the evening, and on the enjoyment experienced by their children in the first fortnight of high school. I thank all the staff of BHS who teach year 7 and attended on the evening, and a very special thanks to the year 10 Peer Support Leaders who acted as guides.

On Wednesday 3 March Minister for Education and Sport, Mr Andrew Barr, will open the new Gym and unveil a plaque to commemorate the event. I have invited past principals and staff to attend. All students will attend and there will be a special appearance by some well known sports people, who may shoot a few 'hoops' with our students!

I think that in any community we should take pride in our members, and when we can, acknowledge and celebrate their success. The opening of the new Gym lends itself to supporting the value of Excellence (one of our eight core values at BHS) and our theme through term 1 in assemblies is sporting excellence. This week we invited a member of staff who demonstrates excellence in sport to address the first assembly of the year. Many of you will know Ben Williams - he is a PE & Health teacher in our school. What you may not know is that Ben is an international soccer referee, who officiates in the Australian A-League football competition and has been a FIFA referee since 2005. More recently he has travelled to Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, refereeing the Asian Champions League matches. Ben will shortly travel to Uzbekistan to referee in another ACL match between a Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan. We wish him the best of luck.



Each year Belconnen High makes a request to parents for a voluntary financial contribution to the school. These donations assist us in the general running of the school. The School Board has recommended a contribution for 2010 of \$120 for the first child, and \$80 for each sibling, which is the same level as last year. Donations of any amount, however, are appreciated. In the next newsletter we will advertise the voluntary contributions parents can make towards the individual costs for consumables in subjects that their children are studying. This will be followed by a personal letter to each family informing them of the details.

Finally, may I remind parents we are seeking nominations of three people to the School Board. Nominations close on Monday 22 February. The School Board plays an important and significant role in setting strategic directions for the school, in the financial management of the school, and in approving curriculum and policy. I urge you to become involved.

**Belinda Bartlett**

## **BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL - AWARDS CRITERIA**

We encourage all students to actively aspire for recognition of outstanding work over a semester, and over a year. Awards are an important part of this process - they demonstrate success and reflect recognition. Belconnen High School has a broad awards scheme operating in the school. This week we alert you to the year 7 – 10 awards for student success in subjects they study over a semester, and year.

### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Highest performing student in a class group**

### **CREDIT Students**

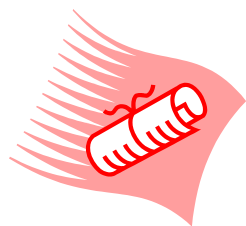
**All but two A or B grades; no D or E grades**

### **ENDEAVOUR**

**For consistent attitude and application**

### **HONOURS Students**

**All but two A grades; no D or E grades**



### **SEMESTER 2 ONLY**

### **STUDENTS OF DISTINCTION**

**All but three A grades over the entire year; no D or E grades**

## **MATHS FACULTY NEWS**

Welcome to all returning students and those new to BHS from the Maths faculty. Within the faculty we warmly welcome three new staff members: Graeme Ehsman, Roger Barlow and Chandra Thete.

Classes are settled and working hard, and all students have received their unit outline. We ask that parents sign these to inform us that they and their children are aware of our expectations, required equipment and the assessment schedule. All classes should receive their assignments during weeks 4 and 5. Please take the time to assist your child in the careful planning and presentation of these assignments. The first common tests will be held during Week 7.

Year 7 students will be doing a diagnostic test on Thursday 18 February. This complements our informal assessment and assists us to place these students into classes which are most appropriate to their learning needs, particularly where students need greater structure and support. I remind you that all Year 7 students have been working on the common topic of Number, using specially prepared booklets, to assist them in their transition to secondary schooling. The class changes will take place during Week 4. Please support your child if he or she does change teachers, and feel free to contact me if you have any concerns.

Calculators are also able to be bought, for \$20, from the office. **Every** student is expected to have a calculator; students in Years 9 and 10 in particular, will make only limited progress without a calculator. We encourage all students to have a school diary; these may be purchased from the school for \$6. These provide an easy means of communication between you and your child's classroom teacher.

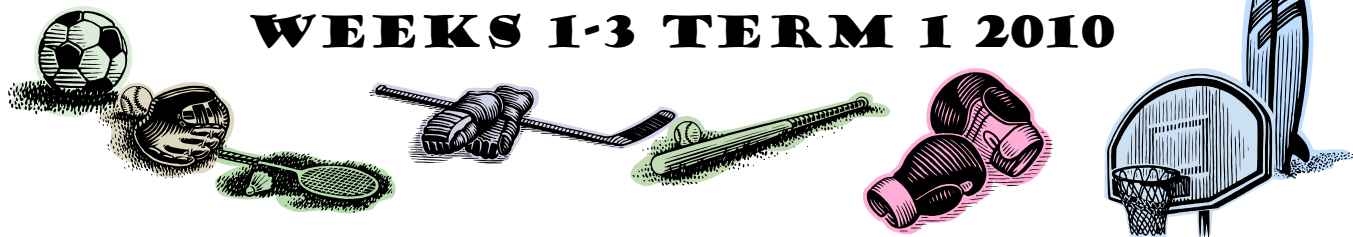
Maths tutorials run every day at Break 1. Any student is welcome to attend - perhaps to catch up on work missed, or to reinforce work being done in class. Students are able to stay for just a few minutes or half an hour and they may bring their lunch and a friend. Regular revision of work, even early in the year, will consolidate your child's learning and progress.

Students will shortly be invited to register for the annual Maths Competition, to be held in August, and a small group of talented students will be invited to enter the Maths Challenge, the Maths Enrichment Challenge and the Informatics Competition.

**Valerie Barker** - SLC Mathematics/Arts

# PE & SPORTS REPORT

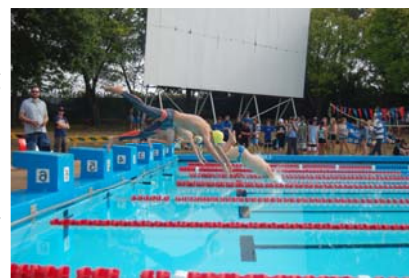
## WEEKS 1-3 TERM 1 2010



### SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The school swimming carnival, held on 5 February at Big Splash in Jamison, was a great day. Although rain threatened all day (and dumped on other parts of Canberra) we were spared and the carnival proceeded as planned. A big thank you must go out to the entire PE team for pulling together in week one to ensure the Carnival was a success. All other members of staff that helped out on the day must also be thanked. Events such as this can not go ahead without their support.

Freeman house were the winners on the day by a healthy margin, continuing their dominance in the sporting arena from 2009. Other highlights included the Bruce family domination of the 13 years girls and 15 years boy's age groups. Alec Bruce breaking one record on his way to age champion. All age champions are listed below. Also worth a mention was the male staff relay team that annihilated all comers in the senior boys relay.



Well done to all students who attended on the day and took part in any events. It was great to see you there despite the threat of rain!

### Age Champions

Age	Boys	Girls
12 Years	Zane Orr	Alana Starkis
13Years	Connor Watson	Lauren Bruce
14 Years	Andreas Stricker	Kara Martin
15 years	Alec Bruce	Linda Kaczmarek
16 years	Nathan Sinclair	Laura O'Neill

### UPCOMING SPORTS

- Boys & Girls 7/8 & 9/10 Softball week 4
- Boys & Girls Tennis week 5
- Boys & Girls 7/8 & 9/10 Basketball week 7
- Northside Zone swimming week 9



### Other PE News

The PE faculty welcomes 4 new members this year.

- Daniel Mowbray has moved across from his Pastoral Care role to be the new PE Executive teacher on a permanent basis.
- Natalie Ikin joins us in from Hawker College. Nat will also be teaching one of our Outdoor Ed classes.
- Katie Beattie joins us in her first teaching placement.
- Stacey Tindall also joins us in her first permanent appointment after a short stint at Lyneham High.

All PE, Outdoor Education and PE elective classes should have received their unit outlines. These need to be seen and signed by parents before being returned to teachers. Please ask your child for theirs if you have not yet seen it.

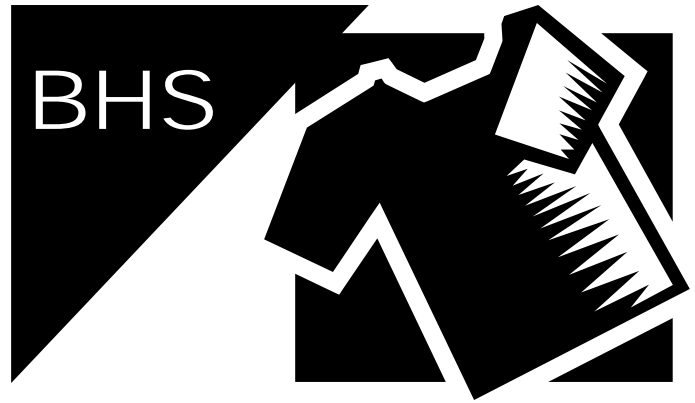
PE students are studying a wide range of PE and Health topics across the four year groups. As the weather is still very warm it is very important to remember that it is a course requirement that every student brings their PE uniform (available from the front office), drink bottles and hats to every class. It is also a good idea to slop on some sunscreen before coming to school in the morning.

## Thinkfest

Year 8 students will be taking part in the Thinkfest programme on Friday 26 February. This is an all day programme that will build relationships within this year group and their House groups. The programme is also intended to build minds.

Students are asked to complete a project and present their finished product to an audience and judges. Students will be asked to work on engineering and construction problems, writing and performing a play or create a product and an advertising campaign around it. Groups will be scored on their team work, the process they chose and the success of the product.

Belconnen High School is proud and excited to be able to offer our students this wonderful experience.



**PE Shirts**

**\$18**

**All sizes now available  
from the front office**



## *Belconnen High School P&C Association Inc*

### Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 2nd March 2010**

**7.15pm for 7.30pm**

**BHS Library – upstairs from the Front Office**

### **P&C Committee – Positions Vacant**

#### **Executive Committee:**

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

#### **Committee members:**

P&C Council Delegate (2)  
Public Officer  
Fundraising Committee  
Canteen Committee

**Purpose of P&C:** to promote the P&C Association as a forum for the school community to obtain and share information on the happenings in and around our school, the educational perspectives and the outcomes. Fostering the school community spirit!

**Purpose of Canteen Committee:** to promote healthy eating and to assist with the management of the BHS P&C food outlet known as 'The Bel Café' (the Canteen)

**Further information can be obtained by contacting the current  
P&C President - Lea Francis on 62584299 or the  
Principal – Belinda Bartlett on 62056844**

***“Are you interested in any of these voluntary positions?”***

# Belconnen High School P & C Association Inc

Murrnaji Street, Hawker ACT 2614

Phone (02) 6205 6844 Fax (02) 6205 6852

## NOMINATION FOR BELCONNEN HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INC. - 2010

### Agreement to be nominated:

I.....(full name) of  
.....(full address)

agree to stand for election as .....for the Belconnen High School  
Parents and Citizens Association (Inc) for 2009

I am / am not\* attaching a statement of up to 250 words about myself, my interests and concerns and, in particular, my connection with the School and its P&C for circulation prior to the elections.

(\* please delete whichever does not apply).

Signature:..... Date:.....

Contact Nos:.....(H) .....(W).....(M)

### Nominated By:

I.....(full name) of  
.....(full address)

nominate.....for a position on the BHS Parents and Citizens Association (Inc).

Signature:..... Date:.....

### Seconded By:

I.....(full name) of  
.....(full address) second the nomination.

Signature:..... Date:.....





# Enter a team to win a prize for your school Raise funds for charity at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual ActewAGL Women and Girls' Fun Run/Walk

The ACT Cross Country Club invites schools to enter a team of girls and women to run, jog or walk the 5km course and compete for individual and team prizes in the 24th Annual ActewAGL Women and Girls' Fun Run/Walk. In 2009 over 1,000 women and girls took part in the event and over \$7,500 was raised for charity.

**When:** 9am, Sunday, 11 April 2010

**Where:** Start and finish at Stage 88, Commonwealth Park.

The 5 km Fun Run/Walk is a traffic free loop through Commonwealth and Kings Parks to just past the Carillon and return.

The emphasis of the Fun Run/Walk is on participation and enjoyment, and to raise funds for OvCan (Ovarian Cancer Support Group, ACT). Refreshments and a certificate for finishers will be available after the event. Free child care is also available.

## School Teams and Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the primary and secondary schools with the highest female participation relative to school size female enrolments. School teams can include students, teachers, family and friends. A school team must comprise at least 15 participants to be eligible for the following prizes:

**1<sup>st</sup> prize \$500**      **2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$200**

Prizes in 2009 were awarded to Canberra Christian School, Duffy, Maribyrnong and Kaleen Primary Schools and Merici and St Clare's Colleges.

## Individual and Other Prizes

The first three individual finishers will receive a trophy plus

**1<sup>st</sup> place \$250**      **2<sup>nd</sup> place \$150**      **3<sup>rd</sup> place \$100**

Medallions will be awarded to the first finisher in age group categories.

School team entrants are eligible for age group category prizes and for mother and daughter and sister category prizes. This year there will also be a prize for the **best fancy dressed individual or group**.

Barrel draw prizes will be awarded at the end of the event, including the major prize of \$400. Winners must be present to receive the minor barrel draw prizes.

**Enter on-line** at <http://www.canberrarunner.com.au/wgfunrun/index.php> or by post by 2 April 2010.

Entries accepted at Stage 88 on Saturday 10 April 2010 from 1.30-3.30pm and on race day prior to 8.30am. Late entries cannot be accepted for team entries.

**Entry fees** are \$10 for girls under 20, \$17 for adults, \$15 for ACTCCC members and \$25 for families. A late fee of \$5 applies to entries received after 2 April 2010.

**Get a group together and start training now. Visit the ACTCCC website  
[www.canberrarunner.com.au](http://www.canberrarunner.com.au) for a free training program.**

For enquiries, entry forms and posters to promote the event contact:  
Kerrie Tanner on 0417 448776 or [busterbeau@gmail.com](mailto:busterbeau@gmail.com) or  
Carmel Lynch on 0407 409344 or [carmelynych@hotmail.com](mailto:carmelynych@hotmail.com)

# BHS Calendar Term 1 2010

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4B	22nd Feb  Exec Meeting	23rd Feb  Yr 7/8 excursion To Questacon Boys Softball Staff Meeting	24th Feb  School Photos  Girls Softball C'ttee Meeting	25th Feb	26th Feb  Year 8 Thinkfest
5A	1st Mar  Exec Meeting Tennis	2nd Mar Assembly  Board Meeting P&C Meeting  Faculty Mtg	3rd Mar  Gym Opening Tennis Induction C'ttee	4th Mar	5th Mar
6B	8th Mar  CANBERRA DAY	9th Mar  Whole School PD 3.15—6.15 pm	10th Mar  C'ttee Meeting	11th Mar	12th Mar
7A	15th Mar  Maths Testing Week  Exec Meeting	16th Mar  Maths Testing Week  Faculty Mtg	17th Mar  Maths Testing Week  Outdoor Ed Ocean Sports Camp Girls Basketball  Assembly Induction C'ttee	18th Mar  Maths Testing Week  Outdoor Ed Ocean Sports Camp Boys Basket- ball	19th Mar  Maths Testing Week  Outdoor Ed Ocean Sports Camp
8B	22nd Mar  Exec Meeting	23rd Mar  Board Meeting P&C Meeting  Staff Meeting	24th Mar  C'ttee Meeting	25th Mar	26th Mar
9A	29th Mar  Yr 7 Immun's Gardasil (1) & Hep B  Exec Meeting	30th Mar  YR 7 CAMP Faculty Mtg Parent Teacher Evening 4-7pm  Northside Swimming	31st Mar  YR 7 CAMP  Induction C'ttee	1st Apr  YR 7 CAMP RETURN Assembly	2nd Apr  Good Friday
10B	5th Apr  Easter Monday	6th Apr  Staff Meeting	7th Apr  C'ttee Meeting	8th Apr	9th Apr

**HOLIDAYS - Saturday April 10th to Monday April 26th - return Tuesday 27th April**