

Year 12 Celebration Issue!

Dates may change due to Covid-19.
See Sentral Portal calendar for updates.

TERM 3

- SEP • Last day of Yr.11 exams
- 16 • P&C Meeting via Zoom
- 17 • Yr.7 Gala Day at school with Yr.9 PASS coaches
 - Yr.12 HSC BOW evening (closed exhibition)
- 23 • Yr.11 Life Ready Day
- 25 • Yr.7 Jump Rope for Heart 'Jump Off'
 - Yr.12 Graduation and Picnic (staff and students only)
 - Last day of term

School Holidays, 26 Sep – 11 Oct

TERM 4

- OCT • First day of term for students – 12 Monday - Week 1A
- 13 • Summer Grade sport resumes
- 14 • Yr.11 Sign-Out Day
- 20 • Yr.12 HSC Written Exams, 20 October to 11 November
- 26 • Next issue of *Event* newsletter
- 27 • Yr.7 GAT Launch TBA
- 28 • P&C Zoom Meeting, 7pm
- 29 • Yr.7 2021 Family interviews
- 30 • World Teachers' Day
- NOV • Yr.7 vaccinations (Day 2)
- 4 • Yr.10 vaccination catch-ups
- 12 • Yr.12 Sign-Out Day
- 16 • Next issue of *Event* newsletter
 - Yr.11 Hospitality work placement week
- 18 • P&C Zoom meeting, 7pm
- 19 • Dance Showcase
 - Yr.9 Camp TBA
- 25 • BEP A Little Night Music TBA
- 26 • Yr.10 Blue Datto TBA
- 30 • Yr.7 Celebration of Learning TBA
- DEC • Yr.6 Orientation Day
- 1 • HPOP Forum
- 4 • Yr.10 Epic Shorts Festival
- 11 • Presentation Day TBA
- 16 • Last day of term for students

NEXT P&C MEETING

Wed 16 September, 7pm via Zoom

Burwood Girls High School EVENT



Vol. 19, Issue 5, 14 September 2020

From the Principal

Who would have thought that Leading Successful Learning in a Changed World would have such a significant meaning in 2020. Our world has changed, our students had to adapt, we did find ways to plan, prepare and lead learning during COVID-19. Some students coped well with online learning, but the majority found it difficult. However, it built resilience for students and teachers alike. Resilience is building opportunity out of hard times.

Our class of Year 7 in 2015 excelled over the years in so many different directions. In 2019, they selected their final subjects for the HSC program, eager to meet the challenges of the final school year. Little did they realise what obstacle lay before them. Year 12 2020 have indeed flourished despite the odds. They have developed, grown, thrived and exceeded expectations in becoming well equipped for any challenge in the future.



Thank you to our school leaders, prefects, house captains and individuals who have made a significant difference to our school community.



I thank you, I applaud your efforts and I cherish the memories of Year 12 2020.

Best wishes for life beyond Burwood GHS. **Mia Kumar**

Messages to Year 12

Deputy Principal

Dear Year 12,

It only seems like yesterday that I welcomed you as bright young things in Year 7. I was the Middle School Deputy in 2015 and worked closely with Ms K and your fabulous Year Advisers, Erin Dib and Mathew Chalmers to help you settle in. I'll let you in on a little secret...I was quietly relieved that I wasn't here for the difficult Year 9-10 years, as I was working for the Department of Education. When I returned to Burwood GHS in 2019 as the Senior School Deputy you were all mature young women ready to take on the challenges of Stage 6 and the HSC, and I have thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with you.



What a Year 12 it has been! The year 2020 will certainly go down in history as one of the most challenging of our lifetimes, but you have all been amazingly resilient and focused on doing the best you can in the circumstances. For that, I am immensely proud of you all.

It's not over yet however, and please be assured that the Wellbeing Team and senior executive will be here to support you through the next two months no matter what. Remember the COVID-19 advice from NESAs and let me know if you need help.

HSC exams: What do I do if...

Students can check the [NESAs website](#) to find out what to do if they are unwell or required to self-isolate on the day of an HSC exam.

The contingency [COVID-19 illness or misadventure process](#) is available if, on the day of an HSC exam, a student tests positive for COVID-19 or has COVID symptoms.

Karyn O'Brien, Senior Deputy Principal

Year Adviser

In my first ever speech to Year 12 2020, I quoted the famous Zayne Malak and told them that they were turning the page of a new book and starting a new chapter of their lives, and in the next few weeks, with their graduation from BGHS, they are finishing that chapter.

This has been a chapter of a book like no other, a true best seller. It has had everything that a best seller needs: action, hardship, tragedy, ups and downs, twists and turns, romance and constant friendship. There was a cast of assorted characters; the natural leaders, the top of the class, the sportswomen, the drama queens, the quiet achievers, the hard workers, and the inseparable friends.

As year adviser, it has been my privilege to help write this chapter. At the beginning, they were nervous, insecure little girls starting out on a big adventure and over the years, I have watched them become mature young women with confidence, common sense and drive.

We have had our share of action along the way - 3 awesome camps, a trip to Uluru, a week at Jindy, 5 swimming carnivals, and 5 athletics carnivals. We have had our share of hardship and tragedy – some have lost loved ones, struggled through illness and mental health issues, been isolated from those we treasure or felt like the weight of study was too much. Throughout the chapter, we have faced twists and turns – we moved friendship groups every year until we found our true soul mates, we changed schools half way through high school, we dealt with teachers we both loved and hated and we faced COVID 19 with tenacity and perseverance. We have had romances that have come and gone and those that still linger. Throughout the chapter though, there was one thread that was continuous, one thing that was certain, one thing that was definite - that Year 12 2020 were, and always will be, the best year in the school.

As the pages of this chapter end, I realise that this book is turning into a “choose your own adventure”. Now it is Year 12’s turn to write the next chapter, it is time for them to develop their character and write their own story. I hope that as they start the next chapter they turn the page knowing they are strong, independent women who have had the love and support of their year adviser for all of their time at BGHS. They will write the next chapter knowing that the solid educational base they have developed at BGHS will guide them always. They will write knowing that their school motto “Not For Ourselves Alone” should be something that guides their character throughout their lives and write knowing that, no matter where the plot takes them, I will always be their year adviser and will always be here for them.

I can’t wait to hear all about their next chapters.

Good luck Year 12 2020.

With love, Erin Dib, Year 12 Adviser



Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning

Dear Year 12,

Congratulations on making it through the most unique HSC year on record. If nothing else, you will have an interesting story to tell your grandkids. While the challenges have been immense for you all, those faced by our international students have been particularly burdensome. Despite my years of working with international students, it never ceases to amaze me the courage that it takes to leave your family, travel half way around the world, and study for a higher school credential in a language that is not your own. This, in itself, is a test of individual character. But to then need to do this in the middle of a global pandemic, originating for many of you in your home country, has required an even greater amount of strength. Many of you have wanted to go home, many of your parents have wanted you home, all the while knowing that it will mean not being able to return. And thus, you have stayed. You have persevered. You have watched from afar as your families have perhaps struggled, and they have looked on as you continued with your studies without their physical support. My admiration for you over the last year knows no bounds. I know this is true of many of your teachers and Ms Zhao, Ms Hoai and Ms Hong. Very sincere congratulations to you all. I hope that you have enjoyed your time here, that you have felt supported, and that you feel that it was all worthwhile. We will miss you.

Julia Alvarado, Head Teacher T&L

English and Drama faculty message and report

Congratulations to our beautiful cohort of resilient, positive HSC students who have worked with aplomb through very difficult circumstances to complete their Trial HSC exams. This cohort have proven themselves to be consistently engaged, tenacious and flexible through a tough couple of terms and the English faculty extend our sincere congratulations to Year 12, 2020 and wish them all the very best for their future.

Drama students were examined by external markers for the Individual Performance this year and the students performed brilliantly even though there was no audience other than the HSC external examiners, the four Live Production students and Mr Gallaway, their Drama teacher. Special thanks to the Live Production students from Mat Baldwin's class for their ongoing professionalism operating sound and lighting, sets and props: Arshleen Badlan, Averille Carroll, Tiffany Cheng and Humna Haider. Extension 2 English students engaged in thorough research and extensive drafting to produce and submit their final projects on Friday 21 August. Thank you to our 2020 HSC Drama teacher, Michael Gallaway and Extension 2 English teacher, Kate Stavert for guiding students through their respective creative processes under pretty tough circumstances.

Debating workshops have resumed for Years 7-10 this term where the Premier's Debating Challenge is going online. Year 10 were successful in winning their first online debate against Canterbury Boys on the topic that 'school should be organised by ability rather than age'. Congratulations to the team who will be challenging Quirindi High School later this week and to our debating coaches, Jodie Coleman and Tristan Carey. Junior Theatresports has also resumed and students are busy training with their coach, Bella Debbage for their online competition in Term 4.

Pauline Hageman, Head Teacher, English and Drama



HSC English



HSC English Extension students and Ms Stavert



HSC Drama



Thank you Live Production team for your support



Year 10 online debate with Canterbury BHS

Mathematics faculty

Farewell Year 12 Mathematics students! Thank you to everyone for all your hard work over the years. We appreciate your commitment to your studies, maturity and positive approach. Good luck to everyone in the HSC and beyond. And remember that it's never too late to study.

Best wishes,

Gavin Parker, Head Teacher Mathematics

Languages faculty

Dear Year 12,

What a wonderful journey it's been watching you all grow and learn over the past six years. We have seen many of you flourish in your language studies, and we now see you reaping the rewards for your dedication and commitment. The HSC year is never an easy year, and this year it has been further complicated with the global pandemic. Your resilience despite these changing times has been admirable and this bodes well for your continued journey through life after school. We in the Languages faculty wish you all well as you finish off your time in school with us, for the exams you are about to undertake, and for the future. In any language, all the best.

Edward Kent, Head Teacher Languages

祝你们学业进步

Bonne chance pour l'HSC et pour l'avenir!

Semoga sukses dalam ujian terakhir! Kalian sangat rajin dan pintar!

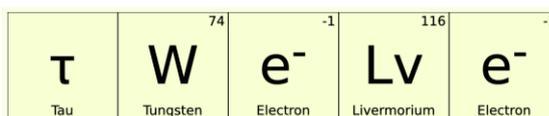
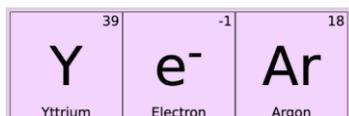
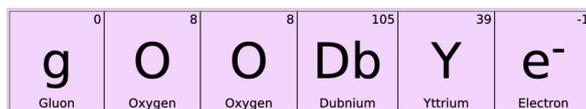
Vi auguriamo ogni bene per gli esami di maturità e per il vostro futuro dopo la scuola!

HSC のしけんをがんばりましょう。きみたちのみらいはこれからだよ。またいつか会おう。

졸업 축하해요! 앞으로도 힘내고 하고자 하는 것들이 다 잘되길 바랍니다!!

Πέρασε ο καιρός σας στο γυμνάσιο τόσο γρήγορα, σας ευχόμαστε καλή τύχη και καλή επιτυχία σε ότι ξεκινήσετε! Πάντα με υγεία και με το χαμόγελο στα χείλη!

Science



John van Leeuwen, Head Teacher Science

HSIE faculty

It is with great sadness we say goodbye to a truly remarkable year. However, it is time to cast you on your way, into that ocean we call the world. Remember, be kind, be true to yourself and never forget the importance of social justice and the planet we live on!

Good Luck Year 12 2020.

Andrew Stewart-Thomson, Head Teacher HSIE

Dance

Despite the many challenges faced this year, the Year 12 dance students have persevered, dedicating their lunchtimes, weekends and holidays to refining their performances and compositions to successfully complete their practical HSC examinations on Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 August. I am so proud of their effort, resilience and moral support of each other and I wish them all the best for their written examinations in Term 4.

Additionally, I would like to congratulate Rachael Adair-Connolly for her commitment to extracurricular dance while studying for her HSC, participating in the Tap Ensemble, Ballet Ensemble and Dance Company. I have no doubt this additional training has assisted in her successful audition to attend the renowned full-time dance training course at Ev and Bow next year. She is also auditioning to attend Sydney Dance Company's Pre-Professional Year course, so hopefully, she will be able to take her pick. Best of luck with this next audition and what I am confident will be an extensive future career in dance.

A special mention also to Jazzmyn Alamango who has continued with the Jazz Ensemble. Well done for balancing your HSC studies with a bit of fun and fitness!

We are still hopeful that we might be able to celebrate the talents of not only our Year 12s but all of our dancers through a showcase in Term 4.

Ana Welsh, Dance teacher



Year 12 Dance Elective Class
(top left to right):
Alicia Griffiths, Indigo Munro,
Lucinda Nube, Selena Mifsud,
Penda Gandega,
Rachael Adair Connolly



Rachael
Adair Connolly



Jazzmyn Alamango
(Jazz Ensemble)

PDHPE faculty

Dear Year 12,

Though we are sad to bid you farewell, we are also happy for you since there are bright opportunities waiting for you ahead. You will be dearly missed. Best wishes for your future.

Good bye and good luck. You are welcome to visit anytime.

Here is a quote we would like to share with you as your direction in life begins to change.



Olga Dalageorgos, Head Teacher PDHPE and Dance

TAS

CONGRATULATIONS on completing these six years of high school.

These years have flown by so quickly, but that happens when you are having fun! It has been an immense journey that you have all navigated differently and conquered by reaching the destination. It has been all the TAS teachers' pleasure to play a part from small to significant in so many ways. You too, along the way have taught us many valuable lessons.

It has been an honour and privilege to watch you all grow into intelligent, caring and independent young women with enquiring minds who individually will make your incredible footprint in this world.

"The future is not fixed, it's fluid. You can build your own building, or hut or condo, whatever; this is the metaphor part of the speech by the way. But my point is that the world is more malleable than you think and it's waiting for you to hammer it into shape." *Bono 2004*

Although over the past weeks and months you all have experienced times of uncertainty and adversity you rose to all the challenges in true Burwood Girls spirit and have demonstrated resilience, responsibility and a willingness to keep moving forward and to continue to succeed.

"My last piece of advice—this is simple, but perhaps most important: Persevere. Persevere. Nothing worthwhile is easy. No-one of achievement has avoided failure—sometimes catastrophic failures. But they keep at it. They learn from mistakes. They don't quit." *President Barack Obama*

Congratulations to each and every one of you on all your achievements and these should fill your heart with tremendous pride.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.
You're on your own. And you know what you know.
You are the guy who'll decide where to go." *Dr Seuss*

All the TAS teachers wish you the best with your future endeavours and would love you to come back and share with us how life is and how the next chapter has unfolded for you. We always look forward to hearing from you and about your adventures whether it is next year or ten years from now.

Rosemary Patonay, Head Teacher TAS

Sport

To Year 12,

It has been an absolute pleasure to watch you all, from my role as sport coordinator – contribute so much to the sporting life of Burwood Girls over the last 6 years.

Whether it was Grade Sport, Carnivals, Zone, Regional, Knockouts or NSWCHS competitions you always displayed:

- Tenacity with never giving up or giving into a challenge
- Integrity with the way you competed and interacted with others in our sporting communities
- Diversity: when I would ask at the last minute for someone to fill in a relay or team
- Ambition and Commitment: for your peers and younger students to inspire to be like you.
- Confidence to 'keep it real and just get the job done'
- Motivation and Pride: when representing the school in the Navy and Gold (whether it was a swim cap, football strip, netball bib or a running shirt).

I wish you all the best with your future endeavours in the big world outside of Burwood Girls – but always remember, **'Never let the fear of striking out stop you from playing the game.'**

Janelle Gianotti, Carnivals and Sports Coordinator



From IT

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Creative Arts

Dear Year 12 2020,

We have never worked with such a resilient and hard working group of artists. We are so proud of you and the work you have produced. We will miss you and all your amazing talents!

Stay Golden

Mathew Baldwin, Creative Arts faculty



Farewell from Year 7

Hello Year 12,

Your thirteen years of mandatory school are almost up! Time flies when you are having fun.

Do you still remember the memories from Year 7? Year 7 camp, your first high school swimming carnival, Gala Day and I am sure there are plenty more fun-filled moments during your years at BGHS.

Farewell and good luck Year 12 2020. You will be dearly missed by us. We wish you good luck in your HSC and all the best for next year!

Sincerely,

Ruby Staunton, Manahil Sajjad Ullah and Hannah Alpert (on behalf of all the Year 7s)



Farewell from Year 8

Year 12, it has been such a joy and pleasure looking up to you the past two years. On behalf of Year 8, we wish you all good luck with everything in the future.

Denneya Muscat, Year 8 Adviser

Farewell from Year 9

To our dear Year 12 students,

Wow, what a year 2020 has been. We are the social media generation. We have relied on connecting online with our friends through our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages. We share a piece of ourselves every day, never predicting that, for several months, this was one of the only ways we could connect with our friends.

As a pandemic swept across the world, we were forced into lockdown and had to study online, not knowing what tomorrow would bring. The challenges you have all faced this year and the determination you have shown in your final year of high school has been astonishing.

As you bid farewell to Burwood Girls, I hope you can all look back fondly at the friends and memories you have made here. As William Shakespeare once said, "some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them."

In life, you cannot always be born great, but we can achieve greatness whether recognised by the world or only by a few. Please remember our school motto: "Not for ourselves alone." As you walk out of our school one final time remember to be kind and try your best.

Lastly, if you are ever feeling nostalgic, remember you can always follow Mrs Kumar on Twitter.

Congratulations and best of luck class of 2020.

Sincerely,

Brianna Sinclair (on behalf of Year 9)

Farewell from Year 10

2020 - the year of bushfires, political unrest, the death of Kobe, the Black Lives Matter movement, deadly viruses and your last year of high school. Out of all these things, we'll remember *you*.

Wow, you made it! Who would've thought that with all the emotional breakdowns, failing Science tests, not knowing enough English techniques, making silly mistakes in Maths, and always using the same excuse for PE (that your sports uniform is in the wash), you'd make it through?

Enjoy being free of Mr Whittemore's uniform detentions, while we're still hiding in the toilets wearing our trackies and sport shoes (the high standard you set). How will we ever find room 51 without you?

Good luck with your exams and for your life in the big world outside.

[Cardi B voice] See you next year... or not hehehhee.

By Stella, Dabin, Renee, Jeanette, Gaveesha and Cartier (on behalf of Year 10)



From all the teachers at Burwood GHS

**I will teach you in a room.
I will teach you now on Zoom.
I will teach you in your house.
I will teach you with a mouse.
I will teach you here and there.
I will teach you because I care.
So just do your very best.
And do not worry about the rest.**

Good luck, Year 12!