

Candid

WHAT WE CAN DO. WHAT WE DID DO. WHAT WE WILL DO.



Acknowledgement of Country

Bankstown Girls High School acknowledges and respects the Bidjigal clan of the Darug Nation and their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We further acknowledge and understand that Aboriginality is defined not by skin but by relationships. While we are learning to 'always be our best', we will continue to grow alongside our Aboriginal sisters and brothers.

Principal

Suada Bilali

Before we discuss the events of this term, I would like to pay respect to the late principal of Sir Joseph Banks High School, Mr Murray Kitteringham. Murray was a driving force in upholding the school's mission of excellence, opportunity, innovation, and success. With his passing comes such a widespread feeling of loss, to his family, friends, colleagues, school community, and the entire educational system. He will forever be remembered as a life-changing role-model to all those who knew him. May he rest peacefully and his memory live on.

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As we reach the end of another successful term, I'd like to start by thanking our students and staff for their continued dedication. In my last article, I wrote "Term 1 at Bankstown Girls has really set the standard for 2022" and I shouldn't be surprised that our school community makes each term more exciting and interesting than the last.

Term 2 has been a great reminder for all our students that perseverance is only one aspect of the journey to success; the other is being afforded opportunities to trial different pathways and passions. It is about learning who you are and who you want to become. This concept became clear when I was in attendance at the annual Principal's Conference earlier this term. Jennifer Robinson, a human rights lawyer and commonly known as Julian Assange's lawyer, shared an eye-opening quote - "You can't be what you can't see." This is important for me to share with the Bankstown Girls community as we want our young women to make use of all the opportunities provided by Bankstown Girls High School and use it to find their light and purpose. We hope to help our students seek out and fight for what they want and deserve out of life.

This year, Bankstown Girls High School became part of the *Girls In Property* program which aims to raise awareness amongst high school students about the raft of career paths the property industry offers, encouraging greater female participation in the property industry. This initiative assists more young women to choose work in the property industry, helping to create a sustainable pipeline of talent for the growing industry. We felt so proud watching our Year 10 students powerfully and passionately present their property project to members of the *Property Council of Australia*.



Lastly, I would like to congratulate our newly-elected Minister for Education, Mr Jason Clare. We wish him all the best in his efforts to make the school system all that it could and should be.

With Semester 2 soon to be underway, I hope everyone uses this holiday period to relax and energise their internal school battery. Let's make the most of the following two terms. Stay safe and we will see you soon!

Deputy Principal

Cathy Porreca

As we reach the end of Term 2, I would like to congratulate Year 8, 10 and 12 for all their hard work and achievements thus far. Year 12 continue their rigorous journey to the HSC and, as a cohort, they are working hard to maximise their success. I have observed them in *Homework Centre*, in practical lessons, as well as theory, where they've recognised that this is the time to concentrate solely on gaining the skills and knowledge that will help them attain their end goal, whatever that may be. However, it has not been all serious study for Year 12, as they have demonstrated that they still have their sense of fun and enjoyment. This was most evident at the *Athletics Carnival* where they danced their way into BGHS hearts. I believe they had the best costumes, best choreography, and best sense of togetherness that we have seen in a long time. Well done, Year 12!

Year 8 and 10 have participated in some very important decision making as they prepare for the next stages of their learning. Both cohorts have participated in their *Subject Markets* and *Subject Selection Evenings*. I would like to thank those parents who were able to attend parent/teacher night with their daughters, especially as this time is crucial in making decisions for the future.

It was a very successful night and I hope that the information you were presented has given you a greater insight into the expectations and achievements of the HSC and ROSA credentials. I must remind Year 8 and 10 that you should choose subjects you are interested in and enjoy, not subjects that your friends have chosen, because once you've decided on your subjects there might not be an opportunity to change. On another note, can I say what a pleasure it was to be invited to the Year 10 *Food Technology Celebration Cake Decorating Competition* and Year 8 *TAS Food Truck Luncheon*. Our girls continue to demonstrate so many skills and such flair across many different curriculum areas. Well done to these students. Similarly, I would like to congratulate the Year 10 *Girls In Property* teams. I believe you presented some thoughtful and innovative projects within a strict criterion. Your projects were well received and appreciated by the judges. Again, my congratulations to you all.

As we head into Term 3 and Semester 2, I am confident that our students will continue to demonstrate that they are committed lifelong learners who strive to do their best each and every day. I hope you all have a restful break and I look forward to seeing you all next term.



Deputy Principal

Mark Leary

As we approach the mid-year break, the cold fingers of winter are encroaching on our comfort and forcing us to don multiple layers of clothing to keep warm. I am sure everyone is looking forward to the school holidays and getting the chance to recharge the batteries.

This term, as you are aware, has been a busy one for our Year 7 and Year 9 students with the NAPLAN tests running between the 10th and 20th May. The girls undertook online testing in four areas: Reading, Writing, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. The effect of absences due to illness, as well as the effects of COVID, made it a challenge to get everyone through the tests, however most students were able to complete all four tests in the test window. We look forward to seeing the girls' NAPLAN achievements with the results coming later in the year.

Year 11 undertook their *Head Teacher Checkpoint* interviews this term. This gave them an opportunity to meet with the Head Teachers for each of their courses, who checked-in on their progress with classwork. Often the focus is on assessment tasks and putting the majority of their effort into completing these, sometimes at the expense of the work that is done in classes, but it is important for the girls to realise that the effort they put into the classwork does have a huge impact on their results in each course. Term 3 is the final term of the Year 11 course, so the girls still have a lot to complete before they are ready to move into Year 12 in Term 4. Time will go very quickly, and it is important they stay organised and on top of their courses.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and restful break and I look forward to seeing you in Term 3.



English

Lisa Carmody

The human experience, the unpredictable path of life and one's journey towards finding its purpose.

Isn't that kicking goals in life? I mean, we find our purpose for being placed on this Earth.

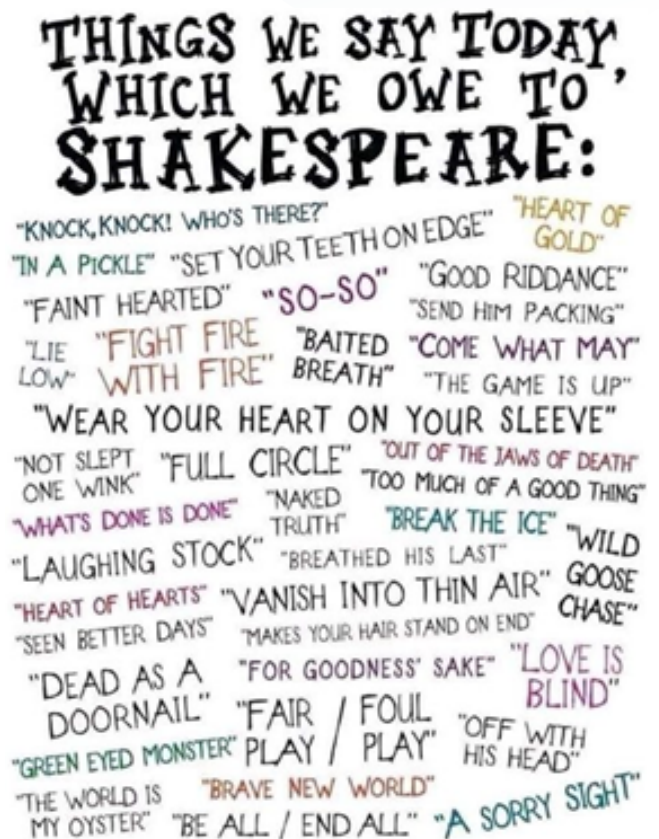
As humans, we are inevitably inclined towards sharing this journey or purpose. We want to tell anyone who will listen when we find our one true love and seek the support of that caring shoulder when times get tough.

What better way to share this than through literature? And who better than Shakespeare?

Now, I know what you're thinking...oh no, here comes some long speech about Shakespeare and how important he is when it comes to both the human experience and literature as a whole... and you would be somewhat correct.

Who actually knew all these expressions that are part of our everyday vernacular actually were created by our friend Willie centuries ago! I bet you are "waiting with baited breath" to see the "naked truth" of exactly whether or not this article will take you on a "wild goose chase" about Shakespeare. But seriously, you have to admit – the old guy rocks!

So, it is my view, as a wonderful English student, that you'll never hear enough about Shakespeare and his everlasting influence on English literature and life as a whole.

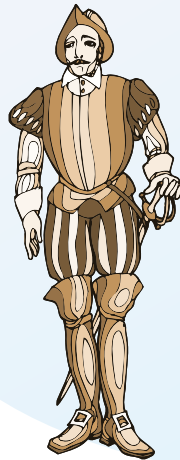
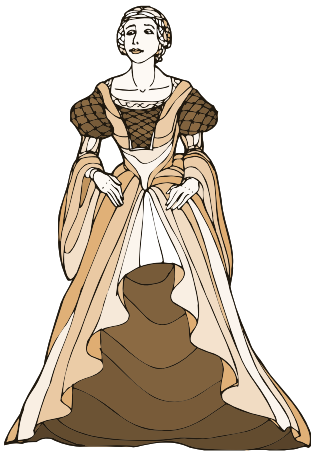
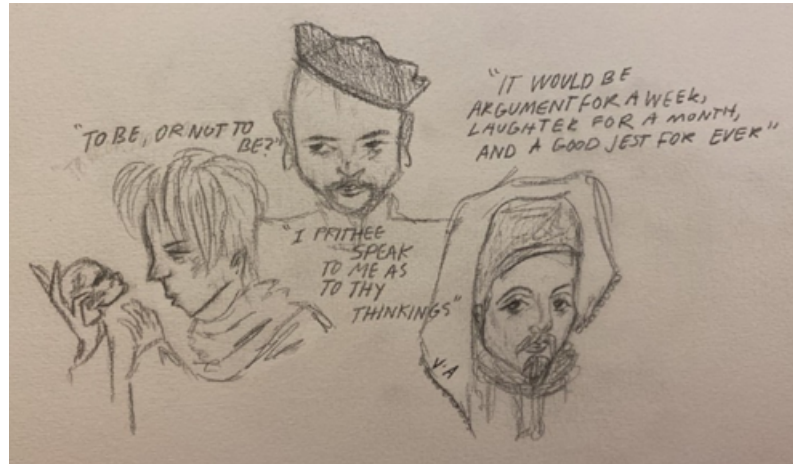


Oh, hail the English Faculty for answering my prayer. Not only an excursion post-COVID, something as rare as hen's teeth (yep...that one too is a Shakespeare saying), but an excursion to see the Bard in action.

All of Year 12 were presented with the opportunity to watch (or should I say experience) a *Bell-Shakespeare production* that explained the human experience! Bingo, my two favourite things.

Paper 1 in the English HSC -The Human Experience and William Shakespeare, all wrapped in a cosy little bundle of joy.

The performance took a frenetic pace, exploring love, hate, guilt, greed, redemption, betrayal and so on, all relating to the human experience. We met Hamlet and Romeo, King Henry, Othello, Richard the 3rd, Desdemona and Ophelia. Through numerous excerpts from the famous plays, Year 12 developed an insight into not only Shakespeare's works but the inner workings and psyche of what makes us human.



Bell-Shakespeare did a great job engaging Year 12 and strengthening their understanding of the complexities of the Human Experience. Overall, furthering the argument of Shakespeare's importance in our modern world. *Bell-Shakespeare* maintained the timelessness of the aged plays, interchanging our playground lingo with the iambic pentameter, sestets and voltas of Elizabethan language. To quote young William again – the wit of it all “makes your hair stand on end,” doesn’t it.

Past, present or future...Viva la vida Shakespeare!

Written by Vivienne Al-Mallah
(Year 12)

Mathematics

Vicky Saisanas

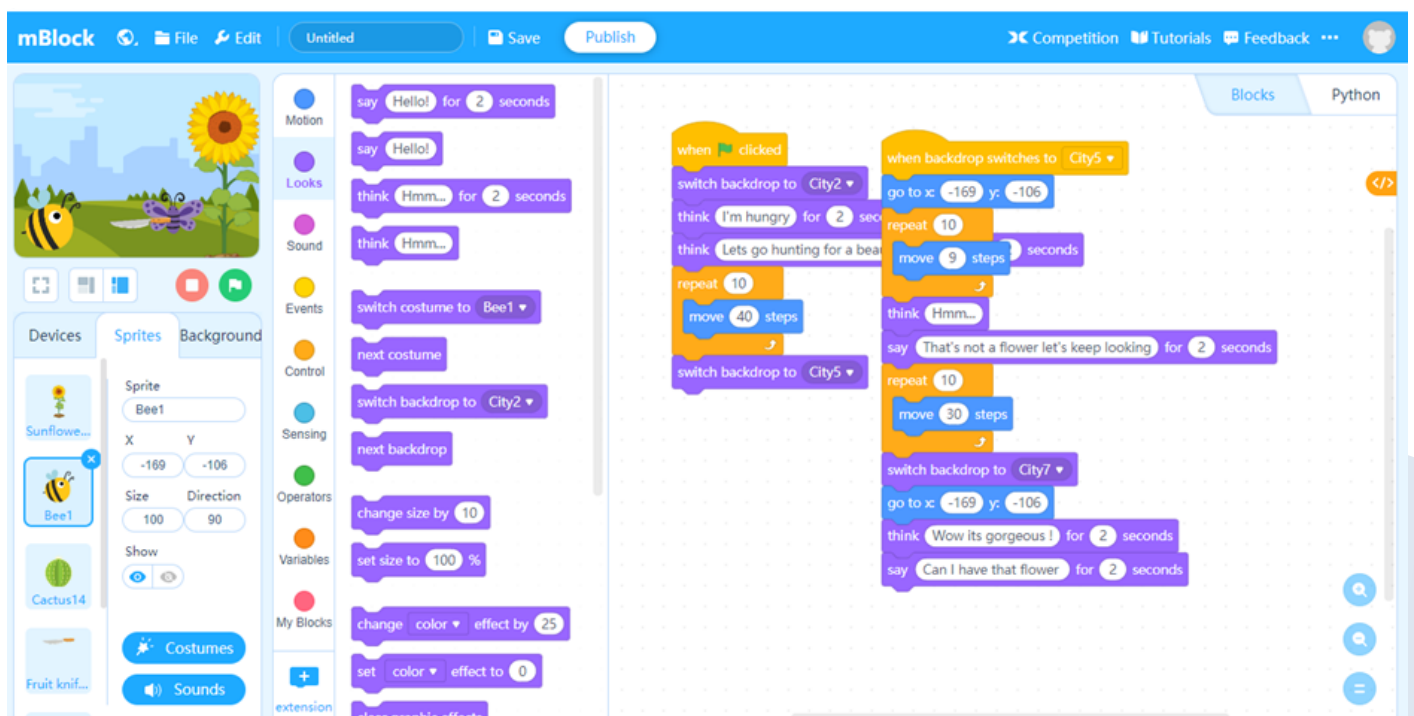
Ms Doai with the aid of Mr Mohan have been instrumental in developing the Year 9 Robotics program.

Below Ms Doai has provided an insight into the program for Semester 1, 2022.

Semester 1 has seen a positive response to Robotics. 9Robotics1 have started gearing up to compete in the *Universal Robotics Challenge (URC) 2022*. We have girls keen and ready to dedicate a few more hours after school to build and code their robots in preparation for the competition.



All students have had the opportunity to play with block coding. Some have truly embraced this activity using block codes, as they have fun choosing their own sprites and develop their own animated story lines. The work below is from 9Robotics2.



Elan Abd Abdallah animated a bee travelling from one scene to the next, looking for pollen.

Human Society and its Environment

Jim Tsafis

YEAR 7 - Jawahir Fayad and Melika Faraji

This term, Year 7 has been exploring the topic 'Place and Liveability'. During this unit, we gained knowledge on what liveability means, what we want as well as what we do not want near where we live, perceptions of liveability, the importance of services/facilities and the relationship between environmental quality and liveability. This unit helped us reflect on how lucky we are to live in a city filled with green spaces, infrastructure, services and plenty of culture! We had a great time learning about this topic. Check out some of the posters we made this term...

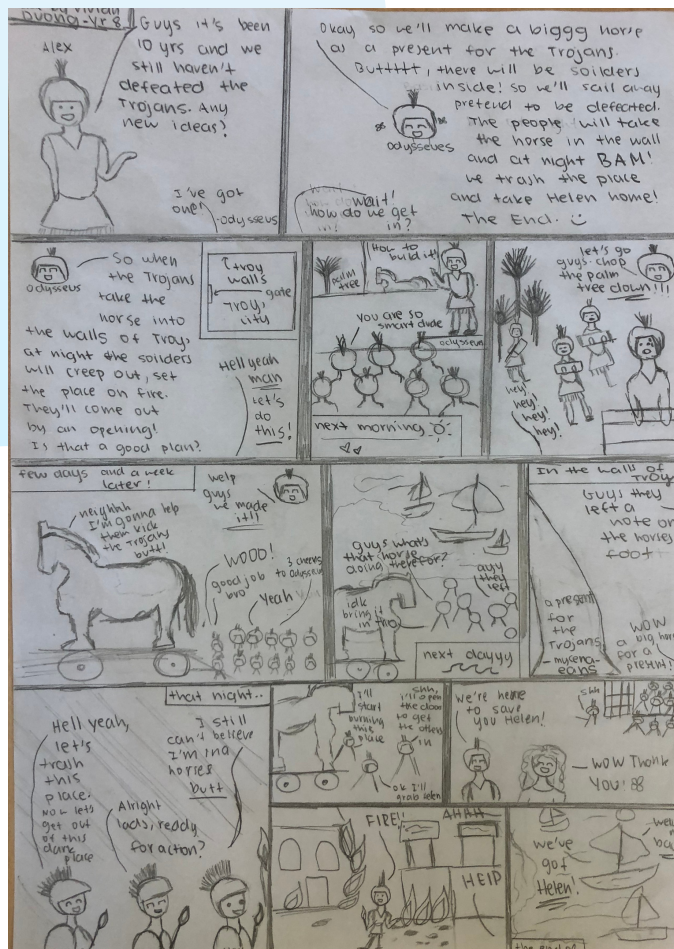


YEAR 8

In Term 2, Year 8 has been studying Ancient Greece. They have used their artistic talent to further understand and capture the true essence of Greek Mythology which is so important in the study of Ancient Greece. Have a look at their incredible sketches of the goddess Medusa and a comic strip of the Trojan Horse.



Composed by Maryam Fneish



Composed by Vivian Duong



Composed by Aisha Hiribli

YEAR 9 - Yelleina Alabaso, Alina Rana and Teremoana Charlie

Throughout Term 2, Year 9 Geography learnt a variety of skills that helped us increase our knowledge in the topic of 'Changing Places'. We looked at what urbanisation is and looked at China as a case study as they have experienced rapid urbanisation in the past 50 years.

Did you know that China has a social credit score system that ranks their citizens and punishes them if their points are too low? Sometimes they even post the faces of the citizens that have 'misbehaved' on billboards!

Another skill that Year 9 students studied was population pyramids. We not only learnt how to read and construct them, but also how to differentiate the different types of pyramids: expansive, constrictive, and stationary.

The students continued to maintain their interest in the subject over the past term. We are looking forward to our next topic – Human Wellbeing.

Science

Anna Edwards

This semester, Year 7 have been working on a project-based STEAM activity to design and build an orrery. This STEAM activity requires our students to develop skills to work effectively in groups and to think creatively to find solutions to problems. Suffice to say, this year's Year 7 students have risen to the task and delivered spectacularly. The culmination of this project was the presentation of their projects to their peers, outlining the steps they took to achieve the design brief. The Science faculty has been super impressed! The presentations showcased how the students had to factor in scale and calculations, developing their numeracy skills; think about their materials and construction, developing their engineering skills; work on assimilating numerous new terms (such as 'orrery') in developing their literacy skills; think creatively to deliver an aesthetically pleasing model and improve their knowledge and understanding about the Solar System. So many of our students delivered impressive projects, with many incorporating motorisation into their models. Sireen Mustafa and Melika Faraji's model was one example of a truly incredible model. Their design (<https://fb.watch/dOJg9R8kLt/>) incorporated a working model of the interaction of the Sun, Earth, and the Moon, which used working cogs with the correct gearing so that the period of rotation of each of these celestial bodies was accurate. Bravo girls!



Year 11 Biology is required to complete mandatory field work in investigating an ecosystem and estimating populations of organisms and the factors that affect their survival. Finally, after several failed attempts due to the incessant rain, Year 11 Biology finally made it to Shelly Beach, Cronulla. The students had a wonderful day making observations on the Rock Platform.



As an exciting introduction to Physics, seven Year 11 Physics students, accompanied by Mr Golestan and Ms Cowin, found themselves on the inside of the teaching laboratories at the *UNSW School of Physics*. The students arrived prepared to conduct experiments on the topic of Static Friction on an Inclined Plane and Collisions. They were allowed free reign of the university's scientific equipment and the students jumped right in...and had they not been representing Bankstown Girls in uniform, one would have the impression that they were seasoned university physics students hard at work.

The class also got to experience a presentation by a young researcher, Genevieve, who asked the students some thought-provoking questions about heat, entropy, and the passage of time. Heads were spinning! Following this the students engaged in a full tour of the cutting-edge labs at the *School of Physics*, on the way to which, you could hear shouts of "We love you, Genevieve!"

With the success of this visit, the UNSW School of Physics and Bankstown Girls' Faculty of Science established a connection, through which a Year 12 visit on the topic of the Photoelectric Effect was conducted in May with our HSC Physics and Investigating Science students. The ideas for collaboration in teaching have not stopped since then, with Term 2 culminating in a remotely taught session for Year 10 Science; with topics like the Seebeck Effect, Solar Panels and Women in Physics. It really has been a fantastic semester of cross-institutional collaboration in Science Education.



Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Shadi Ghazal

Semester 1 has been action packed within the PDHPE faculty with many engaging and exciting programs taking place. Both staff and students have been extremely busy participating in initiatives that been meaningful and relevant for all involved.

During Term 2, we held our annual *Athletics Carnival*, and this year was another successful carnival. Students participated in all events and produced some exceptional results with Bankstown Girls High School fielding a record number at the *Zone Athletics Carnival*. All staff worked very hard to ensure the day ran smoothly and students were able to enjoy a day of friendly competition and school spirit. The Year 12 students stole the show with an exceptional performance in the annual Year 12 dance. The costumes were vibrant and colourful, and the dance was executed to perfection. We are very proud of Year 12 and their efforts as it added such a positive vibe to the carnival.



As a result of the successful *School Athletics Carnival*, Bankstown Girls High School fielded a strong team to compete at the *Zone Athletics Carnival* against other schools in our Zone. The students were able to achieve excellent results and, to further outline our successes, we have a very strong team who have qualified for the *Regional Athletics Championships* in Term 3. Many students from Bankstown Girls will now represent the Edmonson Zone at the *Regional Athletics Championships*.

We'd also like to congratulate Zaynab Darwiche of Year 8 for qualifying for the *State All Schools Cross Country Championships*. It is a massive achievement, and we are very proud of Zaynab's efforts. We wish her all the best.

Our annual STEAM project is well under way and our Year 8 students have been busy using their creative thinking skills to design a ball launcher. The students have been able to plan and design some interesting and unique prototypes. They have also been meaningfully engaging in developing their engineering skills to begin building their plans. Students have been able to utilise sustainable resources to develop ideas and incorporate them to achieve a goal. We are very excited to see the Year 8 students finalise their projects in the coming term.



As part of the Resource Management module in CAFS, Year 12 students participated in an Amazing Race style activity put together by Mrs Vrataric. Students had to utilise different resources to figure out a series of clues and complete fun and engaging challenges. Students had their critical and creative thinking skills challenged and they had to put their theory into practice by utilising the limited resources that they had available. The students showed initiative and resourcefulness by completing the challenges and having a very enjoyable, yet educational, day. Well done to all students involved who displayed exceptional skills, and a big congratulations to Team 4 who won the challenges.



And lastly, **CONGRATULATION O'NEILL!**

O'Neill has won the Semester 1 *House Points Competition* for maintaining good attendance and uniform. All students in O'Neill will be treated to a rewards excursion in Week 10 and attended *Hoyts Cinemas* in Bankstown for a movie screening. Congratulations to all Houses who competed in a very close competition. The *House Points Competition* will recommence next semester.

Thank you to all the PDHPE staff for their hard work and effort this semester and thank you to all students who have participated in the many positive initiatives and programs that have been run. We would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday, and we look forward to a positive and productive Semester 2.

Creative and Performing Arts and Technology and Applied Studies

Evelyn Mircevski

There is never a quiet day in the TAS and CAPA faculties. Something fun and exciting is always on the way and Term 2 has proved this.

Our Year 8 TAS students applied all that they learnt through the design process to create their 'COOK IT' food truck dishes for the staff at our school. Their enthusiasm and dedication to plating some delicious "Asian-inspired food" was obvious. In addition, by using *Tinkercad* (an online 3D modeling program) they designed the cardboard boxes.



The Year 8 'Carry-It' students completed their tie-dyed tote bags. Great sewing skills girls!



After missing out on the annual Year 9 cake week last year due to COVID, Year 10 Food Technology finally got their chance to revisit their 'Celebration Cakes'. They were commended on their creativity and commitment in creating some wonderfully decorated cakes.

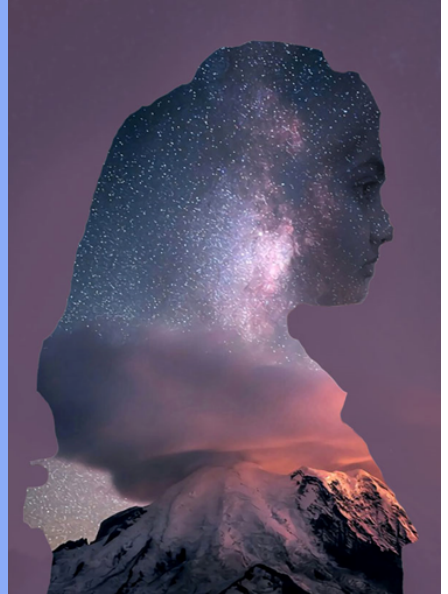


Year 11 and 12 Hospitality and Design and Technology students attended *Ultimo TAFE* through our link with Ardoch where they were able to tour the facilities and have discussions on post-school course options. The highlight of the day was to sample a fine dining lunch prepared by the current students.



Year 12 students performed at length for a Legacy function. The Music students played many pieces throughout the Legacy luncheon; one highlight was *Alan Rawlinson's Entrance - When the Saint Go Marching In*, which everyone joined in singing with us.

Year 10 Photography students showcased their Photoshop skills creating these amazing Double Exposure Self-Portraits which involved merging or combining two separate pictures together to create a single image. These Double Exposure Digital Self-Portraits communicates an aspect of their personal or inner world in an imaginative way



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A School Recap

Celebrations and Events

MOTHER'S DAY

On May 6th, Bankstown Girls High School shared the love and joy in some premature Mother's Day celebrations. The day began at our Balcony Cafe with cakes and coffee for the inspiring women in our students' lives.

The whole day was nerves and excitement as students and staff patiently waited for recess and lunch to roll around to signal the start of the Mother's Day Raffle. We were very fortunate to receive so many donations to raffle off. A massive thank you to all our donors: Shoe Grab, NRL Bulldogs, Hoyts Australia Bankstown, Chemist Warehouse, L.A Donuts, KX Artistry, Rosegallery, Bankstown Sports, Bay Vista Dessert Bar & Cafe.

We raised over \$1,500 which has been split and donated between two organisations, *National Breast Cancer Foundation* and *RizeUp*.

Thank you to everybody for participating and making this Mother's Day a memorable one at Bankstown Girls.



HOMework CENTRE

Homework Centre has started back up this term. After school on Mondays and Wednesdays, students are able to come up to the Library and have help with classwork or assignments from teachers at the school. So many of our young women are showing initiative and making it a weekly event to come to the centre to actively engage with their learning; they ensure that everything they are learning in class is locked in and they are ready to harness their knowledge in the future.

We've been very grateful to have had such a positive response from both our kids and teachers. We have been able to see measureable developments in the abilities of the students and it has created such a positive atmosphere, with students who want to learn more and teachers that want to teach more.

We look forward to continuing this initiative in the following terms and also hope to see an increase in the number of students taking advantage of this opportunity.



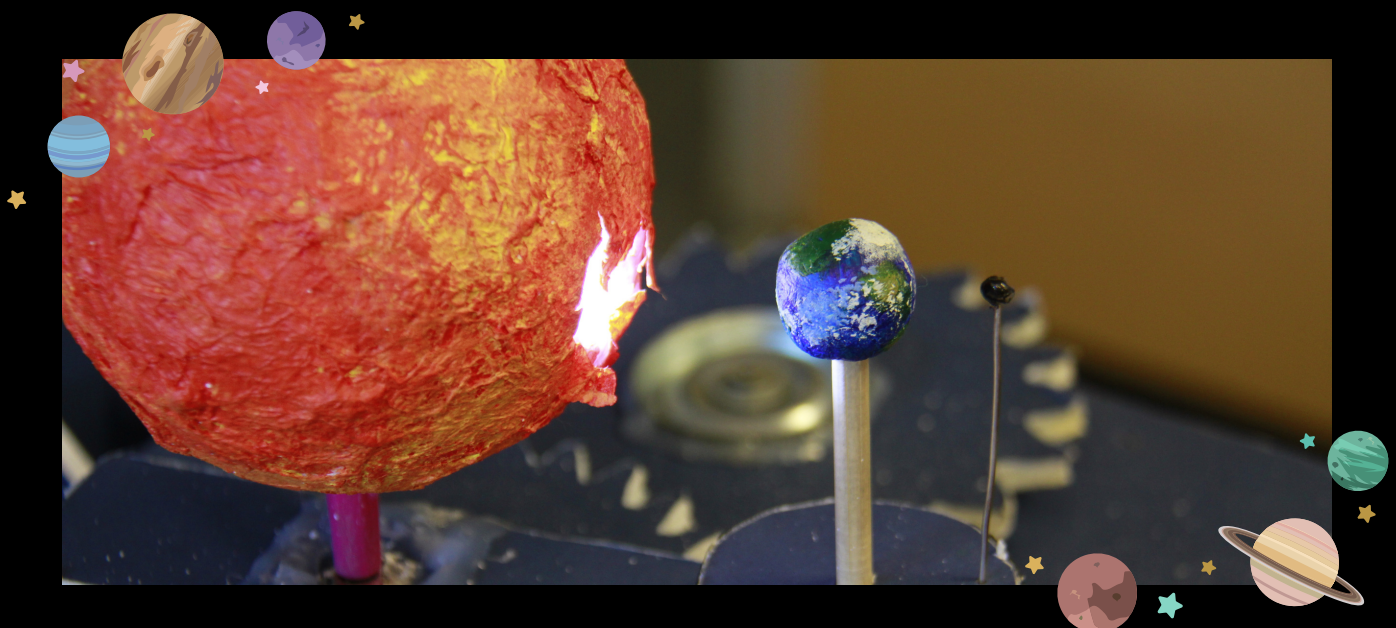
SPECIAL MENTION

MELIKA AND SIREEN'S ORRERY

In Term 1, as part of Year 7's introduction to multidisciplinary learning through STEAM, they commenced a project to Design and Construct an Orrery. An orrery is a mechanical model of the Solar System that illustrates the relative positions and motions of the planets and moons. Constructing an orrery takes not only an understanding of the physics relating to the Solar System, but also a large degree of craftsmanship to build the orrery using the appropriate mechanics.

Student duo, Melika Faraji and Sireen Mustafa, rose to the challenge, creating a stellar orrery of the Earth and moon's orbit around our Sun. Fit with cogs controlled by a motor below the planetary structures, the orrery rotates showing the moon's orbit around our Earth and the Earth's orbit around our Sun. Melika and Sireen's initial thoughts and conceptualisation meant that even small details were considered, such as the Earth's tilted axis to account for seasons and innovatively placing a working torch in the Sun to demonstrate day and night as the Earth rotated.

Melika and Sireen, we are so proud of your hard work and dedication you have shown to your studies thus far, and we are excited to watch you tackle other projects in the future. And to Year 7, all your orreries are incredible and an amazing display of your commitment to your studies.



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