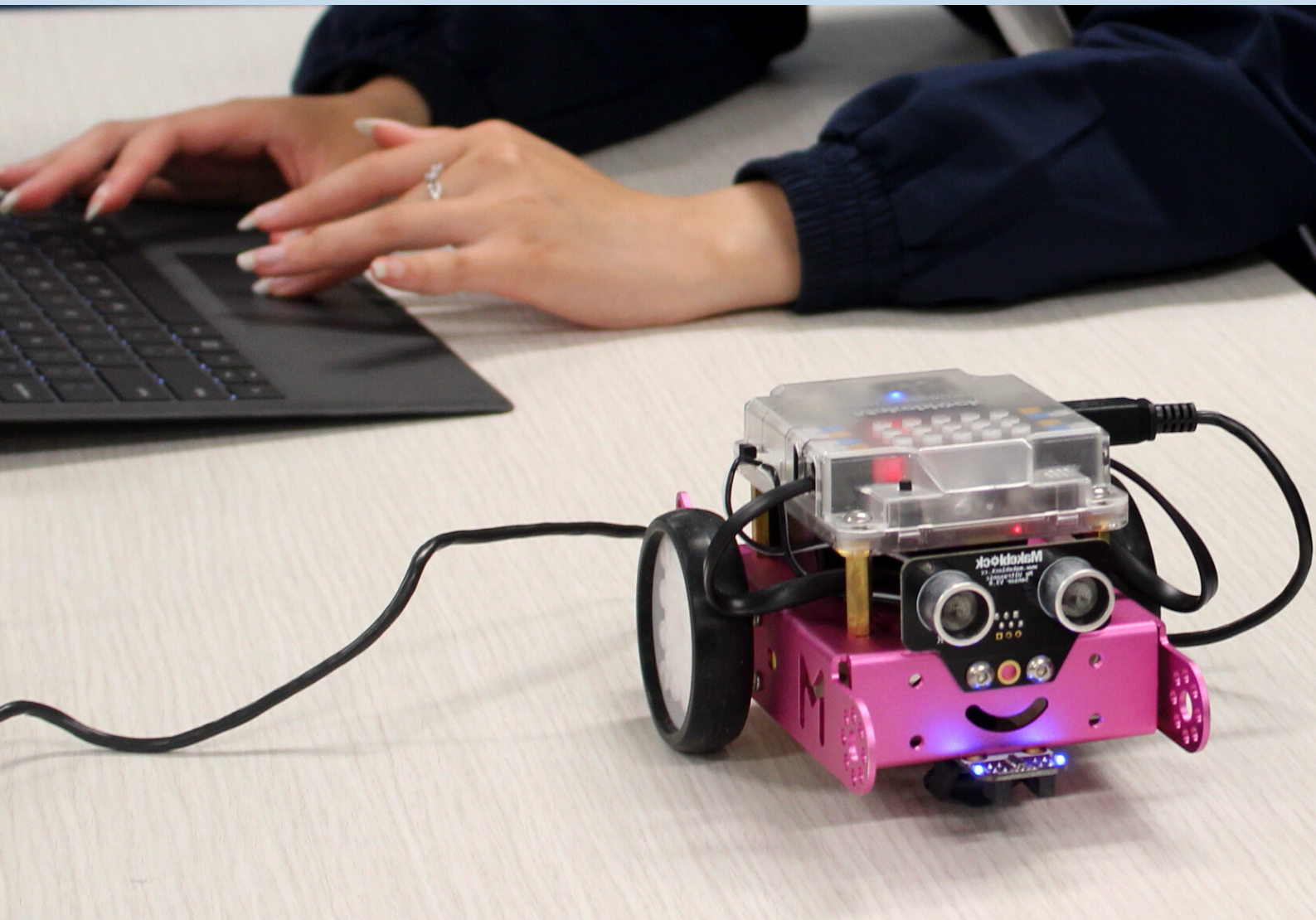


Candid

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.

From the Editor

Olivia Neskovski

Many of you might not know me, my name is Olivia Neskovski. I've been a School Administration Officer and the Media and Communications Coordinator at Bankstown Girls High School for the past three years.

Two years ago, I was entrusted with conceptualising, designing, editing, and publishing our school newsletter each term. I settled on the name *CANDID* - *What we can do. What we did do. What we will do.*

Candid [*adjective*]: sincere, truthful, and straightforward.

This newsletter championed the successes of our students, staff, and school. It was as close to a vogue-type moment as we could get.

In our first year of Candid, we saw the documentation of unprecedented events that changed the way we viewed our world and future. We became aware of the volatile uncertainty weighing on the world, but also, as a result, saw the masses of opportunities presented to our youth.

In our second year, we were able to place more direct focus on our students – supporting who they are and encouraging their journey to who they will become.

I've been so fortunate to witness the remarkable talents of the students at Bankstown Girls High School and to be able to showcase their talents through this school newsletter.

All of the staff at Bankstown Girls High School have really embodied the notion that “our support can change a mindset and a mindset can change the world.” But truly, I must thank our students. They are the reason our future is so bright. This generation will change the world!

I'd like to thank everybody for reading and engaging with this newsletter. I'd also thank you for continually supporting our school and its students.

Have a lovely holiday break and I hope that next year is filled with happiness, kindness, and gratitude.

Please enjoy the final Candid issue of 2022.
We are forever grateful for all your support!

Principal

Suada Bilali

Despite some challenges after returning from the lockdowns of the pandemic, Bankstown Girls High School made sure that it was an extraordinary year. Resilience, collegiality, and hard work, best describes our students, staff, and community in 2022.

This year, we continued to create engaging learning spaces that encouraged collaboration, creativity, and innovation in our classrooms. The changes we have made to the school over the last few years have been significant. I am proud of these changes, most of which have been focused on enhancing the learning environments for our students to support their learning and engagement at school.

I would like to thank our member for Bankstown, Ms Tania Mihailik, for selecting Bankstown Girls High School for two generous Community Building Partnership grants adding up to just over \$64,000. This generous contribution allows us to continue improving our space and share them with our whole community.

I would also like to thank the Honourable Jason Clare MP, Federal member for Blaxland and Minister for Education, for both the \$12,000 Community Art Space grant partnership with *Bankstown Legacy* and for the Queen's Jubilee Tree Planting grant of \$19,500. Furthermore, I'd like to thank *Bankstown Sports Club* for their continued generosity. They supported our school through scholarships, grants, and the use of their spaces.

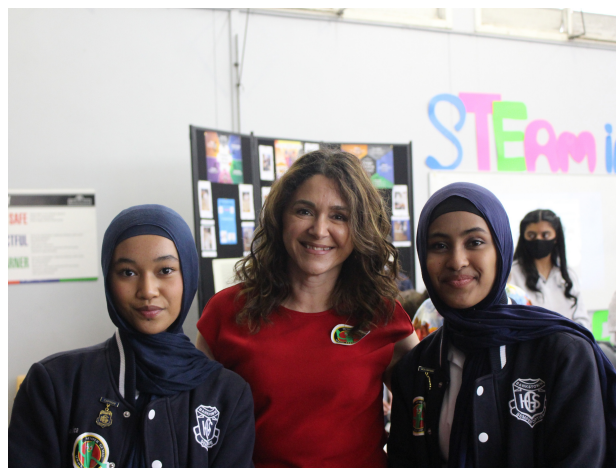
Thank you to our university partners and our ABCN partners who have provided our students with numerous opportunities and programs to both develop their leadership skills and open their horizons to future studies and job opportunities.

Bankstown Girls High School has been a fortunate witness to the true meaning of community spirit; a whole community working side-by-side to ensure our students have the support and connections to succeed beyond secondary education.

The successes of our teaching and learning programs in 2022 is highlighted by our students' achievements in competitions, community and school-based projects, and HSC recognition. In the last 12 months, these are some of our highlights:

- In Visual Arts, Year 12 student Maria had her major work selected for ARTEXPRESS.
- In Music, Year 12 student Naomi was nominated for Music Encore.
- In Drama, Year 12 student Esther was nominated for Drama showcase.
- In recognition of their outstanding work, we had Rotary Vet Awards given to Katherine in Hospitality and Noor in Retail.
- Recently, Angelica received the Hon Jason Clare Community Service Award recognising her initiative to make our school a better place to learn and our community a better place to live.
- From *Zonta*, the Sydney West Citizenship Award was presented to Siti.
- Our Robotics team took part in the *URC competition* and they came third place. Congratulations, what a wonderful achievement.
- At the *Edmondson Cup*, our Volleyball team came first in the competition and our netball team came second. Again, outstanding results.
- A team of Year 9 students, led by Ms Matty, participated in the *CSIRO STEM* community showcase and were the standout team displaying their robotic prototype to promote sustainability.
- We hosted our first ever Steam Showcase. Our showcase highlighted the exceptional work produced by all our students in Year 7, 8 and 9. The event highlighted our students' creative and problem-solving skills and our staff's commitment to the program.

Our STEAM program continues to develop our students' knowledge, experience, and problem-solving skills. Our students are regularly undertaking coding, robotics activities, design thinking, inquiry-based projects across all faculties. This real integration of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics allows our students to explore more exciting and innovative careers in their future. A huge thank you to our staff in the Science, PDHPE, English, HSIE, Mathematics, TAS and CAPA faculties for their hard work and commitment.



I value the partnership we have formed with our local primary schools through our STEAM and middle school programs. The programs we have run have provided a wonderful level of support to students as they make the transition from primary to secondary school. I value the collegial relationships developed and see the benefit to all students.

I would like to thank our teaching staff for their professionalism and dedication to their roles in the school. It is this dedication that provides a foundation for the successes of our students. I would like to thank our administrative and support staff who work in the background to support the operation of the school and also our teachers for delivering their learning programs. I would like to acknowledge our teachers who brought their unbridled enthusiasm and knowledge to the classroom, promoting excellence and supporting student development helping all our students to become independent life-long learners who positively contribute to their communities.

Thank you to our executive team of Mr Leary, Ms Porreca, Ms Carmody, Ms Saisanas, Ms Edwards, Mr Tsafis, Ms Mircevski, Mr Ghazal, Ms Varikos, Mr Mohan and Ms Kyritsis for your support of student programs and curriculum delivery to ensure that we continue to be a school prioritising the needs of all our students.

Our whole school community will be feeling the loss as several staff members take some well-deserved time away or undertake different career ventures. I'd like to wish the following staff all the best in their future endeavours and we all hope to see you soon: Shadi Ghazal, Maria Varikos, Tom Heptinstall, Maria Voros, Emmy Hidalgo, Hayley Hargreaves, and Olivia Neskovski.

Thank you to our school community for your support and partnership in the education of our next generation. I value your support and together we will continue to build a supportive and nurturing school community.

Finally, to our students. Congratulations on your achievements this year. We have a school of passionate, engaged, and enthusiastic young women who excel and display talents in so many different ways. It has been wonderful to see the confidence and pride grow in each of you this year after returning from our last two challenging years. This has developed through the opportunities that you seized. Take advantage of any opportunities that arise and set high expectations of yourself and what you can achieve.

Our school motto *Semper Optime - Always the Best*, shows that when our students apply effort, show kindness to others, and have a positive mindset, they will always be the best.

Wishing everyone a wonderful festive season.
Have a restful break and I look forward to seeing you
back ready to learn in 2023.

Deputy Principal

Mark Leary

It is nice that we have made it through a full year since the COVID-caused interruptions in 2021. This year has not been without its challenges and I think everyone is deserving of a restful and relaxing break with family and friends.

I would like to congratulate Year 7 on making it through their first year of high school. This is always a challenging time and having to adapt to a very different system than the girls experienced in primary school. I am pleased to say that for the most part this seems to have been a smooth process and the girls have been a credit to their parents in the way they have conducted themselves.

Year 9 have had a very busy year and have managed to shake off the impact of learning from home periods in the past two years and have engaged with a range of programs that have seen them explore their creative and critical thinking skills. At this year's STEAM showcase it was incredible to see the work they had done in looking for innovative ways to display their learning and overcome problems.



Moving into next year as Year 10 students will hold its own challenges with the girls beginning to take part in the minimum standards test and for the first time their efforts in assessment will be lodged with NESAs, becoming part of their official school record. I hope the girls are looking forward to their new challenges and will show us what they are capable of.

And lastly, I move to our Year 11 group who have now completed their first stage of the Higher School Certificate. Completing the Year 11 RoSa has been a challenge that will allow them to reflect on their learning and prepare well for the HSC. Many lessons have been learnt about what it means to be a senior student and the demands that it takes to be successful. I think as the girls reflect back, they will be surprised how quickly their 5 years at high school has gone by. Now with only a year left before they graduate, we look to support them as they strive to achieve the results they desire and look at what they will move into after finishing their compulsory schooling.

Another year ends and as I reflect back, I am pleased with the efforts the girls have put into their work and the active manner in which most have applied themselves to their studies throughout the year.

I hope you all take the time to relax and enjoy this break with friends and family and that we see you back in 2023, refreshed and ready to take on new challenges.

Deputy Principal

Cathy Porreca

Once again, we have reached the end of the school year and I would like to start my article by congratulating Years 12, 10 and 8 for all their successful achievements throughout 2022. Many of the students have shown outstanding efforts in their studies as evidenced in their Semester 2 Reports.

Many others have worked very hard to excel in sporting and other co-curricular activities. Their enthusiasm and commitment to learning have been very impressive throughout the year.

I would like to mention Maria of Year 12 whose HSC major artwork was ranked so highly that it has gained a place in ARTEXPRESS, a prestigious showcase of major works from all schools across the state. This was a magnificent effort and credit must go to her and her Visual Arts teacher, Ms Vassiliou.

Congratulations to you both!



As we come to the end of the 2022 school year, I would like to project into 2023 and remind Year 8 going into 9 that they are about to enter the next stage of learning in 2023. Having selected their electives for Stage 5, I am expecting that they will enthusiastically embrace courses/subjects they have chosen to study, and I anticipate great success in their academic achievement at the end of Stage 5.

Similarly, Year 10 will be moving into Stage 6, a time of serious reflection about study, attendance and achievement. All senior students want a strong HSC credential that will propel them into positive futures. This can only be achieved through diligence and hard work, and I am sure that this current Year 10 cohort are well equipped to enter the senior years with the right attitude and work ethic. I wish you the best of luck.

I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you all back in 2023.

English

Lisa Carmody

As this year reaches a close, the English department would like to thank all their students for the fine work and enthusiasm shown in their learning throughout 2022. We have engaged in some fabulous activities and excursions and had some lively debates and lessons.

Year 7 have been exploring their connected curriculum project, across CAPA and English subjects. They look at different art, music and literature that shapes their identity. In English Year 7 brought a story from home that was crucial to their sense of self. They turned these stories into scripts and shared them in groups, before finally turning some stories into film. The films form beautiful connections between families and classrooms and the students have woven their own home languages throughout. What a privilege it is to allow us, as your teachers, to hear and view these stories that are so inspiring!



Year 8 have been looking at Cultural Voices in Poetry, exploring the power words have to change cultural assumptions and prejudice. Words have the power to reduce hate and spread love as they have the power to open minds and change attitudes.

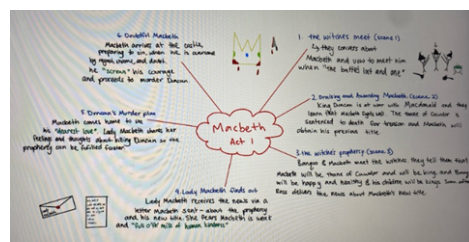
Speaking of opening worlds, 8B had the pleasure of exploring different views and interpretations of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as they undertook workshops run by actors from the *Bell Shakespeare Company*.



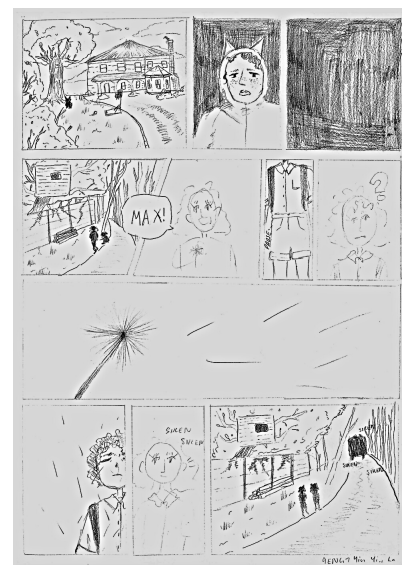
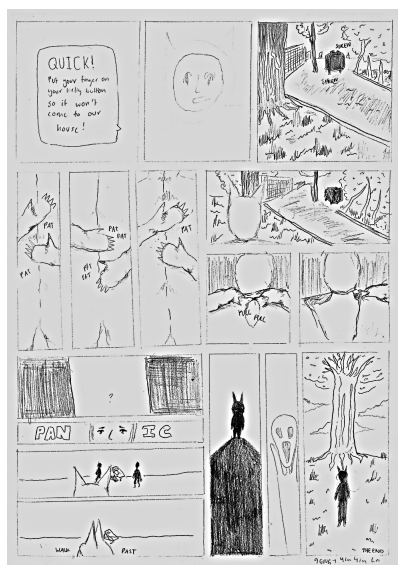
Year 9 most recently studied the conventions of a podcast, in particular: 'Serial – Adnan Syed'. After many classroom, corridor, and playground arguments over which side each of us was positioned on the evidence (guilty or innocent), a strange twist of events shook our lessons. News from the USA broke! Just as we were concluding our unit, new evidence had exonerated Adnan Syed and there was a media storm as an innocent man was released from prison. Crazy timing! Year 9 immersed themselves in the unit and created their own podcasts, blogs, narrative perspectives, and court cases exploring the facts and assumptions around the case.



Year 10 have been immersed in Shakespeare. Some studied *Romeo and Juliet*, whilst others studied *Macbeth* and *Othello*. All students have a great appreciation for the stories Shakespeare told centuries ago and their relevance to our lives today. Students re-imagined and modernised the plays, transforming them to a modern-day context whilst weaving in old Elizabethan language throughout.



We'd also like to give a shout out to the talented Yin Yin in Year 9. She turned a short film studied in class into this fabulous comic strip.



Finally, to our Year 9 Gumby Girls who have made learning so much fun in our Alienation Project. The STEAM Showcase was a wonderful success thanks to your enthusiasm and hard work. *Semper Optime – Always Gumby!*



From the English Department to every student, thanks for the 2022 memories and we look forward to making some bigger and better ones in 2023. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Mathematics

Vicky Saisanas

As Term 4 draws to an end, the Mathematics staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our students and their families a very safe and restful summer vacation.

2022 has again allowed us to celebrate student achievement in all Mathematics and Numeracy classes. Students were publicly acknowledged for their academic excellence during Presentation Day. The prestigious annual *Australian Mathematics Competition* rewarded many students for their talents in the Australia wide event, with 95% of our students gaining a Credit level or achieving at a Proficiency level. These students were:

Credit Level

Year 12: *Kelsey Le*

Year 9: *Yelleina Alabaso* and *Kimmy Tran*

Year 8: *Vivian Duong*

Proficiency Level

Year 12: *Lily Huynh* and *Sonia Phan*

Year 11: *Winnie Bach* and *Diem Quynh Pham*

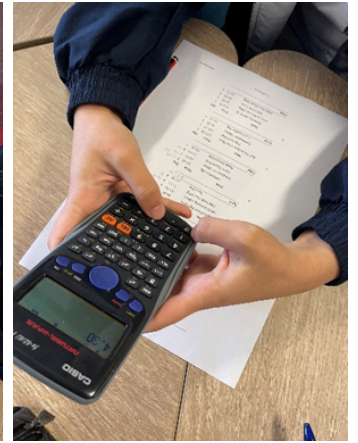
Year 10: *Jennye Nguyen*, *Sabine Rababeh*, *Hamdi Abdi-Hashi*, *Tabarek Al-Twairchi*, *Jinan Darwiche*, and *Hiba Kazi*

Year 9: *Siqing Wang*, *Vianna Phan*, *Angelina Nguyen*, *Yin Yin Ia*, *Linda Nguyen*, and *Fatma Al-Hashimi*

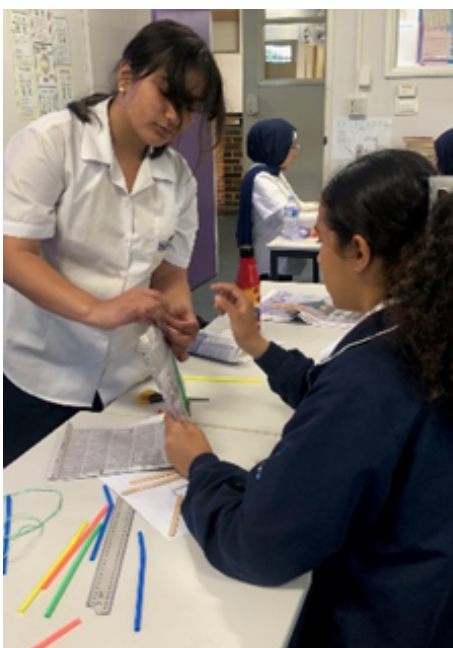
Year 8: *Shaffaq Maheen*, *Sumreen Bhuiyan*, *Jamilla El-Omar*, *Sara Mehic*, *Layla Le*, *Halapua Latapu*, and *Trang Hoang*



Ms Kyritsis and Mrs Rounis worked with Stage 6 Retail Services students to incorporate numeracy skills within the Retail Services program. Just when the retail students thought that Mathematics was no longer needed! The topics covered included: purchasing items, cash handling, float and balances, interpreting invoices, discounts, mark ups, profit, loss, GST and surcharges, stocktake calculations, roster (interpretation and calculating), and pay slips.



Problem Solving and the Design Thinking Process was a focus for Stage 4 students in the Numeracy program. Students were tasked with constructing the tallest tower with a given set of material. Students worked meticulously to plan, design and test their towers to satisfy the constraints that were imposed by the teachers. A range of impressive towers were constructed whereby students relied on a solid base before attempting to build the tower vertically.



Human Society and its Environment

Jim Tsafis

In Term 4, Year 9 HSIE have focused on the topic 'Environmental Change and Management'. As part of The Geography program a fieldwork excursion was organised to Centennial Parklands, where the students participated in activities that helped further develop their geographical skills. They enriched their learning through hands-on activities, such as testing PH levels, temperature, dissolved oxygen levels, turbidity, and nitrates, which they recorded in their booklets. Students worked in groups as they toured the park and the various ponds located within the area. They performed water quality surveys to assess stormwater quality in the Parklands' pond system, investigated pond management practices to determine their effectiveness, and looked at different environmental functions: source, sink, service, and spirituality and how they relate to the wetlands.

Along our journey, students saw various types of marine life like turtles and ducks. It was especially rare to spot an eel, as they don't usually come out during windy weather. The excursion was an enjoyable learning experience that consolidated the course work that has been taking place. What a great way to end the year!



This term, our Year 10 Commerce students took a trip to Luna Park Sydney to supplement their understanding of their topic the *Economic and Business Environment*. Students had the opportunity to gain first-hand experience of how Luna Park operates as a business within the Sydney Business Environment.

This excursion was an early start for our students as we made our way to North Sydney via train, taking in the sights of Sydney as we crossed over the Harbour Bridge. We then made our way to Luna Park, walking along the water before being greeted by the wonderful Robert who took us in for a business presentation. Our students were engaged in the presentation, asking and answering some great questions that the presenters were quite pleased with. We started with the history of Luna Park Sydney, how it has changed over the years, and how the business is run. Students were shown a variety of different business information including financial statements, marketing samples and given real issues that Luna Park experienced and overcome. This was very beneficial to students as they gained real-world experience about running a business, using Luna Park Sydney as the example.

Next, it was time for some rides!

After the presentation, students hurried off to jump on as many rides and play as many games as possible in the time that they had. Students had the opportunity to try out all the rides Luna Park Sydney had to offer. Year 10 got to experience a variety of rollercoasters, thrill rides and sideshow games, with the clear favourites being the Sledgehammer and the Big Dipper!



Our Year 10 Commerce students had a fantastic time and learnt a lot out from this experience! We would also like to commend our students' behaviour on the day and for conducting themselves in a manner befitting students from Bankstown Girls High School. It was fantastic to see the smiles on our students' faces after a day of rides.

Science

Written by Bean Al-Otaibi (Year 10)

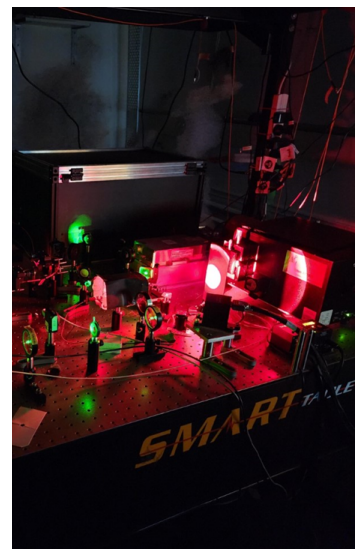
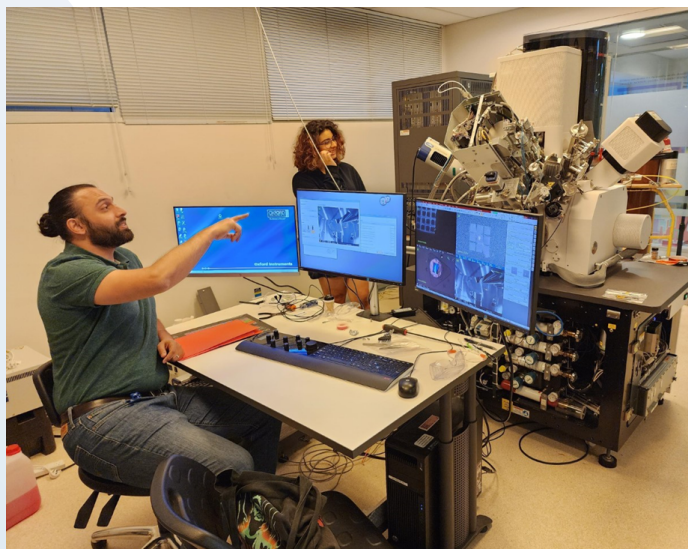
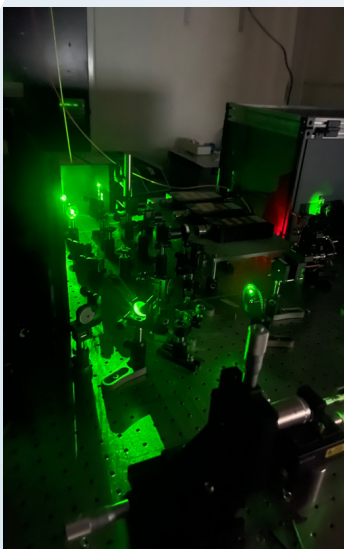
On the night of November 8th 2022, a total lunar eclipse, also referred to as a blood moon, took place over Australia and New Zealand. This phenomenon occurs when the Moon enters the Earth's shadow, and the Sun is perfectly aligned with the Earth and Moon. Although the Moon is covered by the Earth's shadow, some sunlight still manages to reach it. After the Sun's light passes through the Earth's atmosphere, the majority of the blue light gets scattered into the Earth's atmosphere and the red light will then pass through the atmosphere and eventually fall on the Moon, allowing it to appear red. This occurrence is called Rayleigh Scattering.



As a science student, I was given an exclusive opportunity to attend an enjoyable evening at the *Powerhouse Sydney Observatory* alongside Ms Edwards and Mr Golestan. There were many scientific talks, musical performances, and telescopes that were available for us to observe Saturn, Jupiter, and the Moon. The eclipse started at 9:16pm, peaked at 9:59pm, and ended at 10:41pm. The night was overall a spectacular experience and I'm sincerely grateful to have been able to attend such a rare night.

Later in the month of November, during the 14th and 18th, Year 10 work experience took place for a week, where all year 10s were absent from school to learn about different workplaces to allow them to have an insight as to what their future career could be and what it may look like on a day-to-day basis. I undertook my work experience in a nanophotonics research facility under TMOS (Transformative Meta-Optical Systems) at *University of Technology, Sydney*.

I had the opportunity to operate a \$2 million electron microscope called the Helios Hydra 5 plasma dual-beam Focused Ion Beam (FIB). I also observed a photoluminescence experiment in which we were aiming to find single photon emitters (SPEs) via a spectrometer, and I had many lab tours and handled many different electron microscopes and optical microscopes under the guidance of PhD students and candidates. I learnt what it was like to pursue physics research as a postgraduate and how to collect and analyse different data sets and graphs. I've also learnt that physics is an extremely broad and scientifically interesting subject, and all physics is related so no matter what you study, it'll be extremely enjoyable. This experience was truly one of a kind and unforgettable, thank you Mr Golestan for making it happen.



Go green, Breathe clean, and join the Environmental team! Angelia Khan Nguyen



Do you Know who we are?

At Bankstown Girls High School, we are the worriers who strive to continuously care for our school environment which surrounds us. Our outstanding principal, Mrs Bilali and all BGHS teachers have always been supportive to our actions of reducing, reusing and recycling and funding activities in order to keep our school clean and reduce the waste sent to the landfill. An important reason for everyone to look after our school environment is that we tend to spend more time at school rather than being at home. Our team members are also actively involved in gardening, weekly recycling and celebrating events such as World Environment Day, School Tree Day and other events.

Going Green!

The Environmental team invites students from any year group to experience gardening during school hours, opportunities that may not be available at home. Our team works with our gardener Dominic who has great knowledge about plants. We enjoy working with him and Mrs El-Haddad on different days which are held throughout the school terms. Being able to be involved in the planting process of herbs, trees and other plants and learning how they change throughout the different seasons, their adaptations and dispersal is amazing. Weeding, mulching, composting, and planting new herbs and plants around garden beds at school are some of the tasks that our girls usually do in the environmental team. Our team members actively participate and always enjoy learning new things about our natural environment and why we cannot stress enough about keeping our Earth safe and clean for future generations. Being part of the Environmental team also opens the door of new learning experiences and benefits to our members to be more active and useful citizens.



Wattle Space Project 2021-2022

Earlier in the year, our team participated in the NASA Earth and space wattle project. The project was called a controlled experiment comparing Wattle Seeds kept in space for six months and Earth wattle seeds. We watered the seeds every few days and compared the survival rate and longevity of each group of seeds. Unfortunately, the space seeds died and only Earth seeds survived the longest. The surviving wattle plants are ready to be planted in the school. It was a good learning experience most of our girls will never forget.

Excursions and opportunities

Being in the Environmental team has its benefits! Not only do you play an important role in our school, you are also rewarded with fun excursions. Our most recent excursion was on the 6th of December, where Mrs El-Haddad took the whole Environmental team to the Royal Botanic

Gardens, Sydney to complete fun activities whilst observing and learning about the beautiful flora (plants) that has been collected from across the world and different regions since it was established in 1816. Ranging from Herbs to Cacti, there were many different and unique varieties of flora throughout the massive garden. Truly, it was a fun and exciting day for our entire team. Our past Environmental leaders, Quynh and Cherrie joined us and spoke to us about their university study and passion, the good time they spent at our school and as leaders of the environmental team. By completing the worksheets, our students were able to learn about



Go green, Breathe clean, and join the Environmental team! Angelia Khan Nguyen



different plant species while exploring the Royal garden and having fun with friends for the entire day.

New Garden on its Way in 2023



In 2021, our school won a \$15000 sustainable school grant to establish the Beehive Classroom Sustainable garden behind the office and Art rooms. A new outdoor classroom is already established behind the ART rooms that will be available to be used next year by all faculties and classes. You can book for your class to run a lesson on plants/native herbs , adaptations etc.. . New Beehive and native garden will be created behind the office area and linked to the Balcony Cafe. Our team is involved in this project and will be planting bee pollinator plants and trees in order to promote the pollination of flowers and increase the population of native bees in our region. The

planting of new herbs and plants will also be happening in our new, vast approaching school year which is why the Environmental team **NEED** new members to join. Are you the right candidate? Sign up right now on the list outside of the Science Staffroom or approach Mrs El-Haddad.

Read it from our members

Our girls have written reviews from their time in the Environmental team

“ During my time in the Environmental team, I was able to participate in many activities that allowed me to learn more about the environment around us, our influence on it, and what we all could do to help nourish it. Through activities such as gardening, I learnt about different plants and their benefits to our garden and about gardening and planting tips that I have used even in my home garden. The team has allowed me to create many new friends and given me something to look forward to throughout the year, and helped to increase my confidence through the speeches given at each assembly. The environmental team has given me a new perspective to the world around us, and I wish to continue being a part of this program for the following year.”

-Samah Rababi, Year 8 2022

“As the senior captain of the Environmental team, I'm proud to say that the team has accomplished and demonstrated their will to support the environment and improve our school. Having to lead and assist in organizing team events and excursions, my experience in the Environmental team has taught me how to communicate and work with students from all grades levels and perspectives, even honing my leadership skills and ability to balance my busy Year 12 schedule. It's been an honor captaining the environmental team, and I'm blessed to work with the supportive Ms El-Haddad and my enthusiastic juniors! Room, Shambles.”

Anna Suryantoko Year 11 2022

“Being in the environmental group has allowed me to view nature from a different perspective. I've learnt so much about nature, gardening, taking care of the environment and sustainability and I hope to continue learning more. I love running the fundraising events because at the end of the day I know the money goes towards a good cause. The excursions we have are a chance for us to be around nature and have a good learning experience, but we also get to have lots of fun. I truly love being in the environmental group and I really encourage anyone to join. You'll never know if you will love it, if you don't try.

Sumreen Bhuiyan Year 8 2022

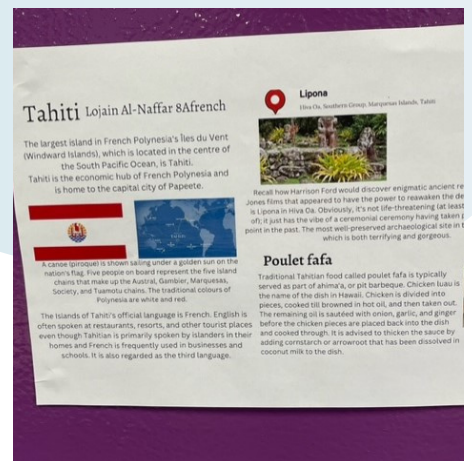
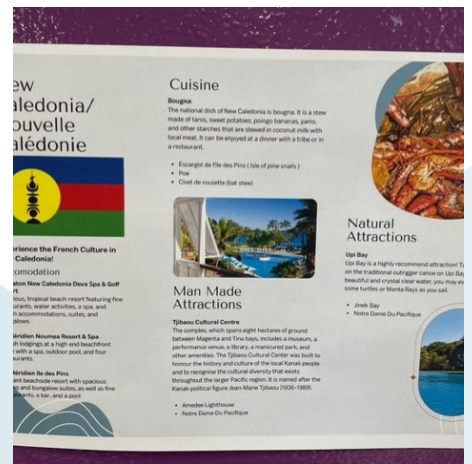
Languages

Anna Cowin

Year 8 French students have had a busy semester. They researched French-speaking communities around the world to create amazing brochures and posters which helped them understand the diversity of the French-speaking world.

To celebrate their achievements, students brought in food inspired by their research and shared them with the rest of the class. There were dishes from Quebec, the French-speaking part of Canada and from Switzerland. Of course, the day wouldn't have been complete without the French classics - croissants, chocolate mousses, baguettes and cheese!

A big thank you to those students and their parents/carers for their contribution. It was a lovely way to finish the year!



Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

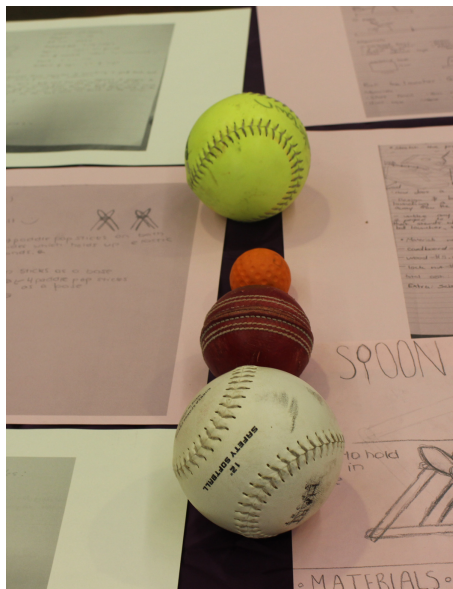
Shadi Ghazal

Time flies when you're having fun! The 2022 school year is wrapping up and it has been another amazing journey for both staff and students. The PDHPE staff have once again been hard at work, providing valuable learning opportunities and experiences for all our students. This semester saw our students partake in sporting competitions, a STEAM showcase, Life Ready, Swim School, and many other initiatives.

Students participated in the annual *Edmondson Cup* sporting competition, which included Volleyball and Netball. The students travelled to the host school, Birrong Girls High School, where they participated in a round robin event. All teams conducted themselves with grace and humility, being excellent examples for Bankstown Girls High School. Our Netball team played well the entire day and managed to win 5 out of 6 games, finishing as runners-up. Our Volleyball team produced an excellent display of teamwork to go through the whole day undefeated and were crowned *Edmondson Cup Volleyball Champions* for 2022. Congratulations to all students involved and a big shoutout to the coaches, Mr Heptinstall and Mr Ghazal.



Our Year 8 students got to put all their hard work throughout the year on display by being part of the annual STEAM Showcase. Throughout the year within their STEAM lessons, students designed and developed a ball launcher. Students were taken on a journey of critical and creative thinking and utilised the STEAM concepts to develop their knowledge and skills in this area. Not only did they produce excellent work samples, but they also got the opportunity to explain their learning journey to the many special guests who attended the showcase. A massive thank you to Year 8 for all their hard work throughout the year, and a huge shout out to the Year 8 STEAM teachers.



This term our Year 10 and Year 11 students engaged with the in-school *Life Ready* program. Students were immersed in a 3-day intensive program that tackled issues they will face as they are growing older. The PDHPE and HSIE staff worked in conjunction to provide interactive and engaging learning experiences that enabled the students to develop their real-world problem-solving skills. Students were also given the opportunity to listen to guest speakers from different walks of life, further developing their understanding and knowledge of issues that are prominent today. The students were very well behaved and participated in the program with excellence and enthusiasm. Thank you to Mrs Vrartric for organising such an amazing program, and thank you to Mr Heptinstall, Ms Baddah, Ms Boz and Ms Cho for delivering the program.



Congratulations to Team Sauvage for winning the House Points competition this semester. Students from Sauvage showed their House Spirit by maintaining excellent attendance and wearing school uniform to earn the win for their house. Students from Sauvage (Surnames O-Z) were rewarded for their hard work and effort by attending a free picnic excursion. Students were taken to Garrison Point to have a picnic and participate in some fun practical activities, they were also provided with a free BBQ, drinks and ice blocks.

Congratulations



Bankstown Girls High School will be bidding farewell to a much beloved member of staff, Mr Heptinstall. Mr Heptinstall has been an asset in the PDHPE faculty and has contributed at a school-wide level. He is off to travel overseas and will no longer be with us in 2023. We wish Mr Heptinstall all the very best in his future endeavours and thank him for all his efforts in the last few years. I'd also like to thank all the Mrs Vrartric, Ms Cho, Ms Boz and Ms Baddah for all their hard work this year.

We wish all students and staff a happy and safe holiday period!

Creative and Performing Arts

Brooke Carpenter, Tom Heptinstall, Electra Vassiliou and Maria Voros

The achievements of all Visual Arts and Music students deserve to be acknowledged this term. The CAPA staff have once again had the pleasure in teaching so many dedicated and talented students.

Year 10 Photography students had the opportunity to film one of their scenes for their horror movies at Cockatoo Island. The historical Island was an idyllic location for their scary movies. Their final movie productions were shared and celebrated in a special 'cinema experience' screening with popcorn.



A highlight for the CAPA staff along with Year 9 and 10 Visual Arts and Photography students was spending a wonderful day out at the iconic Bondi Beach to view the spectacular *Sculpture by the Sea* exhibition along the coastal walk path from Tamara to Bondi Beach.

A dynamic group of Year 8, 9 and 10 vocalists brought Christmas cheer to the Legacy Christmas Lunch, performing several Christmas hits and carols to a very enthusiastic audience.



A special shout out to Year 12 student Vivienne Al-Malah for performing beautifully at the *Minister's Community Services Award Night*. Congratulations as well to Year 12 Music student Naomi Lee on her nomination for Encore 2023, achieved due to her outstanding HSC Music Repertoire.



IMAGE: Vivienne Al-Malah



IMAGE: Naomi Lee

Congratulations to Year 12 2022 Visual Arts student, Maria on her nomination and selection of her body of work in ARTEXPRESS 2023. This is an annual showcase representing exemplary and dynamic artworks created by NSW Visual Arts students for the 2022 HSC examination. Maria worked diligently and tirelessly throughout the HSC course to produce a technically accomplished and powerful body of work, titled *Ever-present* which consists of a series of paintings inspired by Neoclassicism. Maria's work depicts humanity morphed through the ages, exploring the power mankind holds in a rapidly evolving world. Being nominated and included in this exhibition places Maria's work in the top 5% of HSC artworks in the state. Maria's outstanding body of work will be exhibited at *The Armory*, Sydney Olympic Park between March and April. It will then be showcased rurally at the *Mudgee Arts Precinct*. A nomination and selection for ARTEXPRESS is an incredible achievement and Bankstown Girls High School commends Maria for creating such an exceptionally high quality and resolved work.



We are looking forward to another wonderful year of learning and achievements in 2023!

Candid

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