### Issue #10

#### 18 September 2023

# Baulkham Hills High Newsletter



www. baulkhamhillshighschool.com.au



R U OK Day @ Baulko More information on page 4-8

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## From the principal's desk:

As we begin the last week of Term 3 2023, on behalf of the BHHS community as a whole, I would like to thank and farewell our Year 12 students. lt – is a fun. emotional, bittersweet week for students (and staff). From dressing up in primary school uniforms, performing at Variety Night, picnicking at Bobbin Head, or graduation this Friday, it is definitely a week to remember. For our mainstream students, it is a final break from HSC study pressures – before they return to the "books" next week. And for our support students - some we will say farewell too, and others will return to complete the rest of the year at BHHS.

This will be the school's first return to a full graduation ceremony in similar format to pre-COVID conditions. Thank you to the BHHS P & C for catering for the postgraduation morning tea. Thank you to all staff who have supported Year 12 in

Cont P2

### Calendar 2023



Torm 2

This calendar is subject to change so please check carefully each week for any alterations. A whole year calendar is on the school website at <u>www.baulkhamhillshighschool.com.au</u>

Term
Week 10
Monday 18 September
Y11 Assessment Week 11/9 to 22/9 incl.
Prefect Variety Night 6pm to 9pm
Y8 Geography excursion – Watsons Bay
Y8 PDHPE Practical Assessment task P5&6 (B&A), P7&8 (L&U)
Tuesday 19 September
Y7 Wellbeing Day
Y9 PDHPE Practical Assessment Task
Y10 Geography Fieldwork
Y12 Picnič Day
Wednesday 20 September
Y8 History Semester 2 – Research Task
Thursday 21 September
Y7 Vaccinations
Y12 Graduation Rehearsal P3 to P6
Y10 PDHPE Practical Assessment
Friday 22 September
Y12 Graduation Ceremony and morning tea 9am
Y8 PDHPE Practical Assessment P7&8 (K&O)
Y10 PDHPE Theory Driver Education Assessment Task (in class time)
Last Day Term 3
Term
Week 1
Monday 9 October
Y7-11 Return to School
Tuesday 10 October
Y10 PASS Bronze Medallion Awards
Wednesday 11 October
HSC Begins
Wicked Musical Performance 7pm to 10pm – Stage 5&6 CAPA
Thursday 12 October
Y10 PASS Bronze Medallion Awards
Friday 13 October
CADETS AFX23 Camp 13/10 to 17/10 incl.
Y9 Geography Semester 2 Fieldwork excursion to Barangaroo
'Footloose the Musical' Viewing Party 3.15pm to 5.30pm
Week 2
Monday 16 October
CADETS AFX23 Camp 13/10 to 17/10 incl.
Tuesday 17 October
Y10 History Research Task
Wednesday 18 October
Thursday 19 Octobor
Thursday 19 October
Friday 20 October
Prefect Planning Day
Week 3
Monday 23 October
Y10 Assessment Week 23/10 to 27/10 incl.
Tuesday 24 October
P&C Meeting
Wednesday 25 October
-
Thursday 26 October
School Photos – incoming Captains/Prefects
Friday 27 October

<u> Saturday 28 October – P&C Working Bee</u>

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large and small ways over their time at BHHS. For those who are unable to make the ceremony, a recording will be made available early Term 4 for all to view. Those guests attending – a reminder that there is no parking on the school grounds. Please be on time as the ceremony will commence promptly as advertised.

A reminder that the **new Mobile Phone Policy** for BHHS will commence from the start of Term 4. All parents and carers received notification last week via email. Phones are to be off and away on school premises from day one next term, unless specific permission is granted in class by a teacher, or the student has been granted an exemption.

I would like to wish you a good holiday, and hope you have a chance to "recharge" your batteries.

Wayne Humphreys Principal



## Baulko News

### **NSW Interschool Badminton Team Event**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> of August, Baulkham Hills High School played in the NSW Interschool Badminton Team Event for the first time in many years. We played across 3 boys divisions and achieved outstanding results. Team 1 consisting of Yiwei Huang, Danny Sun, Lucas Tan, Frederick Tay, Michael Chang and Vedanth Nandakumar placed first in Division 1, Team 2 consisting of Leo Cui, Ethan Kang, Vincent Pham, Chris Kim, Joshua Seo and Victor Zhao placed runners up in Division 2 and Team 3 consisting of Mia Lin, Daniel Lin, Suvi Shrestha, Jyeshna Rajani, Cindy Yuan and Jade Tellis placed runners up in Division 3. Congratulations to all teams for their efforts and great performance.

Ms Chen





### R U OK? Day @ Baulko

#### Thursday September 14th 2023

Last Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, the students and staff of Baulko were actively involved in supporting R U OK? Day for 2023. R U OK? Day is an annual event designed to promote positive and open conversations around mental health and wellbeing, as well as encouraging people to check in on those around them.

It is more important than ever to promote open dialogue around mental health, and encourage people of all ages to speak up if they aren't feeling okay. It is only through practising regular discussion about our wellbeing that we can normalise seeking support when it is needed, and that we can build a transparent, supportive and accepting culture for everyone.

As part of R U OK? Day at Baulko we ran numerous activities to promote awareness around promoting positive mental health, and we also provided the students with resources to support them moving forward. All students in the school were issued with an R U OK? Day wristband and conversation card, which lists important support services students can engage with anytime they need. All students were also shown an R U OK? Day video, made by Baulko students, which explained the importance of having positive conversations about wellbeing with the people around us, and also reminded students about the support services available at school, including our three school psychologists, Head Teacher Wellbeing, Student Support Officer and Year Advisers.

At recess and lunch, the R U OK? Day team handed out chocolates, lollies and bubble wrap to students. We had face painting available for students at recess and lunch. We also had a friendship bracelet station, a sensory station and other fun activities being run by students. Perhaps the pinnacle of the Lunchtime activities was the Teachers vs Students Netball Game, which received a great turnout from students and staff – all cheering the players on! The teachers emerged victorious, but not without a strong challenge from the student team!

Walking around during the day, I can absolutely say that the atmosphere and general mood coming from the students was electric and overwhelmingly positive – so many students got involved. It was beautiful to look at, and it was so very heart-warming to witness the students seeming so relaxed and taking pause to genuinely enjoy their day. I was approached by countless students who commented on how much they appreciated the activities of the day and how supported they felt. It was truly a wonderful day!

I would like to personally thank the amazing students who volunteered to be part of the R U OK? Day Team, their efforts and contributions were crucial to the successful running of the day, and I could not be prouder of the way they conducted themselves in supporting this very important cause. Not only did they give up a lot of their time leading up to the day in order to prepare the resources for students, but they also ensured the activities for staff and students ran smoothly on the day. I have had many staff and students approach me with praise for the efforts of this team, so I thank them and congratulate them on a fantastic day!



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Steps were also taken to support staff wellbeing on the day, as it is equally important to encourage open and positive dialogue about mental health amongst us adults as well. A big staff morning tea was held at recess and it was lovely to see so many staff come together to enjoy some food and a chat, and staff also had free access to a coffee van for their caffeine fix. The amazing R U OK? Day team did a terrific job delivering countless coffees to staff. I know the students of Baulko appreciate the relentless efforts of the Baulko staff, so it was equally important to support their wellbeing on the day.

Finally, it is important to emphasise that, whilst R U OK? Day is an extremely important event, it is even more important that the habits and conversations that this day promotes are practised *regularly and beyond this one day*. At Baulko we sincerely value the mental health and wellbeing of all students, staff, parents and community members, and we want to encourage everyone to speak honestly, openly and bravely about their own mental health as often as needed. Please be proactive in normalising discussing mental health and wellbeing in your home, with your families and friends. A simple conversation really could change a life.

Thank you Baulko for a fantastic R U OK? Day!

Until next year - Remember to take care of yourselves and each other.

Warm Regards,

Ms Terryanne Fletcher Head Teacher Wellbeing Terryanne.fletcher1@det.nsw.edu.au









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### **Chess News**

Baulkham Hills Junior A team defeated a very strong Sydney Grammar team last Friday to win the NSW Metropolitan Secondary Schools Competition Junior Division for 2023. Congratulations to all the Junior A team members!

Mr Hu













## **MEP Ensemble Program**

Congratulations again to all ensembles that participated in The ASBOF. We aren't finished for the year though!

Please save the date for these events in term 4:

## Baulkham Hills High School Multicultural Food Fair Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of November

Several ensembles (ensembles TBC) will be performing at this event. There will also be plenty of incredible food and performances by BHHS students, including dancing, music, and more! Come along and celebrate the cultural diversity and many talents of students at our school!

## 2023 CAPA Showcase Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of December

The 2023 CAPA Showcase will be bigger and better than ever! This year we are holding the Showcase at The Concourse in Chatswood. Every ensemble will be performing, alongside students from Year 9-10 Elective Music and Year 11-12 Music 2 and Extension classes. There will also be a large display of artworks created by BHHS students of all ages.



### **LIBRARY NOTICE**

### ATTENTION YEAR 12

Hey folks...sadly your time at Baulko is on the countdown...with that in mind we need you to start thinking about *returning your texts*.

The Library signs you off on texts from: English Mathematics Sciences HSIE History TAS

PLEASE keep this in mind.... As you complete your HSC examination we'd really appreciate you giving in the texts associated with that subject.

Thanking you the Library Staff

#### Procedure for Late Arrivals

If a student arrives at school late, they must provide a note to the office signed by their parent/guardian when signing in giving reasons for their partial absence. The student needs to sign in at the Office when they arrive at school including senior students with study leave in the morning. The student will be issued a late arrival pass which they can present to their teacher when they arrive in class.

If a note is not provided from home, the student will be issued with a late pass slip which is signed by a parent/guardian. A late SMS message will also be sent to the parent/carer. Please respond to the SMS asap or the signed slip must be handed into the office the next day or **within 7 days**.

Senior students with Flexible Study Leave must be in by Recess and sign in at the Front Office





## International Lions Youth of the Year Program

The International Lions Youth of the Year Program is a highly acclaimed global Citizenship and Public Speaking Competition encouraging our High School students to share their achievements and involvement with like minded future leaders.

This year our competition will be held on a Sunday in either late October or early November. Again we will be having a combined event with Baulkham Hills Lions.

Please click on the link below for more information and how to enter:

https://lionsclubs.org.au/our-programs/youth-opportunities/youth-of-the-yea

### HOOPS ACADEMY BASKETBALL CAMP

### **BAULKHAM HILLS GYM**



Please bring recess and lunch for the day and a basketball if you have one.

### UPDATED CODE: <u>Hoops20 for Baulkham Hills students</u>

(NOT THE COED Hoops20)





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- Boosts Confidence & Self Esteem
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- Supportive & Friendly Environment
- Practical debates and speaking
- Develops listening skills
- Access to the Masters Academy network

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LIMITED PLACES

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### **PWDA Disability Advocacy Futures Program**

Are you a student living with disability?

Do you live in southeast, southwest or central Sydney?

Do you study in one of the public schools or are a parent/guardian of a student with disability from the above regions of NSW?

Do you need help to access or navigate the NSW public education system or access NSW Government-funded services?

Our advocates are here to help you!





#### **Disability Advocacy Futures Program**

- 1800 422 015
- intake@pwd.org.au
- Free and confidential help

Funded by NSW Communities in partnership with SSW Education



If you live in southeast, southwest, or central Sydney, we can help provide:

- free, confidential, and personalised support to students
- with disability and their families,
- assistance to access and navigate the public-school education system and other services
- explore options that facilitate the studies of students with disability in public schools.





#### We can help you with

#### Information & Referrals

- Your rights as a student with disability,
- What specific help the ٠ school should provide to students with disability while in the school,
- Connecting you to other . services that can help.

#### Contact us

- Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm 1800 422 015
- intake@pwd.org.au
- pwd.org.au

#### Advocacy

- Help access and talk to the school system,
- Help prepare letters and • applications to the schools,
- Assist you raise concerns with schools and the Department of Education where appropriate.

#### **PWDA Information Request Form**







## Administration Updates

### Absence Explanations

Parents are required to provide an explanation of absence to the school on the day of absence or <u>within seven (7) days</u> from the first day of any period of absence, **otherwise it will remain unjustified**. If a student is absent for three (3) days or more a <u>Medical Certificate</u> is required.

#### Application for Extended Leave – Travel

Please click on the link below and fill in the form (4 pages) for extended leave – travel and certificate. A copy of flight details or itinerary is also to be included. The student can bring the hard copy form to be signed which is subject to approval before going on leave. **The certificate of extended leave travel will be given back to the student if travel leave is approved.** https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/policy-library/associated-documents/pd-2005-0259-02-2.pdf.

#### **Planned Travel**

**Planned travel** should only be taken during school holidays. Students should be at school every day during school term, from beginning to end. Missing a day here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up. Every day matters and the school is here to support all students in attending and engaging with their learning every day of the term. If your child cannot be at school because they are sick, have a medical appointment, or other reasons, please inform the school of their absence.



#### Permission and Payment for Excursions, Sporting Events/ Activities

Baulko is currently using "School Bytes" as a form for permissions and payments for various activities.

You will receive the required permissions and or payment via email. If it is not finalised by the deadline, your child will not be able to attend.

Please check these emails are not going into your spam as they are named school bytes.



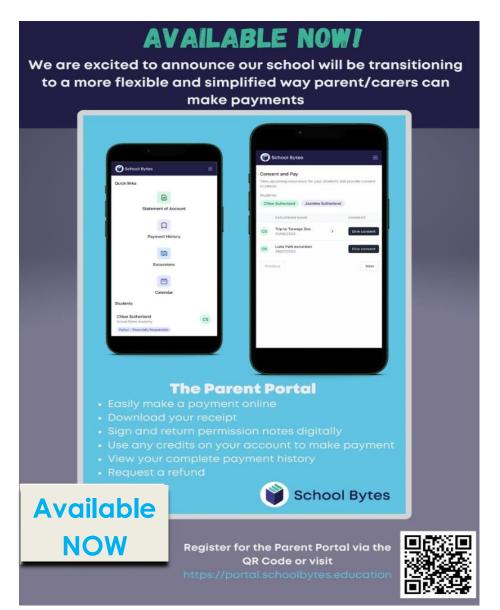
### Year 12 Student Reports – Parent Portal

Please be aware that once students in Year 12 leave the school, student reports will no longer be available to see on the Parent Portal.

## Please print or save onto your device when you receive student reports as the school will not have access after your leaving date or by November 2023.

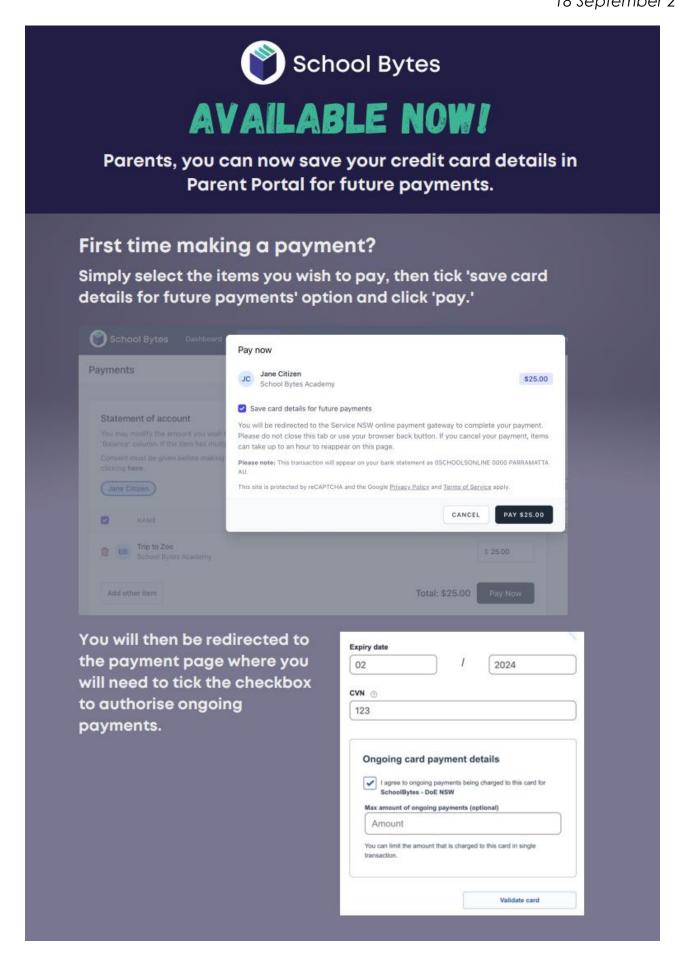
#### **Updated Communication**

Updated communication procedures have commenced at BHHS. The BHHS App is no longer used. Primary communication with our community will be via direct email, the weekly school newsletter and the school website. The website includes the Sentral Parent Portal (<u>https://baulkhamh.schools.nsw.gov.au/links.html</u>). **If you have recently changed your email address, please inform the school as soon as possible to ensure you receive all key communication from the school**.

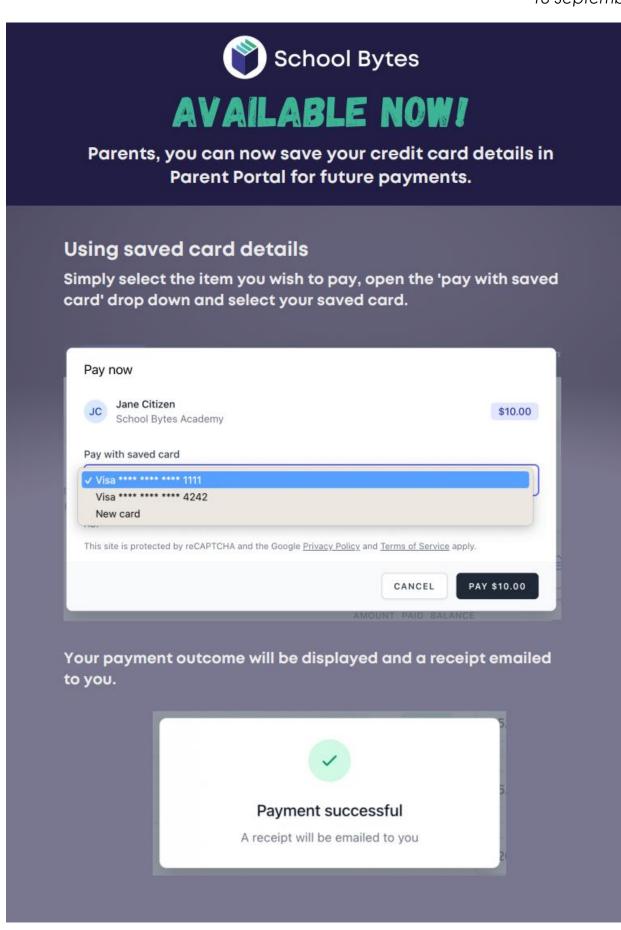


https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login?return\_to=https%253A%252F%252Fportal.schoolbytes.educ\_ation%252F&error=unauthenticated











### **Careers News**



### **School Uniform**

Our **school uniform** identifies our students. The correct wearing of it is expected and is a matter of pride and safety for all students. If a student is not able to wear full school uniform on a particular day, the student is required to bring a note from their parents/carers to be signed by a deputy principal before school. The student will then be issued a uniform pass. If a student is out of uniform without a note from a parent or care, they will be issued with a detention.



### **Support From Reachout**

The challenges of supporting students as parents and carers is always present. The issues around COVID-19 have made this an even more difficult and uncertain path to tread. I will be giving students short ideas via assemblies over the next few weeks in which they can proactively support themselves.

The website Reachout.com also provides advice for parent and carers over arrange of areas. It is worth having a look at <u>https://parents.au.reachout.com/</u> as a starting point.

For students, have a look at <u>https://au.reachout.com/articles/how-to-handle-fear-about-the-future-a-guide-for-year-12-students</u> (Dr Amy Burton, Clinical Psychologist)

### TAFE Use

Students are reminded that the use of the adjacent TAFE facility to walk to and from Old Northern Rd is a privilege and not a right. Students are reminded to walk safely, quietly and quickly thorough the facility. Parents and carers are **not** permitted to enter, drive into, or park in the TAFE to pick up or drop off students.

### Bus Travel

The **bus stop on Old Northern Rd in front of Baulkham Hills TAFE** is used each afternoon by approximately 100 students. Students have the privilege and responsibility of accessing this bus stop through the TAFE. I would remind students to be very careful and considerate when using and accessing this bus stop, waiting for a bus, and moving to the kerb to get on a bus. Buses sometimes approach the stop very quickly, with the front of the bus coming over the edge of the kerb. Please always demonstrate courtesy and safety, and remember that there is always another bus.

### Student pickup after school

A reminder about parking and picking up around our school in the afternoons, especially in the school bus bay, Carver Crescent, Christopher Street, Coronation Road, and Baulkham Hills TAFE areas.

Please ensure you follow all traffic rules (especially traffic lights and not parking across driveways) when you are in these areas. You could even have your student walk a little but further away from the school gate – to assist their physical health, and alleviate the heavy traffic at the end of the school day.

The Hills Shire Council will have compliance officers at various times in these locations to ensure all drivers are following required traffic rules.

