



# Brentwood Secondary College

## Online Newsletter Subscription

Issue No. 19

14 August 2009

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### Principal's Report

There have been a number of improvements made to the facilities at Brentwood over the last few months. The Federal Government allocated the college \$200,000 through the National Schools Pride program under the Building Education Revolution, which has provided infrastructure funding to all schools in Australia.

The college has allocated funds to a range of projects, some of which are complete while others are awaiting availability of contractors.

In the last holidays, carpet was replaced in some administration offices and general repairs were completed on a number of floor coverings throughout the college. A new switch board was installed in J-Block, safety switching was installed in the woodwork room and other electrical works to improve lighting and safety were completed. Painting of classrooms has proceeded at pace, with 5 portables, 6 classrooms, the English staffroom and some locker bays receiving a much needed face lift. The garden areas around the TLC were planted. It is hoped that the plants in those gardens will provide shade from direct sunlight in the summer months.

Contractors will soon be in the college to complete the construction of another one and a half basketball courts and a lighting company has been contracted to replace the antiquated hall stage lighting systems.

Mention was made in the last newsletter about the Music Gala performance held in the school hall. Congratulations must be extended to all of the students who performed on the evening. The standard of the performances was very high, which was a credit to the performers and their teachers. The music program at the college is clearly gaining strength.

An enormous amount of work has gone into the preparation for the Rock Eisteddfod performance. The performance will be a highlight of the year for many students. The college wishes all of those involved in the Rock Eisteddfod well, knowing that they will perform at their best.

The college is keen to reduce its adverse effect on the environment. A solar power unit and energy efficient lighting will be installed using funds available through the National Solar School Program. The amount of rubbish that has to be disposed of by the college is a concern. The college disposes of 20 cubic metres of non recyclable rubbish and 8 cubic metres of recyclable material every week. Something that students and families could do to help is to reduce the amount of packaging that is brought to the college by students.

### Parent Opinion Survey

During the week commencing 24 August the annual Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted. The feedback is used in the Annual Report to the school community. If your family receives a survey we ask that you complete and return it to the school in the postage paid envelope to arrive on or before **Friday 28 August 2009**. If surveys are returned after the due date we are unable to include them in the data that is forwarded to DEECD.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held between 4.00pm – 7.00pm on Thursday 27 August 2009. Please encourage your child to make an appointment. Appointment forms have been distributed today.

*Gordon Claney, Assistant Principal*

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## Dates and Deadlines

19 Aug	Year 12 VTAC Information 7.00pm
20 Aug	English SAC Periods 3 & 4 Keys Please Evening 6.45pm C Block
24 Aug	Year 8 Sport School Council 7.00pm
27 Aug	Parent Teacher Interviews – All families 4.00 – 7.00pm
1 Sept	Year 11 German Trip to Hahndorf / Barossa Valley Education Meeting 6.00pm Resources Meeting 7.10pm
3 Sept	District Athletics
8 Sept	Year 7 Sport
14 Sept	Sister School visit to Japan School Council 7.00pm
16 Sept	VCE Music Evening 7.30pm
18 Sept	Year 12 English October Test p4-6 School Ends 2.30pm

## Scholarship

### Opportunity Scholarships

- The Foundation for Young Australians has announced that scholarships of up to \$1000 are available to talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds from the Opportunity Scholarships program. Bushfire Response Scholarships of \$1000 for young people directly affected by the Black Saturday 2009 bushfires are also available.
- The scholarships provide talented students with access to opportunities that may have previously been inaccessible because of cost.
- The Opportunity Scholarships program is open to permanent residents enrolled in government primary and secondary schools who receive Education maintenance Allowance, Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY or Pensioner Education Supplement.
- Applications forms and guidelines can be downloaded at <http://www.fya.org.au>. Applications for both scholarships close on Monday 24 August 2009.

### Scholarships Administered by Individual Trustees

- Scholarships are available to students that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development advertises but does not administer.
- These scholarships can now be viewed at [www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships](http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships).

- Online scholarship applications will be accepted commencing in late November 2009.

*Barbara Atkinson, Office Manager*

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## Year 9 Students – Author Presentation - Michael Gerard Bauer

On Tuesday 25 August 2009 all year 9 students will attend a presentation by Michael Gerard Bauer in the Library. Michael is an author as well as an English and economics teacher. He is one of the interstate authors who will be visiting Melbourne during CBC Book Week, in August.

Michael's books are:

- The Running Man (2004)
- Don't Call Me Ishmael! (2006)
- Ishmael and the Return of the Dugongs (2007)
- Dinosaur Knights (2009)

*The Running Man* has been shortlisted for a number of awards and won The Children's Book Council of Australia: Winner Book of the Year for Older Readers, The Courier Mail Readers Choice Award for Younger Readers, the Catholic Children's and Young People's Book Award in Germany for the German edition.

*Don't Call Me Ishmael!* has been shortlisted for a number of awards and won The Children's Book Council of Australia: Junior Judges Award, the Children's Peace Literature Award and the South Australian Festival Awards for Children's Literature.

A web site that contains further information about Michael is:

[http://www.bookedout.com.au/queensland/Michael\\_Bauer/index.html](http://www.bookedout.com.au/queensland/Michael_Bauer/index.html)

*Margaret Brudenell, Teacher/Librarian*

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## Canteen News

Mon: S Newsom, J Smith  
Tues: M Levey, E Lown, R Valkanis  
Wed: J Stebbing, HELP WANTED  
Thur: C Kirwan, C Williamson  
Fri:  
J Stebbing, H Chui (L), M Cheng

*Carol & Liz*

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