HALF WAY MARK
Once again it seems the holiday and indeed Semester 1 has flown and by starting our preparation for 2014 it signals a fast roll-on to the end. I was pleased with the half-yearly reports posted last week of term with many improvements and positive comments overall. Some were quite outstanding. I also hope many parents will take the opportunity to discuss their child’s progress at our next and last Parent teacher afternoon for the year tomorrow.

TOUCHING BASE
PARENT TEACHER AFTERNOON
YEARS 7-12
3.45 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.

It’s not too late to make an appointment

This evening will be followed by the 10→11 subject selection presentation, cutting down nights out especially in the cold weather. This is an important time for all Year 10 students and it is important that students and parents understand the process and take every chance to make informed decisions. Job Expo and a VC for interested university students with CSU are just 2 of the extra support options we will provide to make these decisions successful.

GOING ON TO SENIOR SCHOOL?
NOT SURE?
Remember you must have full-time employment or be studying elsewhere to leave school before you turn 17.

TUESDAY
7.00 P.M. - 9PM.

TAFE, Skillset and Industry Links representatives also in attendance

As usual our newsletters have been choc-full of excellent student performances in many fields all semester and no doubt there is more to come. I was pleased to see our students in the local paper over the holidays as well. Tom Duggan had further success in the Australian Dirt Bike Titles taking out the major award in his section, the Year 8 girls - Elle Hamer, Sophie Stammers, Ellen Brown, Holly Hopkins, Calle Nicholls, Naomi Anderson and Kate Redmond had a very successful Netball carnival at State Age (and I know they had a fun time as well). Ex-student Craig Morgan is still competing and we wish him well at his final Deaflympics in Bulgaria.

STATE OF ORIGIN
Whilst there was certainly controversy on the field at our SoO game, the 100+ students caused us no such problems. What a pleasure it was to take them all to this exciting game and with no lost children in a huge crowd it was a success on one front. Whilst the game itself was the highlight of the trip it only just surpassed the sales of Krispy Kreme donuts!. I estimated an average of 2 boxes / student was consumed.

After a traffic accident slowed us on the way in, we made great time home and I thank parents for being on time for pick up. I know it was a late (or early) finish.

Our bus drivers were very happy with the kids and I was impressed that every student on my bus thanked Steve for taking them. Equally impressive was the ability to talk non-stop down and back displayed by a few Year 8 girls at the front of the bus - it’s amazing how much I learnt.
Whilst the result of the game was not how many of us hoped there were a few Queensland supporters on the bus and they returned very happy and didn’t gloat too much. Thanks To Mr Salmon, Mr Berry and Ms Dunford who helped out and were my voices for the trip. Despite the lack of sleep and the result it was an excellent trip. Thanks everyone.

HSC PREP
The majority of Year 12 students travelled to CSU on the last Tuesday of term for the Central West HSC Study Day. It was a great opportunity to get some last minute advice and check out the competition with over 10 schools in attendance.

As a presenter I must say all the students took the lectures seriously and I found it a very fulfilling exercise. As always the students were excellent ambassadors.

EDUCATION WEEK
29th JULY-2TH AUGUST
This years’ theme – Celebrate our Stories - aims to highlight the proud moments in Public Education at Blayney High School and across the State. As we have for the past number of years, student leaders across the Heritage community will come together for the “Leaders’ Lunch” at Lyndhurst next Monday.

A pictorial celebration of Heritage stories will also be on display in the IGA foyer. For us our Stage 4 and 5 assemblies will be a fitting way to “Celebrate our Stories” as well as “Celebrate our Achievements”.

Invitations will be out early this week. I look forward to seeing many proud parents on Thursday 1st August.

P&C Meeting
will now be held on Thursday, 25th July
7.00 p.m.
in the Common Room
Everyone is welcome to join in!!!

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 23rd July</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Night 10 – 11 Night</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 24th July</td>
<td>Job Expo – Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 25th July</td>
<td>P&amp;C MEETING</td>
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<td>Friday, 26th July</td>
<td>Premier’s Debating Schools’ Cup Volleyball Regional Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>EDUCATION WEEK</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 29th July</td>
<td>Leaders’ Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st August</td>
<td>Maths Competition Stage 4/5 Assemblies</td>
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ASSESSMENT TASKS

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Preliminary</th>
<th>HSC</th>
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FROM MR. BROWETT
ATTENDANCE
We are currently beginning a process of interviewing a number of students who have a number of unexplained absences and/or an attendance rate below 85% in Semester 1.

To reach their potential at school Students need to attend regularly. A few days off per year due to genuine illness is perfectly understandable. However 1 day off per fortnight is equal to 25 days per year. This equates to 150 periods – the equivalent of 5 school weeks per year. How can any student be expected to keep up with work in such circumstances? Parents have a critical role in ensuring their children are at
school when they are not sick – you are simply protecting your own child’s future.

Absences can be minimized by arranging dental and doctor’s appointments after school or during the holidays. We all know how hard it can be to get a booking at short notice – why not book now for the next school holiday? Shopping, helping at home and visiting relatives may all seem important at the time – but this is not as important as your son or daughter’s future.

We (parents and the school) need to work together to help students understand the importance of being at school whenever possible, and that trivial reasons for absence are not sufficient to discharge a parent’s legal responsibility.

Schools and parents have a legal responsibility to account for the whereabouts of young people daily (and in the evenings as well).

There are multiple studies showing that there is a far greater chance of students becoming early school leavers and/or long term unemployed adults if they don’t attend school regularly.

Should you require support in saying NO to your son or daughter on their attendance or any other issue please contact us immediately.

We can all work together to make a difference to your son or daughter’s future.

UNIFORM
From the start of this term we will be having a ‘blitz’ on uniform. While the vast majority of students wear the correct uniform a small minority of students have been regularly wearing incorrect uniform or unacceptable variations of our uniform.

Points for clarification
- Hoodies or a second jumper may only be worn if a school jumper is worn over the top and the second hoodie/jumper is white, grey, black or maroon. Hoods must not be worn.
- A school (or plain white) shirt must be worn below a school jumper (and any other jumper/hoodie).
- Wearing a hoodie with a school shirt only over the top is not acceptable uniform
- Students may wear a zip or button up coat if they have a school shirt and jumper underneath.
- Leggings are not to worn without other acceptable uniform options over the top (this does not include shirts).

Naturally there will be days where there are genuine reasons when your student may not be able to comply with the uniform code. If this is the case please send them with a note explaining the circumstance and they will be given a uniform pass for the relevant day.

None of these requirements are new and students who fail to comply without a parental note will be given detention. Repeated failure to comply will result in referrals for repeated disobedience and possible drops in the school level system.

As with all school requirements it is easier to comply and your co-operation will be expected and appreciated.

STUDENT MEDICAL FORMS
During Terms 3 and 4 we will be updating our medical records systems to ensure we have the most up-to-date information on your child’s health.

If you have a child with a medical condition you will receive a copy of the new forms in the mail and will need to fill them out and return them to us as soon as you can.

The good news is we have already started collecting some of this information, which means less for you to do.

The new forms will help us collect your child’s important medical information and the introduction of new systems will mean we’ll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child.

We appreciate your support as we start collecting the information and if you have any questions please call 6368 2100.

XSEL VACANCIES FOR 2014
Next year there will be a limited number of vacancies for students in Years 8, 9 & 10 who are interested in studying with XSEL, the Virtual Selective High School. This school allows students to work in a challenging environment in English, Maths & Science.

XSEL is best suited to students who are quick learners, well organised, capable of working independently and who are committed to learning. The lessons take place online outside the normal classroom. Students who have applied previously do not need to reapply.

If you would like more information contact Miss Jones or Mrs Mista before Wednesday, 24/7/2013.

(Mrs. Mista)
**YEAR 8 VISUAL ARTS**

Over a period of 4 weeks last term our Year 8 Visual Arts students completed a task where they completed Hybrid masks comprised of animal, machine and human features to make a completely new artwork. The works were painted or glazed with under and gloss glazes.

It is pleasing to see the detail and effort put into these works and the vastly individual and diverse interpretations of them by each student. Well done.

*(Mr. Caheley)*

P.S. These masks can be filled with potting mix and put on a wall to grow alfalfa or something like that. They have a hole in the back to hang onto a screw.

**NAIDOC DAY**

Several students from Blayney High School attended the NAIDOC Day celebrations at Mandurama Public School on the last day of Term 2.

The day involved the Heritage Schools in the area coming together for a day of fun-filled activities based upon Aboriginal Australian cultural activities. The primary students were given the opportunity to experience Aboriginal painting, storytelling, singing, sports and gathering food. Our students assisted the staff on the day with running the individual activities and interacted with the younger children as they enthusiastically took part in the day.

A particular highlight was the sumptuous spread put on for morning tea and lunch, which our students ably assisted with in preparing (and eating).

Overall, another wonderful day that encouraged an awareness of indigenous culture and allowed Blayney High students to once again prove themselves excellent ambassadors for our school, our town and community. A well-deserved vote of thanks was extended by the Principal of Mandurama Public School, Helen Rutherford to the following students for their contribution on the day: Brandon Beauchamp, Emmaleigh Bright, Annika Brown, Georgia Calub, Paige Henry, James Hotham, Adelle Hutchings, Alec Simmonds and Casey Wallace.

*(Mr. Hewitt)*

**ENGLISH STUDIES EXCURSION**

On Tuesday, 25th June, a very excited group of 13 English Studies students, along with Mr. Lawrence and Mrs. Logan, travelled by bus to Orange to see the film “Fast and Furious 6” as part of their unit of study on English in Film Making. Below is a selection of some of the highlights of the day.

Brandon: *It was a good day had by all, the best part of the movie was when The Rock threw a guy across the room.*

Jacob: *The day was excellent and I enjoyed it greatly. I especially enjoyed Tyrese Gibson’s forehead!*

Nathan: *The movie was great, so was the day. It’s a must-see movie!*

Josh: *The movie was good.*

Michael: *The day was great, reminded me lots of how Casey drives! Food was good, movie was good, day was great.*

Casey: *The movie was fully sick! They all drive like I do except not as fast! Food was good, movie was good, day was great!*
As you can see everybody was well satisfied with all aspects of the day. The students behaved exceptionally well – I think it was the longest period of time for which I have seen some of them remain quiet!

Thank you to Mr. Lawrence for driving the bus which, despite many doubts, made it back to school on time!

(Mrs. Logan)

RUGBY LEAGUE
Blayney High took on Bathurst High in Round 4 of the Open University Shield Rugby League Competition during Monday of the last week of term.

Unfortunately Blayney went down by 4 points in this fixture with the final score being 22-18. Goal kicking proved the difference with both teams scoring 4 tries a piece. In a very physical and entertaining match Blayney dominated the early scoring opportunities to lead 8-0. One of these tries came after an excellent line bust from Lachie Hobby with great support play from Casey Wallace. However, as the half unfolded Blayney failed to use the breeze at their backs and Bathurst were invited back into the match with a half time score of 8-6.

After half time the home team lapsed early with Bathurst scoring simple tries to blow out to a 22-8 lead. Blayney showed great character to come storming back to fall just short with the clock being the enemy. Blayney scored the last 2 tries of the match with Hayden Williams crossing after some great teamwork effort before Matt Hobby scored a brilliant individual 70m try.

There were many strong performers for Blayney High in this match. The 16 years students playing this match were outstanding. The slightly older Zac Taylor had a storming match continually troubling Bathurst in both attack and defence. Overall the boys shouldn’t be disappointed with their efforts in this match. The only two players moving on from this team next year are the Year 12 veterans Simon Ewin and Matt Hobby. Hopefully with all players on deck at Blayney High next year the Open Rugby League Team should be a very strong outfit.

(Mr. Tilburg)

BUSY TIME FOR VOLLEYBALLERS
The end of term two was a busy time for boys and girls volleyball, both preparing to take part in competitions in Temora and Sydney. The boys took part in the Riverina Academy of Sport invitational at Temora. This tournament was for schools with less than 600 enrolments. Blayney entered two teams who played against West Wyalong, Harden, Forbes and Temora.

Although the boys did not play their best volleyball in the pool rounds they both managed to finish top of their pool. This meant that the two teams played against each other in the final. This proved to be an outstanding game, with all of the boys playing some excellent volleyball. After an exciting first two sets which ended one each, the third set to win the tournament was hard fought with the team of Simon Ewin, Jordan Hobby, Matthew Hobby, Lachlan Hobby, Ben Robinson and
Tom Duggan. The second placed team was Chris Baker, Tyson Henry, Lachlan Ewin, Lachlan Farr, Matthew Reeks and Bryce Ryan. Well done to both teams. Thanks to Mr Salmon for his coaching efforts on the day.

The girls travelled to Sydney during the last week of term to play in the State final 16’s series. The girls played some very strong teams winning two and losing two of their matches to finish in ninth place. The girls have worked hard and with many changes from the 2012 team they should be very pleased with their efforts.

Kate Toohey provided a lot of inspiration to the girls as Captain, while Hannah Stammers, Grace Mooney and Tanesha Hahn put in their usual strong performances. Amylea Lawson who has only recently started playing volleyball saved many sets with her outstanding serving. Kodi Fuller has now stepped up to become a permanent member of the senior team and showed a lot of promise in her first finals series. Emily Cochrane played in a new position as Libero and really put her stamp on the position. Congratulations girls and thanks for a great few days.

Boys and girls are now preparing for the second Metro Schools up this Friday. Good Luck!

13 YEARS COUNTRY CUP REGIONAL FINALS

On the last Thursday of Term 2 Blayney High’s 13 Years Rugby League team ventured to Parkes for the Regional Finals of the NRL’s Country Cup competition. This was a great experience for these boys to venture out of their comfort zone and play in different surrounds against different opposition.

The boys played Dubbo St.Johns and Red Bend Catholic College Forbes in their two matches and were defeated in both. However, the opportunity to play against some quality opposition will prove valuable to the boys moving forward with their school footy into the future. In particular the many 12 year old players that participated would have taken much from this carnival. Overall the boys appeared to enjoy the opportunity to bond throughout the day and the opportunity to watch plenty of footy and the winning opportunities provided. Well done every body. (Mr. Tilburg)

CAREERS - UAC key dates for 2014 admissions

Applications
Wednesday 7 August 2013
Applications open Processing charge $28
Friday 27 September 2013
On-time applications close
Thursday 31 October 2013
Late applications close Late fee $122
Friday 29 November 2013
Late applications close Late fee $140
Friday 31 January 2013
Final close of applications Late fee $150

HSC and ATARs

Wednesday 18 December 2013
NSW HSC results released by Board of Studies NSW

Thursday 19 December 2013
ATARs released by UAC at www.uac.edu.au

To become a Skillset Apprentice or Trainee you will need to complete the online registration form.

It is a free service so register online. Please visit: www.skillset.com.au or call 1300 709 533

See the Careers Adviser for more information
FROM THE P&C

At the June P & C Meeting we had guest speakers from the Textures of One Inc.

On the 14th, 15th and 16th March, 2014 they will be holding a craft exhibition at the Community Centre. They are hoping that on this weekend groups within the Blayney Shire will hold a variety of events in order to show case the Blayney community to the many visitors the exhibition is expected to attract.

They have made an offer to the P & C to run a craft show at the school hall on either Saturday or Sunday. This would involve us advertising to attract store holders from groups such as spinners, quilters, scrapbookers, etc, the options are endless to the many types of crafts out there. They would also hope that some of the exhibitors would run workshops throughout the day.

We would also be responsible for the supply and sale of morning tea and lunch.

They would like us to make a decision within the next week as to whether we will host the craft show. If we are not interested they will then offer it to a group called Craft Alive. This is a large organisation that run craft show right across the country, they would charge stall holders up to $300 per stall and all we would then get would be the entry fee and sale of food. Whereas we have the option to charge stall holders whatever we like.

In order for us to make a decision on this event we are seeking your input and commitment to help making the day a success. We feel that this would be a great opportunity for the school to hold this as an annual event and build it up over the years. It could become our major fundraiser for the year, and something that we would have ownership over.

We felt that this was an appealing proposal and hope that everyone agrees and feels keen for it.

Please let us know over the next couple of days what your thoughts are so that we can get back to the organisers.  

(Kerry Adams – P&C Secretary)
# SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDER FORM

The Blayney High School Clothing Pool operates as follows
If you need to purchase any items please complete the order form below and submit to the front office, before 1pm, this will be filled and be ready for pick up from 2.30pm. Orders dropped after 1pm will not be filled until the following school day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student name</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polo Shirts</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Polo Shirts (Yrs 11 &amp; 12)</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Polar Fleece Jumpers</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Knitted Jumpers (Yrs 11 &amp; 12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls’ Maroon Pleated Skirt sizes 8-22</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls’ Hipster Slacks Sizes 8 – 18</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Track pants Maroon (junior)</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trackpants Black (Senior)</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sports short</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondhand clothing(Limited Stock)</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second hand senior jumpers (limited stock)</td>
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<td>Maths grid book</td>
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<td>Calculators Y 8-12</td>
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**Total cost**

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<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Order to be given to student</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
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Clothing pool will still be open on pupil free days out of the canteen.