

BORDERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

This week we celebrated School Support Officer (SSO) day at Bordertown High School and it gave us a chance to pause and reflect on the immense value of all the work support staff do to contribute to student improvement. All classroom based SSOs support students with disabilities and learning difficulties, as well as undertaking a range of other tasks to assist the day to day operations of the classroom. We are extremely lucky to have a group of such capable and caring SSOs who work closely with teachers. Admin SSOs at BHS have a range of responsibilities ranging from maintenance through to reception, and do a tremendous job making sure all the background work happens. We are also extremely lucky to have a group of capable and professional support staff behind the scenes.

The aim for all teachers at Bordertown High must be to challenge and motivate students so that they develop a love of learning and sense of the links between application, knowledge and achievement. Learning in this sense goes beyond classroom content to include that special feeling we all get when we learn to finally master something like braze welding, or gain new knowledge about ways that share market movements impact our daily lives. Recent disruptions caused by COVID-19 have called on teachers, students and families to be flexible and to remain focussed on the learning journey.

All our students are back at school and strongly engaged in their programs of work. I must congratulate the year 12 students who have continued to show their commitment to achieving the best they can. Both the SACE Board and universities have introduced flexibilities to their end of year requirements. Our SACE Coordinator, Paul Trieu, has been keeping students aware of how these impact our students and can be contacted for more information.

Each year schools are entitled to a number of student free days to allow staff to engage in professional learning activities as a collegial group. This term our student free day will be on Monday June 22 where staff will be involved in training for differentiated learning.

In 2020 Reconciliation Australia marks twenty years of shaping Australia's journey towards a more just, equitable and reconciled nation. As always, we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, and Australians now benefit from the efforts and contributions of people committed to reconciliation in the past. Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, organizations and importantly as a nation. There is no question that education is powerful and a great education can change a life. It can bring people together with a shared understanding and it can change our entire community for the better. One of our key values Respect, reflects our ongoing work to build and include an understanding of Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum.

Markus Trnovsky



IMPORTANT DATES

JUNE

15-19th Yr 11 Exams
22nd STUDENT FREE DAY
23rd Semester 2 begins
23rd Finance Meeting
23rd Governing Council



It's that time of year again that the Show preparations are underway. Every year level has been involved so far, from learning about animal handling, grooming, correct knot tying, low stress handling, and nutrition to breaking in of the animals. Unfortunately, the Adelaide Show has been cancelled; however, there is still Plan B for some of our animals. Steers will still enter a carcase competition, merino wethers will be going ahead as normal into a wool, meat and combined competition and the destination of the goats is unsure at this stage. We are hoping we can show them in some way.

This year for the first time in a many years we have welcomed the year 8s into agriculture. Some of them have had a steep learning curve into handling animals but it's so nice to hear the laughter that goes along with it. They have been busy learning the terminology used in agriculture, different types of agriculture, sustainability, dung beetles, bees, cropping and a general overview.

Year 9s have been completing the poultry topic and are now about to start learning about the cattle industry as well as growing their vegetable gardens.

Year 10s are close to completing their enterprises and have now started work in handling the steers and wethers. They are also learning about Faba bean production, as this is what is currently growing at the school farm.

Year 11s have been working on the Merino wethers, tracking and recording wool and growth rates, and estimating weight and prices after 6 weeks on pellets. Students have also been learning about lamb feedlotting in general.

Last but certainly not least, year 12s are about to start investigating a trial we have happening on Vercos farm. We have had some soil grid mapping done and have set up some lime trials from the data. Students will be looking at lime application and the effect it has on bean nodulation. We thank Nathan Tink for his help setting this trial up. Year 12s are also working on their external production assignments that have been keeping them busy.

We are very excited about the enthusiasm and year ahead for both students and enterprises occurring in Agriculture this year.

Mrs Altus and Mrs McCarthy



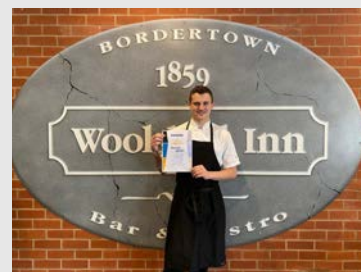
Career Expos

This year's Career Expos have been offered virtually so that particularly our Senior Students are still able to access information to assist with their planning for 2021 and beyond. This has recently included the Tertiary Careers Expo and the Year 13 Careers Expo event, with many different workshops, guest speakers and institutions represented in the program. The big advantage for our students was the save in travel time and expenditure, and the programs were extensively showcased.

It is still anticipated that our Year 11 students will be able to participate in their annual Careers Trip, which is timed to include the re-scheduled Careers Expo from this term during Week 1 of Term 4.

Our annual Tertiary Information workshops presented by UniSA and Flinders University have also been modified for 2020, with UniSA offering a Zoom session for our Year 12 students on June 3rd (week 6), and the Year 10 students participating in a virtual Career Match activity on the same day.

Sue Walter



A belated congratulations to Ben Bryant for his fantastic achievement in being awarded School Based Trainee of the Year at the SESSA Industry Awards in April.

Unfortunately the formal Presentation Ceremony was cancelled this year due to the current circumstances, but recently Ben has received his award and now has the opportunity to nominate in the State Awards held in September. Ben has been studying Commercial Cookery through his employer, The Woolshed Inn Bordertown, with expert mentorship from Lauren Nelson. He has now moved from School Based into full-time with his training and we wish him every success.

Sue Walter
VET Coordinator

Year 8 History

This term the class of 8A has been studying different pandemics throughout history. We have been researching the impact on world populations and how it has changed society. Each group found out an exceptional amount of information and created a poster which was presented to the class. The students spent many weeks researching their plague to get a better understanding of the past so that we can learn from it for the present and future problems.

The researched pandemics were HIV/AIDS, Antonine Plague, the Spanish Flu, the first Cholera outbreak, the third Cholera outbreak, Ebola, Yellow Fever, Justinian and finally Covid-19.

It was amazing how history is very relevant today and how things have not changed that much, including isolation, survival and hygiene.

History can be fun and teach us lots about why we behave and function today.

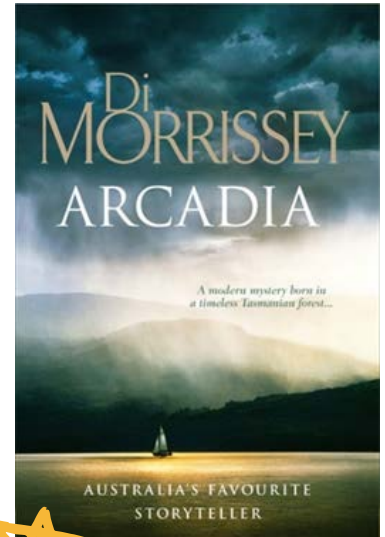
Bridie Kuchel



Library Resource Centre

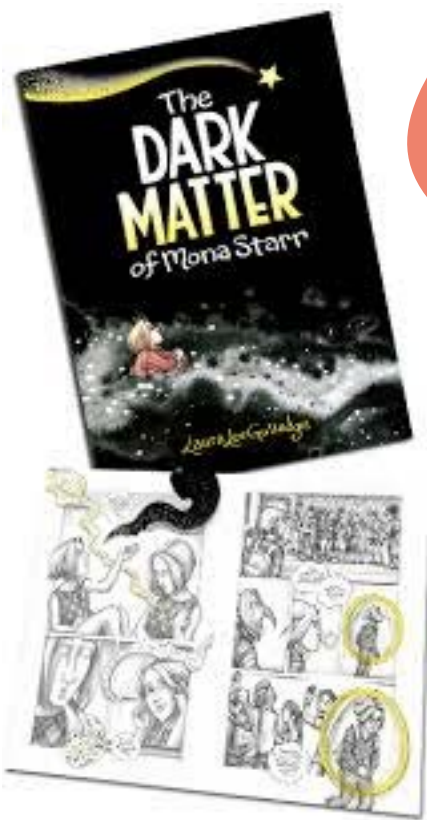
BOOK OF THE WEEK – *Arcadia*

Australian author Di Morrissey's 26th Book, *Arcadia* is a modern mystery born in a timeless Tasmanian forest. Set in the 1930's, *Arcadia* tells the story of a young new wife, Stella, as she arrives at her husband's isolated property in Tasmania, where she finds love and beauty nestled amongst the nearby untouched forest. The story continues two generations later when Stella's granddaughter and best friend stumble upon Stella's secret life, opening old wounds. With many questions unearthed, the two girls embark on an adventure to solve the mysteries of past and the present.

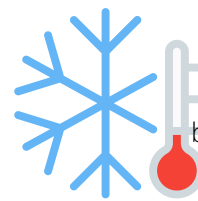


Graphic Novels

A Graphic Novel is a book in comic form. They attract and motivate students to read. Like traditional novels, Graphic Novels can help students to develop the critical thinking skills they need to read more challenging texts and understand and interpret information differently.



REMEMBER



The library is open every morning from 8.30 if you need to borrow or return books or just a place to warm up

NEW Graphic Novels in this week...

