Principal’s Report

It is a landscape unlike any we’ve seen before as we welcome our school community back to Term 2. Well done to everyone for their first week of Remote and Flexible learning. Schools run on the strength of their community so to see how this community has faced the challenges and grown as a result has been very impressive. We truly have become a community of learners and the partnerships being forged at the moment between the students and their families, alongside the support from the teachers has reinforced a relationship between school and home that can only benefit our young people in both the short and long term.

Our families have increased their communication immeasurably with our staff and we know that this will continue. Students have been actively engaging in new technologies, learning in new fashions and being open, flexible, persistent and resilient. These are all values which we want to recognise in our young people.

We are trying to navigate our own way through to trying to provide the most supportive learning environment possible for each student. As a result we have picked three main platforms to engage with. Students should be accessing their school emails regularly, they should look to Compass for their lesson content and we are trialling WebEx as a face to face option to encourage students to interact with their teachers and maintain those vital relationships. Many of our staff are testing other online services like the Google suite so you are likely hear more about these as the days roll by, if not already.

We expect the school day to run from 9am to 3:30pm. All students should be logged in to Compass and their emails by that time and have communicated with their Home group teacher via email or WebEx by 9:30. Students should work through their days lessons according to their program on Compass. This may include sending the learner off to other links like Edrolo or Education Perfect but the instructions will still be found on Compass. Throughout the day each student is welcome to exchange emails with their teachers to clarify work, offer drafts and seek feedback as we try to manage an environment as close to a regular class as possible. If you have any photos of our students doing amazing things we would love to see them. We are always open to having those photos included into our school magazine, newsletter or Facebook. You may have even noticed two on the front of the paper!

We have also had very positive engagement with the first of our Community WebEx sessions and a huge thank you to the families who were involved in that. We will be running another one this week so keep an eye on your Compass newsfeed for information about that.

Meanwhile, the building program continues with the handover of the first of our first refurbished buildings, a new music centre, imminent any day.

Finally, to all of the families who are working in any of the essential services, from truck drivers to medical staff, police and farmers and all others keeping our community fed, safe and healthy we say a very humble ‘thank you’.

VCE update

We expect the VCAA will release its updated information on adjustments to Unit 3&4 study designs in response to the Remote learning situation and impact on some subject, at the end of this week. Students will be informed as soon as we have this information.

Patricia Broom - Principal
& Luke Wakefield - Assistant Principal
Hi everyone,

Welcome back to Term 2! Whilst school is looking a bit ‘different’ this term it’s important to remember that wellbeing support for students and staff still remains. The wellbeing team can be contacted on their school email addresses:

- Mel Ivone – School Counsellor: ivone.melissa.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
- Sarah Williams – School Nurse: Williams.sarah.l@edumail.vic.gov.au
- Ash Lawry – Engagement and Wellbeing Leading Teacher: lawry.ashlea.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

We know that for many this will be a challenging time, as we adjust to a new way of learning and connecting with each other.

If you are a parent or carer that would like some wellbeing support for your child then please contact Ash Lawry via email. We are currently in the process of developing a digital form that can be submitted directly to the wellbeing team and details for this will follow shortly. If you are a student and would like to have a chat with someone in wellbeing then please contact us directly via email and we can go from there.

This term I am open to suggestions for ways to connect with you all. If you would like me to organise a WebEx ‘recess catch up’ meeting with a group of your friends then let me know (BYO hot drink and recess snack!) Or if you would like to me to organise some mindfulness sessions that you can jump in on then I am happy to get something sorted. I will also be popping in and out of Year 7-10 health classes online and organising some small group work to help compliment the teaching content.

In the meantime, if you’re looking for things to do outside of school hours whilst socially isolating, I’ve compiled a bunch of different activities you can do at home (exercise, mindfulness, creative, reading, you name it, I’ve got it covered). Just jump onto Compass News Feed and download the resource sheet. If you would like it emailed to you just let me know.

Stay safe and healthy and get in touch if you need anything.

“Among the uncertainty, keep walking. Keep loving, learning and living as you navigate this unfamiliar terrain. All life- even the rugged and shaky times – require your active participation, so lean in, don’t check out.” – Emily May.

Sarah Williams – Adolescent Health Nurse
REMOTE LIBRARY ACCESS

We have so many good books in our school library sitting lonely on the shelves! We want to get them out to students to keep sharing the world of words and stories, inspiration, escapism to another time or world, humour, help with doing school assignments….

Please send in your book requests by emailing library@bworthsc.vic.edu.au and I will endeavour to match you up with a book. Give me an idea of a book title, author, what subject you like reading about, your interests and I will try to find one to keep you entertained.

If you get your requests to me by Wednesday each week I will get the books (with gloved hands), sanitise them and put them in a new reusable bag. We can then work out the best way to get them to you, be it collection or delivery depending where you live.

Andrea Browne
Beechworth Secondary College

Fish out of water by Jane Tara
Elite swimmers Dina McNamara’s dreams of Olympic Gold have been derailed.

Her gifted sister Mae has graduated high school at just 16 and has planned an around-the-world trip with her three best friends. Their parents agree to let Mae go but only if 18-year-old Dina goes too. Resentful and broken but with nothing better to do with her life Dina boards the plane first stop Tokyo.

Two weeks in the world’s most amazing megacity completely turns Dina’s life upside-down.

There are new friendships unexpected opportunities and a surprising romance. For the first time ever Dina begins to figure out what she wants both in and out of the water.

But Tokyo is only the first stop on an unforgettable world trip and as their departure date draws near Dina must decide whether she can leave Japan and this

Off the Map by Jane Tara

The republic of Birds by Jessica Miller

Olga loves the stories of the old cartographers and pores over their ancient books and maps, trying to unlock their secrets. Sometimes, she can even feel through the maps—almost see into them—as if by magic.

When the bird army kidnaps Olga’s sister, Mira, Olga knows that only she can venture into the Republic of Birds to rescue her. But first, she must unlock her magical ability.

As her journey takes her into the hidden world of the Iagas and the wilds of the Unmappable Blank, Olga discovers the truth about the war with the birds—and learns just how much is at stake in her quest to save her sister.

Every word by Ellie Marney

James Mycroft has just left for London to investigate a car accident similar to the one that killed his parents without saying good-bye to his partner in crime, Rachel Watts.

Rachel is furious and worried about his strange behavior—not that Mycroft’s ever exactly normal, but London is the scene of so many of his nightmares. Unable to resist, Rachel jumps on a plane to follow him and lands straight in a whole storm of trouble.

Circe by Madeline Miller
The Survival Handbook
Stephen Biesty’s more incredible cross sections
ANZAC DAY 2020
Saturday 25th April @ 6am

“Let's Turn On Our Outside Lights”

At dawn on Anzac Day put your porch or veranda light on to honour the dedication, commitment and sacrifice of our veterans both past and present.

Let's light up Beechworth at 6 am to show our gratitude.

Beechworth community can shine together.

Lest we Forget

Foundations for the new Science / Resource Centre