



# NEWSLETTER

Week 9 Term 4 2023



Principal: Kris Robson  
Deputy Principal: Clare O'Neill

4 Seymour Street, Eden Hills 5050 Phone: 8278 5355 [www.blackwoodps.sa.edu.au](http://www.blackwoodps.sa.edu.au)

**An IB school valuing, supporting and inspiring a community of lifelong learners**

## Important Diary Dates

**Last day of Term 4  
Friday 15  
December  
2.20pm finish**

**Uniform Shop  
open onsite  
Wednesday  
24 January  
9am-3pm**

**Term 1 2024  
commences  
Monday  
29 January**

**The Staff at  
Blackwood Primary  
School wish our  
School Community a  
Happy and safe  
Festive Season**



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As the year draws to a close we would like to thank all of the members of our school community for their support and dedication throughout 2023. What an amazing 2023 we have had.

We take time to appreciate all of the incredible staff at Blackwood Primary School; the teachers, SSO's and Pastoral Support workers.

Thank you for your tireless work to ensure that each and every student at Blackwood Primary School is catered for in a caring and inclusive environment, delivering the best possible outcomes for students. Your impact on the lives of our children is immeasurable. This time of the year also brings time to farewell some staff members from our school community. Thank you to Madeline Weber for her support of Room 14 students, Janita Bentley for her role teaching PE, to Jude Brown for returning to support our Arts program in Jodie Bartlett's absence and to Jess Uern for her SSO role and we wish them all the very best in 2024.

An extra big thank you to Brenton Wolf who is also leaving us at the end of the year. Throughout the time that Brenton has been at Blackwood many of our students and families have benefited from his care and support. Brenton will leave a large hole in our community but we wish him all the best in his future.

To all the wonderful parents and friends of our students we thank you for your support of your children, their education and also many of our school events this year including our amazing end of year celebration, held on Monday night. It was great to see so many families braving the weather and turning out to view the spectacular Art Installations and watch the performances of our three choirs. This event was only possibly with the support of our Parents and Friend's committee and we thank them also for their support throughout the year. Thank you also to our wonderful Governing Council ably lead by Ryan Kitchen who have supported the school community and assisted with decisions and committees throughout the year.

To our families who are leaving us as their children transition to High School we wish you all the best for your child's continued learning journey and look forward to hearing of their achievements in the future. We know that the foundation they have built at Blackwood Primary School will stand them in good stead for whatever they choose to do in the future.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and holiday break and we look forward to seeing everyone ready for the start of another great year at Blackwood Primary School.



## School Information

### Student Absence

If your child will be absent from school, please send a txt through the

### Space Talk App

or

### SMS Text to

0427 016 460

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### Term Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Monday 8:15 – 9:15  
Wednesday 12.45 - 1.30  
Friday 8:15 – 9:15  
3:00 – 3:45

Ph: 8350 7933

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### KickStart Breakfast

Monday, Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday  
8:30am

Outside the Canteen

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### Lost and Found

Ensure all items are clearly labelled so we can return them to you and check the lost and found cupboard for missing items.

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### BPS Playgroup

Thursdays  
0 – 4 year olds  
9am to 11am  
OSHC Room

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### School Tour Days

We offer school tours for new families & new students.

Contact Reception on 8278 5355 for the next tour date and to book.

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To join, search for Blackwood PS Scene in Facebook and click on the Join button.



## AIT Report

This past term our Autism Inclusion Teacher has been completing action research on the area of play at Blackwood Primary and opportunities to ensure that it can be successful for all students. The focus question has been *How can we best support students to have successful Recess and Lunch times?* This involved meeting with leadership and various staff and students to ascertain what are the positives about BPS, what supports students feel they need in the yard and what suggestions students and staff have to make play more successful. Articles about the importance of play in childhood development have been read as well as looking at other schools' sensory and play spaces, and collated data on issues that may cause negative play experiences in the yard.



As a school we also gained additional feedback from the whole school 'BPS Postcards', this was a great opportunity for students to share their thoughts with the wider community when those student voices were displayed on our celebration evening. If you were lucky enough to complete a parent postcard we now have some feedback from you too that will help us look at areas of need or positives around our school. Additionally a play survey was carried out that sorted information about the best places to play at BPS, what students do when there is a problem and how they overcome it. Students offered ideas on what could make play more successful and although quite a few mentioned turning the whole day into recess/lunch time, we might have some problems getting that change through the Governing Council and Mrs Robson! Students were able to articulate their favourite things to do, why play is important, who they tend to speak with to help them problem solve and what could be improved during play times. It was lovely to see that the JP staff and students value the importance of play so much that their beautiful flowers for display on Celebration Night also included a sentence or two about why play is important to them.

Kate Johnson



## 2023 School Senior Awards

Our school's Senior Graduation evening was held on Thursday night - Week 9. During the ceremony, a number of students received awards. We would like to thank the Mitcham Hills Interchurch Council for providing gift packs and Brenton, our Pastoral Care Worker, organising them for our graduating students. Congratulations to the following award winners:

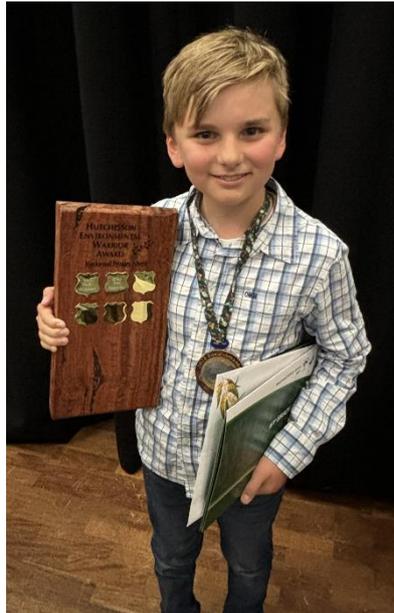
### IB Student of the Year Award

Max and Clio



### The Hutchesson Environmental Warrior Award

Tim



### Molly Byrne Award

Lexi

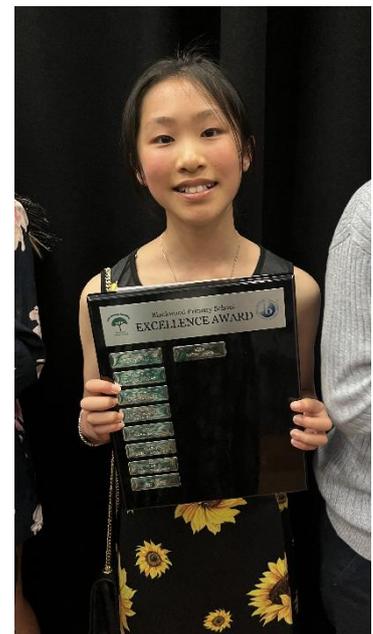


### Care, Harmony & Excellence School Awards

Christian (Care)

Bella (Harmony)

Cathy (Excellence)



## Celebration Night



One of the areas we were hoping to celebrate on Monday night was the outdoor learning classroom, which is situated on the side of the oval. This space is often used for drama, class meetings and also an area to quietly observe the flora and fauna. The artwork was done by the year 3's, 4's and 5's. They chose either a bird, bug or butterfly using oil pastels. Mr Wyskamp's class also wrote about the birds they had seen in the area.





## 2023 Senior Student Leadership

Our group of Year 6 Senior Student Leaders have had a very busy year. Below is what the School Captains and House Leaders have done/accomplished in 2023.

- Lay a wreath at the Blackwood ANZAC Day ceremony
- Attend Well-Being learning walks with staff
- Help set up and pack up Athletics Day
- Organise a Casual Clothes Day for our World Vision sponsor child
- Help at the new receptions Meet and Greet
- Run a school talent show
- Organise a Harmony Day activities
- Run Student Action team meetings
- Help set up and pack up Sports Day
- Present at special school events
- Plan and present Tuesday morning assemblies
- Attend Mitcham Hills Cluster SRC meetings
- Run lunchtime activities
- Tally the House Points Cup points
- Assist with the transition of our new students
- Run rubbish-collection competitions
- Promote Japanese at our school
- Present at our Volunteers Morning Tea
- Meet with our school's leadership team
- Make videos to promote student safety and student learning
- Write newsletter articles
- Plan and run lunchtime activities for PE Week

A big thanks to our School Captains - Clio, Bella, Aliya and Max, and our House Leaders - Tom, Blake, Rishana, Mackenzie, Chirana, Ari, Kei, Aasini, Izzy, Mark, CJ, Daniel and Kristin, for all of their hard work towards our school this year.

## Governing Council 2024

Governing Council is a great way to get involved in your child's school and show them that you value education. Are you able to help out for only two meetings a term? In 2024, Blackwood Primary School Governing Council will have positions vacant for enthusiastic new members.

Look out for further information in the New Year.

## Year 4/5 Report - How the World Works

### Central Idea:

Scientific principles can develop and improve designs.

### The Lines of inquiry:

- Scientific principles
- The design cycle
- Applying scientific understanding to solve a problem

As part of our *How the World Works* unit of inquiry the year 4/5 classes have been exploring different scientific principles. Our central idea is “scientific principles can develop and improve designs” and students have been exploring different forces. Students have had different hands-on learning opportunities where they have been able to explore a force, test it and make adjustments to see how it changes. Some of the activities include, looking at grip on shoes, air and drag resistance to paper planes and creating a marble wall track.



Here students were asked to draw the different grip patterns that were on the shoes of students in the class.

Students worked in teams to create a marble wall track that would keep a marble in motion for the longest amount of time. They needed to design their marble wall track prior to the task, explain the forces that they were using and draw accurate diagrams. After they created their marble wall track students reflected on what changes they would make to their designs, what challenges they faced and what they would do differently next time.

“On the day when we made the marble run, all of the students had groups and they needed to use recycled materials to make a marble run. Lots of people had different ideas and it was good to see the final designs. We tested the wall tracks at the end of the day and we saw which marble was the fastest and the slowest to go through the marble run.” - Ruby, Room 6

“The marble run task was tricky because it was hard getting the track to stick to the table without it falling off or over. My group had the idea to slow down the marble with little speed bumps along the path. We needed to make sure that the bumps weren’t too big because it would stop the marble in its tracks. The task was fun because we were able to create something with our hands.” - Nadia, Room 6

“The marble run was pretty tricky because my group decided to put the track around the table. It was fun watching the marble roll down and it was good to check our time and make adjustments to our designs.” - Campbell, Room 6





“The marle run was tricky to create because first we needed to collect our recycled materials. It was hard to hold the structure because it needed to be stuck to the table. Our group managed to keep the marble in motion for 11 seconds.” - Shahzaib, Room 8

“I enjoyed creating different angles and different ways to slow the marble down. It was fun turning the table over and sticking our marble run to the table.” - Chiara, Room 8

“I enjoyed the marble run because I liked using different angles to make the marble go faster and slower. In my group we created some drops for the marble to fall and my group managed to keep the marble in motion for 11 seconds.” - Evie, Room 8

### **Roller coaster**

“The roller coaster task was about making a model of a roller coaster for a marble to be used. Getting the structure to stay up was tricky. We needed to include a loop in the rollercoaster and two camel humps which were hard to create at the start but as we continued to build the model it was easier.”

- Aki, Room 8



“It was hard to keep the roller coaster steady and not fall down because of the weight of the marble. In my group we created one loop for the marble and it was not successful.” - Max, Room 8

“The rollercoaster task was tricky because I had to stay up without holding it. It needed to have a loop and a camel hump in it. It was hard because you needed to do the loop and camel hump near each other to ensure there was enough momentum and speed for the marble to pass through successfully.” - Mya, Room



## School Sport Survey 2024

Attention: Parents of Children who will be turning 10 or older in 2024

If your child is interested in representing our school in sporting activities outside of our normal PE lessons please complete the 2024 School Sport survey with them. The survey allows our school to gauge if we have enough student interest to enter teams in knockout competitions. It also allows us to know which students to direct information about different SAPSASA sports to. To access the survey please use the QR code below.

Chris Bates



## Year 4 Multi-Sport Carnival

On Friday of Week 8, 55 Year 4 students participated in the SAPSASA Multi-Sport Carnival at Club Marion. Students participated in coaching sessions and mini games of Tag Football, Lacrosse, Tennis, Softball and Cricket. Students had a great time having a go at some sports that were new to them. Thank you to Ms. Beaty, Ms. Sansome and the parents who supported us on the day.

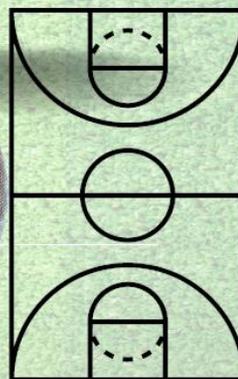
Chris Bates



*BPS  
BASKETBALL  
REGISTRATIONS  
2024*

*YEAR 3 - TUESDAY  
YEAR 4 - WEDNESDAY  
YEAR 5 - FRIDAY  
YEAR 6 - THURSDAY*

Scan to  
register your  
interest for  
2024



**BPS CRICKET  
REGISTRATIONS  
ARE OPEN FOR  
TERM 1 2024  
YEAR 2,3,4,5,6  
PLAYERS WANTED**

SCAN THE  
CODE TO  
REGISTER  
YOUR INTEREST



# HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS

UMS will be closed for the holiday period from Thursday 21st December 2023.  
We will re-open on Monday 8th January 2024  
\*closed for Australia Day

TRADING HOURS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL 2024 ARE:

MONDAY	9:00AM-5:00PM
TUESDAY	9:00AM-5:00PM
WEDNESDAY	9:00AM-5:00PM
THURSDAY	9:00AM-5:00PM
FRIDAY	9:00AM-5:00PM
SATURDAY	9:00AM-12:00PM

Online orders can be collected from UMS Melrose park.

Orders can also be delivered to a nominated address (postage fee applies)

Shop Address:  
Shop 2 985-987  
South Road  
Melrose Park  
5039

MelroseUMS@umspl.com.au  
0431 776 713

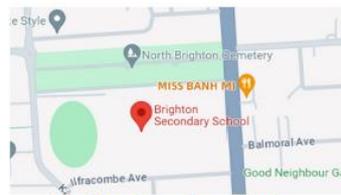


# HOLIDAY STEM WORKSHOP



**Tuesday 16th January 2024 9:00-3:00**  
**Wednesday 17th January 2024 9:00-3:00**

Design, Build & Race your own 'F1 in Schools' Car in a 1 day Holiday Program run by team 'Neutrino' from Brighton Secondary School (Sausage Sizzle Lunch included)



<https://www.trybooking.com/CNXUU>

Brighton Secondary School  
305 Brighton Rd, North Brighton

## Coromandel Community Centre Connect Contribute Celebrate



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

HADO—Beyond Sports

This Augmented Reality game is new to Australia.

Be a part of the launch of this interactive game in Adelaide.

Checkout this official trailer <https://hado-official.com/en/>

**Teams of 3 vs 3. Ages 10 to 15yrs. Maximum 24 Minimum 18 players**

Wear appropriate clothes and footwear

**When:** Monday 22 January

**Time:** 10:30am to 1:30pm

**Where:** 442B Main Road  
Coromandel Valley

**Cost:** \$15 per person Pre Paid

<https://events.humanitix.com/hado-school-holiday-activity>

Light snack included

Contact the Centre on 8370 6880 visit [www.coroalive.org.au](http://www.coroalive.org.au)  
or Like us on Facebook

