Welcome back, readers! 2015 is off to an incredibly positive start at Blacktown Girls High School with our talented students already attending numerous excursions, participating in a variety of academic competitions and excelling in athletics. Here are some of the Term 1 highlights featured in our first issue of this new school year:

- Our formal assembly this term celebrated academic achievement and featured former high-achieving HSC students returning to Blacktown Girls to discuss their recipes for HSC success.
- Blacktown Girls elected its first ever Beacon Ambassadors, who will help encourage their peers to increase their ambition and motivation, and develop the critical social and employability skills necessary in the 21st century.
- A significant number of students continue to earn Gold Awards for their outstanding efforts in Mathletics.
- Students achieved impressive results in our swimming and athletics carnivals, as well as in volleyball, netball, rugby union, touch football and soccer competitions.
- Year 9 and 10 Science students went on an excursion to see and discuss the award-winning film *The Theory of Everything*.
- Year 8 students attended an excursion into the Sydney CBD to explore the offices of Salesforce, Inc., a leading global cloud computing corporation.
- Year 11 students visited the Stitches and Craft show at Rosehill Gardens and met the celebrated textile artist Prue Mapstone.
- Year 10 and 11 robotics students, also known as Team 4802 or UMM (Unidentified Moving Machines), competed at a high level in the international FIRST Robotics competition in Sydney’s Olympic Park Stadium and received national media coverage for their outstanding effort.

Happy reading!
Formal Assembly: Term 1 2015

Our main objectives in running formal assemblies during Terms 1, 2 and 3 are:

- To recognise, celebrate and promote students’ all-around development by showcasing a different theme each term: Academic Excellence in Term 1, Success in Sport in Term 2 and Excellent Achievement and Leadership Potential in Term 3
- To create an opportunity for our Student Executive to be recognised and showcase their skills
- To create an environment where our students can practice the etiquette required in formal settings
- To encourage and showcase artistic performances from students in the CAPA courses
- To reinforce the school Merit Award system which will encourage teachers to reward student success and promote a sense of goal setting and personal bests among students
- To regularly recognize the traditional owners of this land/founders of this community and take pride in singing the National Anthem
- To provide a wide range of opportunities for students and staff to achieve and be recognised for their success

On 20th Feb 2015 we had our first formal assembly for 2015 to celebrate Academic Success and Excellent Achievement. In this regard we welcomed some of last year’s students and congratulated them on their excellent achievement in the Higher School Certificate examination.

This was also a special assembly where our BEACON Ambassadors for the year 2015 were inducted. Our special guests for the occasion were Marie Valusaga, Abha Kataria, Jessica Malzard, Erin Toovey and Atifa Tariq along with many other 2014 HSC students.

The original owners of the land were acknowledged by one of our Year 9 students, Bianca Barton. Her moving speech was appreciated by the audience.

Our Principal, Mr. Flowers, then introduced the Beacon Ambassadors to the assembly with a short speech about the BEACON program, as this is our first year of involvement with the organisation. Mr Flowers then congratulated all of our past HSC students from 2014 and presented them with certificates of academic achievement.
Marie Valusaga, last year’s Senior Prefect, shared her experience of the HSC year with the assembly, which was followed by a Year 10 student dance group performing their rhythmic piece, “Concept Trailer.”

Abha Kataria, another successful 2014 BGHS HSC student, also talked to the assembly about her HSC journey. This was followed by the Tribal Drum group performing the energetic song “Spirit Warrior.”

Finally, Jessica, Erin and Atifa from the 2014 HSC cohort were welcomed onto the stage to tell us how satisfying their HSC journey was, although difficult at times, through a Q&A session. Some of our current Year 12 students asked them a variety of questions relating to the HSC in the hope that their answers would help them successfully navigate their own HSC path this year.
MATTERS is a web-based learning program which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics covers all years of schooling and is currently used in over 1300 Australian schools. Students have 24-hour access to Mathletics allowing for learning at a time convenient to the student.

Since 2011, the Mathematics Department has integrated Mathletics into all teaching programs for both course work and/or homework. Set work is compulsory, however students may attempt any topic of their choosing to enhance their learning and understanding of concepts. This includes Live Mathletics, which is a fun and easy way to improve their basic skills and speed in computations involving the 4 operations (+, -, x, ÷). All students studying mathematics have been issued their usernames and passwords.

Mathletics can also be accessed on tablets. Mathletics Student is a FREE app available for both iOS and Android devices.

No internet? No problem! Mathletics is now accessible offline. All data automatically syncs when the internet is available.

Activate your FREE parent account.
3P Learning’s Parent Console is designed to help you enhance your child’s learning experience and gather valuable insight into their progress. Receive weekly reports on their results to encourage regular participation. What’s more, access is completely FREE – simply register your details to receive your username and password and you can begin supporting your child right away.

To activate your free access to the Parent Console visit www.3plearning.com/parents.

Enter your details, along with those of your child’s Mathletics account. You will receive your own username and password by email.

To access the Parent Console, simply visit the Mathletics website and use your parent username/password to sign in.

Further information on Mathletics can be found on their website http://www.3plearning.com/mathletics/

Maths Prep App

A new app has recently been developed to help high school students do well in mathematical tests and exams.

The app is aimed at helping students to properly prepare for tests and exams by providing 1000 test/exam-level questions and complete solutions in a step-by-step format, covering mathematics within the formative years ages 14 and upwards.

The app is available in two versions (Maths Prep and Maths Prep +) and can be downloaded from the Google Play Store and soon the iTunes App Store. Use the "MathsPrep" and "MathsPrep+" search terms to find these apps in the Google Play Store.

The apps are optimized for use on smartphones and tablets.
Maths Prep (the free version) provides the basic mathematical concepts and skills and contains 381 test/exam-level solutions.

Maths Prep + ($4 paid version) provides the basic, intermediate, and advanced mathematical skills and concepts and contains 1000 test/exam-level solutions.

Maths Prep and Maths Prep + cover the mathematical topics typically found within the high school formative years ages 14 and upwards, and include the following:

* Algebra: multiplication, factorization, fractions, exponents, roots and logarithms.
* Number patterns: arithmetic, quadratic and geometric patterns.
* Linear, quadratic and cubic equations.
* Functions: straight line graphs, parabola graphs, hyperbola graphs, exponential graphs, inverse graphs, cubic graphs and general graph interpretations.
* Calculus: differentiation, equations of tangents to cubic graphs and word sums.
* Euclidean geometry: lines and angles, triangles and the midpoint theorem, quadrilaterals, circle geometry and proportion and similarity of triangles.
* Analytical geometry: distances, gradients, midpoints, equations of straight lines, circles and tangents and inclinations of lines.
* Trigonometry: trigonometry ratios and functions, reductions, special angles, double and compound angles, identities, trigonometric equations and solving triangles.

I highly recommend students download this app as I found it to be an excellent tool to revise and improve mathematical skills and understanding.

Calculators and BYOD

Calculators are an important and necessary tool in the learning of mathematics.

The Board of Studies Mathematics Years 7-10 NSW Syllabus for the Australian curriculum identifies Information and Communication Technology Capability as one of the General Capabilities (page 40). It further states (page 42):

Information and communication technology (ICT) includes digital technologies such as calculators, spreadsheets, dynamic geometry software, and computer algebra and graphing software. Students use ICT effectively and appropriately when investigating, creating and communicating ideas and information, including in representing mathematics in a variety of ways to aid understanding. ICT can be used by students to solve problems and to perform previously onerous tasks more readily.

Students are required to bring a scientific calculator to each mathematics lesson. Blacktown Girls High School uses and recommends the Casio fx-82AU PLUS calculator. These calculators can be purchased at many retail stores and are also available for purchase at the school for $21. A full list of board-approved calculators is available on the Board of Studies website.

Having a technology device that can connect to the school’s Wi-Fi is also highly recommended for students to bring to each mathematics lesson. Spreadsheets, GeoGebra and many other programs are used in various topics across each stage.

Mathematics Competitions 2015

The Australasian Schools Mathematics Competition (AMC), sponsored by Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT) and The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS), sponsored by the University of New South Wales, are popular and well-respected competitions that are held every year in Australasia.
These competitions test a wide range of student abilities in the areas of Numbers, Measurement, Space and Geometry, Algebra and Data. They will be held at Blacktown Girls’ High School on the 30th July and 11th August respectively. Prizes ranging from merit certificates to cash awards can be awarded to students. Every student will receive a participation certificate irrespective of the score they achieve in these competitions.

We encourage all students to participate in these competitions. The entry fee for ICAS is $8.00 and the AMC is $6.00 per student payable to the front office as soon as possible.

Past papers can be provided in class for your daughter / ward to practise.

If you have any queries regarding either of these competitions, feel free to contact your daughter’s / ward’s Mathematics teacher or the Mathematics department.

Moodle

The Mathematics department uses the Blacktown Girls High School Moodle website to enhance student learning by allowing access to course notes, activities and quizzes at any time or place that the internet is available.

An animated maths dictionary, which is suitable for all age groups, and the syllabi and scope and sequence of all courses are also available on the site.


NAPLAN

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools.

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school. It is very important that your daughter/ward brings her calculator with her on the day (Thursday 14th May).

A practice test for Year 9 students can be found in the Maths area of the Moodle website.

Practice tests will also be set for both Years 7 and 9 through Mathletics.

More information, including example tests, can be found at: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/naplan.html

Julie Whittaker
Head Teacher Mathematics/LOTE
And the Gold goes to...

Congratulations to the latest Mathletics Gold Award recipients!

- Gabrielle Dolphin (Year 8)
- Hellen Jiang (Year 8)
- Navpreet Kaur (Year 8)
- Nafisa Khondokar (Year 8)
- Biruthy Kumaralingham (Year 8)
- Ma Aiceline Manalili (Year 8)
- Ma Angeline Manalili (Year 8)
- Jayde Martin (Year 8)
- Lyba Naseer (Year 8)
- Miranda Pascoa (Year 8)
- Ferdos Rahmany (Year 8)
- Hazal Redjeb (Year 8)
- Wanyi Huang (Year 9)
- Neha Khanom (Year 9)
- Anindita Mukhertjee (Year 9)
- Rania Renno (Year 9)
- Aimen Akhter (Year 10)
- Chelsea Newaj (Year 10)
- Priyanshee Parikh (Year 10)
- Sara Uy (Year 10)
- Prerna Vanipriye (Year 10)
- Gelila Workineh (Year 10)
- Juliette Latif (Year 11)
- Sobia Mazhar (Year 11)
- Judy Ngo (Year 11)
- Ramla Roohi (Year 11)
To receive a Gold Award, students must earn 1000 points or more each week for 20 weeks. Such a fantastic effort of the part of these young ladies.

An extra congratulations goes to three of our Gold Award recipients who also achieved the Mathletics Achievement Award for 2014. This award recognises the top Mathletics students at Blacktown Girls High School.

They are:

- Nafisa Khondokar, who had mastered 191 activities
- Haichen (Hellen) Jiang, who had mastered 188 activities
- Hazal Redjeb, who had mastered 187 activities

To master an activity, students must achieve a score equal to or greater than 85%. These results reflect student achievement up until June 2014. Well done girls!

A special thank you to Ms Kerry Winslett and Ms Janine Timms for making the magnificent cake we all enjoyed after the presentation of the awards.

Julie Whittaker  
Head Teacher Mathematics/LOTE
**Sport Achievements and Progress: Term 1**

The start of the year is always extremely busy in regards to sport at Blacktown Girls High School. This is the time of year we hold all three of our carnivals, our knockout sports are all contesting their first and second rounds of games and zone trials commence. We also send a team of students to compete in both the Blacktown Zone and Sydney West Swimming Carnivals.

Our school Swimming Carnival was held at Blacktown Pool on Monday 23rd February. This year’s carnival saw participation across all age groups and a highly contested War Cry competition. Our swimmers competed with pride for their house team in all events and as a result our house point score was very close.

Swimming House Scores 2015:

1\(^{st}\) place-Chisholm, 2\(^{nd}\) place-Fraser, 3\(^{rd}\) place-Reibey, 4\(^{th}\) place-Oodgeroo

War Cry House Scores 2015:

1\(^{st}\) place-Reibey, 2\(^{nd}\) place-Oodgeroo, 3\(^{rd}\) place-Fraser, 4\(^{th}\) place-Chisholm

Our Swimming Age Champions are given points for every race they enter. This year we had a few races that were quite close which created a tight competition between our swimmers for Age Champion.

Swimming Age Champions 2015:

12 Years- Stephanie Schmidt, 13 Years-Stevee Gates; 14 Years-Lauren Dean, 15 Years-Farheen Hameed, 16 Years-Rachel Kane and 17+ Years-Madison Brooks. Congratulations to all our winners on a fantastic carnival.

On Tuesday 10\(^{th}\) March I had the pleasure of taking our top swimmers in each age group to compete in the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival. We had 25 students attend and they all swam their best. The following students/relay teams successfully qualified for the Sydney West Swimming Carnival: Asena Sen in the 50m Backstroke and Brittany Dolphin in the 50m breaststroke. Our 12 years and 17+ years won their 4x50m relay events.

On Monday 16\(^{th}\) March our girls proudly competed at the Sydney West carnival. Well done to Asena Sen, Brittany Dolphin, Melissa Artwoeger, Dareen Milman, Vivianne Pham, Stephanie Schmidt, Madison Brooks, Stephanie Hall and Carloundra Terepo on their efforts.

In our Knockout Sport competition we have teams competing in Netball, Soccer, Touch Football, Rugby Union and Volleyball. Our trials have had a pleasing amount of interest and whilst this is encouraging it has also made our coach’s job a little difficult when choosing the team.

Our Volleyball Team played Kingswood at school and had good support from various year groups. The team showed great sportsmanship and determination, however Kingswood were the victors and our team has now been knocked out until next year.
Touch Football has progressed into the 2\textsuperscript{nd} round after they convincingly defeated Quakers Hill High School 5-3.

Our Soccer team played Riverstone at school and were outplayed by a highly-skilled Riverstone team with a crushing 11-0 defeat. The girls demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and kept trying right to the very end.

The school netball and rugby union teams will be advertising for trials in term 2 for their first matches in May.

This year Blacktown Zone decided to hold a Trial Gala Afternoon at Wyndham High School in hope that more students would be willing to trial for a wide range of sports as they wouldn’t have to travel to multiple venues on different occasions. The day was extremely successful with record numbers attending and trialling for all sports. Our students had the opportunity to compete in Basketball, Netball, Soccer and Touch Football. Congratulations to all of our students who trialled. Vitolina Fidow was selected in the Zone Netball team. Manuelle Mila was chosen for Zone Touch Football. Miranda Pascoa and Sarah Hulme were chosen in the Zone Soccer Team. The Milisic sisters, Danijela, Dijana and Tania, were all selected for the Zone Basketball team. This is a pleasing result for our school and these students and we would like to wish them the best of luck in their upcoming Sydney West competition game. As a result of the Zone Basketball competition the Milisic sisters were also selected as part of the Sydney West Basketball Team – a fantastic achievement!

On Wednesday 18\textsuperscript{th} March our school held its annual Cross Country Carnival at school. It was a successful event with many students participating in each age group. Congratulations to the following students on achieving first place in their respective age group, making them the Age Champion:

12 years – Stephanie Schmidt, 13 years – Sylvia Charles, 14 years – Riok Dau, 15 years – Emma Watkins, 16 years – Aesha Ziad, 17 years – Holly Cosgrove, 18 years – Car outlooka Terepo.

The Blacktown Zone Cross Country will take place on Friday 8\textsuperscript{th} May at Nurragingy Reserve, Doonside. Students who placed in the first 10 for each age group have qualified for this carnival. All parents/caregivers are welcome to attend to support their daughter’s/ward’s cross country pursuits.
Year 9 and 10 Science Film Excursion: The Theory of Everything

The Theory of Everything is one of those films that comes around once in a blue moon that everyone seems to love. When Year 9 and Year 10 were given the privilege to watch the movie in order to explore medical science and the universe, I doubt anyone knew how much it would change their perspective on science and the will of a human being.

The movie follows Dr Stephen Hawking, a Cambridge University student, as he falls in love with Jane Wilde. At the age of 21, he learns he has motor neuron disease. This persuades him however to study time, all of which he has very little left of according to his doctor. Two years to be precise, two years to cram in 80 years of life; but he defies all odds, still being alive to this very day. The movie shows when he contracts pneumonia and is given a tracheotomy which leaves him unable to speak. He is given a spelling board that allows him to spell out each of the words he wishes to pronounce before being given a computer with a voice synthesiser which he uses to write the international best seller A Brief History of Time.

“Where there is life, there is hope” is one of the most memorable scenes from the film, pushing the audience to defy what people say to become what we must. The film highlights that it doesn’t matter how heavily the odds are packed against you, there is always hope.

The film teaches not only about time, medicine and matter but how quickly time can be something you only know in past tense. Where others would simply give up, Dr Stephen Hawking saw a glimmer in the distance which he used to fill his life with happiness, knowledge and more hope than anyone could ever imagine.

By Serena Olatona, Year 9
Salesforce Excursion

On Monday the 23rd of February, 30 eager students from 8S and 8T had the opportunity to attend a computer science workshop in the Sydney CBD accompanied by Ms Dayal. The workshop was held by Salesforce, Inc. which is a leading global cloud computing corporation best known for its advancements in customer relationship management. As of 2015, Salesforce has become one of the most important American cloud computing companies with a $40 billion market capitalisation. The day started off with a train ride from Blacktown Station to Town Hall with harsh winds and rain but this however did not dampen our high spirits and enthusiasm. At the conclusion of the train ride, we walked across the busy streets of the city until we reached the Salesforce office near Darling Harbour. The group was bustling with excitement as we entered the lavish office of Salesforce and we were soon lead to the workshop.

As we took our places in the room, we all gasped in awe at the view of the harbour as well as the favours beside our laptops kindly gifted to us by Salesforce. The forum started with an entertaining discussion about computer science and technology. From this we have learnt about the motives and purpose of Salesforce and the impact of technology on humanity. At the conclusion of the discussion we were each assigned to a mentor and were given a tour of the office. The complex was the total opposite of a dreary, black and white office which many of us had imagined but a contemporary, opulent environment full of cheerful and hardworking employees. We were given a tour of each section from the marketing and design department to the lunch/kitchen area complete with a PlayStation and a breathtaking view. At the completion of the tour we were all given a complimentary morning tea with brownies, fruit, muesli bars and coffee.

Afterwards, we gathered in the meeting room and completed The Hour of Code which is a worldwide initiative encouraging interest in computer science through skill-developing tutorials. Everyone had the choice to complete the Angry Birds, Frozen, Flappy Bird or Plants vs Zombies tutorials within the hour. At the conclusion of the workshop we were all presented with certificates highlighting our intelligence and initiative displayed in the Hour of Code. We then listened to a few more talks and took a group photo with our mentors with party glasses and plush toys. Truly a photo to remember! After we had farewelled and thanked our hosts we set for Town Hall and stopped for light snacks and drinks on the way. In a matter of half an hour we arrived at Blacktown Station which indicated the end of the day.

From this excursion we all gained useful skills and experience that will allow us to take a pragmatic approach to our studies and future careers. On behalf of the 30 students from 8S and 8T, I would like to thank Salesforce for hosting this enjoyable yet educational event and Ms Dayal for chaperoning and organising the excursion.

By Ramneek Thind, 8S
Year 11 and 12 Textiles and Design: Stitches and Craft Show Excursion 2015

On Thursday 5th March, Year 11 and 12 Textiles and Design students went to the Stitches and Craft Show at Rosehill Gardens. The purpose of the excursion was to view the 2014 HSC Major Textile Projects selected to be displayed in Textstyle.

Students were flabbergasted at the high standard of work and the creativity displayed by senior Textiles and Design students. The originality and high level of craftsmanship inspired our students to “think outside the square” when designing and making their Major Textiles Projects in 2015 and 2016.

Many students also took the opportunity to attend workshops, talk to stall holders and try new techniques at the many display booths.

Some of our students also got to meet Prue Mapstone, a famous textile artist featured in the senior textbook. Her ability to manipulate, dye and create with wool inspired and surprised many of our students.

As our Year 12 students begin their projects, no doubt they will look back on this day and be inspired by these students, stallholders and crafts people.

We wish them all success as they endeavour to create their own masterpieces!

Joanne Willis
Textiles and Design Teacher
Relieving Head Teacher TAS
The 2015 FIRST Robotics Competition: Team UMM!

Hello! We are the Blacktown Girls High School robotics team or UMM – “Unidentified Moving Machines” – also known as Team 4802 and we consist mainly of Year 10 students along with some Year 11 students and our teacher mentors. Robotics has opened up many doors for us and provided us with an insight into the field of engineering. The FIRST Robotics competition we recently participated in at Sydney’s Olympic Park Stadium was a challenging, exciting and interactive program which required our team to apply our engineering skills to program and build a robot to compete in a game called “Recycle Rush” against teams from all over the world such as the United States, China and Singapore. Since we were a large group of girls, we decided to divide ourselves into groups in order to concentrate on certain aspects of the competition and robot, such as media, software, electrical and build teams.

We spent tireless hours after school to make sure we built our robot, Astro, to the best of our ability and ensure that she performed well. Our team is the first all-girls team in Australia and we are proud to represent Blacktown Girls. Google provided us with great opportunities and support, and for that we are grateful. Our team was also met with great media attention as we were on the news on ABC1 and in the local Blacktown newspaper. The media coverage allowed people to become aware of our work and was met with love and support. Through the robotics competition, we were able to meet other teams and provide them with support as well. During the competition, our team was successful in winning the Imagery Award for our sleek and stylishly designed robot! We were able to take away so many learning experiences, memories and skills from the program and we are pleased with the amount of effort we put into the competition. None of this, however, could have been accomplished if it wasn’t for our mentors: Mr. Johnson, Mr. Choukair and Mr. Hartman. These teachers provided us with support and aided us in the production of Astro. We are so thankful to everyone involved and to everyone who supported us throughout the competition.

“Robotics has been an amazing experience, as a team we have accomplished things that we wouldn't even dream of doing. It has taught us that if you really want to accomplish something you can definitely do it with your time and dedication. As the media team, we have learnt so many new things about proposing the best creative tactics to convey our messages and advertise our robotics team to the public and other teams. Other objectives of our team included gathering sponsors to support “UMM” and designing T-shirts for our
whole team. The media team also had the role of supporting our own team and other teams, as well as going out and associating with other competing robotics teams and discussing their team objectives. Overall the media team took the responsibility of portraying the “UMM” robotics team in many positive ways by using a varied range of approaches.” – Divya Dube, Media Team.

“Being part of the Blacktown Girls robotics team 4802 UMM has introduced me to the world of engineering and allowed me to consider this field as a potential future career. Being in robotics challenges you both logically and creatively. It forces you to learn time management and great cooperation skills when under stressful situations. Being an all-girls team, we break down the barriers of gender stereotypes. We aren’t afraid of getting our hands dirty. Despite all of the hard work and lost weekends, robotics is extremely fun and I have gained incredible experiences with friends I can now call family.” – Bianca Lieu, Build Team

“Being a part of the electrical team was a very eye opening and interesting experience. It gave as a perfect opportunity to experience and explore the inside world of a robot. Not only did it do that, but it also allowed us to develop a better level of understanding on engineering. It opened our eyes to engineering, inspiring us along the way. Robotics was an amazing experience and I would not hesitate to do it again. I’ve become so involved in this program and it is an experience worth bragging about!” – Farjana Rahman, Electrical Team

“Being a part of robotics is truly something! I mean, I can say I built a robot! I don’t know how many 15-year-olds can wake up and say they successfully built a robot. I’m in the Software and Electrical team which is basically responsible for the parts of the robot that make it move. Through robotics I learnt something which I never thought I’d ever be capable of doing and that is computer programming using Java, C++ and Eclipse. At first glance programming is like a world of confusion but through robotics I had the opportunity to sit down with experienced programmers and learn the art of programming. Robotics has definitely opened many doors for me and widened my plans for future study. At times it was stressful but I do not regret any part of it and would do it all over again!” – Ferah Redjeb, Electrical Team
UNIDENTIFIED MOVING MACHINES
Dear parents:

This year BGHS has signed up to be a BEACON school!

What is BEACON?
Beacon is involved in connecting educators with local businesses and communities. The organisation works in collaboration with local businesses and communities and contributes to the development of active, informed young citizens.

What does BEACON do?
1. The BEACON organisation is involved in providing opportunities to improve work skills and career knowledge along with work experience for students.
2. It also allows liaison with universities and other institutions to achieve occupational goals for students.
3. The opportunities help raise the aspirations of students, build confidence, motivation and awareness about workplace environments and allow transitions between school and work.
4. It aims to improve outcomes for young Australians, build stronger communities, and help to meet Australia’s skills shortages.
5. Through Beacon’s program, which runs throughout the school year, young people increase their ambition and motivation, and develop the social, leadership and employability skills that are relevant to the 21st century
6. Beacon assists over 15,000 young Australians from approximately 120 schools and communities each year. Over 101,000 young people have participated in Beacon’s program since 2001.

Some examples of what BEACON does:
- **Local Business Partnership** Key stakeholders from schools, businesses and community groups come together and implement their plans throughout the year through a series of activities.
- **Collaborative Classrooms** Professional development workshops, bringing classroom teachers and business people together to share knowledge, build capacity and learn how to work together to generate positive pathways for students.
- **Work Exploration** through authentic workplace experiences
- **Business Blackboards** Co-designed experiential learning for students, created by business people and classroom teachers working together.
- **High Impact Programs** Beacon offers a series of one-day Work Readiness Programs targeted to specific age groups spanning Years 7-12.
- **Speed Careers** (Mock interviews)
- **Careers Education**
- **Business Events**
- **Student Ambassador Program** Beacon Student Ambassadors, elected from within the student body, take a leadership role in implementing the Beacon approach in the school and community.

Our BEACON Ambassadors for 2015:

**Year 9**
- Stephanie Bamgbose
- Katelin Falconer
- Sanjana Rana
- Anandita Mukherjee
- Mehreen Jamil

**Year 10**
- Gelila Workineh
- Gayathri Aranhiyullathi
- Priyanshee Parikh
- Courtney Um
- Bushra Hashemi
Be a deadly parent
Give your mob the best start in life!

with **Triple P** – Positive Parenting Program®

**Triple P** is a parenting program for all families that provides practical answers to everyday parenting concerns.

**Families NSW** is offering **Triple P** to all families with children aged 3-8 years.

Please note that bookings ARE ESSENTIAL so that we can keep course sizes manageable.

**To find out more or to book into a course please contact**

**Ph:** (02) 9621 3922
1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching

Parent Course

Learn to manage difficult behaviours in 2-12 yr old children

A four-session program for Mums

Junaya Family Development Services in partnership with Swinson Cottage Family Centre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When:</th>
<th>Mornings during School Terms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>4 sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where:</td>
<td>Blacktown Local Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child care:</td>
<td>Provided</td>
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Topics covered:

◊ Engage your child's cooperation
◊ Setting clear expectations in the home
◊ Brain development in children
◊ A model for responding to conflict
◊ Strategies for being a calm parent

What people are saying...

"What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self-control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember when memory is the first thing to go."

"I realised quickly that 1-2-3 Magic can be a magnificent preventative and ensure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child who later down the line, needs excessive discipline or grows out of control."

For further information, expression of interest and bookings

Please phone 02 9621 3922 or 0407 222 379
R.A.G.E.
Renavigating Anger & Guilty Emotions

R.A.G.E. is a six week anger management course for adolescents. It is a strength based, solution focused program that is hands on, practical and fun.

Program Details

When
Twice per year

Where
Blacktown LGA

Duration
1 afternoon a week for 6 weeks

Age Groups:
11 to 17 years

Topics covered include:
♦ The Many Faces of Anger
♦ The 4T's Anger Cycle
♦ Healthy Expressions of Anger
♦ Getting Through the Guilt of Anger
♦ Relaxation, Exercise and Diet

Free

Bookings Essential
Ph: (02) 9621 3922