



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Newsletter

Week 1 Term 1

Friday 31 January 2020



Orientation Day | Tuesday 28 January

In this issue



Robotics Nationals



GPS Swimming



Rowing Camps

Headmaster

Anthony Micallef

Welcome to the 2020 school year.

This is a significant year in the history of Queensland education with the introduction of a new Queensland Certificate of Education. Year 12s will no longer be issued an OP, and the Class of 2020 will be the first to be allotted an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). The School has implemented a raft of support programs to assist the boys in adjusting to the demands of the new regime.

This is also a significant year for BGS in that we are about to embark upon the largest capital project in the School's history. The benefits of a STEAM-rich education are increasingly recognised as worthy of investment for a well-rounded scholastic experience and development of important life skills. The STEAM project will integrate the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics across an entirely new dedicated precinct.

This year will see much of this project's efforts devoted to complex town planning, detailed design, traffic engineering, and the securing of funding. At present, we are still in the development application phase, but if all goes smoothly, we anticipate the demolition of the existing Maintenance Block, Physics, Biology and Languages buildings in the latter part of the year. I will keep the community informed as more information comes to hand.

As with any new school year, there are abundant changes, most of which pertain to personnel. Some staff have moved on to positions at other schools, some have retired, and some are on leave. Of note was the departure of Heather Hamilton, the School's former Executive Director Advancement and Community Relations. Ms Hamilton was in the role for five years and during that time made a substantial contribution to stakeholder engagement, marketing and communications and philanthropic activities. Her successor is Inma Beaumont. Mrs Beaumont is currently employed by The University of Queensland and will commence at BGS in February. I look forward to introducing her to members of each of the support groups, the Old Boys' Association and the wider community.

I take this opportunity to inform the community of changes within the P&F Auxiliary Executive and among its employees. Mrs Julie Farr has resigned as President, and Ms Berthine Ommensen has agreed to fill the position. I thank Mrs Farr for her preparedness to diligently undertake this important community role and to donate so much of her time to continue the good work of the Auxiliary, over many years.

I also wish to acknowledge the service of Auxiliary employees Susie Brady, Leanne Miller, Janine Atherton, Louise Carius and Helen Sherrington, all of whom offered countless hours to the function of the BGS Tuckshop, both as volunteers and more latterly as employees. I particularly acknowledge Susie Brady's contribution as Tuckshop Convenor over the past four years. I welcome Sue Boughen as the new Tuckshop Convenor. I know that the BGS community will support her to provide the boys with nutritious meals.

Finally, I draw your attention to the academic results of the Class of 2019. I am delighted with their performance. Of significance is the strong OP1 and OP2 outcome and the median OP5 result, both of which say so much about the intelligence and commitment of the boys, the dedication of their teachers, and the support of their parents, Head of Year Larry Carmichael, Assistant Head of Year Tim Holzgreffe and all the 2019 Year 12 Form Tutors. Pleasingly, all graduates have been offered tertiary places. [Click here for the full results.](#)

The School will continue to monitor the situation surrounding novel coronavirus and update the community accordingly.

I look forward to supporting the school community throughout 2020.

BGS Community Calendar

A new BGS Community Calendar is now available for parents and students via MyGrammar. This new calendar has been designed for parents to view information specific to their sons in a central location. The calendar also offers the opportunity to view community events.

The Community Calendar is customised – meaning parents can click to view the calendar tailored to their sons. It will contain each student's assessment dates and times, co-curricular events and training times, and community events. Note, co-curricular information will be available by the end of Week 1 and assessment dates in Week 3.

Parents can switch between viewing events for the broader community (Community Events) and events specific to individual students (My Events). They also have the option to filter categories, to save or export individual events to their personal calendar, and to view on mobile devices. Those with multiple sons at BGS can switch between them.

Deputy Headmaster – Students

David Carroll

Thank you for your support in ensuring your son was ready to return to school this year. We have had a great few days this week. Congratulations to senior students for creating a welcoming atmosphere for all students and staff. This bodes well for a positive 2020 at BGS.

Holidays afford you time to relax. When I relax I love to read. Over the break, I covered many different genres, but it was an article on sleep research sent to me by a colleague that best captured my attention. The article *Sleep quality, duration, and consistency are associated with better academic performance in college students* contained evidence connecting sensible sleep patterns with improved academic results.

Those who have followed my past newsletter articles or attended a parent information evening would be aware of the importance I place on sleep as a proactive factor for student wellbeing.

The article tracked the progress of 88 students in a US college. The outcome was that better quality, longer, and greater consistency of sleep correlated with better grades. Further to this, sleep duration and quality for the month and the week before tests correlated with better grades.

I will share this information with the students, and there will be an opportunity for you to attend a presentation from a sleep expert as part of our Wellbeing Series for parents during the year. I have also produced three small booklets that will be available at the various parent information evenings throughout Term 1. These resources focus on the role of sleep, the importance of routines and the issue of screen time. Each resource has a section outlining strategies for parents to consider.

If there is one thing that you should do to assist your son on his school journey, please help him develop better sleep patterns. Don't forget that the best way to influence adolescent boys is to discuss the issue, then model its practice. If you do this, it will be good for your son and for yourself.

Later this year we will conduct a week-long sleep survey. This will be compared with the previous two surveys conducted in 2016 and 2019. I look forward to sharing the information with you.

Parent Information Evenings | Date Claimers

Year 5	Monday 3 February 6.00pm The Lilley Centre Forum and core classrooms
Year 6	Wednesday 5 February 6.00pm The Lilley Centre Forum and core classrooms
Year 7	Tuesday 4 February 6.00pm The Lilley Centre Forum
Year 8	Thursday 6 February 6.00pm The Lilley Centre Forum
Year 9	Thursday 13 February 6.00pm The Lilley Centre Forum
Year 10	Tuesday 28 April 5.00pm To be confirmed
Year 11	Monday 10 February 6.00pm The Lilley Centre Forum
Year 12	Wednesday 12 February 5.30pm The Lilley Centre Forum

Deputy Headmaster Teaching and Learning

Steve Uscinski

As the new academic year starts, I wish all boys and their families every success in 2020.

This [link](#) is a helpful first resort for questions about the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

Parents are reminded that all Year 12 results for internal assessments (IAs) are provisional until confirmed by the QCAA.

Year 12 students should have already established good study routines and be actively seeking feedback from their teachers.

Assessment Schedules

We aim to provide a draft Semester 1 assessment schedule for all year levels by Friday 7 February.

The first Year 12 quarantine period will be from Thursday 27 February to Friday 6 March, with Internal Assessment One (IA1) for most subjects in this period.

Mark Schumann
Dean of Studies

Reminders: ICT and Curriculum

Year 7 students receive their tablets next week. A full-day induction program will teach boys how the devices are to be used to complement their learning. Students will start using tablets in class after the rollout, but they will not be permitted to take them home straight away. Parents will be introduced to the School's 1:1 tablet program at the Year 7 Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 4 February.

Year 10 students will receive their new devices next week. Boys must bring their old device to school to be reimaged to a standard Windows operating system. It can then be taken home for private use. The students will receive a new tablet and complete a setup session to allow immediate class use.

Students make use of their tablets in each class from Years 7 to 12. Each class has a Microsoft Team (education edition) with a corresponding OneNote Class Notebook for student note-taking and curriculum delivery. The stylus pen is the primary tool for note-taking.

The School's other main ICT resource is Canvas – a learning management system. This is used for testing and ensuring equity of curriculum delivery across classes in each year level.

Students should see the staff of the Tablet Service Centre in E102 for any issues concerning their devices. The centre is open from 7.30am to 3.30pm during school terms.

All students in Years 8 to 12 have been reminded of protocols and instructions concerning the tablet program. A one-page explainer and the ICT Policy are available via MyGrammar.

Students in Years 5 and 6 have access to class sets of laptops in class.

Greg Dabelstein
Dean of Curriculum

Director of Student Services

Dale Nicholas

Applications for Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (AARA)

AARA are practical adjustments made to student programs or assessment conditions for students who have specific educational needs and/or exceptional circumstances that may affect their participation in assessment or prevent them from demonstrating their current knowledge or skills. This was previously known as Special Provisions and we have adjusted our processes and language to be consistent with the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) in the new QCE system.

The School must ensure that AARA do not provide unfair advantages to any student and that actual achievement is assessed, not perceived ability or potential. In making a decision about AARA, the School is required to consider what adjustments to student programs and assessment conditions are reasonable in the circumstances. To be considered, students and parents must complete, sign and email [this form](#) to the AARA email address at aara@brisbanegrammar.com. The form must be accompanied by appropriate documentation and cannot be assessed without this information. Examples of appropriate documentation are those provided by external practitioners holding AHPRA registration (eg Doctor, Specialist, Psychologist).

When students reach Year 11, a formal application for AARA has to be made to the QCAA for any adjustments to any assessment in Units 3 and 4. This application is made by the School and will require up to date documentation as outlined in the QCE policy and procedures handbook. Currency of documentation depends on the specific condition. Applications to QCAA require statements from the student, the School and AHPRA registered practitioners. Additionally, we are required to provide functional evidence that students have previously required and used AARA for long term conditions.

Year 12 Studies and Tertiary Information Evening | Monday 16 March

The Year 12 Studies and Tertiary Information Evening for Year 12 parents only is on Monday 16 March commencing at 5.30pm in The Lilley Centre Forum. There will be full details in the newsletter next week.

Student Pick-Up and Drop-Off

We are aware of the difficulties and delays involved in dropping off and picking up your sons at the front of the School, especially at the start of the school year. We ask BGS families to be patient and supportive of staff while they move traffic through the drop-off zone at the front of the School.

Please adhere to the following procedures to ensure the safety of the BGS community:

- The front entrance between the traffic lights and the passenger loading zone is to be kept clear. It is not to be used as a waiting area before 3.15pm pick-up.
- Cars can enter the passenger loading zone to pick-up and drop-off passengers before 8.30am and after 3.15pm.
- Do not exceed the 5km speed limit in the pick-up and drop-off zone.
- Pay attention to traffic controllers and security guards – they keep our community safe and deserve our respect and cooperation.
- Exercise patience and courtesy towards other drivers.
- Please move as far as possible into the pick-up and drop-off zone to ensure efficient traffic flow.
- For safety reasons, please do not pick-up or drop-off your son before the pedestrian crossing at the entrance to the zone.
- The pick-up and drop-off zone has a two-minute parking limit. Drivers must stay with their vehicle during this time.
- The staff car park on College Road is not a designated drop-off or pick-up zone for students.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Frank McClatchy
Dean of Administration

2020 ACER Scholarship Test | Applications Open

Brisbane Grammar School has a long and proud tradition of offering scholarships and bursaries to boys who have demonstrated they have the potential to derive great benefit from a BGS education.

Trustees' Scholarships are awarded based on demonstrated academic excellence of boys **commencing Year 7 in 2021**. Applicants are assessed on their performance on the annual Australian Council for Educational Research Scholarship Test and their willingness to contribute to the wider school program.

The ACER Scholarship Test will be held at BGS on **Saturday 29 February 2020**. Registration is only available [online here](#) and will incur a cost of \$130. Registration will close at midnight AEDST **Monday 10 February 2020**.

Full details of the School's scholarship and bursary programs are available [here](#). For additional information, please contact the Enrolments Office on (07) 3834 5200.

Jamie Smith
Director of Enrolments

Director of Boarding

Berian Williams-Jones

The start of term is traditionally a very busy time in the residential community. This year has been particularly eventful with a record number of new junior boarders joining Harlin House, various new staff joining the team, and the construction of the new boarding facility in the SW Griffith building well underway.

Details of the boarding renovations will be shared as they take place. In the meantime, I encourage you to follow the progress and keep up to date with boarding activities via the BGS Boarding [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

Last weekend, we welcomed new boarders to the community with a three-day Boarding Induction program. The program was run by the residential staff with the assistance of the Harlin House Prefects of 2020.

New boarders engaged in a wide variety of events and experiences including team building games; a tour of Brisbane CBD; swimming at South Bank; a ride on the City Cat to New Farm Park; a history of BGS Boarding presented by Mr Chris Price; an overnight camp at Moogerah that included games and music; multiple visits to the Indoor Sports Centre; an Amazing Race competition; and a visit to the cinemas to see *Jumanji 2*.

The goal of the program was to make the boys secure in their transition to boarding. I was delighted by the progress that each individual made, the friendships they made with each other, the relationships they have with Prefects and the connections they have made with the boarding staff. It has been equally rewarding to see staff grow in their roles and to begin the term with a deeper understanding of each new boarder.

I would like to thank all staff involved in the program for their time and effort. I am especially appreciative of the Prefects who have established an important tone – a significant element in creating a supportive culture for BGS Boarding.



Director of Student Wellbeing Programs

Philippa Douglas

Special Report: Talking About Bushfires

Discussions about the recent bushfires with students in my Year 9 Geography class has prompted me to share this School TV Special Report.

The recent bushfire season in Australia has been catastrophic. It left in its wake a tragic loss of human life, native animals, livestock and many homes. Families have been either exposed or affected directly or indirectly, leaving many feeling overwhelmed and devastated.

Children and teenagers can be vulnerable during these times, and they may not fully comprehend what they have seen either first-hand or in media coverage. It can make them feel sad, anxious and stressed.

While most will recover and resume normal functioning, some young people will require emotional support. The University of Melbourne's *Beyond Bushfire Project* found that mental health problems doubled in recovering communities during the three to four years after a bushfire.

To support our young people during this time, it is also important for adults to manage their own shock, grief, anxiety and anger before talking to kids about this tragedy.

In this [Special Report](#), parents and caregivers are provided with key strategies that can be implemented to support children who feel scared or worried as a result of the traumatic bushfires.

If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the School for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Public Purpose

Students from all year levels who want to participate in Public Purpose activities, including Closing the Gap, are required to complete the sign-on surveys via MyGrammar > Wellbeing > Public Purpose.

Robotics National Competition

FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics National Finals

In December, 10 BGS students from Years 7 to 10 competed at the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics competition at Macquarie University in Sydney. Only 35 Australian teams (of a possible 400) and five international teams were competing at this prestigious annual event.

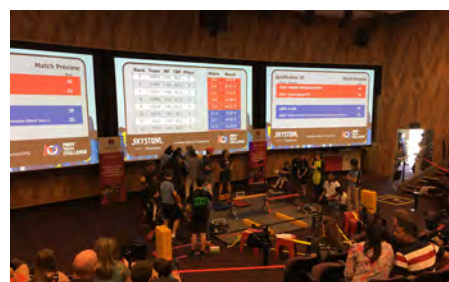
After two days of competition, our teams placed 20th and 38th – great results for the School's first time at Nationals. It was impressive to see both teams continually working to maintain, repair and improve their robots between matches.

Attending the high-level competition showed BGS boys the standard required to achieve a place at international competitions. They are now networking with other teams to work on the more complex FIRST Robotics Competition, and our regular training sessions with Brisbane Girls Grammar School have provided our teams with different problem-solving strategies. We are ready for 2020.

Following the competition, we had a tourist day, visiting the Powerhouse Museum where we enjoyed the Moon and Space exhibit and the exciting engineering inventions. The boys also explored Sydney Opera House, Darling Harbour and the Queen Victoria Building.

Thanks to parents Jeff Sokol and Tony Ridgeon for attending the weekend and providing support with computer programming and engineering.

Simon Canfield
Robotics Club Coordinator



Deputy Head – Co-Curriculum

Greg Thorne

Engagement

It has been wonderful to see the campus brought to life by the return of our students this week.

Over the holidays, many new and returning students engaged in a range of BGS activities – camps, clinics, competitions, tours and training sessions – in preparation for their co-curricular involvement this term. The most pleasing aspect of these offerings is the opportunity they afford boys to *engage* in a team environment and connect with their peers.

Our new students are quickly learning that BGS is an active and vibrant community that is very rewarding for those who engage. All students should be seeking involvement in some form of co-curricular pursuit each term. The range of choices is broad, and the combination of sport, activity (internal club or special interest group), music, art or drama will be unique for each student and reflect their interests. Early engagement is critical, so please encourage your son to get involved.

BGS Sport and Activities

The leaders of each of our programs have been working diligently with our newly appointed leadership team to prepare for a productive year ahead. Director of PE, Sport and Activities Mr John Clancy, Assistant Director of Sport Mr Greg Di-Losa, Head of Activities Mr Glenn McFarlane and Coordinator of Performance Development Mr Adam Bloch have each contributed significantly in preparing our coaches, implementing school-wide Performance Development for each sport, establishing strong levels of engagement from students and mapping curriculum for each sport, to name a few.

Every step we take enhances the quality of our offerings to your sons. I look forward to sharing future innovations and developments from our BGS Sport and Activities staff.

Questions

Detailed information, helpful resources and key contact details for each Co-Curriculum program can be accessed via MyGrammar. If you have further questions, please contact the appropriate Co-Curriculum program leader.

Debating and Cricket

This week at Senior School Assembly we acknowledged the students leading our GPS Debating and Cricket programs, as well as those selected to represent BGS in the first Senior A Debating and First XI Cricket fixtures this weekend. BGS Old Boy Matt Renshaw '13, who has played cricket for Australia and Queensland, presented caps to members of the 2020 First XI.

The opportunity to represent BGS is a privilege, which must be expressed through appearance, conduct, competitiveness, sportsmanship and respect for the opposition, officials and spectators. I wish these boys, their coaches and all those striving for future selection every success and much enjoyment this weekend.



Rowing

Summer Holiday Camps

Boys in Years 9 to 12 completed several camps over the school holidays in preparation for the GPS Rowing season.

The first junior camp for Year 9 boys was held at the rowing sheds over the first two days of school holidays, where boys enjoyed back-to-back sessions and team-building activities. The camp finished with a challenging 'commando' session at Mt Coot-tha, which tested their resilience.

The first senior camp for boys in Years 10 to 12 was moved to Maroochydore due to the fires in New South Wales. This challenge was embraced by the rowing staff, coaches and boys. The camp was incredibly successful and built on the foundations laid during Term 4, 2019. The camp established the expectations of the holiday training period, January camps and Term 1 competition.

Both camps established expectations and set the tone ahead of a productive holiday training period and January camps.

More than 30 boys attended each training session throughout the holidays. Sessions focused on maintaining boys' fitness, physicality and technique in preparation for the challenging high-performance camp. During the camp, boys exceeded expectations and enjoyed a successful four days culminating in a team-building activity on the skirmish fields at Samford Paintball.

Juniors and seniors completed another round of their respective camps at the end of the school holidays.

The senior camp was relocated from Grafton to Noosa due to bushfires. Boys trained in a secluded setting with limited mobile reception, excellent water conditions and well-received catering. This location will be used again by BGS Rowing.

Year 9 boys completed the second junior camp in Brisbane over the Australia Day weekend. While we don't like to occupy long weekends, this was a necessity due to logistical challenges. Well done to the boys, who embraced it and had an excellent three days.

The boys' efforts over the holidays will be tested at their first GPS regatta in a few short weeks.

2020 GPS Rowing Calendar

Saturday 8 February	Regatta 1 – The Southport School (host)
Saturday 15 February	Regatta 2 – Brisbane Boys' College (host)
Saturday 22 February	Regatta 3 – Gregory Terrace (host)
Saturday 29 February	Regatta 4 – Nudgee College (host)
Saturday 7 March	Regatta 5 – Brisbane Grammar School (host)
Saturday 14 March	GPS Head of the River

Matt Marden **Director of Rowing**



Swimming

2020 GPS Swimming Season

I would like to extend a welcome to all new and returning families to the BGS Swimming program.

The 2020 GPS Swimming Championships will be held on Friday 6 March – only six weeks away. It is encouraging to see that many swimmers have already started their preparations. Well done to all boys who attended the junior swimming clinic at BGS and the senior swimming camp at the Sunshine Coast over the holidays.



GPS Swimming training sessions started this week and training times can be found via the link below. The first GPS lead-up meet will be held at Chandler next Friday 7 February in the afternoon. All swimmers are encouraged to participate.

Information about GPS Swimming is available via MyGrammar or the following links:

- [GPS Swimming frequently asked questions](#)
- [GPS competition and event calendar](#)
- [Training times](#)
- [Friday lead-up meets](#)
- [Transport arrangements](#)

The BGS Swimming staff look forward to meeting you throughout the season. Please do not hesitate to contact me at matt.logan@brisbanegrammar.com or 07 3834 5337 if you have any further questions.

Matt Logan
MiC Swimming

Music

Welcome to 2020

I hope all families enjoyed a restful Christmas break and are ready for another year of music-making. As usual, there will be many opportunities for boys to immerse themselves in the BGS Music program.

Please check MyGrammar for date claimers. More details will be shared over the coming weeks.

Learn a new instrument in 2020

It is not too late to learn a musical instrument or train your voice in 2020. Boys involved in the 2019 Year 5 Music Immersion program are particularly encouraged to continue their music endeavours.

For more information, visit MyGrammar or contact the Music Office on 07 3834 5370 or at music@brisbanegrammar.com.

All Year 7 boys were introduced to a wide variety of instruments during the Music Tuition Program to assist their selections. Boys were joined by the Music Leaders during the program.



Private and Group Lessons

Private lessons begin in Week 2 for enrolled students only. Group lessons begin in Week 3.

Auditions

Sign up for auditions can be done electronically via the Music section of MyGrammar or by contacting the Music Office at music@brisbanegrammar.com or 07 3834 5370. Audition expectations are also available via MyGrammar.

Instrumental Auditions | Monday 3 February – Tuesday 4 February

These auditions are for new BGS students and for boys who missed the instrumental auditions held last year. Auditions include concert band, jazz bands, string ensembles, orchestras and percussion ensembles.

Choral Auditions | Thursday 6 February – Friday 7 February

Auditions held for boys wanting to be in one or more of the following choirs:

- Grammarphones (advanced changed voices - TTBB)
- Grammar Singers (changed voices singing with girls from BGGS - SATB)
- Grammar Voices (intermediate changed voices - TTBB)
- Chamber Choir (unchanged voices – SSA)

Grammar Vocal Ensemble | Voice-test and Introductory Rehearsals

Boys wanting to sing in the Grammar Vocal Ensemble must complete a voice-test during the audition period in Week 2 so they can be placed appropriately.

The Grammar Vocal Ensemble will have a short introductory rehearsal at 7.30am on Monday 3 February in the Music Auditorium. The rehearsal is a great opportunity for new senior students to experience singing at BGS.

Core Ensembles

All students must participate in one of the appropriate core ensembles for their instrument before they can be placed in an extension ensemble. Core ensembles include:

Strings	One chamber ensemble (e.g. Paganini Strings, Chamber Strings)
Brass and Woodwind	One concert band (e.g. Symphonic Band, Holst Band)
Percussion	One concert band or percussion ensemble
Voice	Unchanged voices – vocal group, changed voices - GVE

Vocal and Instrumental Tuition Program

Students involved in the 2019 Vocal and Instrumental Tuition Program who want to continue in 2020 must return their enrolment form before starting lessons this year. The enrolment form can be downloaded via MyGrammar or collected from the Music Office.

Music Lockers

Music lockers are required for students to store their instruments in the Music Building. Boys can apply for a locker by visiting the Music Office. Instruments will be confiscated if they are not stored in lockers.

GPS Music Showcase | Wednesday 5 February | 7.00pm at QPAC

The GPS Music Showcase is a highlight of the Music calendar where the finest musicians from GPS schools form a Symphony Orchestra, concert, choir and – for the first time – a Big Band.

BGS will be well represented and the boys are looking forward to sharing their love of music with like-minded students. They will be working with outstanding guest conductors and will benefit greatly from the experience.

The day will culminate in a spectacular final concert in the world-class QPAC Concert Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 5 February. Tickets are free and can be collected from the Music Office.

Boys must be well prepared and attend the repertoire check on Monday 3 February. Specific times and locations have been communicated previously.

Music Support Group Annual General Meeting | Thursday 6 February

The Music Support Group AGM will be held on Thursday 6 February at 7.00pm in the Strings Room of the Music Department. The Strings Room is on the lower floor of the Music Block, located at the end of the drop-off zone.

The AGM will be followed by the first meeting for 2020, where light refreshments will be provided. The Music Support Group would like to extend a warm welcome to any continuing or new parents to attend the meeting.

The group is a great way to meet other parents and to get involved in the BGS Music community. The number of students who participate in the Music program is considerable and events are held throughout the entire year, so your support would be greatly appreciated.

All voluntary positions will be declared vacant at the AGM. In particular, nominations are being sought for the Treasurer position. If you are suitably qualified, please consider nominating for this role.

In 2020, the Music Support Group will be meeting on the first Wednesday of every month.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like further information or have nomination queries, please contact support.music@brisbanegrammar.com.

Peter Ingram
Head of Music

Acting Head of Middle School

Rebecca Campbell

The Middle School came to life this week and I have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our students back to school. The Orientation Program was intentionally designed to help boys settle into their new class and to foster a sense of belonging and connectedness before starting classes.

I am pleased to report that the boys have settled in well, embracing the opportunity to welcome new boys into friendship groups and to reunite with old friends. If you have any concerns regarding your son's transition to his new class, please contact his Head of Year or Form Tutor.



During my orientation address to parents, I highlighted the importance of establishing routines at home and at school. Classroom teachers have spent considerable time this week establishing classroom routines that maximise productivity and foster effective learning. Establishing routines at home around homework, bedtime, the use of technology and packing school bags the night before, lead to greater independence. Routines are instrumental in developing productive habits.

Several new staff have joined our Middle School community this year. We extend a very warm welcome to Sarah Lindsay (5D), Dan Ritchie (6D), Logan Hawkins (8E) and Matt Kleinschmidt (8B). Our new staff bring a wealth of experience across both the academic and co-curricular domains and we hope they find their time at BGS rewarding.

Next week, parents are invited to attend our Parent Information Evenings which focus on ways to support your son at Brisbane Grammar School. Letters containing the relevant details have been sent via email. Dates are as follows:

- Year 5: Monday 3 February
- Year 6: Wednesday 5 February
- Year 7: Tuesday 4 February
- Year 8: Thursday 6 February

The Outdoor Education program begins next week, with 7A departing on Monday 3 February. The Year 7 program is intentionally designed to build cohesion and connections, and it is always a highlight of the school year. Year 7 parents will receive an email with further information and links to medical forms in the weeks prior to their son's scheduled program.

This weekend, many Middle School boys will be participating in their first co-curricular fixture representing the *light dark blue*. Best of luck to all boys competing this weekend.

Volunteer Roster

Week commencing Monday 3 February 2020

Tuckshop (07) 3834 5229 | Grammar Shop (07) 3834 5347
Roster Secretary Wendy Smith — email: wsmith@visis.com.au

Grammar Shop hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7.30am – 11.00am
Tuesday, Thursday 7.30am – 9.00am

Tuckshop hours

Weekdays 7.00am – 2.00pm

Week Two	Tuckshop Breakfast 7.00am – 8.00am	Tuckshop Morning Tea 8.00am – 2.00pm	Grammar Shop
Monday 3 February	Jenny Humphris Cecilia Chan	Bronwyn Stillwell (Team Captain)	Tomomi Tamowaki
Tuesday 4 February	Florence Tiong	Fara Tavakol (Team Captain)	Rachel Moss
Wednesday 5 February	Helen Webster Kate Crilly	Sandra Tam (Team Captain)	Cathy Carew
Thursday 6 February	Wei Shi Palingu Aponso	Captain Needed	Alison Kay
Friday 7 February	Sirie Palmos	Jo Wong (Team Captain)	Jodie Curtis

2020 Calendar

Term 1

Wednesday 29 January – Friday 3 April

Term 2

Tuesday 21 April – Friday 19 June

Term 3

Tuesday 14 July – Friday 18 September

Term 4

Tuesday 6 October – Friday 27 November

Upcoming Events

BGS Winter Ball

Saturday 22 August

P&F Auxiliary

Connect – Care – Contribute

The P&F Auxiliary is a subcommittee of the P&F Association that facilitates fundraising and fosters parent fellowship and the sense of strong community at Brisbane Grammar School. All profits are returned to the School to enhance the experience for students and families.

Grammar Shop Opening Hours

The Grammar Shop will be open from 7.30am to 11.00am every school day during Term 1.

There are several embroidery items awaiting pickup. To check if your item is ready for collection, please visit [My Grammar > P&F Auxiliary > Uniforms > Embroidered item pick up list](#).

Tuckshop

Welcome to our new tuckshop team!

Sue Boughen is the new Tuckshop Convenor and brings a wealth of experience to the role. We ask the boys to exercise a little extra patience while the new team settles in and learns the ropes.

We also wish to thank our departing tuckshop staff and volunteers for their years of service to the BGS community.

Joanne Villiers
P&F Auxiliary

BGS150

Light Dark Blue: 150 Years of Learning and Leadership at Brisbane Grammar School is available for purchase. The beautiful 500-page hardcover book updates the BGS story with previously untold anecdotes, rare photographs and illustrations. With a limited print run, it is sure to become a sought after collector's item. Standard edition and limited editions are available.

[Click here](#) to order *Light Dark Blue*.

[Click here](#) to view all BGS150 merchandise – limited stocks remain.

BGS150 History Book Purchase now



Did you know?

**Bursaries give boys
life-changing opportunities.**

Our
2020
Vision



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**[YEARS 11 & 12 STUDENTS
COLLECT AUDITION PACKS
FROM THE CO-CURRICULUM OFFICE]**

BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS
THE SENIOR DRAMATIC PRODUCTION

THE 39 STEPS



ADAPTED BY PATRICK BARLOW FROM THE NOVEL BY JOHN BUCHAN
20, 21 & 22 MAY 2020
7.00PM BGS THEATRE



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Invitation

Year 7 Parents



You are warmly invited to join fellow Year 7 parents
for morning tea at Victoria Park Bistro.

Date

Thursday 13 February 2020

Time

8.30am to 10.30am

Tickets

\$22.00pp

Venue

The Orchard Room
Victoria Park Bistro
309 Herston Road, Herston

Details

Cost includes a selection of sweet and
savory foods, fruit platters,
tea, coffee and cool drinks.

RSVP here

By Friday 7 February 2020

**For more information please contact
Year 7 Parent Representative - Palingu Aponso**

Email palingu@gmail.com



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Invitation

Year 8 Parents



You are warmly invited to join fellow Year 8 parents
for morning tea at Victoria Park Bistro.

Date

Friday 14 February 2020

Time

8.30am to 10.30am

Tickets

\$22.00pp

Venue

The Terrace
Victoria Park Bistro
309 Herston Road, Herston

Details

Cost includes a selection of sweet and
savory foods, fruit platters,
tea, coffee and cool drinks.

RSVP here

By Monday 10 February 2020

**For more information please contact
Year 8 Parent Representative - Rachel Emery**

Telephone 0409 470 973 Email rachelemery@optusnet.com.au



Application for ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS AND REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS (AARA)

AARA are practical adjustments made to student programs or assessment conditions for students who have specific educational needs and/or exceptional circumstances that may affect their participation in assessment or prevent them from demonstrating their current knowledge or skills. The School must ensure that AARA do not provide unfair advantages to any student and that actual achievement is assessed, not perceived ability or potential. In making a decision about AARA, the School is required to consider what adjustments to student programs and assessment conditions are reasonable in the circumstances.

To be considered please complete and email this form to the AARA email address at aara@brisbanegrammar.com. The form must be accompanied by appropriate documentation and cannot be assessed without this information.

DATE OF REQUEST: _____

STUDENT NAME: _____ **STUDENT ID:** _____ **YEAR LEVEL:** _____

Please describe the reason for your application in the box below.

Documentation supporting the application

I understand the following:

- All applications must be accompanied by documentation from an external practitioner holding AHPRA registration (eg Doctor, Specialist, Psychologist). The documentation must substantiate your application. Examples of documentation are external educational testing reports and medical certificates.
- Applications for a reduction in load due to high-level sporting commitments must be accompanied by evidence from the relevant sporting body.
- Applications will be assessed jointly by Student Services and the Studies Directorate based on the information provided and on the attached supporting documentation.
- Decisions made about the nature of AARA granted if an application is approved will be in accordance with the principle of "reasonable adjustments" to ensure equity.

☐ Documentation attached (Please cross to confirm)

Student Signature: _____ **Parent Signature:** _____



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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