

# Bowden Brompton Community School

## Term 1 2024

### Principal's Report

Over the course of Term 1, key BBCS staff have been fine tuning digital tools to track and extract data for easy analysis which allows students, parents and teachers to easily gauge student engagement across core subjects.

When the tools are used consistently teachers can benefit from detailed day-to-day insights into student progress, with the tool identifying successful strategies that support student learning while improving recording efficiency for BBCS staff.

Key staff have also been developing a comprehensive social skills curriculum to address behavioural issues that BBCS students have historically experienced. The curriculum integrates resources to teach self-regulation, boundary setting, relationships, identifying triggers, and de-escalation techniques.

BBCS staff have been working hard to understand individual student triggers and address issues related to anxiety in specific lessons, therefore evaluating what teachers have control over such as lesson presentation and task appropriateness. Empowering students through understanding the data, we believe will assist in leveraging ownership of student learning. Balancing academic priorities with personal and social development within our curriculum will enhance student outcomes and highlight a holistic approach to education provided by BBCS.



One of my favourite resources is the Gratitude Journal which serves as a tool for fostering appreciation and mindfulness by regularly documenting things you're thankful for. It helps shift focus from negative to positive aspects of life, improving overall wellbeing and mental health.

The school's leadership team is driving the importance of Explicit Direct Instruction within our teaching and learning methods. We are starting with ensuring all lessons have clear learning objectives documented in the teacher's learning plan and which are clearly understood by students.

Teachers and Curriculum SSO staff are working with learning teams to collaborate and build knowledge and resources that will enhance teaching and learning.

As we head to a break and reset for Term 2, I would like to remind parents and students that a key element to student success is attendance. Consistent attendance ensures students have access to regular instruction, which is essential for academic success. By being present and socially interacting with peers and staff, students will foster social skills development, teamwork, and communication abilities. Regular attendance will also help develop a sense of routine and discipline which are important life skills. Attending school regularly enables students to actively participate in classroom activities, discussions and extra-curricular activities, leading to increased engagement and interest in learning. A sense of belonging for students is enhanced when students feel connected to our community through regular attendance. Consistent attendance prepares students for the expectation of the workforce, where punctuality and reliability are highly valued. I encourage all students and parents/carers to do what they can to improve student attendance and let us know if there are any barriers to attendance so that we can do what we can to break down barriers to improve student attendance.

At the end of this term, we will be farewelling Andy (teacher) from the Torrens Rd Campus as he is relocating to NSW. We wish Andy and his family the very best and thank him for his work at BBCS.



On the behalf of the Bowden Brompton Community School, I wish to congratulate Pwint Thiri Kyaw, John (IT Manager) and Ivan for the safe arrival of Lilian Kyaw on the 6<sup>th</sup> April. Mother and baby are doing well. Wishing Lilian and the Win family the very best.

**John Leondaris**

# Torrens Road Campus

## Deputy Principal's Report

Term 1 is always busy with everyone getting back into the swing of school life and this year has been no exception. The Torrens Road campus has been full and attendance has been high for most of the term. Classrooms have been a hive of activity and I have observed intentional learning in all the learning spaces. It is great to see students participating in the many fantastic learning activities happening in Care Groups, from Middle School fairytale-inspired lessons to the introduction of the new SACE Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) subject. It has been awe-inspiring to see students passionately engaging with these subjects and with learning generally. This newsletter is full of images of students proudly celebrating and displaying the new skills and abilities they have learnt and developed this term.

Term 1 is when we celebrate Harmony Day, which is the celebration that brings people together to honour unity, diversity, and mutual understanding. Mario curated an excellent day of activities which included my highlight of the day, 'The Staff Dunk Tank!' Great activities, great food, great music and a great atmosphere, well done BBCS!

NAPLAN was held this term and I would like to congratulate the students who attempted these tests. Across the school, students attempted NAPLAN in record numbers.

The Torrens Road campus was lucky enough to welcome back many of the 2023 staff, including the following teachers and SSOs: Holly, Sarah W, Andy, Mel, Sarah B, Gen, Sherona, Meron, Rowan, Michael and Morgan. We also welcomed on board Michelle S. Our SACE Leader, Jasmin, is getting ready to welcome the arrival of her second child. Jas will be taking maternity leave in second term and we wish her and her new bub all the best. Jasmin is a talented leader who I will miss but I look forward to being introduced to her new family member.

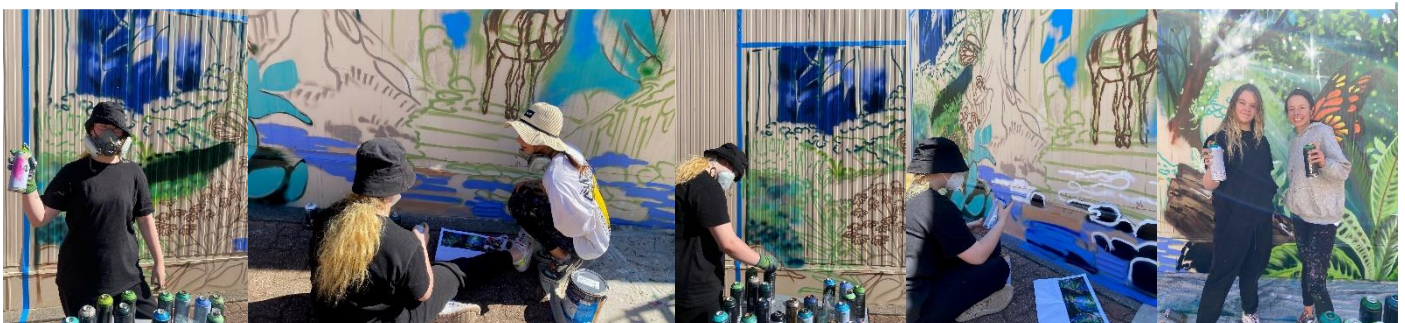
On a very sad note, I would like to farewell Andy who has decided to move interstate, where I hope he continues teaching. Andy started at BBCS as an early career teacher who has developed into an amazing, professional practitioner. He is a passionate teacher who has touched the lives and hearts of many students while at BBCS. I will miss his passion, camaraderie, insights, support, banter, the sharing of music, and our conversations immeasurably. Andy, if you ever decide to move back call me and I'll offer you a job! I wish you all the best.

Many thanks to our service providers such as Centacare – Liz and the Animal Programme, Metro Youth Health, the City of Charles Sturt services, including health and immunisation programmes, and Mobile Dental Care SA which have all actively engaged with our students this term. I really appreciate all these organisations for their ongoing support in assisting and improving the educational and social outcomes of our community. I am also thankful to the Federal Member for Adelaide, Steve Georganas MP, for donating new flags to the school.

Again, thank you to all the teachers and curriculum SSOs this term for your dedication and commitment to ensuring that every student is treated with respect and kindness and has the opportunity to engage in a learning programme that can transform their lives. You are a truly amazing team.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Torrens Road office SSOs, Michelle, Jemma, Diona, John W and Denele, for all your hard work, professionalism and support, I appreciate it very much! I look forward to working with the team again in Term 2.

**Jason Rowe**





# ART





# AQUATICS



Students from the Torrens Road campus attended the Aquatics program at West Lakes every Friday afternoon. During the sessions, students have enjoyed participating in kayaking and recently learnt to surf. They thoroughly enjoyed their new experiences and taking themselves out of their comfort zones.

**Sarah W**



# BUILDING LINKS



This term we have a team of enthusiastic interested students on their way to attaining qualifications in the growing building industry. Luke, Taj, Lionel, Kent, Lincoln and Blake have made a fantastic start with the theory component and the practical aspect of the course. The house we are working on is a mid 1920's stand alone building situated in Mile End. The scope of works is extensive and the students will have the opportunity to learn many valuable transferrable skills. Great start to the year team.

**John R**

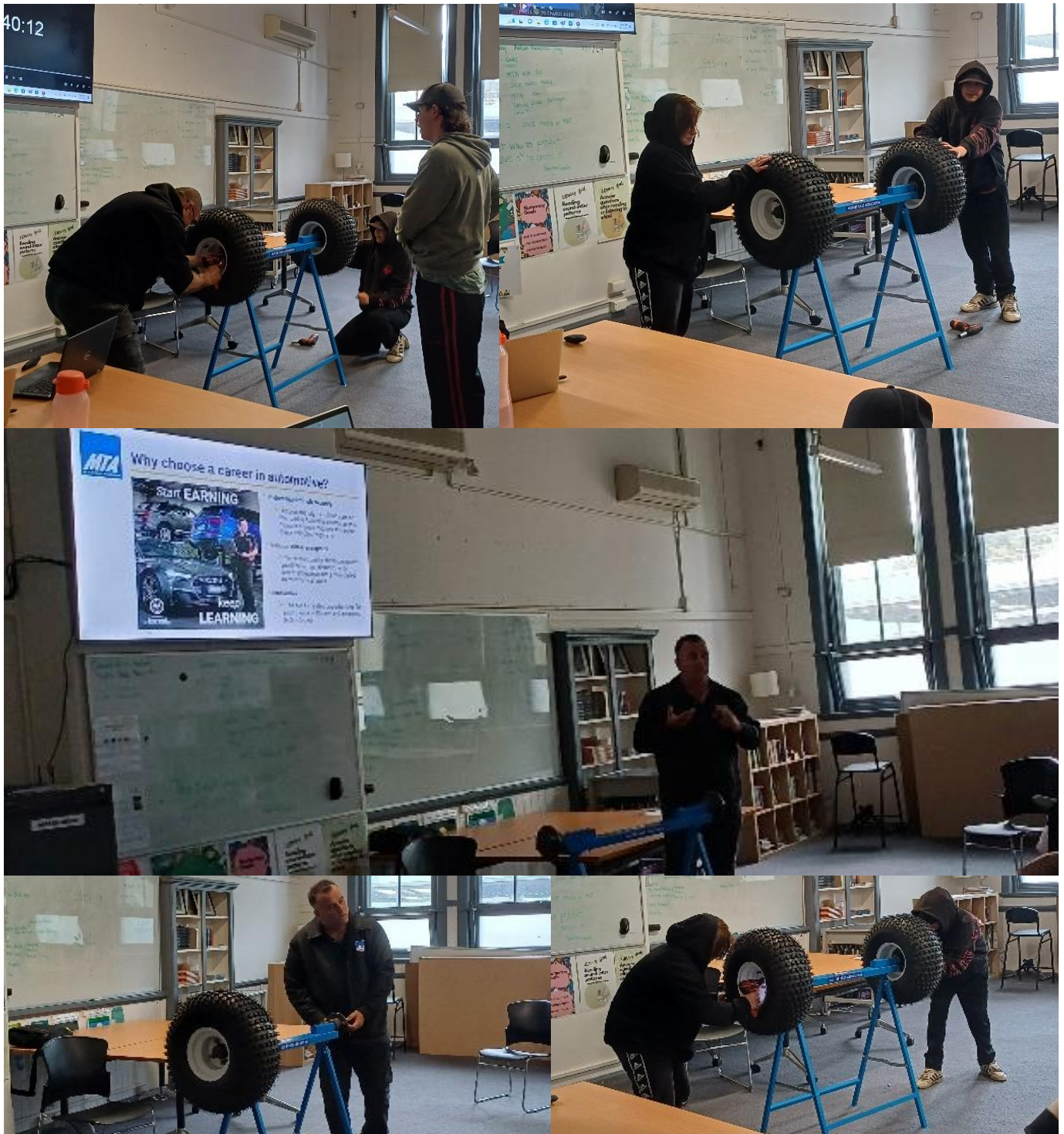


# MARTIAL ART THERAPY





# MTA SITE VISIT



David from the Motor Trades Association recently visited students from Years 9-12 to give them information about potential careers in the automotive industry, along with some hands-on challenges.

Some senior students are looking into participating in work experience at local mechanics in Term 2 co-ordinated by the MTA.

We wish to thank David for his time and efforts in visiting us. 😊

Sarah W

# SACE ACHIEVEMENTS BUSINESS INNOVATION



Max and Talisha have successfully created personalised products based on their skills and interests.

Max created 'Max's Hot Sauce', and re branded to include the level of spice on the jar as indicated by yellow (mild), orange (hot) and red (extra hot!) borders around his product label. Staff have been loving his hot sauce on everything.

Max is also to be congratulated on his upcoming apprenticeship with The Sail Master Tavern. We wish him all the best and he will be sorely missed in the BBCS kitchen. Staff will especially miss his Mystery Box creations which meant main course delicious meals for selected teachers/SSOs.

Talisha has created a cake business; 'Sweet Temptation' and catered Harmony Day with themed orange icing cupcakes. She experimented with using orange juice and zest to create the icing colour and taste. She sold cupcakes to staff and gave them free to students. Thank you Talisha.

Both students planned for a good profit margin and plan to put the profits back into their business.

Mary





# TECH

## HOSTV









# Beach Campus

## Assistant Principal's Report

Term 1 2024 at Beach Campus students have been working on developing their understanding of Time and Number in Maths: reading clocks, estimating and converting time, interpreting timetables, calculating duration as well as consolidating an understanding of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), and describing the properties of numbers (prime, composite, square etc.). In English, students have investigated Narrative texts. They have examined traditional folk tales to build their ability to interpret texts, understand language and text structures, and they have worked on constructing their own narratives. You can help your child by looking for ways to demonstrate everyday tasks using time, reading and watching narrative stories at home and talking about what your child may or may not know.

This term students attended Harmony Day at Torrens Rd, where they: participated in dunking staff in The Dunk Tank; enjoyed various cultural foods; got Henna and temporary Airbrush Tattoos; listened to live music; and enjoyed meeting staff and students from our other campuses. On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of March several students and staff attended the Closing the Gap Day at the Adelaide Show Grounds, where they visited lots of stalls, ate cultural foods and watched Uncle Eddie and other musicians perform live music. On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of March staff and students attended the Tonsley Technical Precinct to attend the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) EXPO, where they got to watch live robotics displays and learn about 21<sup>st</sup> Century careers in STEM industries. Students were excited to learn about the possible future careers opening up in many new and interesting areas.

This term, students in Years 7 and 9 participated in the NAPLAN testing over three weeks in March. It was great to see many students having a go at the tests and doing their best to complete the Maths, Reading and Writing components of the NAPLAN. A big thank you to Tim for assisting with the set up and coordination of the NAPLAN testing this year. These tests provide information on students' abilities in a range of areas when compared to tens or thousands of their peers, and help to guide teachers in how to deliver learning to meet the needs of their students.

This term, students worked with our SSO support staff to complete work towards their learning goals including developing their reading abilities via the Macquarie Literacy Program, and closing gaps in their understanding of Number using the Back to Front Maths intervention program. Students were great at completing their regular progress tests. This ensured that staff could continue to pitch student learning to their levels. In addition, a new Personal and Social Curriculum is being rolled out this year to support students with their social skills, their self-regulation and their resilience. A big thank you to Kyza, Ash L, Jesse and Lixia for spending countless hours helping students to manage their emotions and engage in their learning this term.

A big thank you to all the teaching staff for their ongoing work and commitment to helping students achieve their goals this term. Unfortunately, Beach staff were hit hard by illness this term. COVID and other illnesses and injuries had a big impact on our staffing and it often meant that staff had to work longer and harder to keep our campus running. At times, this impacted on our ability to run a normal school program. We encourage parents and carers to keep sick children home to help us contain the spread of viral infections and to help keep our school healthy and functioning.

As we go into the term break, I would like to wish all of our students and their families a safe and relaxing break and encourage you to take time to enjoy your child's company, and to keep encouraging them to dream big and to keep working towards reaching their goals.

**David Collins**



# Before BMS1 CLASSROOM

This term we have revamped the BMS1 classroom to suit our 2024 learners! We have our Pitjantjatjara and Yankuntjatjarra language and culture corner for our Anangu tjitji.

**After**





# BIKES





# COOKING AND MASTERCHEF





# FISHING



In Term 1, we went fishing on Wednesdays. The fishing group went to Goolwa for cockling at the beginning of this term, and caught a lot of cockles for bait. Students enjoyed this program, and thanks to Mr. Pelican, who kept us company at Henley Beach.

**Mary, James & Lixia**



# WAY OF THE HORSE



Students at BBCS - Beach Campus have had the unique opportunity to participate in the "Way of the Horse Coaching", an initiative designed to foster personal growth and learning through equine interaction.

Held in the Onkaparinga Hills, this program allowed our students to experience the world of horse care, and grooming, providing a hands-on experience that went beyond the traditional academic curriculum. The program aimed to teach our students valuable life skills such as empathy, communication, leadership and teamwork, through the powerful medium of interacting with horses.

The experience was not only about learning how to take care of these majestic animals but also about discovering the profound impact of non-verbal communication, building confidence, and understanding the essence of mutual respect and trust.

Under the guidance of equine trainers, students learned the importance of non-verbal communication and the value of building trust. Horses, with their acute sensitivity to human emotions and body language, provided immediate feedback to the students' actions and emotions, fostering a level of self-awareness and reflection.

BBCS is committed to providing diverse and holistic educational experiences to our students, and the "Way of the Horse Coaching" program is a shining example of this commitment in action. We are incredibly grateful to the staff at "Way of the Horse Coaching" for their partnership and expertise, which made this valuable learning experience possible.



# Little Para Campus

## Assistant Principal's Report

This term we welcomed Aida and Beth as teaching staff out at Little Para. Aida has quickly become a core part of our Integrate team, while Beth has been a welcome addition to LP1 on Wednesdays. We have also had Shane McMahon re-join us after his Youth Work placement, now as an employed member of staff. We're lucky to have Shane's music ability on deck, having started a Music program in the afternoons that has got some of our Gateways and Integrate students very engaged and honing their skills.

We have had a large number of new students and their families joining the mix as well. They have all settled in really well and have been great additions to our school community.

The staff have worked hard this term to ensure the students have had opportunities outside the classroom. Some of these have included snorkelling at Port Noarlunga, attending Close the Gap Day, SHINE in Woodville, experiencing a retired Navy boat and a visit from the Road Awareness Program. The students also participated in Harmony Day, celebrating diversity and enjoying the opportunity to dunk some of their teachers in the dunk tank.

It was a long term and I am very grateful to the new and returning staff for all their hard work, as always. I would like to congratulate all students for their efforts this term, especially those who achieved their learning goals.

**Tammy Scott**





# GATEWAYS

This term has seen the Gateways class welcome a new group of students for 2024: Michael, Korbin, Carter, Caleb and Arron have joined the crew. New and older students alike are adjusting to senior school life and are working towards completing a variety of SACE subjects.

We also welcome Dani, Tom and Aida as teachers in the Gateways classroom this year. They bring lots of Art, Technical, Health and Workplace Practices knowledge and opportunities to our group.

Term 1 highlights were: visiting Tonsley TAFE for a tour of their impressive construction facilities and see trainee apprentices in action. There were so many career options to consider! Many were lucky enough to visit the Navy Shipyard and get on board a ship. The students also enjoyed Harmony Day events at the Torrens Road campus with the whole school.

As part of Stage 1 Health, students also visited SHINE at Woodville for an informative visit.

This term, Gateways students have also taken part in Animal Studies, Balanced Choice, MAT, Cooking and Bikes in the afternoon sessions.

We wish you all a great holiday and look forward to seeing everyone in Term 2!





# INTEGRATE



This term, Integrate has enjoyed a range of activities, both onsite and out in the community. Friday aquatics has been a favourite for the group, with the hot weather providing ideal conditions for kayaking, sailing, snorkelling and swimming.

Our Thursday afternoon elective "*Know Your City*" has familiarised students with the Adelaide CBD, and services available within the metro area. Op shops, the MOD, Internet Cafes and the Adelaide Central Market were all visited this term.

We have also been lucky enough to welcome Aida M and Karn P into our Integrate staff team this term. Aida has a strong focus on future pathways and Karn is a passionate SSO/pre-service teacher. We are really thankful to have them as part of our group, and look forward to see what in store for Integrate in Term 2.

Students have also commenced exploring career opportunities. So far, we have visited Tonsley TAFE and have been on board the HMAS Diamantina Royal Australian Navy Ship. We have also visited Shine at Woodville to learn about the services for sexual health matters.

**Jack & Aida**



# COOKING



Students have enjoyed our weekly lessons in which they get to prepare lunch for the rest of the school. Some of the tasty dishes they have created this term include lasagne, curried sausages, spaghetti bolognese, chicken curry and fried rice.

Thanks to OzHarvest and Kickstart for Kids who provide some of the weekly ingredients.







# HARMONY DAY

