Dear Parents/Guardians & Students

We’ve all heard about a person’s “dry sense of humour” or a “dry and boring sermon” (of course, not at my church!), but what is the driest place on Earth? The Valley of the Moon (Valle de la Luna) in Chile probably qualifies as one of the greatest places of an extreme lack of moisture. Some areas of this desert have not received a single drop of rain in hundreds of years. Located in the Atacama Desert of Chile, this strange land area has various stone and sand formations carved by wind and water. It actually has quite a variety of color, but most of it looks strangely like the surface of the moon. (Interestingly, the moon is one million times drier than the infamous Gobi Desert!) The Valley of the Moon has many dry lake beds with salt giving a white covering layer in many areas. It was declared a Nature Sanctuary in 1982 for its great natural beauty and strange lunar landscape. Scientists actually tested a prototype of a Mars rover in the valley. People actually enjoy traveling to visit this valley. Photographers capture its breathtaking views at dusk or in moonlight.

The Valley of the Moon is part of the greater Atacama Desert, which is known to be one of the harshest and driest regions on Earth. The whole desert area is located on the leeward side of the Chilean Coast Range, so very little water from the Pacific Ocean reaches the desert. The high Andes Mountains also block clouds which might bring rain from the Amazon Basin. The average rainfall in this area is 1.16 mm per year. Some weather stations in Atacama have never received rain. The Atacama is also the location of the 2010 Copiapo Mining Accident which trapped 33 miners 700 m underground. They were successfully rescued after 69 days.

God’s blessing on His people is compared to water on dry ground and on thirsty people. “For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring” (Isaiah 44:3). Jesus fulfilled this promise when He came as the Water of Life. If you find your life dry and boring, it is time to ask for the drenching of God’s Spirit on your heart.

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; Psalms 63:1

Mr Carel Neuhoff (Principal)
Students in the Primary School are getting some hands on experience with Math games and puzzles in the MPC. A company comes onsite and sets up a wonderful array of challenges and problem solving games that require students to apply their Math skills.

Mr Favourite part of the excursion was Australia Zoo because we could see all the wildlife, but my second favourite thing was Underwater World because we could go behind the scenes and we saw turtles and we could feed the fish, stingrays and sharks.  

Jayd Whicker

The year 3/4 excursion on Wednesday we went to Australia Zoo and Underwater world and the Brisbane Museum. At Australia Zoo we saw salt water crocodiles. At Underwater world where we saw fishes, sharks and seals and that was my very favourite things to do on our excursion.

Shenae Flanagan

Malachi Canning was named Para Athlete of the day

1st Discus plus broke the record 
1st Long Jump 
1st Shot Put with a PB 
1st 100m plus broke the record with a PB 
2nd 200m plus broke the record 
2nd 800m
Last Day of Year 12 was once again a highlight, as not only Year 12 students got dressed up or down... but so did the staff. We enjoyed some food and activities with the Year 11 students included so they get a taste for what it will be like for them next year. We wish the Year 12’s all the best as they prepare for their HSC exams.

Students on Year 9 & 10 Work Experience looked like they enjoyed themselves. We had 3 students at our local vet clinics, a couple of budding Primary teachers, librarians, age care and food industry workers. There are also panel beaters, real estate, retail, earthmoving, science and child care workers.

We hope they enjoyed experiencing the "real" world and maybe that will help them choose their subjects for senior years and focus their efforts so they achieve success in these areas.

A BIG congratulations to Miss Fuggle for receiving the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award. Well deserved, Blue Hills is lucky to have you on board.
At Blue Hills College, we believe in the power of prayer. Please contact us if you would like to share specific prayer requests with our staff. We ask you to join us in praying for specific individuals, both students and staff.

“Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” (Phil 4:6-7, MSG)

Volunteer’s Morning Tea

We would like to thank all our generous volunteers that so willingly contribute to BHC. Our annual Volunteer’s Morning Tea will be held in the library on Wednesday, November 2, at 10:30am. It would be lovely if you could join us.

Charity Baskets

Our Charity Baskets are starting to fill up. Thank you to those families who have already donated non-perishable grocery items. These baskets are very much appreciated by the clients of the women’s refuge ‘Hope Haven’ in Ballina. We will be collecting items right up until our Christmas Carols Concert when we will hand them over to a representative from Hope Haven. Thank you for your generosity!

Fee Statements

Fee Statements will be sent to all families this week who have fees owing on their fee account.

Payment of fees can be made at the College Office by cash, cheque or credit/debit card. Payments can also be made by Direct Deposit (into our bank account), Payway Direct Debit (from your bank account or credit card) or Bpay. Please contact Ann-Marie Harrison at the College Office if you would like further information regarding these payment methods.

LOST PROPERTY

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Could you please check your child’s hat, jumper etc and make sure they have their names on them, as well as checking their bags to see if they have picked up another student’s item by mistake. There are a lot of unnamed garments/items in the lost property box. If these garments/items are not claimed, they will be put in to the second hand stock for resale or donated to the Op Shop.

Second-hand Uniforms for SALE

I have the following primary school uniforms for sale. None have been worn for longer than a term, and all are in either very good or excellent condition.

- 2 x Size 12 Skorts $12
- 2 x Size 14 Skorts $12
- 2 x Size 16 Skorts $12
- 2 x Size 14 Blouses $10
- Size 16 Jumper $20

(All hot-washed, ironed, ready to wear.)

Also, a pair of Size 7 black Mary-Jane style school shoes, never worn, still in box $20

Sally 0458 277 687

Prayer List

At Blue Hills College, we believe in the power of prayer. Please contact us if you would like to share specific prayer requests with our staff. We ask you to join us in praying for specific individuals, both students and staff.

“Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” (Phil 4:6-7, MSG)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 Oct</td>
<td>Brodie Lockhard</td>
<td>Jack Lynch</td>
<td>Alyssa Battese Daniel Benfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Oct</td>
<td>Nicholas Newell</td>
<td>Loc Nguyen</td>
<td>Fletcher Bond Abby Brunton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Oct</td>
<td>Mia Osborne</td>
<td>Isaac Rapmund</td>
<td>Elke Bulmer Malachi Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Oct</td>
<td>Araya Smith</td>
<td>Edward Stevens-Kowald</td>
<td>Jacob Fayers Kassidy Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>Jayd Whicker</td>
<td>Tayla Wood</td>
<td>Paris Hall William Harrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Janelle Tinworth</td>
<td>Mary-Anne Coppock</td>
<td>Wayn Chambers School Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BHC Canteen now has a range of Home Ice Creams for sale.

Prices start from $1-00 - $ 2-30.

Contact Us

- [www.bluehills.nsw.edu.au](http://www.bluehills.nsw.edu.au)
- (02) 6625 6000
- (02) 6625 2637
- reception@bluehills.nsw.edu.au

17 Blue Hills Avenue, Goonellabah NSW