From the Principal’s Desk

Welcome to all students, parents and guardians to the 2016 school year. I trust that everybody had a safe and relaxing school holiday break. A special welcome to all of our new students and staff who have joined us-I know that you will enjoy your time with us here at Belridge Secondary Education Support Centre. This year we have students who have joined us from a range of different schools in Years 7 -welcome one and all-we know that you will really enjoy the many opportunities here at Belridge! You should all be extremely proud of the manner in which you have settled into your school routine and have become so familiar with the layout of the school. The ease with which our students have settled in is a tribute to the quality of the transition program here at Belridge Secondary ESC that enables our incoming students to be more confident in attending a secondary school environment. This year we also have a number of new staff joining our team and we would like to welcome everyone-I am sure that you will find being a part of the team here at Belridge Secondary ESC and working with our students to be extremely rewarding and enjoyable!

As usual Term 1 is always extremely busy and this term is no exception with a number of public holidays (including the Easter break) and special events already planned. Please make note of the dates that are highlighted in this newsletter. A Parent evening will be held on Thursday 31st March in Week 9 from 6 pm until 7.30 pm and we hope that you can join us. Parents are invited to join us outside ESC1 and 2 where we will be having some light finger foods and refreshments from 6 pm until approximately 6.45 pm. Following this the classrooms shall be open until approximately 7.30 pm. Further information will be sent home closer to the date. A letter is included with this newsletter containing important dates for the 2016 school year, please keep it for future reference.

Every semester parents are invited to meet with their child’s teacher to prioritise and determine individual goals for our students. These meetings have already begun and our teaching staff are all looking forward to meeting with you at this time as this is a valued opportunity to collectively plan with parents as partners in education. As these meetings have already begun quite early in the year these meetings will be an ideal opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and develop an awareness of class programs and structures. IEP’s with formalised outcomes will be sent home for parents to review.

We have many students who access the School Bus Service which is operated by the Public Transport Authority. Parents/carers are reminded to please inform your bus driver if their child is absent, has an appointment or are not using the bus on any particular day. Please also inform the school of any changes to avoid any confusion. The bus service is at a premium and it is necessary for students to be prompt when being collected as any delays impact on all other students on the bus. Parents are also reminded that the gated car park at the front of the school is not for the collection and drop off of students. This is an Occupational Health and Safety requirement and only students who are eligible for ACROD parking are able to access this car park. Please be mindful of the need to be vigilant and patient when collecting your child due to the increased number of students on our site.

Our Year 12 students continue to look forward to their School Ball on Thursday 24th March at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Perth. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to get ‘glammed’ up and celebrate their years of formal schooling - this is always a very special evening and is enjoyed by both students and staff and is always a highly anticipated event by all students at Belridge!

I look forward to working alongside you all to continue to provide an exceptional educational environment here at Belridge Secondary ESC. Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or myself should you have any concerns regarding your child. Once again congratulations to all students on the mature manner in which they have settled into the new school year and we all look forward to an extremely positive year ahead.

Kind regards,

Jenine Wall
Welcome to the new families here at Belridge Secondary ESC.

All the new year 7 students have had a great start to 2016.

The staff in 7.1 include myself, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Hanahoe, Mrs Beattie and Mrs Goodwin. We are all so pleased with the smooth transition all our students have made to Secondary School.

In the short time we have been at school it has been great to see the enthusiasm and positive attitudes that they have displayed so far. All the students are becoming familiar with the class routine and structure and are working towards independence, requiring less prompting as well as showing an eagerness to learn. The students are transitioning between subjects with increasing ease as their familiarity with school and its grounds grow, creating enjoyable learning experiences.

The subjects included in our weekly timetable are English, Maths, Science, Humanities (specifically Ancient Civilisations), Health, Home Economics, Design and Technology, Dance and Physical Education.

We began Term 1 with the inclusion of swimming at Joondalup Arena. Swimming is a popular activity for all students and the lessons have been going ‘swimmingly’. We have experienced the round pool, the whirlpool and the small lap pool.

I have enjoyed meeting all the families of our students and look forward to the remainder of the year.

Ms Helen Carlyon
Year 7-1 Teacher
Year 7-2

Welcome to Belridge Secondary ESC!

We have had a fantastic introduction to high school life in ESC 2. All the students are transitioning so well into our new school. We have a wonderful group of boys and girls who are settling into their new environment. It is very impressive to see how well they are all adjusting to life in secondary school - especially following timetables and navigating through the campus.

We are making sure we continue to stay fit and healthy in 2016 and are regularly using our school oval and recently purchased trikes. The students have had many hours of enjoyment so far participating in sporting activities. They are very enthusiastic and are making great progress each week.

Built into the first term timetable are other enjoyable subjects including Dance which the students complete once a week, Design and Technology, which the students spend two hours a week participating in and Home Economics, which is also two hours every week. They are all very enthusiastic about cooking and have made scones, pancakes, fruit salad, jelly, popcorn and sandwiches since commencing this subject earlier this month.

Our class has managed to secure a patch in our veggie garden where they have sown their own personally chosen seeds with the help of Mrs LeRoy. They are very dedicated to this project and it is always carefully tended to each week by members of the class.

All the students are adapting so well to their new school and are enthusiastic about what our new learning journey will entail in 2016. Here’s to a great school year in ESC2 for 2016!

Ms Martina Gilligan
Year 7-2 Teacher
Year 7-10

A huge welcome to all the new staff and students in class 7-10! And, of course, welcome back to our returning staff and students! The first big change this year has been moving into a fabulous new room. Our new classroom (B7) is conveniently located next door to our old classroom in B6. Students appear to be thoroughly enjoying the new layout and workspace and have adapted to the new environment exceptionally well. The second change this year is with our staffing, Jane Devaney and I have remained with the class and Celeste Melia and Yvette Stevens have joined us! Everyone has been working hard to make our classroom a happy and relaxed place to learn and as a result all students have settled in to the term brilliantly. Well done everyone!

As we are already in week five all teaching and learning programs are well underway. Programs focus on developing students' literacy and numeracy skills as well as working on their independent living and communication skills. I can see that everyone has engaged and worked really hard to complete all tasks given, so a big thumbs up from me!

Students who began working through the ASDAN program last year are continuing where they left off and students new to the class will make a start on the modules. The modules include personal, health, social, citizenship and relationship themed activities. So far students have appeared to really enjoy these tasks and I look forward to submitting the completed files for moderation at the end of the year.

That's all from me for now… I could not be happier with the start to this term. I am thoroughly enjoying teaching everyone in the class and I am really proud of the progress demonstrated so far.

Ms Emma Reed
Year 7-10 Teacher
Welcome to Class 8.1!

We have had a fantastic start to the year, with many exciting activities and outings. In our class, we have: Brandyn, Callum, Shaymaa, Jacqueline, Ty, Isabel and Jack.

As part of our Physical Education Program, we have joined up with the other year 8 class for weekly ten-pin bowling sessions. We will be doing this every Thursday morning for the rest of term 1. We have enjoyed working in a team with other class members and cheering on our friends.

We have also started gardening classes every Friday morning. We help with watering, weeding, planting and raking. Brandyn and Ty have been such a great help with watering the garden; while Jack and Jacqueline have done a fantastic job of weeding. Callum, Isabel and Shaymaa have been planting new flowers to send down to Yarloop – well done team!

We have also been very lucky to get our own garden patch to grow some yummy vegetables and herbs; as well as some colourful flowers to brighten up our patch. We will be working on this all year round so we can see our garden grow and flourish over the months to come.

Miss Crystal Thompson
Year 8-1 Teacher
Year 8-2
Welcome to the 2016 school year. Our students have transitioned easily into their Year 8 class and are eager to learn and to be involved in school life.

We have been learning about the Rock Cycle in Science and the three types of rock: Igneous, Sedimentary and Metamorphic. We recently used sugar to replicate the process of how sedimentary rock is made. We are then going to apply heat to the rocks to turn them into metamorphic rocks.

In Geography we have been learning about the states of Australia and the world continents. We will shortly begin work on our history topic of Medieval Europe. Among the activities students have to look forward to is making their own medieval castle.

Congratulations to Jake, Liam, Sammy, Mailey and Cody who have been nominated as possible School Council members. They have all given a speech to the two Year 8 classes and we look forward to seeing who is successful in gaining the positions.

As part of our Physical Education program every Thursday this term Year 8-1 and 8-2 are going ten-pin bowling at AMF Joondalup. Everyone is enjoying the bowling and students are becoming more skilled each week. There a number of students who would certainly beat me if I was playing against them. Thank you to Miss Thompson for organising this.

Students have all been given homework to complete. They have reading and words to learn as well as six spelling words and a weekly math’s assignment to do. This shouldn’t take more than 30 minutes per night. If there are any difficulties with homework please let me know.

To help with science we need about 10 glass jars that hold between 250 to 400 ml. If you can send some in, please do!

We are all looking forward to a wonderful 2016!

Mrs Pauline Egan
Year 8-2 Teacher
Year 9-1

9-1 off to a fantastic start…

Students have settled into their new classroom and new routines wonderfully. They have put in an amazing effort transforming T4’s garden bed during our Science sessions where we have been exploring different ecosystems; including what is required to maintain a healthy ecosystem and the impact that competitors can have on the organisms that live there. The class found a prefect example of a competitor in the form of a giant weed that would have been stealing valuable food and water away from our newly planted seedlings, good catch class!

In History we have started the term by looking at the causes of WW1, covering everything from an assassination to alliances to the competitive building of warships and how this impacted upon communities. Students are looking forward to using their knowledge to build their very own model of a WW1 trench during our art sessions.

This term’s English focus has been reading strategies, students have been searching for clues within text to find the main idea, find the sequence and we are looking forward to exploring author’s purpose, predictions and cause and effect. We are also looking at letter writing for different purposes; beginning with thank you notes, to writing fan mail and sending emails. In Math we are working well in our groups and gaining core skills in measurement, money, numeracy, time, statistics and probability. Our Math sessions often incorporate many options for students to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding which provide students with challenges and repetition with variety.

During the very hot week we recently had, students kept their cool spending their break times indoors. Our class was very lucky as one of our very generous Education Assistants, Mrs Oldfield, brought along an exciting Lego selection for the students to choose from. Students worked tirelessly, followed instructions and problem solved their way through to the completion of each creation.

I have been very impressed with 9-1’s efforts and look forward to seeing them make great progress over the year.

Keep it up 9-1!

Ms Nichola Manship
Year 9-1 Teacher
Year 9-2
Welcome back after a great summer holiday break! The children have been settling in well, are getting used to the new room, schedule, weekly routines and staff; Mr Davey, Ms Gellard and Ms Bagiatis.

On Mondays for news the children are presenting recounts of a weekend activity to the class and then writing a more formal version practicing using complete paragraphs and sentences then proof reading and editing for capital letters and full stops. On Thursdays we visit the library to explore the different kinds of books to promote reading for pleasure. Finally on Fridays we all look forward to swimming, especially in the recent hot weather, Music Rocks and sharing a joke with our classmates.

To sharpen our Maths skills; counting, place value and addition, the children have been challenging each other playing the games Make Ten and the Exchange Game; we have all enjoyed the competition and learning. To practice our money skills we have been using the one up strategy and will transfer this to a real-life setting when we visit Coles in the coming weeks.

In English we have set up our spelling groups and will begin using Spelling City’s interactive website on our iPads to learn our weekly lists. A note will be sent home shortly introducing how to use the website, username and login to access the set learning activities.

For Science we have been conducting experiments demonstrating chemical reactions using a lit candle which needs the wax and oxygen to burn. Placing a jar over the candle limits the amount of oxygen in the air around the candle. Without enough oxygen to react with the wax, the chemical reaction cannot take place and the candle cannot burn.

We also demonstrated how the flame uses up the oxygen and creates a vacuum. First we placed the lit candle on a saucer of water and then put a glass over the candle creating low pressure. Because the water is at the base and there is a seal, the pressure difference causes the water to suck up into the glass and raise the internal pressure to equalise with outside. The students thought this was fantastic and we repeated the experiment about 4 times. Who would have thought you could learn so much with a candle, glass and some water!!

We are looking forward to more hands on class activities and school events over the semester, so please remember to keep checking diaries for notes and news.
Year 10-1

What a fantastic start to 2016 the Year 10-1 students have had! There are so many new experiences in place for them and the year is looking to be filled with a lot of fun and learning opportunities. The students have adjusted well to the new timetable and are beginning to express themselves and their opinions more freely. I am looking forward to working with each of the students throughout the year and watch them grow in maturity and independence.

Here are some photos of what the 10-1 class have been up to over the last 4 weeks.

Mrs Aileen Finn
Year 10-1 Teacher
Year 10-2

Hello and welcome to everyone from Year 10-2! My name is Mr Cann and I will be the teacher of the 10-2 class for this year. We have some fantastic things lined up for this term so without further ado, I shall enlighten you on the exciting times we have ahead.

This year the students will be participating in a number of new and stimulating courses. These courses include Department of Fire and Emergency Services (D.F.E.S) where the students will become a cadet to represent Volunteer Fire Services across W.A. The students will learn about the environment, safety at home and at school. The students will expand their knowledge of camping skills, develop their navigation techniques and learn orienteering skills that can be used anywhere in the world.

The students are also involved in an ‘Agrifood’ course that is run by the team at the West Coast Institute of Training. This course will include students learning about the sustainability of the environment, gardening and landscaping as well as developing the schools garden by planting flowers and growing vegetables.

The third course that the students are enrolled in is ‘Community Access’. We as a class will be going on excursions every Thursday to a variety of educational locations. These experiences will provide the students with the opportunity to gain access to life outside the school grounds which in turn will enrich their confidence when out in the wider community. The students will learn travel training skills, navigating to desired locations and experiencing the things Perth has to offer.

Aside from the extra-curricular activities, the students will be participating in set curriculum subjects. We will be working through curriculum courses in English, Maths, Health and Physical Education. We will be working on a number of objectives in each subject area throughout the year which will overarch into other learning areas such as Community Access and D.F.E.S.

Social Studies and Cooking/Independent Living skills will also be woven into the student’s timetable.

So as you can see it has been a very busy start to the year for the students of Year 10-2 and looks to continue for the entire term.
From the Manager Corporate Services

New contributions and charges sheets together with personal items lists and some other information for 2016 were forwarded to all families at the end of last year to enable them to plan for the new school year. We have done our very best to keep these costs as low as possible and we are sure that you will find that our costs compare very favourably to other secondary schools. Updated statements were forwarded at the beginning of this term.

Payment of contributions and charges can be done in various ways; cash, cheque, internet transfer, or EFTPOS.

We do understand that many of our families have conflicting financial pressures and to assist we are more than happy to enter into payment arrangements such as weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments for completion of these accounts. We do ask that unless payment arrangements have been made that all monies are paid by the end of Term 1. This enables us to better provide ongoing resources for the programs undertaken by our students.

Any families holding a Centrelink Health Care Card, Pension Concession Card or a Veterans’ Affairs Card will be able to complete a Secondary Assistance Form at the start of the school year. This assistance will help with the payment of contributions and charges to a total of $235 and there is a payment of $115 towards uniforms or other associated costs which is credited direct to parent’s accounts. Applications for this assistance need to be submitted by April 8th, 2016 through the school office. There is no option to access this assistance past this date so if you wish to take advantage of this please do so as soon as possible as there are only 5 weeks remaining to apply.

Please see below for further details.

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold a Department of Human Services (Centrelink) or Veterans’ Affairs card that represents a statement of income for the family.

The allowance consists of two components:
$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school.
$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school. Application is made by the parent or guardian for student/s enrolled in Years 7–12 at a secondary school.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Parent or Guardian of student in Year 7-12 must hold one of the following cards that is valid some time during first term:
Centrelink Family Health Care Card
Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card

Please do not hesitate to contact the office on 9408 8050 or me directly at Stephanie.Camkin@education.wa.edu.au if you have any queries regarding this or our Charges in general.

Stephanie Camkin
Manager Corporate Services

Student Council

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to represent their year group in the 2016 Student Council.

Year 12—Max Armstrong & Joseph West
Year 11—Robbie Law & Samuel Rowan
Year 10—Courtney Harrison & Louis Smyth
Year 9—Max Letizia & Jarrad Johnson
Year 8—Mailey Kelly & Jack Goldsmith

Students will be recognised and presented with their badges at an Assembly to be held at the end of term on Thursday 7th of April 2016. More details to follow.
Year 11-1

The Year 11-1 students are out in the community on Wednesdays and Fridays this year.

Workplace Learning placements at Activ, Workpower, Salvos and Woolworths are providing students with opportunities to learn valuable employability skills. Transport training skills are also practiced using the Transperth bus and train to their worksites. Mrs Winston and all the Education Assistants who support students in the workplace are making their placements interesting and successful. Thank you to all the parents who assist students to come prepared for work with their Smart Riders and Companion Cards.

Exploring the local Belridge Shopping Centre and jobs people do there is a part of their learning outcomes this semester.

On Fridays, Mr Pantelis and the students have been playing cricket and soccer at Bouncers Sports.

Thank you to all the parents who have made time to come in for our IEP meetings. Your input in your teenagers' learning is a valuable asset to all.

Mrs Sandy Riley
Year 11-1 Teacher
Year 11-2
We have been busy setting up for the year ahead. While the students have proven to know one another very well (in class mate trivia) I have been enjoying getting to know each individual. I am very excited to be commencing 2016 with this wonderful group of Year 11 students, parents and staff. Routines have now been established, including weekly riddles and inspirational quotes. Learning programs are underway and individual goals are evolving.

ASDAN Citizenship Task 1: Students delivered a PowerPoint presentation on their interests.

The theme for Community Access during Term 1 is Sports and Recreation. The visits to Bouncers Sports Centre have really showcased a number of the student's talents. Not only sporting skill but their ability to cooperate, communicate and show sportsmanship. A recent DFES excursion to Ern Halliday also highlighted their teamwork capabilities.

Students have commenced their work placements. A big Thank You to Mrs Winston for all your hard work organising these. During English lessons employability skills have been a focus. Students have participated in a range of learning experiences highlighting: communication, teamwork, problem solving, initiative, planning and organising, self-management, learning and technology. They have reflected on how they demonstrate each of these skills at their work placements. They have recorded their discussions on their iPads and used these to fill in a self-reflection checklist on their communication skills.

We are starting a Friday raffle. Students have the chance to earn raffle tickets in class for positive behaviour and their work. Each week a 'mini sports pack' is up for grabs. The motto being 'the more tickets you have in it, the more chance you have to win it'.

This year students will be working to achieve a TAFE Certificate I in Transport and Logistics with Mrs Winston and an ASDAN Meal Preparation Certificate with Mrs Kennedy. Education Assistants; Mrs Franklin, Mr V, Mr Malloy and Mrs Wileman will be supporting students in their journey through Year 11.

Mrs Kelsey Collins
Year 11-2 Teacher
Year 12-1

Welcome to the Year 12-1 students and families. We have begun the term with a flying start! All of the students have settled in beautifully and have readily embraced all of the changes, challenges and enjoyment that year 12 brings. This year we have a jam packed schedule with ASDAN, DFES, Community Access, Workplace learning, Café Skills, Horticulture and Swimming.

The year 12’s recently participated in a team building morning at Ern Halliday, as part of the DFES program. We were thrilled to witness the strong team spirit between the students. Their dedication to working together meant that they were able to complete all of the tasks with ease.

There is a buzz in the air already in preparation for the highlight this term and likely the year - the School Ball. This awesome event is going to be held at the Hyatt, which will allow our students to become princes’ and princesses (even if it’s just for an evening).

This year we have a focus on active communication, team work and life skills. We all look forward to learning and growing with the year 12 students and we are hopeful that this year will bring a lot of joy, laughter and success for all.

Mrs Carmen Lopez and Ms Tonya Vander Loop
Year 12-1 Teachers
Year 12-2

The Belridge Secondary ESC Year 12-2 Class have been a great group of students to work with so far this term and have had many successes and celebrations.

- Happy Birthday to Joseph and Emi who have both recently turned 17.
- Congratulations to Lockie for passing all the tests and getting his driver’s licence.
- Congratulations to Jeremy for winning 5th place in his bowling club.

The class have a very busy timetable this year and are working hard to achieve success in all their programs. Money skills are one of priorities this year and students have been enjoying numerous activities whilst achieving their ASDAN Money Progression outcomes.

Students have begun the first two units of their Certificate II in Community Services course by taking part in class discussion, workplace scenarios and role plays.

In a joint physical education venture between the Year 10 and Year 12 classes students have chosen to take part in either ‘Boxing for Fitness’ classes, Dancing or Basketball. The students are enjoying these activities and focusing on developing their individual skills.

It has been a pleasure meeting all the Year 12-2 families throughout the IEP meetings and I look forward to writing about the Year 12 school ball in our next newsletter edition.

Mrs Lauren Spedding
Year 12 Teacher
Workplace Learning

It has been a great start to the new year with all our senior school students now attending workplaces in the local community. Our Year 11 students are off campus on Wednesdays and are really embracing the challenges of coming prepared and working in local organisations to learn a new set of skills. Year 12 students are out on Tuesdays and Fridays. We are encouraging the students to start thinking about what training and career opportunities they might like to consider for post school. Over this year we will try and give them the options they would like to consider in the work placements so that they get an idea of what it could be like for them.

We would encourage students who feel confident and competent to start and think of how they can travel to work independently from home, as this is a step towards being able to get to other venues for training in the year ahead. Parents who are willing to consider this option are asked to let me know so we can help in the process.

We have had some last minute opportunities for students to take up VET in school places at the local training providers. We have two students starting in Cert 2 courses in Automotive Preparation and Hospitality, which is a great opportunity for the students to gain a place to learn a trade. We also have a student who is continuing his Cert 2 in Construction at Trades North which is great. Well done to the students and thanks to our staff for supporting them off campus.

We also welcome a new trainer in our Cert 1 Agrifoods this year Katherine Smith. We are continuing the course with Year 10 students who have been busy planting and getting our garden patch back in shape already this year.

Year 11 students are working towards their Cert 1 in Transport & Logistics and are busy keeping up with the latest in manual handling helping in the school. They are doing a great job safely recycling the waste paper bins each week to help classrooms keep their green bins empty!!

We will be planning a Beyond School Parent information evening early in term 2 for all parents who would like information on what is available for their students post school. Keep an eye on the newsletter for the dates. Year 12 and 13 parents please start planning with your LAC’s and let us know how we can help, as this is the transition year when we can assist with the journey.