

# Baulkham Hills High Newsletter



[www.baulkhamhillshighschool.com.au](http://www.baulkhamhillshighschool.com.au)



## Yr 12 Graduation

Raine Park and Ms Chapman and Jesse Vella and Ms Adams

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## From the principal's desk:

Welcome back to staff and students for Term 4 2023. As always, there is a lot happening at BHHS. Please ensure you check our weekly newsletter, your emails, and the school calendar (<https://baulkham-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/bhhs-calendar.html>) to check what is happening when.

**Year 12 2023's Graduation** on the last day of last term was a terrific success. Over 500 guests and the entire student cohort attended the ceremony. A special thank you to our amazing P & C volunteers who prepared the most magnificent morning tea for students and guests in the Houlston Centre. The full ceremony can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EB4i5hu3y1E>

The **2023 HSC Examinations** commence on Wednesday 11 October. The full timetable can be viewed at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/key-dates/hsc-written-exam-timetable>.

9 October 2023



## Calendar 2023

This calendar is subject to change so please check carefully each week for any alterations. A whole year calendar is on the school website at [www.baulkhamhillshighschool.com.au](http://www.baulkhamhillshighschool.com.au)

### Term 4

<b>Week 1</b>
<b>Monday 9 October</b> Y7-11 Return to School
<b>Tuesday 10 October</b> Y10 PASS Bronze Medallion Awards
<b>Wednesday 11 October</b> HSC Begins Wicked Musical Performance 7pm to 10pm – Stage 5&6 CAPA
<b>Thursday 12 October</b> Y10 PASS Bronze Medallion Awards
<b>Friday 13 October</b> CADETS AFX23 Camp 13/10 to 17/10 incl. Y9 Geography Semester 2 Fieldwork excursion to Barangaroo 'Footloose the Musical' Viewing Party 3.15pm to 5.30pm
<b>Week 2</b>
<b>Monday 16 October</b> CADETS AFX23 Camp 13/10 to 17/10 incl.
<b>Tuesday 17 October</b> Yr 10 History Research Task
<b>Wednesday 18 October</b>
<b>Thursday 19 October</b>
<b>Friday 20 October</b> Prefect Planning Day
<b>Week 3</b>
<b>Monday 23 October</b> Yr 10 Assessment Week 23/10 to 27/10 incl.
<b>Tuesday 24 October</b> P&C Meeting
<b>Wednesday 25 October</b>
<b>Thursday 26 October</b> School Photos – incoming Captains/Prefects
<b>Friday 27 October</b>
<b>Saturday 28 October – P&amp;C Working Bee</b>
<b>Week 4</b>
<b>Monday 30 October</b> Yr 7 and Yr 8 Assessment week 30/10 to 3/11 incl
<b>Tuesday 31 October</b>
<b>Wednesday 1 November</b>
<b>Thursday 2 November</b> Year 11 Korean excursion
<b>Friday 3 November</b> Yr 11 and Yr 9 Acc Geography excursion
<b>Week 5</b>
<b>Monday 6 November</b> Y9 Assessment Week – 6/11 to 10/11 incl
<b>Tuesday 7 November</b> Yr 12 Sign Out day
<b>Wednesday 8 November</b>
<b>Thursday 9 November</b> Y11 Recognition Assembly
<b>Friday 10 November</b> Cadets Remembrance Day Ceremony

On behalf of our entire school community, I would like to wish our students completing HSC examinations the very best in their examinations over the coming weeks.

Congratulations to one of our invaluable school learning and support officers, **Trish Dib**, who was acknowledged at a ceremony on 21 September for her “significant contribution reflective of the values of NSW DoE’s Strategic Plan 2018-2023”. She received this award as a representative of The Hills Network. Trish provides amazing support for our staff and students in the BHHS Support Unit. Thank you, Trish.



Amber Gorrell (Relieving DEL), Trish Dib, and Julie Kennedy (Relieving Executive Director)

A reminder that the **new Mobile Phone Policy** for BHHS is in effect from today unless specific permission has been granted in class by a teacher, or the student has been granted an exemption.

**Wayne Humphreys**  
Principal



# Baulko News

## 2023 Australian Schools' Teams Chess Championships NSW Playoffs Secondary Open



(From left to right: Alexander Warne, Shivam Pant, Sayum Rupasinghe, Joshua Seo and Benjamin W Jiang)

Over the school holidays, six top NSW teams were invited to compete for a spot to represent NSW in the 2023 Australian Schools' Teams Chess Championships (ASTC), in the Secondary Open division. After two days of intense and hard-fought games, Baulkham Hills High School came out on top, edging out Knox Grammar on tiebreak. (BHHS defeated Knox in their individual match 2.5 points to 1.5 points.) The team will now represent NSW in the nationals held in Adelaide early December.

### Final Standings

=1st Baulkham Hills, Knox 15.5  
3rd Sydney Boys 10.5  
4th Sydney Grammar 8  
5th St Patrick's 6.5  
6th Killara 4

If you see the above players, wish them good luck!

Mr. Hu



## BHHS Mobile Phone Policy and Implementation Term 4 Trial Procedures

### **Purpose Statement:**

The “no phones in school” policy is being implemented to increase focus and learning in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interactions. The implementation of this policy is a requirement by the NSW Department of Education under the *Students’ Use of Mobile Phones in Schools Policy*.

### **Rational:**

From Term 4, 2023, students are not permitted to use mobile phones whilst on school grounds, including before & after school, recess and lunch. We understand that phones are an integral part of life and that parents/carers provide their children phones for their personal safety and security. However, whilst at school, the school would encourage students to engage in meaningful conversations with each other and physical activity during breaks rather than online activities. In emergency situations, students and parents/carer may contact each other through the Front Office. The school, understands that there are some circumstances where a phone may be required by students. Therefore, exemptions are available for students that may require the use of a mobile phone for wellbeing reasons, learning or medical needs.

The NSW Department of Education provided five options for schools to implement this policy. After surveying the views of teachers, students and parents, there was majority support for the introduction of the option “**phones off and away**”. It has been decided to trial this option during Term 4, with a review in early 2024.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

#### **Principal, Executive and Teachers:**

- Practice consistent with the school behaviour policy
- Staff model appropriate use of mobile phones
- Organise safe keeping of mobile phones if confiscated

#### **Office staff:**

- Organise safe and secure keeping of confiscated phones
- Keep an accurate record of collected mobile phones
- Communicate with parents/carers as required

#### **Parents and carers:**

- Encourage students to follow the school policy
- Communicate with their child through the front office rather than contacting the student directly
- Understand that the school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to phones
- Encourage their children to engage in social and physical activities during break times
- Work collaboratively with the school and help reinforce the school’s procedures and behaviour management policy and use of phones at school to support staff

#### **Students:**

- Turn off the phone and place it in a bag or pocket for the duration of the time on school grounds, this extends to excursions, sports activities and other events on or offsite unless otherwise advised
- In some circumstances, students may be requested to place their phone in a secure safe in the staffroom, which will allow the phone to be provided as required
- Engage in learning in the classroom
- Engage in social and physical activities during break times
- It is the responsibility of students to follow the guidelines outlined in this document

### **Implementation of policy:**

Updated 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023





At BHHS, the “no phone” policy will be implemented by requiring students to turn off their phone when entering the school grounds and place them in their bag or pocket for the duration of the day. They will only be allowed to take them out and use them when leaving the school grounds at the end of the day. This means that they are not permitted to be used at recess and lunch, and before/after school on school grounds. It also extends to excursions, sports activities and other events on or offsite unless otherwise advised.

Students are not permitted to congregate around the school entrances before entering the school grounds in order to use their phones, especially in the morning. Once arriving at school, students must enter the school grounds where there is teacher supervision.

The exceptions to this policy will include:

- Exemptions through an application process for wellbeing, medical or students with specific needs
- Required as a learning tool for educational purposes with explicit teacher permission

Applications for exemptions from parents/carers and students is through an application process from the relevant Deputy Principal unless already identified by the wellbeing team.

### Phone Protection:

- Students must take full responsibility for any phone brought to school. The School and staff accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged phones.
- Confiscated phones will be labelled and then stored in a secure place in the front office. Any existing damage will be noted and added to the phone documentation.
- Students are advised to mark their mobile phones clearly with their name.
- BHHS strongly advises the use of passwords and Personal Identification Number (and not to share these with others) to protect mobile phones from unauthorised use.

### Consequences:

- Students who do not meet the expectations in this policy will be subject to consequences consistent with the school behaviour management plan.
- The use of mobile phones **without permission** during lessons, assemblies, excursions or other school events will be managed according to the BHHS Behaviour Management Policy. These include, but are not limited to:
  - Confiscation of the mobile phone for the remainder of the school day.
  - Confiscation of the mobile phone until such time as their parent/carer can attend school to collect the device
  - Removal of “**phones off and away**” and replaced by “**phones stored in office**” for the school day.
  - Issue of warning of suspension
  - Suspension for continued disobedience due to failure to follow the procedures of this policy and the Behaviour Management Policy.
- Confiscated mobile phones will be stored securely at the Front Office.

Updated 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023



## In the Classroom and/or Playground



Updated 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023



## International Lions Youth of the Year Program

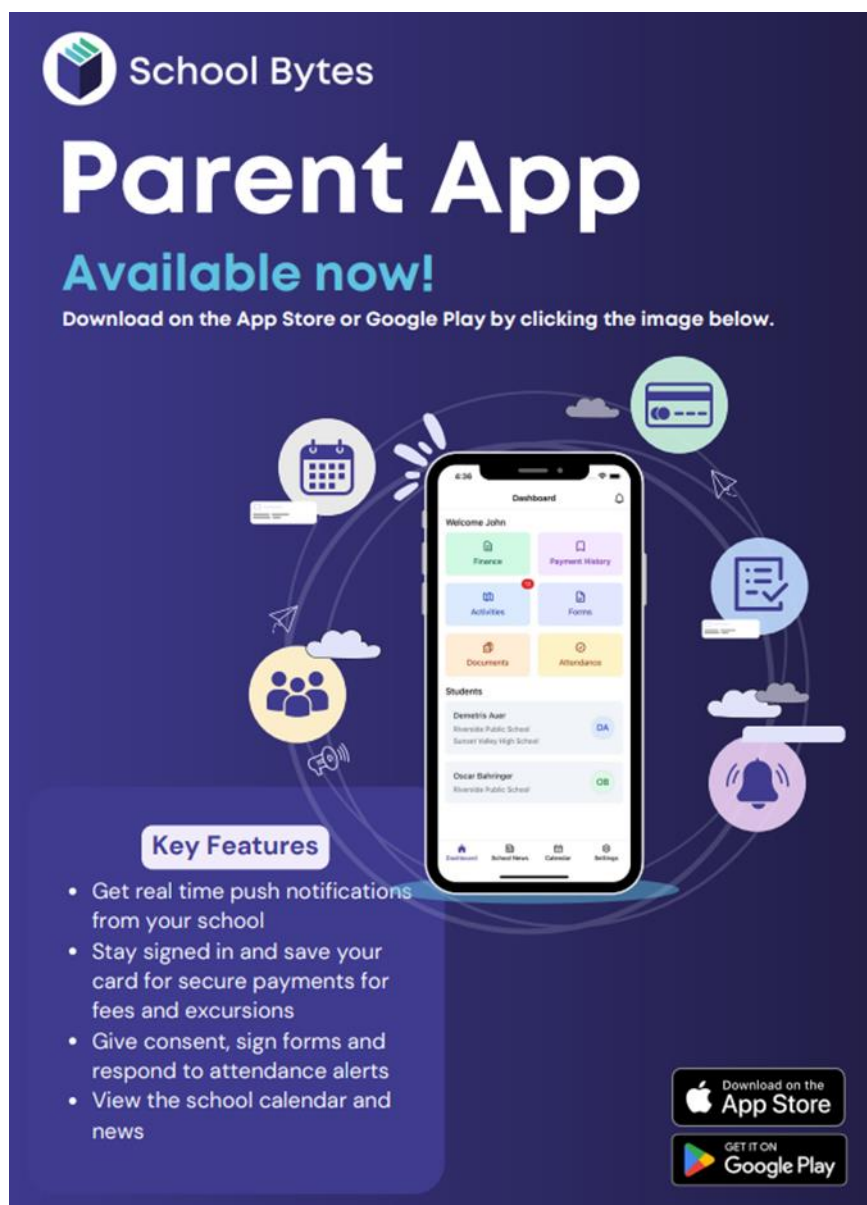
The International Lions Youth of the Year Program is a highly acclaimed global Citizenship and Public Speaking Competition encouraging our High School students to share their achievements and involvement with like-minded future leaders.

This year our competition will be held on a Sunday in either late October or early November. Again, we will be having a combined event with Baulkham Hills Lions.

Please click on the link below for more information and how to enter:

<https://lionsclubs.org.au/our-programs/youth-opportunities/youth-of-the-yea>

## School Bytes Parent App – available now



The graphic features a central smartphone displaying the app's dashboard. The dashboard includes sections for 'Finance' (Fees, Payment History), 'Activities' (Forms), 'Documents', and 'Attendance'. Below these are 'Students' listed with names and initials. The phone is surrounded by various icons representing app features: a calendar, a credit card, a document with a checkmark, a bell for notifications, a group of people, and a speech bubble. The background is dark blue with white and light blue accents.

**School Bytes**

# Parent App

**Available now!**

Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below.

**Key Features**

- Get real time push notifications from your school
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play



## SAVE \$50 WITH YOUR CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHER

Masters Academy is a registered & trusted provider.

### TERM 4 DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAMME



Delivered in partnership with your school, our class options are designed to accommodate beginner to advanced speakers.

Students gain access to a range of speaking, competitive, social, leadership and entrepreneurship opportunities when they become part of the Masters Academy network.

Enrol with the leading provider of debating, public speaking and communication education to schools in NSW

#### BENEFITS & SKILLS

- Activities & Debates/Speaking Exercises
- Engaging, Fun & Challenging
- Soft Skills & Communication
- Boosts Confidence & Self Esteem
- Taught By Experienced Coaches
- Supportive & Friendly Environment
- Practical debates and speaking
- Develops listening skills
- Access to the Masters Academy network

<b>MONDAY OR THURSDAY AFTERNOONS 3:15 PM</b>
<b>TERM 4 WEEK 3</b>
<b>STARTS 23RD OR 26TH OCT</b>
<b>7 WEEKS PER TERM</b>
<b>60 MINUTE CLASSES</b>
<b>FOR YEARS 7, 8 &amp; 9</b>
<b>ONLY \$239 PER TERM</b>

[mastersacademy.com.au/enrol](https://mastersacademy.com.au/enrol)

LIMITED PLACES







## PWDA Disability Advocacy Futures Program

Are you a student living with disability?

Do you live in southeast, southwest or central Sydney?

Do you study in one of the public schools or are a parent/guardian of a student with disability from the above regions of NSW?

Do you need help to access or navigate the NSW public education system or access NSW Government-funded services?

**Our advocates are here to help you!**

Funded by



### We can help you with

#### Information & Referrals

- Your rights as a student with disability,
- What specific help the school should provide to students with disability while in the school,
- Connecting you to other services that can help.

#### Advocacy

- Help access and talk to the school system,
- Help prepare letters and applications to the schools,
- Assist you raise concerns with schools and the Department of Education where appropriate.

#### Contact us

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm  
1800 422 015

[intake@pwd.org.au](mailto:intake@pwd.org.au)

[pwd.org.au](http://pwd.org.au)

#### PWDA Information Request Form



## Disability Advocacy Futures Program

1800 422 015

[intake@pwd.org.au](mailto:intake@pwd.org.au)

**Free and confidential help**



Funded by NSW Communities & Justice in partnership with NSW Education



If you live in southeast, southwest, or central Sydney, we can help provide:

- free, confidential, and personalised support to students with disability and their families,
- assistance to access and navigate the public-school education system and other services,
- explore options that facilitate the studies of students with disability in public schools.



## Administration Updates

### Absence Explanations

Parents are required to provide an explanation of absence to the school on the day of absence or **within seven (7) days** from the first day of any period of absence, **otherwise it will remain unjustified**. If a student is absent for three (3) days or more a **Medical Certificate** is required.

### Application for Extended Leave – Travel

Please click on the link below and fill in the form (4 pages) for extended leave – travel and certificate. A copy of flight details or itinerary is also to be included. The student can bring the hard copy form to be signed which is subject to approval before going on leave. **The certificate of extended leave travel will be given back to the student if travel leave is approved.**

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/policy-library/associated-documents/pd-2005-0259-02-2.pdf>.

### Planned Travel

**Planned travel** should only be taken during school holidays. Students should be at school every day during school term, from beginning to end. Missing a day here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up. Every day matters and the school is here to support all students in attending and engaging with their learning every day of the term. If your child cannot be at school because they are sick, have a medical appointment, or other reasons, please inform the school of their absence.

#### Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



education.nsw.gov.au



### Permission and Payment for Excursions, Sporting Events/ Activities

Baulko is currently using "School Bytes" as a form for permissions and payments for various activities. You will receive the required permissions and or payment via email. **If it is not finalised by the deadline, your child will not be able to attend.**

**Please check these emails are not going into your spam as they are named school bytes.**

## Year 12 Student Reports – Parent Portal

Please be aware that once students in Year 12 leave the school, student reports will no longer be available to see on the Parent Portal.

**Please print or save onto your device when you receive student reports as the school will not have access after your leaving date or by November 2023.**

## Updated Communication

Updated communication procedures have commenced at BHHS. The BHHS App is no longer used. Primary communication with our community will be via direct email, the weekly school newsletter and the school website. The website includes the Sentral Parent Portal (<https://baulkham-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/links.html>). **If you have recently changed your email address, please inform the school as soon as possible to ensure you receive all key communication from the school.**

**AVAILABLE NOW!**

We are excited to announce our school will be transitioning to a more flexible and simplified way parent/carers can make payments

**The Parent Portal**

- Easily make a payment online
- Download your receipt
- Sign and return permission notes digitally
- Use any credits on your account to make payment
- View your complete payment history
- Request a refund

**Available NOW**

Register for the Parent Portal via the QR Code or visit <https://portal.schoolbytes.education>

[https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login?return\\_to=https%253A%252F%252Fportal.schoolbytes.education%252F&error=unauthenticated](https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login?return_to=https%253A%252F%252Fportal.schoolbytes.education%252F&error=unauthenticated)





## AVAILABLE NOW!

Parents, you can now save your credit card details in Parent Portal for future payments.

### First time making a payment?

Simply select the items you wish to pay, then tick 'save card details for future payments' option and click 'pay.'

You will then be redirected to the payment page where you will need to tick the checkbox to authorise ongoing payments.



## AVAILABLE NOW!

Parents, you can now save your credit card details in Parent Portal for future payments.

### Using saved card details

Simply select the item you wish to pay, open the 'pay with saved card' drop down and select your saved card.

Pay now

JC Jane Citizen School Bytes Academy \$10.00

Pay with saved card

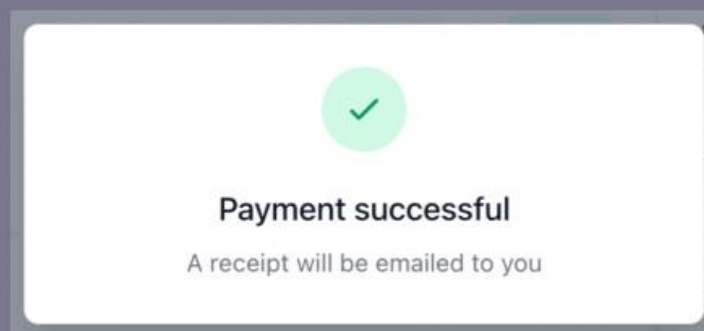
- ✓ Visa \*\*\*\* \* 1111
- Visa \*\*\*\* \* 4242
- New card

This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Service](#) apply.

CANCEL PAY \$10.00

AMOUNT PAID BALANCE

Your payment outcome will be displayed and a receipt emailed to you.



## Careers News



Study Work Grow/The Careers Department/Career Central/Morrisby Profiling/From High School to Hireable Interview Skills [*existing resources*]



Years 7-12 have premium subscription access to a new online program developed by Study Work Grow called the Ponder Program



Year 11 have recordings/worksheets for Navigating Uncertainty & Career Research Planning & Year 12 have recordings/worksheets for Scholarships



Year 12 will have access to recordings from a doctor speaker on both medicine careers and career resilience



Year 12 have copies of a new publication "The New University Entry Game"

### Careers Resources & Speaker Presentations



Please ask your child for the code to sign up to Study Work Grow (available on Google Classroom) if you would like to receive updates directly



Please check updates directly in the newsletter and contact the Careers Advisor if you have any questions or suggestions



Videos and PowerPoint slides created by the Careers Advisor will be emailed to parents via the Principal (Year 10 Subject Selection; Year 12 Updates; Work Experience & Volunteering; P&C Resources)



To help your child with their career development process, please see this link: <https://myfuture.edu.au/assist-your-child>

### Helping your child with their career development

## School Uniform

Our **school uniform** identifies our students. The correct wearing of it is expected and is a matter of pride and safety for all students. If a student is not able to wear full school uniform on a particular day, the student is required to bring a note from their parents/carers to be signed by a deputy principal before school. The student will then be issued a uniform pass. If a student is out of uniform without a note from a parent or care, they will be issued with a detention.



### Support From Reachout

The challenges of supporting students as parents and carers is always present. The issues around COVID-19 have made this an even more difficult and uncertain path to tread. I will be giving students short ideas via assemblies over the next few weeks in which they can proactively support themselves.

The website Reachout.com also provides advice for parent and carers over arrange of areas. It is worth having a look at <https://parents.au.reachout.com/> as a starting point.

For students, have a look at <https://au.reachout.com/articles/how-to-handle-fear-about-the-future-a-guide-for-year-12-students> (Dr Amy Burton, Clinical Psychologist)

### TAFE Use

Students are reminded that the use of the adjacent TAFE facility to walk to and from Old Northern Rd is a privilege and not a right. Students are reminded to walk safely, quietly and quickly thorough the facility. Parents and carers are **not** permitted to enter, drive into, or park in the TAFE to pick up or drop off students.

### Bus Travel

The **bus stop on Old Northern Rd in front of Baulkham Hills TAFE** is used each afternoon by approximately 100 students. Students have the privilege and responsibility of accessing this bus stop through the TAFE. I would remind students to be very careful and considerate when using and accessing this bus stop, waiting for a bus, and moving to the kerb to get on a bus. Buses sometimes approach the stop very quickly, with the front of the bus coming over the edge of the kerb. Please always demonstrate courtesy and safety, and remember that there is always another bus.

### Student pickup after school

A reminder about parking and picking up around our school in the afternoons, especially in the school bus bay, Carver Crescent, Christopher Street, Coronation Road, and Baulkham Hills TAFE areas.

Please ensure you follow all traffic rules (especially traffic lights and not parking across driveways) when you are in these areas. You could even have your student walk a little but further away from the school gate – to assist their physical health, and alleviate the heavy traffic at the end of the school day.

The Hills Shire Council will have compliance officers at various times in these locations to ensure all drivers are following required traffic rules.

