

20 April 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your family have had a safe and relaxing Easter holiday. This email contains information I hope you will find useful for Term 2.

Upcoming Key Dates

Wednesday 28 April	Winter Sports Photos
Thursday 29 April	Year 11 VCE and Careers Expo
Friday 30 April	Winter Sports Photos
Friday 7 May	Go Grey In May Casual Clothes Day
Monday 10 May	Allwell Year 10
Tuesday 11–Thursday 13 May	NAPLAN - Years 7 and 9 students
Wednesday 19–Friday 21 May	Senior Production performances at Firbank
Monday 31 May	Year 9 Service Optional Trips commence
Monday 31 May–Friday 4 June	Years 10 and 11 exams (Years 7, 8, 12 classes as normal)
Friday 4 June	Year 7 FGS/BGS Social
Wednesday 9 June	Years 7–12 Coaching Day
Wednesday 9 June	VCE GAT
Monday 14 June	Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)
Friday 18 June	Ute Full of Food

Positive Masculinity Survey

As part of our continued work in the area of Positive Masculinity, we would like to survey all Year 7 and 9 students on Monday 26 April. The purpose of this survey is to better understand our cohorts, how strongly they are connected and the values of the boys. All data is managed with strict guidelines around access and use. Should you wish for your son to opt out, please email [the Crowther Centre](#).

APS Sport

Weekly Term 2 fixtures will be posted every Thursday via the [Sports webpage](#).

Concussion

APS Sport now has 12-day minimum concussion protocols in place (except for Rugby which is 19 days). It is crucial that we safeguard our boys' health. If your son has a concussion outside school hours (e.g. club sport), we ask parents to please contact the School to share this information with us.

COVID protocols for sport

The following APS regulations in light of COVID protocols are in place for the winter season:

- No shared water bottles
- No parents to access any playing surface during games
- No half/full time after match afternoon teas at sport for 2021

Study Club and Extended Library Hours

Study Club for Years 7 and 8 students will be held on Monday, Wednesday (Maths), and Friday mornings before school in the Urwin Centre (from 7.30am). Study Club for Years 9 to 11 students will be held on Monday and Thursday after school in the St Andrew's end Library until 5.00pm.

The St Andrew's Library has extended its hours to 5.00pm from Monday – Thursday (Friday closing time is 4.00pm). Urwin Centre students are welcome to attend St Andrew's Library during extended hours.

Year 12s have the Long Day Program in the Hancock Wing each night until 7.30pm. This is a special program for our Year 12s only.

Weekly eNews

Each week on Thursday afternoons, you receive the community eNews via email. In the weekly newsletter, the Headmaster shares a message, and we feature stories about the boys and staff activities. I encourage you to read the eNews, which provides a weekly snapshot of school life.

Interim Reports

A reminder that Term 1 interim reports can be accessed [via SynPortal](#).

Please use these reports as an opportunity to discuss your son's learning goals for the semester. If you are having problems with your login or password for SynPortal (which can also be used to access your accounts), please contact [Parent Assist](#).

VCE Holiday Homework

VCE staff are checking this week that VCE students have completed their holiday homework. If your son is undertaking VCE, please have a conversation with him about his holiday homework.

Coaching Day – Wednesday 9 June

An important part of our pastoral care program at BGS is our Coaching program. This term, our Coaching Day is Wednesday 9 June when each boy will have a one on one goal setting session with his Tutor. No formal classes will be held on this day, with boys attending school for their appointment, which will be made in consultation with their Tutor. If you have any queries, please contact your son's House Tutor directly.

Please note that Year 12 students, and Year 11s completing a Unit 3/4 subject will be sitting the GAT on this day. Their coaching appointments will be booked to accommodate the GAT.

Communications

A reminder that during school hours, parents and boys should communicate via the School's phone system – either Urwin Centre Reception (Years 7–8): 8591 2260 or St Andrew's end Reception (Years 9–12): 8591 2200. Reception will pass on urgent messages to boys as required. Boys will be allowed to make calls to their parents using the Reception phone with the permission of a staff member.

Mobile phones

A reminder that Year 7 and 8 boys store their mobile phones in their lockers throughout the day, and Year 9 to 12 boys must have their mobiles switched off during lesson time.

Haircuts

A number of boys have arrived at school needing haircuts this week. Please book your son in for an appointment. Thank you in advance for your help. Please know that I speak with your boys, as do their Heads of House and House Tutors, so together we can work as a team to help our boys meet the expectations for appearance.

Uniform

- Boys must wear their blazer to and from school.
- Boys may wear either shorts or trousers during winter.
- Boys may wear either long-sleeved or short-sleeved shirts during winter with their tie.
- Boys need correct socks – there are formal School socks, as well as BGS sports socks.
- PE prac classes: Year 7–10 students who have PE practical classes may wear their sports uniform all day to school due to Covid regulations with our change rooms.
- Sports training: Only Year 7 and 8 students may wear sports gear all day when they have sports training before or after school. It is important they pack a supplementary bag with items specific to sports training (eg boots, mouthguard, hockey stick etc)
- Year 9–12 students should get changed on days they have sports training.
- Year 11 and 12 boys need to be able to clearly establish why they are wearing sports uniform – otherwise they should, by default, be in formal School uniform.

- Boys should only wear the formal School cap and formal School sports hoodie to and from school (and not individual sports).
- The Noone Uniform Shop opening hours can be found on [the BGS website](#). The second-hand uniform store, based next to the ELC, is now back in operation and is open from 4.00–5.00pm on 22 April, 27 April, 4 May, 11 May for sales and intake of the new uniform. Contact is [Tracey Oliver](#).

The Secondary School staff and I look forward to continuing to work with you and your boys in what I am sure will be a rewarding Term 2.

Yours sincerely,



Meg Adem
Acting Deputy Headmaster
Head of Secondary School

Please see over page for Appearance Guidelines.

Appearance Guidelines for Secondary School (7–12)

Haircuts

- Hair must be neat, clean and well-maintained at all times.
- Boys must be clean-shaven at all times.
- Hair must be reasonable length (eg. short back and sides).
- Hair must not fall below the bottom of the collar, or over eyes.
- Hair must be blended, without significant contrasts in lengths.
- No haircuts below blade 3.
- Hair must be natural in colour.
- No extreme haircuts/hairstyles.
- No use of hair ties or accessories.
- Boys not compliant with the guidelines may be sent home until haircut/hairstyle is deemed acceptable.

Uniform

- The School uniform is to be worn correctly and kept neat. Jewellery, such as rings, bracelets and earrings, should not be worn.
- All students must wear a tie to school with either shirt which must be tucked in.
- Only official BGS hats to be worn.
- Boys visiting the School at the weekend are expected to wear School uniform to all School functions.
- Boys are to bring their blazers to school every day regardless of the forecast and are to wear them to and from school.
- From 2021, only the new academic uniform is to be worn.

Please visit the [uniform webpage](#) for further information and Uniform Shop operating hours.