

Principal

Frank Fogliati

Deputy Principal

Bronwyn Motion

Executive teacher

Professional Practice (ETPP)

Christine Kirk

Executive Teachers:

Kate Taylor, Andrew
MacDonald, Felicity Toohey,
Stephanie Nott

Executive Teacher Wellbeing &

Futures:

Jarrod McGrath

Youth Support Worker

Ben Pegram

Chaplain

Ken Perrin

Community Recreation Coordinator

Sam Galea

Building Service Officer

Darryl Cullen

Business Manager

Glenice Ugalde

Reception

Noela Skeels

IT Officer

Edward Hood

ASBAs: Tameika Haddock & Lexi Hayward

P&C President

Dawn Bowra

Board Chair

Sam (Samantha) Salvaneschi
0422 524 330

smsalvaneschi@gmail.com

Deputy Board Chair

Lyle Dahms
<lyledahms@netspeed.com.au>

TERM 1, WEEK 4

2016 FEBRUARY

Dates for your calendar

Monday 27th February

11am

Assembly

Black Mountain School Gym

Tuesday 28th February

All day

Wear red day for Red Cross

Gold Coin Donation

Black Mountain School

Thursday 23rd March

9:45am-2:30pm

DreamCricket Gala Day

Kingston Oval

Friday 24th March

10:00am-2:30pm

Radford Sport Day

Radford College

Saturday and Sunday

25th– 26th March

AIS Athletics Track

Please contact the front office if you're interested: 02 6142 1400



A word from Frank

The school year has begun with great enthusiasm at Black Mountain. We welcomed 24 new students, with the promise of two additional arrivals later this term. A number of new staff also chose Black Mountain as their home for 2017, and you can read their biographies in this newsletter. They come from a range of backgrounds and different stages of career paths, but what is universally consistent is the commitment to working with students to achieve independence.

Currently ILP meetings are underway. For families new to BMS these may perhaps be different to previous planning meetings you have attended. Whilst they are quite specific about goal-setting for the year, the overall focus is squarely on your vision for your young person's post-school life. We trust that you will find the discussion productive and empowering. Although I will not be able to attend every ILP meeting I do look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible.

Last week we held our Welcome BBQ, enjoying the company of the 130+ people who attended. It was a very successful event with a real sense of community in evidence. For those who attended you will recall the inspiring words from our P&C President, Dawn Bowra, who spoke about the need to support one another. The P&C is not about fund-raising and making money, it's about building community. We know that the Welcome BBQ was just the first instalment of this sharing of goodwill and camaraderie within the Black Mountain School community. Also we are seeking a P&C secretary for 2017. If you are interested, or perhaps just a little curious, please talk to either Dawn or myself.

Next Monday is our first school assembly for the year. We hope to see you there!

LEARNING,
GROWING,
ACHIEVING
BLACK
MOUNTAIN
SCHOOL

New Staff 2017

Jarrold McGrath- Executive Teacher: Wellbeing and Futures

Two weeks into my time at BMS and I am more delighted than I expected to be introducing myself to this wonderful community. Having performed the Pastoral Care Coordinator role at The Woden School for the past 5 years (and absolutely loving it) I am familiar with a lot of the duties but made the decision to transfer to further develop professionally and increase my understanding of specialist education. Hence my delight, because already I have witnessed exceptional practices and procedures that have all had student interests at the forefront. From Executive meetings to staff professional learning to classroom practices I have experienced a community who operates with the ultimate goal of supporting student development.



In my role in the school I will continue many of the great existing programs along with utilising my passion, creativity and networks to develop new opportunities for students. In particular I look forward to continuing the mentor programs and partnerships with Merici and Radford College's as I believe these types of programs are excellent in increasing future opportunities for people with disabilities as future generations develop confidence, skills and knowledge in supporting people and more likely to realise the benefits of an inclusive society. I look forward to continue working with Ben Pegram (our Youth Support Worker, whom I have worked with at Woden) in singing group activities and introducing a car wash program.

On a personal side I have grown up with a sibling and uncle with disabilities and believe this contributes to my philosophy and skills in the 'disability paradigm.' I have also worked in Disability Employment Services and other community service organisations building my knowledge of post-school options and disability service providers. I enjoy drawing on these experiences to assist students and their families transition to post-school life.

I look forward to meeting more members of the BMS community over the coming years and enhancing my skills to achieve the greatest possible outcomes for our students.

Hi I'm Mel Squire and I am an LSA in room 51. I'm currently studying a certificate 4 in disability, I started as a casual at Black Mountain school in June 2016 after moving from Queensland to Canberra. I'm a mum of three children two of whom have special needs, I love working at Black Mountain and cannot wait to see what the future holds for all the amazing students.

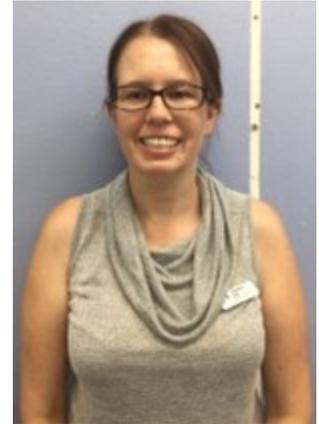


New Staff 2017

Hi everyone, I'm Steph Nott and I am new to Black Mountain School this year having joined as part of the executive team on the COMPASS classes. I have spent over 13 years in Dubbo and Orange working in Special Education in local high schools. I am so excited to be at Black Mountain School and have enjoyed the move to Canberra as well as the wonderful HOT weather.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful students and staff for making me feel so welcome, for answering my unending questions, helping me out when I have been lost and cooking delicious food for me to sample!

Over the next term I look forward to getting to know everyone a little better and exploring all the fabulous opportunities available here at school.



My name is Johanna I am married and have 3 children. I have transferred to Black Mountain School this year after working for the last 6 years at Harrison. I originally come from WA, so I follow the West Coast Eagles in the AFL. While living in WA I worked with an after school group for teenagers with disability called Teen Spirit. I also volunteered on a few holiday camps for children with disability. I can't believe it is week 4 already here at BMS. I must say I am enjoying every minute of my time here so far and look forward to many more happy days helping our students get ready for life after they finish at school. Oh and I love going on school camps, I think they are the best part of the year .



Hi Everyone, my name is Vanessa, I'll be working two days a week at Black Mountain. The other three days I do disability education research at ANU. On Tuesdays and Thursdays I do Science in Connect and Compass, as well as Body and Mind which is a social skills development program in Connect. There is also a women's research group every fortnight just to keep things interesting. I'm really happy to be here and lend a hand whenever I can. Mostly I'll be pushing a trolley around making noise.



Hi I am Chiz. I'm an LSA and I work in Room50. I am Japanese and I came to Australia 12years ago with my family.

I was a gymnastics coach before I worked at Black Mountain School. I enjoy working at Black Mountain School, meeting new people and learning new things .



New Staff 2017

My name is Bronwyn Motion. Originally from Wagga Wagga NSW, I moved to the ACT in 1995 to work for Community Services and study at the University of Canberra. I have been lucky enough to work across a broad range of services and educational settings over the past 20+ years...although I'm only 25. My teaching career has included roles at Cranleigh School, The Woden School, Autism Australia (ASPECT) and most recently within the ACT Network Student Engagement Team. I feel extremely privileged to now be a part of the committed and passionate team at Black Mountain School.



My name is Helen. Some of you will know me from Cranleigh, although most recently I have been working at Latham Primary School. I am so excited to be back in a special school where I can really get to know students, build positive relationships and do lots of cooking and chatting. I will be working on Mondays in rooms 44 and 1, and Wednesdays, mainly in room 45, although I'll have an opportunity once a fortnight to be in rooms 30 and 42.



My name is Tameika Haddock, I am 17 years old and a year 12 student at Hawker College. I have 2 siblings, a brother and a sister who I adore. I love to play softball. My passion for working with people with a disability comes from my sister who is 15 and has autism. Her having this disability has provided many challenges to our life. Being able to help her and be by her side while she improves and progresses in her life means everything to me. Having this opportunity to do the same for many other children that have a disability through my ASBA means so much to me because knowing that I have contributed to someone's life improving it and helping in anyway possible makes me feel happy and honoured. I started my ASBA at the start of this year and have found it to be such an amazing experience. The staff and students are so supportive and welcoming, and the atmosphere is so enjoyable to be in. I can't wait for what is to come in my journey at Black Mountain School and what may be install for me for my future in this sector.



New Staff 2017

Niki van Buuren has been teaching in ACT high schools and colleges for the last 10 years, having most recently come to Black Mountain School from Dickson College. Her specialist areas are the Visual Arts, Photography and Design. Niki is passionate about embedding creativity into learning programs and thrilled to be teaching t/he Compass art program in Room 36 this year.



Community Recreation

Black Mountain School is pleased to announce that our partnership with Table Tennis ACT will continue in 2017.

Two experienced coaches will attend Black Mountain School each week and work with a group of students to train for the Table Tennis Championships later on in the year. Staff and students are looking forward to working with the table tennis coaches throughout the year!



Merici Work Experience

Six students from Connect classes have commenced work experience at Merici College. Our students are supported by student volunteers from Merici who teach our students their duties and supervise their progress. These duties include recycling, gardening, mail delivery, shredding and other administrative tasks around the school. These students will continue attending for a semester and other students will be given a chance to participate throughout the year.

Singing up a storm at Kankinya Aged care facility

The singing group have commenced fortnightly performances at Kankinya in Lyneham. On their debut performance on the 21st February that had residents and staff clapping and dancing along as they belted out their favourite songs from artists such as Katy Perry, One Direction and Taylor Swift. The enthusiastic dance moves in our 'encore' produced massive smiles and cheers as we were farewelled and asked to come back as soon as we could. We look forward to further developing our relationship with the residents and staff over 2017.

Welcome BBQ

A big thanks to all the members of our community who attended our Welcome BBQ on Wednesday the 15th February. It was a big success with large numbers of our students, and their parents/carers and families attending to view classrooms and get to know our staff for 2017. We also enjoyed the wonderful food prepared by our Hospitality classes. We all enjoyed talking to you so much that we forgot to take any photos :)

Relay For Life

I've always wanted to create an opportunity for specialist school students to participate in this excellent fundraiser and community event and have been able to create this for BMS through joining the Campbell High School team. BMS students are invited to support the team in the 11am-9pm Saturday slots and 8am-11am Sunday slots. Permission notes with full details have been sent home and are included in this newsletter. We will also host some fundraiser events at school leading up to the relay, so stay tuned for more information on those.

Facebook- the quickest way to stay the most up to date!

Speaking of staying up to date, our school Facebook page will have regular posts about school news and events as well as general disability and community information. So make sure you 'like' our page to ensure you receive all this.

Youth Worker Programs

We are lucky to now have Ben, our Youth Support Worker, full time at BMS. This means he now has even more awesome programs to offer students. So far his packed out schedule of programs includes; SRC, Graffiti, Media, Drama, Singing, Car Wash, Boys Group, Radio/DJ and Screen printing. He is so busy delivering these great programs that he doesn't yet have the time to report on them for our newsletter (maybe a job for his media program). Stay tuned for future updates.

Student volunteer programs with Merici and Radford

I am very enthusiastic about providing opportunities for students from other schools to link with our students and am pleased to be continuing the ongoing programs that BMS has established with Radford and Merici. I have conducted orientation training with 3 groups of student volunteers from both schools and as of week 3 these groups have commenced their weekly visits to our school. Thanks to all the classrooms that are hosting these volunteers. We look forward to helping them develop their skills and confidence in supporting people with disabilities over the semester.



Join us **Saturday 25 March 2017** for the
Annual Miniature Show and Dollhouse Fair

Weston Creek Community Centre, adjacent to Coleman Court, **from 10am till 4pm**

Admission Adults \$6 Children 5-12 \$3 & under 5 free

The show offers **items for sale** from a selection of Local and Interstate Artisans and Traders.

You will be able to find something in 1:12, 1:24 and 1:48 scales.

A variety of kits, dolls & teddy bears, traditional & modern furniture, handmade items, a range of books & magazines, fabric, ribbon, rugs, timber trims, flooring, wallpaper, lighting and anything you may need for your miniature projects.

Come and have a look at the themed club display. In 2017 it will be **“Vive la France”**

The **“make & take”** table will be back for children who wish to learn a miniature skill.

A fee of **50c to \$2** will be charged (depending on the complexity of the item)

Our show is a fantastic way of meeting our super talented club members.

If you are creative and love miniatures as much as we do,
 consider becoming a member & have fun with us.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Black Mountain School P & C will be running a **“mini fair”**, a Sausage Sizzle and Cake Stall. We are proud supporters of **ACTME**. We provide the catering for the Members and Stallholders on the day so tell your friends, family and community about this, then come and support this vital fundraiser for your school.

BLACK MOUNTAIN SCHOOL NEW PHONE NUMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As of Monday the 27th February 2017, Black Mountain School will have a new contact number.

The new phone number for Black Mountain School is: **6142 1400.**



I'm helping to beat blood cancer by taking part in the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave!

Please sponsor me: <http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/helenday>.

To give Aussie families facing blood cancer the emotional and practical support they need. You will also help fund vital research so more people survive blood cancers like lymphoma, leukaemia and myeloma.

You may not know it but blood cancer is the third most common cause of cancer death in Australia, claiming more lives than breast cancer or melanoma. And every day another 35 people will be diagnosed.



Welcome from Black Mountain P&C to 2017

We have a big year ahead and no doubt you have the date for the Welcome BBQ and we also have to have an AGM and Elect a committee for 2017. I am looking for Carers/Parents and extended family members, also interested community members of Canberra, who are civic minded and altruistic, (maybe even philanthropic), to join me to make 2017 the best year ever in the history of our magnificent P&C for Black mountain school Students.



What is the P&C?

P&C is the Parents and Citizens Association. The P&C is about people – people just like you – parents, care givers and community minded people who want to help their school. We work closely with the school, building a stronger school community, where all children benefit. **OUR P&C IS FUN. Coffee Catch up mornings TBA.**

Is it all Fundraising and Meetings?

Well yes ... and no! The P&C's primary focus is on building strong partnerships with the school leadership and promoting a sense of community within Black Mountain School.

We also do fundraising throughout the year that can be invested back in the school for the benefit of all children.

We would love to hear your ideas for fundraising and spending money!

Fundraising activities and P&C meetings provide great opportunities to meet new families and share ideas.

Next FUNdraiser is catering for the Miniature Fair on Saturday 25th March at Coleman Court, Weston Creek. Details TBA

Why join the P&C?

Actions always speak louder than words. A lot can and has been achieved through the P&C and school working together towards common goals. To continue this great work it needs people from all walks of life with a range of talents. The more people who are involved the more exciting and successful it will be. Please consider coming along to the first Meeting of the year and getting involved. It's a great way to meet new people and really contribute to your child's school experience. **ALL POSITIONS ARE OPEN AND NEEDING TO BE FILLED at the AGM.**

As we use email to communicate with parents, it is essential that we have an accurate and up-to-date email contact list of parents. Opting for PC email is great way to engage with activities, issues and useful information for parents in your school even if you can't make it to meetings.

So please complete and sign the below form and return it to the school or to the P&C. Your email address will be kept confidential and only used for authorised P&C/school communication purposes.

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Contact phone numbers: _____

YES I'm interested in being part of the P&C committee.

(Separate AGM Notice and nomination form being distributed)

YES I would like my name to be added to the list of helpers for P&C events.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please return to the School Reception

Many thanks

President Dawn Bowra 0458 003316

Black Mountain School has 5 brand new toilet support rails that are excess to our needs. If there is a family in the Black Mountain School Community that is in need of one, please contact the front office on **6142 1400.**



Students with Disability Survey

The Education Directorate is currently undertaking an evaluation of support for students with disability in Canberra public schools. To inform this work we are seeking a wide variety of views on how we best support both students and schools.

The Directorate is consulting with students, families, school staff, peak bodies and leading practitioners to ensure a wide variety of views are considered.

We would like to invite the Canberra community to contribute to the review process by completing a short survey or providing a written submission. Information on how to contribute is at http://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/students-with-disability-review.

This is an important review and your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Relay For Life 2017

Our school has the opportunity to join the Campbell High School team to participate in this excellent fundraiser and community event. As a team we are required to maintain a member in the relay from 11am Saturday 25th March until 11am Sunday the 26th.

BMS students are invited to support the team in the 11am-9pm Saturday slots and 8am-11am Sunday slots. Please select your chosen time slots in the permission form attached. We will try to accommodate all interested students, but as this is a weekend event we are dependent on staff volunteers and need to ensure we have adequate supervision and support for students. If a parent/carer is able to attend and support a student this will increase our capacity for student participation. Please indicate on the permission form if a parent/carer is able to attend.

When: Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th March (please choose your attendance times in the permission form. We have created some 1 hour and 2 hour slots, but you are welcome to attend for longer if you wish. We will do our best to accommodate your first preference but to ensure adequate supervision and student spread we may have to request another preference from you).

Where: AIS Athletics Track Bruce ACT

What: Team Captains and staff will support and rotate students for track time. In between this students can rest at our team base and enjoy music and other activities. General information about the event can be found at <https://www.relayforlife.org.au/about-relay/> Further information about BMS involvement in the event will be sent out at a later date to students who select to register and participate.

Registration: To participate students must register online and pay a fee (this price includes a T-shirt). When registering you can ask to 'Join a team' - our team is called Campbell High School. Please register before returning your permission note. https://secure.fundraising.cancer.org.au/site/SPageServer?pagename=relay_for_life#/registration/login?fr_id=4911

EARLY BIRD - Register online by 12noon Friday 24 February - **\$35 per person**

REGULAR - Register online from 12noon Friday 24 February - **\$45 per person**

Online registrations close at 12noon on Friday 17 March

As this is the first time our school has participated, we appreciate that you may have some further questions about the event that we are happy to try and answer. Please contact Jarrod McGrath at school or alternatively the ACT Cancer Council can be contacted directly on (02) 6257 9999.

Relay for Life 2017 Permission and Time preferences

I _____ give permission for _____ to attend the Relay for Life 2017.

A parent/carer will be attending to support this student. Name: _____

Relationship to student: _____

I have completed the online registration and joined the Campbell High School Team

_____ (signature) _____ (date)

Saturday 25th

Time slot	First preference	Second preference
10.30-12.30		
12.30-1.30		
1.30-2.30		
2.30-3.30		
3.30-4.30		
4.30-5.30		
5.30-7.30		
7.30-9.30		

Sunday 26th

Time slot	First preference	Second preference
8-10am		
10am-11.30am (pack up)		

Dear Delegates,

Activities that result in RSI and overuse injuries **are not confined to keyboard use** but include a wide range of common everyday actions that school children perform.

These include sporting, recreational, lifestyle, entertainment, play, study, walking, carrying and information technology activities. Simple daily events like wearing a badly packed and poorly adjusted /fitted school back pack can lead to ongoing physical problems for children if not corrected early. Learn what to look for and how to correct such problems and avoid RSI/overuse injuries in your children.

All members of your school community (parents, carers, teachers) are welcome to attend Ann Thomson's presentation on this topic at 7pm on Tuesday 28 Feb, prior to our General Meeting which everyone is also invited to attend and discuss some very interesting matters – see the attached Agenda.

Please ask those who plan to attend to RSVP to me by midday 28 Feb.

Many thanks.

Mr Terry L Sanders

Executive Officer

ACT Council of Parents & Citizens Associations

The parent voice on public education

Phone (02) 6241 5759
Fax (02) 6241 8839
Email tsanders@actparents.org.au
Website www.actparents.org.au



BRICKS

@ The Woden School

Brick Expo supporting students with special needs.

SAT 18 & SUN 19 MARCH 2017
9AM-4PM

127 Denison St Deakin

Entry: \$3.00/child, \$5.00/adult or \$10.00/family

For details go to

<http://www.thewodens.act.edu.au>

This is a Canberra Brick Expo event organised in association with the Canberra Lego User Group and the Woden School Parents & Citizens Assoc.

This event is not affiliated with The LEGO Group. LEGO and the LEGO logo are trademarks of The LEGO Group. © 2014 The LEGO Group.

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THE WODEN SCHOOL

Independence & Responsibility

The Woden School Parents & Citizens Assoc.

BrickExpo



marymead
children • families • community
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



3142 019

The Manager
Black Mountain School
DRYANDRA STREET
O'CONNER ACT 2602

Dear Sir/Madam,

This year is without doubt one of the most significant years of Marymead's long history. 2017 marks an amazing 50 years of providing family support and therapeutic services to children, young people and their families within Canberra and surrounding NSW regions. It is also a year that we will see the commencement of the major redevelopment of our Narrabundah site, the original Marymead site, which will include the building of a retirement village and purpose built Marymead facilities including new adaptable cottages and a centre featuring counselling rooms, training and education facilities and family contact spaces. This development will provide us with both state of the art community facilities and a diversified income stream that will help ensure Marymead's long-term sustainability within the community. I look forward to keeping you informed of the redevelopment's progress once it commences in the latter half of this year.

Our special birthday will be celebrated with a number of events already planned to mark this important milestone, the first of which being our 50th Anniversary Family Fun Day at Narrabundah later this month, on Sunday 26th February, exactly 50 years to the day of Marymead officially opening its doors in 1967. I would like to extend an invitation to all of Marymead's supporters, past staff, volunteers, residents, clients, sponsors, donors and the community in general to come along with their families and friends and join us as we commence a big year of celebrations. There will be free entertainment including activities for the kids with the Gecko Gang, a sausage sizzle and more! It will be a day not to be missed!

Other events being held during the year include our Race Day in March, a Bowls Day in May and Marymead's 50th Anniversary luncheon at the Canberra Southern Cross Club Woden on 21 June, which is being preceded by a Mass at Holy Trinity Curtin at 11.00am which will be celebrated by the Archbishop, Reverend Christopher Prowse.

For more information on our upcoming events please visit our website. I look forward to seeing you at one or all of our events during the year.

Kind regards,

Camilla Rowland
Chief Executive Officer

marymead.org.au

CANBERRA
255 GOYDER STREET
NARRABUNDAH ACT
PO BOX 4260 KINGSTON ACT 2604
PHONE 02 6162 5800

GOULBURN
32 VERNER STREET
GOULBURN NSW
PO BOX 286 GOULBURN NSW 2580
PHONE 02 4827 1600

WAGGA WAGGA
36-40 GURWOOD STREET
WAGGA WAGGA NSW
PO BOX 699 WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650
PHONE 0419 250 144

MORUYA
CORNER CAMPBELL AND PAGE STREETS
MORUYA NSW
PO BOX 994 MORUYA NSW 2537
PHONE 0406 375 247

Dear Colleagues,

Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT will be delivering training programs for people living with an intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder, as well as a teachers, parents, counsellors, and disability workers.

Please see the attached fliers for further information about program content, dates and NDIS eligibility.

SoSAFE! User Training

Thursday, 9th February 2017

SoSAFE! is a set of visual and conceptual tools designed to promote social safety for people living with an Intellectual Disability and Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The program introduces teachers, parents, counsellors and disability workers to the framework and rationale behind SoSAFE!, equipping them with the visual tools, lesson plans and skills to implement this integrated framework for teaching relationships, sexuality and sexual health to people with a moderate to severe intellectual disability.

Family, Friends and Relationships

Tuesdays, 21st February – 4th April 2017

Family, Friends and Relationships is tailored to people living with an intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder using the SoSAFE! framework. It promotes social and sexual safety by teaching skills to develop and maintain healthy, respectful relationships with the people in their lives.

Preparing for Periods

March 2017 (TBA)

The Preparing for Periods program uses the SoSAFE! framework to meet the needs of girls and young women living with intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder, preparing them for the changes in their bodies that occur during puberty.

Please contact us for further information.

Warm regards,

Louise Stockton

Project Officer - Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT

Tel: 6247 3077 - www.shfpact.org.au