



# BTA NEWS

Better Together Alliance Newsletter  
prepared by Sandy Gunn

June 2017

Over a busy Term II, our BTA schools and community once again delivered a range of outstanding activities and events to our students. Thank you to everyone involved for your continuing commitment and support in the planning and implementation of the 2017 BTA program.

## Australian Ballet Education Program

The  
Australian  
Ballet

On Friday 2nd of June the Australian Ballet Education Program concluded with a brilliant performance by our BTA students, followed by a beautiful performance of Sleeping Beauty by the Australian Ballet. Each school showcased their collaborative choreographed piece with a great amount of skill and professionalism. The ensemble from the Australian Ballet facilitated 10 hours of training to our students over a period of two weeks. Clearly with this expert training, our determined group of students showed a great capacity to work together as a team, develop their dance-movement skills, create a performance and produce a very successful event. It was fantastic to see the growth and individual gains in student confidence, creativity, leadership, teamwork, and enjoyment. Our students created performances to be proud of.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Australian Ballet for their exceptional program provided so generously to the Better Together Alliance. To the ensemble members, Tim, Yhale, Robin and Chantelle, we appreciate and thank you so much for your amazing work. Thank you to WPSC for the use of their venue and for the great staging and lighting. And thank you again Kyla McGregor (WPSC), Jamason Lopez (McGuire College), Rebecca Lansdown (SHS) and Tanya Sayer (MSC) for your fantastic support.



*“We will do better for  
young people by  
working strategically  
together”*

*BTA Focus*

## Upcoming Events

- Network Meetings – Week 5 Term III
- BTA Production GREASE – July 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>
- La Trobe Uni Outreach Program – Sept 11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup>
- Central Australia Trip – Sept 18<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>
- Rugby Program – Semester II
- GMLLEN / GoTAFE Trade Taster – Term III
- Subject Selections (VCE / VCAL – Term III)



## Network Meetings

The next Network Meetings will be held again at McGuire College in Week 5 of Term III. Thank you again to the Learning Area Leaders at McGuire College for their leadership, organisation and coordination for these meetings.



## BTA Fete

The BTA Student Council's 'Fete Group' is looking to hold its inaugural BTA Fete. Planning is well underway and the date "Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September" is to be confirmed. The students' enthusiasm and commitment to organising a successful event is outstanding. The Fete Group is currently meeting weekly via polycom to lock in the program for the day – watch this space for more details. Thank you to the students for their insight and brilliant collaboration on this project.



## La Trobe University Outreach Program

On September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, the La Trobe University Outreach Program is returning to the BTA to conduct workshops with Year 9 and 10 students. Thank you to Shepparton High School who are providing the facilities for the two day event again. Students are being offered a range of workshops in Science and ICT including Curiosity Bot (Engineering), Reading Minds and Detecting Lies (Psychology), What's in Shampoo? (Chemistry) and It's a small world with big possibilities (ICT). Thank you to Anjali Sahasrabudhe from La Trobe Outreach Program and Dani Gow (school Partnerships leader) in assisting to make this an exciting learning opportunity and free event for our students.



## Virtual Classrooms

From the great success of the Semester One Virtual Classrooms with Gary Warner (SHS), two more classes are being set up to run during Semester Two. Thank you to Tomonari Sasaki and Rebecca Lansdown for your acceptance of taking on this technology to value add to your classes.



## BTA Student Council



Students in the BTA Student Council will meet again during Week 4 of Term III. These students will continue to focus on the planning for 3 large joint events.

It's great to see the process of collaboration so readily adopted by our students from across the BTA schools in order to present a BTA Junior School Social, BTA Fete and BTA Alternate Sports day.

It's a big job and our students are to be commended for sharing their aspirations and ideas and for their enthusiasm to work to together to produce great events.

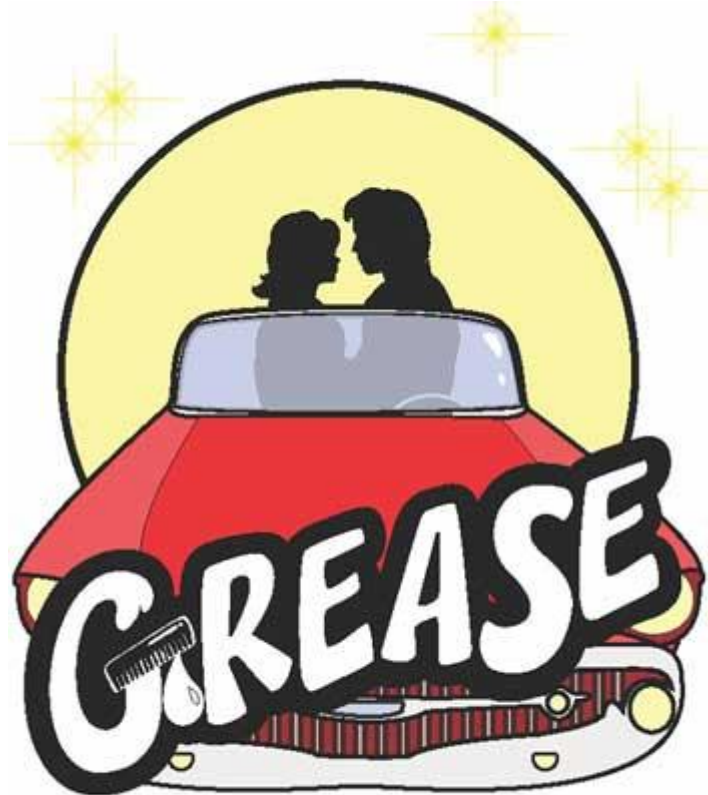
**facebook.**

[www.facebook.com/BetterTogetherAlliance](http://www.facebook.com/BetterTogetherAlliance)

This social media page includes updates on events, activities and items across the BTA.



## BTA Production



Rehearsals are in the final stages for this this fabulous large scale inclusive production of Grease by the BTA schools. The students, staff and crew are working diligently towards the presentation of an enjoyable and very proficient performance. Thank you to the students for their outstanding on-going commitment and hard work and to Laura Cooney (Director) for her consistent brilliance and to each member of staff from the BTA Schools, who are putting in well and above to ensure the success of this event.

Dates for the performances are:

*Wednesday July 26th Matinee (Primary Schools),*

*Thursday July 27th Evening Performance,*

*Friday July 28th Evening Performance,*

*Saturday July 29th Matinee & Evening Performance.*

Please book tickets through Riverlinks

## Rugby Program

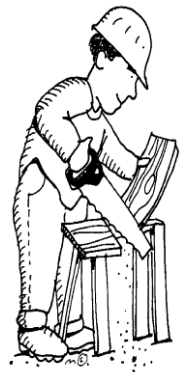
The BTA Rugby Program is now set to run at McGuire College in Semester Two. Students have been selected by their schools to attend the program on Wednesday afternoons. The objective of the Rugby Program is to improve overall outcomes for the selected Year 9/10 students. They will need to meet the following requirements:

- Improved and maintained behaviour in the classroom and throughout the college
- Maintained attendance requirement (+ 80% attendance)

Thank you to Sam Owen at McGuire College for his vision, enthusiasm and commitment for this program. The outcomes of this Pilot Program will inform options to extend the program with opportunities in other sports.

## GMLLEN Year 9 Trade Taster Program

GMLLEN has been working with GOTAFE to develop a program for Year 9 Students, providing them with a 'taster' in a wide range of subject areas for the students to try over an eight week program in trade areas, including: Automotive, Plumbing, Glass & Glazing, Building & Construction, Cabinet Making, Butchery and Electrical. Thank you to Wendy Shorthouse of the GMLLEN for this great opportunity for our BTA Students and also to SFYS provider, Kildonan, for contributing financially to the program. We look forward to hearing about the experiences of the students in the coming term.

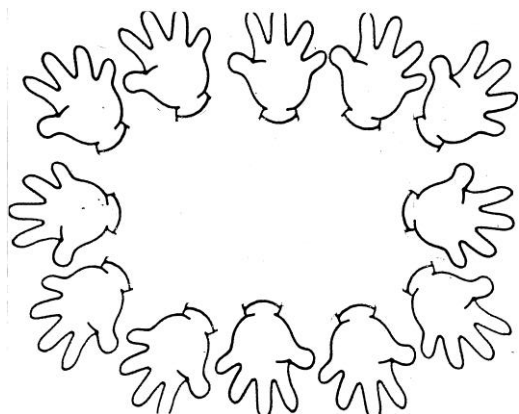


## Subject Selections 2018 (VCE / VCAL)

During Term III, students will be making selections for their future VCE / VCAL Courses at each of the BTA Schools, along with GoTAFE. Students are encouraged to put subjects in their selections that they really wish to take in 2018. As with the BTA Shared Resources, the opportunities are there for subjects to be run.

## Cultural Diversity Program

Following on from the success of the 2016 Cultural Diversity Program and the positive feedback from Students and Staff, The Better Together Alliance and Greater Shepparton City Council are looking to work together again to provide a program for 2017. The proposal for 2017 is to run a one day program with Year 7 Students visiting 5 places of worship / cultural venues, hearing from guest speakers, enjoying a lunch and learning about the many cultures that make up the great place that Greater Shepparton is.



## Contact Us

Any news or concerns, please contact

**Sandy Gunn**  
Executive Officer  
Better Together Alliance

PH: 0400 505 326

[gunn.sandy.m@edumail.vic.edu.au](mailto:gunn.sandy.m@edumail.vic.edu.au)