



# BEHIND THE ACTION

*Back to School Tips, Tricks and Survival Instincts Edition*

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## KEY DATES

**NAPLAN**  
15/3-27/3

**TERM ONE STARTS**  
27/1-31/1

**TERM ONE ENDS**  
6/4

## MEET THE TEAM

What a year 2022 was! We **opened up our new Mona Vale Academy**, saw a massive influx of students and began to put a **bunch of exciting things in motion that you'll see this year**.

**Brennan and I started BTA with the goal of helping the local community**, and this year we're excited to do that in new and accessible ways, such as **downloadable content**, updated **website resources** and **updating our Academies** to better provide for both students and tutors, no matter what they're going through.

We're so excited to share these things with you and can't wait to see what the new year has in store.

Sincerely,  
Tom Downie





# BTA'S CATCH UP

## UPGRADES TO OFFICES

In the 2023, BTA is excited to be making upgrades to our offices to help further support our students and families.

**Sensory** and **Fidget Toys** will be available in the Offices in early Term 1 for students to freely use to aid in sensory stimulation, self regulation and focus. All students are encouraged to use these as they wish! Further, we will be introducing **Student Amenities Boxes** in Term 1. These boxes include sanitary products such as pads, tampons, hair ties and hair brushes and floss that students may freely access if they ever have need for any of these items.

## PAYMENTS

At BTA, we invoice fortnightly on Tuesdays for lessons that took place in the 2 weeks prior.

There are numerous ways to pay the invoices, including credit card, debit card and direct debit. We pass on a small fee for credit or debit card purchases, but we do not charge a fee for direct debit.

Auto payment can easily be set up from any invoice, simply click the box that says "debit me automatically for future payments." All auto payments are processed on the invoice due date.

Unfortunately, **we will not be continuing the BTA Multiple Family Discount in 2023.**

## 2023 SERVICE OPTIONS

In 2023 we have diversified and streamlined our service options into the 2 following categories, **Pay as You Go** and **Term Packages**.

The new **Term Packages** option includes the following exciting features;

- **Pay for 10 lessons upfront at the beginning of each school term** (\$750 for Students in Years 3-10, and \$900 for Students in Years 11-12)
- Our New **Platinum Term Package** gives access to **20 lessons a term** for \$1750, perfect for students who are tutored in multiple subjects!
- All **Term Packages** come with optional add-ons, such as our **Assessment** and **Organisation Sessions**, led by one of BTA's **Head Tutors**, who have **Over 3000 hours tutoring experience**.
- This payment option is **only valid prior to the start of each school term**. Full payment must be received by the end of the first week of the school term.
- **Credits expire 2 weeks after end of term**
- If a student requires **extra sessions** on top of their allocated package, they **will be invoiced fortnightly at our normal PAYG rate**.
- **Packages are per student** and cannot be split across families.
- To enrol for a term package, **simply choose your preferred option on the BTA 2023 enrolment form email us at [contact@belrosetutoring.com](mailto:contact@belrosetutoring.com)**.



# STUDENT SUPPORT IN 2023

## TUTOR TIPS

### *How to start the year strong*

No matter what year you're in, **reading widely** is one of the best ways to **improve in English!** Being exposed to different types of stories, writing styles and experiences will help set your student up for success in later years.

I love incorporating reading recommendations and short stories into my lessons, and I see really amazing improvement when students broaden their horizons!

Some of my favourite recommendations are Percy Jackson (Ages 9+), The GONE Series (Ages 12+), The Lord of the Flies (Ages 13+), The Hobbit (Ages 10+) and The Book Thief (Ages 13+).

*Sam Reilly (he/him), English Tutor*

## NEW STAFF

BTA is so excited to be welcoming a fleet of new, accomplished Tutors into our team for the New Year.

They can be seen here going through the first of their many training sessions before they'll set out to teaching in Term 1.

All of our tutors are given extensive and continual training to allow them to upskill and maintain their knowledge as the rubric changes.

## GOAL SETTING

One-on-one tutoring looks different for every student; each student has different academic and personal goals and expectations. **Helping students to set their own individual goals** helps give them a **sense of accomplishment** and progression and allows them to see where they are heading with their tutor and **adds extra motivation to each lesson.**

BTA tutors will be conducting SMART goal setting sessions with students early on in 2023. These sessions will be used to **set specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-based goals** to:

- Tailor our service for the student's personal goals
- Assist with short, medium and long-term motivation
- Help to focus the student's attention throughout the year
- Optimise tutoring time and the resources we have available
- Raise self-confidence as completion of short and medium term goals eventually leads to long-term goals being completed





# BEST BACK TO SCHOOL DEALS

Everything is more expensive and it's hard to ignore, especially at **Back to School Times**. Here are the **best deals** around the Northern Beaches for how to get the most bang for your buck filling your students backpack.

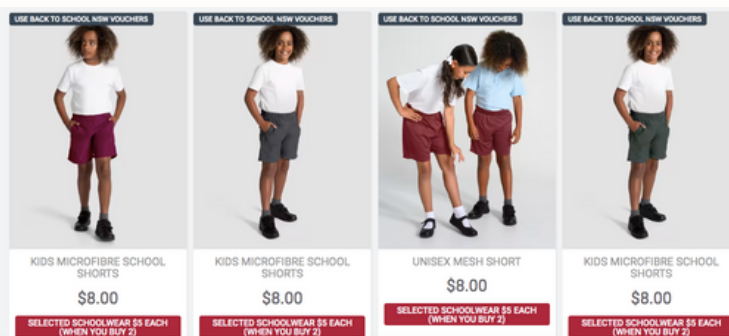
**Short on time? Want to skip the lines?** Check out **Officeworks School Shopper** program- simply send in your school list and bam! You're done. **They also price match and beat by 10% on identical items.**

Looking for the **cheapest prices?** Check out **Humphries Newsagency in Manly.**

If your student needs a new laptop to kick off the school year, make sure to check out the **Apple Educational Store for discounted Apple Products for students.**

For the best **Uniform Deals**, remember to check your **schools uniform shop for quality second-hand garments**, as well as your local **Buy, Swap, Sell Facebook Pages!**

Additionally, some stores such as **Target** and **Best and Less** sell generic blouses, shorts, skirts and shirts at a very affordable cost, especially in comparison to uniform shop prices. Additionally, **Best and Less** accepts **Back to School Vouchers!**



## BTA RECOMMENDS



Scientific calculators are cheapest in the Back To School sales. BTA recommends the "**Casio fx-82AU PLUS II 2nd Edition Scientific Calculator**" which can be purchased for less than \$30 at the moment!

**\$29.48**

Casio fx-82AU PLUS II 2nd Edition Scientific Calculator

The **iPad 9th Gen** features an all-day battery life, a 10.2 inch screen as well as incredible processing and graphics performance.

The 64GB of storage will be enough for most students, particularly if they use Google Drive or One Drive. This combination includes palm rejection which allows students to rest their hand on the iPad as they are drawing or completing working out using an active stylus.



**\$497.00**

iPad 9th Gen WiFi 64GB Grey





# NAPLAN- WHAT, AND WHY?

**NAPLAN**, or the National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy, is a standardised test made to assess schools effectiveness in their teaching as well as ensuring students are meeting minimum standards.

The NAPLAN is held in **Years, 3, 5, 7 and 9**, and **as of 2016, students must reach a Band 8 in all of their Year 9 NAPLAN papers to be eligible for the HSC.**

The Year 3 NAPLAN tests are the first time parents are able to see how their child is comparing against their peers both from within the school and against the national average. Going forward in years 5, 7 and 9, you will be able to compare each year's results to see the progress your child is making under the headings assessed in NAPLAN, that is reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy.

## HOW TO PREPARE

Unlike most exams, NAPLAN is **not content driven**, meaning that you can't memorise dates, quotes, formulas etc in order to pass.

Rather, it is a **skill driven exam**, meaning that it tests students on their application of **literacy and numeracy skills** in the form of **multiple choice, reading and written responses.**

The best way to prepare for the NAPLAN is to **do past papers** in order to test your skills against the kinds of questions that they're likely to ask!

At BTA, as with any specialised and targeted one-on-one tuition, **tutoring for NAPLAN can be super useful** particularly when the focus is on familiarising students with the set-out of the NAPLAN test as well as teach students about proper **examination technique.**

Further, **tutoring can be used to target specific target areas identified in your child's NAPLAN results**, ensuring your child feels confident in the years ahead.

The experienced education team at Belrose Tutoring Academy has been **helping parents and carers for over 7 years now**, our service is not just limited to premium one-on-one tutoring, **we offer free private comprehensive information sessions with our clients to discuss anything and everything education.** These sessions can offer personalised assistance with NAPLAN and the My School website.

## THE YEAR 9 NAPLAN

In the Year 9 NAPLAN, students must achieve a Band 8 in literacy and numeracy in order to receive their HSC.

If you don't achieve a Band 8 in these assessments, students will be able to access online literacy and numeracy tests **twice a year** up until their HSC, and as long as they pass one of these, they're good to go!

**If you don't achieve a Band 8 by Year 12**, you still sit the HSC exams as normal, but only receive a **Record of School Achievement**, and then have **5 years** to meet the minimum standard and receive the your official Higher School Certificate.

## HOW DO SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS USE NAPLAN RESULTS?

Data collected from the NAPLAN examinations can be used by schools and teachers to compare their students to a wider group across Australia, or even, compare their students to similar students in their local demographic.

Further, the results can identify students who may require additional support, ensuring no student is left behind.

Overall, the results may be best used by schools to compare their own learning programs and systems year-on-year. More specifically, schools can use these results to identify strengths and weaknesses and develop academic goals for the years ahead.



# COULD YOU PASS THE YEAR 9 NAPLAN TEST?

Check out these questions from the 2016 Year 9 paper and see if you could do them! The answers can be found at the end of the Newsletter.

11

The diameter of a red blood cell is 0.0076 mm.

Which of these shows the diameter in scientific notation?

☐  $7.6 \times 10^{-3}$

☐  $7.6 \times 10^{-2}$

☐  $7.6 \times 10^2$

☐  $7.6 \times 10^3$

NAPLAN (2016) "NAPLAN 2016 Year 9 Numeracy Exam." ACARA, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority .

13

A jam recipe uses 2 cups of sugar for every 3 cups of fruit.

Select the correct combination of sugar and fruit for this recipe.

☐  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of sugar,  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup of fruit

☐ 1 cup of sugar, 1.5 cups of fruit

☐ 1.5 cups of sugar, 2.5 cups of fruit

☐ 4 cups of sugar, 5 cups of fruit

NAPLAN (2016) "NAPLAN 2016 Year 9 Numeracy Exam." ACARA, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority .

## Identify and Correct the Spelling Mistake (Q 26-27)

26

Perishable food eventually deteriorates if it is left unrefrigerated.

26

27

The deciduos forest became a vivid patchwork of red and orange in autumn.

27

NAPLAN (2016) "NAPLAN 2016 Year 9 Language Conventions Exam." ACARA, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority .

58

Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

☐ She bought a twenty four-hour train pass.

☐ She bought a twenty-four hour train pass.

☐ She bought a twenty-four-hour train pass.

☐ She bought a twenty-four-hour-train pass.

NAPLAN (2016) "NAPLAN 2016 Year 9 Language Conventions Exam." ACARA, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority .



# HSC TIMELINE

*All you need to know to get your calendar in order*

**30/1/2023** - Term 1 Starts

**Early Term 3** - Trial Exams  
begin around this mark

**11/10/23** - HSC Exams Start  
with English Paper 1

**14/12/23** - HSC Results and  
ATAR released!

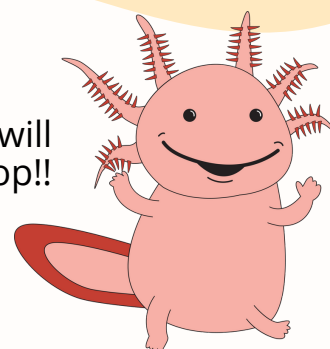
**Term 4 2022** - Students start  
Year 12 in the year before  
they graduate as the HSC  
takes up Term 4 of their  
graduation year

**28/4/23, Very Beginning of  
Term 2** - HSC Timetable is  
released. This will show  
students exactly when each  
of their exams will be

**Late August** - Major Works  
and Oral Speaking Exams will  
be due around the final week  
and week after Trials

**3/11/23** - HSC Exams Finish

If anything changes we will  
keep you in the loop!!





# NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR CHEAT SHEET

Below is one of our incredibly sought after English Resources, more of which can be found on our website, which is Top Ranked on Google!

## NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR

George Orwell, 1949



**Genre:** Dystopian, Prophetic, Allegory

**Themes:** Surveillance, Language, Consciousness, Identity

**Characters:** Winston, Julia, O'Brien, Big Brother

**Context:** Cold War, Anti-Propaganda, Marxism

**Surveillance:** "Telescreens", "Big Brother is Watching You", "The eyes seemed to follow you"

**Language:** "Newspeak", "double ungood, ungood", "The whole point... is to narrow the range of thought"

**Consciousness:** "until they become conscious they cannot rebel and until they rebel they cannot become conscious"

**Key Techniques:** Paradox, Cognitive Dissonance, Goldstein's Book, Metaphor, Allegory

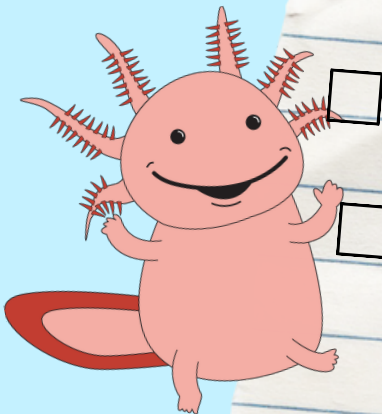
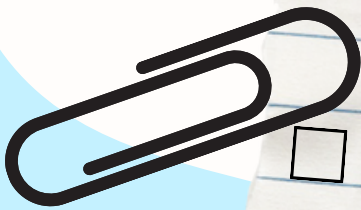


# Back to School *To-Do List*



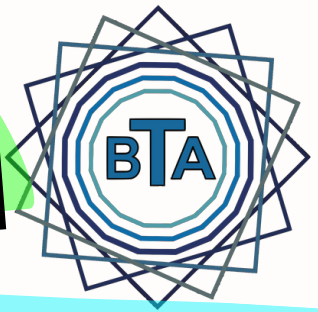
The shift back to school can be stressful for both students and parents alike, and you're bound to forget something! Here's a list all the things to get organised before school resumes, as well as our best organisational tips and tricks.

- ☐ **Get your school shopping done early-** Don't forget to check out the best deals!
- ☐ **Create a place at home for all notes**, such as excursion notifications and newsletters
- ☐ **Create a communal family calendar**, clearly displayed to note important dates.
- ☐ **Check that uniforms fit comfortably** and remember to see if anything is available second hand if you need new pieces! .
- ☐ **Remember to add school lunch supplies to grocery lists again.**
- ☐ **Check bus routes and practice.**
- ☐ **Chat about bullying.** Sadly, it's bound to occur in playgrounds. Chat with your student about what to do if they're a victim, or they see someone else being bullied.
- ☐ **Talk about expectations and balancing things like school, work and extracurriculars**
- ☐ **Have fun!**



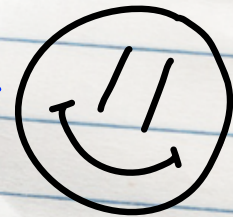
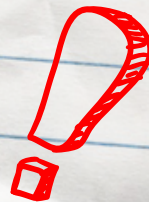
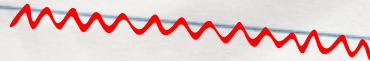


# BTA's Back to School



## Shopping List

- ☐ Backpack (ideally unique and easy to identify)
- ☐ Lunchbox and Water bottle (make sure they're leakproof!)
- ☐ Lined and gridded notebooks (1 Per subject)
- ☐ HB Pencils (3 should be fine)
- ☐ Black, Red and Blue Pens
- ☐ Highlighters (Colour coding is proven to help with memory!)
- ☐ Eraser
- ☐ Ruler
- ☐ Maths set (Compass, protractor, etc)
- ☐ Calculator (we recommend the Casio fx-82AU PLUS II 2nd Edition Scientific Calculator)
- ☐ Pencil case to fit everything!
- ☐ Palm cards for study
- ☐ USB
- ☒ Tablet or Computer if required
- ☐ Umbrella and/or rain jacket
- ☐ Art smock and art diary if needed





# BTA ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Don't forget to check us out on Tik Tok and Instagram for more educational content! We're sharing all of our best Back to School Tips and Tricks to help both students and parents get prepared for the new school year ahead, as well as information on texts, memes, and discussions about school and the education system.

We love getting to share all of our knowledge online, and it'd be great to see more of the BTA community there! Drop a comment saying hi if you see us on your For You Page, or follow the QR links on the right to go straight to our pages.

I started running the BTA socials mid 2022 and it has been so rewarding to get to extend our values and goals to an even broader audience and community.

BTA's motto, **Modern. Experienced. Results.** can really be seen in action on our social media pages as we adapt to emerging forms of communication and education, sharing our experience and helping a whole new group of students achieve the results they want.

I'm so excited to keep making content and to see what 2023 brings.

—Sam Reilly, Social Media Manager (he/him)



## COULD YOU PASS THE YEAR 9 NAPLAN ANSWERS

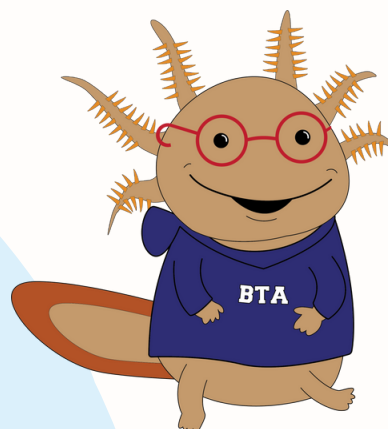
**Question 11** A

**Question 13** A

**Question 26** deteriorates

**Question 27** deciduous

**Question 58** C







# CONTACT US

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**Instagram:** [@btatutoring](https://www.instagram.com/btatutoring)

**Tik Tok:** [@btatutoring](https://www.tiktok.com/@btatutoring)

Have any questions, suggestions, or feedback about the newsletter? We'd love to hear from you!

Send an email to [sam@belrosetutoring.com](mailto:sam@belrosetutoring.com) with any thoughts or queries.

