



# The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Term 3 Week 7

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Laptop Support Team leads!

In preparation for the imminent arrival of our Y9 laptops a group of fine students with significant IT skills are standing tall to assist students, staff and parents with the undoubted challenges of our digital world. Listed below, these students attended our Community Meeting last week and will be on hand over the next months to sort out any problems. Well done team!

**Brienna Webster Y7, Brad Chapman Y8, Taylor Missingham Y8, Rhys Norahna Y9, Georgia Elliot Y9, Karina Blacklock Y10, Michael Neil Y11, Lachlan Wood Y11**

### Community praise for our recent Y9 ski trip.

Sending nearly 100 students, teachers and volunteers to the snow for 4 days is a vast undertaking. Our school has a proud history of organizing such successfully. Last week a marvelous note turned up in my in-tray.....

*I would like to share my experiences from the recent Year 9 snowy excursion. I was impressed with the work your staff put in to make the excursion a great experience for the year 9 kids. The staff that were assembled had all the skills to deal with any problems that arose during the 5 days. The kitchen staff delivered some awesome meals on a budget, no child could complain about the food or even the amount. There was always room for seconds and catered for all tastes.*

*The dedication from your staff was nothing short of amazing I hope the kids of year 9 appreciate the effort that they put in. Also, the Year 9 students were very polite. If this is the caliber of young adults that are coming from Dapto High then the school and the students' parents should be congratulated on these young adults. It was a pleasure helping for the 5 days.*

Regards

**Craig Knowles** [father of **Carly** and hard working camp volunteer]

### 2010 SRC election goes online!

All students are encouraged to make time to log on to their email account and read carefully the voting instructions for our SRC elections. **Ms Gilbert** and our Year Advisors are

thrilled with the array of talented students who have been nominated for this challenging opportunity. Our SRC fills a crucial role; choose carefully.

### Preliminary [Y11] final examinations start next week.

All members of P'11 have now received their examination timetable. Success in Y11 is the key to a quality HSC. Study hard team!

### P&C meets next week

Tuesday 15 September at 7-9pm. Ms Monique Piper from Head Space is a guest.

**Andrew FitzSimons**  
Principal

### Events for Weeks 7 & 8

#### WEEK 7 A WEEK

**Saturday 12 September—Friday 18th September**  
Aus School Swimming, Perth

#### WEEK 8 B WEEK

**Monday 14th September**  
Year 10 Child Studies Wollongong Hospital Visit  
**Tuesday 15th September**  
P & C Meeting  
Year 11 Drama Excursion Wharf Theatre  
**Wednesday 16th September**  
Merit Assemblies  
**Thursday 17th September**  
Celebration Assembly  
Year 9/11 Art Workshops  
**Friday 18th September**  
Year 11 Preliminary Exams

**Teacher of the Week**

**Sharon Dolenc**  
for the

**'Wednesday Breakfast Club'**

## 2009 YEAR 9 SNOWY EXCURSION

A mild August leading up to the 24th August a Monday, At 7:15 on Cleveland Road a huge entourage of parents, students and teachers were gathering for our annual adventure to the alps. One big double decker bus and a mini bus were smartly loaded, last minute goodbyes away and the road trip rolled on.

The excitement of a week away from Year 9 was deafening and our eager travellers headed to Wilton along to Marulan and then had a wee break at Lake George. The new wind turbines were spotted on the ranges opposite, altogether more than 60 and less than 70 (conflicting counts by Year 9). Our 1st challenge was born when a flock of sheep near the fence adjacent to the rest area were spotted. The challenge who can touch one, a comedy of errors ensued in that those sheep were hard to catch.

We Sped away and passed Canberra and aimed for Cooma. At 1:10 we arrived at International Park and our hungry entourage increased the economy of Cooma immediately. A side trip to Lake Eucumbene was enjoyable but alas the lack of winter was an obvious concern and quickly noticed by all of the students & staff.

Our last leg to Jindabyne was the highlight when the snow capped mountains from afar came into sight. Screams of amazement and wonder were heard all along the highway heading toward Jindabyne. YES Dapto High had arrived, 4:20pm. Unloading and organizing our accommodation was well arranged by all with 81 students, 8 staff, 3 parents and 1 bus driver all aspects of the Ski trip were well under way.

**Mr Heinger, Mr Knowles, Mrs Phillips** had tea under way. **Mrs Cooper, Mr Bateman Mrs Stewart, Mr Smith, Mrs Imber, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Surridge** and myself were soon at Ski Hire preparing for Skis, Boots, Stocks, Pants & Jacket fitting & hire.

The experience co-operation and patience of the staff and students was superb and efficient. Good humour and eager helpers made it an enjoyable event and all was organized and checked off by 6:30pm. A truly difficult task under control. I applaud the staff for their support and help coping with the million questions and the foreign nature of the ski equipment that the students discovered. (Most of the students were first timers and needed to learn quickly & listen carefully) Showers and tea back at the Activity Centre & Schnitzel and vegies/potatoes was a winner with everyone. The issue of Ski tickets and the bed at 9:15. Some students were in shock but that the way it must be with a 5:30 am get up looming. Most were asleep by 10pm. Everyone concerned needed a good nights sleep.

**Tuesday 5:30 am**—Breakfast was ready and the call was out, get up, lets go, good morning, move it etc. Snow Report—10cm of new snow with high winds. At 6:45 am we headed for the ski tube station at Bullocks Flat. Our aim was the 8 o'clock train. We made it 20 minutes inside the mountain heading uphill was a little

eerie and nervous tension was evident among Year 9 and also **Mrs Stewart**.

Absolute amazement and shock was the feeling of snow, their first sight. Oh its so white, its cold and then the inevitable snowball fights. Well if you can't stop them then join them, it was fun and more fun. Everyone was involved. Outrageous fun with this new stuff call Snow.

By 9am we were organized into lessons and the ski instructors need to be diligent with our novices. The weather was appalling with gale force winds and our heads in the clouds. Clearly it was the worst day, expected max  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$  with a wind chill factor of at least another  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In trying conditions we managed to survive and endure the dramas of falling, crashing, trying to stop and out of control skiing. Man bruises and deflated egos were born on that Tuesday.

Student Comments were varied. "I love the snow", "Why did I come Here", "its so cold, I hate this place". "Can we please ski now". "I can only stop if I fall over", "This is awesome", "Wow, 10 out of 10", "I'm tired".

The staff and students skied together on Brumbys T-Bar—which was sheltered. All the chairs were put on wind hold, this severely restricted the Blue Cow Mountain access areas. However, for our novices it was an acceptable safety precaution and the willing kept skiing.

At 4pm our usual Roll call and head count and the 4:20pm Ski tube was caught home. It was hard to keep them quiet. The stories and the crashes were the talk of the train. By the way the best feeling they say is taking off your ski boots at the end of the day. And boy we were all tired and ready for a hot shower and dinner.

**Wednesday**—was another miserable weather day. So cold the roads were closed due to black ice, if possible it was windier and colder. Many of the group decided an extra jumper would help...a good choice. Some students managed to experience Guthega with staff and this was most impressive since they had only skied for 1½ days. The overall feel toward the sport of skiing now was positive and with the added experience the students improvement and confidence was impressive. Please stay tuned for the 2nd Ski Report in the next bulletin where all the Year 9 Ski adventurers will be afforded a nick-name in relation to their exploits on trip. My sincere and immeasurable gratitude to all the staff who helped and endured the coldest week ever.

**Mr Phillips**

### UNIFORM SHOP

Will be open on

Tuesdays 12 noon to 4 pm & Thursdays 8am to 12 noon

20% off all stock for 2 weeks from Monday 21st September to Friday 2nd October only on normal uniform shop days.

Sorry no rainchecks, refunds or exchanges.

## TWO WEEKS WITH THE QUEEN

On Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th August Year 11 Drama performed their production 'Two weeks with the Queen'. An outstanding job was done by all—**Miss Gilbert** beamed the entire time and has been bragging non stop since. The Bunyip has never been so energised! Well done —**Blair-May, Hayley, Shaun, Lachlan, Melanie, Cara, Trish, Bec, Larissa, Amy, Tahani** and **Shelly!**. Special thanks to **Meagan, Jeannetta, Nicole, Cassie** and **James** from Year 9 & 10 who helped out as stage crew.

**Miss Gilbert**  
**Reviews**

The play '2 weeks with the queen' is a funny, interesting and very good type of play. The best part was on the plane where Colin just wouldn't stop talking to the person next to her. I cannot pick a favourite character because they were all good. Altogether it was a brilliant play. **Jayden Faraday 7P**

On Tuesday 18th August our class along with others went to watch 'A day with the queen'. My favourite part was when 'Alister' was practising to go to the Amazon rainforest. My favourite character was Alistair. And overall I thought the play was fantastic.

**Lauren Hilton 7P**

On Tuesday the 18th of August we saw the first full run through of the play '2 weeks with the queen'. My favourite part was when Colin and Alister were trying to climb over the gate then they got caught. It was so funny. The play was absolutely awesome!!!

**Caitlin West 7P**

## DAPTO HIGH SCHOOL GRADE SPORT FINALS DAYS

In order to give our interschool sport players a chance to have a proper conclusion to their season, there will be a variation to our school day. We ask for your co-operation on this once-a-year special day. As you can see from the organisation below we are reducing the length of our recess and lunch breaks and finishing approximately half-an-hour earlier than usual.

### SOUTHERN ILLAWARRA ZONE SPORT ZONE FINALS 17/9/09

In order for our Zone Finals to operate as they have in the past, we need to change the bell times on Thursday 17/9/09.

Year Meeting/Assembly—as usual

Period 1 8:50—9:35 (45 mins)

Period 2 9:35—10:20 (45 mins)

RECESS (20 mins)

Period 3 10:45—11:30 (45 mins)

LUNCH 1 11:30—12:00 (30 mins)

SPORT 12:00—1:45 (1 hour 45 mins)

ALL students will leave school at 11:30 to catch their buses or to walk to their venue. ALL grade players are involved in the afternoon's matches—not just the top two teams.

Finals start at 12:00. If there is a 'B' team, their game will start at 1:00pm.

Any students returning to school to catch a bus will be supervised by

**Mr Wright**

**Sports Organiser**

## SAVVY KIDS SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC

Keeping Kids aged 5-14 Fit & Active in the school holidays!

12-16 October 2009 9am—12pm each day  
5 Days—5 Different Sports

Netball—Illawarra Netball Stars

Football—Brent Grose (Roosters)

Basketball—Glen Saville (Hawks)

Soccer—Illawarra Soccer Stars

Fitness—Savvy Fitness Team

\$150 for the week \$105 for 3 days

\$40 for individual days

To Enrol Contact Jade—0421767839

[jade@teamsavvy.com.au](mailto:jade@teamsavvy.com.au)

**Wollongong City Surf Club**—Nippers Registration

Date: Sun 20 September 10am to 12noon Sun 11

October 9am to 10am (followed by fun day)

Place: Wollongong City Surf Life Saving Club, Marine Drive Wollongong

Ages: 5yrs to 14yrs

For further details please contact Jonathan Hickman (Chairman) 0438299410

## HORSLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

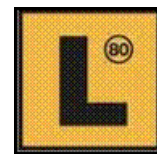
is having it's Annual Christmas Bus Trip to the DFO Homebush on Saturday 14th November from 9:00am to 3:30pm.

Cost: \$20 per person.

For more details please call 4261 6161

## LEARN SAFE

This is an opportunity for Learner Drivers to increase their hours under various conditions. All participants will be fully briefed by NSW Police. Workshops at Wollongong (phone **42277261**), Shellharbour (phone **42216124**) and Kiama (phone **42320568**) Councils. Bookings essential.



Sunday 13th September—Shellharbour City Council  
Kiama Municipal Council

Sunday 22nd November—Wollongong City Council

Dapto High invites parents to

**PARENTING TEENS**, a course that will explore the many ways a family can handle parent/teen issues. To be held on 4 Thursday mornings on 3, 10, 17 and 24 September at Dapto High School. Course Fee is \$40. Bookings are essential. Ring 4261 6161

## Fashion Parade

The Albion Park RSL Women's Auxiliary Invites you to their Annual Fashion Parade

When: Saturday 17 October 2009  
Where: Albion Park RSL Club. Cnr Tongarra & Hamilton Rd, Albion Park  
Time: 1.00 to 4.00 pm  
Tickets: \$5.00 tickets can be purchased on the day

### LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS

New and recycled fashion from Mission Australia's Big Heart Retail Stores.

### LADIES, MEN'S & CHILDREN'S FASHION

For further information contact Mrs Brenda Sawtell on 4236 0087

### FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

Just a quick follow-up on more reports that have come into the office.. Again I have to say I was impressed, so you have done your school proud Y9 Work Experience students. Here are a few more comments that have arrived: *Excellent report, very eager. Will go a long way, very pleasant, exceptional enthusiasm. Has done well, keen to follow instructions, looks, listens and learns. Keen and enthusiastic, excellent report, Excellent persistence, very keen to follow directions. Good work, keen, eager, persistent. Welcome back here any time, keen enthusiastic, excellent. Keen, eager, neat. I saved this one from a mechanic for last... Good worker but spilled more oil than the Exxon Valdez!*

**Work Experience (Y11)** Scheduled for the Non T Vet students in Week 10– September 28th—October 2, 2009. Please bring in your completed (Blue) Student Placement Record or any documents you have been asked to produce for your choice of WX placement ASAP. I would like to have them finalised soon.

**TAFE Courses next year for Ys 11&12 2010.** Tafe VET courses were offered to this year's Y10.

According to the raw data over 50 students elected to do a course as part of their HSC load in Y11.

However, only 12 have been handed to me. I am assuming the others have changed their minds. If you are continuing a course in 2010 you must submit a continuing form.

**Mrs Crump Careers**

## Year 11 Photography



On the 20th August Yr 11 Photography students **Amy Leonhardt, Lauren Hunter, Daniel Colella Rhys Marsh, Jay Banks, Skye Dunwell-Drayton, Robert Berry, Amy Vaughan and Lauren Rouse** went to Sydney with **Mrs Chappell** to see a photography exhibition at the Mint. The photos showed iconic figures from the entertainment industry candidly shot during performances in Australia. There were images from the 1940's—1970's and were presented in black and white. We then trekked around the Botanical Gardens and took some exotic snaps. While there, we explored our artistic sides clambering in and around the lower limbs and roots of an ancient tree and dodging the less artistic deposits of thousands of fruit bats, taking snaps with fish eye lens.

We had lunch at Circular Quay at a well known restaurant with golden arches and then we caught the train back home after a fun and interesting day.

### Year 11 Photography dudes

The **Dapto Little Athletics Centre** will be taking registrations for its 2009/2010 season

at Dapto High School on the following dates:

Sunday 13 September Dapto High School  
12.00pm to 2.00pm

Saturday 19 September Dapto High School  
12.00pm to 2.00pm

Saturday 26 September Dapto High School  
12.00pm to 1.30pm

Competition starts on Saturday, 26 September at 2.00pm.

For further information contact:

Allan 4261 3010 (ah)

Kaylene 4272 1122 (ah)

Dapto Little Athletics Website:

[www.daptolittleathletics.org.au](http://www.daptolittleathletics.org.au)