



The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 2nd April 2009

Term 1 Week 10

West Dapto seminar; you are invited.

The Dapto Learning Community has taken the initiative in organising this opportunity to becoming informed about Wollongong City Council's major project, the new city of West Dapto.

- Tuesday 7 April 2009
- Dapto Leagues Club
- Sinclair Room
- 6- 7.30 pm

Mr. David Farmer WCC General Manager will make a presentation and then answer questions. Educational provision will be a major focus, but the broad parameters of the project will be revealed. Please invite friends and neighbours.

H'09 commence their Half Yearly exams.

Best wishes team! These exams are a vital opportunity to assess progress towards your ultimate goal of a quality HSC. Good nutrition, exercise and sleep are basic requirements; focused study and practice are the others. Do not hold back!

Koori Medicinal Garden nears completion.

Mr. Wilson and his students have been hard at work over recent weeks putting the final touches to our garden. Located adjacent to our sub-station, this garden will become a useful resource for many curriculum areas. Our local state MP, **Ms McMahon** will officiate at its dedication next Monday at 10am. Local Aboriginal elders and parents have also been invited. All welcome.

Cross Country Carnival a success.

Last Friday was a glorious day, fine, warm, friendly. Our Sports Committee had worked hard to prepare for our 52nd Cross Country Festival. [Is there another school in this Region able to hold their carnival in the perfect safety of their own grounds?] **Mr Cattle** and **Mr Horsley** provided a 'running' commentary full of wit and enthusiasm. Participation by our senior students was just inspiring, as was some of the 'clobber'. Numerous staff members ran. **Ms Ronda Bunten** notched up a personal first; she completed the course. **Ms Bunten** quietly admits that somehow, she had been 'ill' on the day of every one of her childhood cross country carnivals! Onya Miss! **Mr Horsley's** Y10 Physical Activity and Sports Studies class provided skilful administrative support. These fine students are listed below. Thank you.

Djimon Bishop, Mitchell Bonnie, Allen Buchan, Chelise Burrows, Callum Collings, Chloe Cropper, Emma Dudek-McQuillan, Jordann Gallagher, Mikaela Gambuzza, Nathan Glover, Shayna Graham, Kyle Granger, Melanie Hampton, Tegan Hoy, Teira Humby, Andrew King, Tom McLackland,

Cole Nicholls, Andrew Oliver, Brent Padgett, Luke Rich, Gemma Smith, Blake Spencer, Rebekah Webb, Brad Wilmott.

Andrew Fitzsimons
Principal

BOOK REVIEW

"The Ruins of Gorlan", at around 2005 this book was all the rage but it seems to have slipped under the radar, so it deserves some recognition. The Ruins of Gorlan is the first of the Rangers Apprentice series. The series is about the adventures of **Will**, who is an orphan who becomes an apprentice ranger. He and his master, **Halt** strive to keep the Kingdom of Araluen safe from invaders, traitors and threats. The rangers apprentice series is very straightforward, much like the Recruit or **Emily Rodda's** "Deltrora Quest" books. **Will**, the main character who wants to go to Battle School, has a slight problem and ends up being the apprentice of the ranger, **Halt**. After the disappointment he eventually comes to like the master and realises his importance when they help save the kingdom from danger later in the book. Hopefully this review will spur a few more people into reading this series. There are eight books altogether and I think that the author signed a movie contract, so we should see a movie or two based on this series in the near future. I'd like to see a few more dates stamped on the "date due" card on the inside of this book.

Steven Hall Year 10

FIRST 6 WEEKS AT DAPTO HIGH SCHOOL

Some of Year 7 have to write about our experiences at Dapto High so far. The best thing that happens is you make new friends and you are in a new environment. The big change is the classes and the teachers. You are not always in the same classroom and you have different teachers. Our first day was on the strike day with our peer support leaders and on the second day we received our diaries and went to our first class which was English. My awesome teachers are: PE/Health-**Mrs Preen**, Creative Arts/Music-**Ms Mayhew**, English-**Dr Meyns**, TAS-**Mr Kirk**, HSIE-**Mrs Stewart**, Maths-**Mrs Johnson**, Science-**Mrs Imber**, Language-**Mrs Bunten** and **Mr Smith**. My best subject has to be science and all awesome tasks we get to do. You will love high school.

Alisa Rice 7X

SOUTH COAST SURFING TITLES

On Friday 20th March we were up at 5.30am and left home for the carnival, we arrived at 6.30am. We were keen to compete in our first surfing competition. Previous winners of the title were **Sally Fitzgibbon** who is currently on the Roxy Pro circuit, **Dean Bowen** who qualified for the World Series and **Owen Wright** who also qualified for the World Series. In our first heat we surfed against

Nowra Anglican College. We were very competitive and unlucky not to go through the round. We had a fantastic day.

Joel Bailey Yr 10 and Jarrod Whitehead Yr 7

APPRENTICESHIPS

Applications for an apprenticeship in Engineering Mechanical (Fitting and Machining) or Electro Technology (Electrician) now being taken, to **start in July 2009**. A cover letter stating which trade you are interested in and resume along with copies of your last three years of School Reports must be sent in. Mid year and yearly reports are needed as well as School Certificate results. Send to:

Apprenticeships, Illawarra Group Training, PO Box 1043, Unanderra 2526. Applications close on 15th April 2009.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10

For the Y10's who were out earlier this month well done! I am just waiting for the last of the reports to come back from the employers via the students. *PLEASE* if you still have not brought yours in to the careers room do so *now!*

Year 11

Advance notice for Y11's. You will have the opportunity to do work experience, if you are not involved in a work placement already with a VET Curriculum Framework Course, during the last week of Term 3. I will be giving you information about procedures at the start of that Term. Start thinking *now* about where you want to go to do yours, so it will be much easier to find something then!

Ms Crump

Careers

HOMEWORK CENTRE

We have had a great term for the Homework Centre. We have had lots of hard working students enjoying the tutoring, the computers, new friends and getting their homework done. IA student was heard saying "it is a good feeling having your homework done before you get home!"

Term 1: Homework Centre will be open on the last Monday of Term only. It will be closed on the Wednesday.

Term 2: Homework Centre will be open from the First Wednesday 29th April.

Ms Kyle

HT Welfare

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS 2009 & ID/LIBRARY CARDS

Nearly all students have their new library cards. If you have not received your card, collect it from me in the library. Please remember to bring you library card to school each day. To borrow from the library you need your library card and no overdue resources. A replacement card costs \$5.

School photos are expected early next term.

D Ridley

Teacher/Librarian

'e3' SPELLING COMPETITION

Congratulations to the following talented students who were successful in this weeks spelling competitions:

Year 9

Winner for the third time in a row, the unbeatable **Chris Wilden-Zahra** who was strongly challenged and almost beaten by runner-up **Ryan Hawker**.

High Achievers this week included **Erin Vermast, Cameron Thompson** and **Danielle Welsh**.

Year 8

Winner – **Zac Gregorio** and runner-up **Chris Pople**. High Achievers this week were **Katie Love, Jack Johnson, John Elkio, Ashlee Shumack**.

Ms Shaw

English

ANZAC DAY

I'm sure that we all know the reason for our Public Holiday on 27th April is associated with the commemoration of ANZAC Day on 25th April. At Dapto High, we will have our ANZAC service on Thursday 30th April. This year our main focus will be 'Legacy' – a uniquely Australian organisation; established in 1923 by ex-servicemen dedicated to the task of caring for the widows and dependents of their comrades to this day – a 10th Australian soldier killed in Afghanistan last month...

First week back after the Easter break our students will be able to purchase items from the list below to help raise funds for Legacy:

*Camo wrist bands – \$2,

Pens – \$10

Badges ranging from – \$1 - \$25

It would be a beautiful tribute to the fallen if everyone at Dapto High School could wear a 'Legacy' item at our school ANZAC service as a symbol of their reflection on the many different meanings of war.

Ms Parker-Cubis

HSIE

WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

Do you want to get back into the workforce? Are you interested in being employed as a clerical assistant? Would you like the opportunity to update your skills for go on to further study? Don't know where to start? Why not enrol in this course being offered at TAFE Shellharbour Campus. There is no administration fee and all courses are run within school hours and terms.

The WORK OPPORTUNITIES for WOMEN INTRODUCTION to BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION is run on Thursdays and Fridays at 9:30 till 2:30 commencing on Thursday 30th April and finishing on Friday 26th June. There will be an information session held at the Shellharbour Campus on Monday 6th April, 2009 at 10:0am – Block J – Room JG08. Enrolment will occur at this information session.

For further information phone 4221 8939.

TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Mr. ROBERT CAPILLI

**For his ability to teach
across five faculties**

DRAMA CLASSES

Ever wanted to be on the stage? Unanderra Community Centre are running drama classes every Saturday morning from 9-10am.

Cost is \$6 per class paid on a term-by-term basis (\$54 per term).

HIP HOP DANCE CLASSES

Where? Unanderra Community Centre

Cnr. Princes H'way and Factory Rd

Unanderra.

When? Tuesday afternoons 4pm-5pm for 8 weeks commencing 5th May and running till 23rd June.

Cost? FREE

Register by Friday 17th April.

Contact Tanya Jackson – Youth Worker on 4272 5582 for more information on either of these classes.

DIARY DATES

Thursday 2nd – Thurs 9th April	Yr 12 ½ Yearly Exams
Sunday 5th April	Daylight Saving Ends
Sunday 5th – Tues 7th April	CHS Swimming
Monday 6th April	Kayaking Excursion
Tuesday 7th April	Kayaking Excursion West Dapto Seminar Dapto Leagues 6-7:30pm
Wednesday 8th April	Climate Change Community of Schools Meeting
Thursday 9th April	Excursion to Easter Show Term 1 Ends
Friday 11th April	Good Friday
Tuesday 28th April	Staff Development Day
Wednesday 29th April	School Resumes for all Years. Learning Love & Respect Breakfast 7:30 – 8:30am

THURSDAY GOLF

Last week's winners for the nearest the pin were 1st **Brad Penrose** (again) and 2nd **Luke Boersma**. This week is part of the Annual DHS Challenge, best of luck to all involved.

Mr D Bateman **HSIE Teacher**

MISSION AUSTRALIA – DAPTO

Offers a free counselling service for problem gamblers and their friends and family. The counselling is confidential, caring and non-judgemental.

We also offer Financial counselling, a free service to assist people with organising their finances and to negotiate with creditors if necessary. Available to all members of the community.

For a confidential appointment phone 4261 8728.

Dapto High School, as a service to parents, and when space permits, will advertise events which may be of interest. DHS does not endorse or sponsor these events and accepts no responsibility.

PARENTING COURSES

Centrecare is running the following Family Skills training courses at various venues in and around Wollongong during Term 2 2009.

Three Choices – This time tested 3 week course provides easy to follow steps for disciplining children.

Parenting Toddlers – This workshop includes three sessions full of information, skill building and sharing. The course will look at ages and stages of pre-schoolers and what parents can realistically expect.

Keeping Kids in Mind – a post-separation parenting program. Learn how to deal more effectively with the emotional and practical issues of parenting after separation; loss and grief for parents and children; communicating with you ex-partner; anger, assertiveness, power grabs and impact on the children.

Parenting Children with Challenging Behaviour - Realistic behaviour management for difficult children including ADHD, Oppositional and Defiant Children, Asperger's or children who are simply extra challenging.

Building Confident Families – Strategies for building self-esteem and confident families. Covers issues such as learning self-esteem, positive communication, parent/child relationships and assertiveness.

How to Raise Resilient Kids – Practical ideas shared about creating emotional connection, problem solving, valuing your child, developing your parenting style, family belonging and traditions.

Ideas for Parents – Children's growth and development, understanding behaviour, conflict management, communication and behaviour management strategies.

For times, venues, dates and costs or for any further information regarding these courses please phone 4254 9316. Bookings are essential for all courses and child minding is available at some.