



# The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Term 1 Week 5

## 2009 Zone Swimming Carnival winners!

Well done team! Dapto HS triumphed last Friday in a closely contested, good humoured contest. A strong team of 20 has been selected to compete at the Regional carnival in early March. Thanks are due to all who attended and competed fiercely. Lots of parents were on hand to support their daughters and sons. **Mr Cattle** is particularly pleased with our success in a number of relays. Two weeks of solid training lies ahead, representation at the State Championship is the goal. Go hard team!

## School Photos run smoothly.

Many positive comments have been received concerning student collaboration during the photos on Tuesday; polite, organised, on time, good looking! For those who missed out, a final opportunity will be available on Friday 27 Feb; see **Ms Ridley [Photo Supremo]**. Thanks as well to our hard working PD/H/PE staff who managed this complex organisational task.

## PJ's Garden.

Work 20 years at Dapto High School and what do you get? Great acclaim and a magnificent garden planted in your honour. However, you have to plant the garden yourself!! **Mr Johnson** has been enjoying the task hugely, with the skilful assistance of many of his Work Education students. True to form, an Australian native garden is being planted out, one that should have blossom 12 months of the year. The pedestrian entrance to our school is the site of this venture; please enjoy.

## Dapto High School is seeking even more good students.

Our Y6 Open Night was held this week. Although Y6 has only just got underway, we are already asking families to start thinking carefully about where they would like to complete their six years of secondary education. Y6 Advisors, **Ms Renee Gilbert** and **Mr Shane Wood** will soon be visiting schools to talk with Y6 students considering DHS. There will be opportunity to ask lots of questions. Later in the year, students will have a further opportunity to visit our school and explore the wide variety of learning options.

## Y7 eat heaps!

Yes it's true. **Mr Heininger, 'Chef de Dapto'**; is preparing lots of healthy food for our annual Y7 Welcome BBQ. All Y7 and their families are invited to come to our Senior Quad on Wednesday 4 March 5.00-6:30pm. Many staff will attend, and lots of questions concerning the Y7 Peer Support camp will be answered. **Mr Warren Neil P&C President, Mr Moore Managing DP** and **Ms Kyle HT Welfare** are hoping to see a huge turn out. We are particularly encouraging parents of Y7 students to meet each other, swap contact details and share wisdom.

**Andrew Fitzsimons**  
Principal

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

If you were absent on Tuesday for photo day please come to the library on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February after 12pm to have your photo taken. If you forget I will take your photo for our records and your library card.

**Mrs D Ridley**

Teacher/Librarian

## VACCINATIONS

Vaccination information packs were given to all students in Years 7 and 10 in Week 2. Please ensure that the completed vaccination forms are returned to school by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Vaccination cannot be given unless these forms are completed and returned. If replacement forms are required, please see **Mrs Meredith**.

**Mrs Meredith**

PDHPE Teacher

## "GEAR UP GIRL" BIKE RIDE 2009

The "Gear Up Girl" bike ride is rapidly approaching on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Register on line at [www.gearupgirl.com.au](http://www.gearupgirl.com.au). See **Miss Law** when you have registered. Be part of the fun day in Sydney with lots of other women from all over NSW.

**Miss Law**

Girls Supervisor

## BOOK REVIEW

ECLIPSE is the third book in the Twilight saga and perhaps one of the most interesting. This book is mostly about the vampire **Victoria** as she continues her hunt for revenge on the Cullens after the death of her husband **James**. It is also about **Bella** making a choice between her friend **Jacob Black** or her love **Edward**. Her choices are also presented to her, whether she wants to be a vampire or not. This book was fairly good, page turning and exciting. It

deserves praise and it has the same potential as Twilight. I suggest making reading this a priority as it is a good read.

**Steven Hall** Year 10

### CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA 09

Any student interested in helping clean up Dapto/Lake Illawarra on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Please see **Mr Bateman**.

**Mr Bateman** HSIE Teacher

### OUTWARD BOUND

An exciting opportunity exists for Year 9 students to participate in a 7 day program with Outward Bound from Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2009 in the ACT. The program is designed to be fun, challenging and inspiring for young people aged 14 – 16 years.

Cost is \$299 which is fully inclusive (all transport, meals and accommodation). This is a great opportunity – thanks to sponsors, it is half the normal cost! See **Ms Law** for more details or visit [www.outwardbound.org.au](http://www.outwardbound.org.au). Applications close 13<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

**Ms Law** TAS Teacher

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Any student aged 14 years and over is eligible to be part of this exciting program. Check out the website at [www.theaward.com.au](http://www.theaward.com.au) See **Miss Law** if you want to be part of this initiative. The first activity is a training day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at Killalea State Recreation Area. See **Miss Law** for more details.

**Miss Law** TAS Teacher

### THURSDAY GOLF

Winners of last week's nearest the green competition: 1<sup>st</sup> **Zachary Winston** and 2<sup>nd</sup> **Luke Boersma**

**Mr D Bateman** HSIE Teacher

### THE EDUCATION TAX REFUND –

#### Get 50% back

Under the new Education Tax Refund, parents and others who are eligible can now claim 50% of their eligible education expenses up to \$750 for primary students and \$1500 for secondary students.

This means you could receive a refund each year of up to \$375 for each primary and \$750 for each secondary school student in your care.

#### Are you eligible?

To be eligible you must have received Family Tax Benefit Part A for each child whose education expenses you wish to claim. You can also claim the Education Tax Refund if you were stopped from receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A because your child received any of the following:

- Youth Allowance (student) aged 18
- Disability Support Pension
- ABSTUDY
- the Veterans' Children Education Scheme
- the Student Financial Supplement Scheme
- a scheme under s258 of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004
- an Australian Postgraduate Award

Independent students are also eligible to claim.

#### What can you claim?

You can claim the purchase, lease, hire or hire-purchase costs, repairs and running costs of:

- laptops, home computers and associated costs – for example, internet and paper

- educational software, printers, USB flash drives, disability aids to assist in the use of computer equipment for students with special needs
- stationery and art supplies
- school textbooks and associated learning materials
- trade tools and safety equipment for secondary school trade courses.

Some of the expenses you cannot claim include school fees or the cost of school uniforms, school excursions or travel to and from school, musical instruments or sporting equipment, clothing or footwear. For a more comprehensive list visit

[www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au](http://www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au)

#### When can you claim?

You can claim your education expenses in your 2009 tax return. If you do not have to lodge a tax return, you will be able to lodge a separate claim with the Tax Office in 1 July 2009.

#### Remember you need to keep all receipts for expenses you claim.

If your education expenses in one year are more than the claim limit for your children, you can add the excess to your education expenses for the following year.

Tax Office phone: 132861.

### NATIONAL RIDE 2 SCHOOL DAY

March 25<sup>th</sup> is National Ride 2 School Day 2009. Students and their families across the state and country are encouraged to walk or ride the journey to school – its healthy, fun and good for the environment.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 students NOT attending camp in Week 7 will be expected to do one week of Work Experience beginning Monday March 13<sup>th</sup> and concluding Friday March 19<sup>th</sup> 2009. If you already have an employer in mind or have already spoken to them well done! Some employers prefer to talk to the Careers Adviser, in that case, please get their name and number and bring it to me ASAP. You need to collect the paperwork from the Careers Room. There will be details that you fill in, the employer fills in Section 2 (2 pages) and your parents/carers need to sign also. When all the above (3 parties) have signed off then please bring it to me for final signing and approval. Your employer will receive a full copy as well as you and your parents/ carers. Make the most of the opportunity – ACT NOW.

**Mrs Crump/Mr Chamberlain** Careers Room

### DIARY DATES

<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Clean-up Australia Day Catch Up Photo Day
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Year 11 First Aid
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Year 7 Welcome BBQ 5:00-6:30pm in Senior Quad Year 11 First Aid
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Regional Swimming Year 7 Scripture
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Mrs Sandra Tuck's Retirement Dinner
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 10 Work Experience
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 7 Peer Support Camp

### **MOUNTAIN BIKE SKILLS**

**Liam Towers**, Year 8, represented Dapto High School in the 2009 NSW Interschools Mountain Bike Championships held on 20<sup>th</sup> February to 22<sup>nd</sup> February in Thredbo. Many schools competed from all over NSW. In **Liam's** age division, 67 riders competed in the Downhill event. **Liam** gained 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Well done!

### **PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS**

Reasonable rates, for all ages – beginners to advanced. For exams or enjoyment.

**Lauren Watkins** PH: 4257 2714 or Mobiles: 0412828038 or [lauren.watkins@bigpond.com](mailto:lauren.watkins@bigpond.com)

### **DRUM TUITION**

Tuition for beginners to amateurs who want to develop and increase their technique and proficiency. All ages welcome. Most styles, rock, funk and hardcore drumming. Lessons taught at Aerosound Studios, Albion Park. PH: 0434 127 329

### **ADHD SUPPORT GROUP**

There is increasing evidence that the food we eat can affect us perhaps in ways that would surprise us. Whilst not every child with ADHD or associated conditions reacts to food, some do. **Bernard Trudgett** from Food Intolerance Group Illawarra will be talking about food intolerances.

**Where:** Citylife Church, 129 Jardine Street, Fairy Meadow.

**When:** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

For further information call **Jill** on 4284 4414 or 0414 650 506 or email [jill@citylife.org.au](mailto:jill@citylife.org.au)

### **LEARN TO SING**

#### **VALERIES HOUSE OF MUSIC**

Have fun learning to sing. No matter what your age – you are never too old to enjoy singing. Vacancies available. Lessons starting at \$20 for half an hour. **Phone 0411402700** for further information.

### **CIRCUS SKILLS**

Like to learn something new for 12 to 18 year olds.

**Where:** Wollongong Youth Centre,

**When:** Saturdays 2.30pm to 4pm,

**Cost:** Free.

Places may be limited **PH: 4226 5969**

### **SCRIPT WRITING**

Set and Costume Design, Stage Performance and Filming, for 12 to 21 year olds.

**Where:** Wollongong Youth Centre,

**When:** Saturdays 1pm to 2.30pm,

**Cost:** Free

Places limited. **PH: 4226 5969**

### **DEBUTANTE BALL**

Albion Park Show Society invites any young ladies 16years or older to be part of the Debutante Ball to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009. Enquires phone **Diane McParland 4236 0403** by the 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

### **FISHING FOR KIDS**

Run by the PCYC Lake Illawarra and funded by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, this activity runs every Saturday of every month in 2009 and 2010. A bus departs from Lake Illawarra PCYC Reddall Parade at 8:30am and returns at 12:30pm. For ages 5 and over. Parents welcome. Bring hat, sunscreen, raincoat parents' phone number and a good attitude. Fishing rods, tackle, bait and BBQ provided. For more info. contact PCYC on 4296 4448.

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.