



The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 5th March 2009

Term 1 Week 6

Term One is halfway done; the curve gets steeper.

14 New volunteers for our canteen.

Mrs **Kerrie Phillips** continues to smile, so far this year 14 new volunteers have put up their hand to assist regularly. This generosity is greatly appreciated; our roster would be enhanced with another dozen. **Kerrie** is taking next week off; former Canteen Manager **Ms Gai Hemley** will fill the void. A 'week off' is not quite the right description. **Kerrie** will be cooking for 260+ campers at our Y7-Y10 Peer Support Camp! Stay strong **Mrs Phillips**.

Y7 Welcome BBQ

Good weather, good food, good fellowship. **Ms Imber and Mr Wilson** welcomed Y7 and their families to our traditional 'Welcome BBQ' this week. **Mr Heininger** cooked up a storm with lots of assistance from staff and parents. 1,777 questions were posed concerning next week's Y7 camp; of those 1,776 were answered satisfactorily. Luckily, managing DP for Y7, **Mr Moore** has organised fine weather for 10-13 March inclusive.

Y10 Science is on a roll.

Ms Morgan continues to pepper her colleagues with positive reports concerning Y10 students focusing on their learning. Attendance has been excellent and almost every student has completed their recent Assessment Task on time. Well done Y10, well done Science teachers.

Our English Faculty is impressed.

This week quite a number of families will receive a letter of praise from **Ms Seckold** HT English. Staff have been able to identify 30+ students who have made a marvelous start to 2009. Well done hard working students of English. More letters of praise are expected.

2008 Semester Two reports

2008 final reports that were not picked up before the end of T4 last year will be handed out on Friday 6 March. Both parents and students are strongly encouraged to read through carefully. Both strengths and areas for improvement can be used to set T1 goals in our diary: p13.

Sports Committee 2009.

A really outstanding group of young men and women have been elected to form our Sports Committee. At Celebration Assembly last week they received generous applause as their Sports Committee badges were presented. **Mr Cattle's** initiative in setting up this committee is widely admired and the work of these sports activists is energising sport right across our school. A full list of members will be published shortly. Well done team.

Farewell Ms Sandra Tuck.

Tomorrow, Friday 6 March 2009, **Ms Tuck** will retire from her noble profession. A well-earned break and then she will be available for casual work; at DHS!!

Ms Tuck, we wish you well, thank you.

Andrew Fitzsimons
Principal

EXCURSION

"Excursion to South Coast Indigenous Employment Expo".

On 26th February eleven Koori students, **Jesse, Kala, Kyah, Kayleen, Jenna, Tara, Alycia, Brad, Kile, Rordan and Ben** went to the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre to attend the South Coast Indigenous Employment Expo. We were looked after by the amazing **Mr Chamberlain**. We looked around for future jobs and apprenticeships. We were able to write our names on blocks as part of a demonstration by TAFE. We had a great time and learned lots, thanks **Mr Chamberlain**.

Year 8: Kala Carter, Kyah Williams and

Year 10: Jesse Fogg.

ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Friday 20th February 50 students represented Dapto High at the Zone Swimming Carnival. It was a beautiful day with the sun shining and keen swimmers ready to go. After a long day of hard fought competition Dapto High eventually won the zone carnival, which is a tremendous effort by our school. Well Done Dapto. We had three age champions on the day, congratulations to **Samantha Wylie, Madeleine Bretag and Lauren Hilton**. Well Done. Thanks to all staff and parents who attended. Once again congratulations to those students who competed on the day.

Mr P Cattle

PDHPE Department



SPORTS COMMITTEE 2009

Congratulations to the following students who are representing Dapto High Sport's Committee. Looking forward to their input and enthusiasm.

**Year 9: Casey Mele Gibson, Blake Robinson,
Matt Bailey, Michael Meiner, Rebecca**

Gill, Jeannetta Evans, Blake Redman,
Kyle Granger, Rhys Cuttill.

Year 10: Mikaela Gambuzza, Tiera Humby,
Joshua Sigmund, Mariaha Reitzer-
Parks, Amy Moro, Brynton Shepherd,
Michael Ford, Mitchell Bonnie,
Jesse Fogg.

Year 11: Melanie Rooke-Briffa, Ryan Johnson,
Alex Waters, Brittney Fleming.

Mr P Cattle PDHPE Department

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - ENGLISH

The English Department would like to recognise the following students for their efforts in English last week.

Year 9: Chantel Anzalone,
Matthew Bailey, Samantha
Berry, Zachary Carpenter,
Georgia Emmett, Sarah Galagher, Shannon Hinton.

Year 10: Mitchell Bonnie, Michael
Cassar, Jessica Bone, Karina
Blacklock, Mikaela Gambuzza,
Teira Humby, Justin
Mendygral, Brynton Shephard.

Year 11: Mathew Mears, Andrew
Jackson, Kasey Missingham,
Kirstie Smith.

Year 12: David Wild, Damien Lee, Sarah
McDonald, Aaron Bradley.

NEWS FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department's E3 Program is underway. The program has been designed to Engage, Enrich and Extend ALL in English focusing on students in four main strands:

- Effective pedagogy in the classroom
- Assessment Task design based on Bloom's Taxonomy
- Gifted and Talented classes
- E3 rotation classes

In the next couple of weeks, parents and students will be able to electronically access the English Faculty's courses and assessment tasks as well as additional information regarding our approach to and the implementation of mixed ability classes in Years 7-9 on Moodle (e Phoenix). This information is currently available in the English Course Booklets issued to each student at the commencement of this year.

The E3 and Gifted and Talented classes will offer a range of activities embedded literacy components. Students have been assigned new classes for their E3 period and will rotate topics each term for new experiences and in Term 4, students will have the opportunity to elect an area of interest.

The following is the term's overview. If you have any questions or comments please contact me in the English Department. I look forward to speaking with you.

Ms Seckold

Head Teacher English and Drama

Premier's Reading Challenge

Literacy skills:

- Inferential reading, reading for understanding and meaning and critical literacy.
- Synthesising information into various text forms.
- Speaking and listening
- ICT

Introduction to Critical Literacy

Literacy skills:

- Revision of language techniques.
- Reading for meaning – analysing and identifying textual techniques
- Creative writing

Oz Spell

Literacy skills:

- Metalanguage
- Words in context
- Spelling tricks and tools

The Craft of Composing

Literacy skills:

- Use of conflict, describing characters, creating tension.
- Essay writing – step by step.
- Reading comprehension, meaning, critical literacy.

The Art of Arguing (1)

Focus skills:

- Articulating opinions
- Sequencing of ideas
- The power of language
- The craft of Public Speaking

Cine Literacy

Focus skills:

- Filmic techniques
- Digital manipulation
- The craft of film making

Protest Performance Poetry

Literacy skills:

- Exploring the collective social conscious
- Critical theory: resistant, post modern, feminist and Marxist Readings.
- The power of performance as a medium

ENGAGE, ENRICH and EXTEND THROUGH SPELLING

Classes 7n, 8v and 9x have commenced the challenge! In E3 lessons, students will be learning more about word origins, definitions and meanings to enhance their understanding of the English language. They will be encouraged to take more care with their spelling in all written tasks, in all subjects.

For greater motivation and to have some fun, each class will host their own spelling competition. They will each take turns to run the competition and to compete against one another with their selected words. As the students will be bringing their lists home, it will give the whole family a chance to become involved. Watch this space for weekly winners and for students who continue to maintain a high standard of commitment throughout the term. The term will conclude with the winners and committed learners from each of the classes coming together for a showcase of their skills.

Congratulations to the following students who were our winners and high achievers in the E3 spelling competition:

Year 9: Winner – **Chris Wilden-Zahra**
High Achievers – **Shannon Kelly,**
Erin Vermast,
Matt Madden

Year 8: Winner – **Blake Taylor**
High Achievers – **Claudia Lumby,**
Katie Love, Rachel Kutzner,
Aaron Barlow

Ms Shaw

English Department

BOOK REVIEW

This is my second favourite of the Twilight Saga, it is also the fourth in the series. The chess pieces on the front cover symbolic of Bella, coming from a simple harmless pawn into a powerful queen. All loose ends are tied up in this book and Edward and Bella finally become a perfect pair. All the promises from the previous books are kept and the main enemy in this book is the Voluri. This one is truly excellent and really worth reading. Be sure to read this book last or you will spoil the entire series for yourself. I am not sure if this book is in the library but in any case it is very good and should be there soon. For all the Twilight fans this may or may not be the final book. Apparently Stephanie Meyer has written a fifth book, I think it is called "Rising Sun" or "Shining Sun". It is Twilight from Edward's point of view; hopefully it will be released soon.

Steven Hall

Year 10

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| <p style="text-align:center">TEACHER OF THE WEEK</p> <p style="text-align:center">KEN WRIGHT</p> <p style="text-align:center">FOR OUTSTANDING ORGANISATION WITH SPORT</p> |
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DIARY DATES

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| Friday 6th March | Regional Swimming Year 7 Scripture |
| Saturday 7th March | Mrs Sandra Tuck's Retirement Dinner |
| Monday 9th - Friday 13th March | Year 10 Work Experience |
| Tuesday 10th - Friday 13th March | Year 7 Peer Support Camp |
| Monday 16th March | Rotary Senior's BBQ at Don's Farm |
| Tuesday 17th March | Yr 10 HSIE Field Studies P & C Meeting 7-9pm |

ASD WORKSHOP

The incidence of individuals being diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is on the increase.

A two day workshop and information session for Parents/Carers of school aged students on the Autism Spectrum is being held in Wollongong on Thursday 26th March 2009.

As a result of participating in the workshops and information sessions you will gain:

- The most up to date information about ASD and how this directly impacts on your child's learning at school
- An understanding about the processes and strategies for effective parent, school and teacher partnerships.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Every student over the age of 14 is eligible to be part of this scheme. It is a voluntary program that young people work towards achieving a Bronze Award. The four sections are

- Community Service
- Skills
- Physical Recreation
- Expedition



It is an excellent scheme for motivated students who want more out of their school experience. See **Miss Law** for more details or log onto www.dukeofednsw.au.com

Miss Law

TAS Teacher

MUSIC STARS OF THE FUTURE

State Music Camps 2009

An opportunity for talented music students to receive expert tuition and develop performance skills. A major focus at the 2009 camp will be choral work and a 'high profile' choral director has been engaged to direct ensembles at both the Junior (5-8 years) and Senior (8-12 years) camps. The camps are both residential and are held at Stanwell Tops Conference Centre

State Junior Music Camp (27th June - 2nd July)

State Senior Music Camp (4th - 9th July)

Further information and application forms can be found at The Arts Unit website at

www.pau.nsw.edu.au

Ms Cooper

Head Teacher Creative Arts

NATIONAL RIDE 2 SCHOOL DAY

March 25th 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.

Miss Law

TAS Teacher

THURSDAY GOLF

Winners of last weeks nearest the green competition:

1st Nick (Faldo) Moran,

2nd Luke Boersma.

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 6th March. Vaccination cannot be given unless these forms are completed and returned. If replacement forms are required, please see

Mrs Meredith

Head Teacher PDHPE

FISHING SUCCESS

Jarrold Clarkson Year 10 caught a 107kg black marlin with a 15kg line off Shellharbour during a fishing competition. It took Jarrod 3 hours to land the fish. Jarrod fishes with Kiama Fishing Club. Congratulations.

"GEAR UP GIRL" BIKE RIDE 2009

The "Gear Up Girl" bike ride is this Saturday 7th March and students are riding from Cronulla to Homebush to raise funds for OCF (Oncology Children's Foundation) Wish us luck!

Miss Law

Girls Supervisor