



The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 12th March 2009

Term 1 Week 7

Perry's Timber to the fore

Further improvements to our Senior Quad have been completed recently with the willing support of local business enterprise, Perry's Timbers. Two large concrete seats needed moving, too heavy to be lifted manually. One call to Perry's Timbers and a skilful chap turned up with the necessary gear and completed the job; thanks are due.

P&C meets next Tuesday 17 March.

All parents are invited to attend. **Ms Seckold** will be our guest speaker. She will detail a number of the programs underway in our English Faculty. Academic data from 2008 will also be presented. 7-9pm in our library. .

235 sleep under canvas!

This extraordinary annual effort is on once again; our Y7-Y10 Peer Support Camp.

- 165 Y7 Students
- 69 Y10 Students
- 20 Teachers
- 20 Parents
- 2350 meals!!!

Such statistics can feel at little overwhelming, the reality is more reassuring; students [big and small], teachers, parents all working together to strengthen community and learning. Detailed reports will be published in the weeks ahead. Meantime lets all concentrate on maintaining good weather.

Y10 Work Experience.

57 Y10 students have spent this week at work with generous local employers. Staff have been ringing a selection of employers every day to both thank and receive feedback. To date there has been an overwhelmingly positive response. Thanks are due. All Y10 students will have another opportunity to undertake Work Experience in T4 immediately following the School Certificate exam. Y9 students not planning to be involved in the T3 Y9 Ski Trip will also receive encouragement and assistance to find a work experience placement; please consider.

Staffing update.

Mr Lim was welcomed to our Mathematics Faculty this week. **Mr Lim** comes to us from Bowral High School. **Mr Lim** fills the vacancy left by **Ms Sandra Tuck** who retired last Friday after 40 years skilful teaching. **Ms Tuck** was feted in style last Saturday night by 50+ admirers. A merit selection panel has been established to choose a new Deputy Principal to replace **Mr Peter Johnson**. This appointment from the start of T2 2009.

Scissors Paper Rock!

In association with i98fm, a single champion will emerge from Y11 to represent this school in an Illawarra wide competition. The mathematics of chance and the psychology of competition are being honed as a result.

Andrew FitzSimons
Principal

PASS OUTS ON A THURSDAY

If your child needs a pass out on a Thursday, please read the following advice. Ensure your child arrives at school before the bell. I am at the PE staffroom from 8am ready to sign pass outs. There is nothing worse than 10 students arriving a minute before the bell expecting a pass out. It leads to stress for both myself and your child. Please have your child's name, year, class and reason for a pass out clearly written on the sheet. A contact phone number is useful if clarification needs to be made. The reason that the PE Department issues pass outs on a Thursday is so that we can monitor our numbers at Sport and ensure students are getting to sport. I am fully aware that things have to happen on a Thursday, but buses still have to be filled and a large number of pass outs on a Thursday have a significant impact on the payment for these buses. If possible, limit the use of Thursday afternoons for appointments. Please do not ask me to give a pass out to your child because it is wet, to complete homework, start work early or just to go home. I do not have the authority to grant a pass out for these reasons. Long term injuries, dentists, specialists and orthodontist appointments are examples or reasons that a pass out can be granted. I hope I have clarified some of the many issues relating to the granting of pass outs on a sporting afternoon. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Mr P Cattle

PD/H/PE

BOOK REVIEW

ARTEMIS FOWL AND THE TIME PARADOX

This book is the seventh of the Artemis Fowl books, following "Artemis Fowl and the Lost Colony". It was a fairly good read, full of Eoin Colfer's (the author) witty dialogue. It is extremely fast paced and probably good for fans of Harry Potter. This story follows Artemis as he travels back in time to retrieve a cure to heal his sick mother. The big twist is that he must steal the cure from himself, years previously. This book may be the final in the series (read it and see why) and is not one of my favourites. It lacks the originality of all of the others books. However, it does tie up some loose ends which can't be overlooked.

Steven Hall

Year 10

THURSDAY GOLF

Winners of last weeks nearest the green competition:

1st **Ryan Green**

2nd **Kyle Noranha**

DON'S FARM PARTY

On Monday 16th March, Year 11 Hospitality will be serving food to the guests at the Dapto Rotary Seniors BBQ at Don's Farm. Thank you for giving up your time to help others.

Miss Law

TAS Teacher

YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY

Last week the Year 11 Hospitality students catered for the Regional Swimming Carnivals for both Primary schools (Thursday) and Secondary schools (Friday). They made morning tea and lunch for 100 staff on both days. They are champions and true role models for the whole school. I am lucky enough to be their teacher, love you guys.

The students are: **Jay Banks, Robert Berry, Brittany-Lee Bourke, Ashley Broadbridge, Brittney Chamberlain, Shaun Foley, Sarah Haynes, Sally Homer, Lauren Hunter, Sarah Johnson, Timothy Love, Jack Naylor, Brittany Pate, Brock Reitzer-Parks, Shelly Rhodes, Amy Vaughan.**

Miss Law

TAS Teacher

GEAR UP GIRL

On Saturday 7th March Ms Law, Ms Russell, Chelise Burrows and myself participated in the Gear Up Girl Challenge. It was a 55km bike ride and all the proceeds went to the Oncology Children's Foundation. The event managed to raise \$18,000. A 9 year old lung cancer survivor rode in the 15km course and raised \$3000 by herself. It was an awesome day, heaps of fun.

Sally Homer

Year 11

TEACHER OF THE WEEK

SANDRA TUCK

40 GLORIOUS YEARS OF
SERVICE TO DAPTO HIGH SCHOOL

Year 10 Work Experience

Congratulations to the year 10s on work experience this week.

Looking forward to reading some great reports.

Mrs Crump

Careers Advisor

YEARS 7 AND 10 VACCINATIONS

A reminder for all parents and students that vaccinations will be given to Yr 7 and 10 students at the school on Friday 20th March (Week 8). Information packs were sent home several weeks ago and permission slips are to be returned ASAP. Students will not be vaccinated unless they have returned their paperwork to the school. If there are any questions or concerns please ring Mrs Meredith in the PDHPE Staffroom.

SCIENCE NEWS

Generally a great start to the year in Science. Most students are attending classes ready to be engaged in learning. The Faculty is steadily placing more information on the schools "Moodle" site which will assist students who are away from school but also with the implementation of laptops into the classroom.

- **The Science Competition** is coming up – please see Ms Mathein for information.

- **Year 7 Science** – most students have now completed their first topic. Congratulations to those students who have gained their "Bunsen Burner" licences.

- **Year 8 Science** – Remember that at the end of this year (November) you have a Statewide test – ESSA – so it is important that you keep your books from last year and this year as the test is based on 2 years of knowledge and understanding as well as skills

- **Year 9 Science** – 3 classes are participating in research for a doctorate student at the University of Wollongong about Climate Change. Information sheets and permission sheets have been sent home for parents and students.

Year 9 Science – The first rotation of topics has now been completed. If you missed your topic test/ assessments or have not handed your book in, please see your teacher as soon as possible.

- **Year 10 Science** - The first rotation of topics has now been completed. If you missed your topic test/ assessments or have not handed your book in, please see your teacher as soon as possible. Each topic test and extended response question counts towards your Year 10 School Certificate grade. **It would be disappointing if students received a zero for missed tasks.**

- **Year 11 Biology** – Students have a major assessment task due in the last week of this term. It is important that those students are working consistently on this task and not leave it to the last minute – *an organised student is more likely to achieve their potential.*

- **Year 12 Science** - Mid Course Exams are coming up – students should be starting to revise for these exams as they are part of their overall assessment for their HSC.

If there any concerns please make contact with your student's teacher or myself on 4261 1416.

Thanks

Ms Morgan

HT Science

CAREERS

International Womens Week/Day

3 Year 12 students were invited to a Morning tea hosted by Bluescope with 3 female guest speakers on Tuesday 10th March. Watch this space for a report next week. It was awesome!

ILLAWARRA YOUTH GIRLS AFL COMPETITION

The new Illawarra Youth Girls AFL competition for girls 13-17 is taking registrations for our first season starting soon. No AFL experience necessary! Gear provided.

Registration for entire season is \$30.

Qualified coaches

Registration Days

14th March, 10am – 2pm Outside Rebel Sports Wollongong & Shellharbour

21st March 9 am – 3:30pm Stockland Shellharbour outside Target
 28th March 10am – 2pm Outside Rebel Sports Wollongong & Shellharbour
 You can also register on www.girlsafl.com
 For more information call Dave on 0407 288 955.

DIARY DATES

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
Thursday 19th March	Selective HS Test Selective School Test & Oc Placement Test for 2010
Friday 20th March	Yr 7 & 10 Vaccinations South Coast Surfing titles – M Kirk
Friday 27th March	School Cross Country

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.

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.

OUTWARD BOUND PROGRAM

All Year 9 students have the opportunity to be part of the Outward Bound Program which is a week away **16th to 22nd May** at a camp in the ACT. The cost is \$299 which is less than half the regular price! This is subsidised to the value of \$500. Normal cost is \$799. Do not miss out on this great opportunity. See me to get an application form. Go to www.outwardbound.org.au.
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 – it is healthy, fun and good for the environment.

Miss Law

TAS Teacher

FISHING FOR KIDS

Run by the PCYC Lake Illawarra and funded by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, this activity runs every Saturday or 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 years and over. Parents welcome, bring hat, sunscreen, raincoat, parent’s phone number and a good attitude. Fishing rods, tackle, bait and BBQ provided. For more information contact PCYC 4296 4448