



# The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009

Term 2 Week 11

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Semester One reports are ready for distribution.

We are about to publish a most comprehensive set of reports. Teachers have taken a great deal of care to provide students and their families with crucial feedback. Each report will follow the same basic structure:

Learning achievements.

Areas of learning needing close attention.

Suggested strategies to address the learning challenges.

Families are asked to read through carefully and then complete the Reflection Sheet bound in our school's diary. Students and families are also asked to revisit T2 goals and take some time to set T3 goals.

### Y10 Half Yearly Exam and Practical Task

On Wednesday 8th July, all Y10 students will be completing a theory exam (based only on Y9 work) and a practical task that will test the skills they gained in Science. Revision of Y9 work as well as experimental methodology will assist students to realise their potential in these assessments. It is important that all students are at school and are on time. If for some reason the student is away sick, a Doctors Certificate will need to be provided on their return to school.

### This 'tech savvy community': Parent/Teacher consultations Thursday 9 July.

Online bookings for parent/teacher consultations remain strong. Over 1200 individual appointments were made in the first 9 days of our new system being implemented. A number of refinements have been made along the way. Our canteen will remain open, our Uniform Shop will be open and our Sports Committee will run a sausage sizzle for hard pressed visitors. Parking will be available 'under the trees'. All teachers will be found in either the hall or the library. Students are free to leave with their parents once interviews have been completed. Y11 and Y12 students may leave at 12.20 unless attending interviews. Supervision will be provided in our Main Quad until 2.20pm.

### P&C Trivia Night fund raiser.

Our P&C is determined to improve the amenity of our hall. Our curtains in particular, are in sore need of refurbishment.

Saturday 15 August 2009.

Dapto Leagues Club

7.00pm onwards

Tables of 8-10; \$10/head.

Please make contact with our Admin office for bookings

### Breakfast Club is busy.

Over 60 students enjoyed a healthy meal last Wednesday; 0730 until 0820. This venue is open to all students and staff needing a feed. Good company also guaranteed.

### Well done Sean Mawdsley Y10 and Mr Dylan Robinson Y12.

Last week **Sean** became Regional Champion in Lawn Bowls. He then teamed up with **Mr Dylan Robinson** to win the pairs. This unusual sport is gathering popularity. Our local bowling club is a strong supporter. Coach **Mr Cerinich** is stoked!

Andrew FitzSimons Principal

## Teacher of the Week

Kristy Whittle

For professionalism in a  
relieving position

### UNIFORM SHOP

will be open on

Tuesdays 12:00noon to 4.00pm

and

Thursdays 8.00am to 12.00pm

**Coming Events for Weeks 10 & 11  
Term 2 - 2009**

**WEEK 10 A WEEK**

**Friday 3 July**

Year 11 Food Tec & Hospitality Excursion

**WEEK 11 B WEEK**

**Monday 6 July**

Year 9 Child Studies Excursion

**Tuesday 7 July**

Year 10 HSIE Field Trip

**Wednesday 8 July**

Community & Family Studies Excursion

Y10 Science Half-Yearly exam and practical task

**Thursday 9 July**

Parent / Teacher Afternoon 12-5pm

**Friday 10 July**

End of Term 2

**Education Tax Refund— Don't forget to claim**

How do I claim the Education Tax Refund?

In your tax return

If you don't lodge a tax return, claim on a separate form or over the phone

If you use a tax agent, make sure you ask them to claim for you

The Education Tax Refund lets you claim up to 50% of eligible education expenses for school children. If you are eligible, you can get back up to \$375 for each primary student and up to \$750 for each secondary student. You can claim things like text books, stationery and even internet costs. If you receive Family Tax Benefit Part A for a child at primary or secondary school, you will be eligible. Some other people are eligible too, to find out more about this and other information such as, what you can and can't claim go to:

[australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund](http://australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund) or call the Tax Office on **13 28 61**

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

**EXCURSION REPORT**

On Tuesday, **Mr McLeod's** Year 12 Business Studies class was invited to the University of Wollongong to hear speakers address a number of important issues relating to their HSC course and exam. Students were entertained by Mr Mohan Dhall, author and article writer, who spoke about Business Management in the current economic climate, Mr Ian Walker, DP at Smith's Hill offered advice on exam techniques and Dr Diana Kelly of the UOW addressed the ever changing Fair

Work Act.

Dapto High students were commended by the organiser for their participation and the manner in which they contributed to the sessions. Many thanks to the Commerce faculty of the UOW for their organisation of this event and for the lovely luncheon provided.

**A reminder for parents about the Great Barrier Reef**

Thank you to all those parents who are following the suggested payment schedule. All students should have paid a total of \$400 by the end of term. This leaves a balance of \$250 to be paid off.

The trip is coming together nicely, we currently have 64 students attending and their enthusiasm is catching. 6 staff have been invited to attend. Bookings have been made, and cruises have been paid for. If you anticipate any problems, please contact **Mr McLeod** at your earliest convenience.

Tip: a tent will be required 1 tent between 2-4 students. Can your child arrange a tent group? Can they erect a tent? Great fun.

**Mr McLeod**

**BOOK REVIEW**

**The Book of Lost Things" by John Connolly.**

This was a marvellous book about a young boy, **David**, tormented by his mother's recent death. As an avid reader he was always mesmerized by his books until they took him into the depths of another world where he must find the king's book "the book of lost things". This was a fantastic book, which I highly recommend. It is very dark, it twisted my understanding of "happily ever after" and held me entertained. The start is a little slow and depressing, however as you read the book becomes sensational. It is very unique and wonderfully written.

**Steven Hall**

**Year 10**

**CHESS**

On Friday 26 June, in our own library we dominated our round of chess against Cedars Christian College. We won an unprecedented 4 from 4. Former DHS teacher **Mr Matysek** was Cedars Christian College's coach, who enjoyed revisiting the school and catching up with many Year 12 students (whom he taught as Year 7 students) and teachers. Even though they lost, Cedars Christian College left in high spirits, fuelled by **Mrs Phillip's** delicious platters.

Thanks **Mrs Phillips**.

**Alex Waters Year 11 and Steven Hall Year 10**



## SPORT

This week is the last week of Thursday sport for this term. Next Thursday 9th July is Parent/Teacher interviews.

Good luck to those students competing in the State Cross Country W1 next term.

### MATHS TUTORING

by a qualified Maths Teacher  
and experienced Maths tutor.

From \$30/ week

Call Kim 4261 1987 or 0408640949

### HORSLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE OPEN DAY

Wednesday 15th July 2009 10am—2pm.

All welcome

Bring the kids along to have Identikid cards done with the Dapto Lions Club. Have a look around the NSW Crime Prevention Van or chat to the youth workers of the ICSInc West Dapto Youth Club.

Wollongong Lace Group, Jazzercise, Figtree Physical Culture, Warilla Women's Refuge, SESIAHS Breastfeeding Group, Presbyterian Reformed Church and stall holders will be there to offer information and a fun day for all.

Phone 6261 6161 for more information.

### WINTER STUDY BLITZ

ICS Learning Group will be presenting a series of Holiday Workshops to assist students with their studies. The July holiday workshops will be held at the Illawarra Grammar School on 20th and 21st July 2009 for students in Years 7 to 12.

Programs include:

- Junior Study Skills—Years 7 to 9
- Essay Skills—Years 10 to 12
- Senior Study Skills—Years 9 to 12
- Advanced Reading Skills—Years 9 to 12

For information and enrolment details, contact:

ICS Learning Group on 9960 6231 or visit

[www.skillscentre.com.au](http://www.skillscentre.com.au)

### A Good Friend

A good friend could be big or small.

A good friend might not have it all.

When you have your ups and downs and round the bends,

You'll have that friend till the very end.

**Natasha Tweeddale**

**Year 8**

### HUMAN SWINE FLU UPDATE

Australia is entering a new phase in our response to human swine flu. The change in approach is because the virus strain is currently not as virulent as anticipated.

On the advice of NSW Health we no longer need to exclude staff or students who have been to an area where there is known community or school transmission of human swine flu. School exclusions and closures are unlikely to help in limiting the spread of the disease as many more children will catch swine flu outside school rather than in school.

We still need to take steps to minimise the transmission of the virus in the community as some people in our school community remain at increased risk of complications from influenza.

We will now be asking any person with flu symptoms to stay at home until they are well. Any student who identifies that they are unwell or is displaying flu-like symptoms will be sent to sick-bay and their parent or carer will be called to take them home.

Please watch carefully for any signs or symptoms of flu-like illness in your child. These include fever, cough, tiredness, muscle aches, sore throat, chills or shortness of breath. NSW Health has advised if you child develops any of these symptoms you should seek the advice of your family doctor as you would for any other illness.