



The Phoenix NEWSLETTER

Dapto High School

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Thursday 3rd September 2009

Term 3 Week 6

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Y9 laptops are coming! Huge community meeting.

Some 300 students, staff and parents met in our hall on Tuesday night to share knowledge and expectations about the planned distribution of laptops to all Y9 students enrolled at Dapto HS. These excellent machines are part of the Commonwealth Government's push to improve 'digital learning' across our country.

Parents and caregivers are required to carefully consider and then sign the 'Laptop User Charter' before distribution. This document details expectations and protocols regarding use. Teachers are busy preparing for this momentous event; distribution is planned in the last weeks of this term. Many thanks to those excellent Y11 students who served refreshments to our guests at the Y9 Laptop Meeting: **Amy Vaughan, Lauren Hunter, Jay Banks, Robert Berry, Brock Reitzer-Parks**. Thanks also to **Ms Law**.

Y9 are in the thick of it.

Life in the fast lane at Dapto High School: work experience placements, an alpine adventure, preparation for laptops and next week, a Social Skills Seminar [Tuesday 8 Sept]. Stay strong team.

We are proud of James Wishart, Y10.

This fine young man will receive a highly prized, 'Throsby Community Spirit and Leadership Award' in a marvellous ceremony at Heining Hall on Friday night. An active member of our SRC, **James** has impressed his peers and teachers with his forthright, energetic approach. Our local federal representative, Ms Jenny George was particularly impressed with his record of service. Well done!

Southern Stars stun!

Dapto HS will be well represented this weekend with over 35 talented dancers participating in the Regional extravaganza at WIN Entertainment Centre. As we go to press good seats are still available. **Ms Jackie Johnson** has had a spring in her step this week as the choreography, costumes and music has all been coming together. Listed below are our talented representatives.

Ryan Johnson Y11, **Jessica Bone** Y10, **Alycia Coupe** Y10, **Jordan Paterson** Y10, **Shenae Carter** Y9, **Robyn Hewitson** Y9, **Carly Knowles** Y9, **Ashlee Lane** Y9, **Emma Logan** Y9, **Teisha Lozankovski** Y9, **Claire Meiser** Y9, **Jessica Neilson** Y9, **Naomi Ramirez** Y9, **Alexandra Scott** Y9, **Kaitlyn Talbot** Y9, **Crystal Capellin** Y8, **Nicole Cassar** Y8, **Sarah Collins** Y8, **Kelsie Thompson** Y8, **Holly Turner** Y8, **Amber Dixon** Y8, **Jayden Faraday**, **Sheona Hinkley** and **Tiemeka**

Hodkinson Y7

Painting almost completed.

Students and staff have been alert to constant change over the past 3 weeks, dodging hard working painters and carpenters, glaziers and carpet layers. It is a long time since our school was in receipt of such attention. All students are being asked to make a real effort to care for these improved facilities. Further work on gutters, downpipes and windows is scheduled.

Andrew FitzSimons Principal

Y9 Snowies Excursion

Congratulations to all Y9 skiers who braved the snow and survived the difficult weather conditions of last week. All students took the challenge to ski and many mastered this difficult skill with ease. However, stopping was not so quickly learned. Thanks to **Mr Bateman, Mr Smith, Ms Cooper, Ms Imber, Ms Robinson, Ms Surridge, Ms Stewart**, and particularly to **Mr Phillips** for organising the excursion. Students were well fed by the very competent cooking of **Mr Heining, Ms Kerry Phillips** and **Mr Knowles**. Please watch for more reports and stories about this trip over the coming weeks.

Coming Events for Weeks 6 & 7

WEEK 6 B WEEK

Friday 4 September

- .. CHS Athletics
- .. Southern Stars Performance Win Entertainment Centre

Saturday 5 September

- .. CHS Athletics
- .. Southern Stars Performance Win Entertainment Centre

WEEK 7 A WEEK

Tuesday 8 September

- .. Year 9 Social Skills Day

Wednesday 9 September

- .. Year 12 Geography Field Study Day

Teacher of the Week

TRISH MORGAN

for the
'energetic pursuit of excellence'

UNIFORM SHOP
Will be open on
Tuesdays 12 noon to 4 pm
and
Thursdays 8am to 12 noon

Dapto High invites parents to **PARENTING TEENS** a course that will explore the many ways a family can handle parent/teen issues. To be held on 4 Thursday mornings on 3, 10, 17 and 24 September at 9:30—12 noon at Dapto High School. Course fee is \$40
 Bookings essential. Ring **42271122**.

Y9 SUBJECT ELECTIVES FOR 2010 ONLINE

All Y8 students will now have received electronic advice encouraging them to start choosing their Y9 elective subjects for 2010. Y8 students are familiar with the process as they have already selected their interest electives for Semester 2 this year. This new protocol has been devised to provide students and their families with complete details of each elective being offered in 2010. Students have until Friday 4/9/09 to select their subjects.

Mr Massarella.

CHAPPY CHAT

What does the word “harmony” bring to mind to you? Peace, freedom, acceptance, belonging, respect, equality? These things often begin with the thoughts and attitudes of individuals, which become evident through their choice of words and actions. For example, we can create harmony or disharmony by the simple choice of words that we use. Here is a couple of quotes to ponder.....

Better than 1000 hollow words is one word that brings peace (Buddha)

Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them (The Bible)
 Words are powerful— choose them well — create harmony!
 “Harmony Day Australia” celebrates the idea that “everyone belongs”. For those people out there an art competition is being held to design the 2010 Harmony Day poster. \$500 prize money for the winner. See me if you are interested.

Sharon (School Chaplain)

YEAR 9 WORK EXPERIENCE

A big congratulations to the 61 Y9 students who completed Work Experience in Week 5. They were a credit to the school and I especially want to applaud the students who thanked their employer either verbally or in writing for themselves or on behalf of the school. I know the employers appreciated that. Some of the comments from the employers or from the teachers who visited the students while on Work Experience follow. Once again well done!

Ms

Crump Careers Adviser

From Employers:

Fantastic, friendly, picked up retail skills quickly, excellent worker. A pleasure, excellent work attitude. Keen, enthusiastic, cooperative and very helpful. Great to have a very willing worker. Very cheery and happy to do anything asked. Got on well with the students. Showed initiative, a pleasure to have. Very successful and enjoyed her stay. Competent and never late, a quick learner, very pleasant, keen to employ him. Covered a lot of variation in tasks and managed very well, exceptionally enthusiastic.

Demonstrated great interest and enthusiasm, worked well with staff and students. Showed initiative, a pleasure to have, good manners and personal presentation.. Enthusiastically worked with others, polite but a little reserved. Excellent, great interpersonal skills, related extremely well to both children and staff. Completed all tasks, worked very well with his hands. A pleasure, a hard worker always seeking more work. Mature and enthusiastic, a pleasure to have. Very pleasant, eager to learn and be involved, a pleasure to have in the surgery. Worked well, sought additional tasks. She was wonderful, contributed well in the week. Excellent attitude, will do well in the catering field if she chooses to do so. Would recommend to other employers—he deserves a job. Very refreshing, well mannered—testimony to parents and school—apprenticeship material.

From Teachers:

Possible apprenticeship at end 2010. Has sore feet, otherwise well. Possible part-time job sounding positive. Going well, gets on with the job. Wonderful, better than good. Self motivated, good communication and interaction. Punctual, doing well. Excellent, working hard. Following instructions, showing enthusiasm. Keen worker, no problems, enjoying it there. Brilliant, punctual, stays back to work, shows initiative. Enthusiastic, making the most of the experience. Going well, helpful, organised, outstanding. Worked well, grew in confidence as week unfolded. Happy with all aspects of this placement. Asking questions, always on time and does jobs without being asked. Diligent, working well, employer impressed with him. Shows potential in the mechanical/automotive trade. Learning how to pamper pets with confidence. Showing initiative and handling everything in his stride. All going well, doing all the right things. Enjoyed her work in this department. All good.

FREE DENTAL CARE FOR CHILDREN

Dental Care is available at NSW Public Dental Clinics for all children under 18 years of age (0-5 years old and all children in full time education). For an appointment contact Call Centre on **1300 369 651**. All patients require a Medicare Card

GIRL GUIDES

For 60 years Dapto Girl Guides has played an integral part in the lives of many girls and women in the region and to celebrate we are having a 60th birthday party. Come along to the Dapto Guide Hall—73 Emerson Road, Dapto on Saturday 12th September from 10am to 3pm for this event with its many attractions. To make enquiries phone Anita “Jacaranda” on 4261 6589 or email daptoguides@hotmail.com

HORSLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE is having it's Annual Christmas Bus Trip to the DFO Homebush on Saturday 14th November from 9:00am to 3:30pm.

Cost: \$20 per person.

For more details please call 4261 6161.

FOSTER CARE WEEK

Urgently seeking Foster Carers. Can you help?

Barnardos is seeking caring people who are able to provide a safe and loving home for children who are unable to live with their own families.

Barnardos needs Carers who can be a part of our Permanent and Respite Care programs. We are seeking carers who are able to make a long-term commitment to fostering and who have preferably raised their own children. Our children require carers who have patience, resilience and a sense of humour.

There should be no other children under the age of 14 living in the home. Barnardos provides generous financial assistance, training and ongoing support. For more information please contact Barnardos on 4297 0670.

SEARCH FOR A POPSTAR IN THE ILLAWARRA

The search for a popstar is coming again to the Illawarra in October. If you love to sing it could be your opportunity to let Wollongong hear your voice with the opportunity to win great prizes. There are two age categories (8-11) and (12-15). Registrations are now open online at www.popstaraustralia.com.au and close on 25th September. Heats 6th 7th 8th 13th 14th 15th October at Westfield Figtree with the final on 15th November at Waves NiteClub. Entry numbers are limited so be quick to register online. Every entry wins a prize bag valued at over \$100.

This is an opportunity for Learner Drivers to increase their hours under various conditions. All participants will be fully briefed by NSW Police. Workshops at Wollongong (phone **42277261**), Shellharbour (phone **42216124**) and Kiama (phone **42320568**) Councils. Bookings essential.

DAPTO ANNUAL FAIR

Dapto Chamber of Commerce and Dapto Fair Committee proudly present its Annual Street Fair on Father's Day 6 September 2009

* Live Entertainment by "The Villians" together with local children's entertainer Glenn Keeley * Matilda's farmyard nursery, pony rides, dancing displays, variety of market and craft stalls, multicultural food stalls * Lots of amusement rides for the big and little kids including the Bungy Trampoline
* Static display by emergency vehicles

* Live broadcast by Wave FM

So come along and have a great day out with the family.

KANAHOOKA HIGH REUNION

YEAR 10—1979 and YEAR 12—1981. 30 year reunion at Dapto Leagues Club (upstairs function room) Bong Bong Road, Dapto. On Saturday 10 October 2009, at 6.30pm for 7pm buffet meal, cost \$40 per person (drinks at club prices). For further information please contact **Christine Thomas (Halpin)** 0410 565954, **Julie Kirk (Coutts-Smith)** 0403 194646, **Sandra Kanitz (Talbot)** 0438 563337, **Angelika Green (Freitag)** 0402 981568, **Robert Anstee** 0417 429694. email: khsreunion79to09@gmail.com

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

