

DONNYBROOK DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER - Issue 7

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Principal's Report

It seems incredible that we have commenced Term 3. Time certainly seems to be rushing by these days. Importantly students and staff have returned from holidays full of energy and enthusiasm and the classes appear to be working very productively.

Congratulations to the students for the way they have applied themselves to their work in the first few days. I hope this continues throughout the Term and the Semester. The Western Australian Curriculum demands a lot from the students, as they aim to meet the increasing standards that are placed upon them and ensure they are well prepared for their next year of schooling. I also hope the students have taken the time to reflect on their Semester 1 Reports and overall progress throughout Terms 1 and 2. It would be beneficial for them to set themselves a goal or two and strive to achieve these. The staff will be looking to meet the needs of all students and I would like the students to play their part in their education.

I would urge parents to please take the time to meet with the teachers if an interview was requested on the reports by classroom or learning area teachers. If an interview wasn't requested, you are still more than welcome to meet with teachers to clarify any issues or concerns you may have. You are also most welcome to take the time to meet with me and you can do this by calling in for a chat or phoning the school to arrange a time.

This Term is shaping up to be busy and exciting. A Term Calendar accompanies today's newsletter and highlights the many wonderful opportunities being offered to the students of Donnybrook District High School.

Our Secondary Deputy Principal Garry Davis, has returned from Long Service Leave and is refreshed and ready for the second half of 2015. Lena King and Lyn Fry are filling Esme Kidd's position in the Donnybrook Community Library, whilst Esme takes her Long Service Leave. Mandy Anderson and Sue Williams are supporting the students, parents and staff at the Junior Campus, as Jane Lockhart is on Long Service Leave. I also welcome Wendy Mountford to the teaching staff as she fills a vacancy (Wednesday-Friday) in Year 1TG.

Year 6 Options

Donnybrook District High School offers our Year 6

students an opportunity to participate in our 'Secondary Options' programs throughout Terms 1 - 4. This program caters specifically for the Year 6 students and is designed to give them a 'taste' of the options offered in Secondary School as well as support their transition from Primary School to Secondary School in 2016.

Over the years it has proven to be very successful for the students of Donnybrook District High School, supporting students with pathway selections and importantly easing them into a new and different learning environment.

This Semester, 16 Year 6 students from Balingup and Kirup are travelling across to take part in the program alongside our students. It is fantastic to have these students involved in this initiative and be able to support both the Balingup and Kirup School Communities. I'm positive they will gain immensely from the chance to work with our Secondary teachers in specialist facilities.

Voluntary Contributions

As we enter the second half of the 2015 school year I arranged for invoices to be sent home asking parents and carers to pay their outstanding voluntary contributions and/or charges

Donnybrook District High School relies on parents and carers to contribute towards their child's schooling through payment of these invoices. As part of our financial planning each year we budget to receive voluntary contributions together with all outstanding charges. With these funds, we are able to deliver the programs and supply the resources that ensure the students of our community are provided with an array of opportunities during their schooling at Donnybrook District High School.

In 2015 we have invested significantly in upgrading our Information and Communication Technology with the purchase of 64 laptops, 45 iPads and two photocopiers across both campuses. In addition to this we are upgrading the Library at the Junior Campus to transform this into a more engaging and purposeful learning environment. The Kitchen Garden program is also underway at the Junior Campus and we are anticipating the fencing for the orchard and chicken run to be completed very soon.

School funding has also been utilised to develop a much improved textiles centre at the Senior Campus to further support the Home Economics course. We are also making certain that our well renowned Visual Arts, Wood and Metal Work, Solar Cars and Electric Vehicle programs are appropriately resourced to allow the students to gain the most from these specialist areas.

I trust that you understand our need for this funding and hope you are in a position to support the students and staff.

A clerical error occurred and this resulted in the incorrect letter being attached to the statements of parents who have already paid their account. We apologise for this and wish to thank those who have already paid.

Kindergarten Enrolments

Donnybrook District High School, like all Public Schools, has been taking enrolments for Kindergarten in 2016. The Department of Education is encouraging all parents and carers to enrol as early as possible to secure a placement. Enrolments are for children turning four by 30 June 2016. When enrolling, parents and carers need to bring their child's birth certificate, immunisation records and proof of current address.

Kindergarten is a wonderland of painting and story time; of talking and listening; of exploring the world; and of making new friends. Children begin to build on what they have learned at home. This includes their understanding of language – that language is made up of words, that written words are made up of letters in the alphabet, and that spoken sounds can be written down. They also learn about numbers and shapes, and the many different ways we use maths in our lives every day.

These early lessons help children later with reading, spelling, language and maths skills. Teachers take into account the many different experiences and backgrounds of children in the classroom to make sure the learning program helps each child. Children learn social skills by playing with other children and sharing equipment. Play allows children to share and take turns while developing coordination and confidence.

All of these experiences are vital to their future learning. If you would like further information you are encouraged to make contact with the school. A package will be sent out to parents and carers of enrolled students in Term 4 and there will be scheduled information and introduction sessions before the end of the school year.

Skoolbag App

In the last newsletter I indicated our intention to utilise Skoolbag to support our communication with the Donnybrook School Community. I am pleased to let you know that we have been through the initial start-up phase and are now in the process of finalising the set-up which will then allow parents and carers to download the App and communication between home and school to commence. We currently have a number of parents trialling the App to support our move in this direction.



*Jamie Milne
Principal*

Senior Campus News

Welcome Back to Term 3

It is fantastic to be back after a Term away on Long Service Leave. Mr Robertson did an excellent job in my absence. I sincerely thank him for his efforts. Whilst on leave I ventured out in the Murchison bush gold detecting amongst the dingoes and found a little bit of gold.

Assessment Policy

We are reinforcing our Assessment Policy so that all Years 7 to 10 Students are fully aware that work needs to be handed in on time. **Students are given a due date for each assignment. If students submit their assignment late, they discuss this with their teacher and may negotiate a five day extension.** Deadline for assignments that are not met **will** lose marks. This assists in preparing students for Year 11 and beyond.

School Photos

School Photos will be taken on Friday, 7 August for the Senior Campus Students. Please ensure your child/ren are in full school uniform.

Note that family/group photos are taken on Thursday, 6 August between 1:00pm and 2:30pm at the Junior Campus. Also remember to bring your payment envelope along on the day to hand to the photographer.



*Garry Davis
Deputy Principal Secondary*

South West High School Winter Carnival

Our Year 9 and 10 students have been training on Fridays for the Winter Carnival to be held on Wednesday, 19 August. We are sending two Netball Teams and one Soccer Team. The Carnival will be held at Hay Park, Bunbury. We wish all students the best of luck.

Junior Campus News

Welcome back to a wintery Term 3. From my observations, the children have got right down to work and they are enjoying their learning. There is a lot on at the Junior Campus this Term. Be sure to keep an eye on the School Calendar as well as letters sent home.

Please remember that School Photos for K - Year 6 are taken on Thursday, 6 August. **Note that family/group photos** are taken on Thursday, 6 August between 1:00pm and 2:30pm.

The Years 5 and 6 circus workshop has been postponed and the dates will now be 10 and 11 August. The WA Constitutional Centre incursion for Year 6 students is also on 11 August, which is the same week that the Year 1 students are visiting the Wellington Discovery Centre. Australian Science Week is from 17 August, with the Interschool Winter Carnival for Years 5 and 6 being held on the 21 August.

We are celebrating Book Week on Wednesday 26 August which includes a day of dressing up as your favourite book character. An Assembly will be held on that day to show off your efforts. Thank you to Barb Kay in the Library and to the group of parents who have worked hard to organise this.

Later this Term we have organised a Forensic Science incursion called "A Case of Discovery" as well as the Faction Sports days which will be announced soon.



Jeff Brown
Associate Principal

SCHOOL and FAMILY Focus

For the first half of this Term we are looking at **SPORTSMANSHIP** and **FAIRNESS**.

With the upcoming Winter Carnival and the Athletics Carnival at the end of Term, it is a good opportunity to focus on these two values and put them into good practice. Parents, coaches and supporters are all great role models for children. Please look at how you conduct yourself when playing or watching sport. "Winning is important but how you go about winning, is more important."

Parents of Year 5 and 6 Students

I have a number of books entitled "Talk Soon, Talk Often". These are provided for parents by the State Government Health Department and are a guide for parents/carers talking to their kids about sex. These books are available at no cost from the front office of the Junior Campus or from the Health /Music Room.

Debbie Cann

Canteen Update

The Senior Campus Canteen is closed on Mondays. For the rest of the week the Canteen is open at recess and you can choose to order your lunch then or online. The lunches are made at the Junior Campus and brought down to the Senior Campus Canteen at lunch-time.

We are still seeking volunteers to help at the Junior Campus Canteen. If you can spare any time please call on 9731 0025. Any help you could offer would be greatly appreciated.



Wanted

The school is making a mural by recycling plastic lids. If you can save any plastic lids from milk cartons, jars etc... we would really appreciate it.

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DONNYBROOK AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

REGISTRATION DAY SUMMER BASKETBALL

TUESDAY,
15 SEPTEMBER
DONNYBROOK
REC CENTRE
3:30pm-6:00pm



School Fees Paid by Internet Banking

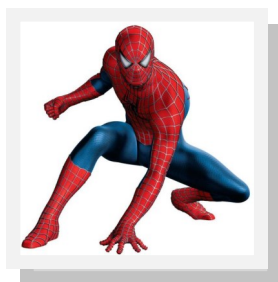
Thank you to everyone paying school fees and charges into the school's bank account online by direct deposit. Please remember to add the students name in the reference field when internet banking. This will ensure the funds are receipted against the correct student record.

Unidentified direct deposits result in the bank charging our school approximately \$30 for a 'trace fee' for each trace. To avoid the school passing these fees onto parents / carers, please remember to use the internet banking reference field.

Book Week 24 - 28 August

Book Week is coming! During Week 6 (24 - 28 August) the Junior Campus will be celebrating the Children's Book Council of Australia Annual Book Week. This is the 70th year the Council has been celebrating children's books and literacy. The theme this year is "books light up our world". A wonderful theme, and so true. The Junior Campus Library will be decorated to promote the theme. On Wednesday, 26 August we will be having a spectacular dress up day. All children will be invited to participate. We would love to see parents dressed up too! Classes will make their way to the canteen undercover area where the costume parade will take place, parents are welcome to participate and join in with the fun. Mr Brown will be reading a shortlisted book titled "Pig the Pug". Thank you to the parents/carers who have volunteered their help it is much appreciated.

You are welcome to visit Library to view the shortlisted books chosen by the Council this year.



Kids
Development Centre

OPEN DAY

Thursday 13 August 2015

IS YOUR CHILD'S BEHAVIOUR WORRYING YOU?

Our doors are open

9am – 12pm

Come on in and chat with our doctors and friendly staff about how we can help your child

Improving your child's health and wellbeing

1pm – 2.30pm

Free Presentation for parents

Dr Natalie Challis
Liz Mountford
Dr Esyllt Graham
Darrell Wills

The Brain and Behaviour – How mapping the brain helps us understand your child's behaviour
The Gut/Brain Connection – The importance of Nutrition for brain health
The Brain/Body Connection – Functional Neurology -why we work with the body
Teaching and the Brain

Brain science applied to learning

4pm - 5pm

Free Workshop for teachers and EA's

Understanding the implications of brain science and how a teacher can help a child build their brain potential.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 31 July	Junior Campus - Assembly Year 4SH
Thursday 6 August	Junior Campus - School Photos
Friday 7 August	Senior Campus - School Photos
Tuesday 11 August	Senior Campus - Assembly 9:00am
Thursday 13 August	Wellington Discovery Centre
Friday 21 August	Primary Interschool Winter Carnival Years 5 and 6 at Hay Park
Mon - Fri 24-28 Aug	Junior Campus - Book Week and dress up day

Uniform Shop open every Wednesday 8:45am to 9:45am in the Community Library, Emerald Street, Donnybrook.

**Every
Wednesday
Early Closure:
Junior Campus
2:35pm
Senior Campus
2:45pm**