**2016 Canberra, Jindabyne, Sydney Trip**  
*By Neil Robertson*

With nervous energy the 33 students gathered for the plane ride across to Canberra. For many of them the trip was their first time on an aircraft and their first time out of the State. Canberra as the political centre of our Nation was full of interesting things to do. Parliament House both old and new, Questacon the science museum and the extremely impressive War Memorial all left a lasting impression on staff and students. We were also able to let our hair down at laser tag and go-kart racing where it became very clear that two staff members had the “killer instinct” and were able to teach most of the students a real lesson in competition.

With neck braces firmly attached after the shunting we were all given on the race track by Mr Milne, we made our way to Jindabyne where two days of spectacular weather and memorable skiing awaited. Armed with the confidence of a lesson on the slopes we all went out and tackled terrain that may have been a little out of our league. It didn’t matter, the fearless dropped down the slopes with wide smiles. It was the stopping that was the problem in a mixture of snow, skis, bushes, rocks and bodies we tumbled. But we all got up and did it again. Following our second lesson we realised the error of our ways and became more accomplished. We skied for hours negotiating chair lifts, wombats and snowboarders. For some it was a little much but for two grown men with ideas of the winter Olympics fading with every year we gave it everything we had. The students with us were exhausted but refilled with energy each day by the sumptuous buffet at the resort.

The next day we left the snow and headed to Sydney. The plane we flew in was small and powered by propeller; this was too much for our novice flyers who boarded with sweat on their brows. Fortunately the ride was over almost after it began. Sydney was spectacular, as tourists we visited the sights, the Opera House and the Bridge. We made our way to Luna Park where the rides and fairground highlights made their impression. Taking in a Ferry ride, the Aquarium, Madame Tussauds and of course important shopping expeditions ended our last day.  

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2016 Canberra, Jindabyne, Sydney Trip cont’d
We were all really glad to get home to our loved ones as some of us were a little homesick and some of us were unwell. The camp was fantastically organised by Mr Milne and apart from my naviguegessing when I took the wrong turns we all have memories that will last a lifetime. If you would like to read a more detailed account of the ski trip visit: http://ddhs2016.blogspot.com.au/

As you are aware we have just passed the half way mark of Term 3 and I am pleased to inform you that planning for 2017 recently commenced. Next year we plan to build on the successful strategies and initiatives implemented in 2016 and continue to look for additional ways that we can cater for the specific needs of our students, ultimately enhancing their learning and providing support for their future aspirations.

District High Schools are truly distinctive learning environments that have the potential to offer both Primary and Secondary students an array of opportunities that develop them academically, socially and emotionally. In 2017, I intend to further capitalise on our context to make certain the students are benefitting immensely from an education at a District High School. As a combined school (Primary and Secondary) we have a great deal to offer, we simply need to be bold, creative and flexible in our decision making.

In all honesty I am genuinely excited about what has been achieved in 2016 and am looking forward to 2017 and what this will bring to the Donnybrook School Community. I have been well supported by a proactive School Board who is focussed on improving the outcomes of our students. Our Board members do a superb job and I encourage parents and carers to make contact with them at any point in time with your thoughts and ideas. A full list of Board members and their contact details is located on the school website.

To support my planning, I would appreciate it if you would inform me if your child/ren will not be attending Donnybrook District High School next year. Please email me details of your child’s movements as a matter of urgency as I would really appreciate ‘firm’ numbers to plan around. My email address is james.milne@education.wa.edu.au

Term 3 Highlights
The first five weeks of Term 3 have provided numerous unique experiences for both our Primary and Secondary students.

The Donnybrook District High School and Collie Senior High School Combined Band Camp to Perth was an outstanding opportunity for 12 of our talented musicians. My sincere thanks to Jemma Whelan, Wendy Armstrong and the parent volunteers for their work in the lead up to the camp and throughout the duration of the camp.

The Year 9/10 camp to Canberra, Jindabyne and Sydney allowed 33 students a chance to visit our national capital, experience the thrill and excitement of skiing and explore the iconic city of Sydney. A huge thank you to Neil Robertson, Tiffany Leeder and Michelle Sutton for their support and work during the camp.

Last week the students were engaged in a range of activities as part of National Science Week. Thank you to Katrina Taaffe, James Duncan, Sue Field and the classroom teachers for coordinating learning experiences that celebrated science.

On Friday of Week 5, students from Years 4-6 were selected to represent the school in a Winter Sport Carnival. The school was superbly represented at netball, soccer and football, with wonderful skill and sportsmanship on display. A special congratulations to our undefeated netball team! Many thanks to Rob Horton and the Primary teachers for coordinating this opportunity.

Uniform Survey
Donnybrook District High School P& C is currently offering parents and carers an opportunity to provide input into the school’s Uniform Policy and Dress Code. If you haven’t completed the survey, I encourage you to do this as a matter of urgency. There will be changes made to our current policy based on feedback from parents and carers and the results of the survey will play a key role in modifications that are presented to School Board for their consideration. To locate the survey please enter the following address: www.surveymonkey.com/r/933DTJZ

Term 4
The Administration Team is currently in the process of organising and scheduling a number of important events for Term 4. There will be an opportunity for 2017 Kindergarten students to attend school with their parents and carers. I also intend scheduling a chance for Kindergarten parents and carers to meet with Jeff Brown and myself to answer any queries they may have and also ensure they are familiar with the school and the routines and procedures.

The Year 6 students attending the Senior Campus in 2017 will also be provided with an opportunity to spend two full days at Bentley
Street, working with the core area and option teachers. The first day is scheduled for Wednesday October 26 and the second day is scheduled for Wednesday November 23. Year 6 parents and carers will be given an opportunity to meet with myself and the Secondary staff on the afternoon of November 23, to further support the students’ transition to secondary school. At this meeting we will be outlining the expectations that surround Year 7; we will provide a framework on what is on offer at the school and a chance for parents and carers to tour our facilities.

The much anticipated Year 10 Graduation is scheduled for Monday 12 December. As in previous years this will take place at the school in the evening, with the students then provided with an opportunity to dine as a graduating group.

A Year 1-9 Presentation Assembly will be held at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre on the morning of Wednesday 14 December. Following this there will be a family picnic held at the Junior Campus, with activities and entertainment planned for the students. Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students will most certainly be invited to join the picnic. More information regarding this event as well as the others outlined above will be disseminated in Term 4.

A planner will be distributed before the end of this term and parents are encouraged to mark these dates on their calendar.

**National Testing**

In May this year all Australian schools conducted assessments in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy using common national tests. A detailed analysis of the results will be undertaken by both the Administration Team and the classroom teachers. This will be utilised to support planning for improvement at an individual level, classroom level and whole school level. At this point in time we have only have a snapshot of the results, however it is certainly pleasing to some important improvements in a number of key areas. This is a positive step and affirms the work that is taking place.

Individual Student Reports will be sent home shortly. Parents and carers are urged to take the time to look closely at the report and contact teachers to discuss specific areas of need and how they can assist at home. The partnership between home and school must be strong and close to ensure students are given every opportunity to reach their individual potential. There is ‘room for improvement’ and we want to work closely with parents and carers to address our concerns.

**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL**

Jeff Brown

Congratulations and thank you to those students who represented our school at Australind in the Forrest Primary Winter Carnival last Friday.

Everyone involved is commended on their sportsmanship and commitment to “giving it a go.” Special congratulations to the Netball Teams. Thank you also to the teachers and parents who trained and supported the students.

A reminder that School Photos take place at the Junior Campus this Friday. The Thursday Kindergarten students will have their photo taken last thing on Thursday, then on Friday the Kindergarten students will be the first group photographed, followed by the Yr3s, Yr4s, K/P, PP Yr1s, Yr 25, Yr 55, Yr5/6s and Yr 6s.

Week 7 is National Literacy and Numeracy Week and we will be having a day of special activities on Tuesday 30 August. This is followed on Thursday by a couple of talks by author Sally Murphy, who will be at the Junior Campus before lunch and at the Senior Campus after lunch.

This term has been travelling rather quickly (don’t we seem to say that too often?) but I’ve managed to get a look into most classrooms and have discussions with all teachers about how our students, your children, are travelling on their varied learning journeys. I am always fascinated by the work students bring me and I am increasingly impressed; by the skills being developed by our Pre-Primary and Year 1s, right up to the amazing growth and maturation of our upper primary students. The integration of Digital Technologies into the classroom is happening at a phenomenal pace and is enhancing learning opportunities for everybody, although we are always mindful that we live in a 3D world and as such, learning takes place in a variety of modes.

**SECONDARY DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

Neil Robertson

**Don’t forget to enrol!**

A reminder to all Year 10 Students that enrolments at Manea Senior College have closed. If you require information about enrolling at Newton Moore Senior High School or Bunbury High School please contact the front office who can provide you with a copy of the
enrolment package. You must be enrolled in learning, a traineeship or full time employment with an approved employer in 2017. Don’t leave your run too late and reduce the options you have available to you.

**OLNA - Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment.**

From 29 to 31 August the Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to sit the OLNA test for the last time this year. A letter has been sent home with the students outlining the areas they need to improve upon in this next round of testing. The test is an essential component of achieving High School Graduation and will be used by employers to ensure literacy and numeracy skills for the workplace.

**SCIENCE WEEK 2016**

**Junior Campus**

For Science Week we watched entrants in the International Science Film Festival and made our own ‘robotic’ hands. The students were asked what their favourite short film was and here are some of the responses.

Coral Bleaching because it gave a detailed explanation as to what coral bleaching is and what we can do to fix it. (Ethan)

Corpus because of the creativity in making a heart beat and lungs breathe. (Ty)

The Tiny Key of Aging because I think it was really cool how they set it out. (Jeremy)

Corpus because it had so many obstacles and was cool. That is the type of science I like. (Lily)

Eel Life Cycle because it tells me about the life cycle of eels and I don’t know a lot about eels. (Ashley)

The Tiny Key of Aging because I love how they said they could possibly stop aging and death. (Jessica)

Corpus because there were lots of cool things like body parts and chain reactions. (Joseph)

**Combined Band Camp and WA Orchestra and Band Festival 2016**

Over the weekend of Friday 12 August to Sunday 14 August, members of the Collie Combined Schools Concert Band travelled to Perth to compete at the 37th Annual WA Schools Concert Band Festival held at Churchlands Senior High School. The event is run by Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) in partnership with the Australian Band and Orchestra Director’s Association (WA) and involves school bands from all over the state. It is open to both independent and public schools. Over the duration of the festival there were more than 80 performances in the band section alone.

For competitions the Collie School Band, under the guidance of band director Jemma Whelan joined forces with the Donnybrook District High School Band, under the direction of Wendy Armstrong. Rehearsals together are a few times each year, just before each competition.

The combined bands played 3 pieces; “Siyahamba”, “Three Faces of Kilimanjaro” and “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Hedwig’s Theme/Potter Waltz”. They were awarded with a “merit” placing for their commendable performances and are eagerly waiting for the adjudication reports and valuable feedback.

In addition to the festival performances on Sunday, the students were extremely fortunate to attend a workshop on the Friday with Bruce Herriman - Principal of Instrumental Music School Services. He worked with the band for an hour and a half and provided really beneficial observations and evaluation. It was a fantastic opportunity for the band members and was much appreciated. As well as rehearsing and performing, the students participated in team building games, orienteering, flying fox and ice skating as well as their designated chores. They worked hard all weekend, were wonderful representatives of both schools and should be commended on their efforts.

A tremendous thank you to IMSS staff Jemma Whelan for coordinating this year’s camp. Also thanks to Wendy Armstrong for her help, and CSHS teacher Trevor Stace for his supervision. A huge thank you must also go to Collie staff member and parent helpers Anna Pelser and Leon Jones.
ARTISTS OF THE MONTH
Girls in Art

Georgia Jones in Year 9 is our artist of the month. Georgia has shown a huge improvement in both drawing skill and independent work habits. Georgia willingly works on skills at home and is developing into an outstanding student in this area.

FORREST PRIMARY WINTER SPORTS CARNIVAL

NETBALL
Last Friday two teams of Netball players represented our school. The “A” Team won all their games whilst the “B” Team won three of their games. Everyone had lots of fun. The “A” Team was presented with a trophy. Mr A did one of his speeches, even though we all voted “NO”.

SOCCER
Our school’s soccer teams didn’t have the success like the netballers. However, we had lots of fun playing and enjoyed the day. Thanks to the parents who supported us, and special thanks to Mr Stewart for coaching one team.

FOOTBALL
Mr Roberts’ football team won three games and lost two. All the team players played well with James, Adam, Bryn, Blake, Beau and Kirra showing particular strengths.

Mr A’s team wasn’t as successful but we had lots of fun. All the players played well with Brody, Gary, Roman, Cooper, Euan and Ben displaying their football skills.

A BIG THANK YOU
The DDHS P & C Canteen, would like to thank the following for their contribution to morning tea and lunch, at the Year 10’s Road Trauma Prevention Day held on Tuesday 23 August 2016:
Donnybrook/Balingup Shire;
Donnybrook Fresh Supa IGA;
Donnybrook Family Bakery;
Donnybrook Packing Shed; and
Gwendoline Nidd.

COMMUNITY NEWS

PINJARRA GARDEN DAY
Sunday 2 October 2016
10am – 3pm
Edenvale Homestead, Pinjarra
For further information please email: lynhfleming@gmail.com

BUNBURY AND DISTRICTS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION INC.
Open Days:
Saturday 27 August 2pm – 4pm
Saturday 3 September 10am – 2pm
At Glen Huon Oval, Eaton.
For further information please email teeball@badsa.com.au or juniorsoftball@badsa.com.au

DONNYBROOK DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INC.
Did you know that your P & C is responsible for the school canteen, uniforms, and fundraising plus has a voice on the School Board?

Contact your P & C
President - 0439 923 214
Katya Tripp
Vice President – 0438 130 883
Michelle Wiseman
Secretary - 0417 955 520
Miranda Harrison
Treasurer – 0434 891 010
Sandra Dillon
Uniforms – 0438 163 184
Vanessa Van Der Heide
Fundraising – 0447 064 198
Melinda Ward
Canteen – Primary 9731 0025
-Secondary 9731 1457
Footy Tipping – 0437 482 148
Rebecca Welsh
Music Group – 0429 600 530
Wendy Cain
School Board – 0431 001 084
Kate Shaw
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<td>25 &quot;Duyfken&quot; visit in Bunbury Yr 4 12.00pm - 2.00pm School Photos – Senior Campus and Kindergarten 1</td>
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| Start and End of Term | Public Holidays | School Holidays (students) | School Development Days |