

Donnybrook District High School Newsletter

Junior Campus

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Senior Campus

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Mrs Hutchison's class had a great Harmony Day working on different activities on China. We made drums, fried rice, lanterns and drew Chinese characters in calligraphy. Special thanks to our helpers; Dyane Spelta, Cathy Aldridge and Tina Daniela. We also enjoyed some very tasty Jujubes from the Davy family at Preston Valley Hops.











PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - James Milne

As we near the end of Term 1, I would like to take this opportunity to thank both the teaching and support staff for their work throughout the term. Term 1 is traditionally a challenging period as the staff work particularly hard to identify where each student is at and what is required to support their overall learning and progression. This requires the development of programs to suit cohorts, groups and individuals. I commended them on the effort they have put in to provide teaching and learning programs that meet the needs of their students. English and Mathematics have been focal points during the past 9 weeks, but they have been complemented by a great variety of programs and initiatives such as Primary and Secondary Carnivals, Excursions and Leadership opportunities.

Importantly the majority of students are endeavouring to improve in all learning areas, which is extremely pleasing to see. A large number of students have impressed their teachers with huge improvements to their level and standard of work in these initial weeks of the 2019 school year. I urge these students to keep up the concerted effort next term and through the remainder of the school year.

It does disappoint me when I know there are students who are not taking full advantage of the opportunities presented to them by their teachers and assistants. I sincerely hope they recognise the need to engage in their schooling and turn this around next term, importantly striving to do their very best each and every day. Renee, Garry and I are here to support the students and parents and carers in these situations.

I hope you all have a wonderfully relaxing school holiday. Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you in Term 2. School commences for students on **Tuesday 30 April.** Monday is a scheduled School Development Day for staff.

2018 Annual Report

The 2018 Annual School Report was recently presented to School Board and endorsed by members. The School Report is intended to give parents and carers, together with the Donnybrook School community, a clear sense of how students in the school are progressing and what is being done to maximise student achievement. The School Report includes information on the academic and nonacademic achievement of the students, progress on identified school priorities, school financial information and highlights of the 2018 school year. The 2018 School Report, is on the school's website and I encourage you to take the time to look closely through this. If you have any queries or questions you are most welcome to send me an email or alternatively make a time to meet with me.

Staffing

A special welcome to Kim Shepherd who has been appointed as our new Teacher Librarian. Kim will

commence next term and takes on the huge task of managing the Community Library on behalf of the school and the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup, as well as supporting the English programs on both campuses. I look forward to welcoming Kim into the school



There are also a few minor changes to staffing taking place at the beginning of Term 2. Parents and carers of students who this impacts on will be informed shortly.

School Upgrades

I am pleased to announce that Donnybrook District High School has been prioritised for a number of urgent maintenance projects.

These include;

Replacement of non-compliant steps between the Upper Primary cluster and the Undercover Area. Painting of the Year 5/6 classrooms, Middle Primary wet area and old demountable building. Removal of trees along the basketball court and resurfacing of the entire play area. Reticulation of the Senior Campus oval.

These projects will go a long way to addressing a number of safety concerns we have and also enhancing both indoor and outdoor classrooms. It will be extremely sad to see the large trees removed from next to the basketball courts, but unfortunately their tree roots are causing major damage and safety concerns as students and staff frequently trip over them.

ANZAC Service

The school will be holding an ANZAC service on Thursday 11 April for all Primary and Secondary students. This will be held at the Senior Campus commencing at 9:30am. Parents and carers and community members are most welcome to attend.

Attendance

Attendance directly impacts on academic achievement and when a student falls below 90% attendance they are considered to be at risk of not achieving their individual potential. To fall below 90%, a student only needs to miss approximately 5 days of school in a term. I ask that parents and carers please take this into consideration and look to minimise the time their child/ren are absent from school.

At this point in the school year, 79% of our students are attending school regularly (90% and above), which will most certainly have a positive impact on their academic progress. Unfortunately 21% of our students aren't attending school regularly which is concerning. Parents and carers are urged to please minimise the time their child/ren are absent from school.

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Renee Reid

Faction Carnival

All students and staff are looking forward to our faction Carnival this Thursday at VC Mitchell Park. Tuesday morning was spent competing at jumps and throws and I was really impressed with the "have a go" attitude and the support of those who were waiting to compete. It was a really nice atmosphere where students encouraged and congratulated or commiserated with one another without judgement on abilities. The timetable for Thursday is in this newsletter so please come along and support your children if you can make time.

Year 10s

It's starting to come to that time when our Year 10s need to consider where they will head in 2020. Manea have already started to contact parents and invite them to attend enrolment interviews so if Manea is on your list, it's important to contact them now. They had a very large waitlist last year so if you're not in the first round, you may not get in. All four of their processes (Expression of Interest, Additional Information, enrolment interview and course selections) need to be completed by **Friday**, **26 July**. Bunbury SHS will come and run an information session at our school next term.

Parent interviews

Thanks to all our parents who took the time to attend our parent evening. If you couldn't attend on that date, our teachers are happy for you to call up or email and check on progress. Remember that our teachers may teach up to 150 students so it may be quicker and easier for a parent to contact the teacher first!

Teacher Librarian

We would like to welcome Mrs Kim Shepherd to our school. Kim will take on the role of Teacher Librarian for the remainder of the year. She will work on a Friday until the end of term and then commence fulltime next term. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge of all things digital technology based and an real passion for reading and engaging students.



World's Greatest Shave
Congratulations to Sasha
Smith for selflessly raising
money for others for the
World's Greatest Shave (and
donating her hair). Doesn't she
look good with a shaved head?

Business Certificate

Our Business Certificate students have really been making the life of our teachers easier by running a mock office where they complete all those tasks that take up so much time for a teacher, such as creating resources for classroom



activities and photocopying. They have also been working at the Junior campus. Although this is a good substitute for a business, in Term 2, we may seek to place some of our students in local businesses that are operating in town for some regular half-day work



experience on a
Friday. This would
allow our students
to experience the
real-life demands
of an operating
business whilst
tidying up their
accuracy and work
output to ensure
efficiency and

attention to detail. If you have a WWC and operate a local business where you think you may be able to help us out, please don't hesitate to contact Jonelle McLoughlin at

<u>Jonelle.McLoughin@education.wa.edu.au</u>. Thanks for your support of our school.

Form Activities

Our students have been placed back in to forms this year to assist in our overall pastoral care for students. Not only is this time used to check attendance, teachers also help students organise their diary and upcoming assessments (but we have noticed some students aren't using their diary so please encourage them at home also). Forms have students from all year groups so it's an opportunity for a bit of peer modelling and leadership too. Weekly, our students get to join up with their other faction form class and participate in fun, active physical activities together.

Attendance

This week, we have sent letters home with students to try and tidy up any unexplained absences and to give parents a clearer picture of their child's attendance rate. The *Education Act (1990)* requires parents to ensure that children of compulsory school age attend school each day it is open for instruction and school is essential if your child is to achieve at his/her educational best and increase his/her career and life options. If the attendance rate is below 90%, your child is considered at risk and you may be asked to participate in a Responsible Parenting Agreement. Please check your child's bag for your letter and ring or drop in to discuss any concerns.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Garry Davis

Welcome to Week 9 already. Across both Campuses we have seen the positive attributes displayed by students. There are many who have received faction points as positive recognition for working well in class, as well as for displaying positive behaviours in the playground. When we see students with high numbers of faction points across both sites we realise how many really do the right thing. To all those students who gained PBS recognitions we say a big thank you! Well done to Red at the Junior Campus who have passed the 500 points to gain a reward.



As I write the Senior Campus Faction Carnival is on today. Already the 1500metres has been completed, with many students entering the challenge. We have been looking forward to a great day of competition. The results should be close as we saw at the Swimming Carnival.

Junior Campus Forrest Division Interschool is to be held on next Tuesday, 9 April at the SW Sport Centre in Bunbury. The students are excited and in full training to do their best.

The Senior Campus parent evening on Wednesday, 20 March went off very well. We thank all parents and carers who came in and met up with the teachers. We really do value your visits.

A group of Year 7 to 10 students attended various writer workshops at Mary McKillop College in Busselton last Thursday, 28 March. The students heard strategies that enabled the authors to become successful writers. All students enjoyed the talks. We look forward to seeing them use these ideas to improve their own writing. Special thanks to Mrs Hewton for organising the day.

Attendance is a key focus this year. We would like to thank all students who have attended above 90% this year. We are seeing high rates of attendance in many year groups this year. There have been letters sent home for any students who have not handed notes in for their absences. There are times where illness does happen, as seen at the Senior Campus this week. When this occurs please send a note to their class or Form teacher as soon as possible so that their sickness is noted. As I stated at Primary Assemblies, **Every School Day Counts!**

Enjoy a wonderful holiday. Please drive safe and always wear a seat belt, no matter where, no matter when.

General News





Senior Campus News

World's greatest Shave

On Friday 15 March a very brave Sasha Smith shaved her hair off for the World's Greatest Shave. She raised a huge \$3 838.00. It is fantastic to see young people like Sasha doing things for their community! Thank you to Sasha's Mum Briony Cain for supporting her and Amy Martindale for volunteering to do the shaving. Thank you to everyone else who donated to Sasha on the day!









Student Representative Council (SRC) Training Day

Thursday 14 March the SRC and Year 6 student leaders attended a training day which was held at the rec-centre. The students had 3 sessions with volunteers from the community which helped them get to know each other and work on their leadership skills. The students would like to give a big thank you to Anita Lindemann, Angela Winter and Shane Atherton for giving up their time for the students of DDHS.









Harmony Day

Australia's Harmony Day celebrates our country's cultural diversity. It coincides with the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Student's at the Senior Campus celebrated Harmony Day with free dress and a hamburger meal deal. Well done to the SRC for running the day and organising the lunch for students.



Certificate 1 in Business

Students in Certificate 1 in Business are currently running a Mock Office for staff at both the Senior and Junior Campuses. They have made a great start and are enjoying the responsibility of completing tasks that are important to our staff at DDHS. Within this program, students are learning and practicing skills including but not limited to, phone calls, emails, word processing, laminating and photocopying. On top of this task the





students have also taken on the role of collating faction points and ensuring students and staff are getting information regarding faction point leaders, and reminding teachers to acknowledge our positive behaviours at school.

General News



School Volunteering Information Session

At EdConnect, we're training and mobilising an army of volunteers to provide life-changing mentoring and/or learning support in schools for students who are at risk of not fulfilling their educational potential.

Do you have a spare hour or two a week? Do you want to make a difference?

We are seeking mentors and learning support volunteers for students of all ages in Donnybrook.

Would you like to find out more? We will be holding an information session to answer all of your questions. What does a mentor do? What commitment do I need to make? What support do I receive?

Date: Friday April 5th

Time: 11am Venue: Seniors Room, Donnybrook Library

I am also working with schools in Balingup, Australind, Bridgetown, Boyup Brook and more. If you are unable to attend but would like more information. please contact Karen Barden at karen.barden@edconnect.org.au

Visit: www.edconnectaustralia.org.au Call: 1800 668 550







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Term Calendar - Term 1 2019

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
9	1 April	2	3 Junior Campus Assembly 3JH 9.00am Year 7 & 8 Immunisation EARLY CLOSE	4 NEWSLETTER Senior Campus Faction Athletics Carnival VC Mitchell	5	6	7
10	8 April P&C AGM 3:15pm Yr 1/2 Cluster	9 Primary Interschool Athletics Carnival Forrest Division Yr 9/10 Science & Engineering Challenge	10 Pink Stump Day	11 ANZAC DAY Whole School Senior Campus 9.30start STEM Challenge Yr 6 Board Meeting 4:30pm	12 Students last day Yr 10 Manea Health Medical Workshop	13	14
Н	15 April	16	17	18	19 Good Friday	20	21
Н	22 April Easter Monday	23	24	25 ANZAC Day	26	27	28
1	29 April School Development Day	30 April Students resume	1 May	2	3	4	5
2	6 May	7	8 Junior Campus School Photos	9 Senior Campus School Photos	10	11 EV Challenge Pre-event	12
3	13 May	14	15 NO JUNIOR ASSEMBLY	16 NEWSLETTER	17	18	19
	NAPLAN -		Year 10 - Immunisation Year 10 - RAC Keys for Life EARLY CLOSE				
4	20 May NAPLAN	21	EARLY CLOSE	Board Meeting 4:30pm	24	25	26

Convenient Payment Options Available

Cheques & Money Orders: Posted to 58 Mead St, Donnybrook WA 6239

Electronic Transfer: BSB: 633 000 Account: 121097182 Bank: Bendigo Bank

Please use student name as reference

Credit/Debit Card: Credit/Debit card payments can be made in person at the Senior or Junior Campuses between 8am—4pm

Monday to Friday

EFTPOS: Payments can be made in person at the Senior or Junior Campuses between 8am—4pm Monday to Friday

Personal Payment Plan: Please contact the Manager Corporate Services on (08) 9731 1557 or email sarah.bible@education.wa.edu.au