

DONNYBROOK DHS

We CARE

Busselton Foreshore & Reading Cinema Excursion

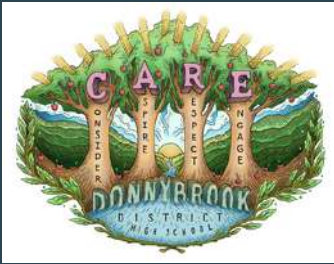
During the term 3/4EC and 4AB/CH visited the Busselton Foreshore and Reading Cinema for a fun and educational outing. The students enjoyed watching The Wild Robot, which tied into their ongoing novel study in class. Throughout the day, the students displayed excellent behaviour and were fully engaged in both the film and the experience. It was a great opportunity for them to deepen their learning in an enjoyable and interactive setting.

3/4EC & 4AB/CH EXCURSION



We respectfully acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People as the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet and learn on.

We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future and acknowledge their connections to country, sea and water ways.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

James Milne



2024 is fast drawing to a close and we are busy finalising arrangements for the Year 6 Graduation Lunch, Year 4-9 Presentation Assembly and the Year 10 Graduation and Dinner. These events are always well anticipated and make for an exciting conclusion to a school year.

The P&C are also busy gearing up for 'Christmas On The Green', which is being held on Friday 6 December. This evening is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together and celebrate another successful year.

At the end of this year we will say farewell and thank you to a number of staff who have held positions at school throughout 2024. My sincere thanks for their dedication to our students and the genuine CARE they continually showed. On behalf of the school community, I wish the very best to Antionette Halley, Elli Cooper, Alex Marshall, Keryn Hempel, Elicia McKenna and Rebecca Smedley. Collectively their contribution to the schooling and lives of our young people has been most appreciated.

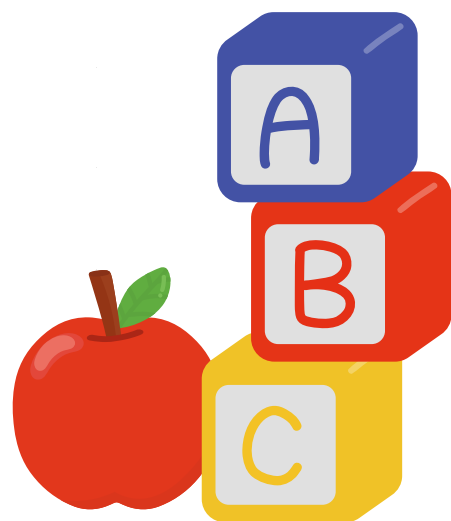
I sincerely hope our students and parents and carers have a wonderful holiday over December and January and you get the opportunity to take a well-earned break and catch up with family and friends. All staff will be back at work on Monday 3 February. Students are due back on **Wednesday 5 February**.

2025 Structure and Programs

I am pleased to be able to provide the following information on our class structure, teaching appointments and programs for 2025. As a school we are continually reflecting on our strengths and areas of need, which results in changes each year to support our continual growth and importantly address identified areas. Our schools needs are complex and diverse, and we are proud of the array of opportunities we present to our students and their families.

Leadership

Principal	James Milne
Associate Principal	Fiona Hunter
Primary Deputy	Lauren Brown
Secondary Deputy	Janene Wells



Primary

Kindergarten 1	Wendy Cain
Kindergarten 2	Michelle Fernley

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT continued

Pre-Primary 1	Heidi Walker & Sara Williams (Thurs)
Pre-Primary 2	Caroline Foster & Sara Williams (Tues)
Year 1	Julie Atherton (Tues-Fri) & Cristina Hartley (Mon)
Year 1	Amy O'Grady
Year 1/2	Tegan Kirk (Tues-Fri) & Sue Turnbull (Mon)
Year 2	Mandy Thompson (Mon-Wed) & Sue Turnbull (Thurs- Fri)
Year 2	Sara Davies (Mon-Thurs) & Cristina Hartley (Fri)
Year 3	Kate Bench (Francis)
Year 3/4	Deidre Patterson
Year 4	Koby Taylor
Year 4/5	Alex Gibson
Year 5	Brett Marshall
Year 6	Sahra Miller
Year 6	Fuchsia Walz
Digital Technologies	Abbey Briggs
Performing Arts	Rebekah Jenkinson
Physical Education	Kylie Sheedy
Science	Melanie Attwood



Secondary

English	Thomas Jones & Megan Kremer
Mathematics	Minki Duvenage & Janene Wells
Science	Jennifer Townsend & Janene Wells
Humanities & Social Sciences	Siobhan Darcy & Megan Kremer

Health Education & Phys Ed

- Health
- Physical Education
- Physical Recreation
- Outdoor Education

Denise Duncan

- 7/8 WRAP Sport

Kylie Sheedy



Technologies

- Digital Technologies
- Woodwork & Metalwork
- Food & Textiles
- Catering
- Digital Media
- Agriculture
- STEM
- STEM Engineering

James Renner

Len Strother & James Renner

Anita Lloyd

Erin Cartledge

Jennifer Townsend & Megan Kremer

Megan Kremer, Erin Cartledge & James Renner

Len Strother



The Arts

- Visual Arts Hannah Ferguson
- Media Thomas Jones



Critical & Creative Thinking Siobhan Darcy, Megan Kremer & Hannah Ferguson

Study Skills Erin Cartledge

Mindful Education All Senior Campus staff.

Youth Emergency Services Jennifer Townsend

Young Innovators – Youth Club Fiona Hunter



Certificate Courses

- Cert I Workplace Skills Denise Duncan

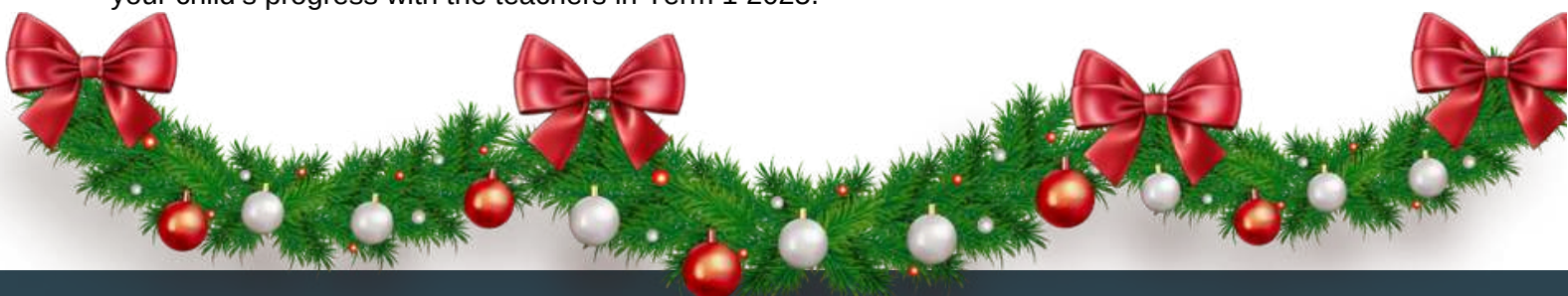
NB: Minor changes may occur in the event that personal circumstances with staff change over the holiday period.

Parents and carers can be reassured that the teachers and the leadership team give careful consideration to where students are placed. Please have confidence in our knowledge of the students and where we feel they are best placed to continue their academic, behavioural and social and emotional growth. If you need to discuss 2025, please feel free to contact either myself or Fiona Hunter.

Semester 2 Reports

Semester 2 Reports will be emailed to parents and carers commencing Monday 9 December. Parents and carers who still require a paper copy, may telephone the Junior or Senior Campus Front Office and request a copy of their child's report to be sent home. Parents who have not provided an email address will be provided with a paper copy.

Please take the time to discuss the report with your child and if necessary arrange a time to discuss your child's progress with the teachers in Term 1 2025.





Lauren Brown
Deputy Principal

JUNIOR CAMPUS NEWS

Alex Gibson
Deputy Principal



Term 4 is always a busy one, with a wide range of activities taking place to extend and celebrate student learning.

In Week 6, Mrs Walz' Year 5/6 class became fashionistas as they showed off their recycled outfits at assembly. Their inspirations for their designs highlighted the importance of acting sustainably to reduce, reuse and recycle waste.



This term, students in Year 4 have been completing a novel study on the book *Wild Robot* written by Peter Brown. To celebrate their learning, 4AB/CH and 3/4EC went on an excursion to the Busselton Cinemas to watch the *Wild Robot* movie. Students demonstrated our CARE expectations throughout the excursion, making it a positive learning experience for everyone.

Mrs Sheedy and Mrs Duncan organised a fantastic swimming carnival where students from Year 4 to Year 10 strived to do their best, while demonstrating resilience and amazing sportsmanship. Students earned points for their factions for participating which has led to a very close race for our Faction Cup at the Week 9 assembly.

The school band performed at the Junior Campus in Week 7, highlighting the learning students have been doing in their Instrumental Music lessons. They have no doubt inspired our younger students to apply to learn a musical instrument when they get to Year 5 and Year 6.



Congratulations to students who have given speeches to become our Year 6 Student Leaders in Semester 1, 2025. We had a large number of students nominate for the role. It takes a lot of courage to speak in front of a crowd and the resilience they showed was commendable.

Focus: "We listen and follow instructions"

JUNIOR CAMPUS NEWS

We have had lots of transitions taking place across the school.

Our 2025 Kindergarten students and parents have spent time at the Kindergarten meeting their new teachers and enjoying a play with their new classmates.

Kindergarten students have been over to the Pre-Primary to familiarise themselves with their new classrooms and learn about Pre-Primary.

Year 6 students have enjoyed a transition day at the high school with positive feedback received from students. We wish the Year 6 students all the best in high school.



Pre-Primary students are scheduled to visit our Junior Cluster in Week 9 to help with their transition into Year 1.

We would like to thank students, parents, carers and staff for a fantastic year, and wish everyone a happy, safe and restful holidays.

Dental Van

Our van will be closing this Friday the 29th of November, it will potentially return to Donnybrook District High School - Junior Campus next term. In case of an emergency only, during the rest of the school term, parents can contact 0409 935 793 for assistance.

Kind regards,
Bridgetown Mobile Dental Therapy Centre
Dental Health Services
bridgetownmobile@health.wa.gov.au
nmhs.health.wa.gov.au

Focus:

“We show care for buildings, grounds & property.”

SENIOR CAMPUS NEWS

Fiona Hunter
Associate Principal



Welcome to the final edition of the Donnybrook District High School newsletter, and what an excellent year it has been.



It is with great excitement that Mrs Smedley and Mrs Kremer welcomed our Year 6 students to the Senior Campus. Throughout the day the students experienced lessons in Mathematics, Science and HaSS while learning to navigate around the school buildings. They had fun at recess and lunch before completing their normal option classes in the afternoon. We hope that the Year 6's enjoyed the day and felt welcome at our campus.

2024 has seen many successes across our Senior Campus. Every Friday afternoon our Year 9/10 students give back to the community via one of our specialist programs. Students choose to work on projects within the Youth Emergency Services Program (YES), Electric Vehicle (EV), Catering and Young Innovators Academy and commit themselves to developing the skills required to help them with their endeavours. These skills are the 'soft skills' many employers desire such as innovative thinking, problem solving, communication, teamwork, and adaptability.

The Youth Emergency Program (YES)

In the YES Program run by Mrs Townsend, in collaboration with the State Emergency Service students have learned about Bushfire Management, completed a First Aid Certificate and have proudly run our Remembrance Day Ceremony. Mrs Townsend is diligently working toward having this program endorsed by our School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) to allow students to gain recognition of their skills on their Year 11/12 WACE report.



Electric Vehicle (EV)

Mr Strother and his team of engineers and mechanics have worked tirelessly this year to build their fourth car for the EV Challenge 2024 Competition. This year, the students have performed very well, coming in 4th place in the junior event on the day. This is a yearlong challenge requiring the students to design, build and drive the vehicle they create. The problem-solving skills they learn are vast. During the build, the students' weld the framework, adjust the braking, conduct wheel alignments, add battery storage and design a car that will be light, fast and unstoppable. It is a huge credit to Mr Strother and their team that they have consistently performed highly in this challenge.

SENIOR CAMPUS NEWS

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT continued

Catering

Ms McKenna and Mrs Kelly have expertly guided the Year 9/10 catering students through the skills they need to develop recipes, knife skills and the hygiene and safety practices they need to operate in the world of hospitality. Some delicious and decorative delights have emerged from the hospitality room this year.



Young Innovators

The Young Innovators group supports the Manea Senior College Innovation Academy Project which began in 2023. The Donnybrook Youth Space program formed by the Donnybrook DHS Innovators group, has joined with the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup to create a Youth Space for our young people. The project has required the students to learn how to communicate their ideas in a commercial and local government space. They have learnt how to navigate the requirements of local government regulations, insurance, leasing requirements, and health and safety considerations when working with the public. It has been a challenging and rewarding experience. The Manea Senior College Innovation Academy competition drew to a close in September with the crowning of Donnybrook DHS Youth Space as the most innovative project. Considering they were competing against over fifty other students from six Senior High Schools, this is quite the achievement for our dedicated innovators.

We are looking forward to what 2025 will bring!





Megan Kremer
Deputy Principal

SENIOR CAMPUS NEWS



Rebecca Smedley
Deputy Principal

NAIDOC

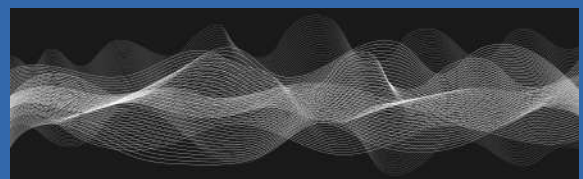
On November 11th and 12th, 2024, the Senior Campus hosted NAIDOC celebrations, marking a powerful and enriching two days of learning and connection. Students had the opportunity to engage in a range of activities, including craft sessions, quizzes, and face painting. A big thank you to Mrs. Mountford and Ms. T for their dedication and hard work in organizing this meaningful event.



Donnybrook Community Radio

Mr. Jones led the media students in creating interviews that explore issues affecting teenagers in the Donnybrook community, as well as the hopes and dreams of local students.

On 11 November 2024, the first of these student interviews aired on Donnybrook Community Radio. Be sure to stay tuned to the Donnybrook District High School Facebook page for updates on upcoming interview broadcasts.



EV Challenge

Get your motors running, get out on the highway! Earlier this month, Mr. Strother took the EV Team to the Wanneroo International Kartway with two electric vehicles, 'Pink Lady' and 'Bravo.' The team secured 4th place in the Junior Event. Despite facing some mechanical issues, Pink Lady powered through and crossed the finish line in the Senior Event. A big congratulations to Mr. Strother and the EV Team for their hard work and perseverance!



Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club is now open on the Senior Campus! Every Tuesday and Thursday, students are welcome to visit the canteen and enjoy a delicious breakfast. Spaghetti toasties and Milo are clear favourites among the students.



A Note from the Deputies

Ms Kremer

I am not saying goodbye to the DDHS Senior Campus, but I will be returning to a full-time teaching capacity next year. Firstly, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my Co-Deputy, Mrs. Smedley, and to Mrs. Hunter for the incredible support they have provided me in this role. My gratitude also goes to Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Cross, and Mrs. Payne for their guidance and advice on the workings of the Senior Campus, as well as to the teaching and support staff for being so welcoming and for the amazing work they do. We are truly fortunate to have a team that knows our students so well and consistently goes above and beyond to provide exceptional care, support, and learning opportunities.



To the students, thank you for making this one of the most memorable and enjoyable years of my teaching career. Moving to the Senior Campus to support our Year 7 students through their transition, and implementing a middle school model has been a hugely rewarding experience. Seeing the growth achieved by each student over the year has been a personal highlight, as has building relationships with students across Years 8–10.

Some other standout moments include Year 7 camp, our radio show, feeding the calves, participating in the Young Innovators days, and the various PBS activities throughout the year. Just quietly, I believe we've saved the best for last—I am really looking forward to our final Wednesday in Week 10!

To our Year 10 students and Year 9 students moving on, I wish you every success in your future endeavours. Aim for the stars! Lastly, I'd like to wish Mrs. Smedley all the best for her next chapter. She has been a fantastic addition to our team and leaves big shoes to fill.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next year and want to thank you all for your efforts in making this year such a success.

Mrs Smedley

As I say goodbye, I can't help but reflect on what an incredible journey this year has been. One of my proudest moments has been watching our Year 7 students transition into high school. I want to take a moment to acknowledge how incredibly proud I am of each one of you as you've transitioned into high school. Watching you grow in maturity, resilience and independence over the past year has been truly inspiring. You've embraced the challenges and opportunities that come with starting this new chapter, and it's been amazing to see how much you've accomplished already. Some of my personal highlights include attending camp and sharing in the fun of rafting and BMX riding. Those moments, full of laughter and teamwork, will always be some of my favourite memories. I've also enjoyed building meaningful relationships with both students and staff and celebrating success during PBS reward days. The joy of hearing those karaoke tunes blasting while students fully embraced the moment will stay with me forever.



They say that it's not the place you work, but the people you work with that make a job truly enjoyable. In my experience, that has always been true. This year, I've had the privilege of working alongside an incredible team of staff who go above and beyond every day for our students and for each other. Their dedication, support, and passion have fostered a positive and nurturing environment where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. I would like to thank the administration team for assisting in my transition to Donnybrook District High School and for the patience you have shown as I've adjusted to this new context. I'm especially grateful to Mrs. Hunter and Mr. Milne for their invaluable guidance and support throughout the year. Lastly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Mrs. Kremer for her unwavering support and collaboration this year. You are truly amazing, and your hard work and dedication have had such a positive impact on both students and staff alike. It has been a privilege to be part of such a wonderful community, and I'll cherish the memories we've made together. Thank you all for your support, your hard work, and for making this school such a special place.





Noongar Season
Kambarang
Noongar Word
of the Week
Noort
(Fly)

Wendy Mountford
Aboriginal Education Advisor



NAIDOC Celebrations

During the month of November, our whole school celebrated NAIDOC. The celebrations commenced at the Junior Campus with an 'On Country' gathering where we were welcomed to the area by 'JJ' Goodlad, an AIEO from Bunbury Senior High School, playing his didgeridoo. Miss T then addressed the gathering and introduced Ruby Martella and Owen Thompson who proudly sang 'Wanjoo' whilst playing their ukeleles.

We were also honoured by the presence of Mr Karim Khan, a very well-respected Aboriginal community member who gave a Welcome to Country and talked about the significance of NAIDOC, the theme; "Keep the Fire Burning-Blak, Loud and Proud" and officially opened the Junior Campus Yarning Circle.

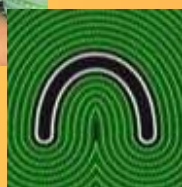
The Karaks (Red-Tailed Black Cockatoos) were watching over the crowd and calling their song as Karim performed a smoking ceremony in the Yarning Circle. The smoking ceremony is a traditional Noongar ritual used to not only cleanse and purify a specific area, but to also cleanse the spirit, body and soul whilst you are on Noongar Country. It helps to ward off warra wirrin - bad spirits and to bring in the kwop wirrin - good spirits. Our students and staff were led through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags into the Yarning Circle to walk through the smoke as part of this ritual.



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

The celebrations for Kindy and the Junior and Senior Campuses were held over three weeks. Miss T and Mrs Mountford thoroughly enjoyed engaging with our students in a range of cultural activities which included sand symbol art, school murals on canvases, Kaya bookmarks, symbol wood burning, weaving, storytelling, visiting the Yarning Circle, face painting and bead bracelets, both incorporating the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag colours for the designs.

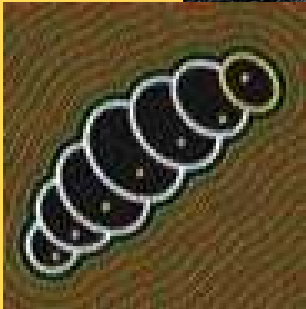
Our NAIDOC celebrations would not have been as successful and enjoyable without the help of parents, community and student helpers. Our school truly does appreciate your support! Yaangka, to all these wonderful people. Moorditj!



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION



Coping with End-of-Year Burnout and Christmas Stress

As the school year winds down, it's not uncommon to feel a little frazzled. Students, staff, and parents alike can find themselves juggling end-of-year events, reports, and planning for the festive season. It's an exciting time, but it can also be overwhelming.

The good news is, with a little care and preparation, we can reduce stress, avoid burnout, and embrace the joy of Christmas.

Here are some tips to help navigate this busy season:

- **Keep routines as consistent as possible:** While this time of year brings many disruptions, sticking to regular meal times, bedtimes, and family routines helps maintain stability for everyone, especially those children who get overwhelmed easily.
- **Prioritize self-care:** Remember, you can't pour from an empty cup. Take time to do something you enjoy, whether it's a walk in the park, reading a book, or catching up with a friend.
- **Set realistic expectations:** Not everything needs to be perfect. Focus on what truly matters to you and your family, and let go of the rest.
- **Teach gratitude and giving:** The Christmas season is a perfect time to teach children about the importance of kindness and thinking of others. Whether it's donating to a local charity or helping a neighbour, small acts of giving can shift the focus from stress to joy.
- **Acknowledge emotions:** It's okay to feel tired, stressed, or even a little down during this busy period. Talk about feelings openly with your children and encourage them to do the same.

Christmas doesn't need to be a source of stress. By focusing on what's truly meaningful—time with family, celebrating achievements, and finding moments of calm—we can enter the new year feeling refreshed and ready.

Here's to a peaceful and joyful Christmas season.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



YOU'RE INVITED TO

SIMPLY MAD

NOVEMBER 28TH
2024

UNDERCOVER AREA

5:30 PM - 7PM

10 BENTLEY STREET DONNYBROOK 6239

BRING A PLATE TO SHARE

**PERFORMANCES FROM OUR AMAZING
MUSIC STUDENTS AT DONNYBROOK**



P&C CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
FUNDRAISER

*Tis the season to be
gifting*

WE WOULD BE SO GRATEFUL
FOR ANY DONATIONS FOR
THIS YEAR'S RAFFLE

PLEASE DROP OFF ANY DONATIONS
TO THE JUNIOR CAMPUS OFFICE BY
29 NOVEMBER 2024

THE P&C INVITES YOU TO

Christmas
on the Green

FRIDAY 6 DEC 2024

BYO PICNIC DINNER
FOOD TRUCKS, SAUSAGE SIZZLE,
DJ CHRIS, MARKET STALLS, SANTA,
CHRISTMAS GAMES, CHRISTMAS
RAFFLE, ELECTRIC CAR DEMO

DDHS JUNIOR CAMPUS
WEAR YOUR FAVE CHRISSY OUTFIT
5 PM TO 7.30PM
ALCOHOL & SMOKE FREE EVENT

2024 CALENDAR - TERM 4



2024							Term Four	
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun	
8	25 Nov	26 Year 9 Maths Empowering Excursion Perth Yr 8,9 & 10 Dr YES Incursion	27 Year 6 Transition Day 2025 Year 6 Student Leadership Speeches EARLY CLOSE	28 Newsletter Board Meeting 4:30pm Simply MAD Concert	29 P&C-Crazy Hair Day Gold Coin Donation	30	1 Dec	
9	2 Dec Kindy 1 Celebration 9:00am	3 Kindy 2 Celebration 9:00am	4 Assembly 1JA/CH EARLY CLOSE	5	6 Year 10 End of Yr Excursion Year 6 Excursion & Lunch P&C: "A Christmas on the Green"	7	8	
10	9 Dec Kindy 1 Class Party Band set up and Pizza lunch - Hall	10 Kindy 2 Class Party Year 4-9 Presentation Assembly 9:30am Year 10 Graduation Evening 4:30pm & Cruise 6:30-8:30pm	11 Snr Campus PBS Rewards Day EARLY CLOSE	12 Students last day.	13 Teachers last day. School Development Day	14	15	
H	16 Dec	17	18	19	20	21	22	
H	23 Dec	24	25 Xmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	

Start and End of Term
Public Holidays
School Holidays (students)
School Development Days

2025 Calendar							Term One	
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun	
H	27 Jan Australia Day	28	29 School Officers return	30 School Administrators return	31	1 Feb	2	
1	3 Feb Teachers Return School Development Day	4 School Development Day	5 Students Resume EARLY CLOSE	6	7	8	9	
2	10 Feb	11	12 Year 10 Calling Ceremony 5pm-7pm -TBC	13	14	15	16	
3	17 Feb	18	19 Jnr Campus Assembly 9:00AM EARLY CLOSE	20	21	22	23	
4	24 Feb	25	26 EARLY CLOSE	27 Newsletter Board Meeting	28	1 Mar	2	
5	3 March Labour Day	4	8 EARLY CLOSE	6 SCHOOL PHOTO'S JNR CAMPUS	7 SCHOOL PHOTO'S SNR CAMPUS	8	9	
6	10 Mar	11	12 Jnr Campus Assembly NAPLAN Commences EARLY CLOSE	13 NAPLAN	14 NAPLAN	15	16	