

THE Davidson Dispatch



A community school, Davidson High School is committed to providing an inclusive educational environment that is supportive, innovative and engaging. We believe that by working strategically and collaboratively we will inspire and develop future focused students who are active and connected learners and critical and creative thinkers.

December 2018

2018 Comes to an End

Mrs Jann Pattinson, Principal

As we come to the end of another great year what better way to finish than some thoughts from Dr Seuss. Hopefully they reflect some of the lessons we've learnt this year.

1. I Can Read with My Eyes Shut

There are so many things you can learn about, but

You'll miss the best things if you keep your eyes shut.

Lesson learned: Be curious about the world around you, and never stop learning.

2. The Lorax

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,

Nothing is going to get better. It's not.

Lesson learned: Individuals can make a difference. But it starts with caring and taking responsibility.

3. Oh, the Places You'll Go!

You have brains in your head.

You have feet in your shoes.

You can steer yourself

Any direction you choose.

Lesson learned: You determine your own destiny.

4. One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish

If you never did

You should.

These things are fun.

And fun is good.

Lesson learned: Try new things! Have fun and enjoy life!

5. Today is gone.

Today was fun.

Tomorrow is another one.

Lesson learned: Tomorrow is a new day. Enjoy the present and look forward to the future.

6. Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

Think left and think right and think low and think high.

Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!

Lesson learned: You are capable of enormous creativity. Remember this if you're struggling with a problem, and keep at it!

7. Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are?

You oughta be thankful

A whole heaping lot

For the people and places

You're lucky you're not.

Lesson learned: Be grateful for what you have.

8. On Beyond Zebra

It's high time you were shown

That you really don't know

All there is to be known.

Lesson learned: No matter how much you think you know, there is always more to learn.

9. Yertle the Turtle

I know up on top you are seeing great sights,

But down here on the bottom,

We too should have rights.

Lesson learned: Everyone deserves equal rights.

10. The King's Stilts

And when they played they really PLAYED.

And when they worked they really

WORKED.

Lesson learned: Work hard at school, but take time to relax too!

Merry Christmas. Have a safe and happy holiday – see you in 2019



Diary Dates

DECEMBER

Monday 10

Davo's Got Talent

Wednesday 12

Presentation Night

Thursday 13

Y12 HSC results morning tea

Friday 14

Jake & Todd Improv. Cup

Tuesday 18

Y7 Moose League winners excursion

Wednesday 19

Last day for students

Thursday 20

Staff Development Day

Friday 21

Staff Development Day

Last day of term

JANUARY

Monday 28

Australia Day Holiday

Tuesday 29

Staff Development Day

Wednesday 30

Y7, 11 & 12 return

Y10 Mentors return

ICET Mentor day

Thursday 31

Y8, 9 & 10 return

FEBRUARY

Friday 1

SRC Welcome BBQ

Tuesday 13

Y12 High Achievers assembly

Thursday 14

Y7 Vaccinations

Wednesday 20 to Friday 22

Y7 Camp

Show Up

Mrs Jann Pattinson, Principal



Welcome to the friends and families of our Yr 10 Davidson High School students. Thank you for coming today to celebrate all that they have achieved in 2018. Today signifies an end of a chapter in their lives while they prepare themselves for the serious stuff - Yr 11 and Yr 12.

So as usual I have some advice for you. Today it's about how you might start your senior years in the best possible way.

1. Take a Stand and Be Your Own Brand

Just be you. As Dr Seuss would say "there is no one alive who is youer than you". You are an original, act like it. Don't ever try to change your values or your personality to match someone else's or to fit in. There is little value in being a copy, but an original is absolutely priceless.

2. Fake it until you make it

You might look around and think that everyone else has everything figured out, but they don't. They're faking it. Don't measure yourself by others. Tread your own path and figure it out as you go along. Never ever compare yourself to anyone else.

3. You are not weird

All people are quirky and complex. We're individuals in a collective. Whatever you think or experience in the next 2 years is not specific to you. Other people have been there, too. We are all normal in that we are all unique.

4. People Change - that's a given

You will outgrow people. They will outgrow you. It's okay. Some people are meant to stay lifetime friends but most aren't. You may find that your friendship groups move as you find different interests and you do different things - that's absolutely ok and to be expected.

5. Practice gratefulness

If you ever find yourself feeling down about something, start counting your blessings. It's all about your perspective. We too often focus on what we don't have rather than what we have. You'll be a much more content person if you focus on all the positives in your life.

7. Learn from failure

There will be times you get things right and there will be times when you get things wrong. It would be silly to continually make the same mistake – who does that? So make sure you learn from them.

8. Nurture a good work ethic

It will get you further than good looks or natural talent. We all have talents and potential. Some people adopt the attitude that they are unable to do the things they dream of. Others take what they have and use their potential to achieve great things.

9. Never just settle

If you want to get ahead in the senior school you simply can't just settle. You can't get 14 out of 20 and say that's good enough. You need to think how can I get 16 out of 20 next time. It's the small constant improvements which will lead to success. Don't settle for just doing ok - accept the challenge of personal best and achieve it.

10. Show Up

I'm a tennis fan and love going to Melbourne for the Australian Open. Venus Williams tells a story about a day when she was half-heartedly playing a doubles match with her sister Serena and they were in danger of losing.

Serena said, "Look Venus. No matter how you feel about your game, you have to show up at the court, right? You're here to play tennis, after all. But you do have a choice about whether you want to compete well or badly. I'm going to make the choice to compete well. What are you going to do?"

So next year show up and give your best effort every day.

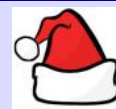
2019 is just around the corner - Don't overlook the opportunity to achieve something, don't be fearful, don't hold back. Give it all you've got and see what you can achieve.

Merry Xmas - have a safe and happy holiday



Deputy Principal's report

Mr David Rule, Deputy Principal



It is incredible to think that we are at the end of the year. Where did it all go?

2018 has been a resounding success in so many ways and has seen Davidson High School move forward in a very positive direction.

Our students have been a shining light this year at Davidson. I would need an entire dispatch to go through all that they have achieved and the enormous contributions they have made to our school and community.

I have always said that we have a wonderful comprehensive high school and as such all students have the opportunity to shine in their given area of interest.

To reflect upon the year would be to realise the success of our numerous sporting teams and individuals, ranging from school to state level. It would also be to see the amazing talent of our performing arts students and their results at SOPA, Eisteddfods and festivals. In addition, the wonderful success of our debating teams and public speakers. Finally it would be to recognise the industrious and highly motivated approach of students in their academic pursuits.

We all have our fingers crossed for Year 12 when their HSC results are made available this week and recognise those that have made it already to display

and performance invitations for the Visual and Performing Arts as well as Industrial Technology. I would like to thank the staff for a fulfilling year. So many give up their time beyond regular school hours to support students in their learning, provide extra curricula activities and ensure that students are happy and safe at school. The relationships they build with students and parents is at the centre of all success we have at Davidson.

There will be some new faces on staff next year in both a permanent and temporary capacity and I know they will bring enthusiasm and new ideas to our classrooms.

It will be a busy 2019 with the trialling of BYOD for years 10-12 as well as a new approach to uniform linked to our level system and blues points.

Plenty of information will be provided week one regarding these things.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday period. Students and staff have earned a good break and I trust everyone will take this opportunity to refresh and find a new focus for 2019

Merry Christmas

Recognising Achievements



Jonny England - Year 8

Junior Secondary Band Top Musician 2018

Jonny England was awarded the Junior Secondary Band Top Musician 2018 Award at the end of year Arts Alive Combined School Band performance. This is as a result of his positive attitude and enthusiasm, musicality and commitment to constantly improving. He is awarded a scholarship to participate in 2019 Arts Alive band for free.

The Arts Alive Combined Schools Band Program provides maximum opportunity for training and

performance of the highest quality for young aspiring instrumentalists from government schools. You have to audition to be accepted into the program.

Students perform at the highest level achieving an outstanding level of performance, musicianship and technique.

Well done Jonny - what a great accomplishment.



Recognising Achievements



Kayleigh van Kempen - Year 7

Royal Ballet School

Kayleigh has been accepted into the Royal Ballet intensive in Hong Kong.

This is an amazing achievement and opportunity because aspiring ballerinas from all over the world can apply and from the UK alone, they get over 20,000 applicants a year and no more than 150 from all over the world in total have been chosen to go.

It's also an opportunity to get selected to go study full time in England at the Royal Ballet School.



Kayleigh studies dance at Classical Ballet 121 for approximately 25 hours per week and works collaboratively with Davidson High School as a means of concentrating on her academic levels.

Classical Ballet 121 offers her the time to study with other full time ballerinas during the 2 days that she can't attend Davidson and the teachers at school are always helpful.

Well done Kayleigh.

Jessica Thompson - Year 10

2018 Young Australian Art Award

Jess submitted two entries into the Young Australian Art Awards in two different categories.

Her portrait, 'Amber', won in its category, while Jess' artwork, 'Into Focus', was awarded a Gold Medal and was runner-up in a different section.



You are amazing and continually surprise us with your talent, Jess.

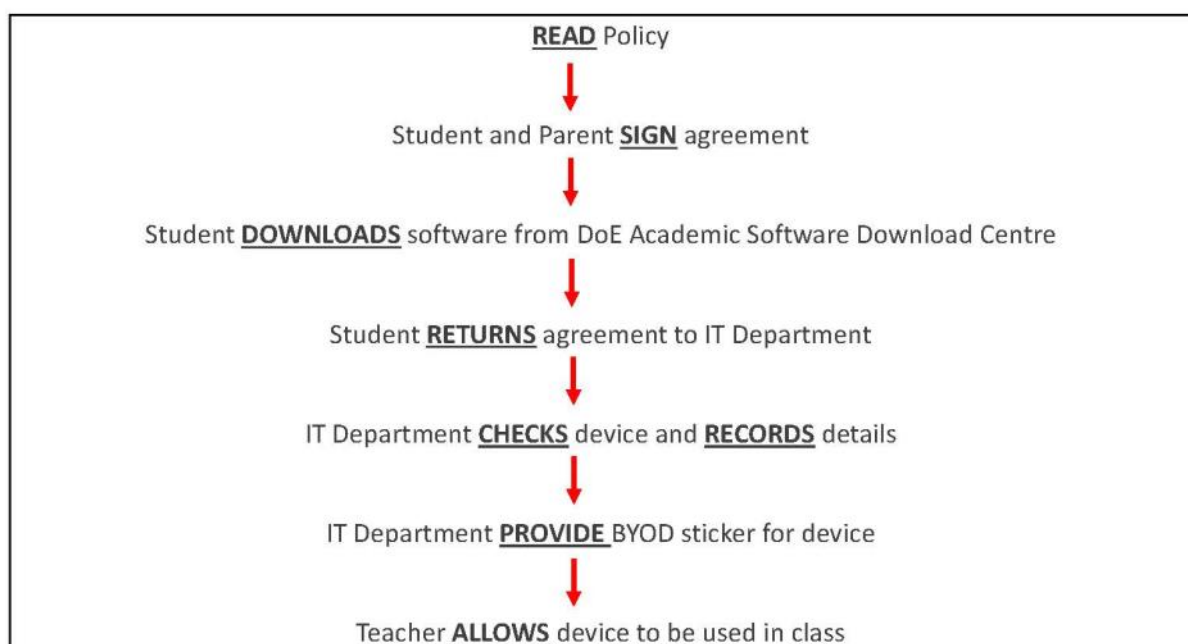
Congratulations Jess.



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

The Davidson High School Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program will be introduced to Year 10-12 students in 2019.

In order for students to be permitted to use their own device at school, they need to read the policy, sign the agreement and return it to school. A sticker will be issued that allows teachers to easily identify that the device meets the school requirements and is permitted to be used in the classroom.



The BYOD policy and agreement were handed out at the parent information evening and emailed home. There are hard copies available in the front office.

In order to decide on the most appropriate device, you can:

- use currently owned device (if it meets the required specifications)
- purchase a device from the parent purchase portal (a school collaboration with HP) www.hpshopping.com.au/davidsonbyod
- purchase own device independently (using the guidelines on the specifications sheet)
- borrow a device from the school which will involve an annual hire fee- this option is for day use only and subject to availability
- provide no device which will mean that a device may be provided by the teacher if available in the class per lesson

If you have any questions related to the introduction of BYOD at Davidson HS, please contact Mrs Martin on 9451 0022 or email alexia.martin@det.nsw.edu.au



A Robotics class is being offered to the Year 9 students of Davidson High School.

Automation and the Job Market

- The digital revolution and the rise of automation is having a profound and disruptive impact on Australia's workplace
- Over the last 20 years, we have lost more than 1 million lower-skilled jobs in manufacturing, administration and labouring
- In the next 20 years, 44 per cent of Australian jobs are at risk of computerisation and automation (CSIRO)

Will Humans be replaced?

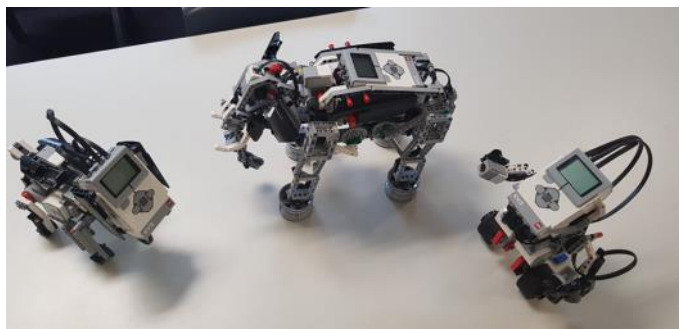
- People have intentionality – we form plans and make decisions in complex situations. We are less good at making sense of enormous amounts of data
- Computers are the opposite – they excel at efficient data processing, but they struggle to make basic judgements that would be simple for any human
- Complementarity between humans and computers is the path to building the best businesses and solving many of the world's problems
- Better technology will not replace all workers – it will allow them to do more

Changing Work Task

- The skills required of today's workforce are changing dramatically
- Since 1980, there has been a rapid increase in the need for cognitive, analytic and interpersonal tasks
- These skills directly correspond to computational thinking, innovation and creativity skills

In the Robotics class, students learn how to program a number of different robots, including the Lego EV3 and Spheros. LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3, students can program and command LEGO robots both physically and in the virtual world to complete challenges.

C programming language is used as it is a very powerful and widely used language. It is used in many scientific programming situations. It forms (or is the basis for) the core of the modern languages **Java** and **C++**. It provides you access to the bare bones of your computer.





Thank you to all the Eco Club students this year who have made our **15th year** such a successful one.

From the Easter Bake sale, to gardening and harvesting our produce every Thursday, to our major Green Day celebration, it has been a busy and eventful year.

Davidson High School celebrated **Green Day** with a theme of **Reef Relief- Sea the difference** aiming to focus on the plight of the world heritage site, the Great Barrier Reef. These events raise valuable funds for important organisations, causes and our garden.

The Eco Garden which has produced many wonderful vegetables and fruits over the year would not be functioning without the amazing help of Gail Phillips, Graham Johnson and Graeme Geddes.

Thank you for all your support this year; it has been very much appreciated by the Eco Club members and me.

The Science staff as well have always been backing our efforts and assisting us on our path this year, so thank you.

To all the Davidson Staff, Students and Community, thank you for supporting the Eco Club and the environment throughout the year.

GARIGAL LANDCARE

by Heather Maddock, Year 9

Garigal Landcare, run by Conny Harris, is a volunteering organisation, which works on parcels of bushland so they can “regenerate” or rid the land of harmful weeds.

I take part in this team of volunteers and it is not only fun, but also a great way to socialise and learn about the bush. Landcare is not all strenuous or hard work, it is actually quite pleasurable and relaxing.

Landcare is not just about learning about new plants but it is also a great place to connect with the community. Usually there are about five people who come to Landcare, all from different parts of the community. We start at 8:00am on Sundays at our

new plot of land at Oxford Falls, which we have been working on for about twenty weeks. Although we have been working hard on this area, it is full of weeds! Weeds are not the only work; rubbish is plentiful in this area too, like most areas that humans occupy. It is so sad that even though we live in one of the luckiest places on earth, we take it for granted.



A few weeks ago I found some tiny footprints in the mud, we think it was a bush rat. I also spotted a tiny rare bird called the spotted pardalote pulling some bark off a stringy bark tree for a nest; it was amazing. The last couple of weeks we found diamond pythons and one of them I found was so cute.



I encourage you to take part in the community through Landcare. It is a great experience and not only is it fun, it is also volunteering for the community. So get off your device and do something productive, you'll be glad you did. ***Make a difference in your community.***

If you are interested in joining us, call Conny on 0432 643-295 or talk to me at school; you can find me at Eco Club on a Thursday lunch.

Invictus Games - Year 9 & 10 PASS



On the 25th October, the Year 9 & Year 10 PASS classes went to the Invictus Games out at Sydney Olympic Park.

The Invictus Games are the games for war veterans from all different countries around the world.

For the day, we were split into our Year groups. The Year 10s went and listened to an inspirational speaker talk about his Invictus Games story. The Year 9s went to watch the athletics. We watched discus, shot put and javelin, which was incredible. However, the highlight was when we were at the athletics watching the 200m sprints. They raced in their respective groups to accommodate for their different needs, such as a limb injury or an amputation. It was so inspiring to watch these men and women run as they have gone through things that most of us will never experience in our lives. It showed us how much resilience and determination people have and showed us that you can do and be anything if you have the right mindset.



After lunch, Year 10s watched the athletics and Year 9 did a robotics workshop. In the workshop we had to create a bionic hand out of crafty materials that could pick up a range of different objects. It was interesting to see all the different designs and watching everyone working together and helping each other. It was an enjoyable day that I think everyone benefited from attending.



Work Studies - Year 11

Mrs Michelle Garden



Students held a Skills Expo to show off a skill that they had acquired. They were required to make a display, a pamphlet and a poster or digital presentation. Subjects ranged from art, skills playing soccer, baking chocolate brownies, design, baking and decorating cupcakes, building forts and skills for exchange students to name a few.

Thank you to the teachers and students who viewed the expo and asked questions of the presenters.



Work Studies students have also had a very successful year running the **"Faz and Friends Café"** on a Friday selling to staff and senior students. Students have been barista trained to make coffees but also on the menu are hot chocolates, freshly baked choc chip cookies, caramel slice, and chocolate brownies and now that summer is approaching there are a variety of milkshakes and smoothies.





I am so pleased to announce that two of our HSC Multimedia students were nominated by NESA itinerant markers for "InTech."

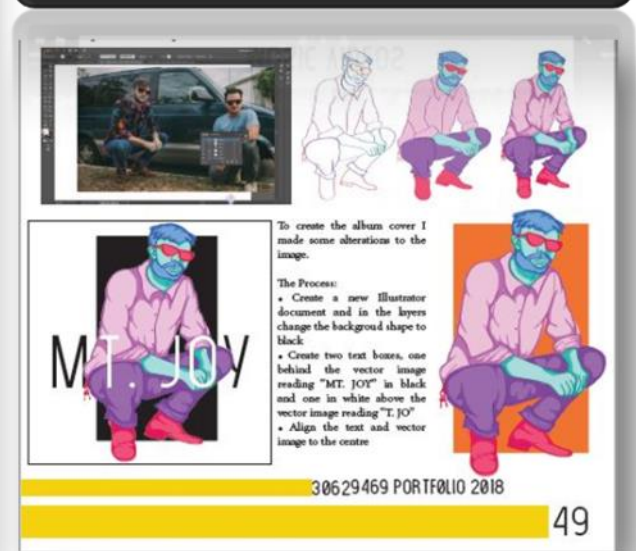
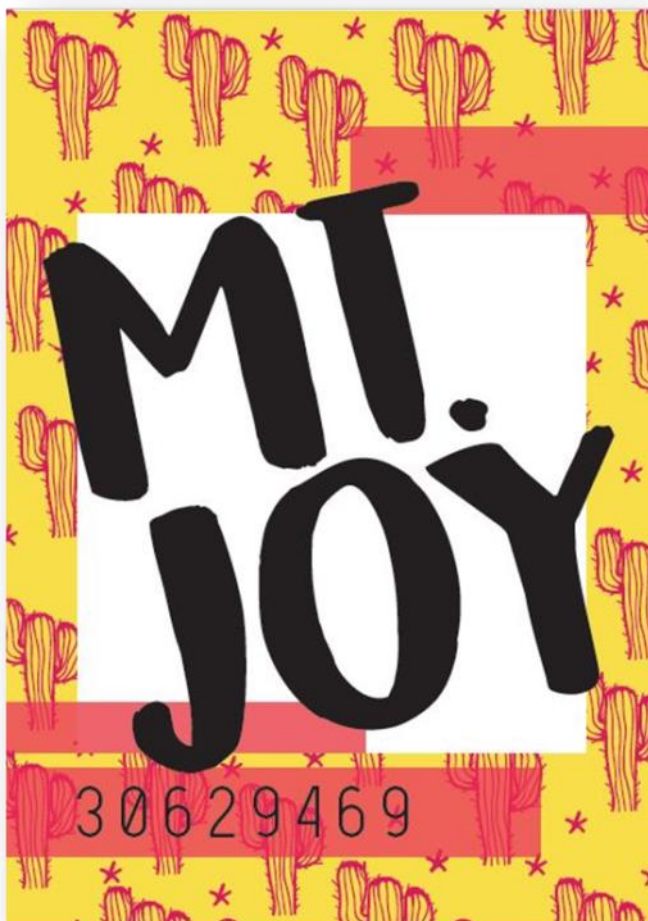
Ellen Lewis and Amy Holland worked so hard throughout the year to produce outstanding, industry standard work. I would also like to acknowledge the notable work of Riley O'Toole. His film was sophisticated and executed extremely well.

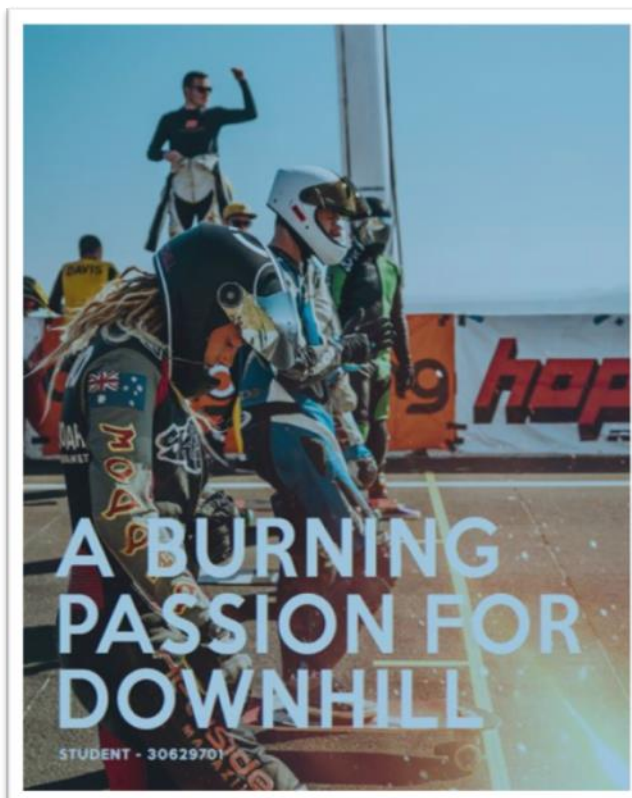
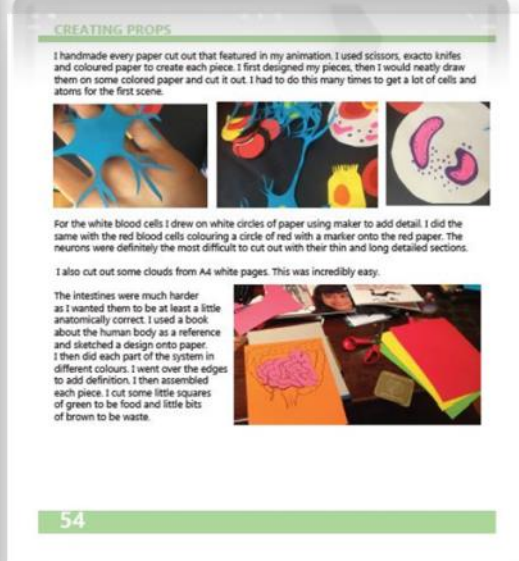
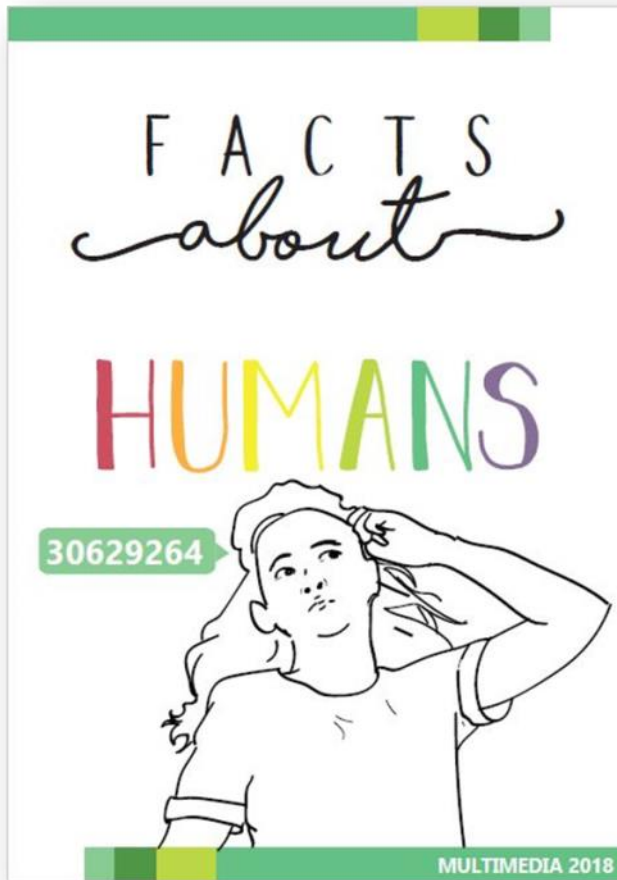
InTech is an exhibition of outstanding Major Projects from HSC Industrial Technology students at the Powerhouse Museum. The exhibition covers all Industrial Technology focus areas – Timber Products and Furniture, Automotive, Electronics, Graphics, Metal and Engineering, and Multimedia. The

exhibition includes students' folios that document the design, management, communication and production of their projects.

I have included some screen shots of their work but I encourage Davidson students with an interest in the field to view these works and their portfolio in their entirety. Well done Ellen, Amy and Riley. I am a very proud teacher.

"Mt Joy"-by Ellen Lewis, "Facts About Humans"-by Amy Holland, "Burning Passion for Downhill" by Riley O'Toole





Chess

Mr Graham Geddes



Our fifth annual Chess Championship attracted 15 players with Sophie Warrington from Year 8 being crowned 2018 Champion. Toby Paull was runner up and Jayden Tran third.



After dominating the competition for the first four years, Barr Peres' graduation from Year 12 opened the door to a new generation of players.

Games were played over 20 minutes with each player given 10 minutes to complete their moves or risk losing should their clock run out of time. This allowed 7 rounds of competition with the final points score tabled.

Games were closely fought with all players winning and losing at least one game during the day.

Place	Name	Age	Sex	Score	1st Match	2nd	3rd
1	Warrington, Sophie	8	8	6	21.0	30.0	27.0
2	Paull, Toby	8	8	5.5	19.5	26.0	20.5
3	Tran, Jayden	10	10	5	21.0	29.0	21.0
4-5	Wrigley, Winona	8	8	391	4.5	20.5	28.5
	Beck, Lachlan	10	10	4.5	17.5	24.5	18.0
6-7	Hayward, Joel	10	10	4	16.5	22.5	15.0
	Chang, Steven	8	8	4	15.5	22.0	14.0
8-9	Familton, Caleb	8	8	3.5	23.5	30.0	17.0
	Pierce, Kai	10	10	3.5	18.5	26.5	15.0
10-13	Pietsch, Caleb	9	9	3	18.0	24.0	13.0
	Jackson, Kevinn	8	8	3	16.0	23.0	11.0
	Pierce, Maia	8	8	3	16.0	22.0	10.0
	Hutchison, Lukas	10	10	3	15.0	21.0	11.0
14	Draeger, Hugo	8	8	2	15.0	20.5	7.0
15	Kirkpatrick, Izaak	10	10	1.5	17.5	24.5	7.5



A pizza lunch and refreshments were welcomed after the tournament by our cerebral athletes and congratulations go to all competitors for their quick wits, fair play and congenial attitudes.





Northern Beaches Council Odawara Student Exchange Program

Japan was the most incredible experience I have had. If I had to choose, my favourite parts they were Mt Fuji, Saijoji temple and the Ice Caves.

On the weekend of our trip, we had a day to spend with our host family. My host family took me to Mt Fuji, which was a two-hour drive from Odawara, and the Ice caves were just five minutes away from Mt Fuji. Mt Fuji is huge, even covered by clouds. We drove up to the base camp where the track to the summit begins, but we did not walk up because the track is only open in summer. We then drove (while watching Japanese anime *Spirited Away* in the car TV,) to the ice caves. We had to wear hard hats and it was below freezing in the caves (even though it was about 30 degrees outside).



Lastly, the Saijoji temple was on one of our final days in Japan and of course, it was the best. It was like being in a Japanese anime film and there were colossal trees everywhere, many dragons too. My experience in Japan was amazing.

By Heather Maddock (Year 9)

One of the things my homestay exchange student (Shunya) asked me was is there anything in Japan that I found unusual. I replied that the number of vending machines surprised me! You could walk past at least five of them in a 10-minute walk. It was always very tempting to buy something from a vending machine like a bottle of green tea. You could also find cans of iced coffee.

I saw a lot of cube shaped cars called box cars. These cars tessellate easier into small parking places. The reason for this is because Japan is a very small country with an incredibly large population and it is very hard to find or own a parking space. I found it interesting that sometimes Japan seemed like Australia and sometimes it was so different.

My homestay family took me to fast food restaurant called Mosburger. I had a teriyaki burger. It was beyond delicious!

I could talk about my trip to Japan for a long time but these are just a few memories. I am very grateful to my Japanese teacher for encouraging me to be part of this exchange.

By Caleb Pietsch (Year 9)

Odawara was the perfect place for this exchange program. The city is very rich with nature, is calm and relaxing and has many great attractions.

Everything about Odawara captivated me and made me feel at ease. I really enjoyed the school visits.

We were extremely lucky to be able to watch and perform with the *wadaiko* (Japanese traditional



drumming) club students. Their performance really blew all our minds! Their energy radiated off them when they played. It was a real privilege to practise with them, as most students at the school are not able to practise with the real drums.

We also visited Kataura Primary School (a small school close to the coast). Visiting the Kataura primary school was such a fun day. We were with the kids, and did many activities with them. We also had *kyūshoku* (Japanese school lunch). I was amazed as it was very different from Australian primary schools where you bring your own lunch.



In Japan, they made the lunch at school and students served food to their classmates. Lunch consisted of curry, rice, salad, jelly and milk.

We also played many games with the year groups and had a very fun time. The whole program was so memorable and truly an unforgettable experience to all of us. I am so grateful to the chaperones and Northern Beaches Council who organised the trip for us and made each day so enjoyable, I have made many special memories and lifelong friends during the 2 weeks. I was given the chance to get out of my comfort zone and become more confident. Odawara will always remain as a special place to all of us.

By Olivia Clayton (Year 9)



Northern Beaches Council Odawara Student Exchange Program con't

Japan was even better then I imagined it to be.

We stayed in Odawara with our host families and did different cultural activities each day.

Some of my favourite experiences in Japan was spending time with my host family and having a delicious BBQ next to the beach.

On the first family day, my host family and I went to a high ropes course and enjoyed delicious *ramen* (noodles in broth) in the center of Odawara.

The next family day, we visited Tokyo on the bullet train and went to Harajuku a famous and trendy part of Tokyo. Harajuku was so busy and was filled with colourful lights, shops and different rainbow food. My host sister and I enjoyed lunch and had rainbow ice cream for dessert.

I really enjoyed spending time and bonding with my host family.

On the Sunday, everyone went to the beach for a BBQ. It was a lovely time as we enjoyed time with our families and our students. We had a great Japanese BBQ lunch and played some games by the beach. Japan was amazing and I definitely want to go back in the future!

By Laura Brownlee (Year 9)

Farewell ICET Class of 2018

Year 9 Japanese said goodbye to our ICET friends with a breakfast in week 8. The ICET students have become such a part of our school and many friendships were made during our combined lessons with elective Japanese classes and through the URA Forum. We wish them all a safe trip back to Japan. Good luck with your final year of high school next year. We will miss you.



Congratulations to Year 12 Languages, class of 2018

Congratulations to students in Year 12 French Beginners and Year 12 Japanese Continuers for successfully completing their HSC examinations. We wish you the best in your future work and studies.

Merci, grazie & arigato!

This brings us to the end of another action packed year of language learning at Davidson High. We would like to thank all the parents for your help and support over the year and look forward to working with your children next year. In particular, we look forward to meeting this year's Year 7 students who will be coming into Year 8 Languages (Italian or Japanese).

We wish you a safe and relaxing holiday. *Joyeux Noel, Buon Natale & メリークリスマス!*



Battle of the Sexes 2018

Mr Graham Geddes, Maths



The photos tell the story and for the third year running the GIRLS are the Year 8 Mathematics 'Battle of the Sexes' Champions!

Following their sisters' wins in 2016 (6 to 5) and 2017 (6 to 2), this year's team won a hard fought competition 6 to 4 in the best of 11 matches, against a brave but ultimately out-enthused Boys' team.

Flying the female flag this year were Gemma Collett, Evie Latner, Jessica Bryant, Sakura Brennan, Sophie Warrington, Coco Chen, Kate Gibson, Emma Playle, Matilda Sutton, Chloe Tuxford, Liv Wishart, Stephanie Benn and Jessica Bull.

Congratulations to our talented mathematician girls on your third title in 3 years!



Rotary Corner

Kos Psaltis, Youth Service Director, Rotary Club of Belrose



In early February 2019, 3 current Year 9 Davidson students, Jai Slater, Heather Maddock and Sally Young, will be sponsored by Belrose Rotary to attend RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment). This summer camp is a weekend residential experience for youth aged 14-16 years designed to develop skills that will assist them in the transition to adulthood. As is usual, the 3 students will attend one of our meetings before and also after the event to tell us about their expectations and then their experiences.

In May 2019, we are planning to repeat our Rock n Roll Night at the Davidson High School MPC. At our first one this year, Davidson High musician, Liam Smith, performed as part of the support band. Liam,

of course, is one of a number of Davidson students who will perform at The Schools Spectacular. We would like to make this event even bigger and attract and involve Davidson High families. The main band, Backbeat, will again feature former Davidson High parent, David Jack.

Our membership drive has been very successful so I encourage any parent interested to see what we do to give me a call on 0402 205 628.

Kos Psaltis
Belrose Rotary
Youth Service Director

Learning and Support

Leanne Tosi and Di Bligh, Learning and Support Teachers



HSC Disability Provision 2019

If your child is requiring Disability Provisions in the written HSC exams, please call Learning Support or make an appointment for you and your child to discuss their options.

Meetings can be organised through emailing Leanne.Tosi@det.nsw.edu.au, Dianne.Kidd@det.nsw.edu.au or contacting Learning Support via the school at 9451 0022.

In this meeting, the following will be discussed:

- Provisions suitable for your child's needs (for both HSC and prior school-based exams)
- The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA – previously BOSTES) application process
- Supporting Documentation required
- Important dates/deadlines

As the deadline for applications to NESA is strictly the end of Term 1 2019, we will require all your documentation **by Friday 8th March**. This is due to the process of collating and submitting the application to NESA, who will not accept late applications.

As NESA requires recent medical documentation, we strongly suggest you schedule the relevant appointments with health practitioners prior to Term 1 starting.

If you have any questions, please contact Learning Support via the school: **(02) 9451 0022** or via email: Leanne.Tosi@det.nsw.edu.au or Dianne.Kidd@det.nsw.edu.au.

P & C

Gail Phillips, Secretary



The P&C would like to thank everyone who attended the Trivia Night on October 27, 2018. Your feedback about the event has been positive and encouraging. It had been a long time since the P&C held such an event and we all had to work hard to put it together in a short lead-in time of just eight weeks.

The P & C thank the following businesses who made generous donations contributing to the success of the night:

Four Seasons Nursery Belrose

Imbue Café Davison

Blends Café Forestway Shopping Centre

Jenny Lemon Pharmacy Forestway Shopping Centre

Belrose Chemist Glenrose

Healthy Life Glenrose

Jourdan Fashions Glenrose

Palms Spa Glenrose

Topaz Rose Reiki Healing

Jo Ashman Interior Design Frenchs Forest

Krinklewood Biodynamic Wines Hunter Valley

Chilli House Frenchs Forest

McDonalds Beacon Hill

Chargrill Charlie's Forestway Shopping Centre

Wholey Mackerel Seafoods Forestway Shopping Centre

Forestway Optometry Glenrose

Hello World Travel & Cruise Belrose Glenrose

Stella Blu Glenrose

The Honest Chicken Glenrose

Woolworths Glenrose

Monash Country Club Ingleside

Tranquil Vale Vineyard Hunter Valley

The P & C hopes to hold another such event in 2019 and would love more members of the school community to be involved.

We have had our last meeting for 2018 but would welcome you to our first meeting of the year on **Tuesday February 26, 2019** at 7.30 pm in the main staffroom.



Almost Goodbye

Sadly, it is that time of year when we say goodbye to the ICET students. They are winding down from their year in Australia and preparing to return home. Their year in Australia has been full of triumphs and tribulations, all of which will be memorable and stay with them forever.

When the students arrived in January, the end of the year seemed like a distant and never-ending horizon. It is now a sudden reality, leaving many excited but anxious about returning home.

Their experiences in Australia and at Davidson are unique. It is more than just learning English and completing elective assignments. It has been about immersion, friendship, maturing and independence; skills learnt outside the classroom.

In many ways, Japan and Australia couldn't be more opposite. In Australia, a train is considered on time if it arrives within 5 minutes after it is due. In Japan, a train is late after 1 minute. Timing is impeccable and even buses run to a strict timetable (irrelevant to traffic). Students are not late due to a late bus! Schools also run to impeccable timing and regimentation. Student responsibilities and expectations are clearly described with no grey areas for misunderstandings. This not only includes uniform, but hairstyles and how to greet a teacher. Students also clean the classrooms, the toilets and the school yard daily. There are no cleaners at school. This is their responsibility. Students have clear requirements about what should be done, when and where. There is no bending of the rule or grey areas'.

Coming from the structures of Japan, Australia seems chaotic. In an Australian classroom, students are free to express their ideas or take an alternative approach to a task. They sit on sofas (in some classes) or even on the floor. It is a common sight to see various groups of students doing varying tasks within one lesson to achieve one learning outcome. This is unheard of in Japan. A teacher is at the front of the class. Students rarely ask questions or seek clarification. Relationships are also different. The teacher is always spoken to formally. Questions in class are not asked; they are a disturbance. Compared to Australia, the classroom is an opposite, parallel world.

These Australian structures are what confuse the Japanese students the most. How can we learn in a class where everyone seems to be talking? What is 'responsibility' when we all have our own view of what to do? What is *the* rule? These are some questions the students query and ponder all year.

This is why the year in Australia is so unique for them. While experiencing individualism, they also learn about respect for self and others, responsibility and self-reliance. These things cannot be explicitly taught, but experienced.

So, while it is sad to almost say goodbye, this is a happy time as the 20 ICET students will be returning to Japan with a three dimensional view of the world - a view that they will pass on to others. For this, they are truly thankful.



We would like to say goodbye to the following students:

Seika Adachi	Tomoki Ko	Haruki Miyake	Aoi Omori	Minami Iga
Raiki Arata	Taiki Kobayashi	Haruka Moriya	Hiromu Oshima	Rina Miyaji
Saki Endo	Momoka Masaki	Yuna Munemoto	Kosei Shirahata	Ryushi Nakanishi
Mau Hanada	Soma Masuyoshi	Hina Murakami	Hibari Takeuchi	Hinako Watanabe

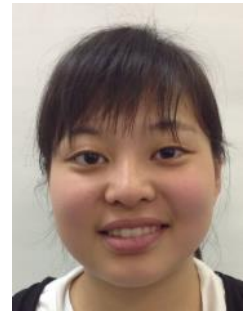


On Saturday, I went to Palm Beach with my friends. I've always wanted to go there because it is the shooting location of Home and Away.

I always watch Home and Away with my host mother who told me about it. At Palm Beach, we went to a café and ate lunch. I ate a bacon and egg roll and drank a banana smoothie. Both were very delicious! So, I want to go again to Palm Beach before I go back to Japan.

I had seen this café's appearance on Home and Away so I was very excited and I took a picture. After lunch we went to the beach which had a very beautiful view but the sea was rough so I was a little bit scared. However, I was very excited to body surfing.

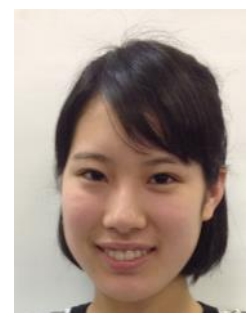
After swimming we had a problem. We took a shower but my friend Rina stepped on a dying bee on the ground. The bee stung her under her foot and she said it was very painful so we were upset. We asked the lifesaver for help. He said the stinger had been removed so we were relieved. She couldn't walk very well because of the pain so we were helped her. Even though we had some problems, I still had a great day! I wish I had known about Palm Beach earlier.



Haruka Morikawa



I only have about a month left before leaving here which makes me sad. I went through a lot, but I had a lot of fun as well. Studying in Australia was not as easy as I expected. I have actually wanted study abroad somewhere since I was little. However, in Australia I had a lot of hardships. For instance, it was hard to get use to English especially in elective classes. It was also hard to get use to it because some students have a strong Australian accent. However, while I was learning English by speaking in Australia, I got used to it little by little. In addition, taking a class with Davidson students made me really nervous. However, since a lot of students have talked to me, I got used to elective classes. We all had an amazing time thanks to everyone. Everyone was very nice to the ICET students.



Hina Murakami

I was actually surprised by the way to take a class in Australia. For instance, most students would proactively start their work and allow listening. I was shocked which made me excited to take the class. Everything made me surprised and interested because we have no opportunity to do elective class such as drama, multimedia and timber in Japan. We have learnt a lot of interesting things. So, I would like to say thanks to everyone who took care of us. I also would like to thank to all the students who were good friends with the ICET students.

I think there are two main advantages to studying abroad in Australia: feeling closer to people from different cultures and improving English skills. Although we can easily garner information about foreign cultures on TV and the internet in Japan, we do not actually experience it, so I think we do not receive the proper insight.



Hinako Watanabe

When I came to Australia, I was surprised about the differences in greeting. Obviously greeting someone in Japan is as straightforward as a bow or a handshake. However, with people from other backgrounds this was different. From television and the Internet, I knew that people overseas were very friendly but I thought that this was exaggerated. However, I realized this was true when I met my host mother for the first time. I shared a hug with her as soon as we met and I surprised myself, yet I was so happy that I was immediately able to feel closer to someone from a different culture.

Before coming here, I was not confident with my English skills so I was very worried about my home stay family and my school life in Australia. I also had thought that when people study in an English speaking country, they can automatically learn English without much effort. But after entering my Australian high school, I understood that if I did not start using English, nothing would change, so I was confronted with a new reality. Therefore, I would use English daily to improve my speaking and listening skills. Studying abroad provides the environment to use English but I think students must work hard to improve. This is the most important point to remember.

Besides improving language skills, learning in a foreign country can encourage personal growth, more so than living a normal life in Japan. The big thing that's changed for me is learning to be independent from my parents. Before I came here, I couldn't do anything by myself because I was always helped by my parents. In my last month in Japan, I tried to help with lots of housework and I tried to do it all by myself. But when I came here, I learned that I couldn't do anything! However, after almost one year away, I have learned to efficiently help out with many chores such as cutting vegetables. If I did not study abroad, I still mightn't be able to do anything. I feel that I have grown up.

As a final thought, I would like to say that I really appreciate all of the people who supported me this year. Thank you so much.

