

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.

Lucinda Mastio Year 9



November 2018

Be Grateful

Mrs Jann Pattinson, Principal



Be Grateful for the People in Your Life.
Be Mindful of Yourself and the People in Your Life
Be Kind to the People in Your Life

We recently had the Resilience Project active in our school for students, parents and staff. The message they had for all of us was simple and clear – be grateful for what we have and focus on that, rather than all we don't have.

Take this quiz:

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five School Captains.
3. Name the last five winners of the Melbourne Cup.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor /actress.
6. Name the last decade's Tour De France winners.
7. Name 5 world leaders?

How did you do?

Are these people really important to you? These are high achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are lost in a cupboard somewhere.



Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who have helped you with your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped and supported you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel, appreciated and valued.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
6. Name 3 people whose stories have inspired you.
7. Think of a kind act that has been done for you.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care. Take the time to acknowledge the people who support you and make a difference in your life on a daily basis.

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

Thursday 18 - Tuesday 6 Nov

HSC Exams

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 7 - Friday 9

Y10 Exams

Y9 Camp

Wednesday 7

School Spec Dance rehearsal

Thursday 8

Y7 Vaccinations

Tuesday 13

Chess Competition

Wednesday 14

School Spec combined Choir rehearsal

Thursday 15

School Spec combined Dance rehearsal

Friday 16

ICET last elective class

Monday 19 - Friday 23

ICET to Cairns

Tuesday 20

Y7 Swim School

Wednesday 21

Y12 Graduation & Formal
School Spec Combined Choir rehearsal

Thursday 22

Y7 Swim School

School Spec Dress rehearsal

Friday 23

School Spec Performance

Monday 26

Sport Selections

Tuesday 27

Y7 Swim School

P & C Meeting

Dance, Band & Vocals Night

Thursday 29

Y7 Swim School

DECEMBER

Monday 3

Junior Cricket in Manly Shield
appeal

Tuesday 4

Y7 Swim School

Y9&10 Music Night

Y6 Orientation Day

Deputy Principal's report

Mrs Alexia Martin Deputy Principal

Year 12 have almost finished their final HSC exams and are now looking forward to their graduation and formal on 21 November. Congratulations to all Year 12 parents for surviving the experience and I hope you have a well-deserved break, as it can be just as stressful on families as it is on the students. All the teachers are looking forward with anticipation to seeing Year 12 on Thursday 13 December to celebrate the release of the HSC results. I am sure that their results will reflect their effort over the year and provide them with the stepping stone they need to move to their post-secondary school lives; whether that be university, TAFE, apprenticeship, job or travel.

Year 11 have now stepped up to take on the role of the most senior students in the school as they begin their HSC journey. With this comes a number of responsibilities which are also supported by a range of privileges. Students need to return their Year 12 agreement or they will not be entitled to the privileges outlined such as an ongoing gate pass for blocks of time during the day that may not have any scheduled classes. As regularly mentioned, the uniform is valued in the school and so Year 12 jerseys will not be issued to any student that does not wear the correct uniform.

Notes for dropping a subject or changing a level of Maths/English or adding an extension class, must be returned to me before a new timetable can be issued. If they do not have a new timetable, teachers will be expecting them to remain in their current classes. All Year 11 students are entitled to a teacher mentor and I strongly recommend that students take advantage of this opportunity. They simply need to ask the teacher that they would like to support them over the next 12 months, and return the form to Ms Witherdin.

I would like to wish Year 9 a safe and fun time at the camp in week 4 and I look forward to hearing all about it on their return.

As there are an increasing number of assessments for all students at this time of the year due to yearly exams, I would like to wish all students good luck and hope that they achieve their personal best. We encourage students to have a growth mindset in the

school, and to always believe that they can improve their performance through effort and perseverance. Don't give up, work hard and ask for help. However, remember to balance the school work with time for families and friends as this helps to manage the increasing anxiety that can be seen at this time of the year.

Ms Pierce has just completed the ACE program for the year, with a presentation during week 2 to students and parents. The work displayed showed a significant improvement in the students' capacity to organise their time and assessments as well as prepare their study notes in preparation for exams. This is a worthwhile program and any parents who would like more information regarding the 2019 ACE program should contact Ms Pierce in HSIE.

Year Advisers are organising Year 7-10 Fun Days for Friday 7 December. Please ensure that the note and money is returned as quickly as possible to allow organisation for these days to proceed smoothly. If your son/daughter has not brought a note home, please contact the school and request a note.

As Ms Sutton will be leaving Davidson high School at the end of the year, I would like to thank her for the extraordinary amount of time and support that she has given Year 7 over the past 12 months. She has enjoyed every moment and I am sure that she will miss them dearly. Mrs Newbery will be taking over the Year Adviser role in 2019 along with Ms Sly as Year Adviser assistant.

Thank you to Mrs Everingham for all her time and effort put into the welfare programs over the year but especially the "Tomorrow's man" student workshop and parent presentation. It was particularly well received and Mrs Everingham has had a great deal of positive feedback from the initiative. Year 7-10 leadership workshops are running this term as well as a continuation of the mental health initiative.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me on alexia.martin@det.nsw.edu or make an appointment through the office on 9451 0022.

BYOD

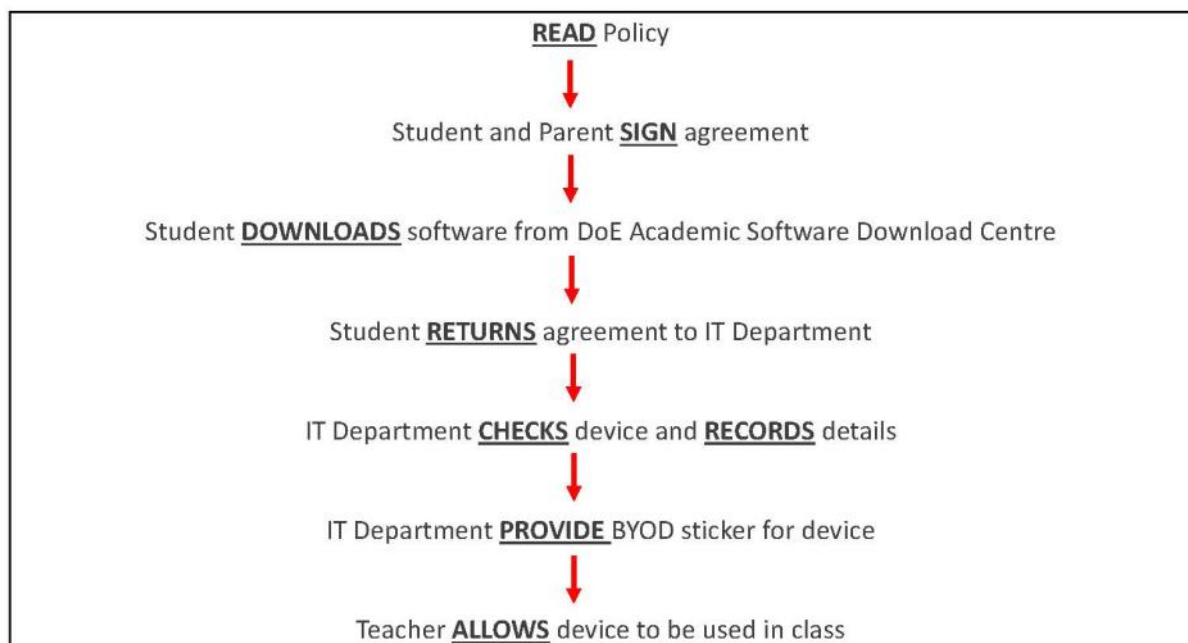
Mrs Alexia Martin Deputy Principal



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

Recognising Achievements

Max Ford - Year 10

Volunteer Building Cambodia

Building houses for poor villagers around the vicinity of Siem Reap.



HSIE - Modern History

Miss Rachael Sutton

WWI Living History Presentation

In September, Year 9 and Year 11 Modern History students enjoyed an entertaining and educational presentation on WWI.

The presentation was put on by Shane from WWI Living History, who had students laughing and engaging with a variety of WWI artefacts.

Students particularly enjoyed holding trench clubs, grenades, wire cutters and a replica periscope. Students even had the opportunity to dress up in full WWI soldier attire and experience full trench conditions.

One student said, "The presentation was informative, included the audience and was very engaging!" The HSIE faculty look forward to inviting Shane back next year.



Visual Arts

Ms Loretta Mangassaian

Davo Mini Archibald 2018

Congratulations to the recipients of the DAVO Mini Archibald Portrait Prize. The Awards will be presented to the following students during the next school assembly.

- * First Prize is awarded to **Lucinda Mastio**
- * Second Prize is awarded to **Isabella Ewens**
- * Third Prize is awarded to **Jaslyn Brown**
- * Highly Commended Prize is awarded to **Anita Singh**
- * The People's Choice is awarded to **Jasper Mcarthur**



Year 7 Self Portraits in Pop Art style



Dance

Miss Angelique Mavromatis, Dance Teacher & Coordinator

What a fabulous 2018 we have had in Dance! Our Dance Company for the second time were successful in making it to The State Dance Festival to perform our work 'Dreams' choreographed by Ms Mavromatis. State Dance is a prestigious opportunity to showcase the best works and performing arts from Public school across the State bringing students together to perform and celebrate the best of the arts for the wider community.

During the festival, our Dance Company participated in a workshop with Jan Bones Gonscak who is an International European Dancer and Choreographer of the Arts. Jan gave the students a two-hour workshop on the Contemporary 'Release' technique teaching them new skills and methods in kinaesthetic movement. The students were enlightened particularly those in year 12 who have been studying works from choreographers who use this unique contemporary Dance method of training. The workshop was highly beneficial for all involved.

Congratulations to all Dance Company members on all your hard work and dedication so far this year. The Company performed at an exceptional standard and should be very proud of all their achievements.



Dance Company with Ms Mavromatis



Dance Company 'Dreams' Backstage

On another positive note...

A big congratulations to Year 12 Dance Elective for their HSC Dance Nominations. This year 12 nominations were received for outstanding performance in their HSC Dance practical examinations. This acknowledges top performing students who have achieved high results in that particular exam.

On behalf of Ms Gibb and Ms Mav we would like to recognise all your hard work and wish you all the very best for the rest of your HSC exams!



Dance class of 2018 with Ms Gibb & Ms Mav

Coming up...

School Spectacular

This year we have an ensemble of 12 dancers who will be participating in the School Spectacular as well as featured artists Bronte Barnett & Lara Panetta who will be performing in School Spectacular November the 23rd & 24th. Students will be amongst 5,000 other performers who have travelled interstate to put together a National televised show.

Dance Night

Dance Night will be held on **Tuesday the 27th November** in the MPC from 6:00pm. All are welcome to come watch and support all the talent and hard work of all the students who make up our Davidson Dance department.

Dance Company in Workshop with Jan Bones Gonscak



School Spectacular 2018

Ms Kelly Morrow

Rehearsals are now well and truly underway for this year's Schools Spectacular which will be held at Qudos Bank Arena on the 23rd and 24th of November and will include over 5000 public school students performing from around the state. Davidson High School has a huge involvement in this year's show, which is shaping up to be a really special event.

Our featured artists Liam, Matt, Bronte and Lara have been busy over the School holidays rehearsing their various items and have a number of styling days, recordings, rehearsals and sound checks to attend over the upcoming weeks in the lead up to the big event.

Our combined dancers have begun work on learning their segment choreography and have mixed with other Sydney metro schools as they attended their first combined rehearsals.

Our vocalists journeyed into the city on Friday 19th October to attend the first secondary concourse combined rehearsal and have now begun the daunting task of learning over 25 pieces of music from memory. Rehearsals are being held at school every Tuesday lunchtime to help consolidate repertoire with our next combined rehearsal being held on the 14th November.

Tickets to see the show are on sale now to the general public and are available for purchase through www.ticketek.com.au. Please come along and support our students!



Industrial Technology - Metal and Engineering

Mr Gavin Sheargold

2018 HSC Major Projects

Anika Earl – Fire Pit with Bench Seats

Christopher Stewart – Blue Mechanics Tool Box with Drawers

Ryan Sutton – Nissan Patrol Rear Bumper Bar with Spare Tyre and Jerry Can swing arms.

Benny Vasile – Red Mechanics Diagnostic/Storage Trolley

Mason Vozzo – Wood Fired Pizza Oven



Green Day - Eco Club

Mrs Susan Duke

Reef Relief – Sea the Difference

This is the **14th** year Davidson High School has celebrated **Green Day** and our theme for this year was: **Reef Relief- Sea the difference**. The aim was to focus on the plight of the world heritage site, the Great Barrier Reef.

“Green Day” is the time in which Davidson High School supports endangered species and other environmental issues, and for 2018 we are highlighting the plight of marine reef animals and plants such as corals, fish and turtles, and the effects that plastic waste has on their environments. The Eco Club and helpers run the green mufti day and lunch time activities, aiming to create awareness for these issues to the school and wider community. The day was celebrated with masses of enthusiasm and colour. This year we welcomed the band **Infra Red** who supplied the music for our activities; and they did a fabulous job of creating a festive mood for the event. The band consisted of the following students, Grace Drury, Abbey Walker, Jess Freestone and Laura Brownlee – it was Green Day’s first all Girl Band! Eco Club students and helpers also created exciting banners which highlighted the theme as well as provide a colourful backdrop.

Eco Club raised in excess of nine hundred dollars for marine reef life. During recess and the lunch time activities a range of student stalls were set up for an amazing range of baked goods and a delicious barbecue fare. A big thank you must go to Mr Geddes and the Year 10 boys for the wonderful sausage sizzle.

Thank you to Davidson High School for helping to celebrate and support this day. A huge thank you must also go to Gail Phillips, Graham Johnson, Mrs Ferguson and the Science Staff, and the Eco Club for

their invaluable assistance with the preparations, the busy selling periods and the clean up.

Thank you for thinking about our environment and making it another very memorable Green Day!

Did you know - Davidson High School has a section of the original Duffy’s Forest – a protected ecological community with a total of 63 native plant species being recorded here. We have a Management Plan to look after and protect the endangered species within the school grounds.



Rotary Corner

Kos Psaltis, Youth Service Director, Rotary Club of Belrose



Each year, Belrose Rotary sponsors an exchange student for 12 months and, during their stay, they attend Davidson High School. Our current inbound is Julie Brettnacher from Germany. I interviewed Julie for *The Dispatch*:

KP – Now that you have been in Australia for nearly 3 months, how have you settled into Davidson High School?

JB – Well, at the beginning it was a completely new environment for me and, of course, I didn't know anybody. However, generally my peers were nice and open, which made it easier for me.

KP – What was the strangest difference to school in Germany?

JB – I'd have to say compulsory uniforms. I'm quite used to it now and it seems normal.

KP – How difficult have you found the lessons?

JB – In most subjects, I had already attained that level so it hasn't been too difficult.

KP- What is the main advantage you see in the Australian school system?

JB – The subject choice in Australia is much greater than in Germany.

KP- What could Australia learn from Germany?

JB – In Germany, our exams are more evenly spread throughout the year whereas in Australia, all the stress is at the end of the year.

KP – How does the classroom setting differ?

JB – In Germany, it is more strict. On the other hand, often here I see students thank the teacher at the end of a lesson. This wouldn't happen in Germany.

KP – Thank you Julie for this short interview and enjoy the rest of your youth exchange.'

Julie with Belrose Rotary Club President, Shane Broekman.

Kos Psaltis
Belrose Rotary
Youth Service Director



In September, we made a lot of memories. I'm going to write about my favourite moments at school.

The ICET students went to Cowra to study about the history of the relationship between Australia and Japan. We left on the 19th September in the early morning and we had 3 days of clothes, food, and phone. There were funny situations. Some people slept over and woke up 20 minutes before we left. Other people forgot their food ingredients for 3 days so had to do some special shopping before we arrived at Cowra.

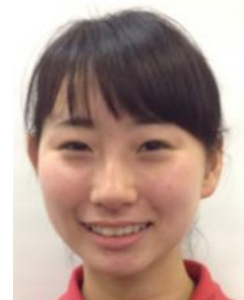
Firstly, we went to the Blue Mountains before going to Cowra. It has spectacular views. The Three Sisters looked like they were surrounded by blue air because the Eucalyptus oil from the surrounding air trees make seem like it's evaporating. Also there is a traditional Aboriginal story about why they are called The Three Sisters.

After that, we visited the Japanese garden in Cowra and the World War 2 prisoner's cemetery. The Japanese garden made us happy. It was like we were in Japan because it has a Japanese atmosphere. We were reflecting at the cemetery but some of us got injured from some plants which had a sting. They caused some skin irritation and was quite unpleasant. We learnt about not to touch plants we were unfamiliar with.

On the second day, we visited the Cowra's school and we introduced traditional Japanese things such as Yukata, Karuta, and calligraphy. In addition, we explained to the students how to use Japanese money, and a couple of people acted as Samurai and talked about Bushido. I hope that the students made new friends there. After that, we were invited by one of the school teachers, Mrs Bennett to her farm. We saw a canola flower garden; all we could see was exclusively yellow. That was so amazing. She also has some animals, I really liked it.

On the last day before we left Cowra, we planted a baby Cherry Blossom tree and we named it Incet because the Mayor of Cowra mispronounced our group's name. This was one of the funny memories. Although we really liked the name, please don't use it for us at school.

It's almost time to go back to Japan. It's just one and half a month's away. I remember when we came to Australia – it felt like yesterday. I'm glad to back home, but I'll be terribly sad to leave Australia. I am sincerely grateful that I could come to Australia.

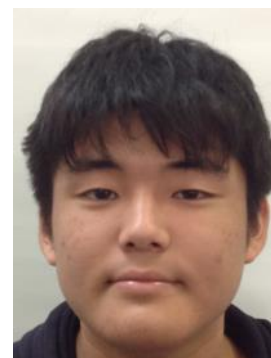


Yuna Munemoto

For the first week I stayed at my friend Soma's house. The first thing I enjoyed was having lunch. I cooked a variety of dishes, but the most delicious one was an omelette. I made an omelette with the cooking method taught from the host mother, and you can make a very big omelette. My friend liked that omelette, and I always say I want to eat it again each time I finish eating.

Another thing that happened was that I started practicing the bass guitar. I can already play the drums, but I tried the bass guitar as well. First, it was difficult but as I practiced, I steadily improved and I enjoyed it.

It was my last holiday but I had a good time.



Raiki Arata

ICET

Mr B Manning, ICET Head Teacher



Community Information

Bicycle Road Rules

Bicycle riders need to be aware that school zones are signposted and operate outside schools in the morning (8am through to 9.30am) and in the afternoon (2.30pm through to 4pm) during school term time. There are also a small number of school zones that have different operating hours to suit the individual school.



As a bicycle rider you are considered to be a road user. As a road user you are required to follow some basic road rules:

- give way to children crossing the road at a pedestrian crossing
- should follow the direction of a pedestrian crossing supervisor using the handheld stop/slow sign
- only ride your bicycle across a crossing where bicycle crossing lights are installed, if there is no bicycle light, you must dismount and walk across the crossing
- must wear an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on your head



As a bike rider you need to be wary of car doors opening and other potential hazards like children running across the road. Buses can also pose a hazard to bicycle riders. Buses may pull out at any time in front of you so allow yourself plenty of clearance and move quickly. You must give way to a bus that is attempting to merge into traffic in accordance with the law.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/bicycles/safety-rules/road-rules-for-bicycle-riders.html>



Ford Australia is bringing its Driving Skills for Life program for the fourth year to provide new and young drivers with hands-on safety training.

Driving Skills for Life allows participants to get hands-on training to learn new driving skills in a safe and controlled environment. The training will also highlight the importance of safety on the road and equip the new generation of drivers with skills beyond those taught in traditional driver education courses.

This year, the **free training course** will be brought to NSW, VIC and QLD with a focus on cyclist safety as well as vehicle handling, space and speed management, hazard recognition and impaired driving. Working with professional instructors from Driving Solutions, students will drive current-model Ford vehicles to learn driving skills that are an important step in the life-long process of learning to drive safely.

Students can now sign up for the dates and locations below on the Ford website here: <https://www.forddsfl.com.au/>

- Saturday 8th December – Sydney at Sydney Motor Sport Park



Community Information



Become a foster carer

Help us make a positive difference to the lives of children in your community. As a Key Assets foster carer, you will be provided with 24/7 support, a dedicated social worker and on-going training.

Change a child's life today:

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