

Principal's Report

Mr David Rule

With Term 1 drawing to a close there is much to reflect upon and plenty to look forward to.

We again entered a new year with Covid restrictions. After 2 years it would be easy to feel a little sense of hopelessness and apathy, however that certainly has not been the case. I have marvelled at the resilience and perseverance of both our students and staff.

They have shown, again, great flexibility and patience in the learning process and each time the goal posts have been moved, they have simply applied themselves and made the necessary adjustments. At some stage, somewhere in the future I am confident that we will look back upon these challenging times and acknowledge what we have been able to achieve and how many of us have grown and developed life long skills.

It has been exciting and rewarding to have pushed ahead with many of the activities and opportunities that have been shelved for the past 2 years. Just having an athletics carnival again was so enjoyable and to see the faces of students after their participation in track events last Thursday was wonderful. It was evidence of very strong school spirit.

A big thank you to Ms Smirniotis who has driven the return of our performing arts. It is refreshing to hear the sounds of bands as you move around the school and the chatter and laughter associated with drama ensembles rehearsing. I can't wait for SOPA and know that many of our talented students are already preparing.

Congratulations to Year 12 who sat their half yearly exams, the first for senior students in 12 months. Another milestone for a return to some form of normality.

A huge thank you must go out to Mrs Everingham who organised our Community Breakfast. It felt wonderful to reconnect with families on site and be

able to sit down and chat about all things non school and learn more about our students and their backgrounds. I am confident that by the time we hold our next one, the impact of Covid may have abated a little and we can have more people in attendance.

I am looking forward to something new in our school in Term 2. As my communication has noted over the past 6 months, we will be working with students to have their phones put away during the day. This will begin in Term 2 and I thank everyone for their support in this process.



In week 1 of Term 2, students in Years 7-10 will be receiving a phone pouch. At the beginning of every day they will be placing their phones into the pouch and locking them. At the conclusion of the day students will unlock their phones as they leave school and can then access them. A range of information will be emailed and placed on the parent portal over the next week. I see this as a positive step to have students connect with each other and become more active. It is also an opportunity for the school to monitor any changes to social media issues that normally arise on a regular basis each week.

So, I trust everyone will enjoy a break in some shape or form over the next two weeks. I hope the rain will stop and let us all get outdoors and feel positive about where we are all heading. Stay safe and I look forward to seeing students return on Wednesday 27 April.

Vision

Davidson High School is an inclusive community school, committed to fostering strong, trusting and positive connections between students, staff and parents that develop the values of courage, confidence and compassion. We believe a collaborative approach to learning in the classroom will support and develop risk taking in learning and inspire students to strive for excellence. Our staff reflect upon their practice and build their capacity to deliver quality teaching that grows student attainment.



Deputy Principal's Report

Mrs Meghan Ferguson

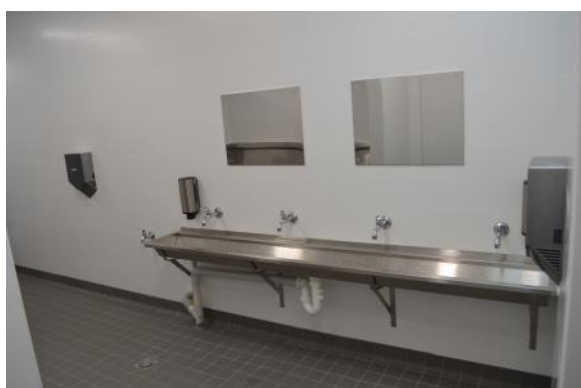
Term 1 has provided us with a great start to 2022. The return of many school activities, including camps, carnivals and sport has presented students with many opportunities to develop their character strengths and thrive.

A very wet athletics carnival last Friday tested staff, student and parent perseverance with field events cancelled and a long jump pit that looked more like a swimming pool. It was great to see so many students in attendance, racing and supporting others as well as the zest of Year 12 students to participate in their egg and spoon race at their final school carnival. Thank you to all staff, students and volunteers for their support on the day.

New facilities

The assets team worked very hard at Davidson over the Christmas holidays to upgrade 6 of the bathroom facilities for students and staff. They are a drastic improvement on the old facilities, and it is wonderful to see students taking great care of them.

Lucy from Year 8 described the facilities as 'clean, pretty, modern, spacious and the mirrors are great' Olivia from Year 8 noted that 'I don't miss the old chain flush'.



Our HSIE quad has also been tidied up and garden beds refreshed and replanted. The space is a pleasant setting for students to enjoy their recess and lunch times as well as a few games of handball.

The oval refurbishment is still underway this term as it has been delayed due to poor weather.

We are hopeful it will be open and able to be utilised for our grade and winter sport team's next term.

New Staff

We have welcomed 5 new staff to Davidson this year and are appreciating the positive input and new perspective they bring to our school. Please see the new staff profile page as an introduction to 2 of our new staff members.

I would also like to formally welcome our new Deputy Principal for Years 7, 9 and 11, Ms Laura Buxton to Davidson High School. Ms Buxton brings a background in CAPA, English and teaching in the United Kingdom as well as Australia. I look forward to a positive and productive working relationship as Deputies at Davidson over the coming years.

Winter Uniform

All students are expected to be in full winter school uniform upon returning to Term 2 at Davidson High School. All items are available for purchase at the school uniform shop - please see the school website for details on how to order.



<https://davidson-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/uniform.html>

Boys - long grey pants, white shirt and Davidson sloppy joe and/or zip up jacket.

Girls - tunic or navy pants with white shirt and Davidson sloppy joe and/or zip up jacket.

Sports uniform is to be worn only on sport days and for PE lessons. Students are expected to change into PE uniform for the lesson and back into uniform after the lesson. Plain dark navy track pants, no logos, are acceptable for winter sports uniform.

Coloured track pants and hoodies are **not to be worn** as part of the regular winter school uniform and will be treated as an out of uniform item unless students present a written reason to the Deputy Principal. We encourage all families to assist us with reminding students of their responsibilities of uniform. Always feel free to contact the school if you require any assistance with supplying uniform.

Deputy Principal's Report

OPAL Cards

A big thankyou to all students and families for their efforts with OPAL card compliance.

Bus drivers have noted a large increase in the numbers of students tapping on and off with their card and Ms Buxton and I have been pleased to see the students organised and ready when their cards they are about to hop on the bus.

A reminder that tap on and off data is collected by Transport NSW to assess demand for services. If students don't use their OPAL cards properly our services may be reduced or cancelled due to perceived lack of use.

Links to apply for a subsidised school Opal Card are on our school website.

<https://davidson-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/transport.html>



Return and Earn

Davidson High School is still registered on the return and earn recycling facility at Glenrose shops. All proceeds raised from your donations will go towards sustainability initiatives in our school. If you are taking your bottles and Cans to Glenrose for recycling please remember us.



Term 2

We look forward to welcoming back all students on Wednesday 27 April.

Year 7 students head off to camp that day and the school will commemorate ANZAC Day with our memorial assembly.



It has been a challenging term with absences for students and staff, and we are all looking forward to a restful Easter break. We hope you all recharge, connect with family and friends and hopefully enjoy some sunshine over the break.

Happy Easter,





New Staff Profiles

Nicole Robb
PDHPE

Tell us a bit about your teaching background.

I have been teaching high school students for over 14 years. Throughout that time I have taught PDHPE and Maths. During my time as a teacher I have also mentored many staff and students and coordinated whole school programs. Some of these include: Relieving head teacher roles, year advisor for the same year group from Year 7-12, peer support coordinator, peer mediation coordinator, elite performer program mentor/coordinator, talented athlete coordinator, carnival coordinator and coached many teams and individual athletes.



Why did you become a teacher?

I became a PDHPE teacher because I have a strong passion for my subject area. In both the theory and practical aspects of this subject, students learn skills and tools to help them to be safe and healthy now and into the future. Teaching this subject is a very rewarding experience to know that I am making a positive difference in so many lives. I participated in a lot of different sports growing up and learnt so much that I want to pass this onto my students. I also have a strong passion for health and fitness and I want to share my knowledge to help my students become the best versions of themselves.

What is your favourite part of teaching?

My favourite part of teaching is being able to teach my students about a subject that I am passionate about and form a rapport with them so that they have a love of learning. Each day I can make a positive impact on the lives of my students and support them in reaching their goals.

What are your first impressions of Davidson High School?

As soon as I stepped foot into Davidson High School I was made to feel very welcome by staff and students. The school community is very supportive and inclusive of all students' needs. There is a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities available to students and the school caters for students' gifts and talents to help them reach their potential. At Davidson, my faculty and I are delivering content of an exceptional standard. There is also a strong focus in the school on wellbeing, numeracy and literacy with the inclusion of various activities each week to enhance all aspects of teaching and learning. Teachers have high expectations of all students and during lessons, students are engaged and supported to achieve their learning needs. I am very happy to be a teacher at Davidson High School and look forward to the year ahead.



New Staff Profiles

Tracey Fairley English

Tell us a bit about your teaching background.

I have been teaching English since 2005 and have been incredibly fortunate to have been surrounded and influenced by passionate and talented educators. I started my career working in the Hills District and was lucky enough to secure a transfer closer to home at the Northern Beaches Secondary College. After a two-year stint at Killarney Heights High, I have found myself back on home turf where I went to school myself.



Why did you become a teacher?

After trialling a range of roles while studying at university, I came to realise that I thrive in a face to face environment. Teaching English is the perfect career for a life-long learner; new voices and perspectives are emerging through contemporary literature which makes for a dynamic and challenging learning climate.

What is your favourite part of teaching?

For me, teaching involves a great amount of problem-solving. I need to know who my students are, what goals they need to achieve, and how to get them there. After breaking the process down through modelling and guided support, it is rewarding to step back and watch the 'light-bulb' moments. Whether students are engaging with texts in small groups or applying their knowledge through new ways of writing, it is impossible to tire of students embracing challenge and growing in confidence.

What are your first impressions of Davidson High School?

There have been some pleasant aesthetic changes to the school since the 1990s, most notably the inclusion of the school's many outdoor murals. However, it is great to see that the strong community spirit is still alive and well.



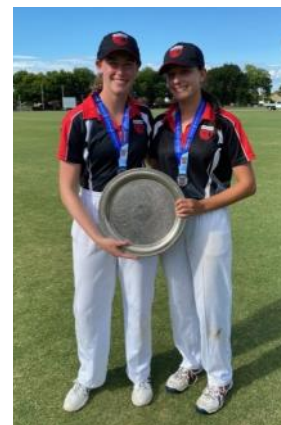
Celebrating Student Success

Laura Judson and Kate Salmon

In late January Laura and Kate participated in the NSW u16 Metro Cricket team in the u16 championships held between NSW metro and country teams and Victorian metro and country teams in Albury. The NSW metro cricket team won the carnival and every game they played.

In addition, they were both selected in the Sydney North Cricket team that competed in Albury for the CHS carnival. Interestingly, Davidson High was the only school with two girls in the Sydney North team! Sydney North won the carnival (and every game they played) and both Laura and Kate were selected in the NSWCHSSA Firsts Cricket team to play at the All Schools carnival in March.

Unfortunately the weather washed out their chance to rectify a loss placing them as runners up at the All Schools carnival. Well done on a great season of cricket.



Justin Law

Justin competed at the MSW Open Water Championships at Penrith in January where he placed 3rd in his age group for the 5km Open Water race. He successfully achieved a National qualifying time, which he hopes to use at next year's competition.

Justin also competed at State swimming for the 400m freestyle on Friday 1 April - coming 4th in his event in the state. Great achievement Justin.

Ryan Hunter

Ryan Hunter has been part of the NSW Water Polo squad for the last two years, but due to covid has not been able to compete. Late last year Ryan was selected as the number one GK for the NSW Waratahs.

In early January he travelled to Brisbane to compete at the National Water Polo Championships. The competition was held over five days. The Waratahs did exceptionally well and managed to secure a position for the playoffs for bronze but unfortunately narrowly lost to Victoria.

Australian selectors were present at the competition and Ryan was selected to join the Australian squad. He attended a five day camp and received specialised GK training from coaches from UCLA and Australian representative players. There will be another Australian camp after the National Youth Water Polo Championships in April where they will select a final team to compete at the World Water Polo Championships in Greece later in the year.





Celebrating Student Success



Grace Drury

Congratulations Grace on having your Year 12 Major Artwork at the opening of Express Yourself Exhibition on Friday night, 25 March.

Express Yourself is an annual exhibition of artworks by HSC Visual Arts students, selected from the 20 secondary schools across Sydney's Northern Beaches.

The exhibition celebrates the extraordinary talent of young emerging artists from our local creative community and features a broad range of expressive artforms including painting, printmaking, ceramics, documented forms, drawing, graphic design, photomedia, sculpture, textiles and fibre, collection of works, and time-based forms.



Science

Newton's Egg

Year 10 used their knowledge of Newton's 3 laws of motion to create parachutes that will protect their egg when dropped (most of them survived).



Science

Year 12 Biology Excursion to the Museum of Human Disease

On 17 February Year 12 Biology students attended the Museum of Human Disease at the University of New South Wales. This is an important part of their studies in Biology, as it contributes to their Depth Study Task; investigating an infectious human disease. The museum has samples of a variety of different human organs affected with infectious and non-infectious diseases, students find this day very interesting and a little bit gross, but overall a valuable learning experience.



Year 9 Marine and Aquaculture Technology

Year 9 MAT have been working on setting up a brine shrimp hatchery. Students did preliminary investigations to analyse the optimum salt concentration in the water for the greatest hatch rate. The first round of hatching was a huge success with a high hatch rate. The shrimp will be used to feed the fish in the aquaponics system in the Science lab.



English

Entering the unknown - Year 7

I was very excited to start Year 7, even though I knew the work and assignments would be a big step up from primary school. On my first day at Davidson I was wondering if any of my friends were in my class, which they weren't because I got into Edge7 and they didn't. At first, I was disappointed but then I made some new friends and I still saw my other friends at recess and lunch. The thing I have enjoyed most is sport, it has always been my favourite subject since I first started school. I have also enjoyed science and art. I like burning things in science and drawing anything other than people in art. High school is mostly what I thought it was going to be, more work, more subjects, more teachers and more fun. (Year 7 student, 7Edge).

The day I started Year 7, I was so anxious. Would people like me? Would I fail my classes? Was I going to understand what the teachers were saying? Yet now that I've done 7 weeks of it, I can say very differently. Mr Roderick's English classes are my favourite. We get to creatively explore different types of texts, like narratives, articles, picture books and summaries. It has been surprisingly different from primary school, it is more innovative and open to new techniques and formats of English. Overall, I am greatly enjoying English classes and can't wait for the rest of the year. (Year 7 student, 7Edge).

Year 10 are Playing with Words

This year the English faculty has been given an opportunity to launch an exciting new project. The aim of the Year 10 Writing Project is to develop students' confidence in writing in various forms. In Term 1, at least a period per week, along with the Year 10 Literacy Lessons have been dedicated to developing persuasive writing skills.

We have brought our study of Shakespearean plays into the 21st century by placing characters from *Macbeth* or *Othello* on trial for their involvement in terrible crimes. Students have been using their persuasive writing skills to either defend or prosecute a key Shakespearean figure.



In Literacy there has been a focus on use of gamification to enhance student engagement, while developing confidence in implementing specific writing skills. Students have been impressive in many purpose-designed games, including 'serving up' witty remarks and 'smashing' verbal challenges in games of *Rebuttal Tennis*. They have enjoyed focusing on vocabulary with *Vocab Jenga*, and they have used persuasive strategies to sell a ten Lego block construction in *Build and Sell*. We are looking forward to exciting new challenges next term where we will focus on analytical writing skills.

Feedback from the literacy lessons include:

"It feels like fun rather than learning and brings out the fun in learning." Zach

"It's a fun way to revise the work we have done in English." Alex

"Group activities are more interesting."

One of the activities used to help students to develop their persuasive language has been Vocab Jenga. Each Jenga block had an emotive word written on it, and students needed to write a 50-100 word paragraph using the emotive words they collected.



In another Literacy lesson students were given 5 minutes to build a product out of Lego. Marco Arata and Jonathan Fyfe won our persuasive pitch competition. They successfully used a variety of persuasive techniques such as imperatives and statistics to 'sell' their product to the class.



CAPA

Hamilton Excursion



On the 15 February - students and accompanying teachers FINALLY got to witness the magic of the musical Hamilton.

The excursion, originally scheduled for July 2021 to compliment Vocal Ensemble's SOPA item had already been postponed 4 times however the relaxation of COVID restrictions this year meant that finally we had the green light to go ahead.

60 students (including many ex-Year 12 students from class of 2021) boarded the buses and made their way to Sydney's Lyric Theatre to enjoy an evening of music, dance and wonderful story telling.

Thank you to Ms Smirniotis, Ms Crutcher, Mr Bell and Ms Morrow for accompanying the students - it was such an amazing experience and well worth the wait!!



CAPA

Pulse Alive 2022

It has been fantastic to see the arts come alive again in 2022 after a very slow and restricted past two years, due to Covid.

On Tuesday 15 March, 20 vocalists and 18 dancers represented Davidson High School in the new arena spectacular event known as Pulse Alive which was held at the Ken Rosewall Arena, Homebush. This inaugural event aims to showcase performing arts talent from public schools in both the North and South of Sydney. As well as ensemble singers and dancers, we also had Year 12 student Lachlan Faulkner, who successfully auditioned and was selected to perform as a Featured Vocalist in this event.

Lachlan performed in the majority of the songs on stage across both Monday and Tuesday nights.

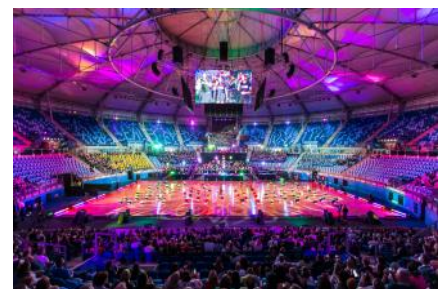
This was a fantastic achievement for Lachlan, who now has his sights set on auditioning for Schools Spectacular later on in the year. Performing in Pulse Alive helped Lachlan to gain experience performing as a soloist to large crowds in an arena environment and gave him the chance gain firsthand feedback from industry professionals working for the Arts Unit.

It was so wonderful to see students performing in an arena again!

Thank you to Ms Bailey, Ms Humphries, Ms Crutcher and Ms Morrow for supervising the students and giving up their time to make this all happen.

All the Davidson High school students had a great time, performed brilliantly and were fantastic ambassadors and representatives for their school. Well done to everyone involved! We will definitely be back next year!

Ms Kelly Morrow (Vocal Coordinator)





PDHPE

Term 1 Sports Report

Here at Davo we love sport, and boy has there been a lot of it this term. Kudos to all the students who take up the opportunity to be involved in extra curricular activities like knock-out sport, and big thanks also to the teachers who make it happen.

Knockout sport: This term we've had varying degrees of success in soccer, touch football, cricket, volleyball, basketball, baseball, and netball. At the time of writing our open boys soccer team is still in the comp and headed to round 2, while the open girls' volleyball team just won their second-round match to progress through to round 3 – a record achievement for us! And extra note-worthy, given none of the team actually play volleyball.

Representative sport: Early in the term a number of Davidson students trialed and were selected to represent Sydney North in softball, including: Nathan Barlow, Kirra Wilkins, Addison Puklowski, and Hannah Barlow. Due to the rain the carnival was unfortunately postponed and has yet to be played. We also had two students, Kate Salmon and Laura Judson, selected into the Sydney North cricket team. Both girls were then successful in being selected for the CHS (state) side, which is a huge achievement. Congratulations to all our Sydney North and CHS reps.

Carnivals: On the carnival front we held a small but successful competitors-only school swimming carnival early in the term, and achieved some pleasing results at zone with a small but mighty contingent headed to the Sydney North carnival, including: Declan Budd, Justin Law, and Jonny England. Well done to all our swimmers. The school athletics carnival was held in week 10 this term as a whole school event, with all students attending a very wet day of track events. Lastly, competitor-only cross country will be held in week 2 next term. Students should check the daily notices for more information regarding both these events.

School sport: Grade sport will begin in term two, with trials for 15s and open grade teams occurring in week 1 and 2, before the inter-school competition kicks off in week 4. Students should check the daily notices for more info about grade sport trials. The grade season runs until week 6 in term three, from which point students will participate in recreational sport for the rest of the school year.



PDHPE

PDHPE news

The biggest news out of sport and PDHPE is the changing of the sport house names. Our 2022 School Captains, Matt and Hannah, made it a matter of priority to update the sport house names to something more relevant and relatable than the names Alpha, Gamma, Beta and Delta which had been in place since the school's inception. The names weren't changed without consultation though. Both the staff and student body were surveyed to gauge majority interest, and then new names were selected via vote. The new house names are:

Barty (blue)

Bradman (green)

Freeman (yellow)

Goodes (red)

The main PDHPE rooms have undergone a make-over this term, with new blinds being installed in both rooms. The blinds have been screenprinted with individual Aussie athletes and their achievements, with the aim of inspiring our students and exposing them to athletes and sports they might not otherwise be aware of. The athletes are: Cathy Freeman, Dylan Alcott, David Pocock, Steph Gilmore, Cameron Davis (ex-davo student and pro golfer), Ash Barty, Elise Perry and Tom Trbojevic.



PDHPE

Open Knockout Baseball

On Thursday 17 March, the Davidson High School Boys Baseball team faced their first round opponents - Asquith Boys High School in the 2022 Proud Shield Open Knockout Competition.

It has been a couple of years since Davidson has actually fielded a baseball team in this competition, mainly due to Covid, however this year we managed to present a full team thanks to some senior cricketers happy to 'fill in the gaps'.

The team consisted of (Captain) Conor Clark, Aiden Patterson, Nathan Barlow, Murray Hunziker, Matt Riddiough, Jake Lovett as well as Sebastian Elston, Mitch Lovett, Sentarou Murata- Davidson, Mitchell Sutton, Jasper Young and Lucas Allum in Year 12, who gave up their afternoon of studying to represent the school.

While there were moments of hope with the score tied at 2 all for a while – Asquith eventually wore us down to win the game with some easy outs toward the tail end of the game to make the final score 7-2.

Highlights of the game included a fantastic catch by Aiden at short stop and some impressive pitching by Conor, who faced 23 batters and struck out 10 of them. He pitched 34 balls and 64 strikes for a total of 98 pitches to give him a 65% strike rate.

Conor was ably supported in his role by Matt who played catcher for the entire game. The two boys worked really well together to form a great partnership in these positions.

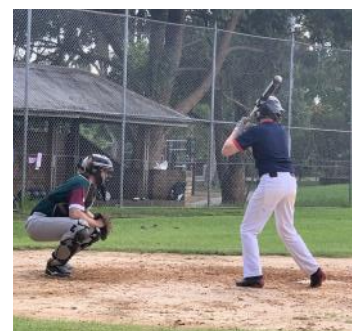
Matt was also one of two runners to cross the plate along with Seb, to score our runs.

While admittedly there were some missed opportunities in this game, which we can definitely learn from, the boys did everything they could and just fell short on the day, which is tough when it is a knockout situation.

A huge thank you to Michelle Patterson for her expert scoring capabilities and for ex- DHS student Joe Van Wegan for taking on the role of volunteer coach & mentor to the players. We were so grateful to have his guidance and expertise.

It is exciting to be back on the diamond with a new team! We will definitely be back next year, bigger and better than ever. If there are any Davidson students who are interested in joining the team next year with baseball experience - make sure you let Ms Morrow know as we will be on the lookout for at least 4 new players in early Term 1 2023.

Ms Kelly Morrow





Library

The library team is delighted that Davidson Library has resumed its normal service. The library is open from 8.00am every morning as well as at lunch and recess. However, numbers are restricted and students are invited in on a first-come first-stay basis.

We have been working on the Fiction section of the library and have expanded the section to allow for new books. Student requests and recommendations for books are encouraged. There is a suggestion box in the library or students can speak to one of the library team. We also have an up-to-date selection of senior textbooks to support students completing years 11 and 12. These can be located in the senior study area.

We have had a welcome visitor to our library in recent weeks, an owl! Alessandra G, Josh D, and Lisa C from Year 11 have named him Geoffrey. Geoffrey loves to sit in the tree by the library window on the mezzanine floor. Our resident owl enthusiast, Ainsley Heyer, has identified Geoffrey as an aptly named Boo Book Owl. The tree seems to provide Geoffrey some much needed shelter from the rain and seems to enjoy the attention of students and teachers alike and loves posing for a photo.



Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is now open. The challenge fosters a love of reading and encourages students to read widely and explore a variety of genres. Students can access the PRC website through their student portal. Once on the website, students can log books they have read. To complete the challenge, students have to read twenty books, fifteen of which should be from the PRC list. At Davidson Library we have a fantastic range of books that feature on the PRC list as well as many PRC titles that are accessible through ePlatform. The challenge runs until 19 August.



Elevate Education - Study Skills Seminars

Elevate Education has run a series of Study Skills seminars for students at Davidson High School. The workshops covered the following:

Y7 - Study Skills Kick Start

Y8 - Junior Time Management

Y9 - Memory Mnemonics

Y10 - Study Sensei

Y12 - Ace Your Exams



Library

Thinking Skills

In Thinking Skills this term, Year 7 students have completed their Character Strengths survey. This survey asks students a range of questions and identifies their character strengths based on their responses.

Year 7s have been exploring the library and the vast array of resources that are available at Davidson Library. Students did a scavenger hunt to familiarise themselves with the layout of the library and introduced them to the Oliver Library System. They have explored ePlatform, Britannica Schools Online and Clickview. Students applied for a State Library Card and have been encouraged to join their local library so as they move through high school and beyond, they are able to have easy access to a wide variety of quality information and resources.

A number of lessons in Thinking Skills this term have explored study and organisational strategies to help aid a smooth transition from the primary school environment to high school.



Visual Arts

Year 10 have completed their Modern sculptures in ceramic. Meanwhile, the students have commenced additional Modern Art Movement, wired figurative sculptures inspired by Alberto Giacometti. The students endeavour to create extremely elongated lively figures with rough craggy surfaces achieved by using papier mache and aluminium foil. We will keep you updated once they all are completed.



Y7 Visual Arts students used Mr Bean's image, cut in half, as the beginning of a drawing. Half Photo and half drawing. Face study of Mr Bean helped Y7 students to see and understand correct facial placement.

Year 7 Visual Arts Term 1

LOTE

BENVENUTI! ようこそ ! BIENVENUE!

Welcome back to a brand new year of language learning!

Year 8 Italian

The 3 Italian classes have settled in well and have learnt all the basics of the Italian language. They will soon begin working from the *Ecco! Uno* booklets to learn about meeting new people and giving personal introductions. Students receive homework every lesson which is required for completion before the next class, where it is marked before moving onto the next topic.

Both the Italian and Japanese classes have been allocated course books and workbooks. The student workbooks have been included in the school fees. Students will get to take them home when they are completed (at the end of term 2).

Year 8 Japanese

The 3 Japanese classes have started their text *Hai!* Book 1. Both classes are currently in the process of learning the Japanese script *hiragana* (consisting of 46 syllables) and have ongoing weekly stroke order quizzes. Students have each been given a set of *hiragana* cards and instructions on how to join Quizlet. Access to online study sets have been given in their Google Classroom.

Students are required to regularly complete homework given after each lesson in order to consolidate the Japanese script. It is important that students are comfortable in reading and writing using the *hiragana* script as we will be using it extensively from term 2.

Japanese classes have started off the year by learning about and celebrating some annual festivals including *Setsubun* (Bean Throwing Festival), *Hinamatsuri* (Dolls Festival) and Valentine's Day in Japan.

Students are reminded to bring a complete pencil case with all the equipment needed for class. A comprehensive list is at the bottom of the "Behaviours and Expectations" sheet which is glued into your child's language book.

Year 9 Italian

Year 9 **Italian** is continuing their language study through the course book *Ecco! Uno*. Currently, the class is looking at the topic of family members and adjectives, culminating with an end-of-term speech to the class. Culturally, students are also discovering the world of Carnevale, with an assignment on the history of the festival. The upcoming weeks will see a painting session of their masks; and they will finish the term with a film study.



LOTE

Year 9 Japanese

We have made a very positive start to the year. Students are learning about the topic of “Family” and have started working on *Hai!* 3 coursebooks and workbooks (included in the school fees). The class has started learning the second Japanese script *katakana* and we have weekly stroke order quizzes. It is important that students consolidate both the new script and new language each week. Consolidation of work has been given through Quizlet study sets and an invitation has been issued via their Google Classroom. Students are currently preparing for their first assessment task; a speech introducing their family to the class. They are required to submit their speech script (writing component) followed by an oral presentation in class (speaking component). We are looking forward to “meeting” everyone’s families.



Year 9 class celebrating Setsubun (Bean Throwing Festival) with their origami oni (troll).



Year 10 Italian

Year 10 Italian is continuing their language study through the course book *Ecco! Uno*. Currently, the class is looking at the topic of overseas countries and nationalities. Their recently finished assignments of a created booklet in Italian were impressive. After a chapter test, the class will move onto the next topic of travelling around town. On a cultural note, Easter traditions in Italy will be explored during the last week of term 1.

Year 10 Japanese

Year 10 Japanese class has started a new coursebook and workbook *Hai!* 5/6 which is the last in the series. We will be working from this book for the whole year.

As part of their language study, we celebrate all languages and cultures (global citizenship).

Pictured here, the class is enjoying Vietnamese rice paper rolls and green tea to celebrate Courtney’s birthday. We all sang happy birthday in Japanese. It was truly a multicultural celebration!



2022 Languages HSC Results

The Japanese Beginners class achieved fantastic results. From a class of 14 in Year 11, 3 students continued to Year 12 to sit the final HSC exam. 2 of these students achieved a Band 6 result; Jessica Fresstone closely followed by Matt Gulliver in second place. This is a phenomenal result, especially as this cohort was affected by the COVID-19 lockdown in both Years 11 and 12. A huge congratulations on your effort and result. *Omedetou gozaimasu!*

The Languages staff

Our staffroom is located next to the school counsellor’s office, upstairs in the Administration block. We look forward to working with your son/daughter in Languages this year. Please do not hesitate to contact us via phone or email if you have any queries or would simply like to discuss your child’s progress.

Ms Chalker (Head Teacher ADMIN/Languages)

Prof Coletta (Italian/French)

Dalpadado Sensei (Japanese)

Duke of Ed

Davidson High School Duke Of Ed Silver Hike

By Will Brown (Year 11)

The Hike

The Duke of Ed silver hike is a 5 day hike which is a 2 day practice hike and a 2 day qualifying hike. We did our hike at the Colo River at Camp Somerset during the 6 week holidays. We did 4 days hiking and one day canoeing. The Hiking was a bit of a challenge but the canoeing was definitely the best and the easiest part of the trip, plus we got to go in some cool caves along the way. Hiking was still very fun yet physically challenging, just make sure to pack more than enough water and snacks.

Camping

In between days we got to spend nights at different places along the Colo River such as Orange Grove and Peach Tree. We had to set up our own tents every night and dismantle them every morning before heading off again. Whilst we stayed at the campsites we had to take care of ourselves by: cooking our own dinner and breakfast, washing up after ourselves, packing and unpacking our required gear, and making sure we were keeping clean by brushing our teeth and washing our hands. We got to do some really fun activities at the different campsites as well, such as: playing different card games, kicking the footy and also going in the wombat hole at base camp.

Meeting others

During our hike, our group got put in with a few students from different schools such as Killara, Loreto, and others. We got to hike with them, cook with them and camp with them. All the people we met during our hike were all really nice people and some of us from Davidson are still in contact with them today.

Learning

Whilst we were at base camp on our third day our hiking instructor took us on a short hike along the river. We stopped at a nice spot and he taught us all about first aid training you need whilst you're on a hike. Some of the things he mentioned were: what to do in case of a snake or spider bite, how to contact people in case of an emergency, how to make a DIY stretcher and much more.

Weather

During the trip the weather was a major factor on what and what not to think about. During our hike we had a great amount of rain at the start, but the sun came out a lot nearer to the end. Packing a raincoat and some sunscreen is definitely essential when out hiking.



Duke of Ed

Davidson High School Duke Of Ed Bronze Hike

By Aggy Synac (Year 10)

On 23 January at 9am sharp, Year 9 students gathered at Camp Somerset to participate in the adventurous journey for the Bronze Duke of Ed.

Ahead of us was a 15 km hike with challenges that tested our problem-solving skills in order to conquer them. But that was ok, because we all learnt valuable lessons on the way. Friendships were formed and tears were shed as we all trekked through the harsh bush. Navigating was a risky task and it took us a couple of goes to follow the right path. Coordinates and map reading was vital for survival (that geography lesson paid off).

After a sweat drenching day, us campers felt relieved to finally hit the hay. Little did we know that building a tent was just as hard as climbing a mountain. Under the scrutiny of Ms Warwick and Mr Thornton it only made us try harder. As the sun started to set we grabbed our hot chocolate and sang Kumbaya around the campfire swaying side to side.

So if this doesn't sound like a blast, I don't know what will tickle your fancy, I'm so ready for Silver!





Canteen

Canteen QR code

Counter sales

The Davidson Canteen is now open again for cashless counter sales at recess and lunch.

You can still order lunch via the canteen online store (recommended)
<https://dhs-canteen.square.site/> and collect your order from the canteen.



Volunteers

Could you spare a few hours a month to help out in the Davidson Canteen? We have lots of gaps in our 2022 roster and would love to meet you. No experience necessary - we'll show you everything you need to know and will provide tea, coffee, lunch and plenty of good conversation. Please call the canteen on 9451 0022 or email davidsoncanteen@gmail.com if you can assist. We look forward to hearing from you.

Uniform news

The DHS Uniform Shop is now open for counter sales on Wednesday mornings 8am - 9am. You can also order school uniforms through our online ordering system at <https://dhs-uniform.square.site/>.

Orders placed online will be filled on Wednesdays and will be available for collection from the uniform shop window either on Wednesday morning by parents or by students before school on any day. You will receive an email when your order is ready to be picked up.

Please note that unworn items can be exchanged for a different size but we do not offer refunds for change of mind.

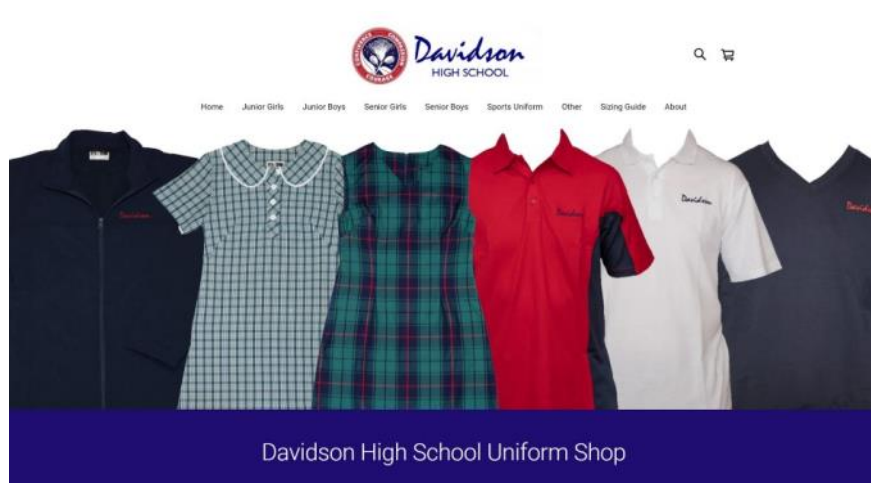
If you have any questions please contact us via email uniforms.dhs@gmail.com.

Uniform QR code

New items in the Uniform Shop

We now have Davidson bucket hats for sale. They are \$10 each and can be purchased from the uniform online store.

We are now also taking orders for the latest addition to the DHS Winter uniform - the navy scarf \$22. Order now to have in time for the cooler weather.



Rotary Corner

We are extremely grateful for the many Davidson High School students who assisted us with the Borgnis Street Lights fundraiser last December. We raised around \$35,000 for Bear Cottage, a children's hospice in Manly.

In the past, this project involved our Rotary Club, Belrose Rotary, in conjunction with Frenchs Forest Rotary Club. As they are now no longer in existence, we had the prospect of doing it on our own, a daunting task to say the least...until we contacted Davidson High School and The Forest High School and were able to roster more than 30 willing students over the 3 week period. The students were superb and put quite simply, we couldn't have collected as much as we did for such a worthy cause without them.

On 14 June we have our annual Davidson High School meeting at The Dutch Club, 1 Grattan Crescent, Frenchs Forest. This is our meeting run by the Davidson High School student leaders. On the same night, The Davidson High School Public Speaking Competition is to take place. The students choose their own topic and invariably it is an interesting and entertaining night. I encourage you to come to this meeting. It is a dinner meeting and the charge per head is \$25.00. It is a unique opportunity to see Davidson students participating in a worthwhile exercise and at the same time it gives you a chance to sample our Rotary club.

Please call me on 0402 205 628 to make a reservation.

Kos Psaltis
Youth Service Director
Belrose Rotary.



Community Information



City of Ryde

NSW Youth Week 2022

It's up to YOU'th

SKATE NOW CLINIC

When: Friday 25 March 2022

Times: 3.30pm, 4.30pm and 5.30pm

Where: Meadowbank Skate Park,
Constitution Road, Meadowbank

GET YOUR 'SOFT SKILLS' STRONG FOR SUCCESS

When: Monday 4 April 2022
Tuesday 5 April 2022
Tuesday 12 April 2022
Wednesday 13 April 2022

Time: 6.00 - 7.30pm

Where: Online

SHORESHOCKED

When: Saturday 9 April 2022

Time: 12.00 - 5.00pm

Where: St Leonards Park, Miller Street,
North Sydney

SHORECOMP RYDE BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2022

When: Friday 25 March 2022

Time: 3.30 - 7.00pm

Where: Meadowbank Skate Park,
Constitution Rd, Meadowbank

MACQUARIE PARK/RYDE BUSINESS CHAMBER YOUTH NETWORKING EVENT

When: Monday 11 April 2022

Time: 5.30 - 7.30pm

Where: Macquarie University Incubator,
8 Hadenfeld Avenue,
Macquarie Park

BEAT MAKING AND RECORDING WORKSHOP

When: Tuesday 12 April 2022

Times: 10.00am - 12.00pm

12.30pm - 2.30pm

Where: North Ryde School of Arts Hall,
201 Coss Road, North Ryde

CAR MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP

When: Tuesday 12 April 2022

Time: 2.00 - 4.00pm

Where: Meadowbank Park Playground,
100 Adelaide Street, Meadowbank

MANAGE YOUR MONEY TIPS

When: Thursday 14 April 2022

Time: 5.30 - 6.30pm

Where: Ryde Library, 1 Pope Street, Ryde



Plus more events available, visit
www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/youthweek

All events are free. Bookings essential.



Parking Offences around schools

The four main parking offences seen around schools by Council Rangers and Parking Officers are:

(1) Stop on or near a pedestrian crossing in a school zone

Penalty: \$457.00 PLUS 2 demerit points.

A vehicle must not stop on or near a pedestrian crossing unless there is a person about to cross or on the crossing or the moving traffic ahead prevents the vehicle from moving forward. It is not an excuse to be waiting for a place at a kerb as this can cause drivers behind to overtake. This practice is extremely dangerous to pedestrians using the crossing as they are hidden by the illegally parked car and other drivers cannot see them.

(2) Double Park in a school zone

Penalty: \$344.00 PLUS 2 demerit points.

A vehicle must not stop on a road beside another vehicle parked on that road unless prevented by traffic ahead. If there is no available parking, a driver must not stop beside other parked cars to let people get in or out of their vehicle. This action may provide shelter for the person getting in or out of the vehicle but significantly increases the risk to other drivers who need to overtake the double parked car and to pedestrians trying to cross a road with their line of sight blocked by the illegally parked vehicle.



(3) Disobey “No Stopping” sign in a school zone

Penalty: \$344.00 PLUS 2 demerit points.

A driver must not stop in a No Stopping zone for any reason. No Stopping zones are in place to allow lines of sight for drivers and pedestrians and stopping in these places around schools can hide children from driver's view and also hide moving vehicles from the view of children crossing the road. It is extremely dangerous to stop in a No Stopping zone.



(4) Disobey “No Parking” sign in a school zone

Penalty: \$191.00 PLUS 2 demerit points.

A driver must not stop their vehicle in a “No Parking” zone unless they are dropping off or picking up passengers or goods within the “required time” and must not leave their vehicle unattended. A vehicle is unattended if the driver is more than three (3) metres from the vehicle. The “required time” is two (2) minutes. If a driver holds and displays a mobility parking scheme permit, then the “required time” is extended to five minutes (5). After the expiry of the required time the vehicle must leave the zone or risk being infringed. These zones are usually in place to allow fast pick up and drop off of passengers – particularly in school zones. Vehicles that exceed the “No Parking” restrictions have a significant knock-on effect of causing other vehicles arriving to double park and stop on crossings whilst trying to pick up their child because they have to queue behind illegally parked cars. The action of parking for longer than permitted in these pick up and set down zones is the root cause of all other issues that place significant risk on the safety of children around schools. If a driver does not see the child waiting on the footpath they wish to pick up they should consider other drivers and not park at the kerb until their child is seen to be ready to be picked up.



Other offences to be aware of around school zones are:

Stop in a bus zone in a school zone: **Penalty \$344.00 PLUS 2 demerit points**

Stop on the footpath or strip in a school zone: **Penalty \$344.00 PLUS 2 demerit points**

Stop on or across driveway in a school zone: **Penalty \$344.00 PLUS 2 demerit points.**

When parking in school zones please remember,
“Safety for everyone before convenience for you”

For more information please visit <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/roads/safety-rules/demerits-school.pdf>

Community Information

Bikes and Road Safety

Wearing a helmet is the Law



Bicycle riders are required by law to wear an approved helmet securely fitted and fastened. In NSW there are **no exemptions** from wearing an approved bicycle helmet. Students that do not wear a helmet will not be permitted to ride their bike out of the school grounds.

Be considerate of pedestrians and cars

Children under 16 years of age are allowed to ride on a footpath. When riding on a footpath, students must:

- keep left and give way to pedestrians
- allow pedestrians a metre of space on shared paths, where possible.
- always travel at a speed that is safe for you and the pedestrians you encounter

Children that ride their bikes on the road **must give way to cars**.

There have been a number of near accidents when students have moved onto the roadway in front of cars on the way to and from school. Please stay safe and watch out for traffic.

Students who ride on the road must:

- ride in a predictable manner so that other road users do not have to react suddenly to your movements
- always obey the **road rules**, including traffic lights, stop signs and give way signs
- always be in control of your bicycle - It is an offence to ride with both hands off the handlebars, feet off the pedals or to carry anything that prevents you from having control.





The School Opal card

The School Opal card gives eligible students free or discounted travel between home and school using metro, train, bus, ferry and light rail services you nominate in your application.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for a School Opal card, students may need to live a minimum distance from their school:

Years K-2 (Infants)

There is no minimum distance.

Years 3-6 (Primary)

More than 1.6km straight line distance or at least 2.3km walking.

Years 7-12 (Secondary)

More than 2.0km straight line distance or at least 2.9km walking.



If you live too close to be eligible for free travel, you may still qualify for a School Term Bus Pass, which offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole school term.

Who needs to apply

A new application is only required if the student has not had a School Opal card before.

If the student already has a School Opal card and is changing schools, campuses or home address, you will need to update their Opal card for the new school year before mid-December at apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts

How to apply

Applications for next year open at the start of Term 4 this year.

Step 1

Once the new school has confirmed your child's enrolment, complete the application at apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts

Step 2

The school endorses your application.

Step 3

Once Transport for NSW has approved the application, a School Opal card will be sent to the address provided on the application.



A parent or guardian must apply for students 15 years and under. Students 16 years and over can apply for themselves.



Better together

The School Opal card is only for travel to and from school. So it's a good idea to get a Child/Youth Opal card for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays.

Child/Youth Opal card benefits

- Concession fares across the Opal network
- Half-price travel after eight paid journeys each week*
- \$1 transfer discount for every transfer between modes (metro/train, ferry, bus or light rail) as part of one journey within 60 minutes from the last tap off†
- Set auto top up and link it to your credit or debit card so there's always enough value on the card to travel.

Find out more at transportnsw.info/opal or pick one up from an Opal retailer. To find a retailer in your area visit transportnsw.info/opal-retailers



Secondary students aged 16 and over can travel with a Child/Youth Opal card when carrying a NSW/ACT Senior Secondary Student Concession Card, available from school offices.

* Excluding Sydney Airport station access fee.

† The Opal Transfer Discount doesn't apply when transferring between light rail and Sydney Ferries.

Privacy

For information on how we handle personal information please refer to the Opal Privacy Policy at transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/opal-privacy-policy and the School Pass Terms at apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#TermsAndConditions



Term 1: Wed 27 Jan – Thurs 1st April 2021
(No public holidays)

This term's Group Programs

NORTHERN SYDNEY REGION GROUP PROGRAM SCHEDULE (as of 1st April 2022)

TERM 2 2022 – Monday 25th April to Friday 1st July (Mon 13th June Public Holiday)

Group	Group Dates	Duration	Address	Requirements	Fee
Women Self Esteem & Communication (Sydney CBD)	Wednesday Evening 11 th May – 30 th June 5.30PM - 8:00pm	8 weeks	Level 7 10 Barrack St Sydney	Group Assessment completed	Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.
Managing Anger (Sydney CBD)	2 nd May – 27 th June (extra week due to June public holiday) 5.30pm - 8pm	8 weeks	Level 7 10 Barrack St Sydney	Group Assessment completed	Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.
Managing Strong Emotions (Macquarie Park)	Tuesday Evenings 26 th April – 31 st May 5:30PM – 7:30PM	8 weeks	68 Waterloo Rd, Macquarie Park	Group Assessment completed	Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.
Men & Relationships Online	Wednesday Evening 27 th April – 15 th June 5:30pm – 7:30pm	8 weeks	Online via Star Leaf platform	Group Assessment completed	Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.
Couples Communication Online	Saturday Seminar Date to be confirmed	1 session	Online via Star Leaf platform	Group Assessment completed	Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.
Circle of Security (Dee Why)	Monday Evenings 5:30PM – 8:00 PM 2 nd May – 27 th June	8 weeks	651 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why	Group Assessment completed	Free Fee: waived
Tuning Into Teens (Dee Why)	Wednesday Evenings 18 th May – 22 nd June 5.30pm – 7:30pm	8 weeks	651 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why	Group Assessment completed	Free Fee: waived
Tuning into Kids (Chinese Mandarin)	Thursday Morning 5 th May – 9 th June 10am – 12:30pm	6 weeks	The Gordon Centre 20-22 Park Ave Gordon 2072	Group Assessment completed	Free Fee: waived

Men and Relationships is an 8-session group for men who may have experienced difficulties in their relationships and want to work on building open, respectful connections with partners, family and friends.

Duration: 8 weeks

Fee: Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.

Couples Communication, full day program (Saturday)

This short couple program is designed to help couples develop new and more effective ways of communicating with each other and dealing with difficulties. It covers topics such as: cooperative resolution of issues, turning negative relationship cycles into positive ones, blocks to communication. This seminar is for couples who have a good relationship and want to make it better. It is not suitable for couples who are in crisis or where there is domestic violence or abuse. We recommend individual or couple counselling in these cases.

Duration: 1 day

Fee: Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.

Circle of Security

During this 8-week program, parents are encouraged to look beyond their children's behaviour and identify and respond to their emotional needs to help prevent issues in the family. Through this course, parents and carers will gain a new understanding of how they can strengthen the bonds with their children, in turn helping them to feel secure.

This program helps children experience:

- Greater self-esteem
- Better relationships with parents and peers
- Enhanced school readiness
- An increased capacity to handle emotions.

Duration: 8 weeks

Fee: Free

Tuning into Teens

Tuning into Teens (TINT) is a 6-week program, which is designed to support and help parents teach their teenage children to control, understand and express their emotions in healthy and positive ways. TINT helps parents recognise, understand and respond to their teenager's emotions, which in turn helps them manage their own emotions. Tuning into Teens offers a range of approaches and strategies developed through the idea of emotional intelligence.

This program aims to teach parents:

- Awareness of the emotional experiences of teens
- To listen to their teen's problem without judgement
- How to help teens identify and describe what they are feeling as an opportunity to connect and guide them.

Duration: 6 weeks

Fee: Free



Group Program Descriptions

About Group Programs at Relationships Australia NSW

Before you start a group program, one of our team will contact you to organise a time to talk about the group.

This process helps us determine whether the group you're interested in is a suitable option, as we strive to create a cohesive learning environment which suits the interests and needs of all group members.

Our staff will talk with you one-on-one to better understand your personal circumstances, explore your interest in the program and discuss any other referral options as required.

Women: Self Esteem and Communication

This 8-week program will help participants to better understand themselves and others and develop strategies to enhance self-esteem and confidence.

You will develop skills to build self-esteem and self-confidence, recognize behavioral triggers and how to respond when communicating with others. This process will also enhance emotional regulation and stability, along with practical problem-solving skills.

Duration: 8 weeks

Fee: Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.

Managing Anger

This 8-week program focuses on the feelings, emotions and thoughts connected to anger and other strong emotions. Topics include past experiences of anger management; identifying what affects our ability to manage strong emotions; finding alternate ways to deal with anger and the anger of others; and taking responsibility for the way we express our emotions. This group is not suitable for people where anger has led to violence.

Duration: 8 weeks

Fee: Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.

Managing Strong Emotions

Managing Strong Emotions is a 6-session group for people who are seeking support to better deal with strong emotions that may be causing issues in their relationships. This type of emotion may include anger, grief or jealousy.

Duration: 6 weeks

Fee: Fees are determined based on your income at a level affordable to you.

Men and Relationships

Tuning into Kids - (Chinese - Mandarin)

Tuning into Kids (TINK) is a 6-week program, which is designed to support and help parents teach their children to control, understand and express their emotions in healthy and positive ways. TINK helps parents recognise, understand and respond to their emotions, which in turn helps them manage their own emotions. Tuning into Kids offers a range of approaches and strategies developed through the idea of emotional intelligence.

This program aims to teach parents:

- Awareness of the emotional experiences of children
- To connect and listen to children's issues without judgement
- How to identify and describe what they are feeling as an opportunity to connect and guide their children.

Duration: 6 weeks

Fee: Free



Group Program Descriptions

Relationships Australia NSW Limited | ABN 73000509982 | Ph: 1300 364 277 | relationshipsnsnsw.org.au
Level 1, 68 Waterloo Road Macquarie Park NSW 2113 | email: northreg@ra.nsw.org.au | Ph: 1300 364 277

ArtisticCat

FANTASTIC ONLINE ART CLASSES

Brilliant artists and instructors take the classes in real-time on Zoom.

- Easy to organise - we make it simple for you.
- The kids produce amazing work and are really proud of their art!
- All age groups covered!
- Super affordable
- To see the activities planned for the classes click visit our website.
www.artisticat.com.au There are some amazing art ideas planned!

FIRST CLASS FREE!

Just \$12.50 a class (exc GST)

The full price varies depending on the number of classes in the term.

LIMITED PLACES BOOK NOW!

To book go to
www.artisticat.com.au

