



Davidson
HIGH SCHOOL

Term 4, 2022

THE Dispatch

Principal's Report

Mrs Meghan Ferguson (Relieving Principal)

2022 what a year!

With an amazing presentation night, Year 10 graduation and sport presentation night all completed we draw the year of 2022 to a close. The SRC holiday hallways competition has made the school a colourful place this December, bringing a bit of Christmas cheer and spirit - thank you to the SRC.

It has certainly been another challenging year for our community and students, but upon reflection, it is one we have faced with bravery to continue on in uncertain times, perspective we have gained from our lockdown experience and zest for the opportunities we have been able to engage in at our fantastic school.

In having the opportunity to speak at presentation night this year, I congratulated the students on their use of their personal strengths to achieve their goals, embodiment of our school values and contribution to our school. The values of courage, confidence and compassion are what we aim for all students to develop and we have seen this in a wide range of settings through the year.

Each Dispatch highlights the many experiences that our students are offered in classes and beyond. Camps, performing arts events, curriculum excursions, student sporting prowess, cultural experiences, community events, welfare experiences and leadership opportunities all allow our students to enrich their education. It has been fantastic to see students engage in the wealth of opportunities that our staff make available, to develop their talents and gifts, to thrive.

We would like to thank all our amazing staff and parent volunteers for their hard work and effort over this past year. Schools require a lot of time and effort to keep things running smoothly and we are very lucky to have such hard working people that make this

happen. Our teaching staff have prepared hundreds of hours of lessons, resources and activities for our students. Our administration staff have supported us all to keep the school running smoothly, and our volunteers, such as in the canteen, step in and provide the additional support that we sincerely appreciate.

We would like to wish the following staff who are moving onto new appointments and positions in or beyond the teaching force all the best. Ms Halliday, Mr Iain McNaughtan, Ms Smirniotis, Mr Vimalaswaran, Ms Wood, Ms O'Connor and Mr Wood. Thank you for your amazing contributions to Davidson High School over the years and good luck in your new positions.

In 2023 we look forward to welcoming some new staff, as well as staff returning from leave, into our community.

We are eagerly awaiting the results of Year 12 2022 and look forward to hearing about pathways and plans for their future years. HSC results are published on Thursday the 15th of December by NESA.

Congratulations to the numerous students who have already been nominated for exceptional major work results in their practical subjects. The perseverance and diligence these students have exercised in preparing major works, under the guidance of our fantastic staff, is inspiring.

And finally a big thank you to all families for your compassion in contributing generously to the Christmas Hamper Drive for the Northern Beaches Women's Refuge. The delivery of goods to the refuge was gratefully received and will be distributed to the many families in need across our community.

We thank you all for your support in the education of your children and hope you have a Merry Christmas and safe and restful holiday period.



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.

Mimosa Street, Frenchs Forest, NSW 2086. Tel: 9451 0022, 9451 0199. Fax: 9975 3560
Email: davidson-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au Webpage: www.davidson-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Deputy Principal's Report

Ms Laura Buxton

Congratulations to staff and students on the first full year of face to face teaching and learning since 2019! Term 4 is a busy term with examinations, report writing and end of year celebrations. The whole school community is palpably poised for a well earned break.

Year 12 are heading into the crux of their HSC year and after having some quality down time should ensure they are revising and forward planning their study schedule. Remember, the brain is like a muscle. If you don't use it, you will lose it! Some tips that might be helpful

1. Plan Your Time

Use a diary or wall planner and mark down all assessments. Consider how much preparation time you will need and allocate time slots. Think about using a time management strategy like the [Pomodoro Technique](#).

2. Catch up on Notes

Revisit classwork and feedback from assignments and reports to fill in any gaps in your skills or knowledge.

3. Get Ahead for Next Term

Ensure you do any preparation work set by your teachers. Look at the syllabus for each of your subjects and review examination papers from previous years.

4. Eat the Frog!

Consider completing some study first thing in the morning. This can help to eliminate procrastination throughout the day and avoid late night sessions that will impact on cognitive capacity and healthy sleep patterns.

5. Reward Yourself

Set achievable goals and rewards that are appropriate. This might be a bar of chocolate, an indulgent hour on social media or an evening out with friends.

6. Relax

Ensure you plan for *some* relaxation time. It is the holidays after all!

Technology

We are currently working to install touch screens throughout each classroom. The Science Faculty are the first to be fully equipped, with every lab having one installed.



Uniform

Uniform is an integral part of school culture. Uniform can enhance school pride, help to prepare students for the workforce and is often a crucial part of the health and safety requirements of key subjects.

Through the year we have reviewed, reflected and renovated some key

items to ensure every student has an option they are comfortable wearing. This will ensure

that students can have some agency over their appearance as well as being able to maintain the sense of belonging and community identity that is so important. Visit the online [Uniform Shop](#) to find the best option for your young person.



On a personal note, a huge thank you to staff students and families for making my first year at Davidson an enjoyable one. A particular thank you to Ms Sears, Ms Mangassarian and Visual Arts students in Year 7-10 for completing a bespoke artwork to brighten up my office.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!



Celebrating Student Success

Ryan Hunter - Year 10

NSW Waterpolo

Ryan was selected to play in the U17's NSW Waratahs team which competed at the Australian National State Championships, held in Melbourne during the school holidays. The team had a very successful tournament winning the Bronze medal playoff against WA.

As a result of Ryan's outstanding performance at the National Championships he has been reselected as part of the Australian Youth Waterpolo Squad for 2022/23.



NSWCHS

The Sydney North Boys Waterpolo team competed at the NSWCHS Waterpolo Championships in Wagga Wagga last month. There were 7 teams from across NSW competing.

Sydney North were up against Hunter in the finals, who they previously beat by 1 goal. Hunter came out hard and we trailed by 2 goals nearly the whole game. In the last quarter with 39 seconds to go we scored, trailing by one goal, then with 12 seconds remaining we got an intercept and scored to equalise the game. We then proceeded to a penalty shoot- out.

Ryan was brilliant in goals saving 2 penalties which resulted in Sydney North winning the NSWCHS Championships.



Positive Education

As part of Davidson High Schools move to embrace Positive Education and embed it into all our areas of practice, we have worked to update our Behaviour Policy. This policy will be available next year on the Parent Portal. One of the main changes is the introduction of restorative practices into our discipline system.



Restorative Practices

When a student has not lived up to the Responsible Behaviour Policy at Davidson High School, it is our aim to help them reflect upon their behaviour and be given the opportunity to make positive changes.

As part of our effort to encourage this process we will undertake restorative practices, including conversations between teachers and students that aim to build and restore relationships once students have challenged the school behaviour code.

This conversation can be used to create a learning opportunity through encouraging reflection, accountability and successful re-engagement with their learning. The main aim is to separate the person from the behaviour and find a positive solution. Staff have been trained in the implementation of this policy and will continue to receive training regarding Positive Education and restorative practices in the coming years.

The below guide is an example of how a restorative conversation could be held (adapted from The Conflict Centre)

STEP 1. OPEN THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION.

Let the student know that you will listen to them and their perspectives, then do just that. This is not the time for lectures or judgement. Say:

- How's it going?
- I wanted to talk with you about _____.

STEP 2. ALLOW THEM TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE.

Try to see the situation from their point of view. Remember that children, as adults, may often feel very differently about the same event. Say:

- What happened?
- Can you tell me more about _____.
- What were you thinking at the time?
- What were you feeling?

STEP 3. IDENTIFY WHAT LED UP TO THE INCIDENT AND ANY ROOT CAUSES.

Help your child gain a greater understanding of the situation by asking about what happened before or what else may have affected their behaviour. Say:

- It sounds like you felt _____. What made you feel that way?
- What happened before it started?
- What else do you think was going on with _____?
- Has this happened before?

Positive Education



STEP 3. IDENTIFY WHAT LED UP TO THE INCIDENT AND ANY ROOT CAUSES.

Help your child gain a greater understanding of the situation by asking about what happened before or what else may have affected their behaviour. Say:

- It sounds like you felt _____. What made you feel that way?
- What happened before it started?
- What else do you think was going on with _____?
- Has this happened before?

STEP 4. IDENTIFY THE IMPACT.

Help your child see how their behaviour affected those around them. They may need help understanding consequences they can't see, such as hurt feelings. Say:

- What happened to you? To your friend? To your family?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who else do you think has been affected/upset/ harmed by your actions? How?
- When I heard/saw _____, I felt _____ because I _____.
- What role do you think you played in this situation?
- How do you feel now?

STEP 5. ADDRESS NEEDS AND REPAIR HARM.

Help your child decide how to make things better or solve the problem. Lead them to a resolution they can feel good about, even if it is a consequence. Say:

- What can you do to make things better?
- If you were _____, what do you think you would need?
- What do you need to help you do that?
- What would you like to see happen?
- What could you do to make sure this doesn't happen again?
- What can you do differently next time?

STEP 6. CREATE AN AGREEMENT.

This may be a verbal agreement, a checklist or even a written letter or contract. Remember to follow through on your own promises. Say:

- Based on our talk, I heard that you will _____. I will also _____.
- Can we agree on this plan?
- I'm going to check on you in a while to see how things are going.
- Thank you for sharing with me! I'm so happy we can work together to make things better!





Davidson High School Recognition System

Davidson High School Merit System

Recognising, acknowledging and celebrating positive behaviour is central to our approach at Davidson when promoting and building positive relationships between staff, students and the wider school community. We believe that it is essential to set high standards of behaviour and offer students encouragement to help them become the best individuals they can be.

The Bronze, Silver and Gold Merit Award system operates in years 7 to 12 and aims to encourage and reward excellence and engagement with the School Community.

The 3Cs are used to identify how students are contributing positively to their learning and the school community.

Courage

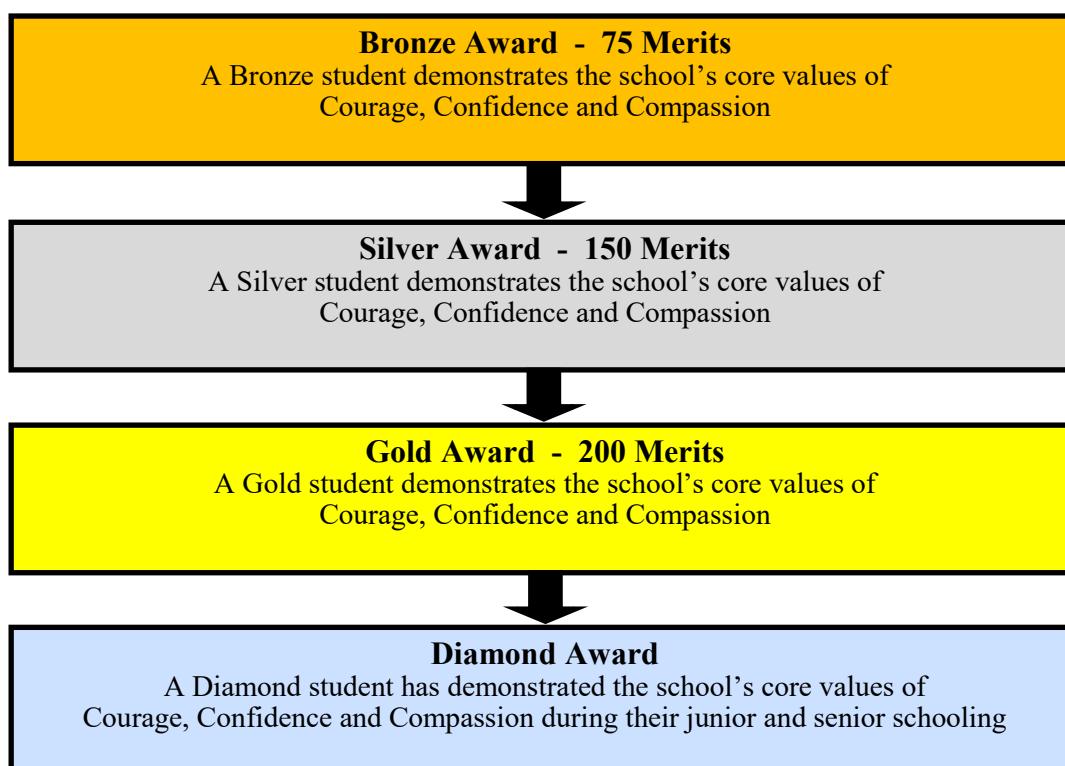
Confidence

Compassion

How does the Merit system work?

The Bronze, Silver and Gold awards provide an opportunity to acknowledge a student's progress during the year and positive engagement with the school community. Students will move through the levels, Bronze, Silver, and Gold by receiving recognition from the staff. The Bronze and Silver Awards are presented at a year meeting or recognition assembly, while the Gold and Diamond Awards are presented at the awards ceremony at the end of the year.

The Merit Award System of Bronze, Silver and Gold is a cumulative process throughout one academic year. ***An academic year will begin in Week 6, Term 4 in the previous year.***





Davidson High School Merit System con't

How do students achieve merits?

There are a variety of ways that students can achieve merits:

3C's Merits: Merits can be allocated in all school settings; the classroom, GEM, roll call, playground and extra curricular activities.

Attendance: Students who maintain 100% attendance across a term will achieve 5 merits for the term.

Uniform: Students who wear the correct uniform consistently across a term will achieve 5 merits for the term.

Letter of Commendation: When students achieve a Letter of Commendation, they will receive 5 points.

Leadership@Davidson

At Davidson High School we endeavour to ensure all students have the opportunity to develop leadership skills. Every student from years 7- 12 can participate in leadership sessions where students develop skills in teamwork, communication, understanding their strengths as well as developing an understanding of what makes a good leader.



At Davidson we have leadership opportunities through our school councils, the Student Representative Council (SRC), the leadership team comprising our school captains, vice captains and prefects, house captains, the Year 10 mentor program as well as various opportunities through faculties.

School Councils

The Student Representative Council (SRC) - is made up of students from Years 7 to 12. Our role is to be the voice of the students within the school community. Our five focus areas are: school spirit, fundraising, community connections, environment, and social awareness.

Sports Council - aim to develop inclusion, teamwork and social skills through participation in lunchtime sporting activities, staff versus student initiatives and awareness of issues such as organ donation with our annual Jersey day.

Social Justice Council - raise awareness of social issues such as equity, inclusion and diversity and hope to make students aware of various groups in the community that may experience inequity. Each year they organise Christmas hampers for the Women's refuge, for women who have experienced domestic violence which is one of many initiatives they aim to be involved with.

CAPA Council - this council works closely with our CAPA staff to promote and fundraise for SOPA, our annual film festival, photography exhibit and promote a range of opportunities for students, in Dance, Music, Visual Arts and Drama.

Environment Council - In 2023 they will be holding Green day in Term 1, clean up Davo day to coincide with clean up Australia day as well as initiatives around extinction and the role plastics play in harming our wildlife and oceans.

Students in all year groups are welcome to attend any of the council meetings and new members are encouraged.



Uniform

Juniors: Years 7-10

Tops

New short sleeved white & navy polo shirt with DHS logo (available in men's & women's cuts) (available for 2023)

New long sleeved white & navy polo shirt with DHS logo (available in men's & women's cuts) (available for 2023)

Bottoms

Navy shorts with DHS logo (available in men's and women's cuts)

Navy skirt with DHS logo (available for 2023)

Navy trousers with DHS logo (available in men's and women's cuts) (available for 2023)

Dresses

Summer: DHS check dress

Winter: DHS tartan tunic with DHS polo or white DHS shirt underneath

Warm

Navy sloppy joe with DHS logo

Navy zip up jackets with DHS logo (2 styles available)

Accessories

Plain white socks only

Black leather lace up "school shoes"

Sport

DHS navy with red piping sports shorts

Red & navy polo shirt with DHS embroidered logo

Navy trackpants with DHS logo

Plain white socks only

Appropriate sport shoes



Seniors: Years 11 & 12

Tops

Short sleeved white collared button up shirt with DHS logo

Short sleeved white collared button up blouse with red trim and DHS embroidered logo

Bottoms

Navy shorts with DHS logo (available in men's and women's cuts)

DHS tartan skirt

Navy trousers with DHS logo (available in men's and women's cuts) (available for 2023)

Warm

Navy sloppy joe with DHS logo

Navy zip up jackets with DHS logo (2 styles available)

DHS designed Year 12 jersey

Accessories

Plain white socks only

Black leather lace up "school shoes"



Women in Leadership



GOOGLE VISIT

This term we were lucky enough to be invited to take a group of young women to the Sydney Google Office to participate in a Women in Leadership day. Places were offered to students in years 9 - 11, and following an application process, 18 were selected to attend.

Just being in the building was exciting for everyone (including myself and Ms Fenech!). Our guide for the day, Dean Broers, Google Australia Compliance and Security Manager, provided a tour of the facilities and workspaces and explained the theory of 'Googliness'. Gender equality in the workplace is something that should be addressed as a society, not as a 'women's problem' and Dean was certainly an advocate for our young people.

Our first seminar was presented by Natalie Piucco, Strategic Advisory and Google's Born in the Cloud Chief Technologist. Among other accolades, Natalie was also the Women in Technology and Winner 2020 CISCO Women in Tech. Students were inspired by Natalie's enthusiasm and her commitment to [lifelong learning](#).

Next we were joined by Rani Urbas who Zoomed in from the corporate headquarters in California. Rani is Global Head of Enterprise Trust, Google Cloud. Rani impressed students with her poise, her thoughtful responses to questions and her wealth of experience.

Something that most resonated with students was that pathways can be winding and it is not always necessary to have every part of the journey mapped out. Our speakers had started out as accountants, engineers and bakers but all ended up as leaders in the field of technology. Students commented they had been inspired to "always ask questions", "constantly pursue our passion and persevere despite adversity" and "take every opportunity". We could not be prouder of all of our participants who represented the school with pride.



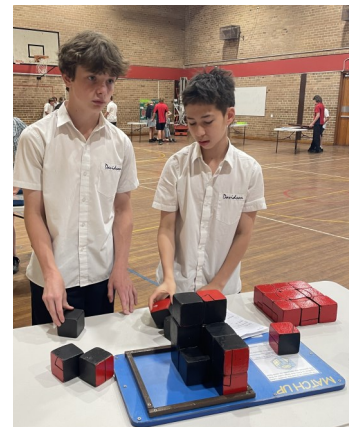
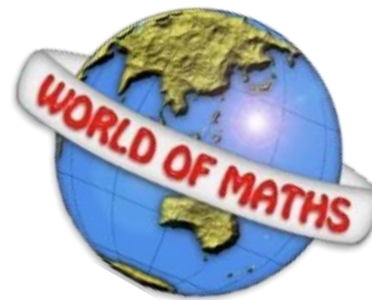
Maths

YEAR 8 WORLD OF MATHS

On Friday 25 November, Year 8 got to put their mathematical problem-solving skills to the test in the World of Maths incursion.

This incursion is a guided discovery activity where students worked together in small groups through 17 stations set up in the MPC. Students got to see how maths is applied to everyday life situations by exploring mathematics in a hands-on environment.

This incursion demonstrated that mathematics is everywhere and that mathematics can be fun!



Science



Scientific Investigations

The Young Scientist Awards is the premier curriculum-based STEM initiative that encourages and inspires inquiry-based learning in Science, Technology, Engineering Studies and Maths classes. Students are required to conduct a scientific investigation and/or design and build a model of an innovative device or application. Students have benefited from the authentic experience of participating in the work of a 'STEMist'. The high academic integrity throughout the process taught our students valuable skills.

Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievements.

Names	Award	Investigation
Annika Hore	Commendation	Sleeping with rain or soft music
Lucia Carreto	Credit	Memory Recall
Jasmine Collett	Credit	Effect of Cotton in yarn
Chirag Murali	Credit	Simple harmonics motion in practice
Jasmine Oesterlin	Distinction	Music of a Scene
Aggy Synac	Distinction	Crystallization

You can find their projects use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc6xrm55>



CAPA

As we approach the end of the year we have definitely kept the CAPA students busy, making the most of 2022. The term kicked off with the three DHS Bands performing at Westfield Warringah Mall as part of their school showcase event hosted by Mall Music. This was a fun filled lunchtime concert event and even the rain held out!



HSC MAJOR WORKS

While in Term 3 our CAPA students completed their practical component for their HSC, this term we received the fabulous news that **Monika Bartuskova**, **Gemma Collett** and **Makalya Cragg** had all received nominations for the HSC Dance Callback showcase. Even just to be nominated is an incredible honour, meaning they received full marks for the component they were nominated for.

Liv Wishart submitted a script for her individual project for Drama and was not only nominated, but her script was chosen to be performed at the HSC Drama OnStage showcase.



VISUAL ARTS

In Visual Arts, Jade Peterson's portrait was also nominated and selected for Art Express.

All students are encouraged to attend these showcase events to support the achievements of the Davidson students, as well as see the top works of the 2022 HSC year.

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding achievements.

CAPA

ENSEMBLE NIGHT

Towards the middle of this term, we celebrated the hard work and many rehearsal hours by our ensembles, with a performance night for each group.

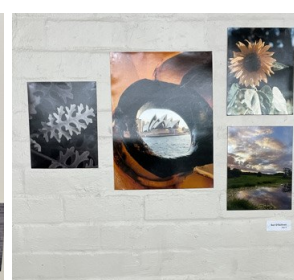
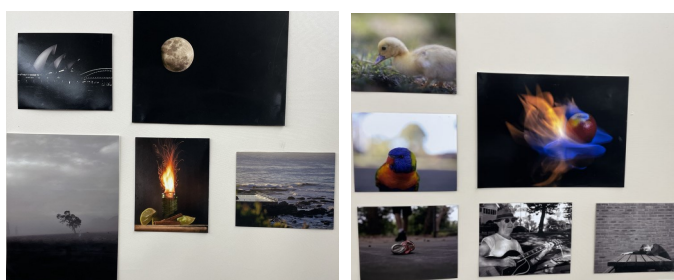
This started with Dance Ensemble night, Junior Drama performances, finally followed by Music Ensemble night.

There was a mix of ensemble and solo performances and it was wonderful to have so many parents come to support and share in the student achievements for the year. Junior Drama was even able to showcase some of their improvisation skills which was highly entertaining and clever.



PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Photography club held their end of year exhibition in the Jan Jones room displaying a range of subjects and artistry.



ANZAC DAY

On the 11th day of the 11th month at 11am, Isaac Blair channelled his courage and confidence and performed the Last Post at the Belrose Country Club for their Remembrance Day service. This was a really moving ceremony with stories from past soldiers, with the live performance helping to create a reflective mood for the residents. They were so happy with Isaac's performance they invited the Brass Ensemble back to perform at their carols service on the 4th of December to help launch their Christmas lights.



Just to squeeze one more excursion in, members of the Dance Ensemble will be participating in a workshop at the Sydney Dance Company, held by experts in their field as members of the company. This will no doubt help their preparations for auditions in 2023.

We've also been able to add to the CAPA family with congratulations to Ms Humphries who welcomed a new baby boy at the end of November! Next year we also welcome back Ms Eastley as the Head Teacher CAPA for 2023.

Well done for all the CAPA students on a fabulous and successful year.

Ms Smirniotis



Schools Spectacular 2022

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR

Congratulations to all the Davidson performing arts students involved in this year's School's Spectacular!

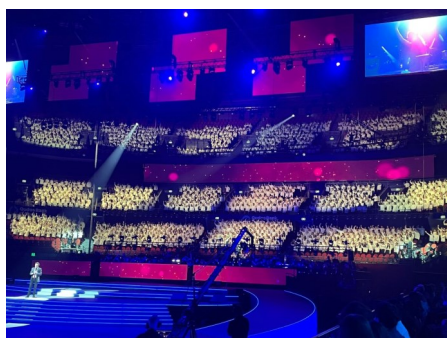
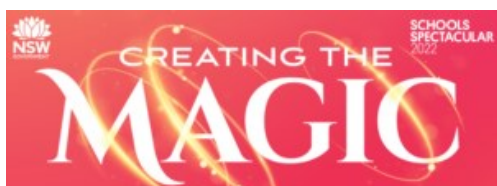
This is the first time since 2019 that 'Spec' has been held due to the impact of Covid-19. Schools Spectacular is a showcase of talent in the performing arts from public school students from around the state and involves more than 4700 students in total. This year's show was entitled 'Creating the Magic' and our students were involved in 4 performances across two days at Qudos Bank Arena out at Sydney Olympic Park.

Davidson had 23 students performing as part of a mass 2000 strong combined choir involving both high school and primary school students as well as Liv Wishart (Year 12 2022) who was selected as a featured backing vocalist and Sarah Morrison (Year 12 2022) who performed on trumpet as part of the Spec stage band.

The show was an amazing success and all students involved were wonderful ambassadors for our school and had lots of fun being part of it.

The full 2022 Schools Spectacular performance will be broadcast on 17 December at 7pm on Channel 7.

Ms Kelly Morrow



Visual Arts

YEAR 7 SELF PORTRAITS CANVAS PAINTING



YEAR 8 IMPRESSIONIST CANVAS PAINTING



Still Life painting by Bella Wilson, Year 8



Visual Arts

YEAR 9

Year 9 have captured the essence of Australian Landscape through the collection of their works. The students perused the history of inventing and reinventing the ways in which we look at and think about this painting genre. The students used shapes and colours of the real or imagined landscape as a structural framework for paintings, showcasing visible delight in imbuing the materiality of their paintings with the unique light and character of the region.



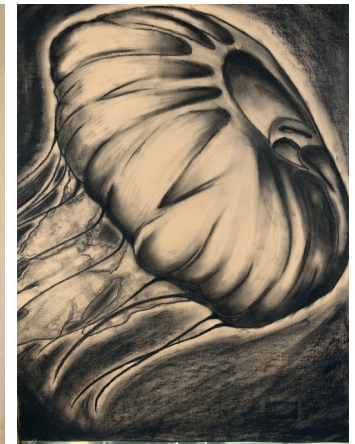
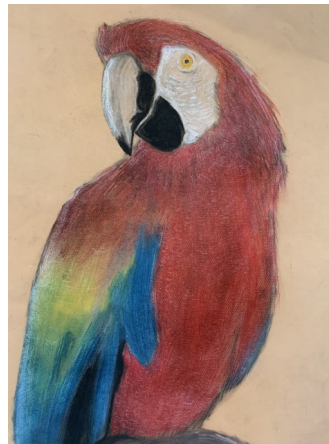
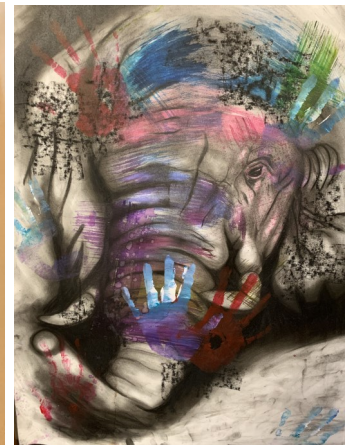
Asia and Annika



Visual Arts

YEAR 10

Year 10 show cased their love for animals by exploring the ecosystem and the habitat to tell stories. Through this activity the students searched their relationship with nature and wildlife. They discovered the importance of thinking about how to take care for animals and the environment. With the world of textures, colours and shapes the students depicted their choice of animal either domestic or wildlife.



Year 9 Outdoor Education

Year 9 Outdoor Education students have been busy in and out of the classroom this semester. Students have participated in a theoretical and practical Fishing and Survival unit over the last two terms. Students have learnt about local fish species and have had the opportunity to throw in a line at Narrabeen Lagoon with some success! They enthusiastically participated in the m&m sustainable fishing task in the classroom, learning about the importance of ethical and sustainable fishing practices.

This term the students have learnt about survival techniques, dodged leeches orienteering at Manly Dam and have learnt how to construct both mini and human size A-frame shelters. An action packed semester filled with practical learning, adventure and life skills, hopefully inspiring them to keep chasing adventures in the wilderness.

Mrs Jack and I would like to thank all Year 9 students who have participated in this subject this year with enthusiasm and a zest for the outdoors.

Mrs Machar



Year 9 Outdoor Education

The NSW Operations Support group (Riot Police) played an Oz tag game against our year 9 students.

This event is part of the new student engagement programs that assist police to engage with local schools and promote wellbeing. Although our students lost both games, they showed true Davidson High School spirit and never gave up.

We were also lucky enough to receive a testimony from former Australian Rugby Player Mark Gerrard, who spoke to the students about his journey and passed on his experiences and advice on how he managed his schooling and sporting career.

Player of the day was awarded to Sian Coutts, Congratulations.

This new incentive will continue into 2023 with opportunities for other year groups to participate.



Boys Netball - Schools Cup State Final



After their success in the regional finals, both boys netball teams were given the amazing opportunity to represent Sydney Metro at the State Final of the 2022 Netball NSW Schools Cup. On the day, both teams found success in their pool and progressed to the semi final – hope was high as our teams faced off against other contenders from around the State, including schools from as far away as Albury and Lismore.

While all the boys gave 110% effort and put on a fantastic display of meticulous shooting, impressive mid court moves and spectacular defence, neither team could quite get over the line with the much needed ‘win’ to progress to the Grand Final. The Year 8 team finished the day coming 3rd in the State and the Year 10 team ended up 4th in the State.

This is still such a phenomenal effort from both teams and far exceeds the results set by the previous boys netball team in 2019.

Congratulations to all the boys involved in netball this year. It has definitely been a rollercoaster ride of ups and downs but you have set the benchmark extremely high for other years to follow and you should all be super proud of your efforts! Well done.

Kelly Morrow



Languages

CLASS TRIP TO COWRA



Around 2 hours after we had left Davidson High, we pulled over for our first stop for morning tea. *Pie in the Sky* featured homemade treats, pies, biscuits, and a delicious mini lemon cheesecake. Some of us played “Go Fish” (card game) while others explored the property. Toilet breaks were often, the scenes did not disappoint with beautiful “Fields of Gold” (canola plants) and we all managed to entertain ourselves for the duration of the 5 hour bus trip.

Once we’d finally arrived at Cowra, we visited the Cowra Information Centre, we watched a hologram presentation about the history of Cowra and had a tour guide join us to show us around the remains of the Prisoner of War campsite and around the Australian and Japanese War Cemeteries where we paid our respects.

After the tour, we re-boarded the bus and made our way to the motel. We all divided into our room groups and after half an hour to settle in, everyone walked to the Hong Kong Chinese restaurant down the road for dinner (as there were no Japanese restaurants in Cowra).

The dinner was amazing and we got to put our chopsticks skills to good use. All full and holding leftovers, we then returned to the motel and got comfortable and into our PJs for some rest and relaxation.

The next morning, we got ourselves out of bed and some of us made coffee for themselves, others a glass of milk. After a breakfast of fruit and cereal, we left a little early to make our way to the *Sakura Matsuri* (aka Cherry Blossom festival). A short bus ride lead us to the beautiful Cowra Japanese Gardens. We were greeted by sunshine into the pink and green mix of gorgeous cherry blossom trees in full bloom. It was spectacular!

For lunch we enjoyed some traditional Japanese snacks such as *okonomiyaki* (savoury pancakes) and *yakisoba* (noodles) from the food stalls in the gardens. It was a full day of exploring the festival and watching traditional Japanese demonstrations and performances which included martial arts such as *karate*, *judo* and *katana* as well as well as *taiko* drumming, traditional dance and the Japanese choir from Sydney.

Some of us took the opportunity to be dressed in *yukata* (cotton *kimono*).



Languages

CLASS TRIP TO COWRA



That night we went to the Masala Library (a local Indian restaurant) for a banquet dinner which was another culinary experience. We got entrees and mains, which were equally delicious and for dessert we enjoyed home made vanilla ice cream with birthday cake for Elora and Kiera's birthdays which was on that day! After dinner, we went to the Liberty Peace Bell where we had a minute of silence to remember and reflect those who were lost or injured in war and to pray for world peace. We then returned to the motel where we finished our leftovers and went to sleep.

The third and final day of our trip was the bus ride back. Through the five-hour bus ride we stopped for lunch and snack at Pie in the Sky. A couple hours later we were back to school where we were picked up by parents.

A big thank you from us on behalf of all of the Japanese students that attended the Cowra trip in years 9 and 10 to Dalpy Sensei for organising this excursion and to Prof. Coletta for giving up her time to accompany us and to Ki Sensei (Ms Wood) for driving us safely there and back. *Arigatou gozaimashiata!*

By Ellie and Y10 Japanese class

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Year 10 Italian celebrated with a Food Tasting afternoon. (see next page)

Year 9 Japanese walked to Glenrose Shopping Village and enjoyed a Japanese lunch at Momokko Japanese Restarant followed by shopping for Japanese food at the new Asian grocery store AM Mart.

Year 10 Japanese took a bus to the Mandarin Centre in Chatswood. They enjoyed a bowl of ramen (noodles) at Fujiyama in the food court before perusing Daiso, a Japanese chain store selling all manner of goods.

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

Prof Coletta (Italian/French) & Dalpadado Sensei (Japanese)



Italian

YEAR 10 FOOD



On the 25 of November, Year 10 Italian took part in a class tasting 'Degustazione' of Italian foods to finish off chapter 8 "Buon Appetito".

The food was in categories: cheeses '*formaggi*', cured meats '*salumi*', side dishes/vegetables '*Contorni/Verdure*', drinks '*le bevande*', and the desserts '*dolci*'.

We worked through a sheet while tasting the foods, answering if we liked the food and why we did/didn't like it. We started off by trying some drinks including '*chinotto*' which is an Italian version of Coca-Cola and syrups for cordial which were strawberry, mint and almond flavoured. After the drinks we tried some of the vegetables and side dishes which were green and black olives, dried tomatoes and figs, eggplants, and artichokes. At this point we were joined by the deputy Principal Ms Buxton who tried some of the food with us.

The cured meats were next: mortadella, salami and prosciutto. We tried these meats with our different cheeses including pecorino, provolone and ricotta on some sliced bread. We also drank some fruit juices to wash it all down. The flavours for the fruit juices included peach, apricot and pear. I tried little bits of each drink, and the pear flavour was my overall favourite.

After trying all of the food and drinks we got to everyone's favourite part, dessert. We had some small Italian chocolates and nutella on bread. The Italian chocolates were the same flavours from different Italian companies, so it was fun comparing the tastes of the different brands and even trying a flavour that was milk chocolate with cereal bits, being one of the best flavours. That one was alongside other flavours such as cappuccino, milk chocolate and cream, hazelnut and many others. The nutella with the bread seemed to be a class favourite along with the ricotta and meats. It was a great way to end our Italian course.

Grazie Prof Coletta.

Nathan Barlow, Year 10 Italian



Italian

PIZZA CHALLENGE

After finishing our topic of food, our class had a go at exploring specific Italian foods by creating and tasting pizza.

As a class, we got into small groups and worked in teams to create pizzas. We added Italian toppings whilst listening to traditional Italian music. It really felt like you were in a proper Italian pizzeria with all of the different smells, sounds and tastes. There were three different categories that a group could claim a prize for with their pizza. These included “most beautiful”, “most Italian”, and of course, “the tastiest”. As a class, we put our votes in for the different categories.

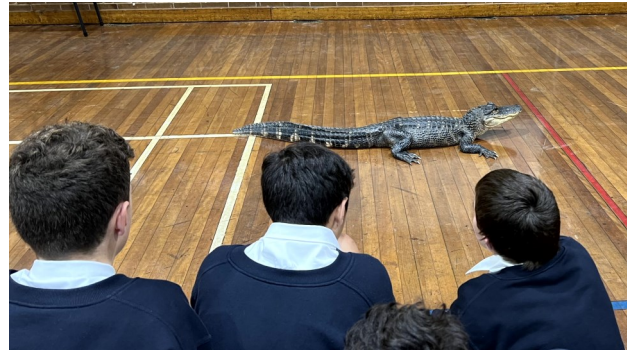
This was a really fun activity, and it was great to do something practical in our Italian lessons.

Emily Mc Andrew, Year 10 2022



Year 7 Reptile Show

Year 7 enjoying a visit from the Australian Reptile Park.



Textiles

YEAR 12 MAJOR WORKS

Blue Bridgeton gown - **Bridget Williams** - Nominated for Powerhouse/Textstyle exhibition

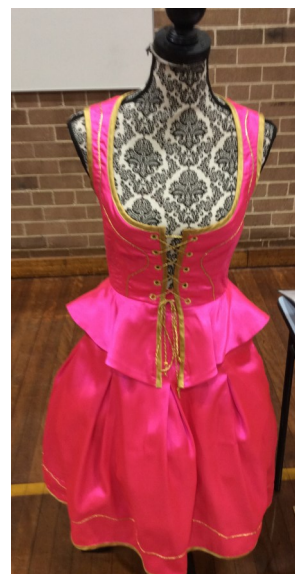
Crazy-patch Dress and bag - **Natalie Elwood**

Freehand embellished box - **Matilda Sutton**

Black /red gown - **Eloise Green**

Hot pink bardie costume - **Monika Bartuskova**

Fur coat and lingerie set - **Tamar Maron**



Library News

WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

WABIAD Winners!

On Wednesday 9 November there was an online announcement of the winners of the WABIAD competition.

One of Davidson's teams, The *Elmos*, won three prizes for their book *Spider Roots*.



The winning team and Ms Ashton (Teacher Librarian)

For their school division they won the following:

Best Book - National

Best Book - NSW / ACT

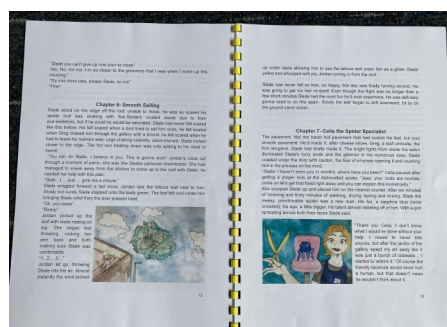
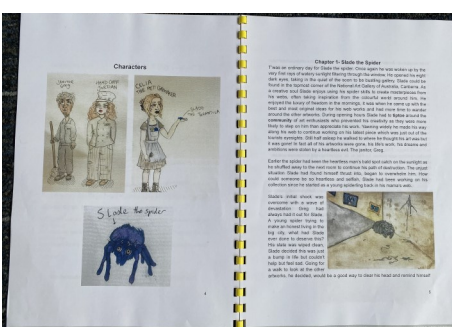
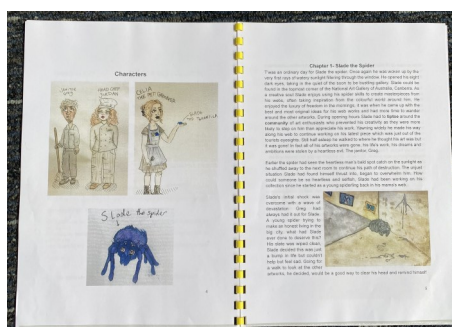
Best Illustrations - NSW / ACT

This is a huge accomplishment for the students in this team. This year was the biggest year ever in the history of this event with over 1,565 teams with 11,494 writers from across Australia.

Congratulations to Ruby Broadbent, Tom Cleary, Abigail McKinnon, Chloe Moorley and Jamie Woodger for writing and illustrating a fantastic book and great teamwork!!

To read *Spider Roots* and other books written by Davidson writing teams this year, click on the following link:

<https://writeabookinaday.com/library/>



write a book
in a day Proudly supporting



Library News

AUTHOR'S VISIT

Rawah Arja, writer of the YA novel *The F Team*, came to present a workshop with year 8 and year 9 students. Rawah spoke about her journey from being a high school teacher to a published author as well as running creative writing activities with the students.



Rawah Arja and Year 8

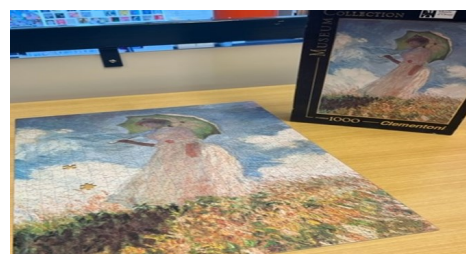
JIGSAW PUZZLES AND GAMES

The library has been buzzing with students playing a variety of games and completing several jigsaw puzzles. All semester there have been jigsaw puzzles that many students have combined their efforts to solve.



THINKING SKILLS

This term in Thinking Skills students explored different study skills and strategies. These included using study planners, flashcards, mnemonics, the pomodoro method and notetaking. There was an introduction to Typing Club, a website that teaches students how to touch type. Students also looked at aspects of Digital Citizenship, including how to find balance in the digital world and how to deescalate digital drama. Students worked on their email etiquette skills and practised writing respectful, polite and effective emails.



Ms Melanie Ashton (Teacher Librarian)

PRINT BOOKS AND ONLINE RESOURCES AVAILABLE THIS HOLIDAY!

In the library we have a huge range of fiction, non-fiction, biographies, graphic novels, and picture books for students to borrow. Students are welcome to borrow up to five books over the holiday period. In addition, at Davidson, we also subscribe to different online platforms that offer a range of rich and varied resources from credible and trustworthy sources. These include the following:

ClickView

ClickView online is an educational video platform. This is a fantastic resource with a wide variety of videos for school and beyond. Students can access it with their DoE sign-in details.

<https://www.clickview.com.au/>

ePlatform

ePlatform provides a wide range of ebooks and audiobooks for students to download. Students can download the ePlatform app on their device or go to the following link: <https://www.eplatform.co.au/>

Click on **Find Libraries** - search for **Davidson** - click on **Visit Library** - find an ebook / audio book that you would like - sign in using your **DoE sign-in details**.

SRC

THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)



The SRC is back! We've hit the ground running, with many new ideas and suggestions. So far, we've sent out a letter to the council requesting recycling bins, created a petition, begun organising the Welcome Back BBQ for next year and started an exciting Holiday Doorways competition.

This term we have started focusing on our container/ plastic recycling. Currently, all our plastics are put in our normal rubbish instead of being recycled. Our first step is to reach out to the council via a letter, requesting recycling bins for school. We have also invited students to sign a petition to support our cause. Hopefully we'll soon be able to have recycling bins for our plastics around our school!

Announced in week 7, a Holiday Doorway competition has commenced! Each roll call class has been working hard on their doors to create something unique and Christmas themed. The rules for the competition are simple: whatever can fit on the door can go on the door! The doors will be judged in Week 9 by the prefects and then a google form will be created for the SRC to vote. The winning roll call class from each year receives Zooper Dupers and the overall winner out of all the roll call classes receives a pizza lunch! So, get decorating!

The SRC have also been busy getting ready for the Welcome Back BBQ for next year. It is planned for Friday week 2 of Term 1. Posters are being made and supplies are being organised in preparation. All profits will be going to Gotcha4Life, a mental health charity that is working to prevent suicide.

The SRC has enjoyed meeting together and making plans to improve our school and we can't wait to continue next year. The meetings will be held in the library on Thursdays in week 4 and week 8 if you are interested or want to join. All are welcome!

Piper Bright and Ella Quinn (Y7)



Canteen and Uniform Shop

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Our wonderful Uniform Shop Manager, Tina, is leaving at the end of the year. We thank her for her hard work over the years and welcome Sheridan to the team as her replacement.



CANTEEN NEWS

This term we have also welcomed Mel to the Canteen team.

VOLUNTEERS

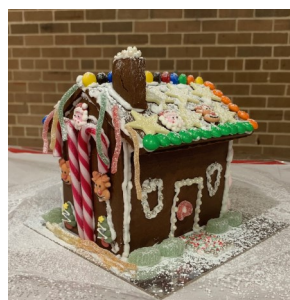
Can you spare a few hours a month to help out in the canteen or uniform shop? We have lots of gaps on our 2023 roster and would love to meet you. No experience necessary - we'll teach you everything you need to know. If you are interested in helping out in 2023 please contact us via email at davidsoncanteen@gmail.com (Canteen) or uniforms.dhs@gmail.com (Uniform Shop).

GINGERBREAD HOUSE FUNDRAISER 2022

Our annual Gingerbread House decorating evening was held on Friday 25 November and was enjoyed by many friends and family groups. There were Christmas carols, much laughter and lots and lots of lollies! Here are some examples of the finished houses.

The fundraiser raised over \$1300 for the school. Thanks to everyone who purchased a kit.

The uniform shop & canteen team wish you all a safe and happy Christmas & New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2023.



Learning Support



HSC Disability Provisions 2023

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 2023, we will require all your documentation by Friday 18th 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

Rotary Corner



We are in the middle of our Bognis Street Fundraiser for Bear Cottage and are very thankful for the support we are receiving from our 3 local Public High Schools, including Davidson. The students invariably enjoy the experience. As we will be collecting up to and including Christmas Eve, it is not too late to contact me so that I can put you on the roster (students, parents and teachers are all welcome).

I attended the Presentation Evening this week and it was so good to see so many familiar faces as many of the students have attended our meetings to participate in public speaking, receive an award or be sponsored to the many Rotary programs on offer for high school students during the past year.

It was particularly pleasing to see Thomas Walker receive the 'Belrose Rotary Junior Public Speaking Award' which he earned as a result of his speech delivered in July at one of our meetings.

We are hopeful of relaunching an Interact Club at Davidson early next year. This will be aimed for students in the junior years. Mr Tavita will be involved in this initiative so please have a chat with him if you think you would be interested.

Kos Psaltis
Youth Service Director
Belrose Rotary
Mobile: 0402 205 628





School Term Dates 2023

Term 1 2023

Friday 27 January 2023	Staff Development Day (staff only)
Monday 30 January 2023	Staff Development Day (staff only)
Tuesday 31 January 2023	Year 7 and Year 10 Mentors only
Wednesday 1 February 2023	Years 8 to 12 commence Term 1
Thursday 6 April 2023	Last day of term for all students

Term 2 2023

Monday 24 April 2023	Staff Development Day (staff only)
Tuesday 25 April 2023	Anzac Day
Wednesday 26 April 2023	All students commence Term 2
Friday 30 June 2023	Last day of term for all students

Term 3 2023

Monday 17 July 2023	Staff Development Day (staff only)
Tuesday 18 July 2023	All students commence Term 3
Friday 22 September 2023	Last day of term for all students

Term 4 2023

Monday 9 October 2023	Staff Development Day (staff only)
Tuesday 10 October 2023	All students commence Term 4
Monday 18 December 2023	Last day of term for all students
Tuesday 19 December 2023	Staff Development Day (staff only)

Information for Families

Sextortion



The Australian Federal Police through the [Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation](#) is seeing a concerning global trend of teenage males being targeted to send explicit images of themselves and then blackmailed. This is called sexual extortion, or sextortion.

The AFP is urging families to have important safety conversations ahead of the school holidays to prevent young people from becoming victim. This crime can have serious wellbeing and psychological impacts.

How does sextortion start?

- Unsolicited friend and follow requests on social media
- Direct messages on one app and then being asked to keep chatting on a secondary app
- Conversations suddenly and quickly becoming sexualised
- Requests for sexualised images or content.

What can families do?

- Have open and regular conversations about your child's online activities and interactions
- Know what platforms, apps and games they are using and who they are interacting with
- Remain open and approachable, victims will be reluctant to come forward if they feel they will be punished or blamed
- Ensure your child knows that it is okay to leave conversations if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe
- Support your child and know how to respond. The [Online blackmail and sexual extortion response kit](#) has been created to recognise sextortion and get help.

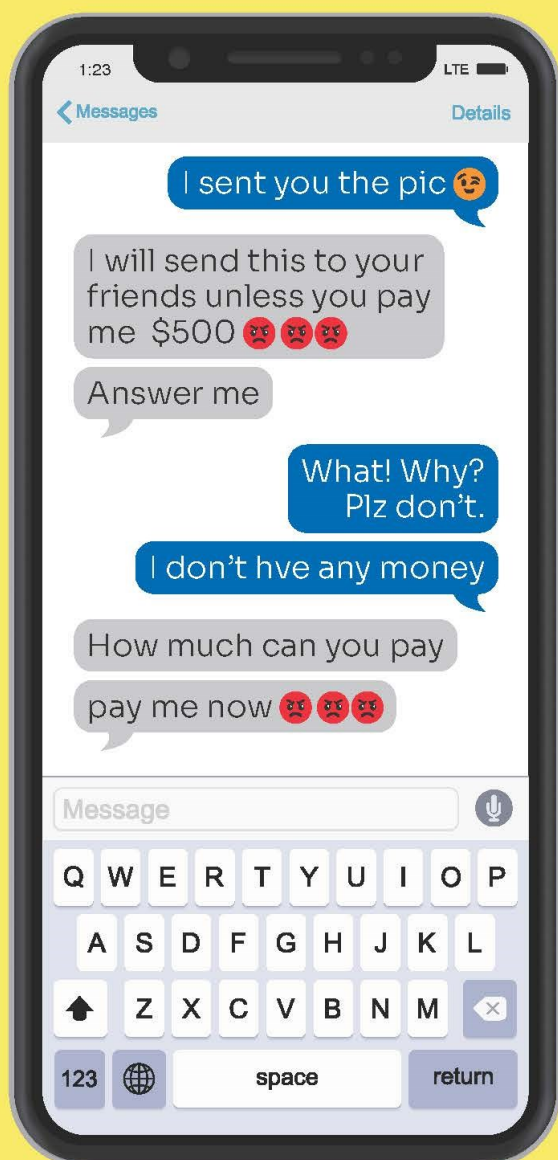
The Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation is here to keep young people safe from online sexual exploitation and abuse.

You can make a report via accce.gov.au/report

For further information, resources and advice visit thinkuknow.org.au



Published November 2022



This is sextortion.

It's a scam.
And it's trending.

You can make it stop.

- ✓ **Do** stop the chat
- ✓ **Do** take screenshots of the text and profile
- ✓ **Do** block the account and report it to the platform
- ✓ **Do** report to the ACCCE
- ✓ **Do** get support

- × **Don't** send more images
- × **Don't** pay
- × **Don't** respond to demands
- × **Don't** enter into further communication
- × **Don't** think you're alone

If you're under 18, we can help.

The Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation is here to keep children and young people safe from online sexual exploitation and abuse.



To report
or get help:
accce.gov.au



Australian
Centre to Counter
Child Exploitation



If you're in a life-threatening situation, call Triple Zero (000).

The eSafety Commissioner can help to remove naked or sexual images shared online without your consent: [eSafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au)



Community Information



supporting young people in school holidays: practical tips for parents and carers

headspace National are hosting education sessions for parents and carers across NSW who are supporting young people during school holidays.

These sessions aim to:

- Identify challenges and opportunities of the school holiday period
- Offer practical ideas for parents and carers
- Provide information about additional support services
- Highlight the importance of self-care

Where:

Online webinars.

When:

We will be offering this session multiple times around the school holiday period. Sessions will be held at 12 - 1pm AEDT or 6 - 7pm AEDT.

Session dates will be listed on Eventbrite.

How do I register?

Click the link to register for a session via Eventbrite: bit.ly/3UVkYQM, or copy the URL into your web browser. Alternatively you can scan the QR code:



After registering, you'll receive a confirmation email which will include the Zoom webinar link.

You will receive a digital information pack after the session that includes key messages and links to resources and support services.

Need more information?

Email us: programsupport@headspace.org.au.

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

School Opal Card



Transport for NSW



School Travel

Term 4 2022

2023 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2023 open from **Monday 10 October 2022**.

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2023 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and entitlements remain valid for the start of the 2023 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), we will send an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2023.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Travel from Term 1 2023

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for 2023 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel open at the start of Term 4 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

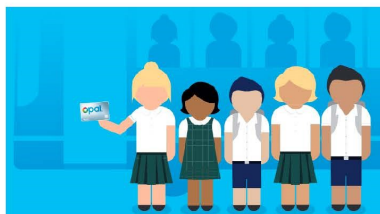
Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a busy period for local transport operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Students using School Opal cards are also reminded that they must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).



Further information can be found at transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel

Enquiries can be submitted at transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback

Community Information



Touch 7s @ Wakehurst

Fun, Fast, Social



Register Team
Interest from

04 Nov

Registrations
open Wednesday

21 Dec

Competition
starts

03 Feb



Our Sponsor

We are excited to announce that Titan Ford have agreed to become our major sponsor for the Foxtel Touch 7s @ Wakehurst Rugby Club.

Email:

touch7s@wakehurst.rugby

Instagram

#wakehurstrugby

Website

www.Wakehurst.rugby/touch7s

Facebook

@wakehurstrugby



Touch 7s Rules

- Seven (7) players (male, female or mixed) in each team
- Touches, not tackles
- Seven (7) touches to score before ball given to opposition
- PASS to a teammate or perform a BALL PLACE once you're touched
- When ball goes over the side line a quick throw takes place
- Kicking allowed in general play
- Turnovers - Ball goes to other team when the attacking team:
 - Drops the ball forward
 - Does a forward pass
 - Uses up their 7 touches

Come join us Friday 3rd February
for 7 weeks @ Wakehurst Rugby Club, Belrose



Comp is open to all ages and gender



Fun, Fast and Social



Community Information

A free, all-inclusive, LGBTQIA+ social support youth group.
GLAM Plus is a safe, confidential and non-judgmental environment.



GLAM PLUS

GLAM Plus is for 12-17 year olds. With fortnightly meetings that are a mix of activities and a place to socialise, build up trust, friendships and access support if needed.
Email info@abilityoptions.org.au to find out more.



Supported by





Community Information



 **GKR KARATE**
KARATE FOR EVERYONE

\$0 JOINING FEE
AND A DISCOUNTED UNIFORM

CONFIDENCE ■ FOCUS ■ DISCIPLINE ■ FUN

- CLASSES IN YOUR AREA
- ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

RECEIVE 2 WEEKS FREE TRAINING
WHEN YOU REFER A FRIEND THAT JOINS

Call or Text Matt on 0413 042 269
Family discounts available. Offer expires 31/01/23

**ACTIVE KIDS**
VOUCHERS ACCEPTED



Community Information

 JUNIOR BASKETBALL ACADEMY

FRENCHS FOREST SCHOOL HOLIDAY BASKETBALL CAMP

FOREST HIGH

4 - 25 JAN

AGES 5 - 14

JUNIORBASKETBALLACADEMY.COM.AU

OPEN TO **ALL** AGES
AND RIDER ABILITY

NOVEMBER EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT

\$40

HOLIDAY CAMPS

AT BIG AIR INDOOR BIKE PARK

9-1PM WEEKDAYS
STARTING DECEMBER 19TH
LIMITED TO 20 SPOTS PER DAY

 **#MTBGROMS**
BOOK NOW!
WWW.BIGAIRBIKEPARK.COM.AU

\$50

