



# DARLING RANGE SPORTS COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER | TERM 2, EDITION 2

## NAIDOC WEEK

We celebrated Reconciliation Week from the 27th of May to the 3rd of June. The theme, 'Don't keep History a Mystery', is an invitation to all Australians to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, to share that knowledge and help grow as a nation.

Twenty eight Darling Range Sports College students joined the WADJAK (Northside Aboriginal Community Group) and the City of Stirling on a Reconciliation Walk at Lake Gwelup. With students from many schools, locals and artists, it was a wonderful day filled with cultural activities, food, animals and music.

The day began with a Welcome to Country, Aboriginal Dances and Art Projects that everyone could take part in, a petting zoo, face painting and lots more. We walked around the Lake, then formed a big circle on the oval and held hands. My friends and I got our faces painted, ate hotdogs, did some art, watched the performances and listened to guest speakers and the music. A big thank you to Miss Flemming (AIEO) for organising the excursion.

Halle-Rose Abraham Sebire (Year 8)

On the 29th of May, I went to my first Reconciliation Week Event. It was an inspiring place to be, surrounded by people of various cultures. We started the day with an address from the coordinator followed by a Welcome to Country given by his mum. Aboriginal artists then performed dances and prominent people made speeches. The Reconciliation Walk around Lake Gwelup ended with everyone holding hands, forming a circle while a drone filmed us from above. After everyone had a bite to eat, we could choose to watch the performances or take part in art and cultural activities. I sat and watched the performances and I was so inspired that I started drawing people and things present there. Everyone was so happy and interested in everything that was happening, it was such a pleasant place to be. I enjoyed my day and feel honoured to be part of the event and appreciate this wonderful land.

Emma Lang (Year 9)





# DARLING RANGE SPORTS COLLEGE

## STUDENT SERVICES

The team at Student Services has had a busy term. Recently, the school held a very successful Year 10 Career Expo and Development Day and we worked in conjunction with our VET department to hold these days which provided students with a multitude of potential options for their futures.

We welcomed Josh Johnson as our new Upper School Youth Worker. Josh has brought with him some great role modelling attributes along with his passion for young people and programs.

The Youth Workers, AIEO staff and the Student Council have been working hard to begin a breakfast club and a community garden which will commence in Term 3.

Through our Positive Behaviour Support we have implemented a Dare to Dream 5P's award that has run for the last three weeks of term. Our P's – Polite, Prepared, Punctual, Productive and overarching – Proud are part of our school culture. Students are recognised for behaving in these positive ways. Students were randomly selected and given canteen vouchers. Those students were then placed into a draw for the final prize of a \$50 movie voucher. The lucky recipient was Anne Yoong, Year 9.

Next term we will also begin our Rock and Water Program for our Year 7 students. This program is a martial arts based anti-bullying, self-awareness, self-regulation, mind fullness program designed for helping with creating self control and coping techniques by using breathing and other strategies. The Rock and Water Program increases confidence in students by empowering them to have alternatives they are able to use in everyday situations.

We are also monitoring student attendance and will provide information, tips and advice regarding your child's attendance at school. For some, getting to school and attending regularly is simple however for others, it's much harder. Regardless of how easy or difficult this is for your child, the staff at DRSC are always here to positively acknowledge and support your child. Having open and frequent communication with staff is a great way to inform and monitor your child's progress as well as seek support if necessary.

### Tip #1:

It is important you are clear that your child must go to school. The question is not if they are going to school but when they will be going. Adopt a caring, but firm approach. Use clear messages about attendance and avoid vague messages about attendance. Examples:

Example of a vague message about attendance	A better, more clear message about attendance
"Are you going to school today?"	"It's time to get up and get ready for school"
"Don't worry. There's nothing to be scared of. It will all be OK."	"I cannot allow you to remain at home today."
"Why are you doing this?"	"I know this is hard but it has to happen. You have to go school."
"You're upsetting the whole family by doing this."	"Be dressed in five minutes and you can have extra time on the iPad after school."
"I don't know what to do if you won't go to school."	"We will be leaving in five minutes."
"If you can't get there today, it's only going to be harder tomorrow."	"Today after school, you can choose a movie to watch tonight."



## Tip #2:

"What did you do at school today?" parent asked,. "Nothing." child replied.  
"How was school today?" parent asked. "Boring." child replied.  
"What did you learn today at school?" parent asked. "Nothing." child replied.

How common is this conversation? A parent trying to engage in a conversation about schooling with their child, only to be blocked by a one worded, 'no room to go' answer. Don't fear! We have some conversation starters that you can tuck away in your 'parent tool belt' that might open up a conversation where your child feels safe enough to share their wins or concerns.

### CONVERSATION STARTERS

On a scale of 1-10, 1 being the worst day ever, 10 being the best day ever, what type of day did you have today?  
What was the peak of your day (best part)?  
What was the pit of your day (worst part)?  
Tell about your Maths (or other subject) teacher?  
What's it like learning about Media (or other subject) this year?  
If I could wave a magic wand and make one thing better for you at school, what would you choose?  
What's your goal at school at the moment?

### WHEN YOUR CHILD IS DISENGAGING AND NOT GOING TO SCHOOL REGULARLY

It's clear you're not enjoying school as much as you used to, what's going on for you?  
I'm wondering about what is happening that is making it hard for you to go to school, I want to help."  
Tell me a bit about....your friends, the subjects you like, the subjects you don't like, what you find easy, what you find difficult, what teachers you click with, what teachers you don't.

When you notice your child disengaging from schooling or not wanting to attend, we can help. By contacting the school, whether it be the front office, teacher, year coordinator, attendance officer or any staff member you feel comfortable with, we will put support in place. Having a consistent approach can make your child feel safe, supported and cared for.





## SNOW WHITE PRODUCTION

The 2018 dance production at Darling Range Sports College has been another resounding success. Year after year, the talented dance students and their teachers manage to wow audiences with their amazing performances. Across three shows, families, friends, DRSC staff and staff and students from Lesmurdie Primary School have enjoyed energetic dance routines to tell our own version of the age-old tale of Snow White.

Congratulations to all those involved, particularly the Year 12 students who have participated in their very last Dance Production. Congratulations also to Ms Caskey on her directorial debut. A big thank you to all those who supported this wonderful venture. What's next??!!





## ACES

It's been a busy term and a half. Our Year 7 ACES students have settled in well and are showing great promise. Well done to you all!

Congratulations to our PACES students and Mrs Hobbs for their achievement of 4th out of 104 schools at the 2018 Solar Energy Challenge. The Year 8 ACES class is registered to take part in this challenge in 2019 and I have no doubt that they will learn a lot and enjoy every minute of it.

Year 11 and 12 ATAR students have met with representatives of all the universities in Western Australia and are discovering new ways to study and are exploring possible career pathways for their futures. Many universities have special amendments to their entry requirements if students are promising athletes. UWA representatives have met with students and discussed some benefits of studying and playing sport at an elite level. These benefits include paid national and international flights as well as tuition to keep athletes up to date with university unit requirements.

An elite group of 12 students was recently selected to represent DRSC at the Academic Gifted and Talent Conference at St Hilda's Anglican Girls School in Mosman Park. The day was interesting and posed many questions which resulted in conversations beyond the curriculum.

A group of Year 10 students recently participated in the Science and Engineering Challenge. Students were required to construct bridges, furniture and a bionic hand to mention just a few of the challenges. Although we didn't win the competition, our students were challenged with life-like engineering and communication concepts.

For the last 3 weeks, Year 10 ACES students have been exploring their career pathway with a mentor from the CURTIN AHEAD program.

All ACES teachers are preparing their students for the ACES EXPO which will be taking place during the last term of this year. These tasks are designed to challenge our students and we look forward to extending an invitation to you and your families when the dates are finalised.

With Year 10 Semester 1 exams over, it is a perfect time for them to reflect on the semester and where they might be able to improve. Reports will open the door for positive and encouraging conversations that lead to emotional and educational growth in our beautiful young people.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding success:

### BASEBALL

Maddux Stivey and Bailey-Jay Cooke have been selected to trial for the Australian U15 Baseball Team. They will be attending a camp in Sydney during the first week of the school holidays with the best 35 baseball players in the age group across the country. If they are successful they will attend the World Championships in Panama in August.