



DARLING RANGE SPORTS COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER | TERM 3, EDITION 2

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The second half of Term 3 has seen a flurry of activity across the College. We celebrated R U OK? Day and Book Week, conducted a breakfast club, ran OLNA testing and showcased the fabulous artistic talents of our students at our annual Arts Showcase. Last week our Year 12's enjoyed a farewell dinner at Mulberry on Swan and today we bid them farewell, with a breakfast and final assembly, as they embark on their journey outside of school.

I have been addressing the College every week to highlight the positive achievements of our students and staff. It never ceases to amaze me how many varied opportunities our students are lucky enough to be involved in. This is certainly a unique and amazing College and we are very lucky to be part of it.

I would like to take this opportunity to advise that next term, I will return to the position of Associate Principal as we welcome our new Principal, Mr Rob Lawson. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the community and take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the recent months.

Katie Edwards
Principal





STUDENT SERVICES UPDATE

This term is flying by and every day in Student Services is a busy one! We held an IZRA presentation for our Year 7 and 8 cohorts which discussed resilience, failing well and attributes of a leader. Following the presentation the students were given information on Shire of Kalamunda's Youth Advisory Council and upcoming events.

We also had a very successful NAIDOC Assembly.

The breakfast club has been flourishing and we have been getting 15-19 students consistently each week who are now getting a nutritious start to their day.

The community garden project is seeing students utilise their energies in a positive manner when they need an outlet from the classroom.

Rock and Water is a successfully running and is in week 5, over half way through using 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. Rock n Water increases confidence in students by empowering them to have alternatives they are able to use in everyday situations.





DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Year 11 Tech Design students have recently been working on silver smithing techniques and pewter casting using carved cuttle fish bone, a very ancient technique. We hope to investigate lost wax casting before the end of this term.

Some very creative designs are being developed by these talented Year 11's.

If anyone is heading to the coast this spring, donations of cuttle fish bone would be greatly appreciated as our supply at school is dwindling fast!!

David Hillan
D&T Teacher



ENCOURAGING YOUR CHILD TO READ

There is a huge body of research proving the academic and social benefits of reading for pleasure, particularly the reading of fiction. These benefits include:

- Improved literacy outcomes
- Improved performance in Mathematics
- Development of empathy
- Development of interpersonal skills
- Improved cognitive stamina and resistance to decline in old age

Research has also shown that reading online texts such as social media posts and emails does NOT offer the same benefits.

While student engagement in recreational reading is in decline, there are some ways we can turn this around. One of the most powerful things that you can do to encourage your child to read is by being a reader yourself:

- Be seen reading
- Talk about books – not just in an educational way but focus on the enjoyment
- Read aloud to your child – this isn't just for the early years
- Ask your child what they've borrowed from the school library
- Take your child to your local library
- Participate in a Book Club
- Participate in online book communities such as Goodreads

Not sure where to start? Each newsletter, we'll publish some reviews of books for middle school readers, senior school readers and parent readers. We hope these reviews will help to start a conversation with your child, provide ideas for birthday gifts or even a bookish treat for yourself.

Happy reading!



BOOK WEEK

The theme for Book Week this year was “find your treasure.”

On Tuesday students completed a literary treasure-themed quiz during form and winners were invited to the library to “find their treasure,” which was a book for them to take home.

Our College library is full of treasures. Throughout the week, in their English classes, middle school students completed a Library Scavenger Hunt where they had to locate various items and books around the library.

On Friday the College held its annual Book Week Dress Up Day with staff and students dressing up as favourite book characters. It was incredible to see the amount of thought and effort that went into the costumes, particularly those that were home-made. Every student who dressed up as a book character received a small prize.

Students got to vote for the best costume in their year group. Voting was coordinated by the Comic Book Club. The award for Best Dressed Staff Member went to Ms Pratt whose ‘Spelling Bee’ costume was made almost entirely from recycled materials, including dictionary-page wings which she made by hand.

The student winners were:

Year 7: Klay Matthews as Elsa from Frozen

Year 8: Jessinta Thijse as Emily from Amulet

Year 9: Abdul Mohd Firdaridzuan as Where’s Wally

Year 10: Kasey Walker as Pennywise from It

Year 11: Sarah Anderson as B1 from Bananas in Pyjamas

Year 12: Aden Huckle as Mad Eye Moody from Harry Potter

Each student winner will receive a \$20 Hoyts Movie voucher.

Well done to all who participated and to the English Department, College Library and Comic Book Club for organising the activities for the week. The Comic Book Club meets each week on Tuesdays at lunch time in the Library.





ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding success:

SOCCER

Freeman Nyatsambo (Year 10) represented WA in China recently. You can read more about his achievement here: <http://footballwest.com.au/freeman-on-target-in-gold-fields-u15-draw/>

SWIMMING

The following students recently competed in the 2018 State Age Short Course(25m pool) Championships

Chelsea Exell SILVER: 200m Backstroke

Jason Martin SILVER: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke

BRONZE: 50m Backstroke, 200m Individual Medley

Nathan Sason GOLD: 50m, 100m and 200m Butterfly

SILVER: 200m and 400m Freestyle, 200m and 400m Individual Medley

BRONZE: 50m Freestyle

Jason Martin Selected to represent WA at the State Teams Championships in Canberra during October

RUGBY

Nicole Ledington (Year 10) has been selected to represent WA in the 2018 Touch 15's Team that will compete in Hobart during October.

