



DARLING RANGE
— SPORTS COLLEGE —

NEWSLETTER

| TERM 1 EDITION 1

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A warm welcome to all parents and caregivers. A particular welcome to parents of our new Year 7 students. The students have settled in particularly well and are showing themselves to be an enthusiastic group.

Across the College we have had a fantastic start to 2020.

Our student numbers have increased by over 100 and our enrolment for 2020 is currently 1020 students. We have 10 new staff who have been inducted and are enjoying their new environment at Darling Range. I will introduce them, with some photos, in our next newsletter.

The new mobile phone policy has been running since day 1 and we are averaging compliance around 99%. For this I thank parents and caregivers for their support of the College and the new Government initiative.

A few highlights already this year include the Year 7 Transition Day at City Beach which was a great success and enjoyed by all the students. The school photos have already been completed for this year and the cooperation of the students was outstanding. Our intra-school swimming carnivals have been swum and won, College teams selected and next week we compete in the interschool competition.

OLNA has been taking place over the last two weeks for students in Years 10, 11 and 12. I trust the results of these tests will reflect the efforts of students.

The new buildings are underway and although we are currently looking like a building site, it is exciting to see the new centres starting to take shape.

I have received a letter from the Executive Director complimenting us on our Year 12 results and WACE Achievement, Attainment Rate, Median ATAR, OLNA completion, Diploma and Cert 3 Completion. This is a tribute to the efforts of our 2019 Year 12 students and all of their teachers. I congratulate them on the successes and hope to see a similar performance from our Year 12 students in 2020.

In closing, I would like to encourage all in our community to communicate with the College on any issue. I have provided a separate section on Covid-19 in the newsletter and website to provide you with information on this topic. Obviously things are changing almost hourly but we are keeping abreast of all developments and communicating with the Department of Education and the Department of Health (WA). The health and well-being of students and staff is my highest priority. If there are any significant changes that require parents to be informed, I assure you that it will be immediate.

At the end of today the students are happy and are actively engaged in learning. I ask for the continued support of the College community as we move forward.



Rob Lawson
Principal

DARE TO DREAM



COVID-19

While the situation regarding the COVID-19 continues to evolve, the Department of Education sector has established plans and a team to support principals and schools. It is important that as a school community we apply common sense, factual information and a practical approach to COVID-19.

If a WA school has to close due to a confirmed case, it will be on advice from the WA Health Department's Chief Health Officer. The Chief Health Officer will, if there has been a positive COVID-19 test result in our school, close our school temporarily while assessment and tracing of exposure is conducted. A thorough school clean will then be carried out to make the school safe for the return of students and staff.

- In this situation the Principal will receive direct advice and support regarding the closure process and communication materials from the Department of Education's Coronavirus support team.
- Upon the school being notified, all families will be immediately contacted and provided with the relevant information. This contact may be during the school day, or before or after school. It is therefore important that we have up-to-date contact details for your children, please notify the front office if these have changed.
- Parents will also be advised of the extent to which class work can be completed at home during this temporary closure and provided with the details of how this will work.

While it is acknowledged that this may be a stressful time for the community, parents are reminded that schools open and close all of the time and that the reason for any school closure will be to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

Darling Range Sports College is taking great precautions to prevent and minimise the spread of the virus.

The following may be shared with your child to maintain health and well-being against any virus during the coming winter.

How to minimize the spread of COVID-19

- Frequently washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or using an alcohol based hand gel
- Refraining from touching mouth and nose
- If coughing or sneezing, covering your nose and mouth with a paper tissue or flexed elbow
- Dispose of the tissue immediately after use and perform hand hygiene
- Avoiding close contact with anyone if you, or they, have a cold or flu-like symptoms (maintain a distance of at least 1 metre).

Who cannot attend school – advice as at 13 March 2020

Students or staff cannot attend school and need to self-quarantine if they have:

- a. left or transited through mainland China in the last 14 days, they must isolate themselves for 14 days from the date of leaving mainland China;
- b. left or transited through Iran on or after 1 March, they must isolate themselves for 14 days after leaving Iran;
- c. left or transited through the Republic of Korea, on or after 5 March, they must isolate themselves for 14 days after leaving the Republic of Korea;
- d. left or transited through Italy, on or after 11 March, they must isolate themselves for 14 days after leaving Italy. People who left or transited through Italy prior to 11 March, should monitor symptoms and seek medical attention should they feel unwell; and
- e. been informed by public health authorities that they have been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus, they must isolate themselves for 14 days after the date of last contact with the confirmed case.

Students or staff who have been tested for COVID-19 should follow the advice of the Department of Health and stay away from school whilst awaiting results.

COVID-19 symptoms

People with COVID-19 may experience:

- fever;
- flu-like symptoms such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue; or
- shortness of breath.

For the latest health information and health related enquiries please visit the [WA Department of Health](#), access the helpline on 1800 020 080 or contact your local GP.

I am mindful of misinformation being circulated and would stress to everyone that we need to consider the impact of this to our College and in our community. Furthermore, please encourage students not to engage in gossip, heresy or rumour spreading relating to the virus as this can only be hurtful.

If there are any issues regarding students, staff and caregivers they need to be referred to me in the first instance. Please be assured that, as Principal, the health and well-being of the students and staff are of the highest priority.

Rob Lawson
Principal



SECONDARY ASSISTANCE (SAS)

Applications for the Secondary Assistance Scheme close Thursday, 9 April 2020.

Parents/guardians with children enrolled in secondary schooling who hold an eligible Pensioner Concession Card or Health Care Card are able to apply.

Forms are available from our [website](#) or the front office.

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

YEARS 7 TO 12
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO:

\$350
towards school expenses

DO YOU HOLD A: ● CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
(OR) ● CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
(OR) ● VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close
Thursday 9 April 2020

Ask School Reception for More Information

BICYCLES FOR HUMANITY

B4H WA has donated 10 bikes to Darling Range Sports College (DRSC).

The bikes will be used in one of the school's STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) projects which are designed to engage and challenge students to use critical thinking and problem solving skills.

The students will be tasked with the challenge of modifying these bikes to enable them to attach 80cc motors. They will then test and modify their vehicles to enable them to compete in a motoGP race against other schools later in the year.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The City of Kalamunda's newly adopted Parking and Parking Facilities Local Laws (2019) came into effect on 25 October 2019.

We would like to remind parents/guardians, students and visitors of the College that any illegal parking under this law may result in a fine of up to \$100 for any offences committed.

Angled parking bays and a designated drive through 'pick up/drop off' area are available at the front of the College for all visitors.

We also kindly ask parents to refrain from parking in the staff car park.

NETBALL UPDATE

Congratulations to the following athletes who have been named in the high performance netball squad:

Winnie Abraham, Mahalia Rukuata, Amarlie Allen, Sarah Cameron, Alyssa Robertson, Amy Dalton, Megan Stinton, Mikayla Robertson, Kea Flood, Savannah Wood, Eryn Kemp, Jazlyn Francis, Sophie Foster and Bella Walter.

These students will be working with specialist strength coach Mandy Hopper and specialist skills coach Ellie Sanzone over the coming six weeks. They will also be attending the Netball WA Hub Day where they will play against the other state specialist schools.

FUNDRAISER: MELBOURNE NETBALL TOUR

Come along to Bunnings Kalamunda tomorrow, 14 March and buy a sausage sizzle to support our netball students who are travelling to Melbourne in June.

A big thank you to local businesses Bakers Delight Kalamunda and Williams Meats Forrestfield for donating all the rolls and sausages for the day.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following staff and students on their outstanding recent success:

ATHLETICS

Our high performance Athletics Program Coordinator and Coach, Andrea Hopkin, finished 3rd in her age category in the Ironman New Zealand competition held recently in Taupo. Andrea was one of 1,200 competitors.

SOCCER

Our high performance Soccer Program Coordinator and Coach, Faye Chambers, has been awarded the Female Football Coach of the Year for Western Australia.

Former student, James Hosking, has signed with the Tranmere Rovers in England's League One competition.