

THE Davidson Dispatch

The Newsletter of Davidson High School

Opportunities to achieve personal excellence in a safe, supporting and creative learning environment

December 2010

Principal's Report

Rod Cassey, Principal

Year 12 Graduation

Year 12 accompanied by their parents and friends enjoyed a memorable graduation on Wednesday November 17. The students were stylishly dressed and thoroughly enjoyed the formalities of the evening. Notable among the award winners were Jevan Arulampalam who received the RB Blake Shield and Natalie Baker who was judged the most outstanding student.

We were privileged to have Ashley Coward, the former captain of Davidson in 2006, present the occasional address. Her advice to students was informative, timely and interesting. It was obvious that the audience thoroughly enjoyed her presentation. Following the graduation ceremony the parents enjoyed refreshments provided by the P & C and the students joined

staff at the Gunners' Barracks at Mosman for the formal.

I would like to thank Mr Kimura, Ms Stuart and Ms Bedo whose organisation and attention to detail ensured that the evening ran smoothly. Thank you also to Mrs Oberg and the concert band for their inspired playing.

A special word of thanks to Mr Brown, the Year 12 year advisor and Mr Fazzolari, the Year 12 deputy principal, for the care and guidance they have given to the students throughout the course of the year.

School Playing field

The school has been given a sporting grant to make improvements to our sporting facilities. For some time now I have wanted to improve the playing surface of our football field. The grant will allow us to correct the problems

with drainage, regrass significant sections, top dress and aerate the field. We will also have new goalposts and additional seating at the side of the field. Included in the grant will be a complete upgrade of the cricket nets which will add another first class sporting facility to the school. I am hopeful that these improvements will be completed over the holiday period and be ready for when students return in 2011.

Our gardener retires

Ms Sam Phillips will retire from maintaining the gardens in the grounds at the end of the year. Sam has worked tirelessly for many years on the school gardens. She created new garden spaces, planted Australian native shrubs and trees, offered advice on landscaping improvements, created interesting spaces for students to socialise and hosted innumerable working bees so that parents and interested parties could make improvements to the grounds. In addition she has been an informed advocate for the protection of Duffy's Forest, a sizeable amount of which exists on our grounds.

The school gardens and grounds have benefited from Sam's drive, determination and enthusiasm. In many of her endeavours she was assisted by her husband, Graham, who spent many hours with Sam improving the school's landscape. We will miss her and offer our best wishes for the future.



... and the beat goes on! Year 6 band students integrated with ease as they practised with Concert Band 2 to perform on Orientation Day

The Arts

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the students who have performed recently in School Spectacular Concerts. There is a rehearsal process and the performances. This is a wonderful opportunity for a number of our students to perform in front of a large and enthusiastic audience. I wish to thank Ms Hattersley for organising this opportunity for our students.

While recognising students in the arts I wanted to also mention the achievement of Amy Johnston from Year 9 who successfully auditioned to be part of the State Junior Drama Ensemble . This elite drama ensemble recently performed at the State Drama Festival. Their performance was a feature of the evening. Well done, Amy.

Former students

In referring to Ashley Coward earlier in the Dispatch I would also like to

mention that 2004 Davidson High graduate, Eleni Psaltis, has been offered a 12 month cadetship by the ABC. This is a much sought after position and encompasses both radio and television experience. There were initially around 619 applicants vying for 10 positions. This is the second year in a row where an ex Davidson High student has been successful. Last year it was 2006 Davidson High captain, David Lewis, who was offered a cadetship and his reports are frequently featured on ABC television and radio.

It is pleasing to hear of former students who are doing well in their chosen careers.

My Schools Website

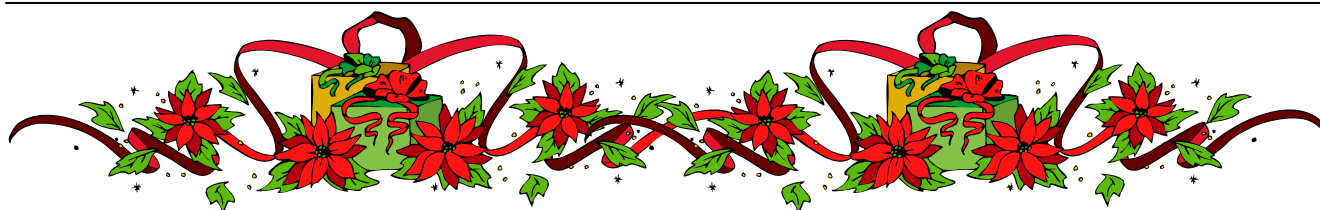
There have been a number of changes to the My Schools Website because of controversy surrounding the Naplan issues at the beginning of the year. There will be a school profile which will provide data about the school such as enrolments and

attendance rates. In addition, there is a profile of the school finances which will list recurrent income and capital expenditure. These figures will include all money spent on the school including salaries.

The Naplan results will show a trend over three years. It is important for Year 7 parents to realise that when Year 7 attempt Naplan they will have only been in the high school for three months. The ICSEA formula which measures a school's socio economic advantage has been improved and there are enhanced security features.

While the websites data will be interesting and valuable I remind parents that the Naplan data is based on a two hour test in Years 7 and 9 and does not reflect the totality of the school's performance or its achievements.

As this will be the last Dispatch of the year I would like to take this opportunity of wishing students and parents a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2010	
Monday 6—Thursday 9	Fab Fortnight continues
Tuesday 7	Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day
Wednesday 8	Presentation Evening
Thursday 8	Year 10 Graduation Rehearsal & Picnic
Friday 9	Year 10 Graduation
Monday 13	Year 8 Fun Day at Waterworks, Manly
Tuesday 14	Years 7, 8, 9 Junior Cricket
Wednesday 15	Last day Term 4 for students
Thursday 16 & Friday 17	Staff Development days
JANUARY 2011	
Friday 28	Staff Development day
Monday 31	Years 7, 11 & 12 + Year 10 mentors return for Term 1,
FEBRUARY	
Tuesday 1	Years 8, 9, 10 return for Term 1, 2011

Deputies' Report

Mrs Sue Anderson & Mr Anthony Fazzolari

As we approach the end of the year and the holiday season we wish to congratulate all students who have performed well and have taken advantage of the huge variety of opportunities provided by Davidson this year.

Uniform

As of the beginning of 2011, Years 7 and 11 boys will be expected to wear the new white embroidered Davidson shirts which are available at the school canteen. School jumpers with different fibre content will also be available for students with allergies. Of course, black leather lace up shoes are the only acceptable footwear.

In line with our PBEL program, we are encouraging students to be respectful, responsible and to put more effort into wearing the correct school uniform with pride. If your child is unable to wear any part of the uniform he/she must bring a note of explanation to one of the deputies for approval before school. We have dispensed with uniform infringement notices and students who defy this rule will be given a Tuesday afternoon detention. Repeat offenders will move through the level system.

Student Handbook and Code of Conduct

All students will receive the new 2011 edition of the student handbook and code of conduct the first day of the school year. Please take the time to discuss the contents of this book with your child/children.

Punctuality/Gate Passes

Please be aware that when late students arrive to class the learning of all students is disrupted. If students arrive at school after 8:28am it is mandatory that they sign in at the front office and present an explanatory note. Gate passes are issued only by the deputies during break times. **Written** permission clearly stating date, roll class, time and **reason** is to be provided.

School diary/Calendar

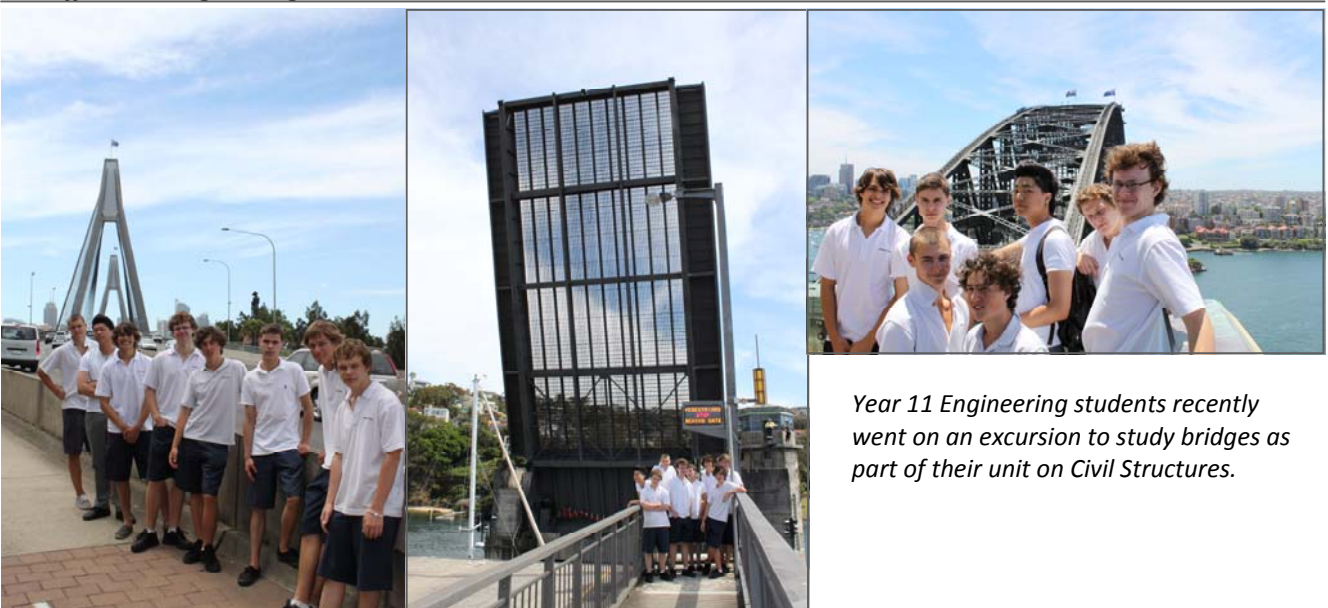
These are **issued to every student in the first week. We seek your support in ensuring the appropriate and consistent use of these to record homework, assessment tasks and test dates.**

In 2011 Mrs Susan Anderson will be responsible for **Years 8, 10 and 12** and Mr Anthony Fazzolari will be responsible for **Years 7, 9 and 11.**

2010 has been a very busy and productive year. We would like to thank all students, staff and parents for their enthusiasm and commitment which collectively contribute to making Davidson High School the great community school that it is. We wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Year 11 Engineering

Mr Jeff Brown, Engineering Teacher



Year 11 Engineering students recently went on an excursion to study bridges as part of their unit on Civil Structures.

P & C Report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am delighted to continue my role as President of the Davidson P&C for 2011 and have very much enjoyed being part of this very dynamic group of parents and friends. Our monthly meetings are lots of fun and it is great to be part of the planning of the school year and be kept up to speed with new programs and ideas in the works!

I am also delighted that other members of the P&C have decided to also stay on and help again in 2011. May I take this opportunity to thank both Carolyn Watters and Sam Phillips for all their hard work for many years on the P&C and other committees. It has been a pleasure to work with you both and you have both definitely made a difference to our school. Thank you.

Moving on . . . we are now looking for another enthusiastic mum or dad to step up into one of the Vice President roles. Please contact me if you can assist. This is a position on the executive committee and is part of the decision making of our P&C.

We look forward to communicating with you all in the New Year with some new fundraising ideas! Please remember that these funds directly go to your children and essential equipment. Without these funds, the school would certainly struggle to provide those extra items which really do make an amazing difference to our students.

Thank you, everyone, for your contribution this year, have a wonderful holiday and Christmas!

Deborah Cullen - President - 0401 849 955

AT THE AGM

The P&C AGM was held on 23rd November with the following positions being decided.

President	Deborah Cullen
Vice President	Caroline Musik
Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Louise Burke
Secretary	Robyn Banks
Canteen Convenor	Sue Abrahams
Grounds Convenor	Lesley Snell
Maebashi Convenor	on hold
Performing Arts Convenor	Janet Littlehales
District Council 1	David Hope
District Council 2	Phyllis Morris
District Council 3	Vacant
Regional Council 1	David Hope
Regional Council 2	Phyllis Morris
Regional Council 3	Vacant
Annual Conference Delegate 1	David Hope
Annual Conference Delegate 2	Phyllis Morris
Annual Conference Delegate 3	Vacant

Congratulations to the incoming P & C Committee members .

We still have a couple of positions to fill, so if you want to come and join a fun bunch of people to help support our

children then please come along to the meetings – 4th Tuesday of each month during the school terms.

AT THE LAST P&C

- A motion was passed that the P & C would provide funds (\$4050) for the purchase of the remaining 3 sewing machines by the school. This was made possible as the school did not need funds that had been allocated for other activities. This now provides the Technology department with all the required industrial sewing machines.
- The money that was raised at the Trivia night earlier this year was used to refurbish the drum kit for the Music department.
- It has been agreed that the Trivia Night next year will be held early-mid May.
- Belrose Rotary will be holding a fundraising night before the school holidays of Term 1 in 2011 next year to support the programs that they sponsor in the school community ie the Public Speaking Shield, Ripen program, Peer support program, MUNA and the 4-way public speaking competition. Stay tuned for more information about these great fundraisers that assist with the development of our children.
- Next Regional P & C meeting is 29th November at Lindfield East Primary School at 7pm.
- Next State P & C meeting is 27th and 28th November.
- Next District P & C meeting is March 2011
- There was a discussion regarding the 40th Anniversary of Davidson High School in 2012 and it has been decided that a special celebration will occur to commemorate this and that a special publication will be produced for the 50th anniversary of Davidson High School.

Next meeting and Christmas celebrations will be held 7th December 7.30pm in the staff room.

Robyn Banks, Secretary

P&C EMAIL

The P&C has an active email list which keeps you up to date with P&C events. If you would like to receive emails from the P&C please email us at davidsonpandc@gmail.com.

PERFORMING ARTS COMMITTEE

Thank you to all the girls who have helped me during the year. Your help has been really appreciated and has helped raise much needed funds for Performing Arts at Davidson. I am planning a sub-committee meeting early March and hope many of you will be able to attend and invite other parents whose children are involved in performing arts at Davidson to come along. Look out for the details in the first Dispatch for 2011. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2011.

*Janet Littlehales, Performing Arts Convenor, 8212 8515 -
0423 054 624
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GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Thank you to Sam Philips for all her wonderful work in the school grounds. Sam has worked tirelessly upgrading and improving areas around the school. She has also been a passionate guardian of the delicate protected areas of surviving Duffys Forest that surround Davidson School. We have been so fortunate to have Sam who is a professional horticulturist and the driving force behind our fantastic Eco garden. Her husband, Graham, has also wheeled a few barrows in his time at Davidson...thanks Graham!!!! Sadly after 10 years tilling the soil Sam is handing the job over to me! I have big boots to fill - Sam, you have been fantastic! I hope Sam will still be around, but all the nitty gritty stuff will be handed over and it's up to me to galvanize you lot into action next year. We really need you to help us maintain our wonderful grounds. If you have green fingers and would just LOVE to join our happy band of diggers please contact me. Also, if you have any ideas or comments about the grounds please feel free to drop me a line. Our first Working Bees will be in late February and early March please look out for further information.

"A garden requires patient labour and attention. Plants do not grow merely to satisfy ambitions or to fulfil good intentions. They thrive because someone expended effort on them."

*Lesley Snell, Grounds Committee Convenor,
Lesley_snell@Mac.com.au, 0421 481 974*

CANTEEN REPORT

A very big thank you to our wonderful Canteen staff, Sam, Kaye, Vanessa and Sally for making my first year as Convenor an enjoyable one. I would also like to thank the P&C and the Canteen Committee for their support.

As always the Canteen and Clothing Pool cannot run without the generous time given by the volunteers. The roster is looking a little lean and on some days we have no helpers. I understand how busy everyone is but if you are

available even one day a term or for clothing pool 1 – 2 hours per term it would go a long way in helping keep the Canteen and Clothing Pool prices down. Please advise Sam of your availability for the roster for 2011.

Our Canteen Committee has a meeting once maybe twice a term for about an hour if you would like to join us please feel free to check with Canteen for our next meeting.

UNIFORM SHOP

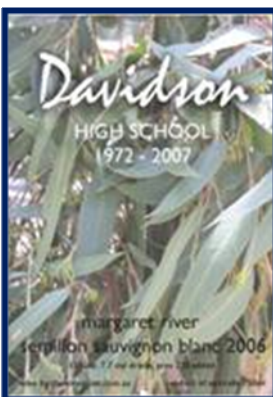
The school uniform has seen some changes this year with the introduction of the new "Davidson" logo white shirt which all new students, Year 7 and Year 11 will be wearing in 2011. Please keep your ties as these may be required at special times and we will have minimal stock on hand. A suitable alternative poly/cotton jumper has been found and will be available early 2011. We also have stock of the new microfibre sport short and have added tracksuit pants to the range. Remember to check out the Xtol website for black leather skate shoes. They now have 5 styles and larger sizes available on line. For all shoes bought a donation is sent back to the school. These shoes are highly recommended for price and durability.

Please come to the Uniform Shop and check out our prices. You will be surprised that we are very reasonable and the only supplier of the new "Davidson" shirt. Anyone interested in volunteering in the Uniform Shop please contact the Canteen. Year 7 and Year 11 uniform booking times have been going very well but some times are still available. Uniform Shop opening hours are 8.00 – 9.00am on Wednesday during term and a special opening day on Friday 28 January 2011 from 8.30 – 10.00am.

Lastly I would like to wish all families and staff a happy and safe holiday season.

Sue Abrahams, Canteen Convenor

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SOPA SPONSORS! See page 10 for details



Need a GREAT IDEA for a Christmas present?

*Davidson High School P&C is running the popular **WINE FUNDRAISER** again*

We have a great range of wines specially labelled with the **Davidson High School logo**

Fax or mail orders Directly to the Wine Point
DO NOT drop orders to school office

No deadlines or limits with this fundraiser
Order right up till New Year!!

Call Caroline 0403 019 500 for more information



Year 11 Construction

Mr Paul Secomb, Construction Teacher



Clearing the delivery area



Hard at work—maybe a future job?

Following this work the students then cleared more earth for the construction of a concrete footpath, approximately 5metres long and 1.8 metres wide. Here they learnt about concrete formwork, reinforcing and pouring concrete. A mini-crete truck delivered 1 cubic metre of concrete on 3rd of November. The students then had about one hour to pour, and lay the concrete. It was hard work, but they worked well.



Applying the finishing touches



Laying the pavers

The students in the class are Adrian Aivazian, Tom Betts, Josh Coleman, Sam Gibbins, Jake Layton, FerdiPollifrone, Jeremy Ryburn, Jackson Taylor, Jake Taylor and Mitch Titlow.

Right: The finished area

In early August the students in this class were given the task of constructing a delivery area near the TAS building. This area is for the delivery of items, such as timber, metal, and machinery, etc. They were also required to landscape below this delivery area with a concrete path and garden.

After a site meeting, work began with the clearing of an area approximately 5 metres by 3 metres. As the photos show, all of the students worked cooperatively and well.

This part of the work took 2 weeks, as obstacles were encountered, such as buried steel bars, rocks and bricks. When this land clearing was completed, the students placed a retaining wall around three sides to a height level with the driveway. This was then back-filled, compacted and covered with a road-base material to a depth of 100mm. This was also compacted, giving a hard surface to place materials on.



Constructing the formwork for the concrete path



Pouring the concrete



Screeding the surface

The students had previously made their own concrete paver, 500mm long and 250mm wide and 75mm thick. After the formwork was removed the students placed their individual paver along the top edge of the path. This is in recognition of the work they did. They were to place their name in each paver and most students did this. They are placed along the edge of the path in alphabetical order.

The last part of the project was to construct a garden on the lower edge of the site. They built the garden edging and filled it with 2 cubic metres of soil, which is also used to hold plants along the path and around the delivery area. This soil was delivered from Australian Native Landscapes. This work was completed on November 17th.

During these exercises the students learnt about some aspects of construction: - teamwork, the importance of site meetings, using various tools and equipment, such as a concrete mixer, drills, saws, levelling, reinforcing, treated timbers, and OH&S requirements on a building site.

Many thanks must go to Mr Cree for his assistance and technical advice during stages of construction.



Science

Ms Sarah Barrand, Acting Head Teacher, Science

SUPER SLEUTH SCIENCE AT DAVIDSON

Mr Ted Reeve, Year 8 Science coordinator

The Year 8 students had a chance to try their skills in forensic science when CSIRO'S LAB ON LEGS came to Davidson High early in November. In one of the science rooms, a murder scenario was created. The body of a young boy had been found in an abandoned factory. A typed ransom note had been sent to the parents and various clues were found at the crime scene. Four suspects have been identified.

The students then had to look at the different pieces of evidence set up around the room and then attempt to match this with the suspects. Evidence included torn clothing, hair, clothing fibres, plaster casts of foot prints and possible matching shoes, finger prints, engine oil from suspect's cars and even DNA analysis of blood samples from the victim and suspects.

All the Year 8s approached the investigation task with enthusiasm and at the end most successfully identified the murderer. Of particular interest to many students was the "ancient" typewriter similar to that used in the Graeme Thorne kidnapping of 1960 upon which this forensic scenario was based.

It was a great opportunity for the students to use the scientific method in an interesting and practical way. For them to be successful in crime solving was certainly a reward that helped to reinforce the relevance of science in the real world.



Eruptions in Year 8 Science

Mr Hasha De Silva, Science Teacher



Stephanie and Elise

Year 8E Science class with Mr De Silva is currently exploring the topic of Earth, Air and Water. So far we have studied the 'theory of plate tectonics' - the biggest idea in Geology. We discovered how continents are constantly on the move, moving ever so slowly until they eventually crash, break away or slip under each other. The result of such events leads to volcanic activity and earthquakes. Having viewed some spectacular images of the 2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajokull volcano in Iceland we made our own

spectacular volcanoes with the help of some dry ice.

The volcano made by the team which included Charlotte Harding, Kate Massey and John Vergos was judged as the best and received Classroom Blues for their best effort. It was fun to see the exploding bubbles spew out of the volcanoes!



Kate, Charlotte & John's winning volcano

Careers

Ms Ruth Peek, Careers Adviser

Board of Studies

2011 event timetables are now available from the Board of Studies

The [2011 event timetables](#) for School Certificate, Preliminary (Year 11) and HSC are now available.

The timetables provide important dates for student entries, submission of major projects, oral and performance exams, student appeals and key dates for the School Certificate test and HSC exam period.

The School Certificate Test and HSC Examination timetable will be available in May 2011.

The Australian curriculum in New South Wales

NSW has joined with the Australian Government and all other states and territories in a joint endeavour to develop an Australian curriculum, initially for English, Mathematics, Science and History. [Read more.](#)

The development of the Australian curriculum will occur in three phases:

Phase 1 includes English, Mathematics, Science and History.

Phase 2 comprises Geography, languages and the arts.

Details about phase 3 are to be determined.

In 2011 schools will continue to use the existing NSW K-12 syllabuses (see [Official Notice BOS 18/10](#)).

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>

Universities Admissions Centre

Check & Change your application

To use [Check & Change](#) you will need your [UAC application number](#) and [UAC PIN](#).

What is Check & Change?

After you have applied through UAC, you can use [Check & Change](#) to:

- ∞ check and change your contact details
- ∞ check and change your course preferences
- ∞ check and change your UAC PIN
- ∞ add qualifications to your application
- ∞ check correspondence, including your fee-owing letter or tax invoice
- ∞ download your Confirmation of Application
- ∞ upload documents required for your course preferences.

Notes:

- ∞ There is no UAC charge for [Check & Change](#).
- ∞ To login to Check & Change you will need your [UAC application number](#) and [UAC Personal Identification Number \(PIN\)](#).
- ∞ Check & Change is available between 7.30am and midnight (Sydney local time).
- ∞ If you need to alter details relating to your application other than those listed above, notify UAC immediately in writing.
- ∞ <http://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/fag/check-change.shtml>

Don't forget to go to the final pages of this Dispatch for the latest edition of Careers News.

Gateway Students Investigate: “Progress, is the cost too high?”

Mrs Susan Duke, Science Teacher

Year 7 Gateway students were given the task to present an Environmental Impact Study on a current proposal before Warringah Council on the viability and sustainability of building 15 dwellings on the bushland next to Garrigal National Park and aboriginal carvings in the Bantry Bay area.

Ms Bedo and Mrs Duke took the students to the area to do a site study to gather as much information as possible. The group was able to collect soil samples, photographs, plant cuttings, temperature readings and examine the location in depth. We were very lucky to have Ms Vivien Howard, a Warringah Council environmental officer come with us

and talk about the endangered and introduced species of this actual site. Following the excursion, students performed a variety of soil tests from their samples, such as pH tests in the laboratory. The Gateway students will soon present their findings to the class next week.

This was a cross KLA project involving English, Science, HSIE and Maths, and its purpose was to examine this problem from different views. To compliment their findings, in English, the students choose a variety of roles and had an excellent debate at ‘Council Chambers’ arguing their point of view. With Mrs McLeod’s guidance, some well-prepared speeches and dressed for the occasion, the class put on a stimulating forum on this issue. Congratulations to the Gateway class on a job well done!



Above: Gathering the data, analysing it



Below: The great debate



Environmental matters

Mrs Susan Duke, Eco Club Coordinator

It has been another very successful year with the Eco Club. From training and environmental leadership days, to assisting Mimosa Public School with their Environmental Day to our own Green Day at Davidson, the students have had a busy and fulfilling year.

As well there have been the weekly efforts of the Eco Club in maintaining and selling the variety of produce we have grown in the school gardens. From basil, parsley, potatoes, silver beet, tamarillos, worm juice and many types of herbs, the Eco Garden has been in full growing mode throughout the year. A big thank you must go to all the staff who have generously been purchasing the school 'veggies' over the year and assisting us in making our garden sustainable.

Thanks also must go to Mrs. Sam Rhillips whose continuing dedication and commitment to the Eco Club has kept our gardens in the beautiful state they are, thank you. We also welcomed a new teacher into our 'green' group, Ms Coletta from the Languages Department, who has been a valuable asset during the year. In summarising, thank you to all for making it a very good year!

Happy gardening!

A message from the Year 9 Advisor

Ms Claudia Pantschenko

I'd like to take this opportunity to comment on the recent camp that Year 9 took part in as well as bid the Davidson High community farewell. The camp was held up at Morisset in week 4 this term and students got the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities. Lots of fun was had on things like the 'mud challenge' and canoeing, students tested their nerves on the high ropes and 'leap of faith' and the whole group enjoyed the night activities, especially taking the staff on in a teachers-versus-students game of commando and a spot of cross-dressing at the disco!

I have been so lucky to work with such a wonderful group of students and I will most certainly miss the entire year group. I am taking leave in 2011 to travel parts of Asia and as much of Europe as I can fit into 12 months! Thank you to all of the students for making my job as year advisor an absolute joy and for the many supportive parents I have had the pleasure of working with too. I wish everyone at Davidson High School all the very best for Christmas and the New Year and a great 2011.

Year 12 Textiles & Design

Mrs Loretta Mangassarian, Textiles & Design

Congratulations to Hannah Labrum from year 12 who has been awarded the 2010 Bernina Prize Award for her Major Textile Project Titled "Fascination with Peacock". The main sources of inspiration of Hannah's project were nature, the exotic shape of the Indian Peacock and the ocean.

The prize was generously sponsored by the Bernina Machine Sewing Centre, Chatswood. Hannah's project will be on display at the Bernina Machine Sewing Centre, 166 Victoria Avenue, Chatswood, for viewing.



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Year 9 Camp



NSW Premier's Student Volunteering Awards Program

Ms Leanne Bell, Program coordinator

In its inaugural year at Davidson High School, the NSW Premiers Student Volunteer Program has been very successful. The volunteer program formally recognises student contributions to the school and wider community. In the last Dispatch we congratulated our Diamond Award winners (the highest award possible). We would now like to congratulate the students who have achieved Gold Awards (60 hours), Silver Awards (40 hours) and Bronze Awards (20 hours). As the Award program continues throughout years 9 and 10 many of these students have the opportunity to increase their Awards in 2011.

Congratulations to the following students:



Gold Award – Hayden Jewell

Hayden has volunteered his time with the Red Shield Appeal, as an Assistant Soccer Coach, Year 7 Mentor and Year 7 Swim School Instructor.



Silver Award – Olivia Wakelin

Olivia has given her time fundraising for Breast Cancer research and "Jeans for Genes" day, as well as being a leader for Year 5 enrichment, Flying Squad and Year 7 Swim School.



Silver Award – Jordan Lew

Jordan has volunteered as a Taekidokai Teacher and as a leader at Flying Squad and Year 7 Swim School.

Bronze Awards – Megan Allman, Natalie Der Bedrossian, Jessica Edmeads, Melissa Juergans and Jeff Tremble.

These students have participated in a variety of activities including being leaders for Flying Squad, Year 5 Enrichment, Year 7 Gala Day and Year 7 Swim School. Individuals have also given up their time selling Legacy badges, fundraising for the 40 Hour Famine, knitting blankets for the Save Our Children Charity, giving dance tuition and being members of Surf Life Saving Patrols.

A number of ICET students have given up their time whilst in Australia to participate in volunteering experiences. They have been involved in a variety of activities including helping at the Davidson HS open night, Enrichment days and weekend working bees in the school grounds. These ICET students have also enriched the lives of a number of Davidson students through tutoring them in Japanese language and teaching them Origami. Outside school, individuals have visited the elderly, helping at Surf Life Saving BBQs and knitting for the Save Our Children Charity.

Through volunteering the ICET students have gained valuable skills and it has enabled them to immerse themselves in both the school and local community.

Congratulations to the following students –

Gold Award – Anna Okamoto

Silver Award – Hiromasa Ishimoto

Saine Nakata

Bronze Award – Yukino Kasai

Miyuki Okamoto

Mako Yamada

Eriko Uchiyama



Anna



Hiromasa



Saine

Do you currently participate in any of these activities or do you have an idea of some volunteering you would like to do? If so, we would like to formally recognise your valuable contribution to the community. You need to be a Year 9 or 10 student in 2011 to participate. Current Year 8 students who are interested in this program will be given their log books this year so that they can log any volunteer hours they participate in during the upcoming school holidays.

If you would like to know more about this program please visit www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/volunteering or see Ms Bell (PDHPE)

The National Young Leaders Day

By Holly Asquith, Vice Captain

On Monday 22nd November, the six school captains of 2010/2011, Holly Asquith, Emily Lemlin, Jordan Lewis, Meg Loudon, Toby Williams and Jake Severino and I, attended the National Young Leaders Day. The event took place at Sydney Convention Centre in Darling Harbour and around 2000 high school students were in attendance.

The occasion was the initiative of the Halogen Foundation; an institute of public character and a non-profit organization, whose mission is to inspire and influence a generation of young people to lead themselves and others as well. Available throughout the day was the leadership opportunity market which was designed to connect students with non-profit volunteering positions, as well as to present information regarding universities and future careers.

We took part in an activity called "10,000 Ideas"; encouraging students to voice their ideas on how they think their community and world can change. Students were asked to pick an issue important to them, think outside the box to pitch a solution, and then explain how this idea could change the world we live in. Our Vice-Captain, Jake Severino, was one of the few students who stood up in front of the assembly of 2000, and pitched his idea.

The most exciting aspect of the day, however, was the line-up of guest speakers who all shared their thoughts on leadership. These speakers included Kristina Keneally, the Premier of NSW, Anh Do, the author and comedian, Matthew Cowdrey, Paralympic gold medallist and 2009 Young Australian of the Year, and Anne Bunde-Birouste, founder of Football United and UNSW graduate of public health and community medicine.

My favourite speech, and I think shared by a few of the other students also, was given by Anh Do. He is the author of 'The Happiest Refugee', a book which three of us bought on the day - a signed copy at that! His thoughts, as well as the other speakers, were all very inspiring. We left the day very grateful for the opportunity we had received, and inspired by the great leaders who had shared their stories on the day.



2010 School Captains

Left to right:

Meg Loudon, Jake Severino, Emily Lemlin (Captain), Holly Asquith, Jordan Lewis (Captain), Toby Williams

Schools Spectacular 2010

Kelly Hattersley, Schools Spectacular Co-ordinator



This year, Davidson High School had more students representing the school at this fabulous event than ever before. Across the dates of Friday 26th and Saturday 27th November, 26 Davidson students joined the cast to entertain the crowds with their singing and dancing expertise. The Schools Spectacular is an annual event held at the Sydney Entertainment Centre showcasing the talent of NSW Public School Students from across the state in an awe inspiring two and a half hour show. It is a varied collection of music, dance and drama items.

This year we were fortunate enough to have 16 students in the arena choir, five students in the central choir, one student in the Performing Arts Unit dance ensemble and, as a first this year, we had three boys successfully audition to be part of the Performing Arts Unit Boys Hip Hop ensemble, a popular section of the show involving talented male hip hop dancers from around the state. After many, many hours of rehearsals, learning lyrics, practising the moves and counting down the days, our students performed brilliantly in four successful shows to crowds of over 10,000 people and had a fabulous time doing it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their help this year in ferrying students to and from rehearsals and meeting places (especially when the meeting time is 5.45am in the morning!) and I would also like to thank the students themselves for their exemplary behaviour at this event and congratulate all of them on their efforts. I was very proud of you all. Well done!

The ABC will be broadcasting the Schools Spectacular in an edited version on Sunday 12th December at 7.30pm on ABC1 and the full version will be shown on Sunday 19th December at 7pm on ABC2.

ICET

Mr Brett Manning, ICET Coordinatyor

This year marks the 20th year that ICET has worked with Davidson to enrich the lives of local and Japanese students. It is a program that is long standing and cherished. Each year, I am fortunate to attend several conferences that are regularly attended by English language providers. Regularly attending are representatives from most Australian universities, private language centres, government language centres, and more and more high schools. Over the years I have attended these conferences, everyone is curious and interested in the Davidson/ICET relationship and model. They are impressed and amazed at how such a relationship can develop and be long lasting. Still, despite the interest and curiosity, no one has been able to replicate this program. In today's aggressive education market, this is truly unique and very special.

In 2011, Northern Sydney's Regional priorities are to 'develop authentic international relationships' through developing sister schools and cross cultural understanding. For the past 20 years, this has been a regular focus of Davidson and ICET. On the eve of our 20th year together, it is interesting to note that Davidson is well ahead of its time in fostering international relationships. The ICET program at Davidson is unique to Australia. The opportunities that all students are given at Davidson, from Year 7 to 12, are tailored with the students' interests being first and foremost.

Next year, Davidson will see 17 Japanese students come through the ICET program in Year 10. These students will gain a cultural awareness that cannot be explicitly taught in Japan. The Davidson students will also gain such an awareness through their daily interactions, both formal and informal. Opportunities for travel to Japan will be available, as they have always been, to select Davidson students who are willing to step outside their own cultural boundaries and explore a different culture to enhance their understanding of the world and become global citizens. Numerous opportunities for cultural inclusion and acceptance for the students will also be available through International Forums, both here and in Australia.

It seemed like yesterday when 15 tired and timid Japanese students arrived in Sydney 11 months ago. The time has gone by so quickly and we are now preparing to see them graduate from the ICET program and return home on the 11th of December.

On behalf of Davidson, we would like to say farewell and thank you to the following students:

Moeka Endo	Taichi Funo	Hiromasa Ishimoto
Yukino Kasai	Tsubasa Kawaguchi	Saine Nakata
Taiki Nakaya	Mayu Takeguchi	Anna Okamoto
Miyuki Okamoto	Takuto Takeda	Eriko Uchiyama
Mako Yamada	Yukiko Yamaguchi	Shiori Yoshida

Their contribution to the school will be missed. They have worked tirelessly to integrate themselves within Year 10 and will return home with fond memories and bonding friendships. They will be remembered for their contribution to the school grounds, working at weekend working bees with Sam, assisting the Languages Department with Japanese, inductions for students travelling to Japan, the Year 5 Enrichment Program, Baseball, Davidson Open Night... the list goes on.

Have a safe flight back to Japan. We will miss you and hope that you will all someday return to Australia and visit Davidson High School again.



Right: ICET Year 10 graduates 2010

Understanding, Respect, Acceptance Forum

Mr Jacques Kolokossian, ICET Teacher

On Wednesday 24th November, 12 Davidson students and 15 ICET students went to Blacktown Girls High School for the Understanding, Respect and Acceptance Forum. Each school had to prepare a topic to present and have questions ready to be discussed by all the students at the forum. The topics were: Influences of Modern Technology on the Youth Today presented by Davidson; Whaling presented by Blacktown Girls; and Violence in Anime presented by the ICET students.

All the students worked incredibly hard in the previous weeks before their presentation. In the weeks leading up to the forum, the students were furiously writing their notes while researching their topics, putting together a presentation and slide show and finally practising their presentation in front of their peers. On the day, the students and teachers were welcomed very warmly by the girls at Blacktown. The cultural diversity was amazing for the students to see as some commented on how different the atmosphere was from Davidson. After the students arrived and were placed in separate groups with the Blacktown Girls' students, the URA forum was under way. Each group presented their topic well and the questions asked were thoroughly discussed. Amongst the discussions there were friendly debates, interesting ideas raised, all topped off with laughter. It was obvious all the students were enjoying themselves. In fact, the students felt so comfortable with each other that after the presentations were finished, they started singing and held a mini concert.

When the day was over, interesting ideas were learnt, different points of view were seen and new friendships made. A perfect way to end the Understanding, Respect and Acceptance.



Student stories ...

by Taichi Funo



We went to Swan Hill on Saturday the 21st of October. We left school at Friday lunch time. It was a very long way to Swan Hill. We experienced a lot there. Some students had experience of shooting birds and some of them rode horses. Unfortunately, I couldn't do those things. However, I could

experience several other things.

Firstly, I went to MacKillop College for a week and I attended class with a buddy. The classes are almost the same as Davo but one class surprised us. It was a religion class. I'm afraid I couldn't understand what they were doing but I'm sure it was difficult. My buddy told me so.

Secondly, we stayed with a host family there. My host family was really kind and liked driving. I went to their grandparent house. They had a big wine farm. There were some wild animals. There were Kangaroos, rabbits and pigs. It was fun. Also my host brother was an actor so I saw his act. It was funny, just a funny show.

On Friday, the day we had to go back to Sydney, we had an assembly. Saine and Anna had a speech to say good bye in front of the whole school. Also, Takuto and his buddy had a performance. They played guitar together. It was such a great performance. We were really sad to leave school because we loved the school and friends. All the ICET students wanted to stay but we left with sadness. We will behave like then in Davidson High School as well. I had the greatest time there.

by Yukino Kasai

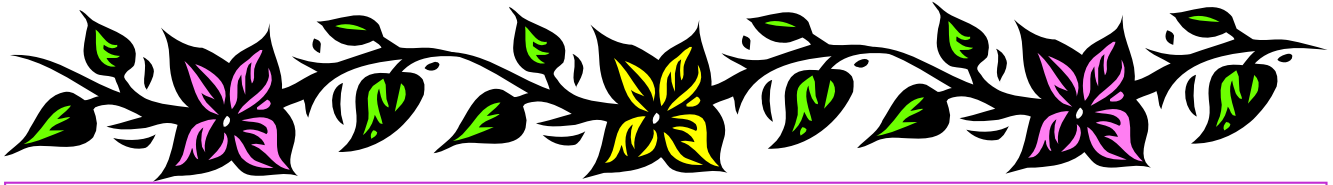


I went to Swan Hill from the 21st to 30th of October. We had good time with our host family and friends. Firstly, we arrived at MacKillop college. We met our new host family, and introduced ourselves.

After that, we went to our own houses. I stayed at Mary's house. I watched a Japanese movie which was Battle Royale. My host family loves Japan, so there are lots of Japanese movies. At night, Mary and Andrew explored in Swan Hill. We met Mr Kolokossian and Eriko's family and talked to them.

The ICET students joined school life at MacKillop college. My buddy was Imogen. She was a very kind and nice person. I could make many friends. So many students talked with me and they are interested in Japan. I'm so glad to see them. We also went to Mr Marten's farm. It was a huge farm. We saw many sheep.

The final day was so sad. Everyone didn't want to leave Swan Hill. We had an assembly there. Takuto and his buddy played guitar. It was so amazing. My friends made me happy. Miyuki and I took a photo with them. I had so good time and really enjoyed this week.



Host families needed!!

Would you like to be a host family for an overseas student?

In conjunction with Davidson High School, **Inter Cultural Education Today (ICET)** provides a unique language and cultural exchange program for Australian and Japanese students.

Each year a number of Japanese students aged between 15 and 18, attend **Davidson High School (Frenchs Forest)** as regular students and receive specialised intensive English lessons as well as being part of Davidson's normal school program. They are enrolled as students of Davidson High School and are subject to the school's normal behaviour and student welfare codes.

We are looking for families in the area who would be willing to host a Japanese student participating in the 2011 program.

These Japanese students are keen to learn about the Australian way of life and homestay is an essential aspect of this unique educational experience. We know that the friendships which develop are deep, long lasting and cross cultural boundaries.

Orientation programs are provided for all families and bilingual support is available for the students and homestay families throughout the year.

Families providing homestay receive remuneration. Other arrangements apply for families who wish to send their own children on exchange to Japan under this program.

If you would like to be a part of this program, or if you would like more information, please contact our home stay co-ordinator:

Sue Umei on (02) 9975 7773



ICET

InterCultural Education Today

PO Box 53 Belrose NSW 2085

Tel: 9402 0067 Fax: 9401 9733



ICET-Davidson HS Joint Educational Program - 20th Anniversary

Fusae Harada, Director ICET

In 1991, a small group of four Davidson High School students left for Japan and in exchange two Japanese students came to Davidson. They were the pioneering students who took the opportunity to expand their world to a foreign country and to a new system of exchange that Davidson established with Okayama Gakugeikan High School in Japan. The cross-cultural experiences those six students had through living in another country for 6 to 12 months prepared them well to be part of a global society. The experience gave them a depth of understanding into themselves and their own cultures as well as others with different cultural backgrounds.

Those four Australian students had a huge impact on the Japanese community where they spent their time. The culture they brought in was so different from what people in Japan were used to, that the local people felt the need to establish a way of accommodating differences whilst still learning about each other. So, the Japanese host parents, with the cooperation of the school, formed a group called the 'Global Village' in order to provide an efficient and supportive environment for the young Australian students who came and would continue to come to Japan. The school also made some changes in the curriculum and teaching methods in order to accommodate those students.

The two Japanese students who spent a year at Davidson are now 37 years old and play important roles in their communities and places of work. Whenever I am in touch with them, they talk about their days at Davidson with passion, since their experiences in Australia are still so vivid in their mind. They feel that the memory of those times provide them with a fountain of energy for life.

Since then, over 600 hundred young people have followed the example of those six students through the ICET-Davidson program. Each student has stories to tell, each host family has a pile of memories, and each teacher has so much pride in being part of their growth. Everyone involved has learnt so much from each other about cultures, languages and life itself, both in Japan and Australia.

In 1998, through connections with ICET, Morioka Chuo High School became Davidson's second sister school. Many students have come to Davidson from this northern part of Japan and every year the teachers and students from Davidson are offered opportunities to participate in the International Forum held there.

One fond memory, shared by Mr Peade and myself, was seeing the expressions of disbelief on the faces of a Japanese audience when watching the Davidson dance ensemble perform. Of course, there are a plethora of stories I would like to share with you but am limited to space, so I'll just share one more with you that left an unforgettable impression on me.

It was an incident that made me realise how one small, even seemingly insignificant, experience could change people's life choices. About 7 years ago, I happened to be sitting on a panel selecting Davidson recipients of the scholarship to Japan. There were many students studying Japanese at that time and we had twelve strong candidates. When asked why they were applying for this scholarship, seven out of the twelve said they chose to enrol in DHS after an encounter with the ICET students in Year 5 and 6. From that time onwards they had become interested in Japan and the Japanese language, and they knew that Davidson offered an opportunity to go to Japan. That was the moment when I was reminded of the power and significance of this kind of cultural exchange.

This endeavour has only been made possible thanks to the foresight of past and current school leaders, the passion and strong understanding of those teachers with the gift of turning challenges into growth for young people, the love and care of the school community, and most of all the courage and enthusiasm of each student who dared to try something different.

In the past two years, Davidson has opened its doors to other international students and the cultural environment is changing very quickly. Although this new movement is not linked with ICET, new opportunities have been created for DHS to foster an environment of even greater inter-cultural friendship and learning. Such a vision does not happen without the genuine effort of each and every person in the school and the community. In extending an attitude of respect, friendship, and curiosity to one another, foreign students will feel a cherished part of the school and give their best effort in every aspect of school life. This goes both ways and as the world comes to Davidson, global opportunities open for local students. May we evoke the pioneering spirit of those who crossed cultural bridges before us so that we may continue to enhance and expand for the future Davidson students.

A big thank you to all the people of the Davidson community for your support of the ICET program over the past 20 years.



YEAR 12 MATTERS

Applications for Instructor Internship Program in Snowboarding and Skiing. We have just opened for 2011/12 in North America. We're looking for gap year students who are passionate about skiing or snowboarding and are keen to spend a season training and working in the ski/snowboard industry. Open to all abilities - beginners are most welcome www.easkiandsnowboard.com/

University of Technology Sydney UTS Parent/Student Evenings in December Parents of students applying to study at university in 2011 are invited to attend one of 3 information evenings in December. These information evenings provide parents with the opportunity to gain information about:

- * application procedures, fees and alternative pathways to UTS
- * scholarships open to all students as well as high achievers
- * campus support services to aid students with their study

Parents and students can also speak to lecturers and current students as well as participate in an optional campus facilities tour. This is a popular event and registration is essential. Please visit the UTS website for more details and to register online www.think.uts.edu.au/families/index.html

St Patrick's Institute of Education provides training courses to make a transition to the workplace or university. Phone 8306 2333 or visit www.itcc.edu.au/partners_sub.php?subpages_id=42

Lattitude Global Volunteering works with hundreds of inspiring young Australians who use their Gap Year after Year 12 to undertake a structured international volunteering placement and assist local communities around the world. Go to www.lattitude.org.au for information.

HSC Results www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc-results/

The Higher School Certificate (HSC) is the highest educational award in New South Wales schools. It is awarded to students who have satisfactorily completed Years 11 and 12 at secondary school. To be eligible, students must meet HSC course requirements and sit for the statewide HSC examinations. Read more about [how the HSC works](#).

For information about HSC results and services available visit:

- [Accessing HSC results](#)
- [Understanding HSC results](#)
- [How results are determined](#)
- [Judging and applying the standards](#)
- [HSC results inquiries](#)
- [Credentials](#)
- [HSC and beyond](#)
- [Information for employers](#)

TAFE NSW Find a course, find a campus, how to enrol, fees & assistance, and lots more www.tafensw.edu.au/

HSC showcases and exhibitions

The 2010 HSC showcases and exhibitions are around the corner – don't miss ARTEXPRESS, Callback, DesignTECH, ENCORE, OnSTAGE, Texstyle and Young Writers Showcase. Visit [showcases and exhibitions](#) for 2010 performance and exhibition updates. Visit the homepage of www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

Media Bootcamp Course is returning this summer for 5 weeks during the TAFE holidays at TAFENSW Ultimo Campus. It's aimed at school leavers and current TAFE students wanting a career in advertising. Students learn up to the minute industry tools and software in a fast paced environment. For more information call Marcus on 0401 419 191.

Screenwise Diploma of Screen Acting www.screenwise.com.au

Hayes Gordon established The Ensemble Theatre and Studios and subsequently devised the 'Roberts Method' to best support the learning process for Australian actors. The 'Roberts Method' mixes a strong academic element with hard-nosed professionalism and is aimed at helping actors master the craft so they can obtain the one thing that's the most elusive in their line of work, a job. For 2011 courses or school holiday workshops contact Denise Roberts CEO & Principal on 9281 4484.



DATES

HSC results 2010 from the Board of Studies will be available online by SMS or telephone from 6am on Wednesday 15 December. Students need their Student Number and HSC PIN to access their results. See step-by-step instructions for accessing results, including registering now to receive results by SMS on results day.

The [2010 Media Guide](#) also contains helpful information about HSC results. Visit www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

UNIVERSITIES ADMISSIONS CENTRE UAC www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/offers/

Offer Round dates

[November Round](#) Thu 18 Nov 2010 at 9am

[December Round](#) Thu 9 Dec 2010 at 9am

[Early January Round](#) Wed 5 Jan 2011 at 9am

[Main Round](#) (most offers made in this Round) Wed 19 Jan 2011 at 9pm

[Early February Round](#) Wed 2 Feb 2011 at 9pm

[Final Round](#) Wed 9 Feb 2011 at 9am

DET school calendar term dates holidays & events up to 2015 www.schools.nsw.edu.au/calendar/?do=setViewPeriod

MORE INFORMATION

Board of Studies Links to Educational Sites www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/aa_main/links.html

HSC: All My Own Work

Before students can be enrolled into their senior pattern of study with the Board of Studies they must complete the **HSC: All My Own Work** program. It is designed to help Higher School Certificate students follow the principles and practices of good scholarship. This includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies. The program consists of five modules and is available in online and downloadable formats. From 2009, all students undertaking Preliminary or HSC courses must complete the **HSC: All My Own Work** program (or its equivalent) before the school's submission of students' Preliminary or HSC entries.

Valemus Autumn School of Engineering has an additional program running in April 2011 for Year 11 and Year 12 students. Contact Aimee Najdovski on 9410 5613 or anajdovski@engineersaustralia.org.au or visit www.engineersaustralia.org.au/ieaust/index.cfm?A1835BFD-D4B7-A214-3F97-C5DC9D0D2B93

UTS Future of Design from 9 to 19 December. Sydney's UTS Tower Building will be transformed by the works of students graduating from Fashion and Textiles, Industrial Design, Visual Communication and Interior Design courses. The only exhibition of its kind at an Australian university, the ten-day show will showcase product designs, fashion shows, prototypes and animations, demonstrating the amazing innovation and creativity of this year's graduating students www.newsroom.uts.edu.au/events/2010/12/the-design-show

Work Wise Women is a unique opportunity for women who want to participate in the workforce with up to date and professional ICT skills. Semester one is free. Information sessions are at Northern Beaches College Brookvale. Contact Annette Bonnici IT Head Teacher on 9941 5387 or email northernbeaches.it@tafensw.edu.au

Pearsons School of Floristry's Commercial Design Certificate is your fast-tracked pathway to Certificate III in Floristry (WRF30104). Classes commence in February 2011 - choose a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday class and attend just one day per week for a year. To find out more phone 9550 7755.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Most universities offer a range of scholarships based on academic performance at the HSC or during undergraduate study. Contact individual institutions www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/institutions/ and visit www.uac.edu.au/equity/

Scholarships in Australia www.australian-universities.com/scholarships/

The Good Universities Guide www.gooduniguide.com.au/

