Moonee Magic

On 2 April Year 8 students travelled to Coffs Harbour (Moonee Beach) for their annual excursion. On the way to Coffs Harbour we stopped at the Boambee Headland and completed a line drawing of the Coffs Harbour coastline. The trip continued and we arrived at the Moonee Beach Caravan Park where we unloaded the bus and set up the campsite. During the excursion we participated in activities such as orienteering, tidal studies, raft building, obstacle course construction, sand sculpturing, knots course, Coffs Harbour Jetty and Mutton Bird Island case studies. Our camping skills were put to the test on Tuesday night as thunderstorms and torrential rain ripped through the coast!

A highlight of the week was going to the Aboriginal Cultural Centre – Yarrawarra, where we learnt traditional weaving techniques and about the local bush tucker from a local Aboriginal elder.

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 29-30 April> Staff Development Days (Pupil Free)
- 1 May> Students return to school
- 6-10 May> Year 11 Half Yearly Exams
- 8 May> Tax File Number Information Session
- 15 May, 6.30pm> P&C Meeting - Staff Common Room
- 16 May, 6.30pm> Rotary Youth Expo @ Bowling Club
- 23 May> Athletics Carnival
- 3-7 June> Year 10 Work Experience

Next term we will be learning to stay safe on the internet.
And so we come to the end of another busy and productive term at Duval High School! A bit of a cliché, I know, but true in this case. So, what were the major events of Term 1? Well, in the first couple of weeks, we held our Year 7 Welcome BBQ and a most successful Twilight Swimming Carnival. These were followed by our fantastic PBL Launch Day and Celebration, our school Photo Day, the first school social for the year, and we also enjoyed a wonderful Harmony Week. The P&C held their AGM and 2013 looks to be another promising year in our long and mutually-beneficial relationship with this highly-committed, aspirational and supportive team of parents. We survived the dreaded Armidale Cup half-day holiday and the disruption it caused to all schools and, thanks to the support and understanding of our parents and community, the organisation and transport of students went off without a hitch.

In recent weeks, Year 8 returned from a successful and highly enjoyable Moonee Beach excursion. We also issued the last batch of DER laptops to most of Year 9, and hope that they prove to be a useful resource for them, despite the uncertainty regarding technical support from the end of 2013. Our Transition team has conducted its first visits to local primary schools, and the feedback has been very positive indeed. Year 12 are almost finished their half-yearly exams and hopefully will use these as a catalyst for their preparation for their last two terms of school before the HSC. The Solar Panels funded by the National Solar Schools Program are being installed this week (weather permitting).

This week Year 9 and 10 students enjoyed a visit by three of the 2013 NSW Australians of the Year: ex-footballer and mentor, Mr Corey Payne – 2013 NSW Young Australian of the Year; Submarine designer, Mr Ron Allum – 2013 NSW Senior Australian of the Year; and Redfern LAP Commander Luke Freudenstein, standing in for Indigenous leader, Mr Shane Phillips – 2013 Australia’s Local Hero (also the national recipient). The purpose of the visit was to bring the NSW recipients of the nation’s most respected Honour into contact with school students and community members to share their inspiring stories. Our assembly was led by Mr Andrew Gill, MC and facilitator, and organised by Ms Leanne Byrne and Ms Karina Eustace of the Community Initiatives branch of the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Australia Day Council of NSW.

All in all, I think you could say that Term 1 at Duval High was a very busy term indeed!

During the holidays, all students are invited to participate in the Anzac Day March (in full uniform please) on Thursday, 25 April, assembling in Moore Street car park before 10.15am.

Students and parents are also warmly invited to attend the first of our two Term 2 School Development Days on Monday, 29 April. The first two sessions of that day include planning for our ongoing implementation of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) at Duval High, plus Part 2 of the “Vision for Duval High School” which we began on Day 1 of the year. Please come along and be involved in these important activities.

The School Development Day on Tuesday, 30 April will see the staff involved in local and regional activities in preparation for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in 2014.

School resumes for all students on Wednesday, 1 May. I wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing holiday!

Stafford Cameron

The Duval High School Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) invites all members of the school community to the next P&C meeting which will be a special presentation by Alun Davies on the NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK (NBN)

DATE: Wednesday, 15 May
TIME: 6.30PM
VENUE: School Staff Common Room
DANCE NEWS

Congratulations to Paige Hadfield (Year 10) who has recently been accepted into the NSW 2013 State Dance Ensemble. Over 300 students from across the state auditioned for this highly prestigious performance group. Paige was selected along with 35 other dancers. Well done!

Armidale Dance Eisteddfod
Students have been busy practising for the upcoming eisteddfod which will be held on 29 May. Excursion notes and costume requirements will be sent home the first week of Term 2.

Dance T – Shirts
Orders are now being taken for Duval Dance T-Shirts. Elective class dance students have an option to buy this shirt at the cost of $18. If students wish to purchase a shirt they need to see Miss Cullen before the end of term.

ARMIDALE DUMARESQ COUNCIL
YOUTH WEEK LOGO COMPETITION

Congratulations to Isabelle Winter (Year 7) who created the winning entry in this recent competition. Isabelle is pictured here at NERAM on the Year 7 excursion to the Archibald Prize exhibition.

36 Year 7 students had a wonderful time looking at the Archibald Prize exhibition at NERAM.

CAREERS NEWS

The Rotary Club of Tamworth West is again conducting a Rotary Aviation Careers Expo (RACE) aimed at school students in Years 9-11 commencing at 5.00pm on 26 May and concluding at 2.30pm on Tuesday 28 May 2013. The Expo will cover a wide range of the careers that are available in the aviation industry. Please collect an application form from Mrs Hardman.

http://youtube/hae2OkCqgCo

ATTENTION YEAR 12 STUDENTS: Registrations for UMAT2013 are now open! Please go to the website to register if you are interested in medicine, dentistry and any health science degree programs at undergraduate level. You can download an information booklet from this website. UMAT2013 will be held on Wednesday 31 July 2013. UMAT is offered once a year only. Registrations will open in early April 2013.

Registrations will close at 5.00pm AEST 7 June
2013. Late registrations will be accepted until 5.00pm AEST 21 June 2013 on payment of a late fee of $65 in addition to the registration fee. http://www.umat.acer.edu.au/

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Football**

The Duval High School football teams have commenced competing in statewide knockout competitions. Recent results have seen the boys Open team defeat Guyra Central school by a convincing score line; Under 15 boys defeated Inverell High School 2-1 in an enthralling game which went to extra time and drop offs; and finally the Under 15 girls defeated Armidale High School 3-2. The Open boys will now play this Friday (12 April) against Uralla Central School at Phil Wheaton Fields. Kick-off is at 12 noon. The Under 15s will commence games early in Term 2.

**New England Zone Teams**

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in Zone teams:

**Netball**
- Sarah Birmingham
- Lauren Acton
- Fiona Brunckhorst
- Sarah Campbell
- Kourtnee McFarlane
- Megan Rayner

**Open Girls Football**
- David Wilson in action for the Under 15 boys football team
- Ari Georkas
- Riley Hopwood

**Open Boys Football**
- Luke Burton
- Hayden Freeman
- Sarah Birmingham
On 2 April, Year 8 went on an excursion to Moonee Beach for an education about the geography of tides, raft building, and many more activities. We enjoyed the experience and had lots of fun.

Isaac Clark

It was lots of fun with the beach walk at night. It was just way too much fun! I learnt how to cook hot dogs. I learnt about bush tucker and medicine with the elder at Yarrawarra. I learnt that the breakwall in Coffs Harbour stopped rough seas.

Darcy Campbell

Moonee Beach was loads of fun because of the teachers, students and activities while we were there. We learnt heaps of geography and camping skills like orienteering, tieing knots and rafting, along with mapping. The beach walk the first night was the best and so were the quizzes. Thanks to Ms Simes, Ms Cullen, Mr Lacey, Mr Craven, Mr Crompton and the bus driver who put up with us all.

Noah L’Hostis and Elayna Moens

On 2 April, Year 8 set off for a 4 day excursion to Moonee Beach. It was a lot of fun there and everyone learnt a lot of things too. We went to lots of places like Coffs marina, Mutton Bird Island and Yarrawarra. We also spent some time on the beach and campsite doing things like raft-build, orienteering and sand modelling. We all had a lot of fun cooking our own meals and living in tents. Overall, this might have been the best excursion we’ve been on!

Sharanya Pradeep

MOONEE MAGIC (Continued from page 1)

This was one of the best excursions we have been on. Year 8 student comments include: “great beach”, “we loved all of the swimming”, “the busher tucker was awesome”, “great views from the headland” and “an excursion we will never forget”.

Year 8 would like to thank Ms Simes, Ms Cullen, Mr Craven, Mr Crompton and Mr Lacey for taking us on the excursion and all the organisation.

Olivia Stace and Jannifer Roberts

ORDER OF MERIT COMPETITION

GUYRA

SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 2013
ALL PLAYERS WELCOME
TEE OFF AT GUYRA BOWLING AND RECREATION CLUB
10 AM
18, 9 & 4 HOLES
Great Prizes BBQ Lunch & Drink for all players
For Information & Nomination Forms
Adam Brennan 0408792429

Year 8 @ Moonee Beach photos over page