OPPOSITION BOWLED OVER

As the North West Regional Finalists Justin Bullen (skipper), Aaron Kelly and Matthew Carey competed over two days recently in the NSW Combined High Schools Triples Lawn Bowls Championships at the North Haven Bowling and Recreation Club.

Day 1 of competition saw Duval play 3 games over 12 ends each. Game 1 against Elderslie saw Duval equal at the second last end 11-11, with Duval winning 13-11. In the second game, Duval had a comfortable win over Balranald 16-7. In the final game to decide the winner of (L to R): Aaron Kelly, Justin Bullen, Matt Carey

Report continued on page 3
PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

I can’t believe how quickly this term has gone by! However, you will know as well as I that this is simply because of the huge number of things that have been happening in every area of the school – academic competitions and exams, sporting representation, creative and performing arts opportunities including our joint musical with Armidale High, the Armidale Eisteddfod, HSC Study Days, the athletics carnival, and a huge number of programs which have been run to benefit your children – no wonder the days have flown by. And so we find ourselves at the end of Semester One, and you will no doubt be eagerly awaiting the delivery by mail of your child’s report – I wonder if they are looking forward to that quite so much?

Technology News: We will shortly be introducing a new ‘Mobile Phone/Device Usage Policy’. In the 21st century, mobile phones, tablets and other electronic devices are increasingly being utilised in schools as learning tools. As a result, the staff of Duval High School decided to review our existing ‘Mobile Phone Use Policy’ to allow for the appropriate use of mobiles, tablets and other devices in class. The implementation of the Australian Curriculum from 2014 will also have a significant impact on teaching and learning methods and resources. One of the key growth areas is in the use of technology for learning, including such diverse tools as BlogEd, Edmodo, Podcasts, Moodle, TED Talks, YouTube videos, virtual textbooks, video-conferencing, real-time data use from the internet such as SmartFarm and the Smart Tree project, and so on. Already, teachers are being encouraged to utilise technology in ways which were impossible a decade ago, and this process has only been accelerated by the Digital Education Revolution and its laptops.

The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) team has been considering this problem for quite some time, and it has become clear that our existing mobile phone policy needed to change. Under the old policy, students were not permitted to use mobile phones etc during class time under any circumstances. While this was useful in those cases where students chose to use their phones for the wrong purpose, it meant that teachers were restricted from adapting their lessons to suit the new technology. Furthermore, the overwhelming proliferation of smart phones amongst students has allowed educators in many countries to tap into these electronic devices as learning tools. Teachers in the UK, Finland and the United States, for example, have been investigating the use of mobile devices for education (M-Learning) for nearly a decade.

The new policy is included on page 7 of this newsletter for your information.

In other news:

♦ Duval High has been chosen to participate in the ‘Connecting to Country’ Program due to our status as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan (ATSIEAP) Focus School, and because of our participation in the ‘Write it Right’ program. We will send a team of new scheme teachers (and myself) to participate, and we will use our one-off Transition Funding for Aboriginal Students to assist our partner schools (Ben Venue PS and Sandon PS) to send staff to take part as well.

♦ Last week we were informed by our new Member for Northern Tablelands, Adam Marshall, that we will soon have flashing speed limit lights for the school as part of a project to improve road safety around all of the schools in the Armidale area.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday!

Stafford Cameron

Raise Dough for our School

Fresh bread tastes even better when you know it’s helping raise money for our school. Duval High School has signed up to the free Dough Raiser Program, and when you mention DHS, Bakers Delight will give a percentage of the purchase back to the school at a nominated time.

Bakers Delight is located at:
Shop 6, East End Mall Shopping Centre
Opposition Bowled Over - Cont’d from page 1

the pool, Duval played previously undefeated Sylvania in which the lead was swapped several times during the game. After a very tense and exciting tussle, Sylvania was pipped by Duval 12-13. At the end of Day 1 Duval was the Pool D winner which meant they would play off for a possible spot on the podium.

Day 2 dawned bright and sunny but all was not well. Where was Matt Carey? A phone call confirmed the team’s worst fears – Matt wasn’t well. So as Justin and Aaron got a feel for the green during the roll-up, team manager, Ms Verwayen, sort clarification with the referees concerning the team’s possible forfeiture. To everyone’s relief Matt arrived at the club though he was too ill to play. The umpire’s ruling was that if Matt was present at the club the team would not have to forfeit; Matt could forfeit his bowls, allowing Justin and Aaron to play. Matt lay on the seat at the end of the rink with cups of tea hoping to recover. Meanwhile Justin and Aaron took on Rutherford, a man down, knowing that they had only 6 bowls on the green compared to Rutherford’s 9.

Duval was one up at the 14th end but Rutherford scored 3 in the final 15th end to win 17-15. Duval’s defeat meant that Rutherford would play off for 1st against Keira while Duval played off against Picton for 3rd in the State.

Against Picton, Aaron and Justin started but Matt recovered enough to play the final third of the game. In a close match Duval prevailed to defeat Picton 14-10 and secure the bronze medallion.

The boys played a very high standard of bowls providing the crowd with some nail-biting games. As skipper, Justin led the team by example, keeping the team focused under pressure. The boys displayed excellent sportsmanship, with all three remaining calm when the going got a bit tough.

Thanks to Ben See and Rory Sutherland who played in earlier knockout games to help Duval become regional champions, and thanks also to the parents for all their support over the season. Special thanks to Mrs Kelly who accompanied the team to Coonabarabran for their round 3 win. Congratulations on a great podium finish!

REMINDER TO PARENTS

Last day of Term 2 is 28 June 2013. If your child is starting holidays any earlier or coming back later than 16 July please advise the office of the dates your child will be absent. Please consider applying for Exemption if your child will be absent for an extended period of time.

Please advise the office on 6772 1266 or duval-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au if your child is absent due to sickness or any other reason.

STUDENTS BROADCAST ON TUNE FM UNE 106.9

Following a successful week of Work Experience at Tune FM UNE 106.9, four Year 10 girls - Tegan Kliendienst, Maddie Fittler, Farihah Islam and Amelia Cowie - have been given the opportunity by the radio station to broadcast a weekly spot which they call ‘Xroads’. The girls play a great selection of music and discuss teen topics and all their time is volunteered. Well done girls, and keep up the great job.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Recently 96 Year 10 Duval students were placed in about 80 businesses and organisations across Armidale for their week of work experience.
Work experience plays a major part in the development of students as they get hands-on experience of life in the real world of work. Careers Adviser, Mrs Hardman, says that the week helps students narrow down their choice in career path and create their own futures. The students and school are very grateful to all the local organisations that supported our Work Experience Program this year.
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

There were some record-breaking performances at the annual school athletics carnival, along with a lot of fun enjoyed by all who attended and participated. Congratulations to the following athletes who bettered previous school track and field records and to this year's age champions.

2013 AGE CHAMPIONS

12 Years Girls  Jannala McNally
12 Years Boys  Lachlan Harris
13 Years Girls  Astashia Marr
13 Years Boys  Kieran Davies
14 Years Girls  N'Dea Rumble
14 Years Boys  Sam Smith
15 Years Girls  Winona Rumble
15 Years Boys  Ben Barton
16 Years Girls  Melissa Dye
16 Years Boys  Xavier Dean
Open Girls  Dea Trigwell-Lindley
Open Boys  Hayden Freeman

COONABARABRAN HORSE EXPO

Once again Duval High School sent a group of students to compete in this elite Equestrian Expo. This event gives over 500 students from around the state an opportunity to compete across a range of events. Our students' events' results were:

Jade Fangmeier
2nd in the Combined Training (CT3)
1st in the 2c Novice Dressage
3rd in the 2d Novice Dressage
Reserve Champion Novice Dressage
4th in the Working Horse Challenge 14yrs

Hacking - 2nd in her Rider and Reserve Champion Rider
1st in her Hack and Reserve Champion Hack
2nd in the Equestrian Hack
1st in Pairs

Jade also won her Age Champion and a rug! A great effort!

Carlie Fangmeier
4th in the Combined Training (CT3)
8th in the 2c Novice Dressage
10th in the 2d Novice Dressage
5th in the Working Horse Challenge 17yrs
Hacking - 5th in the Rider
5th in the Hack
1st in the Equestrian Hack
1st in Pairs

Annalise Howard
5th in the Warrumbungle’s Way

Hayley Armatage
3rd in the Combined Training (CT1)

The staff and school would like to thank parents and helpers for giving up their time. As Carlie said after this year “there is so much to do, it’s so much fun, and you meet new people from so many different schools, if you’re interested come along next year.” If students wish to compete next year please see Miss Cullen for more information.
Duval High School Mobile Phone & Device Use Policy

What is the new policy?

1. **Policy:** Under normal circumstances, mobile phones, tablets and other devices should be turned off or on silent mode in class, and put away safely in the student’s bag. However, students may use mobile phones, tablets and other devices in class if the purpose of the use is educational and the use has been approved by the classroom teacher.

2. **Please note:** this does not affect our policy on the indiscriminate use of mobile phones during class time. Students who persist in using their mobile phones or other devices in class inappropriately or without the consent of their teacher will still be liable to having the device confiscated. If a student uses a mobile phone or device without permission during examinations, assemblies, performances and other school formal activities, staff members are within their rights under Department of Education and Communities guidelines to confiscate the item.

3. **Confiscation:** When this happens, the device will be taken to the front office by the staff member, where it will be secured in the strong room. Students will be able to collect their devices at lunchtime (if it is a first offence) or at 3.25pm. Students who have an Early Leaver’s Pass, or catch an early bus, may collect their device at a time to be negotiated with the Deputy Principal.

   Parents and carers are advised that ongoing and inappropriate mobile phone use, in defiance of this policy, may be considered to be Continued Disobedience and subject to Clause 6.2 of the Suspension and Expulsion of School Students – Procedures, which states:

   “...the principal may choose to impose a short suspension of up to and including four school days. Short suspensions may be imposed for the following reasons and will be reported in the following categories:
   1. Continued Disobedience. This includes, but is not limited to, breaches of the school discipline code such as: refusal to obey staff instructions; defiance; disrupting other students...”

4. **Exams and Assessment Tasks:** Students must not use mobile phones or other devices during written examinations or Assessment Tasks. Students who bring devices to exams or tasks will be required to hand it in to the supervisor for the duration of the exam. Students deemed to be using the device to gain an unfair advantage will receive a zero mark for the task, and an ‘N’ Award Warning letter.

5. **Games:** Students must not play games on devices in class unless specifically given permission to do so by a teacher. Games to be used in class must be for educational purposes only, and meet the Department of Education and Communities guidelines on appropriate content in schools. Students accessing inappropriate games and other content on their device may be liable to suspension from the school.

6. **Parent Contact:** If a student needs to contact their parents/carers for any reason, they should do so by going directly to the Deputy Principal, who will arrange telephone access. Alternately, students can come to the front office during breaks and request telephone access. Parents are encouraged to telephone the front office on 6772 1266 should they need to contact their child directly, rather than ringing the child’s mobile phone. This causes unnecessary disruption, which should be avoided at all times.

7. **Cameras:** Students may use the camera in their mobile phone or device for educational purposes, and if directed to do so by a teacher. However, students may not use cameras and camera phones to take photographs or videos on school premises without direct permission from a teacher. Inappropriate use of cameras and camera phones may result in disciplinary consequences including suspension from school. Any photographic images or films made at school must not be posted to social media sites.
Social Inclusion: How Can My Child Become More Involved At School?

Social Inclusion can be defined as feeling a sense of connectedness, having/receiving support, and feeling valued. Adolescents who feel a sense of connection to their community, peers and support groups often experience higher levels of resilience. This then results in the creation of a safe and supportive environment where students feel secure, comfortable and happy to learn.

It is possible that students who do not feel socially included may experience social isolation or exclusion. Social exclusion can involve being physically isolated from a peer group, deliberately humiliated or teased. This may have negative impacts on a young person’s self-esteem and mental health.

How Can I Help My Child Be Socially Involved?

- **Assist your child in building friendships** - Help your child identify other students that may have similar interests. Having one or two close friends helps to improve self-esteem and confidence levels.
- **Encourage them to become involved** - Encourage your child to involve themselves in extra-curricular activities, whether this be sporting activities, volunteer groups or offering their assistance to teachers etc.
- **Listen to your child's concerns** - Be sure to provide a listening ear to your child’s worries and fears. They should feel like their home is a safe haven. Also offer them some strategies to counteract their concerns.
- **Encourage them to be involved in wider-community activities** - Encouraging your child to socialise with students in their local area, play sport outside of school, join a social networking group or even a local youth group enables their social skills to develop along with their interests, self-esteem and resilience levels.

If you or your child would like additional information on social inclusion please refer to the following resources or contact your child’s school;