Talented HSC Students’ Major Works

Evie Weir and her Textiles major project

Xavier Dean and his IT-Wood major project

See more HSC Textiles and IT-Wood major works on pages 6-7

DATEs FOR THE DIARY

- 4-12 September > Year 11 exams
- 9 September > Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 19 September > Year 12 Valedictory
- 7 October > Term 4 commences
- 13 October > HSC exams commence

We are discussing our Classroom Procedures and how they are related to life outside of school.
Can you believe we are already approaching the end of Term 3? I can't believe how quickly this year has gone, and I'm sure Year 12 is feeling much the same way! It has certainly been hectic around here over the last couple of weeks as the students with practical exams or major works to submit hurried to finalise them. We had the HSC Major Works marking in Dance (8/8), ITW (29/8), and Drama (29/8), and the Visual Arts Major Works were also despatched last week. The Music practical exams will take place on 8 and 10 September. (On that note, parents and community members who want to see something really special should note that Jol Choct will be presenting his HSC performance evening at NECOM at 7pm on Saturday, 6 September). I have had the pleasure of looking at many of the major works, and I want to congratulate the students who produced them as well as the parents who supported them to reach this point. Of course, the rest of Year 12 are also working hard in the final weeks of school and no doubt looking forward to the break before the HSC exams.

Meanwhile, Year 11 students are, for their part, looking forward to becoming the “big kids” of the school next term. Last Friday they held a special year meeting to elect the Prefect group who will take over the student leadership of the school once Year 12 has commenced their exams. The candidates are a fine group of young people, and I wish those elected all the best in the coming twelve months. I have asked Year 11 to start showing their leadership to the rest of the school in three ways:

- By living up to the school’s expectation and requirements for the HSC course when they commence in Term 4;
- By showing respect for their predecessors by not wearing their brand new Year 12 jumpers until after Year 12 have finally left the school; and
- For those students with less than 12 units in the HSC course, by being aware that discretionary leave is a privilege and not a right, and not assuming that they can jump in their cars and head off to Maccas at recess, lunch or whenever they have a study period! Discretionary leave must be applied for and will not start until after all subjects and lessons have been settled next term. Mr Bieler will issue and collect all discretionary leave applications in due course.

The transition process for Year 6 students is well under way. We held a packed Year 7 Parent Information Night on Tuesday, 19 August, and demonstration lessons will start early next term. Year 6 students will be bused to the school and will participate in lessons in some new and exciting subjects. The next step will involve the Year 6 Orientation Day on Thursday, 6 November, when all students entering Year 7 in 2015 will come to Duval for the whole day and really get to know what high school will be like next year.

Finally, I wanted to let parents know that we have applied for the Parent Online Payments (POP) scheme at Duval High School, and that it will “go live” sometime in October. A new heading, ‘Make a Payment’, will appear on our school website at that time, and parents will be able to pay electronically for subject fees, sport, excursions, etc from that time onward. More information and detailed instructions on how to register for the POP scheme will follow soon.

Stafford Cameron

**Year 12 End of Year Activities**

The last school day for Year 12 students is Thursday, 18 September.

The study vacation period for Year 12 will commence 22 September.

Friday, 19 September is Valedictory Assembly. On that day the staff will host a BBQ breakfast from 7.00am - 8.30am at the school.

There will be a Valedictory Assembly at 9.30am in the school hall, where the school will have the opportunity to say farewell. Morning tea will be served in the Staff Common Room after the assembly. Parents are invited to the assembly and morning tea.
QUIET PLEASE - WE'RE READING!
60 MINUTES FOR MS

On Tuesday, 26 August 53 students gathered in the library to enjoy a delicious morning tea, before reading together for an hour to raise $270.00 for research into Multiple Sclerosis. This event has become a great annual charity fundraiser for the library, and was all the more special because it was held during Literacy Week. A big thank you to Mrs Stroud, Mrs Pownall, Mr Craven, Mrs Morey and Ms Squires for generously donating such a sumptuous feast for the occasion. Thanks also to Year 9 students Zoe George and Sharanya Pradeep for helping put up the posters and set up on the day.

P&C NEWS

Spring is here and we are starting the growing season with a mulching and weeding working bee this Sunday, 7 September from 10am. If you can join us, it would be great, even for a short time. Please bring gardening tools, wheelbarrows, gloves, etc. Resuming the front of school wall painting and lettering will be on the agenda as the weather warms, so stay tuned!

The P&C has been saving for a major project and this account is growing. We welcome ideas for how best to spend a larger sum, with the possibility of adding to it via a grant. Please direct your comments/suggestions to the P & C via the school office.

Thank you to Community Mutual and those members of the school community who have nominated Duval High School for their community partnership account. We have recently received $622.00. Please consider using this simple means of donating money to our school, every bit helps.

Our school canteen is a success thanks to some very dedicated ladies, but they need back up support from the rest of us from time to time. Working a few hours in the canteen is a great way to connect with the school, contribute in a very 'hands on' way which delivers funds for our school. Run by mums of students, Suellen, Belinda and Vicki have the best interests of our students at heart. As a casual helper in the canteen you will always be with experienced workers who guide you in a fun supportive environment. Why not give them a call via the office - they’d love to hear from you!

For more P&C insights and to have a say join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, 17 September at 7pm in the Staff Common Room, or contact Caroline via the school office.

P&C Committee

WELFARE NEWS

On Tuesday, 2 September, Year 7, 8 and 9 students were treated to a wonderful drama performance by Brainstorm Productions: “The Hurting Game”. The talented two-person troupe presented an entertaining and thought-provoking play on the power games played across the school years.
Bullying and peer pressure were the focus, but many other contemporary issues were raised, including difficulties forming friendships, body image, media pressure and cyber safety. The play presented a powerful message to be yourself, and to stay out of power games: “the best way to deal with the hurting game is not to play at all.”

Students are encouraged to speak up if they feel they are being bullied, by following the school’s Anti-Bully Policy published on the school website, and seeking help from teachers, year advisers or the Welfare Co-ordinator.

Our Welfare Team is available to assist students with mental health issues, having recently trained in the Youth Mental Health First Aid Course, and our counsellor is available for interviews with students and parents by appointment.

Ms J Squires, Welfare Co-ordinator

FESTIVAL OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Nyah Golding represented Duval High School at the Festival of Instrumental Music in Sydney at the Opera House during the last week of Term 2. Nyah was one of only two students from Armidale chosen to perform in the Senior State Wind Band. Nyah played the flute for two different pieces over two nights (Acacia and Banksia concerts). This undertaking was a huge effort as students must be note perfect with all their music before undergoing intensive rehearsals in Sydney for three days, prior to the performances. This ensures this band, which draws performers from all over NSW, is playing to the high standard expected at these concerts.

MATHS NEWS

Australian Maths Competition

This year saw a number of students from Year 7 to Year 12 participate in the Australian Mathematics Competition. This is a challenging competition which requires students to answer a number of problem solving questions. It was wonderful to see so many students participate and the Maths Department would like to congratulate all who took part and encourage interested students to be involved again next year!

Several students deserve special mention for their outstanding results and they are listed below.

Distinction awards went to Adam Lucas (Year 7), Bradley Lucas (Year 8), Mohammed Ahsan (Year 9), Tanvee Islam (Year 9) and Erin Bourke (Year 12 – who sat the paper in the middle of her HSC trial exams!).

Credits were achieved by Isabelle Jedlicka, Hashir Khan, Callum Ferguson, Tao Grieves, Zarah Anderson and Kate Jones all of Year 7; Max Westhorpe and Kiran Lennon of Year 8; Alex Oliver, Winona Rumble, Thomas Bate and David Wilson of Year 10 and Farihah Islam, Eleanor Logan, Brandy Ritch and Madeline Reckord of Year 11.

A big congratulations to all who took part and we look forward to seeing even more students take part in next year’s competition!

Year 9 Maths

I am pleased to report that 9 Maths 2 are making great progress in their understanding as they work hard in class and prepare for assessments with diligence. They have recently achieved very good results in an assessment on Data.

Most of all it is wonderful to work with this group of students who are keen to learn new skills and display a genuine interest in, and enjoyment of, the material studied. It is a real privilege to work with them!

Miss Gow

PDHPE NEWS

Year 10 Students Light Up the STAGE! Year 10 students took to the stage to perform the annual Music and Movement assessment task on
Thursday, 21 August. The assessment task involves groups of students choreographing a dance of up to 3 minutes incorporating the elements of dance and performance quality. The 2014 Year 10 cohort did a fantastic job, entertaining the audience with a great range of movements, themes and costumes! The three top groups will be performing at the next assembly:

1st - Dinosaurus
2nd - MousaKKas
3rd - Lil Velcro

**Year 7 Food and Culture - A Culinary Delight**
Year 7 students are currently studying food habits and cultures from around the globe. Students selected two countries, researching the cultural significance of food, types of food consumed and the traditions and celebrations involving food. Students studied a variety of countries/cultures including Brazil, Africa, Portugal, Australia, Ireland and Germany. Part of the assessment required students to prepare a basic recipe and bring it in to share.

**Sun Safety**  As the temperature rises, students will be spending more time outside during PE lessons. All students are encouraged to wear a hat. The school provides some sunscreen and all Year 7 have been provided with a free school hat and are expected to wear this or a substitute.

**Dancing News - New England Dance Festival**
The Duval Dance Ensemble recently performed at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre for the 2014 New England Dance Festival. Performance involved 2 matinee and 2 evening performances. Students performed alongside primary schools including Inverell, Guyra, Gunnedah and Tamworth. The girls definitely took the roof off!

A special mention to Mrs Graham and Mrs McFadyen for taking time out of their weekend to come and watch and collect us from Tamworth.
Duval Dance Ensemble - Jessica Graham, Stephanie Graham, Rebekah Clarke, Maddison McFadyen, Ava Byerlee, Alice Winter, Elayna Moens - a fabulous effort!

**Schools Spectacular 2014**  Twenty Duval High School dance students have been selected to represent the school at this year’s music, dance and drama extravaganza, involving over 3500 students from across NSW. Students will soon be busy practising a range of group sequences in preparation for the huge Sydney event held in November. ‘This is Australia’ is the theme for 2014. For more information visit the website: www.schoolsspectacular.com.au/

**YEAR 12 MAJOR TEXTILE PROJECTS**
As part of their HSC studies, Year 12 Textiles and Design students are required to design and produce a Major Textile Project. This, along with a portfolio, is sent to Sydney for marking and completes 50% of their HSC assessment mark.

The Major Textile Project has to fit in to one of the following focus areas:
- Apparel
- Costume
- Non-apparel
- Soft Furnishings
- Textile Art

This year’s cohort all designed a garment to meet the Apparel focus area. Each student had to identify a source of inspiration for their design.
Evie Weir was inspired by the TV Show ‘Downton Abbey’ and the period of history in which it is set. Jessica Scholes-Robertson was inspired by The Game of Thrones and Grecian style of clothing. Jessica Graham’s design obviously was inspired by peacocks and wedding dresses. Ashleigh Mortimer drew inspiration from the show My Big Fat Greek Wedding and beaded wedding dresses and Madison Griffin-Jones became inspired by a range of gold and black dresses she had seen. The girls have all shown skills in creativity, manufacturing skills and time management skills. They are all to be congratulated on their efforts and should feel extremely proud of their efforts.
WOOD TECHNOLOGY HSC MAJOR PROJECTS

Derek Gee

Joe Schmidt

Caelan Hollands

Will Pankhurst

Junior Cricket
Registration

Sunday 14th September 2014
10.30am - 11.30am
Come along and enjoy local cricket, make new friends, get active!
Boys & Girls U9s to U16s

Registration Venue:
CGC: Rolgas Club House, Sunday 14th September 10.30am - 11.30am
Contact Mark McDermott - email jumac1969@hotmail.com, phone 0413 452 492
Hillgrove Cram Cricket Club: Armidale Bowling Club, Sunday 14th Sept 10.30am - 11.30am
Contact Tony Jones - email info@hillgrovecricket.com, phone 0400 328 830
North Armidale Cricket Club: Harris Park, Sunday 14th September 10.30am - 11.30am
Contact Dale Northam - email northarmidaleccc@gmail.com, phone 0409 045 813
Uniads Cricket Club:
Contact Andrew Page 0478 3258 or email cherryhill@o2.com.au
*Guyra Mon 15th Sept 3.45pm - 5pm @ Guyra Central School, "Come & Try" afternoon
Contact James Stewart - email guyracricket@gmail.com, phone 0421 774 835
Milo in2cricket for players under 8yo, Rolgas fields, Saturday 11th October 9am - 10am
Contact Michael Dennis - email michaeland.helen139@gmail.com for more information
Tips for Parents Supporting Students Experiencing Cyber bullying

Cyber bullying is the use of technology, usually social media, to bully a person or group. Bullying is repeated behaviour by an individual or group with the intent to harm another person or group.

With children having readily available almost 24/7 access to the internet and social media, it can be difficult to avoid or escape cyber bullying. It can also be challenging as a parent or carer to monitor and manage children’s internet use.

Children are often apprehensive in telling their parents about being bullied online as they may believe that parents will force them to disconnect from online friendships. If you are concerned that your child is experiencing cyber bullying here are some signs that you can watch out for:

- changes in personality, e.g. more withdrawn, anxious, sad or angry
- appearing more lonely or distressed
- unexpected changes in friendship groups
- decline in school work
- change in sleep patterns
- avoidance of school or usual sporting clubs
- a decline in physical health.

If you notice any of the above changes or other out of character behaviours, reassure your child and emphasise that you would like to help them. Also ensure that they are aware that you are there to support them. You could seek assistance from your child’s school or from a counsellor, including Kids Helpline (kidshelpline.com.au) and eheadspace (eheadspace.org.au).

Some other tips that may help keep you and your child safe whilst using the internet and social media include:

- have a strong password and keep it confidential
- don’t give out private information
- only accept friend requests from people you know
- set social media accounts on private
- encourage friends to ask permission from you before posting photos of you or tagging you in photos (and do the same for them!)
- encourage children to let a trusted adult know if something is concerning them- encourage them to be active bystanders!