Artwork Honours

Elayna Moens (Year 10) is presented with the Director’s Choice Senior Artwork Prize. Her artwork was selected by Sue Brown, Director, Public Schools NSW, Northern Tablelands Network Armidale Office from artworks exhibited at ‘An Evening with Armidale Community of Schools (ACOS) Concert’ in August.

Congratulations Elayna!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 1-4 December: Year 10 Sydney Excursion
- 8 December: 7.00pm Presentation Evening
- 9-16 December: Term V Activities
- 16 December: Last day of school for students
- 28 January, 2016: First day of school for Years 7 & 12
- 29 January, 2016: First day of school for Years 8-11

Publication of this newsletter is made possible through the generous support of the Duval High School Parents & Citizens Association.
2015 QUALITY OF SCHOOL LIFE SURVEY (STUDENTS)

As part of the Annual School reporting process, we are required to survey staff, students and parents annually regarding their perceptions of educational delivery at Duval High School.

This year we are asking students to participate in the Quality of School Life Survey. This is a very prestigious and detailed surveying tool, and can be accessed at:
https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/9fLFUYWK

The survey will be open from Monday, 23 November until Wednesday, 16 December. All survey responses are completely anonymous. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!

2015 PARENT SURVEY ABOUT TEACHING

We are also providing the opportunity for parents to complete a brief survey about teaching at the school.

The survey can be accessed at:
https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/KE4zQLaV

To logon, please use the survey code 6n3mzuQa.

The survey will be open from Monday, 23 November until Friday, 18 December. All survey responses are completely anonymous. Thank you for supporting our school by completing this survey!

INDIGENOUS DEBATING

The second round of Indigenous Debating was held at Armidale High School last week. This event included junior students who were very enthusiastic and excited to participate with the senior students. The students built on the skills learnt at the last Indigenous Debating Day and teams from Armidale, Walcha and Guyra argued the topic “That a curfew for under sixteens should be introduced.” It was another successful day of meeting and learning with other indigenous students from around the region. We look forward to attending the next day held in Term 1, 2016 in Walcha.

YEAR 11 DISCRETIONARY LEAVE FOR REMAINDER OF 2015

- All year 11 (2015) students now have discretionary leave.
- For the remainder of 2015, students are expected to be at roll call. Normal parental/carer explanations are required if they are not at roll call. (This will change next year.)
- Students MUST sign out and receive a leave note from the school that verifies their permission to be outside during school grounds as per Department of Education policy. This pass must be carried at all times during school hours when they are not within school grounds.
- On returning to school, students MUST sign back in at the front office.
- When leaving the school students must leave the school grounds and surrounding areas and not be loitering in the vicinity of the school grounds.
- All drivers and passengers MUST have brought a note signed by guardian or parent and their names will be recorded on a school register.
- Students must attend all classes, year meetings and assemblies, and other events of which they are notified. Absences must be accounted for with appropriate documentation or valid reasons accepted by the Principal and the Department of Education.

Discretionary leave is a privilege not a right. Students who cannot comply with these instructions may have their discretionary leave forfeited.
2015 PREFECTS GIFT TO CANTEEN

This year’s Prefects led by School Captains, Sam Munday and Eleanor Logan, raised over $9,000 during their time in office. They donated some money to Care Australia and The Smith Family but most of their fundraising was directed towards buying a new oven for the canteen. The Prefects gave slightly more than $5,000 towards the oven. Belinda and Vicky from the canteen were extremely impressed with the efforts of the Prefects and thanked the group for their efforts and for choosing to support the canteen. Well done Prefects of 2015.

BLOOD DONORS: DRIP, DRIP, DRIP

The moments before giving blood were nerve-wracking. The paperwork said, “Am I pregnant?” Oh, choose the ‘I am male’ answer. Paperwork finished and there was no way out of it. Into the comfortable seat, in the chills of Antarctica (very cold air conditioning!), the needle went in, the blood came out. Knowing it’s going to people in need and ill made it worthwhile. And, the milkshake and cookie they give you after.

Pat Hamilton

Friday, 20 November. That eventful day. I remember my very first thought when I woke up that morning. Do I really want to do this? Donate blood. From the first moment the words were mentioned to me I was certain that it was going to be an awful experience. In hindsight, I couldn’t be more wrong. The staff were so considerate and professional. They explained what was happening every step of the way. Plus the milkshake and cookie weren’t half-bad either. I would absolutely do it again and recommend it to anyone considering it.

Debbie Hyde

ORIENTEERING

A team of DHS students recently participated in the Armidale Schools Orienteering Championships and achieved excellent results.
Line Course Trophies

Orange course - Years 7-8 Boys
2nd place: Adam Lucas and Callum Ferguson
3rd place: Marley Lynch, William Fittler, Jye Saxby

Orange course - Years 9-12 Boys
3rd place: Brad Lucas

Line Course Certificates

Green course - Years 7-8 Girls
1st place: Shakira Kelly, Megan Frost
2nd place: Kayla Bramley, Lucy Portell
3rd place: Tahlia Geddes, Tiffany Tarrant

Scott Lucas (Year 11) received a Special Commendation because he abandoned his course to assist an injured competitor.

MOVIE REVIEW: Mockingjay Part 2

Finally one of the most long-awaited movies of the year has come to a screen near you.

Mockingjay Part 2 is the last instalment of the beloved series ‘The Hunger Games’.

Now with Panem at war and with Katniss as their Mockingjay, the Rebels are after the capital and President Snow.

This movie is a great ending to the year with the same heroic characters. It is a must-watch especially if you have followed previous instalments. 8/10

Thank you very much for reading my reviews and have a safe holiday.

Kaity Weston, Year 10

Sport for Life Excursion to Coffs Harbour accompanied by Mr Lacey and Ms Pearson