Parents of Yrs 5 & 6: Information Evening This Tuesday

Join Us!

Parent/Student Information Evening And School Tour
For Year 5 and Year 6 Students

Duval High School
Tuesday 19 May 2015
at 5.30pm

Meet our staff, tour our facilities, learn about our broad curriculum.
Light supper provided.

For more information please contact:
Stafford Cameron (Principal), or
Sandra Rosner (Deputy) or Sandra Cotton (Transition Co-ordinator) on
6772-1566 or visit us at
www.duval-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

DATES FOR THE DIARY
✦ 19 May, 5.30pm> Parent Information Evening Years 5/6
✦ 20 May, 7pm> P&C Meeting
✦ 21 May> Athletics Carnival
✦ 29 May> DHS Talent Night
✦ 1-5 June> Year 10 Work Experience
✦ 8 June> Public Holiday
✦ 15-19 June> School Production “Guys and Dolls”

Publication of this newsletter is made possible through the generous support of the Duval High School Parents & Citizens Association.
PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

The next couple of weeks are going to be very busy indeed here at Duval. From Tuesday, May 12th, to Thursday, May 14th, Years 7 and 9 will undergo the NAPLAN tests, and we wish them all the best! These tests are very important because the Department of Education and Training and the NSW Government use the results to judge the progress of a school (and its partner Primary Schools), which has a knock-on effect on school funding. I therefore ask all parents to ensure that their Year 7 and 9 children attend on these days and complete all of the tests.

On Thursday, May 21st, we have our annual School Athletics Carnival. I encourage all students to come along and be a part of this great day. I always say to new students that it is the events and opportunities which happen outside the classroom that create the memories you will have of school when you are older, and missing out on those is a great shame. I would also like to remind parents that such carnivals are part of the community spirit of our school, and that attendance is as compulsory as it would be for any other scheduled school activity. Students who present an absentee note containing a reason for absence which I consider to be invalid will be recorded as truanting.

In these reports I normally try to be as positive as possible about what is happening at school - we are a Positive Behaviour for Learning school after all, and there are always great things happening here! Unfortunately, some other things have been happening at school in recent weeks which must be addressed, and which make it difficult for me to keep my usual positive tone. For example, we have had to ban ball games on the front oval this week because, despite constant reminders from the staff, some students persist in defying teachers and school rules by playing tackle football at recess and lunch. This problem has led to injuries for students, and that just cannot be tolerated. The school rules are clear and simple – touch footy is permitted on the front oval; tackle footy is not.

Students have also been reminded on Assembly, in this newsletter, and at Year Meetings not to wear inappropriate, non-uniform items to school. Our uniform code is very broad and flexible, and allows enough scope for students to express their individuality while still visibly conforming to our rules, and keeping warm in the process! Hoodies, jeans, incorrect colour jumpers and sloppy-joes, and clothing with any other logos on it rather than our own, are not part of our uniform. I have asked students to show their pride in their school by wearing their correct uniform, but sadly we have a small number of young people who think it’s okay to come to school looking like they don’t want to belong. I stopped some boys in the corridor last week and asked them how I would know from their clothes that they were part of Duval High School, because nothing that I could see conformed to our uniform code. This makes us look bad in the eyes of the community. I appeal to all parents to help us maintain our standards of dress and appearance, despite the cold weather.

We plan to have a great term, and once we get rid of these small issues we can get on with the important business of teaching and learning!

Stafford Cameron

FROM THE DP DESK

Today I'd like to talk about staying healthy especially as the colder months are approaching. Cold and flu season is no fun for anyone and sometimes we (students, parents and staff alike) try to struggle through a cold or flu attack and keep on working, despite coughing and sneezing through the day with fuzzy heads and high temperatures.

While we are tempted to tell ourselves or our kids to "soldier on" the better course of action can be to take note of the symptoms and counter them with a day in bed or on the couch right at the onset of a cold, flu, fever or headache. This way, germs are not spread to other kids and the cold or flu can be nipped in the bud rather than prolonged for each individual child.

A few years ago, you may remember, there was a world wide outbreak of a "superflu" and people (especially school aged children) were advised over and over if they felt sick, to stay home. The result was that we had a very mild flu season across the country and low absenteeism because people reacted immediately to the first signs of colds or flu.

So if the kids don't feel well or they are coughing and sneezing and looking miserable, they probably need a day off sooner rather than later.

Mrs Sandra Rosner
The success of the canteen is possible, due not only to the dedication of Belinda and Vikki who run it, but also to the students and parents who volunteer their time to help. Why not call the canteen to offer your assistance for an amount of time which suits you; after all it is National Volunteer Week!!

The next P and C meeting is Wednesday 20th May at 7pm in the Staff Common Room. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Look forward to seeing you there!
DEBATING NEWS

Last week our senior debating team travelled to Farrer for Round 2 of the Premier’s Debating Challenge. Our five member team of Alma Geesink Anton, Scott Lucas, Winona Rumble, Ellen Vince-Moin and David Wilson, was successful in defeating the competing team. The debating topic; “that mainstream media and social media should not publish videos and images from terrorist organisations”, provoked animated debate from both sides.

This is our second victory. The first round in the senior debate was against Glen Innes who travelled to Duval in April. Round 3 will be against Inverell High School and this will be held in our Library next week.

WHO ARE OUR SCHOOL HOUSES NAMED AFTER? IN THIS ISSUE WE FIND OUT ABOUT ‘WALKER’

William (Bill) Walker established the Faculty of Education at the University of New England. He is recognised for his academic eminence, professional achievements, infectious energy, and good fellowship.

Bill Walker received his tertiary training at Balmain Teachers’ College in Sydney. He arrived in Armidale in 1959, to work as a Lecturer in Education at the Armidale Teachers’ College and UNE. He rose to the position of Senior Lecturer at UNE in 1962 and then Associate Professor in 1966, before his appointment as Professor of Education in 1967. In 1969 he became Foundation Dean of UNE’s new Faculty of Education. He was Professor of Education at UNE until 1979, and retained his affiliation with UNE as Emeritus Professor when – in 1980 – he moved to the Australian Management College at Mt Eliza, Victoria, as the College’s Chief Executive and Principal.

Professor Walker, was also Head of the Centre for Administrative Studies at UNE from 1974 to 1978 and the Founding Editor of the Journal of Educational Administration. He is acknowledged as the founder of the study of educational administration in Australia. These achievements were recognised in 1979 when he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Professor Walker died in 1991 at the age of 62. In 2011, UNE formally dedicated the W.G. Walker Room in honour of his contributions to the University.

LAWN BOWLS UPDATE

Last Friday, the Triples Lawn Bowls team comprising of Justin Bullen, Aaron Kelly and Turner Lynch, travelled to Narrabri to play Narrabri High School in the third round of the Northwest KO competition. The team was successful winning 36 to 17.

The team is now waiting to hear who they will play in the final of the Northwest KO competition.
Duval High School presents

Guys and Dolls

June 16, 7pm
June 17, 12.30pm & 7pm
June 20, 7pm
UNE Arts Theatre
Book tickets at Duval High School Office
Tickets $20, Student / Concession $15

A musical fable of Broadway
Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon
Musics and Lyrics by: FRANK LOESSER
Book by: JO SWERLING and ABE BURROWS
by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd
Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)
ROUND BALL UPDATE

Under15 Football

At the beginning of this term, the DHS U15s football team played Armidale High School in the second round of the Bill Turner Cup. The fixture was expected to be highly competitive because teams were battling for the title of the number one U15 side in Armidale. The game started at a frantic pace with both sides having opportunities on goal. As the half progressed, the quality of passing and shots on the AHS goal began to tell, with numerous goals scored in the last 20 minutes of the first half. This superb effort in the first half allowed our DHS side to enter half time with a 6-nil lead. This performance in the first half allowed Duval to progress to the 3rd round of the knockout. The end score at the completion of the match was 8-1.

The next game for the U15s will be in the following 2 weeks for a place in the regional final.

DHS Futsal

On the 7th and 8th of May, two Duval High School futsal teams competed in the opening round of the Australian Futsal titles. This competition is largely metropolitan based with many teams entering from the south of Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

The U19s were first to compete on the 7th May, with the team reaching the finals against Robina High School (current Queensland Champions). Duval ended the day placing 2nd, going down 4-1 to Robina.

The U14s played on the 8th May, and for many boys this was their first time playing Futsal at a competitive level. A tough day ensued and the team placed 3rd in their group.

Both teams now qualify for the next round in the NSW Futsal competition which will be played at Port Macquarie in the coming months.

Mr Model