FUTSAL LEAGUE OF CHAMPIONS

Duval High School’s U19 Boys Futsal team is off to the National Champion of Champions Competition – again!

Duval’s U19 Boys team has successfully progressed to the National Futsal Championships, after fine performances in the NSW Champion of Champions competition in Port Macquarie on 20th August.

The National Championships will be held in Queensland in early November. It will serve as a worthy finale to the leaving Year 12 players in the team.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 3-11 September: Year 11 Final Exams
- 16 September: School Social, School Gym, P&C Meeting, 7pm, Armidale Bowling Club
- 18 September: Valedictory Assembly, Last day of Term 3
- 6 October: Students return to school for Term 4

We are revisiting the playground, and what it means to be active v passive

Publication of this newsletter is made possible through the generous support of the Duval High School Parents & Citizens Association.
Really good things are happening at Duval High School right now, both in and outside the classroom! I strongly believe that school is not only about being in class doing your work (although that is very important!) – it’s also about taking advantage of every single opportunity that comes up (curricular and extra-curricular). These are the things that will generate the memories of school you will have later on. Music, sport, dance, drama, clubs and groups, special activities like Mr Suddaby’s Table Tennis competition and Mr Flynn’s Oztag at lunchtimes – these are just a few examples.

As a case in point, I had the pleasure of attending the Year 10 Dance Assessment. It was fabulous! There are some really talented dancers in Year 10, who are obviously naturals! There were also some with less flair, but who displayed lots of enthusiasm and energy. The thing is, they were all actively involved in learning – whether they knew it or not – and they were all obviously loving it. Congratulations to all of the teachers involved, especially Miss Petherbridge, Mrs Vaughan and Miss Ward. Well done Year 10!

Others amongst our students will also be performing at An Evening with ACOS on Wednesday 2nd September, and the NAIDOC celebration event A Day in the Dale on Friday 4th September from 10am to 2.30pm (http://www.armidale.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/community-events/day-dale).

Meanwhile, Year 12 students are approaching the end of their school lives – with only 6 weeks until the HSC Exams begin! Some students have already had their major works assessed, or have submitted final works for marking. We had the Industrial Technology Wood markers here in the school last Friday, and Drama markers earlier in the week. The markers were here to give their verdict on the students’ Major Works. As Year 12 prepare for the final exams, we will have a chance to recognise their contribution to the school over the last 6 years at our Valedictory Assembly at 9.30am on Friday 18th September, in the DHS Gym.

We also have some fundraising events for very worthy causes running at present – last Friday we held a barbeque in support of Sam Jenner who is travelling to the USA to compete with the Australian Cycling team. Also, our very own Duval High School Interact Club has a fundraising idea in support of donating books to developing nations – sadly, if they reach their target ($500) for this project, I have to wear my kilt to school!

Finally, our school recently took a major leadership role in the annual Premier’s Sporting Challenge, with teachers and students from Duval High mentoring, supporting and coaching primary students from around our region. It was a tremendously successful day. I congratulate Miss Ward and Mrs Vaughan for a brilliant job in organising and coordinating this event, and appreciate the support of all the PDHPE staff.

Stafford Cameron
DHS Principal

FROM THE DP DESK

I’m getting very excited that the weather seems to be warming up, although I have been warned that we may get another cold snap or two.

I have been encouraging our students to keep the grounds tidy and to get to class on time after breaks. I have to say that the students of Duval High School are very responsible citizens and rally round when a reasonable request is made of them. The grounds are looking good and generally rubbish free and the corridors and playground are emptying very quickly after breaks.

It is very important for students to be on time, prepared and settled at the beginning of each lesson to maximise their opportunities for the best possible learning experiences. From the beginning of Year 7 we are preparing our students for their HSC, so they can take their place confidently in the workforce or in further study.

With parents, teachers and students working together for the same goals, we have every chance of success and a bright future for each student in our care.

Sandra Rosner
Deputy Principal
Did you know that over last 5 years $95,000 has been raised by the Duval P&C Canteen to fund necessary resources for your children to use and enjoy?

These funding initiatives have covered a broad range of school programmes (ie., academic, sport, music and drama, computers, maintenance), including:

- annual presentation night awards
- sound equipment and storage
- sun shade
- textbooks (eg English, Mathematics, History)
- cardio-respiratory equipment
- baritone saxophone
- piano
- blinds in Common Room
- lockers
- rowing machine
- soccer goals
- 12 school blazers
- bus (shared purchase)
- Ipads/software
- PBL bins
- student injury insurance
- school mobile phone app
- 3-D printer
- team outfits for football, shooting, basketball
- electric piano
- cleaning stairwells
- DHS stainless steel letters on front wall
- communication & administrative support
- drum kit
- musical and recording equipment
- DHS hats
- beautification of school grounds
- whiteboards

Sadly the Canteen will not be able to continue providing these vitally important funds if we continue to have a shortfall of volunteers.

In addition to offering healthy, varied and high quality food at very reasonable prices for your children and staff, the Canteen also provides regular catering services for Duval students, staff and district-level occasions. These catering jobs help enormously with fundraising, and are a vital part of the Canteen’s activities. Our reputation is unsurpassed throughout our region --- for which we are very proud.

We need many more parents/carers/grandparents to volunteer for 1 day per month, which equates about 5½ hours each month. We also need some people to put their name on our list to be able to be called upon when staff or our current volunteers are unable to come in. Our two staff members are both mums of DHS students, and like you they are sometimes unwell or their families are. The existing volunteers are all mums and dads, working with a whole host of other commitments and still find the time to help.

The Duval community is a strong and vibrant one in which the Canteen plays a major part. Therefore, if everyone wants to continue to have the excellent standard and availability of our amazing Canteen and the resources it provides for your children please contact either the Canteen Convenor, Suellen Simpson, on 04 2901 6727 or 6772 9565. Alternatively contact the DHS Office on 6772 1266 to leave your details.

We are an extremely positive bunch who always have the emphasis on fun, and will warmly welcome you aboard!

Our volunteer pool consists of between 4 to 6 people, and has done for years. We are constantly having to rely on the same people. Even though these people thoroughly enjoy helping out, it clearly is not fair on them or the two dedicated staff members we employ.
P&C NEWS

We had a great weather last Sunday for our most recent working bee. The morning’s activities focused on preparing the front entrance and playground areas for the Year 12 Valedictory Assembly in a couple of weeks time. Many thanks to Caroline, Charlie, Lynette, Susie, Harold and Sally for their support.

We recently attended the Community Mutual Group (New England Mutual) Awards evening, where a cheque of $582.91 was presented to the P&C as part of the Community Partnership Programme. These funds were obtained when CMG clients nominated to support the Duval High School P&C under the programme. With this arrangement, CMG annually donates 1% of each supporter’s average account balance to us --- that is, it is simply earned as a bonus!

We thank all CMG clients who have chosen to support DHS P&C, and encourage all others to do so!

P&C Committee

For further information on how you can support the P&C through the CMG Community Partnership Programme:


HSC: MAJOR PROJECT

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY - WOOD

BOSTES HSC external examiners were at Duval last Friday to mark the coffee table crafted by Ben Dawson, for his HSC Major Work in Industrial Technology - Wood.

Ben was supported by Mr Merrick and Mr Teege in his project.

HSC: MAJOR PROJECT

DRAMA

Congratulations to the HSC Drama students who performed their group-devised performance, entitled The Choosing, to BOSTES HSC external examiners in the Duval Rooftop Theatre last Thursday.

Indah Dwyer-Westhorpe, Citi Emojong, Betty Harrison, Jess Rothschild and Danika Howard worked collaboratively over a number of months to produce an original, theatrical piece of physical theatre, and gave a highly entertaining performance on the day. Students also performed excellent individual monologues for examiners and the Drama students from Years 10 and 11 who helped make up the audience.

Mrs Walsh and the students would like to extend their gratitude to Mr George Torbay, and Mr Grafton who ran the HSC day.

PBL SONG-WRITING PROJECT

Talented Duval students: Dimitrios Basoglou, John George, Adam Lucas (Year 8) and Shah Biffin, Zoe George, Hanna Kwan, and Maylene Palad (Year 10) have been selected to participate in the Song Writing Project sponsored by the Positive Behaviour For Learning (PBL) Educational Network team.

The outcome of this collaborative project will be recorded and filmed. It will be used in media presentations for Regional and State conferences, and in the promotion of public education and PBL programmes.
YEAR 11 SOCIETY AND CULTURE

On the 19th August, Mrs Raj and her enthusiastic Year 11 Society and Culture class ventured (via Mr Model’s Subaru and Mrs Raj’s X-Trail) to the University of New England to interview international students that are currently studying there. After a rough start to the excursion due to the buses being overbooked (I’m looking at you basketball girls) the day took an upward swing at approximately 9:30, when the Year 11 class arrived, half an hour late.

Nevertheless, after this rough start, as soon as we had introduced ourselves to the interviewees, the tough questions were asked. Collectively as a peer group, we gained valuable knowledge about the different cultures, countries and ethnic backgrounds of the students interviewed. There were people from multiple countries including; Saudi Arabia, Japan, China, Iran, Philippines, Iraq, East Timor and Vietnam.

In summation, we as a class would like to thank Mrs Raj and Caroline Winter for organising such a spectacular learning experience.

“I am enlightened” – Winona Rumble 2K15

Ellen Vince-Moin, Kate Bizo & Winona Rumble

BEAUTIFUL BANGLADESH

At Duval High School, we value and respect our cultural diversity. We have many different cultural heritages peacefully co-existing. Tashneem Momen of 7T recently talked to her History class about her homeland and heritage.

She presented a DVD which showed aspects of life in a rural Bangladeshi village, family activities, working lives and beautiful exotic animals. Here, Tashneem shares some interesting highlights of her talk. Tashneem also baked delicious treats to share with her classmates, a lovely gesture we all enjoyed.

Last week in History, I was told to do a little talk about my country Bangladesh.

Bangladesh is a fertile alluvial plain on the delta of three main rivers, the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna.

The country covers an area of 147,000 square kilometers (which is about two-thirds the size of Victoria) and has a population of approximately 160 million, making it one of the world’s most densely populated countries.

Eventually the area known as Bengal, primarily Hindu in the western section and mostly Muslim in the eastern half became part of British India.

The national language is Bengali and is spoken by 95% of the population, however English is widely understood. About 85% of the population is Islamic with the rest of the population comprised of Hindu, Buddhist, and Christian minorities.

The educational system in Bangladesh is highly subsidized with three levels of schooling such as primary (Year 1-5), secondary (Year 6-10), and higher secondary (Year 11-12). There are 37 public and 48 private universities in Bangladesh.

Ms Armstrong
60 MINUTES FOR MS

This year we had 48 students participate in the 60 Minutes for MS. They were fed a complimentary morning tea, all donated, and then sat to read for 60 minutes. It was an absolute joy to see them reading, and to hear the sound of reading – silence! We have raised $250.

Thank you to all staff who donated food, drinks or money.

An extra special THANK YOU to Donut King and Daily Fresh Bakery, who donated most of the morning tea. Students loved it!

Ms Simes

MOVIE REVIEW: WOMAN IN GOLD

This move is based on the true story of Maria Altmann (Helen Mirren, RED); and what it was like being Jewish during the reign of Hitler and having to give up all she knows to move to America.

About half a century after leaving Austria she gets the chance with the help of lawyer Randy Scheonberg (Ryan Reynolds, Green Lantern) to reclaim what’s rightfully hers.

Score 7/10

Kaitlyn Weston, Year 10
YEAR 11 YOUNG DRIVER’S EXPO

The Young Driver’s Expo definitely started off with a Bang! It opened our eyes to the possibilities we can face on the roads by showing all of the Year 11 students a real life scenario of a crash scene. Lights were flashing, sirens sounding and students looking with shock and horror as we saw the scene unfold. We were lucky enough to experience the skids, or as they called it “correct braking demonstration”, performed by a professional driver.

The day finished with a mock trial consisting of a judge from the Tamworth region, sentencing the young driver from the scenario at the start of the day.

Being a ‘star’ on Prime 7 News was an eye opening experience, and a great way to conclude a fantastic day.

WEAR IT PURPLE DAY

Friday August 28 was Wear It Purple Day, an initiative endorsed by education Ministers Pyne and Piccoli, Beyond Blue and many other groups. At Duval, many students and staff wore purple accessories and clothing to send a message of support to our LGBTI students and colleagues. Proudly inclusive and respectful of difference, our school community says NO to homophobia.

Ms Armstrong

by Courtney Sim, Year 11
Duval’s U19 Boys Futsal Team again showed why they are a team of champions. This year they first competed at Byron Bay in the Northern NSW Futsal competition. They were narrowly defeated in the grand final by the 2014 National school champions - Robina High School. Reaching the grand final at Byron Bay allowed them to compete in the NSW Champion of Champions competition held at Port Macquarie on 20th August. Being the only undefeated team to win their pool at Port Macquarie, they played Saint Columbia in the grand final but were beaten in the last couple of minutes 5-4.

The team is made up of excellent Futsal players. The three stars of the Port Macquarie competition were Naran Singh (Yr 12), Lewis Russoniello (Yr 12) and Daniel Cherry (Yr 11). Naran and Lewis are just incredible to watch. Their skills on the ball are second to none, and when they team up it’s a sight to see. Coupled with that we have Daniel Cherry as undoubtedly the best goalkeeper in the entire competition. The other players have excellent skill sets and make up a very strong team: Angus Wheatley (Yr 10) is solid as a rock in defence, Thomas Browne (Yr 12) teams up fantastically in the forwards and can score from anywhere with his right foot. Pat Frost (Yr 10) and Brock Whittley (Yr 12) allow all the flexibility the team needs, being able to both attack and defend. This was well demonstrated with Pat’s solid defence in the grand final and Brock’s replacement in the backs in the semi-final to beat Taree High School when down 1-0.

After beating Taree High School 4-1 in the semi-final, the grand final with Saint Columbia (2014 Regional Champions of Mid North Coast) was both a bit of an anti climax and a superb game. With the U19 Boys Final being the last match of the day, most spectators and teams went home only to leave the finalists with their teams and officials. Added to the fact that both teams already knew they were off to the Nationals by making the grand final, the match could easily have been sub-standard. But what a great game it was! Duval was down 1-0, up 2-1, up 3-2, down 4-3 then level on 4-4 with a couple minutes to go. A header from Brownie came close to clinching the match when it skimmed over the top of the goals, then a dubious direct free kick given to Saint Columbia allowed them to score to make it 5-4. If it wasn’t for the unbelievable goal keeping of Daniel Cherry, Saint Columbia could easily have scored at least another 2 goals. It was a match worthy of a grand final and played in great sporting spirit.

The team is ready for the National Championship in Queensland in early November. It will serve as a worthy finale to the leaving Year 12 players in the team.

**Sam Russo (coach)**

Duval High School Sports Captain Alex Oliver (Yr 11) challenged Year 12 to get together their best team possible for a farewell match of Futsal. Sam Munday who is the current School Captain and Year 12 student was quick to take up the challenge on behalf of his year group.

Gamesmanship has been quick to surface between the two year groups. The game is set to be played on Monday 14th September during recess.

**KUNG FU**

Emily Marshall (Yr 9) has recently achieved at a high level in her sport of choice - kung fu. She won an award for being the strongest girl in the Nemac club, after ten years of training. Congratulations Emily!