

# Hilltop News

## DIMBOOLA MEMORIAL SECONDARY COLLEGE

“DEEDS NOT WORDS”



Dimboola Memorial Secondary College would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Wimmera Mallee area: the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk peoples, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Anne Gawith – *Principal*  
*President* – Teresa Smith, *Vice President* – Lynley Robinson  
*Treasurer* - Sally Klinge (DET), *Parent Reps* – Neil Zippel, Kellie Laverty, Kylie Barry, Alastair Griffiths  
*Community Rep* - Tony Schneider, Charles Rees (RSL)  
*DET Rep* – Charlotte Pyers, *Student Rep* – Amy Zippel and Tess Robinson  
*Secretary* – Gaynor Baker (staff member)  
 December 17<sup>th</sup> 2019

“DMSC is a Child Safe School”

*Respect*

*Honesty*

*Excellence*

*Care*

*Freedom*

### IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 20 Last Day of Term 4	Jan 29 Year 7, 11 & 12 students commence school
Jan 28 Office Open and staff commence school	Jan 30 – All students commence school

#### ***A message from our Principal...***

Tonight we have celebrated the many achievements of DMSC students from throughout this year. While not every student has been invited to cross the stage, I would like to congratulate all of our students who have attended school every day and exhibited a positive attitude towards their learning. It is this commitment to education that makes our school a great place.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to formally thank every parent/carer/guardian, who has supported their son or daughter at Dimboola Memorial Secondary College. Schools cannot function effectively without support from the whole community. To the local businesses and organisations who have worked with us this year, I sincerely thank you too. We are fortunate to have many established relationships with local groups and we hope to build on those next year.

To our enthusiastic volunteers – who may be MATES mentors, canteen helpers, those who help at Aths and Swimming or maintaining our Avenue of Honour, we sincerely thank you for willingness to support our school.

To the teachers and support staff who continue to work to deliver the best outcomes for students – thank you. Your tireless efforts are appreciated and I look forward to further developing our professional expertise in 2020. I would particularly like to acknowledge the support and commitment exhibited by the DMSC Leadership Team. Assistant Principal, Sally Klinge, Leading Teachers, Charlotte Pyers and Luke Werner, Learning Specialists, Jackson O’Neill and Marianne Tellbach, have all done an excellent job in their respective roles and they have all worked towards the improvement of outcomes for all students who attend our school. I look forward to working with them all again next year.

The school has been wonderfully supported by a dedicated School Council – thank you to President, Teresa Smith parents: Lynley Robinson, Neil Zippel, Kellie Laverty, Kylie Barry and Alastair Griffiths. Thank you also to RSL co-opted member Charles Rees, and community co-opted member, Tony Schneider. Our student representatives this year were Amy Zippel and Tess Robinson and they were great advocates for the students.

I would also like to acknowledge the DMSC staff members who willingly give of their time to school council – Sally Klinge and Charlotte Pyers. All of these people who have been members of School Council have the betterment of DMSC at heart.

Finally, well done to the students who value and utilise the opportunities that DMSC provides. As stated above, there have been a tremendous amount of achievements this year, in a wide range of endeavours; however there have also been innumerable successes for those students who tend to fly under the radar – and may be never singled out for a specific award or accolade. Particular mention to our outgoing School Captains, Rebekah Albrecht and Mitchell Jorgensen – you have been wonderful leaders and ambassadors for our school and I have no doubt that you both have exciting and successful futures ahead of you. To all students – thank you for your collective efforts and I am confident that 2020 will bring continued success. I am immensely proud of you and our school.

### **Farewell to Staff**

On Friday, we will be officially farewelling four staff members.

#### **Mr Justin Chilver**

Justin came to us at the start of 2018 – taking on the role of Maths, Phys Ed and Technology teacher. Justin has also taught Outdoor Education and Sports4Life in 2019. Justin is taking on a role in the Horsham College, Alternative Programs team and we wish him well with his future endeavours.



#### **Hannah Young**

Farewell and thank you to Hannah who was with us for 2019 as our Year 11 English teacher. Hannah brought considerable expertise in the area of senior English and we were very pleased to have her on staff - even for just one year. Hannah is returning to her teaching role at Horsham College and we wish her all the best for next year.

#### **Ms Suzi Wouters**

Suzi has been our resident gym instructor for the past few years. She not only supervised the general use of the gym, but also ran a number of additional fitness classes for Dimboola residents. We thank Suzi for her efforts and wish her well as she starts a new chapter in Camperdown.



#### **Mr Jonas Witthoef**

Jonas has been our German language assistant during 2019. Jonas has also worked at Dimboola Primary School and Rainbow P-12 College. Jonas launched straight into life in Australia – willing to give everything a go! He reflected last week that this past year has been one of the best and most enjoyable of his life! Our students have benefitted from having Jonas here and we wish him well as he heads home to Germany.

#### **We welcome:**

- John Lister – English and Humanities
- Kristin Klinge is returning from family leave
- There will be a new Maths/PE teacher too!

Finally, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and I hope you have a happy and healthy New Year. See you in 2020.

Anne Gawith  
Principal



## **2020 – School Year – Starting Dates**

**Staff Return – Tuesday January 28 – Office Open**

**Year 7, 11 & 12 Students commence - Wednesday January 29  
Lunch provided for students.**

**ALL students attend – Thursday January 30**

The staggered start to the year will provide the Year 7s with a settling in day. On this first day, the Year 7s will be assisted with organisational matters, school familiarisation and there will also be pastoral care activities run in conjunction with the senior students.

VCE and VCAL classes will also use part of their first day to attend to administrative matters and will have sessions on study habits and expectations of the senior school.

**Please note that all VCAL students will be expected to attend on both the Wednesday and Thursday of the first week. A special program will be delivered.**

If you have any queries regarding this arrangement, please contact the school. 5389 1460

