

Hilltop News

DIMBOOLA MEMORIAL SECONDARY COLLEGE

“DEEDS NOT WORDS”



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Anne Gawith – *Principal*.
President – Lisa Polycarpou, *Vice President* – Mandy Withers
Treasurer - Sally Klinge, *Parent Reps* – Teresa Smith, Neil Zippel, Lynley Robinson
Community Rep - Tony Schneider
DET Rep's – Kerrie Clarke, *Student Rep* – Jessica Revell, *RSL Rep* – Charles Rees
January 31st 2018

“DMSC is a Child Safe school”

Respect

Honesty

Excellence

Care

Freedom

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 5 Sport House Meeting 11am-11.15am
Feb 5 Year 7 BBQ 6pm – 7.30pm
Feb 12 DMSC School Photos 8.30am
Feb 20 Swimming Sports – All day
Feb 21 VCE/VCAL Information Night, 7 – 8.30pm
Feb 23 VCE English Day – All day
Mar 2 Cambodia Trivia Night 7pm
Mar 7 Little Desert swimming sports – All day
Mar 12 Labour Day holiday – NO SCHOOL
Mar 21-23 Year 7 Camp – Campaspe downs
Mar 21-23 Year 8 Camp – Ocean Grove
Mar 23 Deb Ball
Mar 27 Athletic Sports – All day
Mar 29 Last day Term 1 – 2.30pm Exit

Term 2

Apr 16 Term 2 starts
Apr 18 Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45pm – 6.30pm
Apr 24 DMSC ANZAC Service 2.45pm – 3.30pm
Apr 25 ANZAC Day – No School
Apr 27 DMSC Cross Country 1.20pm – 3.20pm

A message from our Principal.....

Term One is underway. I hope everyone was able to enjoy some relaxation time over the summer break and that the New Year provided opportunities to be with friends and family.

At this morning's General Assembly, students were reminded of our number one value – RESPECT.

I encouraged them to make the most of their educational opportunities here at school and to always strive to improve. Regardless of their skills in the various subjects, we simply want to see our students have high aspirations and expectations of themselves. I stressed to the students that education is one of the best ways to ensure a great future and each and every staff member is wanting to support them to achieve their best.

Yesterday, we welcomed 26 new Year 7s to DMSC and what a wonderful day they had! Their smiling faces and bubbly enthusiasm was great to see and they certainly enjoyed having a settling-in day, with only the senior students on site as well.

Thank you to Year 7 Coordinator, Ms Holly Ruwoldt, for her work with the new students, and also to Transition Coordinator, Ms Marcy Britten and Year 7 Form Teacher, Mr Luke Werner, for supporting the new students so well.



New Staff

This year we are welcoming three new teachers and a new Integration Aide, Donna Baldock, who will be with us in 2018 and beyond.

Kirra Webster-Lawson, Justin Chilver and Jake Anders are all recent graduates and we are delighted to have their expertise on board. I hope they enjoy beginning their careers at our school and I look forward to supporting them on that journey over the next few years.



Donna Baldock, Kirra Webster-Lawson, Jake Anders and Justin Chilver.

Year Level Coordinators

This year we have some new YLCs and also some new Form Teachers. Should you have a query regarding your child's progress or you have a question, please do not hesitate to contact them here at the school.

Year Level Coordinator	Form Teacher
Year 7 – Holly Ruwoldt	Luke Werner
Year 8 – Naomi Kuhnell	Jake Hobbs
Year 9 – Kristin Klinge	Justin Chilver
Year 10 – Jackson O'Neill	Kirra Webster-Lawson
Year 11 – Louise Simpson	Bella Turnbull
Year 12 – Marianne Tellbach	Myrna Allan

Renovations and Additions

Room 2 has been refurbished and is looking much improved. The corridor area outside Room 2 has been freshly painted and the main student toilet block has undergone quite a transformation. There are still a couple of tasks left to complete on the

toilets, but they are looking so much better inside than they have previously.

The SRC had asked the school to prioritise this area, so I hope they are pleased.

We have had some synthetic grass laid under the large shade structure and we will be purchasing some large pots and more chairs to complete the beautification of this area.

There are always areas that require attention and we will continue to work on these into the future.



Welcome Home Rebekah, Teo and Kaylee

Our three exchange students have just flown in from 10 weeks in Germany. All have reported loving their time abroad and we look forward to reading a little about their adventures in next week's edition. They will also share a few of their photos.

Australia Day

Congratulations to our 2018 School Captains, Danni Haebich and Tristan Rayes, who both spoke at the Dimboola Australia Day celebration on January 26. Both students spoke about what Australia Day means to them and both students were excellent ambassadors for our school. Unfortunately, I had a family commitment at another Australia Day ceremony, so was unable to attend, and I thank Assistant Principal, Mrs Sally Klinge for representing the school.



Year 12 Jumpers

There was great excitement at recess yesterday when our Year 12s received their Class of 2018 jumpers. Well done to the students who designed and organised these jumpers for this year's class, they look fantastic.



Class of 2017

Congratulations to our Year 12 graduates from last year who have secured places at various universities/TAFE Colleges and places of employment around the state. While I know quite a few have deferred their places for this year, it is reassuring for them to have a position that they can take up in 2019. We wish them all well with their future endeavours.

Smart Sessions

Once again we are running our after school SMART sessions for any student who wishes to catch up on work, complete homework or get extra assistance from staff. Please encourage your son or daughter to use these free sessions, as they can be very beneficial. The sessions will be on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and we will be providing fruit and biscuits! Our first session will be on Wednesday February 7. All enquiries about this program should be directed to our Leading Teacher in charge of teaching and learning, Mrs Charlotte Pyers.

Extreme Fire Days

A reminder to all members of the DMSC community, that the Department of Education and Training (DET) in association with Emergency Management Victoria, implemented a new policy in 2016 that is designed to ensure that Victorian schools are prepared for bushfire season and have an updated Emergency Management Plan in place. Currently when a **Code Red** Fire Danger Rating (FDR) day has been determined, schools on the Bushfire At Risk Register (BARR) are required to pre-emptively close.

Our school is in the register.

Furthermore, certain schools in exceptional circumstances may also pre-emptively close or relocate on days where an Extreme FDR day has been forecast.

A decision to close or relocate will only be made in extreme circumstances and through close consultation with the Department of Education and Training, and advice from Emergency Management Victoria.

Parents will be notified of any closure or relocation by 3.00pm the day prior to the forecast Extreme (FDR) day. The school will use its SMS system as well as a written notice (if possible) to communicate the closure of the school. Please ensure that our office has your current mobile phone number.

Our highest priority is the safety of all of our students and staff, and the Department and Emergency Management Victoria have worked closely on this policy to ensure that all schools are adequately prepared to manage a bushfire situation.

Any parents wishing to receive further information about this policy can contact Anne Gawith or Sally Klinge at the college.

Here's looking forward to another great year at DMSC

Anne Gawith
Principal

Year 7, 11 & 12 BBQ lunch.....Tuesday 30th January



Dimboola Australia Day Awards Ceremony

Last Friday morning, our two School Captains, Danni Haebich and Tristan Rayes, attended the Dimboola Australia Day Awards ceremony and spoke about what Australia Day means to them. The crowd were interested to hear their different views and responded enthusiastically. Both students were presented with a gift from the local CWA, who organised the event.

Danni was later shocked to learn that she had been awarded the Junior Volunteer of the Year for 2017 by the Dimboola Town Committee.

It was also great to see one of our Year 8 students, Will Abbott, playing in the Nhill and Dimboola Band for the first time at the ceremony.

Sally Klinge
Assistant Principal



Will Abbott in his band uniform.

Danni proudly holding her Junior Volunteer award.



Secondary School vaccinations in 2018

The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccines to Year 7 and 10 students. These vaccines provide protection against:

- Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) – one dose for year 7 students
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – two doses for year 7 students
- Meningococcal A,C,W,Y – one dose for year 10 students

Parents/guardians of year 7 and 10 students should look out for the vaccine consent card booklet coming home from school with your child. You need to read the information, complete and return the card regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

The Hindmarsh Shire Council immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 28 February 2018 if you do not want your contact details given to the Hindmarsh Shire Council immunisation service.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Additionally, the Commonwealth government is funding vaccinations for all children under 20 years who missed scheduled vaccines. If students have missed vaccines, either in childhood or adolescence, and require catch-up vaccines, they should speak with their immunisation provider. (ie. local council or GP).