DOONSIDE TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

TERM 1 - 2022 NEWSLETTER







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TERM 1 - WELCOME BACK!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE- Mr. Colin Campbell

Well, what a term it has been for our school community at Doonside THS. As Principal I am extremely proud of the way in which both staff and students have worked together through the school being impacted by COVID at various times and of course the endless amount of rain which at times has not given us a break at all.

In saying this, the staffing challenges that we have experienced has not stopped so many wonderful achievements, initiatives, and accomplishments for our students this term.

It has also been wonderful particularly in the second half of the term to start having our sports knockout competitions and many school excursions/incursions that create wonderful educational experiences for our students.

Here are just a few of our many achievements for term one that as a school we can be extremely proud of.

- The school received many accolades in the local and wider community and featured in the Sydney Morning Herald due to our outstanding HSC results that were released at the beginning of year. This has led to other schools in the wider community contacting us to find out more about what we are doing at our great school!

Principals Message Continued

- Riley Christiansen & Ms Tomagra featured in an article written by The Guardian newspaper on the All-Sorts group and the wonderful way in which we make all students feel safe and have created an inclusive learning environment. It was fantastic media exposure for our school community.

- We were visited by Cathy Brennan (Executive Director of School Performance North) who was extremely complimentary of what we are achieving here in our school community. Cathy was particularly impressed with our school captains Tahlya Bush & Megan Aquilina who spoke so well about what they loved about our school and the supportive school culture we have here at Doonside.

- Ongoing improvements in the school planned for 2022;

o The floor in the hall being sanded to enhance the space.

o LED lighting to be installed/upgraded in various parts of the school.

o Our new COLA to be erected over the two basketball courts which will provide another shelter/shade area for all students.

o We are currently looking at how we can enhance the front of the school to provide more shelter and appropriate seating areas for students.

- Various sports and knockout competitions which our students have participated in.

- The Student Leadership group and SRC running various initiatives this term for our school community including the Valentine's Day event.

- Our Year 7 students participating in the Art Pathways program facilitated by the Art Gallery of NSW.

- Being successful in attaining a \$10 000 Minister's Arts Recovery Grant which will provide wonderful opportunities for our students.

- A weekly Choir for our student's now being offered after school one day a week.

I am so proud of the way our whole school community has conducted itself in Term one! I would like to wish everyone the best in their well-earned break. Be safe over the school holidays and I look forward to another wonderful term ahead for our Doonside school community.

Best wishes,

Colin Campbell

Year 7 Life Education

This Term, Year 7 have been learning about the CORE Values – Community, Ownership, Resilience, Empowerment, and Strengths.

To demonstrate 'Community', students participated in an Egg Drop challenge. This challenge required students to work collaboratively to design and build a nest, using limited resources, to protect a raw egg from cracking once dropped from a 2-metre height.

Below are some of the creative designs that survived the drop!



PRIDE Camp 2022

Pride boys and girls visited Wedderburn campsite and participated in a range of activities over three days. Students participated in team building activities and completed various challenges included the giant swing and the leap of faith. Teachers were very impressed by the Pride group who demonstrated resilience and perseverance, with many students overcoming fears, building strong connections and learning new skills. See our school's social media page for a video montage of our time at camp!



Teacher VS Student Oztag Game

Each term, DTHS students and staff participate in a sporting match at lunchtime. This term's championship game was Oztag! Students put in an outstanding performance in the blistering heat, however, teachers came away with the win. Congratulations to Sanjae Ulu-Kini (Year 10) and Mr Gerard (Staff) for their MVP performances.



Mt Druitt Swimming Carnival

Though our school swimming carnival was unable to ahead. self-nominated students had ao the opportunity to compete at the Mt Druitt Zone Swimming Carnival. As a school we were fortunate enough to send a team of 25 students, all of which represented the Doonside community with the utmost pride and respect. In the pool, we experienced a great deal of success with 10 students advancing to the Sydney West Swimming Carnival and Doonside Technology High School points taking third place in overall scored! Congratulations to Nellie-Ann Reid (U12s) and Riley Sleaman (U13s) who were individual points age champions in their respective age groups.



Sydney West Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Syed Abbas, Junel Lilly Calder, Connor Hewitt, Bagus. Brydon Hopwood, Neha Koirala, Krish Lakdawala. Nellie-Ann Reid, Riley Timothy Sondaar who Sleaman and the 10 students selected to were represent Mt Druitt Zone at the Sydney West Swimming Championships. All of these young athletes swum brilliantly. Most notably, Junel Bagus and Brydon Hopwood came first in their events, seeing them advance to the Combined High Schools (CHS) Swimming Championship. This is an outstanding achievement and we wish both boys the best of luck as they represent Sydney West at the next level.



Sydney West Representative Sport



Term 1 has seen much success on the Sydney West pathway for sport. Congratulations to the following students representing DTHS as well as Mt Druitt Zone in their respective sports.

Nikolina Bojic (football), Lillly Calder (netball, football), Aina Gibbons (volleyball), Courtney Lee Gordon (football), Duc Luu (football), Joni-K Pickering (football), Udai Rai (football) Jeremiah Sovala (volleyball), Aaliyah Tamaka (netball, football). Viav Vakauta (rugby league. rugby union),Gwennahvive Vasquez (football), Hailey Wheatley (football) and Taya Zammit (football).

An additional mention to two very special athletes in Aina Gibbons and VJ Vakauta, who have both advanced to the next level and will represent Sydney West in their respective sports (volleyball and rugby league). This is an incredible achievement and will provide invaluable experience in their playing careers.

Knockout Sport Report

Our sports students have had a busy term with Knockout sport well underway. Our school is competing in the statewide Knockout competition in a number of sports. An honorable mention to the Open Girls Volleyball team who dominated in round one of their competition, winning three sets to zero. We hope to see the girls advance further, with their next game scheduled to be played against Evans High School. We also have teams currently competing in Open Boys and Girls Softball, Open Boys Football and Open Girls Basketball, so be sure to stay tuned for more sports results!

Congratulations to all students involved in sport this term, we respect your efforts and appreciate how you have represented our school and the Doonside community.





Flood Relief Fundraiser



What a great way to end week 10! The SRC held the flood relief fundraiser on Friday the 1st of April with all donations being sent to Givit NSW - https://www.givit.org.au/

Thank you to everyone who brought a snag, sprayed their hair and helped the SRC run another successful event.



From the Artists of C19



Students in Miss Saywell's Visual Arts classes have been hard at work this term developing skills and techniques in a range of art making practices. The art room has been alive with creativity, problem solving, and excitement as students have seen their efforts pay off in the resulting artworks. Over the coming weeks students will finalise their artworks and reflect on their practice. Keep an eye out on the schools Facebook and Instagram pages for updates.

Lino print: Fatima Adeli of Year 10

Year 8 students have studied Pablo Picasso, and how emotions are communicated through signs and symbols such as facial expressions, and colours. Their assessment for this term was to create a 3D portrait using recycled cardboard in the style of Picasso. They researched and selected an emotion and developed their own system of signs and symbols to effectively communicate with their audiences. Here we see Maria from 8.4 developing her portrait, and focusing on a wet on wet blending techique.





Students from the 9/10 Support Visual Arts class have learnt a range of skills this term, including colour mixing. Developing a range of tints and shades, how to effectively use warm and cool colours, along with fine tuning their painting techniques. They are currently working on a cool/warm contrast artwork that will be overlaid with a silhouette. Moving into next term, they will be creating giant sculptures of ice-creams, moving from 2D to 3D artworks.

Year 10 students have taken an imaginary trip around the world, flying first class to a city of their choice. They researced their city, and decided on an architectual element to feature in their lino carving. They have worked hard to develop their compositional skills, and lino carving techniques. The results so far have been incredible and reflect their commitment to improving their skills. They have also developed a great sense of collaboration, working together to problem solve and offer encouragement and feedback to the other members of the class.

The Year 9/10 CORE class have been looking at streetartists from around the world, and how they use stencils and layered mediums to create grunge style artworks. After having interviewed a teacher they admire and look up to, students began working on canvas to develop their portraits. They will continue working on their masterpieces next term. Here you can see Ted, adding layers and details to their work with stencils and spray paint.





Year 12 Visual Arts delved head first into the world of feminism, studying artists such as the anonomyous vigilanties of the artworld "The Guerilla Girls". They have been uncovering the ways in which these artists call out the gender bias that exists in the artworld, through their witty, confronting and ironic artworks that attempt to bring about change to our art institutions. Along side this, they have been working to develop their conceptual and material practice in line with their Body of Work for the HSC. Watch this space, because these students are creating works that will no doubt leave you in awe.

Art Pathways project with the Art gallery of NSW

On Thursday 24th March, the Art Gallery of NSW gave a presentation about the Art Pathways project to all of Year 7 in the school library. The Art Pathways program began in 2015 and provided learning experiences connecting the Gallery directly with schools in Greater Sydney. The aim of the program was to provide access to the Gallery's collection and resources for low SES school communities, including Indigenous students and students with disability. The program usually involves the Art Gallery educators visiting schools and provide stimulating art practical tasks and then in the following term a visit to the Art Gallery of NSW itself.

This year is a little different and will involve links each term with the gallery. Due to the expansion of the gallery, they want this to be a special year long project. The Art Gallery has selected DTHS and four other schools in the metropolitan area to be linked with husband and wife installation artists Alfredo and Isabel Aquilizan and their "Dreamhome" project.

During our last visit the students worked with Sophie, Mollie, Amy, Talara and Sebastian in creating a mindmap and drawing of their "Dreamhouse".

The students had a fantastic day as seen in the photos attached. The CAPA faculty can't wait for the next stage of this program, a visit to the ART Gallery of NSW next term.



Share the Dignity Vending Machine

DTHS is excited to be able to break down the barriers of shame and stigmas associated with menstruation. Students can now safely and privately access period products that can make a lifechanging difference. Located in the Schools' Sick Bay.



Year 7 Student of the Term

Congratulations to Ashlynn Knight who is the Year 7 Student of the Term.

Throughout the term, Ashlynn has displayed the CORE values of Community and Ownership. In the classroom, she takes ownership of her learning by upholding a high work ethic and completing class work to a high standard.

Ashlynn demonstrates community by consistently assisting her peers and representing her cohort as a member of the Student Representative Council (SRC). Ashlynn also wears her school uniform with pride and has an exemplary school attendance record.

I am extremely proud of Ashlynn's progress and transition into Year 7. Keep up the inspiring work, Ashlynn!



Miss Twaddle Year 7 Year Advisor NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:





Develop life skills

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



Dates for your Calendar

Term 1, 2022

Tuesday April 26th, Week 1 - **Staff Development Day** Wednesday April 27th, Week 1 - **Students return for Term 2 (Week A)** Monday 2nd - Friday 6th May, Week 2 - **Dental Clinic** Wednesday May 25th, Week 5 - **Athletics Carnival** Friday July 1st, Week 10 - **Last day of Term 2**

Please note that dates are subject to change.

School Information

