Newsletter

Term 1, 2024





Principals Message

Mr. Colin Campbell

As we bid farewell to another enriching term filled with learning, and memorable experiences, I want to take moment to reflect on the a achievements and successes that have made it a positive term. It has been a marked resilience, term by collaboration, and shared a commitment to excellence, and I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished as a school community.

Throughout the term, our students have continued to demonstrate their dedication to their studies, their creativity in extracurricular pursuits, and their compassion towards one another. Whether it was through academic achievements, sporting triumphs, artistic endeavours, or acts of kindness, our students have consistently exemplified the values that place importance on in our we Doonside school community.





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Principals Message Cont.

- 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 and particularly in relation to our achievements in the HSC and creating wonderful pathways for our students.
- Various sports and knockout competitions which our students have participated in this term. I am always proud when our students are eager to represent our school and we have had some wonderful results.
- We have also had two successful whole school carnivals this term with both the Swimming and Cross-Country events taking place. They were both an enormous success and I was extremely pleased with the level of attendance and participation by all students. These are always wonderful days for our school community, and I want to say a huge congratulations to Ms Hudson for doing an excellent job in making these happen with outstanding organisation.
- The Student Leadership group and SRC running various initiatives this term for our school community including Valentine's Day and Harmony Day.

Harmony Day was a wonderful day that beautifully celebrated the rich tapestry of cultures within our school community. From the vibrant performances to the delicious array of foods, every aspect of the day was meticulously planned and executed, creating an atmosphere of inclusivity and appreciation for diversity. It was inspiring to see students and staff coming together to share their traditions, customs, and heritage with one another. More than just a fun event, Harmony Day provided a valuable opportunity for our students to learn about different cultures, fostering empathy, understanding, and respect for one another.

I would like to extend my gratitude to our exceptional team of staff who have worked tirelessly to support our students' academic progress, personal development, and well-being.

As we prepare for a well-deserved break, I encourage every one of you to take this opportunity to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with your families.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to a great term two for our wonderful school.

Warmest regards,

Colin Campbell



Success in Science

Term 1 in Science

This term in Science has been a busy one for our students! Here is a snapshot of what has been happening:

Year 7 has commenced the year by delving into the foundations of scientific inquiry, exploring the concepts surrounding matter and elements.

Year 8 has focused on energy transfer and transformations. Through hands-on experimentation, they've had the chance to work with solar ovens, gaining insights into how various variables influence the amount of thermal energy produced.

In Year 9, students have been immersed in the study of Global Systems, aiming to grasp the intricate workings of our planet and the critical mechanisms employed to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Meanwhile, Year 10 has developed a deeper understanding of chemical reactions. They've been actively engaged in practical experiments, gaining firsthand experience of how different chemicals interact to produce diverse reactions.





Youth Impact Workshop

Self-cleaning cars, apps to track your contribution to reducing your carbon footprint, AI therapists, initiatives to reduce food waste, vape regulators, and technology to repel insects using electromagnetic waves, among others, were just some of the business ideas that 100 of our year 7-10 students developed during the Youth Impact workshop held in Week 10. The Australian School of Entrepreneurship facilitated the workshop with our young change-makers, helping them develop skills in collaboration, problem-solving, and public speaking.

Students worked in teams to brainstorm local and global issues, rigorously discussing them until they narrowed down to one problem, with their potential product or service aimed at solving it. All students are congratulated on their creativity and receptiveness in participating in this event.







Support Spotlight

Embracing Diversity and Encouraging Growth

Term 1 was a truly special term at our school as our Support Unit Stage 4 & Stage 5 Students took part in a range of enriching activities guided by their dedicated teachers and SLSO's.

From exploring the wonders of science practicals to expressing their creativity through friendship band and beanie making activities, every moment was filled with determination and joy. It's incredible to witness the passion and enthusiasm these students bring to each task, supported by our nurturing team who provide guidance and encouragement every step of the way. Together, they're not just participating in activities; they're building confidence, fostering friendships, and discovering their own unique abilities – we're building a community where everyone's unique talents are celebrated and valued. Here's to creating an inclusive environment where every student can thrive and shine!

A heartfelt thank you to our supportive Principal (Mr. Colin Campbell) and Support unit head teacher (Mr. Chris Marques) for your unwavering dedication and guidance. Your leadership inspires us all to reach for greatness. Gratitude for making our school a place where every student can thrive.

Hardeep Kaur Sandhu Support Teacher





Year Advisor Updates

Year 7 - Mr. McMahon

Year 7 students have begun their secondary schooling journey transitioning to high school life with a blend of excitement and apprehension. Year 7 actively integrated into the DTHS community by demonstrating our core values daily whilst participating in school events ranging from sporting carnivals to social justice days.

Student of the Term - Kiara Kothari

Kiara is a member of the SRC. She was actively involved in Harmony Day, and also consistently applies herself diligently across all of her classes.



Year 8 - Mr. Gerard



This term, students in Year 8 have been learning about Character Strengths in Life Education. This has involved students learning about their own personal strengths as well as identifying strengths in their peers around them. Students have thrived in Life Education completing their VIA Character Strengths survey and brainstorming ways in which they can demonstrate their strengths whilst learning and participating in the DTHS learning community.

Student of the Term - Sophia Knobel

Sophia has showcased her array of strengths this term. Kind and empathetic by nature, she regularly shows the schools CORE values. She represented our year group by performing at Harmony Day, Leading the Year 8 activity and the schools Panther Trophy Team.



Year 9 - Ms. Twaddle

This term Year 9 have displayed their many differing talents. We congratulate Nellie-Ann Reid and Connor Hewitt for their outstanding representation of our school at the Sydney West Swimming Carnival. Their dedication and skill were on full display, reflecting the excellence of our school's sports program.

In a different spotlight, Mikaela Barnes and Mia Davies showcased their talents at the Pulse Dance concert, where they performed alongside students from other schools. Their commitment to their artistry and the school's cultural participation are commendable. Well done to all these students for their achievements and for being wonderful ambassadors for our school!

Student of the Term - Isabella Irinco

Isabella's leadership shone brightly as she took the reins at our International Women's Day Assembly, inspiring us all with her eloquence and passion. Additionally, she skillfully emceed our recent Year 6-7 Open Night, showcasing her dedication to our school community. Well done, Isabella, on this well-deserved recognition!



Year 10 - Mr. Pilason

Year 10 have had a great start to the year. Students in the cohort have emerged into leadership roles and are doing us all proud. The roles include SRC, Leadership roll call, and Sports Captains. The students are doing a fantastic job, well done.

As a cohort, we have had many successes with all things sport. Year 10 have represented in the 2024 National Touch Football Carnival at Coffs Harbour, The Swimming Carnival and The Sydney West Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to all students involved and the peers who have supported them.

Student of the Term - Emilia-Julianna Reyes

Emilia-Julianna is consistently kind and respectful. She works hard in all aspects of her school life. She is determined to do the best that she can in all aspects of her schooling.





Year 11 - Mr. Bleakley

Our new Year 11 cohort has, as the title suggests, hit the ground running for their first term of senior study. Taking a big step up from last year, the Year 11 team has gone from strength to strength this term, and has adapted to life as senior students like ducks taking to water. If you ever wander into the library during one of the year 11 study periods, you will surely find a sea of dedicated students puzzling over their latest maths problems, or revising their English narratives. Better yet, Year 11 have begun their Wednesday study sessions, where they have been staying back from 2:20pm to 3:20pm to consolidate their classroom learning and implement feedback for their assessments. Here's to hoping they can continue this strong start!

Student of the Term - Timaleti Lawaniyasana

Diligent, committed and driven Timaleti has entered senior schooling with a clear vision for success. She is an excellent leader and her election to SRC is no surprise. Facing a challenging pattern of study Timaleti's resilience and determination has been commendable.





Year 12 - Ms. Govender

This term has gone by so fast for Year 12, and they have thoroughly enjoyed participating in a range of school activities. They embraced their final swimming carnival with open arms, got dressed up, and brought the school spirit for the whole day. Students also experienced their last ever school photo day, which brought up some sad but exciting emotions as they venture into the next chapter of their lives. These photos will be used for their graduation ceremony at the end of the year.

Within the classroom, students from CAFS volunteered for Carevan, which is a hot meal and hamper service that supports homeless people in the area, and the students thoroughly enjoyed giving back to the community. Lastly, Year 12 has received their Camp notes and will be heading to Stanwell Tops from the 5th to 7th of June next term. Students are incredibly eager to go on their first school camp as a cohort!

Student of the Term - Fatima Adeli

With outstanding attendance this Year Fatima has asserted herself as front runner for Year 12 this term. She is consistent in all aspects of school- application to her studies, uniform and demonstrating our CORE values. She is the definition of a quiet achiever.



PRIDE/GROW Updates

Pride Camp

In week four, Mr. Gerard, Miss Kelly, Miss Comafay, and Bay embarked on an exciting journey to the Wedderburn Campsite for Pride Camp. Students delved into the essence of camping, mastering essential skills while engaging in a range of activities designed to foster leadership and teamwork.

Throughout the adventure, students bravely confronted their fears, showcasing remarkable resilience as they tackled exhilarating challenges such as The Giant Swing, The Leap of Faith, and Abseiling. In the face of adversity, they bonded as a pride group, reinforcing their connections and camaraderie.

Now back at school, the spirit of 'family' imbues the atmosphere, a testament to the profound experiences shared at camp. Teachers stand in awe of the determination and spirit demonstrated by the students, making Pride Camp an unforgettable journey of growth and unity.





Pride Sandhills

Ask any Rugby League player during pre-season and they will tell you- Wanda Sand Dunes are not a test to be taken lightly. A legacy excursion that all Pride Boys engage with, the Sand Hills excursion is a decade old tradition that is aimed to foster resilience, comradery and grit. The excursion acts as a bonding experience because of the repeated effort required to over come the obstacles of the sandhills





Grow Girls Excursion

Led by Maddie Hudson and Melissa Liu our GROW program contains 12 Year 8 Girls armed with the best support network to engage with learning and improve wellbeing. This term the girls have been working towards being the best versions of themselves. The end of term excursion provided an opportunity for the group to build cohesion as a team, practice a variety of mindfulness strategies and finish with gratitude letters with the aim of building self confidence from within.





Getting on with the GROW Boys

My name is Fernando Navarro and I am proud to introduce our Grow Boys team for 2024. As part of our program this year we will be meeting once a fortnight and undertaking activities that explore social justice, men's health, service to the community and fund raising. So far this term we have been spending quality time developing team culture and spirit by engaging in activities and games that involve problem solving, physical and analytical skills. We look forward to sharing with you all some of our achievements as the year goes on.







Social Justice Days

International Women's Day

On March 8th, Doonside Technology High School proudly commemorated International Women's Day, a vibrant tribute to the remarkable achievements of women worldwide, while also acknowledging the ongoing challenges they confront.

Our celebration took various forms, beginning with a heartwarming bake sale dedicated to raising funds for women and children affected by homelessness and domestic violence—a demonstration of our solidarity and support for those in need.

At the heart of the day was an empowering assembly organised and executed by the inspirational Pride Girls group. Through an engaging panel discussion, students had the privilege of listening to diverse voices of women, sharing their experiences and invaluable advice with our younger generation.

Every student involved poured their heart and soul into the event, embodying unwavering dedication to this social justice cause. Their remarkable efforts and unwavering passion serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for our entire school community.





Harmony Day

Harmony Day was on the 28th of March 2024. Leading up to Harmony Day, the SRC created many posters and placed them around the whole school to ensure that everybody could see and save the date. Each year group planned its very own activity to run on the day. The SRC ensured there was enough food for the day and asked all teachers, peers, and the community to contribute if they could.

On the day, the SRC had to ensure all the food was prepared and warm, ready to be bought later in the day. We (SRC) began setting up tables, activities, and stalls for our peers to participate in.

During Period 2, each teacher led an informative Harmony Day lesson that helped students understand the importance and reasons behind celebrating the day. At lunch, all SRC members were on duty and worked hard to sell as much cultural food as they could and it was very busy. After lunch, the SRC contributed to cleaning up and packing away tables after a successful day, and the rest of the school filled the hall for the cultural performances.

The performances were breathtaking and wonderful to see. "The performances were natural but unique in their own individual way." There were so many wonderful performances that it would be impossible to choose the one we liked the most. Overall, we had a successful event as a whole school, and all students were able to celebrate various cultures respectfully. It was nice to see everybody who contributed to the day and a huge thank you to our SRC teachers, Mrs Atai and Mrs Maher and the whole SRC.

By Mya Mackie & Kiara Kothari (Year 7 SRC Members)





Student Leadership

SRC Try Outs

Mrs Maher, Mrs Atai and the Student Leaders in Year 12, coordinated the SRC tryouts at DTHS on the 20th of February 2024. Over 60 students participated in a range of activities designed to showcase their creativity, teamwork, critical thinking, and leadership skills. These activities aimed to evaluate their suitability for potential roles within the SRC of DTHS. Students completed activities such as a blindfolded walk, reaching out to new people (trust exercise), the picnic rug activity where participants refined their communication skills by working in groups to flip the rug over and step onto the opposite side without falling off. Overall this was a successful event where everyone was able to create connections with students from other years, develop new skills, get to know their student leaders and teachers and be able to go out of their comfort zone. Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's tryouts!

Valentines day 2024

Valentine's Day was a successful event held by the SRC, where love was spread, numerous roses were sold, and cheer radiated throughout the school! This fundraiser event featured the delicate packaging and distribution of roses to emphasise the significance of this special day for all to enjoy. Additionally, the bake sale attracted a lot of buyers, enticed by pastries prepared and donated by students. Overall, this was an outstanding event as it provided everyone with a day full of joy and affection.

Student Leadership Team

Our Lead Roll Calls enjoy developing their skills in a range of mini-projects, here are some highlights from the term:

Year 6-7 Open Night

- We're proud to highlight the outstanding efforts of 16 Year 9 students who showcased their leadership skills at the Year 6-7 Information Evening on Tuesday, March 19th. These students took charge of planning and leading workshops, as well as guiding tours of the school. Their dedication and commitment to our school community are truly commendable. Congratulations to these students for their exceptional contribution!

Harmony Day Stalls

- Students in the Leadership team designed and facilitated a Harmony Day stall to run throughout the day. Year 9 created a photo booth that captured joyful moments shared by students, highlighting the spirit of inclusivity and unity throughout the day. Special shout out to Sydnie Rikiriki and Merina Enitima who supported the Leadership Team. Year 10 showcased their community spirit as they encouraged others to share the love by creating friendship bracelets. Year 8 facilitated a live mural making by asking students to create a hand print that reflects their culture.





Life Education

This Term in Life Education we are focusing on the strengths we have as a school community.

Year 7 have been exploring our CORE Strengths and how to use our own strengths to navigate their journey in high school. Each lesson students do an in depth look at each of the CORE skills so they can emulate them throughout their high school journey. This led then to students being able to identify their own strengths and areas to improve.



What do I do well
What I can improve

 Social intelligence
 stop procrastinating
 math
 easily giving up
 crying over little things
 hanest
 handwriting
 helping others
 paragraph structure
 i can tolerate people that are annoying
 planning

What I can improve

Armed with a year of high school already, Year 8 began to familiarise themselves with the character strengths, what each one means and how they can identify them in themselves. They participated in the Character Strengths quiz which enabled them to clearly see their top strengths. Hopefully knowledge of these strengths helps them along their education journey.

Our Year 9 students are delving into the concept of character strengths, learning how to identify these qualities in themselves and others. This exploration not only enhances their selfawareness but also fosters a deeper understanding of the positive attributes that shape individuals. Through this journey, students are gaining valuable insights into building strong, supportive relationships and developing their character.

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Mikaela Barnes

Sakina Ada

My Strengths:	1: gratitude	2 humility	3: Humor
and an end of the	When finding a job to apply for	When writing o CV	When doing a job Interview
How I con use it #1	Gratitude heips me strongthen your relationships, enhance your reputation, and increase your chances of getting hired.	I would use gratitude by writing a cv that represents me	I will show gratitude for my parents, friend and teacher by acknowledging how they mode me the person I am today
How I can use it #2	I can show humility by applying for a job that I can do well and I know I can succeed at.	Be honest about your skills and experiences. Don't try to inflate your resume by exaggerating my skills and experience.	Humility will help me because i know what i can do to bring to the interview
How I can use it #3	i will find a job that suits my personality	I can be professional but also light hearted	It will prove that i have a sense of <u>humour</u> and someone to work with

Being in their fourth year of Life Education Year 10 are well versed in the language of character strengths. This cohort navigates how to identify and enhance that skill set in others. They explored ways in which they can apply strengths to their daily life and how they can harness their strengths when working towards employment.

Ayshia Arcilla



Tasty Creations in TAS!

Year 12 Hospitality - Phenomenal Focaccia

Year 12 Hospitality students have been developing their skills in the Unit Prepare and Present Sandwiches by experimenting with focaccia art. Students developed their bread making skills and then added creative flair to create an image of their choosing using only herbs, fruits and vegetables. They all did an amazing job resulting in some eye catching and delicious focaccia breads.



Keeping up With PDHPE

Year 7 PDHPE

This term, our Year 7 students have been exploring the topic of puberty and the changes they experience during adolescence. As part of their learning, they have created a digital magazine aimed at educating teenagers about these changes and how to navigate them. The magazine provides valuable insights and guidance for teenagers as they navigate this important stage of life. In practical lessons, Year 7 started the term by playing initiative games to get to know their peers while working on their problem-solving skills. They then began developing their fundamental skills which were put to the test in the latter half of the term during their Netball unit.

PERIOD CRAMPS

Year 8 PDHPE

In their current unit, Year 8 students have been exploring the concept of positive and negative risk-taking, examining the factors that influence decision-making in different situations. As part of their learning, students worked collaboratively on an assessment task, where they role-played as members of the NSW Government, during a Press Conference, to educate the Doonside community about the dangers of drug use. In practical lessons, Year 8 students have been honing their skills in Cricket and Volleyball by participating in small-sided or modified games.

Year 9 PDHPE

This term, our Year 9 students have been focusing on developing and maintaining inclusive, equal, and respectful relationships. They have set ground rules and boundaries and have been practising a variety of skills that contribute to positive relationships including empathy, active listening, conflict resolution and assertiveness. Additionally, they have examined their personal values, challenged negative community attitudes related to diversity, and delved into the impact of discrimination and abuse of power.

In practical lessons, Year 9 students have been immersing themselves in learning game strategies and tactics related to Badminton and Softball, further enhancing their teamwork and sportsmanship skills.

Year 10 PDHPE

In their current unit, Year 10 students have been delving into the theme of Equal Opportunity. This includes a deep dive into concepts such as equity versus equality, alongside an exploration of the individual, sociocultural, socioeconomic, and environmental factors that shape their decision-making regarding health. As part of their learning journey, students are diligently working on an extended response assessment task. In their practical sessions, Year 10 students are actively engaged in mini golf and touch football





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This term, Stage 5 PASS students have been exploring American Football, also known as Gridiron. To kick off their learning, students were introduced to the game by watching the Superbowl. They also participated in NFL-themed activities including Guess the Logo, Trivia, and Bowl-Predication. As part of their assessment, students participated in a mock combine to determine their NFL position and develop a 'Madden Profile' to suit. Students are now working on performing positional skills required of a quarterback, centre and wide receiver and how to implement feedback to improve their execution of the skill.

In the practical component of the course, students have been developing their offensive and defensive game plays in preparation for their Gridiron Tournament which will be held next term, in Week 2.

Stage 6 CAFS

This term, year II CAFS students have settled well into a routine while learning about all things Resource Management. Students have looked into how individuals and groups manage human and non-human resources. They have also delved into the wellbeing of individuals and how this can be impacted by different contextual factors and needs. To complement the required learning, students completed an Assessment Task that required them to analyse the wellbeing of individuals and families from 'Claymore' and suggest ways in which they could improve or support the improvement of their overall wellbeing by managing the use of resources.

Year 12 CAFS

This term, students in 12 CAFS have been exploring groups within the community that may be experiencing inequities including Youth, Rural and Remote Families, and Homeless People. Students have examined the nature of the group, their specific needs and their level of access to services. Additionally, they have examined the role that government policy and legislation and positive social environments have in enhancing the wellbeing of the individuals within the group.

To complement their studies, students participated in volunteer work with Carevan Blacktown - a community organisation that provides a weekly meal service and grocery hampers to individuals battling hardship and disadvantage of all kinds including homelessness and financial hardship.







Year 11 CAFS



Stage 6 PDHPE

Year 11 PDHPE

This term Year 11 PDHPE has been investigating why individuals give different meanings to health and the range of factors and behaviours that influence health. The students have demonstrated a particular interest in health promotion and the strategies that can assist individuals to achieve better health. This has formed a key component of their assessment task.

Year 12 PDHPE

This term, Year 12 PDHPE have been studying their core 'Factors Affecting Performance' participating in practical activities like the performance decrement test on the bike erg have allowed students to consolidate theory through practical application. Students have enjoyed engaging in the many elements that impact athletic performance.

Stage 6 SLR

This term, our Year 11/12 SLR students are immersed in resistance training. They're exploring different programs inclusive of warm-ups, stretching and cool-downs, understanding muscle dynamics during workouts, and mastering gym safety and technique. Through practical activities in our school gym, they're applying their knowledge and showing their understanding of the class content taught. For their Term 1 assessment, they're creating and filming their training sessions, ensuring a comprehensive grasp of theory and practical skills around Resistance Training programs. This will allow them to better equip themselves when wanting to proceed in the gym outside of school, as well as support their family and friends around them and/or for future job opportunities in the health field.

Stage 6 Sports Coaching

Year 11 SVC



This term Year II Sports Coaching is engaging with their Task 1: 'Tournament Time'. To be marked competent, students plan and deliver a sporting event including risk assessments and event management. The event that has been chosen to be delivered by Sport Coaching students is a Year 8 Sports Gala Day where Year 8 students can choose between playing OzTag, Volleyball, or a Non-Competitive physical activity option. These students have shown a willingness to learn new skills and eagerness to coach younger students in the sporting arena. Earlier this term, some Year II Sports Coaching students completed mandatory work placement hours by assisting Marayong South Primary School with their Swimming Carnival.



Year 12 SVC

Year 12 Sport Coaching students are learning to modify coaching sessions to suit the needs of their participants. For their assessment task, they will coach sports skills in small groups, with a focus on correcting and improving technique.





What's Happening in HSIE

Yr 11 Geo Take on the North Era Beach Hike

On Friday March 15th, our Year 11 Geography class took on the North Era Beach hike in the Royal National Park! They battled an early wake up, (many) leeches and a steep slope which was nothing to sneeze at, all while collecting field data for their upcoming assessment and encouraging each other along the way. It is safe to say that the views and destination, much like the journey down the mountain, were breathtaking! 2024 is the first year of our new Geography syllabus for Years 11 and 12, so keep a look out for more of our adventures on the DTHS social media accounts... where you can find our highlight video from this trip!





Year 7 HSIE Excursion -

Ramses and the Gold of the Pharaohs exhibit.

In Week 9 of Term 1, Year 7 students had the opportunity to attend the Australian Museum in Sydney for a once-in-a-lifetime event—to experience the *Ramses and the Gold of the Pharaohs exhibit*.

Students were able to explore more than 3,000-year-old artefacts directly relevant to their 'Ancient Egypt' unit of study.

Year 7 responded with excitement and diligence, ensuring they made the most of this opportunity. They engaged with over 182 exquisite antiquities directly from the pyramids and museums of Egypt and worked together to gather information in support of their learning in the classroom.

This included engaging with significant cultural and spiritual pieces, including the famous coffin of Ramses the Great, the priceless golden masks of Amenemope, the exquisitely carved sarcophagi of Sennedjem, the extraordinary necklace of Psusennes, and mummified animals including cats, crocodiles, and even a lion cub. Students were able to discover the unique craftsmanship and sophistication of objects and artworks dating from the Bronze Age of 3000 BCE to the Classical Age of the 1st century CE.

Our Year 7 students overall are to be commended on how they conducted themselves on their first excursion as a year group. Their respectful and polite behaviour, diligence and flexibility were recognised and commended not only by attending HSIE teachers but also by the museum coordinators, who stated that Doonside High School was "one of the best schools" that had visited the exhibit. We are proud to say that this was further supported by members of the public who contacted the school directly in admiration.





Aboriginal Education

Experience, Experience, Experience!

It's been experience, experience, experience this term in Aboriginal Education! Our Junior AECG attended their first event of the year hosted at Blacktown South Primary School, with over 100 students from the Nurragingy area attending and participating in a weaving workshop. DTHS has the privilege of hosting the next JuniorAECG meeting in Term 2, where our students will be running Traditional Games alongside Matty from AFL back at DTHS.

on Harmony Day, our students represented Aboriginal culture with a Year 7-12 dance at the whole school cultural concert! These 15 students carefully practiced their choreography across a number of weeks with dedication, supported by traditional dance teacher David Clarke. We are incredibly proud of both groups of students, who have demonstrated bravery and leadership this term by stepping out of their comfort zones. In the classroom, the Aboriginal Education Team has been hard at work with students setting their goals for 2024, and we look forward to sharing and celebrating these with our community in the coming terms!





Term 1 in TAS

The TAS Faculty has had a busy start to the new school year. We welcomed Nicole Pratt to the kitchen as a temporary SASS member to replace Vicky Ross who is taking a well-deserved long service leave break. Our hospitality teachers and kitchen assistant connected with industry hosting Julie Armstrong from Education is Key who ran workshops for local kitchen assistants, and hospitality teachers in Indigenous flavours – the feedback was positive from both workshop groups. Stay tuned! There's a possibility that Education is Key will return later in the year for a Hospitality Conference to further support the learning of both staff and students.

Mr Navarro and Mr Griffiths are putting their recent Construction upgrade into practice with their delivery of 'Brick and Block' to their construction students. A great way DTHS is addressing the skills and trade shortages of the country!

Mr Yu is busy implementing the new Technology Syllabus to ensure students are getting the most up to date skills and knowledge in technology, with a particular focus on Artificial Intelligence.

Year 12 Hospitality students had the opportunity recently to provide catering as well as food and beverage service to to local network of Principals and Educational Directors, they certainly had a service with a smile!

Year 11 Hospitality students assisted with the cooking of the Year 7 welcome bbq, gaining first hand experience of interacting with customers, and safe food handling practices.

Year 11 EEC students experiencing what it's like to carry extra weight by wearing the virtual pregnancy vest

Year 12 EEC students are developing their knowledge of the importance of a balanced diet in the growth and development of babies and toddlers where they are designing suitable menu's for toddlers that ensure the dietary guidelines are adhered to.

Mrs Saunders - Head Teacher TAS.





Bangarra Dance Theatre

A Transformative Experience

On February 22nd, 30 of our students embarked on an excursion to watch Bangarra Dance Theatre. For many, it was their inaugural visit to a theatre, experiencing Riverside Theatre Parramatta for the first time. The performance, "Yuldea," delved into the poignant tale of the Anangu people of the Great Victorian Desert, exploring the clash between traditional life and the burgeoning industrialisation of our nation.

Following the mesmerizing performance, students then engaged in a riveting Q&A session with the artistic director/choreographer Frances Rings and dancers. Doonside students had insightful queries which reflected their engagement and interest in the work. Some students shared that the performance surpassed their expectations, expressing eagerness for more opportunities to attend a theatre in the future.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to Bangarra Dance Theatre, Mrs. Maher, Mrs Saywell, Ms. Harrison, Mr. Pilason, Julie and all other involved for orchestrating this enriching excursion. Together, we witnessed the power of dance in art to inspire and educate.



POONSIDE TRANSPORT

The Sports Report

DTHS Makes a Splash: Annual Swimming Carnival 2024

Blacktown Pool Witnessed Epic Showdowns and Unprecedented House Spirit! DTHS students took to the water on February 8th for their highly anticipated annual Swimming Carnival at Blacktown Pool, and what a spectacle it was! With fierce house rivalries igniting the competitive flames, the atmosphere was electric as students showcased their swimming prowess like never before. In a stunning display of skill and determination, Crawford House emerged victorious for the second consecutive year, amassing an impressive 571 points. Their dominance was undeniable, setting the bar high for future competitions.

Adding to the excitement, the title of "Fastest Swimmer in the School" was fiercely contested, with Year 12 student Timothy Sondaar claiming the crown for the second year running in a nail-bitingly close race. His victory was a testament to his dedication and talent, earning him the admiration of his peers and the school community.

As the carnival drew to a close, attention turned to the 16 students selected to represent DTHS at the Colebee Zone Swimming Carnival. With spirits high and determination in their hearts, they carry the hopes of the school with them, and we wish them the best of luck in their upcoming endeavours. The 2024 DTHS Swimming Carnival was a day to remember, filled with thrilling races, incredible sportsmanship, and a true sense of camaraderie. Congratulations to all participants for making it a day to remember!

Congratulations to our **Age Champions** - Mayson Farrugia (12B), Pyper Nowland (13G), Jordan Sleaman (13B), Nellie-Ann Reid (14G), Jasmine Woolard (15G), Riley Sleaman (15B), Sally Owen-Schwind (16G), Ethan Slavits (16B), Nikolina Lazic (17G), and Timothy Sondaar (17B).

House Points: 1st - Crawford (571 points), 2nd - Wallace (517 points), 3rd - Bruce (497 points), and 4th - Stuart (428 points).





Zone Swimming Carnival

DTHS Triumphs at Colebee Zone Swimming Carnival! 16 Students Shine Bright, School Secures 2nd Place!

March 7th was a day of triumph for DTHS as 16 of its finest students showcased their swimming talents at the Colebee Zone Swimming Carnival. Despite being one of the smaller teams, the students proved that size doesn't matter when it comes to skill and determination. In a dazzling display of athleticism and spirit, DTHS emerged as the 2nd best-performing school at the carnival, a remarkable achievement that speaks volumes about the students' dedication and hard work.

Each student's performance was nothing short of outstanding, demonstrating their commitment to excellence and their school. Their achievements are a testament to their talent and the unwavering support of the DTHS community.

As the excitement of the Colebee Zone Carnival settles, attention now turns to the Sydney West Swimming Carnival, where a select few from DTHS will compete against the best of the best. To those chosen few, we wish you the best of luck and know you will represent DTHS with pride and skill. The entire school community would like to congratulate the 16 students who represented DTHS at the Colebee Zone Swimming Carnival. Your achievements are an inspiration to us all, and we are immensely proud of every one of you.

A big congratulations to our Zone **Age Champions** - Pyper Nowland (13G) and Riley Sleaman (15B).





Sydney West Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our 7 Doonside Technology High School swimmers for their outstanding performances at the Sydney West Swimming Carnival! Held at Sydney Olympic Park Pool on March 21st, they showed exceptional skill and sportsmanship. Thanks to Ethan Szlavits for his achievements and progression to the CHS Carnival. Well done, swimmers!







What an exciting game on International Women's Day at Doonside Technology High School! The teachers took on the students in a thrilling netball match that had everyone on the edge of their seats. The students came out strong, taking the lead in the first half with impressive skill and teamwork. However, the teachers showed their experience and determination, makina a remarkable comeback to secure the win. It was a fantastic display of sportsmanship and a celebration of women's achievements. Thank you to everyone who participated and cheered on the teams. Here's to strong women - may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them!



Representative Sports Report

Zone Girls Volleyball

DTHS Rising Stars Shine Bright in Volleyball Glory! - Ayen Makes Sydney West Team, Emily and Andrea Stand Tall.

DTHS is proud to announce that three of its talented students, Ayen, Emily, and Andrea, were selected to represent the Colebee Zone Volleyball team this year. Their journey culminated in the Sydney West Championships, where they showcased their skills and sportsmanship on a grand stage.

After a day filled with intense matches and thrilling rallies, the moment of truth arrived as the girls gathered with bated breath for the team announcement. The excitement was palpable as the coach delivered the news: Ayen had been selected for the prestigious Sydney West Volleyball team!

Ayen's selection is a testament to her skill, determination, and dedication to the sport. Her teammates, Emily and Andrea, also deserve commendation for their outstanding performances and contributions to the team's success.

Congratulations to Ayen, Emily, and Andrea for their achievements. Your hard work and passion have paid off, and we wish Ayen the best of luck as she represents DTHS and the Sydney West team in future competitions. You have made the school proud!





Zone Girls Basketball

DTHS proudly sent two all-rounder talents, Hailey and Andrea, to represent the Colebee Zone Girls Basketball team at the prestigious Sydney West Championships. The girls' skills and determination were on full display as they competed against some of the region's best teams.

While the competition proved to be formidable, Hailey and Andrea showed unwavering resilience and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. Despite narrowly missing out on selection for the Sydney West team, Hailey received high praise from the zone coach for her exceptional skill, ability, and sportsmanship.

Hailey's outstanding performance was a shining example of her talent and dedication to the sport. Her contributions to the zone team were invaluable, and she should be incredibly proud of her efforts.

Although the girls did not progress as far as they had hoped, their performance was a testament to their hard work and commitment. Congratulations to Hailey and Andrea for representing DTHS with pride and sportsmanship. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we look forward to seeing your continued success in the future. Well done, girls!



Zone Girls Soccer



DTHS is proud to have been represented by two exceptional students, Stella and Marla, in the Colebee Zone Girls Soccer team at the Sydney West Championships. Despite facing formidable opponents, the girls exhibited exemplary sportsmanship and skill throughout the tournament.

The competition was fierce, and while the Colbee team fought valiantly, they were unable to secure more than one win. Despite this, Stella and Marla showed unwavering determination and resilience on the field, earning the respect and admiration of their peers and coaches.

Although their journey in this year's championships has come to an end, Stella and Marla remain undeterred. They are already looking forward to the next opportunity to showcase their talents and represent DTHS with pride.

Congratulations to Stella and Marla for their outstanding performance and sportsmanship. Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and we are confident that you will continue to excel in the future. Well done, girls!



Zone Boys Soccer

Congratulations to Majok, Duc, and Abot from Doonside Technology High School for representing the Colebee Zone Boys Soccer team at the Sydney West Championships! Despite facing tough competition, these boys showed incredible sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the tournament.

While the competition was fierce and they did not progress to the Sydney West team, their coach praised them for their outstanding team spirit and dedication. Well done, boys! Your hard work and commitment are truly commendable.





Inclusion Sports Report

National Touch Football Carnival

Over two days, students from our support unit had the opportunity to participate in the All-abilities National Touch Football Competition hosted at Coffs Harbour. The students had been selected after trialling earlier and did not disappoint in the competition. The Southern Rebel team, which comprised a majority of our students, only lost one game heading into the final where they lost a tough-fought game 3-2 to finish the competition as runners-up. The Sydney Scorpions, competing in another division and with no small help from student Hezekaiah, took out their competition, winning their game 5-3 in a strong showing and closing out the competition 2024 Champions.

All competitors displayed great maturity and skill and should take great pride in their efforts. The students and the school would like to thank Greg Brown, 4titude Services and NSW Sports 4 All, for the opportunity to attend the competition and be a part of such a great event.

-Mr. Hollis





Knockout Sports Report

Open Boys Volleyball

Doonside Boys Open Knockout Volleyball team played their opening round of the knockout tournament against Penrith High on the 21st of February. The team consisted of students from Year 8 to Year 12. The boys had been practising diligently throughout the past year but came up against an experienced Penrith outfit composed of mainly Year 12 players. The first set was a matter of experience, and Penrith was the more composed team, winning the first set 25-16. Our boys stepped up and started the second set with great improvement, and defended multiple match points, only to lose the second set 26-24. All the players did well and should be commended for the spirit in which they represented our school. The majority of the team is still young, and we look forward to bigger and better things next year.



Open Girls Volleyball

On Tuesday, 12 March, Doonside's Girls Volleyball team played their second-round match against Greystanes High School at PCYC Blacktown. Our team has changed significantly since last year, with an influx of students from Years 7-10. Our senior students led by example, making an immediate statement with an emphatic 25-15 scoreline to win the first set.

Our younger squad gained some invaluable experience when they were given time to play in the second set, but Greystanes' excellent serves (and some inexperience on our part) kept them in the match to comfortably win the second set 12-25. This gave Greystanes HS the momentum for the tiebreaker set (first to 15 points) - and they wasted no time going up 3-9. A strategic timeout was taken for our girls to draw a line in the sand, determining to finish the game on our terms.

Cometh the hour, cometh Suzaine Lazatin, who cooly took control of the situation and served us back into the game to level the scores at 9–9. Hailey Wheatley then stepped up to serve us to a lead of 13–10.



And after what seemed unlikely given the overwhelming momentum against us, our team's Captain Andrea Bolina deceived the opposition into thinking she was setting to another teammate, only to make an amazing spike down the line past the Greystanes defender to win us the match (25-15, 12-25, 15-12).

Our girls (including our non-playing reserves) represented our school extremely well in what was an intense match. Credit should also be given to members of our boys' volleyball team who volunteered to do the officiating and were extremely impartial, fair and decisive in their roles.

COACHES: Mr Halavaka and Miss Harrison



Open Girls Soccer

The DTHS Girls Soccer team kicked off their Sydney West Knockout Competition campaign in spectacular fashion on Monday, February 26th, against Plumpton High School. Despite facing a tough opponent, the team, comprised of enthusiastic students new to the sport, showcased unwavering resilience and effort on the field.

With only one substitute available, the girls gave their all, displaying exceptional teamwork and determination in every kick, pass, and goal attempt. In a thrilling display of skill and tenacity, Sydnie Rikiriki (Year 9) scored a magnificent goal for Doonside in the final 5 minutes of the game, demonstrating the team's never-say-die attitude.

Despite the final score ending in a narrow 2-1 loss, the girls should hold their heads high. Their performance was a testament to their hard work and dedication, and they should be nothing but proud of themselves.



Congratulations to the DTHS Girls Soccer team for their outstanding effort and sportsmanship. This may be just the beginning, but it's clear that this team has a bright future ahead. Well done, girls!

COACHES: Miss Hudson and Miss Takache



Open Boys Soccer

In what was a tightly contested Round 1 match between DTHS and Chifley College Dunheved, the Doonie boys triumphed 3-2 thanks to goals from Abot (2) and Alfred. Despite going down 1-0 in the first half, the boys managed to claw their way back into the contest through a goal from team captain Abot Gak, who scored shortly before the end of the first half. During the second half, the midfield trio of Abot Gak, Majok Awan and Alfred Alie dominated the game, moving the ball around the tired Chifley players and netting two more goals. A late fightback and goal from Chifley wasn't enough to overcome the Doonie defence, led by goalkeeper Duc Luu, and fullbacks Tim Sondaar and Connor Hewitt.

COACHES: Mr Bleakley and Mr McMahon



Open Girls Netball

On Thursday, March 7, Doonside's Open Girls Netball team versed Jamison High School in the Sydney West Knockout Competition.

The Jamison team boasted a lineup of Penrith Representatives, setting the stage for an intense competition. Despite facing a formidable opponent, DTHS showcased resilience, determination, and grace on the field. Throughout the match, both teams displayed exceptional skill and strategy, keeping spectators on the edge of their seats as the score continuously went back and forth.

In the end, Jamison High School emerged victorious with a narrow margin, defeating DTHS with a score of 22-20. Despite the outcome, DTHS's performance was commendable and all girls should be very proud of themselves. We look forward to seeing what the team can achieve in the 2025 Knockout Competition – watch this space!

COACH: Miss Twaddle

Open Boys Cricket



Our tactical captain Syed Abbas won the toss and elected to bowl first to ensure that our inexperienced team weren't chasing a big total. In the field, it was obvious that only a handful knew what was going on, however, that did not stop them from supporting each other and giving it away. It is safe to say that at Doonside, fielding is our strong point as Syed Abbas took 5 wickets in total with a HATRICK! Majok Awan who has never played cricket before picked up 2 wickets and took 4 catches, whilst Desmond Gwyn got 1 wicket and 2 catches and Mathew Ayoub whose bowling action would be questioned by the ICC, managed to pick up 1 wicket in his first game of cricket. With that said, the boys did an incredible job in the field and bowled Rooty Hill out for 66 which is an outstanding effort.

Now unfortunately after you bowl you have to bat... Despite 66 not being a huge total, we lost 2 early wickets, and we were 2/4 after 2 overs. Syed Abbas managed to score about 20 odd runs before getting caught and Irwindeep Singh held the fort but unfortunately, everyone else got out around him. We were all out for 35.

Despite the loss, watching how our students conduct themselves when they represent our school is something that we all should be proud of. Their sportsmanship should truly be commended.

COACH: Miss Govender



Open Boys Softball

Despite a challenging scoreline, the boys' softball team put in a commendable effort in their recent match, ultimately losing 21-6 to Jamison High School. The game was a valuable learning experience, with the boys displaying grit and determination throughout.

Several players stood out during the game, with Noah and Riley making impressive catches that showcased their growing skills and commitment to the team. Their efforts were emblematic of the team's overall performance, demonstrating a positive attitude and a willingness to improve.

While the result may not have been what we hoped for, it's clear that the boys are growing both individually and as a team. With each game, they gain valuable experience and skills that will serve them well in future matches. Keep up the hard work and positive attitude, boys!

COACH: Miss Govender



Open Boys Basketball

Our Open Boys team played Erskine Park High School and got off to a hot start with some midrange shots from Majok Awan. Despite falling behind by the end of the first half, our boys put in a good effort and showed off some good teamwork and communication despite not having much time to practice together. Isaac Collins played a crucial role and found us some much-needed points when the ball was in his hands. We played hard and continued with the energy moving into the second half but could not overcome the height and speed of Erskine Park. Doonside lost 39-13, but the overall feeling coming out of the game was that the team had great potential together given some more time.

COACHES: Mr Cahill and Mr Asuncion





Open Girls Touch Football

On Wednesday the 28th of February, Doonside played Plumpton High School in Round I of the Sydney West Touch Football Knockout Competition. Due to the 35-degree weather, the game was played in four eight-minute quarters. Doonside started the game strong with a line break from Maddison Eaton who went on to score in the opening minutes of the game. In the first quarter, both teams had great defensive and attacking plays including Hailey Wheatley who defended the line in back-to-back sets, making seven touches of the ten plays. At the end of the first quarter, Doonside were leading, 1–0.

In the second quarter, Plumpton scored first. This was a defensive quarter for Doonside who had limited possession due to a few errors. Despite this, the score remained 1-1 at halftime demonstrating how well our girls play in defence - the highlight being Gwenn Vasquez, our very own Flash, who chased down two players who made individual line breaks preventing them from scoring.

In the third quarter, it was clear the heat was impacting both teams. Plumpton was able to score next, now leading, 2-1. However, in an excellent display of grit and determination, our girls rallied together to set up an impressive play which led to Jayla Te Atua scoring from half-way. This reignited the girls' confidence at the end of the third, with the score now 2-2.

In the final quarter, our girls were able to score in the opening minutes with Hailey Wheatley running the length of the field, from the dummy half, to set up Kalanii Gibson to score. For the remainder of the quarter, Doonside held the lead, 3–2; however, Plumpton scored in the final minute of the game to draw 3–3.

To determine the winner of the game, the girls played "Drop Off" footy – teams reduce their number of on-field players by two players and play two minutes of extra time to determine the winner. If there is no try, one player drops off every two minutes thereafter until a team scores. After four dropoffs, Doonside's Hailey Wheatley scored winning the game 4–3. Coach Meta would like to extend his congratulations to the girls who played a phenomenal game!

Watch this space for Round 2!

COACH: Meta Tusini





Open Boys Touch Football

DTHS Open Boys Touch footy team put up a brave performance against a team that had several representative players. Despite the strong competition, DTHS showed spirit and resilience and pushed Castle Hill right up until the final whistle eventually going down 11-2. While there were many great performances from our team, Isaac and Jay-E led from the front with a voice and presence on the field. A special mention to Jdin, Hezekiah and Dion who with every run were always sharp on their feet keeping the opposition guessing.

COACHES: Mr Brown and Mr Marques

Sports Gala Day Report

Girls Panthers Trophy

The DTHS under 14s girls team played hard and fast against Rooty Hill, Shalvey and Mt Druitt, winning two of three games. While we unfortunately missed out on finals, the girls played with heart and sportsmanship, demonstrating the school's CORE values at all times. MVP Charlie Innes captained the team and led by example, scoring impressive tries and making try-saving tackles, while Spirit Award winner, Emily Perkins, played with ultimate bravery in her first-ever hit out on the rugby league field. Other notable mentions include Seni Vunivalu and Olivia Lafaele who used brute strength to lay the platform for their teammates. We are so excited to see how all of our players develop in the years to come!

U16s Girls Rugby League

The DTHS under 16s girls team overcame adversity to defeat Cranebrook, Kingswood and Rooty Hill at the 2024 Panther Trophy. Despite the heat, last-minute changes in team lists and niggling injuries, the 16s girls played with grit and determination. MVP Marleya Elekana scored tough tries and made countless tackles in the middle of the field, setting up her teammates for success. Spirit award winner, Nikita Tisic, played with positivity and perseverance while also nailing her role of helping new players in defence! Other notable mentions include Tyra Pritchard and Angelina Singh, who were unstoppable in both attack and defence, as well as Isabella Irinco, Tyeisha Tuavaga and Nakita Tuavaga who braved their first-ever hit out on the rugby league field. Thanks to this gala day, Isabella, Tyeisha and Nakita are now set to register and play at the Junior League club level on the weekends. We can't wait to see their development over the next few years. - COACHES: Miss Kelly and Meta Tusini



U14s Girls Rugby League



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SPORT HOUSE POINTS





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UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS

WEEK 2

7/5: U14S BOYS BUCKLEY SHIELD 8/5: NSW OZTAG CHAMPIONSHIPS 10/5: BASKETBALL INCLUSION CUP

WEEK 4

20/5: ZONE CROSS COUNTRY 24/5: PING PONG SCHOOL GIRLS CUP

WEEK 6

WEEK 3

15/5: YR 10 HOUSE TOURNAMENT **16/5:** DTHS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

WEEK 5

27/5: NSW FUTSAL - OPENS 27/5: PING PONG SCHOOL BOYS CUP 28/5: NSW FUTSAL - U16S 30/5: NSW FUTSAL - U14S

WEEK 7

13/6: NETBALL NSW CUP 14/6: BOCCIA INCLUSION CUP 14/6: ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

WEEK 9

24/6: WESTERN SYDNEY SCHOOL GIRLS CUP 27/6: YR 9 HOUSE TOURNAMENT

WEEK 8



School Information

Stay Connected with DTHS





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Dates for your Calendar

Monday 29th of April 2024, Week 1 - **Staff Development Day** Tuesday 30th of April 2024, Week 1 - **Students Return (Week A)** Friday 5th of July 2024, Week 10 - **Last Day of Term 2**