

## Important Dates

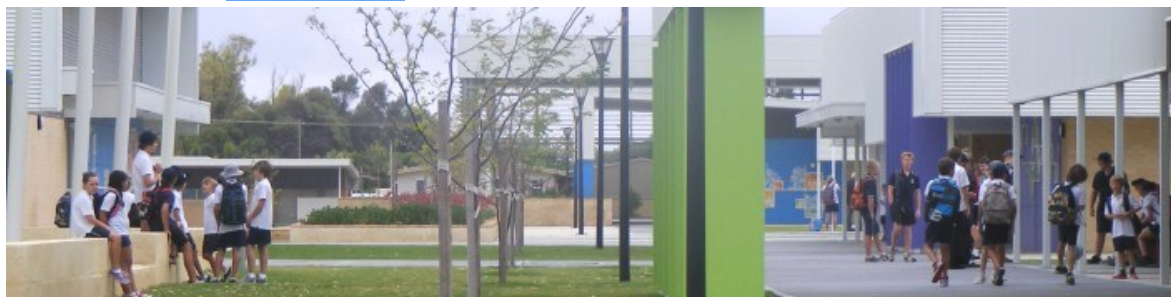
28 February  
Assembly 60

6 March  
Labour Day Public  
Holiday

13 March  
Swim Trials

14 March  
OLNA Testing starts

17 March  
Yr 1-12 Surf  
Carnival



# DONGARA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

*An Independent Public School*

NEWSLETTER 24th February 2017

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello to everyone! Last week we conducted the **school census**. I am pleased to inform you of our student numbers for the start of 2017 and in comparison to the same time in 2016:

2017: 444	K-6: 352, 7-12: 92
2016: 423	K-6: 355, 7-12: 68

This data was presented to the **School Board** who were delighted to see an increase in student numbers, particularly in the secondary school. Due to this increase in year 7-12 student numbers we have been able to appoint **Ms Kate Fisher** as a secondary teacher. This has meant that the year 8 and 9 classes are taught discretely instead of combined.

Some of our highly motivated **year 4-11 students** were involved in the consultation for a possible new skate park precinct. The session was facilitated by **Al and Chris from CONVIC**.



Thanks to the **Shire of Irwin** for including DDHS in this great project.

The **School Dental Van** is on site and Parents will receive letters reading appointment times. If you are unable to attend an appointment please reschedule ASAP.

We will be sending out the **Contributions and Charges accounts** in the near future. We encourage you to make your payment promptly or arrange a payment plan. It is very important for **year 11 and 12** parents and in particular our **SIDE** families, to pay your Charges as soon as possible as the school receives an account from SIDE and we then forward on the money received.

The **Black Dog Institute** visited the secondary students on Thursday. The Black Dog Institute is a translational research institute that aims to reduce the incidence of mental illness and the stigma around it, to actively reduce suicide rates and empower everyone to live the most mentally healthy lives possible.

Our **Surf Carnival** has been scheduled for **17 March**. The surf carnival is considered to be a regular school day and all year 1-12 students are expected to attend.

We will be announcing the **2017 House Captains** at the whole school assembly on Tuesday. The **School**

**Board** have invited the **Student Councillors** and the **House Captains** to work on recommendation for a new House Shirt, House cap/hat and House Captain cap/hat. This is a great opportunity for these student leaders to be involved in a very important decision making process at DDHS.

Our next whole school Assembly for **Year 1-10 students** will be in our Assembly Hall on **Tuesday 28 February** starting at 8.55am, to be hosted by **Year 6** and **Mrs Owen**.

Kind Regards  
*Janine Calver*



2017 Student Council



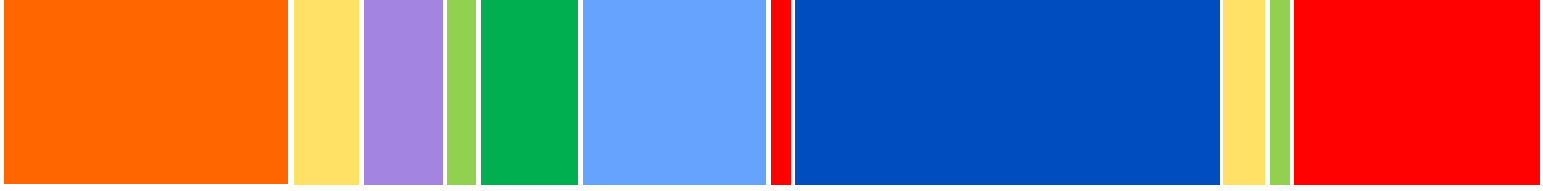
Year 7/8  
Art Excursion

*"Achieve with Honour"*

At DDHS we... Choose Respect, Be Responsible, Achieve our Best

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### Administration Notes

**School Contributions & Charges**  
Invoices will be posted out to parents shortly. Upon receiving this invoice, payment can then be made directly to the school. **EFTPOS facilities are available.** Alternatively Direct Debit details are included on your invoice.

**2017 Secondary Assistance Scheme**  
The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary school (years 7-12) costs comprising of Contributions and Charges allowances.

- \$115 Clothing allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school

To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold one of the following:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card

Parent/Guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid during first term. Claims cannot be made using a student's Centrelink Card.

**Applications close Friday 7th April**

### Student Details

In order to keep our data base of student contact details correct, please notify the office if you have made changes to any of the following details over the holidays:

- House and/or mobile phone number
- Address details
- Emergency contact details
- Medical details.

### Absentees

Thank you to the parents who ring and notify the office in the morning when their child/ren are unwell or absent from school for a particular reason. This avoids having to supply an explanation note upon their return to school and alleviates the office sending you letters concerning unexplained absences.

The office phone number is **9927 0100** and there is an answering machine to leave a message if the office is unattended, alternatively you can SMS your child/ren's absence to **0437 206 549**, please include your child/ren's name in your message. Absences can also be sent via our Skoolbag app. If you haven't already downloaded our Skoolbag App, directions are further in the newsletter.

### Truant Students

Students with lunch passes are not permitted to frequent shops or bakeries at lunch time as the pass only permits them to travel between their home and the

school. Lunch passes are specifically for students to have lunch at their own home. Students wishing to buy their lunch can do so from the school canteen. Students caught down town without proper authority could face in-school detention for truancy.

### Year 8 Vaccination Program

The Department of Health is offering a free immunisation program for year 8 students in 2017. The program offers a booster dose of the diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (dTpa) vaccine, the chickenpox vaccine, as well as a vaccine for protection against human papillomavirus (HPV). Students in year 8 have received an information pack containing details of the program and a consent form for parents to sign. **Parents must sign and return the consent form** for their children to participate in this free program. For more information and to watch a video about the vaccination program visit: [healthywa.wa.gov.au/immunisation](http://healthywa.wa.gov.au/immunisation).

### Secondary Homework Class

Secondary students are welcome to attend Homework Class on Wednesday afternoons in H Block straight after school until 4.00pm.

## SUPPORT-A-READER PROGRAM

As in the last couple of years, we would again like to conduct the Support-A-Reader Program. This program is designed to assist children to develop greater fluency when reading by giving them the opportunity to read regularly with a positive adult. In order to do this we would like to have a team of volunteers who are able to be part of a roster. The program consists of reading with a student for approximately 15 minutes each day. Books are chosen by the classroom teacher so that they are a suitable level for each child. We ask, if possible, that volunteers read with four students which means reading for an hour.

If you are interested in assisting in this program please contact the school office on 9927 0100 or fill in the form below and leave your details at the school office. All volunteers will need a Working With Children Check (WWCC) and forms are available at the Post Office. I am able to assist anyone who requires help filling in the form. The cost for the WWCC is \$11 & is valid for 3 years.

Many thanks, Naomi Peddie (Literacy Co-ordinator)

Please complete & return the tear off slip to the office.



Mrs Peddie,

I am interested in volunteering to assist with the Support-a-Reader Program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Day/days available: \_\_\_\_\_

Pref Times: \_\_\_\_\_



TERM 1 – 2017

WK	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	January 30 Staff Development Day	31 Staff Development Day	February 1 •Students commence Term 1	2 •Newsletter	3	4	5
2	6	7 •Assembly – Student Council	8	9	10	11 Full Moon	12
3	13	14 •Canteen Valentines Lunch Order Day	15	16	17	18	19
4	20	21	22	23 •Black Dog Institute Secondary visit •Newsletter	24	25	26
5	27	28 •Assembly 6O •SIDE Visit	March 1	2	3	4	5
6	6 Labour Day Public Holiday	7	8	9 Newsletter	10	11	12 Full Moon
7	13 •Swim Trials @ Geraldton Aquarena	14 •OLNA Testing Week	15 •Talented Young Writers Program Year 6	16 •Talented Young Writers Program Year 7 & 8	17 •Yr 1 – 12 Surf Carnival •Talented Young Writers Program Year 9-12	18 Harmony Day Geraldton	19
8	20 •OLNA Testing Week •Harmony Week	21 •Assembly 6Z	22	23 •Newsletter	24 •Interschool Swimming Carnival @ Carnamah	25	26
9	27	28	29	30	31	April 1	2
10	3	4	5	6 Newsletter	7 •Last Day •ANZAC Service – Student Council	8	9



# DONGARA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

## FACTION SURF CARNIVAL 2017

Dear Parents,

This year's Surf Carnival (years 1-12) is on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017** at South Beach. This is a year 1-12 Carnival for Junior and Senior students, all students having the opportunity to compete in a minimum of four events.

**The Carnival will start at 9am and finish at approximately 1-2pm. All students are required to be in their house bays and ready to compete by 8.50am. House bays will be located close to the surf club or approximately 300m south of the surf club.**

Water safety will be covered by qualified teaching staff and local Surf Club members. Course markers will be set at age and condition appropriate distances with water/board marshals and the IRB present to monitor competitors and conditions.

Due to the more exposed nature of this venue, it is possible that if conditions are not suitable, the carnival will be postponed to a date the following week. Please note that depending on tides we will either be holding it at the surf club or approximately 300m south of the surf club.

No students are permitted to enter the water prior to the Carnival; parents please assist us to run the Carnival safely by not allowing your child/ren to enter the water prior to the Carnival. Students are not required to come to school first, however, this is a school day, and so attendance is **COMPULSORY**.

The country buses will run, children will be dropped at the beach and collected from school at normal school finishing time.

The children will need to bring:

- Hat/cap
- Sunscreen
- Towel, bathers, rash vest
- Faction T-shirt
- Lunch, Snacks, drinks (lots of water)
- **NO glass bottles**

The **School Canteen** will be closed; food and drinks will be on sale at the carnival please support our P & C.

**Finishing Times** – There will be a short break for lunch if weather and time permits. It is anticipated that the Carnival will finish by approximately 1pm. It is the responsibility of parents to organise collection of their child/ren from South Beach at this time, as teachers will be involved in the packing up of equipment. Children who are not collected at South Beach will be taken back to school and dismissed at 3.05 pm.

**PARENTS PLEASE TAKE NOTE: AT THE COMPLETION OF THE CARNIVAL NO STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE WATER FOR A FREE SWIM UNTIL ALL STAFF HAVE FINISHED PACKING UP AND HAVE LEFT SOUTH BEACH.**

**Parent Help** is the key ingredient for success at our carnivals. Parents can help in many ways, judging events, organising equipment, encouragers, First Aiders, finish line holders and supervisors with Swimming Qualifications. Can you help make our Carnival a success? If so, please indicate below and return to the school as soon as possible.

Hope to see you there on the day supporting the children.

Thank you, Francois James, PE Coordinator.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

I am able to help at: Dongara District High School Surf Carnival (Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March)

I am willing to help in any way possible, or Specific \_\_\_\_\_

I have a First Aid Qualification or Bronze Medallion or Aus swim (Please indicate) \_\_\_\_\_