Going Gangnam Style

Ms Jann Pattinson, Principal

I was recently asked to travel to South Korea to promote public education for the Department of Education and Communities. It also gave me a chance to promote Davidson High School on a world stage. There was a lot of interest in how learning is delivered by teachers, the type of learning that happens in the classroom and the opportunities that exist in public education. I was asked to name five things that made Davidson HS special. I replied – the students themselves, teacher quality, opportunities, our families and the community of which we are a part.

One of the things that I stressed about learning was the importance of feedback for student improvement. As we did last year, our aim is to speak to every child in the school throughout the year through a student interview process. In the last two weeks we have begun our student interview program beginning with Years 9 and 10. It is a privilege to sit and talk to students about their learning, what they think about school, helping them to set goals and to genuinely seek feedback from them about their school experience. I would like to commend all our students on their mature approach to the interviews - they have been thoughtful, honest and considered in their responses. It has been my pleasure to talk to them about their hopes and aspirations.

Overwhelmingly children are very happy with their education at Davidson. You get a sense of how important their relationships with their friends and their teachers are to them. The majority of students during the interview sessions cited teachers as one of the reasons Davidson was doing so well. They believe their teachers care about them and are helpful and friendly.

It is the commitment of the staff and their willingness to engage with programs that develop them professionally that helps us as a school to continually improve. They even come in on a Saturday! On Saturday 8th March we hosted a state wide event – VoicEd. The event was organized by Ms Hewes, Ms Pantschenko and myself and was attended by teachers from all over the state. Inspired by Ted Talks the aim of the VoicEd event was to bring educators from across NSW together to inspire, motivate and share their innovative practice with their teaching colleagues. There were three keynote addresses and a range of seven minute presentations on exciting concepts that are currently being used in the classroom. In the final session of the day participants had the chance to discuss areas of interest in their own teaching practice or talk to the presenters in greater depth. We have since been asked to present at conferences for Deputy Principals and Principals about what we are doing at Davidson in terms of the professional development of our staff.

Our experiences in life are usually forecast by our expectations – so set your expectations high. Don’t settle.

Online payment facility now available: www.davidson-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Diary Dates

MARCH
- Thursday 27 & Friday 28
  Y9 student interviews
- Thursday 27
  Y11 Visual Art excursion
  Y10 TAS Textiles excursion
- Friday 28
  KO netball
  31/3—11/4
  Y12 Business Services work placement

APRIL
- Thursday 3
  Easter bake sale
- Monday 7—Friday 11
  Harmony Week
- Monday 7 & Tuesday 8
  CHS Swimming
- Monday 7
  U13 & U15 Rugby League
  HSC English Symposium
- Tuesday 8
  Y7 & Y12 Parent/Teacher/Student evening
- Thursday 10
  ICET/Y9 Japanese to Easter show
- Friday 11
  End Term 1
Science

Science competitions

*Mr Alan Ferris, Science teacher*

There are several competitions taking place in Science next term. They are a valuable resource for those who are interested in any branch of Science, particularly students who are thinking of studying Science in senior school and at university.

While named competitions, a truer description of them is a ranked assessment of problem solving ability and a little knowledge. Students sit a test under exam conditions, but they are not normally based on prior knowledge, rather on assessing and manipulating information presented in the question. Students should be approaching these as an activity to have fun with – challenging themselves with no consequences if they cannot achieve a task. After all, they do this all the time with games on their screens!

Teachers in the Science department encourage all students to take part in these events, particularly those in enrichment classes. While difficult, they are a valuable practice of formal testing and they generally have a results section analysing strengths and weaknesses in the student’s performance, so act as a skills test.

At the moment, we are accepting entries for

1. ASI Big Science competition
   - Cost: $7
   - Closing date: Thursday week 11 term 1.
2. ICAS 2014 Science competition
   - Cost: $9
   - Closing date: Wednesday week 2 term 2.
3. ANCQ National Chemistry Quiz
   - Cost: $5.50
   - Closing date: Friday week 2 term 2.

**Year 11 Field Studies excursion**

*Jessica Holland and Emma O’Connor, Year 11 Biology students*

The Year 11 biology and senior science classes went on a field study to Camp Kedron.

The guides, Don and Stella, had caught bush rats to show us which was great. One escaped and ran through the crowd causing a stir and a few shrieks. We studied the abundance of native trees in two different communities and compared results.

The day was beneficial for our understanding of human effects on the environment, and carrying out first hand investigations. It was a great day.
VoicEd Teachers Conference

Ms Claudia Pantschenko, Relieving Head Teacher, HSIE

On Saturday 8th March at least 100 educators met to discuss their ideas on education and share teaching practices. It was inspired by the popular TedX event hosted at the Sydney Opera House last year, for which I was fortunate enough to be in the audience. Bianca Hewes in the English faculty, who is a very enthusiastic and passionate teacher, thought it would be a great format to try to emulate, but to focus the discussion around education. Ms Pattinson, Mrs Hewes and I worked together as a team to organise the event, which comprised of three key note addresses delivered by Dr Bruce Dennett from Macquarie University, Dr Tony Loughland from the University of Sydney and Roger Pryor, a well known educator and presenter.

We also had 10 teachers who gave seven minute presentations on a variety of different teaching strategies from Project Based Learning and iPads in Education through to Play Based Learning and Collaborative Learning Practices. The presenters we approached were all focused on developing the critical and creative skills of their students. They were all very passionate about their areas of expertise and gave the audience some great ideas that they could try out with their classes.

The feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive with many attendees wanting it to become an annual event! I’d like to publically thank all of the people who attended VoicEd 2014 as well as the staff at Davidson High School for being so supportive of our initiative.

NAPLAN

Mr Elio Zouain, Head Teacher, Mathematics

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 16 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
Languages

Mr Patrick Moran (Head Teacher Languages), Prof Coletta (Italian/French), Dalpadado Sensei (Japanese)

Class Updates

Year 8

The Italian classes have almost completed the first chapter *Ecco Uno* and there will be a test in week 11 to consolidate all the work for this unit.

Regarding the cultural unit on Carnevale, the students have had fun painting their Carnevale masks and have taken home some fantastic designs. Year 8 will continue to work on their computer assignment until the start of next term.

Year 9

The Italian class have almost completed the topic of Leisure in Chapter 5 of *Ecco Uno*. There will be a test at the end of this term to consolidate all new work.

Year 10

Year 10 Italian has almost completed their final topic from their textbook *Ecco Uno!* They will begin a new course book next term. There will also be a note arriving home shortly regarding the upcoming excursion to Haberfield.

Year 11

Year 11 French Beginners are continuing with their studies and in week 11 will sit a double assessment. They will need to present a speech to the class in French about their family. They will also have to complete a writing task with an unknown person using all the vocabulary and structures studied this term. Students have been given their assessment notifications in class and have been through the criteria.

Similarly, Year 11 Italian Continuers have an assessment in week 11. This will be a double assessment including a speaking task and a reading and responding section. Students have been given their assessment notifications in class and have been through the criteria.

Important dates in the Japanese calendar

Year 8 and 9 Japanese classes celebrated Girls’ Day or *Hinamatsuri* (Doll’s festival) on the 3rd of March. Classes learnt more about the festival by looking at the display dolls and completing worksheets before creating their own ‘emperor’ and ‘empress’ dolls out of origami.

On 11th March, Japanese classes also spent time learning about and discussing the devastating earthquake and tsunami that took place in the north of Japan 3 years ago on this day. Classes viewed a Powerpoint presentation followed by a video and worksheet entitled *Discovering Japan: Volcanoes and Earthquakes*.

ALC Language Certificates

All elective language students from years 9 to 12 have been given a note regarding the upcoming Language Competence Certificate to be held in August. Money and the notes need to be handed to the Accounts office before 11th April.
Easter Show excursion

As part of their intercultural language studies component, our Year 9 Japanese elective class will be going on a combined excursion to the Easter Show on the 10\textsuperscript{th} April. The excursion aims to promote intercultural understanding between the Davidson students and our Japanese friends as well as giving all students an opportunity to practise their English and Japanese spoken communication skills.

Permission notes have been given out and are due back at school with the payment by Thursday 3\textsuperscript{rd} April.

Holiday homework

When learning a new language, frequent practice is important. With this in mind, a small amount of holiday homework has been set over the 2 week break for most language classes. Students are encouraged to engage with the language through the set work on a daily basis (10-15 minutes a day) rather than leave it until the last minute and complete it in one sitting.

The holidays are a good time to revise and consolidate material covered in the previous term and this is especially important for senior classes.

Study Skills

Mr Pat Moran, Head teacher, Teaching & Learning

Year 11 Study Skills day

A key focus on student wellbeing leads us to create a range of experiences for the students. Each of these experiences is a single part that builds the bigger whole; an integrated system of support that enhances student wellbeing.

Soon after the doctors’ visit, we collapsed Year 11 and offered a range of experiences that included talks about post school life at TAFE or University. Past students told them of their experiences at Davidson in the senior years in a language that connects directly with these students. Their generous giving of time and effort and willingness to give back to their community is a testament to their values and fond memories of their life at Davidson. Thank you, Jamie Craig and Andrew Lopez.

Bouncing back from bumps and bruises. - Resilience
Using the Library with Perfect timing! – Time management
How to Master Maths Study
Manage your major work
Essay writing
Living in the digital age
Summarising
Relaxation

After a sumptuous spit roast lunch organised by Ms Anderson, Mr Wilson ran an afternoon of team building games; these students really do work very well together; their supportive communication while they were completing fun tasks under some stress was exemplary. They saved most water balloon babies, slid across the MPC with little grace but lots of vigour and sharpened their minds with mimes and word games.

Year 7

On Wednesday the 19\textsuperscript{th} of March, Prue Salter, a study skills expert, presented to year 7 students and their parents. It was great to witness parents engaging in discussions with their children about their study habits. All gained insights into how best to organise time and deal with the balancing act of our busy lives by using tools that were made available on the night. If you missed the session you can access the resources using this link [http://www.enhanced-learning.net/studyskillsmainpage/slides.php](http://www.enhanced-learning.net/studyskillsmainpage/slides.php) and the password success.
Year 9 Celebrity Charcoal Drawings

There has been something about picking up that dusty stump of charcoal that freed the Year 9 students to go big expressive and gestural. The students depicted their chosen celebrities and created bold, daring and dramatic charcoal drawings. Using compressed and soft willow charcoal sticks, students applied techniques of shading, blending and smudging.

Year 7 & Year 8 Ceramics

The Year 7 and the Year 8 students in Visual Arts have built confidence and found joy in the art making process. The Year 7 students have created two dimensional sea creatures using slab technique and the Year 8 classes have made three dimensional pinch pot monsters. These works are fully fired and glazed with gorgeous colours, so students have a permanent work at the end of the process.

Mrs Sears’s classes

Year 7 have finished painting and glazing their flat fish. A number were displayed in the Pattinson Gallery.

Year 8 have finished clay monsters and are now painting Impressionist paintings.

Year 9 have completed beautiful portraits of celebrities in charcoal and pastels.

Year 10 have been creating wearable soap stone pendants.

Year 11 have completed a clay tile based on architecture and Thomas (right) was experimenting with light painting and photography.
Year 8 TAS Textiles

Mrs Loretta Mangassarian, TAS Textiles teacher

Who says tie dyeing techniques should be used for just clothing?
Year 8 Textiles students have been very creative with their tie dying application, creating their own unique and exceptionally patterned fabrics. Students used a resist technique in the form of string, rubber band or tying and twisting to inhibit or prevent the dye from reaching certain areas of the fabric. These striking and stunning fabrics will be used to make carry bags. We will keep you posted on their development in the next issue of The Dispatch.

TAS Hospitality

Mrs Michelle Keeler, Hospitality teacher

The catering for the Davidson High School Open Night was professionally supplied by the wonderful Year 11 Hospitality classes.

The students had only completed 5 weeks of skill development so are to be congratulated for their fantastic teamwork and quality skills displayed across the day and evening. Mrs Lamb’s class prepared most of the mise en place items in the morning and Mrs Keeler’s class finished the preparation and presented many appetisers for guests in the evening. Guests were treated to an array of appetisers including frittatas, mini quiches, mini bruschetta, and many more. We hear the lemon curd tarts were a big hit! The standard of preparation, presentation and service was exceptional.
Molecular Gastronomy

by Bec Mackie, Year 9

The students in the Molecular Gastronomy class have been discovering their inner Masterchef talents throughout the last few weeks. Molecular Gastronomy is a fun, practical and theoretical way of learning about the science of food. This term we have been experimenting with foams and have discovered that if egg whites aren’t beaten properly it affects the whole end product.

Two of the most exciting foods we have created have been the two-tone chocolate mousse and Aaron’s (from Masterchef) ispahan macaron. The two-tone chocolate mousse was a very heavenly, luscious chocolate sensation that set perfectly, tasted rich and looked shiny and firm. The ispahan macarons were very delicate with a crunchy shell on the outside and were filled with silky, smooth butter cream. Every group coloured their macarons different colours and the blue ones had their shells pop up the most. When presented, the macarons were accompanied with raspberries, blueberries and strawberry flavoured soil.

Molecular Gastronomy is a great class to develop teamwork and creative skills.

Manly Clean up

Davidson High School is a proud supporter of its local Rugby League team, the Manly Sea Eagles.

Knowing this and noticing that our school could do with a serious clean up, keen South Sydney supporter Mr Geddes volunteered to collect 1,000 pieces of rubbish, wear a Manly jumper all day and pose for photos dressed in full Manly regalia, if the Sea Eagles defeated the Bunnies. In order to up the stakes, 75 students volunteered to collect 20 pieces of rubbish each if South Sydney won the clash.

I think our photo indicates the result. Mr Geddes has sworn revenge the next time the two teams meet!
Two important messages for parents

Evacuation procedures

Mr Alan Ferris, Chair WHS Consultative Committee

The school has placed the evacuation procedures on the website.

These procedures have been in place for a number of years and, of course, are regularly reviewed by our WHS consultative committee, made up of interested staff members. The reviews are conducted with information on what all staff felt were positive and negative aspects of our practice procedures.

There are several “frequently asked questions” about our evacuation, lockdown and lockout procedures.

1. Why do we need to have rehearsals? Without them, staff and students cannot visualise what is to happen in a real emergency, leading to a greater sense of uncertainty and possible panic.

2. What happens if…….? These questions are not always possible to answer if they are very specific. The procedures are designed to cover as many scenarios as possible, but there may be instances where they are not perfect. The reason is that to cover more specific scenarios results in more complexity, and complexity results in confusion.

3. Why do we insist mobile phones are turned off in an emergency? Two main reasons – spectrum availability can be quickly used up if students are texting and phoning. This leaves no connection available for emergency services to communicate or for staff to contact the office with updates for emergency service personnel. Also, parents who are alerted to an emergency by their child are subjected to unnecessary stress. Experience from other schools has shown parents contacted might travel to the school. This leads to less access for emergency services and an increased workload for them because there are more people around! Rest assured, the school will contact parents as soon there is a good reason to do so.

4. When does the school evacuate or lock down? Evacuation takes place if there is a possibility of risk to students remaining in the building. A standard reason for this is a fire in the building. Lock down happens when there is a possible risk to students’ safety from, perhaps, an intruder. The students are kept safe with a teacher in a locked space until emergency services determine the risk is over.

All of these procedures and decisions are based on guidelines from the Department of Education and Communities. Training of Senior Executive staff is conducted by emergency services in order to ensure decisions are made at the right time for the right reasons.

Irlen Glasses

Mrs Julie Lendrum, Learning Support teacher

You may notice a number of our students wearing ‘sunglasses’ in class at school. These are specialty glasses for a visual processing problem called Irlen Syndrome. This syndrome can be a barrier to learning as it affects academic and work performance, behaviour, attention and ability to concentrate. We encourage our students who are diagnosed with Irlen Syndrome to wear these glasses as it assists with their education.

Further to this, we ask that parents converse with their children to explain why students are wearing these glasses so that all students feel comfortable and supported.

For more information on this syndrome:


P&C Grounds Report

Thank you to the attendees of the working bee held on Saturday March 8. We had great support from ICET teacher Fusae Harada and her students (Hina, Karin, Shiori, Haruka, Rikiya and Junsei), from parent Robyn Banks and from Graham Johnson. We renovated a garden bed in the Maths/HSIE courtyard.

Another working bee will be held early next term.

Sam Phillips g.phillips@unswalumni.com
Careers

Ms Ruth Peek, Careers Adviser

Engaging Our Future Workforce

On Thursday 13th March four Year 11 students attended an industry forum at the Q Station, North Head, Manly: Jonathan Hawkey, Madeleine Lyons, Rebecca Toovey and Ethan York.

“Engaging our Future Workforce” invited keynote speakers from the business world, Australian and International, to present and share insights about how they have successfully engaged young people into their business.

That first step into the workforce, either directly from school or from tertiary study, is a critical move for young people. Youth unemployment is high, yet local businesses have positions vacant and some are struggling to hire. The Northern Beaches Business Education Network organised this event to help bridge the gap and encourage more businesses to hire young people. The forum provided an opportunity for young people from northern beaches schools to represent our local school students so that they could voice their ideas and concerns as their time in the world of work approaches.

The forum’s convenor, Steve Liebman, commented at the end of the day that of the numerous facilitating roles he has undertaken at youth forums, this was one of the more memorable for him because of the value of the information offered and gathered from the students and the interest and attention displayed by the business people present. Jono Hawkey was able to make a valuable contribution during question time regarding student pathways into the business world, and was approached immediately afterwards by a business representative from the panel.

The four students and Ms Peek enjoyed the hospitality of the Q Station for lunch and were able to mingle and network with many different people across a broad range of industries.

Access to this most valuable Careers resource for Davidson High School is by password - please contact Ms Peek for the password.

CAREERSWORKS provides an enormous amount of Careers information and resources all organized in an easy to follow layout. You'll find university and TAFE details, ATARs, bonus points, fees, scholarships, subject selection for the senior school, study skills, events, open days, job research and videos, apprenticeships, and lots more – all with colour, vitality and interest for students and parents alike.

CAREERSWORKS is available for use by all Davidson students and their parents - particularly those in Years 10, 11 and 12. Go to the STUDENTS page and follow the links for your year group. Go to the QUESTIONS page for all you need to know about studying at high school and your transition to further education, training and the workforce.

Use the SEARCH AT A GLANCE button to navigate around the site with ease. Or do some Mind Challenges on the RESOURCES page. Simplify the search for your future - CAREERSWORKS will direct you to the source.

Please don't hesitate to contact Ms Peek for any further information or assistance.

Davidson High Chess Championship 2014

Mrs Kylie Pearson, Librarian

On Monday 3rd March 2014, 30 students from Year 7 to Year 12 declared war and battled it out in the first Davidson High School Chess Tournament. The Swiss style tournament, arbitred by Bevan Clouston from the Sydney Academy of Chess challenged students strategic and mental stamina as they battled different opponents over seven rounds.

Year 9 student, Barr Perez reigned champion winning all seven matches closely followed by Year 7 student Oliver Asprey and Year 8 student Johnny Bailee who came in second.

Other students awarded medals on the day included top year 7 player Evan Thomas and James Dollman.
**ICET stories**

### The Year 7 Camp

I went to Year 7 camp as an ICET Mentor. It was really fun. I did a lot of activities. The weather was bad, but I had a good time.

The most interesting activity was the giant swing! Before I did it, I was really worried because it is really high. But I did it! I cried a little bit but it was so fun. It was really good experience for me.

In the room, I stayed with the Year 10 Mentors. They are really kind to us. They tried to have a conversation with us. I was moved by them because I was very nervous to stay with the mentors. I thought I can’t understand what they say but they spoke slowly. So, I can understand what they say.

The weather was bad. We couldn’t do all the activities but we had a lot of other activities. It was fun. We also had a dance party. It was very fun. I can dance but I didn’t have any courage at that time so I couldn’t dance at that party.

But now, I have courage. If we have a dance party again I want to dance.

Finally, this camp was really good experience for me. I had a very good time.

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### Open Night

I had Open Night on 4th March. The ICET students introduced about Japanese culture such as Origami, Calligraphy, Kendama, Chopsticks and Japanese drum. My group took charge of "Origami".

This night was very difficult for me, because my English is not good. So I was very nervous before Open Night. The elementary school students and their parents were very kind. They listened carefully our explanations and they always smiled. I was glad for that and it was a good time for us. I will never forget this experience.

I want to introduce Japanese culture to many Australian people.

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### The Year 7 Camp and Daily Life

We have already passed two months since we came to Australia. I’m very fine and I am enjoying Australian life. We went to the Year 7 camp 3 weeks ago with the Year 10 mentors. We did many activities such as the giant swing, flying fox and raft building. It was fun especially the giant swing. I ate good food too, such as a sandwich, hamburger and chicken. It was very delicious.

In the night Rikiya and I danced all night to the best songs ever. We made many friends in the year 7 camp. The Year 7 camp is very good experience for me.

Nowadays Rikiya and I are playing handball with the year 10 students. It’s very difficult to me but interesting too so I play every lunch time.

Australian life is good but I miss Japan a little because I miss Japanese food.
Sport

Mrs Jen Wright, Sport teacher

Davidson students travelled to Asquith Girls to play KO softball. This is the first year in many that we have had a team and despite the quick turnaround in organising a team the girls demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and enjoyed getting out there and having a go. Unfortunately the girls lost but we will be aiming to organise some friendly matches against some other schools for extra practice. Thank you to Mr Zouain who accompanied the team and Salwa Sawaid who captained the girls.

SRC Camp

SRC camp took place on Thursday and Friday of Week 7. We had lots of fun taking part in the variety of activities including trivia, a scavenger hunt and a bushwalk in the Elanora surrounds. Throughout the camp we worked in teams across the different year groups to complete challenges. We were asked to build a metre long bridge using only paper, blutak and sticky tape. Since our groups were mixed year groups we got to know more people, including the ICET students. I am very glad I attended this camp as it was inspirational. I encourage future students to be a part of the SRC. Thank you to Mrs Cassidy and Mrs Hewes for organising the camp and for putting up with us for two days. I am very excited to be a member of the 2014 SRC.

By Cara Severino, Year 9

On the 13th and 14th of March, 48 up-coming leaders from Year 7 through Year 11 from Davidson High went to Elanora Conference Centre to begin training and planning for the Student Representative Council for 2014. This year we welcomed Mrs Hewes and Mrs Cassidy as the new teacher coordinators. We began the Thursday by getting to know the group with a few ice-breaker activities and then dived into the nitty-gritty of organising the council and preparing action plans for our individual groups.

Our first task was starting the organisation of Davidson’s up-coming Harmony Week at the end of the term, which included organising activities, competitions and a school barbeque. After these objectives were prepared, in our allocated groups we started brainstorming and coming up with ideas on what we can do for the school and the wider community. We had our first official meeting on Friday afternoon which saw the first elected members of the SRC take on their roles and groups had an opportunity to present their ideas and action plans to the SRC.

It was a very encouraging and inspiring 2 days – the SRC as a whole came up with so many fantastic ideas and initiatives that we hope will be brought into action this year. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Hewes and Mrs Cassidy for all the hard work they put into organising the camp and Davidson High for giving us students the opportunity to be a voice for our peers and be active leaders in our school.

By Jessika Hill, Year 11
Celebrating our students ...

We’re still celebrating with Year 12 2013 on their outstanding HSC results. As well as Emilia Kriketos having her Visual arts work displayed in Art Express, Amy Johnston’s Society and Culture Personal Interest Project was one of only ten to be awarded a high distinction out of 3952 candidates. Her work is currently on display in the State Library of NSW.

Left: Amy Johnston

Daniel Nugent competed in the 2014 Australian National Flying 11’ Skiff Championships which were held in Port Stephens earlier in the year. A series of 12 races over 7 days with 84 boats competing. Daniel won the series and is now the 2014 Australian National Flying 11’ Skiff Champion.

Congratulations to Scott Johnston (Year 11) and Anisa Dobson (Year 10) who have successfully auditioned for the 2014 NSW Public Schools Senior Drama Ensemble and Year 10 Drama Ensemble respectively. They will be involved in a range of skills development workshops with specialist tutors from the performing arts industry as well as performing in events throughout the year.

... and celebrating with our teachers

Welcome to little Millie Nicole Wilson, born 18 March 2014 weighing 3.1kg. Mum Lauren, Dad Tom and little Millie are all doing beautifully.

Special thanks to

★ The prefects and SRC for their help on Open Night
★ The P&C for financing extra resources and projects in the school
★ Our daily “runners” who keep things moving
★ The year 10 mentors for their help with Year 7 during Term 1
★ Our school Harmony Week committee
★ ICET students for teaching us crane making
★ Mrs Mangassarian’s art class who makes the Pattinson Gallery such an interesting place to inhabit this month

Please note:
The Annual School Report will be available shortly on the school website.
Year 7 Camp
Get ready for a week of activities celebrating our cultural diversity!

😊 Quizzes

😊 Crane making & origami

😊 Public speaking competition

😊 Culminating on Friday 11th April with SRC BBQ, ICET food, music and dance—come dressed in your national costume!

Amazing sponsorship opportunity!

at our school showcase
SOPA 20th anniversary shows
12 & 13 June

Sponsors receive promotional opportunities in
⭐ SOPA program
⭐ Dispatch

Contact Alison Murray
E: alison.murray13@det.nsw.edu.au