

## Hawker College

Murrnaji Street Hawker ACT 2614

P 02 6205 7744 F 02 6205 7745

www.hawker.act.edu.au

info@hawker.act.edu.au



NEWSLETTER ISSUE 4

MAY 2014

# A Royal Encounter

Representatives from Gaia, the Hawker College Student Environment Leadership Group were invited to attend the Royal Tree Planting Ceremony at the National Arboretum in Canberra, which occurred on Thursday 24th April 2014 (during the Term 1 school holidays).

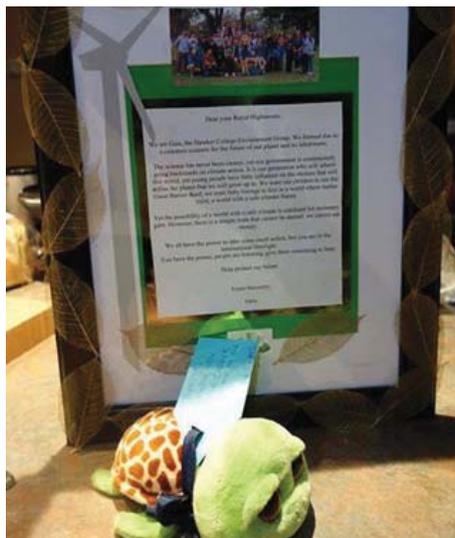


The reason our students were invited to this closed event was that in the short time Gaia has been in existence (less than a year) they have already made a large impact on the culture of our school and have also begun to develop a positive reputation as a model student action group within the ACT community.

Correa Driscoll, Vanessa Farrelly, Davis Jensen, Emily McKintyre and Jeremy Platt were selected to represent Gaia and prepared for the event in advance by writing and framing an open letter to their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, which asked them to add their voices and considerable influence to the fight for environmental sustainability across the world. Our students also purchased a gorgeous turtle plush toy for baby George, with a tag around his neck that expressed a hope that one day in the future Prince George would still have the pleasure of seeing these creatures live in the wild.

Our students were extremely pleased to be singled out by their Royal Highnesses who shook each of their hands and spent a considerable amount of time speaking with them and enquiring about the work that Gaia does in our school and local community.

They graciously accepted the framed letter and were delighted with the toy for Prince George, with the Duchess commenting that: "he will love that."



Congratulations to these students for representing our school so brilliantly. Ongoing praise must also go to the entire Gaia group for their continued passion and energy in this most important of causes.

Crystal Mahon  
School Leader, Student Services



## CHIEF MINISTER'S RECEPTION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Rayyan Khan represented Hawker College at the Chief Minister's reception for International Students. Only 20 students were selected from across the ACT. Rayyan was selected because of his excellent performance at summer school and his positive transition to life at Hawker College.



Rayyan is enjoying his studies at Hawker but admits it is very different from his life in Mumbai.

Fiona James  
International Student Co-ordinator

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### *The Dreams that you Dare to Dream*

At Hawker College every opportunity is taken for students to realise their aspirations. We all have dreams, often they aren't realised, but equally there can be that one person or group who gives us the confidence and inspiration to get out there and try something out. Often this occurs at college, whether it be in the formal educational curriculum or extra-curricular.

There are many examples each day of students achieving success; the college celebrates many of these in this newsletter, at year assemblies, graduation and a range of industry and academic ceremonies. Achievement has many positive outcomes. Not only does it give the recipient a sense of accomplishment and self-esteem but it displays to the broader community the individual in a role that may not have been seen and appreciated.

The goal of all schools is to develop aspirations in their students that will contribute to the development and growth of self-esteem with respect to themselves in their education, career, social and recreational pursuits, sport, music, hobbies and passions. To continue to be a lifelong learner they need to have a desire to achieve something.

To be 'aspirational' we expect students to have a strong sense of intellectual integrity and the ethics of learning, and to commence developing their in-depth knowledge of one or more specialist discipline(s) or vocations. They should reach a competent level of achievement in numeracy, literacy, problem-solving and communication, incorporate different types of e-technology into their learning process and be critical and creative thinkers, with an aptitude for continued lifelong learning.

For some of our students, their cultural heritage and "homeland" is far away and the opportunity to express the folklore and customs that are valued by their families and community is limited. Students who hail from the Pacific Islands are one such group. We have a group of students whose heritage is from Samoa, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand. To support these students, we have linked with the Australian National University so that students of Pacific Islander descent at Hawker College can participate in the Vaka Pasifika program. Learning Pasifika is a practical program designed to engage students of Pacific Islander and Maori descent with the main core subjects offered at school - Maths, Science and English/Communication and to encourage their participation in higher education. Using their Pacific history, students explore how Maths, Science and English/Communication were used then and how we use these areas of learning today.

Pasifika programs are an engaging way for Year 9-12 Pacific Islander students to get a taste of university life. The programs bring Pasifika students together and broaden their understanding of the pathways that are available through a university degree. The intention is that the dreams of our Pasifika students can be realised.

The college was able to share the talent of Pasifika students on the stage at a recent Student Talent Quest. Their talent is undeniable as is the joy with which they performed.

It is the intention of the college to support all our students in such a manner and to ensure that...

*"The Dreams that you Dare to Dream, really do come true."*

Peter Sollis  
Principal



## STUDENT SERVICES (DEN) NEWS

Welcome back to college for Term 2 from all of the staff in Student Services.

### Upcoming Wellbeing Events

Hawker College has been lucky to secure the services of Clementine Ford, author and social commentator to speak to our student body on the topic of "Affirmative Consent" a social movement that has been gaining popularity at college campuses across America over the past few years (a demographic in which 1 in 5 women currently report having experienced sexual assault) and is currently being introduced here in Australia. Affirmative Consent is about protecting women's rights within sexual relationships with a focus on respect and clear communication of needs and values. Basically this movement starts with the question (in Clementine Ford's own words) - *what if we radically*

*changed the way we defined consent, and the securing of it? What if instead of fixating on whether or not a woman is clearly saying 'no', we prioritised instead the message that she is definitely saying 'yes'?* Keeping our young people safe, and teaching them to establish and maintain positive, respectful relationships with each other, as well as sexual relationships that are based on the premise of mutual consent is a vital ingredient to ensuring we are launching healthy young people into society.

Furthermore these presentations will be introduced or followed up with an Extended Mi Group session that will delve further into this topic and ensure that students understand and are given a chance to voice their opinions on this important topic. All students will be expected to attend these sessions which will run on Monday 26th May.

- Line 6 – Year 11 *Affirmative Consent* Presentation (Yr 12 Extended Mi group)
- Line 5 – Year 12 *Affirmative Consent* Presentation (Yr 11 Extended Mi group)

Further information will be provided to students and the community as it becomes available.

### Absences procedures

A reminder to our students and parents that when students are away from school or miss a class for a legitimate reason they still need to bring a note to the DEN to cover that absence. Students are then required to hand notes into their Mi Group teacher on Mondays or at some other convenient time for their signature. The MI group teacher will then ensure that the note is transferred to the DEN for processing into our school database. Parents please note that phone calls to the school are not appropriate cover for an absence. If a parent calls to advise

DEN staff their student will be away, a note from home is still required upon the student's return to college for legal reasons. However, emails from parents work addresses are acceptable. The email address and phone number for absences are listed below: absent@hawker.act.edu.au 6205 7771 (Absentee Line)

### Smoking

Smoking is not permitted on ACT Government Workplaces, this includes Hawker College. Students are not permitted to smoke on college grounds. Failure of students to follow these guidelines may lead to suspension.

### Litter

Students are reminded to place all litter in the myriad of bins provided on the school grounds. As well as being unsightly and unsanitary, rubbish on our grounds presents a poor image of our college in our community.

Crystal Mahon  
School Leader, Student Services

## WHAT'S NEW IN SCIENCE @ HAWKER?

### 2014 SCIENCE HONOURS PROGRAM

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who have been accepted into the 2014/15 Science Honours Program: Valerie Borg, Lauren Ducat, Zalak Desai, Acacia Hoy, Rayyan Khan, Alexander Lock, Angeline Mutsinee, Riya Patel, Duncan Rae and Tahirrae Slikker. They all attended Open Night (along with our Year 12 Honours students) as demonstrators and ambassadors for Science here at Hawker. Congratulations to them all.



### Rio Tinto Big Science Competition

The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition will be held in Lab 1 on Wednesday 28 May at lunchtime and will run into line 6. All Honours students should bring a lead pencil, eraser and calculator with them.

### 'Battle of The Plants' Competition

Honours students who have elected to participate in the CSIRO Australian Plant Phenomics Facility's 'Battle of The Plants' competition are advised that the competition runs from late June – late September 2014. Within this timeframe, an 8 week growing period must be selected. The CSIRO will be providing the growing pots and Brachypodium seeds, but students must decide which growing medium and growing conditions they are going to use for their plants. Digital photos must be taken of your plants during the 5th and 8th week of growing. These will be submitted electronically, along with an information data sheet to CSIRO for judging. Prizes include:

- the opportunity to join the High Resolution Plant Phenomics Centre in Canberra as a "Student in Residence" for the winning student including travel and accommodation costs,
- a Canon digital camera for the school of the winning student, and
- a Plants in Action textbook for the teacher of the winning student.

Please see the flyer on the Honours board or Laura for entry details into this project.

### What are the Australian Science Olympiad Exams?

Year 11 students are invited to challenge themselves by sitting one or more of the Australian Science Olympiad Exams now on offer.

Testing students' knowledge, critical thinking and problem solving skills, the exams are held in the disciplines of biology, Earth and environmental science, chemistry and physics.

The exams last two hours and are carried out under strict examination conditions at your school.

The Australian Science Olympiad exams are the first step in being selected to represent Australia at the International Science Olympiads.

### Who can participate?

Top performing secondary science students are eligible to sit the Australian Science Olympiad Exam. Students will be nominated by their teachers to sit these exams.

Exam times are as follows:

- Chemistry - 6 August 2014
- Biology - 11 August 2014
- Physics - 13 August 2014

### Benefits for students

The exams are a great way to test knowledge of scientific concepts and their application in contemporary contexts, critical thinking and problem solving abilities, and skills of scientific inquiry.

Eligible top performing students are invited to attend the Australian Science Olympiad Summer School, a 15-day residential program. It is here that students' minds are stretched and friendships with like-minded peers are made. The very best summer school students are selected to represent Australia at the International Science Olympiads.

### Youth ANZAAS 2014

Youth ANZAAS is a residential five day national conference for up to 60 science students in Years 10, 11 and 12 from Australian and New Zealand schools. The conference is organised by the Australian & New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS), one of Australia's oldest scientific associations. The association holds this annual conference to give students a broad perspective on the aims and practice of scientific endeavour, ranging from satisfying curiosity and the drive to discover, to the application of science in the real world. It gives students the opportunity to visit world-class facilities where research is taking place and meet leading scientists, experiences usually unavailable to the general public. The conference also allows students to meet likeminded peers and other young adults who share their passion for science.

Youth ANZAAS 2014 will be held in Melbourne from Sunday 6 July to Friday 11 July. Delegates will stay at St Mary's College, an affiliate college of the University of Melbourne, located close to Melbourne's CBD and to many significant scientific research establishments.

The selection of delegates is based on academic merit and interest in science. Disadvantaged and remote backgrounds are taken into account.

Heather Macpherson (Year 12 Biology, Chemistry and Science Honours student) has applied to attend this conference. We wish her well.

Laura Jones  
Science Teacher

## FROM THE HUMANITIES FACULTY

Thank you to all parents who attended Parent-Teacher Night. It is always valuable for parents and teachers alike to discuss the progress of your student.

### Semester 2 Unit Selections

Humanities students will select their Semester 2 units during Week 13. After carefully considering the options on particular lines, students can enter their preferences via cLc or smartphone.

### English Half Units – Change of policy

Teachers have discussed the following with their classes:

Any year 12 English students intending to complete their major 'early' (i.e. at the end of term 3) will be placed in a designated Term 3 0.5 English T class. This will ensure assessment requirements can be met. In order that we can timetable this class most effectively, we need interested students to identify themselves now. Students who do not enrol in the half-unit class will need to complete a full semester of English.

There are implications for finishing a major in 7 terms, so no student should sign up for the 0.5 unit before checking their package with the MI-group teacher and year coordinator, and of course discussing the option with parents.

### ICAS English and Writing Competitions

Writing competition entries close Monday of Week 13 (12 May). Forms are available from English teachers or the noticeboard outside Humanities staffroom 84. Please take the form and payment to the front office by Monday, 12 May.

### History excursion to National Gallery of Australia

On 10 April, a group of dedicated History students, accompanied by Chris Kenna, visited the excellent 'Gold and the Incas' Exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia. The exhibition highlighted a range of magnificent metal, stone, pottery and woven artefacts. It was very impressive to see how early Puruvian societies achieved such sophistication, along with the range of civilisations leading up to the time of the Incas. The exhibits also provided valuable insights various aspects of social and cultural life. Thank you to the students involved – Abrar Ahmed, Angel Augustczak, Rachel Boesen, Marie Kenny, Holly Murney and Erin Weatherstone – for being such

excellent ambassadors of Hawker College, and also to the National Gallery for providing this opportunity.

### Visiting History Speaker

We are very grateful that Dr Albert Palazzo, a historian and Senior Research Fellow at the Land Warfare Studies Centre in the Australian Army, generously visited the College on Tuesday 29 April for a presentation to the Anthropology of Gender class. Dr Palazzo gave a very interesting talk about gender issues relating to the Army. He spoke about a range of topics such as the ANZAC tradition and changes in Army culture. The students present responded with some pertinent questions and enjoyed the opportunity for discussion on this very current topic. Many thanks to Dr Palazzo, a parent of three former Hawker College students, for continuing to share his expertise with us in this way.

Kathryn Sutherland  
School Leader, Humanities

## STUDENT POETRY

### Sonnet

Every time I gaze upon your godly form,  
I cannot help but stare in complete awe.  
Even heaven's angels all weep and mourn  
At your grace and beauty and everything more.  
Whether it be your golden sun-kissed skin  
Or your delicious captivating scent,  
Your entire being is my greatest sin.  
Your charm makes even the worst men repent.  
My yearning for you is never ending.  
The thought of you plagues my mind every day.  
It only makes sense that you're God's sending,  
But please, I beg of you, on earth you stay.  
I'll be lost without you against my lips.  
I love you so, Hawker College hot chips.

*Brenda Trac*

### The Ghostly Sonnet

This war of ghost, it rages within all souls,  
The might it holds will kill us all wholly,  
and fall  
Upon our own blade. Our hearts burnt coal.  
We are the children of war, but rise tall.  
The monsters that hide behind us are all but humane.  
The night that slays, remains the only blind sword.

Sweet music that fills, thick air beyond darkly domain.

The pen is mightier, if only to see past the chore.

In the dark we see only reflected faces staring back,

Familiar people, familiar places. Faded scars and battle wounds opened,  
Abandoned and lonely, pieces lay in the emptiness of black.

It is our destiny, all people, never to transcend.

He wakes me, only to lament me from their hold.

Sweet death, pure and everlasting,  
battlefields run cold.

*Erin Weatherstone*

### Sonnet

The burning crimson hands of anger leap,  
His grip ensures your conscience will resign  
And sadness drowns you even throughout sleep,  
Her kisses trickling gently down your spine.  
But sorrow can be no true match for love  
Who shelters you through every rainy day  
And icy guilt may grip you from above  
But rage's flames will help it melt away.  
The shadows in your mind find every flaw  
But sparks of hope ignite the fire of worth.  
If the hole where your heart should be feels raw  
Passion will always ensure its rebirth.  
And so as one does, feels as one should do,  
The only thing that I do feel is you.

*Zoe Taylor*

### Untitled

O, blood is thicker than water, they say.  
That statement is very arguable.  
Though this I am more sure of day by day;  
That our bond grows to be more humble.  
Never perfect is a bond that is true.  
The world has high expectations for dames.  
Never, certainly change to please others,  
Only ever change to please your own self.  
Though use your wisdom to protect those you love,  
It is a puzzle to live with yourself.  
So this is where my poem ends for now,  
I shall leave bidding you adieu and ciao.

*Lamia Saleh*

## REELACT

Hawker College was represented by an enthusiastic and talented group of young film makers and their families at ReelAct – the ACT Secondary Schools Student Films showcase at the Palace Electric Cinemas on Thursday 10th April.



Over 70 short films were entered by Colleges from across Canberra as part of the ACT Youth Week and ATOMACT Event. We had ten films in the running across seven categories from our current Year 12 film makers. Congratulations must go to Davis Jensen - Winner - best short film comedy who won a \$100 prize for his film: *“Mr. and Mr. Schmidt”*, and to Kim Gaspar runner up - best PR campaign for her moving anti drink driving campaign entitled *“Ruby”*.

Well done!

Fay Matthews & Fiona James  
Media Teachers

## STUDENTS DEBATE ‘PARLIAMENTARY STYLE’ IN THE CHAMBER

On 21st March, the Hawker Debating team attended the Inter-School Parliamentary debates at the Legislative Assembly for the ACT. The students presented on the topic *“the Federal Government should allow the States and Territories to legislate issues concerning marriage”* and took a negative stance on this topic. Later in the day, they debated on the topic *“one punch alcohol laws should be uniform throughout Australia”*.



Pictured from left to right: Bridget Hogan, Aedon Foster, Hassan Ahmed and Sophie Brissenden.

The students performed brilliantly as members of parliament and are to be commended for their teamwork and respect for parliamentary etiquette.

Joanne Adams  
Debating Coordinator

## LOCAL BUSINESS LEADER FROM CGU INSPIRES STUDENTS

On Friday 28th March, Alan Reid who is the ACT Manager for CGU delivered a very engaging presentation to Year 12 Business students. Alan spoke about the importance of effective HR practices such as recruitment and induction, training and development, and performance appraisals. He also highlighted the need for honesty, integrity and transparency in managing any work environment. Alan discussed a range of current business issues which impact on modern day managers. These issues ranged from how to achieve a gender balance in the workforce to the need to create a work/life balance for employees and promoting a positive culture.



Alan has become a regular guest speaker at Hawker College informing students each year about current business practices. He reminds us all of the importance of being self-aware, adaptable, customer focused and solutions oriented.

Joanne Adams  
Business Teacher

## CAREER NEWS

### Lunchtime Talks

Careers has been busy organising a range of guest speakers from key interest areas and tertiary institutions to come to the college on a Monday at lunchtime to provide students with the most up-to-date information they have about their programs, courses of study and entry requirements. All talks will take place in the Science Lecture Theatre. These talks are open to all students as Year

11s may find the information useful in planning their studies at Hawker and with identifying career pathways.

This is your opportunity to come along and have your questions answered or organise a one-on-one session in Week 18 with either the ANU or UC.

TERM 2 (Starting Week 13) FOCUS on CAREERS Monday Lunchtime Presentations			
Week	Date	Presentation	Format
12	5 May	AST TRIAL – Mon & Tues	
13	12 May	CIT	Lunchtime talk
14	19 May	CSU	Lunchtime talk
15	26 May	Gap Year Focus - Latitude (Jesse) - Projects & Antipodeans Abroad	Lunchtime talk
16	2 June	UC	Lunchtime talk
17	9 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday	
18	16 June (Mon)	ANU	one-on-one sessions: Booking sheet
	19 June (Thurs)	UC	one-on-one sessions: Booking sheet

\*\*\* More lunchtime presentations organised for Term 3!

## Futures Program

Ted Noffs is currently assisting our Transitions and Careers officers in running a program at Hawker College on Wednesday afternoons for ten of our year 12 students who are at risk from disengaging from school. We have two outreach workers working with them discussing a variety of topics from harm minimisation with drug and alcohol use, to dealing with emotions and healthy relationships. A main focus is goal setting. The students are engaging well with the staff from Ted Noffs and this program will continue this term.

## Futures Job Program

In Week 19 Careers will again be running the Futures Job Program to assist students who may be finishing college at the end of this semester or who are looking to leave college. Guest speakers from employment agencies and the workplace will provide students with current information on employment options. At the end of the program students will have a current resume, be able to write a cover letter and a job application and be prepared for a job interview with a handful of useful interview tips. The program will conclude with a mock interview.

Many students have been successful in their job applications upon completion of this program. Please register your interest in Careers this week.

Kim Thomas & Carolyn Lloyd  
Transitions and Careers Officers

## FASHFEST (CANBERRA'S LARGEST FASHION EVENT)

On Wednesday 30th April some of the Fashion Students were fortunate to attend FashFest (Canberra's largest Fashion Event).



The event is a spectacular showcase of local talent and depicts where the Fashion industry is heading in the ACT. As emerging designers the Hawker College students were blown away with what was showcased.

The students experienced all the elements of a professional show, the importance of branding, lighting, sound, catwalk, models, hair, makeup, media and advertising to name a few.

The show was a real eye opener to the students on what the industry is like. They have come away extremely inspired...watch this space as Hawker has extremely talented designers....

Rachel Tammaro  
Fashion and Hospitality Teacher

## HAWKER SPORT

The end of Term 1 brought fantastic results for Hawker College in a variety of sporting events. Our mixed Beach Volleyball Team was declared ACT Champions after their undefeated performance at Civic pool. Our team comprising Laura Scheetz, Ella Smyth, Henry Raisoqomi and Kulerp Moang were outstanding throughout the carnival demonstrating a high level of skill combined with unselfish teamwork. Congratulations on a fantastic result!



Our rugby league team has once again qualified for the regional finals of the GIO Cup. Our team completed the ACT John Allen Cup undefeated, continuing their successful results. We are still waiting on details of our next opponent but at this stage it should be the winner of the Riverina division.

Our Boys Basketball Team won a hard fought Northside final to qualify for the ACT finals day. Despite losing in the semi-finals our team performed well and Coach Nick Pitsonis was glowing in his praise on the efforts of all the players of the team.

Our Lawn Bowls Team of Sam Sinclair and Blake Gibson have finished as ACT runners-up for the second year in a row. Both have to be commended as neither play lawn bowls but natural ability and determination were the foundation for their success.

Maddy Mascord and Rebekah Hardwicke are both representing the ACT at the U'18 Australian Softball Championships. Both girls are very experienced representative players and I am sure they will perform at a high level, fulfilling the expectations they have for themselves.

Leah Allen will be continuing her quest for swimming honours at the ACT Swimming Championships. Leah has been training hard to repeat the outstanding results she achieved at last year's championships. We wish her all the best.

The ACT Colleges Futsal and Netball competitions are about to get underway. Our teams have been preparing well and we look forward to hearing of their progress in the coming weeks.

Mark Greer  
Sports Coordinator

## COUNTRY STALLS ON HARMONY DAY

On Harmony Day Friday 21st March, students from the Tourism class celebrated diversity by setting up in the Caf country stalls including for France, England, Germany, Iran, Netherlands and Thailand to showcase attractions, flight packages, and some main facts on these countries. This event on Harmony Day was the perfect opportunity to end their assessments after their research and oral presentation on their chosen countries. Students were challenged on their knowledge of their countries since they had to answer many questions.



The whole experience has made them proud of themselves, has improved their confidence about their customer service, and has added to their understanding of other cultures while having fun at the same time.

Celia Bazalar  
Tourism Teacher

## EXCURSION TO THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA AND QUESTACON

On 11 April Tourism and Spanish students attended an excursion to the 'Gold and the Incas' exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia and Questacon.

Students were able to appreciate a variety of works of art including gold ornaments created thousands of years ago by ancient cultures of Perú. Students learnt that the artisans of this civilisation were highly skilled metalworkers, potters, carvers and weavers who incorporated religious and political ideas based on their beliefs and values at the time.

At Questacon, students had the opportunity to engage in the different displays and interactive galleries. The Excite@Q gallery was the area where



some of the students had the most fun. This excursion was an exciting way to finish the last day of school before the holidays.

Celia Bazalar  
Spanish and Tourism Teacher

### FROM THE FRONT OFFICE – FINANCE INFORMATION UPDATE

#### Hawker College BSB and Account Number

The College account is held with Westpac and payments for excursions, voluntary contributions and fees and levies are able to be made into the College account using the following details – **BSB: 032777, Account Number: 001391.**

This information is provided on ALL notes requiring payment which are sent home from the College.

**NB: Please ensure that student name and description of the payment is included when making the payment (eg: student name, excursion name). This ensures that the monies are able to be receipted against the correct family and excursion.**

#### PIN numbers for Card use

Please note that from 1 August 2014, card holders will no longer be able to sign for payments made in person. This is part of a banking industry initiative to improve credit card security in Australia, while most overseas countries have already adopted this method of card purchase authorisation.

This also applies to payments made using debit cards and savings account cards.

“PIN” authorisations will be required when paying at EFTPOS terminals. Any transactions without a pin will be declined after that date. If you are unable to locate the original PIN, this is able to be updated by dropping into your bank with your card and appropriate ID.

Please telephone the Front Office – 62057744 – should you require any clarification.

### UN YOUTH TERRITORY CONFERENCE



Four Hawker College students attended the UN Youth Territory Conference over the weekend beginning 21 March. Phoebe O'Brien, Oliver Galke, Imogen Hughes and Sophie Brissenden all went out to Birrigai and had a great time over the three days. With the theme of 'Beyond Borders', the students explored global issues dealing with politics, famine, natural disasters and conflict, as well as how the UN and nations such as Australia leave their mark on the world.

Sophie reflected on her time at the conference; “We argued, debated, problem-solved, mocked, laughed and met over 110 new people from around the ACT region. UN Youth offered a fantastic, hands-on opportunity to really understand how the UN works and how we can make a difference”. She highly recommends attending the conference next year to “any student interested in politics, law, international relations or just socializing”.

Joanne Adams



Bring the world home – host an international exchange student!

All over Australia, families volunteer to play a significant role in international relations right in their homes by hosting a Southern Cross Cultural Exchange student.

Expose your family to different customs and ideas, develop an international network for your whole family and learn more about your favourite foreign culture.

Share your daily life with interesting and talented international exchange students from countries such as France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Japan and the U.S.A., among many more!

Students are aged 15 to 17 years-old and arrive in mid-July. Volunteer host families can choose a student according to age, gender and program duration (3, 5, or 10 months).

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange makes all the school, insurance and travel arrangements. Free call S.C.C.E. on 1800 500 501 today to request a selection of student profiles or head to [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au) to find out more!

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# Important dates for your diary

<b>Monday 12 May 2014</b>	Board/P&C Meeting - 5:30pm
<b>Monday 26 May 2014</b>	Extended MI Group Program - Line 6 Year 11 - Line 5 Year 12
<b>Wednesday 28 May 2014</b>	Rio Tinto Big Science Competition: 1.15–2.15pm in Lab 1
<b>Wed 28 - Sat 31 May 2014</b>	Drama Performance - <b>Fame</b> - See attached poster for information
<b>Wednesday 4 June 2014</b>	ICAS Science Competition: 1.15–2.15pm in Lab 1
<b>Monday 9 June 2014</b>	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
<b>Wednesday 11 June 2014</b>	AST Focus Day; and
<b>Tuesday 17 June 2014</b>	ICAS Writing Competition

Please see attached to this newsletter: message from Joy Burch MLA; letter from ACT BSSS; and **Fame** poster

LEARN TO DRIVE  
YOU'LL FEEL

AT YOUR OWN PACE  
SAFE & RELAXED  
WITH PINNACLE

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**For further information**  
Call Lisa or Matthew on 6242 8687  
Email: [info@pinnacledrivingschool.com.au](mailto:info@pinnacledrivingschool.com.au)  
Website: [www.pinnacledrivingschool.com.au](http://www.pinnacledrivingschool.com.au)

**ENROLMENTS AT HAWKER COLLEGE FOR 2015**

The ACT Education & Training online enrolment portal opened on 28 April 2014 for families to enroll students for the 2015 school year. The portal is located at [www.det.act.gov.au/school\\_education/enrolling\\_in\\_an\\_act\\_public\\_school](http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school).

The online application form and the timeline for the process are on the portal. **The closing date is 30 May 2015.** This will enable us to send offers of enrolment in June. Your acceptance of the offer should be returned to us by 27 June. We will proceed in Term 3 with advice to students, leading to Subject Selection Evening on 26 August.

Completion of the application form before the closing date is recommended to facilitate a smooth transition to college. Families not in a position to complete the initial process in May should contact the college as soon as they are able throughout 2014.



If undelivered, please return to:  
Hawker College  
51 Murrarji Street Hawker ACT 2614

**PRINT  
POST**  
100002346

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**

Hawker College contacts  
Ph: 02 6205 7744  
Fax: 02 6205 7745  
Email: [info@hawker.act.edu.au](mailto:info@hawker.act.edu.au)  
Website: [www.hawker.act.edu.au](http://www.hawker.act.edu.au)

Absentee Line: 02 6205 7771  
[absent@hawker.act.edu.au](mailto:absent@hawker.act.edu.au)

## **A Message from the Minister**

### **Getting Involved in Your Child's School is a Key to Education Success**

The ACT's national leadership in education is founded on the quality of our schools, our teachers, and our focus on putting parents and children at the centre of everything we do.

I recently announced the *Progressing Parental Engagement in the ACT* project, an Australia-first to help parents and families get more involved with their children's schools and education.

Simply by reading this newsletter, you are showing your interest in being involved with the education of your children. We know children do better at school when parents and families are actively engaged. After all, you are your child's first teachers and I encourage you to maintain connected throughout their schooling.

There are many ways of doing this and, as part of the project, your school will be invited to develop innovative ideas to help you to be an active part of your school community. We will keep you updated on how the project will support you in doing this.

With your help we can ensure that your child will get the very best education, tailored for them – and that the ACT will continue to lead the nation in educating our children.

Joy Burch MLA  
Minister for Education and Training

Email to principals

Dear principals

The ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) is conducting a review of ACT Year 12 Certificates in 2014. Currently the ACT BSSS issues two certificates:

- ACT Year 12 Certificate
- Tertiary Entrance Statement (for students intending to go to university)

Whilst there have been small changes to the requirements for the certificates over the last few years, there has not been a major review of the certificates for at least 20 years. The BSSS has identified the need to review ACT Year 12 certificates to ensure the credential continues to meet student and stakeholder needs in a changing environment. The BSSS will examine whether or not English and mathematics should be mandatory requirements for the Year 12 Certificate.

The BSSS has identified the following areas for review:

- number and types of certificates
- number of different packages
- minimum requirements for certificates, including literacy and numeracy
- recognition of vocational learning
- recognition of extra-curricular and outside learning
- moderation and quality assurance

I am seeking your assistance in making your school community aware of the review and two community forums being held at:

- Radford College - Wednesday 14 May, 6.30pm in the Ray Young Hall - Junior school
- Canberra College - Wednesday 21 May, 6.30pm in the college hall.

The terms of reference and call for written submissions are on the BSSS web site [www.bsss.act.edu.au](http://www.bsss.act.edu.au).

If you require more information, please phone me on Ph: 620 57162.

Yours sincerely

John Stenhouse  
Executive Officer

29 April 2014

HAWKER COLLEGE PRESENTS....



# FAME

THE MUSICAL

MURRANJI THEATRE, HAWKER COLLEGE  
MAY 28th - 31st, 2014  
7.30pm

MATINEE, MAY 31ST,  
2.00pm

Adults \$20  
Students \$15  
Child/Concession \$10  
Ticket sales at the door

Conceived and Developed by David De Silva

Book by Jose Fernandez

Lyrics by Jacques Levy

Music by Steve Margoshes

Title song "Fame" written by Dean Pitchford and Michael Gore

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)