



**NEWSLETTER** Issue 3

March 2017

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## Change of Date

The Hawker College Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

will now be held on

**Thursday 14 December 2017**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Carers and Community.

I would like to thank and welcome the new members of our School Board and P&C, we had a great response to our requests for support. Our new School Board Chair is Peter Jones AO DSC and Jocelyn Bruemmer is President of our P&C.

At the start of each school year we finalise our Strategic Plans for the year ahead, and around this time they are approved by the School Board and the Education Directorate. They will appear officially on our website over the next week or two, but I would like to offer them here for your interest:

[Hawker College Strategic Planning](#)

Our plans represent an explicit school improvement agenda, based on the Australian Council For Education Research's (ACER) [National School Improvement Tool](#), which is the framework used in the ACT and around the nation to guide best practice. They do not represent everything we do, but rather some specific areas we'd like to focus on for improvement based on our external validation in 2015. The evidence suggests that when a community is aware of, and shares the school's vision, mission and goals for improving student outcomes as active participants, successful outcomes are more likely. I encourage you to familiarise yourself with our vision that "As a community of learning we engage and inspire each other to achieve our potential", and our mission to improve learning outcomes for all students.

You will note in our plans and from previous communications that we have introduced some new programs across the whole school to improve outcomes for all students. Among these is our 51 Bake hospitality program; our effort to build our presence in the Belconnen area as a school of excellence in Visual and Performing Arts; and to lead the ACT in programs that support Student Leadership. We have also trialled a "Tutorial" Program designed to support Year 11 students as they transition into College life. Here is some feedback from students on this program:

- . *The Hawker College tutorial lessons are very helpful.*
- . *Tutorial helps everyone with their work.*
- . *Tutorial sessions at Hawker College foster more productive students. The sessions give students at Hawker College the opportunity to complete work and develop basic study skills. Having dedicated time for working on assessments means pupils are more likely to be productive, and give a chance for kids who take a lot of classes time to study. I feel very privileged to attend a school that puts their students best interests first.*

Lastly, I would like to let you know that our College Open Night is on Thursday 25th of May from 6pm-8pm. All are welcome, we are hoping to make it a great evening for all who visit. You may receive a flyer in your letterbox advertising the event. We could use your help to promote the

college by encouraging prospective students to come along and see what a great school we have!

As always, your feedback is welcome and parents are encouraged to visit.

Sincerely,

Andy Mison  
Principal

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## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Wednesday 29 March 2017

AST Forum 6pm - FOR PARENTS AND YEAR 12 STUDENTS!!!

Thursday 6 April 2017

Parent Teacher Night

Friday 7 April 2017

Last day of Term 1

Wednesday 26 April 2017

First day of Term 2

Monday 8 May 2017

Board Meeting 5:30pm

Thursday 25 May 2017

OPEN NIGHT 6-8pm

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Pictured top left: Andy Mison, Linzi Lamont, Ineka Voigt and Minister Yvette Berry.

## DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

On 20 March, Hawker College ran a whole school election to elect Year 11 and 12 students to form a new Student Leadership Group (SLG). The newly elected SLG members will play a critical role in advocacy and practical advancement of issues that affect the college. The elections were run with the support of Linzi Lamont, from Elections ACT, who provided advice on how to run a Hare Clark election with 'optional preferential' voting which also ensured that all candidates complied with authorisation requirements and understood election and campaigning rules. The whole school project was the culmination of many weeks of careful planning to ensure that the voting would reflect the principles of democratic representation. The event provided all students with the opportunity to be electors with access to the ballot. Thank you to Chris Kenna, Joanne Adams, Andy Mison and all the students who worked tirelessly with Linzi Lamont to ensure the day provided everyone with a deeper understanding of what is required as future participants in Australian electoral processes. Many thanks also to the Energize Group who hosted a delicious sausage sizzle, which Education Minister, Yvette Berry, also enjoyed, as special guest on the day.

Thanks to the volunteer students and teachers who helped with the scrutiny at the end of polling and to Toby Hartley, who took on the vital role of Officer in Charge of the polling place. Congratulations to the following SLG elected representatives:

Year 11 – Courtney Keenan, Shavaun Hickman, Riz Azunicon and Allison Bruemmer

Year 12 – Mikayla Kerrison, Caitlin Scott, Kenny Kwan and Leonaitasi Tuionetoa

## Year 12



Caitlin SCOTT

Kenny Kwan

Leo Tuionetoa

Mikayla Kerrison

## Year 11



Allison Bruemmer

Courtney Keenan

Riz Azuncion

Shavaun Hickman

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## SCHOOL BOARD AGM

On Monday March 6th we held the Annual General Meeting for our School Board. There were two vacant positions to be filled for the Board for 2017. Rebekah Gupte, School Board Chair and Carolyn Fisher were stepping down. Principal Andy Mison thanked both for all the work they had done in relation to the Board and also for their support for the school. Two new members were nominated and appointed to the board, Peter Jones and Amanda Sheaves.

The 2017 Hawker College Board is as follows:

Board Chair – Peter Jones

Parent Representatives – Amanda Sheaves, Ashok Krishnan

Student Representatives (SLG) – Laura Pease (Year 12), one to be advised from the new SLG

Principal – Andy Mison

Staff Representatives – Chris Brown



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## HAWKER COLLEGE P&C

We hope everyone is settling in well to the new college year. It was lovely to meet so many parents at the Meet the Teachers night.

Our AGM and first meeting of the year were held Wednesday, 8 March. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend. We said farewell to Carolyn Fisher and Heather Grainger who (along with myself) had great energy and vision to see the P&C revived after a short break. Your hard work, over the past two years, is very much appreciated. Thank you for all your time and wonderful contribution to the parent voice of the College.

Your committee for 2017 is:

President: Jocelyn Bruemmer

Secretary/Public Officer: Wendy Walker

Treasurer: Kate Fuller

Our first forum for the year will be the Year 12 AST Forum to be held Wednesday, 29 March. A very informative forum for both students and their parents/carers. [See the attached flyer](#) for details.

If you wish to join the P&C as a committee member the load is light in the college years as our main focus is communication. There is one planning meeting a term and one parent forum or social event each term.

We have been allocated a fundraising BBQ at Bunning's Belconnen on Sunday, 6 August. We will be sharing this event with the College. It's a big day but well worth it. Many hands make light work, so if you can spend even an hour to help please email on [hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com](mailto:hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com)

To contact us and join our email list for advice on up coming events please email us on [hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com](mailto:hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com)

Jocelyn Bruemmer

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## CANBERRA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY LUNCH

*Teach a man how to fish, and he will feed himself for life, teach a woman how to fish and she will feed the whole village.*

The Canberra International Women's Day lunch, hosted by the Australian National Committee for UN Women was attended by Year 12 students Molly Adams, Mikayla Kerrison & Suzie Todd. This year's theme was #BeBoldForChange, encouraging women to influence their communities by taking bold pragmatic action to accelerate gender parity.

The inspiring guest speakers included Aleta Miller, a clinical psychologist leading Women's programmes across the Pacific, as well as Muniba Mazari, Pakistan's National UN Women Ambassador. Molly, Mikayla & Suzie were encouraged and motivated to continue to challenge social norms. They had the opportunity to meet journalist and news reader Tracey Spicer, and chat to her about the challenges she poses, as a public profile figure, for women to spend less time & money on grooming & beauty products, in the endless quest to meet society's expectations.

Ant McCarthy, Psychology Teacher

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## HAWKER STUDENTS MAKE HISTORY

At the beginning of each school year, all teachers from ACT government colleges gather for a day of professional learning. The usual format is to hear from experts and practitioners about various topics to enrich teachers' knowledge and practice. At this year's event at the University of Canberra on 25 January, probably for the first time in its history, a group of Hawker College students were the presenters at a workshop.

Year 12 students Ineka Voigt, Bernie Bamber, James Duff and Pat Simonetti presented their ideas on 'Student Voice and Learning' very insightfully and confidently, with support from Principal Andy Mison and teacher Chris Kenna. Workshop participants there were highly engaged and interested in the ideas presented. Ineka, Bernie, James and Pat later followed this up with a similar workshop for Hawker College teachers held in the Maths Commons.

Congratulations and thanks to our four outstanding student presenters.

Chris Kenna, English and History Teacher

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## IPS 2017

We have had a busy start to 2017 – and we are happy to announce a new break out space for our IPS students. We have 34 students completing their Year 12 Certificate from Hong Kong, Vietnam and China. We had a great end of year excursion to the coast and are currently planning a ski trip in Term 3. Our students are enjoying living and studying with Australian students and their families.

If you are interested in hosting an international student please contact the International Education Unit: Ph: 6205 9194 or email: [ieu@gov.au](mailto:ieu@gov.au)

Fiona James and Aaron Huang, IPS Co-ordinators

### 国际学生 2017

伴随着忙碌的2017年的到来 我校为我们的国际学生开创了全新的活动区域。目前 我们有<sup>34</sup>名来自亚洲各地的国际学生 他们包括中国大陆 中国香港和越南。2016年年底 我校为国际学生举行了一次海边旅行 大获成功 并准备在今年的第三学期 举行雪山之行。我们的国际学生都很喜欢和享受他们在澳大利亚的时光 他们喜欢和澳大利亚的学生和家庭一起生活和学习。如果您有兴趣成为我们广大寄宿家庭的一员 请致电国际学生教育部 02 6205 9194 或联系以下邮件地址 [ieu@gov.au](mailto:ieu@gov.au)

Fiona James & Aaron Huang

国际学生指导员

此致

敬礼

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## ME, MYSELFIE, AND I .....

### Cyberpsychology in the 21st Century

By Cassandra Wilkinson, Year 11

Humans are herd animals and we only survive in highly cooperative groups designed to pick up social cues, organise, and construct our behaviour to fit others around us. The Year 11 Psychology students have been studying social psychology, one branch of this being cyberpsychology. This is the study of our minds in relation to technology and the online world.

This is the digital age, so it is important to understand how and why we love our devices so much. From improving our social lives to giving us access to a wide range of information, technology has many benefits. Technology provides us with the means to keep in touch with those we don't get to see very often due to distance and work. It has become one of the key ingredients to keeping relationships strong. However, technology does have its pitfalls. Social media has created an obsession with popularity among young people and makes them compare themselves to others more, which can result in narcissism, insecurity, lack of trust and social anxiety. We are becoming more reliant on technology, especially at Hawker College, and it is important for students, teachers, and parents to have be aware of the negative and positive repercussions of communicating online and the effects it has on our minds and our relationships.

Cassandra Wilkinson, Year 11

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## HAWKER GIRLS SHINE BRIGHT!

Our Girls have been outstanding in sport over the last few weeks with pleasing results in a variety on sports.

Year 11 Deanne Milward swept through the early rounds of the ACT Schools tennis Championships before losing to the eventual competition winner in the Quarter Finals. Her achievements were rewarded with selection the ACT team to travel to Victoria for the prestigious Pizzy Cup to be played in April.

Our Girls League Tag team travelled to Seiffert Oval Queanbeyan for the ACT Inter-College competition. Our girls defeated Erindale in a must win game to reach the Plate semi-Final. In a very exciting play-off game our girls lost a close game played in a torrential downpour. Emily Hoffman was outstanding in the competition leading our team throughout the day scoring a number of spectacular tries.

### Hawker Girls League Tag Team

Hawker entered 3 teams in the ACT Mixed Beach Volleyball Championships held at Lyneham. Two of our teams made the finals with one knocked out in the quarter-final stage. Our team of Leo Tuionetoa, Elle Ford, Liv Ford and Alex Wenke played an entertaining team oriented strategy remaining undefeated throughout the preliminary rounds, unfortunately going down in a very close semi –final match.

At Hawker College we are fortunate to have a number of sporting representatives that have excelled in a variety of sports. Along with Deanne Milward mentioned above we would like to recognise the following students for their outstanding achievements.

Ella Girvan has been selected in the Australian Youth Tag 20 team. This outstanding achievement



will see Ella representing Australia against the New Zealand team in the Anzac Day Cup. This event will be held on Anzac Day in Canberra and any support for Ella would be welcome.

Ella Girvan and Chloe Long were selected in the ACT Tag 20 team to play in the Heritage Cup in Sydney.

Emily Hoffman: The ACT U'17 Oztag representative travelled to Coffs Harbour for the state cup. Emily's team were Champions remaining undefeated throughout the tournament. Emily also plays premier league for Belconnen.

Aidan Charman: The ACT U'17 Oztag representative travelled to Coffs Harbour for the State Cup.

Amy Smith has been selected in the NSW ladies team for Clay Target Shooting. She will be competing at the Australian Championships Open Division in Wagga.

Mark Greer, Sports Coordinator



Above: Millie Sutherland Saines and Banksia the Bettong from Milligan's Flat Woodland Sanctuary, with some year 11 ESL students

## A VISIT FROM A BETTONG

Year 11 ESL students were recently treated to a visit by a rare Australian animal – the Eastern Bettong. Eastern Bettongs were once native to our area and the south eastern seaboard of Australia and Tasmania, but they have been extinct on the mainland for around 100 years.

Reintroduced into the safety of Mulligan's Flat Woodlands Sanctuary, they are successfully breeding with numbers growing from the original 48 to over 350 in less than 5 years. The ESL students enjoyed what was, for many, their first encounter with Australian wildlife. They learned about threats to native species and the importance of conservation.

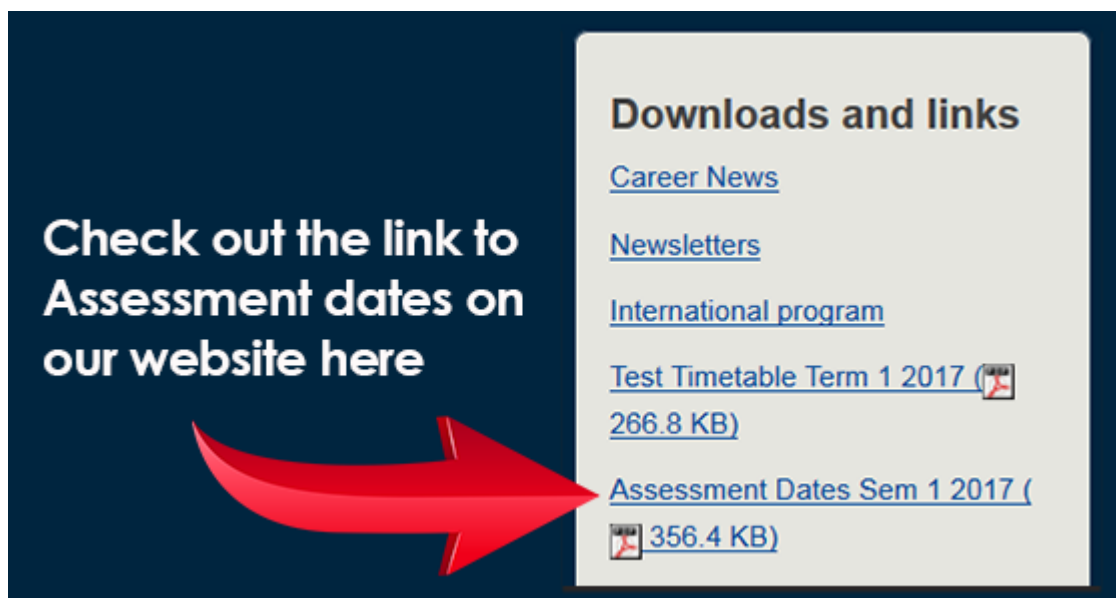
Here are a few facts about bettongs from year 11 ESL students:

- . *The bettong is eaten by foxes and cats and now they're endangered animals. (Duke)*
- . *The bettong has already disappeared from the ACT but they haven't disappeared from Tasmania. (Francis)*
- . *When the bettong was a baby, it stayed in its mother's pouch. (Jillian)*
- . *The bettong is a very weak animal. We need to protect them. (Jay)*
- . *Although it was really cute when the bettong curled into a ball, I couldn't pet it for its safety. (Wilona)*

The students extend their thanks to Mulligan's Flat and Millie Sutherland Saines for this opportunity.

For more information about bettongs or Mulligan's Flat Woodland Sanctuary, go to <https://mulligansflat.org.au/>

Kathryn Sutherland, School Leader Humanities



**Check out the link to Assessment dates on our website here**

**Downloads and links**

- [Career News](#)
- [Newsletters](#)
- [International program](#)
- [Test Timetable Term 1 2017 \(266.8 KB\)](#)
- [Assessment Dates Sem 1 2017 \(356.4 KB\)](#)

## KEEP TRACK OF ASSESSMENTS!

Hawker College is pleased to again provide convenient ways for parent/carers to be aware of assessment tasks (and their due dates and weightings).

- . A summary of assessment items for all units is linked to our College website [here](#).
- . We also have available for you a smart phone app called Assessment



Alert which allows you to download all of a student's Hawker College assessment due dates to your smartphone. You may then synchronise them to your calendar and receive regular alerts before they are due.

We encourage you to take advantage of the Assessment Alert product. More information regarding this product can be found on their website at <http://assessmentalert.com/> with Frequently Asked Questions here <http://assessmentalert.com/index.php/faqs/>

If you have an iPhone, iPad or iTouch simply go to [Apple App Store](#) or if you have an Android device visit the [Google Play Store](#) and follow the prompts. It is simple, easy to use and will help students and parents become more organised and engaged with their studies. To download the app and view the school and courses it is free.

The cost of this app is FREE.

When you download the app select Hawker College as the school/university and then the courses and units your child is enrolled in to receive assessment information. Reminder alerts for due dates can be set to for 3, 2 and 1 week, as well as 3, 2 or 1 day before the item is due.

Any feedback you have on your experience would be most welcome.

Chris Brown, Deputy Principal

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**Address:** Murrnaji St, Hawker ACT 2614

**Phone:** (02) 6142 0355

**Email:** [info@hawker.act.edu.au](mailto:info@hawker.act.edu.au)

**Website:** [www.hawker.act.edu.au](http://www.hawker.act.edu.au)

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