



NEWSLETTER Issue 6

August 2017

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers.

As we settle into the term I'd like to draw your attention to some upcoming events and programs that we hope you will support.

This Sunday the 6th of August our P&C and Student Leadership Group are fund raising for our school by running a Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Belconnen. I'll be there taking a shift, I hope you can come down and say hello.

We are also hosting the Education Minister (& former Hawker College student) Yvette Berry's Future of Education Review forum in our library on Wednesday August 16 in partnership with our local Government schools. It's a great opportunity to have input into the future of our system and I look forward to seeing you there. For more information please see our Board Chair Peter Jones' article in this newsletter.

In my last bulletin I mentioned the School Climate and Satisfaction Surveys. These are annual surveys facilitated by the Education Support Office to gather feedback

from our communities about how we can improve our schools in the ACT. I will be shortly sending out a personalised link for parents and carers to access and complete the survey. The survey is open from 8-28 August. I encourage you to complete the survey, as it will help us measure our progress.

Next Thursday the 10th of August is the second of our annual Moderation Days, during which all ACT College teachers meet to examine and 'moderate' assessment standards and practices as part of the Board of Senior Secondary Studies procedures for Year 12 Certification. There are no classes on this day and students are asked not to attend College.

Voluntary Parental Financial Contributions

As you know Hawker College parents and carers have traditionally provided financial support for our education programs through voluntary contributions. These contributions enhance and support the quality of programs we offer. These contributions fall into 2 categories: General Voluntary Contributions and Course Contributions. Course contributions help to cover the costs of basic consumables used by students in practical subjects such as the Arts, Technology and Food Studies. Students and parents are provided with information on these costs at the beginning of each semester. I would like to thank families that have made such contributions and ask others to consider making a payment. A range of payment options are available, please contact our administration, or visit our website, your support is greatly appreciated.

Finally, as students pass driving tests and begin to drive themselves to and from school, please remind them to be very careful and cautious around the school. Our carparks and surrounds should be treated like any public road, and the usual rules and regulations apply. We are keen to promote safe driving practices, and expect the highest standards of behaviour from all students.

I hope to see you at Bunnings on Sunday!

Andy Mison
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 3 August 2017

Careers Xpo - Whole School Excursion

Sunday 6 August 2017

Bunnings BBQ fundraiser run by P&C and Student Leadership Group

Tuesday 8 August 2017

Parent and Carer satisfaction survey opens

Thursday 10 August 2017

Moderation Day - Student Free Day - No classes

Wednesday 16 August 2017

Future Of Education Forum - 7pm Hawker College Library

Tuesday 22 August 2017

Subject Selection Evening - 2018 Year 11 Students

Monday 4 September 2017

AST Trials: Morning session Year 12 - Afternoon Session Year 11

Tues 5 - Wed 6 September 2017

AST Day Exams - Year 12 Tertiary Students

Thurs 7 - Tues 12 September 2017

Cross Line Testing - Alternate Timetable

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL BOARD**

On 17 July I attended a meeting of all School Board Chairs hosted by the Minister for Education, Yvette Berry, and the Director General of Education, Natalie Howson. The event was focused on the Minister's initiative to engage the community on The Future of Education. This follows her election commitment for such engagement and her recent visits to Finland and Singapore where she looked at their education systems.

At the meeting, the Board Chair of Alfred Deakin School gave an excellent presentation of their community engagement evening which sought views on their strategic plan. There was general agreement among Board Chairs that this model seemed a very practical way to garner community ideas. There was also a suggestion at the meeting that it would be beneficial to have parents and carers from

the Primary School, High School and College from the same area brought together in one forum.

I came away from the evening with a sense there was a genuine interest in seeking the views of parents, carers, teachers and students to improve the way education is provided in the ACT. We just need to seize the opportunity.

In terms of specifics, to enable our voice to be heard we need to provide our suggestions to the Department by mid August. Our Principal, Andy Mison, has proactively engaged Hawker, Florey and Weetangera Primary Schools, Southern Cross Early Childhood School and Belconnen High to hold a community engagement session. So our opportunity to provide ideas on the Future of Education will be on 16 August from 7-8:30 pm at Hawker College. Teachers and students will also have an opportunity to contribute their ideas in separate forms. I strongly encourage all parents and carers to come to their event. For those of you unable to make the date there is still an opportunity to provide your ideas direct to the Department. There is an informative website on the Future of Education initiative at this link: http://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/the-future-of-education

Best regards

Peter Jones, School Board Chair

CAREERS EXPO

Tomorrow, Thursday 3rd of August our students are attending the Canberra Careers Expo at Exhibition Park. The Expo provides valuable career guidance and advice on career opportunities available to secondary students. This CareersXpo is the largest event of its type in the region with over 100 local and national exhibitors.

www.canberracareersmarket.com.au

This is a whole school excursion. Attendance is compulsory for ALL students. Students will attend Line 7 as normal and will board buses with their teachers when called over the loud speakers. The buses will leave at approximately 11:30am, and will leave Exhibition Park at 2pm. Students are reminded to return permission notes and pay \$2 before leaving if they have not done so already.



ACT SCHOOL COLLEGE GLASS WORKS RESIDENCY 2017

I am very pleased and excited to announce that I have been selected as the 2017 ACT Artist in Residents at the Canberra Glassworks. This ACT School Residency is awarded to a student in Year 11 or 12 who attends an ACT College, and chosen by application merit.

The residency includes a \$500 allowance which is used for professional lessons and materials during the residency in the glass studio space over the two-week period.

I will have the opportunity to gain a thorough introduction to a range of glass techniques, using specialist equipment and processes which are given by professional staff and artists at the Canberra Glassworks.

I am considering studying at the ANU School of Art and Design next year and Glass has been a creative medium I am interested in. I have had insight to Glass practice through the valuable programs available for senior students at the School of Art and Design which I have attended while studying Visual Art at Hawker College. Glass as a medium appeals to me because it is a sustainable product, it can be sculptural, decorative, functional and beautiful and it draws the viewer in. This is a new and challenging area for me, learning how to blow glass and etch glass, extending my own creative ideas using glass as a creative medium and glass surfaces.

I am looking forward to extending with my creative ideas and learning new skills and applications during the Residency at The Canberra Glassworks.

Adina Leigh-Fitzsimons Year 12
Visual Arts student, Hawker College

HAWKER COLLEGE P&C

Hello Parents/Carers of Hawker College

It is now Semester 2, our Year 11 students have now well and truly settled in, and for those with Year 12 students an exciting few months are ahead of you as you prepare for final assessments and AST's before you finish off the year with your formal and graduation.

Wednesday, 26 July was our most recent meeting and Peter Jones, Board Chair tabled the ACT Directorate's Future of Education discussion paper. The Government is keen to receive input on the direction education should take and are keen to hear from parents, students and teachers. The College will hold a parent forum on Wednesday 16 August. All surrounding schools are invited - Belconnen High School, Hawker Primary, Florey Primary, Weetangera Primary and Southern Cross Early Childhood. Please mark this date in your diary and come along and have input into your child's education.

We also discussed what is the role of the P&C at College, and how to best communicate with parents. We will be developing a communication plan and in Term 4 we will hold one of our forums in conjunction with the College on 'Demystifying College'. Keep an eye out for this informative evening.

The minutes from our meeting are available via the Hawker College Website P&C page - [click here](#) - then scroll down and click on the heading: **Latest Minutes**

Upcoming Events for the P&C

- **Sunday, 6 August** – Bunning's BBQ in conjunction with the Student Leadership Group (SLG) – if you would like to assist on the day please contact Kate Fuller: Kate.Fuller@ausport.gov.au If you are unable to help out come down and buy a sausage sandwich and/or drink.
- **Wednesday, 20 September** - general meeting commencing at 6:30pm – All Welcome

Contact Us

To contact us and join our email list for information on up-coming events, please email us on hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com.

ACT P&C Council

If you would like to know more about the Council and what it has on offer for parents please see their website for upcoming talks and helpful information:
<http://actparents.org.au/index.php>

Jocelyn Bruemmer, P&C President



Hawker College Sports Council

The Hawker College Sports Council has been formed this year to improve the sporting opportunities and experiences for our students. It provides an excellent link for our students to decide on the sports we participate in throughout the year.

The council has been proactive in the change of uniform design, equipment and an encouraging increase in sport participation so far this year. All members are approachable to discuss the various aspects of sport at Hawker College.

2017 Sports Council Members

Year 12

EI Ford

Leo Tuionetoa

Liv Ford

Year 11

Alicia Cowan

Emily Hoffman

Ella Girvan

Laura Pease
Alex Wenke
Kyle Gallagher

Liki Chan-Tung

Students interested in joining the Hawker College Sports Council should see Mark Greer for details.

Third term sports are about to start with our mixed Oztag team competing at 2pm every Thursday afternoon on our school oval. Our men's volleyball team are playing a home and away competition. We wish our teams all the best and supporters are always welcome.

Upcoming one day carnivals include Oztag, squash, badminton, mountain bike and the ACT Track and Field Championships. Interested students need to see Mark to register their interest.



INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL - HIGASHIKAWA , JAPAN

Hawker College students Alexandra Williams, Grace McGurgan and Sally Witchalls are having a wonderful time and have begun the formal part of the photography exchange in Higashikawa. The girls took almost 1200 images based on their

chosen theme 'Festival Feelings'. Of these, they have submitted six photos.

Please support Alex, Grace and Sally by voting for their photos. There is a Popular Choice Award that is awarded to the team who receives the most online votes. You can view the full images and vote by clicking on the link <http://i-hsspf-e.hjk.ne.jp/submitted1.html>

The girls are Team '8' (there is a limit of 1 vote per device per day - voting closes on Wednesday).



Above: Alex, Grace and Sally pictured at Mount Asahidake for the next photographic session. We wish them all the best.



Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT

is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

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Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.

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