



NEWSLETTER Issue 1

January 2018

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! As the school holidays come to an end I'm looking forward to welcoming students and their families to our learning community next week to start the 2018 school year. I hope you've all had a restful break and are ready for action!

We are busily preparing for the new year, with a large intake of new students into year 11, and a number of new staff. We have also been reviewing our activities as a school and working together to define our priorities for 2018. Of particular focus for us is how we can work together with students to facilitate a personalised learning program that will realise the individual goals of every student. These goals are not limited to academic progress; they may also include the development of practical vocational skills and qualifications; and the building of character, resilience, ethical behaviour and metacognitive skills (learning how to learn). We are also keen to ensure that students connect safely in our community and enjoy a range of life

experiences whilst at College.

With so many new faces coming into our school community, it is vital that we ensure a good foundation for the relationships which are essential for understanding each other's learning needs. This is why we implement the altered "O week" timetable in the first week back. Our aim is to balance the need to get study programs underway with housekeeping, orientation and wellbeing activities designed to build connections and cohesion in our school. Year 11 will start on Monday 5th of February with an assembly in the Murrarji Theatre at 8:40am sharp, Year 12 on Tuesday 6th; also at 8:40am in the Murrarji Theatre. During O week new students will have the opportunity to experience their classes and make changes if necessary, and to get to know how college life works.

I am pleased to welcome a number of new staff in the college as follows. Lyndall Henman is our new Deputy Principal; she comes to us from Erindale College and is a very experienced school leader. Hayden Weeks joins us from Latham Primary School as our new Business and Facilities Manager; Yasmin Noonan joins us from Melba Copland Senior College as SLC for Student Services; Liz Ahern joins us from Dickson College teaching Legal Studies and English; Megan Cartwright joins us from Narrabundah College teaching English and Drama; Michael Robertson joins us from Melba Copland High School teaching English, Global Studies and History; Tom Greenwell joins us from Gungahlin College teaching History and English; Ryan Elwell joins us from Wanniasa School teaching Engineering, Science and IT. We also welcome Rachel Pascoe (formerly Tamaro) back after maternity leave, Anita Briedis from Long Service Leave, and Tony Hilton rejoins us after a posting at Namadgi School.

We farewelled a number of staff last year. Deputy Principal Chris Brown has transferred to Canberra College; Business Manager Karin Mitchell has retired; Student Services SLC Crystal Mahon has taken up an exciting overseas posting, Fay Matthews has transferred to Belconnen High School, and Veronica Thwaites-Brown has been appointed at Canberra Girls Grammar. I thank them all for their service to the Hawker College community.

As part of O week, we are inviting all students to attend the Big Splash at Jamison on Thursday 8th February from 1:15pm, for a social and recreational afternoon at the pool. This was a very enjoyable event last year, and we hope all students will participate this time. Students will need to make their own way there, the cost for the excursion is \$20. Please complete and return this [permission note](#) by 8 February 2018. Students are to return permission forms to MI Group teachers. The school will not be collecting money for this excursion; payment will be required on entry to Big

Splash.

We will be conducting baseline testing with all our students during O week. This is a diagnostic exercise to inform teaching and learning programs, consistent with our efforts to realise the learning goals for all students. We are using a tool similar to the AST, which gathers information about critical thinking and problem solving ability, along with basic literacy and numeracy. Students do not need to study for this!

The Tutorial program for Year 11 students will commence in week 2. All year 11 students are required to participate in this program in semester 1. If students can complete and submit all the assessments due in term one, they may be eligible to exit the program in term 2.

Year 11 students are also eligible to receive a free laptop supplied by the ACT Government. If you have not returned your consent form please do so asap. If you require further information please let us know. Students will receive their laptops on day one during their timetabled Tutorial class.

I have high expectations for our efforts to engage and inspire each other to achieve our potential in 2018. I am confident that all members of the school community will contribute respectfully and constructively. Please communicate with us if you are having difficulties at any stage throughout the year. We are keen to work with our community to ensure a great experience for students and their families at Hawker College.

See you next week!

Andy Mison
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 5 February 2018

YEAR 11 & New Students

Tuesday 6 February 2018

ALL STUDENTS

Thursday 8 February 2018

Big Splash - Whole School Excursion

Monday 12 February 2018

School Photo Day

Tuesday 6 March 2018

Moderation Day for Teachers - Student free day

Monday 12 March 2018

Canberra Day Holiday

COLLEGE BOARD UPDATE

To new parents and carers, I would like to explain something of the Hawker College Board. It has an important role in making policy, curriculum and financial decisions for the College. Its membership consists of the Principal, three parent representatives (one of which typically serves as Chair), two staff representatives, two students, an appointed member selected appointed by the Director General, Education Directorate (currently vacant).

In accordance with the requirement of the Education Act 2004, nominations are called to fill one (1) parent representative vacancy on the Board for a two year period (31 March 2018 – 1 April 2020). Nominees and those nominating may/must be a parent or guardian of a student attending Hawker College or a resident of the college's priority enrolment area. College Board meetings are held once a term in the Hawker College Boardroom.

Our forthcoming February meeting will be the last for Ashok Krishnan, whose two year term comes to an end. I would like to thank Ashok for his dedicated service on the Board. I would therefore encourage another parent or carer to fill this position. Ideally, for continuity purposes the position should be filled with someone with a student in the new Year 11 student cohort.

Please nominate for the vacant Board parent representative position by completing the nomination form available on the Hawker College website ([click here](#)), and attach a short statement. Please return both to the College Front Office by 3:00PM on 19th February 2018. If elections are required, parents will be notified of candidates and voting procedures via a college e/mail-out.

Peter Jones

Chair, Hawker School Board

HAWKER COLLEGE P&C

AGM and General Meeting

Monday, 5 March 2018 at 6.00pm

College Boardroom

Even though our children are nearly grown up, being involved in the Hawker College P&C is still a great opportunity to contribute to their education and college experience. The P&C is a forum to meet other parents and college executive staff, share experiences and generate and participate in discussions for the benefit of our students' education and the wider college community. The aim is to keep it a friendly, community-oriented atmosphere where everyone is welcome, without a huge time commitment!

ALL parents and carers of children at the school are eligible members of the P&C and we encourage you to be involved.

The first P&C meeting of the year is 6.15pm on Monday 5 March 2018 after the AGM at 6.00pm in the College Boardroom. The P&C committee positions will be decided for 2018 at the AGM.

We look forward to seeing you.

Jocelyn Bruemmer, President (2017)



CONGRATULATIONS INEKA VOIGT, NATIONAL YOUNG HISTORIAN AWARD 2017

Hawker College warmly congratulates Ineka Voigt on being selected as the overall national winner of the National History Challenge. In 2017, this prestigious competition attracted entries from some 8,500 students from all states and territories

and from junior to senior secondary levels. Ineka's insightful and empathetic essay dealt with the painful topic of Australia's Indigenous Stolen Generations, and was based on a wide range of sources including original interviews which she recorded.

In addition to being named as the ACT Young Historian and National Young Historian, Ineka won the national Year 11-12 and national Indigenous categories. In a ceremony at Parliament House, Ineka received the top award from Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training. She was also congratulated by the Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP, Shadow Assistant Treasurer and Member for Fenner, and by senior members of national cultural institutions, teachers and her family.

Here is part of Ineka's acceptance speech:

I have come to believe that the history of the Stolen Generations is the darkest in our history. To give an impression, there is no Aboriginal Australian today who was not directly [affected or] does not know someone directly affected by the policy. For many Australians, Kevin Rudd's 2008 Apology was thought to turn a new chapter and to resolve collective wounds.

But Sorry was not enough. The trauma is ever-present and continues inter-generationally. The pain will not heal with time alone.

Reunion, recognition and reconciliation are the foundation on which we have the potential to make a better world, a better Australia.

No doubt other great Hawker student historians will be inspired to take up this excellent learning and extension opportunity in 2018.

Chris Kenna, History Teacher



HAWKER COLLEGE SPORT

Sport is an integral part of the Hawker College Curriculum. Hawker enters teams in most competitions run by the ACTSSSA. All students are encouraged to participate and those who do are awarded credit towards their ACT Senior Secondary Certificate. College sport runs in two forms. Thursday afternoon sport is organised in a home and away format culminating with finals at the conclusion. One day carnivals are also a regular occurrence throughout the year. Information about participation and enrolment for various sports are located on the sports notice boards, Google Classrooms and TV screens around the school. All students are welcome and encouraged to participate and have fun. We also have a student Sports Council that provides a platform for students to engage in sport participation and decision making at Hawker College. Any questions should be directed to Yasmin Noonan, the Hawker College Sports Coordinator in 2018.

Term 1 2018 Sports

Thursday Line 8

- Basketball- Boys and Girls
- Cricket- Boys
- Rugby League

One Day Carnivals

- Rugby Union 7's
- Beach Volleyball
- Tennis
- Rugby League Girls Tag

- Water Polo
- Softball-Girls
- AFL-Girls
- Softball- Boys
- Lawn Bowls

Mark Greer, Sports Coordinator

CLASS OF 2018 HOODIES



Year 12 students wishing to purchase a Class of 2018 Hoodie must ensure they have paid \$69 via the Front Office, and registered a size and nickname with Year Coordinator Julia Braguina, by Monday the 19th of February.

Hoodies will be delivered in Week 1 of Term 2.

Julia Braguina, Year 12 Coordinator

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Address: Murrnaji St, Hawker ACT 2614

Phone: (02) 6142 0355

Email: info@hawker.act.edu.au

Website: www.hawker.act.edu.au

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