

## Hawker College

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NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2015

# Hawker design students win major awards

Our students are successful in the University of Wollongong's Design and Technology competition.

The Faculty of Engineering & Information Sciences at the University of Wollongong (UoW) runs the Senior Colleges Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Competition for the ACT. The aim of the Competition is to acknowledge students' efforts and encourage them to consider pursuing a career in the design, technology, engineering and science related fields.

Given Hawker College's previous successes in the 2013 competition, students from both the Design & Technology and Design & Graphics class were entered in the 2014 competition. We were very excited to hear that four of the five students had taken out five of the awards.



Above: Cullyn Emerton (right) receiving his award.

Madeleine Livingstone won two separate awards with Laura Scheetz, and Cullyn Emerton receiving one award each. Jacob Duffey received the major award for the Yr 11 Design & Graphics category. Jacob designed and produced a 3D printed prototype stand for his Samsung tablet. Apart from the monetary award, the student also received a certificate that would nicely enhance any emerging young designer's portfolio.

Hawker College was very proud to see its students compete very successfully with the major private schools and many of the much larger ETD colleges. Congratulations to all of the students involved and thanks to the UoW for rewarding young designers for their efforts. Hawker will definitely be participating in the 2015 competition.

Adrian Lemcke

## ARTS AT HAWKER 2015

The Hawker College Arts faculty welcomes you to 2015 – sure to be a big year full of creativity, talent, inspiration, artistry, and fun.

We do start the year on a sad note, however, as Maria Kelliher the well-respected SLC of Arts in 2014, has moved onto Gungahlin College to work in the



Above: Madeleine Livingstone and Laura Scheetz accepting their award.

Humanities faculty this year. We will miss her talent and energy and wish her all the best in her new role. Crystal Mahon has moved across to support the Arts faculty staff and students in the dual role of SLC Student Services/ Arts until further staffing arrangements are clarified throughout the year. We also farewelled Steve Crispin at the end of last year who has moved on to lead the band program at Canberra High in 2015. We welcome Veronica Thwaites-Brown to the position of Music teacher in 2015 in his stead. We also welcome back Hannah McFadden, teaching Dance/ Drama, Anita Briedis, teaching Vis Art/ Photography and Richard Baldwin, teaching Digital Photography/ Graphic Design to complete the Arts Team.

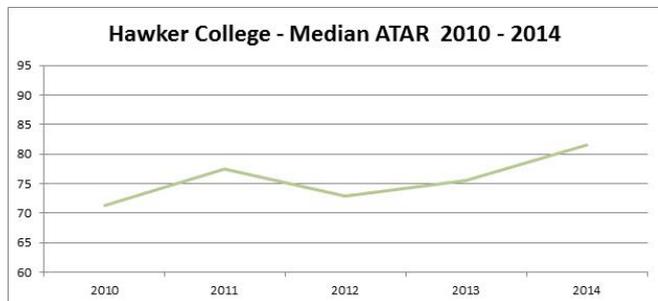
We look forward to meeting and working with the new Yr 11 students and continuing to develop quality relationships with our returning Year 12 cohort over the next year – both through active participation in the quality curriculum offered during class time and via engagement with the myriad extra-curricular Arts-focussed programs that will be advertised throughout the year.

Crystal Mahon, Executive Teacher Student Services and the Arts

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

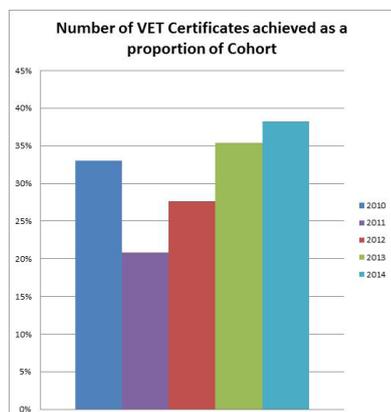
### *What makes Hawker such a good College?*

The ATAR and Vocational results for our 2014 Year 12 cohort were very pleasing. Hawker College, as can be seen from the graph below, has been making impressive progress in the achievements of our students.



Since 2013, our median ATAR score has increased by a whopping 8 percentage points. Taking out the statistically unreliable colleges whose enrolment numbers are too small to consider, we are in the top 4 achieving colleges for ATAR scores in the ACT. This includes all public, catholic and independent schools. It is of interest to note that this Top Four includes 2 public schools and 2 independent schools.

Hawker College is the second highest college in the number of student vocational certifications that are conferred across the ACT. The proportion of students receiving a VET certificate as a proportion of the cohort continues to rise each year.



Hawker College was the first college in Australia to be a fully accredited MindMatters school in 2013.

We are considered by many national and international schools to have the most innovative and successful maths program in the nation.

We have an amazing number of connections with the community.

What does Hawker College have that makes it the success it is?

Firstly and without question we have a wonderful student body. Our students continually strive to contribute to their social, cultural and academic outcomes and to their education and training; they strive for excellence in all they undertake. When you walk the corridors, through the library and learning areas of the college, there is an atmosphere of purpose, of industry of achievement.

Student voice and governance is taken seriously at Hawker College. The participation of students on the College Board, the continuing importance of the Student Leadership Group, Gaia, SIA and the emergence of the Student Mental Health Awareness Group is vital to how this college operates. I can't think of one event last year where students did not have a critical role to play, I find this gratifying and proper. This is our students' college. It is right they have a large say in how their education is planned, delivered and assessed.

Parents and carers are constantly aware and grateful for the contribution that our teachers make to the development of their students as learners through a balanced education of the whole person. I would personally applaud the impact that staff at Hawker College have made in providing every student with sustained opportunities to learn and extend their learning boundaries. Staff continually upgrade their qualifications. Currently two of our staff are working toward their Masters Qualifications, and three teachers have gained a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. In 2015, we will have two teachers with doctorates, eight with master's qualifications and 14 with Cert IV in Training and Assessment. We urge our students to take full advantage of the excellent teachers at this college, to develop meaningful professional relationships with them, to draw every grain of knowledge from them that they can.

Success and progress cannot reach its highest level without a effective and holistic pastoral care. The college promotes personalised packages and programs for students, linked to student strengths and aspirations, to ensure student success. We have a comprehensive program to monitor student progress in terms of wellbeing. Regular package checks and Health and Wellbeing Surveys are undertaken, where students are measured on how they are coping personally and academically, providing data that MI (Mentoring/ Information) Group teachers use to better mentor their students. Moreover, throughout the school year, student packages and progress are monitored closely by staff using assessment, attendance, tertiary and vocational study package, and behaviour data to support students at risk, and where appropriate, referrals are made to internal staff specialists and external support partnerships and providers.

The physical environment in which our students learn, study and are assessed must be at a level which enhances the progress they are aspiring to. The refurbishment of the library in 2014 saw an immediate increase in the level of engagement and use of the library by individual students, small informal groups and classes. This complements the vibrant and industrious maths commons across the corridor. The changes have seen student activity to be more productive and purposeful in such an environment. Students have demonstrated their approval of the changes through their increased use of the library and by conveying this verbally. There is a major capital works occurring this year at Hawker College. This is the building of a bakery in the Hospitality Area. This has commenced and completion is planned for the end of semester one. This new resource will increase the range of vocational choices for students in a commercial environment with connections to the wider community including retail opportunities. The college has installed new furniture throughout the college which is student friendly, enabling students to study in an enabling

environment. We want our students to use the college facilities to research, study and socialise. Hawker College is a place where students want to be.

Parental engagement is recognised by our parents as important in maximising the impact on the academic and vocational outcomes of students. We know that the input of parents and teachers in the progress of students is vital. Just spending time with your child and talking about their study package, their future aspirations, what they enjoy, what they are learning affirms the choices they are making in life. Try and find a study environment at home which suits their learning style, ensure it is a place that is calm and inviting.

There is so much more that contributes to a successful college; what is evident is that we are fulfilling our aim to ensure that students are able to reach the heights at Hawker College.

Peter Sollis  
Principal



## FROM THE DEN 2015

Hawker College is lucky to have a dedicated team of people who support students as they come to terms with the rigors and stresses of College and everyday life. The Den area highlights Hawkers' student-centered approach and we know that many of our recent 2014 graduates and their families are extremely appreciative of the support they have received from the Den team.

In 2015, we welcome Fay Matthews to the team as our Year 11 Coordinator. Rachel Tammaro will also be continuing on into the Year 12 Coordinator role this year. Fay and Rachel will be in the front line of monitoring students' attendance and progress during 2015. They have already been working hard to ensure that Yr 11 students have transitioned comfortably from high school to college and that 12 students are on track for packages and futures planning. We welcome Shireen Manocha, who will take on the role of school psychologist at Hawker in 2015, replacing Heidi who has moved interstate for a sea change. Unfortunately, we also farewell Michael Richards, our 2014 School Chaplain. Details of the Chaplain replacement will be advertised to the community as soon as they become available. Crystal Mahon continues as Executive Teacher Student Services. This expert team will endeavour to work closely with students across the school throughout 2015 to ensure their success.

New students will come to know Robyn Donohue and Amy Barnes, our Administrative Assistants, and will undoubtedly benefit from their kindness, support and phenomenal knowledge of the policies and procedures at Hawker. Students also need to visit the Den if they have any queries about their study

packages. If students have any concerns at all about college, the Den is the best place to come for assistance or advice.

The team in the Den is expertly supported by our careers and transitions advisers and who are located near the library. Students can arrange an appointment with any of the careers advisors at any time that the student is off class. We welcome two new staff in the roles of Hawker College Transitions and Careers Officer (TACO) including Chontel Green (Yr 12) and Tegan Makowski (Yr 11) to try to make the transition from high school to college run more smoothly. Carmel Lacey continues in her role of Work Experience and ASBA Coordinator.

Further support is available to Hawker students from the Resource Room where Tony Hilton, the Learning Diversity Coordinator, as well as David Pech and Georgia Muir, Learning Support Assistants, are stationed to assist students with special needs including personal organisation, study and assignment support as required.

One of the critical functions of student services is the coordination of MI Group Sessions. During MI Group, vital information is passed on to students, including the Student Diary. Students need to ensure they read the diary carefully and use the organisational and personal planning strategies that are embedded in the diary to ensure they have every opportunity to be successful at college this year. I look forward to working with Hawker students and parents more closely throughout the year. Feel free to contact me or any of the DEN staff for further information, support or advice as required.

Crystal Mahon  
Executive Teacher, Student Services and the Arts

## DEN Focus 2015

This year, Hawker College Student Services Team will focus on promoting a world-wide research based initiative called The 5 Ways To Wellbeing within our staff and student body. The 5 Ways are a series of things that people of all ages can do to promote mental health and physical and emotional wellbeing in their lives. The 5 ways include the following:

- Connect – with peers, staff, school, community, home (promotes support and enrichment.)
- Be Active – walk, run, dance, play, discover, explore (exercise promotes positive feelings and wellbeing.)
- Take Notice – be curious, catch sight of the beautiful, savour the moment. (Being aware of the world around you helps you to appreciate what matters.)
- Keep Learning – try something new, re-discover an old interest, sign up for a course, join a group, learn how to do something else (improves confidence, helps you meet new people and is great fun.)
- Give - do something for a friend, a peer or a stranger. Thank someone, join a community group, look out as well as in, volunteer your time. (Seeing yourself, and your happiness linked to the wider community is rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.)

Stay tuned for more information and school programs/ activities that will better familiarise and connect our school community with healthier, more positive perspective.

## Hawker SWAGS

Another initiative for 2015 are the Hawker SWAG's – Student Wellbeing Activity Groups. SWAG's are a way to promote opportunities within the college to get students and staff involved in the '5 ways to Wellbeing' through organised programs that also promote a positive school culture and student engagement. These programs will be based on student interest, be student led and will run across the college as co-curricular enrichment opportunities. Successful Student Leadership/ SWAGs in 2014 included GAIA (environmental group), SIA (gender equality) and the Mental Health promotion groups at Hawker. Other possible SWAG's may be Poetry Slam groups, gaming clubs, interschool sporting opportunities and issues-based student-action groups. More information will be made available on these programs throughout the year. Get active and get involved!

## Class Changes

Students should now have their timetables/ study selections complete and be attending all their chosen classes. Class changes can now only be made in exceptional circumstances through the Student Services Executive Teacher, Crystal Mahon.

## Attendance

Just a reminder that students need to attend at least 90% of classes to meet the requirements for each course. Any absences must be explained by a note from home which must be shown to teachers and handed in at the DEN. Notes for chronic illness or lengthy periods of absence should be supported by a doctor's certificate. Absences should be fully explained within two weeks of the date of absence.

## Assessment

It is also a requirement that students complete 70% of the assessment to meet the requirements for a course. Tertiary students should be spending a considerable amount of time studying and completing quality assignments outside of school hours if they hope to achieve an ATAR that will get them into University. All students need to devote regular time to their studies outside of school hours if they hope to achieve good results in their courses.

## Special Consideration

Where students have extended periods of illness misadventure, or family problems that may have an impact on their studies, they may be eligible for Special Consideration. Forms can be collected from the DEN. More information is available from Crystal Mahon, or the Year Coordinators.

## ID Cards/ photos

Most students should have had their photo taken last week and received their school ID card. If not, enquires can be made at the front office.

## Student Pathways/ MI Group Interviews

All Yr 11 and 12 students will complete a MI Group interview during week 2. The aim of the interview is to focus on transition (for Yr 11s), and goals and future pathways for all students to ensure that they are on track with their Year 12 Certificates or tertiary requirements and have selected courses that will help them to achieve the future they hope for. It is also an excellent opportunity for students and MI Group teachers to get to know each other better, develop a positive working relationship and provide an early intervention or support that may be necessary to address student's individual needs.

## Year Meetings

The year meetings for 2015 will be held once a term on Mondays and will run for one hour. These meetings, hosted by Year Coordinators and the Student Leadership Group, are an opportunity for students to come together as a year group, listen to special announcements and guest speakers, share their opinions on burning issues and learn about more that is happening at college. The first Year meetings are scheduled at the following times this term.

- Year 11 meeting : Monday 16/3/14; Line 4/ MI Group (11:15-12:15pm)
- Year 12 meeting : Monday 23/3/14; MI Group/ Line 3 (12:00-1:00pm)

NB: During these scheduled sessions the alternative Year group will attend an extended MI Group session tailored to their specific interests and needs. Attendance at Year meetings and extended MI Group sessions is required for ALL students.

## Careers

Students can book a careers meeting at any time. The careers office is located beside the library.

## School Psychologist

Our school psychologist, Shireen Manocha, is available to assist students all day Monday and Thursday and on Wednesday every second (even) week. Bookings can be made by signing your name on free timeslots on her weekly timetable in the DEN or through other DEN staff referrals.

Have a great term.

## VISUAL ART NEWS 2015

### Hawker College Art student wins College Art Express Prize!

College Art Express at the Belconnen Arts Centre December 2014: The exhibition showcase's Year 11 and 12 student creative works of excellence. Once again, Hawker College were given the opportunity to exhibit a large example of our highly talented student's work. This year, we wish to Congratulate Sheida Sabetraftar from Hawker College, who is the recipient of the \$500 prize for her beautifully detailed portrait drawing. Sheida's drawing was selected from over 100 participants; her inspiration was



Above: Sheida Sabetraftar with her Drawing 'Lois' at College Express Exhibition

derived from imagery captured during the Art Portrait Project, which involved working with residence at Kangara Waters Aged Care Facility in 2014. (Noted in Article: City News December 2014).

### Alumni Hawker College & Artist in Residence for 2015

Visual Art classes this semester will have the opportunity to experience a series of visits from Alumni students who are currently studying at ANU School Of Art as part of the Artist in Residence program for 2015. These visits will include the



Alumni students Daniel Vanables and Emmi Nucifora-Ryan 2nd Year Glass students at ANU blowing glass this week in the Glass Workshop.

delivery of workshops, artist talks and ANU students working in our classroom on their individual work alongside our Hawker visual art students.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain insight into 'Artist Practise', the processes used by artists to develop and generate ideas and research connections to create work. Students will share their individual pathways and transition stories in a range of creative industries.

Currently, we have 13 Hawker College Alumni at the ANU School Of Art studying across a range of creative faculties; these include Textiles, Glass, Painting, Print media, Photography, Furniture and Design Arts.

In Term 3, Hawker College art students, will visit ANU to see the work of students who have been involved in our Artist in Residence program. They will be given a tour of workshops and be able to meet with staff in a range of faculty areas. This visit will be valuable for our students who are planning or considering completing a 'Portfolio' for their application to these courses or creative industries in 2016.

Anita Briedis  
Visual Art / Photography Teacher

## CAREERS NEWS - WELCOME TO CAREERS FOR 2015

We have two new faces in the Transitions and Career Advisors team this year - a big welcome to Chontel and Tegan.

Hi, my name is Chontel Green. I have come to Hawker College after being over at Melba Copland Secondary School for the last five years. In addition to teaching Exercise Science and Sport Fitness & Administration, I was also the Transition & Careers Officer. I have a Post Graduate Certificate in Career Development & Education through RMIT and plan to do further study in this area in the future. I already feel extremely lucky to have won a

position here at Hawker College; the staff here are brilliant and have already made me feel very welcome. I am really looking forward to working with staff, students, parents and the community in this role in 2015 and beyond.

Hi, my name is Tegan Makowski and I am one of the new Transition and Careers Officers here at Hawker College. I am excited to be working with College students and transitioning them into their chosen career paths. In the past, I worked as the Careers Advisor at Stromlo High School as well as teaching many subjects in the Humanities Faculty. I have held a long time interest in supporting students into the workforce and have trained in Career Development (Cert IV) and also completed a Diploma in Management as part of my post-graduate studies.

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone at Hawker and working closely with students, parents, staff and the community throughout 2015.

Greetings from Carolyn Lloyd! I am back again this semester as a Transition and Careers Advisor on Mondays and Wednesdays. I met many of the current Year 12 last year in Semester 1 and am looking forward to working with you again as you undertake your final year at college. Year 11 – a big welcome – and we would like to let you know that the Careers team is here to assist you however possible. Between us, we bring many years of knowledge and experience in training, education, study and the world of work. We are an incredible resource for you and your parents - please see us so that we can help you!

The Careers News is produced each fortnight (in the even weeks) and is available in MI Group and on the Hawker College Web site. We receive an incredible amount of information and this is our way of making you aware of the opportunities available and keep you up to date with career events, new courses, open days, scholarships and employment trends. There are also many resources located in the corridor outside Careers.

Careers Advisors are available each day for you to ask questions and collect information. All students are encouraged to visit the Careers Office each term. Please make an appointment on the booking sheet attached to the Careers office in your lines off. Assistance with class choices, packages, ATAR estimates and information beyond college is available.

It's not too early to start thinking seriously about 2016. What are your alternatives?

- A University Degree
- A CIT Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma or Degree
- Study at a Private College – eg Australian Business Academy, Canberra Makeup Academy etc
- An Apprenticeship or Traineeship
- Employment
- A GAP YEAR (defer study for a year and start study in 2017).

Many University courses select students solely on the basis of their ATAR. However, some courses use other criteria which you need to be aware of. For example, an interview, a folio, a test, a supplementary application form, a workshop or an audition, in addition to (or instead of) your ATAR. Examples are some courses in the areas of Art, Graphics, Design, Music, Performing Arts, Chiropractic/Osteopathy, Medicine, Journalism, Education and Architecture. If you are interested in any of these, you need to start making enquiries about the selection criteria. Visit the Careers Area to obtain further information.

Year 12s, if you are applying to enter Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy or Oral Health Science next year, you have to register to sit UMAT by June. There are preparation materials for UMAT, available from <http://umat.acer.edu.au> and more information is available in the Careers News and in the Careers Area.

Online Directories Australia – this website that has been designed to help students explore their options for further study which might be a useful resource is [www.coursesdirectory.com.au](http://www.coursesdirectory.com.au)

Carolyn, Chontel and Tegan

## HUMANITIES NEWS

Welcome back to our Year 12 Humanities students, and a warm welcome to the Year 11s and their Hawker College families.

As we have had a couple of staffing changes since the initial 2015 newsletter was written, let me begin by introducing the wonderful team of Humanities teachers who will be guiding your students through their learning in English, History, Media and ESL this semester:

- Kathryn Sutherland - Executive teacher

- Julia Braguina
- Charmaine Budden
- Fiona James
- Chris Kenna
- Fay Matthews
- Danni Oates
- Jane Southerton
- Kristian Whittaker

It's an exciting year for us. Not only do we welcome some new faces to our experienced professional team, but we are introducing several new English courses. All year 11 students will experience the new BSSS English courses integrating Senior Secondary Australian Curriculum English. While the English (T) course will continue to be known as English, the English (A) course has the title, Essential English. In Semester 2, the Literature course will also be offered to (T) English students, allowing those who wish to complete a major-minor or double major in English to do so. Year 11 English as a Second Language students will be studying the fourth English option: ESL. The new ESL courses are tightly aligned with other English courses. Hawker College English teachers have written a variety of interesting units for these new courses and are happy to be launching into these with the Year 11 students. Year 12 English students will continue to study the courses they began last year and can again select from a range of tantalising units. In 2014 we introduced the senior secondary Australian Curriculum Ancient History and Modern History courses. These will continue alongside some old favourites including The Dark Ages. Our very popular Media courses will also be on offer this semester.

Where students feel they have selected inappropriate courses, they are able to change if there is space in the desired class. Any such changes must happen quickly and follow standard procedures.

Parents, I encourage you to stay in touch with your teenager's learning and chat with them about their work. Feel free to contact your child's teachers if you have any concerns or information that could be helpful, and be assured that any communication from teachers to you will be conducted in the best interests of the student's learning.

I wish all Humanities students a productive, fulfilling and happy year at Hawker College in 2015.

## WHAT'S NEW IN SCIENCE @ HAWKER?



### 2015 Science Honours Program

The Science Honours program allows students to participate in extension activities outside the set science courses and units they are enrolled in.

The program operates over a two year period and the criteria for entry are:

- At least 2 majors or a major minor in Science over the 2 year period.
- At least a 'B' grade average in Science units over the 2 year period.

Participation each year in:

- Australian Science Competition
- Rio Tinto Big Science Competition
- Demonstrator @ Hawker College Open night for the Science Faculty
- Attendance at Science Honours lectures/seminars

AND

- Participation in one of the following over the two years at Hawker College:
  - Questacon Explainer Program (see notice below)
  - NYSF
  - ANU Secondary College
  - Honeywell Engineering School
  - ANZAAS
  - International Science School
  - Woomera Space Camp
  - Titration Competition
  - International Science Poetry Competition

- High Resolution Plant Phenomics Centre (HRPPC) Battle of the Plants Competition
- Physics, Chemistry and Biology Olympiad Qualifying Examination (by invitation only).

The following students have completed all Year 11 criteria and are eligible to complete the Science Honours program in 2015:

- Lauren Ducat
- Zalak Desai
- Acacia Hoy
- Angeline Mutsinee
- Riya Patel
- Duncan Rae
- Tahirrae Slikker

Interested Year 11 students are encouraged to apply for the 2015 program. The application form is available on the Science Google Classroom pages and from the Science staffroom. Interested Year 11 students must complete and return it to the Science staffroom by Monday 16th March 2015 (Week 7).

Enrolment forms and information regarding the relevant entry fees for the Australian Science Competition (\$9.00) and Rio Tinto Big Science (\$8.00) are available from the Science staffroom or on the Science Google Classroom pages. Entry fees should be paid to Jenny Jones at the Front Office. Payments must be made before 2pm each day. Please contact Laura Jones in the Science staffroom for more details.

### Questacon 2015 Student Training Programme

Questacon is seeking nominations for the 2015 Student Training Programme. Each year, they accept approximately 40 applications from Year 11 and 12 students. Training sessions are held each Thursday evening from March through June. Students can now choose either the Science Communication stream run from the main Centre, or the Investigating Innovation stream run from the new Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre (IPTLC).

- Science Communication - Over the course of the three months, Questacon teaches students the background of the various exhibits at Questacon, give pointers on public speaking and presenting, and show you how to deliver customer service.

- Investigating Innovation – Students training will focus on innovation as a process of creative thinking, making stuff, testing and refining projects. Questacon gives students the skills to communicate these concepts during workshops and in the IPTLC gallery space.

Students will then be scheduled during the June/July school holidays to practice what they have learned. After accumulating 40 hours of volunteer time with Questacon, a final review of student performance will be conducted.

Commonly, placements occur in the following positions around the Centre:

- Science Time Assistant
- Volunteer Explainer
- Discovery Trolley Explaining
- Makers Team Volunteer

A copy of the overview of the 2015 programme can be found on the Science Honours Board in the Science corridor or on <https://www.questacon.edu.au/science-communication/working-at-q/student-explainers>. Hawker College has been invited to nominate three science students for the programme as well as three reserves who may be offered a place if some schools do not take up their quota. Nominations close on FRIDAY 6th MARCH 2015. If you are interested, please see Laura in the Science staffroom ASAP.

### **WORKING WITH STUDENT DIVERSITY FOR PRODUCTIVE PARTNERSHIPS – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM AT HAWKER COLLEGE**

On Thursday 29th January 2015, the Hawker College administrative team together with 200 administrative staff from other ACT Government schools attended a professional development session at Hawker College on “Working with Student Diversity for Productive Partnerships”.

The sessions were led by Sandy Russo, who is the Director of SPELD, SA. Jo Whithear who is the Clinical Director, DSA, ACT also attended the PD. Jo was able to give those attending an overview of resources and facilities able to be accessed in the ACT region.

Sandy gave three presentations during the day. Our first session was learning about how we could help students with specific learning difficulties in an academic environment – an overview of the specific types of learning difficulties

including dyslexia, APD, autism and mental disorders. Sandy outlined simple strategies we could use to help students succeed in an academic environment when we are not the teacher.

The second presentation outlined suggestions on how to assist students with specific learning difficulties and working with memory issues get organised – helping with direct instructions, organisation, planning and knowing when to ask questions. The session explored simple strategies which could be used by administrative staff as they are communicating and helping such students to manage their own organisation, timetables and workloads with the school environment.

Sandy then demonstrated some very simple assistive technologies that could be utilised to assist all students including those with specific learning difficulties: technologies that have been proven to work such as text-speech and some little used features of Powerpoint, digital recording technologies and simple 6-box structures.

The professional development day was very well received by those attending.

Karin Mitchell  
Business Manager, Hawker College

### **WHAT IS THE UNIQUE STUDENT IDENTIFIER? (USI)**

[www.usi.gov.au](http://www.usi.gov.au)

A reminder that students will need create a Unique Student Identifier (USI) reference to access to their USI account.

A USI will allow an individual’s USI account to be linked to the National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Data Collection, allowing an individual to see all of their training results from all providers including all completed training units and qualifications.

Please see the January 2015 Newsletter on our website for instructions. For any further information or clarification, please contact:  
Kaeren Sutherland VET Coordinator  
61420363, or Robyn Donohoe 61420382

### **AST NEWS**

All Hawker students completing a Tertiary package will sit the AST (ACT Scaling Test) in September of their final year at college. The AST is a mechanism used by the Board of Senior Secondary Studies to compare student performance across all

ACT Colleges and to calculate students’ ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) scores.

To ensure students will be ready for the AST, Hawker College provides an AST preparation program comprised of information sessions, focus days, trials and an in-house AST camp.

In Week 1 of this Term, Tertiary Year 11 and 12 students attended an initial briefing by Christopher Brown, the Deputy Principal for Curriculum, and Julia Braguina, the AST Coordinator. Students received a schedule of key AST dates and events occurring throughout 2015.

In February, all students will participate in the first round of focus days (short exercises run by teachers at the beginning of their lessons), and Year 12 students will undertake the Queensland Core Skills test, which is a valuable opportunity to practise the skills required for the Multiple Choice and Short Response portions of the AST.

Students can access information about the AST by checking the noticeboard in the cafeteria, visiting the Coordinator in room 74, and watching for announcements in MiGroup and on the Hawker Facebook page. A webpage of practice materials will also be set up later this term.

We trust all Tertiary students will engage fully with this important component of their academic program, and look forward to their positive results.

Julia Braguina  
English Teacher, AST Coordinator  
6142 0378 [julia.braguina@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:julia.braguina@ed.act.edu.au)

### **HAWKER COLLEGE PHONE NUMBERS**

As of the beginning of 2015, our telephone system has changed from the Spectrum system to the VoIP system. This will bring Hawker College in line with other telephone systems in ACT Education and Training.

Our new telephone and fax numbers are as follows:

- College Main Number: 6142 0355
- College Fax Number: 6142 0395

Could you please note these new phone numbers.

Thank you.

# Mathematics @hawkercollege

by Maths Staff

[www.hawkermaths.com](http://www.hawkermaths.com)

2015

## MONDAYS



Lectures on Mondays

Attend lectures on your nominated lines, collect work for the week.



Monday Lectures are **COMPULSORY**... do not miss! If you're away, see your teacher when you return to college.



Monday to-do list:

- >Attend Lecture
- >Collect notes/worksheets
- >Download Learning brief ([www.hawkermaths.com](http://www.hawkermaths.com))
- >Plan your work for the week (using the Learning Brief)



## REST of the WEEK

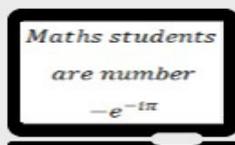


**Only after you have finished Theory and Prac, attempt the Quiz/Forum**

Work through the Theoretical and Practical Component either in class or the Learning Commons

Remember, you are not alone. Seek help from teachers and friends.

**Continue to attend your nominated Line**



Attempt the INVESTIGATION PROBLEM

**GET IT MARKED OFF BY YOUR TEACHER! Keep all Investigations (solutions) in a folder.**

Practice makes you perfect

**Try doing additional questions...**

That brings you to the weekly finish line..

Get ready for next week.....

**ASK QUESTIONS. SEEK HELP. ACHIEVE.**



## Hawker College Scuba Program



Hawker College (HC) is introducing a highly successful and well established scuba and marine program into Hawker College. The teacher is a highly experienced outdoor adventure teacher and scuba diver and instructor who has been running scuba diving in schools for over 20 years.

Students can begin a life long journey of discovery by completing their PADI Open Water Scuba Certification in term one followed by a range of additional units and dive trips. Completing a scuba course is often a life changing experience and opens up an entire new world and a passion for the marine and under water world. As the scuba course is an expensive unit (but excellent value for money),

planning for the costs now can help students and families cope with the financial implications next year. A scuba course does make an excellent present! Please contact Alana ([alana.mcgee@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:alana.mcgee@ed.act.edu.au)) for the scuba preliminary information pack. As HC develops its marine program, additional courses are offered to further develop student skills and experience. For the first time, the extremely popular Vanuatu Expedition will be offered to HC students, (for divers and snorkelers) – see information below. An amazing opportunity also exists to dive with the playful seals at Montague Island and discover some of the locals at Bawley Point. Students can leave Hawker College with an impressive array of experiences to become independent, safe and passionate young divers.

### *12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Vanuatu Marine Expedition* (Pending Full Approval)



A sensational opportunity for those interested in experiencing true Melanesian culture; diving or snorkeling on spectacular coral reefs and wrecks; sea kayaking; swimming in warm tropical waters and under waterfalls; and experiencing the spectacular Vanuatu scenery. The staff member, Alana McGee is highly experienced and has run over 15 marine expeditions to Vanuatu and Fiji. HC have established links with local villages which provide a true cultural experience that ensures this trip is memorable for more than just the diving. The people are amazing, the diving and scenery spectacular and the resort (on its own small island) and all meals are magnificent. Hawker College will be offering an off line unit during Term 3 of 2015 designed to prepare students for participation in a fantastic 8 day trip to Vanuatu. The trip is planned for September.

Leave all that is familiar  
Tackle the unknown  
Overcome new challenges  
Extend personal limits  
**Lust for Life**

**Approximate Scuba Tour Cost: Approx \$2900**

**Approximate Snorkel Tour Cost: Approx \$2600**

The package offered will include:

- bus to and from Sydney and all airfares and transfer costs ex Sydney,
- seven nights resort accommodation on Hideaway island (near Port Villa) - quad share,
- all meals whilst at Hideaway Island, (restaurant quality)
- six guided boat scuba dives (for divers),
- orientation snorkel session and unlimited guided shore snorkel dives,
- one guided night boat snorkel, unlimited night shore snorkels,
- all equipment hire
- unlimited sea kayaking, snorkeling, swimming and reef walking,
- full day boat trip, including two scuba dives or snorkels visiting remote and pristine corals (total of 10 scuba dives)
- amazing morning of diving in Villa harbour, completing fascinating (and safe) wreck dives
- Ekasup Cultural Village tour, shopping experience in Villa like no other
- Cascades waterfall tour
- Mele and Mele Mart Ni Van Village visits & Australian and International taxes



**It is compulsory that any student intending to go to Vanuatu should be a qualified Scuba diver or complete the scuba or snorkelling unit in Semester one 2015. This ensures the safe participation and maximum enjoyment in all water based activities.**

In the first week back in 2015, a package of information, pamphlets and booking forms will be distributed to interested students. Students are required to complete and return the booking form to Alana McGee at front office ASAP. \$350 deposits will be accepted from early 2015, payable at HC front office. Deposits are fully refundable until the end of February 2015.

Please contact Alana McGee on 62056711 or [alana.mcgee@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:alana.mcgee@ed.act.edu.au) for a copy of the booking form or to register your interest. This trip is subject to school and departmental approvals.

Underwater post office



## HAWKER COLLEGE BOARD/P & C NOMINATION



The College Board has an important role in making policy, curriculum and financial decisions for the College.

Its membership consists of the Principal, two staff representatives, two students, three parent representatives and an appointed member, appointed by the Chief Executive, ACT Department of Education.

In accordance with the requirement of the Education Act 2004, nominations are called to fill two (2) parent representative vacancies on the Board for a two year period (31 March 2015 – 1 April 2017). 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 usually held once a term in our Boardroom.

Please nominate for the vacant Board parent representative position by completing the form below and attach a short statement. Please return both to the College Front Office by 3:00PM on 23rd February 2015. If elections are required, parents will be notified of candidates and voting procedures via a college e/mail-out.

At our AGM meeting in 2014, not all of the vacant P & C positions were filled. If you would like to contribute to the Hawker College P&C, we would welcome your nomination for one of the vacant positions – President, Secretary and P&C Member.

Karin Mitchell  
Returning Officer/Business Manager  
PH: 6142 0359 – FAX: 6142 0395

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(Board Nomination form - Please cut off and return to College Front Office by Monday 23rd February 2015.)

### HAWKER COLLEGE BOARD NOMINATION FORM

I am prepared to serve on the Hawker College Board. This is for a two-year period.

Name: .....

Address: .....

Telephone Number (Home): ..... Work: ..... Mobile: .....

Signed: .....

Nominated by ..... Seconded by .....

Signed: ..... Signed: .....

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### HAWKER COLLEGE P&C NOMINATION

I am prepared to serve on the Hawker College P&C Association.

Name: ..... Position: .....

Address: .....

Telephone Number (Home): ..... Work: ..... Mobile: .....

## MESSAGE TO FAMILIES OF HIGH-SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS FROM THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE AGENCY

Dear Families

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has started working with ACT residents who may be eligible to access the NDIS. The schedule for when people start working with the NDIS is referred to as 'phasing'.

The current phase, January-March, is for students in years 7-12. From March, the NDIA will be focussing on primary school age children.

In order to meet with the NDIA to see how we may help you and your child, you must submit an NDIS Access Request Form.

In November and December 2014, the NDIA phoned the families of every child in years 7-12 accessing a Disability Education program then posted or emailed the forms to each of those families. So far, we have not had all the forms returned.

If you have an NDIS Access Request Form, please complete this paperwork and return it to the NDIA as quickly as possible so you can meet with us before the end of the phasing period. If you need help to complete the forms or have any questions about the NDIS, please ring the ACT office on 6146 8200.

The NDIA is also running pre-planning workshops – a schedule is on the NDIS website <http://www.ndis.gov.au/news/events>.

More information on the NDIS can be found on the NDIS website [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)

Engagement Team - ACT Trial Site

National Disability Insurance Agency

## MEET THE TEACHERS EVENING

### SUPPORTING STUDENTS AT COLLEGE IN 2015

We have a parent forum in Week 5 this term with a focus on supporting students in their college programs. Hawker College provides this as one opportunity (others include our parent-teacher nights) for you, as parents, to

- Find out about avenues of support available to students
- Obtain first-hand information on how the ACT senior secondary system works
- Meet with those who are teaching your sons and daughters this semester.

The program for the evening comprises:

6:00 pm: Welcome and overview in the Murrarji Theatre

6:20 pm: Opportunity to meet with teachers

- Refreshments available
- Student guides will assist you with directions

The overview at the start of the evening will include:

- Opportunities at college; people who can help
- Message from our Hawker College Board Chair
- Keys to success at college
- Information about Student Services and MI Group (Mentoring and I

Year Coordinator's address

How to obtain and use "Assessment Alert"

## CHAPLAINCY AT HAWKER COLLEGE

### 2015 update

We congratulate our 2014 college chaplain, Michael Richards, on his appointment to a full-time teaching position at Namadgi School. Michael's work with us was most valuable and his role was particularly important in promoting and supporting student voice. As advised by Crystal Mahon in her article in this newsletter, we have a selection process under way to fill the position. We expect to make an announcement soon.

The chaplain will work in collaboration with the Student Services team under the supervision of the Deputy Principal Students and Community at Hawker College and in collaboration with the Student Services Coordinator. Activities as part of the chaplaincy will address student well-being and will promote student voice. These may include:

- Opportunities to discuss faith, beliefs and spirituality
- Breakfast program, sponsored by donors
- Forums, such as poetry slams, seminars and discussion groups
- Pastoral care provision, in consultation with the Student Services team
- Activities and provision of facilities to promote positive student engagement with college life.

Information about the chaplaincy at Hawker College will be posted to the college in an updated policy and procedures document in the next few days.

Frank Keighley



# Important dates for your diary

<b>Friday 13 February 2015</b>	Final Class Changes
<b>Thursday 19 February 2015</b>	AST Trial
<b>Monday 23 February 2015</b>	School Photos
<b>Tuesday 3 March 2015</b>	Moderation Day
<b>Wednesday 4 March 2015</b>	Meet the Teachers Open Night
<b>Monday 9 March 2015</b>	Canberra Day Public Holiday
<b>Thursday 12 March 2015</b>	AST Focus Day
<b>Thursday 12 March 2015</b>	OzClo Round 1
<b>Monday 16 March 2015</b>	Board AGM - 5.30pm - All Welcome

LEARN TO DRIVE  
YOU'LL FEEL

AT YOUR OWN PACE  
SAFE & RELAXED  
WITH PINNACLE

- Log Book Training and Assessment
- Training for Government Test.
- Accredited Instructors ACT & NSW.
- Manual and Automatic Cars (Dual Controls).
- Pick up and Return anywhere in ACT and Queanbeyan District.
- Gift Vouchers available.
- Enquire about Package Discounts.
- ADTA Member

**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)

**Hawker College Front Office  
Reception Hours**

8:30am - 4:00pm

**We request all payments  
be made between**

8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:00pm - 2:00pm

**Front Office closed**  
each Friday 10:40 - 11:05am



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

PRINT  
POST  
100002346

POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA

Hawker College contacts  
Ph: 02 6142 0355  
Fax: 02 6142 0395  
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 6142 0383  
[absent@hawker.act.edu.au](mailto:absent@hawker.act.edu.au)