



HAWKER COLLEGE

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NEWSLETTER Issue 2

February 2017

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Now that the term is well underway I am pleased to report that the College is quietly humming with learning activity. Our O Week activities proved highly successful in connecting our school community, and the introduction of our Tutorial program so far seems to be supporting the transition of our Year 11 cohort very well.

On Wednesday all schools participated in the annual Census which determines resourcing levels among other things. It is worth noting that Hawker College has exceeded the expected enrolment count for 2017 by approximately 5%, which reflects very well on our school, and will support us to improve outcomes for all of our students as we progress.

It is important that students and teachers at College level work together to improve learning outcomes. In recent weeks four of our students: Ineka Voight, Bernie Bamber, James Duff and Patrick Simonetti, have facilitated workshops

for teachers at Hawker and other Colleges on student perspectives for learning that were highly engaging and instructive.

We are also taking a new approach to student leadership through a process to establish a Student Leadership Group (SLG) that is representative, with an effective voice in College life, and on the School Board. With the support of Elections ACT, an interim SLG has determined a governance model, and College wide elections will be held in coming weeks following the same practices as Australian state and federal elections.

Most of our students will be voting for the first time as adults within the next year or two, and our aim is to empower and educate students as informed participants in electoral processes. The new SLG will comprise elected students from both year levels, as well as appointed representatives of our various clubs and interest groups such as Gaia, Sports Leadership Group, our Learning Diversity students and our international students. Watch this space; I hope that they will themselves be able report to the school community in future newsletters.

51 Bake is our training cafe, and it is now open to the public from 7:45 - 9am daily. It is open to staff and students throughout the school day, selling healthy food that is produced, prepared and served from our own community garden and kitchen by students. This is a new initiative in 2017, and I encourage you to visit and sample our coffee.

There have also been a number of excursions, sporting events and a CIT Whitecard Training course that have engaged students and staff alike. I encourage you to visit our social media sites to see photos and video of college life in action, reflecting a great start to the school year.

Finally, we are holding the Annual General Meeting for our School Board on Monday 6th of March and are still seeking nominations for Board Members. If you are interested and available to participate in meetings once a term, I encourage you to nominate. I will also look forward to seeing many of you at our "Support Our Students" Evening on Wednesday 1st of March, all are welcome.

Andy Mison
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 20 February 2017

School Photos Follow-up - 11am-1pm

Wednesday 1 March 2017

Meet the Teachers Evening - 5:30pm

Monday 6 March 2017

Board AGM Meeting - Hawker College Boardroom, 5:30 - 5:50pm

[Click here for Hawker College Board/P&C Nomination Form](#)

Tuesday 7 March 2017

Moderation Day - Student Free Day - No formal classes

Wednesday 8 March 2017

P&C AGM and first general meeting - Hawker College Boardroom

Monday 13 March 2017

Canberra Day Public Holiday

MEET THE TEACHERS EVENING

We have a parent forum in Week 6 this term with a focus on supporting students in their college programs.

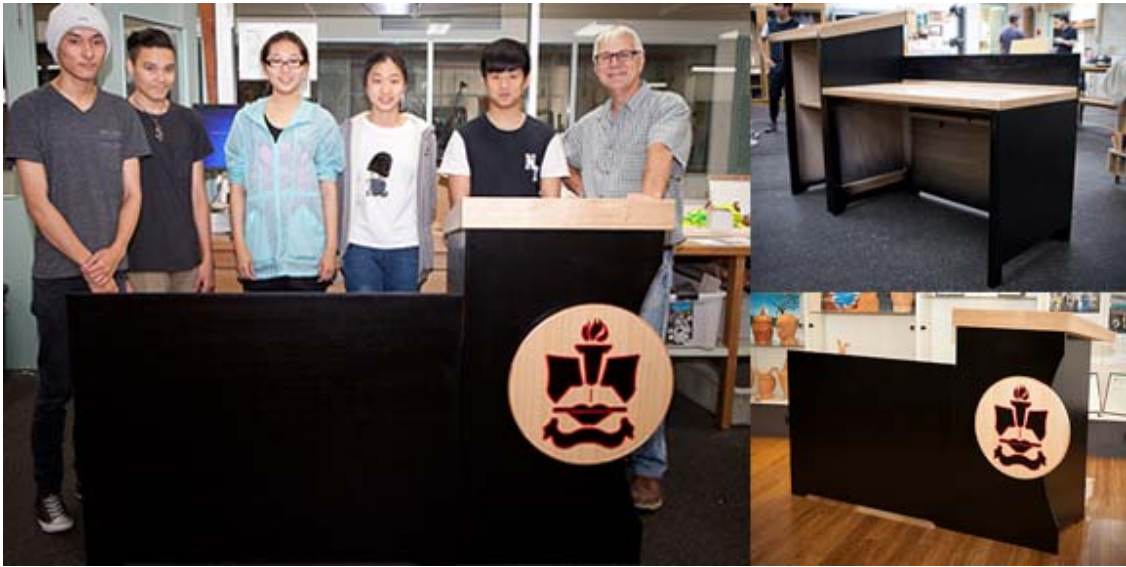
The forum will take place on **Wednesday 1 March** from 5.30 pm. Hawker College provides this as an opportunity to:

- 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 students this semester.

The program for the evening comprises:

- 5:30 pm: welcome and refreshments
- Opportunities to meet with teachers
- Opportunities at college; people who can help
- Keys to success at college
- Information about Student Services and MI Group

- How to obtain and use “Assessment Alert”



STUDENTS CONSTRUCT FINE FURNITURE

During Semester Two 2016, the Hawker Woodshop was reconfigured from a college teaching space to a commercial joinery shop to produce some high quality carpentry - a lectern and IT desk for Belconnen High School, as well as sets for Hawker College drama performances.

The students found these tasks challenging and rewarding. It gave them the opportunity to work in teams and prioritise their workflow to meet deadlines.

"The lectern and IT desk are by far the highest quality project I have seen produced by students in my 20 years of teaching and is on par with commercial projects produced by professional joinery shops. I will be looking for another project for my students to produce this year. Do you have something in mind?"

Adrian Lemcke, Technology Teacher



HAWKER COLLEGE BOARD SEEKING NOMINATIONS

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.

Nominations are called to fill two (2) parent representative vacancies.

In accordance with the requirement of the Education Act 2004, nominations are called to fill two (2) parent representative vacancy on the Board for a two year period (31 March 2017 – 1 April 2019). 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 nomination form ([click here](#)) and attach a short statement. Please return both to the College Front Office by the 20th February 2017. If elections are required, parents will be notified of candidates and voting procedures via a college e/mail-out.

Karin Mitchell
Returning Officer/Business Manager



51 BAKE OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Our college cafe is open for business every day, serving the school community from 7:45 am. Hospitality students are rostered on to make coffee and serve at the counter, and are busy preparing food for sale in our kitchen using ingredients grown in our own community garden. Please support this real world training program, drop in between 7:45 and 9:30 am daily for a coffee - only \$2.50!!!

HAWKER COLLEGE P&C AGM

The P&C would like to remind you that the AGM and first general meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8 March 2017.

To contact us and join our email list for advice on upcoming events please email us on: hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com

Hawker College P&C



OUR STUDENTS TEACH THE TEACHERS

In recent weeks four of our students Ineka Voight, Bernie Bamber, James Duff and Patrick Simonetti have facilitated workshops for teachers at Hawker and other Colleges on student perspectives for learning that were highly engaging and instructive. They developed and presented a useful model for instruction and are pictured here discussing teaching and learning styles with teachers at the recent All Colleges Day professional learning conference at Canberra University.



Above: Hawker College cricket captain George Hay bowling at the Mint Oval on Thursday

HAWKER COLLEGE SPORTS HIT THE PITCH

The sporting season is about to kick off with Hawker College entering teams in a range of competitions including, Basketball, Cricket, Beach Volleyball, Tennis and Girls Tag. The number of students registering for college sport has been outstanding and all indications are for a successful start to the sporting year. Our new sport uniform, designed by Hawker students, looks fantastic with all comments from the Hawker community very positive. The sport uniform is displayed in the front foyer for those interested in viewing.

We like to recognise the sporting achievements of our students at Hawker College through the newsletter, year assemblies and for Australian representatives a photo on our sporting wall of fame. Unfortunately we are not always informed of these achievements through the various sporting organisations. If you are a sporting representative or you know of a sporting representative from Hawker College we would like to know. Please email myself, Mark Greer at: mark.greer@ed.act.edu.au

Mark Greer, Sports Coordinator



SHLiRP

Sexual Health, Lifestyles & Referral Program

Where: Hawker College

Dates: Mon 27th and Tues 28th March 2017

When: Monday 20th March 2017 (Girls), Mon 27th March (Boys)

What is SHLiRP?

SHLiRP is a simple and convenient health education, information and testing program to promote young people's sexual health and wellbeing. The Program is a partnership of Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) and the Canberra Sexual Health Centre (CSHC) brought to ACT public secondary colleges with the support of ACT Government funding.

- Canberra Sexual Health Centre is the ACT Health sexual health clinic based at Canberra Hospital. <http://health.act.gov.au/our-services/sexual->

health-sexual-assault

- SHFPACT is a nonprofit community organisation which provides healthcare and education services in the field of sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing to the community. <http://www.shfpact.org.au/>

Both organizations are committed to the provision of accurate and relevant information on sexual and reproductive health and access to high-quality clinical sexual health services.

SHLiRP has been successfully delivering health education and an opportunity for on-site sexual health screening in ACT secondary colleges for 15 years, with the support of students, parents/carers and teaching staff.

Regardless of when young people decide to begin having sex, accurate and relevant information about sexual health issues is important to lifelong health and wellbeing. Information about blood-borne viruses such as hepatitis & HIV/AIDS, which can also be transmitted by non-sexual means, is also important for prevention. Australian research shows that approximately half of students in college years are, have been, or plan to be sexually active. SHLiRP aims to provide a service that is relevant to all young people for their current and future sexual health.

What will the health education session cover?

All students will be asked to attend a health education session about SHLiRP that covers sexual health information relevant for young people:

- Sexual decision-making
- The importance of consensual sexual relationships and what constitutes consent
- The normal, healthy diversity of human bodies, including genital appearance Normal bodies, we discuss the range of normal genitalia
- The potential distorting effects of pornography on body image and relationships
- Common sexually transmissible infections (Chlamydia, Herpes and HPV/warts virus) and blood-borne viruses (Hep B & C, HIV/AIDS), and their prevention/treatment
- Emergency contraception
- The when, how and why guide to Pap tests (cervical cancer screening)
- How SHLiRP works and why students may want to participate in a consultation
- Access to services in Canberra

What happens in the clinical screening service?

Students who wish, may voluntarily attend a consultation with a sexual health nurse. Students are not required to participate. After providing some basic information about themselves, they may be offered testing for specific STIs or BBVs, which they can accept or decline. There is no physical examination.

Many students attend a consultation to ask more information about a range of sexual health issues. Many find it is beneficial to experience what going to a sexual health service is like before they are actually concerned about a specific problem. The aim of this is to promote good sexual health/behaviour now and for the future.

Many young people are most concerned about their body image and what is normal. Many students find they can ask questions of the SHLiRP team that they are unsure of or are too embarrassed to discuss with their parents and can do this in confidence during a consultation.

Students can also be tested to determine their immunity-status to Hepatitis B virus. Most students in Australia are now immunised against Hep B at birth but some students may not have participated in this program if they were overseas at this time, or can't remember if they completed the full course of three injections.

If further advice or help is needed with other health related issues, students are referred to the local relevant service. About one month after the initial visit, SHLiRP staff will return for a Results Day. This is a further opportunity for students to discuss any questions or concerns, and receive their results.

How will students be tested and followed up?

Male participants will be asked to pass urine into a jar and/ or give a sample of blood. Female participants can pass urine or perform a painless self-inserted swab, as well as give a blood sample.

If any of the tests return a positive result, the student is offered free and confidential treatment, management, follow-up and counselling.

Is it confidential?

Yes, no one except the SHLiRP staff will have access to information about students' participation or results. School staff and parents will not be able to access this information; students are entitled to the same level of privacy of their medical information as adults.

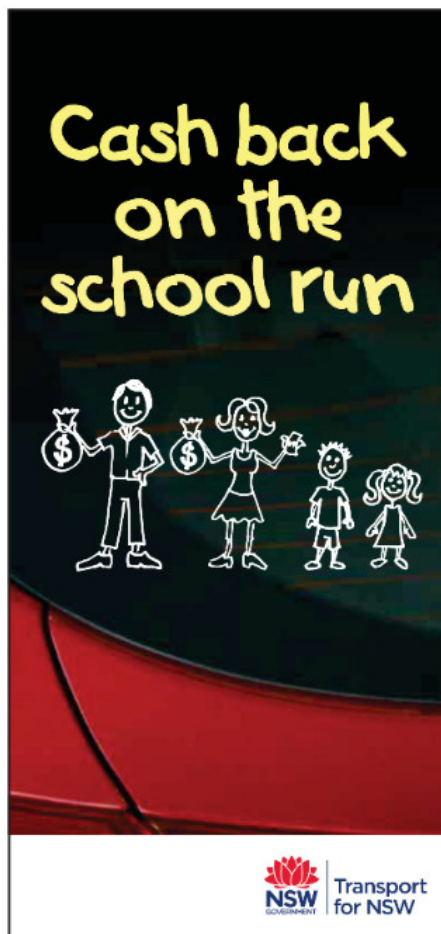
Is parental consent needed?

Each student who presents themselves for consultation will be offered free advice and testing as deemed necessary; as long as staff are sure that each student fully understands and can give their own consent. Where this cannot be satisfactorily determined, or the young person is under 16 parent/guardian consent to participation will be sought.

What if I have other questions?

The SHLiRP team would be pleased to answer any of your questions or provide you with confidential advice. We can be contacted at:

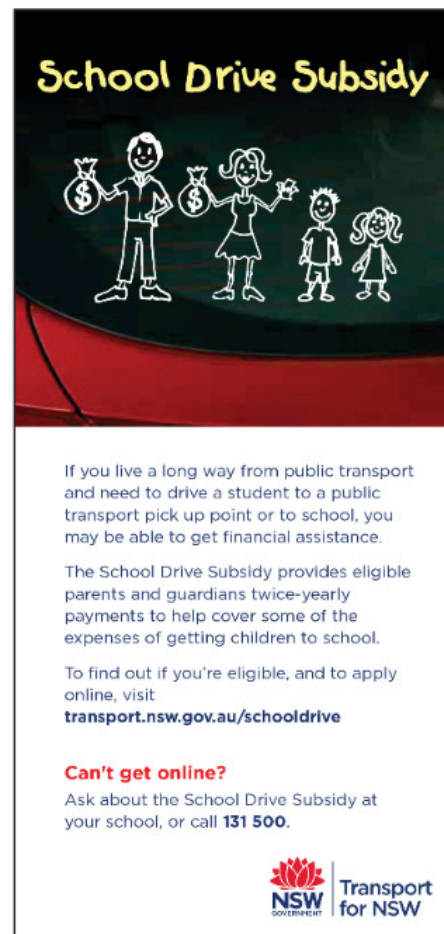
- **Canberra Sexual Health Centre (02) 6244 2184; or**
- **Sexual Health & Family Planning ACT (02) 6247 3077.**



**Cash back
on the
school run**

Illustration of a family (father, mother, boy, girl) holding money bags, standing in front of a red car.

NSW | Transport
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School Drive Subsidy

Illustration of a family (father, mother, boy, girl) holding money bags, standing in front of a red car.

If you live a long way from public transport and need to drive a student to a public transport pick up point or to school, you may be able to get financial assistance.

The School Drive Subsidy provides eligible parents and guardians twice-yearly payments to help cover some of the expenses of getting children to school.

To find out if you're eligible, and to apply online, visit
transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Can't get online?
Ask about the School Drive Subsidy at your school, or call **131 500**.

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Stressed about school costs?

Would \$500 help pay for uniforms, books, excursions, tutoring, a laptop or tablet?

Saver Plus matches your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500!

You may eligible if:

- you have a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession card and,
- you or your partner have some regular income from work such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work.

**Contact Kathleen Watson
your local Saver Plus Coordinator:
02 6283 7606 / 0448 730 305
or kathleen.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au**

Saver Plus is an initiative of Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, Berry Street and The Benevolent Society and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

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