



**DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL**



Issue N° 6 | JUNE | 2017

# NEWSLETTER

**DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL IS AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH EVERY STUDENT IS ABLE TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS**

## PRINCIPALS MESSAGE



It has been another rewarding term at Dandenong High School. Our students continue to excel in their learning with many experiencing success in Sport, Media/Visual Arts and the Performing Arts. It has been thrilling to celebrate with Hoseah Partsch and his family, as he triumphs week after week in Channel 9's The Voice. We wish him well as he prepares to compete in the Grand Final and are incredibly proud of his achievements.

What has also been pleasing this term is the high level of engagement demonstrated across the school. This semester, students in Year 8 completed an in-depth investigation of diseases and students in Year 9 explored "Pathways", and "future job opportunities". Students in Year 10 have completed a formal exam program for the first time this term. Attendance was excellent across the week and many students found the experience both challenging and informative. Year 10 students have also participated in POW (Pathways opportunity week) in preparation for selecting their courses for 2018.

Progress towards the school's "Design for Learning", a shared pedagogical approach has been strong, with all teachers working hard to develop Learning Sequences that we will implement in Term 3. These will ensure that we are better personalising and differentiating learning programs for all our students. Parents should also note that for the first time, the school will be using Compass as the reporting platform for end of Semester reports. Reports will be available in the first week of next term and parents will receive an SMS alert when they are ready to view on Compass.

If any family would prefer a "hard copy" of the report, they can contact their student's House after this date. Further details will be provided in a letter distributed in the last week of term.

Another focus for the school in 2017 has been on improving student attendance at all Year levels. Student absence can have a significant impact on a child's learning and their connection and engagement to school. I would encourage parents who are concerned about their child's attendance and the impact on their learning, that they contact the House Leadership team and arrange an appointment. House Leadership and the Well Being team are happy to support parents in ensuring that students attend school. In Term 3 the school will also be participating in the Victorian Governments Doctors in Schools Program. This will provide a Doctor and Nurse from a local medical practice on the school site one day a week in custom designed consulting rooms upstairs in the A block on the Dandenong site. Details about how families can access this service will be communicated early next term.

Finally, it is with pleasure I announce a successful tender process for the Library/ Senior Visual Arts refurbishment, the first step in Stage 4 of our building program. A builder has been appointed and work will begin early in Term 3. A reminder, that one of the highlights of the year, the House Chorales Competition will take place on Tuesday 27th June and I would encourage you to come and enjoy what are always excellent performances.

I hope you and your family enjoy a restful holiday and look forward to welcoming you back to begin Term 3. I am planning to take long service leave at the end of week 4 and will leave the school in the capable hands of Ms Katie Watmough who will act as Principal.

As always I am incredibly honoured to be the Principal of Dandenong High School.

## BANKSIA HOUSE



Banksia House, has been a-buzz with exciting learning experiences; such as the year 7 and 8 PBL. Some wonderfully exciting interactive displays from the year 8s and the year 7s who worked together to produce a Water website.

Senior students completed their mid-year exams and it is heartening to see so many of our Banksia students support and collaborate with each other in the House at lunchtimes, the LRC and at the homework club on Tuesday afternoons. The YR 12s have made a notice board with study advice to their 'younger selves' such as 'Do the work, because you have to anyway' and 'Do what you love and love what you do'. The VCAL and VET students have begun their work placements, while the year 10s are beginning to complete their work experience placements. The year 9s are continuing to establish a foundation to build on for their senior program next year. They have also participated in a variety of excursions for humanities recently and by all accounts it was a rewarding learning experience.

The year 8s have more than any other Banksia year level participated in school wide activities such as the swimming and athletics carnivals and they outnumber all other year levels in the Banksia House Choir. Our House is very proud of Ms Curnow, Ms Goh and the whole Banksia Choir who are giving it their all in the DHS Chorales competition. A number of Banksia students across all year levels recently represented our school at District and State level and our House Captain Edris A. broke two school records High Jump 1.69 and Long Jump 5.8.

Apart from all the studies and sports many of the Banksia students are still finding the time to take up extra curricula opportunities such as the Readers Cup, the Premiers Reading Challenge and the Banksia SRC are fund raising. We all look forward to break and to a refreshed and enthusiastic start to Term 3.

## CALLISTEMON HOUSE



As Semester 1 for 2017 concludes, it provides an opportunity to celebrate student achievement, participation and house spirit. Callistemon House are extremely proud of the house spirit demonstrated by our students

in major school events this Semester.

We saw successes in the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals, with several of the Callistemon students setting new records. We are also thrilled by the passion and dedication shown by the Choir in the preparation for, and performance in the House Chorales Competition that took place on Tuesday 29th June. Their willingness to dedicate time and energy to these events is a credit to our students. Special thanks to Ms Ly for her leadership of our students. We look forward to seeing this energy, enthusiasm and house spirit next Semester. Students within the Senior School have completed their exams, and are beginning to focus on their requirements for Semester 2.

Reports will be arriving to households shortly and we hope this provides an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on Semester 1. We are very proud of all the students who are making an effort and are seeing improvements in their learning. There will be a House Assembly where student achievement and effort will be celebrated and acknowledged. For students who wish to see a greater improvement, please remember the Homework Club is available to provide free tutoring for students, and that our teachers are always willing to support students with extra assistance. Semester 2 begins with 2018 course counselling and subject selections for Years 9, 10 and 11.

Please take some time to have a conversation within your family about future pathways and goals, and how we can support you here at the school. Wishing everyone a safe and productive mid semester break and we look forward to a successful Term 3.

## DARWINIA HOUSE



Term 2 is rapidly coming to an end and it has been a very busy term for both staff and students. Students in years 10 – 12 are in the middle of their exam program and staff will be commencing their

reports on student performance during semester one with a focus on measuring student learning growth.

On the 19th June, our Year 10 students will undertake the Pathways and Opportunities Week, (POW) where a wide range of activities and excursions will be held, to encourage students to start the thinking about their pathways in the future. On Friday 23rd June they will receive their Subject selection handbooks. Year 10 students will have interviews with a member of their House Leadership team and a careers staff member in early Term 3 and parents will be invited to attend those meetings with their child. This is an exciting and sometimes anxious time as students start making very serious decisions regarding subject choices that will enable them to access University, TAFE or work, when they leave school.

The Year 7 students are currently designing a website around water and its uses as part of PBL (Project Based Learning). The students' engagement in their learning has been outstanding, and I am looking forward to seeing their final presentations. Year 8s investigated Tuberculosis as part of their PBL towards the end of term 1 and their presentations to other year 8 classes were engaging and informative. Earlier this Term 2 the Year 7s participated in an anti-bullying program aimed to raise awareness around the effects and issues associated with bullying. This was run by the wellbeing team over two class lessons.

Students and staff have also been involved in the athletics carnival in term 2. Sadly, Darwinia did not perform as well overall as last year, but those who did participate did well. Zaker M 12D broke the school record for the 1500m and Zengqin D 7D and Samira E 9D were the 13 and 15 year old female champions. Well done!!

## EUCALPTUS HOUSE



We are approaching the end of another term and once again it has been a busy and productive time. The House welcomed a number of new students and they have settled and are feeling part of the

Dandenong High School family.

We saw a large number of our students represented in the Athletic Carnival, Team Sports, House Chorales and a number of incursions/excursions offered at all year levels. We congratulate Mun M. in Year 11 for his performance in the Triple Jump and Sandra L. in Year 12 for the 400 m run. Shukrullah S. in Year 11 was awarded the 17 year old Male Athletic Champion and Sandra. L the 20 year old Female Athletic Champion for 2017.

The Year 7 and 8 students participated in a successful Problem Based Learning experience where they shared their learning with others. The Year 10 and VCE 11 and 12 students recently completed an extensive exam program. Students were provided with teacher feedback in order to better understand what they were able to achieve in their exams and what they need to do in the future to improve. The Year 10 students also engaged in a Pathways experience, where they were able to explore their future beyond school.

The Eucalyptus Leadership Team and staff in the House have worked tirelessly this term to support and encourage students across all year levels. Our Student Leaders represented the House on occasions, such as the ANZAC assembly, and they continue to find ways in which to make the House a better place for all.

I would like to encourage parents to support the Homework Club we have at the school and to work with the school to ensure their child is at school every day. As we embark on a two week break, I take this opportunity to wish our school community a restful time and I look forward to seeing what the second half of the year brings to all in Eucalyptus House

## FERN HOUSE



It has been a busy Term 2 in the Fern Learning Community. We have recently had our Athletics sports, with some great success by students. Aweil M, Junaid V,

Rogena H, Koang T, Elijah T, Monson S, and our 13 year old Girls Relay team. There has also been outstanding work throughout the school, such as the Photography of Alina H, and Gloria T. Gloria winning an award in Casey Creative Arts Competition. Years 7 and 9, have toiled hard in their Naplan test, with results due later this year.

The Senior Students have completed their Examinations, and have received valuable feedback from all their teachers. Pathways Week begins very important process for year 10 students to select their course. We finish off the term with the House Chorales Competition, in which Fern House is always competitive. We look forward to seeing many of you there, to celebrate the exceptional effort of the Choir students, and supporting staff.

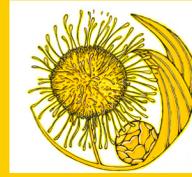
**HOMEWORK CLUB**



**EVERY TUESDAY  
3.30PM TO 5.00PM**

**SEE YOU THERE**

## HAKEA HOUSE



Team Work, Inspiration, One Big Family, Supportive, Encouraging and Excellence are some of the words on display in Hakea House - words captured by our staff and students as they reflected on what

we have achieved this Term.

As I reflect on the Term, I am able to find many examples demonstrating exactly these sentiments. Our students participated and supported each other and they were lucky to take the win at the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals. I have watched Kathleen, Hanifa (10H) and Ramo (12H); continue to grow, leading our House Chorales with passion and dedication. Their commitment has been remarkable. They have 55 students across the year levels uniting to support them and sing about the journey of Hakea so far – a journey of strength, commitment and hard work – which they will share with you all at our School Chorales evening. I have seen our Year 7 students work alongside our SRC raising money for Social Service – a total of \$300.00 so far for under privileged students in Kenya. I cheered as Hakea students across all year levels competed in a House soccer tournament led by House Captain Julieta, contributing a further \$45.00 towards Social Service. I saw our Year 9 students represent the School and House with the upmost pride as they organized a Project Based learning experience with local business people to learn about career opportunities within the community. Finally, I watched in awe as Hakea staff worked tirelessly to develop learning sequences to support student-learning growth, also dedicating time during breaks to further support student understanding. I could go on and on...

It is these examples and many more that make me proud of our staff and students. Our community continues to inspire me and I am excited about the journey ahead. Thank you to our students, our families and our teachers for their continued hard work and dedication. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday and I look forward to Term 3.

## GREVILLEA HOUSE



This term has been a hive of activity in Grevillea house. Staff and students have all been working hard to meet their respective deadlines.

We gained a proud 3rd place in the Athletics carnival after coming second in the swimming earlier this year. We are very pleased with our achievements so far and are hoping for a successful outcome in the inter-house choral competition next week. Grevillea house also boasts Hoseah Tui Allii (Parsch) as one of our House Captains and we have all been eagerly watching his success on the "Voice". Of course we all hope that he wins this national competition! Whatever the outcome though, we are very proud of his efforts and are in awe of his incredibly gifted voice.

Jeremy Penhale and I lead the "Community and Strategic Partnerships" brief and also lead and support the whole School Learning Tutor program. We have enjoyed successes in both of these programs so far this year.

In collaboration with the Careers team and the Project based Learning Leader, Ffion Bowles, we led a World of Work Pilot with all year 9 students. This project offered students authentic opportunities to engage with careers and professions that they were interested and curious about. A year 9 whole school assembly and enthusiastic student presentations last week showed us that this opportunity was well valued.

Through our relationship with many Corporate Organizations we have been able to offer a range of Work Inspiration, work experience and mentoring opportunities to more than 50 students so far this year. We anticipate that this number will grow to close to 200 by the end of this year.

We are very proud that our students are selected for these top tier opportunities because they provide a glimpse into a possible and probable future for the young people at our school.

Finally I would like to thank the Grevillea House Leadership team of Kirsten Crawford, Alysha Oliphant and Jeremy Penhale for their generous support and tireless efforts this term in supporting our Grevillea students and staff.

## YR 8 PRINTMAKING

This semester students learnt about the print industry ranging from Commercial print to Artists print. Students were given an opportunity to create a Gyotaku print using fresh fish like fishermen from Japan did to prove that they had caught a large fish, today many artist in Japan and Internationally continue to use this technique.

Students brushed on acrylic paint onto the fish then dabbed the excess paint with paper towel and then proceeded to apply clean paper over the top applying a little pressure and then slowly lifted up the paper and presto they have created a print.

Students enjoyed this experience even though the fish became a little smelly by the end.

Many thanks goes to Melissa Yr 8 and her family for supplying us with the fresh fish for this project.





## DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



### A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE LIBRARY

A lucky student and teacher, Yassin of B11 and Mrs Karen Hawkins, were the fortunate winners of our book raffle this term which marked the end of the relocation and opening of the Learning Resource Centre in Jacaranda.

Everyone is settling well into our lovely new space. Books have dusted off their jackets and fairies and other magical characters are once again sprinkling their magic. So if you haven't visited, please come and see us.

The excitement continued this term with a fantastic and well attended Star Wars Week. A highlight was the hotly contested jeopardy. Congratulations to the members of the winning teams: MH, Darth Chickens and Everyone Keeps Arguing who all received massive chocolate bars for their efforts.

Oliver Phommavanh, acclaimed writer and storyteller, once again inspired and entertained Year 7s in his lecture and writing workshops during his electrifying visit.

The Teen Library Advisors, tireless in their efforts to support our work in the LRC, also organised our very first Disney Week. Congratulations to Vimasha for creating a fantastic quiz, Imogen and Elma for hosting, Josh for keeping score and Bella, Baseera, Elise, Aleena, Rawan and Rabiha for decorations.

A huge thank you to Nya for organising Disney music and other great tunes that got everyone onto their feet for the Disney Dance Competition. Our judges Mrs Fox, Elma, Imogen and Benita struggled but eventually decided on the winners. Thank you to the colourful cast of Disney characters who made appearances. It wouldn't be a fantastic event without the LRC team dressing up.

There are many exciting events to come, such as: poetry events, Harry Potter Week and Book Week, so stay tuned. On the holidays, we encourage everyone to keep reading. Snuggle up with a warm winter read.

Why not check out our eBooks and brand new Audiobooks? An absolutely free service to some of the most popular titles is yours. Books can be downloaded anytime anywhere from: <https://dandenong.wheelers.co/>

Instructions and other great links to resources can be found on our website at: <http://libguides.dandenong-hs.vic.edu.au/homepage>



# FASHION ILLUSTRATION INCURSION

A guest speaker from The Whitehouse Institute spent Wednesday May 10th with the Year 10 Product Design – Textiles students and a number of the year 9 Fabric Art students. During this full day workshop, the students were guided through the drawing of a fashion model as a template for illustrating designs.

Each student in the group was shown how to complete an accurate model and was provided with notes as to the measurements for repeating the task. Students received individual assistance throughout the activity. The second half of the workshop concentrated on showing the students how to draw specific clothing items and how to show different fabrics through rendering techniques.

The students were very engaged in the whole workshop but were especially interested in the final activity of presenting their own designs using the techniques shown earlier.

At the end of the day, the students displayed their sketches and three students received an award for their efforts during the workshop. The awards were given not necessarily on the quality of the final sketch but also took into account student interest and engagement in this career path.

The Whitehouse Institute generously provided awards.

Student receiving the awards are:

Emeline N	9G
Nida B	10 F
Elmedina S	10 C



Emeline has been awarded a \$600 workshop at the Institute. This entitles her to a 3 day workshop in the city. Congratulations Emeline!





## DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



### CASEY CREATIONS COMPETITON

Wow! The Media department has done it again. Students entered the Casey Creations Competition where 1500 entries were accepted, Dandenong High School has participated in this competition for the last 10 years with winners every year. This year we received 2 winners in the intermediate section (9 and 10) and 2 in the senior sections (11 and 12). Congratulations to the winners and teachers and keep on clicking everyone. Below are the winning entries.

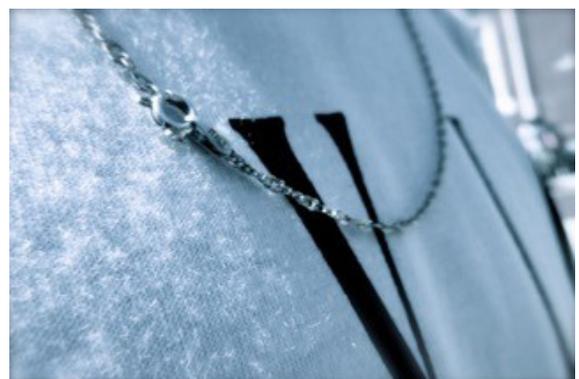
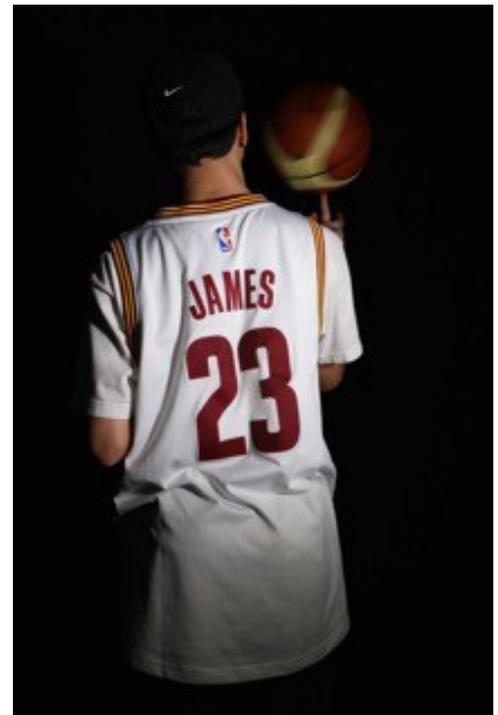


Jenny Yr 9



Gloria Yr 11

Hamsa  
Yr 11



Janice Yr 9

# YEAR NINE STREET ART TOUR AND BLENDERS STUDIO

Monday 19th June a group of Yr 9 Art students headed into Melb CBD to venture on a Street Art Tour where a Street Artist named Dan took us through many laneways and talked about numerous styles and artists. Students became familiar with styles and artists and were impressed with some of the large scale works on buildings to small stencil works created by Banksy that have not been damaged. They learnt how the city of Melbourne accepts Street Art and how they preserve as much as possible, however students also learnt how graffiti is removed very quickly.

After the tour we headed to Docklands and went to Blenders Studio where 25 artists have a space there, our students had an opportunity to see artists working while we had a tour of the studio.

After lunch students were shown how to create a stencil by another Street Artist named Darcy, he explained the little tricks of the trade and then proceeded to show them how to correctly spray paint their stencils. Students eagerly created their own stencils and then were taken outside to spray their creations. Students now understand the concepts of Street Art, how to create and spray paint a stencil, in all students had a wonderful experience and enjoyed learning outside the classroom. Below gives you a snap shot of the day



Dan talking to students about the Street Art



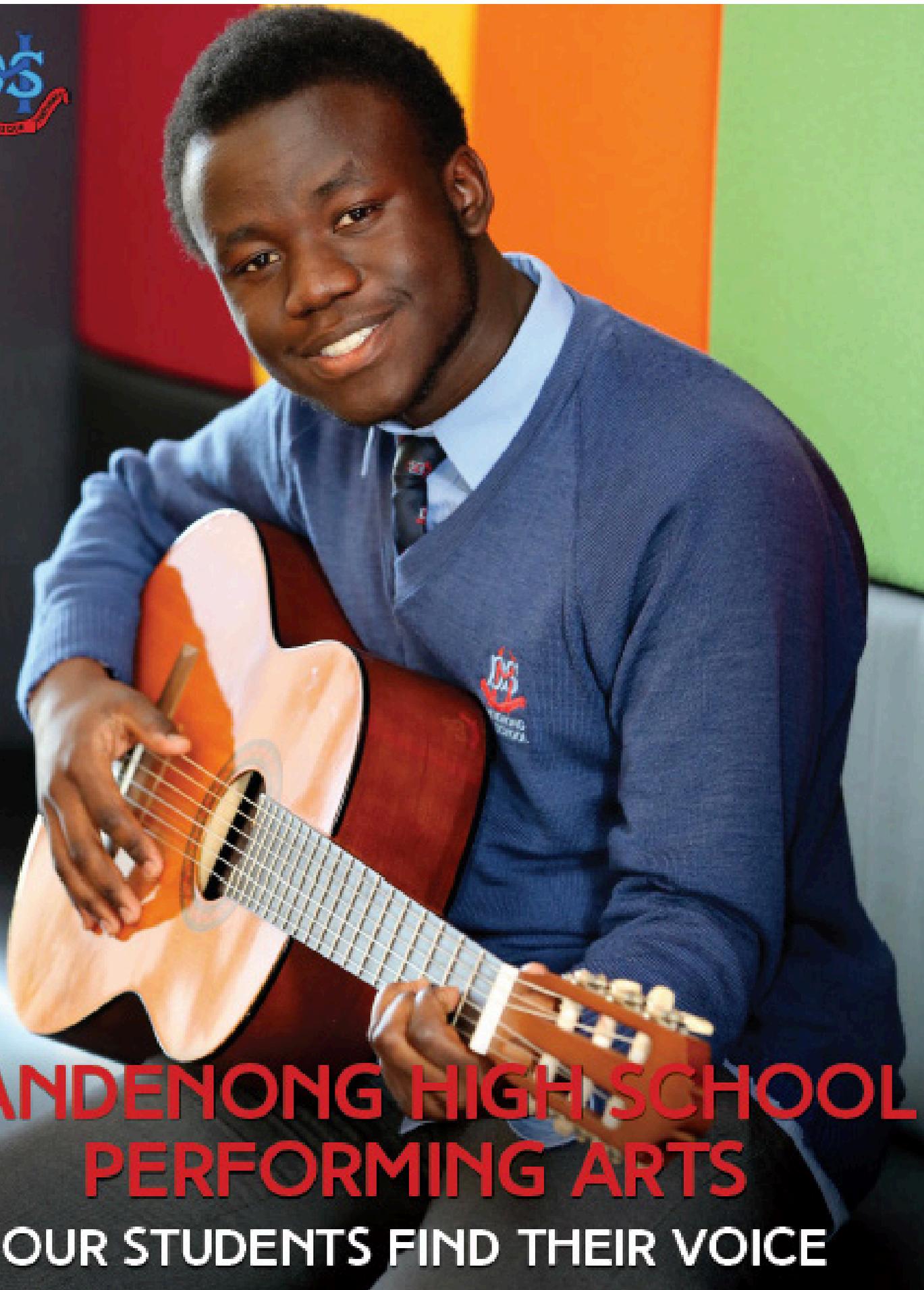
Students stencils



Some of the students stencils and finished spray painting artworks



Darcy selecting his favourite work that shows the most potential as a Stencil Street Artist



# DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS

OUR STUDENTS FIND THEIR VOICE

**Address:** 92-106 Princes Hwy Dandenong VIC 3175 | **Phone:** (03) 9792 0561  
**Email:** [dandenong.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:dandenong.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au) | **website:** <http://www.dandenong-hs.vic.edu.au/>

## YEAR 12 DRAMA PERFORMANCE - FEAR AND PREJUDICE



Have you ever wondered how fear of the 'other' is cultivated, maintained and overcome? This year in Drama, the Year 12 students undertook an exploration of this theme and delivered an incredibly powerful and confronting performance.

The SETTING: A modern day Saturday detention class in a school. Seven students, of different nationalities and backgrounds have received this consequence for their continual racism, derogatory comments and fighting in class. And, through a series of episodic scenes, transformations, disjointed time sequences and other compelling non-naturalistic techniques, they took the audience through an intense journey of exploration of how and why we form our prejudices and hate.

This original work, written by the students, showcased substance and thought provoking themes of prejudice and hate, so relevant in our sometimes troubling times.

It was beautifully presented with skillful actors interchanging between roles to support each character's personal experiences of the theme.

In parts it was shocking and violent, such as the gripping portrayal of the Orlando massacre, which had the audience on the edge of their seats; while other parts explored the delightfully stimulating realm of non-naturalistic theatre to remind us of the pressure we all face from the media to look and act a certain way.

Of particular relevance to our school was the exploration of multicultural themes and how our differences are more often feared, instead of being embraced.

Congratulations to our students for such wonderful, thought-provoking work!



# MONASH MUMA CREATIVE CAREERS SEMINAR EXCURSION

On the 8th June Yr10, 11 and 12 Visual Arts students attend Monash University to attend the MUMA Creative Careers Seminar. Students were given an opportunity to listen to guest speakers ranging from an Architect Ross Brewin, curator Francis Parker, MUMA Curator, designer Narelle Desmond and visual artist Masato Takasaka. The speakers discussed and showed Power Points regarding where they started and where they are now in the creative world. This gave our students an opportunity to see and hear the journey that the speakers have experience over many years. This also gave our students an understanding how the creative world works and the choices that they will have after leaving High School.

After speaking to several students at the end of the day it was apparent that many students gained further knowledge regarding the creative arts and now have a better understanding regarding what is required to succeed in the future. In all it was a successful day bringing Dandenong High School to have a closer connection with one of the Universities. Also this would not have been possible without the support and organisation of our wonderful Careers team.

Below are some photos during the seminar and students viewing an exhibition at MUMA gallery.





## DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



### UPCOMING DATES

#### **MONDAY 17TH JULY**

Term 3 begins

#### **MONDAY 24TH JULY-TUESDAY 1ST AUGUST**

Japanese Sister School visit

#### **THURSDAY 27TH JULY**

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

#### **TUESDAY 15TH AUGUST**

Year 8 Author Visit – Scot Gardiner

#### **MONDAY 21ST AUGUST**

Year 12 VTAC interviews

#### **MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER**

International Week

#### **FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER**

International Week Concert

#### **FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER**

End Term 3

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### REMINDER TO PARENTS & STUDENTS

#### **THURSDAY 27TH JULY**

#### **PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Mid-semester interviews for Parent/Teacher are to be held in Term 3 on Thursday 27th July from 2pm until 6pm. Further information will be given to students prior to this date. Students early finish on that day.