



DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



Issue N° 7 | DECEMBER | 2017

NEWSLETTER

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

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE



SUSAN OGDEN - PRINCIPAL

As we near the end of Term 4 it is a perfect time to reflect on the year past and begin planning for future improvement. There is no doubt that 2017 has been another successful year for the school. These last 12 months have been challenging and complex, but have also demonstrated evidence of growth, renewal and innovation.

In the latest edition of the Gate Magazine I predicted that 2017 would be remembered as the year "we implemented the Design for Learning" approach and our students truly found their voice.

The Student Agency team hosted a Student Agency Conference early in the term where they instructed primary school students from 10 local primary schools, to facilitate the Teach the Teacher Program we had introduced in Term 1, within their communities.

The morning was a tremendous experience and I was incredibly proud of the maturity and level of commitment of all involved. Our students truly believe they can make a difference and that it is their responsibility to own and shape their own learning.

The school Robotics team qualified again for the VEX Robotics Championship early in December, with one team reaching the semifinals.

Finally I would like to congratulate all our Year 12 students for their excellent results and wish them every success in their future endeavours.

I hope all our students and families have a restful holiday and return in the New Year focused and ready for the next phase of their learning journey.

2018 will be an exciting year, as we move in to our newly refurbished Senior Visual Arts Centre and Library.

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

BANKSIA HOUSE



Banksia House in Term 4 was awash with mixed emotions and exciting learning activities. The year 12s had their exams and final assessments. Excited to be on their pathway but sad to say goodbye to

their second home. The pizza lunch for the year 12s was an opportunity for speeches and an occasion to remember moments from their time here over the last 6 years.

The year 11s and year 10s were engaged in their exams and were actively preparing for senior studies in 2018 during the Headstart program. We congratulate Gabi and Joe for becoming the Banksia House Captains for 2018 and we look forward to working with them and the all the other students to continue to build a positive House culture. Gabi's idea for a teacher appreciation wall (pictured) has been successful and the anonymous messages of gratitude from students about teachers, is testament to the positive educational relationships between staff and students in Banksia House.

The year 9s were actively demonstrating their community spirit, collaboration and inquiry skills in their project to minimise litter around the school. We wish them good luck in their campaign. The year 8s were engaged in their 'Painting with Words' writing activity. They drafted responses inspired by an original Australian painting. Below are a couple of examples:

Milni: *Quickly, you snap, a fire that once ruled the lands has died, but only to wait for another reason to fight back.*

Keerthi: *The light set on the high grounds, while the maroon puffs begin to darken the sky.*

Eugene Von Gerard

And the year 7s will have to make way for the new juniors to our House soon. On Orientation Day we welcomed the year 7s of 2018 to begin their learning journey. The cycle of the year comes to end we look forward to another group of Banksia students we are confident will become architects of their own destiny.

CALLISTEMON HOUSE



As the 2017 year comes to an end, it is time to reflect on and celebrate the wonderful work done by staff and students in Callistemon House. Students in year 10, 11 and 12 have completed their exams and the Year

10 and 11 students have taken part in a very successful Senior Headstart Program with their 2018 teachers. Thanks to the Fern HLT for their excellent work in putting this altogether.

Our year 9s were involved in a Problem Based Learning Project with a Community focus. The students visited and interacted with people in an aged care facility. They presented to their peers at a Celebration Day where they shared their experiences.

The Callistemon House Leadership Team have been extremely busy this term in organizing and running Orientation Day for our 2018 year 7s. Our 2018 House Captains, Zainab and Frazer attended and have made great connections with our year 7s for next year. Another highlight for Term 4 was four of our year 9 & 10 students, Tim, Anurag, Thushani and Mrigaendran were part of a team who competed in the VEX Robotics National Championships which was held at DHS this year. The team did exceptionally well. Thanks to Mr Diwell for all of his assistance and guidance.

To round off the year our year 7s, 8s and 9s have taken part in a Junior Headstart Program which was designed to assist with the transition from one year to the next. Many fun activities were developed by the Domains as well as a celebration day of heading off to the beach. Thanks must go to all involved in preparing sessions and taking responsibility for the safety of our students at the beach.

In closing, we are hopeful that our 2017 year 12 students pursue their chosen pathways going into 2018. I also want to again thank my team, Ms Curnow, Ms Ly and Mrs Darbyshire for their fantastic support of myself and our students this year. For the last time as Assistant Principal of Callistemon House as I am retiring, I wish all in the Dandenong High School community a safe and happy holiday.

DARWINIA HOUSE



The final newsletter from Darwinia House sees us saying farewell to our senior students and welcoming our new. Year 12 exams are over and students are waiting to get their results. Year 10 and 11

students have just completed their exam program and are currently in their Head Start classes, in preparation for 2018.

Our Year 9 students have completed their Project Based Learning activity, where the focus was on our local community. The Year 9 students decided they wanted to support an organisation that supports homeless people in the Dandenong area and they did a 'food drive' across all the Houses, asking students and staff to donate a range of products – tinned and packaged food and other personal items.

Some of our Year 7s will be part of a group of 100 visiting Deakin University on the 1st December. This is an exciting opportunity to see a University campus and explore what life might be like in the future.

Our junior students will start their Head Start program, commencing on Monday 12th December. This will comprise at school activities related to 2017 studies as well as a Year level beach day.

In early December we will be welcoming the Grade 6 students who will be our Year 7 cohort for 2018. A nervous and yet excited group of students will have a wonderful day, experiencing a Day in the life of a Year 7 student in preparation for a less anxious start in 2018.

The staff and leadership team of Darwinia wish all our Darwinia families a safe and restful holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

EUCALPTUS HOUSE



The term began with a celebration to congratulate our Year 12 students for their time at Dandenong High School and to acknowledge their contribution to Eucalyptus House. The Leadership

team of the House and staff invited the students to a House Celebration in the third week of term. On this occasion we shared memories of the past six years and presented students with House awards.

This term also saw a number of our students represented in a range of co-curricular activities. For example, their participation and contribution to the Student Agency work that the school is committed to. Students also facilitated a conversation workshop with students from a range of Primary schools. The day was extremely successful and this opportunity empowered our students and provided them with a voice.

The Eucalyptus staff continued to support and facilitate student learning across all year levels. The quality of student work was generally of a high standard. For example, the Year 8 students were immersed in their Project Based Learning and Year 9 students their Learning Tutor project on 'Homelessness.' As we near the end of another year, I would like to sincerely thank the Eucalyptus parents/guardians for their continued support of the school, the teaching staff for their dedication to our students and the Eucalyptus Leadership team for their commitment to continuous improvement of the House.

On behalf of Eucalyptus House, I would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday period and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the new year.

FERN HOUSE



It has been a very busy and productive term for Fern this term.

We congratulate our new student leaders for 2018 and wish them the best for their final year of

schooling. Faridah M and Stefan K will be the Fern House Captains next year, leading us to success in the House competitions. We also congratulate and wish Gloria T from Fern who will be one of the SRC Presidents for 2018.

This term has launched off into a terrific start with our Fern Year 7's who won the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge for 2017. The trophy was awarded to the class after Fern 7 had the most students completing the challenge of reading at least 15 books throughout the allocated time. The Year 8's Project Based Learning on Nepal was colourful and insightful, culminating in a highly informative video presented to Year 8s across the school. The Fern Year 9's have also worked hard to raise awareness about animal cruelty in their Project Based Learning.

The Fern Year 7 have learned about cinematography through studying the film Paper Planes and conveyed their understanding of film techniques through their text response. They have worked gloriously this year choreographing their own dance routines in Physical Education.

Last week saw the annual running of the Year 8 Sports Day, with students from Fern House competing against the other Houses in t-ball, basketball, badminton and volleyball. It was a challenging day with some great results for the Fern students. Well done to those students that were involved.

We wish all the staff and students in Fern a Merry Christmas (if you celebrate it), happy holidays and an amazing 2018.

GREVILLEA HOUSE



There is a lot to be proud of for us "Grevilleans" as 2017 draws to a close. We have enjoyed a year of amazing successes and learnings which has culminated with us winning the house shield for 2017.

I would like to acknowledge all of the hard work that staff and students put in the various school activities which enabled this win to occur.

We have also been very busy this term with our whole school "Community and Strategic Partnerships" and Learning Tutor briefs. During this term all year 9 students enjoyed and participated in community projects that they designed implemented and evaluated in their Learning Tutor classes. There was also an opportunity for students to share their projects with the rest of the year 9's at the end of the program during a special presentation assembly.

Our continued relationships with our many Corporate organizations have ensured that this year we have engaged over 200 year 9 and 10 students in Work Inspiration, Work Experience and mentoring opportunities. We value these relationships very much as they serve to provide opportunities for our students that are unique, educative and in many instances lots of fun!!

I look forward to the possibilities and opportunities that are waiting for us in 2018. I would like to thank Jeremy Penhale, Alysha Oliphant and the amazing Kirsten Crawford for their dedication and commitment to this fine house of purple, its students and staff. I have much valued and appreciated your hard work this year.

To our wonderful Grevillea staff I would like to thank you for your commitment to our students and our house.

I would also like to wish our outgoing year 12 students every success in their future and thank them for their support of our house during the last 6 years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and restful term break and look forward to seeing you all again at the beginning of term 3.

HAKEA HOUSE



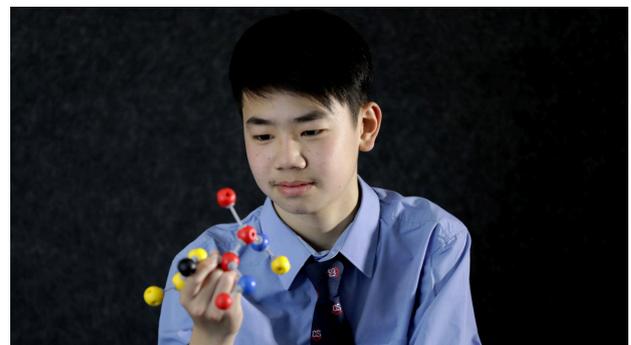
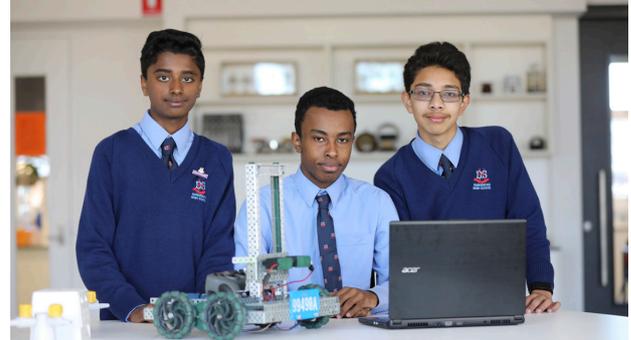
Our year 7 students for 2018 had their Orientation Day on Tuesday 12th December. It was a most successful day, meeting their fellow classmates, actively engaging in the program and enjoying the activities. Our student guides were terrific supports, from 8H and 9H - Victoria, Razia, Mortaza, Sadin and Vanchica.

This term, all 8H students were involved in Student-led Conferences. Each student presented their project to a family member and one of their teachers. It was brilliant to see students engaged and families to see their child in a purposeful and meaningful way. I thank all involved for their time in making this such a rewarding event. Mr Elkington, Hakea Assistant House Leader

9H held a Mini Olympics on 23rd November as part of the community links project. Playing host to Dandenong Primary, Dandenong North and 7H students. They began by welcoming visitors followed by a "pledge" for a fun day. Students led a Mass Zumba, and "Get-to-Know-You" games. Students' set-up, explained, demonstrated and judged events. A trophy and Certificate of Appreciation was presented, Dandenong North won the trophy. 9H students also took part as: commentators; photographers; and team managers. It was a most successful day enjoyed by all. Mrs Hayes, Hakea Student Coordinator

Our year 10 and 11 students finished strongly with the exam program. Participation of students was excellent, with an opportunity to build foundations of future learning. The Head Start program followed, which students were keen to start their learning for 2018 with successful attendance and participation.

We said goodbye to our Year 12's with mixed emotions, it was sad to see them go however we are very proud of their achievements and wish them well for their future endeavors. We hope they take many fond memories and continue the strong friendships built along the way during their years at DHS. Finally, from the staff in Hakea House, we wish our families the very best for the holiday period.





DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTRE

The Joy and Power of Reading was celebrated in the recent Year 7 Reading Assembly which took place on Monday 20th November. We were proud to learn we had the most students participating in the Premiers' Reading Challenge this year, out of all Victorian secondary schools.

Our Principal and Gabrielle Williams, the local member for Dandenong, were on hand to present certificates to excited participants, as well as six special reading awards to Ethan of H7, Kaviya of B7, Thurkha of F7, Fahma of F7, Sahar of D7 and Sam of H7. Reading Champions came from Fern House who had the highest number of students who met the Challenge.

The audience also had a chance to enjoy fantastic book trailers they had created in class to celebrate their favourite books. Winners of the best book trailers were: First prize – Amelia and Anna of H7, Second prize – Klea of B7 and Amitha of G7, Third prize Denis of D7 and Benni and Ayoub of E7.

It's officially tradition that we launch our month of writing creativity in the LRC with fun Halloween celebrations. Students in this year's writing challenge defied gravity and launched themselves into the creative stratosphere where they stayed all month to write with astonishing results.

Congratulations to the many students who participated in the National Novel Writing Month in November and especially to those who exceeded their writing word count goals.

In December, it was also time to congratulate our superheroes, the remarkable students who make up our Teen Library Advisors. All students in the program are to be congratulated for demonstrating a passion and commitment to making the LRC such a great success but, in particular, the following are to be commended for their outstanding contributions: Joint Teen Library Advisors of the Year - Benita and Beatrice of E8, Teen Library Advisor of the Year Runner Up - Vimasha of B8 and Award recipients - Junior of G9, Sherin of B8, Bhavya and Maria of D8.

Nargges, Frank and Tarea of F9 also rated a special mention for producing the most remarkable video to celebrate reading that we have ever seen and Rawan of B9 for her loyalty.

To encourage a reading culture and to build on the enthusiastic reading we have been doing all year, we have launched the Summer Reading Club. To find out how to win prizes visit the LRC website. Escape and relax with a wonderful book and get a head start on the 2018 Premiers' Reading Challenge. So what are you waiting for?

Have a safe and very happy summer holiday. We look forward to celebrating the joy and power of reading with you when we return in 2018.





DREAM A LITTLE...

WRITERS FESTIVAL 2017

TUESDAY 17TH OCTOBER

CELEBRATING YEAR 9 WRITERS.

IMAGINE A WORLD...

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DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



YEAR 11 STUDENT WINS VICTORIAN STUDENT APPRENTICE & EDUCATOR AWARD



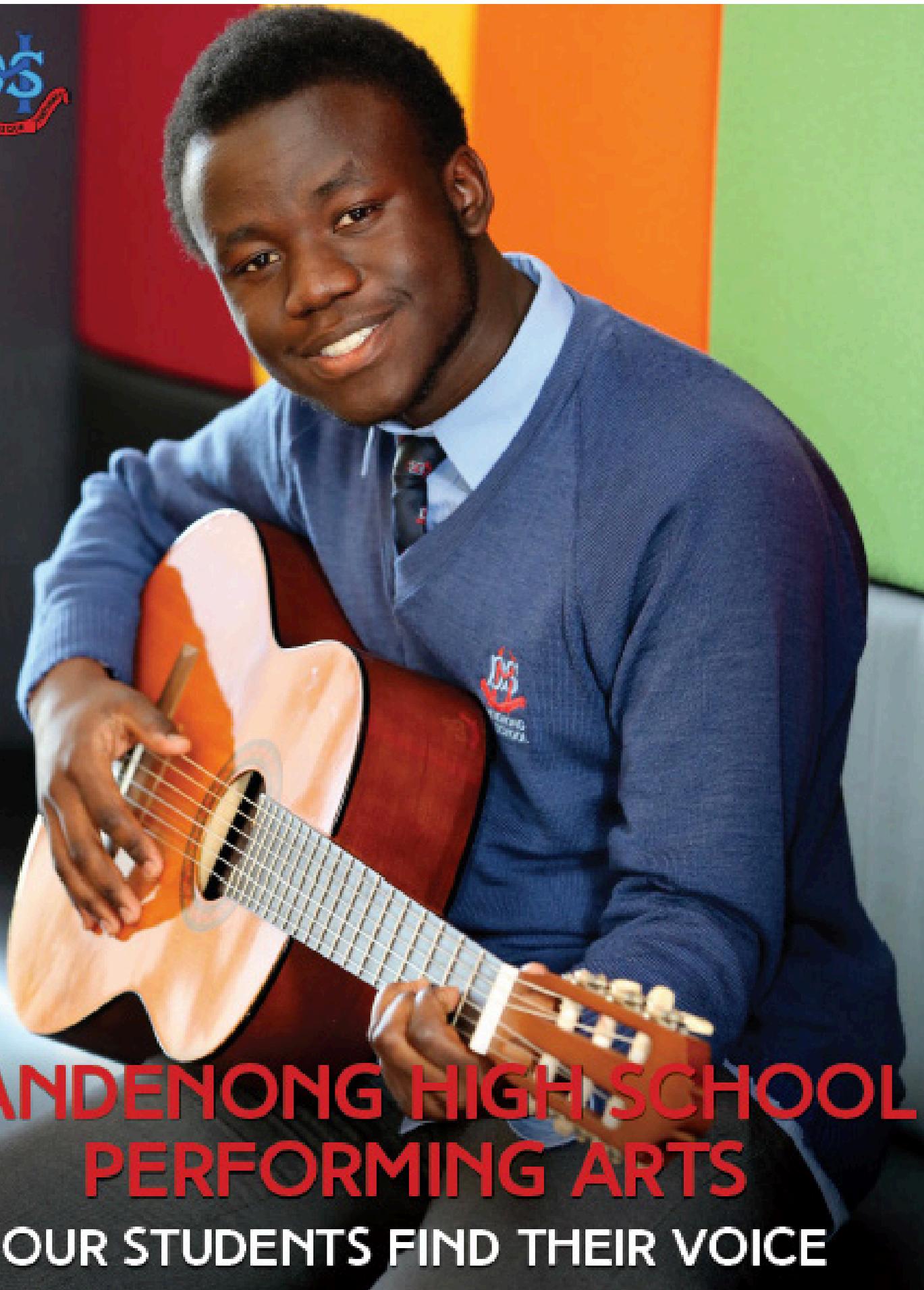
Dandenong High School is extremely excited to announce that Zainab J (Callistemon 11) has won the prestigious Victorian Student Apprentice and Educator award from the Hair and Beauty Industry Association (HBIA).

Zainab was competing against all Certificate III students in Victoria (both current school students and adults) and was the most outstanding achiever in her category.

Zainab showed a high level of maturity, positive attitude and technical competency in the 1st year of the Certificate III in Make Up course. Part of the competition process involved an interview at Crown Hotel in front of a panel of judges, which was both an exciting and challenging experience.

Dandenong High School is very proud of Zainab's achievement and looks forward to seeing her achieve further success as she moves through her final year.





DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS

OUR STUDENTS FIND THEIR VOICE

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PARKMORE SUPERCARE PHARMACY

New State Government Health Initiative

The Victorian Government made a commitment to support 20 pharmacies across the state 24/7. The service offers a dedicated, private consulting room with registered nurse in attendance from 6pm to 10pm every evening to tend to minor injury and illness. Patients do not require a Medicare card or an appointment to access the free nursing service

A Supercare Pharmacy has recently opened near Dandenong High at Parkmore Pharmacy 4 Less, Shop J01, Parkmore Shopping Centre, 317 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough. If faced with an unwell child after-hours, parents can have peace of mind knowing that a pharmacist and dedicated nursing service are available locally; and may help avoid the long wait times often faced when visiting a hospital emergency department.

Please Note –

- Your local Supercare Pharmacy is open 24/7 to help with after-hours care; and
- A dedicated, private consulting room with registered nurse is accessible free of charge between 6pm and 10pm every night of the week.



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2K18 STREET STYLE SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Come down to JC Mills reserve on Thursday 25 of January from 9am till 5pm and take part in a soccer tournament with your mates. Divisions are under 14's, under 16's and open female and open male.

Register online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/2K18streetstylesoccertournament to register your team!

For more information contact Dandenong Youth and Family services on 9793 2155

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2K18 Street Style SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Thursday 25 January

9am-5pm

J C Mills Reserve

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Female and Male

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DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL



UPCOMING DATES

THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY

Textbook collection day- 2pm - 6pm- School Hall

WEDNESDAY 31ST JANUARY

STUDENTS START SCHOOL FOR 2018

FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

Badges Assembly

FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

House Swimming Sports

TUESDAY 6TH MARCH

School photos

FRIDAY 16TH MARCH

Year 7 Immunisations- HPV & Boostrix

REMINDER TO PARENTS & STUDENTS

THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY 2018

TEXT BOOK COLLECTION FROM 2PM TO 6PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL

WEDNESDAY 31ST JANUARY 2018

STUDENTS START SCHOOL FOR 2018