From The Principal

Arts

Clubs & Community

English & ESL

Languages

Foundations

Humanities

Library

Mathematics

PE

SIEC/Refugee Bridging Program

Student Wellbeing & Information Technology

Technology & Textiles

excellence

opportunity

community

Important Dates

Monday 21 July
First Day Term 3

4 & 5 August
AST TrialsS

Thursday 14 August
Moderation Day - No Classes
A Request for Support

The winter is certainly upon us and Semester 1 is finishing. Congratulations to all of our wonderful students for your fantastic work this semester. For Year 11 students it is a real achievement to have made it through the first six months and I have been thrilled to see how well your cohort has adjusted to college life. For Year 12 it means there is only one semester of college to go before your next big adventure and I cannot help but to feel excited for you all as you enter the ‘home stretch’!

The focus of my newsletter entry this time is a request to our community which I hope you will be able to help out with.

As part of the work on the master plan we have identified that creating a comfortable, communal space for students to work, eat and socialise in the canteen is a priority for our students. We don’t want anything clinical or office like, rather something café and homelike – think The Front at Lyneham Shops – think laid back bohemian style with lots of sofas, crocheted rugs, armchairs, coffee tables and cushions – somewhere comfortable but with plenty of spaces for individual work and for catching up with friends.

Our fabulous front office staff have started us off with the money they have raised selling entertainment booklets but we are hoping our community can really support us with donations of sofas, armchairs, coffee tables, floor rugs, ‘knee’ rugs and cushions. If you have some items you have been meaning to get rid of (second hand but in reasonable condition please) then we would love to have them. Please drop these items off to the school during the holidays by bringing them to the canteen area. John Clink, our Business Manager will be here in the first week and Leonie, our Building Services Officer can let you in during the second week.

Thank you in advance for any support you can give!

I hope everyone enjoys a safe, restful school holiday period. I am really looking forward to seeing you all in Semester 2!

Best wishes

Kerrie
Reconciliation/NAIDOC Week assembly

This special assembly was held on 16 June to celebrate Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June) and NAIDOC Week (6-13 July). After Aliyah Chalmers (Year 11) gave the Welcome to Country, we enjoyed some great didgeridoo from Reice Jopling (Year 10 Melba Copland) whilst Joe Freeman (Melba Copland Indigenous Education Officer) and Trista Tsitsikronis (Year 2 Charnwood Primary School) led us in some traditional dance (including getting up a few stylish volunteers from the audience to help out).

We were very lucky to have, Deb Mac a former student of Dickson College now studying Law at ANU and Corrina Curry-Hyde come and talk about an organisation they represent called ‘Ready 4 Recognition’. They gave a powerful and thought-provoking speech about Constitutional recognition of indigenous Australians and have promised to come back and talk with classes next term.

More great music was provided by Waireka Te Meihana. It was a very enjoyable and special assembly!

Reconciliation Week is held each year between May 27 (1967 Referendum recognising Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders) and June 3 (Mabo Day & native title rights). It is a time for all Australians to learn about Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures, our shared histories and achievements and to build positive, respectful relationships. http://www.reconciliation.org.au/

The theme for NAIDOC Week this year is Serving country - centenary and beyond - honouring all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country, from the warriors in the Frontier Wars to those who have served in Australia’s military engagements around the world. http://www.naidoc.org.au/
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. SHLiRP has been successfully delivering health education and opportunities for on-site sexual health screening in ACT secondary colleges for 10 years, with the support of students, parents/carers and teaching staff.

Accurate and relevant information about sexual health issues is important to lifelong health and wellbeing. 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.

Health education presentations
Students will attend sessions for males and females on Mon 4 August during Clubs. Topics covered:
- Sexual decision-making
- The importance of consensual sexual relationships and what constitutes consent
- Common sexually transmissible infections (STIs - chlamydia, herpes and HPV/warts virus) and blood-borne viruses (Hep B & C, HIV/AIDS), and their prevention/treatment
- The when, how and why guide to Pap tests
- How SHLiRP works and why students may want to participate in a consultation
- Access to services in Canberra

Nurse consultations
Students may voluntarily attend a consultation with a sexual health nurse on Mon 4 August and Tuesday 5 August. Students are not required to participate. After providing some basic information about themselves, they may be offered testing for specific STIs or Blood-Borne Viruses, which they can accept or decline. There is no physical examination. Many students visit the nurses just for a chat or more information. 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. They can do this in confidence during a consultation.

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.

Results Day
SHLiRP staff will return for a Results Day on Mon 8 Sept. This is a further opportunity for students to discuss any questions or concerns, and receive their results.

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, parent/guardian consent to participation will be sought. This is consistent with standard practice in health services and general practice.

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 6244 2184 Sexual Health & Family Planning ACT 6247 3077.
**Drama Production**

On June 4 – 6 the Drama Production class staged The Laramie Project with huge success. The play chronicles the reaction to the vicious beating of Matthew Shepard, a gay university student, in Laramie Wyoming. Our production sold out on all three nights and the matinee was attended largely by Drama students from Lyneham High.

This play was a great challenge for an extremely talented group. All 20 performers had several monologues that were written from interviews conducted in the town, worked together in sequences of physical theatre, learned a range of American dialects, created film and multimedia projections, built the set, sourced costumes and had to deal with some pretty heavy subject matter. They did all this with maturity and professionalism and truly earned the full houses they performed to.

A huge thankyou to all who came and supported the show!

**Drama & Dance**

The Dance Foundations class and the year 12 Comedy class also put on a night of entertainment showcasing their major assessments pieces. It was a great combination of individual dances composed to the theme ‘Breakaway’ and small group comedic sketches which parodied popular culture. The night had a genuine community feel to it. Thanks for those who came along.

Also, year 11 Drama classes recently performed a series of short pieces to year 4 students at North Ainslie Primary and Lyneham Primary. There was everything from pirates in a barbershop and ninjas in a grocer to spins on classics like Dr Seuss and Aesop’s Fables. The audiences really got a kick out of seeing a group of teenagers taking silliness so seriously.

**Music**

On Thursday 12 June Dickson held their bi-annual music moderation concert. This is a great opportunity for students to perform to a community audience.

Once again, the talent of our musicians was simply breathtaking. The night had a great mix of original work, reimagined pop songs and covered classics. Massive Attack’s Teardrop was brilliantly arranged but there was plenty of retro flavour too, with Bob Dylan and Fleetwood Mac covers and of course, this was all classily capped off by the DC Jazz Band.

The breadth and depth of musical talent at this school is freakish and all of them performed with a great deal of professionalism.
Photograph by
Lauren McKay, yr12. Film Photography.
ANZAC Day 2014
Clubs & Community

Giving Projects

Students in the Yoga Clubs & Community group decided to support one of Communities at Work’s important social programs; the Yellow Van food rescue service, as part of their giving project this semester. Students cooked a range of food for the service. Students in the Yoga Clubs & Community group organised a ‘chill-out’ session for students who are independent or carers. Approximately 15 students participated in the session, and enjoyed chai lattes, chocolate brownies, henna tattooing and a chance to share their experiences.

Canteen News

With winter coming the canteen is now making steaming hot pumpkin soup and yummy pizzas!

Check Notice Board at counter for daily specials!

Students please note that lunch orders can be made daily, preferably by 12. It's a good idea to put in your lunch order if you have dietary requirements or do not want to miss out on your favourite lunch items.

The Wall in the Community Garden
Painted by Sam Herridge Yr 11
Community Services (VET)

The line 1 community services class spent their final visit to Goodwin Village participating in craft activities provided by Bunnings Warehouse. Students enjoyed making and serving residents morning tea before chatting with them while they painted jewellery stands. These visits have been invaluable in developing relationships with the residents who live in our local community. Our students have also been able to develop and demonstrate the skills and knowledge needed for the vocational competencies in Certificate II in Community Services.
We loved seeing the Year 11 Responding to Literature T students sit AST exam in the hall on Wednesday 18th June, not because we're sadists, but because it is the culmination of all the hard work the students and teachers have done throughout the semester. Our Year 11s are now able to sit the practice AST paper and we have prepared them to produce this important moderating test. Unlike most English assignments where students are taught to analyse the texts, the AST paper requires students to devise their own essay questions from stimulus material and then to write an essay on that topic. It is a challenging task because the students must devise a question of the right level of difficulty: too easy and they will only write a basic essay; too hard and they might not be able to deliver on their promises. Just quietly, we also love to see students sitting in silence writing an essay, and we thought you might enjoy the spectacle, too.

Now is the time to mull over how students have performed in English this semester. It's good to remember that the vast majority of students gain a C grade for their efforts. Statistically, can most people be above average? No. Attaining a C grade in English T or English A is a sign of competence in that level. Only 10% of students gain a B grade and 5% of students gain an A grade. Some students might feel misplaced in either Tertiary or Accredited English and now might be a good time to consider changing levels. We are proud of all our students and the efforts they have put in this semester.

Debbie Dwyer, Executive Teacher
English and ESL
ESL

Last week we said goodbye to our wonderful pre-service teacher, Luni, and celebrated in the traditional way with a farewell party.

We are now preparing classes for Semester 2 as we anticipate welcoming a new cohort of Bridging Year 11 students in July. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Tabatha Kellett, Evie Kollas, Anna Beaver and Luni Xu (pre-service teacher)
**Languages**

**Japanese**

Beginning 3 students conducting research with Japan via teleconferencing

**Latin**

Second term has proceeded smoothly and productively; Unit 1 students have been readily translating straightforward Latin passages dealing with Roman Education, the Trojan War and the tragic Death of Hector, and tackling the vocabulary and grammar that enables them to do so - the 3rd Declension, the Imperative and Irregular verbs. They have done a research assignment on Classical Mythology.

Unit 3 have been working on the 5th Declension, the Locative Case, and Principal Parts; they have read Latin text on Ancient Roman lifestyles and on the remarkable statesman and writer Cicero. We are looking forward to second semester - for Unit 1, the tragedy of Dido, Queen of Carthage, and for Unit 3, Julius Caesar & the Ides of March, together with research in Roman cuisine and Roman curses.
Foundations for Independence

Work Experience News from the Foundations for Independence Program

Our students are currently participating in work experience. In our two year program students are placed in a variety of work place settings to explore their career interests and develop employability skills such as team work, problem solving, planning and organising, communication on the job and self-management. Work experience also plays an important role in preparing students for the transition from college into the workplace.

We appreciate the following businesses in their ongoing support: McDonalds on the Federal Highway, Keirs in Dickson, Holden in Belconnen, Majura Early Childhood Centre in Dickson, Pegasus Belconnen, Supabarn in Florey, Koomarri Belconnen and Wilbur’s Café, Hackett.
Humanities

History-The Modern Middle East

Humanities

As part of this term we were also fortunate to have Carmel Dinn, a pre-service teacher, with us to teach the class for three weeks and share with the students her love of history. Thank you Carmel.

Bond University Mooting Competition

On Wednesday 7 May, eight Legal Studies students took part in the Bond University Mooting competition; a moot is a legal argument conducted by opposing teams before one or more judges. After many weeks of preparation, with guidance from our very own Leica Burt, and ex-student Faraz Jafai who is currently studying law at the University of Canberra, the students took on Canberra Girls Grammar at the Magistrate’s Court. They produced a cracking case applying legal rules to the facts of the case and in doing so impressing the judges with their knowledge and etiquette of the court and case in question. Two of our advocates, Hannah and Rory, were both recognized with merit awards based on their performance in the moot.

Alana Rolls and Kate Crompton

After exploring the history of the Middle East region in term 1, our Modern Middle East history students spent most of this term learning about the complex revolution in the Middle East beginning with Tunisia, known as “The Arab Spring”. As a feature of this unit, on Thursday 2 June, the Tunisian ambassador, His Excellency Nabil Lakhal, accompanied by Ms. Hela Mejri, his personal assistant, came to the college to talk to us about his impressions of post-revolution Tunisia. The students were treated to a thought-provoking and avid discussion about the revolution of December 2010 and its aftermath by His Excellency. One of the most noteworthy results of the revolution is the new constitution which sees the granting of equal rights to women and the declaration that Tunisia is a secular state.

Students were also provided an opportunity at the end of the talk, to put questions to the ambassador on the history of the region. Both His Excellency and Ms. Mejri were very impressed by students’ knowledge of Tunisia’s recent history and ability to engage with them on the topic. Our principal, Kerrie Heath, invited our visitors for coffee after the lesson.
**Debates at the ACT Legislative Assembly**

On Friday the 16 May, three classes from Global and Legal studies were given the opportunity to attend a parliamentary debating session at the Legislative Assembly. It was a great day where everyone had a chance to discuss some of the issues from their classes, such as policy, politics, and society. The topics discussed, ranging from capitalism and communism, up to and including the current Australian laws, gave everyone a chance to share their views just like in a real Assembly. As students we received feedback on our views, which was greatly appreciated, from the speaker of the assembly Mrs. Vicki Dunn. The debating session also gave us an opportunity to improve our public speaking skills and etiquette in a formal environment. Many thanks to Leica for organising a fantastic day for everyone.

**Hannah Billing and Beth Mason**

**World Vision Leaders Convention**

Dickson College year 11 students studying Global Studies - Michael Howes, Kate Weir, Kilian O’Donnell, and Ruben Steffens, attended the annual World Vision Global Leaders Convention on Friday 16 May. The convention is run each year by World Vision to promote the 40 hour famine and develop leadership skills in young people. The students participated in an activity designed to highlight the difficulties faced by Rwandans in everyday life run by the World Vision staff and listened to some great speakers including keynote speaker Jean-Claude Rumenera, a Rwandan Genocide survivor. Jean-Claude currently works for World Vision as a Development Facilitator in Rwanda.

It was an informative day with students learning about the impact of the Rwandan genocide, primarily food shortages and reduction in skilled farming techniques.

Students will take what they learnt at the event and help lead the 40 hour famine this year at Dickson College next Semester.

**EduTECH**

Dickson College was thrilled to send two teachers, Dion Oxley and Betty Chan, to the 2014 EduTECH conference in Brisbane. EduTECH is the largest Education and Technology conference in Australia, and this year over 4000 teachers participated in workshops, lectures and presentations. Dion and Betty were super excited to hear from Sir Ken Robinson, Sugatra Mitra, Adam Spencer and Ian Jukes – and are now looking at ways to enhance learning at Dickson through technology and curriculum. Betty is especially thrilled to be using her new Samsung tablet – won at the trade fair! If you are not familiar with Sir Ken Robinson or Sugatra Mitra, follow the links to hear their TED talks. http://www.ted.com/talks/sir_ken_robinsonbring_on_the_revolution https://www.ted.com/talkssugata_mitra_build_a_school_in_the_cloud
**Sydney Jewish Museum**

Thirty two students attended the Modern History excursion to the Sydney Jewish Museum in week 6 to further their study of Germany and the rise of Nazism. The trip was a resounding success with everyone commenting on the intelligence, empathy and engagement of our students. Dion and Ben were so very proud as our students answered questions, asked questions and explored the museum. While there, we participated in a workshop on the experience of the European Jews from 1900 – 1950, and heard from David, a holocaust survivor who had been removed from Medical school in Czechoslovakia and endured the horror of three separate concentration camps, before being rescued by Soviet soldiers in Riga. Our students asked some wonderful questions, and the museum remarked that David had appreciated the audience. We are now looking at further opportunities for later in the year, so watch this space!

**Ancient History**

– *Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean*

With the end of semester comes the end of another unit! From the Fertile Crescent, Gilgamesh and Enkidu to the Persian Empire – Ancient History presented us with many challenges and discussions. To celebrate, we held a Mesopotamian Feast.

The Ancient Mesop class now challenges Dickson college parents and friends to crack the code to find out what Hammurabi's Code said about the significance of trees.
Library

National Reconciliation Week is held each year between May 27 (1967 Referendum recognising Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders) and June 3 (Mabo Day & native title rights). It is a time for all Australians to learn about Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures, our shared histories and achievements and to build positive, respectful relationships.


The library celebrated with a display of books on indigenous themes which support the Australian Curriculum Cross-Curriculum Priority: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures. Recent resources added to the library collection include:

- Redfern now (series 1 and 2) – Award-winning drama series about the lives and times of indigenous families in Redfern, Sydney - written, directed and produced by indigenous Australians.
- Utopia – John Pilger’s documentary about injustices to Aboriginal peoples since colonisation began, which also showcases the strength and resilience of Aboriginal people.
- Mari Nawi: Aboriginal odysseys – by Keith Vincent Smith. Reveals the significant role of indigenous people who sailed on English ships to destinations throughout the world from 1790-1850.

Recognise (part of Reconciliation Australia)

The people’s movement to recognise Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples in our Constitution - “We want to see fairness and respect at the heart of our Constitution, and to remove discrimination from it. Our goal is a more united nation.”

http://www.recognise.org.au/

Share our pride (part of Reconciliation Australia)

Information about the First Australians; Culture; Shared history; Beyond the myths; Respectful relationships; Famous indigenous Australians; Books; Films.

http://shareourpride.org.au/

NAIDOC Week (6 – 13 July): Serving country - centenary and beyond

The theme honours all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country – from the warriors in the Frontier Wars to those who have served in Australia’s military engagements around the world. Events will be held around the country and the ACT. Please check the websites of the National Museum, National Gallery and National Library for more information.


A special Reconciliation/NAIDOC Week assembly was held on 16 June – more information elsewhere in this newsletter.

Mathematics

Dickson College Wins ANU Maths Day

On the 30th of May, 34 teams of college students from ACT and NSW competed in the annual ANU Maths Day competition. Dickson College entered two teams and both trained hard leading up to the event. Our teams were in the top ten teams for every event on the day.

Congratulations to Frank Fei, Noah Ingham, Joy Liu, Adrian Schmidt and Ben Wong, who earned 7th place overall, with 640 points. Michael Robertson, Donghoon Shin, Chris Hone, Huon Porteous and Mike Tang triumphed, gaining first place with 863 points. Their nearest rival, Sydney Technical High School, came 2nd with 747 points. 3rd and 4th place went to Narrabundah College and Canberra College respectively.

The fact that three out of the four top teams came from ACT public colleges highlights the academic calibre of our public school system in the ACT.

Dickson College takes great pride in the achievement of our remarkable 2014 maths teams.

Open Night

The Maths Department ran a competition involving the estimation of the number of M&Ms in two glass containers. There were actually 420 in one container and 685 in the second. Congratulations to Dion Hall who estimated 412 and 690 in each container. We are hoping to produce students with this impressive level of numeracy through studying maths in our courses here at the college! Dion kindly donated the jars of sweets back to the school to be used to the benefit of Dickson students.
College Netball
Dickson College’s girl’s netball team finished the pool games on top of the North Side conference. The girls then came up against the second placed team from the south side in Narrabundah College. In an extremely tight match the girls prevailed by 1 point. This took them to the final to meet Erindale College who were too good on the day.

College Soccer
Dickson College boys went to the ACT boys Colleges Soccer on the Thursday of Week 8 with Super Coach John Forrest. The boys had an extremely tough draw, having to play the eventual competition winners in the first round. After the first loss the boys didn’t drop a game and finished 3rd overall.

Cross Country
Emily French represented Dickson College and won the girls ACT 16/17 Cross-Country title. Emily was our only entrant in the competition and the hard work she puts in at training and Scotties TSP class has really paid off. Emily ran the 4km course in 15.50.

Girls Rugby
In a very exciting few weeks for College Rugby the Girls competed in both the 7’s finals and the 10’s tournaments. The 7’s finals was held at Canberra stadium as part of the curtain raiser for the Brumbies Rebels match. The girls went down to eventual competition winners St Clares but showed great commitment and enthusiasm. A special mention must go to Sarah Connor who ran 80m to score and also to Shannon Lucas who finished off scoring after a strong run from Kahli Jensen.

The rugby 10s saw Dickson finish in 5th position with a strong win over Daramalan in the Plate final. Emily Arton was the player of the carnival with 3 tries on the day.

Stephen Larkham Shield
Dickson College was well represented at the Stephen Larkham Shield with the boys narrowly going down to Canberra College, a combined Melba, Hawker and Lake G, Gungahlin College and Erindale. The boys were competitive in all games but couldn’t end up getting a victory.
Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education is back for Semester 2 and enables students to take a more holistic approach to their education. It does this by incorporating skills in leadership, social, time management, decision making, problem solving and personal development. Because most of the course takes place outside the classroom, it also allows students to connect with nature, other people and themselves.

In Semester 2, Year 11 and 12 classes will be taking part in a 3 day snow trip to Thredbo and during Term 4 students will finish the year off with Surfing to South Durras and Canoeing in the Kangaroo Valley. Any students interested in participating please see Ryan in the gym.
**SIEC / Refugee Bridging Program**

**Garden News**

Our two plots in the community garden have been an excellent learning environment for the I2 class and students from the Refugee Bridging students this term. Thanks to Miss Pushpa for assisting during the lesson, and to Mrs Roth and students from the Refugee Bridging Program who also plant, harvest and help to maintain the plots.

As we were fortunate with the weather I2 students went to the garden every Friday for an hour. Many students proved to be excellent at preparing our new bed by digging, weeding and raking the soil. Initially students were intrigued by the worms and other creatures inhabiting the freshly dug soil and by the insects flying about.

The SIEC has both an active compost bin and worm farm that take our collected food scraps. We have put the compost and worm wee to good use in our garden.

In term 2 students planted lettuce seedlings, spring onions and a few onion sets, and sowed pea, radish, and coriander seed. Happily most of the seeds emerged. Students harvested broccoli, lettuce and a few peas, tomatoes and onions that were planted by students in previous terms. The rocket is not proving to be too popular. Too sharp!

Students weeded newly sown areas, staked the climbing peas and kept up the watering, adding homemade fertiliser, worm wee (and liquid seaweed for new plantings) at times. The plants continue to look healthy and the students tell me that the broccoli was very fresh and tasty.

We are fortunate in being part of the Dickson Community Organic Gardens (COGS). We can observe what other plot holders are growing and how they do this, learn the names of vegetables that we are not growing ourselves and be inspired. Seeing other vegetables some students indicated that they would like to grow these too. So the next seedlings to go in are Cos lettuce. The mint from the community plot has been very popular.

Students will continue maintaining the plots in term 3.
**Science**

**Biology**

Year 12 students studying pathogens and disease during Term 2 had the opportunity to visit the Pathology Unit at Canberra Hospital to study the effects of disease and discuss control measures employed by the ACT Health Services to mitigate infectious disease.

Year 11 students studying Biochemistry during Term 2 investigated the effects of the variety of foods we consume on the function of the human body, at a cellular level.
NEW ACCESS

Information to Dickson College community some information about a free early intervention mental health service for over 18s from beyondblue. It's called NewAccess.

NewAccess is for people experiencing mild to moderate anxiety or depression. They receive 6 free sessions with a trained Access Coach.

Do you have parent and carers who are experiencing some of the following? Are they feeling unhappy, moody, angry or unable to concentrate or sleep because some of these are happening?

• Work stress or uncertainty
• Change in living arrangements
• ‘New parent’ worries
• Family problems
• Health concerns or uncertainty
• Long-term isolation or loneliness
• Financial worries or instability

If your teachers, office staff, school counsellor and principal know of people who may benefit from an Access Coach’s assistance, please take this opportunity to provide them with the information. If you would like someone from Medicare Local to attend a staff meeting to speak about NewAccess, just let me know.

To speak to a trained Access Coach and make an appointment, call 02 6287 8066.


Our Dickson College computing students have excelled at the UNSW programming competition. This annual competition attracts 150 schools from around Australia, including the most prestigious and talented schools across the country. Our team achieved a fantastic result of 16th place. This is the best placing we have had ever by a long shot. The best part is that we were way above of all the other schools in the ACT including the usual high performers from both the private and public systems.

Congratulations to Noah Ingham, Matt Parnell and Stephen Horsbough

Full results can be found here:
https://cgi.cse.unsw.edu.au/~progcomp/2014/home/prov.php
Technology

Construction Pathways (VET)

The year 12 construction class has built and installed a cubby house for the children who attend the Majura Early Childhood Centre. This task involved working with the client Nichola Perry the manager to determine the best location for the structure, as well as checking the plans and site prior to construction. It was great to see the students working as a team to complete the project which was filled with delighted, smiling children as soon as the installation phase was completed.

TEXTILES

The Fashion, Textiles and Society students have just completed their study of textiles from around the world, completing a wide variety of practical tasks. Zebedee was inspired by the Gold and the Incas exhibition (Peru) and created this wonderful outfit using metal rings which she had manufactured specifically for the dress. Erin has created a small rug using Arashi Shibori dyeing applications originating from Japan.

– Zebedee and Erin