

# Dickson College NEWSLETTER

*Feb 2014*

*In This Issue*



From The Principal

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& UNI ADVICE

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SIEC/Refugee  
Bridging Program

Student Wellbeing  
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Technology &  
Hospitality

CIT Short Courses

*excellence*

*opportunity*

*community*



***Important  
Dates***

Tuesday 4 March

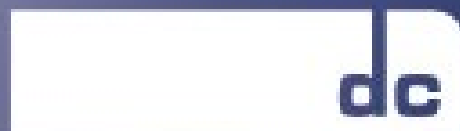
Moderation Day No Classes

Monday 24 March

Maths Test Day

Board Meeting 5pm

P&C Meeting 6:30pm



**DICKSON COLLEGE**  
excellence opportunity community

## *From The Principal*



- - The development of a languages professional learning community across our cluster of schools, led by Dickson College staff
- - A Master planning process to develop a five year masterplan and a fifteen year concept plan for Dickson College and engage our entire community in deciding what the future of education at our college could be (keep an eye out for surveys and dates!)
- - 'Signing up' a new sister school in China to support cultural exchange and international understanding

I have promised my 'editor' that I will keep my message short so in conclusion...

Welcome back to our Year 12 students and families and a warm welcome to our Year 11s, new students and their families! The first three weeks of the school year has certainly been abuzz with activity and excitement and we all feel as though our Dickson College Community is up and running!

We have a number of new staff members across the school and I am delighted that we have such a professional and passionate group of people working collaboratively for the education of our students.

It was fantastic to meet many of you at our recent Meet and Greet session and I wish to reiterate to you that we see the education of our students here at Dickson College as a partnership between families, the school, the community and the students themselves. Please do not be a stranger to us or to your young person's education. If you have concerns or feedback we would love to know about it as soon as possible so that we can do what is needed to support each and every one of our students. I will be sending out dates for informal principal drop-ins in the coming weeks and I invite you to pop in and see me during those times.

2014 is set to be a really exciting one for Dickson College and for Public Education in our cluster. Some significant events/programs/projects for the coming year include:

- - A partnership with University of Canberra to co-design and deliver a new Masters of Teaching Teacher Education Program in the ACT
- - A partnership with University of Canberra and CIT to enrich our UAV program

Welcome and welcome back! Stay in touch – no problem is too small when it comes to our children and students – they are the reason we are here.

**Best regards**

**Kerrie**

## *A date for your diary*

***Year 12 Graduation 2014***

***Monday 15th December***

***5:00pm for 5:30pm***

***The Royal Theatre,***

***National Convention Centre***

***Constitution Avenue, Canberra***

***Information will be provided through the newsletter and Clubs and Community groups throughout the year.***

**Please contact Karen Rockawin on 62056482 or by email at karen.rockawin@ed.act.edu.au - If you have any questions.**

## ***PNG teachers come to Dickson College***



**“Mi hamamas bai mi meetim tisa long PNG”**

**(I am happy to meet teachers from PNG)**

**This** was part of the greeting Debbie Dwyer gave in Pidgin when a delegation of teachers from Papua New Guinea came to Dickson College last Friday. A part of the ACT education system, the teachers came on a fact-finding mission from Port Moresby International School to ensure that their standards are aligned with the standards in Canberra. They were very impressed with Dickson College and particularly commented on how well-behaved our students are. They were also interested in the high level of class discussion and the sophisticated way in which our students speak. We exchanged email addresses and have undertaken to engage in an interchange of ideas, assignments and resources. We believe this is the start of a fruitful school relationship

## ***Congratulations to Karley Bransby Year 12***

On Friday 21 February Minister Joy Burch awarded Karley a Country Woman's Association Scholarship of \$350.00. The Dickson College community are very proud of Karley who is going to use the scholarship money to purchase sporting gear. Karley's future career goal is to become a personal trainer.





## ***Carpark***

Dear carpark users, if you bring your car to College, I would like to remind everyone of the following important rules.

- Keep to the carparks, parking on the grass is illegal.
- Drive slowly and defensively, visibility is limited
- If you scrape or bump another car leave your name and a contact number on the vehicle and tell the front office
- If you witness an incident contact a staff member ASAP



## ***Dress Code***

A gentle reminder to all that Students that appropriate clothing at college means...

- They meet safety requirement in practical areas
- They are respectful of all our college community (no offensive language, images or signs)
- Dress for school not the beach, cover up be Sun Aware
- Footwear is compulsory at all times

## ***College Bank Account Details***

Westpac

BSB 032-777

A/C 00-1201



## ***Dickson College Sports Bottles***

**Dickson College 750ml Recyclable Sports Bottles** which actually remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the earth's atmosphere! These bottles are made from fibres of sugar cane, the most photosynthetic efficient plant on the planet!

Photosynthesis:

CO<sub>2</sub> + (other stuff) = O<sub>2</sub> + (other stuff)

The bottles are moulded and printed right here in Australia and as they are a plant derivative material, they are fully recyclable!

They are available for \$5 from the Front Office.

## ARTS

Arts are off to a flying start with lots going on across Visual Art, Photography, Dance, Drama, Music, Media, Design and Fashion and Textiles. All classes are healthy in size and have gone straight to work.

The Jazz band is already filling the corridors with tunes and it sounds like we have another talented group coming through. Be sure to keep an ear out for Music's semester concerts.

This year's Drama production class will be staging "The Laramie Project", a provocative American piece of documentary theatre. Week five will mark the beginning of a long rehearsal process culminating in performances in week 16 (5th – 7th June).

Architecture students are heading out to Jervis Bay to do a site visit for their major design of an eco-friendly resort. This same trip ran last year and it seems to have a great impact on student work – allowing them to think about how coastal environments impact design and materials.

There have already been excursions out to the National Museum of Australia to see the "Old Master's" exhibition and you can be sure that there will be many more opportunities for students to engage with artworks in the broader community.

Watch this space for the wide range of performances, exhibitions and outings that our Arts students and community can get involved with.

**Christopher Zuber**  
Executive teacher Arts



### ***Fashion & Textiles***

Fashion, Textiles and Society students are going on a cultural/historical tour around the world (just in the classroom though, much to their disappointment!) starting with Australia, South America, Persia (Iran), India and Japan plus many more to come. They have been working on designs based on historical textile developments and translating their knowledge to fashion design inspiration based from the 1960s to the present day. Why would they do this? Well the year 11 students also have the opportunity to participate in the Wool4Skool design competition and the brief is to come up with a design inspired from the 1960s to the present day.



**Students at the Gold and Incas exhibition in the interactive room.**

This week students have been to the National Gallery of Australia to view the Gold and Incas exhibition where they looked at the incredible textiles created from wool, cotton and feathers, also the amazing jewellery and adornment in gold and silver. These works were created over 2,000 years ago and are in excellent condition.

**Jill Pettifer**  
Teacher of Textiles, Fashion and Art

## ***National Summer Art Scholarship in 2014 at the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.***

Visual Art student, Rachel Roberts (yr11) was selected as one of sixteen students from around the nation—two from each state and territory—to participate in the National Summer Art Scholarship in 2014 at the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. The scholarship program offers an opportunity to engage with the staff at the National Gallery of Australia, as well as other arts professionals, artists and peers from around the nation.

Congratulation Rachel and have a great time.

The scholarship is open to Year 11 students interested in art. So if you a new student to DC next year you might want to think about applying. Come and chat to the Arts staff for more information. You can get to spend a week during the summer at the National Gallery of Australia. This fantastic experience includes:

- the opportunity to experience the National Gallery of Australia's dynamic environment and to meet the visual arts professionals who work there
- accommodation at the 4-star hotel, The Brassey of Canberra. All meals, including celebratory dinner at the Belmore Restaurant at The Brassey
- free membership to the National Gallery of Australia
- free entry to the summer exhibition.
- Discover the national art collection and learn how works of art are acquired and exhibitions developed.
- Go behind the scenes to experience the workings of the Gallery.
- Participate in workshops and receive expert tuition from Gallery staff and professional artists.

*'The NSAS has been the most incredible opportunity. I have experienced some of the greatest aspects of the art world and the running of the Gallery. It is an experience I will never forget.'*

**Lucy Buchanan, yr11 Dickson College participant from 2013 National Summer Art Scholarship**



Rachel's application for the NGA summer scholarship included her own visual response to Simryn Gill's *A small town at the turn of the century no 5 1999–2000*. Pencil drawing on paper.

# Careers & Uni Advice

## *Write your future in pencil*

Whether you are uncertain about your post-school plans or even if you are sure about your future, then you should see a Dickson College careers advisor soon! Reliable information and advice will enable you to be proactive about your future pathways.

Dickson College has two fully-qualified careers advisors available to help you explore your options.

Make time early in the year to explore the options that are available to you when you graduate from college. Parents and carers are also welcome to make appointments to discuss post-school options for their children.

We are constantly receiving information on future opportunities for our students even right at the start of the school year. We advise all students to listen out for careers information in their pastoral care program & to check in with their Careers and Uni Advice team. Also get in to the habit of regularly checking the noticeboards outside the Career/Student Welfare offices and also reading the TV information screens in the front office and canteen for things that may interest you.

Lia McKerihan and Erica Brown are your friendly careers advisors! We are located in the careers office in N block and we are always available to talk to you about your future pathways.

The Careers & Uni Advice office is in "N Block" – come and 'walk the red carpet' to our doors.

Make an appointment with Lia or Erica today! Or contact us on 62056455, [lia.mckerihan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:lia.mckerihan@ed.act.edu.au) or [Erica.brown@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Erica.brown@ed.act.edu.au)

## *Dickson College Career Advisors can:*

- advise you on appropriate courses, career goals, and vocational and educational options
- help identify possible interest areas and suggest occupations for you to consider
- find out about training to help you develop the necessary skills for your transition to the next stage in your life
- explain the course requirements of institutes of technology and universities
- help you develop a plan for you to achieve your post school goals
- suggest a pre-vocational course or work experience placement to determine whether you like the occupation you have chosen
- help with job-seeking skills – including preparing resumes, interview skills, letters of application
- assist with contacting service providers, disability liaison officers and other agencies
- share secrets about applying for university and scholarships
- help you to connect with volunteer and gap year organisations – so that you can be something for someone else
- assist you with research on future training options.

**Erica Brown – ASBA Coordinator and Careers Advisor**

**Lia McKerihan – Work Experience Coordinator and Careers Advisor**



# English & Languages

The year has begun well with our new Year 11s settling down to college with its fresh opportunities and increased workload. The Responding to Literature T students have their first assessment item coming up: the take-home essay on the novel in Week 5. The emphasis is on developing control over the structure of the essay as much as engaging with the reader through interpretation and analytical thought. Students are expected to draft their essays with teachers in order to maximise student learning. We wish the students well in this undertaking.



Our new Year 11 students studying the Introduction to English Accredited unit are improving their English skills while finding out some very interesting things, like how to write a polite letter when you have been given a parking fine unfairly. Real life examples are often great motivators for getting our students to work effectively.

At this stage of the term some students may be re-assessing their placement in either Tertiary or Accredited English courses. Some students may have been overly ambitious, while others were not ambitious enough. Now is the time to make a change if you think you are in the wrong level. A discussion with your teacher, your son or daughter's teacher, the executive teacher of English or teachers in the Student Well-being Centre can help solve this problem.

The Yr 12s are studying a variety of units including Writers' Workshop, And the Beat Goes On, Comedy and Satire and North American Literature. Students feel more motivated when they have choice and this variety is stimulating for the teachers as well.

One of our teachers, Toby Grundy, organises a spectacular writing camp for Dickson College and Narrabundah College. Toby has organised a stellar line-up of guest lecturers and workshop leaders, including creative writing teachers from the University of Canberra, published authors, musicians and performers. This will be held in the last week of Term 3 in September, but keen writers can claim the date now.

**Debbie Dwyer**  
Executive Teacher English and Languages

## LANGUAGES

Learning a language is a life-long skill which can bring much pleasure, as our teachers of Chinese, Japanese, French, Indonesian and Latin can attest. Learning another language sharpens the mind, and can gain extra ATAR points for some university courses!

We would all like to say "Welcome"- Huan Ying, Youkoso, Bienvenue, Selamat Datang and Salvete!

### Chinese

Students studying Chinese in 2014-2015 have an array of exciting opportunities available. These include possible excursions to China and the Gold Coast, attendance at the ANU Asia Pacific Day and classes in Yum-cha, Karaoke, cooking and table tennis! There are also calligraphy competitions to participate in – all while studying this fabulous language and culture.

### French

In this traditional language subject, students can expect to develop and hone their French language skills, as well as learn about aspects of the French culture.



## Latin

Both the beginning Unit 1 and the continuing Unit 3 Latin students have made a comfortable start to the semester. Unit 1 students are grappling with a number of different and intriguing language concepts; they are coping well with the translation of simple and straightforward Latin sentences and with the background to a different civilisation, which is covering ancient Roman country life, the involvement of women, and a world in which over 30% of the population were slaves. The continuing students have already learned two new past tenses and explored the workings of the efficient Roman equivalent of our Public Service, with its unpaid officials. Students are on track for their first assessment in prepared translation & cultural background, which is scheduled for Week 6.

## Indonesian

This is a new course being offered in 2014, and we are excited to explore the Indonesian language and culture at Dickson College. Student opportunities will include excursions, guest speakers and engaging class activities such as cooking.

## Japanese

Welcome to our new Japanese students! We are excited to have you join our learning community. All students of Japanese are invited to a multi-level excursion to view retiring anime master Miyazaki's final creative message to the world *The Wind Rises* at Dendy Cinemas in Civic on Thursday, 6 March. All notes to be returned to Nelle (in N39) and \$12.50 to be paid to the front

office before lunch on Friday 28th February. Our Cluster Brothers and Sisters Program kicks off this year with the Beginning 3 students visiting the Campbell Primary Japanese classroom to share our formative autobiographical tasks with the Year 3 students on 11th March. Tutorials are well under way and we have some exciting events planned so stay tuned to the noticeboard and edmodo. Students enjoyed practicing characters calligraphy style this week and the second year beginning students are pictured reading their letter reply from our new teaching assistant who will arrive in Term 2.



## HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!

From Term 2 we welcome our young Japanese teaching assistant to the Dickson College Japanese Program. If you have a spare bedroom and would like to warmly welcome this male, third year university student from Japan for an 8-10 week period, please email Nelle before 28 February: [janelle.horsington@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:janelle.horsington@ed.act.edu.au)



## ***Foundations for Independence***

National  
**disabilityinsurance**  
Scheme



**The National Disability Insurance Agency presents the third NDIS Webinar:**

### **A Strong Voice: Self-Advocacy**

'A Strong Voice' will focus on self-advocacy, and how people with disability take control of their own lives to speak for themselves with greater confidence. Our panel of guests will discuss ways that self-advocacy has helped them to make informed choices about their reasonable and necessary supports and achieve their personal goals as valued, contributing and included members of the community. Strong self-advocates will bring stories from their own lives and share with you their insights into self-advocacy as part of a panel discussion. Our guests will answer your questions about how to build self-advocacy into your own life.

**Thursday 27 February 2014 at 12:00pm (AEST)**

The NDIA invites people with disability, family members, carers, advocates, support providers and community members to join the discussion online and contribute to the conversation.

Please register your attendance at [engagement@ndis.gov.au](mailto:engagement@ndis.gov.au) or phone 1800 800 110. On the day you can join the webinar here NDIS Webinar – 'A Strong Voice: Self-Advocacy'. You can test your connection before the webinar using this [test link](#).

Take part in the conversation. Online viewers can contribute to the conversation by submitting questions and comments to [engagement@ndis.gov.au](mailto:engagement@ndis.gov.au), via Twitter using the hashtag #NDISWEBINAR or via the Livechat facility. Visit our website for more information - [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)

# Humanities

The Humanities faculty offers inspiring and engaging courses. We welcome all students, new and continuing!

## Business Studies

In this subject, which is a tantalising mix of practical and theory-based study, student opportunities include guest speakers, forums, excursions to businesses, participation in the ANU Young Business Leaders Challenge and much more. Students will also discover their practical skills in setting up a small business by running a market day to support the college community.

## Economics

Economics is a new course in 2014. Economics will begin the year by looking at the definition, history and scope of the subject as a scientific study. It will then look at fundamental principles that govern The importance of Economics to facilitate change in a political and social context will also be examined.

## Geography

Geography starts another exciting but challenging year by looking at the role of water in the natural world and the way that people are interacting with water. The study will take in an understanding of weather, and as a driver of a changing climate, the role of water in shaping the surface of the earth and the relationship with the biosphere. The unit will also look at the way that humans are placing increasing demands on the very limited fresh water resources on the planet.

## Global Studies

In this contemporary and challenging course, students will have the opportunity to participate in the Global Challenges conference at the ANU. There will be guest speakers from organisations such as the UN and also various world embassies and political organisations.

## History

In our broad history course, which includes units from the ancient, medieval and modern times, students can expect a variety of engaging activities to further connect us to the study of history. There are possible excursions to Sydney, the ANU, museums and galleries, and the War Memorial. Guest speakers are often invited from a variety of backgrounds and organisations. Additionally, participation in role-plays and analysis of primary sources will help to bring history alive for the students.

## Legal Studies

Students will undertake Australian Legal systems and Torts or Crime and Justice in the first semester. Students may attend Parliament House for a tour and to view question time; visit the ACT Magistrates court, where they see how the court system operates and talk with magistrates about the process, view a criminal trial at the Supreme Court and visit the High Court. Students can also participate in the ACT Legislative Assembly Parliamentary debates and the ACT Constitutional Convention. Guest lecturers including a criminal barrister are also on the agenda. Students will have the opportunity to compete in the ACT mock trial competition later in the year. This prestigious competition was won by Dickson College students in 2013!

## Psychology

Students can expect a variety of guest speakers and practical activities, such as, personality testing (the MBTI personality test), guest speakers from MIEACT (Mental Illness Education ACT) who speak about their personal journeys with mental health issues and psychology professionals giving lectures on their career paths. Students can expect to design and run their own ethical Psychological experiments and attend excursions

## Sociology

In this theory-based unit, student opportunities include excursions to the cinema, galleries and museums, guest speakers and participating in research studies for local universities and professional organisations.



## *Library*

The library is a happy, busy, welcoming space for students and teachers. Already many students are making good use of the facilities to research and work on assignments or to just relax and browse. The library is open each day from 8.45am to 4pm. Teacher librarians and library staff are here to help students access useful resources and are available to help with research, assignments and reading suggestions.

Year 11 students have attended Library Orientation sessions via their English classes, where they have been introduced to excellent library resources within and beyond the college. A Tutorial Hour is held in the library each Thursday from 3pm to 4pm where students can ask teachers and teacher librarians for assignment help.

Dickson College supports BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). We help students connect their devices (laptops, phones, tablets etc ) to the college wifi network. Students who have IT issues can fill in a FIX-IT form at the library desk and Jessica Smith, our wonderful IT officer, will fix any problems.

We encourage all students to join Libraries ACT, our public library service. Membership is free and students over 16 years of age can join online without a parental signature. Cards and PIN numbers can be posted or collected. Libraries ACT has excellent resources including books, ebooks, audiobooks, DVDs and CDs. It also provides access to excellent online databases covering all subject areas. Students can read online journal articles via databases such as Academic Search Premier and Australia/NZ Reference Centre and these are very useful resources when researching for assessment tasks. <http://www.library.act.gov.au/>

At Dickson College Library we now have 50 non fiction ebooks available in the Library folder in G: drive on the student computer network. These cover various social and environmental issues

and can be accessed by multiple students. We have also subscribed to the excellent Weblinks service, which provides many websites in various subject areas, selected for college students. The Library folder on the student network also has Hot Topics, with links to many newspaper articles on current topics – social, global and environmental. Another useful resource on the student network is eNotes, which has many study guides for English novels and plays.

The Dickson College Library wiki is available at <http://dckclib.wikispaces.com> . There are many useful links including: how to write bibliographies and textual references, a reference generator, how to avoid plagiarism, writing tips, research tools and useful links for subject areas and assignments.



We look forward to working with all students!

**The Library Team - Lindy Hathaway, Gary Floyd, Julie England and Robert Brown.**

## Information Technology

The Dickson College Innovation team has developed an excellent example of the use of recycled components to lower the cost of products while keeping harmful substances out of the landfill. The Raspberry Pi Wall uses recycled 17 inch monitors, networking components from Tiny Tim's Green shed, surplus cables and even recycled wood and screws to create a very large high definition video wall. It also utilizes the extremely economical Raspberry Pi boards which runs the free Linux operating system. The Raspberry Pi computer cases were printed on the Dickson College 3-D printer.

This Pi Wall is scalable and can be any size (the first prototype is 3 screens x 2 screens). Peter Horniak, a brilliant student at CIT, has helped developed this prototype at Dickson College. We are very keen on developing this technology even further.....any ideas?



**Photo Caption - Recycled Raspberry Pi Video Wall - Dickson College Innovation**

## From the P&C

On behalf of the Dickson College P&C, we hope you had a good break and we wish you all the best for 2014.

### What does the P & C do?

Over the last year or so the P&C has been run by a small group of parents. Our major role has been to operate the canteen, which the P&C has been doing since 2006. The profits from the canteen are used to provide financial support to the college. Some of the initiatives we assisted with last year were:

- The breakfast program
- The DesignGate arts and crafts Market
- Other programs as requested.

Most importantly the P&C has provided a forum for any parent to attend and hear about what is happening in the College. We meet twice a term to hear from the Principal and other senior staff and discuss issues that affect your child's education.

### What is planned for 2014

This year we propose to continue with the same activities as last year, and there is scope for you to contribute in other ways as well.

Specifically we are looking for some new office bearers for 2014. In 2013, the positions of President, Treasurer, Secretary and Public Officer were held by two people. If the P&C is to continue to operate the canteen we need some help!

The workload is not onerous - we only meet twice a term and the meetings rarely go beyond 2 hours.

If you are interested in being involved, our next regular meeting our AGM is on Monday 24 March, at 6.30pm. Also if you would like to talk about becoming involved please feel free to ring me on 0497 375 026 at any time.

**John Rumble**  
**President**

# Mathematics

The Chief Scientist, Professor Ian Chubb, said in his report on the health of Australian Science in 2012: "Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics will play an important part in the solutions we find for our future health, safety and prosperity as a nation and as a planet." Amongst other report findings, it was stated that "Participation rates for all levels of maths were in decline between 2002 and 2010". Maths at Dickson aims to reverse this trend at our school.

The photo shows some of our new students loving maths on Valentine's Day 2014, trying hard to remember all the numerical work they learnt last year but left behind them during the summer break.



## Maths Competitions

The Australian Mathematics Competition will be held on the Thursday 7 August. It costs \$5.50 to enter. The ICAS maths competition costs \$8 and will be on Tuesday 12 August. If students want to enter either of these prestigious competitions, they need to collect an entry form from the maths corridor, then take the form and entry fee to the front office. Please submit entries this term to guarantee a position.

Some students are already excited about the inaugural Dickson College Pi memorising competition. Entry is free and the event will be held on the Friday 14 March. Prizes include minties, small chocolate bars and knitted pi bookmarks.



## Calculators

All students enrolled in our Maths Methods and Specialist Maths courses are expected to buy a graphics calculator to support their work and assessment in maths. We recommend the CASIO fx-9860G AU Plus model that can be purchased for \$170 from the front office of the school. Teachers will help students to learn different functions of this calculator as the course progresses.

Learning happens best when students take responsibility for what they are learning. We will be working to involve all our students in all aspects of their learning while also working as a team to ensure quality teaching in all our classrooms. If parents are concerned about any aspect of their child's learning, they should encourage their child to talk with their teacher in the first instance. If the issue is still not resolved, students are always welcome to make a time to speak with me directly by coming to the maths staffroom.

**Clare Byrne**  
Executive Teacher Mathematics



## PE

What a start of the year it has been! The PE department are busy sorting through student's sports preferences, so if you missed out or are interested in representing the College in any sports, please pop in and say hello!

Exercise science has been in full swing with students learning all about the structural levels of the body and completing a microscope practical where students had to observe different cell types using microscopes.

TSP rugby have been participating in specialised training sessions run by the Canberra Raiders and the ACT Brumbies, all in preparation for their upcoming tournaments. The boys compete in the first Rugby League 9s this week and the start of the John Allen Cup in the following week. Week 5 sees the Rugby Union 7s being held in Queanbeyan and Dickson are fielding both a girls' team and a boys' team. Any students interested in playing Rugby for the College need to see the PE staff ASAP.

Outdoor Ed is also flat out with Scuba Diving,



white-water rafting, wakeboarding and rock climbing trips all in the pipeline for what is to be a massive start to the year.

Our defending College Cricket champions had a narrow loss to Gungahlin but are training hard and are still on track to take out the competition again this year.

Basketball saw our boys go down to Gungahlin but our girls team won by one point in a nail biting game.



At the Annual Capital Football Referee Award Night, Jose Izurieta, year 11, received two referee awards: the Senior Molnar Award and the Frank Molnar Achievement Award Cadet Referee. You will find the information here about the Senior Award. The second award he received is for being the best Junior Referee for the Kanga Cup this year.

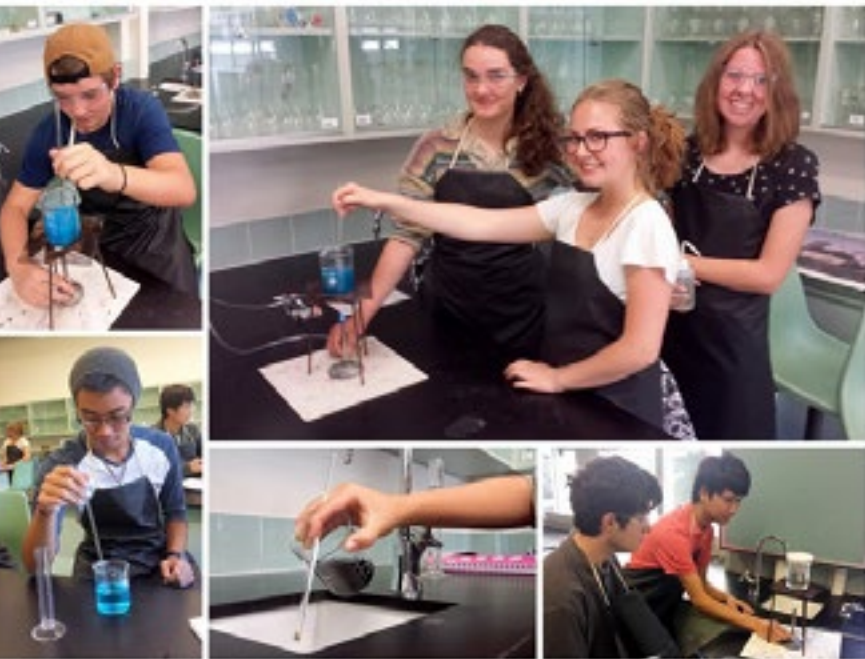
<http://www.capitalfootball.com.au/node/652>

## Science

### *A few limmericks from Science!*

#### **Chemistry**

We started straight up with a prac about copper,  
It was recycled, not sent to the hopper,  
There were whizzes and bubbles,  
But not too much trouble,  
As the safety-conscious teacher had us doing it  
proper!!!



#### **Oceanography**

T'was a shanty in ocean we sang in time,  
As we extracted salt from the saline,  
To the crucible we applied flame,  
The spitting, it was not tame,  
But the product was just fine.

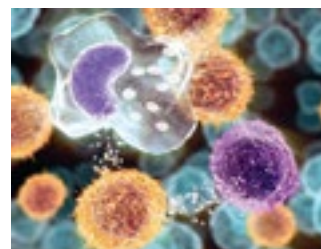
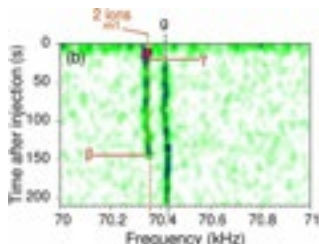




## THURSDAY 13TH MARCH, DICKSON COLLEGE SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM 2014

### Program

- 9:00–9:10 Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country
- 9:10–9:55 Keynote Address: Professor Chris Goodnow, John Curtin School for Medical Research, ANU
- 10:10–10:55 Associate Professor Catherine Morgans, OHSU, Oregon, USA
- 10:55–11:30 Morning tea
- 11:30– 2:15 Associate Professor Edie Sevick, Research School of Chemistry, ANU
- 12:30–1:15 Associate Professor Kristen Pammer, Research School of Psychology, ANU
- 1:05–2:00 Lunch (sausage sizzle plus science demos)
- 2:10–2:55 Dr Greg Lane, Research School of Physics & Engineering, ANU



### **Professor Chris Goodnow**, ANU John Curtin School of Medical Research

Chris Goodnow is an NHMRC Australia Fellow, Distinguished Professor of Immunology, and Chief Scientific Officer of the Australian Phenomics Facility at the Australian National University's John Curtin School of Medical Research. Originally trained in Veterinary medicine and surgery, immunochemistry, and in molecular and cellular immunology, he leads a research team that have illuminated how the body's immune system learns to distinguish "self" from "not-self" so that it does not attack our own body while fighting off infections. Using powerful experimental tools of mouse molecular genetics he has pioneered new ways to reveal how the body's phenotype results from its' genotype – "phenomics".

### **Dr Gregory Lane**, ANU Research School of Physics & Engineering

Dr Lane's research is based around investigations of the structure of exotic nuclei created with heavy ion beams at both the Australian Heavy Ion Accelerator Facility and at international laboratories, and has led to the publication of over 120 articles in refereed journals.

### **Associate Professor Catherine Morgans**, Oregon, USA

Research in Dr. Morgans' lab is focused on the structure and function of synapses in the retina. Using mouse models, she is investigating the role of key genes in normal vision as well as genetic and autoimmune perturbations that cause visual diseases and deficits.

### **Associate Professor Kristen Pammer**, ANU Research School of Psychology

Kristen Pammer's primary research interest is in the brain mechanisms involved when people read, and how they might be different for people who cannot read - who are dyslexic. She uses brain imaging techniques to track information flow through the brain while reading.

### **Associate Professor Edie Sevick**, ANU Research School of Chemistry

Edie Sevick leads the Polymers & Soft Condensed Matter Group at the Research School of Chemistry at the ANU. She and her group probe single polymers and colloids using "optical tweezers", a device that allows you to pull the ends of a DNA molecule and simultaneously measure the pulling force.



## ***SIEC / Refugee Bridging Program***

Welcome to all new and continuing Refugee Bridging Program students for 2014.

The Refugee Bridging Program has been developed as a response to the interrupted schooling of many of the young refugee students that enter the ACT college sector.

The RBP is a year 11 and 12 course, generally undertaken over two or three years. Students who aspire to gain their year 12 certificate are given the opportunity to study units that support their past educational and life experiences and meet their current educational needs. The flexible nature of the program allows more able and experienced students to move into mainstream units when appropriate in order to continue their educational pathway. Several of our 2014 students are striving for university entrance once they finish their education at Dickson College.

The program includes strong ESL support, mentoring, cultural orientation and life skills. Students have consistent contact with a small team of teachers. The focus is not only on academic support but also the broader welfare of the student, including support with settlement issues.

Currently the 30+ students enrolled for 2014 belong to the Burmese ethnic minority Karen, Chin and Rohingya communities, and also from Afghanistan (primarily Hazara), Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Sierra Leone, Pakistan, Sudan, Somalia and Democratic Republic of Congo.

Most of the exiting 2013 students are continuing their learning journey at the CIT. We wish them all the best for the future.

Please feel free to contact me for any further information.



We are pleased to announce that one of our year 12 students, Abram Kamara, has been the recipient of the Public Education Foundation Capital Chemist Centenary College Scholarship for 2014.

This scholarship provides the recipient with money to help them with their education expenses during their final year of secondary schooling. Abram chose to purchase a computer, his first ever computer so it was particularly special.

Abram is a hardworking, diligent and kind young man and he is a valued member of our school community. We are very proud of him and congratulate him on his award.

**Ros Phillips Executive Teacher  
Refugee Bridging Program  
6205 6334**

# ***Student Wellbeing Centre***

## **TRANSITION TO COLLEGE**

### **Extra support for year 11 students**

The transition from high school into college is an exciting and sometimes difficult time. Here at Dickson College we have a dedicated Transitions Program for students experiencing difficulty. This program is available to students for up to 4 hours a week and is held in its own flexible learning space. We also offer a Tutorial Hour in the Library each Thursday from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. Teachers across a range of disciplines volunteer their time to assist students with their homework and assessment.

**For more information please phone Sara Morgans on 6205-6476 in the Student Wellbeing Centre.**

The Student Wellbeing Centre assists all students to enjoy success at College. Student Wellbeing staff provide support for students, their parents, carers and teachers. We are happy to see students and parents on a drop-in basis, but it is wise to book an appointment. Call us on 6205 6447.

### **Wellbeing team**

**Executive Teacher:** - Sara Morgans 62056476

**Year 12 Advisors:** - Brooke Cooper and Josephine Kim

**Year 11 Advisor:** - Claire Sandrey and Lex Warfield 62072226

**Psychologist:** - Shireen Manocha

**Assessment & Certification:** - Executive Teacher: Juliette Bornas 62056475

**Administration:** - Sharon Butler 62056426

### **Student Progress**

Students are assessed continuously during college years. It is essential that teachers are made aware of any matters that may affect a student's assessment as early as possible so that any necessary adjustments can be made.

You can approach the Student Wellbeing Centre, including the College Psychologist, if you want teachers made aware of any problems at home that may be having an effect on students' progress.

### **Attendance**

Students new to Year 11 sometimes have difficulty understanding the impact of absences on their time at College. If a student has too many unexplained absences, they will void the unit (V grade) which means they get no unit points for that subject. As a Year 12 Certificate requires 17 points, the absent student may find they don't have enough points to graduate in two years.

Communicating with parents is important to us. If a student's attendance record is causing concern, Dickson College has the following processes in place:

- Each Monday afternoon, an automated email or SMS attendance alert will be sent to parents if a student has missed 4 or more individual lessons during the previous week. This process starts in week 3. Please phone us if you receive an attendance alert.
- If a student has many absences in a particular subject, the relevant classroom teacher will contact parents.
- Pastoral Care teachers will phone home or email if the students in their Happy Hour class has missed 4 or more absences in any given subject.
- The Student Wellbeing Team will also contact parents/guardians if attendance is an on-going concern.

We hope that this systematic and thorough set of processes will ensure that no parent is without knowledge of their child's attendance at school.

If a student is required to be absent from college for an extended period a Year Advisor or pastoral care teacher can liaise with classroom teachers to organise for work to be sent home.

It would be appreciated if family holidays could be arranged during term breaks, so as not to disrupt learning and assessment.

Leave of Absence forms are available from our office and also from our website – it may be that some students have missed class for legitimate reasons and neglected to fill in the appropriate leave form. Please contact us if you wish to discuss attendance.

## **Assessment**

Students will be required to complete a number of assessment items throughout each semester. The assessment schedule for each unit studied is given to the student at the beginning of each semester in a unit outline. Students will need to provide appropriate evidence acceptable to the College (eg. a medical certificate) in order that Student Wellbeing staff and subject teachers can make alternative arrangements for assessment if they are absent for any assessment item on the day it is due.

Parents will be notified by mail or email if a student fails to submit an assignment. Please ring the Student Wellbeing Centre if you receive an assessment alert.

A special assessment timetable will operate at the end of each semester, and students are expected to be available during this period.

A student can be granted special consideration or status in a case of prolonged absence that extends over the period of a term and which affects academic progress (such as in the case of chronic sickness).

Students have the right to appeal against their assessment if they think they have been unfairly treated.

## **School Psychologist**

The psychologist is Shireen Manocha and she is available 5 days a week to discuss a range of issues with students and parents on a confidential basis. Issues can include adjustment to College, personal and social concerns, family matters and health, learning difficulties, special education needs, attendance and community helping agencies. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact Shireen directly or via the front office of the College.

## **Student wellbeing – dealing with stress**

Dickson College Wellbeing Centre runs a Tutorial Hour every Thursday in the College library. A teacher and a teacher librarian are always available to help students with assignments and time management. Oral presentations are a regular form of assessment in many subject areas. Students who experience difficulty with speeches and presentations involving an audience can take part in a Dickson College Spoken Word Club which will operate from week 3 onwards every Thursday afternoon from 3pm to 4pm. Please ring 6205-6426 for more information.

**Sara Morgans**  
**Executive Teacher Student Wellbeing Centre**





## ACT Education & Training Directorate Free Parent Workshop Using iPads to Support Students Struggling with Literacy

This workshop will provide a chance to explore the multiple ways the iPad can support your child who struggles with reading, writing, and being organised with school work.

Today, more than ever, students with diverse learning needs, including students with learning difficulties and students for whom English is not their first language, can struggle with the literacy requirements of school learning programs and curriculum content. They can find it difficult to access, participate and progress through the learning programs being provided, due to difficulties with reading and writing. Technology is playing a key role in removing barriers and providing tools to accommodate the learning needs of all our students.

*Come along and explore how the iPad can support your child.* **When:** Tuesday 8th April 2014

**Where:** Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning 51 Fremantle Dr Stirling  
**Time:** 4.00 -5.30pm  
**Room:** Hall  
**Presenter:** Greg O'Connor (Spectronics)

**RSVP:** Friday 4th April 2014 to [julie.ireland@act.gov.au](mailto:julie.ireland@act.gov.au) for further information phone: 6207 2331

### About the Presenter

Greg has been actively involved in supporting the learning of students with diverse learning needs for over 30 years. During this time he has worked as a classroom teacher, school executive, district consultant and regional manager with the New South Wales Department of Education and Training, Australia. Greg's areas of interest and expertise include supporting people with complex needs, challenging behaviors and autism, and literacy support technologies for students with diverse learning needs. He is passionately committed to the use of inclusive and instructional technologies to support the learning of ALL students in school and post school settings.

<http://www.spectronicsinoz.com/blog/resource/greg-oconnor/>

# Technology & Hospitality

## HOSPITALITY

It's been a great start to Hospitality in 2014. Adrian Sandrey, a Chef from George Harcourt Inn very kindly donated his time to run an interactive workshop for Line 5 students. Students had the opportunity to see the range of knives used in the Hospitality industry, learnt to sharpen knives and gained skills in presenting different cuts using a range of knives, such as julienne and brunoise. Adrian also showed students the different methods of preparing garnishes for mains and desserts.

We also had the pleasure of one of our own Dickson College teachers, Claire Sandrey give a presentation of the 'dos and don'ts' of front of house service to Line 3 students. Students gained excellent tips in providing good customer service, did role plays and were given lots of time to practice holding plates. In week 4, Line 3 will be running their very first restaurant service for 2014. They will be cooking for up to 50 guests. Our next restaurant is in week 8. If you are interested in supporting our Hospitality students, please make a booking with Mel Cook.





## Evening Classes Term 2- CIT Solutions

| COURSE NAME                       | SESSIONS | DAY       | TIMES           | START DATE | END DATE   |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| Woodworking                       | 6        | Monday    | 6.00pm - 9.00pm | 05/05/2014 | 16/06/2014 |
| Yoga - Samyama                    | 8        | Monday    | 6.00pm - 7.30pm | 05/05/2014 | 23/06/2014 |
| <b>Dancing at Dickson: -</b>      |          |           |                 |            |            |
| - Rumba Cha                       | 7        | Monday    | 6.00pm - 7.00pm | 05/05/2014 | 23/06/2014 |
| - Swing                           | 7        | Monday    | 7.00pm - 8.00pm | 05/05/2014 | 23/06/2014 |
| - Salsa                           | 7        | Monday    | 8.00pm - 9.00pm | 05/05/2014 | 23/06/2014 |
| Yoga - Hatha                      | 8        | Monday    | 5.45pm - 7.15pm | 05/05/2014 | 23/06/2014 |
| Meditation - Intro                | 6        | Monday    | 7.30pm - 8.15pm | 05/05/2014 | 16/06/2014 |
| Wine Appreciation                 | 6        | Monday    | 7.00pm - 9.00pm | 05/05/2014 | 16/06/2014 |
| Juggling for Beginners            | 6        | Tuesday   | 6.30pm - 7.30pm | 20/05/2014 | 24/06/2014 |
| <b>Cooking</b>                    |          |           |                 |            |            |
| Flavours of India                 | 4        | Wednesday | 6.00pm - 9.00pm | 07/05/2014 | 28/05/2014 |
| Small Business - Introduction     | 6        | Wednesday | 6.30pm - 8.30pm | 07/05/2014 | 11/06/2014 |
| Upholstery                        | 7        | Wednesday | 6.00pm - 9.00pm | 07/05/2014 | 18/06/2014 |
| American Tribal Style Belly Dance | 7        | Wednesday | 6.30pm - 7.30pm | 07/05/2014 | 18/06/2014 |
| Canapes and Nibbles               | 1        | Thursday  | 6.00pm - 9.00pm | 03/04/2014 | 03/04/2014 |

**Term 1 classes are well underway, please call CIT Solutions on 62074441 for all bookings.**