Our students have once again had a very productive term. A number of our students attended the recent Doncaster District Primary School Athletics Day at the Tom Kelly athletics track to help with the management of events. I would like to extend a thank you to Dimitra Ferizis who helped facilitate our student participation. The senior music students entertained us at the VCE Soiree night. The performances were of a very high standard. Many students were able to develop their leadership skills by running student led year level assemblies, through to the fund raising activities of the student Interact Club. Interact provided food at last Tuesday’s student led conferences and also raised funds at the Sleep Out evening. The funds raised will go to the Light House Foundation, which provides support for homeless young people.

The recent Parent Teacher Student led conference day was well attended. There were, unfortunately, some technical problems with the booking system and I would like to apologise for any inconvenience or frustration that this may have caused. We will continue to refine and develop the concept of students taking a lead role in these ‘reporting’ days.

On a different note, I am pleased to report that the College has reduced its electricity usage by well over 40% as a result of the solar power installation, which College Council endorsed and funded last year. While this is environmentally friendly, the savings will also allow us to redirect more of our budget towards student learning. A feed in tariff has also been finalised with United Energy which will additionally help us manage our utilities budget.

Early in term three, we will finalise our school self-evaluation and external review. We will then develop our new Strategic Plan. Simply put, the Strategic Plan identifies areas for improvement, based on a range of data such as parent and student opinion surveys and other hard data, such as VCE and Naplan results. The Strategic Plan will include strategies to achieve our goals. These strategies will be reviewed each year over the four years of the Strategic Plan. Literacy and Numeracy are two areas we expect to be included. Other areas for improvement may include student voice and participation in the development of the curriculum and learning environment and a more intense focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Year 12 students are entering their final preparation phase for the forthcoming VCE exams. We wish them all the best in their endeavours.

Mr Jeff Pavlou – Assistant Principal
COLLEGE UNIFORM

Uniform options
As you would be aware, this year we have been working with students and College Council members to develop some optional uniform items. Trousers and summer shorts (the style of shorts is being finalised) will be available for girls from 2018.

To assist in reducing costs to parents, there will also be further adjustments to girls' socks. Girls' socks will be white with the summer dress and black to match the girls’ school trousers and shorts. Trousers and shorts are optional for girls.

There will be a new jacket available to replace the current spray jacket. The new outer jacket will be cheaper to purchase than the current spray jacket; however, to keep the costs down for parents, the current spray jacket may continue to be worn if students wish to do so.

There will also be a new VCE polo top for students enrolled in Units 1-4 of Physical Education.

Further information will be distributed toward the end of the year. A new uniform list will also be available from PSW later in the year.

Mr Jeff Pavlou - Assistant Principal

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP - CHANGES

From now, the second hand uniform shop is unable to accept more second hand uniforms to sell.

Second hand items are still available for purchase from the Second hand Uniform Shop, which is open on Thursday mornings, until the end of the 2017 school year.

“Sustainable School Shop” will soon provide families the ability to buy and sell second hand uniform items using their on-line service.

Information about the new on-line service will be available in the newsletter and on Compass Newsfeed in Term 4.

Mr Jeff Pavlou - Assistant Principal

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Melika Nozhat in 9A!!!!
If you would like to see Melika’s published works in the latest issue of HASHTAG OZ read the latest E-magazine: http://hashtagoz.com.au/

Ms Belinda McGee - Assistant Principal
Learning Collaboratively

We are all different in the way we prefer to learn. Some students like to work in groups, and others prefer to work alone. Some students like to discuss things over Skype or messenger and some like to work together in person. There is a reason why we have the saying ‘two heads are better than one’, so let’s see how this applies to different types of students.

If you think, you always prefer to work alone:

- It is great that you are very self-sufficient. Students who prefer to work alone are often confident in their own abilities. However sometimes these students make it more difficult for themselves by not asking for help when they need it. So if you are this type of student, don’t struggle on alone when you get into difficulties or don’t understand something. Being able to ask for help when you need it is an important skill for academic success. Just become more aware that you don’t always ask for help and instead try reaching out a little more when you need help.
- The other area to consider is that when you talk about things with other people it can often help you to see things from a different perspective. By discussing ideas with another person, you also may find you clarify your own thoughts. By not being open to collaboration, you might not develop your ideas as well as you could or you might not see potential issues that a fresh pair of eyes and ears might discover. If you haven’t done much collaboration, give it a try and you might find yourself surprised at how valuable you find the experience.

If you already love working with other people:

- Make sure that you always contribute equally and don’t expect other people to do all the work for you.
- Collaboration doesn’t mean cheating. For example, it is ok to discuss an assignment and what you think it is about and how you might approach it, but it is not ok to write the assignment together and hand in similar pieces of work.
- Collaboration also doesn’t mean wasting time. If you are working with other people make sure you are staying on task and not getting distracted.
- Every now and then you have to do things on your own. If you always do your Maths homework with your friends, you might not really know what you can and can’t do on your own. The first time you find this out could be a test which could be a big issue. Always ask yourself if the work you are doing is going to be enhanced by collaboration or if it is more appropriate to try the work on your own.
- It is important each night to have a certain amount of homework time on your own. If you want to collaborate when you are working at home, make specific times to do this. Don’t skype the entire night with your friends. Instead, have set times for collaboration and set times for independent work.

You and your parents can learn more about group work skills at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units.

Username: doncastersc
Password: 168results

Ms Belinda McGee – Assistant Principal
Doncaster Secondary College says NO to Family Violence

I would like to say thank you to Mr Daniel Tomada for bringing together students and staff to develop the “Doncaster Secondary College Says NO to Family Violence” banner. This is part of an Eastern Region initiative to encourage organisations to take a stand against Family Violence.

The evidence shows that women are far more likely to experience family violence, with more than one in three Australian women aged over 18 experiencing violence since the age of 15 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2012.)

Evidence is clear that drivers of family violence include:
- Condoning violence against women
- Rigid gender roles and stereotyped views of what it means to be a man or a woman
- Interactions that emphasise or condone aggression or disrespect towards women

As we work towards making a difference, the material and content which we present and discuss may be challenging and upsetting and for this reason I would like to promote the 1800 RESPECT, National sexual assault, domestic, family violence counselling service.

Doncaster Secondary College will be making a difference through the implementation of the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships curriculum. However, the curriculum will not make a difference unless we implement a whole school approach which involves all of our school community. This approach must address the drivers of family violence through our everyday interactions.

Through actioning some of the examples included on the “Know your A-Z” poster, we can start to change the culture and equip children with the skills to communicate positively and respectfully, build positive relationships and challenge stereotypes that don’t support equality.

Mr Glenn Morris
Assistant Principal
Doncaster Secondary College Alumni

Do you know that in 2019 our College will be turning 50? In honour of this very special event, we have decided to form an Alumni to be up and running in time to celebrate such a momentous occasion.

We have created a Facebook page and would love you all to spread the word to past teachers, students and admin staff associated with the College. Our Facebook group is called Doncaster SC Alumni. Email your name, telephone number and final year associated with the College to be kept updated. doncasterscalumni@gmail.com.

Mrs Sofia Georgiou - College Council President

Volunteerism makes it possible for Doncare to deliver essential support services to the Manningham community. Our Op Shop program is seeking volunteers to work in our Op Shops located in Bulleen Plaza Shopping Centre, North Blackburn Shopping Centre and Jackson Court Shopping Centre. Joining the 270 volunteers in our Op Shop program not only benefits the volunteer but make an immediate difference to women and children recovering from family violence, families experiencing financial hardship and elderly people in the Manningham community who have become socially isolated. Find out how you can make a positive contribution to your community by volunteering at a Doncare Op Shop. https://doncare.org.au/volunteer #doitfordoncare #volunteer #supportstrengthencommunity #volunteerinmanningham

We are always interested to hear from people who would like to join the roster. If you enjoy meeting people and can spare a few hours per week, please contact us.

How to Apply

- Pick up an application form from one of our shops, or
- Contact Doncare’s Op Shops Program on 9856 1500 or by email to request an application form. Morning or afternoon shifts are available during the week and on Saturdays.
- Print out an application form here and return it to one of our shops, or post it to Doncare Op Shops Program Suite 4, Level 1, 687 Doncaster Road Doncaster, 3108.
Tickets available at the door:
Students/Concession - $3
Adults - $5
Family - $10

Performance Centre
Doncaster Secondary College
7pm
Monday 16th October 2017

Spring Concert
Doncaster Secondary College
KNOW YOUR A-Z

Prevent violence against women - challenge gender stereotypes and promote respect.

A?
ASK women you know about their experiences of sexism and harassment.

BELIEVE reports of violence and sexual assault. Offer support, not suspicion.

CHANGE the conversation to talk about who she is, not what she looks like.

DON'T ask "Why doesn't she leave?" or "Why is he violent?"

E
ENCOURAGE men and boys to talk about their thoughts and emotions.

F
FIND ways to support women's choices, whatever they are.

G
GIVE women and men equal opportunities and assume they have equal abilities.

H
HELP young people understand sexual consent and free agreement.

I
INSPIRE boys and girls to be equally strong, thoughtful and compassionate.

J
JUST don't laugh at jokes that put women down.

K
KNOW that gender inequality hurts men, women and kids.

L
'LIKE A GIRL' isn't an insult, don't use it like one.

M
MAKE an effort to talk positively about strong and powerful women.

N
NOTICE when a woman is interrupted or spoken over, and call it out.

O
OPPOSE gender stereotypes - they disadvantage all of us.

P
PUSH yourself to parent equally with your partner.

Q
QUESTION what it means to be a 'good man'.

R
RELEARN your history, Google women who changed the world.

S
SHOW children examples of women and men doing non-stereotypical jobs.

T
TALK about equal pay at work.

U
UNDERSTAND that there are many myths about what causes violence.

V
VALUE women's space and opinions; ask them what they think.

W
WALK away from mates who don't respect women.

X
(E)XAMINE how women are portrayed in popular culture - don't buy into it.

Y
YOU have a role in ending violence - speak up and act whenever you can.

Z
ZIP-IT Don't make that sexist joke or demeaning comment.