We would like to wish each and every family a Merry Christmas & safe New Year!
It is hard to believe another year is drawing to a close. The College has enjoyed a stable and successful year with our community working well in partnership to ensure our students succeed. I would like to take the opportunity to wish all our families the very best for Christmas and the New Year. I hope you all have a wonderful break and we are looking forward to a successful 2014. To the students and families who leave us, I wish you all the success in your future paths and hope you achieve your goals.

At this time of the year it is important to celebrate our successes and I encourage all students and parents to reflect on the successes of 2013. It is important all families take the time to go over the student reports when they are available. If parents would like further information, please feel free to contact relevant teachers for extra feedback.

**PRESENTATION NIGHT**

The College’s Presentation Evening will be a celebration of the success of all our students. The Presentation Night will be held on Tuesday, 17th December beginning at 7pm. I encourage all parents and students to attend the evening where we recognise academic, sporting, and civic achievement as well as commitment and improvement of our top students.

We will publish all award winners from the Presentation Evening and Valedictory Dinner in the first newsletter next year. There will also be a further recognition of excellent 2013 performances at an assembly early in 2014.

**YEAR 11 INTO 12 HEADSTART**

Last week the Year 10 and 11 students returned as Year 11 and 12 students in the Head Start program. We hope the program achieved its goal of giving students an idea of their required commitment as well as an idea of the content of each of the units they are studying. It is important that students complete any holiday preparation so they are up to date and prepared for Day 1 next year.

**GRADE 6 ORIENTATION DAY**

On Tuesday, 10th December the College conducted its Orientation Day for the 2014 Year 7 group. The large group of 164 Grade 6 students hopefully had a great day getting a taste of Secondary College life. Our new parents also attended an Information Evening and have begun the partnership we hope will build success for the students over the next six years.

We look forward to students starting a successful 2014, returning to Drouin Secondary College on Thursday, 30th January.

*Merry Christmas.*
Reports for all students in Years 7 -11 are currently being finalised and prepared. These reports will be available for collection at the end of the evening on Presentation Evening. Reports may only be collected by the student or their parents or guardians. Reports cannot be collected by friends or siblings. The Presentation Evening is being held on Tuesday, 17th December in the Lyn Kelly Stadium commencing at 7pm. Any reports which have not been collected at the end of the evening will be mailed out directly to the home address currently on College records.

Year 8 Japanese students recently had the privilege of speaking with Japanese students from Shinwa High School in Japan via live video conferencing. Students prepared short presentations about Australia, Drouin Secondary College and a cultural topic which was suggested by the Japanese students – ‘Yuru Kyara’. Our students thoroughly enjoyed researching and presenting this to the Japanese students.

During the final presentation we had representatives from the Department of Education attend and Drouin Secondary College Principal Mr. Wainwright greeted the principal of Shinwa High, Mr. Yueda.

It was an amazing opportunity for our students to put their language learning into meaningful practice and we hope to continue our video conference exchanges with the students of Shinwa High School into 2014 and beyond.

Every year, students at DSC are required to complete ICT Bootcamp. This year is no different.

What HAS changed is the timing...

Students in Years 7-9 will complete ICT Bootcamp during class time in the week commencing 2nd December. Year 7 students will get time during Moondah, Year 8 students will get time during Science and Year 9 students will get time during English.

Students who have passed the course, paid their $70 annual fee and handed their Netbooks back by 12th December will get their Netbook back unlocked in time for the summer holidays.

Students who have not met all three conditions will get their Netbooks...
From the start of 2014 all students should be wearing the complete new uniform.

Details of the College uniform are outlined in the College Handbook, available on the DSC website, and in the Parent Information section of the DSC website.

The Physical Education uniform includes the “Buxwear” or “Knights” brand DSC tops & navy blue shorts. Please note that students must change into sports shoes for PE.

Assistance with cost:
Lay-by is available at the Uniform Shop. Uniform can be put aside and paid off gradually. This is flexible to suit your needs. Parents who have a current payment plan, or who would like to start a payment plan, can apply to the DSC Business Manager for a Uniform Credit Note. This can then be used at the Uniform Shop to assist with purchases.
The College also offers financial assistance to families in need. Please contact Anne Wilson (Student Wellbeing Leader).

DSC Uniform Shop

Normal Trading Hours for 2013
Thursday – 10.00am – 6.00pm
First Saturday in the month – 9.30am – 12.30pm

Additional Trading Hours from 02/11/2013 to 19/12/2013
Saturday 9.30am – 2.30pm

BACK TO SCHOOL TRADING HOURS 2014
January, 2014
Thursday 23rd 9.30am – 4.30pm
(Also Landmark Booklist collection day: 10am-3pm)
Friday 24th 9.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday 25th 9.30am – 1.30pm
Tuesday 28th 9.30am – 4.30pm
Wednesday 29th 9.30am – 4.30pm
Thursday 30th 10.00am – 6.00pm (Students return to school)

Normal Trading Hours for 2014
Thursday 10.00am – 6.00pm
First Saturday in the month – 9.30am – 12.30pm

Second-hand uniform & books can also be sold & purchased at the Uniform Shop. Items may be left at the Uniform Store or at the General Office.

Please note only current uniform items can be accepted.
The DSC Uniform Shop is located towards the back of the College on the roundabout in front of the Auditorium.

Uniform information is available at www.drouinsec.edu.au
Or please ring Uniform Shop Manager: Tina Van t’Hoff on: 0427 592 201.
Attention Year 12 Students (2013)

VCE/VCAL RESULTS 2013

Your VCE / VCAL results are available via SMS and Internet from 7:00am Monday 16th December 2013. Students’ results package for Unit 3 and 4 will be mailed from 16th December 2013 to your home address. This may include:

- VCE or VCAL Statement of Results
- GAT Statement of Results
- VCE VET Statement of Results

VCE / VCAL Certificates are sent to the school from 17th December 2013. Students can only collect their own certificate and must sign in person on receiving the VCE/VCAL Certificate. Please collect this from Mrs Fisher at the General Office.

Students are able to access the College Careers Advisors for advice at any time. Please ring the College for appointments if required on 56251002.

The Big Read In

The Big Read In provided many avid readers the opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities based on favourite titles and authors. Based in the Drouin Secondary Library on 11th December, students made posters and bookmarks, visited YA reading and authors’ websites, browsed books, talked about books, read books and recommended books.

TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR SPELLING ABILITY

- Sound out words
- Learn common suffixes – for example, ‘tion’, ‘ology’
- Avoid using Spellcheck
- When you are exposed to a new word, try to link it in your mind to a word with similar word parts – for example: grotesque and picturesque
- Read novels which are challenging and which feature complex vocabulary choices

These are just a few of the words that Harrison Phillips had to spell last week to complete the final list of the Year 7 Spelling Program. With lists beginning at mid-primary level and ending with VCE level, Harrison successfully passed 21 tests over the course of the year to reach the pinnacle of the program.

“It felt good to finish the program,” Harrison said. The lists are colour coded and become progressively harder. Students are allocated a list at the beginning of the year based on their spelling ability and need to successfully pass a test to move on to the following list.

“I practised during Toolbox Tuesday lessons. I did [study] in the library after school for a couple of colour levels. I practised quite a bit more for the last level.”

The question begs: is there a word that still trips Harry up?

“‘Definitely’ took me a while, but I hope I know it now.”

Ubiquitous.
Paediatrician.
Chauvinistic.

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On 11th and 12th November, the Year 11 VCE Agriculture and Horticulture class had the opportunity to participate in a two day excursion to Wonthaggi and Mornington Peninsular to gain first-hand knowledge of different types of farms and how some of them add value to their produce.

The students visited a mixed farm at Wonthaggi that was a dairy, had pigs, goats and beef with a home butchery. They also conduct farm visits with morning and afternoon teas which we found very enjoyable especially the china cups! Next up was a tour of a heritage nursery’s magnificent gardens with a seedling workshop followed by a (very cold) walk on Dromana beach.

We then visited a 250 goat dairy that made their own cheese which we tasted with some very nice drinking chocolate. The farm had robotic kid feeders which were fascinating and the Year 11s enjoyed being nibbled on and jumped on by some young kids (the goat kind!!).

We finished up going to the largest strawberry exporter in Australia where the students learned about pest and disease management amongst other things. They also enjoyed picking their own large punnet of strawberries too.

All in all it ended up being a farm AND food excursion which was enjoyed by all.
SOSE students have been involved in the exciting and creative world of real game. Real Game requires SOSE students to develop an imaginary town. The students take full control of the game and elect a Mayor, Assistant Mayor and Police Officer. The students are given an occupation at the commencement of the game and a sum of money depending on their occupation.

Activities that students engage in include selecting a name for the town, creating the rules and laws for the town, attending an auction in which they have to buy a block of land in the coastal town. Working as a team they design infrastructure and buildings including freeways and access to emergency services and the beach. Each student designs a large poster which must contain their home and business. Once all students have completed their posters the entire class’s posters are placed together on a wall to form a birdseye view of the town.

Throughout the game events such as natural disasters, winning a lotto and getting a promotion at work take place to keep the game interesting and interactive. Students learn to budget and how to rent a home and furnish the home. Students stated that they thoroughly enjoyed being a part of real game and we have included some photos taken from the networking day during which each student designed a poster and brochure, set up a stall and networked with five other students. I would like to congratulate the students on participating and being involved in the game ensuring that it was a very successful and rewarding task.
In 8HOL we have been on a journey together for the year and now it is time to say good-bye. On Monday, 9th December the boys came together to celebrate their year together. For many of the boys, the program has given them the chance to commit, to be respected, to achieve more than they ever thought possible and to feel part of a community – all values of the College. My vision was to bring together a group of boys who needed a lift in their learning, to nurture their belief in themselves and to help them open their eyes to the possibilities and opportunities that the future has to offer.

I had a personal goal to engage more of the local community into the program, through the CFA and Lions Club and I sincerely thank both John Atkins with the CFA members and Ros Ough with the Lions Club for their patience and ongoing efforts in working with these boys. Strong community ties like these make a huge difference to the lives of these young people.

I would really like to thank the rest of my amazing team. Teachers who take on programs like this, do it because they love teaching and being challenged. There is not a day that goes by, that we can say is the same as the last; and that’s what keeps us going. One of the main stays in the program is David Hobbs, he is in the classroom, on excursions, on camp, driving buses, organising visits and generally keeping me sane! Thank you Hobbo for your amazing positive attitude and never ending support, it has been an honor and a pleasure to work with you again.

Thank you to Brian Griffin and Andrea Francis who have believed in the program and supported the ideals throughout the year. Thank you to the many helpers throughout the year, including Josh, Anna, Ebony, Tristin and Daniel who have come along as volunteers to our excursions, camps and outings.

What a fabulous year.
Gita Walker
The Year 8/9 Team led by Mr Ray York took 53 high Progress Score achievers to the Phillip Island 360 as a reward for demonstrating a fantastic attitude to their learning and education in 2013. Students were able to watch qualifying, to interact with racing car drivers, have their photos taken, to walk along pit lane and look at vintage cars on exhibition or have a go in the jumping castle as well. It was lovely to reward students in the College that demonstrate College values and consistently demonstrate a high level of effort across the curriculum. A fun day was had by all! Many thanks to Ms Laura Burton for arranging the excursion.
Over 42 million words were read by Year 7 students during 2013.

A special mention goes to the following students for each reading over one million words:

Georgia Henderson - 2,025,789 words
Riley Thoonen - 1,458,516 words
Alicia Heywood - 1,449,185 words
Amy Rolls -1,433,878 words
Alyssa Fritzlaff - 1,395,470 words
Brianna Hope - 1,394,118 words
Charlotte Bensted - 1,136,213 words

It was pleasing to see so many students in Year 7 improve their reading habits.

Over four million words were read between 16th November and 12th December and 105 quizzes were completed successfully.

The 105 quiz takers were:


Thank you for supporting your child’s reading.

DSC English, SURFF and Library Staff

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**COLLEGE DATES TERM 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16/12</td>
<td>VCE/VCAL Results published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>17/12</td>
<td>Presentation Evening – 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18/12</td>
<td>Year 7 to 9 activities finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19/12</td>
<td>College Environment/ Community Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20/12</td>
<td>FINAL DAY</td>
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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY TERM 1 2014**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>16/01</td>
<td>WEP Tour Teambuilding Camp – all day – GW/KW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>17/01</td>
<td>WEP Tour Teambuilding Camp – all day – GW/KW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>23/01</td>
<td>Landmark Book Collection at Lyn Kelly Stadium 10am – 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>24/01</td>
<td>Office open 8:30am – 4:30pm Uniform Shop 9:30am – 4:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>25/01</td>
<td>Uniform Shop 9:30am – 1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>26/01</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>27/01</td>
<td>AUSTRALIA DAY Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>28/01</td>
<td>Staff Return Uniform Shop 9:30am – 4:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>29/01</td>
<td>Uniform Shop 9:30am – 4:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>30/01</td>
<td>Students Return – all year levels Uniform Shop 10:00am – 6:00pm</td>
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**WEEK 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7/02</td>
<td>Year 12 Melbourne Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11/02</td>
<td>College Presentation Assembly 12.50pm Year 7 Parent Meetings 4.00 – 6.30pm – Moondah - AL</td>
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**WEEK 4**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17/02</td>
<td>Photo Day – Student</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>18/02</td>
<td>Drouin Secondary College Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>19/02</td>
<td>Year 7 Parent Meetings - 4.00 – 6.30pm – Moondah - AL</td>
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**WEEK 6**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3/03</td>
<td>Year 7 camp week – AL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7/03</td>
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