

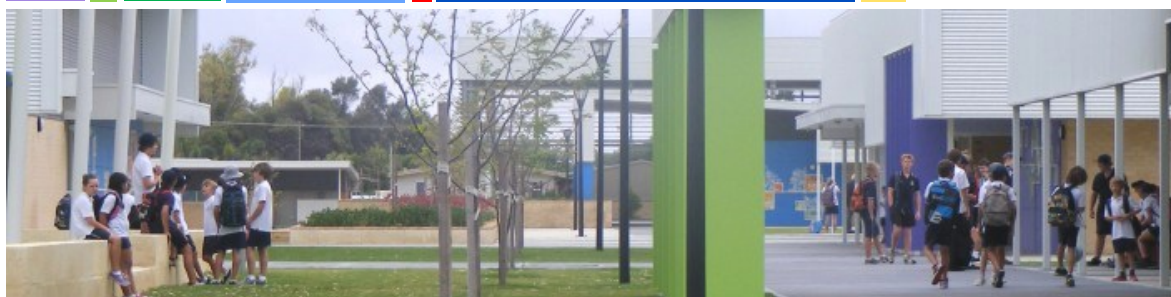
Important Dates

8 February
Secondary Study
Class every Monday
3.05-4.00pm

9 February
Year 1-12 Assembly
@ 8.55am

10 February
School Board Meeting
6:30pm

16 February
Year 1-12 Surf
Carnival



DONGARA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

NEWSLETTER 5th February 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the start of the 2021 school year at Dongara DHS. We have had a very successful start. It was lovely to visit the classrooms on day 1 and to see everyone so excited about being at school.



At present, our student numbers are 416 with 285 in Years K-6 and 131 in Years 7-12. There has been a small drop in student numbers in the Primary school due to small cohorts moving through the school. Our secondary numbers continue to grow.

On behalf of the school community I welcome all of our new and returning students and their families. I also welcome **Ms Chloe Schelfhout** who is teaching Years 7-10 Maths, **Mr Milaan Kousari** our School Psychologist and **Ms Marisa Lodge** who is teaching Primary PE for term 1 while **Mrs Michelle Harwood** is teaching at Geraldton PS.

The School Board have approved the **2021-2023 Business Plan** and it is available in Connect.

I am pleased to inform you of the Deputy Principal areas of responsibility;

- K-2 and whole school curriculum Mrs Nicole Davey.
- Year 3-6 and students at educational risk Mrs Leslie James
- Year 7-12 and whole school timetabling Mrs Rhiannon Downes.

Please feel free to contact the relevant DP with your queries.

Please note that our Year 1-12 Surf Carnival is on Tuesday 16 February, much earlier than in previous years. Information will be provided to parents in the near future.



Parents, please ensure that you are registered for Connect as this is our main form of communication. Information about how to register is on the next page of this Newsletter.

This year will see a change to the Year 1-12 assembly rostered days. We have decided to hold the assemblies on different days to minimise the impact on the teaching and learning programs. The changes are; Term 1 Tuesday, Term 2 Wednesday, Term 3 Monday and Term 4 Thursday.



Here is what some of our Year 7s have to say about starting secondary school.

I really like maths because it challenges me to achieve my best. # I like that it got me out of my comfort zone and gave me a chance to make more friends. # Secondary is easier than PS because in subjects you can work at your own pace. # I like the uniform better and if you are not keen on some teachers there are always other teachers because we change classes.

Our next whole school Assembly for **Year 1-12 students** will be on **Tuesday 9 February** and will be hosted by the **Student Council**.

Kind Regards
Janine Calver

"Achieve with Honour"
At DDHS we... Choose Respect, Be Responsible, Achieve our Best

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Administration Notes

School Contributions & Charges

Invoices will be posted out to parents in **week 3**. Upon receiving this invoice, payment can then be made directly to the school. **EFTPOS facilities are available.** Alternatively Direct Debit details are included on your invoice.

2021 Secondary Assistance Scheme

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary school (years 7-12) costs comprising of Contributions and Charges allowances:

- \$115 Clothing allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school

To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold one of the following:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card

Parent/Guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid during first term. Claims cannot be made using a student's Centrelink Card.

Applications close Thursday 1st April 2021

Student Details

In order to keep our database of student contact details correct, please notify the office if you have made changes to any of the following details over the holidays:

- House and/or mobile phone number
- Address details
- Emergency contact details
- Medical details.

Absentees

Thank you to the parents who ring and notify the office in the morning when their child/ren are unwell or absent from school for a particular reason. This avoids having to supply an explanation note upon their return to school and alleviates the office sending you letters concerning unexplained absences.

The office phone number is **9927 7200** and there is an answering machine to leave a message if the office is unattended, alternatively you can SMS your child/ren's absence to **0437 206 549**, please include your child/ren's name in your message.

Truant Students

Students with lunch passes are not permitted to frequent shops or bakeries at lunch time as the pass only permits them to travel between their home and the school. Lunch passes are specifically for students to have lunch at their own home. Students wishing to buy their lunch can do so from the school canteen. Students caught down town without proper authority could face in-school detention for truancy.

Pre-Primary - Year 6 Maths Books Year 5 - 6 Grammar Books

Order forms for the 2021 Maths & Grammar Books have gone home this week. Please return the order form with payment to the office before Friday 12th February. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS.

Connect

Connect is a free and very safe integrated online environment developed by the Department of Education WA for staff, students and parents in public schools. It allows students online access to learning content, to submit completed work and to email their teacher. It allows a similar view for parents, with some subject assessment results and attendance. It is also a secure method for providing parents with important notices from Dongara DHS.

The free **ConnectNow** app can be downloaded from the Google Play or Apple App Store and will let you receive Connect notices as push notifications, however please be aware, you will have limited access to the full Connect content using only the app. The school suggests that you log into Connect via the following website <http://connect.det.wa.edu.au> on any device or desktop computer to access the full content.

Parents not already using Connect should have received an email inviting you to join and register your account, please note this Connect email will come from the automated email address ldmadmin@education.wa.edu.au.

If you have any queries or do not have a Connect Log in, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the front office.

Connect Help Information can be found in the Library section once you have logged into Connect.

We hope that you enjoy the Connect experience and see it as an exciting new way for you to stay in touch with your child's school journey

Secondary Homework/Study Class

Every Monday 3:05 - 4:00pm in H-Block, all secondary students welcome to attend.

