I have been back at school for only a week and, even though we kept up with the events at school and in Dungog while we were away, the reality has come as a surprise. Reading about the floods and the devastation, even seeing the photos and videos, was not even close to hearing the stories and seeing the damage.

The most important thing, that I have heard many people reflect on, is the way people have supported and helped each other. The stories of individual bravery and kindness reflect the best features of living in this town and being part of a strong community.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has helped our young people to get through this very difficult time, and to those young people who have shown resilience and strength as they helped and supported each other and their families.

The school is operating fully, and this is a credit to the staff who helped reorganise and move the office after it flooded. We expect to be managing the same way for a few more weeks – not perfect, but at least we know that an end is in sight. My thanks to the office staff for their response to being moved into a much smaller area and continuing to give the school their very professional service as always.

The staff who have worked so hard to give the best to our students have demonstrated the very best that I have seen in my time as a Principal. I particularly thank Mr Dives and all the Head Teachers who have given the leadership needed and the year advisers and welfare team that has supported students and staff through tragedy and loss.

I will write about our Gallipoli tour in later newsletters.

Maureen Jarvis

Student Achiever of the Week Award

Broc Hunt, Year 8
A community member contacted DHS advising that Broc had volunteered to assist the clean up of the flats which went under during the floods, Broc is not associated with the victims but gave up his time anyway.

Eliza Gallagher, Year 9
A community member contacted DHS advising that Eliza had volunteered to assist the clean up of the flats which went under during the floods, Eliza is not associated with the victims but gave up her time anyway.

Imogen Abbott, Year 9
Imogen and another student helped with the clean up following the floods. They also baked cookies and raised over $400 for flood victims.

Sahar Ellicott, Year 8
Sahar and another student helped with the clean up following the floods. They also baked cookies and raised over $400 for flood victims.

SPORTS REPORT

Hello and it’s nice to be back running sport again whilst Mr. Curran is backpacking the world. Unfortunately we have also suffered in the recent floods and we hope all of the community is now back on its feet. Our ovals have only just dried out which has meant that our Athletics Carnival had to be cancelled this year as the Port Stephens Zone Athletics carnival is this Wednesday 20th May. All students have had the opportunity to nominate themselves for their strongest events and the team has been hurriedly picked. We will also be travelling to Glendale Athletic Centre by private car this year as our team is a bit smaller. Please make sure that all athletes are there by 9:00am as the events start at 9:30 and admission is $3 for everyone.
On Friday 8th May many of our students competed at the Hunter Regional Cross Country Carnival at Broadmeadow. All students did their personal best. Special congratulations to Courtney Wevers who came 2nd and is now off to the State Titles in Sydney.

Hunter trials are coming up for mountain biking, gymnastics, squash, lawn bowls tennis, softball and orienteering. Any interested students should see Mr. Fardell ASAP. Thank you.

Parents, Teachers, Community Members...
Dungog High School and Headspace invite you to a talk and discussion forum on Wednesday 20th May 2015 from 5.00 to 6.00 pm in the School library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mental health issues, depression and self-harm in young people</th>
<th>60 mins (plus discussion time as needed)</th>
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<td>This presentation is designed to provide a general overview of the risk factors and warning signs of mental health concerns, depression, self harm and suicide in young people. This presentation will also discuss protective factors and how to respond to suicide and self-harm concerns. A framework for having a conversation about suicide is provided with examples of ways to overcome barriers to help in students.</td>
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<td>This session aims to:</td>
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<td>• Increase understanding of common mental health issues in young people.</td>
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<td>• Provide a general overview of suicide and self-harm in young people.</td>
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<td>• Increase understanding of risk factors and warning signs for young people at risk of suicide.</td>
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<td>• Develop a framework for recognising and responding to a young person who is showing warning signs of suicide.</td>
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Inter School Horse Sports Singleton 22nd May 2015
Reminder to riders and parents.

Riders are required to supply their own long sleeve lemon shirt, school tie, beige/cream jodhpurs/moleskins, maroon school jumper and Pony Club approved helmet. School sport shirt can be worn in sporting events. Dungog High supplies the saddle cloths (to be worn over the top of your own) which have to be returned to me at the end of each day.

All parents are required to work at least one event during the year. Parents will be notified of their duty on the morning of the event. NO WORKER NO RIDER. We have a strict code of conduct which must be followed by students and parents. Our riders have always been fantastic ambassadors for our school and I’m sure they will continue to be. Remember the object of the day is to RIDE WELL AND HAVE FUN.

Any enquiries please don’t hesitate to ask.
Sue Sullings
Horse Sports Co-ordinator

Success at Singleton

A shower of red at the 23rd Singleton Beef and Land Management Group’s cattle judging day was the result of a group of fifteen Dungog High School students who competed on the 8th of May 2015.

Competitors judged three classes of livestock comprising; four steers, four bulls and four heifers before participating in fencing, NVD (National Vendor Declaration), AI (Artificial insemination) and first aid workshops. All the while anxiously awaiting the scores and revealing of who was chosen for the ‘oral presentations’. Also testing the skills of our up-and-coming judges was the challenge to correctly identify fifteen different types of seeds.

Taylor Hack and Toby Leake were both chosen as individuals to explain their judgments in an ‘oral presentation’ on the class of four Angus bulls. In addition Clare Richardson (author of this article) was nominated by her teammates, Oscar and Toby Leake, to speak on behalf of their team (thanks boys).

All students spoke well and represented Dungog High School at a high standard. Toby was awarded highly commended while Taylor was narrowly beaten and picked up a second place ribbon. Editors Note: Had Taylor not had a “where did that come from? Moment” when she completely misnamed the overjudge he may have awarded Taylor first place.
It is also worth mentioning our school’s team placed in second position.

The day was a success and of great benefit to all. Everyone had a great time and all participants should be congratulated for their exceptional efforts.

Editor’s Note: Congratulations to Oscar and Toby Leake who have been judging consistently well at these competitions for a number of years now. Also congratulations to Taylor Hack who continues to improve at each event. As for our senior judges who have won many accolades for the school over the years, well they just happened to have a different opinion to the judge on the day. Well done to all and as usual, thank-you to the parents who drove the students and made our success possible.

From L to R: A very very happy Taylor Hack, Toby (looking good in a tie) Leake, Olivia (rose between two thorns) Richardson and Oscar (where is your tie, looking good in shades though) Leake

Article written by Clare Richardson, edited by Mr Lawrence.

Year 10 Subject Selection Process

Year 10 are about to head into a very exciting time – the selection process for their Year 11 subjects! There are a number of important dates and events to add to your diaries:

1. **Work Experience** – Week 6-7 (25 May – 5 June 2015)
2. **Student Information Booklet distribution** – Week 8-10 (8 – 26 June 2015)
   During Careers lessons students will be given the subject booklets and Ms Smith will discuss it with them.
3. **Subject Information Sessions (Students)** – Week 9 (Monday 15 – Tuesday 16 June 2015)
   Students will participate in a round robin of subject information during school time. These sessions will provide students with information on the different subjects each faculty are offering for 2016.
4. **Subject Information Evening – Week 9** (Tuesday 16 June 2015) – N Block at 6pm
   Parents and students are encourage to attend this information session to ask any additional questions about subjects they are interested in.
5. **Student Interviews – Week 1, Term 3** (Tuesday 14 – Wednesday 15 July 2015)
   Each student in Year 10 will be interviewed by a Head Teacher, with the support from the Careers Adviser, in relation to what they want to do after high school and what subjects they are considering selecting. Students will only be required at school for their interview. They will make their first round selection on this day. (See letter sent home for more information)

**HSIE News**

**School Tour to Rome, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Western Front & Paris – April 2016**

Organisation is well underway for our trip next year – we currently have 31 travellers booked – and there are still spots available if you are interested.

The 15-day tour is run by Academy Travel and is designed specifically for Year 11 & 12 Ancient and Modern History students to complement their Core Topics – Cities of Vesuvius / World War I – however it is an experience that any student would benefit from.

If you want more information please see Ms Archer in the HSIE staffroom.

**Year 11 Enterprise Day**

Our two Year 11 Business Studies classes are currently organising our 3rd Enterprise Day. This day is part of the assessment component for our Business Planning unit and the students are required to run a business at school for the day.
**Term 2 Week 5**

**4**

**18th May 2015**

**When:** Monday 15 June 2015 during recess and lunch

**Where:** Main quad area at DHS

All staff and students are encouraged to support the 5 businesses on the day (have a look at some of the ads in this newsletter).

All profits from the day are donated to a nominated charity – and this year the majority of the businesses have selected the Dungog Flood Appeal to donate to – so all the support you can give would be greatly appreciated.

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**Year 11 Ancient History**

It is not often that Dungog gets access to some real ancient history; however last Friday (15 May 2015) our Year 11 Ancient History class had the privilege to attend the *Land of the Pharaohs* exhibition that Dungog Seventh Day Adventist Church ran. The students were very lucky to have a presentation by Dr Wayne French on Tutankhamen (who they are currently studying in class) as well as see some archaeological artefacts and replicas from the time period. The students were amazed with Dr French’s insights and were extremely excited to be able to hold pottery fragments that were over 2000 years old.

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Some Egyptian artefacts

Checking out pottery fragments over 2000 years old

With Dr French
L-R: Jordan Long, Rowena Dillon, Olivia Key, Kirsty Wand, Dr French, Tristan Beisler
ONLINE PAYMENTS
There are a number of online payments which have been made to the school without details. Please remember that you need to ensure that you quote student name and name of excursion or subject.

If you have made a payment of $178 recently (possibly for a Yr 7 student) please contact the school with your receipt details.
If you have made a payment of $830 please contact the school with your receipt details.
If you have made a payment of $165 please contact the school with your receipt details.

If your bank/building society etc does not allow for reference information when making direct deposits please advise the school of your payment.

SOME CALENDAR DATES FOR Term 2

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<td>5</td>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>Vaccinations Yrs 7,11,12</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>Careers Expo, Yr 10 Starstruck Choir rehearsal Knights Knockout 13s &amp; 15s Singleton Horse Sports</td>
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<td>19 May</td>
<td>Lawn Bowls CHS Trials</td>
<td>14s Rugby League</td>
<td>Debasting vs Mt View HS P &amp; C Meeting 7.30pm Library</td>
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<td>Open Boys Soccer</td>
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<td>25 May</td>
<td>Yr10 Work Experience</td>
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<td>26 May</td>
<td>Y7/9 Excursion Japanese Restaurant Uniform Shop 8am-4pm</td>
<td>Y11 Bio and EES Field Study Starstruck Dance rehearsal</td>
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<td>2 June</td>
<td>Y10 Work Experience Y11 Retail Work Placement</td>
<td>Y10 Work Experience Y11 Retail Work Placement Y7 Japanese Rest Excur</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Holiday</td>
<td>Uniform Shop 8am-4pm</td>
<td>Starstruck P&amp;C Meeting 7.30pm Library</td>
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<td>12 June</td>
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DUNGOG HIGH SCHOOL CANTEEN
Roster

Week 5 : 18th to 22nd May 2015
Monday S Hallett, N Eyb, L Hunt
Tuesday R Arkinstall, J Vasic, R Rolfe, K Flannery
Wednesday H Williams, P Williams, S Hitchens
Thursday L Tull, M Ince, F Wysall, M Hughes
Friday S Crouch, R Kirkby, D Hallinan

Week 6 : 25th to 29th May
Monday J Ross, C Butler,
Tuesday A Field, C Briggs, M Gibbs
Wednesday C Wheeler, L Lovegrove, L Wallace
Thursday J Czaplewski,
Friday D Marquet, L Dries, L McInnes, M Townsend

Due to the change in the structure of the school day could Canteen helpers please be here by 9.30am. If you are unable to be here by that time could you please let Margaret Edwards know, by phoning the school on 49923022.

2015 GENERAL CONTRIBUTION
$80 per Yr 7 – Yr 10 student.
$100 per Yr 11 & 12 student

These fees have now been invoiced. This contribution is a fair & equitable charge calculated to cover general running costs and resource purchases for schools each year. Your support of our students’ education is greatly appreciated.

Families who have paid for the entire year before the 30th June will go into the draw to win an iPad Mini! The draw will take place early Term 3.
While we remember the losses, and continue the work of rebuilding our town, *Friends of the James Theatre* is pleased to keep entertaining Dungog with a packed calendar of events this May. In this newsletter:

- **Testament of Youth** on Saturday 23 May at 7pm
- **Planet Dungog** on 29-31 May
- Volunteer, and spread the word

**Testament of Youth** (M) is a powerful coming of age story of young love, war and remembrance. Based on the beloved First World War memoir by Vera Brittain, it tells the moving tale of a young woman whose journey begins in youthful hopes and goes to the edge of despair and back again. Starring rising young stars Kit Harrington and Alicia Vikander, this beautiful film has been described as a drama that glides with sorrowful grace. Screening once only on Saturday 23 May at 7pm.

The month of May finishes with **Planet Dungog Music Festival** which will fill Dungog with music in the last weekend of May. Friday 29 – Sunday 31 May. Go to [http://planetdungog.com](http://planetdungog.com) for the full program details.

Remember, our program is entirely delivered by volunteers. If you can spare some time, drop a line to our Volunteer Coordinator Sue — at sue.runciman@gmail.com. And spread the word — let me know that you want to join the hundreds of subscribers, by emailing me at howard.d.glenn@gmail.com. See you at the James.