

Opening doors to **successful futures**

A Northern Territory Government  
Independent Public School

**DARWIN**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Parent/ Guardian Notices

1 December 2017, Week 8 Term 4

## **2018 Year 9 Electives**

Please be advised that on Monday, 4 December, Year 8 students will undergo counselling for their Year 9 elective choices for 2018. Information regarding what is available for students next year can be found by clicking the link provided: <https://staging.dms.dashservers.io/resource-downloads/>

Your child will bring home a selection sheet for you to approve. Please ensure the selection sheet is signed and returned to the front office as soon as possible. Every effort is made to give your child their first preference, however this does not always work out and it is important that you provide at least two back up choices. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Ramon Dixon, Assistant Principal at [ramon.dixon@ntschoos.net](mailto:ramon.dixon@ntschoos.net).

### **Important Dates**

Year 9 Graduation Dinner

Friday 8 December

Last Day of School

Thursday 14 December

2018 DMS Uniforms

Available 15 January 2018

## **Year 9 Students– Check List**

A reminder for Year 9 students for the **Darwin High School ‘Try Your Timetable’ Day** on Monday, 4 December. Students need to attend Darwin High School in the morning.

The **Year 9 Graduation Dinner** is being held on Friday, 8 December. Permission notes and payment to be returned by Monday, 4 December. Payments can be made in person, with a credit card over the phone, or online with the following details:

Account Name: Darwin Middle School Council

BSB: 015-901

Account Number: 488663077

Please ensure to include your child’s name in the reference.

On the **last day of school** (Thursday, 14 December), Year 9 students have the opportunity to leave after the recess break, with parental consent. There will also be a breakfast hosted by the school in celebration of their middle schooling years. Permission notes need to be signed and returned to the front office by Tuesday, 12 December.

If you have any questions about these Year 9 events, please contact Mr Nickolaos Miaris, Year 9 Coordinator at [nickolaos.miaris@ntschoos.net](mailto:nickolaos.miaris@ntschoos.net)



Darwin Middle School is a member of the Darwin City Schools,  
in partnership with  
Darwin High School, Northern Territory Open Education Centre,  
Ludmilla Primary, Larrakeyah Primary, Stuart Park Primary and  
Parap Primary Schools

## **A Message from the Senior Teacher Languages**

Dear Parents and Guardians,  
Nimen hao (Hello)! I am extremely pleased to give you an update on the exciting and successful Chinese Language Program at Darwin Middle School. The introduction and growth of Chinese is a key component of the school's business plan.

At the beginning of this semester, I commenced delivery of four hours of Mandarin Chinese lessons per week to one Year 7 class and one Year 8 class. Naturally, students started their language study by learning everyday greetings and how to introduce themselves. After a couple of weeks the Year 8 Chinese class moved into one of two large brand new demountables – dedicated languages spaces - at the back of the school with full ICT connectivity.

Then in September, Associate Chinese Teacher, Amber Yang, arrived in Darwin and began to co-teach these two classes with me. Amber is one of several teachers who are currently working in NT schools as part of the Memorandum of Understanding between the NT Department of Education and Anhui Province in the People's Republic of China. We are privileged to have a native speaker teaching Chinese language and culture to our students every single day. The students and staff think that Amber is great. It's a pleasure working with her. Amber is looking forward to continuing her teaching of Chinese at Darwin Middle School next year.

The Chinese Program is going from strength to strength with clear, seamless pathways to Stage 1 and Stage 2 Chinese at Darwin High School and the introduction of Chinese in our feeder primary schools. This semester we trialed a videoconferencing lesson that saw the Year 8 Chinese class participate in a lesson live from Beijing. This was witnessed by our Principal, Marcus Dixon, who was very impressed with the students' level of engagement. In 2018, our Year 9 Chinese class will participate in weekly videoconferencing lessons from Beijing to further enhance students' learning experience and connection to the wider world.

Clearly, those students who elect to continue studying Chinese in Year 9 in 2018 and subsequent years will be setting themselves up for a bright future with vast opportunities.

Please do not hesitate to email ([nickolaos.miaris@ntschoools.net](mailto:nickolaos.miaris@ntschoools.net)) or call on 8942 5200 if you would like to discuss any aspect of the Chinese language program.



## **International High School Basketball Championship**

Year 9 students Zeb Hantelmann and Tyler Fanning will travel to Malaysia this weekend to compete in the 5<sup>th</sup> International Invitational High School Basketball Championship. The boys are joining the Darwin High School team who will be defending the championship after it was won by the Darwin High School team at last years competition. Zeb and Tyler travelled to Perth earlier this year to play in The Helloworld Travel Australia Under-16 championship and both attend The NT High Performance Basketball Program at Marrara. We wish them all the very best for next week's competition.



## **Greening Australia**

This week, the REAL class students volunteered as part of their Duke of Edinburgh awards, assisting the Darwin City Council planting trees along East Point.



## **Semester 2 School Reports**

Semester 2 school reports will be mailed home to parents at the end of the school year. Please ensure you update your postal address with the school if you have moved since July this year by contacting the front office on 8942 5200 or email the updated details to

[admin.darwinmiddle@ntschoools.net](mailto:admin.darwinmiddle@ntschoools.net)

## **Afterschool Homework Support– Final Week**

Darwin Middle School will continue to offer an after school Homework Support Program for students for term 4. Students will have the opportunity to work on class assignments and homework in a relaxed and quiet environment. Sessions are conducted every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30pm until 3:30pm in the school Library and will be fully supervised. If you would like your child to attend, please fill out a permission form and return to the front office. Permission forms can be collected by students from the Office of Good Standing or via the Skoolbag App. Students who would normally catch a school bus home will need to make alternative arrangements as no school buses will be available. Please contact Sue Neal via email [sue.neal@ntschoools.net](mailto:sue.neal@ntschoools.net) should you require any more information.


## **Healthy Eating for Students**

Darwin Middle School is promoting health eating for our students in line with the Department of Education's Canteen, Nutrition and Healthy Eating Policy and Guidelines. To help support this students are not allowed to order pizza or other fast food deliveries to the school for themselves. If students do so, the food will be confiscated and parents will be informed. Poor diets which involve eating snack/junk foods that are high in sugars and fats in the short term have a direct negative effect in student's performance in school and can contribute to lower achievements and behavioral problems in class. Parents who bring their child lunch to school are encouraged to provide them with a healthy option. For further information regarding this policy and guideline please visit the following link

<https://education.nt.gov.au/education/policies/canteen-nutrition-and-healthy-eating>

**SRC**  
Empowering  
Student Voice

DARWIN  
HIGH  
SCHOOL



Will you be attending Darwin High in 2018? Consider applying now to be a part of the SRC. We are currently seeking applications of interest for 2018 and are encouraging students who will be in year 10 at Darwin High to apply now.

The SRC consists of students across all three year levels whose main role is to represent student voice within the school. SRC members have the opportunity to attend the annual leadership conference and develop the core communication skills and strategies to empower them as leaders within the school and into the future.



The SRC meets on a weekly basis to discuss matters of the school and ways to manage them. Students who

participate in the SRC program at Darwin High School will have opportunities to represent the school in community events as well as organize and promote student participation and success in extracurricular activities and projects.

SRC members will have the opportunity to contribute to fundraising and wellbeing incentives as well as attend the board meetings where crucial decisions for the school are made.

Their role is to share the ideas and voice of students across the school. In the past the SRC have initiated a recycling scheme across the school, they have developed a student kitchen facility where students can store and heat up food and also run fundraisers to raise money for community organizations.

Be a part of improving the school and expand your personal growth through focused incentives that will strengthen and empower your own capabilities.

Contributing to the SRC will have a positive influence when being

considered for potential leadership roles in the future.

**Apply Now for 2018!**



If you want to be a part of the SRC nominate now for 2018. Belong to a team and become a leader who will make a difference within the school community.

To apply follow the link:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/FWlpTgbzpv1rj8ZE2>

Nominations will close by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Students will be notified by Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December if their application has been successful.

**Holiday Activities**  
December/January




**Northern Territory**

**LOOKING FOR something fun TO DO DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?**

check out the school holiday calendar at [youth.nt.gov.au/calendar](http://youth.nt.gov.au/calendar)

**ARTS + CRAFTS, DISCO'S, SPORTING ACTIVITIES, MOVIE MARATHONS**  
**MUSIC WORKSHOPS + SO MUCH MORE!**

[www.youth.nt.gov.au](http://www.youth.nt.gov.au)

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**Week 9 Lunch Specials:**

- |           |                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Monday    | Stir Fry Vegetables with Noodles |
| Tuesday   | Beef and Pumpkin Curry with Rice |
| Wednesday | Creamy Chicken Carbonara         |
| Thursday  | School BBQ– Café closed          |
| Friday    | Hot Dogs                         |

**Gluten free options now available**

The café now stocks gluten free pies and sausage rolls. Orders must be placed at the café during Roll Group.

Please ensure your child has the correct currency in coins and notes. No foreign

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