Welcome to Year 8, 2014!

by Ms Claire, Year 8 Co-ordinator and Ms Andrea Aleksic, Deputy Principal, Junior Secondary

We would like to wish a big warm welcome to the 103 students and their families who have joined us for Year 8 this year. The two orientation days at the end of 2013 set students up for a flying start to the new school year. The student orientation survey showed that during the orientation days:

- 90% of students made some new friends during the orientation days
- 96% of students knew their form teacher
- 97% of students knew their house team
- 98% of students knew their buddy
- And of course ‘most importantly’ the students nominated (in order of preference) shape shifter, invisibility, and flying as their most desired super powers!

We look forward to the great start we have had continuing across the year. This group has the honour of taking a leading role in establishing the Junior Secondary Student Council which will allow students to play a bigger role in their school community. They will be the leaders of the junior school in 2015 when we will be welcoming both Year 7 and 8’s into our school, and we are confident that they are up to the challenge.

Many of you will know that we had planned to hold a Year 8 camp in term 2. Unfortunately, due to increased costs, it has been decided by the school that the cost of the camp is an unreasonable financial burden after the associated costs of starting high school. Instead, we will be holding a two day Year 8 day programme at Alva which will help students to build their personal and social identities, develop community awareness, learn resilience and team work skills, and of course have an absolute ball!

The Year 8 Meet and Greet is fast approaching (11/03/14) and will be a good opportunity for parents/carers and students to informally meet with teachers, and for parents/carers to get some insight about what a day in the life of a Year 8 involves. Our form representatives will be running this night and we hope as many people as possible can attend to support them in this.

Congratulations to Our Elected Form Representatives

8A – Marlan Williams and Wesley O’Rourke
8B – Tiana Augustis and Kai Northwood
8C – Kirra Hodder and Joel Horan
8D – Kellie Rains and Joseph Lampton
8E – Makeleigh O’Shea and Daniel Huckett

Already we have some fantastic demonstrations of leadership with 8B form representatives leading the year level assemblies. 8C form representatives will take their turn starting week 9 of this term. The Junior Secondary Student Council will meet for the first time on Thursday 6 March. All of our form representatives have been encouraged to attend as the officer positions will be elected during that meeting. Throughout the year, one form representative from each class will attend the Junior Secondary Student Council meetings and the other will attend Interact meetings (the youth arm of Rotary).

Back LtoR: Wesley O’Rourke, Kai Northwood, Joel Horan, Daniel Huckett, Joseph Lampton
Front LtoR: Marlan Williams, Tiana Augustis, Kirra Hodder, Kellie Rains, Makeleigh O’Shea
Champion Form Points Tally (end of week 4)

8A – 5  8B – 18  8C – 23  8D – 9  8E – 17

We encourage our students to achieve their personal best each week HONESTLY by:

1. Lining up quietly on year level assembly, ready for the 8.50 am start – be there by 8.45 am
2. Have planners with them at all times - in class spot check for all Year 8 classes
3. Have no outstanding absences – meet the 95% attendance target
4. Wear the correct uniform (including hat) – weekly spot check during form class
5. Living the Ayr High Learner Code

Points will be tallied across each term as follows:
- Average Hawk Points recorded for each class per week.
- 1 point if more than 75% of the class meets the attendance target, 5 points if 100% meet the target.
- 1 point if all students in the class have their planners during spot checks.
- 1 point if all students are meeting the uniform code, including having their hat with them during weekly spot check.
- 1 bonus point for the first form class sitting ready for assembly.

Weekly Focus Award Winners

Focus awards are given weekly on year level assembly to one person from each class nominated by the form teachers and form representatives for living the Ayr High Learner Code – safe, respect, and personal best. The coveted Ayr State High School pen is given to each award winner on assembly.

And the winners were:

Week 1: Joseph Malayta, Tiana Augustis, Jaydenn Pavone, Mikaela Drain, Julian Roxburgh
Week 2: Ethan Bell, Sam Green, Caitlin Simpson, Justin Marchesini, Breanna Rummery

WHERE ARE WE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORM</th>
<th>FORM ROOM</th>
<th>STAFF ROOM</th>
<th>FORM TEACHER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>I01A</td>
<td>A15</td>
<td>Mrs Judy Paine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>I01B</td>
<td>I02A</td>
<td>Mr Shane Baxter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8C</td>
<td>I01C</td>
<td>C12</td>
<td>Mr Rod Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>8D</td>
<td>I01D</td>
<td>C12</td>
<td>Mrs Emily Shannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8E</td>
<td>I01E</td>
<td>A05</td>
<td>Mr Tom Pickersgill</td>
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Year 8 Coordinator
Sep Coordinator

Interhouse Swimming Carnival
Friday 7 March 2014
Parents/carers are welcome to the presentation of House skits and war-cries at the School MPS and then at the pool for the carnival.

Maths/Science/English Tutoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Days and Times</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science &amp; Maths</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>D1 Science Lab</td>
<td>Mr Flynn &amp; Mrs Gemellaro</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>A4</td>
<td>Ms D’Ilario</td>
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Student quotes about starting Year 8 and why it is great

“It’s fun, getting out of primary school is the best bit. HPE and Japanese are my favourite classes.”
John Zaro

“The Year 12’s and staff have been really nice to us.”
Mikaela Drain

“It’s really fun walking from class to class; it’s really different from primary school.”
Amber Kelly

“It’s fantastically Fantabulous! The tuckshop is way better.”
Darcy Horan

“Year 8 is great because there are a lot of nice people and the teachers are kind, the lessons are easy, and the teachers teach you a lot.”
Shawn Mogg

“It’s fabulous! But if I have to get needles again I’m not doing Year 8!”
Caitlin Simpson

“It’s a lot better than primary school, that’s all I can say!”
Dana Steger

“It’s really fun walking from class to class; it’s really different from primary school.”
Amber Kelly

“It’s a lot better than primary school, that’s all I can say!”
Dana Steger
Dear Parents & Carers
We would like to invite you to

Ayr State High School’s

Year8 is Gr8

Meet and Greet Night

Tuesday 11, March 2014
5.30 pm
Smart Media Centre
(Enter the school at the Edwards Street entrance and you will be directed to the venue)

SMC Auditorium for a Multimedia Presentation  5.30pm to 6.00pm

Smart Start Learning with Year 8 Tutors in I Block  6.00pm to 6.30pm

Supper & Informal Meetings  6.30pm to 7.00pm

We would like to make this visit both rewarding and informative and help you gain an understanding of what Year 8 has been like for us all so far. We will share some of our learning experiences with you and the informal part of the evening will enable you to meet and establish relationships with our teachers and our support staff. We look forward to seeing you all there so please mark it in your diaries.

Year 8 Students &

Craig Whittred  Andrea Aleksic  Claire Cheyne
Principal  Deputy Principal  Year 8 Coordinator

Junior Secondary

Layout and Design - Victoria Augusts