Rachel Darwin, College Dux 2015, achieved an ATAR score of 97.4 the highest score ever achieved by an Agricultural College student. Whilst studying, Rachel also managed to fit in running a sheep stud from the family farm at Kent River, tending her dual purpose breed flock of 100 stud sheep. Rachel hopes to study a Bachelor of Philosophy (honours) majoring in conservation biology at the University of WA and later work in research in the field.

Four other girls from the College also achieved excellent scores between 72 and 84, Rachael Lamont, Kyffin Hammond-Chate, Michaela Hendry and Meagan Zweck.
From the Principal’s Desk
Students both new and old have settled into the program quite smoothly...

Welcome back to the start of the new school year. It’s great to be back. The start of the school year is always positive with a new intake of students excited and looking forward to their time at the College. The first few weeks can however be a little daunting for some and we are mindful of that and ask parents to keep us informed if you have concerns about the transition and settling in process.

Students both new and old have settled into the program quite smoothly and are kept busy residentially as well. It has been real beach weather and students have taken advantage of the opportunities to head there whenever possible.

Although 2015 is behind us I would like to highlight some of the achievements of our graduates last year and the flow on effect to the College.

A number of the ATAR students did particularly well; Rachel Darwin achieved an ATAR of 97.4 the highest score ever achieved by an Agricultural College student. Four other girls achieved outstanding scores between 72 and 84, Rachael Lamont, Kyffin Hammond-Chate, Michaela Hendry and Meagan Zweck, they are all to be congratulated on their results and we look forward to following their progress at university.

As a result of the girl’s success, the College was ranked 26th in the top 50 WACE schools, the first time an Agricultural College has made that list. Well done to the teaching staff!

The College was also ranked equal 1st in the top 50 VET schools and congratulations also to all of our trainers and teachers delivering VET courses.

Back on the farm we have had a dry and warm summer generally (although not as warm as some places) interspersed with some unseasonal cool and wet weather, not that we are complaining! Approximately 60 mm of rain fell in January which was terrific for our kikuyu pastures but resulted in a phenomenal germination of our pastures most of which has now died.

While on the farm, our new dairy is really taking shape and we are assured by the builder that it will be ready by the end of this month. It has been a long time coming but will be a great asset and is really looking good. We are still determining the actual start-up date as the second part of the term is interrupted with holidays and we would like as many students involved as possible. It will be an interesting first day and then first few weeks as the dairy cows learn a whole new system. Terry DeVos our Dairy Manager will lead the process well supported by our other farm staff and students to ensure the process goes as smoothly as possible. Hopefully by the next newsletter we will be able to report that we are underway and that the process was “seamless”.

I have managed to secure funding for painting the interior of all of the dorms over the next couple of months. Unfortunately there will be some inconvenience to students during that time but we will endeavour to keep it to a minimum. I’m sure students will value and appreciate their freshly painted rooms and dorms on completion.

During the Christmas holidays we hosted a National Agricultural Educators Conference that included delegates from all states and New Zealand. The conference was initiated and planned to be shared between Harvey and Denmark sites but because of the fires around Harvey had to be switched at the last minute to Muresk and Denmark. Steve Swallow co-ordinated the conference on our site and did a wonderful job setting it up. The farm staff, cleaners, gardener and kitchen staff also played their part presenting the College in the best possible way. There were over 100 delegates that attended and all were very impressed with our facilities and our Agricultural System here in WA. There is nothing like it in the east. A special thankyou to all staff that assisted in making the conference a huge success.

Our first home weekend is not far off with Easter to follow and it will be the end of the term before we know it. How time flies these days and 2016 is looking like one of achieving some milestones.

Kevin Beal
Kevin.Beal@education.wa.edu.au

College Council

The College Council is an important component of our school based decision making group and it provides parents the opportunity to have an insight into and a role in the operation of the College.

The Council is comprised of parents, teachers and students and meets once per term. Parents are invited to nominate for a position on the College Council (Nomination Form attached). Should there be too many nominations, we will go through a voting process to determine final membership of the council.

Please return this form as soon as possible to enable us to get our council up and running.

Thank you
Kevin Beal, Principal
From the Deputy

While it seems a long way off I have already received emails from parents asking about the last week of Term 2...

It has been a very busy but enjoyable start to the year with students settling in to their programs and our new students developing an understanding of our school’s culture. Special thanks to our Year 12 Prefects – Robyn Adams, Sydnee Benn, Sasha McWilliams, Joshua Kippin and Patrick Swallow, who returned to school almost a week earlier than their peers to assist us with the orientation of our new students into the College.

Over the next few weeks two students from both our Year 10 and Year 11 groups will be selected to join our Year 12 prefects and form the 2016 Student Council. This council meets on a fortnightly basis with the Principal Kevin Beal, the Residential Manager Kelli Gillies and myself to discuss issues and contribute to the school’s operations.

OLNA Testing

For those parents who aren’t aware, in 2013 the Minister for Education Peter Collier, MLC announced students need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy (in addition to a number of other requirements) to achieve a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) from 2016. This followed feedback from employers and training providers about the low literacy and numeracy capabilities of some school leavers.

Students can meet this minimum standard either by demonstrating Band 8 or higher in the NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests in Year 9 or by meeting the minimum standard of the reading, writing and numeracy components of a new OLNA.

This means that our current Year 12 students will be the first graduating group who will need to meet the minimum standard in all of the following OLNA components: writing, reading and numeracy to achieve their WACE.

The first round of OLNA testing for those Year 10, 11 and 12 students yet to meet the minimum standard will run from 8-24 March. As soon as the results are available to us we will forward the information on to students and parents.

It is important to note that students have up to six opportunities (two per year) from Year 10 to Year 12 to demonstrate the literacy and numeracy standard. The next round of testing this year will be in September.

Looking Ahead – Last Week of Term 2

While it seems a long way off at the moment, I have already received emails from parents asking about the last week of Term 2 from June 27 – July 1.

The following options will be available to students in the last week of Term 2:

- Year 10’s will have the option of participating in Country Week or continuing at the College with their normal school program. The Year 10 Study Tour is scheduled to run at the end of the 2016 school year.

- Year 11’s and 12’s will have the option of participating in Country Week or undertaking a one-week work experience placement.

Additional Work Experience for Year 12 Trades and Agricultural Studies Students

One of the great strengths about the VET program at Denmark is that every one of our students does at least one day of work experience every single week of the school year when they go to work on our College farm. It is one of the main reasons why our students typically leave the College “work ready” and are so attractive to employers. But the College also recognises the importance of our students, particularly those who are apprenticeship, traineeship or employment bound, experiencing a range of different work places during their training program.

We also acknowledge that work experience placements, particularly for our Year 12 Trades and Agricultural Studies students, often lead to apprenticeship or job offers for the following year. In light of this we have introduced an additional one-week block of work experience for all of our Year 12 Trades and Agricultural students in the second last week of Term 2. These students then have the option of doing another week of work experience in the last week of term or participating in Country Week.

Further information will be sent home to the parents of students in our Year 12 Trades and Agricultural Studies programs soon.

Hair

One of the very noticeable things around our campus this year has been the number of students, and not just female students, with long hair. It’s resulted in some feedback from the employers that our student body isn’t presenting quite as neatly and tidily as they have done in the past. We’ve also felt that, overall, the standard of presentation of our students isn’t quite where we’d like it to be.

At the moment our hair policy requires students with longer than collar length hair to tie it back when in their practical uniform. At the next College Council meeting we will be seeking endorsement for that to be extended to include all instructional time and while on school excursions.

Kevin Osborne
Kevin.Osborne@education.wa.edu.au
Welcome back to all boarding families for what will be a very busy Term 1.

**Orientation Weekend**

The orientation weekend was a very wet weekend. We must not complain about the rain we need it down here in Denmark too. Students visited Albany to understand the Saturday morning ‘Albany run’ routine and were met in the park by Suzy Anderson our school Chaplain for lunch. On Sunday we travelled out to experience the Tree Top Walk and the WOW Cruise on the Walpole Inlet. Kevin Ryan and Don Hunt from the kitchen prepared our lunch and delivered it to the park in Walpole for our feast.

I also spent some time up at the College checking in with students and staff, for what can be both an exciting and stressful time. I must commend our Prefects who met new students and families, assisted with directions to the dormitories and helped make the transition for some students so much easier. Well done seniors, your involvement and care was very much appreciated.

**Residential Camp**

Parry Beach Camp is shaping up to be a fun weekend. I have 5 staff on roster; Kevin Ryan will be on site from the kitchen plus Mike Neunuebel will be joining us to provide surfing lessons and supervision. I must say the numbers are low and this is very disappointing. I would have hoped for more enthusiasm from both students and parents for involvement in this camp. Often young people will balk at new activities; with a little encouragement they learn that you just have to give things a try otherwise you miss out on a whole raft of experiences.

**Harvey Sports Carnival**

The combined agricultural College’s sports carnival will be held over the weekend of 18-20 March 2016. A full report on the carnival will appear in the next newsletter.

**College Ball**

I will be advertising for a Ball Committee next week and would be delighted to have parent helpers closer to the time of the ball. At this early stage I am aware that students have requested the venue be the Denmark Boating and Angling Club. The theme is ‘Starry Night’ (I might need to find out what that actually means!) the time is scheduled for 7pm-10pm and the finer details regarding music, food etc. is yet to be explored.

The Ball is noted on the Term 1 Calendar for Friday 8 April, 2016 which is the last evening of Term 1.

**Agricultural College Visits**

Both Harvey and Cunderdin Ag Colleges will be staying on site this term. Harvey will be visiting to compete in the Gate2Plate activity and will be arriving on the 15 March, staying overnight in the gym. Cunderdin are heading down our way for a residential surf camp. They have hired our local surf guru and sometime “resi” Mike Neunuebel to teach the wheat belt crew a thing or two about the southern ocean and surfing.

We have organised for them to visit Greens Pool, Toffee Factory and Peaceful Bay for some local caught fish and chips, then on to the Tree Top Walk for a night walk. We welcome all Ag Colleges to spend time in the beautiful Great Southern region. We are sure they will come back after experiencing what we have to offer.

**Residential Activities**

There are a number of residential activities which students can get involved in throughout the year including sports, both at association level and informally. These include music, dance or art, water-based activities such as scuba, skipper’s tickets, kayaking, sailing or fishing. Getting involved in these activities is a great way for students to enjoy residential time and get to know each other better.
Residential Manager Report continued...

Please discuss these options with your child to ensure they are ready to participate when the opportunities arise. Students are asked to nominate for activities on notice boards at the College and then information is forwarded to parents to notify them of times and associated costs. We look forward to seeing students get involved again in 2016!

**Prep arrangements**
- Year 10’s supervised prep in the computer room;
- Year 12 students may be allowed to work in the library for study purposes;
- Other students are supervised in their dorm;
- If a student has work to do but their laptop isn’t working, they **must** ask a Residential Supervisor if they can go to the library. They should be there by 7pm. If they are disruptive to other students, they will be sent back to dorm;
- Residential Supervisors have made an announcement at dinner inviting students to the library at 6.30pm if they **don’t have access to the dormitory Wi-Fi**. Students may access the computer room from 4.00pm – 7.00pm, **if the matter is urgent**;

**Laundry**
Most students are using the laundry facility with minimal fuss and are very organised, delivering their washing every other day so that staff are not inundated. However, some students are not and have required prompting. Student uniforms will be dealt with as a priority and returned the same day. Casual clothes not complying with laundry requirements will be returned at the end of the week. We trust that with some extra training all students will comply with what are simple, easy to follow guidelines. Clothing without name tags will be displayed on the table for collection when the laundry is staffed, otherwise it will be packed away until the following shift.

**College Uniforms**
We ask parents to please check your child’s uniform, in particular Year 11 and 12’s to make sure students are not wearing clothing that is too small, ripped or stained. We ask that boots are checked also. We do have some second hand uniforms - please contact me for that information.

**Health and Wellbeing**
The College continues to provide support to students requiring doctors and other health related appointments. Where possible these appointments are made outside of school hours to minimise disruption to the school program. For any follow up appointments with specialists the College asks parents and carers where possible to make these during school holidays.

Great Southern Radiology has a practice open in Denmark which can complete x-rays and ultrasound procedures without the need to travel to Albany. Please contact the College if your child has any medical imaging needs before appointments are made in Albany to see if they can be accommodated at the local Denmark clinic.

When students are ill in residence the College will provide immediate care and will arrange necessary medical appointments. To minimise the spread of illness all students who are ill are required to remain in their rooms, eat after all other students and minimise contact with other students until recovered. If students are unable to participate in the learning program for more than one day the College will contact families to discuss alternative care arrangements.

**Travel Arrangements for Home Weekend and End of Term**
The College organises travel arrangements (bus tickets) for the home weekends and for the end of Term 1 and return. The return time will be booked for students to arrive together in the afternoon for one pick up. Tickets that are changed so as to arrive at a later time will incur a pick up fee by the College of **$100.00.** All other travel arrangements throughout the term are to be arranged by the parent/guardian.

**Vehicle Forms**
Please make sure all forms are up-to-date and that any vehicle or motorbike that comes on site has been approved and that all appropriate paperwork has been completed.

**Medication**
Reminder: All parents and students you are required to hand in any medication to Residential staff so that it can be recorded and stored appropriately.

**Reminders—Leave Arrangements**
Please ensure weekend leave forms are in by close of business each Wednesday so that we can prepare for the weekend accordingly. The College will contact you if there are any concerns regarding leave arrangements. Student safety is our utmost concern with regard to leave arrangements. Leave forms can now be completed and submitted on line via the College website.

**Leavers Jackets**
Year 12’s have finalised their 2016 leavers jacket. The jackets will arrive for distribution during the first week of Term 2. Students have opted for a navy and grey jacket with names sublimated into the 16 on the back of the jacket. Jackets will not be released to students until payment of **$98.50** is made in full to the College.

Kelli Gillies
Kelli.Gillies@education.wa.edu.au
Welcome back for the new College year. For those parents that are interested, the farm rosters have been drawn up and are on the College website, so feel free to have a look. Weekend rosters are also located on the website with most Year 12’s rostered onto 2 weekends in the first semester.

The weekend farm roster has always caused a few problems, especially for those students that are not keen to fulfil their duties. The weekend roster is used to establish leadership qualities, workability and commitment, all requirements of two of the work related competencies.

AHCWRK204A
Work effectively in the industry

AHCWRK205A
Participation in workplace communications

Students are therefore required to fulfil their weekend farm commitments. They can however, if unavoidable, swap their weekend farm with another Year 12 student and do their weekend farm when that is due. For this to occur it must be arranged well in advance (more than 7 days notice). Parents must contact me 0428 480 205 to let me know of the circumstances and who is replacing their child. No other communication will be considered. Contact must be made by the parent/guardian and the student needs to have arranged their Year 12 replacement.

Wagin Woolorama
We are busily organising our Wagin Woolorama teams with the College taking sheep only. Cattle students (if we can arrange it) will be working for two of the studs that regularly show at Wagin.

Junior judging will also be taking place in fleece, sheep and cattle areas again, with students being trained either off site or at the College. I am hoping to take a few students to Narrogin Agricultural College for shearing and wool handling tuition in early March to also allow them to compete at the Woolorama.

Gate2Plate Challenge
The College is also participating in the Albany Agricultural Society “Gate 2 Plate” competition with two teams entered this year. There is a field day coming up on the 12 March which we will attend, followed by a Schools and College competition on the 13 March in which a team of eight students will compete for individual and team awards.

Dairy
The new dairy is still taking shape with quite a lot of finishing off to be done before the expected finish date of 28 February. We will then commence training our cows through the new milking system which will take a few weeks; and up to two years for us to fully understand the complete system and how it works. The end result will be well worth the work and time spent training the animals.

Pasture
Early rain has given us a false break so there are weeds and green grass in most paddocks. Hopefully not too much germination has occurred and we can still achieve a sound seasonal start when the real rains come.

Fred Knight
Fred.Knight@educatio.wa.edu.au

Welcome to the new school year. My name is Paula Stretton and I am the School Health Nurse who visits your school. School Health Nurses are skilled in assessing adolescent health needs. We engage in health counselling with young people to identify issues, risks and protective factors, provide advice and brief intervention, assist with access and referral to other services, and provide follow up care. Young people can make appointments to discuss health and wellbeing issues. The services provided are free and confidential. If you have a concern about your child’s health or wellbeing please contact me on 0427 922 663.

Adolescent support services - Where to go for help?

Kids Helpline is a free, private and confidential telephone and online counselling service specifically for young people aged between 5 and 25 years. You can phone the helpline anytime on 1800 55 1800, or visit the website at www.kidshelp.com.au.

Somazone is a safe space for young people to ask questions, share stories and get help for mental health issues, sexual health, relationships, abuse, body image, and drug use. Visit the website at: www.somazone.com.au.


Remember, no matter how big or small your problem is, there is help available and it is important to seek help as soon as possible.

Paula Stretton
School Nurse
Horticulture

Horticulture students have been busy since term one commenced. The seed potato crop has been graded and all horticulture areas have been cultivated to incorporate plant residues and for weed control. Weed control is important and all thistle, dock and deadly nightshade have been removed from the horticulture area, in addition to the area being mowed and whipper snipped.

Crop residues have been removed from the hothouses and tanks are now being cleaned prior to installing the flood and drainage system prior to new plantings.

Year 11 Plant Production Systems students have planted Congo and Black Jack Zucchini crops and more recently took advantage of the summer conditions to harvest herbs growing in the College gardens.

Sheep Enterprise

In the sheep section this is one of our busiest times of the year so students have really been able to learn new skills and have lots of hands on contact time with the mobs of sheep. Recently the sale prime lambs and cull merino ewes were crutched. The year 12 trades students were keen to revisit their crutching skills and it was great to see such team work displayed. Five Year 11 students also learnt new skills and participated by crutching some of the merino ewes. Though the students all thought that this was going to be a tough gig, once they had mastered drop and drag, they all thought the crutching was easy.

The Corriedale stud ewes were artificially inseminated on the 16 February and Year 11 and 12 students assisted with the preparation of this group of sheep. The students always enjoy being involved with this learning experience and Genstock our Veterinary practitioners are very generous with their time explaining to the students all the aspects of the AI process.

Students are now preparing Corriedale stud animals for Wagin Woolorama and are working hard after school to ensure that the sheep are prepared for the show, along College guidelines.

Around the College

Above: Chelsea Fitzgerald harvests Rosemary outside the College library.

Left: Amy Pollard (on left) and Maddi Wheatley collecting herbs in the herb garden.

Above: Year 11 students have been busy vaccinating cows.

Above Left: Emma Steel demonstrating crutching a ewe in preparation for competing.
Hello everyone,
Welcome everyone in my first Chaplain’s Corner for the year. I want to especially welcome our new students and their parents or carers to this wonderful College.

One of life’s greatest certainty is Change - something many of us don’t savour, but we know that it is only through change that Growth can come. My role as the chaplain is to be a part of the College’s Community team in caring for our students as they face those changes; along with all of the other caring and committed staff. There will be no doubt some hard work, possible challenges but a lot of fun and friendship building as we grow together in 2016. I am looking forward to it.

Please feel free to contact me if you think I can be of any assistance, it would be my pleasure to help in any way I can.

Suzy Anderson
YouthCARE Chaplain
T: (08) 9848 0200

Below: YouthCARE Denmark Chaplains were Commissioned by representatives from the local churches into their work in schools on 7 February at a service at the Uniting Church, Denmark. Pictured with the group of chaplains is WA College Agriculture-Denmark Chaplain, Suzy Anderson (Front left).
Welcome all new and returning students to another productive year at the College. I have been impressed with the attitude of our newly enrolled Year 10 and Year 11 students towards the College and their studies in the early stages of the term.

Teaching staff have also been impressed with the positive approach displayed by the Year 12 students during the first few weeks of the year.

Welcome to Aletia Artemis who has joined our teaching staff this year. Aly will be a key teacher in the English and Equine learning areas and has come to us from the Denmark High School. She has also worked at Carmel Senior High School, Balga Senior High School, Shenton College, Gosnells Senior High School and Margaret River Senior High School. Aly is also a specialist drama teacher and I have suggested that some type of production may be an interesting addition to our Open Day.

Best wishes to Aly and I feel sure you will enjoy your time at the College.

Orientation

Year 10 and 11 students participated in a two day orientation program at the beginning of term. Students were introduced to College routines, courses and certificates on offer in Years 10, 11 and 12, the College Farm Practice programme, Design and Technology department, computer systems and National Training Packages (VET). It was also an opportunity for students to meet all instructional staff. A short tour of the Denmark township and surrounding tourist attractions completed the program. My thanks to all instructional staff for your efforts with the Year 10/11 orientation.

Animal Production and Enterprise Education

During 2016 students will again become involved with the operation and monitoring of various livestock enterprises on the College farm. Students are required to carry out husbandry operations associated with the enterprise, monitor performance of the livestock, suggest and implement management strategies and apply the principles of Animal Production to the enterprise. Our aim is to use the enterprise as a real motivating factor for students and for the enterprise to become the focus of their education in the APS course of study.

Year 12 Agricultural Studies students choose one optional enterprise for study this year. The choices are Corriedale and Poll Dorset studs; Simmental cattle stud; aquaculture or bee keeping enterprise. Year 11 Agricultural Studies students will be studying the commercial beef herd and Merino sheep enterprises in 2016 in addition to establishing a prime lamb grain feeding project in Term 2.

School Curriculum and Standards Authority Awards

Congratulations to 2015 graduate Rachel Darwin for achieving a School Curriculum and Standards Authority Certificate of Commendation for 20 A grades over the past three years. Rachel was an outstanding student achieving an ATAR score of 97.4 and being awarded the College Dux award last year.

Sixteen College students completed external WACE examinations in Animal Production Systems, Plant Production Systems, Mathematics and English in early November 2015. It is the highest number of College students that have had the opportunity of achieving a tertiary entrance score by studying Stage 3 courses.

Once again the College had the highest performing students in the State for Stage 3 Animal Production Systems and Stage 3 Plant Production Systems. The College also earned a place in the top 50 for WACE scores of 75 or more, an outstanding achievement.

I was also pleased with the majority of raw exam marks for our Stage 3 students. Well done to both students and staff.

Courses

A list of Year 10, 11 and 12 courses/subjects and the relevant teachers in charge of those subject areas is available on the website www.denmarkag.wa.edu.au under the “Staff” tab, along with a list of Task Due Dates. The majority of staff have listed the assessment tasks for their subjects that must be completed this term.

A reminder to students to complete all assessment tasks by the due date. Your education program becomes much more difficult if you fall behind in your work. Parents please encourage your son/daughter to complete these tasks by the due dates.

Steve Swallow
Steve.Swallow@education.wa.edu.au
Task Due Dates Term One

A list of Year 10, 11 and 12 courses/subjects and the relevant teachers in charge of those subject areas is now available on the College website:

www.denmarkag.wa.edu.au

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A list of Year 10, 11 and 12 courses/subjects and the relevant teachers in charge of those subject areas is now available on the College website:

www.denmarkag.wa.edu.au

under the “Students” tab then select Forms and Rosters.

FARM ROSTERS

Farm Rosters for Term One are now listed on the College website. These are in a PDF format and can be downloaded from the web. Students have been allocated to each farm section so please familiarise yourselves with the roster and encourage your child to fulfil their obligation.

The rosters can be located under the “Students” tab then select Forms and Rosters.

www.denmarkag.wa.edu.au

Instructional Staff 2016

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teachers Name</th>
<th>Subject Area</th>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Swallow</td>
<td>Head of Studies, Animal Production Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Boynton</td>
<td>Maths, Computing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Calcraft</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<td>Shiralee Goodwill</td>
<td>History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deb Hatch</td>
<td>Maths</td>
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<td>Stuart Irwin</td>
<td>Plant Production Systems</td>
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<td>Peter Kemp</td>
<td>Automotive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allan Matson</td>
<td>Metals and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Morrell</td>
<td>Landcare, Bee Keeping</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Nunn</td>
<td>Accounting &amp; Finance, Plant Production Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Libby Corson</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Petrie</td>
<td>Equine, Animal Production Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trevlyn Smith</td>
<td>Animal Production Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad Woodruff</td>
<td>English, Physical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ali Artemis</td>
<td>English, Equine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison Topping</td>
<td>Education Assistant</td>
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<td>Rebecca Oxford</td>
<td>Education Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Knight</td>
<td>Farm Supervisor</td>
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<td>John Hendry</td>
<td>Assistant Farm Supervisor</td>
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<td>Albert Adams &amp;</td>
<td>Forestry</td>
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<td>Carl Dusenberg</td>
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<td>Alex Bentink</td>
<td>General</td>
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<td>Terry De Vos</td>
<td>Dairy</td>
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<td>Leanne Grant-Williams</td>
<td>Sheep, Equine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Jones</td>
<td>Farm Workshop</td>
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<td>Nigel Levinson</td>
<td>Viticulture/Horticulture</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Skipper</td>
<td>Abattoir/Poultry</td>
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<td>Neville Koenig</td>
<td>General</td>
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Find us on facebook

Go to facebook.com/denmarkag to follow us for regular updates about events happening at the College.

Share our facebook page with your friends so they can see what your child learns here at the College.
Welcome to all new families to the College community and welcome back to our existing families. I hope everyone enjoyed a bit of a break over the vacation period.

Contributions, Fees and Charges 2016

All families should have received a copy of the Contributions, Fees and Charges booklet for 2016. This booklet lists the maximum contributions and charges the College can request from parents/carers through the course of the year. If you have not received a copy of this booklet, an electronic version is available on our website. If you would like a paper copy of the booklet, please email the College.

Account Related Communication from the College

Invoices will be provided to all parents/carers at the time an item is applied to your account where payment is required prior to participation in the event. Statements summarising all items charged and payments received will be posted twice per term. If a student changes a study stream or if your account goes into credit, you will receive communication from the College regarding this. The first post out of statements is scheduled to occur from 25 February 2016.

Student Allowances and Subsidies 2016

Included with your first statement will be application forms for the following student allowances and subsidies. If a particular allowance or subsidy applies to your situation, please complete the associated application form and return to the address indicated on the form.

Secondary Assistance Scheme $235.00

The Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. To be eligible for the allowance the parent/carer must hold a Centrelink Family Health Care Card, Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card or a Veterans’ Affairs Pensioner Concession Card that represents a statement of low income for the family. The allowance consists of two components:

• $115 Clothing Allowance which will be paid to the parent/carer unless indicated on the application form that you wish it to paid to the College.

• $235 Education Program Allowance which is paid directly to the College and will be deducted from contributions and charges.

Boarding Away from Home Allowance (BAHA) $2,105.00

The Department of Education makes available a student Boarding Away from Home Allowance each year to families with children attending primary and/or secondary school and boarding in residential accommodation. The allowance consists of two components:

• Agricultural Special Subsidy which applies to all students in residence who are not in receipt of Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) from the Department of Human Services (Centrelink).

• AIC Subsidy which applies to all students who are currently in receipt of AIC from the Department of Human Services (Centrelink).

Tax File Numbers for Students

Just a reminder that this program ceased with the Australian Tax Office on 31 December 2014. Schools are no longer able to provide a modified application form to enable students to obtain a Tax File Number (TFN). Students wishing to obtain a TFN now need to apply online via www.ato.gov.au and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Further Contact & Information

As always, please don’t hesitate to contact the friendly administration team or myself with any questions or concerns regarding your account at the College on (08) 9848 0200 or demark.ac.finance@education.wa.edu.au.

Bank Details: Bankwest Denmark WA College Ag BSB: 306-009 A/c: 011 895

Craig Armstrong
demark.ac.finance@education.wa.edu.au
## Term 1 Calendar

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<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25 Statements posted</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Mar 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 Students depart 4pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Home Weekend</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>7 Public Hol Students return 4pm</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 Wagin Woolorama</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 WACoA Harvey Sports Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23 Students depart 4pm</td>
<td>24 Travel Day</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 EASTER BREAK</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29 Students return by 4pm</td>
<td>Mar 30 Classes commence</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Apr 1</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 Interim Reports posted</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7 Statements posted</td>
<td>8 College Ball</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 School Holidays Commence</td>
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</table>

### Upcoming Events
- **February 19-21**: Residential Camp
- **March 5-7**: Home Weekend
- **March 11-12**: Wagin Woolorama
- **March 18-20**: Harvey - Sports Carnival
- **March 25-28**: Easter Home Weekend
- **April 8**: College Ball