



PARENT BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2020

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I can hardly believe it is almost the end of the academic year, and what a year 2020 has been. Despite the difficulties thrust onto our world by the pandemic, schools have all risen to the challenge and found new and innovative ways to support our students both in the classroom and in other areas such as welfare. We've developed remote learning platforms, managed school sport, run virtual assemblies and graduated the Year 12 class of 2020 under strict conditions. I would like to thank all our families and our amazing staff for their patience, flexibility and resilience in these most trying of times. I'm certainly looking forward to what I hope will be a more settled year for our whole community in 2021. In the run up to the end of 2020 however, I wish all families a safe holiday, when we finally make it there!

Staffing update

I am very pleased to announce that Mr Dave Buckley has been reappointed to our school in the Science faculty. Mr Buckley had retired from teaching altogether but has been working with casually with us for some time. Despite this, he was successful in his application to be reappointed permanently. Mr Buckley is an outstanding teacher with 40 years of teaching experience behind him. Our students are very lucky to have someone of his experience back in the classroom. At the time of writing, we are in the process of recruiting a Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, which is a new executive position for our staff. This new role will see the school's executive team increase from 11 Head Teachers to 12. We know that this additional role will support the implementation of our goals within the new school plan, especially those related to our core business of consistent high-quality teaching and learning practices.

The end of an academic year is always a time for staff movement and this year, we will be farewelling a number of staff as they move on to new schools. Firstly, Mrs Danielle Saunders and Ms Georgie Rysko have both been appointed to Oran Park High School which is increasing in size each year. Both Mrs Saunders and Ms Rysko have made outstanding contributions to Elderslie High School. Mrs Karen White, our Teacher Librarian has temporarily taken up a role at Chester Hill High School. Mrs White anticipates her return to Elderslie in 2022. Her appointment means that we have also needed to recruit a new Year Adviser for Year 9, 2021 and I'm delighted to announce that Ms Victoria Petinos is the successful staff member taking on this role. Finally, we say farewell to a

number of our casual teachers currently on temporary contracts including Ms Wendy Xu, Ms Ellouise Liston, Ms Tarin Palmer, Ms Alison Bargarey, Mrs Amanda Luppino and Ms Laura Reece. At this stage of the year, we are still hoping to be able to find roles for some of our amazing casual teachers and will advise more as soon as we can.

COVID Update

It was most certainly a relief to finalise the HSC examination period with no positive COVID cases in our school community. As you will remember from the last edition of Parent Bulletin, all schools were required to have a contingency plan in which we planned for alternate venues just in case the Elderslie High School site was to have closed. We were so lucky to have the incredible support of our colleagues at Spring Farm, Mawarra and Elderslie Public Schools who, without a moment's hesitation, offered us their auditoriums and library spaces, should we have needed them. The contingency operation was extensively planned with furniture having been moved into position in all three alternate venues. Thank goodness we didn't need to activate the plan! Despite this, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to these amazing partner primary schools for their support.

A couple of weeks ago, the Department released further COVID guidelines for schools to implement. Here is a short summary of some of the most notable changes:

- Excursions can recommence under strict guidelines.
- End of year functions and school formals can go ahead under strict guidelines.
- While presentation ceremonies can go ahead with parental participation, there are extremely restrictive guidelines that must be followed. These guidelines will make it impossible to have as many parents as we might like because of the distances that must be maintained between adults from different households and the maximum number of adults that be housed in our auditorium. At present, we are still trying work out how our event will run and parents will be advised as soon as possible.
- Parents and Citizens Association Meetings can take place once again in a face to face manner.

Oak Grove Renovation

We are getting very excited that the long-awaited renovation of our Oak Grove section of our playground is looking like a reality. I have now signed off on the new design and have had the opportunity to share it with staff, students and the school's Parents and Citizens Association. The new design will feature a significant amount of synthetic turf as well as new seating and covered picnic tables for student use. The design will keep the existing solar shelter for shade but see this space renovated in keeping with the new look. The memorial garden within the Oak Grove will also be retained. At this stage, the Department's Asset Management Unit advises me that the new space should be fully complete approximately one month

into the new school year with the majority of works to take place over the school holidays.

Thank You for Your Input

Of late there have been quite a few surveys for Elderslie High School parents to fill in. Most notably, there has been the "Tell Them From Me" survey as well the Customer Service 360° survey. We are very grateful for the input of all those families who took the time to provide your thoughts. I know you are all very busy with your own working and family lives and I certainly appreciate your input. Both these surveys assist us in the continuous process of improvement and are critical in informing executive decision making.

Parents and Citizens Association Meeting

The next P&C Meeting will be on Tuesday, 24th November at 7pm. AS this will be our first face to face meeting since the pandemic struck, we look forward to seeing as many parents as possible. The meeting will be held in the school library.

Kind regards,
Mrs J. Lawrence
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Natalie Martin (DP Years 9 & 12)

Year 12

Year 12 have successfully completed their HSC examinations. I am pleased to say that our examinations went relatively smoothly with the exception of Legal Studies when the whole school was evacuated to our secondary site. I have submitted a Group Misadventure form to NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) for all of the students who were impacted.

I would like to thank Mr Atterton, Miss Dennis and the CAPA team for arranging to film the graduation ceremony. All Year 12 students have been given a copy of the film as a memento of their graduation. Year 12 were able to kick their heels up in a final celebration at the Year 12 Formal on 12th November. The formal was held at Panorama House, a venue with spectacular views. Once again Mr Atterton did a fantastic job of organising this event to ensure we abided by the COVID guidelines whilst making the event a memorable occasion for our students who have had a very tough year.

I congratulate our Year 12 students on reaching this milestone and I wish every one of them a bright and successful future.

NAIDOC Week

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and exceptional organisation of Mrs Crossingham who has organised a week of activities to celebrate and recognise NAIDOC Week. Activities have included, indigenous games, a native plant display, an art workshop, dancing, fundraising and purchase of NAIDOC week cookies and a pizza luncheon for our Indigenous community. The theme of NAIDOC week was 'Always Was Always Will Be' which recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. I think we have

a lot to learn from our Indigenous culture in terms of looking after our environment so that it can sustain future generations.



Lego Robotics

I have been coordinating a team of students and working with Mrs Nath who competed in the First Lego League Replay Challenge at Unity Grammar School in Austral. Our students have had to work together to code the Spike Prime Lego Robotics to complete as many missions as possible within two and a half minutes. This is the first time the school has entered a robotics competition and I am very proud of the team values that they have demonstrated in preparing for the event and competing on the day. The values they demonstrated were teamwork, innovation, fun, discovery, impact and inclusion. During the event students worked together to present the processes they went through in readiness for the competition. I am very proud of our students and their achievement in this challenge. Next year we plan to enter two teams into the competition and offer the opportunity to more students in our school.



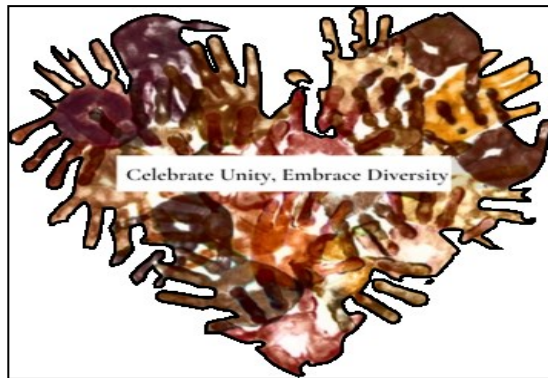
Mrs Natalie Martin
Deputy Principal
Years 9 & 12

Dale White (DP Years 8 & 11)

As we round the final corner towards the end of the year there are still many important event and requirements for students. Year 11 are now preparing to submit their first assessment tasks for their HSC credential. These assessment tasks are mandatory and will make up a chunk of a student's HSC mark. Parents should check in with their child to see what tasks they are currently working on and a gentle nudge to ensure they don't leave it to the last minute might be

beneficial. A reminder for Year 8 students that as we head into the warmer months to ensure you wear the correct school uniform each day, bring and wear a hat when in the playground and stay hydrated by bringing a water bottle that can be filled up during the 3 breaks students get each day.

Thursday, the 19th November will be our annual Multicultural Day. This year we are focusing on embracing the diversity within the school, teaching tolerance, patience and acceptance of others. We have 33 different cultures represented within our school student body and this day will be an excellent opportunity to learn about these cultures and others that exist in our Camden community. There will be a variety of learning activities planned for the day and students can come appropriately dressed in their cultural clothing if they wish. The Youth Action Group has developed the theme and symbol for the day below. We are looking forward to an exciting and collaborative learning day.



Mr Dale White
Deputy Principal
Years 8 & 11

Joanne Amos (DP Years 7 & 10)

STYMIE Launch

As part of the Multicultural Day activities, our school used the day as an opportunity to launch the Stymie platform that has been purchased with funds from the school's P&C. Stymie is an online notification website where any student can anonymously report incidents of bullying and harm.

There are multiple benefits for using Stymie for students and the school. These include encouraging our students by being upstanders who supports their peers during a time of need. A parent information sheet has been provided with the newsletter.

To make an anonymous notification, students access the website www.stymie.com.au and complete the details. The student does need to verify that the information they are providing is truthful. The notification is then sent onto the school and a relevant staff member will receive the information.

Students will still be encouraged to report issues to their relevant Year Adviser or Deputy Principal, but we are looking

forward to students using the platform to have a stronger voice against bullying.

Drink Bottles

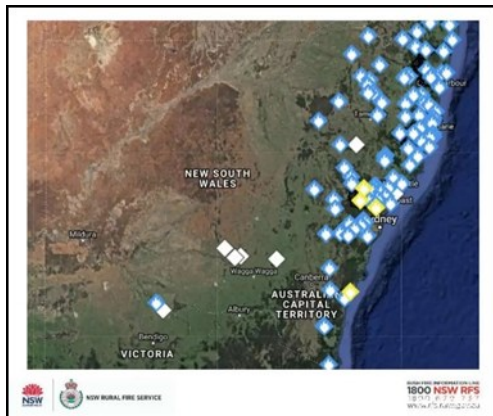
All students need to be bringing their own drink bottle to school each day. Due to the current guidelines the school bubblers are not operational, but they can refill drink bottles during break times at the refill stations. Students are able to have a water drink bottle with them in the classroom, but should not be asking to leave the classroom to get a drink or to refill their bottles.

Mrs Joanne Amos
Deputy Principal
Years 7 & 10

SRC REPORT

Mufti Day – Friday Week 3

Thank you to the student body of Elderslie High School who supported the last mufti day for the school year. The team collected over \$1100 in donations for our local brigade, Camden West located in Grasmere. Students proudly dressed in colours of red, orange and yellow in support of those who serve to protect us, especially during the heat of Summer. To support and show our recognition, students were reminded of the devastation caused by last season's fires that ripped through many local areas, destroying natural habits, farmlands and homes in an activity in DEAR. As a result, we are so thankful for the large donations, particularly by some individual students, who proudly donated between \$10-\$50 on their own accord.



(Yanderra Road, Green Wattle Fire)

Festive Toy Drive

This year, with the support of the Evans family (Jacob, Year 10 and Emma, Year 8), we would like to share light on those children who, like Jacob, have to spend many hours inside the walls of a hospital. This year, we are proud to support Westmead Children's Hospital and their willingness to actively build a positive festive spirit for those children who are restricted to be in hospital, during a time of joy and celebration. This Christmas, **there will be approximately 300 children**, between the ages of 11-18, who will miss such gatherings, and **may not be able to celebrate** the joys that occur with the holidays. This year, SRC are hoping to **donate over 100 toys** for children, in hope to share and give light, especially in uncertain times. Purchase a **new** toy (e.g gift cards, packaged, or plush toys) and deliver to the SRC Helper's (who will be visiting in DEAR), or place under the Christmas Tree located in the Library.

"My brother and I were born with a genetic immune condition, that essentially means who do not have enough of the "good stuff" that helps fight the bad stuff. We were offered the ideas of a bone marrow transplant for a possible cure. That means a very long time away in hospital and even after that, at home to recover. Jacob (Year 10), is currently in hospital recovering from his bone marrow transplant and will be out in time for Christmas. However, others are not so lucky. I encourage you to think of those children who may not be able to have a normal Christmas at home, and must remain in hospital for the sake of their health."

This year, Elderslie High School are encouraging you to support, and bring joy to the children who will have a *different* festive season. See end of bulletin for toy guidelines.



NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week was celebrated during Week 5. The theme for 2020 is “Always was, Always will be” which recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. It is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate the rich history, diverse cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the oldest continuing cultures on the planet.

A variety of activities were conducted during lunch time, including traditional Aboriginal games, Aboriginal dance workshops, Aboriginal art activities and a flowering plant display where students learnt about the use of plants by Aboriginal people. The Aboriginal Cultural Roll Call group also sold NAIDOC cookies with the profits being donated to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. The foundation develops and implements programs to encourage reading in Aboriginal communities. A large amount of students participated in these activities and it was great to see the school community coming together to celebrating NAIDOC week.

During the Wednesday school assembly Shay-Lee Evans and Juliette Kinny performed the acknowledgement to country whilst Tamika Watson-Ryan and Zelden Bell informed the students of the meaning and purpose of NAIDOC Week. The National Anthem was also performed in Dharawal language, the Aboriginal language of our area. Congratulations to these students who spoke confidently in front of the whole student body.

The week of celebrations were concluded with a pizza lunch for Aboriginal students, the Senior Executive Team and the Aboriginal Education Committee. A big thank you to the students in the roll call group and the teachers in the Aboriginal Education Committee for making the week a huge success!

Ms Crossingham

Aboriginal Education Coordinator



ARCO REPORT

“If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?”

When this thought experiment was examined by the Scientific American they came to the conclusion “no”: Sound is vibration, transmitted to our senses through the mechanism of the ear, and recognised as sound only at our nerve centres. The falling of the tree or any other disturbance will produce vibration of the air. If there are no ears to hear, there will be no sound.

Ok, enough science.

What if someone makes a racist comment and no one in the room is of that cultural background or ethnicity? Was the comment even racist? The answer is a resounding YES. There are still ears to hear, and those ears should be able to recognise an unacceptable comment. If you get the feeling that something is not quite right, it may be a sign that it’s time to speak up and call it out for what it is: racism.

Appearances and names of many people of diverse backgrounds may seem somewhat ambiguous. People can try to guess and not even get within the same continent! This may result in inappropriate comments about a person’s heritage. However, whether or not a culturally or linguistically diverse person is present is beside the point. These comments should not be made at a school, workplace, or any other public forum. If a person’s idea of humour involves putting down another group of people, then they’re not very funny at all!

But don't forget, it's important for everyone to continually reflect on experiences of unconscious bias and understand what true ally-ship and antiracism look like. The big one is simply speaking up when you see or hear injustice. This reflects one of Elderslie High's core PBL values: be responsible; be an upstander, not a bystander.

So, if a tree falls in the forest will *you* make a sound?

*Elderslie High's inaugural Multicultural Day will be held on Thursday 19th of November. The theme of the day is *Celebrate Unity, Embrace Diversity*. Students are encouraged to wear clothes that represent their heritage, whether that be traditional clothes, international sporting jerseys, colours of their flag, etc. They will participate in a range of engaging activities with the theme of respect for everyone who calls Australia home.

Miss Jan, ARCO

Remembrance Day – Armistice Day

The assembly was held on Wednesday the 11th of November to commemorate the end of the First World War. This year marks 102 years since the end of the Great War and was held to remember and pay tribute to all men and women, including Indigenous Australians, who fought and died not only WW1, but in all wars. We also acknowledge the 75th Anniversary of the end of WW2 in both Europe and particularly the Pacific region. Additionally, Week 5 aligned with NAIDOC week, to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Thank you to Shaylee Evans and Juliette Kinny (Year 7) who gave an Acknowledgement of Country, and Tamika Watson-Ryan (Year 9) and Zelden Bell (Year 7) who gave an explanation of what this year's NAIDOC message: *Always Was, Always Will Be*. The Australian National anthem containing the Dharawal and English verses, was played to reflect and show respect to our country.

"On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, 1918, the guns fell silent on the Western Front, after more than four years of continuous warfare. On this day, a minutes' silence is observed to remember the many servicemen and women who have sacrificed their lives in the pursuit of continued freedom for our nation, not just in the First World War, but all conflicts since. This year, we celebrate Remembrance Day during NAIDOC week. In our country's history, approximately 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders have served in our armed forces, many of whom are ill recognised for their service and sacrifice.

Today we pause to acknowledge, remember and honour them, alongside their other brothers and sisters in service. We pay our respects to their families and friends who have suffered such profound loss, and to the generations of their family left behind who carry their legacy into the future. May we never forget their sacrifice. We also take today to thank our current service men and women who continue to serve this nation proudly. Their commitment to duty and self-sacrifice for our bettering has helped to preserve our everyday freedoms that we continue to enjoy today.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have served in every conflict and commitment involving Australian defence contingents since Federation, including both world wars and the intervals of peace since the Second World War. Aboriginal women played an important role in WW2. Many enlisted in the women's services or worked in war industries. In northern Australia Aboriginal and Islander women worked hard to support isolated RAAF outposts and even helped to salvage crashed aircraft. Indigenous personnel are known to have served in later conflicts and operations including in Somalia, East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq, and on peacekeeping operations."



(Remembrance Day display in the library created by Year 9 Elective History students)

Marshall wore three medals in recognition of his uncle, Donald Kirkpatrick, enlisted in 1939 at Sydney, aged 17 years at the outbreak of World War II. He reached the rank of Leading Aircraftman in the Royal Australian Air Force, was attached to 93 Squadron Beaufighters and given the nicknames 'Titch' and 'Kirk'.

For his incredible World War II service, he was awarded these medals which Marshall wore proudly. The Pacific Star; for operational service in the Pacific of operations between 8 Dec 1941 – 2 Sept 1945, The War Medal; awarded for full time service in the Armed Forces between 3 Sept 1939 – 2 Sept 1945 and awarded to service until cessation of hostilities on 2 Sept 1945 and The Australian Service Medal; recognising the service of members of the Australian Armed Forces and the Australian Mercantile Marine during World War II. Its awarded to those that served at home or overseas for at least 18 months full time service or 3 years part time between 3 Sept 1939 and 2 Sept 1945.



(Year 11 Modern History students – Ezra Cordova, Marshall Kickert, Cameron Martin and Cherise Holley)

SPORT NEWS

Golf

Camden Golf Club - Studley Park, NSW, have just finished playing 4 rounds of Club Championships. Robbie Minns won the A Grade Club Championships by 7 shots! He beat adults who have been playing the game for many more years than himself. Last year he was runner up, so this year he has gone one better. An awesome achievement. Congratulations to Robbie.

Public Speaking Update

Our Year 7 & 8 Debaters have won their Round 3 and 4 Debates against challenging opponents. We are now completing our Round 5 Debate. Our teams are three debates away from the State Final. Best of the luck in your remaining debates.

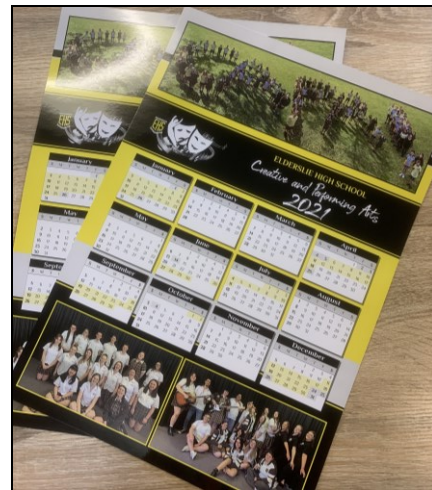
Congratulations to Abbey Reid, Ashley Mills, Noah Douglas, Cruz Lewis, Jasper Browne, Symphony Choy – Plotz and Noah Gibson from Year 8, as well as Callumb Jenner and Ellie Fisher from Year 7.

Ms Dennis



CAPA Update

Our **CAPA Calendar for 2021** is available for purchase from the Student Office. Due to the limitations of 2020 our Calendar is an A3 poster for 2021. Calendars are on sale for \$ 5.00. The calendar would make a great Christmas present and is an excellent memory of who of this most challenging year for the Arts.



Kayla Jancovich from Year 12 has been selected to be a featured dancer for the **Schools Spectacular, 2020** remixed Year 12 virtual item. Congratulations to Kayla on this fantastic opportunity!

Visual Arts Club on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 – 3.30 pm will continue until Wednesday 9th December. **Junior Drama Ensemble** rehearsals on Wednesday mornings from 8.00 – 8.55 am will continue until Wednesday 9th December. Regular updates and reminders will be provided through Google Classrooms and Daily Notices about any changes to this structure.

CAPA Stocktaking will be taking place during Week 9 of Term 4. Students who are interested in helping on the day need to see their CAPA teacher or Ms Dennis in the Studio to get a permission note.

CAPA Faculty

Faces of EHS

What is my greatest achievement?

For me, my greatest achievement is a collaboration of the successful roles I have obtained in the performing arts. Whether it be a small extra in a movie or a lead role in a production. All parts to me are amazing experiences and have assisted me in past events and will continue to do so for future opportunities. This achievement includes the skills and knowledge I have gained over the years that are strongly needed to pursue the performing arts industry. For me this achievement is forever ongoing as there are thousands of opportunities I have not yet have the privilege to face yet.

Jake Rouland, Year 11



Where would you like to be in 10 years' time?

In 10 years', time I would like to be living on a property and be using it to run a small farming business. I would like to base the business around breeding poultry, especially rare and endangered breeds, like the sultan chicken. I would like to increase the population of these rare breeds and try to bring them away from being endangered. This is what I would like to be doing in 10 years' time, because I think the uncommon and rare breeds of poultry are incredibly special and should be protected.

Logan Ockers, Year 10



Catching Up With Our Alumni – Karina Ralston Class of 2005

Achievements at Elderslie High School

- Being a member of the Elderslie High School Debating Team (7-12) which reached the state quarter finals on a number of occasions
- Representing Elderslie High School in numerous public speaking competitions
- Being the second barrister in the moot competitions which reached the state semi-finals
- Having some truly remarkable teachers who inspired me greatly (Mr Cutrupi in particular)
- Achieving a UAI/ATAR of 98.45 in 2005 HSC

Achievements since 2005

- Receiving the Vice Chancellor's Leadership Scholarship at Western Sydney University
- Completing a Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Laws degree at Western Sydney University
- Receiving a grant and using the leadership scholarship to study at Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto, Canada
- Being selected to represent Western Sydney University at various functions (including former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam's 90th birthday)
- Being appointed the Research Associate for the President of the New South Wales Children's Court
- Completing a Masters of Law degree at College of Law
- Achieving my Specialist Accreditation in Family Law in 2017
- Becoming a Principal at Coleman Greig Lawyers on 1 July 2018.



Animals for Sale

Due to the success of our breeding programs the Agriculture Team have a surplus of animals and we are offering the following for sale:

- 3 x 7 week old Angora rabbits \$40 each
- 2 x Adult Australian Miniature Female Goats \$100 each
- 4 Nigerian Dwarf x Australian Miniature Goats (Wethers ranging from 6 – 12 months) \$100 each
- Old English Game Bantam (Roosters only) \$10
- 6 x Wiltipoll wether lambs (approx. 3 months old) \$50 each
- Spiny Leaf Insects \$8 each

All of our animals are well handled and very calm. Phone Ms Atkinson at school 4658 1110.

Elderslie High School Toy Drive Guidelines

the children's hospital at Westmead

Donated toys must meet the following guidelines:

- For health and safety reasons, toys must be brand new, unopened and still in manufacturers' packaging or with the tags attached
- There's no need to wrap the toy as we need to see it to make sure it's appropriate for each child
- We don't accept toy guns, swords or war games
- All toys must meet Australian Safety Standards
- Toys can't have small or easily detachable parts that can be swallowed
- Toys can't have moving parts that can pinch fingers or hair
- Toys can't have dangers such as breakable glass, protrusions, or sharp edges
- We don't accept electrical, spark-producing toys because of fire regulations
- Glue or paint in craft kits must be non-toxic and non-flammable
- All DVDs need to be G or PG Rated

Donation Suggestions:

- Personal DVD players, Apple iPad Mini 2 (32GB), iPods, Sony PlayStation 4 G/PG rated games, DVDs new movies (G/PG rated only) Nintendo games, CD players with iPod dock
- Portable Bluetooth speakers (JBL JR POP Kids Bluetooth Speaker)

- Movie vouchers, iTunes cards, EFTPOS, Eckersley's gift cards.
- General art and craft supplies for Child Life Therapy such as small and medium blank canvases, glitter glue sticks, batteries.
- **Stickers** e.g. Disney Princess, Frozen, My Little Pony, Peppa Pig, Paw Patrol, Minions, Trolls, Superheroes, pirates, unicorns, fairies, Barbie, Dinosaurs, mermaids, butterflies, flowers, cars etc.

Babies — 3 year-olds

- Toys - Peppa Pig, Pillow Pet, FlipaZoo, Thomas the Tank Engine, Sesame Street,
- Soft toys e.g. teddy bears 20cm in height, musical books, musical toys, baby rattles, Fisher-Price brand toys, Building blocks, Duplo.

3 - 7 year-olds

- Fingerling HUGS Plush Monkey, Hatchimals, FurReal Critters Munchin Rex Baby Dino, Little Live Pets, Scruff-a-Luvs toy pet, Pomsies Blossom Plush Interactive Toys, Little Live Wrapples,
- Toys manufactured as part of Shopkins, Barbie, Peppa Pig, Frozen, Fairies, Dinosaurs, Marvel & DC Superheroes, Hot Wheels, Minecraft, Minions, Star Wars, PJ Mask, Paw Patrol
- Lego sets e.g. Lego Friends, Lego Junior, Lego DC Superheroes, Duplo. Fisher Price Medical Kit, Soft toys such as Teddy bears 20cm and unicorns (medium size), Pillow Pets, FlipaZoo. Anything unicorn. Sticker books, colouring books and pencils, crayons, Tea Party Sets (plastic). Fairy wings, tiaras & wands.

7 - 10 year-olds

- Fingerling HUGS Plush Monkey, Hatchimals, FurReal Soft toys, Little Live Pets, L.O.L Surprise Glam Glitter Series Dolls, BFF Furry Friends
- Scruff-a-Luvs toy pets, Pomsies Blossom Plush Interactive Toys, Little Live Wrapples,
- Colouring in books, pencils and crayons, painting sets, mosaic sticker sets, jigsaw puzzles, scrapbooking sets. Board games, card games, individual puzzle games
- Toys manufactured as part of Transformers, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Furbies,

10 - 12 year-olds

- Activity craft sets, scrapbooking kits, DIY kits e.g. beading sets, knitting sets. Velvet Art poster set with textas, jewellery craft kits. Typo notebooks,

pens, pencil cases. Pusheen the Cat, Charlie & Lola books by Lauren Childs

- Toys manufactured as part of, Minecraft, Marvel and DC Heroes, Star Wars.
- iTunes cards, Eftpos gift cards.

12 - 18 year-olds

- Bluetooth enabled headphones, Tilemate Bluetooth tracker, movie vouchers, iTunes cards, Eftpos gift cards
- Sports items, activity or craft packs (e.g. Diamond Dotz at Spotlight), make up and nail polish sets
- Johanna Basford colouring in books with Staedtler Norris colour 185 coloured pencils or Staedtler triplus colour 323 coloured pens
- Coloured insulated metal drink bottles, Teen "Breathe" magazine
- Typo notebooks, pens, pencil cases, micro light box
- Book - Letter to my teenage self, cosmetic bags, scrunchies
- Card games – Rat-a-tat Cat, Games - Rush Hour, Slamwich

P & C MEETINGS 2020

ALL parents of students and interested members of the Elderslie community are invited to attend these meetings.

Our Meeting for 2020 will be:

Tuesday, 24th November 2020
In the School Library at 7pm.



STYMIE – PARENT INFORMATION

Stymie helps combat the bystander effect by enabling students to report incidents of bullying and harm, safely and anonymously.

- The bystander effect occurs when the presence of others discourages an individual from intervening in an emergency situation.
- Social influence affects how bystanders behave, and students are less likely to stand up to bullying behaviours in public when the number of onlookers is high.
- This bystander effect is also caused by a diffusion of responsibility—the belief that someone else will help.

Taking into account that our kids are very socially invested, many of them don't feel as though they can speak up and often, they just don't know how. Rather than trying to work against this peer pressure, our solution recognises the nuanced nature of their social currency, by providing security and anonymity to the bystanding community.

Benefits for your child

- Fostering a safe environment - Students make notifications about cyberbullying, bullying, illegal activity, depression, anxiety and self-harm. Reducing harm on all levels in schools makes for a safer learning space.
- Enabling early intervention - The anonymous nature of Stymie means that students often make notifications early in the bullying cycle, enabling early intervention by the relevant contact at school.
- Alleviating anxiety and stress - Encouraging bystanders to make notifications through Stymie can help reduce levels of anxiety associated with concealing stressful information.
- Encouraging pro-social behaviour - Promoting a culture of care is important in all communities. Empowering students as the agents of change, means they have an opportunity to put their empathy into action.
- Providing a solution - Stymie may point your child in the right direction if they have experienced or witnessed bullying or harm; a definitive course of action that may enable a life-changing conversation.
- Reducing distractions - Experiencing or witnessing bullying and harm hinders your child's ability to learn. Being emotionally stressed, disengages their brain and takes them out of their learning. Making your school feel safer, means that your child can focus on their learning and on just 'being a kid'.

Stymie at your school

Any child at a Stymie-registered school can make a notification about someone they believe is being bullied or harmed. This notification is automatically forwarded to the school, and managed by the appropriate members of staff.

Everyone will benefit from the added safety that Stymie can provide—students, parents, educators and the wider community.

