



PARENT BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 2020

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Feb 11 | School Photo Day |
| Feb 11 | P & C Meeting |
| Feb 11 | CAPA Information Evening |
| Feb 12 - 14 | Duke of Edinburgh – Silver Practice Expedition |
| Feb 12 | Viewing onstage – Drama Students |
| Feb 13 | Zone Team Trials – Afternoon |
| Feb 17 | School Photo Catch Up Day for absent students |
| Feb 17 | High Achievers Reception |
| Feb 18 | Extended Musical Rehearsal |
| Feb 20 | Musical Production Meeting |
| Feb 25 | Year 6 into Year 7 Information Evening |
| Feb 26 - 28 | Duke of Edinburgh – Silver Test Expedition |
| Feb 26 | Danceathon |
| Feb 28 | Zone Swimming |
| Feb 28 | Pathways to Dreaming – Year 12 Fast Forward Conference |
| Mar 3 | Extended Music Rehearsal |
| Mar 4 – 6 | Year 7 Camp |

See back page for more details



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the 2020 academic school year for all our students and their families and in particular, to all those students who are new to Elderslie High School, most notably our new Year 7 students. The start of the new school year can often be an anxious time for our new students as they get used to new routines and become familiar with a new school campus while getting to know a whole new peer group. As such, I strongly encourage our new students to utilise the support structures on hand at Elderslie High School if extra guidance is required, whether this be from the relevant Year Advisor or other welfare-based programs in the school such as Peer Support. Our staff are all here to help and for parents, if you need us we are only a phone call away. Please understand though that all are staff will return your call as soon as it is practicable for them to do so when they are off class themselves. For your information, the following table provides a list of key welfare staff that you can contact:

| Year Group | Year Adviser | Deputy Principal |
|------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 7 | Ms Gillian Sproule | Mrs Joanne Amos |
| 8 | Mrs Karen White | Mrs Jennifer Villanueva |
| 9 | Ms Victoria Jeffries | Ms Natalie Martin |
| 10 | Mrs Maggie Buist | Mrs Joanne Amos |
| 11 | Ms Linda Le | Mrs Jennifer Villanueva |
| 12 | Mr Scott Atterton | Ms Natalie Martin |

Staffing News

As always, the start of a new school year brings a number of staff changes. We welcome back long term permanent staff including Mrs Zoe Crossingham, Mrs Shanie Nath and Mrs Michelle Shanks, all of whom had taken maternity leave and are returning in a part time capacity. 2020 has also seen the appointment of the following new permanent staff:

Ms Carmen Thorne – School Counsellor

Mrs Andrea Usher – Classroom Teacher, Human Society & Its Environment

Mr Nathan Dean – Classroom Teacher, Technological & Applied Studies

Additionally, we have also been able to secure a range of new temporary teacher who will be with us for contracts of varying lengths:

Ms Brittany Price – Classroom Teacher, English

Ms Wendy Xu – Classroom Teacher, Mathematics

Mr Champ Dan – Classroom Teacher, Science

Ms Samantha McGlynn – Classroom Teacher, Human Society & Its Environment

Ms Alison Bargarey - Classroom Teacher, Human Society & Its Environment

Mr Matthew Rowston - Classroom Teacher, PDHPE

Ms Amanda Luppino - Classroom Teacher, Technological & Applied Studies

Ms Laura Reece - Classroom Teacher, Creative & Performing Arts

Ms Samantha Strange – School Administrative & Support Staff

Student Successes

The HSC results of our class of 2019 were released on Wednesday, December 18 along with the ATAR results. We were delighted with the success of our students including the 28 Band 6 results earned by students of Elderslie High School students and the announcement that Ivy Maglis had made it onto the HSC All Rounders list for having obtained a Band 6 in every one of her HSC subjects. Ivy was also named in the Top Achievers list for English Standard, meaning that she was within the top 20 students in all of NSW in this subject – an achievement which is no easy feat given that over 30 000 study English Standard. A great many of our other students achieved an ATAR over 90, with the dux being Zuhayr Jafri with an ATAR of 96.25. We were also thrilled to learn of the success of Rocco Laria whose Design & Technology major work was selected for the Shape Exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum. This exhibition is incredibly prestigious and is a great honour for Rocco as only a handful of student works are chosen state wide to be featured.

It should be noted that HSC results are only one measure of student success and I am firm believer in the fact that the success of all our students is determined in many ways beyond these types of academic accolades. For all our students, we simply ask is that they seek to emulate the Elderslie High School ethos of striving for your personal best. We wish our 2019 graduates all the very best as they now move into the next stages of their lives, whether that be within the world of work, university or other educational pathways.

School Improvements

Over the school holidays, works have continued on the replacement of the roof of much of the school. During 2019, the library and administration block were both completed and the last block to be completed was to be B Block which houses the school auditorium as well as the Technological & Applied Studies and Visual Arts classrooms. We were pleased to see these works take place within the holidays so that disruptions to normal lessons would be minimised.

In 2020, the school intends to continue improving the campus with the installation of a new automated back gate and the exploration of renovations to the Oak Grove section of the playground. I would especially like to thank our school's Parents & Citizens Association, led by Mr Nick Maglis for the federal grant they successfully sought which will be used for furnishings for our renovated Oak Grove area. We were very

pleased to hear recently from the office of Angus Taylor, member for Hume to indicate that Elderslie High School had been allocated \$15000 to use for this project.

Amber Alert

Elderslie High School has recently reviewed its evacuation and emergency response procedures. Like all schools, we practice annually our key procedures of evacuation, lockdown and lockout so that we can ensure all staff and students are prepared in the case of a real emergency and are fully familiar with the process to be followed. We have decided recently to add a new procedure to our system known as "Amber Alert". This procedure will be utilised at recess and lunch breaks if there is cause to move the students into classrooms and away from the playground but where the circumstances do not align to those that should trigger a lockdown. In our new Amber Alert procedure, all lessons will be able to proceed as normal as students will be move to their next timetabled class.

Parent & Citizens Meetings

A warm welcome is extended to all parents who would like to attend our Parents & Citizens Association meetings. P&C Meetings are an excellent way to stay in touch with what is going on at the school. We meet in the library twice per term on Tuesday evenings in Week 3 and 7 from 7pm. P&C Meetings are attended by the Principal, Deputy Principals and faculty representatives. Parents are addressed by students from our Student Representative Council about leadership endeavours within the school and a faculty presentation takes place on each occasion, meaning that we certainly do a whole lot more than talk about fund raising. P&C members are always the first parents we call on to participate in recruiting new staff for the school so members get to have a real say in the staff that are in front of their children. Our first P&C meeting for the year will be on Tuesday, February 11.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jenny Lawrence
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Natalie Martin (DP Years 9 & 12)

Year 9

Year 9 students have now entered into a new stage of learning which will continue over the next two years. All students in Year 9 will study three electives for the next two years. If students are not happy with their elective choices they are required to bring a note in from home with a request to change a subject. The note must be given to the Deputy Principal where a change can be made. Please keep in mind that limited places are available and many course are already full. The final date for course changes will be on Thursday 14th February. Elective courses undertaken in Year 9 and 10 are not prerequisites for any subjects in Year 11 and 12.

Year 12

I am pleased to announce that I am now the Deputy Principal for Year 12, 2020. A major focus for me is to ensure all of the

administration requirements for dropping a subject have been completed. If students wish to drop a subject, they need to come and see me or Mrs Shortt so that this can be finalised as soon as possible. Students will also need to see me to initiate the disability provision process and to collect illness/misadventure forms. I intend to working closely with Mrs Amos and Mr Atterton to learn more about our Year 12 students so that students feel well supported at Elderslie High School.

Students are expected to use private study lesson productively. Elderslie High School has a long tradition of high academic achievement through the provision of support, ensuring students are able to achieve their personal best. Students are not permitted to leave the school before 3.25pm even if they have Private Study in period 4. Please encourage your child to use Private Study time productively where they can access help and support from our senior learning mentor and their classroom teachers.

Uniform

Our school uniform complies with safety regulations so that all students can participate in learning in all environments across the school. It is important to wear black leather shoes so that learning can continue in the Science Laboratories, Technology Rooms, School Farm and Kitchens. It is also essential that students change into and out of their PDHPE uniforms on days they have practical PDHPE lessons. This is for safety reasons and to maintain good hygiene in all school settings.

A school uniform teaches students to dress appropriately and take pride in their appearance. Uniforms can help students to prepare for when they leave school and may have to dress appropriately or wear a uniform. A school uniform can help improve the learning environment by reducing distraction, sharpening focus on schoolwork and making the classroom a more serious environment. A uniform means students don't have to worry about peer pressure when it comes to their clothes. There is no competition about being dressed in the latest trend, which would can put a great deal of financial pressure on students and parents. The school uniform might not be what students would choose to wear in their own time, but it gives students a sense of belonging, takes away the pressure of what to wear and deters bullies. Essentially the school uniform is fundamental to student wellbeing, health and safety and is a requirement of all students to wear the correct school uniform every day.

Jennifer Villanueva (DP Years 8 & 11)

I'd like to welcome all students back to school for 2020 and hope that you all enjoyed the break and are looking forward and ready to knuckle down for a great year ahead.

All students will be viewing a presentation where their Assessments for 2020 will be outlined. Assessment Booklets will also be made available through the School Website and students will receive relevant hardcopies which they will sign for at a later date.

Year 8 News

There are some differences to the daily routine which I would like to outline. Students will now find themselves in vertical roll call classes, sharing this time with other students from Year 8 to Year 10. This structure allows the development of social skills, good behaviour patterns and a positive approach to their learning. Your child will also find that they are no longer in the same class for all subjects. Most subjects will run from the same class lists, however, English classes are grouped differently to allow for differentiated instruction. Having a curriculum which introduces changes to classes in Year 8 allows students to broaden their social groupings and prepare for Year 9, where they will be placed in subjects based on individual performances for each subject and the students' own level of ability.

Year 11 News

Congratulations on making the decision to continue as a Senior Student! With this decision comes the commitment to work diligently in class and perform to the very best of your ability in preparedness for either future post school education or career opportunities. The Senior Study area and Library facilities will become more valuable to you as this year progresses, as Mrs White (Teacher Librarian) and Miss Wilson (Senior Learning Mentor) share their expertise in research, study techniques and support with resources and advice and for Assessment Task completion. Mrs Shortt's role as Head Teacher Secondary Studies provides another layer of support for senior students, to ensure that students are successfully supported through this period of their education. From Week 7, Term 4 and for the remainder of 2019, students engaged in a Year 11 Transition program which focussed on the skills necessary to be successful in each of their chosen subjects in 2020. If students feel that they have made an incorrect subject selection, which is supported by parents/caregivers and they would like to see if there may be a preferable alternate subject, they will need to see either Mrs Shortt or myself, to discuss options. The last day to request changes to Year 11 subjects is Friday 14th February.

NESA Requirements for Year 10, 11, 12 students

The awarding of external credentials such as the Record of School Achievement (RoSA) and the Higher School Certificate (HSC) is a worthy goal for students from Years 10 through 12. These credentials can be used as a means of accessing post-school training and other career opportunities. It is for these reasons and to maintain the integrity of the system, that National Educational Standards & Assessment (NESA) has put in place for all schools strict guidelines regarding students' satisfactory completion of courses. If a student is not meeting the requirements they are given what is termed an N Warning (non-completion warning). A letter is posted home to parents/caregivers outlining any issues of concern or outstanding work and the date by which students should resolve the warnings of the missed work or lack of application.

In the case of two N Warnings being issued to a student for a single course, the student may be N Determined by the

Principal, and not eligible for their RoSA credential in that subject. In the case of Year 10, if this happens to be a mandatory subject, then the student will not be eligible for a Year 10 RoSA at all and will therefore not satisfy the requirements to progress onto Year 11. For Years 11 and 12, students must successfully satisfy the requirements for English as this course is mandatory and must also satisfactorily complete at least 12 units of study in Year 11 and at least 10 units of study in Year 12.

Some points outlining the N Warning system are outlined below.

- NESAs require two warnings to be issued for a subject, in order for an N Determination in that subject to be made by the Principal at the end of a course.
- An N Warning is not issued for disciplinary reasons. It is not intended as a 'stain' on a student's character or record. It is simply a concern that the student is not meeting course outcomes and that they may be in danger of not satisfactorily meeting course requirements.
- An N Warning is typically given if a student does not submit an assessment task and/or has not demonstrated sustained diligence and application in class.
- A student may not be showing sustained diligence and application for reasons such as disengagement in class activities, not completing required class or homework and/or not making a serious effort to achieve outcomes. A teacher will make this assessment over a period of weeks.
- An N Warning can also be issued for a non-serious attempt (e.g. many non-attempted questions in a task or an inappropriate response).
- A student will be awarded zero if they make a non-serious attempt, do not submit an assessment task or are absent for an assessment task.
- Extensions are usually not granted for tasks. Legitimate misadventure is only granted, for example, if a student has a doctor's certificate and this has been presented to a Head Teacher at the time of or immediately following the missed task. If approved, the Head Teacher will arrange an alternative assessment or estimated mark. Parents are advised to contact the school prior to booking holidays, as requests for extended leave for students are unlikely to be approved by the Principal during assessment periods.
- Resolving an N Warning (e.g. submitting after it was due or resubmitting a non-serious attempt) is required by NESAs as evidence that a student has satisfied the requirements of the course. This supports ongoing learning and demonstrates that the student can achieve the intended outcomes.

- Resolving a task does not, however, withdraw or rescind the warning. It also does not credit the student with marks above zero, if the warning is for a missed assessment task without an upheld appeal.

- Students may appeal a zero mark if they believe the appropriate process has not been followed. They cannot, however, appeal on the basis of a disputed mark.

At Elderslie High school, we have set in place many processes and structures to support students in the successful completion of their RoSA and HSC credentials. Teachers and Head Teachers work with the Deputy Principals, Wellbeing team and the Learning and Support team to support students on a daily basis with their learning and wellbeing. Year 10 students at risk may, on a needs basis, utilise the mentoring roll call group to gain personalised support in either a wellbeing or academic capacity. Year 11 and 12 students have the specialist support of Miss Wilson, the Senior Learning Mentor in the Senior Study area who mentors students in study techniques and preparedness for the HSC, as well as providing wellbeing support and guidance. Students also have the added support of the Head Teacher Senior Studies, Mrs Shortt.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are definitely an integral part of many students' daily lives. In order to obtain the most benefit from this form of technology, students need to use mobile phones in a positive way, which enhances their learning and limits distraction. In 2019, students in the current Years 8 - 12 cohorts all viewed a presentation from the Deputy Principals which outlined school rules surrounding mobile phone use. This presentation will be delivered to Year 7 early in the year. A reminder of some key aspects from this presentation are outlined below.

- Bringing a mobile phone to school is a privilege, not a right.
- Mobile phones must be used in a respectful, responsible and appropriate manner, especially in relation to the rights of others.
- Do not leave mobile phones or other electronic devices unattended in bags.
- If a phone goes missing, report the matter to a teacher and/or to the Deputy Principal as soon as possible. We will do our very best to support the recovery of your device, however, please be aware that devices are brought to school at your own risk.
- Mobile phones must be turned off and out of sight during all classes, meetings, assemblies, performances, etc. unless they are being used under the instruction of the teacher to complete a learning activity. Earphones should be out of sight.

- The use of mobile phones during class time for a learning activity is at the discretion of the teacher and students must always follow the teacher's instructions.
- Students must not use mobile phones or other devices to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school.

The mantra 'Off and Away' is used by staff to remind students that their phones (and ear phones) are to be turned off and put away during lessons. Visible phones are an unwelcome distraction and students are aware that phones/earphones may be confiscated and placed in the Deputy Principal's Office for safe keeping until the end of the day, if they are not 'Off and Away'.

Opal Cards

The data obtained from Opal card usage helps both Transport for NSW and Busabout determine demand for bus services and allows Busabout to make their network as efficient as possible. If students aren't using their cards when boarding and alighting buses, services risk being cancelled or changed due to the lack of recorded patronage. Any future requests to provide additional or amended services may also be declined due to perceived insufficient patronage.

As such, we are reminding students to have their Opal cards ready before the bus approaches and to tap on and off at the beginning and end of each trip. Teachers on bus duty will be actively involved in preparing students for travel before the bus arrives, it will make the process a lot quicker for students to board and be on their way home.

Students that do not present a valid Opal card when boarding will have their details recorded by the driver. Repeat offences may lead to travel suspension of up to 10 weeks, in line with Transport for NSW's Student Codes of Conduct, which will result in parents being responsible for getting their children to and from school.

I hope that you have all had positive start to the year and that you have a great 2020!

Mrs Villanueva

Joanne Amos (DP Years 7 & 10)

Welcome Back to 2020

Welcome to the beginning of the 2020 school year! I am very excited to be working this year with the students of Years 7 and 10. I am really looking forward to get to know our new Year 7 students. I am also delighted to be working alongside some great Year Advisers who have responsibility for the year groups in my care including Miss Gillian Sproule (Year 7) and Mrs Margaret Buist (Year 10). We have lots of fantastic things planned for each year group to look forward to.

Year 7 Begin Their High School Lives

It is, of course, quite normal for students to be a little anxious as they make the big leap from primary to high school. Many students will have come to us with a great many friends from their primary schools, whereas others may have few, if any, known peers. Hopefully, following the activities undertaken in the first few days and the swimming carnival, Year 7 have started to forge new friendships and are becoming more familiar with high school life.

The first big event for year 7 is the upcoming Camp and if past camps are anything to go by, this one will be another opportunity to establish lifelong memories that are often recalled many years later when students are exiting school. I strongly encourage your child to attend. If parents have any questions about academic progress, social development, camp or other school matters, these should be referred to Miss Sproule and the Assistant Year Adviser, Miss Rysko.

Assessment Guidelines

The school assessment guidelines were distributed to all students during Week 2. During the presentation students were reminded of the importance of following school policy around attendance and completion of assessment tasks including illness, extensions and misadventure procedures. If any student was absent from the presentation, they will need to see their relevant deputy principal to collect and sign for the documentation that was issued. A copy of all of the assessment guidelines will also be available on the school's website.

Attendance and Lateness

The start of the new school year is the perfect time to establish good routines of a morning to ensure that students arrive to school on time. It is very important that students attend roll call on time to have their name marked off and to hear the daily notices. This gives them time to settle in and be aware of any variations to their day, as well as hear of events that may be of interest to them. Junior students are expected to be at school prior to the warning bell at 8:55am and Senior students should be at school before period 0 at 8:40am.

Students should only be absent from school if there is a valid reason and then when they return to school they need to provide a note to explain their absence. Parents can also explain absences by responding to the automated text message. If students arrive late to school they must report directly to the student office to receive a late note that they then present to the class teacher.

Kind Regards, Joanne Amos

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photographs will be taken on Tuesday, 11th February 2020. Parents will receive an information note outlining the procedures for the day shortly. Students will also be receiving individual order envelopes closer to the day. Please ensure that each student returns their own envelope on Photo Day even if payment is made in the eldest child's envelope. All students will have their photograph taken, whether they are purchasing or not and will also need to return their envelope. Please enclose exact money as we are not able to give change. If your child is absent on the day, the photographers will be returning to school on Monday 17th February for any students who missed out.

All students are reminded that full summer school uniform must be worn, following the school uniform policy on jewellery and facial piercings.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms Crossingham, PDHPE Faculty.

MOCK TRIALS, DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING UPDATE

Mock Trials, Debating and Public Speaking are back at Elderslie High School for 2020. Preliminary meetings will be taking place in the next few weeks for students interested in participating in any of these activities. Competitions will be under way later this term. If there are any students who are interested in participating in any of these activities in 2020, please see Ms Dennis in the Studio about Debating and Public Speaking and Ms Mulligan in the HSIE Staffroom about Mock Trials.

Ms S. Dennis and Ms C. Mulligan

SCHOOL OF ROCK is coming to Elderslie High School

This year Elderslie High School will see the return of a Musical Performance. Come along and join in all of the fun as Elderslie High School presents **SCHOOL OF ROCK**. **SCHOOL OF ROCK**, with its sensational live kids' rock band, is a loving testimony to the transforming power of music. May the spirit of rock be with the musical cast as they pledge their allegiance to Andrew Lloyd Webber's newest hit! Featuring some of Elderslie High School's best young talent, **SCHOOL OF ROCK** is a performance not to be missed!

Auditions for all roles and the chorus are now finalised and rehearsals are going strong. Everyone is very excited and nervous about the upcoming event. So, stay tuned for regular updates on our progress. **SCHOOL OF ROCK** will be presented to the school community on the 28th, 29th and 30th June 2020 in the School Hall.

Creative and Performing Arts Faculty



CAPA UPDATE

Just a reminder that the **CAPA Information Evening** is on Tuesday, 11th February 2020 in the School Hall from 6.00 – 7.00 pm. It is a must for parents with children involved in the School Musical, Event Management Team, Dance ensembles, Drama ensemble, Visual Arts Club, Vocal Ensemble or Orchestra at Elderslie High School. We hope you will gain all of the information you require about the year ahead.

Auditions for the Transition Dance Ensemble, Dance Ensemble, Dance Show Team, Ballroom Dance Ensemble and Dance Company were held during Week Two of Term One. A number of students auditioned for the ensembles with students selected for the ensembles commencing rehearsals during Week 3.

The **Vocal Ensemble** has begun during Rollcall time. All students who would like to audition for the Vocal Ensemble please see Ms Prigg. Hurry! The Vocal Ensemble fills up quickly. A Senior Vocal Ensemble may also be running during a lunch time, depending on expressions of interest.

If you can play an instrument, then the **Elderslie High School Orchestra** needs YOU! Please see Mr Webb if you are interested.

Once again, Elderslie High School is offering the students in Year 7 the opportunity to participate in the **Junior Drama Ensemble**. This group will meet on Wednesday mornings from 8.00 am to 8.55 am. Classes will start on Wednesday, 19th February 2020. You just need to see Ms Dennis in the Studio for a permission note.

Once again, Elderslie High School is offering the students in Year 7 – 12 the opportunity to become a member of the **Event Management Team, as well as take on a student leadership role within the school community**. The operation of the Hall is now a very challenging task and the CAPA Faculty needs dedicated students to assist in running major events. Their roles will include lighting set-up and operation, sound operation, front of house, stage-managing and much more. If there are any students who have not signed up for this team, there is still time. You just need to see Miss Rysko or Ms Dennis for a contract. As an aside to this group, the CAPA Faculty are looking for

students who have a passion for props, sets and costumes to form part of our **Production Team** for 2020. Dedicated students need to see Ms Dennis to express their interest.

The Year 10, 11 and 12 Drama students will be attending a performance of **ONSTAGE** (the best of the HSC Drama Performances and Projects from 2019) on Wednesday, 12th February 2020 at the Seymour Theatre Centre. The students will gain a much clearer understanding of the expected level of performance required for the HSC Drama course.

The Year 11 and 12 Dance students will be attending a performance of **CALLBACK** (the best of the HSC Dance Performances from 2019) on Friday, 14th February 2020 at the Seymour Theatre Centre. The students will gain a much clearer understanding of the expected level of performance required for the HSC Dance course.

The Year 10, 11 and 12 Music students will be attending a performance of **ENCORE** (the best of the HSC Music Performances from 2019) at the Opera House in March 2020. The students will gain a much clearer understanding of the expected level of performance required for the HSC Music course. Permission notes are available from Ms Prigg or Mr Webb in the CAPA Staffroom.

All Drama and Dance students are offered the opportunity to audition for the **State Dance and State Drama Companies and Ensembles** for 2020. All interested students must see Ms Dennis, Miss Rysko or Ms Grimston-Eason to organise an application form and audition date. Please visit The Arts Unit website for more information.

This year, Ms Gulley and Miss Reece will be continuing with the **Visual Arts Club** on Wednesday's from 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm in Art Rooms 2 and 3. We will be experimenting with some fun art making skills and you will have individual help to work on your artworks. We are opening the club to all year groups. So come and see what we have planned! Starts Week 3, Wednesday, 12th February 2020.

So during 2020, come along and enjoy the performances of our talented CAPA students.

Talent Quest, 2020

The **Elderslie High School Talent Quest** is back for 2020! All students are invited to enter the Quest. You can enter in a variety of categories. Entry Forms are available from CAPA Teachers and the box in the Studio. Entry Forms must be returned to the Studio by Monday, 17th February 2020. Heats will be scheduled for lunchtimes during Week 5. The **Talent Quest** is on Friday, 20th March 2020 in the School Hall from 7.00 pm. If you are interested all you need to do is pick up your entry form from the Studio TODAY!



SPORT REPORT

Elderslie High School is well known for its talent and strength with students being victorious in a variety of sports. 2020 will be no exception with numerous students predicted to excel in both team and individual sports throughout the year.

We have retained the Clutha Cup for 22 years (most wins at zone carnivals).

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We kicked off our sporting year with the EHS Annual Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to all of our attendees and participants on a fantastic day filled with fun, music and school spirit. The age champions of the carnival will be announced in the next Parent Bulletin.

We are looking forward to the Macarthur Zone Swimming Championship coming up on **Friday 28th February**. Students who have qualified for this carnival will be informed and the relevant notes will go home shortly.

2020 PASS CAMPS

Students who have elected to study PASS in Year 9 and 10 will be provided with the opportunity to attend a camp to support outcomes studied in class.

Year 10 PASS will attend a snow camp. Students stay at Berridale and then spend their days participating in ski lessons and individual practice. This camp is held in August. Year 9 PASS will attend a surf camp at Erina in which students will have daily surf lessons.

Participation in these camps is dependent upon student behaviour and participation in class activities.

SRC

2019 SRC

2019 was an amazing year for the SRC!

To kick the year off with a bang, the SRC held two major events in Term 1. Harmony Day and The World's Greatest Shave. Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of their background. This year it was celebrated with a mufti day, where students wrote on paper hands and shared their names, culture and nationality. They placed these on a world globe amongst many of their peers. All funds raised went towards supporting Elderslie's World Vision children from Myanmar. Next, Elderslie High School saw several brave students participate in the World's Greatest Shave –

one of the SRC's biggest events for the year. It was so big we had 2 hairdressers come this year to help out with all proceeds donated to the Leukaemia Foundation!! Thank you to the amazing 13 students and our wonderful GA Wayne Coghlan!

In Term 2, Diversity Day and the Biggest Morning Tea were held. Diversity Day is a day for recognizing individuals' differences no matter what sexual orientation, ethnicity or disability. A mufti day was held for this event, supporting minu18. The Biggest Morning Tea is an annual event held at Elderslie High School and this year the event was held in Week 8. It assembled staff and Year 12 students in the school hall, to enjoy a morning tea run by the SRC. All profits went to the Cancer Council.

In Term 3, Jeans for Genes Day was held in Week 4. This day raises money for families who are affected by genetic disorders. Students were encouraged to wear Jeans to school in support of this day. The funds went to the Children's Medical Research Institute. Term 3 also saw the SRC branch out to raising further environmental awareness in our school working with the Captaincy and Prefect team for the successful introduction of our recycling program and bins. This was an amazing effort that would not have been successful without the support of our school and it's great to know that we are positively contributing to our school environment.

Last but not least, Term 4 saw the SRC have 2 more events. The first event was the random small acts of kindness. This event involved staff handing out purple kindness tokens when they witnessed an act of kindness. The roll call with the most tokens won a pizza party!! This event was followed by a Christmas Accessory Day, held in Week 9! Amazing costumes were worn and it was a great day!

The SRC had an amazing year in 2019 and as quoted by one of our SRC representatives Kiara Bloor "proves if you put your mind to something, anything is possible!"

I have enjoyed the role of SRC Coordinator since 2017 and I am excited to welcome Ms Mulligan as the new coordinator for 2020! I know she will be amazing and continue to develop our young student leaders!

Miss Le

2020 SRC

We would like to congratulate the following students on their nominations and acceptance of their role in the 2020 SRC Team.

Year 8

Matthew Trynchy
Luka Nisevic
Wil Daley
Dylan Trynchy
Alexandra Head
Makayla Crick
Emma Inglis
Haley O'Brien

Year 9

Taj Carter Smith
Jeremiah Armstrong
James Steel
Joel Heyward
Jackson Dagg
Edward De La Mare
Feini Zhang
Claire Stanley
Amanda Condon

Year 10

Wil Cullen
Adam Cox
Xavier Defrancesco
Joe Lontis
Bianca Chauvin
Ameira Soubra
Charlotte Inglis
Peta Young

Ms Le should be congratulated on her amazing effort to support both local, state and national organisations across the last 3 years. She always went above and beyond and support all students. I am extremely appreciative of the role presented to me and will work closely to present EHS and lead SRC. This term, our focus will be to support Departmental Primary and Public Schools affected by the bushfires, to provide resources for both teachers and students. We will also been on the search for students and teachers who would like to participate in the World's Greatest Shave, to either shave or colour their hair. If interested, please contact me. Looking forward to a great year ahead!

Ms Mulligan

Student Wellbeing Initiative - Year 9 Cyberia Theatre Production

On Wednesday 5th February, Year 9 participated in the incursion production of Cyberia. This educational theatre production addressed cyber bullying in schools and aimed to help improve student mental health and wellbeing.

Students were led through the online experiences of the character, Ruby who loses her moral compass using digital social media including, blogs, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and MSN. From her negative actions on social media, she is then instantly banished to "Cyberia" where she meets Tim. Tim is in Cyberia through self-imposed exile playing online games.

When they indulge in cyber bullying and anti-social behaviour it creates havoc in the real world. They suddenly realise they can't just press the "undo" button to retrieve their relationships, reputation, dignity and most of all their privacy.

Students were led on a thought provoking experience of how their actions online can have adverse effects offline, and can impact many of those around them.

In consultation with IT, education and mental health experts, this production presented true stories of Generation Y/Z's internet experiences. Cyberia posed questions about how the digital age is affecting our brains, our humanity and our future.

Cyberia Cyber Bullying Program covered the following:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| ✓ Cyber Bullying | ✓ Exclusion | ✓ Internet Addiction |
| ✓ Digital Citizenship | ✓ Alienation | ✓ Impulse Control |
| ✓ Social Websites | ✓ Isolation | ✓ Online Reputation |
| ✓ Responsible Use of Technology | | |
| ✓ Internet Security | | |

Brainstorm Productions is certified to provide Online Safety Programs by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner. More information and reviews on the production can be found on the following link:

<https://www.brainstormproductions.edu.au/high-school-shows/cyberia>

Ms V Jeffries
Year 9 Student Adviser

Mr B Townsend
Head Teacher Welfare

UNSW MUSEUM OF HUMAN DISEASE

After an early 7:15am start at Macarthur Station, the year 12 Biology classes hopped on a train and bus to go to the UNSW Museum of Human Disease in November last year. Students learned about infectious and non-infectious diseases, as part of HSC Module 7 and 8, and discovered a newfound respect for those individuals that choose to donate their body to science. The real-life specimens provided invaluable insight into the ravaging conditions the human body can face, from cancers and cirrhosis, to confronting specimens like the teratoma (for the curious: Google it, but this does come with a content warning!). They also participated in a workshop on genetics, as part of HSC Modules 5 and 6 where they experienced what a person suffering from colour blindness would see, and examined genetic traits. Students then enjoyed a literal taste of what it was like to be a university student, as they sampled international food for lunch from the UNSW food court. It was great to take the students to the university where I spent four years obtaining my degree, and students could relate their experience to their own goals for the future.

Ms Jan



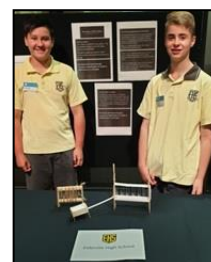
SCIENCE NEWS

Generation STEM

On Tuesday 3rd December, a group of Year 9 Science M & Y students attended a Generation STEM showcase at Camden Council. The classes in Semester 2 had been working on innovative solutions to waterway and biodiversity problems in our local area. Many novel ideas included devices to clean rubbish from our rivers, a floating pontoon bridge, structures that turned fog into drinking water, bin sensors, animal sanctuaries, bird teapot homes and flying fox deterrents.

Our students proudly answered questions from the community and met representatives from the Camden Council, CSIRO (the nation's leading scientific and research organisation who are supporting this two year Science project) and the Camden Region Economic Taskforce who are also supporting our student's development as our future thinkers.

Ms Woo



HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK

At the end of 2019, students across all years were involved in decorating the HSIE block, to commemorate the Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. The theme of 'Human Rights Starts With You' was celebrated through the design and of two large painted images of the world with students' hand prints placed around the outside to represent the pledge to respect others, despite differences. Thank you to a range of Year 8, 9 and 11, students who assisted in painting. Year 11 Society and Culture students were involved in the creation of a visual representation of various articles of the Declaration, with their images now placed outside the Social Science Staffroom. Lastly, a huge thankyou to Taylor Dell and Ella Turner (Year 11), who spent hours designing a beautiful mural to represent the words of 'Respect, Justice, Unity, Equal'. Images of social justice were paper maché to the backing board. This is now placed in the Geography area. A celebration of our connectedness is also represented through the array of flags hung to reflect the societies, heritage and traditions of our schooling community.

Thank you to all students involved in creating a colourful space, and a reminder to be grateful for the rights we have today.

Ms Mulligan



ANTI-RACISM CONTACT OFFICER

In line with NSW DoE policy, all forms of racism are unacceptable at Elderslie High School. No student, employee, parent, caregiver or community member should experience racism, including direct or indirect harassment within the learning and working environments of the department. A member of staff in all public schools must undergo training to become the school's ARCO (Anti-Racism Contact Officer). This is now my third year in this role, and I can be found in the Science staffroom. The ARCO's role has four main aspects as follows: mediator role, procedural role, educational role and monitoring role.

Most importantly, Elderslie High School staff will continue to promote acceptance of and respect for Australia's cultural, linguistic and religious diversity. Anti-racism education is taught in our classrooms directly and indirectly and we make every effort to ensure our school is free from discrimination. As the Anti-Racism Contact Officer I can support staff, students, and any member of the school community who wishes to raise a complaint of racism or just talk about their experiences of racism as a target or bystander.

Ms Jan

ARCO

YEAR 7 PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM – BEHAVING WITH INTEGRITY

During Term One, Year 7 students will be involved in the Peer Support Program. Each week groups of 10-12 students will meet with 2 Peer leaders and work through a range of activities that focus on values. It is hoped that through these sessions, each student will clarify their personal values, respect themselves and others, recognise the importance of integrity and discuss ways of serving their school community.

Students learn to:

- ❖ identify personal and community values
- ❖ demonstrate how they show respect for themselves and others
- ❖ identify how their responsibilities change over time
- ❖ appreciate the need for diversity and inclusivity
- ❖ recognise that their choices reflect their values to others
- ❖ discuss ways of serving their community

Benefits for students

All participating students benefit from Behaving with Integrity by:

- ❖ learning through relevant and practical activities with their peers
- ❖ forming connections with their Peer leaders, peers and teachers
- ❖ participating in an activity that fosters a sense of belonging to a community
- ❖ developing values, skills and understandings that can be adapted to all aspects of their lives
- ❖ establishing a support network that can ease the transition between Primary and Secondary school

A Definition of Values

Values are our personal beliefs guiding our decisions and behaviour. They influence our interactions and relationships with others. Our values define who we are and are reflected in our thoughts, words and actions. Students will be participating in workshops and activities which address the following:

Respect

Students learn that respect involves showing care and consideration for yourself and others. They discuss the many ways they can show respect. Students are encouraged to realise others feel valued and accepted when they are being respected.

Responsibility

Students learn that behaving responsibly means doing your best to meet your commitments. They discuss the different responsibilities they have in many areas of their lives. Students are encouraged to recognise as they get older their responsibilities change. This is often a result of the trust others place in them.

Diversity

Diversity is the variety of experiences and backgrounds in the community. Students discuss the similarities and differences within their Peer Support group. They are encouraged to embrace diversity as a means by which they can improve the quality of their relationships and enrich their experiences.

Inclusion

Inclusion is treating everyone with respect. Students are encouraged to show others they are important by including and encouraging them. They practice supporting each other and learn they can achieve more when they recognise the value of working together.

Integrity

Students learn they are acting with integrity when their choices consistently reflect their values. Sometimes the choices they make are influenced by the people who are important to them. They need to decide to what extent these influences are supporting their values. Students are encouraged to realise what they say and do is a reflection of who they are.

Mr B Townsend (Head Teacher Welfare)

Miss G Sproule (Year 7 Adviser)

Peer Support Australia – Peer Leaders Training

In 2020, Elderslie High School will be implementing the Peer Support Program. This will involve Year 7 students and Year 11 Peer Support Leaders. The purpose of the Peer Leaders' Training is to prepare students for their role as Peer Support Leaders.

Peer Leaders can and do take action in response to some of the issues in schools including bullying and conflict. Students demonstrate their ability to influence peer

attitudes and behaviours and contribute to positive change. Through this process Peer Leaders support Year 7 in the transition to secondary school.

For 2 days in Week 10 of Term 4 2019, 32 students in Year 10 (2019) were divided into small groups with Mr Townsend and Miss Sproule facilitating the training. Students worked through a range of experiential activities, took part in discussions and completed activities in their Peer Leader's Learning Guide.

During the training, students participated in a range of activities which focused on:

- leadership skills
- developing connections
- their role and responsibilities
- personal strengths and characteristics
- authentic leadership
- strategies to lead a group
- facilitation
- working with a co leader.

This training is part of the school's comprehensive plan and commitment to create a safe school. It provided students with the opportunity to develop and practise leadership skills within a supportive environment.

Leadership Skills were explored during the training:

- relationship building
- communication
- empathy
- decision making
- problem solving
- creative thinking
- flexibility
- assertiveness
- facilitation

Benefits for Peer Leaders include:

- building positive relationships across the school
- practising leadership skills
- increasing confidence in leading a group
- improving organisation and time management
- enhancing social and emotional learning
- developing skills to assist with transition to secondary school
- enhancing sense of self.

Students will have the opportunity to practise and further develop these skills during the course of the Peer Support Program.

What is the Peer Support Program?

The Peer Support Program provides a fun and engaging environment for young people to address social issues. Modules are designed to equip young people with skills to deal proactively with life experiences. The Peer Support Program promotes wellbeing, which encourages positive relationships, connectedness and a sense of responsibility. The focus area for Year 7 in 2020 is Values – Behaving with Integrity.

How does the Peer Support Program work?

Trained Peer Leaders, facilitate structured activities with groups of 8 -10 Year 7 students, supervised by a teacher. Briefing and debriefing sessions for Peer Leaders, by teachers, take place before and after each session. Modules consist of 8 x 40 minute sessions. Sessions are conducted once a week for a term.

How can I support my child in their leadership role?

Discuss with your child the activities, asking questions about the concepts and understandings they are developing each week. This helps foster a positive connection between school and home.

For more information about the Peer Support Program contact the Peer Support Coordinator.



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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, 11th February

PROPOSED CALENDAR – More detailed Calendar events can be found on our school website

| Wk | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|----|---|---|--|--|--|
| 3A | February 10 | February 11 School Photo Day P&C Meeting 6pm CAPA Information Evening | February 12 Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Practice Expedition 4pm Viewing OnStage - Drama students | February 13 Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Practice Expedition Zone Team Trials - Afternoon | February 14 Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Practice Expedition |
| 4B | February 17 School Photos Catch Up Day of absent students 2019 High Achievers Reception | February 18 3:30pmExtended Musical Rehearsal | February 19 | February 20 3:30pm Musical Production Meeting | February 21 |
| 5A | February 24 | February 25 7pm Year 6 into Year 7 Information Evening | February 26 Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Test Expedition 3pmDanceathon | February 27 Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Test Expedition | February 28 Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Test Expedition Zone Swimming Pathways to Dreaming - Yr 12 Fast Forward Conference |
| 6B | March 2 | March 3 3:30pmExtended Musical Rehearsal | March 4 Year 7 Camp | March 5 Year 7 Camp Visual Arts Transition Workshop | March 6 Year 7 Camp |







