



# PARENT BULLETIN

## OCTOBER 2022

### Upcoming Events

October 24	Check In Assessments
November 2	Year 8 Pathways to Dreaming Campus Day
November 4	HSC finishes
November 10	Year 12 Formal
November 18	Year 11 Recognition Assembly

*See back page for more details*



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## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Welcome back to Term 4!

#### Farewell Year 12 – Class of 2022

It is with a mixture of great pride and sadness that we farewell the Class of 2022, our Year 12 graduates. One of the greatest aspects about working with teenagers is to see the growth they undertake as they mature from 12-year-olds to young adults and this group of young people have been no exception. The staff of Elderslie High School have loved getting to know the individuals that each of them are and guiding them through the most stressful academic year that they have had to date. We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating at their Graduation Ceremony on Week 10 of Term 3 and it was so wonderful to do so alongside their parents, when we have not had the privilege of doing so for the past two years due to COVID. With HSC Examinations now well underway, we look forward to the results being released in mid-December and also to hearing of the pathways that each student will take as they leave secondary school behind and embark on the next chapter.

#### New Staff

This term we welcome to the school Ms Samantha Emery who joins us as a classroom teacher in the Technological and Applied Studies faculty. It is also my pleasure to announce that Mrs Carly Assaad has been permanently appointed to the school after serving several years with us as a temporary teacher. Sadly, the much-loved Mr Nathan Dean has left for a school much closer to home. Mr Dean had a tremendous impact at Elderslie High School and will be missed by a great many students as well as the staff.

#### Student Successes

In the school holidays, it was my pleasure to attend the Zonta Club of Macarthur's Award Ceremony for the 2022 Young Women in Public Affairs Awards. Mikayla Craig of Year 12 was a finalist in this prestigious award and Ms Dennis and I were able to join her family to support her in this achievement. Amazingly, Mikayla's efforts have been doubly acknowledged as she was the recipient of the Highly Commended award in the Public Education Foundation's Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement. Congratulations Mikayla!

Additionally, I was proud to attend NSW Parliament House in Sydney during the holidays to support Year 12's Ameira Soubra who was the recipient of a Highly Commended in the Dame Marie Bashir Peace Awards. These awards are issued to only 10 students in the state from both government and non-

government schools. I have included some photographs of both Ameira and Mikayla in this edition of Parent Bulletin.

A further student achieving amazing things is Isabella Trevena of Year 10 who has just been selected as a member of the Australian All Schools Softball team. Isabella has not long ago returned from Perth where she represented NSW in the state team but her pitching was so impressive, she has now been selected for this next level. What a superstar!

Finally, I want to take a moment to single out the work of our amazing student leaders who worked alongside Ms Mulligan and Ms Farrar to organise this year's World's Greatest Shave Day. The students do a great job of this every year to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation and this year, the twist they pulled was under the banner of "Shave or Save" in relation to poor Mr Goodsell's beard! The vibe in the school was palpable with the two team, Junior vs Senior Leadership striving to beat the other in funds raise to either save the poor beard or shave it off. With a large number of students flocking to the hall on the day, the Shave team just got over the line and Mr Goodsell was forced under the barber's clippers along with quite a few amazing staff and students. What a wonderful day!

### Suspension Policy changes

From the start of this term, the Department has introduced a new student behaviour policy which incorporates the procedures to be used by all NSW public schools when students are suspended. Some parents would be aware that in the past, there were two types of suspension: short and long. This is no longer the case. Under the new policy, all suspensions are now for up to 10 days. Suspensions may either be for causing actual harm to any person or where a student poses an unacceptable risk to the health and safety, learning and/or the wellbeing of any person. As has always been the case in the past, suspension is only ever used as a last resort and affects a very small proportion of students.

### Extra School Development Day and last day of school

The Department has just recently announced that Monday, December 19, 2022, will now be allocated as a School Development Day to support staff workload and the raft of interruptions staff have had to their professional learning due to COVID over the past two year. This means that the final day of school for the 2022 calendar year will be Friday, December 16.

### Leadership Roles 2023

Since our last edition of Parent Bulletin, the school has now settled on our Captaincy Team for 2023. We were certainly faced with a tough decision with such a high calibre of Year 11 Student Prefects to choose from who had applied. After a multi-pronged process including a student and staff election and interviews, it is a great pleasure to inform the school community that our School Captains for 2023 are Jeremiah Armstrong and Mia Szalajko and our wonderful Vice-Captains are Anna Choudhary, Claire Stanley, Kiara Woodhouse, Connor Bell, Jack Dagg and James Steele. We now turn our attention to recruiting the incoming round of Prefects from

Year 10 in readiness for 2023. As always, I relish the opportunity to work with these amazing student leaders.

### Parent & Citizens Meetings

Our next P&C meeting for the year will be on Tuesday, October 25 at 7pm in our School Library. This meeting will feature a presentation from our Head Teacher Support, Ms Natalie Robinson. Recently our P&C meetings have had a small number of parents attending. We know that this is a signpost of the busyness of family life. In the future, we aim to move some meetings to an online forum. We hope this will assist parents to tune in from the comfort of their own homes. P&C is a great way to find out what is going on at school and I strongly encourage as many families as possible to attend.

Kind regards,

**Mrs Jenny Lawrence**  
Principal



## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

### Dale White (DP Years 7 & 10)

#### Year 7

It has been very pleasing to congratulate the vast majority of students in Year 7 for their behaviour, effort and attitude during Term 3. I encourage all students to strive towards achieving and demonstrating these outstanding attributes in Term 4. One area in which we need to educate and support our young students is online behaviour. The vast number of concerns and difficulties our young students have revolves around their social media use on applications like Snap Chat and Instagram. Students are exposed to unkind and unsavoury comments online and this is causing endless amounts of mental health concerns and stress for them. Almost all of these issues are occurring outside school hours, on weekends, late at night or during holidays which are not in the control of the school. I am urging all parents to pay a close attention to their child's online behaviour and to support them as much as possible through ongoing monitoring. My best advice is to parents and the advice I continually provide to Year 7 students is to avoid the social media platforms all together for their own safety and wellbeing. This could be difficult for some students and parents; however, it will reap great benefits for your child as they progress throughout their teenage years.

Coming up in the next few weeks will be our final Check In assessments for Year 7 students. These online assessments give our teachers an indication of the learning growth your child has made this year. While these results are not published to parents, please encourage your child to participate to the best of their ability so we know how far they have come this year and how to prepare for 2023 when your child is in Year 8. These tests will take place during week 5.

Lastly, I would like to thank Mr Goodsell for his time, effort and support with addressing the welfare needs of our Year 7 students this year. Mr Goodsell has this term taken role of Head Teacher Teaching and Learning for the remainder of 2022 and into 2023 and will now slide back to be the Assistant Year Advisor. Fortunately, Ms Borland will now fulfil the role of Year Advisor and she will ensure your child remains in safe hands here at school. Ms Borland can be located within our HSIE department and if you need to reach out to her please give the school a call.

#### Year 10

Year 10 students are closing in on their final assessments for their current courses. It is vital that all students strive to achieve their best, complete all tasks and fully complete all classwork in their subjects at school. We will be reviewing any outstanding tasks that students still have not completed over the next few weeks to determine which students have successfully completed Year 10 and are eligible to move onto Year 11. Please check with your child or their teachers for any outstanding N warnings for

missed assessment tasks. These outstanding tasks will put your child at risk of not successfully completing a course in Year 10. It appears at this stage that some students will be required to re-complete the year during 2023. The positive work ethic and effort will place your child in good stead in the senior years.

Our transition to the senior years will begin in Week 7 this term. At this time, our returning Year 10 students will start experiencing the subjects they chose for 2023-2024. Students will be informed of their successful subjects early in Term 4. During the transition program the students will not officially begin the Year 11 curriculum but ensure they understand and have the necessary skills required for a successful start to Year 11. We know our students benefit immensely from the opportunity and very much look forward to becoming a senior student. For those students who are moving towards the world of work we say congratulations and good luck. During the transition program time it could be a great opportunity to get some work experience in a career or job of your choosing. Students and parents should reach out to Mrs Whitfield for details on the process of work experience. Many students have been able to successfully transition into an apprenticeship or traineeship already this year which has been very pleasing.

#### Mr D White

#### Deputy Principal Years 7 & 10

### Natalie Martin (DP Years 8 & 11)

#### Year 8

As Deputy Principal I often receive reports about bullying at school and online. One form of bullying is name-calling which is extremely unacceptable as it is one of the most damaging forms of bullying as it has lasting impact on a child's confidence, personality and mental wellbeing. Negative labels directed at a child erodes their self-esteem at an early age. Students who are victims of name-calling will often not wish to attend school. No one has the right to use hurtful nicknames. For example, a bully says "Hey, big head, you're walking too slow!" You can respond by exercising assertiveness and say "My name is Carlton. I'd appreciate it if you called me by my name."

If your child is being bullied at school, please encourage them to be assertive in their response to the bully and report the bullying to the classroom teacher, year advisor, head teacher or Deputy Principal. We also have wellbeing staff and school counsellors who can advise and provide support to students who have been the victims of bullying. Students who repeatedly engage in bullying will be disciplined by the school provided we have adequate information.

### Year 11

In Week 2, Year 11 participated in a Suicide Prevention presentation. This was a student led initiative where they spoke about the impact of suicide on the community, what signs to look out for, how you can support someone who is feeling suicidal and where to go to for help? The purpose of this presentation was to try and bring this very sensitive issue to the forefront in the hope that potential suicides could be prevented. The second purpose was to raise funds for The Man Cave charity and have them come to our school to deliver workshops to our student body. This issue is very close to the hearts of our Year 11 students, many of whom were keen to raise funds for this important cause. We collected a gold coin donation and ran a Bake Sale during the lunch break. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of our students and staff who brought in home made goods to sell. The Bake Sale was a great success, and I would also like to thank our school canteen for their generous donation to this worthy cause.

Year 11 students are able to collect an **Application to Revise their Study Pattern** form from me this term. From the beginning of 2023, Year 12 students are only required to have 5 subjects or 10 units. Students undertaking an extension subject can drop a subject this term to allow them to use their private study lessons to stay on top of their course work. All students who express an interest in dropping a subject will be required to have a meeting with a school executive member to ensure that they still meet HSC and ATAR requirements. Not all students wish to obtain an ATAR but this is considered during the meeting. Therefore, students are required to remain in the subject until the end of Term 4.

**Ms N Martin**  
**Deputy Principal**  
**Years 8 & 11**

### Joanne Amos (DP Years 9 & 12)

#### Introducing School House Teams in 2023

EHS is excited to be introducing School House Teams in 2023. The house system is about encouraging students to participate in all aspects of school life. The aim of the house system is to foster school spirit and further enhance our students' sense of belonging to our school community. Our first task as a school is to choose the House Names. A survey has been emailed to all students and to families to vote on a list of possible house names. These names in the survey were selected by the planning committee and are based on local flora and fauna and their Dharawal name. Only one survey can be completed per person, and it will require you to select your top four (4) preferences from the list. We are looking forward to updating the community on our progress and announcing the winning house names in the near future.

### Parent Information – Online Safety

As parents we all want to help our children to safely navigate the digital world and educate them to avoid harmful online experiences. The eSafety Commissioner provides a wealth of information that helps parents in understanding online safety and what to do in instances of negative online experiences. Their website is an excellent source of information. [Parents | eSafety Commissioner](#)

### Year 9

The Check-In Assessment for Year 9 will be held in Week 3 and take place during regular class time. This assessment provides the school with data on how the students are progressing in literacy and numeracy.

The Formal Assessment period for Year 9 is Week 5 and 6 of this term. Students will be issued shortly with an exam timetable for the exams taking place in the hall (if the subject is not on the timetable then the exam will be held in the classroom during a normal lesson time). All classes will be issued with their assessment notice to outline the requirements for the exams.

### Year 12

The long-awaited HSC exams have finally begun, and it has been great to see our students giving their best effort, supporting their peers and showing their best manners to the supervisors.

The very last opportunity for the class of 2022 to come together will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> December when the HSC and ATAR results have been released. On this day, the school will be hosting a morning tea event and all Year 12 students are invited to attend.

**Mrs Amos**  
**Deputy Principal**  
**Years 9 & 12**

## Senior Student Leadership News

### Introducing the 2023 Captaincy Team

In Term 3, we elected our 2023 Captaincy Team. It is with great pleasure that I can announce our school captains for 2023 are Jeremiah Armstrong and Mia Szalajko. Accompanying our two school captains, are our six vice captains for 2023. These students are Connor Bell, James Steel, Jack Dagg, Anna Choudhary, Kiara Woodhouse and Claire Stanley.

The Captaincy Team members have created the below profiles to help the Elderslie High School community get to know them.



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**School Captain**

Hey, my name is Mia. I enjoy spending time with my friends, exercising and reading. My favourite subjects at school are legal studies and modern history.

As school captain, I plan to make EHS a welcoming environment and to promote education about mental health and eating disorders as well as domestic violence.



NAME: *Mia*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**School Captain**

Hey, I'm Jeremiah. I'm a creative and artistic person who enjoys all forms of art. I'm also a bit of a foodie, and enjoy a good BBQ Bacon Stacker from KFC.

As a school captain, I'll aspire to increase school morale and communication and promote student and teacher wellbeing.



NAME: *Jeremiah*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**Vice Captain**

Hi, my name is Claire. I love spending time with my friends, reading and baking. I enjoy meeting new people and I always help out whenever I can, regardless of the situation.

As vice-captain, I strive to listen to the needs of others and ensure that EHS is a safe and welcoming environment for all students and teachers.



NAME: *Claire*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**Vice Captain**

What's up, I'm James. I enjoy playing games, fast music and working out.

As vice-captain, I plan to promote general inclusivity and participation of students and will gladly help with any difficult situations you may find yourself in.



NAME: *James*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**Vice Captain**

G'day legends, my name is Connor. I'm a sporty, outdoors person who likes to spend time with friends and family. I scuba dive and love drinking chocolate milks everyday

At Elderslie High School I would like to encourage better parent-teacher relations and create a positive environment for everyone involved at EHS.



NAME: *Connor*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**Vice Captain**

Hi, my name is Kiara. I enjoy spending time with friends and family, fashion and reading. One of my favorite animals is the koala because they exceed all of the koalafications.

As a vice-captain, I plan to reduce stigma surrounding mental health, provide information on body dysmorphia, and to promote a positive and welcoming school environment.



NAME: *Kiara*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**Vice Captain**

Hi, my name is Jackson, I enjoy spending time with friends and family doing things like working out and playing games.

As a vice-captain, I hope to increase inclusiveness in our school's community, especially for those suffering with mental and physical disabilities.



NAME: *Jack*



**2023**  
**CAPTAINCY TEAM**

*About me*

**Vice Captain**

Greetings, my name is Anna. I am a creative individual who loves all forms of craft such as embroidering and paper flowers. My hobbies range from reading Jane Austen's wonderful collection to sporty ventures like volleyball and badminton.

As vice-captain, I aim to promote social and cultural well-being to boost inclusivity within the EHS community and nurture a caring and motivating school environment.



NAME: *Anna*

## 2023 Prefect Election Procedures

The election of the incoming 2023 Prefects will occur this term. During Term 3, interested Year 10 students were asked to complete an electronic application process. Pleasingly we have had numerous worthy applicants apply. I would like to clarify our processes for electing our Year 11 Prefects. Interested Year 10 students are required to complete a detailed application in which they are expected to communicate their desire to be part of the leadership team at Elderslie High School. This application is fairly rigorous. Alongside the application, each student must have an EHS staff member and Ms Malcolm (Year 10 Year Advisor) willing to endorse their application to become a prefect. Once this information is received, each application is carefully reviewed, and each student's past performance is assessed to determine if the student is a suitable candidate for prefect. We believe this system is equitable, as it means that all worthy applicants are granted a position on the prefect team, regardless of popularity etc. This means the number of prefects that Elderslie High School has each year can fluctuate.

Stay tuned for the announcement of the successful applicants for 2023.

*Ms Farrar (Senior Student Leadership Coordinator)*

## First Nations Education

### NAIDOC Week

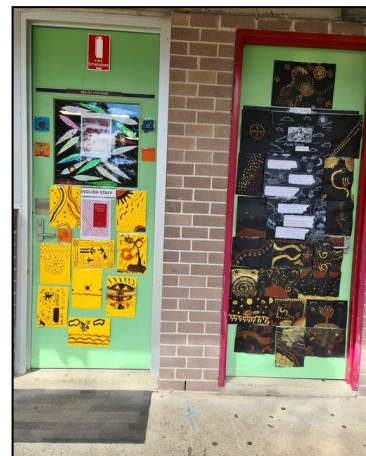
We celebrated NAIDOC Week during Week 5. Students participated in a THRIVE lesson where they were educated about the history of NAIDOC week. There was also lunchtime activities during the week including painting, chalk art and weaving. We finished off the week with a bush tucker BBQ. There was Kangaroo, Emu and Crocodile on the menu!!!



NAIDOC Week awards for attendance and cultural leadership were also presented at the whole school assembly. Congratulations to Harrison, Cooper, Miah-Bella, Jack, Courtney, Bella, Kimberley, Lindsay, Olivia, Matthew, Lennox, Georgia, Kiarah, Poppy and Tarah who all received awards.

Faculties also participated in a "Deadly Door" competition where they decorated the staffroom door following the NAIDOC Week theme of "Get up, Stand up, Show up". Congratulations to the English Faculty for taking out the competition!!

What a big week of celebrations!



### Junior AECG

Some of our students participated in the Junior AECG gathering held at Mawarra Primary School. They participated in some yarning and an activity connecting them to country. Uncle Phil also had a yarn with them about making the most of the opportunities provided to them. It was a great afternoon! Big thanks to Mawarra PS for hosting and also Uncle Phil for his words of wisdom!!



## Mural

The mural is complete!! We are so so proud of all the work the students have done- 1000's of dots, never ending black borders and splashes of paint here and there. But look at what they have achieved!!!!

A big thank you to Danielle Mate who worked with the students on the design, technique and also had a yarn about cultural.

Also, to Youth Solutions who started the project with us through the ARTucation program.

And to Mr Dean who built the canvas, organised the paint, supported the students and got the final products up on the wall!!!!

It is even more amazing in real life!!!!



## Deadly Day

Our First Nations students spent the day at the Mount Annan Botanic Gardens for "Deadly Day". Students participated in a variety of different workshops including traditional weapons and tools, bush tucker, weaving, dancing and ochre painting. They also got to try some damper. It was a great day and students had a good time exploring aspects of culture. Big thank you to the Botanic Gardens!



## Excursion to Angus Bristow Retirement Village

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, a group of Elderslie High School students travelled to Angus Bristow Retirement Village. We sat in pairs or groups of 3 at a table with 2-3 residents. We ate morning tea and spoke to the residents about lots of different things. The residents told us stories about their lives and what school was like when they attended. Makayla and I sat with two ladies, named Faye and Esme. They told us lots of funny stories and made different jokes that made us laugh. Maddison S and her sister, Molly S sung "You Are My Sunshine" for the residents. All of the residents sung along as the girls were performing. The chaplain of Angus Bristow Retirement Village gave Maddison S a bunch of flowers to thank her for the performance. We then said our goodbyes and headed back to school. Makayla and I had a lot of fun and hope to return to visit the residents again.

**Maddison Serralheiro & Makayla Domanski (year 9).**



## Agriculture News

Spring is always an eventful time on the farm with the arrival of our new lambs, lots of activity in the garden and a range of Show events to attend.

Year 7 students have recently submitted their “Sustainable Garden” video assessment task demonstrating their understanding of the work we have covered during Term 3. It has been wonderful to watch these and see the creativity of many of our students who have found interesting ways to engage their audience and convey their understanding of the topic.

This year we entered the School Merino Wether Challenge where we were provided with 6 sheep in March that students reared and monitored for 6 months. Our Year 10 Agriculture class weighed, worked out their feeding regime and halter trained the sheep in preparation for the show. In August, Ms Last and 7 of our students from Years 9 – 11, Keira Soeterboek, Hannah Stootman, Emma Evans, Sophie Constantine, Charley Buckley, Isabella Howland and Georgia Howland, took the sheep to Dubbo where they were judged for their fleece and then for their carcase value. We were awarded First Place in the Coastal Region and equal 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall for Restocker Value and 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Wool Value in the Coastal Region. Hannah Stootman was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Fleece Judging Competition and will now go on to compete at Sydney Royal Show next year.

Later in the same week we were off to Penrith Show where 18 schools compete in a range of events. Our Agriculture Team spent many months of planning, growing mulberry trees, construction and rearing silkworms in preparation for our display which was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place. We won the Livestock Trophy for the combination of results for our alpaca, goat and poultry. Zara Buckley, Riley Schaeffer, Keira Plumridge, Juliana Dearnley and Joshua Charlton were all awarded ribbons in the cattle parading competition, Mikayla Craig took out the trophy for Alpaca Stockmanship and Isabella Robbins was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Emma Evans, Hannah Stootman, Juliana Dearnley and Georgia Howland won ribbons for Poultry Judging. Eva Kramer, Logan Ockers, Jacob Evans and Keira Soeterboek won the Silver Medal in the Rural Olympics. Georgie Todd and Charley Buckley exhibited our livestock in their various classes and all of the students spent many hours working on the display, explaining the process of silk production and assisting young children with our craft activities. Thanks must go to those supportive parents who not only transport their students to shows but also help us pack up at the end of a long weekend.

In September Logan Ockers, Eva Kramer, Mikayla Craig, Keira Soeterboek, Hannah Stootman, Sophie Constantine, Zara Buckley, Charley Buckley, Isabella Robbins, Tanneah McMartin, Cybella Monroe, Charlotte Wheeler and Harrison Davis attended the Camden Agricultural Youth Expo where they competed in a range of livestock parading and judging competitions as well as the Young Farmers Challenge. The students performed well in all of these events, honing their skills and, once again, coming away with a swag of ribbons.

It is always a delight to work with our Agriculture students in these extra curricula activities and we are frequently told by members of the general public what a credit they are to the school.

**M Atkinson**  
**Agriculture Teacher**





## Sport Update

### Athletics NSW All School's Competition – Connor Bell

Connor Bell placed second in Javelin at the NSW all School's competition in September. He will be off to Adelaide for the All-School's Nationals competition in December this year. Well done Connor! Elderslie High School is cheering for you.



### Ice Hockey - Cameron Mackaway

During the September school holidays, Cameron represented NSW in the Under 15's and Under 17's Inline Hockey Championship which took place in Logan, QLD. Cameron played extremely well in all games. Overall, NSW

U15's came 3rd and were awarded bronze medals. The NSW U17's team won the grand final taking home a gold. It was a fantastic opportunity for Cameron and EHS applauds his commitment and skill.



## CAPA Update

Congratulations to the Ballroom Dance Ensemble, Dance Show Team, Year 9 and Year 11 Dance classes on the amazing results at the **Next Step Dance Challenge** at the Camden Civic Centre on Wednesday 24th August 2022. The Year 9 and Year 11 Dance classes received third place. The Ballroom Dance Ensemble and the Dance Show Team also danced exceptionally well. All of the students represented Elderslie High School and Camden High School with pride. The Year 11 Dance class were also awarded 'Best Technical Item' on the day.





**Dance Spectacular** was held on Friday 9th September in our School Hall. It was fabulous to welcome students from two of our partner Primary Schools back to our stage. Students from Spring Farm and Elderslie Public School really lit up the stage with their enthusiasm. The dancers from Elderslie High School were thrilled to be back on the stage after a long break due to COVID.

We are very proud of the dancers who participated in our **Wakakirri Story Dance Video** titled **The Hunger Games of High School**. The judges said ... "Fabulous concept and wonderful Story-Dance. A performance filled with energy and commitment - Well Done!"

Performance and Production awards we are receiving:

- Excellent ensemble
- Excellent polished performance
- Excellent theme/concept
- Excellent staging – combination of all aspects

- Excellent minimal use of sets, props, and costumes

We are also nominated for the National Festival Award: Mental Health Story Award!

In Term 2, Year 8 participated in **Operation Art** as part of their assessment. Operation Art is a wonderful competition that enables students to produce an artwork for the Westmead's Children's Hospital to make sick children smile. The students produced amazing artworks and put in a lot of effort. Cybella Monroe won the category of Art Bank, this means Cybella's artwork will be sent to a regional hospital in NSW to be displayed in the children's ward. A big congratulations to Cybella on the amazing effort.

It was lovely to see our talented **Orchestra** performing at the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony. They did an amazing job performing the National Anthem and prior to the ceremony.

At the end of Term 3 the CAPA students participated in a Photo shoot, so we can produce our **CAPA Calendar for 2023**. Stay tuned for details on how to purchase a calendar.

Congratulations to all of the Year 10 CAPA students who performed as part of the **Year 10 CAPA Evening** on Friday 14th October. For many of the students it was their first performance. Well done to all!

Students are currently signing up for **Musical 2023**, rehearsals will start in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for the announcement of which musical production will become our eighteenth.

**Year 7, 8 & 9 CAPA Evening** is on Thursday 1st December in the School Hall from 6.45 pm. Mark this date in your diary. Tickets will go on sale in a few weeks. It would be lovely to see the school community come along to support our younger performers.

### *Creative and Performing Arts Faculty*

## **Public Speaking and Debating Update**

**The Year 9 and 10 Debating Team won their Round 3 Debate** against Elizabeth Macarthur High School. They then went on to win the Zone. In the Finals they have defeated Bonnyrigg High School and Prairiewood High School and will debate Glenmore Park High School this week. We will keep you posted on our progress.



## Catching Up With Our Alumni

### Juanita Nunn Class of 2015

#### Notable events and achievements at EHS:

'What a Woman Wants' performance at NIDA as part of the Drama Festival.

Talent Quest Runner up.

Dance Eisteddfod.

Lead role in 2015 Musical *South Pacific*.

Preliminary and HSC Drama Portfolio/ Journals. I'm so proud of them that I still own them, in designing them I found beauty and purpose during a hard time of life at home.

Singing at assemblies, Carrington Nursing Home and the National Anthem at our Graduation Ceremony.

#### Memories of School:

Some of these achievements on paper sound very simple but in the Drama Studio and on the Elderslie High School stage I found fragments of who I wanted to be. A special thanks to Ms. Dennis for her encouragement throughout my high school career, her mentoring in my HSC year, the trust in me to live up to responsibilities and goals I wanted to achieve has no doubt contributed to the woman I am today. Thank you to Miss Prigg for her unwavering love and the constancy, as well as the talented dance teachers who taught at EHS, I still remember your choreography Mrs Carusi!!

#### Since graduating in 2015:

Bachelor of Music at the Australian Institute of Music (AIM).

I received a Distinction for my Graduating Recital performance.

I completed two years of online training during COVID and got my Diploma of Christian Ministry, Leadership and Pastoral care.

I have led the children's group at my church for 5 years with duties including Christmas plays and performances.

I am one of the three team leaders for our Local Community Ventures program (LCV), called Elevate - A creative youth space, founded in 2019. We support local school students with a sense of belonging focused around the Performing Arts. Elevate performed at Wakakirri 2022 in August and received various awards, we perform again at NIDA in September as part of the High School and Dance schools' division for our nominated National awards including, National Festival Story Award and National Excellence in Performing Arts award.

I am Musical Director and co-choreographer for Elevate's upcoming Musical performance written by myself and my fellow Elevate team leader, performances Dec 2-3.

I have been able to do all of this with a Dance injury after I graduated AIM, nothing will ever hold me back from doing what I love.

*Thankyou Elderslie High School for believing in me so I could go into the world knowing exactly what it looks like to surround yourself with people who lift you up.*

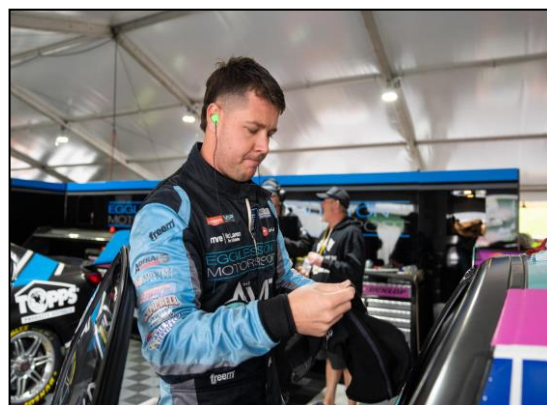


## Catching Up With Our Alumni

Congratulations to Abbi Church who played in the 2022 NRLW Grand Final for the Parramatta Eels.



Also, congratulations to Cameron Crick who competed at Bathurst.



NSW Department of Education



# Compulsory school attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

[education.nsw.gov.au](https://education.nsw.gov.au)


## NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

### My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- **Compulsory Schooling Conferences**

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- **Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order**

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- **Prosecution in the Local Court**

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

NSW Department of Education

# Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



## More information

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

### Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

### The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

### Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.

[education.nsw.gov.au](https://www.education.nsw.gov.au)

# Tap on and tap off every time

because it tells us how many people are using public transport. This allows us to better plan services for you.



It is a condition of the School Pass Terms and the Student Codes of Conduct when travelling that students in possession of the School Opal card must tap on and tap off every time when using public transport to travel to and from school. Per section 3.2 of the Opal Privacy Policy, Transport for NSW collects information from taps on and taps off to support coordination, planning and policy development for transport, transport services and transport infrastructure.



Tap on and tap off your  
School Opal card every time

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

Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	<b>October 24</b> Check In Assessments begin	<b>October 25</b>	<b>October 26</b>	<b>October 27</b>	<b>October 28</b>
4	<b>October 31</b>	<b>November 1</b>	<b>November 2</b> Year 8 Pathways to Dreaming Campus Day	<b>November 3</b>	<b>November 4</b> HSC finishes
5	<b>November 7</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>November 9</b>	<b>November 10</b> Year 12 Formal	<b>November 11</b>
6	<b>November 14</b>	<b>November 15</b>	<b>November 16</b>	<b>November 17</b>	<b>November 18</b> Year 11 Recognition Assembly

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## P & C MEETINGS 2022

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

Our next meeting for 2022 will be:

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7pm  
in the School Library