



PARENT BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2023

Upcoming Events

November 21	2024 Yr 7 Tech Elect Info Session P&C Meeting
November 30	Year 10 Formal
December 14	Presentation Evening
December 15	Student's Last Day

See back page for more details



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Warm greetings to all parents, carers and friends. This will be our last edition of Parent Bulletin for 2023. At the time of writing, our students have emerged from a few months of assessment in the lead up to the release of our Semester 2 reports. Year 12 (Class of 2023) have completed the HSC examinations and are awaiting the release of results on December 14. ATAR ranks are also released on this day. Year 11 students have commenced the first term of their Year 12 course and Year 10 will enter the Senior Transition Program from the commencement of Week 7. Stage 5 students have also finished their final exams and assessments. We ask all our students to engage thoughtfully in the reflection activities led by teachers so that they can reflect on academic performance.

Staffing Changes

I will be on leave for month of December and in that time, Ms Martin will be Relieving Principal. Mr Sambuco will relieve as Deputy Principal for Year 9. Mrs Amos will also be on leave for the last four days of 2023 and the first 3 weeks of 2024. Mr Miller will relieve for her in this time on Years 7 & 10 (Years 8 & 11 for 2024).

One major staff change is that our Head Teacher English, Ms Sonja Dokmanovic will be retiring at the end of the year. Ms Dokmanovic has been an extremely long serving staff member of EHS, having been an English teacher here prior to her commencement as head of faculty. We are in the process of recruiting a new Head Teacher at the moment. Ms Dokmanovic's service to public education and to countless students is very admirable. She will be greatly missed by students and staff alike.

Student Successes

On Monday, November 20, the Aboriginal Student Achievement Awards are being held. I am very much looking forward to attending this ceremony in which public school students from our local area will be acknowledged for their excellence in a range of endeavours. A huge congratulations to Matthew Phillips of Year 11 for his numeracy award, Ethan Ingram of Year 7 for his "Deadly" award and to Ella Smith of Year 10 for her literacy award.

Another example of student excellence goes to Tenika Williams from Year 7 who has just been selected for the U/14's Combined High Schools Softball team. Tenika will be representing our school in coming weeks. We wish her well!

Playground Improvements

Many of our families will remember when we opened the newly renovated "Grove" playground at the start of 2021. The area had been quite unusable in the years prior, and the design has made such a difference to our playground, making it much nicer for our students. After many months of waiting, we are now excited to tell our community that the second stage of the Grove playground renovation has commenced. This will be the area that extends in front of the back oval and down towards the bus bay gate. Building works should be complete just before Christmas and be ready for students to use at the commencement of the 2024 school year. There will be more seating and shade areas for our students. Stay tuned for the next edition of Parent Bulletin for some photos.

*Kind regards,
Mrs Jenny Lawrence
Principal*

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Natalie Martin (DP Years 9 & 12)

Year 12

The Year 12 Formal was a fabulous night with a blend of elegance, camaraderie, and unforgettable memories to finish a very successful year. The formal was held at Panorama House with breathtaking views which was a perfect backdrop to take photographs until the rainstorm arrived.

None of this would have been possible without the unwavering support and guidance of our dedicated Year Advisors Mr Mani and Miss Bun. A sincere thank you for their efforts in ensuring our events were organised seamlessly.

As always, the dance floor came alive with infectious energy as students let loose and celebrated the end of an era. May the memories forged at this special event guide Year 12 to the next phase of their lives. Here's to the friendships that withstood the tests of time, the mentors who shaped our students and the dreams that continue to beckon. Congratulations year 12 2023!

Check In Assessment

All students have now completed Check-in assessments. Check-In Assessments play a crucial role in understanding students' academic abilities and tailoring teaching strategies to meet their individual needs.

Check-In assessments serve as valuable tools for educators to gauge students' current knowledge, identify areas of strength and weakness, and adapt instructional approaches accordingly. These assessments go beyond traditional testing by providing a real-time snapshot of students' understanding, enabling teachers to address learning gaps promptly.

Analysing Check-In Assessment data can assist the school in the following ways: Early intervention, targeted instruction and updating individual learning plans. By leveraging the

insights gained from these assessments, teachers can create a more responsive and student-centred learning environment, fostering academic success.

Happy Holidays

As the school year draws to a close, it's time to reflect on the accomplishments, growth, and memories forged throughout the academic journey. Finalizing the year in a positive way involves acknowledging the hard work put in by both students and educators, celebrating achievements, and appreciating the valuable lessons learned. The sense of accomplishment derived from overcoming challenges and mastering new skills creates a positive atmosphere that sets the stage for a well-deserved break.

Now, that we are approaching the holiday season, students can take a moment to embrace relaxation and enjoyment. Whether it's spending quality time with family, exploring new hobbies, or simply unwinding with a good book, the holidays offer a chance to recharge and rejuvenate. Most importantly, ensure a safe and healthy holiday season, cherishing the well-deserved respite before gearing up for new adventures in the upcoming year.

Ms Natalie Martin

*Deputy Principal
Years 9 & 12*

Joanne Amos (DP Years 7 & 10)

Year 7

With less than 4 weeks to go, Year 7 have almost completed their first year of high school. The vast majority of students have been able to settle into high school life as the year has progressed and the new rules and routines that comes with starting any new school. Students will receive their reports in the coming weeks and it will also include a Student Learning Reflection. Please use these as an opportunity to discuss your child's learning growth throughout the year and talk to them about the goals they are setting for themselves in 2024.

Year 10

Our transition to the senior years started this week for Year 10. It was wonderful to see so many students wearing their senior uniform with pride. We started the day with a talk from several staff and an outline of what the program will involve for the next 4 weeks. Students will be completing the All My Own Work modules for NESA and also beginning the Minimum Standards Assessments that are also an HSC requirement. Additionally, students will be undertaking a program of Stage 6 preparation with teachers presenting units on skills such as essay writing, study planning and stress management. We encourage all students to maintain their attendance until the 15 December, but would also recommend any students keen to pursue Work Experience if they are wanting to explore options beyond school.

*Kind Regards,
Joanne Amos
Deputy Principal 7 & 10*

Elizabeth Siope & Matthew Sambuco (Relieving DP Years 8 & 12)

Year 8

I am pleased to announce that the subject selection process for the next academic year has been finalised. By now, your child should have a clear understanding of their chosen subjects. If you have any concerns or questions regarding these selections, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school. We are here to support you and ensure a smooth transition for your child.

Additionally, I am immensely proud to acknowledge the outstanding behaviour and maturity displayed by Year 8 students during the recent motivational presentation. The talk, centred around essential topics like resilience and perseverance and highlighted the importance of having strong support networks. Their exemplary conduct not only reflects their individual character but also showcases the collective spirit of our school community. I extend my gratitude to our Year 8 students for their exemplary behaviour. Together, we are shaping responsible, resilient, and compassionate individuals for the future.

Year 12

I would like to express my appreciation for the attendance of parents at the recent HSC Information Night. It was a wonderful meeting for the families of our students, and I appreciate your support in making the event a success.

Students are now on the threshold of their first assessment period for the Higher School Certificate. This period demands dedication, focus, and resilience. Here are some important tips to help guide your child through this time:

- **Effective Time Management:** Plan your study time wisely, balancing all subjects and assessment tasks.
- **Seek Support:** Do not hesitate to ask questions and seek help from teachers, peers, or support services available at the school.
- **Healthy Lifestyle:** Maintain a balanced routine, including adequate sleep, nutrition, and exercise. A healthy body and mind significantly contribute to effective learning.
- **Practice Past Papers** or submit a draft task.
- **Stay Positive:** Believe in your abilities. Self-confidence can significantly impact your results.

As we move forward, let's continue working together to ensure our students embrace new opportunities, face challenges with resilience, and achieve the success they deserve.

Mrs Siope and Mr Sambuco
Relieving Deputy Principals
Years 8 & 12



Wish Day Wrap Up!

On Thursday of Week 4, the Senior Leadership Team was excited to hold their 'Wish Day' initiative in support of the Starlight Foundation. Starlight is an incredible foundation that brings joy and happiness to young children suffering in the hospital systems around Australia and the Senior Leadership Team was dedicated to raise both money and awareness for this amazing cause.

In the weeks prior to Wish Day, with support from the Elderslie High School P&C, there was a major raffle held for the parents, carers and wider Elderslie High School community to get involved in. This had over 15 amazing prizes to win, with the winners getting notified on Wish Day itself.

Wish Day involved numerous activities and fundraising opportunities for teachers and students to get involved in, the first of these being the mufti day where students were invited to wear mufti for a gold coin donation. At recess, the Junior and Senior Leadership Teams collaborated to run a very successful bake sale for students to purchase some delicious baked goods. As well as this, at recess, there was also the opportunity for students to get involved in a range of sporting activities such as student vs teacher netball, tug of war and touch football. To participate in the game of touch football with the students numerous NRLW special guests were invited including former EHS alumni Abbi Church from the Parramatta Eels. Bo Vette-Welsh and Kezie Apps from the West Tigers also made a guest appearance to play alongside and against the students in a friendly game of touch football.

To continue the day's festivities, at lunch the main event of the day took place which was teacher dunking! In the weeks prior to Wish Day, students and teachers had the opportunity to nominate their names to go into the draw to dunk one of their favourite teachers. Nine of the school's most well known faces got dunked in a bucket of water, some of them even being icy cold. The teachers included: Miss Ferris, Miss Siope, Mr Webb, Miss Mulligan, Mr Mani, Miss Malcolm, Mr Sambuco, Mr Miller and the principal Mrs Lawrence. These teachers took the plunge, or the dunk, for a great cause. As well as teacher dunking, at lunch the students also had the opportunity to participate in numerous novelty games such as a three-legged race, egg and spoon races, tunnel ball, giant Jenga, giant connect four and many more.

Wish Day was an amazing day for students, teachers, parents, carers and the wider Elderslie High School community to get involved in and the Senior Leadership Team thanks everyone for their support in this initiative.



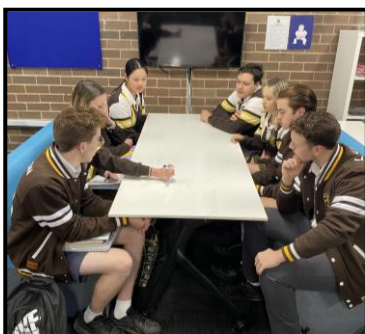
Senior Leadership Team News

As previously mentioned, the Senior Leadership Team did a stellar job in coordinating and facilitating a very successful day which raised over \$3000 for the Startlight Foundation. The whole team worked very well together and should be proud of their achievement. I wish to pay my special gratitude for both Emma Evans and Hannah Stootman who spearheaded this initiative from beginning to end and showed exceptional organisation and service to the school and community.

The 2024 captaincy team has hit the ground running this term. They have spent a portion of their weekly thrive lessons and morning roll calls on collaboratively establishing a firm plan for their future directions. It has been great to watch their creative ideas come to the surface already and I am excited for their big ideas and initiatives to come to fruition next year.

In other exciting news, we are very excited to soon have the addition of the new incoming prefect group and welcome them into the senior leadership team. The new Prefect group is full of very capable and prospective future young leaders from this year's Year 10 cohort. It is definitely a case of watch this space as the team has been working very hard behind the scenes to set the platform and with the addition of the new prefects it will be a huge 2024 to look forward to.

Mr Atterton
Senior Leadership Coordinator



Mental Health Week

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents, students and staff who participated in Mental Health Week at Elderslie High School. Your support and engagement made the week a great success!

During Mental Health Week, we focused on promoting well-being and mental health awareness. It was wonderful to see our school community come together to discuss these essential topics, share experiences, and create a supportive environment where everyone can feel comfortable.

We hope that the activities and discussions during Mental Health Week have left a lasting positive impact on our students and the entire school community. Remember that promoting good mental health is not limited to just one week; it's a continuous effort.

We encourage you to keep the conversation going at home and continue to support your children's mental health. Let's work together to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health and create a culture of understanding and care.

Once again, thank you for your participation and dedication to the well-being of our Elderslie High School family. Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of our students.



First Nations Education Pathways to Dreaming

Students had another school visit from Tania, our Pathways to Dreaming Coordinator. Workshops were held for students in Year 7 to 10. Senior students participated in individual career planning sessions. That was our final session for 2023 and we look forward to be part of the program again in 2024.

The Botanical Gardens First Nations Community Greening

The bush tucker garden got a little tender loving care!! We watered, planted new shrubs, replaced some plants and also moved other plants. The garden is looking really good!! Our next little program will be to install a water system to keep the garden looking at its best!!! After our session in the garden, students participated in a cooking session using

some of the bush tucker herbs from our garden!! Students cooked Damper, Kangaroo and Tomato Relish. We had a great afternoon, and the food was tops!!

Big thanks to Clodhna from the Botanical Garden First Nations Youth Community Greening Program!!



School to Work Community Program

Selected First Nations Students in Year 11 and 12 complete a one-on-one career profiling session with their Project Officer to build Career Development Plans focused on career aspirations and personal goals.

Students work with their Project Officers to pursue these plans by participating in educational, cultural and leadership workshops. They also visit club sponsors, partner organisations and other government and corporate supporters to undertake work experience and job-readiness training.

Graduating students are equipped to make informed choices about their future careers, are armed with exceptional leadership capabilities and have a solid foundation in 'job readiness' skills.

First Nations students in Year 10 will be participating in an information session toward the end of November. After this session students will have an opportunity to sign up to the program. We look forward to working with the NRL School to Work Community Program for the first time in 2024.

Ms Z Crossingham
First Nations Education Coordinator

Sports Report

Under 15's Netball Team

The Under 15's Netball team competed in the NSWCHS State-wide competition held at Wollongong in week 3. The team played a round robin against the best teams across the state and achieved 14th place. There were many close games where we unfortunately lost by 1 or 2 goals. Our team was overall the youngest in the tournament so they did amazing to hold their own against girls a couple years older than them. Well done to Ruby-Rose Domanski, Zaiah Williams, Charli Smith, Sophia Budd, Mia Piliae, Emily Smith, Annalise Smith and Alira Montoya Seru Wolstencroft. Thank you to Ella Malcolm for supporting the team.





Caitlyn Brazier

Caitlyn has just competed in Cape to Cape, a 4 day staged MTB race in Western Australia. Roughly a total of 200km and 2,500m of climbing. Each day’s riding was between 34km and 59km. She rode as a pair in the open women’s category, placing first in each stage with the team taking out the overall win for their category.

Opens Boys Cricket

The open boy's cricket team came up against Hurlstone Agricultural HS in the first round of the competition. Having lost the toss we were asked to bowl first. Dylan T and Dylan L found out very quickly that we were up against a very talented opposition. We made numerous bowling changes to try and stem the flow of runs but after two of their players made centuries and we made a few costly errors in the field, they ended up on 385 after their 35 overs. With a tall chase in front of us, we made a solid start with young Jett G and Brayden S seeing off some quality bowling but we couldn’t maintain the scoring and ended up all out for 120. Jett top scored with a quality 50 and was our player of the match.

Mr Sambuco

Congratulations to our Sydney South West Softball Representatives for 2024

Congratulations to the following students for making the 2024 Sydney South West Softball Teams.

Boys

Matthew Trynchy
Dylan Trynchy

Girls

Tenika Williams
Ashlee Trynchy
Isabella Trevena

Zone Blues Awards

Zone Blue Awards are given to students who have represented the Macarthur Zone and been selected for their Sydney South West teams. These students have performed at an extraordinary level to be achieving these awards and being part of these teams. The following students are receiving Zone Blue Awards for their sport representation:

Isabella Barna	Representative award
Jordan Barnes	Junior Male Baseball, Representative award
Connor Bell	Representative award
Amanda Condon	Senior Female Hockey, Representative award
Charlotte Davis	Rookie of the Year, Junior Female Swimming
Ella Johnson	Junior Female Athletics Track
Arianna King	Representative award
Khaiyan Lee	Senior Male Athletics Field
Joshua Ratu	Junior Male Athletics Track
Zariah Rose Lang	Junior Female Hockey, Representative award
Kye Sutherland	Senior Male Hockey, Representative award
Brayden Sutherland	Representative award
Isabella Trevena	Senior Female Athlete of the Year, Representative award
Dylan Trynchy	Senior Male Softball, Representative award
Matthew Trynchy	Representative award
Ashley Vasquez	Representative award
Cooper Wade	Junior Male Swimming, Junior Male Athlete of the Year

Sport Selections for 2024

2024 Term 1 sport selections for the current year 8 cohort will open 15/11/23 (Wednesday, Week 6) at 6:00 pm. Selections for the current Year 9 cohort will open 27/11/23 (Monday Week 8) at 6:00 pm. Parents have been emailed instructions on how students will be selecting their sport for Term 1 2024. Selections will close for all students on 1/12/23 (Friday Week 8). Any students that have not submitted their

sport selections will be put into a free sport where there is availability.

Careers

This term has seen a variety of opportunities being offered to our students. We have had students attending School To Work Programs, Work Experience and White Card courses. A number of Year 10 students have been attending TAFE one day a week as part of the YES (Youth Engagement Strategy) Program and the courses have ranged from Childcare to Medical Administration.

Students have attended Barbering Workshops and Electrical Days. They have been invited to participate in pre-apprenticeship courses and we had 3 students graduate from Productivity Bootcamp which was great to see.

Our current Year 11 cohort participated in two weeks of individual career planning interviews allowing them time to explore their post school options and opportunities. They will soon be sent a link to register to attend the UOW Open (Discovery) Day in 2024. Numbers are limited so I encourage them to register to attend as soon as they can.

Year 10 students have been finding out if their application for TVET courses in 2024 has been successful and this will continue over the next few weeks. Applications will re-open on November 27th if any student missed the deadline to apply. Students are encouraged to come and see me ASAP if they wish to consider TVET in 2024.

Year 9 Fast Forward students will be attending Western Sydney University on Friday 24th November. They are reminded to return their permission notes to me ASAP.

UAC released their Early Offers on the 10th November giving Year 12 students the chance to explore their university choices and options.

We are looking forward to seeing Year 12 on 15th December and hearing what their future plans include.



RACISM SURVEY

As you may know, fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all our students is of great importance to us. To further our commitment to this cause, we will be inviting our students to participate in a survey. This is an important initiative that we are undertaking at Elderslie High School in conjunction with our upcoming Multicultural Day.

The purpose of this survey is to gain valuable insights into the experiences and perceptions of our students regarding racism and discrimination within our school community. By understanding their perspectives, we can identify areas of improvement and continue our efforts to create an environment where every child feels respected, valued, and supported.

The survey will be administered electronically through Google Classroom, a platform that our students are already familiar with. They will find the survey posted there, and it will be made accessible to all students on the 27th of November and close on the 12th of December. The survey is designed to be age-appropriate and respectful of individual experiences, ensuring the anonymity of participants to encourage honest and open responses.

We encourage you to take this opportunity to discuss the importance of this survey with your child. Emphasise the significance of their honest feedback, as it will help us in shaping a more inclusive environment for everyone. Please be assured that all responses will be treated confidentially, and no student will be identifiable based on their responses.

Year 7 - <https://forms.gle/tHmaXTwfgemCcku98>

Year 8- <https://forms.gle/vNcySytAeADpqTd8>

Year 9- <https://forms.gle/M7FQHQQfjycwqLG7>

Year 10- <https://forms.gle/mCjuKiNeNJ48M8Hq9>

Year 12- <https://forms.gle/Q3bLevg89Wn7vVDT9>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey or its administration, please feel free to contact me. We appreciate your continued support in creating a school environment where every student thrives.

Regards,



Jennifer Woo
Anti Racism Contact Officer (ARCO)

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

Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7	20 - Nov	21 - Nov 2024 Yr 7 Tech Elect Info Session 6pm P&C Meeting 7pm	22 - Nov	23 - Nov	24 - Nov
8	27 - Nov	28 - Nov	29 - Nov	30 - Nov Year 10 Formal 6pm	1 - Dec
9	4 - Dec	5 - Dec	6 - Dec	7 - Dec	8 - Dec EHS Multicultural Day
10	11 - Dec Recognition Assemblies	12 - Dec Recognition Assemblies	13 - Dec Jamberoo Excursion	14 - Dec Presentation Evening 7pm Camden Civic Centre	15 - Dec Student's last day

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P & C MEETINGS 2023

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

Our next meeting for 2023 will be:
***Tuesday 21st November
7pm in the School Library***