



PARENT BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 2023

Upcoming Events

February 14	Year 7 Graffiti Presentation
February 21	School Photo Day
February 24	EHS Swimming Carnival
February 27	School Photo Catch Up Day

See back page for more details



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to the 2023 school year! I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our returning students but in particular, our new students and their families. You have made a great decision in enrolling your children at Elderslie High School. We are ready for another big year, packed full of academic challenges and extra-curricular opportunities. We are especially proud of our structured wellbeing programs and have every confidence that we will be able to support your children through the trials and tribulations of adolescence.

Communication Channels

Elderslie High School has a number of official communication channels through which we inform our parents and community members about what is going on at the school. I am aware of course that there is an unofficial parent Facebook page which may well help parents to connect with each other but official school announcements, news, notes and updates are only communicated through our official channels which are:

- Email
- Skoolbag App
- Elderslie High School Official Facebook page
- Elderslie High School Official Instagram page
- Elderslie High School website
- Twitter

Some parents might wonder why we have so many platforms for our communication. The reason is because we find that through the use of multiple platforms that we are more likely to reach more parents. In addition, some platforms are for a different audience such as Twitter which, while followed by some parents and students, seems to be avidly followed by the education community which means we shine a spotlight on the activities of the school for the state's educators to see.

At this time of year, I like to remind all our families of the value of an effective partnership between the school and our parents. We work together to support your child's growth in all domains of their development and we ask that you get in touch as early as you can if there is an emerging problem or something you're worried about. If we know about it early, we have every chance of being able to intervene with the greatest success. As a principal, I also ask that if you are unsure about a school practice or decision, that you contact us at the school, either by phone or email and ask us directly.

This will ensure that you get the correct answer which we hope will clarify matters for you.

For parents of our new Year 7 students, I want to reassure you that we understand how anxious many of you are, especially if this is your first child to go to high school. You are watching your child go from being the eldest students in their primary schools to becoming the youngest, and in most cases, the smallest of the children which can certainly have a startling effect when you are doing the school drop off in the morning! Whatever you are worried about though, please know that we are only a phone call or an email away and we are most definitely here to help.

High schools are big places and we have a lot of staff so sometimes parents are unsure who they should ask for when they call. Here are some general suggestions on the best points of contact:

- Classroom issue in ONE subject – your child’s class teacher or the Head Teacher of that subject. All Head Teachers names are listed in the front of the EHS student diaries as well as on our website.
- Assessment tasks in ONE subject- your child’s class teacher or the Head Teacher of that subject.
- Absences from school – Front office staff or Head Teacher Administration.
- Concerns across all subjects – your child’s Year Adviser.
- Social concerns - your child’s Year Adviser.
- Learning Support issues – Head Teacher Welfare or one of our Learning & Support Teachers.
- Significant academic issues or disciplinary issues – Deputy Principal for your child’s year group.

Please note however, that our teaching staff are on class for a large proportion of the day so if you contact us and the person you wish to speak to is not available, they will indeed endeavour to contact you as soon as they are able.

For your further information, the following table provides a list of key welfare staff that you can contact:

Year Group	Year Adviser	Deputy Principal
7	Mrs Melissa Bright	Mrs Joanne Amos
8	Ms Geraldine Borland	Mr Dale White
9	Mrs Donna Castillo	Ms Natalie Martin
10	Ms Maggie Buist	Mrs Joanne Amos
11	Ms Maxine Malcolm	Mr Dale White
12	Mr Adriel Mani	Ms Natalie Martin

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the Class of 2022 on their HSC results. There were many wonderful results to celebrate, most notably Lana Sabir who is our dux of 2022 with an ATAR of 90.15. There were 62 results in the top 20% of the state which is also a fantastic achievement. Particular congratulations go to Jaiden Gardner, Eva Kramer, Poppy La

Hay, Leah Maglis, Lana Sabir and Stephanie Taylor who achieved results on NESA’s Distinguished Achievers List.

In January, two of our students, Kye and Brayden Sutherland travelled to Brisbane to compete in national level championships for indoor hockey. Kye competed in the 18’s NSW Blues Indoor team, in which his team topped their pool before finishing in seventh place. Kye was awarded player of the match. Brayden played in the 15’s team for NSW which won a silver medal. Both these amazing athletes deserve all our applause and recognition for their achievements.

Staffing Changes

As many parents would know, the entire state is experiencing a chronic shortage of teachers and Elderslie High School is not immune to this crisis in staffing our classes. We have been working solidly on our 2023 staffing for many months and welcome a number of new faces to our team as follows:

Mrs Hannah Mahoney - Classroom Teacher, English. Ms Mahoney rejoins us this year following her maternity leave.

Ms Anne Seton – Classroom Teacher, English

Ms Kayla Martin – Classroom Teacher, English

Mr James Tran - Classroom Teacher, Mathematics

Ms Kayla Caruana – Classroom Teacher, Mathematics

Mr Garth Kainz - Classroom Teacher, Mathematics

Ms Nicola Kwasniak - Classroom Teacher, Human Society & Its Environment

Mr Luke De Bono - Classroom Teacher, Human Society & Its Environment

Ms Hana Maksimovic - Classroom Teacher, PDHPE

Ms Kiv Garcia - Classroom Teacher, PDHPE

Ms Claudia Towle - Classroom Teacher, PDHPE

Mrs Katie Morris - Classroom Teacher, Technological & Applied Studies

Mr Colin Morse - Classroom Teacher, Technological & Applied Studies

Ms Hannah Jarvis – Student Administrative Officer

Back to school vouchers

As most parents would know, the NSW Government has provided all parents of school age children with access to the Premiers Back to School Vouchers. These can be accessed via the Service NSW website. Elderslie High School Uniform Shop accepts these vouchers and we strongly encourage families to use them in this outlet if you have not already done so. Vouchers can also be used for school contributions and excursions. More information is available on these vouchers in the email sent home in Week 1.

Student assistance

If any of our families require financial assistance to support the purchase of uniform or payment of school contributions, the school does have some finite resources we can allocate. Please send a confidential email or letter to me and I will endeavour to support your family as best I can. The best time to do this is at the start of the year or as we enter the cooler winter months rather than at the end of the year.

Parents & Citizens Association

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. The P&C meet twice per term on Tuesday evenings in Week 3 and 7 from 7pm. Most meetings are held in a face-to-face manner in the library, with occasional meetings being held via Zoom as needed.

P&C Meetings are attended by the Principal, Deputy Principals and faculty representatives. Parents are addressed by student leaders about their 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 7.

*Kind regards,
Mrs Jenny Lawrence
Principal*

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS**Natalie Martin (DP Years 9 & 12)****Year 6 into 7 Night**

On Monday 6th March Elderslie High School will hold a Year 6 into 7 Information Evening for the incoming 2024 students. I would like to thank all of the teachers who have volunteered their time to conduct faculty presentations. The evening will commence with tours of the faculty areas followed by an information session in the hall. We expect to have large number of prospective students and parents attend the evening.

Year 9

Year 9 students will have lots of opportunities to represent the school in a variety of knockout sports. I would like to remind parents that students need to have exemplary behaviour at school to be eligible to represent the school. Please ensure that children have the correct equipment to maximise their learning opportunities in class. All students should also be wearing the school uniform with pride. Uniforms can be ordered online and arranged to be picked up by students here at school. Get in early and order winter items as they often sell out when the weather starts to get cool in Autumn.

Year 12

I would like to welcome Year 12 back for their final year of school. They have a really big year ahead with lots of exciting events in the making. It is important that students remain focused on their academic achievement whilst engaging in school initiatives to ensure the right balance for their academic, social and emotional wellbeing. In Week 4 of this term, a panel consisting of myself and Ms Wilson will meet with Year 12 students who are at risk of not meeting HSC requirements in terms of attendance and not completing

course work or assessment tasks. In the meetings, we clearly communicate to the students any N-Warnings they have received and we go over the work that is required to be completed in order for the N-Warning to be cleared. In addition to this we provide support by helping the students to plan their time effectively and we offer assistance to the student if it is needed. I then contact all of the parents so that we can continue to work together so that the children at risk have every opportunity to meet HSC requirements. I will repeat this process again in Term 2 and 3.

Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is an annual fundraising event for our Year 12 students. Students from any year group can purchase roses or songs for people they care about at school. During roll call and period 1 on the day, Year 12 students deliver the songs, lolly bags and roses to the recipients. It is an absolute delight to see our Year 12 students dressed up and singing enthusiastically to the recipients. This event is unique to Elderslie High School and it certainly spreads a message of positivity throughout the school.

Man Cave Keynote Address

Last year the current Year 12 cohort held a bake sale to raise funds for Man Cave. The funds raised have been donated to Man Cave and in return they have committed to providing a keynote address to Year 11 and Year 12 on Friday 10th February. The founders of Man Cave are driven by social change and were concerned about the impact of mental illness and domestic violence in the community. They primarily work with young men at a preventative level, empowering them to become great men for themselves, their relationships and their communities. This was a student led initiative to support young men and women within the Elderslie Community.

*Ms Natalie Martin
Deputy Principal
Years 9 & 12*

Dale White (DP Years 8 & 11)

Welcome back to all students at Elderslie High School especially students from Years 8 and 11.

Hopefully all students had a safe and restful break and are now ready to get back into their learning. There is no better time to improve upon the routines students have in the morning to be prepared for the day than the start of the year and I encourage all students and parents to discuss and plan appropriate and successful strategies.

Year 11 students have quickly resumed their lessons and refocusing on the assessment tasks that will occur this term and their ongoing preparations for the 2024 HSC. Students will have the opportunity to adjust their elective subjects in a couple of weeks if there is space available in a different course also. As I mentioned to Year 11 on their first day, the exams will be here closer than they think and there is no better time than now to start good habits for study and preparation. Along with the emphasis for learning, behaviour,

and legacy for Year 11 students in 2023, I encourage them to enjoy their final senior years at school. Enjoy the company of their friends, make new friends and make this year a positive, hardworking school experience. There is no better time to start this by attending the school swimming carnival on Friday 24th February.

Year 8 are settling in well to the start of the year, meeting their new teachers and new classes. It is an exciting time for Year 8 as they may have been placed with different students and this will help them build the resilience skills they need for success navigating the next few years of being a teenager. I encourage all students to focus on completing all tasks, staying focused in the classroom and trying their best on all occasions to allow them the best opportunity to succeed. If you have any questions or queries, please give me a call at school on 4658 1110.

Dale White
Deputy Principal
Years 8 & 11

Joanne Amos (DP Years 7 & 10)

Welcome Back to 2023

Welcome to the beginning of the 2023 school year! This year I will be working with the students of Years 7 and 10. I am really looking forward to getting to know our new Year 7 students. I am also delighted to be working alongside some great Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers who have responsibility for the year groups in my care including Mrs Melissa Bright and Miss Elizabeth Davis (Year 7) and Mrs Margaret Buist and Mr Luke Cockburn (Year 10). We have lots of fantastic things planned for each year group to look forward to.

Year 7: Welcome to High School

It was a great buzz on Tuesday 31st January when we welcomed Year 7 for their first day of high school. During the day the students participated in five Thrive lessons which explicitly took them through the school's expectations for behaviour in the classroom and the playground and provided them information on understanding their timetables and how to use their diaries. We understand that it is quite normal for students to be a little anxious as they make the 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, the activities undertaken in the first day, our Peer Support Program which will occur in Term One and the upcoming swimming carnival in Week 5, will help Year 7 start to forge new friendships and become more familiar with high school life.

If parents have any questions or need to inform the school about any matter, these should be referred to Mrs Bright, Miss Davis or myself.

Year 10

It has been great to welcome back our Year 10 students. They are coming to school with a good attitude, wearing correct uniform and cooperating with their teachers. I am looking forward to working with them throughout the year as their set goals and make decisions about senior school or consider opportunities post school.

Year 12 2022 Alumni

Our Year 12 2022 alumni are already carving out new paths for themselves with many moving into university, employment and seeking out new experiences. One of these students is Reece Napier who has recently signed a contract through Stay and Play USA with Lewis and Clark Community College Tennis Trailblazer scholarship program in Godfrey, Illinois. This has been a long-held goal for Reece and we are excited to see him living his dream. We are so proud and wish him every success as he embarks on this journey and cannot wait to hear about his future success on the tennis court.



NAPLAN for Year 7 and 9

NAPLAN testing will take place in Term 1, Weeks 8 and 9 for all students in Years 7 and 9. The online tests cover Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy and results from this assessment supplement our existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to meet student needs. More detailed information will be sent home closer to the date.

Assessment Guidelines

The school assessment guidelines will be distributed to all students during Weeks 3 and 4. During the presentation, students are reminded of the importance of following school policy around attendance and completion of assessment tasks including illness, extensions and misadventure procedures. If any student is absent from the presentation, they will need to see their relevant deputy principal to collect and sign for the documentation that is issued. A copy of all 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. All students are expected to be at school prior to the bell at 8:50am. Some Senior students may have period 0 classes and if this is the case, the must attend these classes which commence at 7:45am.

Students should only be absent from school if there is a valid reason and this needs to be communicated to the school. The easiest way to do this is 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. For more information regarding attendance, see the pages at the end of the bulletin.

Mrs Joanne Amos
Deputy Principal
Years 7 & 10

2023 Vaccination Program

The 2023 school vaccination program will be moving to online consent. Access to the online consent will be shared with our community in early Term 1. To complete the online consent, parents and/or carers will require a Service NSW login and Medicare details for themselves and their child or ward. For families who do not have access to these resources, a paper consent form can be requested from Elderslie High School. Students who have provided paper consent in 2022 and require a 'catch up' dose in 2023 will not be required to complete an additional online consent form.

Year 7 students will be offered a vaccination for Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis (dTpa) and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Year 10 students will be offered a vaccination for Meningococcal ACWY.

Students in Year 11 2023, that missed their Meningococcal ACWY vaccination at the school clinics due to COVID-19 lockdown, are recommended to go to the GP for a free catch-up.

Below are the dates for the Year 7 and Year 10 vaccination program.

Visit 1: Thursday 2nd March 2023

Visit 2: Monday 5th June 2023

Visit 3: Friday 10th November 2023

Any questions, please contact Elderslie High School.

Mrs C Needham
Head Teacher, Welfare

School Photos

School photographs will be taken on Tuesday 21st February 2023. 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 27th 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. No sport uniforms.

Please see below the photo package prices.


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



Academy
School Photography
& Production
orders.academyphoto.com.au ph: 1800 816 224





School Photographs

\$42 pack A	2 - 13 cm x 18 cm 4 - 6.5 cm x 9 cm 4 - wallets 1 - student book	
\$42 pack B	1 - 20 cm x 25 cm 1 - portrait digital download 1 - student book	
\$62 pack C	1 - 20 cm x 25 cm 3 - 13 cm x 18 cm 4 - 9 cm x 13 cm 4 - 6.5 cm x 9 cm 4 - wallets 1 - student book 1 - portrait digital download	
\$27 pack D INDIVIDUAL ONLY	2 - 13 cm x 18 cm 4 - 6.5 cm x 9 cm 4 - wallets	
\$32 pack E STUDENT BOOK ONLY	1 - student book	



Academy
School Photography
& Production
orders.academyphoto.com.au ph: 1800 816 224

School Photographs

\$50 pack FA	2 - 20x25cm 3 - 13x18cm 4 - 9x13cm 4 - 6.5x9cm 4 - wallets 1 - family digital download	
\$40 pack FB	1 - 20x25cm 2 - 13x18cm 1 - family digital download	
\$32 pack FC	2 - 13x18cm 2 - 9x13cm 4 - 6.5x9cm 4 - wallets	
\$27 pack FD	1 - 13x18cm 4 - 6.5x9cm	

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). In addition, all teaching staff undertake training to increase their understanding of the nature and impact of racism and their responsibility to support the Anti-Racism Policy. The ARCO at Elderslie High is Ms Woo, who is in her fourth year in this role.

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, we 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. Student's will find Ms Woo in the Science staffroom or can alert any staff member to racist matters.

EHS is a bully free zone.

Always spread kindness.

Ms Woo
ARCO

Library Matters

Welcome back, everyone! I look forward to working with you all as we move into 2023. Our school library is a wonderful place full of great resources to help you find success at Elderslie High. We open at 8:40am and you can access the library in the mornings or during your breaks to:

- Print assessments
- Use, borrow and return resources such as books, magazines, games, and laptops
- Relax in comfort with your friends or make some new ones
- Access the Technology Support Officer and the Wellbeing/Learning Support Faculty
- Take part in our social events, such as the Dungeons and Dragons Club

We also run after school study sessions for our senior students. Keep an eye on our social media channels and the daily notices for times.

If you are intending to print your assessments, please ensure you're bringing your Student ID Card with you to hasten the process. Please be organised since your assessment periods

can get VERY busy! Bring your finished task on a USB or have it stored where it can be easily accessed on Google Drive, and if possible try to print early to avoid the crowds.

You can borrow from our online library. If you'd like to browse the thousands of free eBooks and Audiobooks we have waiting for you to borrow, you can login using your school email at <https://eldersliehs.eplatform.co/>.

Reading for 20 minutes a day has a number of proven benefits. It can:

- Improve your vocabulary and communication skills
- Give you a different perspective on the world
- Improve your ability to empathise with others
- Reduce your stress and anxiety
- Inspire you to do wonderful things!

Miss D Lysaught
Librarian



Administration Hints & Tips:-

Please refer to your child's Student Diary for the correct procedure for the following. Our school diaries are a great resource for our students with important information, bell times, staff directory etc. By following these procedures, it ensures the smooth running of our school

If student is late for school- A note is to be provided by the parent explaining reason. Student to report to Student Office with note to obtain a late slip before class.

If student is leaving early- A note to be provided by parent/Carer explaining the reason why and time student is to be collected. Student will need to have their note approved by the Deputy Principal or the Sports Co-ordinator on a Wednesday. This needs to be done BEFORE Roll Call in the morning. Permission over the phone for your child to leave early will not be accepted.

Sick Bay- If a student is sick, they should advise their teacher and come to the Student Office who will contact their parents should they need to go home. Person collecting must be an emergency contact on our system.

Payments- Payments can be made online, access from the school website.

Student Absences- Advise the school, provide a note and/or medical certificate on return.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Mrs Susan Solah

School Administration Manager

Student Healthcare Information

Do we have the most updated health information for your child?

As schools commence for another year, it is a timely reminder to some students, their parents, and carers to ensure the school is fully informed and has the most up to date information pertaining to your child's health needs.

If your child is required to take medication at school due to a health condition, mental health diagnosis or prescribed medical needs, please inform the school. While the main role of the school is to provide education, we want to work with you to keep your child healthy and safe at school.

The Department of Education requires some information to be updated on an annual basis. Therefore, please ensure such things as your child's ASCIA plan is up to date, ensure that EpiPens are current and that the school has been provided with adequate supply of your child's prescribed medication if applicable.

Over the next few weeks, you may receive a copy of your child's Individual Health Care Plan to review and update. Please assist us by attending to this promptly and having it returned to the school's office.

If you wish to discuss this further, please feel free to contact the school.

Agriculture News

We are looking forward to a very exciting 2023 on the school farm with lots of activities planned for Term 1.

Year 7 students will be receiving their young chicks during Week 5. They will care for and monitor the growth of these birds at school throughout the rest of the term. Some of these will be available for students to purchase at the end of the term. Once students have been allocated their chicks, they will be able to come up to the Ag Plot during their lunch break if they want to spend extra time with them.

Show preparations began last year with the breeding of some new pure breed poultry to boost our team for both Camden Show and Sydney Royal. Students began rearing our team of Commercial Layers for Sydney Royal last term and our meat birds will arrive in a few weeks time. Their growth and production will be monitored over the next couple of months leading up to Sydney Royal Show. Both of these competitions also involve the students preparing not only the birds but also a presentation discussing the rearing process. As well as preparing our team of birds, several students will be developing their knowledge of, and skills in handling, their chosen breed so they are ready to compete in the Poultry Showmanship Competition at the Royal.

Our Alpaca Team are busy training for Showmanship and Stockmanship competitions at both Camden Show and Sydney Royal where they will lead the animals through a series of obstacles representing various situations that may occur on a farm, as well as being questioned about their knowledge of husbandry procedures relating to these animals. Three of our Year 9 students attended the Alpaca Youth Camp over the holidays to further develop their skills in this area.

Many students will also be involved in preparing our display on Silk Production for Camden Show. It will be exciting to be back there again after the show being cancelled for the last three years.

Later in the year students will also have the opportunity to become involved with our sheep and cattle show teams.

Agriculture students will be invited to attend our excursion to the Easter Show on the last day of Term 1 where they will have the opportunity to observe a large range of different livestock breeds as well as various technologies used in the agriculture sector.

Students who are keen to be involved with any of our extra curricular activities should let their Agriculture Teacher know so we can ensure that they receive appropriate notifications.

Ms Atkinson and Ms Last

Agriculture Teachers

Sport Report

Elderslie High School is well known for its talent and strength with students being victorious in a variety of sports. 2023 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 25 years (most wins at zone carnivals) and look forward to winning it in 2023.

Swimming Carnival

We will be kicking off our sporting year with the EHS Annual Swimming Carnival, held at the Camden War Memorial Pool, Camden on Friday the 24th February. This will be a fantastic day filled with fun, music and school spirit.

All Year 7 students will need to attend the carnival day to be assessed on their swimming ability. This enables individuals to participate in all water-based activities while on the Year 7 camp and all other water-based excursions throughout their education at EHS.

We are looking forward to the Macarthur Zone Swimming Championship coming up on **Friday 3rd March**. Students who have qualified for this carnival will be informed and the relevant notes will go home after the EHS carnival.

Sport

Please remind students that their behaviour is expected to be exemplary while visiting external venues and also with visiting sport providers. They are representing Elderslie High School, therefore they are expected to follow the EHS Behaviour Expectations.

Stage 4 Sport

Year 7 and 8 Students will be allocated to sport groups. There will be 3 sport groups, divided into A, B and C.

This will be on their timetable in periods 3 and 4. Example **7SPT1A**- 7-(year group), SPT (sport), 1- (Group), A- (roll).

Sport activities will change approximately every 5 weeks.

Please speak with your child to remind them that there are posters on noticeboards around the school if they forget where they should be and also when there are sport changes.

Swimming

This starts with Group 1. Students will need to wear their swimming costumes under their sport uniform if possible. They will also need to bring underwear, a towel to dry themselves and also a plastic bag for everything wet.

All other sports

Ensure students have hats, sunscreen and a bottle of water to refill.

GROUP/ SPORT	WHERE
Year 7 Group 1 A,B Swimming	Bus bay 10.30am Mount Annan Leisure Centre
Year 7 Group 2 A,B T-Ball	Side oval 10.30am Meet @ the COLA
Year 7 Group 3 A,B Walking	Bus Bay 10.30am Botanic Gardens Mount Annan

GROUP/ SPORT	WHERE
Year 8 Group 1 A,B Tennis	Bus Bay 10.30am Camden Tennis
Year 8 Group 2 A,B Volleyball	Hall 10.30am Meet @ the hall
Year 8 Group 3 A,B MULTISPORT	Bus Bay 10.30am Mount Annan Leisure Centre

Stage 5 Sport

Parents and carers should have already received invoices for their child's chosen sport for Term 1. Please pay this as soon as possible. If there are any issues regarding payment for sport, please contact the school.

External sport is a privilege. If there are any behavioural issues during sport, students could remain at school and forgo their privilege to attend recreational sport for the next term.

Looking forward to an awesome 2023 in sport!

CAPA Update

The **CAPA Information Evening** is on Monday, 13th February 2023 from 6.00 – 7.00 pm in the Library. 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.

Students interested in joining the Event Management Team, Dance ensembles, Drama ensemble, Visual Arts Club, Vocal Ensemble or Orchestra need to sign up by Wednesday 8th February 2023 by using the link posted on their Year Group Google Classrooms. After that date all interested students will be issued with a permission note to complete and return.

During 2023 the **Vocal Ensemble and Orchestra** will come together in a new **Music Ensemble Rollcall**. The **Vocal Ensemble** will also meet on Thursday mornings from 8.15 am - 8.45 am in Music Room 1. The **Orchestra** will also meet on

Thursday mornings from 8.15 am - 8.45 am in Music Room 2. Classes will start on Thursday, 16th February 2023.



This year, students in Year 7 - 10 have the opportunity to participate in the **Drama Ensemble**. This group will meet on Wednesday mornings from 8.00 am to 8.45 am in the Studio. Classes will start on Wednesday, 15th February 2023.



During 2023 students in Year 7 - 12 have the opportunity to participate in the **Dance Ensemble**. This group will meet on Tuesday afternoons from 3.00 pm to 4.15 pm on the Stage. Classes will start on Tuesday, 14th February 2023. Students in Year 7 - 12 also have the opportunity to participate in the **Ballroom Dance Ensemble**. This group will meet on Friday mornings from 8.00 am - 8.45 am in the Studio. Classes will start on Friday, 9th June 2023 after the completion of Musical.



This year, students in Year 7 - 12 have the opportunity to join the **Visual Arts Club** on Wednesdays from 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm in Art Rooms 1 and 2. We will be experimenting with some fun art making skills and students will have individual help to work on their artworks. Classes will start on Wednesday, 15th February 2023.

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, prop and costume management and much more.



The Year 10, 11 and 12 Dance and Drama students will be viewing **ONSTAGE and CALLBACK** (the best of the HSC Drama and Dance Performances and Projects from 2022). The students will gain a much clearer understanding of the expected level of performance required for the HSC CAPA courses. Permission notes have been emailed home to parents and need to be returned as soon as possible.

All Drama and Dance students are offered the opportunity to audition for the **State Dance and State Drama Companies and Ensembles** for 2023. All interested students must see Ms Dennis or Ms Grimston-Eason to organise an application form and audition date. Please visit The Arts Unit website for more information.

So during 2023, come along and enjoy the performances of our talented CAPA students.

Talent Quest, 2023

The **Elderslie High School Talent Quest** is back for 2023! All students are invited to enter the Quest. You can enter in a variety of categories. Students need to sign up by Friday 10th February 2023 by using the link posted on their Year Group

Google Classrooms. Heats will be scheduled for lunchtimes during Week 5. The **Talent Quest** is on Friday, 17th March 2023 from 7 pm in the School Hall. If you are interested in entering, all you need to do is complete the online entry form TODAY!

Creative and Performing Arts Faculty



STRICTLY BALLROOM is coming to Elderslie High School this year!

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 STRICTLY BALLROOM, The Musical. It is the inspiring story of a championship ballroom dancer who defies all the rules to follow his heart. This uplifting and courageous tale originated as a stage play that Baz Luhrmann created as a student at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA) in Sydney back in 1984.

Auditions for all roles and the chorus are now finalised and rehearsals have started. Everyone is very excited and nervous about the upcoming event. So, stay tuned for regular updates on our progress. STRICTLY BALLROOM, The Musical will be presented from the 25th - 27th May 2023.

So, stay tuned for regular updates on our progress.

Creative and Performing Arts Faculty

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://www.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.

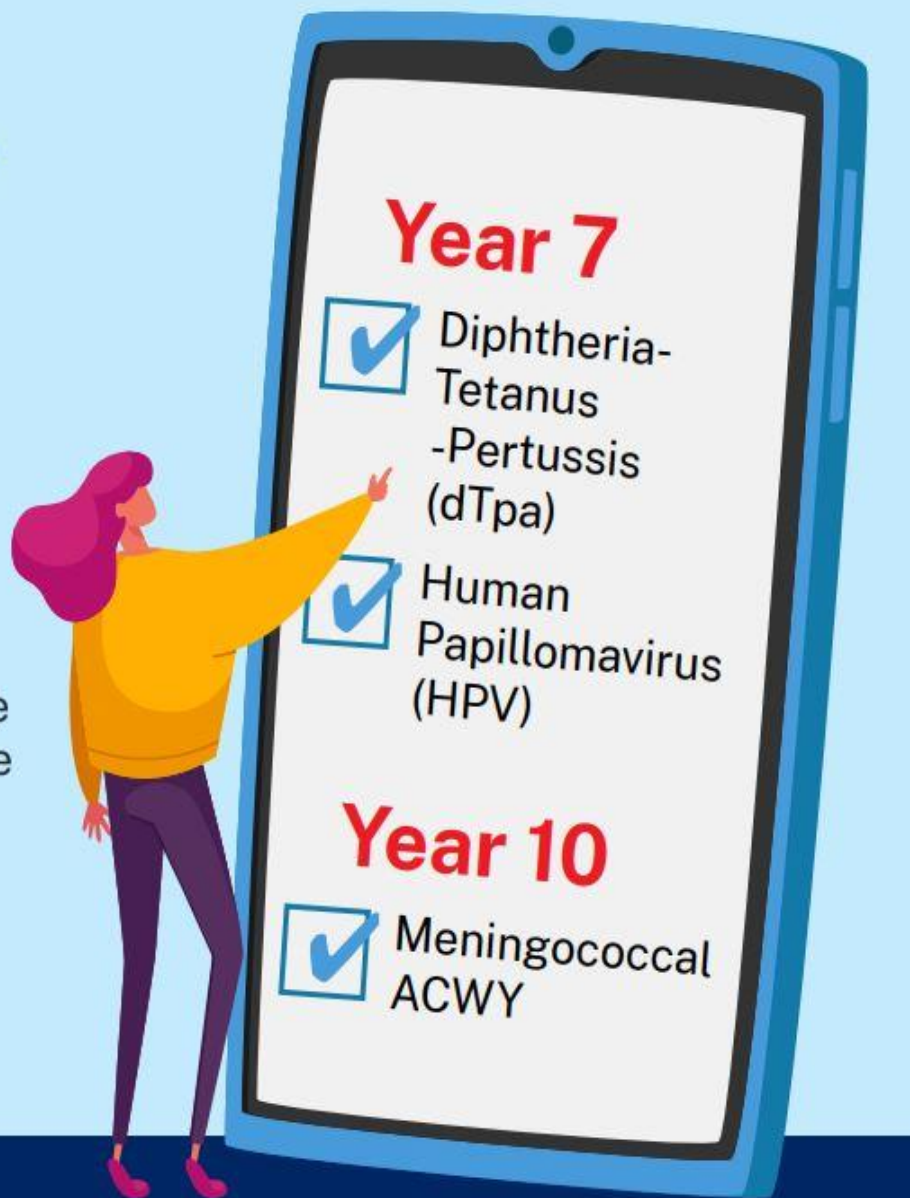
education.nsw.gov.au



Will your child be in year 7 or 10 next year?

You can provide consent for your child's routine school vaccinations online in 2023.

At the beginning of the school year, your child's school will share the link to complete the online consent form.



January, 2023

NEWSLETTER

Back to School

Back to Buses



Welcome Back 2023

We made it through 2022!

Wow, it sure was an eventful year! From the pandemic to floods, diversions and road closures, there has been a lot of change and uncertainty.

Through all of this here at Busabout our number 1 focus has been to ensure that we continue to transport our community to keep people and places connected.

We are proud to be part of the Macarthur/Camden community and to provide transportation that connects people and places. We are even more committed in 2023 to providing a safe and reliable service that meets the needs of our students.

Going back to school can be exciting and a bit nerve-wracking at the same time. One thing to remember is that the bus ride can be a great time to catch up with old friends or make new ones. Try to be friendly, kind and helpful towards others on the bus and remember to take the time to appreciate the journey, not just the destination.

Why is tapping your Opal Card on & off your school services Important?

Information gathered from Opal taps are used by Transport for NSW to determine the number of services provided to your school.

When Opal Card statistics show such a low number of student's boarding, it may cause a review regarding the requirement for school buses in the future or how school services are allocated.

As our community is growing every day in the Macarthur and Camden regions, we need to work together to ensure that Transport for NSW and Busabout can continue to provide the levels of service required at your school.


BUSABOUT

PO Box 12115 Moorebank NSW 2567
Phone: 60 4621 4206
Fax: 60 4621 4208
Email: busabout@opcard.com.au
www.busabout.com.au

January, 2023

Back to School

Back to Buses

BUSABOUT


Tips for students catching our buses

1. Always be aware of your surroundings.
2. Make sure you have your School Opal Card or Debit/Credit Card ready to Tap on and off.
3. Board the bus safely and patiently to avoid injury to your and/or others.
4. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before getting on or off.
5. Stay in your seat while the bus is in motion.
6. Only press the buzzer when your stop is needed and give the driver plenty of notice.
7. Respect the bus driver and follow all directions.
8. Do not bring any open food or drinks onto the bus (bottled water allowed).
9. Always take your rubbish with you (littering is not acceptable).
10. Use caution when crossing the street after getting off the bus.

School Routes

All school services are listed on our website under **timetables/school** services:

<https://www.busabout.com.au/school-services/>

Alternatively you can use Trip Planner (please ensure you select **school bus** in the refine tool):

<https://transportnsw.info/trip#/trip>

Another useful tool to see live where your bus/children's bus is the **Anytrip** App which tracks buses and trains:

<https://anytrip.com.au/region/nsw>


BUSABOUT

PO Box 7218 Mount Amlin NSW 2567
Phone: 02 4514 4030
Fax: 02 4514 4030
Email: busabout@transportnsw.info
www.busabout.com.au



Back to School



USEFUL LINKS

School Opal Cards



School Services



Lost Property



Transport Apps



BUSABOUT

PO Box 7715 Mount Amlin NSW 2567
Phone: 02 4621 4258
Fax: 02 4621 4259
Email: busabout@bigpond.com.au
www.busabout.com.au

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

Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	February 6	February 7 P & C Meeting	February 8	February 9	February 10
4	February 13	February 14 Year 7 Graffiti Presentation	February 15	February 16	February 17
5	February 20	February 21 School Photo Day	February 22	February 23	February 24 EHS Swimming Carnival
6	February 27 School Photo Catch Up Day	February 28	March 1	March 2	March 3

Elderslie High School
40-48 Hilder Street
Narellan NSW 2567

Phone: (02) 4658 1110

Fax: (02) 4658 0219

elderslie-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

www.elderslie-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Excellence. Honour. Service.



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 2022 will be:

***Tuesday, 7th February 2023
School Library at 7pm***