



Term 1 | Week 11 2024

# CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER

## 2024 ISSUE #1



*Hello EPHS Team!*

We are very happy to share another snapshot of some of the things that have been happening and what's coming up at EPHS this term.

We hope you enjoy it!

## COMING UP

**Monday 29th April** – School Development Day  
Term 2

**Tuesday 30th April** – Term 2 starts for students

**Tuesday 30th April** – ANZAC Day Ceremony  
Period 2

**Friday 3rd May** – Heritage Day

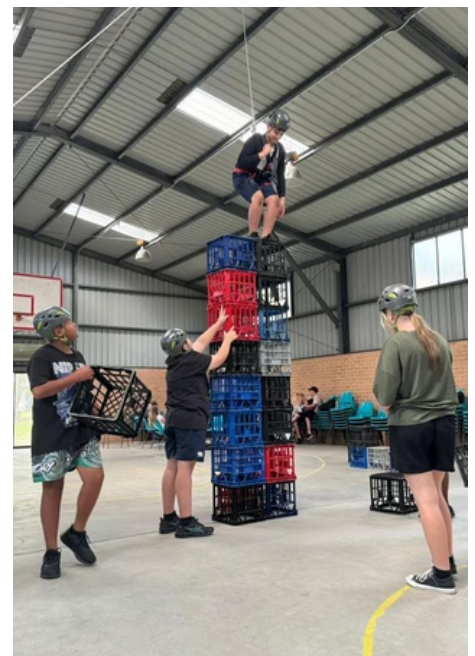
**Monday 6th – Friday 10th May** – Mobile Dental  
Van

**Wednesday 8th May** – Information Night Italy  
Excursion July 2025

# YEAR 7 CAMP

Earlier this term, Year 7 got to know each other better at a three-day camp in the Blue Mountains. Students experienced a wide range of activities including bushwalking, flying fox, archery, high ropes and lots more! This was a wonderful start to high school journey for our Year 7 students, and they were able to build their teamwork skills and make lots of new friends!

- Ms Farkas & Ms Diakou (Year 7 Advisors)



# CAPA FACULTY

With a keen eye and focusing on what's around them, our Year 11 Photography, Digital and Video Imaging students have been experimenting with creating a portfolio of images that highlight a shallow depth of field. They are moving beyond snapshots, creating fine art images focusing on composition and light, using a variety of subject matter and camera angles.



## Art Express

Year 12, 11, 10 and 9 CAPA students attended the Art Express Exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW. Students received a glimpse of some of the top HSC artworks from NSW schools from 2023. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience the high standard of work produced by fellow peers and an insight to the amount of work required to complete a successful and resolved Body of Work.



# CAPA FACULTY

## Bangarra Dance Workshop

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Our Aboriginal students had an opportunity to participate in the Bangarra dance workshop, as a part of the Rekindling movement. Students were taught select segments of the repertoire from the Bangarra dance company throughout the many years, by dancers from the company. Several of our students were selected to audition for the NSW Aboriginal Dance Company.



# ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS SYDNEY

## *Year 9 Ceramics, Photography and Visual Arts*

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Students from Year 9 Ceramics, Photography and Visual Arts had the opportunity to explore the hidden treasures of the Royal Botanical Gardens Sydney. The gardens contain more than 27,000 varieties of plants from around the country and the world. Students were immersed in a range of environments displaying plants, sculptures, and artworks. This provided students an opportunity to enhance their observational skills in the rendering and recording of objects in their natural state. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't on our side, but the student group must be congratulated for their perseverance in completing the allocated activities, their mature attitude and conduct throughout the whole day.



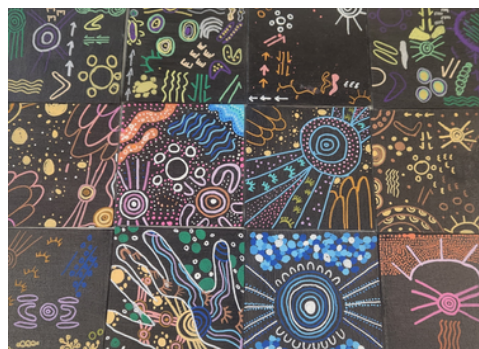
# HSIE FACULTY

Students from Year 12 Modern History represented our school at the RSL and the Schools Remember Anzac Commemoration Ceremony in Hyde Park on the 4th of April. This followed a traditional Anzac Day service with a cadet guard, keynote speaker, choir and band, minute silence and wreath laying. Two of the class's senior leaders laid a wreath on behalf of Erskine Park High School.



This also assisted students in developing a program for our school's Anzac Day Ceremony, which will be held during period 2 on the 30th of April.

Students from year 11 Studies of Religion worked with our CLO hub to gain a deeper understanding of Aboriginal People's Dreaming. Using this knowledge and with the assistance of the CLO team, students then developed an artwork.



Students from Year 10 Self Select classes created a mock trial of the Nuremburg Trials. Students were assigned to the trial of either Albert Speer or Julius Streicher,

both leading members of the Nazi party. Each student was provided a role and information, and the assigned layers made clear arguments for each of their cases.

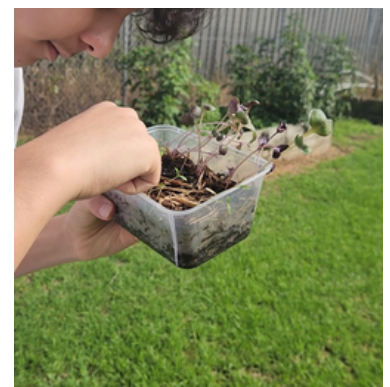


# HSIE FACULTY

Students from Years 11 & 12 Modern History and Year 10 HSIE have had the opportunity to experience the Sydney Jewish Museum and talk to a Holocaust survivor. Students participated in a grade-appropriate workshop, looking at primary sources and toured the museum. Students were able to hear Testimony from Holocaust survivors such as Yvonne, who was willing to share her experiences of Auschwitz, migrating to Australia and the last effects of the Holocaust.



Year 9 students as a part of their Sustainable Biomes unit have been growing food from seeds in the school's farm. They used three different layers of soil and then evaluated the growth of their plants, comparing their sample to their peers. Students used technology to create a Vlog of their observations of their plants. Some were more successful than others. In this unit students also explored sustainable food strategies and were provided with the opportunity to sample insects.





# Aboriginal Education

## Warami!

At the start of this term the students **elected our new Junior AECG members**. The successful Candidates voted in were:

- Liam Jackson = President
- Deegan Strathearn = Vice President
- Myleigh King = Secretary
- Jessica Stevenson = Secretary



At the **KARI University Expo** we went out to Liverpool Catholic Club where all different universities gave us a talk about their university and the benefits of going to university, and all the different alternate pathways to uni which can help take the stress off sitting the HSC and what facilities are available for all Aboriginal students at the university.



Students from Year 7-11 attended a **Cricket NSW Day**. This day was really good as we all got to learn a new sport and we also got to do weaving. We did skill based activities and refined skills that we already have such as batting, fielding and also bowling. There were some female and some male players there to teach us how to do everything.

During Term One, at Erskine Park High School we attended **Pulse**. We practised the dance in school over the first seven weeks of Term 1. We attended a practice sessions with other schools at Olympic Park. After a 2 practise sessions we did a performance at the Ken Rosewall Arena in Homebush in front of over 10, 000 people.



Myleigh King (Year 9) was successful in her application to join the **CSIRO's Young Indigenous Women's STEM Academy**, working towards her future as a mathematics teacher.

Liam Jackson and Mercy Furner (Year 11) have been selected to represent Manly Sea Eagles and Penrith Panthers, respectively, at the **2024 NRL School to Work Indigenous Youth Leadership Summit**, taking place in late May.

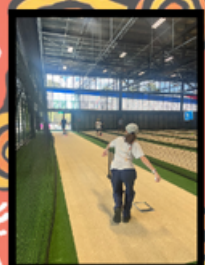


Our Year 11 and 12 students had an opportunity to participate in a cultural excursion at Sydney Zoo through **WSU Pathways to Dreaming**. The students got to experience dance, different types of animals and their connection to culture, Story telling and weaving.

Our year 7-12 students have been learning traditional Aboriginal Dance. We have had a lot of fun learning different dances such as the Welcome dance, Stomp dance, Sun dance and Emu dance.



Written by Myleigh King (Year 9) and Jessica Stevenson (Year 9), Liam Jackson (Year 11), Deegan Strathearn (Year 10).





# SCIENCE FACULTY

## Year 7

Particles Matter: Can crush



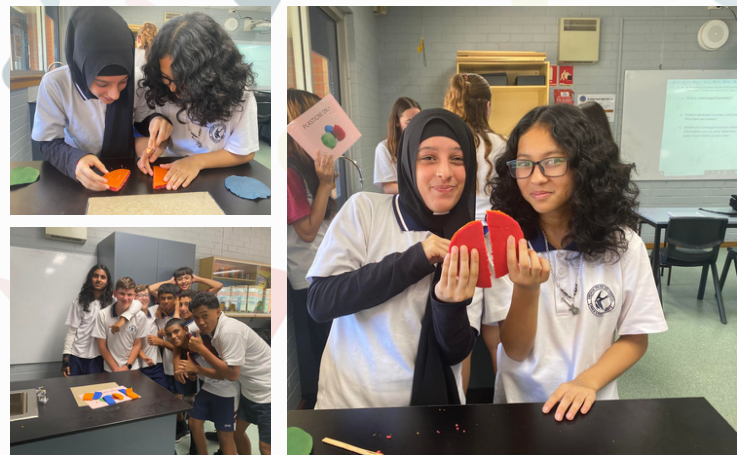
## Year 8

Forces: Friction, magnetism, Egg drop challenge



## Year 9

What Lies Beneath: Modelling continental drift



## Year 10

Chemistry for a Better Life: Reaction types



## Senior Subjects

Chemistry and EES practicals



# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FACULTY

It has been a great term in Inclusive Education. We had an influx of 20 students starting Year 7 this year. As the term progressed, students have been able to settle into the routines and navigate the changes that come with starting high school through participating in peer support, swimming carnivals, cross country, year 7 camp and swim school.

Students have also started to develop essential Life Skills through work experience at Woolworths, Thorndale and the gym.

On Wednesdays, students also get to practice their social skills through community access, using public buses to travel to Mt DrUITT, Penrith, and St Clair shopping centres.

Next term, students will be travelling to more locations such as Westpoint Blacktown, Parramatta Westfield, Rouse Hill Town Centre, Castle Towers, Penrith Westfield, Macquarie Centre, Circular Quay, Milsons Point, or Darling Harbour as a way to build up their skills in navigating the world around them. This will also allow students to catch various forms of transport to reach the various locations such as trains, buses, trams, ferries, and the metro.



# Fast Forward WSU

## Year 12 Conference Day

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At the beginning of the term, the Year 12 Fast Forward students attended the Western Sydney University Fast Forward Conference Day. These students have been lucky enough to have participated in the program since Year 9, so this was a great opportunity for students to hear from presenters from UAC and current WSU students; attend seminars in areas of interest of their choice; hear about scholarship opportunities; and be inspired by WSU academics. Over 1000 students across schools throughout Western Sydney attended the event and it was so wonderful to see our EPHS students immerse themselves in the activities on the day.



# White Card Training

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On Wednesday 13th of March, 20 students across Years 10, 11 and 12 participated in the White Card Training course run by National Courses Australia. Students participated in activities that expanded their knowledge to prepare them to work safely in the Construction Industry. The course covered personal awareness, basic risk management, hazard identification and emergencies, and a little YMCA fun! All students were successful in completing the basic entry-level course. There will be other opportunities to complete White Card training throughout the year, so if you are interested, please see Mrs Nix in the HUB to add your name to the list.



# PDHPE FACULTY

Our Year 7 students took a dive into our Aquatic Program! This incredible initiative isn't just about swimming – it's about equipping our students with essential water safety knowledge, survival skills, and the confidence to respond to emergencies near dams, lakes, rivers, or beaches.

Through interactive sessions and hands-on activities, our students learned the importance of water safety and how to navigate aquatic environments responsibly.



Congratulations to our amazing girls Netball team for their outstanding performance at the Werrington Zone Gala Day! Finishing in 3rd place. Special shoutout to the five students who played in the Possibles and Probables match. We're thrilled to announce that Makayla and Hayley have been selected for the Werrington Zone team!



Congratulations to EPHS Girls & Boys basketball teams!

The girls defeated Quakers hill 63-20 & the boys defeated Doonside Tech 43-16.



## Breakfast Club

EPHS Breakfast Club is up and running! With the help of Ashcroft IGA at Erskine Park shops, our staff have been able to provide sufficient breakfast for our students. Our Breakfast Club is a newly created program that is on Tuesday, Week A from 7:45 am to 8:30 am. This Breakfast Club was designed for our students to have a fresh start to the morning and provide our staff with a chance to engage with students outside of the classroom. All students are welcome to join us in the morning of Breakfast Club whether it is to eat or socialise with friends and teachers.

Ashcroft IGA, have been an amazing partnership that we have picked up this year and will hopefully continue to help provide our students with a fun breakfast! The generosity of IGA will go a long way and we are looking forward to being supplied with a number of resources. This partnership will help our school community thrive and we are thankful for this opportunity!

## Training Band

If you are interested in learning how to play a wind, brass, or percussion instrument, why don't you come along and join the school's Training Band. This is a great opportunity to learn new skills or enhance existing ones in a band environment. The band has been rehearsing with Mr Dallas every Wednesday afternoon during the term from 2.40 to 3.30pm in Music Room 1.