



CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER

2024 ISSUE #4

Term 4 has been full of major events, many of which are celebrated in this newsletter. We hope you enjoy reliving some of the memorable occasions that involved our students and showcased their talents, their skills and their hard work. We would like to thank all Erskine Park High School students, staff and community for another fantastic term and we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. See you all next year, with a special wish for our graduating class of 2024 in their first year of post-school employment and studies. May they find success and fulfilment in all of their future endeavours.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

2024 has been a very busy year and Term 4 has surpassed all other terms for activity and achievement.

This term culminates in our annual presentation evening which celebrates student successes in every area - academic, creative, sporting, leadership and community. The award winners are included here for whole community recognition.

Term 4 has also seen our students involved in many curriculum related out-of-school activities where they have not only had the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills but have represented the school respectfully and with pride. We recognise these groups here as well.

Again, so much of what we celebrate in this newsletter is only possible with the initiative and efforts of our teaching, executive and non-teaching staff along with our parent/carer community. I want to express my deepest thanks to each of these groups for all that they do to make Erskine Park High School such a great school.

Regards, Mrs Boyall 😊



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

DUX OF GRADE

Students who receive Dux of their grade rank in first place academically for their cohort.

Year 7: Zoe Leonard

Year 8: Yujin Byun and Max Azzopardi

Year 9: Bhaerav Narain

Year 10: Monsin Kyaw

Year 11: Nadia Chandra

Year 12: Harkiran Khehra

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

This award is presented to students who have achieved outstanding academic results and best overall performance in a subject area.

Year 7:

Finn Borg - Music

You Ming Chong - PDHPE | Visual Arts

Xander D'Rozario - Science

Zoe Leonard - English | History | Geography

Sunny Mancuso - Mathematics | Tech Mandatory

Year 9:

Noah Brown - Mathematics Standard

Indyana Campbell - English

Micah Cowell - Ceramics

Owen Dautzenberg - PASS

Francis Dolores - Music

Jade Herd - Visual Arts

Lucas Isaacs - Industrial Tech; Timber

Mylicgh King - Child Studies

Annika Khov - Food Tech

Bhaerav Narain - Mathematics Advanced |

Commerce | Science | Photography

Riley Pedersen - Mathematics Standard

Rishi Raniga - History | Geography

Valery Urdanegui - PDHPE

Alexis Zaragoza - Visual Design

Year 11:

Jaiden Bailey - Engineering

Hannah Barcelona - Society & Culture

Layla-Rose Battah - Sport, Lifestyle & Recreation
[SLR]

Alicia Borg - Visual Design | Design & Technology

Larissa Bowen - English Standard | VET: Hospitality

Tristan Cachia - VET: Sports Coaching

Nadia Chandra - English Extension 1 | Mathematics
Advanced | Physics | Chemistry | Biology

Najib Darwish - Studies of Religion II | Business
Studies

Lachlan Gorbould - Mathematics Extension 1

Ellie Gorej - English Studies

Rhianna Hand - Community & Family Studies |
Visual Arts

Year 8:

Ayesha Asif - Science

Max Azzopardi - History | Geography

Evan Bishop - Mathematics

Yujin Byun - English | Tech Mandatory

Hannah Eldridge - Visual Arts

Dylan Saia - PDHPE

Taylor Wilson - Music

Year 10:

Zoe Brouwer - Photography

Mia Bucholtz - Child Studies

Annabelle De Giorgio - Mathematics 5.2

Rishal Dutt - Visual Arts

Monsin Kyaw - Mathematics 5.3 | Geography |
History | Science | Design & Technology

Phyusin Kyaw - Mathematics 5.3 | Geography

Jordon Lawton - McNee - Industrial Tech: Timber

Eshal Masood - Ceramics

Jazzmine Molar - Music

Dennis Pavlov - PASS

Rohan Sharma - English | PDHPE | Commerce |
Food Tech

Shea Wilson - Mathematics 5.1

Ruby Horo - Modern History | PDHPE

Cooper Mendham - English Studies

Quinton Molina - VET: Construction

Sakarava Narain - English Advanced | Chemistry

Taleah Ritchie - Legal Studies

Hayley Sharpe - Economics

Joel Shearan - Industrial Technology: Timber

Melissa Shennan - Mathematics Standard |
Photography

Nikki Smith - Drama | Ceramics | Earth &
Environmental Science

Jorja Whelan - Food Technology

Tahlia White - Dance | Music

Ebony Wilson - Ancient History

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

These awards are presented to students in each year group who have been identified as showing significant improvement in attendance and their learning, and have demonstrated resilience and pride in their achievements.

Year 7: Jack Elliot Lachlan Hanson Emily Hopfe Tesanne Kennedy Sullivan Nikolas Kouris	Zoe Leonard Emma Lim Breanna Magele Dhaani Prajapati Michael Taefu	Year 8: Max Azzopardi Lachlan Brown Hannah Daniel Brooklyn Davis Olivia Dawes	Hannah Eldridge Ruby Peddieson Purva Saindane Ethan Sheen Sulini Singh
Year 9: Indyana Campbell Micah Cowell Owen Dautzenberg Lachlan Dickinson Myleigh King	Kayda Martin Shanice Santiago Valery Urdanegui Kaatje Van Der Meij Elijah Wilson	Year 10: Hannah Augustinsen Caleb Glover Mitchell Goddard Tristan Ha Cooper Hanson	Jazzmine Molar Tegan Myburgh-Sisam Gabriella Scarpin Leigha Taylor Jonathan Vieira
Year 11: Christopher Attard Alicia Borg Nadia Chandra Daniel Cridland Teokotai Daniel	Ruby Horo Dean Hussain Olivia Milanovic Sakarava Narain Zakaree Somers	Year 12: Cienna Dalby Yousef Hamad Caviotta Ismail Luke Keckes Harkiran Khehra	Keeley Phelan Sarah Sakr Aryan Sayal Millie Sobiecki Jack Woods

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Year 7: Elanah Jose	Year 8: Riley Channells	Year 9: Jai Brown
Year 10: Adrien McDonald	Year 11: Tabitha Taylor	Year 12: James Marr

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Year 7: Skyelah O'Flynn	Year 9: Aaliyah Angeles
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INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AWARDS

Rashed Al Anazi Stage 4 PDHPE Life Skills
Aleesha Babar Stage 5 English Life Skills
Jhai Barlow Stage 6 PDHPE Life Skills
Stephanie Dorman Stage 4 English Life Skills
Natalie Edwards Stage 4 Science Life Skills
Caleb Glover Stage 5 CAPA Life Skills
Daniel Heathcote Stage 5 Mathematics Life Skills
Lachlan Howard Stage 4 TAS Life Skills
Zain Hussain Stage 6 Science Life Skills
Nikolas Kouris Stage 4 Mathematics Life Skills
Rylie Maxwell Stage 6 CAPA Life Skills | Stage 6 English Life Skills

Shanice Santiago Stage 5 TAS Life Skills | Stage 5 Science Life Skills
Casey Sonter Stage 4 CAPA Life Skills | Stage 4 HSIE Life Skills
Raymond Taylor Stage 5 HSIE Life Skills
Alex Vafae Stage 6 Mathematics Life Skills
Fetuli Woods-Fonua Stage 5 PDHPE Life Skills
Shervin Yarilichaei Stage 6 TAS Life Skills | Stage 6 HSIE Life Skills

ERSKINE PARK HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Year 12 - Skye Hurst

Year 11 - Najib Darwish

EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC

Year 10 - Jazzmine Molar

EPHS TEAM OF THE YEAR

Stage 5 Debating - Annalise Williams, Jazzmine Molar, Micah Cowell, Indy Campbell, Kayda Martin and Bhearav Narain.

CAREERS ADVISOR RECOGNITION AWARDS

Year 9 - Charlie Costenoble

Year 11 - Alicia Borg

Year 11 - Ruby Horo

Year 12 - Olivia Jarnet

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Gold Award Winners (4 Years) Ava Dautzenberg, Mustafa Fofanah, PhyuSin Kyaw, Malia Fifita, Dhaani Prajapati, Olivia Filmer, Rishal Dutt

Platinum Award Winners (7 Years) Shanice Santiago

Medal Recipients Ella Wolthers and Ranusha Kirushanthan

SPORTING AWARDS

Preggy Naicker House Shield

Locke House

Premier's Sporting Challenge

Daniel Zullo

Sports Age Champions

Stage 4

Jasmine Creswell

Jordan Furness

Stage 5

Elijah Wilson

Aleah Fabiano

Stage 6

Harley Maitland

Hayley Martin

BALINDER GILL MEMORIAL AWARD

Year 7 - Casey Sonter

BADGERYS CREEK LEADERSHIP AWARD

Year 12 - Ethan Azzopardi

JEFFREY GRIFFITHS CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Year 12 - Kayla Raiti

REUBEN F SCARF AWARD

Year 11 - Nikki Smith

JOHN CURTIN AWARD

Year 12 - Taylah Williamson

COLIN SHEPHERD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

First Place - Ranusha Kirushanthan - \$3000 Scholarship

Second Place - Keeley Haywood - \$2000 Scholarship

Third Place - Rishal Dutt - \$1000 Scholarship

VICTOR CHANG AWARD

Year 11 - Nadia Chandra

Year 11 - Sakarava Narain

THE AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY NETWORK (ABCN) STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARD

Year 10 - Zhaliya Tanielu-Park

VET STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Year 12 - Keeley Phelan

SENIOR SCHOOL PATHWAYS SCHOLARSHIP

Year 10 - Jazzmine Molar

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE (ADF) LONG TAN LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK AWARD

Year 10 - Jazzmine Molar

Year 12 - Harkiran Khehra

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE (ADF) FUTURE INNOVATORS

Year 10 - Rohan Sharma

Year 12 - Yousef Hamad

AMPOL BEST ALL ROUNDER

Year 12 -Daniel Candy

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR 2024



ALL 4 ONE

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR

Congratulations to our Senior dance ensemble who were a part of the Combined Dance at the Schools Spectacular. Thank you to Ms Tulloch for your ongoing support.

A very special mention to Zak Somers who was a featured artist in the Hip Hop Crew! Well done Zak!

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR - ABORIGINAL DANCE ENSEMBLE



Congratulations to our Aboriginal Dance Ensemble who performed at this year's Schools Spectacular.

Thankyou to Ms Neubronner, Serena and Taliah for your continued support throughout the week.



Congratulations to Leigha Taylor and Liam Jackson who were a part of the Bangarra Youth Program in 2024.

Our wonderful Inclusive Education students were a part of the D'Arts Ensemble for this year's Schools Spectacular!

A special thankyou to Mr Bryant, Mrs Jones and Mrs Jacobs for supporting our students over the two performance days.



PREMIER'S DEBATING CHALLENGE

Erskine Park High School students participated in the Stage 5 Premier's Debating Challenge. They achieved an extraordinary milestone when they progressed to the knockout rounds—an accomplishment not seen in the past seven years! This achievement is a testament to their dedication, teamwork, and sharp debating skills.

The team, comprised of talented Year 9 and 10 students, included **Annalise Williams, Jazzmine Molar, Micah Cowell, Indy Campbell, Kayda Martin, and Bhearav Narain**. They have shown remarkable growth and resilience throughout the year. We are so proud of their success, and hope to continue into 2025.



Our Stage 6 Debating Team participated in the 2024 Premier's Debating Challenge. Our hardworking and dedicated Year 11 students showed great enthusiasm and a strong competitive spirit throughout the debating season. The team consisted of **Sakarava Narain, Taylor Lawrence, Nadia Chandra, Ebony Wilson and Kaylee Hatcher**. Despite their dedication, their journey through the competition was cut short, but they continued showing up to afterschool practises to mentor and support our Stage 5 Debating Team. We are so proud of all these young people.



TOP BLOKES PROGRAM

The Top Blokes Foundation offers a mentoring program for young males designed to foster better health, more responsible decision-making and deeply respectful relationships.

What some of the participants said.

Rhys Micallef:

"Top Blokes was enjoyable because it is very open and easy to talk with others. Got the chance to get to know about the mentors and learn about how to be a man and experience being a 'top bloke'. I also enjoyed the activities we got to do during the program."

Michael Saab:

"I enjoyed Top Blokes as we talked about stuff we will use in the future and learn how to be a better man. The activities are fun and competitive. The program allows us to speak whatever's on our minds. The mentors are easy to chat with and treat us like adults which makes the lessons fun."



RUGBY LEAGUE PROGRAM

The 2024 rugby league program was run by Mr West every Tuesday morning from 7:30-9:30am. The senior program was run in week A and the junior program, in week B. Students learned and practised various rugby playing skills as well as taking part in resistance training and fitness. In Term 1 senior students played a game against each other, which the entire school came out to watch. Team spirit and crowd enthusiasm was at an all time high.



ERSKINE PARK - WORKING HARD

Representing the School with Pride

Students from **Engineering Studies** attended an excursion to the Port Kembla Steelworks which gave them a unique perspective of metallurgical properties and manufacturing processes. After the excursion, staff from the Steelworks commented that our students were the most respectful and well-mannered group of students, to tour the complex in years.



Year 10 Food Technology and Commerce

Students from these classes experienced a hands-on workshop delivered by The Wheely Gourmet Food Truck which provided an opportunity to experience the fundamentals of business and food preparation. Their enjoyment and enthusiasm was evident in their approach to all the tasks set for them during this unique opportunity.



Trade Taster Day
Erskine Park High School partnered with RIEP (Regional Industry Education Partnerships) to offer a trade taster incursion in Term 4. This was a unique opportunity for students to gain some hands-on experience using a variety of tools from different industries. The jam-packed day allowed students to learn how to harness up and hang safely, tie knots, use a Laser Level machine and guide and operate a soil compacting machine. The students really embraced the day, and we received extremely positive feedback from the instructor. This was a real credit to all the students involved.

WHITE CARD COURSE

In Term 4, eleven students across Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in a White Card training course. White Card Course training in NSW is designed to raise awareness and help implement strategies and practices to eliminate the risks that cause injuries and fatalities in the workplace. The students worked with their instructor to understand safety requirements, identify hazards and prevention methods, and develop safe practices for working on a construction site. All students completed the course successfully and can now add this to their post-school pathway portfolio.



JOB PAVE PROGRAM



During weeks 5, 6 & 7 this term St Clair HS hosted a Job Pave program through the PPIER pathways program. Erskine Park High School was able to send one student to attend the course which ran for two days a week across a three-week period. The course encouraged students to learn life skills, building their skills set and increasing their confidence through participating in a variety of unique hands-on activities. **Charlie Costenoble** thoroughly enjoyed his time in the program and was rewarded for completing the most tasks for the week out of all the students involved- well done Charlie!

PEER SUPPORT

What is the Peer Support Program?

The Peer Support program is designed and run for Year 7 students, facilitated by our Year 10 Peer Support leaders and supervised by a teacher. The Peer Support program consists of eight, one-hour sessions that run every fortnight.

The sessions provide an engaging environment for Year 7 students to address social issues, encourage positive relationships and equip them with a range of skills to deal with life's many experiences.

"I really liked the group activities, and I had lots of fun," **Breanna Magele**, Year 7.

"It helped us meet the other people in the class and make new friends," **Alana Scarpin**, Year 7.

What is a Peer Support leader?

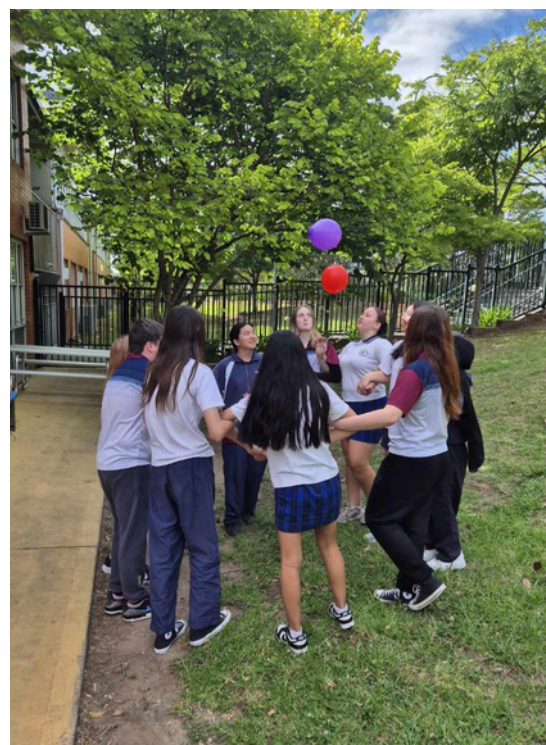
Trained Peer Support leaders facilitate structured activities focusing on resilience, values, and anti-bullying. They work with small groups of Year 7 students, building positive relationships and communication skills.

Peer Support leaders attend a two-day training session enhancing and developing their leadership skills, and personal strengths. They are provided with strategies to lead a group, work with others collaboratively, and engage in shared problem solving.

This year we had thirty-one, Year 10 Peer Support leaders delivering sessions throughout Terms 1 and 2.

"I had lots of fun, and made new connections with students, particularly the Inclusive Education students. The program gave me a new perspective on how Year 7 students may feel," **Jessica Zaragoza-Ceh**, Year 10 Peer Support leader.

In 2025 we expect to have forty-eight eager Year 10 students leading the Peer Support Program.



3RIVERS4LEARNING

In 2024, Naomi Fulton, Jacob Brenner and Helena Clifford, three staff from our executive and aspiring executive team, completed the 3 Rivers 4 Learning course. The program is aligned to the requirements for the completion of the Masters of Education (Educational Leadership) at the University of Wollongong. The course is designed to provide deep professional learning to enable authentic educational improvement. The award of Graduate of the 3 Rivers 4 Learning program requires the demonstration of strong program engagement, deep learning and the impact of this learning on the participant's teaching and leadership. From research and reading, the 3 Rivers 4 Learning Erskine Park High School team worked on a project to reflect on current practice and discuss the future possibilities at the school. This program enabled the team to engage in professional learning to ensure their leadership creates optimal learning for both teachers and students.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Student Leadership Team has worked hard to coordinate a few events for the end of Term 4. On the 6th of December, the team ran a successful sausage sizzle fundraiser for the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. They also organised the Christmas Mufti Day on the 13th of December, which included taking the initiative to run the Candy Cane Grams that went out to students on the same day. The Student Leadership Team has made fantastic strides in listening to student voice and advocating for their peers.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENTS ACHIEVING AND PARTICIPATING:

Visiting the Western Sydney University Career's Day

This term our students visited the WSU Parramatta Campus for a careers day in STEM. Students participated in a variety of workshops learning about Construction Management, Forensic Science, Biology and Law. The students completed mini lessons and experienced a small taste of university life, enjoying a full day of fun activities and challenges.



Participating in the Elevated Cultural Festival

Students at Erskine Park High School participated in the Elevated Culture Festival. Elevated is an annual festival that celebrates the multicultural diversity of the local surrounding communities in the Penrith and Blacktown local government areas. We had an Aboriginal dance performance, and a Pasifika dance performance perform for the second year running at this festival. The students had a great time and loved celebrating and embracing their culture.



Cultivating a Bush Tucker Garden

While being partnered with Greening Australia, students and staff have planted a Bush Tucker Garden in the school. Greening Australia have also helped us plant trees for shade on the oval and different types of flowers in the yarning circle.



Participating in the Bangarra Dance Company

Liam Jackson and **Leigha Taylor** were accepted into the Bangarra Dance Company this year. They practised and performed at the NSW State Dance Festival and at the Schools Spectacular, showcasing their talents and enthusiasm.

What's new in the TAS faculty?

This year, the TAS faculty has undergone an exciting transformation with the revitalisation of several key learning spaces, most notably our beautiful farm. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the hard work, vision, and dedication of the TAS staff, with special recognition to Mr. Harvey for his outstanding leadership in bringing this project to life.

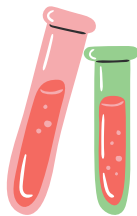
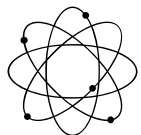
The farm now boasts seventy seven fully restored garden beds, along with the welcome addition of ducks, chickens, and three sheep — all of whom have officially become cherished members of the Erskine Park community. This rejuvenated space has provided invaluable learning opportunities for students across a range of subjects, including TAS, ASPIRE, and History classes. We are proud to celebrate the collaborative effort behind this endeavour and look forward to the continued growth and learning it will inspire.



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

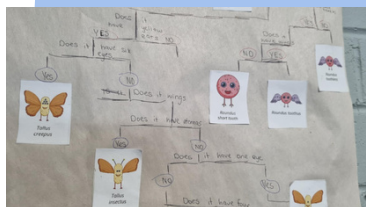
This year the students of Ellis class were accepted into the NSW State Ensemble - the Combined Schools Signing Choir, run by the NSW Arts Unit. On the 24th September they performed at the Primary Proms in Sydney Town Hall. It was a wonderful night with many performances showcased. Our students performed 'When you wish upon a star' accompanied by the Combined Schools Choir, and 'Fireflies'.



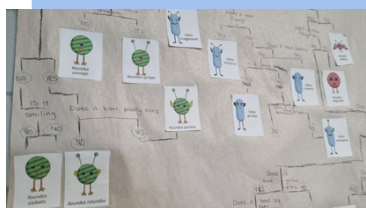


Year 7

"I enjoyed looking at food chains this term and I'm looking forward to doing more experiments and activities next year" - Isabelle



"I enjoyed the experiments we did this year and I'm looking forward to more practical activities next year" - Sunny



Year 9

"This year, I enjoyed studying diseases and seeing how your body reacts to them" - Jazzmine

Students conducted a flame test for their chemistry topic, It's Elementary. They were amazed at the different colours they saw from the flames.



"This year I have enjoyed the progression towards more advanced science topics and seeing the continuation from junior sciences. I'm looking forward to my 3 senior sciences next year and doing more pracs and learning more advanced topics." - Dennis (Year 10)

Year 8

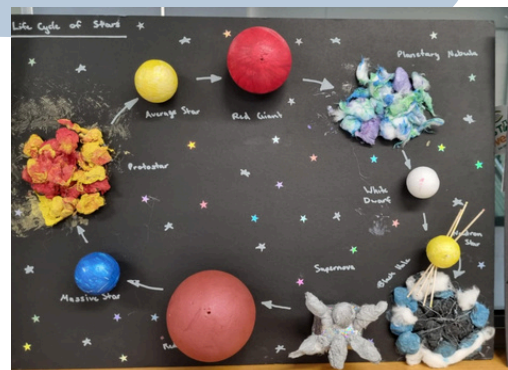
Our Year 8 students have been busy studying Earth in Space. In particular, they explored the phases of the moon with a particularly tasty activity!



Year 10

This term, Year 10 students finished off Life on Earth, and extracted DNA from strawberries, as well as studied the universe.

Some classes scale modelled the distances of the solar system.



Year 12

Our Year 12 Earth and Environmental Science class went on an excursion to the Australian Museum in Sydney.

They explored exhibits on minerals, birds and dinosaurs to supplement their studies of Earth's processes and formation.





'TIS THE SEASON TO BE

CUPCAKE DECORATING



STUDENT SHOUTOUTS

Leigha Taylor

Leigha represented NSW in the U16 Australian Volleyball Championships this year.

Leigha had an amazing season and played extremely well. The experience was fantastic for her. She also qualified for the Academy World Rowing 2024 U16 Oceania Beach Sprint Rowing Championships.

To this end the Oceania Youth Athletes Development training camp delivered by World Rowing in Sydney was designed to introduce the camp participants to each of the disciplines involved in beach sprint. This included a running session delivered by Michael Kember, Manly SLS Running Coach, as well as a surfing/sea orientation session by renown surfer Ameer Donohoe owner and coach of the Central Coast Surf Academy/ Surfing Australia.



Leigha was also selected for the Indigenous future Stars Scholarship Squad for the 2024/2025 program- for Western Sydney Academy Of Sport.



Congratulations Leigha!

Zhaliya Taniela-Park

Zhaliya entered her 60 second video into the Multicultural Family Lunchbox Challenge and won third place! The video competition sponsored in partnership between PERU and NSW Health required entrants to showcase themselves, their family, or friends preparing a healthy lunchbox.

Zhaliya's video creatively shares delicacies from her Samoan culture. Called "the Third Prize Winner: Submission No. 9_Samoan Cultural Lunchbox" can be viewed on YouTube.



Congratulations Zhaliya!

Coopa McMahon

Coopa made us very proud when he played for the Wanderers Australia AFL team u13s against Fiji's Talent Academy. His skills and enthusiasm shone through. It was a wonderful learning experience for Coopa and a great spectacle for all.

Congratulations Coopa!



