



Erskine Park High School Newsletter

Pride in Achievement

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Issue 4

17 May 2019

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I would like to extend my thanks to the many staff, students and parents for their support and kind words as I commence my role as Acting Principal this term. It is this support from our learning community that makes this school a wonderful, enjoyable and fulfilling place to work and learn.



Ms Lewis has commenced her role at Blackwattle bay and is settling in well, though she does miss us all terribly. Her impact at Erskine Park High School has been exceptional and her legacy is a high performing school with a solid reputation in our community and beyond.

Anzac Services

Our Concert Band has done themselves and the school proud again this year, having played at both the march and Anzac day dawn service, as well as our school service. Our students performed exceptionally well in front of crowds that number in the thousands. I would like to thank our dedicated music staff Mr Mayes and Mr Dallas for their work in preparing the band, and in coordinating these performances. I would also like to extend this thanks to our wonderful student band members who have practiced tirelessly and who met in the early hours of the morning on Anzac day to prepare and perform.



In addition, I would like to acknowledge Mr Kelly and extend my thanks for his coordination for our student's presence at both the dawn service and March. In addition I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of Mr Kelly and our SRC for their preparation and presentation of our school Anzac service, which had a focus on the ongoing

impacts of war on our returned servicemen.

Dates to remember - Term 2 2019

Term 2 Week 4 - 6

22 May	Athletics Carnival - Blair Oval
23 May	Years 10 & 12 - Western Sydney careers market
27 May	P&C Meeting
29 May	Year 7 & 11 Parent teacher night
31 May	2019 Indigenous commemoration ceremony - Hyde Park
3 Jun	Vaccinations
5 Jun	HAST test
7 Jun	Year 7-10 - Elevate student session

Staff Professional Development

The focus for this term's professional development is one of consolidation of our work on feedback, Visible Learning and Literacy. Our staff development day focussed on learning intentions and success criteria, formative assessment and feedback and the structured scaffolding of student writing. The professional learning planned for the term has all been aligned to supporting the ongoing implementation of these areas. Our aim is a coherent vision of enhancing student learning in the classroom, and particularly supporting the improvement of student's writing. We will also be delivering some twilight professional learning sessions for those

wanting to further their skills in these areas. I would like to acknowledge and thank our exceptional staff for their dedication to our students and their learning.

NAPLAN and HSC Minimum standards

This week our Year 7 and Year 9 students will complete their NAPLAN tests for 2019. Mrs Billiards, Mrs Romero and their team have been working tirelessly to prepare for these assessments to give our students every opportunity for success. NAPLAN results form an important part of our planning for student learning and for developing and implementing structures to improve student literacy and numeracy. I wish all our students well as they complete their assessments this week and congratulate them for their excellent conduct in these assessments.

Year 10 are currently working through the HSC minimum standards assessments. Again I would like to acknowledge the Teaching and Learning team for their excellent work in preparing and supporting our students. Our school has an excellent process in place for the minimum standards testing. The support for those who are not achieving at a satisfactory level has been incredibly successful, with every one of our Year 11 cohort achieving the required minimum standards. Thank you to Mrs Billiards and her team for their excellent work in this area.

I wish our staff, students and parents a successful and enjoyable term. I encourage our students to apply themselves diligently and work hard to embody our motto "Pride in Achievement".

Mr Nathaniel Doidge
Acting Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS REPORT

Welcome back to what is sure to be a busy Term 2. Students have quickly settled back into the routine and have been working in classes discovering new content and skills. It has been encouraging to walk into classrooms and other learning environments to find our students actively engaged in interesting and challenging tasks. Students have also been involved in a number of out of school activities including dance, boys and girls Oz tag, football gala days, AIME, SRC and concert band Anzac day commemorations, Hawkesbury show and countless other events highlighting the depth of student participation, talent and ability within the school.

Winter uniform

As the term progresses and lower temperatures are starting to make their presence felt, winter uniform is now a requirement for students to keep them warm and healthy. It is great to see so many

of our students dressed in our uniform daily, and it continues to be noticed amongst our community and prospective enrolments for our school. Parents and students are reminded that hooded or coloured tops are not allowed at our school and that black socks and tracksuit pants are not part of our uniform. White socks are our uniform for all students as are navy trousers. Our uniform shop is open all day Tuesday and from 12pm on Friday's. Student and parents may purchase items during those times.

Managing workloads

It is important students manage their time by starting assessments when they are handed out. If a student is experiencing difficulty, they need to speak to their teacher prior to the due date for guidance or direction. Students can also speak to their Year Adviser or our staff in the Teaching and Learning Centre if extra assistance is needed. All Year 12 students should have now activated their NESA Students Online account. Once activated students need to check that all their contact details are correct. This website provides important news, reminders and advice for the HSC. Students can access their personal HSC examination timetable and some tips to minimise stress. Any student who has not activated their account needs to go to the website or for further information see the Head Teacher Admin or their Year Adviser.

Bike and scooter safety

Riding a bike or scooter is a great form of daily exercise and it is pleasing to see many of our students being active by riding them to school. However, by law students are to wear a correctly fitted and fastened helmet that meets the Australian Standard. We expect every student to wear a helmet when riding their bike to and from school. Students must follow the road rules when riding on the road by keeping to the left and where possible use marked bike lanes. Recently, a member of the public reported a near miss involving students from Erskine Park High School and that the students were not wearing helmets. I encourage parents to reinforce these safety requirements with their child and remind them of the importance of safety when on our roads and if they bring a scooter or bike to school, that a helmet must be worn.

Carpark and driveway safety before and after school

Parents please note that the bus bay and the area between the main entrance to the school and the staff car park and driveway areas are a no stopping zones and should not to be used to drop off or pick up your child. This area of the school is extremely

busy at both the start and end of the school day. We also have a number of transport vehicles picking up students and community members walking to the primary school or local shops via this area. The best place to collect students is either on the other side of the road, or on the footpath area on the other side of the main driveway to the school. All students should use the pedestrian crossing to enter and exit the school safely.

Mr Gennaro Serra
Relieving Deputy Principal

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Welcome back to Term 2. Last term, we were able to celebrate the excellent attendance of our students on the last day. The students listed below achieved 100% attendance for Term 1. Some of these students received a canteen voucher to acknowledge their efforts in attending school every day. Congratulations!

Year 7

Marc Brouwer, Adryen Bushel, Daniel Candy, Alissa Egberts, Matthew Garbo, Cameron Goddard, Fidel Hawke, Scarlett James, Olivia Jarnet, Glen Kerr, Tyler King, Paige Lindsay, Isaac Mancuso, Shanel Mehmet, Lachlan Montgomery, Kielle Murillo, Kayden Myburgh-Sisam, Harry Ngal-Toubon, Jiya Raniga, Isaiah Santos, Millie Sobiecki, Taylah Williamson, Blake Wright, Affan Yousaf.

Year 8

Emily Baker, Alex Bowen, Kiayla Casserly, Joey Chen, Francis Dagandan, Christian Honeybrook, Janushan Jegatheeswaran, Amelia Morgan, Kirk Murillo.

Year 9

Chantelle Ackroyd, Kadiatu Bunduka, Cameron Candy, Grace Faaeteete, Jane Lolohea, Hurairrah Masood, Wyatt North, Sukhesh Patro, Erin Short.

Year 10

Laura Baker, Jamie Brown, Annika Codina, Blake De Giorgio, Yvonne Fu, Connor Gorey, Skye Noake, Ashleigh Thornton, Georgia Zamagias.

Year 11

James Harms, Riley Jarnet, Casey Larden, Travis North, Teegan Ryan.

Year 12

Ethan Baker.

Absent Days

Students who need to take some time off school because they are ill or have specialist appointments are required to provide the school with an

explanation. Using the Parent Portal, responding to the school text messages or submitting a signed absentee note to the front office are all ways parents and carers can notify the school of student absent days. Students with less than 85% attendance and a number of unexplained absences may be referred to the DoE's Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) for further review. If you are concerned about the number of absent days your child has accumulated or you would like further information about the Home School Liaison Program (HSLP), please contact the Administration Head Teacher (Mrs Langmack Year 7, 9, 11 and Mrs Romero Year 8, 10, 12)

Assessment handbooks

Last term, all students were emailed an assessment handbook. This booklet contains important information about assessment tasks, assessment due dates for each task and what to do in case of illness. It would be beneficial for students to re-read over the requirements for each of their subjects this term so they are able to plan their time accordingly. Being organised with classwork and assignments will assist students with being less stressed or worried about completing tasks. It may also assist in developing good study routines for years. Each year group handbook is available on the school website if you wish to download another copy.

Mrs Lesley Langmack
Head Teacher Administration

MATHS REPORT

Term 2 is well upon us and this means half-yearly examinations, reports, NAPLAN and a wide variety of learning experiences in mathematics classrooms.

Equipment

I know this message was given in the last newsletter, however, equipment still remains a key issue for struggling students in classes. Pens, books and calculators form the basis for a positive start to a good lesson. Regular check-ins with your students would help them to be packed and ready for learning each day.

Examinations

Our first examinations of the year were aided with the help of study guides that students were able to create and bring with them into their assessments to help with the memory component of the learning process. This means that tests are able to target the application side of Mathematics and really discover how much of the content students understand. Study guides can help confidence, remove anxiety, and allow students to showcase their learning, but only if

they are created as part of the revision process. As a reminder here are the specifications of a study guide:

- 1 A4 piece of paper
- They can be written on the front and the back
- They must be handwritten (no photocopies)
- They must be the student's own work

A well-crafted study guide would be full of facts and processes, as well as worked examples students can use to help solve problems. Notifications are being given out in the coming weeks so it is recommended that students begin now if they haven't already.

Problem Solving Challenge

I love giving problem solving challenges to students so I thought I would end my submission with one for anyone with an itch to scratch.

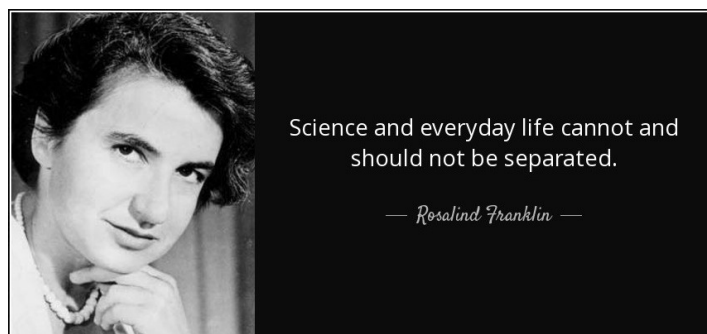
Cryptarithms

A cryptarithm is a mathematical puzzle where the digits in the sum have been replaced with a letter. In each puzzle, each letter stands for a different digit and 0 is never the first digit of any number. Here are 3 cryptarithms from easy to hard.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 A \\
 A \\
 +A \\
 \hline
 BA
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{r}
 AA \\
 +BB \\
 \hline
 CBC
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{r}
 BAA \\
 BAA \\
 BAA \\
 +BAA \\
 \hline
 CAAD
 \end{array}$$

Mr Scott Smith
Head Teacher Maths

SCIENCE REPORT



What are we studying in Term 2?

Year 7	Let's rock/particles matter
Year 8	Chemical world/All systems go
Year 9	What lies beneath/Electrons at work
Year 10	Motion

Assessment dates for Term 2

Junior Year Groups

Year 7	Week 10 Group research project (30%)
Year 8	Week 10 Research task (20%)
Year 9	Week 9 Group project (20%)
Year 10	Week 10 Independent research project (20%)

Senior Year Groups

Subject	Year 11	Year 12
Biology	Practical investigations Week 10 (35%)	Depth Study Week 10 (30%)
Chemistry	Depth Study Week 10 (35%)	Depth Study Week 9 (25%)
Investigation science	Depth study Week 10 (40%)	Depth Study Week 10 (35%)
Physics	Skills examination Week 9 (15%)	Depth Study Week 9 (35%)

Year 12 Tutorials

Year 12 teachers run tutorials to help students prepare for the HSC examinations. The days and time for the tutorials are as follows:

Subject	Day	Time
Investigating Science	Monday	7.30am-8:30am
Chemistry	Wednesday	7.30am-8:30am
Biology	Thursday	7.30am-8:30am
Physics	Thursday	3pm-4pm

Teachers may also run tutorials in the July holidays so listen out for these.

Upcoming Events

Titration Competition

Senior Chemistry students will be participating in the NSW Schools Titration Competition. This competition is a quantitative analytical competition using skills knowledge from the Stage 6 Chemistry course.

The competition takes place on the 15th of June at the Hawkesbury campus of Western Sydney University. We wish all students participating the best of luck.

HSC Study Day

Western Sydney University (WSU) offer free study days for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These are run during the July school holidays. Visit the [Western Sydney University](#) website for more information and



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RYAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP



to register your interest.

An Investigating Science study day is also available on Thursday the 18th of July. This day runs from 9am - 3pm at WSU Campbelltown. Resources, morning tea and lunch are provided. The cost of this day is \$25. Please see Mrs Bachtis if you are interested.

Something to look forward to

Coming up early in Term 3 we have a number of events to coincide with Science Week. Some events include Starr's Planetarium, Science and Maths Exposed as well as activities and shows for Science week. More information will be available closer to event dates.

Winner - Bring Your Own Device 100% of the time



The Science Faculty runs an initiative which rewards students for bringing their devices to science fully charged every lesson. Each term students who have met these criteria are put in to a lucky draw to win a JB Hi-Fi gift card. The winner for Term 1 was Teegan Ryan of Year 11. Congratulations to Teegan.



Year 11 Biology excursion to Longneck lagoon



Miss Asokan's 10.5 Science class watching demonstration of a decomposition reaction



Mr Ghazanfar's 10.6 Science learning about the conservation of mass



Miss Christensen's 7E Science class receiving their bunsen burner licenses

Mrs Kristine Bachtis
Head Teacher Science

PDHPE REPORT

PDHPE Program for Term 2

Students will be completing the following units of work in Term 2.

Year	Theory Unit	Practical Unit
7 PDHPE	Safety	Athletics
8 PDHPE	Healthy mind and body	Athletics
9 PDHPE	My safety	Athletics
10 PDHPE	Interaction	Athletics
9 PASS	Fitness	World Games
10 PASS	Current issues in sport	Golf

11 SLR	Resistance training	Resistance related activity
11 PDHPE	Body in motion First aid	Performance laboratories
12 SLR	Team games and applications	Individual games
12 PDHPE	Sports medicine Sport and physical activity in Australian society	

Year 11 Senior First Aid Course

Forty one students from elective PDHPE course will participate in a Work Cover accredited Senior First Aid Course on Friday, 17 May 2019. The course is run by instructors from the Royal Surf Lifesaving Organisation. All students will complete online and practical components in order to successfully attain a Senior First Aid Certificate.

Learn to Lead Program

Learn to lead is a leadership program promoted by the NSW Premiers Sporting Challenge Initiative. Year 7 students have attended two training days in Term 1, where they were taught how to run a variety of sporting games.

Selected students attend Blackwell Public School and James Erskine Public School every second Friday, where they teach a series of selected sports to Year 6 student's from both primary schools. Erskine Park High school students display positive attitudes towards improving their leadership skills and demonstrate this through, setting up fields, organising equipment, refereeing games along with encouraging sportsmanship and fair play. Students will also be involved with attending both primary schools sporting carnivals where they will help run events and organisation of the carnival.

Learn to lead also supports our links with our local primary schools in transitioning from Year 6 into Year 7. It encourages a positive interaction with both Erskine Park High School and both primary schools student's for future pathways and interactions when attending Erskine Park High School.

For further information please contact Danial Lindsay in the PDHPE Faculty.



Mr Preggy Naicker
Head Teacher PDHPE

YEAR 7 REPORT

Welcome back to Term 2 Year 7. Congratulations on the successful completion of your first term of high school. I hope that you have settled into your classes, have made some new friends and are establishing yourself within the school. Make sure you keep organised this term with assessment tasks coming up in each of your subject areas.

At the end of Term 1, Mrs Crowshaw got appointed to Year 7 coordinator for 2019. As a result, Miss Ryan will be stepping up to assistant year adviser for the 2019 Year 7 cohort. We wish Mrs Crowshaw all the best in her new position.

Upcoming Events Term 2

- Week 3 NAPLAN - Tuesday to Thursday
- Week 4 Athletics carnival - Wednesday.
- Week 5 Parent teacher night - Wednesday.
- Week 6 Elevate Study skills - Friday.
- Week 8 Variety night - Thursday.
- Week 10 Recognition assembly - Monday

Student Representative Council

Congratulations to our Year 7 SRC representatives who were elected by their peers at the end of last term. This is an exciting opportunity and students should be proud of their achievement. Our SRC representatives for 2019 include:



- Jiya Raniga
- Vasiliye Zec
- Summer Waters
- Brodie Walker
- Morteza Hazara

Year 7 Camp Report

During the last week of Term 1, 150 students from Year 7 attended camp at Douglas Park. Students were able to participate in a wide range of outdoor

activities including canoeing, high-ropes course, giant swing and the night activities.

It was fantastic to see students working cooperatively to conquer fears and push themselves out of their comfort zones. Many new friendships were formed and memories created over the 3 days.

A few words from our students:

“There were a lot of fun activities. The food was not as nice as the food you would have at home, but we survived. It was good being in a group with other people I did not know because I got to know other people. The most challenging activity was the obstacle challenge. The most fun activity was the giant swing.” - Yousef Hamad

“In Term 1 Year 7 went to Douglas Park for camp. As soon as we got there we had lunch and did two activities. On the second day, we did a lot of fun activities, my favourite activity was the night activities.” - Candice Abdila



Mr Darwin Mendoza and Miss Amy Ryan
Year Adviser and Assistant Year Adviser

YEAR 8 REPORT

On Thursday 9th May, Warner Youth presented a Graffiti presentation to Year 8 students. Students learnt about the effect of graffiti on the community, them as individuals and the consequences associated with breaking the law. Students discussed ways to overcome peer pressure and strategies to put in place to keep them safe. The students enjoyed the presentation and many commented on how much they learnt throughout the presentation. Xavier was an amazing presenter and gave our students, and staff lots of laughs. Year 8 are commended on their behaviour through the presentations, even Xavier commented that this was the best cohort he has come across.



Merit awards

A reminder to students to continue to work hard both inside and outside the classroom. Teacher awards are given to students who apply themselves in all aspects of their school life. When students earn 5 teacher's awards they take these awards to their assistant year adviser, Ms Lawson to begin the process of earning bronze, silver, gold and diamond awards.

Sporting achievements

Congratulations to Bella who recently represented Australia at the world dance championships in America during the school holidays. Bella placed in the top 10 of the world for her Group Hip hop and her duo. Congratulations Bella McEachern on such an amazing achievement.

Congratulations to all students who represented EPHS at the Zone Cross Country Carnival earlier in the week. Our Athletics Carnival is coming up in week 5. We look forward to seeing many of our Year 8 students participating at the carnival.

Miss Kristen Tulloch and Mrs Rebecca Lawson
Year Adviser and Assistant Year Adviser



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This course gives participants an opportunity to learn how to help someone who is engaging in self-injury.

It teaches:

- Why people engage in self-injury
- How to talk to someone about their self-injury
- How to help the person stay safe
- How to connect someone to appropriate professional help
- How to assess for suicidal thoughts and behaviours

WHO: Parents and carers who have children/young people 12 years and over

WHEN: Term 2

TIME: 5 hours

VENUE: Blacktown LGA.
Venue to be advised on registration

*This course is delivered by an instructor trained by MHFA Australia.



*Please note: The information provided in MHFA courses is for general mental health first aid only and is not intended to be and should not be relied upon as a substitute for specific professional medical advice.



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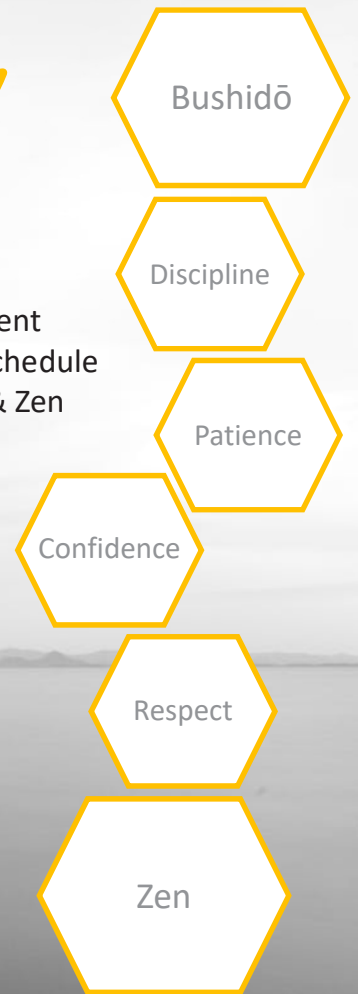
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- Minchinbury Neighbourhood Centre
46 Minchin Dr, Minchinbury NSW 2770 | Mon & Wed | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

PENRITH

LIBRARY



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS WITH IAN ZAMMIT

GET IN QUICK,
LIMITED
NUMBERS
APPLY!

- WHO** 12-17 year olds
- WHEN** Mondays, 4.30pm-6.30pm
27 May, 3, 17, 24* June & 1 July 2019
(*24 June session runs 5.30pm-7.30pm)
- WHERE** Penrith Library Theatre
- TICKETS** \$65 per student for 5 sessions

Join us for a weekly D&D game series played out over five sessions, perfect for beginners and new players ready to hone their skills. Jump straight into a game with your own 1st level character or create a new one. Open to all girls and guys keen to join a new party of D&D players, in a bold new adventure.

Bookings essential - <https://penrith-city-library.eventbrite.com.au>

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/library



FIRE STATION OPEN DAY

at the

Fire and Rescue NSW Emergency Services Academy

1-5 Distribution Drive

ORCHARD HILLS



Saturday 18 May 2019

10am to 2pm

Fire Safety Tips - Fire Trucks (old & new)

Museum of Fire - Demonstrations - Ask a Firefighter - Free Sausage Sizzle - Spray Water



Links for directions:
[Mobile map link](#)
[Google Maps](#)