Erina High School was very proud to host International Women’s day on March 10 where we recognise the economic, political and social achievements of women from around the world as well as closer to home and acknowledge there are still barriers for women today that are worth fighting to overcome. The theme for International Women’s day 2014 is Inspiring Change. We were delighted to have Naomi and Danni Gay, past Erina High School students, address the assembly and tell of their success and educational journey. The assembly was capably hosted by Shelby Jacobs and Lizzie Hergenrother with the rest of the senior female leadership team Charlotte Zorro, Casey Smith, Lara Coffey and Emma Forrest who each spoke about inspirational women. Our assembly was completed with fantastic musical performances by Ebony Bender, Shriana Elonen, Andrea Monsalve and Cameron Corcoran. My thanks and appreciation to Mrs Bayliss, who facilitated such a wonderful assembly for our young women of Erina High School.
A strong focus on teaching and learning continues at Erina High School and I am very pleased to see so many students actively engaged in their learning. As part of our Improving Literacy Numeracy National Project (ILNNP) funded through the federal government a number of our staff are being trained in a Focus on Reading program. This has provided staff with explicit teaching strategies to improve reading and comprehension in all curriculum areas. Our staff have been enthusiastic with this training and I am confident it will make a difference to improving student outcomes.

As a follow up to this training our term 2 School Development Day for staff will focus on further literacy strategies around a modelled, guided and independent structure to better assist students in providing quality written responses. Both reading and writing are areas for improvement as evidenced by our NAPLAN results in 2013. The greater student’s ability to read, comprehend and prepare extended written responses the greater likelihood of improved learning outcomes.

All students from years 7-10 have recently sat for a progressive achievement test (PAT) in reading. This is a commercially purchased national test that allows us to monitor students level of reading compared to national levels. The test is issued at the start of each year and a post-test issued later in the year. Results of this test will be provided in each semester report and our hope is to ensure all students demonstrate growth in reading. Thank you to Mr Chapman and Mr Schoffl for this very important initiative and to our support teachers for collating the data which directs teaching and learning.

With the cooler weather upon us I would like to remind families of our uniform code (see back page) and encourage all students to continue to be in full school uniform. A constant comment from our community is that when our students are in uniform they look great, and it is a positive reflection on our school. Please support us in ensuring students are in full school uniform each day or provide a courtesy note for students who may not be able to wear their uniform one day.

Our year 11 and 12 students are about to commence exams at the end of the term and early next term. I would encourage all senior students to ensure they are allocating adequate time in home study to prepare for these important exams as well as using their study periods at school for this purpose. Students can access the library or senior area for a quiet space to work.

The last day of term 1 is Friday April 11, with Easter and ANZAC day falling in the school holidays we will have an ANZAC service when we return term 2. All students will return to school on Tuesday April 29 to commence term 2, with staff only returning on Monday April 28 for a professional learning day.

I wish all staff, students and families a wonderful Easter break - be safe and take care of each other.

Mrs Karen Nicol
Principal
YEAR 11 AND 12 STAGE 6 MEETING

An information evening for Years 11 and 12 will be held in the Library on Wednesday, 26 March 2014 at 6.00pm.

As part of the EHS stage 6 meeting Ian West from the Board Of Studies will deliver a 40 minute presentation to students and parents on:

- BOS requirements for the HSC
- Pathways and outcomes
- HSC credentials
- ATAR calculations and university entry.

This is an important meeting for parents and students and you are encouraged to attend.

SAFETY BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

A number of phone calls have been received from parents and members of the community expressing their concerns about issues related to safety in Ernest Street.

Students need to use the pedestrian crossing and not wander between traffic.

Parents are reminded that if they are travelling down Ernest Street, they should give way to traffic turning in the turning circle.

Thank you for your support in ensuring our children are kept safe.

Phil Sweeney
Deputy Principal Operations

P&C NEWS

The P&C use the Family Levy to contribute as practically as possible to the improvement of students’ learning.

In 2013 the P&C family contributions were spent on blinds for many classrooms and additional books for the school, because some of the needs for pupils are not always funded by the authorities we all need to make the contributions.

We assure you that it will be spent wisely and with no waste. Thank you to all the families that have contributed in the past, we look forward to your contribution for the coming year.

The P&C will also be holding a Working Bee on Sunday, May 4 from 9am to 11am. Everyone is welcome. A canteen voucher will be provided for every student that attends!

Erina High P&C
**NAPLAN**

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted in Week 3 – Tuesday May 13 – Thursday May 15.

**What is NAPLAN?**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

**Why do students do NAPLAN tests?**

NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement. NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

Students will be undertaking NAPLAN preparation in English and Maths classes. They will also be given time to practice NAPLAN style questions in roll call classes.

**What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?**

Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 17 May.

**Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?**

A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

**How are NAPLAN test results used?**

- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 13 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 14 May</th>
<th>Thursday 15 May</th>
<th>Friday 16 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Language conventions 45 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy calculator allowed 40 minutes followed by Numeracy non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
<td>Catch-up day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Language conventions 45 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy calculator allowed 40 minutes followed by Numeracy non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
<td>Catch-up day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Where can I get more information?**

For more information about NAPLAN:

- visit www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child's school or
- contact the Department of Education and Communities (details available on the NAP website).

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN please contact Mark Chapman (Head Teacher English) or Gordon Schoffl (Head Teacher Teaching and Learning) on 43 677 353.

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

**What is a justified reason for being absent from school?**

Justified reasons for absences may include the student:

- having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- being required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- being sick, or having an infectious disease.
eTech in Year 7

eTech (or Erina Technology Enriched Classrooms) is a pilot program rolled out to Year 7 classes designed to enhance the existing teaching and learning with technology based on the Google Apps for education suite.

Erina High has its own Google apps server where the students will work online with recycled DER program laptops using the Google Chrome browser. The pilot involves 4 teaching and learning areas at the moment – PDHPE, HSIE, English and Computer Studies.

Each month we’ll spotlight what each faculty is doing in eTech – this month will be about PDHPE.

PDHPE has planned to use eTech to complement both their theory and practical lessons. Using Google Docs for individual reflection, collaborative work and sharing ideas is being trialled with the students adapting to the online learning environment quickly. Students are learning resiliency skills as well when they encounter the occasional technical issues that always seem to plague technology based learning!

Some of the Google Apps and extensions offer great potential for our subject area – one task for the students this semester is create a “Me advertisement”. The “We Video” app is a user friendly video production tool that suits this task very well. Soon the students will be planning and producing their own ads, utilising some very important learning skills like planning, design and editing.

In practical classes, our aim is to use eTech as a digital portfolio with students using examples of their work in class to document their progress. Ideally this will be shared with their parents as a peek into what they do in PE.

If you have any questions about eTech in PDHPE, please contact Mr Brendan Jones via the Front Office switch.

Absences for reasons such as some of the following may not be justified:

- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding younger siblings and other children
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts

Need help?

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you might like to talk to the school principal or the school counsellor.

In secondary school, your child’s year adviser or the Head Teacher Administration would be a good contact.

**Whenever possible, parents and carers are encouraged to provide an explanation for absences before the absences occur.**

P Williams
Head Teacher Attendance


**EXAMINATION SKILLS**

**EXAM TECHNIQUE**

Sound exam technique is essential to perform well.

- It must be:
  - well rehearsed
  - second nature to you
  - confident and systematic.

The following guidelines will sharpen your technique.

**Reading Time** is crucial
- usually 15 minutes
- carefully read all directions and instructions; understand them, know what questions to answer and where to answer them
- listen to any announcements
- look at the mark allocation for each question and divide your time accordingly
- identify questions that you can answer immediately
- put the questions in the order you wish to do them
- don’t work out answers yet;
- your confidence will build for more difficult questions; your memory storage tanks will be stimulated.

**The Exam Itself**
- begin on your selected questions
- don’t dwell on questions; highlight them and return later
- write down key formulae, points and facts in the margin
- answer multiple choice and short answer questions before essays
- if you can’t answer a question, guess if there is not a penalty for an incorrect answer
- only change answers if you are absolutely sure that they are wrong
- beware of careless mistakes
- draw clear and accurate diagrams
- plan your essays
- work at the rate you practised.

**Use all the exam time; never leave early.**

The key word in exams is **steady**
- not rushed
- not slow
- but consistently and persistently.

---

**EXAMINATION SKILLS**

**EFFECTIVE EXAM REVISION**

Examination questions are phrased in the Examiners’ language, not yours.

*In order to trigger responses in your mind to retrieve information*
- their language must be converted into your own words
- wording that stimulates your memory storage tanks.

To achieve this, studying Past Exam Papers is essential
- after reading each question, write down what it means to you in your own words
  - “What am I being asked to do?”
  - “What area of the course is it from?”
  - “What do I do first?”

Mentally picture the steps you have to take:
- then attempt the question to see if your knowledge and understanding are up to standard.
  - Consult your notes and texts to fill in gaps in areas you are lacking in
  - “I should have done this”
  - “I left this aspect out”
  - “This point leads onto ...”

Tap into your teachers’ expertise to fine tune your understanding

Performing this process over and over again on Past Papers in each of your subjects will
- have you confidently prepared to convert the language into your own
- make your revision meaningful and highly effective.
  - You are studying to answer questions and reach conclusions, not simply accumulating knowledge
  - ensure that your memory tanks are easily accessible.

The Examiners cannot invent new subject material to test you on
- the secret is to recognise where it fits in the “big picture” and identify what they are asking you to do
- to ensure that you fully understand what you are being asked to do, look at Exam Terminology: Glossary of Key words on page 135
- make up your own list of “exam language”.

---

“Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth times.” James Michener.

“You make your own luck.” Anon.
SPORT

Open Boys Soccer

The match was played in good spirit with Lisarow taking an early lead which they were able to continue to build on during the match. Aaron Kendrigan played well in goal but had little chance with the continued attack from Lisarow. Erina put together some impressive passing moves that just failed to produce any goals. The second half saw a much more disciplined approach to the match and was a much more closely contested game. Credit goes to the boys for their undying efforts right to the very last whistle. Thank you to Mr Keyes and Mr Jones for their support in getting the grounds and jerseys ready.

Mr Huntington

Open Boys Lawn Bowls
Erina High School Giants vs Wadalba Dwarfs

The teams assembled at Terrigal Bowling Club for this round 2 clash in the CHS knockout competition. Wadalba had an exciting, nail biting win over Gosford High School in round 1. The young team from Wadalba were full of confidence and could quote the rule book which enabled our boys to learn a few more details about the etiquette and rules of battle.

After an intriguing couple of ends our opponents looked formidable but as the battle wore on our Giants began to show their superior skills and our opponents’ earlier momentum was shattered due to consistency. Best and fairest player was our 'skip' Eric Furlonger who became known as “Skippy" after his momentous display in leading the Giants to victory. The final score was 17-3 with the Erina Giants coming our victorious. The Giants now full of confidence will clash with Terrigal High School in round 3 and we expect our gladiators will once again prevail. Stay tuned for the next exciting episode in Erina High School Lawn Bowls!!!

The Giants team included Matt Downey, Ethan Brown, Eric 'Skippy" Furlonger. They were assisted by the experienced coach Mr Gray and team motivator Eamon Snow. Well done Boys.

Mr Gray
Central Coast Rugby League

Congratulations to Harry Wilson of Year 10 who recently trialled for the Under 15’s School Boys Rugby League side. Harry performed extremely well and was selected in the 22 man Central Coast side. Harry will now compete in the Sydney North Trials which are to be held at Morrie Breen on the 1st of April. Well done Harry and Good Luck at the next level of trials.

Zone Swimming Age Champion

Congratulations to Kane Douch of Year 9 who was recently crowned Brisbane Water Zone 14 Years Boys Age Swimming Champion. Kane dominated his age group defeating his nearest opponent by 31 points!

Kane then went on to compete in the Sydney North Championships where he competed in 6 events finishing in the top 10 in every event. His best result coming in the 200m freestyle in which he finished 5th. Well done Kane.

Grant Keyes
Erina High School
Sports Organiser/ Year 10 Year Adviser

YEAR 10 PASS

A reminder for Year 10 PASS students intending to go to Jamberoo that payment is due by the end of Week 9 (Friday, 28 March 2014).
ENGLISH

Students have been working hard in the English/ Drama department.

Year 12 English classes are finalising their study of Module A. Standard English are currently working toward creating visual representations and essays for their Run Lola Run assessment tasks, analysing how images are used to create meaning. Advanced students will also be assessed this term on their ability to create visual representations of how Frankenstein and Blade Runner depict ideas about the world. Our Extension English students are continuing their study of “Navigating the Global”, preparing a viva voce for assessment.

In Preliminary English Standard and Advanced students continue to explore the Area of Study- Change, and have completed their assessment tasks for this module. They are to be encouraged to prepare for the half yearly exams at the end of term, as these are their first exams as senior students and it is important that students thoroughly prepare.

All junior classes have been preparing narratives for assessment, based around a poem they have studied in class. This study concludes with an assessment task in week 9 which must be typed and submitted to class teachers.

Students in junior classes begin every English lesson with silent reading. It is important that students arrive to school with a novel and are ready to read. Our school library has a number of engaging texts and we encourage students to use this valuable resource. All students in year 7-9 should be recording the texts they read in order to qualify for the Premier’s Reading Challenge award.

As part of their home study routine, students are to be encouraged to read a range of texts, including young adult fiction and non-fiction. This is essential in the development of all aspects of language skills and in building vocabulary. Students can also read over completed work in order to finish tasks and to edit errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation.

The English faculty will be running the 2014 ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) Writing competition for Years 7-10 on the 19th May 2014. The cost is $18.70 per student. If your child is interested, please ask them to contact the English department.

DRAMA

Year 12 students attended the annual ‘On Stage’ performance on Saturday 8th February. This performance showcased the top group and individual performances from around the state in 2013, and gave the students insight into the inspiring talent at HSC level. They were inspired by the amazing performances and are now overflowing with ideas for their own.

Year 11 and 12 Drama students viewed the play Ruby Moon on 14th February. This provided Stage 6 students with the opportunity to respond to a professionally produced version of the HSC text, allowing them to visualise staging and other essential elements.

On March 19 students in year 9-11 were privileged to see the Noises Off performance at the Sydney Opera House, a hilarious show that proved beneficial in allowing insight into aspects of comedy in theatre.
Stage 5 Drama students are currently working toward assessment tasks. In groups, they need to compose and stage performances, with focus on connecting with their audience, special awareness, timing and working as an ensemble. Year 9 performances will involve their adaptations of fairy tales, while year 10 will centre on their own interpretations of political theatre.

We encourage all students to talk to their teacher if they have any questions regarding any aspect of classwork or assessment. If parents have any questions about course content or assessment tasks please feel free to contact us.

Mark Chapman  
Head Teacher  
English / Drama

MATHS

Mrs Raeside's Year 8 class had a fun time applying their knowledge of fractions in order to make green jelly for St. Patrick’s Day. They all worked hard to change improper fractions into mixed fractions, so they could mix the correct quantities together. The students could barely wait for their yummy jelly to set before they enjoyed eating another day!

Regards,

Keegan Raeside  
Maths Teacher
BULLYING - NO WAY

Friday, 21 March 2014 was the Bullying -No Way National Day of Action. Students and staff at Erina High actively work against bullies and as part of the National Action day our students were given a reminder of their role in making our school a safe and positive place. Students were also given wrist bands as a reminder to say No Way to Bullying.

Brendan Jones
Head Teacher - PDHPE
eTech Digital Pedagogy Team member
ADVERTISING/COMMUNITY NOTICES

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- Web: www.scce.com.au
- Email: robert.l@scce.com.au

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to the value of 5% of their purchase

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## WINTER UNIFORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR GIRLS</th>
<th>JUNIOR BOYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt: Lemon polo or polyester blouse with school logo</td>
<td>Shirt: Navy polo with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pants: Navy long</td>
<td>Pants: Grey canvas/long or shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweatshirt: Navy ‘V’ neck/school logo or navy ‘V’ neck jumper</td>
<td>Sweatshirt: Navy ‘V’ neck/school logo or navy ‘V’ neck jumper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacket: Navy fleece zipped jacket <strong>NO HOOD</strong></td>
<td>Jacket: Navy fleece zipped jacket <strong>NO HOOD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skirt: Checked pleated (Junior colours)</td>
<td>Socks: White walk or short socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockings: Natural or black</td>
<td>Shoes: Black solid leather only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes: Black solid leather</td>
<td><strong>NO HOOD</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
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<th>SENIOR GIRLS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shirt: White polyester blouse with school logo</td>
<td>Shirt: White polyester shirt with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt: Checked pleated (Senior colours &amp; style)</td>
<td>Skirt: Checked pleated (Senior colours &amp; style)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Pants: Black</td>
<td>Long Pants: Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Stockings: Black or white</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoes: Solid black shoes</td>
<td>Shoes: Black solid shoes</td>
</tr>
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<td>Sweatshirt: Black ‘V’ neck /school logo or plain black jumper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blazer: Black with school logo</td>
<td>Blazer: Black with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby jersey designed in school colours for year 12.</td>
<td>Rugby jersey designed in school colours for year 12.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SCHOOL TERM DATES

- **11 April 2014**: Last day of Term 1
- **28 April 2014**: Staff Development Day
- **29 April 2014**: All students return to school