Erina News

Semester two is well underway at Erina High School and I am pleased with the progress students are making. All semester one reports have been issued and I strongly encourage students to follow up on teacher’s advice and focus on areas for improvement in the second half of the year. It was terrific to see so many families attend our parent teacher evenings and brave the cold. Our staff enjoyed the opportunity to meet and discuss individual student progress.

At the end of last term I was delighted to attend the Central Coast Dance Festival and was so proud of our year 9 dance group who were sensational. Congratulations to Jaclyn Chambers, India Jacobs, Molly Binstead, Sophie Ware, Sophie Durez, Bridget Spencer, Chloe Reynolds, Chloe Self, Sharna Scott, Jaida McKenzie, Jade Schumacher, Melissa Parkes. A great effort girls!

Our equally talented musicians also entered the battle of the bands competition at Erina Fair hub last term. The band, “Loose Connections”, featuring Max Stuart, Tom Ellem, Olivia Andrews, Will Northcote and John Gibson, were very excited to have successfully made it through their heat to the semi final. Congratulations students, a fantastic achievement. Follow them on EHS facebook for their next appearance, they need as much support as possible on the night of the semi-finals—the bigger the crowd the better!!

28th July
Education Week
Performance at The Hive

29th July
Yr 7-10 Parent Teacher Night
3.15pm—5.15pm

30th July
Assembly of Excellence
11.00am

6th August
Yr 7-10 Parent Teacher Night
5.30pm—7.30pm

7th/8th August
Crossroads Camp

13th August
Yr 10 & 11 Subject Selection & Interviews
Our 50th birthday celebrations are gaining momentum and we are really seeking the school community’s support in attending the open day on Saturday September 6 between 10-2pm. Bring your family and friends and come back to school for a day, you will be surprised at the changes in the last 50 years!! A birthday dinner at Gosford Sailing Club will be held that night and we would love to have as many past students and families join us to help celebrate. Tickets will be $10 a head and people are asked to book tables of either 6, 8 or 10.

A bistro menu is available for those that would like to have dinner and drinks available at bar prices. It will be a great night as we celebrate 50 proud years of education at Erina High School. To keep up to date with our birthday celebrations and how to book a table for the dinner online, visit us on our Facebook page.

A reminder to the EHS classes of 92, 93 and 94, they are seeking their classmates to join their 20th reunion on Saturday night September 27 for a dinner at Breakers Country Club, Wamberal. Please contact our administration office for further details or follow us on Facebook.

Congratulations to Sisifa Mafileo breaking the under 15’s shot put record throwing 13.7 metres, smashing the previous record of 11.8 metres, at the recent zone athletics carnival. See Facebook for our other record holders—well done Erina!!

Our Wednesday weeders have maintained their focus on improving our grounds and I publically thank them for all their hard work and the many parents and staff who have donated their time, plants and garden accessories, it is greatly appreciated. I would also like to make mention of John Ross, a great supporter of Erina High School, who has kindly pressure cleaned our path and sandstone wall at the front of the admin block in preparation for our birthday party. Thank you so much John!!

We proudly celebrate education week with Erina Learning Community showcasing our talented students with a concert at the Hive Erina Fair on Monday July 28 commencing at 11.30 am. We also have a static display of student work across the Erina Learning community located outside Big W, please show your support.

Congratulations to the following students who performed at Lizottes on the 17th of July, special thanks to Mrs Gillard, Mrs Broadley and Mr Read for supporting and organizing the performers, You ROCKED!!! it was a fabulous evening displaying exceptional musical talent well done to:

Julliet Buyink (yr 9); Thomas Ellem, Olivia Andrews; Max Stuart; Will Northcoate (Yr 10); Brad Smith; Ben Knight; Tim Jollife (Yr 11); Ethan Brown, Maddy Byrne, Cameron Corcoran, Jack Elliott, Joel Fletcher, Dylan Harper, Jamie Kabbout, Olivia Lippl, Emma Lowe, Nicholas Ware, Annabelle Andrews, Caitlin Connors, Emily Donovan, Shianna Elonen, Alesha Foley, Declan Hall, Daniel Knowles, Maddy Lord and Rhys Picton.

Looking forward to another great term of teaching and learning at Erina High School in our 50th year of operation!!

Karen Nicol
Principal
English/Drama Faculty Report

The English/Drama faculty policy relating to assessment has been designed to offer students as much assistance as they would like prior to assessment tasks. All assessment questions are issued in the first week of term one for students in Years 7-12 within their course booklets. They are also provided with an assessment schedule and the weightings of tasks, along with a scope and sequence which shows when modules will be assessed. This is to allow students insight into the direction of their course and an understanding of what will be required of them throughout the year.

In keeping with current research and our own experience regarding the benefits of feedback to students, it is our practice to assist students in their preparation for assessment tasks. Students are encouraged to ask for assistance and to submit draft responses to their teachers in order to gain advice on how to develop their responses. This enables students to make improvements to their work and in turn, extend their skills, which ultimately leads to better grades. Currently many students, particularly those in their senior years, email work to their teachers in order to gain feedback on weekends and during holidays and are appreciative to have it returned with feedback. In the recent holidays, a number of Advanced and Standard HSC students emailed as many as 6 drafts of their assessment essays to their teachers, each one better than the last, in order to improve their work. The pattern of improvement and the extension of students' abilities to express ideas in a fluent and comprehensive manner is proof of the significant success of this approach. The many students who are organised and take advantage of this opportunity find the assistance invaluable and we applaud their efforts and ongoing commitment to learning.

Students in the HSC Advanced English course have commenced their study of The Fiftieth Gate and were privileged to listen to Vic Alderheff speak on Wednesday July 23. Vic is from the Jewish Board of Deputies and his expertise and knowledge of the events and effects of the holocaust have given our students added insight into this atrocity. Vic has visited Erina High School for the past 8 years and has shared significant information which allows our students better understanding of the context of their novel and the History and Memory module. While his speech was confronting and emotionally moving, our students were most appreciative of the opportunity to hear Vic’s stories.

HSC Standard students are examining the concept of The Global Village with a focus on the play A Man with Five Children, and will examine related texts which will add to their knowledge of the ways in which media and technology influence society. As this is the final module in their HSC year, students are working toward their last assessment task in week 3 and their Trial Exams in weeks 6 and 7. They are encouraged to prepare study notes and revise all modules, seeking assistance from their class teachers in any areas of concern. English Studies students are engaging with a range of texts relating to film and the big screen.

Preliminary Advanced English students are presently studying The Book Thief while those in the Preliminary Standard course are also studying novels. Preliminary English Studies students are reading and viewing texts related to the topic of science and discovery.

Students in junior English classes have commenced study of a novel, which involves extending their appreciation of the ways in composers construct texts and shape the reader’s understanding of our world. Some classes are examining classic texts while others are reading more contemporary novels. They will study the language used, the structure, setting and themes in order to develop their skills. They will be required to construct and present a speech about an aspect of their novel for assessment later in the term.

Our Year 10 debating team, led by Ms Serrano, will participate in the first round of the Probus Shield competition on August 18 to be held at Avoca Beach Bowling Club. They will debate against Green Point Christian College and we wish them luck in this endeavour.

As members of the Erina Learning Community, the students of Gosford East Public School participated in a public speaking competition which was adjudicated by Ms Serrano and Ms Bissett. The skills shown by these students from stages 1 to 3 were most impressive and we look forward to continued interaction with them as they progress toward joining us at Erina High.
English/Drama Faculty Report (continued)

The students in the HSC Drama course are working together to construct and rehearse group performances while also composing their individual performances. These students will perform for the HSC examiners sometime in weeks 6 or 7 and we wish them success during this time. Parents will be invited to a performance evening prior to the HSC examination on a date yet to be advised.

The Year 9 Drama students are currently producing short films in groups, while the Year 10 students are rehearsing monologues. Preliminary drama students are studying the elements of production and are in the process of constructing their director’s folio for assessment.

Students from English and Drama classes will be attending a performance of Macbeth on September 10. This is at the Sydney Theatre Company and the production will enable students to gain significant insight into this extraordinary Shakespearean play which is a wonderful opportunity.

Please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher if you have any concern regarding their progress in English or Drama.

Mark Chapman
Head Teacher English

The HSC Journey

The last half of the school year is very much ‘HSC focussed’. It is for the vast majority of school students the last step of a 13-year journey. From day one in Kindergarten to ‘pens down’ in the final HSC exam, schools and teachers are building knowledge and skills.

When primary school teachers talk to their Year 6 students, as they are now, about high school, it is their work over seven years that has prepared the students for what is an exciting and new experience.

When teachers of Year 7 students take their classes for the first time in January, and now six months on see how well the students have adapted to high school, it is their success that has readied the students for the next six years of their education.

For teachers of Year 10 students selecting HSC subjects and considering their options, their understanding of the individual student and the choices they can make plays a vital role in the decision making process.

It is the behaviours learnt in the early high school years that serve our students well when as young adults they start, as they are now, their last formal school term ahead of our internationally regarded NSW Higher School Certificate.

We celebrate the HSC because of how it connects the 13 years of schooling even for those students who choose a path other than the HSC. As for all students - whenever they leave school - the NSW and HSC syllabuses work to prepare them for life beyond school.
NAIDOC Day News
Erina High School hosted its annual NAIDOC Day celebrations for the Erina Learning Community of schools on Tuesday 24th June 2014. Primary school students from Brisbane, Cherstey, Gosford East, Holgate and Woodport primary schools participated in activities such as Aboriginal dance, drama, games, painting and technology. The day was a huge success due to the leadership skills of the wonderful students we have at Erina High School. You are a credit to the school and we thank you.
Julie Ruming
Aboriginal Education Coordinator

NAIDOC ACTIVITIES
The ‘i Believe’ program for year 7 & 8 Indigenous students was run on Thursday 26th June in the school library. This program aims to plant the seed of ambition for students to begin thinking of their future. ‘i Believe’ reinforces the importance of schooling and motivates students to set high standards and realistic goals for themselves. The program was run by Mr Dominic Dates from The Wollotuka Institute (University of Newcastle) and the students had a wonderful day.

P. White/ R. Miller / J. Ruming
SPORT

Rugby Union
Sam Evans of year 12 played halfback for Central Coast Junior Rugby Union Under 17’s Representative Team that won the Country Championships played at Dubbo in April this year. In June the team also won the NSW Junior Rugby Union State Championships, a convincing win of 33 to 10 over West Harbor. It was very rare for a country team to take out state titles, let alone hold both titles. Over the three days of long weekend they played seven games with 6 wins and a draw.

Year 9/10 Touch Football
Well done to the Year 9/10 Boys and Girls Touch Football teams who battled freezing conditions and gale force winds at Adock Park, West Gosford in the annual Central Coast tournament. Both teams performed with excellent sportsmanship and never gave up in any game. Our Boys side did particularly well winning 3 of 4 pool games and making the final series. Unfortunately the boys were defeated by St Edwards in a very close match. Well done to both teams! Stayed tuned for the Year 7/8 team results in the next newsletter.
Congratulations to Jack Murley of Yr 9 who was selected in the under 15's Sydney North AFL side. Jack then represented Sydney North at the CHS Northern Carnival held in Newcastle on Friday, 2nd May 2014. Well done Jack!!!

Brisbane Water Zone Athletics Results

CONGRATULATIONS to Erina High School's Zone Athletics team who competed at the annual Brisbane Water Zone Athletics Carnival held at Mingara Athletics track. All students represented Erina with pride and gave their all. A special congratulations to the following students who will now go onto Sydney North which is held at Homebush Stadium.

Olivia Boland - 13 yrs Shot Put and Discus
Matthew Cahill - 14 yrs 800m
Aaron Duman - 14 yrs 100m, 200m and High Jump
Jameson Flynn - 16 yrs 100m and 200m
Baxter Langlar - 13 yrs Discus
Sisifa Mafile'o - 15 yrs Shot Put
Johnson Pimkot - 15 yrs Javelin and Discuss
Ashlee Russell - 13 yrs Hurdles, 100m, 200m, Long Jump and High Jump
Blake Storm - 16 yrs 1500m
Harry Wilson - 15 yrs 100m, 400m and High Jump
13 yrs Girls 4 x 100 Relay - Ashlee Russell, Natalie Toka, Indie Elms and Ruby Upston
14 yrs Boys 4 x 100 Relay - Aaron Dudman, Tyrone Paddison, Mitchell Deegan and Matthew Cahill
16 yrs Boys 4 x 100 Relay - Jameson Flynn, Will Lowe, Kurt Reardon and Adam McGregor

Grant Keyes
Erina High School
Sports Organiser/ Year 10 Year Advisor
MUSIC NEWS - EDUCATION WEEK & Assembly of Excellence

On Monday 28th July, Erina High music students will participate in a concert for Education Week held at the Hive at Erina Fair (11.30am -2pm). This also includes performances from our feeder primary schools—Woodport, Brisbania, Holgate, Chertsey & Gosford East. Erina High students included - Soloists: Ethan Brown, Jack Elliot, Nick Ware, (Yr 12) and the Yr 10 band ‘Loose Connections’ - featuring Max Stuart, Tom Ellem, Olivia Andrews, Will Northcote and John Gibson as well as sound crew - Josh Mc Rohan & Will Lowe. On Wednesday 30th July, the following Music students will perform at the Assembly of Excellence at school in the MPC: Ebony Bender & Tully Sheath (Yr 9), Nischala McDonnell (Yr 10), Nick Ware (Yr 12), Daniel Knowles (Yr 12).

CAREERS

TERM 3

YEAR 12 CAREERS WORKSHOPS

◆ Thursdays from 2.00pm—4.00pm
◆ UAC Guides will be distributed to Year 12 during ROLL CALL classes.
◆ Students are encouraged to attend the workshops for guidance with applying for Universities/Colleges & Tafes.

For information regarding ‘Careers’ please go to the Erina High School Website where you will find the latest Careers Newsletter. http://www.erina-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/careers-tradestart/careers

YEAR 11 2015 COURSE SELECTION

13 August 2014 (Week 5, Term 3) Parent Information Evening
Subject selection open. Students will be given a log on address and code to access the subject selection choices.

HEALTH CARE

Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in schools. Head lice are insects that live on the scalp and neck. Although head lice may be embarrassing and sometimes uncomfortable, they don't usually cause illness. However, they won't clear up on their own and you need to treat them promptly. The NSW Government Health Website has some excellent information and advice for treatment of head lice. Please visit their website if you have any concerns. http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/
Etec starts to fly at Erina High

On Tuesday the 22nd of July, a group of excited Year 7 students received their Acer C720 Chromebooks as part of the eTec (Erina Technology Enhance Classroom) initiative.

During Semester 1, all Year 7 had been trialling the use of Google Apps for Education with recycled DER laptops. We then went about planning the formation of an eTec class. Students that wanted to be in the eTec class were required to showcase their understanding of Google Apps as part of an application process.

Now, the second stage of the initiative is underway – using Chromebooks and Google Apps together. Students and their families demonstrated their commitment to the initiative by purchasing the Chromebooks from an education supplier via the school. Students in the “A” stream class in Year 7 were also offered a chance to use Chromebooks as part of the initiative. Those “A” stream students that purchased their devices will receive them later in Week 2.

Already we have seen some exciting new directions in teaching and learning being implemented by teachers and students in their lessons. We have already heard some particularly great stories coming out of English, Art and Languages. Looking forward, we anticipate that all subject areas will be working to have eTec opportunities embedded in their teaching and learning programs.

We need to acknowledge the vision and hard work from the eTec team and senior executive in making this initiative come to life. Thanks Mrs Nicol, Mr Sweeney and Mrs Smith and the eTec Team comprising of Mr Pickett, Mr Still, Mr Jones and senior student Nick Patsianas.

If you have any enquiries about eTec, please contact Mr Jones in the PDHPE staffroom.
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The Rhythm Hut offers Drumming lessons in Taiko and Djembe. Drumming is a great activity for teens as it helps to promote wellbeing, and create friendships in a safe environment! Give us a call or come and visit to see what we offer - all welcome!

Would you like to join one of the fastest growing sports in the world? Then come and try Floorball at the Peninsula Leisure Centre!

Floorball can be described as Ice Hockey without the ice! It is a non contact sport which is fun, fast, and very easy to learn. It is also very affordable at just $6 per game ($5 for siblings), and registration only $15.00. Floorball sticks are provided for players’ use at no charge.

Intermediate and Youth games are held on Thursdays, with intermediate (under 13) teams scheduled between 4.30-6.30pm, and youth (over 13) teams between 6.30-8.30pm.

The competition runs each school term - rain, hail, or shine. So come along on a Thursday to give Floorball a go. The first two games are free, and Tanya, Julie, Alan and Mitch from the Peninsula Floorball Association will make you very welcome.

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