Upcoming Events

17th August-26th August
Year 12 Trial HSC Exams

20th August
Year 6 Scripture

26th August
Year 8 into Year 9 Parent Information Evening 6pm

27th August
Year 9 Scripture

31st August
Year 8 into Year 9 Forms due

Message from the Principal

The term is flying by and students continue to impress with their dedication and focus to their studies. It was a pleasure to congratulate so many students at the recent assembly of excellence and acknowledge the outstanding achievements of our students. Congratulations to the 2015 senior leadership team for their skill in managing the assembly and to our wonderful performers, Tyla, Ebony and Tully.

As we proudly celebrated Education Week 2015 the Erina Learning Community again launched this special occasion at Erina Fair with an amazing showcase of talent across each of our schools. With over 200 performers our learning community demonstrated the depth of talent, enthusiasm and strength in public education and I would like to acknowledge our junior and senior dance group, our rock band “Loose Connections” and our solo artist Aaron Cahill for their outstanding performances and to our wonderful sound crew who managed the technology and sound. Special thanks to Oli from Holgate Public school who accompanied Max and Tom - a true rock star!!

Not only did we showcase our performing talent but a snap shot of the great teaching and learning and co-curricular programs at Erina in our static display so capably designed and delivered by Ms Johnson — a great team effort Erina!!
In 2015 public education celebrates a great education system that is inclusive, diverse, and dynamic, catering for the individual learning needs of each and every student to ensure they reach their personal best. As part of acknowledging the proud history of NSW public schools for education week in 2015, schools are encouraged to welcome back our local heroes who have been proud graduates of a public school.

Public education has supported the career pathways of Prime Ministers to Premiers, Oscar winners to Olympic gold medallists, Nobel Prize winners to Australians of the Year, Supreme Court judges, business leaders and artists, there are many eminent citizens whose journeys began at a NSW public school.

Public schools are special as they uphold the values of society that are fundamental to our Australian belief of a fair go for everybody, they are rich with opportunities to enhance the skills, talents and interests of all students and deliver a quality education that equips young people for work and life beyond school. To be prepared for careers that may not exist today but produce graduates that are confident, well educated, with creative minds, problem solving and high level communication skills that hold them in good stead for a flexible, mobile, independent and collaborative workspace whatever that may look like.

The backbone of a great public education system is the quality of our teaching and support staff who are dedicated, committed and enthusiastic about making a difference in each student’s life, knowing they are shaping the mind and soul of a young person in collaboration with families is truly the best career in the world. We are fortunate at Erina to have wonderful staff that takes responsibility for ensuring we deliver a quality educational experience for all of our students.

It was a our great pleasure to welcome one of our local heroes as our guest speaker at our Assembly of Excellence, Alicia Scott, who started her educational journey at Brisbania Public School in 2001 before moving into Erina High School in 2008. She worked incredibly hard at school to achieve great success in her HSC and held the position of Vice Captain. She now studies at Macquarie University doing a Bachelor of Arts and Media degree. Recently back from Indianapolis in the United States she was privileged to be accepted as only one of 8 applicants across the university to study TV production and news media at Butler University Indianapolis due to her exceptional results.

In 2013 she was awarded a $12,000 scholarship over 4 years through the Davistown RSL for her outstanding HSC results and commitment to further her studies at a tertiary level. She works part time at SBS and has a passion for media and dreams of a career in this field. Alicia inspired our students to seize opportunities presented to them and never lose sight of their dreams it was an honour to have Alicia address the assembly and share her educational journey as a proud graduate of Erina High School.

Our happy Year 11 campers have returned safely after a fun packed 2 day workshop in the mandatory PDHPE program that delivers education around health and wellbeing, it looks like way too much fun!!! Congratulations to Ms Williams, Mr Keyes, Ms Kearney, Ms Johnson, Mr Jones and Mr Dodd for facilitating such a wonderful experience for our students.
Our HSC students are nearing the home run and are hard at work completing their courses in preparation for the trials and finalising major works in either Visual Arts, Textiles and Design, Society and Culture, Industrial Technology Timber and Multimedia and performances in Music and Drama. The talent of our students continues to strengthen and I would like to acknowledge the exceptional commitment of our staff in the many extra hours they have spent to ensure our students have produced such quality projects and polished performances. All the very best of luck to our students in the upcoming trial exams!

Term 3 is where our year 10 and 8 students elect courses to study in the next stage of their learning. It can be a confusing time and I would encourage parents to seek advice from our careers adviser Mrs Pursehouse, our year advisers or a member of the executive where I am confident we can assist students and families work through this process.

Enjoy the rest of the term and fingers crossed some warmer weather is headed our way!!

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs Karen Nicol
Principal

Year 12: Managing Exam Stress and Anxiety

More than 220,000 students go through their year 12 exams each year, in what can be the most stressful time of their school years. Many feel like their entire life depends on their Year 12 results, but those of us who’ve been through it know there’s life after.

Here are some tips from ReachOut.com to help you start a conversation with students about looking after yourself during exam times.

- **Breathe** Research shows that slowing your heart rate can increase feelings of calmness in your body. Using simple visuals, Breathe helps you to control your breath and measures your heart rate in real-time using the camera in your phone.
- **Take breaks** Taking regular breaks helps you beat stress and learn better. All it takes is five minutes every hour doing something completely unrelated to studying.
- **Talk about stress** Chat to people who've been there, like older cousins, teachers, and friends’ families. They're sure to tell you there’s life after year 12 exams.
- **Don't stop having fun** It’s actually good for you to meet up with mates and chill, keep playing sport, and watch a favourite show between study.
- **Exams and study stress** There are lots of tips and tricks for managing exams and study stress and you can read about them here.
- **Balance study and relaxation** Making efforts to balance study and relaxation is not only important for your state of mind, but for the quality of your study as well.

Ms V. Smith,
Deputy Principal - Development.
ENGLISH/DRAMA

The staff of the English / Drama Faculty wish our Year 12 students success in their Trial HSC exams which will take place in weeks 6 and 7. The hard work that they have been doing will be rewarded, and areas of need will also be identified in these exams. In preparation for this, students attended a series of tutorials led by their teachers with focus on the Area of Study and each of their HSC modules. Standard students were also fortunate to hear advice regarding exam preparation from Ethan Brown and Jamie Kabbout, successful students from the 2014 cohort. It is hoped that the suggestions made by these young men will give our current students a fresh view of the important elements they need to address.

Year 11 Advanced English Students are preparing essays and Standard students are also preparing for assessment as they have a listening task in Week 7. This will be followed by their Yearly examinations in Week 9. Students have been issued the questions they will be required to answer in the exam, which will allow them to prepare quality responses.

Junior English classes are currently preparing for their assessment task, which involves them composing an Area of Study essay, referring to themes and the techniques employed by composers in conveying meaning.

Year 10 students have been given advice regarding subject selection for 2015. Teachers have suggested to students the most appropriate English course for them to study, but any further enquiries are welcome. Families are reminded that students who select Advanced and Standard English will be eligible for an HSC and an ATAR, while students who select the English Studies option will meet HSC requirements but will not be eligible for an ATAR.

Our HSC drama students are finalising their pieces for their performance which will take place during Week 8, and we wish them well. Preliminary and Stage 5 drama students are also in the process of composing work for assessment.

Our Year 9 debaters, coached by Mrs Braun, were unlucky to lose their recent debate against Lisarow High School, while our Year 8 debaters, coached by Miss Bissett, were successful in debating Terrigal High School last week. Ms Serrano, is currently working were the Year 11 debaters who will compete against Kincumber High School in the Probus Shield. We wish them the best of luck in this pursuit.

Parents are reminded that while students read regularly at school, the single most effective way of improving a child’s skills in English is by reading at home. There is a wonderful range of teen and young adult literature available, and it is through interaction with a range of such texts that students will improve not only their fluency and comprehension, but also their vocabulary and language skills. While students may not be given explicit English homework every day, it is imperative that home reading remain a focus for everyone.

It would also be appreciated if parents would encourage students to return their novels to their English teacher ASAP, as we need to ensure we have full class sets ready for the future.

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/Drama

Support for Mental Health Carers

It is now well recognised that mental illness is a significant issue in Australia. Approximately one in five people will experience a mental health disorder every year, and nearly half (45%) of the population will experience a mental disorder at some stage in their lives. The effects on families can be significant.

(Source: Family relationships and mental illness: Impacts and service responses AFRC Issues No. 4 – June 2008.)

When someone you love is diagnosed with a mental illness, it can have significant effects on your own physical and mental health.

A local carer says, “When my 21 year old son was diagnosed with schizophrenia, I was devastated. I had no experience with mental illness and had a lot of difficulty coming to terms with his diagnosis. There was a lot of guilt involved, and I threw myself into assisting with his recovery, at the same time continuing to care for my two, primary school aged children, and work full-time in a management position. I didn’t feel that I had any family or friends who understood my position, and I felt very isolated. The stress was almost unbearable.

“It was only through being able to participate in education and support programs for carers, and talk to others in similar situations that helped me to accept my son’s diagnosis and gain the support I needed.”

Mental Health Carers ARAFMI Hunter Counsellor, Coralie Reeve, notes that providing support to families affected by mental illness is crucial. “In a lot of cases all they need is understanding and empathy; someone to listen to the difficulties they face.”

Mental Health Carers ARAFMI Hunter will launch a new Telephone Counselling Support Service for Carers on 1st June 2015. The service will be staffed by trained volunteers 9 am to 5 pm Mon to Fri, and will be in addition to the face-to-face family counselling, workshops and support groups already provided.

If you’re a carer for someone with a mental illness and feel you could benefit from a counselling support call, please phone Mental Health Carers ARAFMI Hunter on 4961 6717 to speak to one of our volunteers or to register for a returned call from this exciting new service.

Mr M. Lamm, Counsellor.
SPORT

Year 7/8 Boys and Girls Touch Football

Congratulations to our Boys and Girls Junior Touch Football sides who recently competed in the Central Coast All Schools Touch Football competition held at Adcock Park. This year required numerous trials to select our two sides due to increased participation rates among our Year 7 & 8 students.

Our boys side had a slow start to the day with a close loss against Umina but quickly found their feet with wins against Henry Kendall, Kariong and Wyong. The boys needing a win in their final pool match against Berkeley Vale to make the semi finals. Unfortunately the boys came up against a red hot Berkeley side and finished in 3rd place in their pool.

Our girls side saw a great mix of Year 7 and 8 girls, some of which had no experience in Touch Football. The girls learnt quickly and picked up 3 straight wins against Narara, Tumbi Umbi and North Lakes. With these great wins the girls qualified for the quarter finals against Umina. The girls fought hard but unfortunately lost in a very close match. Well done to both our Junior Touch Football sides.

Year 7/8 Boys Touch Football Team

Year 7/8 Girls Touch Football Team
**Under 15's Girls Basketball**

Congratulations to the Under 15s Girls basketball team who displayed a consistent effort and great defence when they competed against Lisarow High School. After a tough, physical game the Lisarow team went through to compete in the next round of the knockout. Good work, Girls.

![Image of Under 15's Girls Basketball team]

**Under 15 Boys Basketball- Round One**

Congratulations to the Under 15's Boys Basketball Team on their first round win against Chatswood High School last Friday 24th July. Despite falling into an early 6-15 deficit the boys demonstrated great resiliency as they clawed their way back into the game and finished the first quarter trailing by a single basket.

A big second quarter in which Erina outscored Chatswood 17-7 saw the game swing in their favour and Erina head into half time leading by a score of 30-25. Both teams played each other to a standstill in the third as Erina managed to hold onto its slim lead, before a fast paced fourth and some timely three pointers by Chatswood threatened to steal home court. In the end key defensive rotations and a few clutch baskets by Saige Jacobs sealed the win for Erina 62-52.

MVP honours went to Lachlan Bathis who led Erina with 15 points and provided a strong inside presence with his rebounding and shot blocking. Coaches Award went to Matthew Cahill who despite being a late addition to the team and having to learn both offensive and defensive plays on the fly provided energy and outstanding defence off the bench. Next up is the winner of Galston and Ashfield.

Coach Saisell and
Grant Keyes
Erina High School
Sports Organiser/Year 11 Advisor

![Image of Under 15 Boys Basketball team]

**MATHS**

Mathematics Department is offering free tutorial to any student who needs help with their maths. We are offering help on Wednesday Week A from 3:30 to 4:30 and in Week B on a Thursday from 3:30-4:30. Students and parents are to make their own transportation arrangement.

Ms K. Chand
Relieving Head Teacher
Mathematics
INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

iBelieve

On Friday 31st July, Years 7 and 8 indigenous students participated in the iBelieve program that aims to plant the seed of ambition in indigenous students and to get them thinking about their life goals and devising plans of how to achieve those goals. The workshop was facilitated by Dominic Dates from the Wollotuka Institute based at the Ourimbah Campus of the University of Newcastle. Dominic used a variety of techniques to help students set goals and to raise awareness such as interactive games and talking circles.

Later in the day, Dominic facilitated a workshop for Years 11 and 12 indigenous students that outlined the need to be motivated, to set goals and standards, and to create an action plan for the future.

Both workshops emphasised the need for students to actively connect with the indigenous community and to actively pursue confirmation of aboriginality. Also, the workshops sought to instil a sense of pride and confidence in indigenous students regarding their aboriginality. Dominic’s own personal story provided inspiration and motivation for students to pursue their own dreams and ambitions. Overall, both workshops were extremely valuable and well received.

A Tranquil Setting

The junior members of the Didgeridoo Group, Brock Wilson, Bailey Carney, Leightham Carney (absent), Adam Miller, Joshua Hastie, Lewis Brundrit, Tyrece Tohu and Kobi-Dylan Myers (leader) taught by Mr Read, were able to practice in the nearly completed Erina High School Memory Garden. The garden structure was completed by Mr C. Jenson and the Indigenous paintings and art works are an ongoing project of Mr A. Byrnes’s art class.

P. White, J. Rumning, R. Miller.
MUSIC
Education Week - Week 3
Our talented Music and Dance students from Erina High School performed at a combined concert with the feeder Primary schools at the Hive at Erina Fair for parents and the community. Compered by our School Captains – Jacinta Camboni & Brad Deegan. It was a very successful and enjoyable show with musical and dance items performed by Woodport Primary, East Gosford Primary, Chertsey Primary, Brisbania Primary & Holgate Primary. Opening the show with the National Anthem was Year 10 Music students Amy Stuart & Jenna Hoffman, followed by the Year 11 rock band “Loose Connections”- Olivia Andrews, Max Stuart, Thomas Ellem, John Gibson & Will Northcote. Year 12 music student Aaron Cahill performed a solo acoustic guitar piece “Imagine”. Our Year 10 dance students also performed 2 items. A special thanks to all our students who performed & the sound crew who set up & operated the sound equipment for the concert- Max Stuart, Thomas Ellem, Amy Stuart, Jenna Hoffman & Bianca Storm & Mr Lowe.

Assembly of Excellence - Week 4
The following music students performed the National Anthem which was sung by Tyla Williams and accompanied by Amy Stuart on the keyboard. Nischala McDonnell performed on the harp and Ebony Bender sang and was accompanied by Tully Sheath on acoustic guitar.

Year 12 Musical Evening - Week 5
Last week Year 12 music students performed for family and friends at a café at Forresters Beach - “Di Matteos”. It was a fantastic concert with almost all the music students performing their HSC song repertoire.

We wish them the very best of luck for their upcoming Trial exams next week and their HSC Practical exams on the 8th and 9th September.
MUSIC
Year 12 Musical Evening -Week 5 cont.
MUSIC
Year 12 Musical Evening - Week 5 cont.

Ms L. Broadley,
Music.
Congratulations to Year 12 Textiles and Design students for their outstanding Major Textiles Projects.
HOME ECONOMICS

Year 8 students enjoyed a Textiles Enrichment Day on August 11th with Mrs Adamski and Mrs Maguire from the Home Economics Department. The students designed and created felted cupcakes and doughnuts. Students thoroughly enjoyed developing and mastering some new textile skills whilst creating some colourful pieces that looked good enough to eat.

Mrs S. Adamski,
Mrs B. Maguire,
Home Economics.
NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

‘Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve’ – Sidney Sheldon

We have a range of new fiction for all years in the library, so come and have a browse. There’s The Incredible Adventures of Cinnamon Girl, by Melissa Keil which everyone is raving about, as well as some of our most loved writers like Morris Gleitzman with his new book Then. Some of you enjoy reading sequels and we have another two books by Ally Condie, who wrote the best seller Matched. I’m sure there is a good book in the library waiting for you.

For the seniors we have a whole range of EXCEL study skill books. These are highly recommended because they will help you understand what you need to focus on to get better results in your grades. They are a great tool and will be on display in the library. Also, we have gathered all the prescribed texts for HSC English, also relevant to the Discovery theme and displayed them together to make it easy for you to access them.

And staff don’t forget to come and have a browse in the next couple of weeks. With holidays coming up you might like to borrow a good book to unwind.

See you in the library,
Ms Freeman.
Teacher/Librarian.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Erina High School will be implementing a new system for advising parents of student absences starting in Term 4 2015. The system which is integrated with our administration software will notify parents of whole day absences via SMS message. Parents will be able to provide reasons for absences by replying to the SMS messages. It is envisaged that this technology will be faster and more efficient for both parents and EHS administration staff as well as a cost saving measure for the school.

It very is important that parents ensure the school has current and accurate mobile phone details on file to guarantee a successful rollout of this technology. If you need to update your mobile phone details please contact the administration office on 43677353. For those parents who do not have access to a mobile phone the existing practice of sending absence letters home will continue and students can continue to submit notes explaining absences to the office.

If you have any questions relating to the new system please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email jeremy.rennex@det.nsw.edu.au

Mr J Rennex,
IT Coordinator.
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Would you like to play cricket this summer!

The Kincumber-Avoca Junior Cricket Club will be holding our registration days over the next couple of weekends. We have an in2Cricket programme for our 5 - 7 year olds as well as a T20 Blast comp for our u10's. For the older kids we have U11's through to U16's. Our rego dates are -

Place - Erina Leagues Club, Ilya Ave, Erina
Dates - Sunday August 16, 10.30am - 12.30pm
Thursday August 20, 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Place - Avoca Beach Bowling Club, Townsend Ave, Avoca Beach
Dates - Sunday August 23, 10.30am - 12.30pm

In2Cricket can register online through a link on our website www.clubgriffin.com

Please contact Rod Ursem on rodursem@hotmail.com for further information.

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Terrigal Wamberal Little Athletics will be holding their registration days for the 2015/16 season at Duffys Oval, Terrigal on:

Friday 4th September 6pm-7:30pm &
Saturday 12th September 10am-11:30am.

Little Athletics is for children aged 5-16 years. It is based upon the sport of athletics (track and field), with a wide range of running, jumping, throwing and walking events conducted. The events are specially modified to suit the ages and abilities of children, with an emphasis on participation and personal improvement.

Registration is $120 for the first child and $110 for each child thereafter. Online registration is available; however you will still need to attend one of the above registration days. We do not have credit card facilities at Duffys Oval, so please have cash or cheque payable to: Terrigal Wamberal Little Athletics Centre.

For further information please go to our website: http://terrigalwamberallittleathletics.wordpress.com/ or contact April Coles on 0405166503.
Dear Interested Participants,

We would like to invite you and your establishment to participate in our Community Day for Threatened Species Day at Central Coast Wetlands - Pioneer Dairy.

Central Coast Wetlands - Pioneer Dairy is a public recreation area and wetlands located at South Tacoma Road, Tuggerah. It is a Crown Land Reserve managed by the Tuggerah Lake Reserve Trust and is a non-profit, community volunteer organisation committed to the restoration and conservation of this natural wetland setting for use by the community.

This year our Community Day will be held on Sunday 20th September 2015 and we are welcoming businesses, like yourself, who may be interested in having a stall or hosting an activity on the day. There will be an array of displays and entertainment, including: Australian Reptile Park Road Show, Jumping Castle, Face painting, Children’s rides, Live Music, Dancers, SES, Fire Engine, Combat Archery games, Craft Stalls, Dairy Cottage Tea Room and a Sausage Sizzle.

This year’s Community Day will be well publicised through Radio, Newspapers and Wyong Council to help draw a significant crowd, creating a perfect opportunity for unique small businesses, such as yourself, to set up a stall and sell your products to the local community. There will be no stall-holder fee; however we do ask that you bring your own table/stand and chairs and extension cords/power boards if electricity is required.

Date: Sunday, 20th September
Time: 10:30am – 3:00pm (gates will open for stall holders from 8:00am for set up, which is to be completed by 10:00am)
Address: 1897 South Tacoma Rd, Tuggerah NSW 2259
Directions: Turn off Tuggerah Straight at Dotha’s Car Yard – proceed under the railway bridge - the Dairy is approx. 20m on your right after going under the bridge

NOTE: Places are extremely limited, so if interested please tick the box and details below and return to PO Box 645, Wyong NSW 2259 by Monday, 31st August or email to either: beckle024@outlook.com or c.pascuzzo@live.com.au

Central Coast Wetlands - Pioneer Dairy invites you for Threatened Species Day

Sunday 20th September 10:30am - 3:00pm
1897 South Tacoma Rd, Tuggerah
(Approx. 20m on the right after going under Railway bridge)

Your Local Community Garden

Pioneer Dairy Community Garden is a place for you and your plants to grow. What you can establish in your community garden is limited only by your imagination.

What is a community garden?
A community garden is a piece of land gardened by a group of people for the benefit of the group and the wider community.

Community gardens provide an open space to grow organic food, provides a valuable resource to neighbourhoods and traditions under threat.

Why become a part of a community garden?

• Creating opportunities for reconnection, exercise and education
• Reduce your food miles, while doing your part for the environment
• Learn new skills with hands on experience
• Establish a community network and meet new people
• Encouraging social interactions across generations and cultures

Proudly sponsored by:
Special Religious Education

The dates for Scripture Lessons in 2015 are:

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PAYMENT OF FEES AT THE OFFICE

Welcome to all our new families. For your information and as a general reminder to all parents and students below is information on payments and office hours:

Payments may be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card or direct deposit.

The office is open to accept payments from 8.15am. Students (including Seniors) may only make payments before school commences, at Break 1 and at Break 2. The office closes at 3.30pm, therefore no payments are accepted after school.

Due to OH&S cash handling arrangements payments cannot be accepted after 2.30pm. If you find it difficult to make it to the school before 2.30pm there are a number of other options available:

- Send the payment to school with your child (cash or cheque)
- Complete a credit card payment authority to have the fees deducted from your credit account (Your child can collect one from the front office or phone the school to have one posted to you)
- Phone the school and pay your fees via credit card over the phone
- Pay by Direct Deposit to Erina High School – BSB: 032 001 Acct: 148118 (Please enter Student name and what you are paying for as the Reference) (e.g. J.Sample – Yr 7 Camp or T.Morrow – VisArts)

Please note:
The office cash register closes promptly at 11.50am (the end of Break 1) on the last day of each Term. Unfortunately, no payments can be accepted after this time.

Thankyou