



ELIZABETH
COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER

TERM 1
2015



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



As you browse this newsletter, I hope you share my excitement when I read about the rich opportunities available to students at Elizabeth College. Offerings such as the Bay of Fires Walk, *ArtRage*, and over fifty Enrichment activities mean that our

young people can join together inside and outside classrooms to form lasting relationships and to enjoy their time with us as they learn. Of course it is our passionate, committed teachers and support staff who make these opportunities possible. All members of staff put in extra time that supports students and helps them achieve personal success.

As we review our progress as a college, we always rely on evidence to monitor our effectiveness. Our goals are outlined in our Strategic Plan (education.tas.edu.au/academy/elizabeth) and we keep those goals in mind as we navigate our way through the year. Recent attainment data shows us that more students are achieving their TCE and our percentage is way above statewide statistics. Over half of our students last year gained their ATAR and we are 15% above the state figure. Our median ATAR score was 80.8 in 2014.

If, like many others, you are unsure about what is meant by the acronyms we use, such as ATAR, TCE, VET or TQA, please join us on Thursday 14 May at 5.30 pm in our theatre. Our active Parent Group has organised a parent forum where the TQA assessment processes are explained in simple terms. There will be opportunities to ask questions and hear from our career counsellor.

Many of you would have joined us at our annual Prize Night at the end of last term. This celebration of student achievement always leaves me proud to be principal of our college, as so many young people achieve awards that lead to challenging and fulfilling futures. All of the teachers present were there to celebrate with you and we know how much parents, grandparents, siblings and others support our young people to achieve excellence.

Celebrating student success is an important part of so many events here at college. Our regular cluster assemblies allow opportunities to celebrate day to day achievements, such as initiatives from our Student Leadership Group, student talent in Music and so many other aspects of college life.

I hope you continue to stay in touch over this year as your son or daughter makes the most of their time with us.

Dr Dianne Purnell
Principal

PERFORMING ARTS

A priority of the EC Performing Arts team is providing opportunities to experience quality theatre and music. Already this year, fifty students have attended an alfresco evening of laughter and merriment at the Botanical Gardens to see *The Comedy of Errors*. Another evening was spent at the Playhouse Theatre to see past students, Ellen Roe and Noah Casey, tread the boards in *Summer of the Aliens*. Music students had the opportunity to see a huge orchestra perform *The Song of the Earth* at the TSO, while Drama students were challenged and confronted by the solo performance of Justus Neumann in *Alzheimer Symphony*. In early March, we went to see sixteen of our present and past students working on 80's musical *The Wedding Singer*. Many more exciting excursions are still to come.



Alfresco entertainment at *The Comedy of Errors*



SOUTHERN COLLEGES AND UTAS WIND ENSEMBLE

It's been another great start to the year for the Wind Ensemble. A collaboration between the four southern colleges and the University of Tasmania, students come together for weekly rehearsals at the Conservatorium of Music under the baton of highly respected musician and educator Sean Priest. The band is currently working on a program for a free concert to be held at the Conservatorium of Music on Friday 29th May at 1pm. Also just announced is an exciting new venture for the ensemble, a tour in late August to North West Tasmania. The Ensemble will tour with the Conservatorium Big Band to present an exciting concert program to school audiences.

OUR HOUSE – ANOTHER GREAT SHOW IN THE MAKING

Auditions are done and dusted for this year's college musical, *Our House*. A fantastic cast has been assembled and rehearsals are under way. Students who secured lead roles include Louis Rose, Vanessa McArthur, David Abbott and Taylah Shirley. "It's such an exciting process," commented Louis, "the show itself is great and the whole cast is putting in so much effort and energy!" Staff are impressed with the skill and confidence shown by the Year 11s and it is great to see how far the Year 12s have come since last year. *Our House* will be performed in the theatre in June.



Our House cast rehearsing on location

HANDS ON LEARNING AT CAFÉ TANG

Café TANG is part of the Elizabeth College culture, a fully operational staff café run by VET Hospitality and Kitchen Operations students. Hospitality students have the opportunity to handle money, attend to customer requests, prepare an array of hot and cold drinks and generally practise their skills. In our commercial kitchen, Kitchen Operations students create tasty lunch time treats. Already this year teachers have been wowed with creative and tasty morsels including: nachos, Welsh rarebit, sumac chicken and hummus wraps, smoked salmon and cream cheese bagels and pastrami with parsley and caper aioli served with triple cooked chips. The future of Tasmania's hospitality is in good hands!



Hospitality students: Jordyn Mainella, Kate Lynch and Dempsey Kilpatrick



Catering students: Howard Mitchell, Erin McDonald, Jesse Gill, Bryn Clark, Juwan Roberts and Matthew Gilles



Llewelyn Ross and Priya Roy testing electro-chemical cells in Physics

SCIENCE NEWS

Elizabeth College has been successful in being granted \$8000 from the Commonwealth Department of Science and Industry to assist in organising Science Week activities this year.

Year 12 students, Gareth Davy, Gabrielle Fracalossi and Tobias Roat attended the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra in January. This forum is sponsored by Rotary and provides challenges, practical work, lectures, and networking for Year 11 students who are interested in a career in science, technology or engineering. This year's Year 11 cohort can now apply and need to do so before the 31st May. More information can be found at nysf.edu.au or from a Science teacher.

ENGLISH WRITING

Playwright Caitlin Richardson recently visited English classes to promote a series of writers' workshops run by The Tasmanian Writers' Centre and YouthARC. Coincidentally, we had just hung a large banner featuring Caitlin's poem, 'Naked', written when she was a student here in 2008, and which won the national Dorothea Mackellar poetry prize in that year. Since then, she has studied in England, written a series of plays for Port Arthur and is completing her Masters of Teaching. Caitlin will be back later in the year to work with our current batch of talented writers.



Caitlin Richardson in front of her 2008 prize-winning poem



Snags on the campfire



Luke, Simon, Ha, Nisco, Alun, Jackie and Marcus on the beach

BAY OF FIRES

Forty lucky students and four staff spent three nights sleeping under the stars on our Bay of Fires enrichment camp. The stunning beaches, red lichen covered rocks and historical Aboriginal middens were the perfect setting for relaxation and forming new friendships. Our time was spent walking in the sun, swimming in crystal clear water, gazing up at the Milky Way, eating pancakes, playing cricket and frisbee, and having ukulele sing-alongs around the camp fire. Marcus reflected that, "My favourite part was being able to camp outside with friends and cooking a barbecue over the fire," while Kat enjoyed "Going for the night walk along the beach to see the beautiful stars and eating Heath's famous curry!"

ECAAD CAMP

In February, the Elizabeth College Advanced Academic Diploma (ECAAD) group attended their annual camp at Woodfield Lodge. The aim of the weekend was for our new Year 11 students to get to know each other as well as the returning Year 12s. These relationships will form the basis of the ECAAD program, which supports students to reach the highest academic outcomes. Two days of beautiful weather provided the perfect conditions for a host of adventure and team-building activities, which the group participated in with enthusiasm and maturity. Year 11 student Alex Beswick commented, "Richard's



ECAAD students at Woodfield Lodge

passion for astronomy set the tone for the camp. The high-paced atmosphere provided a perfect situation for building team skills."

WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

Year 12 student Madeleine Leggett and Japanese teacher Heath Watts have both spent the start of this year vigorously fundraising for the Leukaemia Foundation. In mid-March they both went under the razor, taking part in the World's Greatest Shave. Madeleine was "inspired by a close friend who was diagnosed with leukaemia and fought it for seven years", while friends of Heath "had a baby that was born with leukaemia, but survived thanks to some amazing doctors and innovative new treatments". As we go to press, Heath has raised close to \$1000 and Maddy is well over \$3000!



You can still contribute to their fundraising at the links below:

my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/maddylegs

my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/heathwatts

NEW TEACHERS AT EC



Peter MacFarlane



Ella Kearney

Peter MacFarlane is working in our Technology area, teaching Design and Production and Computer Graphics and Design. He has taught full time since 2001, working in Primary and Secondary sectors in the Derwent Valley and Hobart. He is soon to welcome a fourth addition to his family and enjoys cycling, reading and the outdoors.

Jamieson Smalley brings a vast range of expertise to EC's Health and PE programs. This year he is teaching Health Studies, Physical Recreation and supporting our Athlete Development Program. He has taught in Burnie, Smithton and Taroona where he developed a number of marine science subjects. Jamieson's diverse range of qualifications include diving instructor, personal trainer, pool and open water rescue examiner, MAST boat licence provider and First Aid instructor.



Jamieson Smalley

Ella Kearney teaches Sociology and English and has come from a year's teaching at Taroona High School. Her undergraduate degree is in Sociology and, as part of this, studied at Ithaca College in upstate New York. Ella also has experience in Journalism and is working to launch a new student publication at EC this year.

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Elizabeth College's wide range of Athlete Development Programs (ADP) have gone from strength to strength in 2015. Students who are passionate about developing in their chosen sport are enrolled in our five on campus classes as well as ADP online for students in remote areas. Students develop their fitness and knowledge as well as competing against schools from around the country. Recently the AFL class has played Newstead College, ADP Hockey has played Xavier College from Victoria and the Netball class is in preparation for their major tournament in July.

Tyler Harrison is in ADP Futsal and dreams of playing soccer professionally, "For people who take their sport seriously, ADP gives you the insights and skills to play at a higher standard. I play for the Hobart Zebras and



ADP students Oliver Markey, Molly Causland and Bryce Roberts

coach the under-10s. The weekly ADP session we do with the Football Federation has made me a better coach and stronger player."

CERTIFICATE II SPORT AND RECREATION

On the 4th of March, VET Certificate II Sport and Recreation students were involved in the South Hobart Primary School Athletics Carnival held at the Domain Athletics Track. Students assisted in marshalling, recording and organising students. Parents and teachers commented on how fantastically our students undertook their roles and adapted to the trying conditions on the day.

ELIZABETH COLLEGE



Tarni Fairfield as race marshal

DRIVER TRAINING AT EC



Brettany Wilson at Clarence City Council (above) and Madalyn Grubb at Harcourts Signature Real Estate (below).



VET BUSINESS

VET Business students have recently been on week-long work experience placements, gaining valuable on-the-job insights in local businesses and agencies.

Brettany Wilson spent a week at Clarence City Council. She said, "It was a great opportunity. By the end I felt confident about what's expected in the workplace."



Brittany Allen with mentor Senior Constable Louise O'Connor

Students now have the opportunity to obtain their L1 and L2 drivers' licences with the launch of the EC *Safety Matters* program. We recently won a grant to purchase a new dual-control automatic car to enable selected students to spend one hour per week learning how to drive with a mentor. Learners will also participate in defensive driver training courtesy of The Australian Institute of Advanced Motorists.

Year 12 student Brittany Allen was mentored in the pilot programme last year and went on to pass her L2 test over the summer. "Safety Matters prepared me for getting my Ps," said Brittany. "I got to spend lots of time in the new Mazda 2 and I was really confident in my test thanks to Louise my mentor."

Safety Matters would like to hear from any member of our school community who may be able to assist the program by becoming a mentor. Full training and on-going assistance is provided. Contact David Brown by email david.brown@education.tas.gov.au

Safety Matters would like to acknowledge our sponsors: MAIB, DJ Motors, TACC, RACT Driver Training, Saunders Signs and The Republic Bar and Café.

ARTRAGE 2014

EC Art students Kate Loader, Madeleine Ling and Matthew Hart have all been selected to have their work displayed in the *ArtRage 2014* Collection. Currently at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG) in Launceston, the exhibition tours the state and will arrive in Hobart on May 9, at the Plimsoll Gallery in Hunter Street. Artworks are selected by QVMAG curators from a shortlist provided by teachers and are a sample of Art Production and Art Studio Practice work from across the state. Kate Loader is the Examiners' Choice for Art Production, and her work is described as "expansive, expressive and highly individual" and "demonstrated her mastery of technique."

Visit the exhibition site for more information: www.qvmag.tas.gov.au/qvmag/index.php?c=173



The Faces of My Shaping, Kate Loader, ink and mixed media



DUX OF ELIZABETH COLLEGE 2014 – GOLD MEDAL AWARD

Eliza Cropp – Tasmanian Tertiary Entrance Score: 120.8 (ATAR 99.95)

In 2015, Eliza is commencing a Biomedicine degree at the University of Melbourne as a Chancellor's Scholar, planning to eventually study a postgraduate degree in Medicine. She is interested in pursuing a career in medicine or health policy, particularly international healthcare through an aid organisation.

Eliza attended Ogilvie High School and was inspired by her teachers there and at Elizabeth College. She was selected as a Tasmanian representative at the Youth ANZAAS Science Forum in 2013 and the National Youth Science Forum in 2014. Eliza was a member of the champion Elizabeth College Debating team in 2013 and was selected for the Tasmanian team in 2014. She also represented Elizabeth College at the national finals of UN Youth Australia's Evatt Trophy competition in 2013.

Eliza enjoyed participating in many of the sports offered at Elizabeth College including Futsal, the Burnie Ten and the All-Schools Cross Country Championships. She also competed in the Southern Women's Premier League as a member of the University Soccer Club.

ENRICHMENT

The Elizabeth College Enrichment program provides students with a diverse range of extra-curricular activities. From bowling to barista basics, scuba to self-defence, flyboarding to funk, students have the chance to step outside their comfort zones, gain new skills and make new friends. Over fifty options are available each term with exciting new choices every time.

Ollie Butler is in Year 12 and believes enrichment offers, "something for everyone". He has gained certificates for CPR, his Bronze Medallion and his motorcycle licence through the program. Faerlie Burton is in Year 11 and currently signed up for Life Drawing, which allows her "to follow my passion without compromising my academic studies."



Elizabeth College
inspired resourceful learners