EPPING SECONDARY COLLEGE

Year 9 Community Focus Program
2017

Be the Change, Lead the Change
The Community Focus Program consists of a range of electives, which are different from traditional subjects in a number of ways.

- All electives involve significant **hands on** learning through planned practical activities.
- All electives are **community centred**.
- Students will be encouraged to plan, run, organise tasks, make decisions, work in teams, think about their community and beyond and so develop a broad range of personal skills.

**Choosing Electives:**

CVA and Community Volunteering are **full year** electives. If students choose either of these electives, they will only participate in one elective. Otherwise, students will be involved in two electives, one in first semester and a different one in second semester.

- All electives have expectations that students and their parents must agree to in order to be placed in their chosen elective.
- In 2016 students will need to fill out an application form to outline why they should be chosen for the following Community Electives:
  - Community Volunteering
  - CVA
  - City Experience
- These applications will then be used to place students into the electives.

**Important Note:**

If students choose to do the CVA or Community Volunteering they pay one levy which covers the entire year. All the other Semester long electives will require students to pay two levies, one in semester one and one in semester two. So please read the price of the levies associated with each elective to ensure you and your family can afford to participate in these electives. **It is an expectation that if you choose an elective and you get accepted into that elective that you pay all the levy.**
Full Year Electives:

Students choose one of the following two electives for the whole year.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

Students who take part in this elective will choose from a range of community based organizations. This could involve working with students at local Primary Schools, Kindergartens or Child Care Centres, assisting at Aged Care Facilities, Community Centers, Youth Centers or other charitable organisations. This program will run one afternoon each week for the entire school year with students taking full responsibility for maintaining a positive, honest and pro-active relationship with their placement. The understanding is that students will graciously and willingly attend to give of their time and energy, and show a genuine commitment to making a difference in the community.

In summary, this program is about making community connections and developing an awareness and understanding of the many services which exist to assist all people of all ages and without discrimination.

Expectations:

- Students will travel independently and in full school uniform to their placements.
- Students will actively participate in programs at their placement.
- Students will be encouraged to initiate programs (where appropriate) at their placements.
- Students will respect all policies, expectations, staff and clients at the placement.
- Students will have honest and open communication with their classroom teacher.
- Students will persevere and practice resilience (teacher will assist) as changes will not be allowed.
- Students will pay a $10 levy and have a valid MYKI card.

Community Conservation Volunteering ADVANCE PROGRAM

This elective covers a range of theory and practical components designed to challenge and extend students both mentally and physically. Features of the program include:

- Theory components related to volunteering and communication.
- Practical sessions related to environment, hands on learning activities including landscaping and tree planting.

Expectations:

- Completion of an Emergency First Aid Certificate.
- Completion of the Duke of Edinburgh’s (Bronze) Award which requires a commitment to improving physical fitness, bushwalking, developing new skills, volunteering and participation in camps. (Adventurous Journey)
- Participation in overnight camps including some bushwalking and bushcraft over two days.
- Practical sessions that focus on landscaping and gardening at the rear of the house.
- Students will need to pay the $30 levy and have a valid MYKI card
- Students will keep a record their progress using the Duke of Edinburgh Online Record Book.

Only students who can demonstrate a firm commitment to the program will be selected.
Semester Electives:

Students need to choose 2 from the following semester electives.

COMMUNITY SPORT, HEALTH AND RECREATION

Students will spend the semester participating in a range of activities outside the mainstream PE program. They will spend a considerable amount of time out in the community participating in Sporting, Health, Recreational & Fitness activities developing skills in a number of different areas. Students will travel to local Primary Schools to assist with the delivery of Sporting, Fitness and Recreational activities and also assist with Grade 6 Transition programs at ESC.

Expectations:
- Students will bring a change of PE clothes to every class.
- Students will attend & participate in all activities offered.
- Students will act in a positive and professional manner when assisting with grade 6 transition days and when running primary school sports days.
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.
- Students will pay a **levy of $110** and will need to have a valid MYKI card.

COMMUNITY DANCE

Community Dance will give you the opportunity to explore physical activity, movement and your creativity flare through different styles of dance. Throughout this elective you will experiment with and investigate different styles and forms of dance from hip-hop through to contemporary. You will learn how to use your body to execute different physical skills and body actions. You will then use these skills to assist with Grade 6 transition days, and dance teaching at a local primary school. Students will take part in a number of different incursions and excursions (dance classes, performances around the school and community and Ministry of Dance visit).

Expectations:
- Full physical education uniform and appropriate footwear is required for each class.
- Students will be required to choreograph and perform one group and one solo performance to an audience in costume.
- Both theory and practical dance will be studied.
- A genuine interest in being physically active, exploring movement and dance is required.
- A positive attitude and enthusiasm to be challenged is required.
- The potential to be involved in the 2014 Epping Secondary College school production.
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.
- Students will need to pay the **$80 levy** and have a valid MYKI card.

*No dance experience is necessary.*
MARVELOUS MELBOURNE

The elective is allows students to explore their home town ‘Melbourne’ and learn about its past and present features. Students who choose this subject should enjoy researching and discovering history and presenting their knowledge in creative and meaningful ways. This subject will combine visits to historical places of importance in Melbourne and research and inquiry driven tasks at school. Students who are interested in history and perhaps a career in travel will gain from this elective as the opportunity to produce travel itineraries and blogs will be a part of this elective. During the course of this elective students will decide whether they want to produce a children’s story about an aspect of Melbourne’s history, create a travel blog or produce an educational resource on an aspect of Melbourne’s history to be shared with a local primary school/junior class at Epping Secondary College and our school library. This elective will broaden students’ knowledge of their own wider community outside of their local area.

During this elective students will explore: a building of historical significance to Melbourne; the Melbourne Police Museum; Old Melbourne Gaol; features of life in Melbourne in the 1800s and how it has changed; and what Melbourne CBD has to offer tourists in the 21st Century.

Expectations:

- Students will participate in at least four visits to the city over the course of the semester.
- Students will pay the **$25.00 levy** to cover the entrance fees of selected venues visited.
- Students will complete one travel itinerary task in the CBD in small groups without direct teacher supervision for a short period of time.
- Students will complete all research tasks with pride and a commitment to extending their skills and knowledge.
- Students will show motivation and initiative when responding to set tasks.
- Students will have created either a detailed travel blog, story book or educational resource with an identified target audience, by the end of the semester.

COMMUNITY MEDIA

Countless Melbourne media personalities began their careers in Community Media, eg: Rove McManus at Channel 31 and Kate Langbroek at 3RRR. This elective explores how and why community based media are different from commercial media. Students will also have the opportunity to create and run their own school-based media organisation and create products for and about their local community. Students will learn about radio, experience working in a range of production roles, develop technical skills in using relevant equipment and software, and will be responsible for organising screenings and broadcasts of their various productions.

Expectations:

- Students will produce a radio program.
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.
- Students will organise screenings and broadcasts.
- Students will need to pay the **$10 levy** and have a valid MYKI card.
COMMUNITY ARTS

This elective offers students exciting and creative opportunities. Art projects planned and produced in the college include murals, drama set productions and installation artworks. Art based projects and displays are also developed through partnerships with local community organisations such as primary schools, shopping centres and care facilities. Students will explore local community art projects and develop an understanding of different ways to create, make and display artworks. An excursion to the Melbourne CBD offers students a direct experience of street art. This is an exciting way of experiencing firsthand the importance of art in the community.

Expectations
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.
- Students will need to pay the $15 levy and have a valid MYKI card.

COMMUNITY CRAFT

Community Craft enables students to create and build objects to sell at the Epping Secondary College Art and Design market at the Opening Night of the ESC Art and Design exhibition. Students will be able to explore a range of creative avenues which align with their personal interests, and will discover what it means to create objects for a specific target audience. All objects made will be sold at the market to raise funds for the ESC Art and Technology Department.

In this community elective, students will be able to explore themselves creatively, and play to their interests and creative strengths. They will undertake the design process, and discover the significance of working toward a common community goal, and the importance of quality control and maintenance in their own creative process.

During this semester, students will:
- Research what an Art and Design market is, and how it differs from other types of markets.
- Brainstorm, plan and design their own art or craft object to sell.
- Create numerous objects, using various mediums and methods to sell at the ESC Art and Design market.

Expectations of students:
- Completion of a Design Process folio booklet.
- Demonstrate planning and organisational skills before beginning to create a market object.
- Participation to excursions to markets and art stalls.
- Participation and appropriate behaviour during all practical sessions.
- Students will need to pay the $15 levy and have a valid MYKI card.
COMMUNITY MUSIC

Students will develop and learn musical and performance skills and will conduct performances at school and in the wider community. They will prepare a variety of musical performances to exhibit student talents in the wider community. Performance venues may include shopping centres, aged care homes, primary schools, and other public venues. Performances may include choir, band and solo performances, or keyboard ensembles. Students who join this elective would ideally have an appreciation of music and some musical ability.

Expectations:
- Students will participate in all activities offered.
- Students will be involved in performances at school and in the wider community.
- Students will need to pay the $10 levy and have a valid MYKI card
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.

COMMUNITY ENTREPRENEURS

The elective is designed to introduce students to the concept of the ‘social entrepreneur’: someone who runs a business in order to raise money for more needy members of the community. By the end of the semester groups of students will have developed their own business strategy and put it into action in order to raise money for a charity of their choice. In preparation for this students will undertake the $20 Loan Challenge in which they will be taught some basic business principles, and then given $20 with the goal of making as much money from that as possible.

Students will also be involved in a variety of local fundraisers in order to develop entrepreneurial and leadership skills. Depending on the plan they develop, students may need to travel outside of school in order to secure funding, meet sponsors, organise aspects of the business or fundraiser, and execute their plan. Experiences gained through this elective will look great on a resume, and it is a fantastic opportunity to genuinely help those in need.

Expectations:
- Students must maintain the highest level of respect and courtesy as they travel outside of the school and represent Epping Secondary College.
- At times students will be intrusted with money and equipment – they will therefore need to display great honesty and reliability.
- Students must develop a written plan for their fundraiser or business that will need to be submitted to the ESC school council.
- Students will need to pay the $50 levy and have a valid MYKI card.
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.
Are you angry about the treatment of Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Australia? Do you wish there was something you could do to help? Well this Community Elective is for you!
The RLSP gives you the opportunity to go to local Primary Schools and work with students from refugee and migrant backgrounds who need assistance with their reading, writing or speaking. You will receive specialised training from CMY at ESC in the first few weeks of semester so that you are well prepared. After your training is complete, you will spend every Tuesday afternoon at a Primary School of your choice listening to students read, helping them practice their spoken English, and working with the teachers there to support the students involved.

Expectations:
- Students will need to travel from ESC to the Primary School each week, which may involve the use of public transport, therefore a valid MYKI card will be needed.
- Students involved need to have literacy levels of Year 7 or above at the time of application.
- Students need to be respectful, patient and compassionate at all times.
- Students must work hard to accommodate the needs of the school and the students they are working with.
- Students will need to pay the $10 levy.
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.

In this elective students will discover the balance between us and the environment and how our personal actions impact on the global community. It involves building up a community garden, planting and reaping the rewards, that is: food that can be used for their consumption. They will learn the art of recycling, composting and maintaining a worm farm. It is a hands on approach including turning soil, weeding, growing and producing.

Expectations:
- Students will need to be prepared to get their hands dirty both in the garden and in the kitchen.
- Students will need to pay the $30 levy.
- Students will keep a weekly journal of their progress.