



At Epping Secondary College our relationships and behaviours are guided by the values **RESPECT, COMMITMENT, HONESTY, FAIRNESS AND PERSEVERANCE**



NEWSBOYS FOUNDATION YOUTH LEADERSHIP State Second Place!

It was with great pride that Ms Hart, Ms Alamidis and I attended the VicSRC Recognition Awards where Tabitha Anderson was one of three finalists for the prestigious Newsboys Foundation Youth Leadership Award. The Newsboys Foundation Youth Leadership Award is awarded to a Year 12 student who provides exceptional leadership within their school and community. Students make a video nomination and the three finalists are then interviewed by a panel of judges.

The evening opened with Deputy Premier and Minister for Education James Merlino MP, giving an inspiring speech talking about the importance and impact of student voice. He then announced that from 2018, all government school councils must include at least one student member with full voting rights. This has been the case at ESC for a number of years and something to be celebrated.

Even though she was runner up for the Newsboys Foundation Youth Leadership Award, Tabitha won \$1,000 to invest in student leadership, SRC, education, student voice activities or social change initiatives.

Tabitha has made an outstanding contribution to our college in a number of different ways and her passion and enthusiasm for student voice and empowerment will be missed. Fortunately, we are already making plans for her to help mentor some of the 2018 student leaders.

Sara-Jane Smith
Student Leader Coordinator



Issue 7 October 2017

Important Dates

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 1
VCE Exams Begin
Music Concert 7.30pm

Tuesday 7
MELBOURNE CUP DAY

Monday 13
Y11 Exams begin

Wednesday 15
Y7 Immunisations

Friday 17
Valedictory Dinner
San Remo Ballroom
6.30pm

Monday 20 - Friday 24
Y12 Commencement Program

November 20 - December 20
World Challenge Tour

Monday 27
Year 10 exams begin

Monday 27-Friday Dec 1
Year 9 Bogong Camp

DECEMBER

Monday 4-Friday 8
Y11 Commencement Program

Thursday 7
Art Expo 7pm

Tuesday 12
Grade 6 Orientation day

Monday 11-Friday 15
Y8-10 Stepping up Programs

Principal's Report



Firstly I would like to commend our year 12 students on their outstanding behaviour during their end of school celebrations. They had fun but at the same time were very respectful of the rest of the school community. They made moving speeches at the assembly reminiscing on their years at Epping SC and expressing their gratitude to their teachers for the significant role they have played in their journey, as well as the school for the opportunities it has offered them over the years. I am very pleased to say that our current year 12 students have taken up the many support programs we have established to develop not only their academic skills but also their personal qualities and sense of responsibility as members of the school community. Many attended school throughout the term 3 holidays to sit multiple practice exams and meet with their teachers for feedback on their performance. Others also attended exam preparation lectures held at various universities so as to be well prepared for the end of year exams. This next phase is critical as the VCE students buckle down to study for their exams and VCAL students complete their final assessments. We wish them all the very best with their exams and hope that they each achieve their goals, find their passions and move on to fulfilling and meaningful lives.

As our senior students prepare to move on to the big wide world, our **prospective year 7 students** are beginning their transition into their new school. We have approximately 205 year 7 students starting next year. This figure was originally 275 which would have taken our total student population close to 1400. Letters were sent to families that were outside of our local area and many have enrolled at other secondary colleges closer to their homes. There are students who are accepted through special curriculum grounds and the scholarship program. As part of the transition process we conduct testing of all the students so that we are able to construct appropriate classes as well as be better prepared to address their individual needs. We also invited all students and their parents to what we call "Meet and Greet" interviews which took place on Wednesday 25th October. Their next visit will take place on Tuesday 12th December which is the state grade 6 Orientation day. We are very excited as always to welcome our new students and their families and equally pleased to see so many brothers and sisters joining the school.

Once again our year 10 students were involved in the **Real Job Interviews Program** at the Plenty Rangers Convention Centre and I am very pleased to report that the organisers praised our students who were apparently the best prepared of all the schools that participated. This is a credit to our students as well as to their Industry and Enterprise teachers who are thorough in teaching the process of writing good CVs as well as effective interview skills and strategies.

Student leadership is a key feature of our school and student voice and participation is highly valued. The School Captains play an integral role as school leaders as well as role models to all students and this year's captains have been exemplary. We thank Nathan Fitzgerald, Chelsea Conforto, Tabitha Anderson and Bineet Gujral for the outstanding contribution they made to the school and hope they continue to be leaders in the future. The College Captain 2018 interviews took place late last term and the panel was extremely impressed with all the applicants and their commitment to the ongoing development of the school and their leadership. The decisions were very difficult however it gives me great pleasure to announce the 2018 college captains:

School Captains: Lisa Compton-Robins and Hannah Fitzgerald **Vice Captains:** Casey Kingi and Helen Ioannidis

Social Justice Captain: Aron Raward

I am confident that they will follow in the footsteps of the outgoing captains and I look forward to working with them.

I would also like to congratulate our current college captain **Tabitha Anderson** on being nominated for two very prestigious awards, the VICSRC (Newboys Foundation Youth Leadership) Award and the VCAA (Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Award. These are in addition to being awarded City of Whittlesea Young Citizen of the Year, 2017. What an outstanding young person and we congratulate her on these achievements.

Helene Alamidis
Principal

October 2017

College Captains 2018

Name: Hannah Fitzgerald

Position: College Captain

House: Scarborough

Favourite subject: Health and Human Development. I chose the subject when I was in year 10 and in the past 2 years it has become my favourite as it is a good subject.

Fact about me: I love playing sport particularly soccer.

Why I applied for College Captain:

I applied for College Captain because I believe it is an opportunity to expand and enhance my leadership skills and develop my personality traits. I want to be able to connect and communicate with everyone in the school. I believe the responsibility of being a College Captain will benefit me in the long term.

What I'm hoping to achieve in 2018: I hope to encourage individuals in all year levels to participate in upcoming school events. I aim to maintain an open mind and as a captain assist students and teachers.

Name: Lisa Compton-Robins

Position: College Captain

House: Carlisle

Favourite subject: PE, I love PE because I'm interested in sport and how the body works!

Fact about me: I umpire football with the NFL as a boundary and a field umpire. I have also been lucky enough to umpire at Etihad Stadium.

Why I applied for College Captain: I believe I can help make a change in the school and be the voice of the students.

What I'm hoping to achieve in 2018: To be a great school captain and help the school and the students in every way I can.

Name: Aron Raward

Position: Social Justice Captain

House: Findon

Favourite subject: Drama because it's fun and for me it helps you see through the eyes of someone else.

Fact about me: I have been musically orientated since I was 5 years old, maybe even younger.

Why I applied for College Captain: To develop greater leadership skills.

What I'm hoping to achieve in 2018: A successful bi-annual theatre production. (This might change as time moves on. I might add more)

Anything else: THANKS FOR ACCEPTING ME AS A COLLEGE CAPTAIN !!!!



Name: Helen Ioannidis

Position: College Vice-Captain

House: Findon

Favourite subject: Biology. It is heavy in content as well as challenging. I also enjoy it because there is much research that still needs to be done with biology.

Fact about me: Although I am very science-based, I am very passionate about art.

Why I applied for College Captain: I applied to be college captain to take on extra responsibility as well as be a voice for students.

What I'm hoping to achieve in 2018: As College Captain, I hope to achieve goals that benefit students as well as teachers.

Name: Casey Kingi

Position: College Vice-Captain

House: Findon

Favourite subject: Health & Human Development because I find it the most enjoyable and enjoy learning about the different factors that can impact on health.

Fact about me: I have played hockey for over 10 years and have represented Victoria.

Why I applied for College Captain: To take on a new leadership role within the school community and step out of my comfort zone.

What I'm hoping to achieve in 2018: As College Captain I wish to actively contribute to the school community and provide a channel of communication between the different cohorts of ESC and college staff.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing"

(Edmund Burk 1729-1797)

During week 2 of term 4, Year 10 Humanities students participated in the Courage to Care Program. Courage to Care is a travelling exhibition and education program that uses the period of World War II and the Holocaust to explore racism, stereotyping, prejudice and bullying and to inspire students to become 'Upstanders' – individuals who have the 'courage to care.' Each morning groups of Year 10 students listened intently to the stories of loss and courage Holocaust survivors such as Judy Kolt, George Deutsch and Gilah Leder experienced during World War II.

Students participated in workshops, led by Courage to Care facilitators, where they remembered courageous people who took enormous personal risks to rescue Jews and others from the program of extermination known as the Holocaust. During these workshops students explored how they can become 'Upstanders' and reject prejudice and discrimination in their own lives and communities and how their individual or collective acts of courage have the power to make a real difference. Thank you to

all students and staff who participated in the program, your positive contributions made the Courage to Care incursion a wonderful experience for our college community and the Courage to Care facilitators.

"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light from a solitary candle"

(St Francis of Assisi, Italian monk & saint 1181 - 1226)

Ms Neri

Humanities Co-ordinator



October 2017



Epping Secondary College

Learning for life

Year 8 Nayook Camp

Year 8 students attended the Nayook Outdoor Education Centre in August and enjoyed the 5 day experience immensely.

All students were able to benefit from the cold snap that Melbourne has been having of late by participating in 2 days of cross country skiing at Mt Baw Baw, caving , canopy challenge/high ropes course, community projects and bush walking.

Students not only learned the skills of the various challenging activities but the whole week further developed their understanding of character strengths that I-Self programs have been teaching.

Nayook staff had pre and post camp meetings with students to set and evaluate the camp through their involvement and students will surely benefit from this experience, being able to apply it to their lives and schoolwork.

My thanks to all the staff at the campsite and a special thanks to Ms Privitelli for her assistance.

Mr Biscaro





October 2017

VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS



This term Epping Secondary College was privileged to have 3 of our students selected to compose music for a project initiated by the VCA (Victorian College of the Arts). Our talented students were Julian Valeri, Aron Raward and George Sahpekidis. This year 25 primary school students across Victoria developed a visual story as part of the 'Take Flight' project and musical composers were required to help compose music to suit the visual stories.

We were delighted to have 3 of our students selected to compose music using computer based technology to complement these visual stories. Our students successfully breathed life into this project by composing music that was both inspiring and captivating and suitable for a range of audiences.

We congratulate these students for making our Music Faculty and the college very proud and we wish you continued growth and development in the future.

Mr Ross Talarico
(Music Coordinator)



Aron RAWARD



Julian VALERI



George SAHPEKIDIS

October 2017

ACE Program City Challenge

On Tuesday, 24th October, years 7 and 8 students from the ACE program participated in the ACE city challenge excursion! During the day students undertook a series of challenges that were designed to test and stretch their abilities in many fun and interesting ways! They undertook three main challenges around the city, with one of these being a scavenger hunt style race around Melbourne University. The picture below is taken at the State Library where students had to take part in a foreign food challenge. This involved students trying new culinary experiences and tasting a food they had previously never eaten.

Ms Jesse Stephenson



October 2017

Goals Closing Ceremony



The ABCN (Australian Business and Community Network) is an organisation that uses their business skills and resources to educate and challenge students. Our college has been fortunate to be involved with the **GOALS** Program (Growing Opportunities and Learning Skills) for many years with 18 of our year 9 students participating again this year. This mentoring program aims to increase self-confidence and the life choices for students by matching them with suitable adult professionals from the business world who together work on a six-week program to potentially, widen the horizons that students see as possibilities for the future. The ABCN was created by business leaders at a senior level who personally participate in the program. The success of the program is based on the collaboration of the school, companies and the ABCN.

The students were selected through a rigorous process of application and interview conducted by Ms Dempster and Mrs Petersen. From the program launch in May (held in our Library), it was obvious that our students who were nervous at first, were going to enjoy a very rewarding and rich experience. The students were Janux Mahendran, Alex Strates, Angelo Skagos, Amr Aboslah, Nurul Sanif, Daniel Sindriyanis, Lusani Sigwadi, Sarah Assaf, Lateisha Falcone, Louise Frank, Jack Grinter, Diana Makdesi, Ugbaad Nur, Hayley Williams, Aaron Le, George Saphekidis, Robert Mitrovski and Harry Ryan.

The first session was held at our college and the following sessions were held in the city at the offices of IAG, Optus and Bankwest in some fairly amazing office/business environments. The sessions included goal-setting, positive and assertive communication, financial management and preparing for and selling yourself in interviews. Our students were keen participants in all sessions and it was heartening to see the engagement and awe from the mentors and their delight with the enthusiasm shown by the students.

Finally, the impacts of programs aren't always immediately obvious but we know from past experience that students get a great deal out of **GOALS**. To illustrate this, in the feedback they completed there were some incredible results.

Rating Area	Before GOALS	After GOALS Rating 5-7
I know about the importance of setting goals	8%	100%
I intend to complete Year 12	92%	92%
I intend to continue on to university or further study	86%	86%
I have greater awareness of career options	38%	100%
I know how my strengths relate to the business world	23%	93%
I believe that I will be successful in the future	38%	100%
I feel confident in myself	38%	93%
I have well-developed communication skills	38%	93%

(The rating scale is a 1 – 7 measure with 1 being lowest through to 7 being highest rating – i.e. 5 – 7 is agree to strongly agree.) And as one student so aptly said, “The most important thing I learnt from my mentors was to never give up and believe you can achieve.”

Hans Mulholland

Engagement & Wellbeing Lead Teacher/Year 9 Coordinator

October 2017

Goals Closing Ceremony



Y10 Real Industry Job Interviews

On Tuesday, 24th October, the year 10 students attended Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre to participate in Real Industry Job Interviews.

The RIJI is a compulsory event for all year 10 students wanting to pass Industry and Enterprise. Prior to the event, students prepared for an interview for a particular job vacancy (self-selected), updated their resume and completed a job application letter. Every student also put together a portfolio which they had with them for the interview. The interviews were approximately 15 minutes where a standard set of interview questions were used with the interviewers providing students with verbal and written feedback.

Our students behaved in a professional manner with some students being given business cards and the opportunity to further network. Thank you to all Year 10 students, staff and parents for your support with this program.

Mrs Hysen







Year 12





Year 10 Formal



On Friday, September 22nd, the Year 10 student formal was held at La Mirage Reception Centre, Tullamarine. This was a spectacular evening, where our students had the opportunity to dress up, celebrate their achievements this year and enjoy the company of their friends.

We were simply blown away at how glamorous the students looked and their exemplary behaviour during the evening. Students enjoyed a three course meal, music, some party and dancing games and a number of students won cinema vouchers for their participation.

It is a wonderful opportunity for staff and students to interact outside the classroom and school environment. The number of students encouraging staff to get on the dance floor was fantastic! Even Ms. Alamidis was seen to bust a move! A big shout out to DJ Cookie Monster (AKA Mr. Cooke) for his fabulous set up, music choices and all round entertainment!

Thank you to all of the students and staff who attended, we hope you had as much fun as we did! Congratulations year 10's on a great year and continue to work hard in preparation for your exams.



Ms.Anderson & Mrs.Sagar

La Mirage Reception



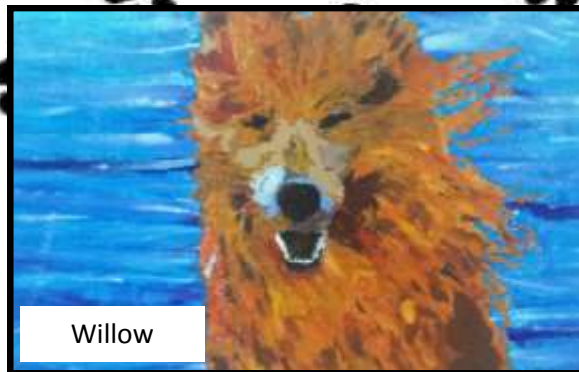
October 2017

Pet Portraits



October 2017

Pet Portraits



October 2017

Year 7 Heidi Excursion

Our Heide School's Partnership in 2017 has been an amazing opportunity for our students to practice their VTS skills with iconic images at Heide Museum of Modern Art. This term they worked with a young Australian artist Sam Songailo, who has created artworks for a range of contexts including the 'Splendour in the Grass' music and arts festival in Byron Bay.

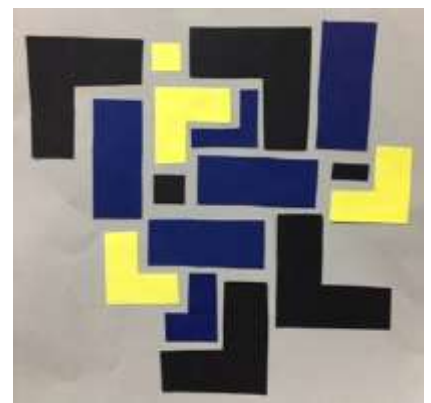
Sam uses bright colours, straight lines and bold, graphic shapes in his outdoor and indoor installations. His geometric repeating patterns span floors, ceilings and walls in the environments he works in. Lighting plays a role in his work as it enhances colour and gives the work a sense of space and a depth of field. Once the viewer is immersed in the space, all of the elements of Songailo's work transports them to another place. Our students saw a slide show of Sam's diverse range of work and then created designs of their own which were then photographed and displayed as a slide show back to the students.



BELLA 7G



MATEJO 7K



JOVANA 7J

You can find out more about Sam Songailo work with the following link, <http://songailo.net/>

Here is an example of Sam's work at ACCA (Australian Centre for Contemporary Arts):



The students visited the gallery spaces with Heide staff for their VTS sessions and enjoyed a new activity in the sculpture park. Once again, our students represented our college in a way they can be proud of. Feedback from Heide was extremely complementary in that the students shared insightful ideas about the images they viewed and were polite and respectful in all of the gallery spaces. It was lovely to see students

roaming the gardens and engaging with the sculptures on display. The Heide partnership has been a popular and fun program that has been enjoyed by students and teachers alike and has helped increase literacy and critical and creative thinking skills for students at our school.

Kerry Kaskamanidis

Art Teacher





On Tuesday, 10th October, 11G students visited Food Bank Victoria in Yarraville as part of their Personal Development studies. They learnt about the important work of Food Bank who supply food and toiletries to 476 charities that assist struggling families. Students were informed about the businesses, employees, community groups and volunteers who come together to ensure struggling families are assisted in their time of need. 11G will now organise a food drive at our college. They will be responsible for organising our school community by asking all members to donate a non-perishable food or toiletry item per family. The items will be collected and donated to Food Bank Victoria who will package, sort them and make sure they are distributed to people in need. They are looking forward to this worthwhile endeavour.



October 2017

VCAL Activities

VCAL Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) Certificate

On Thursday, 12th October, Year 12 VCAL students completed their RSA certificates. Thanks to Pat from Melbourne Polytechnic who delivered this course to our students and thanks to the Year 12 students who participated so professionally for this certificate.

Penny Hysen



VCAL Presentations



All Year 12 VCAL students have presented power points on their journey through school and what they believe their future will hold. Thank you to all our parents for taking time out of their busy schedules to join us for these presentations.

Mrs Hysen



October 2017

VCAL Enterprise Day



On Tuesday 31st October, VCAL students across Years 10 and 11 participated in Enterprise Day.

Students began the project with group work and market analysis of successful enterprises as part of their planning process. They then had a chance to further plan, prepare and run an enterprise, based on successful submissions of their plans.



October 2017

SRC Report

Schools in the Kitchen



On Thursday, 14th September, Ms Smith and Ms Hart accompanied a group of student leaders to FareShare Schools in the Kitchen. The FareShare Schools in the Kitchen program provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about the reality of hunger in our community and begin their own response to the issue through action. Students also learn about food waste and rescue. Apart from being an outstanding and immensely worthwhile excursion, we assisted in preparing 1538 meals between 9.30 and 11am. Every volunteer and staff member that worked with our students came up to both of us personally to congratulate us on the behaviour of our students, as well as their pleasant and positive attitudes. It is really important to share the "good stuff" and to acknowledge the great students we have at the college.

Following the huge success of 'Night at the Museum' which the Yr 7s, not to mention the broader community absolutely loved, it's a great reminder that Epping provides engaging experiences for its students and that our students are amazing.

Ms Hart and Ms Smith



TOUGH MUDDER



On Saturday, 28th October, the school A-Team competed in this year's Tough Mudder event. Tough Mudder is a 20km mud and obstacle course, designed to test your physical strength, stamina and mental grit.

The A-Team consisted of Aaron Lloyd, Harry Ryan, Simon Janc, Dion Zoto, Habib Musa, Jordon Karaka, Toni Lynch, Taylor Rudston-Brown, Yasin Bakah and teachers Mr. Vogdanis, Mr. Rogers, Mr Rifo and Mr. Gonzales.

Despite being a gruelling event we were elated to complete the course. We all slept well that night!!



Tough Mudders for 2017 are...

Students: Aaron Lloyd, Harry Ryan, Simon Janc, Dion Zoto, Habib Musa, Jordon Karaka, Toni Lynch, Taylor Rudston-Brown and Yasin Bakah.

Staff: Terri Vogdanis, Tom Rogers, Cesar Rifo and Anthony Gonzales

Sport Report

State Athletics

Keresoma Keresoma of year 7 has finished 3rd in the state for 12/13 Boys Javelin and 12/13 Boys Shot-put. Keresoma comfortably won the NMR finals for each event in term 3 and he recently competed in the State Finals at Lakeside Athletics Stadium in Albert Park. His shot-put throw of 13.07m and javelin throw of 31.13m was good enough to secure 3rd place finish. This is a fantastic achievement and it is one that we as a school are very proud of. Well done Keresoma!

Stephanie Jacobson also competed at the State level for Athletics at Lakeside Athletics Stadium. She qualified for the open-age event for the 3000m run. Stephanie was not far off the pace completing the event in 12:51. Just to qualify for this event is a very impressive achievement as it is an open event, for year 7-12 students. Stephanie, being a year 8 student, competed against students three or four years older than her. We are excited to see what the future holds for Stephanie in these middle-distance events. Well done!



Northern Region Finals

October has seen many of our interschool sport teams complete in the Northern Metropolitan Region Finals in a range of sports. As always, all students who have represented the College have done so with pride and attempted to achieve the best possible result. They have learnt many valuable life skills throughout their interschool sport experience, some of which include developing confidence, learning to be a 'good winner' and a 'good loser' and how to communicate effectively within a team environment. Below are reports from some of our student who recently competed in NMR Finals.

Year 7 and 8 Girls Cricket

The Year 7 & 8 Girls' cricket team competed in the NMR Finals in a super-8 format. All students batted two overs, bowled one over and wicket-kept one over in each match. The girls improved their skills and game awareness throughout the day, finishing with 2 wins and 3 losses. Well done to **Hitaishi Verma, Tharosha Fernando, Kate Trembath, Muskan Kaur, Jasleen Kaur, Tylah Folan, Makenzy Davis, Allanah Watts, Kayla Mingione, Suzan Arifoska & Megan Tinsley**.

Year 7 Boys Cricket

The Year 7 Boys' cricket team also competed at the NMR Finals. They played a 12-over-a-side format. They started the day with two excellent wins, led by some outstanding batting by **Vihanga Fernando** and **Tarkin Kunelius**. A win in the final pool game saw the team progress to the final, however it wasn't to be, with a narrow loss to Northcote HS. **Tarkin Kunelius** was again the leading contributor with the bat, making a well-compiled 38. Well done to the whole team on making it this far, let's look to go a step further next year as year 8s!

Year 8 Girls Table Tennis

The girls' table tennis team of **Hannah Reid, Zoe Stingas, Rose Najjar and Huia Stephens** has again finished 2nd in the Northern Metropolitan Region. The girls easily progressed through their pool games, however Pascoe Vale Girls College was too strong, losing 4 rubbers to 2.

Year 8 Boys Cricket

On Wednesday, 18th October, the Year 8 boys' cricket team competed in the Northern Metro Region finals. Here is Mr Cooke's account of the day.

The boys competed very bravely against schools from Montmorency, Gladstone Park and Northcote and there was very little between all four schools. In the 12-over-a-side format everything needed to go right and the boys were very unlucky to not snag a victory. There was some excellent bowling and keeping by **Riley Smith**, an abundance of very clever all round cricket by **Bradley Purcell** and plenty of power hitting by **Jeremy Gorski** and **Loka Manu**. The most pleasing part of the campaign was just seeing every player from the squad really enjoy themselves and how much they love the great game of cricket! **Mr Cooke**

October 2017

Sport Report

Year 8 Boys & Girls State Badminton

On Friday, 15th September, the Year 8 Boys' & Girls' Badminton teams competed in the State Finals at Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre. Below is Mr Cooke's account of the day.

'The Mighty Ducks' competed at the Year 8 Boys' and Girls' Badminton State Finals. Both teams finished incredibly well at 3rd or 4th (they do not play off for 3rd and 4th) and won two of their four matches respectively.

The Boys' team included **Jordan Giellin, Angel Ginin, Anurag Joshi, Jack Miller, Devanish Mishra & Jack Morham**. They accounted for Ballarat and Bendigo in tight battles but went down to Maribyrnong and East Doncaster, who were better than us one the day.

The Girls' team was made up of **Angelina Aiolutopea, Tharosha Fernando, Ravya Gujral, Rose Najjar and Hitaishi Verma**. They won their matches against Belmoral and Crusoe but went down to Maribyrnong and Glen Waverly in a nail biter. Not only did both teams have to battle their guts out to even win matches, they also played exceptionally well with an amazing fighting spirit. I would just like to say one massive thank you to the entire squad, including those who didn't play on the day. Their efforts at training and constant improvement and love for the sport was infectious and one that has netted them lifelong memorable moments and achievements. **Mr Cooke.**

The Annual House Fun Run is fast approaching, with details are below.

It is a fun-run/cross country event for year 7, 8 and 9 students, which has a participation/physical activity promotion focus. It will also be a house event, with points being awarded to all participants, along with acting as a selection session for the following year's interschool cross-country.

Students are encouraged to train for the 2.8km event by encourage mum, dad, brothers and sisters to get active and run/walk with them on local walking and running tracks. Students can also train for the event at school during Friday Fitness.

Friday Fitness

A before-school fitness / running club has been running for a number of weeks now, with many students regularly attending. It is great preparation for the fun run and all students are encouraged to attend.

When?

Every Friday from 7:30 onwards.

Who?

Everyone is welcome!

Do I need to sign up?



No, just come on the day! Speak to any of the PE staff if you have any questions!

Well done to the following students who have already attended Friday Fitness!

Jake Turoczi, Ali Hussaini, Anastasia Lambrou, Jordan Bower, Matthew Bevilacqua, Andre Bevilacqua, Angel Ginin & Arshdeep Singh.



Michael Rogneda — Sports Coordinator

Pindari Panthers	Carlisle Cobras	Dalton Dragons	Tatlow Tigers	Findon Falcons	Scarborough Scorpions
					
2412	1866	1850	1815	1794	1638

October 2017

EAL Melbourne Zoo

On Monday, 30th October, the year 7, 8, 9 and 10 EAL students visited the Melbourne zoo. The day began with sunshine while back in Epping it was hailing from what we heard. Unfortunately, towards the end of our journey the weather changed as it rained and became colder. Despite having such moody weather we still enjoyed our day as we had the opportunity to visit many animals including the orang-utans, lions, tigers, elephants, penguins and many more. We also learnt about different animal habitats and behaviours and many scientific words to describe various animal species. We were devastated when we witnessed the lions eating a whole chicken alive and amazed at how the elephants use their trunks to suck up the food and insert it into their mouths.

Many of us made new friends from different year levels which was very exciting. I was also surprised that there was such a variety of food choices at the many food stalls including Asian, Turkish and Italian food. On behalf of all the students who were part of this excursion, I would like to thank the teachers who helped organise it and the teachers who joined us on the day who made it an amazing experience that we will never forget.

Zainab Naser (10 EAL)

On behalf of all the 7-10 EAL students on this excursion

AT THE ZOO



Safe Schools Program

Recently we have received a number of inquiries regarding the Safe Schools program and whether it is running in our school. There has been quite a great deal of misinformation circulating through social media sites of late and it is important to realise that in Victoria, Safe Schools program is a commitment as opposed to a mandated curriculum program. The following information is from the Education Department's website on Safe Schools which can be accessed on this link:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/safe-schools-coalition.aspx?Redirect=1>

*Safe Schools is a formal and public **commitment** that schools make to create an inclusive and safe environment for their school community, including for LGBTI students, families and teachers. This commitment recognises that creating a safe and inclusive environment is key to tackling bullying, discrimination and harassment at schools, particularly arising from homophobia and transphobia.*

All students should be safe from bullying and feel included at school. Students who don't feel safe or included at school cannot learn effectively.

At our school, we maintain a strong antibullying policy and processes and we also operate a number of support groups in the school, including the Rainbow Alliance, which offer support to all young people to ensure that they feel safe and included. Epping prides itself on embracing our differences as strengths, recognising that we all bring interesting new insights to a community that is built on the values of Respect, Fairness, Honesty, Commitment and Perseverance.

Our students do study some topics in their health classes that will touch on things such as sexual reproduction and health but this information is in line with the Victorian Curriculum and is presented as part of the curriculum for each age group as deemed appropriate by Curriculum Authority of the Education Department. If you wish to know the specifics of what is taught in these programs, you are encouraged to contact your child's health teacher and they will be able to provide you with this information.

At a wellbeing level, we also run a small number of programs to address specific needs with students at years 9 and 10. These programs are often run by external agencies with expertise in these areas. They run as incursions and parents have the option to opt their children out.

These programs include:

At Year 9 –

Family Planning Victoria workshop – This program is run by Family Planning Victoria and discusses healthy relationships/ safe behaviours in relationships including the issues around consent and a discussion of contraception and STIs. It also works around providing students with information to help them realise how to say 'no' in situations where they may not feel comfortable.

Party Safe Program – This is run by Sonia Cariss from Whole New World and it educates students in relation to safe behaviours around partying, technology and social and media, and drugs including alcohol.

At Year 10 –

Respectful Relationships runs through the health program – This explores the definition of a 'healthy relationship' and aims to educate students regarding domestic violence and strategies to help keep them safe. The idea of consent is also addressed in this program.

We take a moderate approach when addressing complex societal issues to take into account the nature of our community. Having said this, we recognise that there are a number of specific minority groups within our community and we run programs to support them as needed. We aim to be culturally sensitive and inclusive whenever we address issues of choice and risk taking with students and always ensure that our programs are based on our core values of Respect, Fairness, Honesty, Commitment and Perseverance.

Epping strives to build a community of learners who feel safe and welcome. We do this through our programs, outreach and our celebration of all that makes us who we are here at Epping. As always, we appreciate your support and welcome your input.

Kerryn Sandford
Assistant Principal

October 2017

Wellbeing Report

Year 9 Party Safe

The last of the Wellbeing Programs have been delivered to students in Years 9 and 12. Sonya Karass facilitated the Party Safe Workshop for all year 9 students on 11th October. She also delivered a Party Safe Workshop to parents earlier on the year. Sonya is one of the most dynamic and entertaining facilitators and the students learnt many strategies to keep themselves safe at parties, using technology and when they become drivers or passengers in cars. Sonya has been working with our year 9 students for the past 4 years and will be invited back in 2018 to once again share her important messages.



EAL Morning Tea

An information morning tea for EAL families was held in the college staff room on Monday, 16th October. The purpose of this morning tea was to provide parents with important information regarding:

- Career Pathway
- School Report

At the conclusion of the information session, parents had the opportunity to ask questions about pathway options for their children and discuss any issues that might be concerning them.

Also, as part of the EAL activities, year 11 & 12 students were provided a lunch to say good bye to all year 12 classmates.



Wellbeing Report

Year 12 Keeping Safe Program

Sadly we had to say goodbye to our Year 12 students and remind them of the importance once again about making positive choices and using strategies to keep themselves safe. Senior Constable Tim Forster ran the "Keeping Safe" workshop on October 19th and went over expectations about end of year celebrations, Schoolies and the importance of not letting last day celebrations at Epping Secondary College get out of hand.



It has been a pleasure working with the current Year 12 Cohort. During their time at our college the Year 12's have participated in many wellbeing programs. Hopefully the skills and knowledge developed will enable them to make informed choices, enjoy life and most importantly 'stay safe'. Tiffany Griffith has been overseeing the Year 12's wellbeing throughout the year and helping them to prepare for exams. Tiffany Griffith and I wish the Year 12 students much success for the future.

Leanne Halsall
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Raise Mentoring Program Farewell

At the start of term 2, 15 students from years 7-9 participated in a 20 week Raise Mentoring Program. The weekly session had great mentors and every session was a fun one resulting in positive reviews. Everyone socialized with each other and some student's worst problems were solved. New friends and memories were made and everyone was always happy. We all had a great time along the journey and were sorry when the program finished.

Martin Jovanoski



Northern Region

A workshop for parents of adolescents who are behaving with aggression and violence



Please join us to discuss the impact of challenging behaviours and violence on families and relationships and to consider the role adolescent development, styles of communication and patterns of relating have in family relationships.

Our intention is that parents feel less alone, better equipped, more hopeful and confident in their ability to respond to challenging behaviours in a way that promotes safety, trust and connection for all family members.

Course runs over two mornings (attendance required for both sessions)

Tuesday 14th and 21st November 9.30am -12.30pm

Please call intake to secure a place on the number below.

For more information or enquiries please contact:

T.A.R.A Program on **(03) 9450 4700**

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October 2017

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October 2017



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October 2017

The Mernda Dragons Touch Football Season is taking team & individual registrations from 9 October!

- 14 week junior mixed comps for ages 4-7yo, 8-10yo & 11-14yo, individual registrations only
 - \$50 per child (8-14yo), 4-7yo FREE!
 - 14 week adult men's, mixed social and mixed competitive competitions also available.
 - \$960 per adult team (max 12 players) or \$85 for individual registrations (no team)
 - 13 November 2017 start date
 - W.A. Smith Reserve, Darebin Drive Lalor.
- Get in quick, registrations are limited!!!

Go to <https://goo.gl/L6dtou> to register!!

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