



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Eddie's Got Talent

We were razzled and dazzled by the incredible talent that exists within the student body of St Edmund's at our annual Eddie's Got Talent! The students loved supporting each other, performing and the many different styles on offer. For staff, it is always a yearly highlight – so much joy to absorb! Congratulations to all Homeroom teams for what was prepared. I didn't envy the judges decision at all.

A particular shout out to Sharon Eldridge for coordinating the day, and to our three judges – Lois Horne, Margriet Shaw Taylor and VIP Lara Nakle. Lara is a blind musician who has performed in many elite venues. You may recognise her from The Voice <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxUmp6lQITk>. She performed fabulous renditions of several Taylor Swift songs for our enraptured audience.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE / EDDIE'S GOT TALENT



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Eddie's Live at Abbotsleigh

On 24 November at 7pm our Years 10 -12 students will be performing at our annual concert with Abbotsleigh in the Peter Duly Concert Hall. This is a fabulous night and all in the college community are welcome to attend for an evening of music, dancing and joy. Donations are welcomed on entry. We hope to see many members of our community there.

Men's Group

Please note the change of date for the next Men's Group Meeting. It will be held on Thursday evening 23 November at St Lucy's. The meeting will explore building resilience and coping skills for challenging times.

Please RSVP to Warren Hopley hopleywarren@hotmail.com

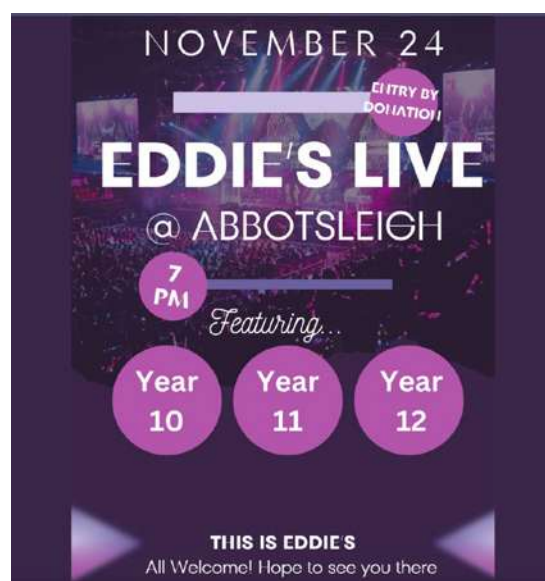
Alumni Visit

We were delighted to receive a visit from Denton Chen (Class of 2019). Denton has been doing very well post-school, gaining employment with Dimeo Cleaning Services and working at the International Towers, Barangaroo doing touch point cleaning.

Denton spoke to our Year 11 CAFS students about his job and what it entailed. He also chatted with staff including Principal Michael Farrell and Senior Program & Work Experience Coordinator Jacqui Anderson and left an incredibly generous donation to support our College and students.

Thanks for your visit and generosity, Denton!

Michael Farrell | Principal



ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Diwali is one of the most beautiful Hindu festivals, often referred to as the 'Festival of the Lights'. This festival was celebrated recently, and symbolically represents 'the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.'

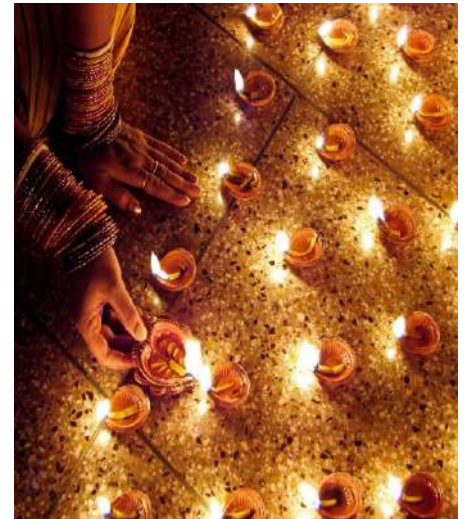
Hanukkah will soon be celebrated within the Jewish faith, beginning December 7th. Hanukkah, which is Hebrew for "dedication," is also known as the Festival of Lights. It commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrian Greek army, and the subsequent miracle of rededicating the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and restoring its menorah, or lamp. The miracle of Hanukkah is that only one vial of oil was found with just enough oil to illuminate the Temple lamp for one day, and yet it lasted for eight full days. The beautiful menorah is lit in Jewish homes each of the eight nights for the duration of the festival.

Similarly, in Christianity, we too acknowledge in many rites and rituals the significance of the symbol of light. Indeed, our students are currently learning about the Season of Advent, which begins on Sunday 3 December. One key symbol of Advent is the Advent Candles and Advent Wreath. Each candle represents a theme for each of the four weeks that Advent goes for. The themes are Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

"For if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another."

Remembrance Day

Our focus during today's Assembly, was to acknowledge and pay our respects for Remembrance Day. This has also been the focus within prayer in Homeroom this week. The students were able to pray for those courageous men, women and children who have died in conflict, as well as to pray for peace and love in our world. They listened to stories that were shared, and songs that were meaningful. They became familiar with important symbols, such as the red poppy. These occasions are special within the culture of our society, and our world, and engaging our students in these moments helps them learn of their importance.



ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Lest We Forget...

St Lucy's Community: We continue to hold in our thoughts and prayers the community of St Lucy's. Thank you for the way you supported your own children through this, and for extending your thoughts and prayers, as well. We have all been impacted by what occurred, however we particularly hold in our hearts those staff and students and families here at St Edmund's, who have close ties to St Lucy's. May they know of the kindness, solace and love that surrounds them at this time, too.



Year 7 2024 Orientation Day

It was so lovely to welcome our new students and families for 2024 at Monday's Orientation Day. This as a highly successful day that enabled the students to spend time as a group within our new classrooms, as well as to engage in learning within the TAS classroom and CAPA classroom. Mr Elcoate made with them a tealight candle holder, and Mrs Eldridge engaged them in both a Visual Art activity and a Music activity, too. All staff who were involved commented on how cohesive and kind the students were, and we are all very excited that they will be joining the St Edmund's community next year! Thank you, especially, to Mrs Reilly and Mrs Dickenson for coordinating such a special day.



ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Week 6 Timetable Changes

Students were informed in Homeroom today about some changes that will occur next week. These changes include some re-timetabling of lessons as we warmly welcome Mr Mark Fawcner back from leave. As well, the demolition and restoration of the front façade and internal courtyard continues, which will mean a change in play areas for students to access during break times.

In welcoming back Mr Fawcner, we also thank Ms Austin, Mrs Campbell and Mrs Van Esch who kindly provided either additional days or a change in subject area focus, so as to ensure the learning was well supported. Thank you to Mrs Daly and Mrs Pisani for their support of the 9F Homeroom, as well.

Year 12 2024 College Leaders Voting

Next Friday, during our House Teams Meeting focus, all students in Years 7-12, will have the opportunity to vote for our new College leaders for 2024. This will mean choosing our College Captains, our Vice-Captains, our Student Voice and our House Team Captains. The focus during daily Homeroom next week will be on leadership, so as to support the students understanding of what qualities make a good leader. Our current Year 12 College leaders will share with our Year 11 students examples of what their role has involved this year, and what they have enjoyed within that responsibility. We wish all our Year 11 students well, as they each bring so much joy to the community we belong to!

SAVE THE DATE: Presentation Day

We have been able to confirm that our friends at Abbotsleigh have provided us with a space to celebrate our 2023 Presentation Day on Tuesday 5 December from 10am. More details and information will be sent to all families over the coming week. We look forward to seeing you all there at this special event within the school calendar.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper packing

Thank you to Mrs Macdonald and the Year 10 students who will be supporting our local parish, Holy Name Wahroonga, with the packing of many Christmas hampers in the coming weeks. These hampers are received by very deserving families throughout Sydney who are without the usual festive fare that we often take for granted. It's a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience the Joy that comes when we give to others within our community.

Charity Challenge

Thank you to the staff, students and families who are currently supporting our friends at the Charity Challenge Gala Ball at the Hyatt Regency on Saturday 18 November. The Charity Challenge organisers Gary Dawson and Matt Laverty have supported St Edmund's College for many years and we are delighted to have students from Years 10-12, led by Mrs Eldridge and Katie performing on the night.

Wishing you peace and blessings!

Vanessa Dillon | Acting Deputy Principal

WELLBEING

Australia's new international disability equity and rights strategy: have your say

The Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is developing a new International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy to ensure it remains a strong and consistent leader in advancing equity and rights for persons with disabilities globally.

The new Strategy will complement Australia's domestic disabilities policies, including Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031.

DFAT is committed to ensuring persons with disabilities can meaningfully engage with and influence the Strategy. All people and organisations within Australia and internationally are encouraged to have their say. For more information, including details about how you can make a submission, go to the Disability Equity and Rights page on the DFAT website.

Submissions are open until 5pm AEST/ GMT+11 on 15 December 2023.

Please contact disability.equity@dfat.gov.au if you have any questions or to discuss any accessibility requirements.

Free Online Safety Training

<https://interactionservices.org/online-safety/>

Tailored Training for People with Disability - Safer Internet Access

This training is designed to equip parents, carers and educators with the skills and tools to support young people identify and overcome online risks.

If you know of anyone interested in this training please share this link with them.

This training has been developed in collaboration with Australia's leading cyber safety experts, ySafe thanks to grant funding and support from eSafety Commissioner's Online Safety Grants Program.

Leadership Awards

Congratulations to these students receiving their Gold Leadership Awards this week.

• Daena Fowler • Tom Eastham • Mark Yeung

Judi North | Acting Head of Wellbeing



CURRICULUM CHAT

Semester 2 Reports

Reports for each student in years 7-11 will be published on Sentral Parent Portal on Friday 8th December at 5pm. These reports give an overview of your child's learning and progress this semester.

Reports give parents a wholistic view of their child's development at the College in the curriculum areas, as well as in social and transition skills. You will find that your child's homeroom teacher has made a comment on their overall progress through Semester 1 as well as their assessment of certain social and transition skills. Subject teachers will report on a selection of tasks that students have completed, by no means a complete list, but one intended to give you an overview of classroom activities. Subject teachers also report on the overall achievement of a student in the class.

I encourage you to read these reports with your children, and help them reflect on the progress and achievements they have made in Semester 2.

If you would like to request a printed copy of your child's report, please contact Louise Drescher at drescher@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au.

The Parent Portal user guide is attached to this newsletter. There are new links to access the Parent Portal. New users can register at <https://stedmunds.sentral.com.au/portal/register> and current parent portal users can login at <https://stedmunds.sentral.com.au/portal/login/>. If you have questions about accessing the parent portal, please contact the College.

Library Books at Home

The library collection will be packed up in the coming weeks to make way for our new Library furniture, which means students can no longer borrow Library books to take home. Any Library books at home will also need to be returned as soon as possible. Overdue notices came home in blue communication folders this week. If there are any books loaned to your child that you cannot find, please email me at gilkes@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au.

Viv Gilkes | Head of Teaching and Learning



LOST PROPERTY



FROM THE PARENT GROUP

It is hard to believe we are more than halfway through the last term of the year. A fair proportion of our staff and some students have been hit with COVID. On behalf of all the Eddie's families we wish you good health quickly and hope that this weekend gives you all your much needed rest.

Our students enjoyed an entertaining afternoon at school today. Eddie's Got Talent is an annual event in the school calendar. A lot of hard work goes into the background of such an event and we thank all the staff for the efforts that they do for this event - particularly given the staff absences today.



Some key dates to remember:

**** Men's Group - New Date: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2023 6.30- 8.00 pm**

6.30pm for pizza and drinks followed by Guest Speaker: Clinical Psychologist Anna Schwartz
BUILDING RESILIENCE AND COPING SKILLS FOR CHALLENGING TIMES

Where: St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland Street Wahroonga (Enter via Gallery Door)

This is a group for Dad's, Uncles and Grandads of St Lucy's, St Edmund's and St Gabriel's

To talk about....

- Grief and Loss
- Skills for Coping
- Identifying Triggers
- How to talk about challenging situations with your child.

To RSVP or for further information please contact: Warren Hopley: hopleywarren@hotmail.com; Brendan Wingrave: Brendan.wingrave@gmail.com; Justine Spurrs: familysupport@stlucys.nsw.edu.au

**** Charity Challenge Gala Ball - 18 November**

Some of our Year 10 - 12 students are performing at the Annual Charity Challenge Ball in the Hyatt regency. It is a big event for them to be performing at, we wish them well.

**** Parent Group Meeting - 21 Nov 7 pm**

This will be our last meeting for the year. Look for more details about it next week.

****Eddie's Live at Abbotsleigh - 24 Nov 7 pm**

Acts performed by our Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Held at Abbotsleigh College - Everyone is welcome!

****Mufti Day - NEW Date - 30 Nov**

**** Presentation Day - 5 Dec**

**** Last Day of Term - 8 Dec**

Looking forward to seeing you at some of these events.

Janine Eastham | Parent Group Leader, Tom's Mum (Year 12)

KEY DATES

TERM 4

Saturday 18 November

Charity Challenge
Gala Ball

Tuesday 21 November

Parent Group Meeting

Friday 24 November

Abbotsleigh Concert

Thursday 23 November

Men's Group - St Lucy's

Tuesday 28 November

Year 12 Formal

Thursday 30 November

Mufti Day - NEW DATE

Tuesday 5 December

Presentation Day -
Abbotsleigh

Friday 8 December

Last Day of Term
Year 12 Farewell Mass

AWARDS

Student of the Week

7G	Aaliyah and Daniel
7M	Kwasi and Harley
8S	Olive and Jackson
8V	Charlie H and Ruby
9C	Sienna and Elle
9F	Sam and Christopher
10M	Rosie and Liam
10N	Antonio and Emma
11J	Kate and Elliot
11S	Brandon and Annamieke
12G	Luke and Seb
12O	Dom and Mikayla

Eddie's Best

Dylan
Ted
Seb
Daniel L
Leela
Riarna
Amie
Jameson
Christian
Summer
Daena
Teena

congratulations

CHARITIES

Year 12 CAFS

Year 12 are organising a charity for vulnerable women and girls. We have received lots of products for our charity It's in the Bag. Thank you to the parents who have sent products in.

We still need more items. :

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Soap
- Tissues
- Hand wash

If you would like to send in completed bags that would also be appreciated.

Thank you for your help!

From the Year 12 CAFS students

It's in the bag










Year 12 CAFS

And some extras

Book
Vouchers
Hair ties
Towel
Makeup
Face wipes
Drink bottle

Year 12 charity for vulnerable women

Please Send in a bag with essential and extras from the 5 of November

HELP CHILDREN IN UKRAINE



Fundraise for Ukraine and help deliver life-saving supplies to children


for every child
AUSTRALIA

UNICEF Fundraiser

On 19 November Hugh in Year 11 is climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge with his social group to help fundraise for children and their families in Ukraine.

Hugh describes;

“As you all know on the news they have been talking about the Ukraine war and all the children have been badly injured or killed by bombs and some have been forced to leave their homes, some even lost their parents. It makes me feel in the blue zone. I just want to help them.

So, an idea popped into my head which was to start a charity fundraiser event. I looked up some charities and I found the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF). I looked at their website and I set up a fundraising page on it.”

If you would like to help Hugh support UNICEF please visit this link <https://ukraine.unicef.org.au/hugh-davidson>

YEAR 7 ART GALLERY NSW



COMMUNITY

Please note any external events or organisations listed in the Community section are not necessarily endorsed by the College, but are included as they may be of interest to our families.

Co-Hive HUB

OPENING in February 2024
Sydney Inner City Fringe

Creating Open Employment Opportunities for Young Adults with Disabilities

What We Offer:

- ✓ Transition from high school to SLES with relevant & meaningful work experience
- ✓ Unique creative & technology programs to upskill, creating pathways for study & employment
- ✓ Expert support to access TAFE & Tertiary education pathways
- ✓ Vibrant & dynamic centre to meet other young people and develop friendships
- ✓ Highly experienced & professional staff with strong industry partnerships
- ✓ Specialised programs to develop social & life skills to increase independence
- ✓ Support to attain a job and ongoing support for both the employee & employer to ensure long term success



NDIS Funds can only be used for
SELF or PLAN managed participants

SLES & Work Ready



Creative & Technology



Social & Life Skills




Limited Spots Available!

If programs are full, you
may be added to waiting lists

Register Your Interest

www.cohivehub.com

Click Here 

NDIS SERVICE PROVIDER EXPO



LEARN ABOUT THE LATEST NDIS SUPPORT SERVICES

Looking for disability or carer support services available in our local area?

We would like to invite you to our upcoming expo. This free expo aims to bring together services that assist families, parents, and children with their daily lives.



**THURSDAY
23RD NOVEMBER 2023**



**10.00 AM
TO 1PM**



**18 Cecil St Gordon
(opposite Ravenswood
School for Girls)**

MORE INFORMATION



lesley@gpuc.org.au

The Wave

| Northern Beaches
Disability Newsletter



Please [click here](#) to view the latest edition of The Wave Disability Newsletter.



accessiblearts

Please [click here](#) to view the latest edition of The Accessible Arts Newsletter.