Vol 4. July 2021

EACS NEWSLETTER



Student Achievement

This year the Year 11 Chemistry ATAR cohort consists of six bright students, seen here standing proudly with Executive Principal, Mr Jason Bartell. Chemistry is a relatively demanding subject and all six students have accepted the challenge that lies ahead. They are ready and willing to do the hard grind over the next two years. Already the group has shown considerable promise both in theoretical study and practical applications.

The Chemistry ATAR course designed by the Western Australia School Curriculum and Standards Authority, equips students with the knowledge, understanding and opportunity to investigate properties and reactions of materials. Students recognize hazards and make informed, balanced decisions about chemical use and develop an appreciation of the need for precision, critical analysis and informed decision making.

This course prepares students to be responsible and efficient users of specialized chemical products and enables students to relate chemistry to other sciences, including biology, geology, medicine, molecular biology and agriculture. It also prepares them for further study in the sciences.

Congratulations to the Year 11 Chemistry students for choosing a path of hard work and persistence. Esperance Anglican Community School wishes you the best of luck in your pursuit of excellence. **Mr Utso Chakraborty**





UPCOMING EVENTS:

3-5 August Executive Principal in school

4 August Founder's Day Service

5 August Yr 11 Directions & Decisions 2022 Staff Speed Dating

5 August Australian Maths Competition

10 August Yr 11 Directions & Decisions 2022 Student Speed Dating

11 August School Photographs

11 August Yr 11 Directions & Decisions 2022 Parent Speed Dating

12-13 August Anglicare Mental Health Workshops

13 August Interschool Surfing Competition -Albany

16-27 August Yr 10 2022 Subject Selection Interviews

19-21 August Esperance Music Festival





Welcome to Term 3

It is hard to believe that the commencement of a new school term is already upon us. I trust that all staff and families were able to find some valuable time to reconnect as a family over the recent school holidays and thoroughly enjoyed the change in pace and routine.

If you are new to our School Community, a special welcome to you and your family. I trust you find EACS an inviting and supportive school environment in which you and your children may thrive and flourish.

While the disappointment of the cancelled Country Week Carnival cast a dark shadow over the end of Term 2, it has to be said that it was another successful Term for all staff and students. By way of update, the School is yet to hear anything from the Country Week organisers about the rescheduling of this event (if this is to happen), however will inform all staff, students and parents of any information that we receive on this matter.

The new term commenced on Monday, July 19 for all staff. Staff were involved in professional development opportunities throughout the day, which included further investigation into each staff member's understanding and application of data collection and analysis, as well as each staff's understanding of children with particular needs.

You may be interested to know that the collation of relevant student achievement data at EACS is supported by the company, Best Performance, who supply all EACS staff with individual access to a range of personalised student data that enables our staff to tailor their teaching programmes to the learning needs of every child. All staff had a very productive day and were equally keen to see all students return on Tuesday, July 20.

Teaching and Learning Focus

I wish to highlight the continuing teaching and learning focus at EACS. Staff have been implementing formative assessment strategies within their classes and have been reporting student progress to each student and their parents through the School's SEQTA database. I am certain that parents have been receiving regular and consistent SEQTA notifications via their phones and emails informing them that they have information available to view regarding their child/ren's progress.

This information is not just for parents; however, staff do take the opportunity to review this information with each child so that each child receives specific information regarding what they can do, what they cannot do, and how they can improve. This information is provided to each child so that they can 'own their learning' and become motivated to improve through embracing the learning experience. This teaching and learning process has been adopted by all of our teaching staff and is delivered to all of our students in a developmentally appropriate way.

Further to the reporting of progress to each child, all staff must include the 'Learning Intention' and relevant 'Success Criteria' for each lesson or series of lessons.

The Learning Intention scaffolds the lesson for each child through articulating the focus and intention of the lesson. The Success Criteria is a list of features that a teacher wants the children to include in their work during the course of a lesson. It is a really good way of making children aware of what is expected of them and can also encourage them to extend themselves during the course of the lesson. Rather than using the term 'Success Criteria' teachers of younger children may also use the term 'What I am Looking For'.

A simple way in which parents may support their child's learning is to ask them questions regarding the Learning intentions delivered by their teachers each day. The explicit use of Learning Intentions, Success Criteria and the development and use of formative assessment strategies is expected from all teachers and is being implemented as a whole of school approach to teaching and learning at EACS.

Semester One Reports

I trust all parents reviewed their child/ren's Semester One Report and discussed the areas that require enhancement, as well as celebrated those areas of strengths that were highlighted in each child's report, with their child/ren.

I would like to acknowledge the staff for their efforts in collating the Semester Reports. It is a demanding, yet very important task to collate the information within each child's Report. While the information shared in the Reports is important for parents, it is equally important for parents to take the opportunity to discuss the reports with their children and set goals for their children in the coming Semester. In doing so, each parent demonstrates attention to their child's education and support for the School.

If you have not already done this, it is never too late, and is always very worthwhile.

<u>Uniforms</u>

My letter to all families regarding the wearing of the School uniform has been well received by the School community. I wish to thank all parents and students for their commitment to the focus on this aspect of our School and for your support for the proper wearing of the School uniform.

As I stipulated in my letter I would like to acknowledge the Student Representative Council for raising this issue with me and for seeking clarification on the wearing of the School uniform. I trust that all students are supported by their parents to





be wearing the uniform correctly. I would like to reiterate that the School understands that there may be some families that require an extra two weeks to ensure that the correct uniform is being worn by all students by the commencement of Week 3, Term 3.

Parent, Staff and Student Relationships

Throughout Semester 2, our School will continue to provide its students with many opportunities to academically improve; as well as to forge positive and meaningful relationships with each other and their teachers. Schools of substance are often defined by the quality of relationships that exist between students, parents and staff. At EACS we value these essential partnerships in the education of each and every child.

Students take educational risks, dare to challenge themselves, and aim to succeed when they feel supported in a caring and nurturing environment with dedicated and highly experienced teachers and with the support of their parents. This is of the utmost importance at our School as we continue our mission of ensuring aspirational opportunity is offered to every student in a caring and nurturing Christian environment.

Every Blessing

Mr Jason Bartell - Executive Principal

From the Associate Principal

Firstly, thank you to all students and families for embracing the re-alignment of uniform expectations, which was initiated with a very specific intention to ensure that EACS students continue to wear their uniform with pride whilst maintaining high standards of personal dress and appearance. I now take the opportunity to provide some additional detail about the expectations that we have of students, as it relates to uniform and personal appearance, and hope that parents and carers can reflect on the points below and have the necessary conversations with your children in support of the School.

Transition period

Effective immediately, all students should be adhering to the updated uniform expectations. In support and recognition of the fact that some students need additional time to purchase certain uniform items (i.e., School blazers, school tracksuits, school jumpers) there will be a 'grace' period of two weeks to allow this to happen. All items of uniform can be purchased through the front office. All students should be in correct School uniform from the beginning of Week 3, Monday 2 August.

School Blazer

Blazers are compulsory items of formal school uniform during Term's 2 and 3. They should be worn throughout the day unless engaged in physical activity when they can be removed and neatly hung up in the changing rooms or student lockers. On colder days students are encouraged to wear their school jumper underneath their School Blazer.

Spray Jackets

The formal Winter uniform does not include the School Spray Jacket. Students may wear their spray jackets to and from school and during recess and lunch when it is raining. At all other times spray jackets are to be kept in student lockers. They are not to be worn throughout the day. Spray jackets are NOT a substitute for the School Blazer.

Changing in and out of PE uniform

From the commencement of Term 3 all students are expected to comply with the following guidelines regarding the wearing of PE uniform. These guidelines apply to PE lessons and any other co-curricular or extra-curricular activity where PE uniform may be required:

• Periods 1, 2 and 3 activities – students may arrive at school in PE uniform then change back into formal school uni

form at LUNCH or at the end of their lesson, if time permits.

• Period 3 and 4 activities (Year 7 Specialist Sport on Wednesday) – students change into PE uniform at RECESS then stay in PE uniform for the remainder of the day.

• Period 4 and 5 activities – students change into PE uniform at LUNCH then stay in PE uniform for the remainder of the day.

On applicable days, students should bring their PE/School uniform in their sports bags, which should be kept in student lockers or changing rooms whilst changing for an activity. During lesson time changing bays will be locked to ensure security of personal possessions.

School Tracksuit

The school tracksuit (top and bottoms) is the only complementary attire that can be worn with PE uniform. The School Spray jacket is NOT to be worn over the top of PE uniform in substitute of the school tracksuit top. Leggings are not permissible items of school uniform. Girls should be wearing the school tracksuit.

Wearing of school hats and caps

EACS school hats and caps are compulsory items to be worn whilst outside throughout the year. Non-denominational caps are not permitted to be worn whilst at school. Hats should be kept in lockers and only accessed during break and lunch times and for outdoor activities (i.e., PE, Outdoor Ed).





School Shoes

The School expects that all students are wearing the correct black leather shoes, which are available at SportsPower and correct socks.

Girls' Skirts

Girls' skirts should be worn just above the knee. They should not be rolled up for effect. Girls will be asked to purchase a larger size skirt if required and phone calls home to parents will be made if necessary.

Cosmetics / Make-up

The only acceptable cosmetics when in school uniform or involved in school activities are natural or clear nail polish, sun protection products (natural colouring only) and a light foundation to cover skin blemishes. Students applying excessive makeup will be sent to the office to have it removed.

PE Uniform

The following items constitute what is acceptable to wear during physical activity lessons:

- School or House Polo Shirt
- School Sports Shorts
- School Sports Socks
- School Sports Bucket Hat/Cap
- School Tracksuit

<u>Jewellery</u>

The following constitutes the only acceptable jewellery when in school uniform or involved in school activities:

- One necklace
- One ring
- One watch
- One set (i.e. pair) of sleepers or studs in lower ear lobe
- Medic-alert bracelets/necklaces recommended by a doctor with approval of the Associate Principal

Items of jewellery NOT permissible include:

- Bracelets
- Anklets
- Pendant earrings
- Multiple earrings in each ear
- Nose studs

<u>Hair</u>

- Hair must always look tidy and respectable.
- Hair which can be tied back should be tied back using navy scrunchies or hair ties.
- The same expectation applies to boys with long hair as it does girls.
- Haircuts are not to be shorter than a number 2 blade.
- Extreme hair styles are not acceptable and will be judged on a case-by-case basis.
- Hair colouring must be consistent (not streaked) and close to natural colour.

Personal Grooming

Boys should be always clean shaven.

Mr Iain Clark - Associate Principal



Physical Recreation

Year 9 and 10 students have been participating in a Canoeing program during Physical Recreation. Students have learnt the basic skills and techniques necessary to competently address risk and safety signals and protocols, launch a canoe safely, paddle confidently in cooperation with a partner, participate in rescue operations and recover from a capsize. These lessons have taken place down at the Esperance foreshore in more often than not glorious open water conditions.

Our canoes were built by students with the assistance of Mr Grobler during Design and Technology (Woodwork) classes and are still just as robust and seaworthy now as they ever were. Students will be completing their canoeing assessment this week.

Mr Blair Castelli



McVay House News

Sometime in the course of the Term Two holidays, we unfortunately had a plumbing issue that caused water to flow back into the house from a drain in a bathroom, which affected two bedrooms and one common area, usually utilised by the junior girls in Windich wing of McVay House. The damage to the corner rooms was quite significant, and I am thankful that we were able to spot the issue before it spread further within the house. I must admit, it is intriguing to see the amount of damage water can be responsible for. To quote the late Prince Phillip

"People say after a fire it's water damage that's the worst. We're still drying out Windsor Castle."

Numerous different trades have been involved to begin the repair work, carpets have been removed and replaced, the dry wall has also been removed and replaced and the rooms have been repainted.

There is however a positive to any situation, and in this case, it has to do with the colour selection of the new paintwork. The staff and boarders were all presented with colour swatches and negotiated a consensus of the new colour, which you can see below, with the only stipulation being that a neutral colour was required (otherwise I believe we may have had a few pink walls).

The completion of the works occurred during the last week of Term Two and the girls have been able to enjoy the fresh space upon their return.

Mr Nathan Abbott















Live, learn and play in the heart of Esperance