Vol 5. August 2021

EACS NEWSLETTER



Dr YES Incursion

Dr YES made a visit to EACS during week 2 of this term to talk to our Year 9 to 12 students about sexual health. Dr YES (Youth Education Sessions) is a program where current university medical students deliver harm minimisation sessions to high school students. The 30 young and enthusiastic med students covered the topics of anatomy, STI's, contraception and consent in a way that was energetic and engaging. It was evident early on that the EACS students were made to feel at ease and were comfortable to discuss these sometimes-difficult topics. The students from Dr YES were very professional and knowledgeable in their small group discussions and answered even the most awkward of questions with ease. It was a very worthwhile and valuable activity for the students from EACS and I'm sure that the knowledge and skills that they have picked up from the session are appreciated. **Mr Blair Castelli**





UPCOMING EVENTS:

10 August Yr 11 Directions & Decisions 2022 Staff Speed Dating

11 August School Photogr<u>aphs</u>

11 August Yr 11 Directions & Decisions 2022 Parent Meeting

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

20 August Anglicare Sleepout

24-26 August Executive Principal in school



From the Executive Principal



On Wednesday, August 4, 2021 the Esperance Anglican Community School celebrated its 13th Anniversary Founders' Day. This day is set aside to provide the opportunity for our community to come together to acknowledge its Founders', to reflect on its past and to look to the future. It is a day of celebration and a wonderful time at which our community celebrates its diversity, inclusion and the positive impact it has created within the community.

The day commenced with a Service held at the Esperance Civic Centre, with guests including the Reverend Peter Laurence OAM, Chief Executive Officer of the Anglican Schools Commission, Mrs Renae Poot and Mr David Rigney, Local Advisory Council Members and Mrs Ruth McIntyre and Mrs Mary Hawkeye, Foundation School Council Members.

It is fitting that the Service is held at the Civic Centre, as this is the very place at which our foundation students commenced their first classes in 2008, due to the delay in the completion of the School's Stage 1 development.

I believe our School has progressed and matured since those early days, in ways that have shaped and formed who we are today. An excerpt from my welcome speech is included below, of which highlights my view of the School's development in line with the expectations of our Founders.

So, knowing what we know about our community today, do we measure up to what our Founders' envisaged for our community 13 years ago. Do we promote and express the qualities and vision that our Founders' had for our community.

I believe we do. I believe that we have students who are committed to bettering themselves, I believe we have students here at EACS that strive for personal excellence, not for their own gain, however to develop their natural gifts for the betterment and service of others. We have students who care for others, who raise funds for others, who advocate for those less fortunate, who wrap their arms around their friends when they require support, who do not judge harshly, who are committed to this community, who love, who care and who respect each other and the staff. We have students who honour our Founders' vision, through their practical deeds, through their words and endeavours. I am proud of all of our students, as I know that our Founders' would be.

We have staff here at EACS who are committed to their calling, who sacrifice many hours to provide creative learning opportunities for their students, who care personally for each of you, your wellbeing, your education, your growth, your attainment and who encourage each of you to strive for personal excellence. We have staff who are here early in the morning to serve you, here late at night to serve you, who pray for you, who understand your troubles, who advocate for you. Staff who champion your causes, who get excited by your positive progress, who hurt for you when you are down, who empathise with you; and care for you when you need it most. Our Founders' would be proud of our staff, of the selflessness that all staff show for our students.

Finally, each of us has something to give, so, we should give, because as we give to one another purposefully and with positive intention, and as we share our lives together, we build a solid foundation for the future of our community, as well as ensuring that the past contributions and vision of our Founders' have not been made in vain, but rather, have been developed and built upon, strengthening our community. Each of us has an individual responsibility to seek ways in which we can make positive

contributions to those around us, to make a difference by our presence, engagement and participation here at Esperance Anglican Community School, and in fact wherever we find ourselves in community with others.

With the completion of the Service all students arrived back at school to a community lunch, inclusive of a slice (or two) of celebratory cake, a most fitting way to complete a wonderful day.



Every Blessing Jason Bartell

McVay House News

Homework away from home

For most students in the EACS community, the school is a place they spend time during the day, before returning home to regroup. For EACS boarding students, the school is their home, so it is the place that they sleep, eat...and study.

While they can study in their rooms whenever they want to, if it is before lights out, there are dedicated "prep" periods available to them to ensure that they can focus on their work.

These sessions take place on weeknights in Dempster classrooms. Younger students, years 7 and 8, are encouraged to use the hour between 5 and 6pm to focus on their work, revision, and assessments due. At 6pm, there is a welcome break in proceedings while hungry students enjoy the dinner prepared for them by the wonderfully patient and caring kitchen staff on duty.

After the dinner dishes are done and packed away, the Year 7 and 8 students return to the boarding house, under supervision, and have free time until their allocated bedtimes. However, the Years 9 - 12 students have an extra 45 minutes of supervised prep time available to allow for their increased academic workload and study commitments.

The students are split into two rooms, with a supervisor on hand to provide help and ensure that everyone works on something productive. The dedicated study time gives students time to put their heads down, collectively, and work with minimum distractions.

During prep, no phones are allowed...though Spotify and headphones enables noise cancellation and indulgence in fine music!

Mrs Dorothy Henderson



From the Associate Principal

International Youth Day 2021 will be celebrated on August 12, the purpose of the day is to draw the attention of the government to the issues facing our youth and celebrate the contributions young people make to our world. These young men and women are the future of every country and are worth celebrating.

At EACS we believe that our students are our greatest asset, we celebrate their achievements in academic, sporting and community service achievements at regular assemblies. We reward their behaviour with our Good Standing Policy and we acknowledge their involvement outside our own school community.

Many of our students commit themselves to their passions and interests at the highest level. Representing the region in sporting competitions in a wide range of sports, including netball, football, moto cross and go carting. At service clubs like scouts and volunteering or caring for members of their family or for the good of the community and we would like to recognise their achievements.

We thank our students for their valued contribution to our school and the wider community and will be celebrating on the 12th, knowing that our students are making their world a better place. **Mrs Lisa Marquis**

Curriculum Focus: Big Picture

The Big Picture design for learning is based on research that shows that we learn best when we are personally motivated. Putting students at the centre of decisions around what, how and when they learn is the key to nurturing the next generations of engaged, independent learners.

We prepare students for opportunities beyond school with an emphasis on relevance and real-world learning. Our students combine academic work with real-world internships, use their head, heart and hands to explore their world and plan their own pathways to future employment, study or enterprise.

Two important elements of a Big Picture pathway are the Leaving to Learn element and the Post School pathway. This term our Year 10 Big Picture students are taking a deep dive into both of these elements. This was evident in a recent Leaving to Learn experience, year 10s were given a tour of South Regional TAFE. This exciting new facility is providing students in Esperance with state-of-the- art facilities and new courses to suit our 21st Century Learners.

Our Year 10's are also undertaking an intensive 5 week Careers program, designed to equip them to make decisions about their post school journey. They will have opportunities to hear from the 5 Western Australian universities, representatives from faculties at TAFE and from students and staff of both ATAR and General upper school subjects, all culminating in 1 on 1 meetings with students and parents to map out their upper school subjects.

Big Picture allows our students to follow a very bespoke pathway to meet their needs and give them the best chance of success.

For the first time in our school's Big Picture journey, we are excited to be able to offer students entering senior school the opportunity to enrol in Big Learning on a full time capacity. Students will spend the majority of their time learning through interest-based work. They will work with their Advisor and mentors towards achieving their post-school plans- be that employment or further education such as university or TAFE.

Student learning from both in school and outside of school is recognised with the International Big Picture Learning Credential (IBPLC). The IBPLC is recognised by many universities across Australia and is also a tool designed for graduating students to be able to use to represent themselves and their learning well as they enter the workforce. Further information about our Senior Advisory, and how it will run in 2022 will be available to students through their careers program and to parents on the subject selection information evening. However, if you would like to have a more extensive conversation or ask specific details, please get in contact with Mrs Shipp or Mrs Marquis, who will be very happy to answer your questions.

Mrs Lisa Marquis









Author, Speaker, Youth Coach

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1 SEPTEMBER 2021, 10.00AM - 12.00PM ESPERANCE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE CORNER GEORGE AND BACKLAND STREET, ESPERANCE, 6450 TRYBOOKING.COM/BSOGD

31 AUGUST 2021, 6.30PM - 8.30PM ESPERANCE LIBRARY WINDICH STREET ESPERANCE, 6450 TRYBOOKING.COM/BTAHU

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