

Erina News

Erina High School has been a hive activity over the past few weeks in terms of assessment and reporting. Semester 2 reports are well underway and will be issued to students during the last week of the term. In reading the reports it is evident that many students have worked incredibly hard to achieve their personal best and are to be congratulated on their due diligence and effort. It is pleasing to see that sheer hard work has paid off for many students and they are to feel proud of their achievement.

It is also interesting to note that many students who have not enjoyed success are often those who are unprepared for learning with no books, or equipment or whose attendance is unsatisfactory. I would strongly urge students who may be disappointed with their report to heed the advice of their Teachers and make a stronger commitment to their studies in 2012. I would appreciate parent support in encouraging their children to be well prepared for school and attend every day possible. If parents are concerned about these issues for their children please do not hesitate to contact the administration office and discuss your concerns.

The 2011 Higher School Certificate and School Certificate exams are now completed and we all eagerly await the results. I was very pleased to be advised by the presiding officer of the examinations that once again Erina High School students were well mannered and cooperative throughout the duration. Congratulations and well done students!!

Schools are in the final year of a 3 year plan and in the process of developing the next three plan. Staff at Erina High School are well underway with this process and our plan will be finalised and published on the school website before the end of the school year. The educational landscape is rapidly changing and schools need to be well prepared for the implementation of the National curriculum by 2013. This will mean a strong commitment to professional learning for our staff to ensure we are well equipped for the modifications in syllabus documents.

With the school leaving age increased there is a greater need for schools to better address the needs of students by ensuring we are providing a broad, flexible and innovative curriculum. Erina High School is well positioned with this direction with the strong focus on Vocational Education and Training, Trade Start and the introduction of courses that provide for the full range of learners.

With the abolishment of the school certificate as an exit credential schools will need to be ready to implement a new credential post year 10 and await advice from the Board of Studies as to what this may look like. It is thought that students will be provided with a credential that becomes a cumulative comprehensive record of achievement for students leaving school prior to completing year 12. Schools will be required to implement broad based assessments against external moderation standards to ensure reliability of the credential. It is envisaged that online tests in literacy and numeracy will form part of this credential that students can attempt at any point along the continuum of learning. The main thrust behind the abolishment is to encourage more students to obtain a year 12 or equivalent qualification. Research identifies that young people have improved life outcomes with higher levels of education. Early school leavers are 2 ½ times more likely to be unemployed, earn lower wages and poorer quality life outcomes.

These are a few examples of actions that will be identified in our next three year plan, in an effort to ensure we are meeting the changing educational needs of our young people to equip them for life and work in the 21st century. Watch this space as our plan takes shape!

Karen Nicol, Principal



Erina High

Issue 17

17 November 2011

School Events

18 November
Year 12 Formal

Years 7 & 8
Touch Football

22 November
Snake Tails

23 November
NSW Ultimate
Frisbee
Championship

Art Display

24 November
Years 10 & 11
Scripture

30 November
Variety Night

2 December
Sports
Presentation
Day - 1pm

AFS EXCHANGE STUDENT AT ERINA HIGH

This semester Francesca is happy to be here as an AFS exchange student. Francesca, 17, is from Nonio, a small city near Milan, Italy. She is here for 5 months and is having a great time here enjoying lots of new unique experiences, learning English and finding out about the Australian Culture. She's especially happy to enjoy some subjects that she can't study in Italy, like textiles and hospitality. Francesca is hosted by the Gilbert family who is having an exciting time with her as a new international member of their family. Francesca is lucky to have found great friends in her host sisters and in her classmates.

Thankyou to everyone at Erina High for welcoming Francesca and helping her learn about Australia.

If you think volunteering to hosting an AFS student from overseas is a good idea for you and your family, please contact Kathy Smith, our volunteer hosting coordinator on 4392 3844 or dskgls@bigpond.com

CAPA NEWS

Creative Arts and Performing Art Students and Teachers are progressing well and achieving more great outcomes.

Music

Of course Variety night is soon upon us so all music students are furiously rehearsing for their performances. This term we have just heard our "Valley of Kings" performers: Jake Brennan, Matt Lynch and Tom Beasley have all been accepted into The Talent Development Project in Sydney and everyone is excited about that.

Dance

Our students have completed their Hip Hop classes now and all are progressing well for their imminent Variety Night performance. A great effort!

'Study Plus' Activities

Mrs Scott and myself have been involved in introducing the Year Six Students to activities at our school such as the imaginative Art, Drama and 'Tournament of Mind' activities. These are great introductions to some of the things occurring at our school and the feedback is that students enjoyed these tremendously.



We had some year 7 experienced T.O.M. team members Tahleah Kirkman and Jake Mottershead as well as year 11 T.O.M. mentors Cassandra Lucock and Makayla Kirkman who helped out with the T.O.M. 'Study Plus' day.

Art

Tremendous new art work is coming to fruition in Art with new GaTS projects being created. Mrs Scott will soon have completed the ceramic garden installation and the second part of the Science mural is commencing from Mr Mottershead's GaTS group very shortly.

There will also be the Visual Arts exhibition on November 23rd in the Library.

Peter Mottershead, [C.A.P.A. Coordinator]

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HANDMADE CRAFT MARKET - Sunday, 20 November 2011 from 10am-2pm in the hall and surrounding grounds of Erina High School. Entry is by gold coin donation. Over 60 stalls of gorgeous handmade originals and delicious treats. For more information visit www.handmadecraftmarket.com.au

Erina High School

A caring community committed to excellence in education

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Erina High School Art Department

Proudly Presents

THE 2011 ANNUAL FINE ARTS EXHIBITION



Featuring

Year 12 HSC Body of Work Submissions

Artworks from Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

Years 11 and 12 Photography

WEDNESDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

ERINA HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

9am - 3.30pm

Variety Night

30 November 2011

Tickets are on sale NOW in the office

Adults \$5

Students \$3

Performers are FREE