

# Erina News



## ERINA HIGH DIVERSITY

Erina High School proudly supported a multicultural day last week that featured a range of activities for our students to be immersed in the rich diversity of Australian society. We were privileged to have the support from a number of community organisations to help celebrate this day. I would like to acknowledge the support from "WOOSH Care" who kindly shared the wonderful resources from their multicultural resource centre. Our thanks to Gosford Council for providing over 200 native plants and individual community people who gave freely of their time to share their culture with our students. The Erina High School P&C also generously provided a \$1,000 to help cover the cost of materials used for the day. My congratulations also is extended to Mrs Maguire for the enormous amount of work she did in coordinating such a fantastic day of cultural experience for our students and to all staff who supported the program.

Seventeen of our students have just recently returned from a 3 day Sailing adventure on South Passage which is a thirty metre Gaff rigged Schooner. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience the sailing life on a traditional sailing ship of the past. They learnt rope handling skills, raising and lowering of the sails and navigational skills as well as teamwork, leadership and had heaps of fun!! My thanks to Mr Roberts and Ms Smith for supporting our students on this excursion and for bringing our students home safe!!

The annual Erina High School Art exhibition was held in the library last Wednesday showcasing the artistic talent of our students. An opportunity for students to proudly exhibit their work as well as inspire further creativity. Congratulations to Mrs Scott and Mr Mottershead on facilitating this important event for our school community.

A reminder to all students that school finishes on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2011, up until that date all students are expected to be attending school and prepared for learning. Whilst most subjects are finalising course content teachers are building on skills in preparation for their subjects in 2012. It is very important that students are aware of our expectations that teaching and learning remains the main game at Erina High School.

### Erina High

Issue 18

1 December 2011

### School Events

**2 December**  
Sports  
Presentation  
Day - 1pm

**5 December**  
Year 7 2012  
Orientation Day

**5-9 December**  
Year 10 Gold  
Coast Excursion

**7 December**  
Academic  
Excellence  
Assembly

**15 December**  
Year 10  
Graduation  
9.30am

**16 December**  
Last day for  
students

**30 January**  
Years 7, 11 & 12  
students return

**31 January**  
All students  
return

As mentioned in the previous newsletter staff are preparing the school plan for the next 3 years. We have developed our priority areas which include:

- Literacy and Numeracy
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing
- School Promotion

In each of these priority areas are actions that focus on continuous school improvement that maximises learning opportunities for all students. It is critical that schools are preparing students for life and work in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to have them exiting with knowledge and skills that make them competitive in the workforce as well as a commitment for life-long learning. Research suggests that the more educational qualifications young people achieve the greater likelihood for improved life outcomes. Erina High School staff are committed to ensuring our students have every opportunity to be successful and achieve their personal best. The school plan will be completed by the end of the school year and available on the school website.

**Karen Nicol, Principal**

## **YEAR 10 GRADUATION ASSEMBLY**

**Thursday 15th December, 2011**

### **INFORMATION FOR YEAR 10 AND THEIR PARENTS**

You are cordially invited to join with us to celebrate Year 10's graduation from our junior school.

**WHERE:** ERINA HIGH SCHOOL MPC

**WHEN:** Thursday 15th December at 9:30am

**WHAT:** PRESENTATION OF GRADUATION CERTIFICATES AND SCHOOL SEMESTER 2 REPORTS AND SCHOOL CERTIFICATE CREDENTIALS

Followed by light refreshments in the senior area

**UNIFORM:** AS THIS IS A FORMAL OCCASION ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE IN FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ASSEMBLY. AS WELL STUDENTS MUST HAVE COMPLETED CLEARANCE PROCEDURES.

At the conclusion of the assembly, Year 10 students may leave the school with their families.  
**School commences for Year 11, on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2012.**

Mr J Costa/Mrs K Chand  
STUDENT ADVISERS

Mrs K Nicol  
PRINCIPAL

## GIRLS' FRISBEE TEAM

Congratulations to our Junior Girls' Frisbee team who are the State Championship Runners-up for 2011.

The girls competed at Parramatta Park on the 16th November. Out of the many competing teams from across the state, our girls finished 2nd over-all. Kit Hamilton and Gemma Clarke were outstanding competitors on the day and although the weather was cold, a fabulous day was had by all.

EHS Junior Girls' Frisbee Team:

Emma Forrest, Emma Lowe, Kit Hamilton, Alison Beswick, Maddy Downes, Charlotte Zorro, Gemma Clarke, Caitlin Murray, Shelby Jacobs, Jade Atchison. Coaches - Mr Crawford and Ms Harris.



## PRESENTATION NIGHT

Erina High's annual Presentation Night will be held on Wednesday December 7, with the ceremony commencing at 7.00pm, all students and parents should aim to be in the hall and seated by 6.55pm. Students receiving awards should have received an invitation to attend the ceremony, with the list of subject awards being displayed on the noticeboard at the top of A block.

Rehearsal for the ceremony will take place during the day on Wednesday December 7. Any student who is unable to attend the ceremony should still come to the rehearsal, where they will receive their award. Year 10 students will be on their excursion and will receive their awards at the year 10 Graduation ceremony.

It would be appreciated if students receiving awards and members of the audience remain for the entire ceremony as a courtesy and to celebrate the achievements of all students.

Any students with concerns regarding the ceremony should see Mr Shadbolt in the Social Sciences staffroom.

**Jeff Shadbolt, HT Social Sciences**

## ENGLISH NEWS

### **HSC Standard and Advanced English**

These HSC English courses have commenced and students are currently studying the text The Simple Gift as part of their Area of Study. This study requires students to develop an understanding of the concept of belonging. In doing so, students are required to examine a number of different texts and come to an informed opinion as to how all texts studied explore the concept of belonging.

In week 10 (Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December) students will be completing their first HSC assessment task. The task requires students to write an essay in class in 50 minutes. Students have received the essay question which is in their course booklet. This assessment task is important as it carries a weighting of 25%. Further information is available on the school website.

### **HSC English Studies**

Students who are studying this course have an assessment task due on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December. This task requires students to construct an Australian Bill of Rights and compose a letter to a potential immigrant.

This is the first assessment task for this course and students have the opportunity to explore issues that concern them and our country. This assessment task is important as it carries a weighting of 30%. Further information is available on the school website.

### **Junior Assessment Task**

Students in years 7 – 9 will be completing their final assessment task for 2011 in the coming weeks. Currently, students in these years are studying poetry. The task requires students to examine one of the poems they have studied and rewrite the poem as a narrative. Students will have two weeks to complete this task and the task is due on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December (Week 10). If your son / daughter will be absent from class the task will need to be submitted prior to the due date. Please see the website for further information.

### **Faculty Awards**

Congratulations to ALL students who have received Faculty Awards.

Some students have been receiving English/Drama Faculty Awards for their efforts within the classroom. These awards have been selected by the teacher for excellent effort. Teachers of the students who received these awards would like to congratulate them for their efforts and appreciate the work that these students have placed into their work.

### **Outstanding Texts**

Novels are quite expensive and are at the centre teaching in our faculty. Each year thousands of dollars in novels are not returned to the English / Drama faculty and this means that students in the following academic year miss out on new and exciting resources because money must be spent to replenish what has not been returned.

Over the next weeks could all parents, caregivers, grandparent and students check around the house and under beds for any novels that belong to Erina High. This will help us to purchase new and exciting texts rather than replenish the old.

### **National Curriculum**

After much discussion and consultation the Federal government has decided that Australia will have a National education curriculum beginning in 2013. This program will allow students from kindergarten to year 10 to travel from state to state and be taught similar material. The 2012 academic year has been set aside for schools to engage in professional discussion.

The English faculty at Erina High School have been asked by Dr David Cullen, the Senior Education Director, to run and develop pilot programs for this initiative. This is an excellent opportunity for staff and students to be involved in the direction of education for the coming years. This project involves teachers developing and creating work, based upon the National Curriculum, that will engage and excite students. Many of the programs and units of work created will then be used around the Hunter Central Coast Region, NSW and possibly Australia.

The project will be supervised by Mark Chapman and if you are interested in finding out more please contact him on 43 677353.

## **YEAR 8 ESSA TEST 2011**

The Essa tests were held in the library on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. This was the inaugural on line testing of Science skills no paper booklet section. Students had to complete a variety of tasks to assess their skills in observation, measurement analysis of data and knowledge of Science concepts. Early reports from the students suggest the test was well received and the questions were interesting. The students enjoyed using the computers to answer the multiple choice and extended written responses.

Marking began on the 24<sup>th</sup> November and parents can expect a 5 page written report around February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 which is to be posted to their current address. If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at Erina High School.

**Brian Huntington, Head Teacher Science**

## **CHANGES TO THE PARENT NEWSLETTER**

In 2012 the parent newsletter will be distributed three times a term - in weeks 3, 6 and 9. Parents will continue to be notified electronically when the latest newsletter is available for viewing on the school website. With a view to being more economical and environmentally friendly, a limited number of paper copies of the newsletter will be available for collection from the front office for families who are not able to access the newsletter electronically.



## ADVERTISING/COMMUNITY NOTICES

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Awesome Driving School is a participant in the keys2drive program, a federally funded program aimed to take the drama out of learning to drive. It helps parents to prepare for their role as a supervising driver to ensure that time spent in the car with their **Learner** is successful and effective.

To book your free government funded lesson visit [www.keys2drive.com.au](http://www.keys2drive.com.au)

### BOOK PACKS FOR 2012

Book packs for Years 7-10 are now available for purchase.

The cost is \$25 (incl GST) and can be purchased from the Administration Office between the hours of 8.30am and 2.30pm.



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**SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS**  
 Weds 21<sup>st</sup> – Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec, Erina  
 Mon 16<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, Tumbi  
 Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, Lake Munmorah area

More details phone 0421 220 424 or email  
[centralcoast@braziliansoccerschools.com.au](mailto:centralcoast@braziliansoccerschools.com.au)

## CENTRAL COAST DISABILITY NETWORK

### NETWORK NEWS!

CCDN is connecting with our many members who use Facebook by maintaining a Facebook page. If you "like" the "Central Coast Disability Network" page (with the coloured logo) you will receive regular updates of all events, plus see photos of our latest happenings. For those wanting more information have a look at our new website at [www.ccdn.com.au](http://www.ccdn.com.au) where you will find information on all our projects plus an up to date Service Directory.

## Erina High School

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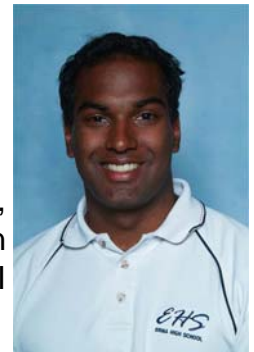
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## FAREWELL

Dear Year 9 students, parents and the school community,

I wish to inform you that this is my last year as your Year 9 Year Adviser, Sports Coordinator and as a teacher at Erina High School, as I have been offered a permanent PDHPE teaching position at another school, which I have accepted.



I want to thank you all for making my role as a Year 9 Year Adviser very rewarding and fulfilling. I am going to miss all my Year 9 students and also miss not being able to take you all through to Year 12. It is going to be sad leaving you all behind as well as Erina High School, but I know that Mrs Maguire and Erina's school staff will continue to provide you with all the support and advice you need. I also very much enjoyed my role as the Sports Coordinator. I thoroughly enjoyed watching all the talented students, from Year 7 through to Year 12, achieve great successes as they represented our school in a number of sports. I will continue to stay in contact and I wish you all the best with your future studies!

Thank you

**Mr Crawford, Year 9 Year Adviser/Sports Coordinator**



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