

Erina News



Erina High

Issue 12

2 December 2013

School Events

**2-6 December
Year 10
Gold Coast
Excursion**

**3 December
Year 8 Luna
Park excursion**

**4 December
Year 7 2014
Orientation**

**11 December
Academic
Presentation**

**12 December
Sports
Presentation**

**18 December
Last day of
school for
students**

**29 January
Years 7, 11 and
12 return**

**30 January
ALL students
return**

As the final weeks of the 2013 school year fade I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional work of our teaching staff at Erina High School that have again provided a quality educational learning experience for each and every one of our students. As I visit classrooms I feel nothing but pride when I witness teachers and students actively engaged in learning and feel very confident that we are making a difference in the lives of the children we teach. My sincere thanks and appreciation to our teachers for the wonderful job they do each day at Erina High School.

To the strong support staff I also owe my gratitude - they are the back bone of the school and work tirelessly to assist teachers, students and parents, always with a smile and good humour! Thank you for all your hard work, it is very much appreciated .

Last but by no means least I thank our wonderful students for their dedication and commitment to their schooling in 2013, we have great kids who continue to shine in a range of academic, sporting and cultural pursuits. I look forward to our annual presentation night and sporting assembly where I can formally congratulate our students. Presentation night will be held on Wednesday night December 11 at 6.30pm and the sports assembly Thursday morning December 12 at 9.30am.

Congratulations to all the very talented musicians, dancers and drama students who showcased their amazing talent at Erina on Stage last Wednesday night. Could you be anything but in awe of such quality performances!! Thank you to Ms Zouroudis, Mrs Broadley and Mr McKnight for their outstanding organisation and coordination of such as Gala event. Thank you also to our sound and lighting crew who were fabulous in ensuring the night progressed smoothly and our performers were well supported. A great team effort Erina!!

We proudly welcome our year 6 students this Wednesday December 4 for orientation day. We have a great day planned with a tour of the school, some taster lessons and of course a BBQ lunch. We will host a parent information evening starting at 6pm in the Multi Purpose Centre for our year 6 parents and students and look forward to meeting our new families. My thanks to Mr Bangura and Ms Bissett, our year 7 2014 year advisers, who have organised what will be a wonderful day.

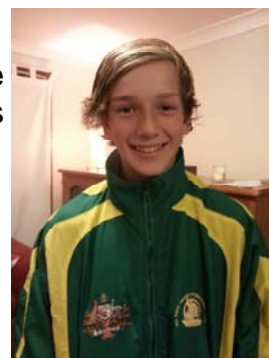
Over the last few weeks we have hosted a series of year 5 Primary fun days in a range of curriculum areas - multi- media, textiles, food technology, sport, science, drama to name a few. The students have had a wonderful time and we enjoyed meeting the children and parents. Thank you to the many EHS staff that have facilitated these sessions and to Mr Chapman for coordinating the program.

Our school is transforming with so many projects happening we will have a new face in 2014. Our gardens continue to be improved and I extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Joy Cooper, Mike Lynch, Janet and Colin McDonnell and Debbie White who have spent long hours in our gardens creating the most beautiful environment for our staff and students. Their work has not gone unnoticed and we are becoming the talk of the community with our grounds looking so nice. We are very proud and grateful for their hard work, thank you.



Our school will be a construction site over the holiday period with the commencement of the new toilet blocks and upgrade of the foyer. I am hopeful that when we return next year we will arrive to an amazing and long awaited transformation. I look forward to posting photos of our new look!!

Congratulations to Matthew Cahill who competed in Barcelona in the under 14's Futsal competition - he was a great ambassador for his school community. Well done Mathew!!



Congratulations also to Oliver Vanderslot who is currently overseas representing Australia in the Under 12s Futsal team. Good luck Oliver! We look forward to hearing your results.



On Friday last week our senior student leaders hosted a fund raising BBQ to support the bush fire victims from Winmalee High School in the Blue Mountains. They did a fabulous job, a total of \$420 was raised, and I thank the school community for getting behind such a worthy cause.



A reminder that the school year finishes for all students on Wednesday December 18, reports will be issued in the week beginning Monday December 16. Staff will be engaged with professional learning on December 19 and 20 where our focus will be on NSW Australian curriculum implementation, training in our welfare package SENTRAL and a literacy focus on reading.

I wish all staff, students and families a wonderful Christmas and safe summer holiday, enjoy special time with family and friends.

School resumes for the 2014 school year on Wednesday January 29 for years 7,11 and 12 and all students on Thursday January 30 2014.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Nicol
Principal

THE ATAR - YEAR 12 HSC INFORMATION

The ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) is a number between 0 and 99.95 with increments of 0.05. It provides a measure of your overall academic achievement in the NSW HSC in relation to that of other students, and it helps institutions rank applicants for selection in their courses.

It is calculated on behalf of the institutions and released by UAC (University Admissions Centre).

The ATAR is a rank, not a mark. Your ATAR indicates your position relative to the students who started Year 7 with you. An ATAR of 80.00 indicates that you have performed well enough in the HSC to place you in the top 20 per cent of your cohort.

It is important to note that your ranking depends solely on your performance in the HSC.

ATARs are calculated for all ATAR-eligible students, but not all students are notified. Only NSW HSC students who indicate on their HSC entry forms that they wish to be notified of their ATAR will receive an ATAR Advice Notice from UAC in the mail at about the same time they receive their HSC results from the Board of Studies.

Are you eligible for an ATAR?

To be eligible for an ATAR in 2014 you must satisfactorily complete at least 10 units of ATAR courses. These ATAR courses must include at least:

- eight units from Category A courses (yellow in EHS subject selection information)
- two units of English
- three Board Developed courses of two units
- four subjects.

How is your ATAR calculated?

Your ATAR is based on an aggregate of scaled marks* in 10 units of ATAR courses comprising:

- your best two units of English, and
- your best eight units from the remaining units.

No more than two units of Category B courses can be included. (School VET courses and a small number of 2 unit 2 year TAFE courses)

Go to www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/atar/ for additional information

Vicki Smith
Deputy Principal Development

STOP WORK MEETING

On Tuesday 3rd December 2013, members of the NSW Teachers Federation will be participating in a 2 hour stop work meeting. The teaching staff at Erina High School will be among those participating in the meeting.

Following an assessment regarding the number of teachers likely to participate in the industrial action, it has been determined that the school will only be able to offer minimal supervision. Normal lessons will commence after 11am with usual Break 1 finishing at 11.10am with roll call. Period 3 will start at the normal time of 11.20, periods 3,4 & 5 continuing as per normal timetable.

A limited menu will be available at the canteen.

I apologise for the inconvenience and hope that this advanced warning allows you adequate time to make appropriate arrangements for your children.

SPORT 2013 WRAP

It has been another busy sporting year at Erina High, with some outstanding team and individual results being achieved.

After another great school swimming carnival, Kane Douch (Year 8) was crowned Zone 13 Years Boys Age Champion. In Athletics, Harry Wilson (Year 9) and Matthew Sheppard (Year 10) both represented at the State Carnival in Shot Put. Kimberley Myer (Year 8), Amelia Lynch and Harley Lynch (Year 10) all performed creditably at the State Gymnastics competition. Amelia and Harley also achieved great results at the State Trampolining Championships where Amelia placed 4th and Harley 2nd.

Our teams also provided some great results this year as well. Our Open Boys Soccer 7's team are the 2013 Central Coast Champions, where they won 6 games straight. Our Open Boys Oz-Tag team also became Central Coast Champions at the All Schools competition earlier this year.

We invite you to celebrate all our sporting champions and their achievements at the Annual Sports Presentation Awards ceremony. It will be held on December 12th, starting at 9:30am in the Erina High School MPC.

PARENT SURVEY FOR SCHOOL SPORT IN 2014

We are always looking for ways to refine and improve the way we offer sport to Year 9 and Year 10 on Tuesdays. We would really appreciate it if parents of past, present and future Year 9 and 10 students could follow this link and give us some feedback on paying for sport.

<http://goo.gl/hF4Gmi>

Brendan Jones
Head Teacher, PDHPE

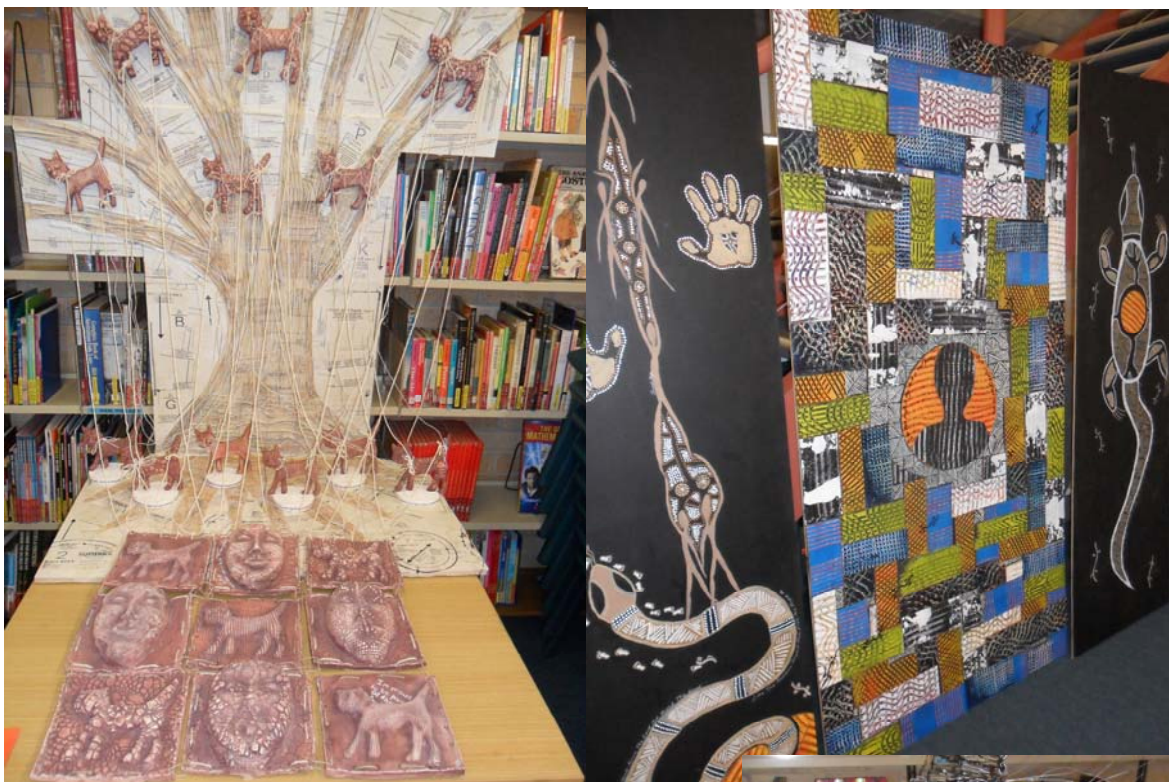
ART AND TEXTILES EXHIBITION

The Art and Textiles Departments held a very successful evening exhibition of 2013 HSC projects on 7 November 2013. The school library was transformed into a gallery space displaying 22 Major Textile Projects plus folios and 7 HSC Art "Bodies of Work".

The Year 11 Hospitality classes did a wonderful job catering for the event.

All students and family members thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition and were extremely proud of their displayed works.

Mrs Adamski, Mrs Maguire and Mrs Scott





MATHEMATICS

Senior Mathematics Courses

Senior Mathematics is NOT compulsory, students can elect to do Mathematics if they choose or can drop it if it doesn't fit in with their career plans. Ms Pursehouse (EHS career adviser) is available to all students who want further support around subject selection.

As Mathematics is no longer compulsory the courses are structured quite differently to the Junior school. There are 2 courses Advanced Mathematics (a very abstract course based on algebra and calculus) or General Mathematics (a real life Mathematics based course).

Students who have been successful in Year 10 should cope with the demands of the General Mathematics course. Keeping up-to-date by completing all classwork and set homework will be the minimum requirement. There are also added time constraints due to the large volume of work that has to be covered and the course content must be delivered in an efficient manner.

The Advanced course is a very academic course that can put added pressure on students. Many students start at the Advanced level and drop down to the General Course. This is a possible option but students need to understand that the 2 courses have very few common elements. Therefore, a student who drops to General Mathematics for example at the end of Term 1 will have to catch-up on missed work in the General Mathematics course for that Term as well as keeping up-to-date with the new work.

Not all students will cope with the General Mathematics course. It is a good idea to ask Year 12 students who completed the HSC this year to see if you will cope.

Students are encouraged to do the level that best suits their ability and work ethic. They will have a good idea after a couple of weeks if they are going to cope. At this early stage is when sound decisions need to be made as the courses only become more rigorous as time goes on.

If there are any questions regarding the Mathematics course that students have selected please talk to your Mathematics teacher or Mr Wellham.

Mr Wellham
Head Teacher Mathematics



YEAR 9 FOOD TECHNOLOGY TEENAGER'S BIRTHDAY CAKE

This term's assessment task involved students designing and making a birthday cake for a teenager. Students demonstrated a high level of creativity and challenged themselves to produce cakes that developed new skills, displayed originality, and were professional looking in their appearance. Well done all Year 9 Food Technology students!

Miss Howell and Mrs Maguire

ENGLISH NEWS

The English faculty would like to remind all families to check for misplaced school books, which should be returned to school as soon as possible. Please check for any texts from previous units of work and return these to your English teacher or the English staffroom. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

We would like to offer special congratulations to our Stage 4 debating team, who recently took part in the University of Newcastle Annual Debate Cup. They performed well, and were able to gain valuable experience through this event. The highlight for the team was defeating Gosford High School.

Years 7- 9 English assessments are in week 10. Students are preparing a visual representation and a written explanation of the major themes in their text. Students are reminded that marks carry over from the final assessment this year to their results for Semester One next year. Year 10 students are finishing the year with a focus on Advertising and the persuasive techniques that have been employed in the media.

If students or parents are ever unsure of the assessment tasks scheduled, they can visit our school web site and download English assessment dates as well as assessment task notifications.

Year 11 Advanced and Standard students have completed their speech assessment as part of their HSC Area of Study: Belonging work and will soon be completing this unit. To maintain this knowledge for the HSC, it is essential that these students maintain effective study routines that include ongoing revision.

Year 11 English Studies students have been exploring the topic of "We Are Australians" through a range of texts, delving into the ideas and values that are apparent in these texts. The first assessment task for these students will take place in week 11.

Year 9 Drama have been working on dramatic representations of picture books, some of which were presented at the year 5 Drama Fun Day, run by Miss Kearney in Week 8.

Year 10 Drama have been working on special projects and will now have a series of skills workshops to prepare them for senior Drama studies.

Congratulations to the year 12 Drama students who gave an amazing performance of ***The Great Gatsby*** at this year's Erina on Stage (see photo next page). Ms Johnson is excited to have such a talented group of actors, singers and dancers embarking on the HSC next year. They are truly a professional group of young people.

Mark Chapman
Head Teacher English/Drama



Meet Rocky and Rockina, our two newest additions to Erina High School. Our Year 7 fundraising team were able to raise \$343.30 to help save the orang-utans in Borneo. We sponsored Rocky and Rockina and another baby female named Rahayu. We were also able to safeguard 95 hectares of land. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthwhile cause. A big thank you especially to Kobi-Dylan Myers, Hannah Hawkins, Jayde and Jake Hall who raised the most money.



You're invited to

Carols on the Lawn

Date: Sunday 15 December 2013

Time: 7:00pm

Venue: On the lawn
The Salvation Army
120 The Entrance Road
Erina NSW 2251

Enjoy singing carols with The Salvation Army Band as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ
Performances by "Street Dreams" Dance Crew
Fun for the whole family
Bring your picnic rug

For more information go to
salvos.org.au/gosford

You can also join us for our family service on Christmas Day at 9:30am

Take
time to
Connect
this
Christmas

This year, don't let the Christmas rush win. Take time to celebrate with friends and family at this great community event.

We're about people finding freedom.



ADVERTISING/COMMUNITY NOTICES

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Have you taken a photograph that celebrates or reflects cultural diversity?

Green Point Community Centre in partnership with Northern Settlement Services invites you to submit your entry to win.

The photos will be judged in the following age groups:

Primary School | Secondary School | Open Adult | Seniors (60+)

For more information and application forms call Green Point Community Centre on 4367 7591 or email info@greenpointcommunitycentre.com.au

ENTRIES CLOSE FEBRUARY 28, 2014

AWESOME

DRIVING SCHOOL

L

4369 2230

L

Christmas vouchers now available

\$50 for your first 1 hour lesson

**for new students only*

- Teaching Safe Driving Techniques
- Vouchers and Packages Available
- Manual & Automatic Lessons
- Female & Male Instructors
- Patient, Encouraging & Punctual instructors

FREE



KEYS 2 DRIVE
Government Funded Lesson



WINNER

Book Online at
www.awesomedrivingschool.com.au



Single with Children
A non-profit social group operated by the Single Parent Family Association

ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT?

Every week **Single with Children** provides fun and exciting activities especially for single parents and their children (many activities are subsidised or even free)



It's a great way to meet and get to know people in your area

To find out more and get a **FREE** copy of our social calendar, contact us today.

Call 1300 300 496

Or visit our website:
www.singlewithchildren.com.au



He needs someone to care.

Do you have room in your home and space in your heart?
Help us meet an urgent need for foster carers
in the Hunter and Central Coast region.

The most urgent need exists for:

- Sibling groups of primary school age.
- Children in need of respite (short break) care, for example can you care for a child / children one weekend a month to give their full time carers a break?

Visit fosteringnsw.com.au or call 1800 236 783

Junior
GRIDIRON
CENTRAL COAST
SHARKS

Ages: 15-19

Season runs Feb - May
Training at: Blue Haven Oval,
Colorado Drive, Blue Haven
Wednesday nights from 7:00pm

Pre-season starts 14th December
Call: 0408 215 168
www.centralcoastgridiron.com






WE NEED YOU!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NETBALL PLAYERS
FOR THE 2014 NETBALL SEASON

We are looking for players in
most divisions including:

7's born 2007; 8's born 2006; 9's born 2005

10's born 2004; 11s born 2003;

12s born 2002; 13s born 2001

Intermediate Juniors born 1999 to 2001

Cadets born 1997/1998

Registration day

Saturday 1st February, 2014

Woodport Public School Library

9am to 12pm

Come along on the day for a sausage sizzle.

If you have any queries please email us at:
woodportnetball@gmail.com



LOWES

SPECIAL PROMOTION FOR

Erina High School
SPECIAL SALES
EVENING

Lowes Erina, Erina Fair Shopping Centre.
 Tuesday 17th December, 3.00pm – 7.00pm

RECEIVE 15% DISCOUNT

Off the regular price on all store items.
 For all incoming Year 7 parents and students

PLUS

BONUS EZY-WAY 5% DISCOUNT

additional for Lowes Ezy-Way customers

OR 5% REWARDS

Lowes Rewards Card holders receive in-store Gift Vouchers
 to the value of 5% of their purchase

PLUS

Lowes will pay your school annual **5% rebate** on every
 uniform purchased in-store.

GOSFORD TAFE is running
 a Certificate II in Skills for Work
 and Training course in Semester 1
 2014. The course runs for 18
 weeks and is designed for women
 who want to return to work or
 study.

For more information contact
 Pauline Eade on 4348 2282



Erina High School

A caring community committed to excellence in education

152 The Entrance Road
ERINA NSW 2260
<http://www.erina-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Phone: 4367 7353 or 4367 7246
F: 4365 3086
E-mail: erina-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

PARENT TIPS

If you need any back to school information for 2014 please follow the link below to the Department's *School A to Z website*

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/back-to-school-2014>

Avoiding homework drama

Bell Shakespeare's artistic director, John Bell, discusses Shakespeare and how to make it accessible. He says to tell your teen not to worry about the language; to concentrate on the characters, the dilemmas, and the problems they face, and find out how to identify with the protagonists in the story.

Coping with Shakespeare: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/helping-kids-cope-with-shakespeare>

Succeed in science

Award-winning scientist and teacher Dr Mark Butler lists his 10 top tips to give your teenager the edge in the study of science.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/helping-your-teenager-succeed-in-science>

Helping teenagers celebrate safely

Parties are part and parcel of a teenager's life. While most celebrations go off without a hitch, they can go wrong and get out of hand – particularly if the party is unplanned.

Here are some tips to help ensure your teenager and their friends have fun but remain safe.

Time to party: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/time-to-party>

facebook.com/erinahighschool