Erina News

2014 has certainly been a great year for Erina High School and the many achievements are a credit to the dedication, commitment and sheer hard work of our staff, students and parents. We have seen the completion of our new toilet block, an upgrade of our administration foyer, classrooms repainted and carpeted and our gardens maintained with love and care from our Wednesday weeders. Our students deserve a quality learning environment and I encourage students to take great pride in their school.

It has been the year that our student's academic achievement continues to impress with our best ever NAPLAN results and significant improvement in reading, as evident in the post PAT test. It is clear our students are strongly committed to improving their capacity to learn and work towards their personal best and I offer my sincere congratulations.

With our 50th birthday now behind us we now build on the strong foundation of Erina High School and move the school forward to ensure we successfully meet the learning needs of our young people in the years to come. 2014 has been a highly successful year for our learning community and I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to our many supporters. Our anticipated enrolment for 2015 is 711 students, lower than we have been for a few years but year 7 is looking strong with an expected enrolment of 134 students, 35 more than the current year 7 cohort. I believe this is due to the hard work of so many at Erina, building strong professional relationships across our partner primary schools and delivering on our promise to provide quality teaching and learning.

Congratulations to Mr Pickett and Mrs Maguire for organising such a fabulous formal for our year 12 students held at Crowne Plaza Terrigal. It was a great night of celebration, reflection and anticipation of life after school. A gala event with our young people stepping out on the red carpet, sophisticated and glamorous ready to take on the world with confidence and enthusiasm. I think the photo of our boys jumping for joy says it all!! Please visit our Facebook page to see the beautiful photos of our students looking amazing!





Erina High

Issue 12

1st December 2014

School Events

3 December Yr 6 into Yr 7 Orientation Day and Night

4 December Presentation Night

5 December Sports Presentation

8-12 December Year 10 Camp

17 December Last day of school for students

18-19 December Staff Development Day

Last Wednesday we hosted a year 5 primary fun day presenting sessions for 180 students, it was a terrific day for the students to get to know our staff and high school routine as well as meet new friends. Thank you to Mrs Rumming for coordinating the day, to Mr Lyons for the catering and to the many staff that facilitated workshops. It was an organisational masterpiece!! Also thank you so much to the Primary Principals for their support and the many families who provided such positive feedback for us. We look forward to providing further opportunities for our primary school students at Erina High School in 2015.











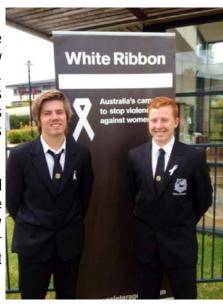


A reminder that December 3 is orientation day for year 6 Students attending Erina in 2015, we are looking forward to hosting the day and providing students with another opportunity to become more familiar with the operation of secondary schooling.

The parent information night will be held on the same day starting at 6 pm in the library. Please come along and meet staff and learn more about teaching and learning at Erina High School for year 7 students.

Erina High School Senior leaders Blake Storm and Brad Deegan were proud to represent our school at the breakfast meeting on Tuesday November 25 at Koorindah Waters Wyong to recognise White Ribbon day. They took their place with a number of male leaders from others schools and strongly supported the end to violence against women. Thankyou boys for attending such an important occasion and showing your support for this very serious social issue.

What a great night of celebration last Wednesday where we showcased our amazing performing arts students at the annual Erina on Stage evening. Thank you to Mrs Broadley, Mr Byrnes, Ms Johnson, Ms Kearney and Mr Lowe for facilitating such a spectacular event. I was so proud of our students who demonstrated their exceptional talent and it was a great success with lots of positive feedback from our families.





It was a pleasure for Mrs Bayliss and I to attend the Lions Youth of the year public speaking competition last week kindly hosted at the Davistown RSL. Two of our senior students Eilish Boyak and Lucas Morley represented Erina high school in this very prestigious competition. They were given two impromptu topics to speak to in a two minute time frame and then deliver a five minute prepared speech. Our students were amazing, they spoke with great passion and conviction on each of the topics presented and were calm, confident and impressive!! Congratulations to Eilish and Lucas, they were true ambassadors of public education and a special thank you to Mrs Bayliss for supporting the students in preparing their speeches.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to read every students semester 2 report and offer my congratulations to the many students who have worked so hard in 2014 to reach their personal best. It is pleasing to see students achieving and realising their potential. It is evident that some students have not performed to their best and this is strongly linked to poor attendance. Successful students are those that attend every day possible and maximise their learning potential. I would encourage students and parents to follow up on Teacher's advice for areas of improvement in 2015.

As this is the last newsletter for the year I would like to wish staff, students and parents a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy vacation. School resumes on Tuesday January 27 for staff, Wednesday 28 for years 7,11 and 12, then all students on Thursday January 29.

Enjoy, be safe and take care of one another. Mrs Nicol Principal



'ERINA ON STAGE' VARIETY CONCERT

'ERINA ON STAGE' was held on Wednesday 26th November. It was a huge success with two fantastic concerts performed. In the day, the Matinee concert performed for students from Years 7-10, and the evening performance for family and friends. There were 24 awesome musical acts from our very talented music students from Years 8 – 11, consisting of soloists, duets, small ensembles, rock bands. The wonderful Year 10 & 11 drama students gave a very energetic dance and performance of the song 'You can't stop the beat' from the Musical Hairspray, which was a big hit with the audience.

A special thanks to our school captains Jacinta Camboni and Bradley Deegan who hosted both concerts and the sound & lighting crew who worked tirelessly day and night backstage and behind the scenes. Also thanks to the following teachers: Mr Burns, Ms Johnson, Ms Kearney & Mr Lowe. Congratulations to all the performers –you were so amazing and you are all STARS!!

<u>Yr 11-</u> Francis Carriage, Tyla Willams-Takoko, Aaron Cahill, Dylan Budai, Kyle Fumano, Millie Bernauer, Mark Partridge, Alex McKenzie, Eilish Boyack, Rachel Barrett, Alex Rowe, Tim Jolliffe, Ella Holland, Kahli Woodley, Cara Smith, Jean-Michel Ferrier, Nick Carr, Jay Parker, Brad Smith.

<u>Yr 10</u>-Max Stuart, Tom Ellem, Will Northcote, John Gibson, Olivia Andrews Shelby Duggan, Nischala McDonnell, Katherine Fletcher, Lindsey Pike, Sam Kentwell, Eden Windshuttle, Jasmine Carabott, Celine Carceller, Jade Boland, Monica Anderson, Sisifa Mafile'o,Wise Eaten, Skye Hahn, Chloe Carter, Elle-Louise Lasscock, Tahleah Kirkman, Ainslea White, Josh McRowan, Will Lowe.

<u>Year 9</u> - Amy Stuart, Jenna Hoffman, Bianca Storm ,Ebony Bender, Bo Buyink, Tully Sheath, , Jasmine Tomlinson, Brittany Carriage, Kurt Reardon, Andre Golledge, Aaliyah Henry, Jahcarta Carbin.

<u>Year 8-</u> Racheal Gilles, Brittany Seaburn, Brooke Favetta, Elyssa Cameron Briannah Larnach , Jayde Hall, Hannah Hawkins, Ashlyn Hayes, Krystal Eather.









ERINA ON STAGE VARIETY CONCERT











HSIE

It has been a productive year for the HSIE faculty throughout 2014. It was the first year that we implemented the Year 7 and 9 History National Curriculum. The topics covered in Year 7 included Investigating the Past, Ancient Egypt and Ancient China. In Year 9 we focused on the Industrial revolution, World War I and World War II. We have created some interesting and varied assignments to suit a range of abilities from the A stream classes to those requiring additional support.

Excursions have provided the opportunity for our students to learn beyond the classroom. Commerce recently embarked on an excursion to speak with local business owners at Erina Fair and to assess the viability of the mall for a business to be located. Senior Geography investigated Avoca Lagoon by kayak as part of their Ecosystems at Risk unit. The class looked at changes to the natural environment and learnt about the threatened species that call the lagoon home. They will use this information to complete an assessment task and hopefully use their new knowledge to help preserve such environments in the future.

Our Primary Fun Days have been an excellent way to get to know future Erina High School students. Selected primary school students were invited from Years 5 and 6 to participate in a full day of challenging activities to develop their skills and personal qualities needed to meet the challenges of the 21st century, such as exploration of ideas, collaboration and team work. The aim was to collect the clues around the school using a map, compass and distance. They were then required to map their journey using scale when back in the classroom. All of the students had a variety of challenging, yet fun activities in the race and we look forward to running another event next year.

This year, a respected teacher Mr McMullen retired. His knowledge in both Legal Studies and Geography was highly valued amongst staff and students. His ability to forge genuine relationships with his students means that he will be sorely missed and we wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement. We also welcomed some temporary staff into our faculty including Penelope Bennett and Kellie Kruit who have made positive contributions to both the faculty and inside the classroom.

The HSIE faculty was also provided with the opportunity to implement the *All My Own Work* program for Year 10 students which is designed to help them during their Higher School Certificate to follow the principles and practices of good scholarship. It includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies.

MATHEMATICS

On Friday November 7th, some of our Year 9 Mathematics students had the opportunity to attend an exciting seminar given by Adam Spencer (comedian, media personality and Mathematician).

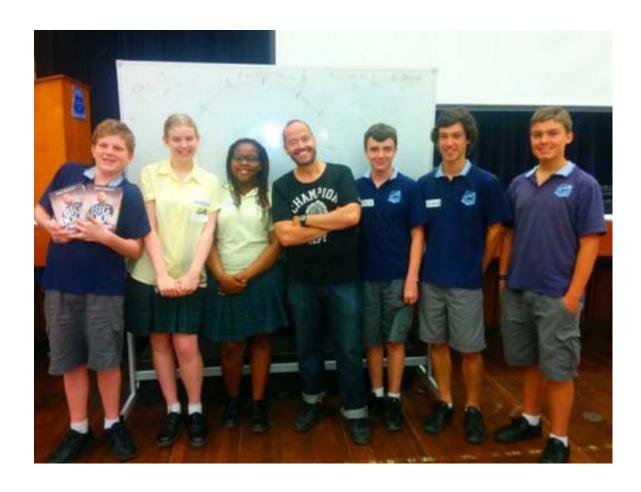
Here's what our students had to say about the day:

- "It was fun and it was also very nice to meet Adam" Aaron Graham
- "Really fun, it challenged me to my limits and made me expand my mind as well as mingle with other schools"

 Annabelle Newton
- "THIS MAN IS A COMEDIC MATHEMATICAL GENIUS! He has opened my mathematical mind by challenging me using simple and painfully obvious things that somehow managed to blow my mind. This guy is awesome" Thandi Nyathi
- "Seeing Adam Spencer was a fun day out... it was interesting seeing all the things you can do with numbers"

 Reece Harrison
- "It was fun and we learnt some new things" Shane Anabel
- "It was a fun experience that introduced me to some interesting mathematical activities" James Rhodes

Keegan Raeside Mathematics Dept



HSC Textiles Exhibition 2014

On Thursday 6th November Year 12 Textiles students celebrated finishing their HSC exams by attending an exhibition of the HSC Major Textiles Projects and afternoon tea in the school Library.

The students were joined by family and friends to view the display of their hard work over the HSC year. There was a range of items from all focus areas including Costume, Apparel, Furnishings and Textile Arts. Well Done Girls!







Year 12 Food Technology

Students have started the Year 12 course and have been learning about the various sectors and aspects of the Australian Food Industry. Students recently visited McDonalds to learn about the role the company plays in the food industry and to develop their knowledge of the equipment and technology utilised, as well as other important features of the business. As part of their assessment task, students were given a list of ingredients and were required to create a dish that would be suitable to sell or serve at a local Café. Students came up with a variety of dishes and should be commended for their efforts.

Carly Kekwick & Sandra Adamski Home Economics











Year 10 Design & Technology

Throughout Term 3, students designed and made their own quilt. They were provided with a design brief and were required to produce a portfolio that addressed a range of aspects such as; equipment requirements, design inspiration, costing and an evaluation of their work. It was extremely pleasing to see how creative students were, incorporating colour, surface decoration and working with a range of fabric mediums. As their teacher, I am extremely proud of their efforts in producing such high quality items, well done!!

Carly Kekwick.











ART

The Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize is a national competition that awards and promotes Australian contemporary photography. It was established in 2007 and includes a student component. Congratulations to **Shiarna Elonen** of Year 12 who was one of the top 25 finalists in the '2014 Secondary Years 11 -12' section of this year's Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize.



<u>Indigenous Students and Family – 715 HEALTH CHECK</u>

For your information a 715 Health Check is a free service which is carried out by your G.P. It takes 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete. You need to obtain a Parent Consent form from Medicare Local which is behind the 'Rivers' store on The Entrance Road, Phone No. 43652294. For any additional information please contact J. Ruming, P. White or R. Miller at Erina High School.

School Uniforms

If anyone has any junior Erina High girl's school uniforms that are no longer needed we would very much appreciate it if you could donate them to our school. They can be dropped off at the school's front office during school hours.

eTec

The first year of our eTec program has received glowing feedback from students, parents and teachers. It was always our intention to roll out the Chromebook program into Year 7 and 8 2015, and the feedback and work samples from the kids has confirmed our progress. From a recent survey, here's what the parents and students of Erina High School had to say about our eTec program so far:

| Students | Parents |
|--|--|
| How did you use eTec to learn? Research, Working with other students, Creating documents, Assessment tasks | Generally "It made our son even more eager to learn." |
| How did the eTec program help you learn? | "No issues at all" |
| "It was more educational than using paper and pens and worked exceptionally well with most of the students | What were the benefits? |
| helping them learn new strategies with technology." | "Faster feedback. Improved technological skills. Collecting information quicker and easier." |
| "It helped me get information faster and it helped me with interacting with other students." | "Being able to work on group documents online, being |
| What were the good things? | able to share documents with teachers and receive feedback, sharing documents with other students, resources being available." |
| "Having your own computer to work with." | Primary Fun Day |
| "you got the use computers for school work and use at home" | r timary i dir bay |
| "We could do our work (with) online documents instead of on paper. We were given the opportunity unlike any other years at school to get laptops. It was so much easier to learn on a laptop." | |
| One thing we could improve? | |
| "that we could use our laptops in every lesson" | |
| "nothing" | |

We have also been invited to produce a Class Movie about our eTec idea, and filming has been taking place for the past few weeks. Stay tuned for the world premiere of "Learning in the Cloud" later this year.

Primary Fun Day

We really enjoyed working (playing) with the Year 5 and 6 students at the Primary Fun Days. Mr Keyes and his Multi Sport Challenge certainly had the students active and moving about, while Mr Jones with the Google Driver's license saw some fast learners and clever computer users in his groups. We are looking forward to running more sessions in the Fun Days next year, including an animation session for Year 6 2015, to finish what we started this year with the Year 5 Google Drivers.

Pink Stumps Day

Erina Learning Community is planning an event as part of Pink Stumps Day in 2015. The plan involves having representatives from all our community schools at Erina High in Term1, 2015 to participate in this worthwhile cause and have fun playing cricket. You can support us right now by visiting the ELC Fundraising page (link below) and donate to help the McGrath Foundation.

http://pinkstumpsday2015.gofundraise.com.au/page/erinalearningcommunityHC46

Stay tuned for more details about Pink Stumps day in 2015.

Year 9/10 PDHPE Class Competitions

During term 3 and 4, Erina High School PDHPE classes have participated in a round robin competition in Basketball and Soccer. We are now proud to announce the results of these competitions. In Year 9 Basketball we had a hard fought final between The Ball Ups and The Flubber Bubbas. The Ball Ups proved why they finished on top of the table with a great win 36 to 21. In Year 9 Soccer, The Jugglers came into the final against The Smash Ems as strong Favourites but the Smash Ems held strong and managed to secure a 0 - 0 draw.

In the Year 10 Basketball Competition, Insanity came up against Can't Kick in an extremely close grand final. However, Insanity proved too strong and held on to victory 45—42. In the Year 10 Soccer competition, The Kinny Roos came up against The Spider Pigs in a clash that will go down in history. The Kinny Roos were extremely confident and scored an early goal but the Spider Pigs fought back with 2 goals to hit the lead with only minutes to play. The Kinny Roo's peppered the goal and just before full time managed to snag a late goal and lock the scores at 2—2. The game then went to penalties. Both teams looked nervous and there was some confusion as to who would take the penalties but The Kinny Roo's shot with excellent power and won the game 4—3 on penalities. Well done to all of Year 9 and 10, the competitions were a great success and really highlighted excellent team spirit and participation.

Grant Keyes Erina High School Sports Organiser/ Year 10 Year Advisor



English/Drama Faculty Report

The staff of the English / Drama Faculty wish to congratulate our students on their hard work and the significant progress they have made during 2014.

Year 12 2015 Advanced and Standard students are participating in the Area of Study-Discovery module with a focus on the Ang Lee film Life of Pi. They completed their first HSC Assessment Task Week 6 and will also submit and present a speech in Week 10. This will require students to analyse a related text of their own choice and to share this information with their peers. The Extension 1 students have completed their first assessment task which was a Viva Voce with Ms Serrano and Mr Chapman. This requires students to discuss and explain their understanding of the texts they have studied to date. English Studies classes are learning about texts relating to Australian identity and will complete a writing task for assessment in Week 10. This requires students to write a letter to a prospective immigrant to Australia explaining the aspects of our country that they find significant. They also need to construct a Bill of Rights for Australia, outlining what they regard as the fundamental values of our country.

Junior English classes in Years 7-9 are currently studying drama texts in preparation for their final assessment task which will be due in Week 10. They are constructing visual representations of the themes in their text and will need to explain the ways in which they have chosen to depict ideas. Ms Slocombe is giving special assistance to students who need help in expressing their understanding in this visual form. Families are reminded that the marks allocated for this particular assessment task will contribute to their assessment grades for 2015. Year 10 students are currently working through their final unit of work in the junior school and have selected their teacher for Year 11 English.

Our Year 9 Drama students are currently studying Commedia dell' Arte which is an Italian form of comedy of the 16th Century while our Year 10 Drama students are working on Personal Interest Projects. Our senior students have begun their HSC courses for 2015 which involves them starting their individual projects and performances. They will then move to a study of Verbatim Theatre as part of the Studies in Drama and Theatre module in which they will study two plays and will also develop their own Verbatim performance. The HSC Drama students are encouraged to work on their individual projects and to read and revise their prescribed texts over the Christmas break.

Our Year 7 and 8 Debating Teams have participated in the University of Newcastle Debating Challenge at the Ourimbah Campus. We are very proud of their efforts and their continued motivation to develop their skills in this regard.

Parents are reminded that all English and Drama texts will need to be returned to class teachers or the staff room as soon as possible. Each year a number of texts are not returned, which is a very costly issue. It means that we have to find money to replace these as full class sets are required for classes. We welcome all Erina High texts, regardless how old they are, with no questions asked! We are always thrilled to see students who have found a book hidden in their room, or texts that belonged to siblings, and return them to us.

Similarly, if you have novels in your home that may be suited to class libraries, these too will be appreciated, as junior classes begin each lesson with silent reading and new texts are always refreshing.

We wish all of our students and their families a safe and happy holiday period.

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any concern regarding their progress in English or Drama.

Mark Chapman Head Teacher English

ADVERTISING/COMMUNITY NOTICES





Gosford Musical Society

presents

Footloose – A GMS Junior Production

Looking for all interested high school students.

Information Night to be held on the

23rd of January at 6:00p.m. at the

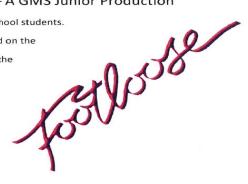
GMS Shed, attached to Laycock Street Theatre.

Anyone 17 and under please be

accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more details, contact

Matthew Lawrence - 0481 560 597





Mt Penang Gardens Christmas Lights from 12 - 16th December







ADVERTISING/COMMUNITY NOTICES



<u>Tsfx - HSC SUMMER SCHOOL 2015 - YEAR 11 & 12</u> <u>HEAD START LECTURES</u>



The HSC involves a lot of hard work and it's very easy to fall behind. It's therefore important that students use the quiet periods to catch up and, where possible, get ahead in their studies. Engaging in some study over the school holidays can make a massive difference to stress levels and workloads, as well as HSC marks. So maximise your holidays and save hundreds of hours in study time with the TSFX Summer School Head Start lectures! Our Summer School Programs are designed to provide students with the best possible head start to Year 11 and Year 12 in a highly effective, time efficient and relatively painless manner!

Subject Offered:

Year 12: Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Economics, English Advanced, English Standard,

General Mathematics, Legal Studies, Mathematics (2 Unit), Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 2,

Modern History, PDHPE, Physics

Year 11: Biology, Chemistry, English Advanced, English Standard, Mathematics (2 Unit)

<u>Dates</u>: Monday 5 January – Thursday 22 January 2015 <u>Venue</u>: University of Sydney (Camperdown).

Contact Details:

Address: PO Box R1407, Royal Exchange, Sydney, NSW, 1225 Telephone: 1300 364 173

Email: admin@tsfx.com.au



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For further information on each program or bookings please phone 0243623184 See website www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

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Pauline Eade

Teacher/Foundation Skills and Pathways Phone: 0243482282 hunter.tafensw.edu.au







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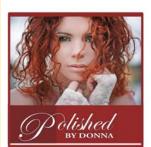
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Thursday 4th December - Thursday 11th December, 2014.

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Erina High School

A caring community committed to excellence in education

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