



Upcoming Events

8 December	Year 7 & 8 Adventurer Masterclass	Adventure Day Hike, Strickland State Forest
9 December	Year 7, and catch up Year 8 & 10	Immunisation
10 & 11 December	Duke of Edinburgh Award Students	Ocean Beach Holiday Park
11 December	Year 9 IST Class	Excursion
15 December	Select Students	Praise and Reward Day

Principals Message

Zonta Award

Congratulations to Putri Maharani for receiving a scholarship award from Central Coast Zonta an organisation of professionals empowering and supporting women to reach their full potential. Putri is a worthy recipient of this very prestigious award. Well Done!!



Year 12 2020 Formal

What a great night of celebration as Year 12 danced the night away at Crown Plaza recently to celebrate the end of secondary education. It has been a cohort that has demonstrated incredible resiliency this year as they prepared for the HSC and it was so pleasing to see them have the chance to celebrate in style. Thanks to Mr Joyce and Mrs Scully for their hard work in planning and organising the formal and to Ms Steele for her creative flair to make the room look amazing a fitting tribute to the year 12 class of 2020! A great team effort Erina!!



Orientation Day

EHS was proud to support Orientation Day last week and provide an opportunity for our incoming Year 7 students to experience a taste of secondary education. It was a wonderful day with many opportunities presented to meet new friends, navigate the school and meet Teachers and support staff. Thank you to Mr Dodd & Mrs Mallon our Year 7 2021 Student Advisers and Mr Brailey, Deputy Principal and Mr Nicol Head Teacher Special Education for facilitating such a great day and to all EHS staff and our partner Primary colleagues for their support.



2020 reflections

2020, a year like no other where devastation from bushfires, floods and a global pandemic has seen incredible courage, resiliency and determination of people to rebuild, refocus and re-energise. So many industries, businesses and livelihoods were severely affected in 2020 as well as the loss of lives, yet the Australian spirit is strong as we pull together and manage to work through every challenge presented.

It is timely to reflect on the extraordinary sacrifice of our front-line workers who have battled these disasters and always focused on saving lives and properties, these are our true heroes. Closer to home the Erina learning community deserve a round of applause and accolades as we all successfully managed to deliver meaningful educational experiences under the most unusual circumstances during COVID 19. The united team effort between staff, students, parents to engage with online learning was remarkable, it was never going to replace face to face learning, but I could not be prouder of the enormous commitment made by the school community to embrace this new mode of learning. My deepest thanks and appreciation to everyone for playing their part to ensure the wellbeing of our students were our highest priority.

Despite the year we have had, I continue to be impressed with the achievements of our students and staff. We still delivered on our priorities in teaching and learning, technology, literacy and numeracy, transition and managed co-curricular programs in Masterclass, Sport and student leadership albeit in a modified manner. The resiliency, creativity and flexibility of our staff and students is impressive as we just got on with business the best way we could.

Year 12 were particularly impacted this year, but they have demonstrated outstanding resiliency and can proudly say I completed the 2020 HSC under difficult circumstances and did not let COVID 19 define them but rather inspire them to achieve. They deserve our greatest respect as do their Teachers and parents who also worked incredibly hard to ensure they had every opportunity to successfully complete the HSC. A magnificent effort year 12!

I would like to acknowledge the strong support in 2020 by Mr Mallon and Mr Brailey, the extraordinary leadership they have demonstrated to ensure every student is known and cared for while providing professional support to all staff and a genuine commitment to working so positively with parents, carers and the broader school community

It is a complex role that they both deliver with the highest level of professionalism and integrity and I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation.

To the executive and Teaching staff, it will be a year to remember where they have led, developed and delivered quality teaching and learning experiences in an innovative creative and flexible manner to ensure we meet the needs of the students in our care. I greatly appreciate the work that has been done and know that parents and the community join with me in extending our genuine thanks and admiration.

The backbone of our school are our School administration and support staff who work tirelessly to support the school community and so capably manage highly complex roles to ensure we are compliant with financial matters, staffing, student management, health and safety, ground and building maintenance and day to day smooth operation of the school. They have been instrumental this year in engaging positively with our parents and carers, during the pandemic to ensure they felt well supported by EHS. I would like to acknowledge Mrs Denise Jensen who leads this team who provide the most outstanding service to our school community.

And lastly but most importantly are our students what a year you have had I could not be prouder of your dedication and commitment to your education and my genuine and heartfelt thanks also to our parents and community members who continue to support Erina High School in our endeavour to be the local school of choice.

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. In 2021 the Department of Education have announced the first 2 days of school next year will be designated as staff only for Professional learning. This equates to an additional day to allow staff time for planning as in 2020 there were restrictions to the number of staff that could be working in planning teams. The dates are as follows:

Wednesday and Thursday January 27 and 28

are Staff only for Professional learning – School office is open for enquiries.

Friday January 29

for year **7, 11** and **12**

Take care and be safe!

Monday February 1

for **all year groups**

Mrs Karen Nicol
Principal

Latest news from our school community

We have the pleasure to work side by side with a great leader. Karen Nicol has lead the school through the difficult road of 2020 for not only students and their families but also for all of the Erina High School staff. Her strong

leadership and commitment to maintaining educational outcomes is matched only by her understanding of the need to prioritise student wellbeing.

A reference from '*Leaders Eat Last*' by Simon Sinek, highlights the importance of appreciation of team members and that great leaders sacrifice their own comfort for the good of those in their care. This is an accurate description of Karen's leadership of Erina High School. Due to her daily diligence in demonstrating this ethos, she continues to build on the trusting relationships with all the stakeholders within Erina High School; students, families, staff, other schools in the Erina Learning Community and the wider community. On behalf all of these keys stakeholders, we would like to publically recognise and give a heartfelt thank you to Karen Nicol, for her excellence in leading the school community through 2020. The students of Erina High School are the major benefactors of the significant investment of time and commitment towards the vision of making Erina High School the local school of choice.

We are on a daily journey of professional development based on Karen's years of experience, knowledge of educational policies and expectations, and framed by the application of emotional intelligence. We are lucky to not only hold an appointment of Deputy Principal at Erina High School for the wonderful students we have, but also to be able to learn from the best.

Glenn Mallon & Darren Brailey



Mirrabooka News

SPECIAL EDUCATION

We are thrilled to update our learning community on the progress of our Support Unit - Mirrabooka. Construction has well and truly begun and our new facility will be up and running in no time! Our refurbished classrooms will provide an inspiring platform for quality teaching and learning at Erina High School. I would like to personally thank all students and staff for their patience and cooperation with construction work taking place, I greatly appreciate your support.

Orientation Day took place for our 2021 Year 7 cohort on Tuesday the 1st of December, and what an amazing day it was. The positive feedback from students, staff and parents was overwhelming and again I would like to thank all staff and students for their efforts and engagement on the day. I would like to extend a special thank you to the student Leadership Team who generated resources, welcomed and supported the Mirrabooka students as well as assisted staff to host an extremely successful day for all Year 6 to 7 students.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Lola the Learning Assistance Dog to our community. She is an amazing resource for Mirrabooka and has already made several meaningful Connections with the students. She has Completed her advanced training with Assistance Dogs Australia and is a working dog. Erina High School staff and students can best support her by





ignoring her when she is moving around the school with Mr Nicol, as approaching her can confuse and overwhelm her from her task. She will spend most of her time in Peace Park, located between D and F block soaking up the sun and reading with the students. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about Lola and how to support her please contact Mr Nicol.

Throughout Term 4, Erina High School staff and students have been exceptionally welcoming and supportive of this terrific opportunity and I am grateful to be a part of wonderful learning community.

Mr J. Nicol

A reminder from the office....

Please remember to update any changes to your child's information at the office. The school requires all students information to be up to date in order to keep valid records. This especially applies if you are applying on the Transport NSW website to update or apply for a new Opal Card. The information, including the child's address, must be the same as the information the school has on file in order for it to be validated.

The form needed to update information is in the last page of this newsletter, or can alternatively be collected from the from office.

It is hard to beat a person that never gives up.....

Congratulations to all these students who participated in National ICAS assessments. ICAS Assessments are designed to recognise academic excellence, students are assessed on their ability to apply classroom learning to new contexts using higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills.

Arianne achieved a Credit in Science, Maths and Distinction in English

Ruby achieved a Merit in Science

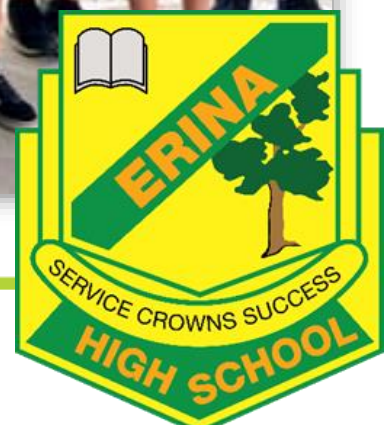
David achieved a Credit in Science and Maths

Vincent achieved a Merit in Maths

Lulu achieved a Credit in Maths

Ruby G achieved a Merit in English

Amazing results by all who participated





Week 8 saw EHS host our incoming 2021 Year 7 students for Orientation Day. What a day! With over 170 students including mainstream and support unit students descending upon our school for their final 'practice' before beginning 'Big School' next year. With taster lessons including circus tricks, cooking reindeer cookies and making peg board games how could our students walk away anything but excited about coming to EHS in 2021! Orientation Day is the best opportunity for students to feel comfortable and confident to embark on the next journey in their educational lives. A highly successful day and one that requires a huge team effort

Go Erina High School!

HSIE Update...

As we come to end of a strange, but successful year it has been good to reflect on the great success of 2020 in the HSIE faculty. In week 6, Year 11 Geography took part in the Avoca Lagoon excursion which forms an important part of their preparation for their first assessment task and the HSC. The excursion involved a kayak survey of the foreshore looking at human impacts on the lagoon. We visited the habitats of endangered species the Green and Gold Bellfrogs and Grey Headed Fruit Bats and were lucky enough to find a Green and Gold Bell Frog on the visit. The students had a great learning experience and will certainly remember the field work measurements we recorded for their tasks.

Year 9 are finishing the year with some Project Based Learning around WWI called Battlefields, Bombs and Bravery. This is a chance for them to investigate and present findings on features of the war that they find particularly interesting. We have had some great ideas created including creating model weapons and battlefields, 3-D printed creations and profiling unsung heroes of the war through podcasts and interviews. Well done to the students and teachers involved in this project.

Our senior students continue to work hard as they enter Year 12 and it has been pleasing to see the preparation and effort that is being put into their first assessment tasks. The relationships that these students form with our HSIE teachers will be vital to their success. We look forward to guiding them through the various courses we run next year as they are a pleasure to teach.

As we prepare for next year we hope to return to getting students out of the classroom and into the field to experience some excursions. This learning is vital to students understanding of the world around them and is something that sticks in their memory when completing assessment tasks. We would like to thank all students and teachers for their efforts through this difficult year.

See you in 2021.



Congratulations to the students of 7E who completed their Pythagorean Artwork projects earlier this term! The students had to use Pythagoras Theorem to create spirals to complete an artwork of their choice. All the artworks were amazing and judging the best ones was extremely difficult. Mr Berg and Mr Wade chose a top 5 and then Mr Brailey decided the winners! Congratulations to all students who chose to participate!



Highly Commended went to Kirra and Addi



Third Place went to Bella



First Place went to Cassidy



Second Place went to Arabella

Year 7 Surf and Survive Excursion



On Friday the 13th of November, Year 7 went on their first excursion at Erina High School to Terrigal beach. We learnt beach survival skills such as how to identify rips, how to save our friends with rescue tubes, board rescues and how to swim in the surf safely. The waves were very big and we were constantly getting dumped which was very challenging but fun. This excursion taught us great tips about surf survival so we can go to the beach knowing how to save one of our struggling friends or save ourselves from oncoming rips. Overall, Year 7 agreed it was an amazing and fun excursion, as you can see from the photos but everyone was very tired afterwards.



ERINA HIGH SCHOOL



STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATE

Student Name:	School Year:	Date:
Information supplied by:	Signature:	
Parent/Guardian Name(s):	Address:	
Signature:		
Religion:	Child to attend religious instruction: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Student's Medicare No:	Student's Medicare card reference no:	
Medicare card valid to date:	Permission to Publish: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Home Phone No:	Students Mobile Phone No:	
Mobile Phone – Father:	Work Phone – Father:	
Mobile Phone – Mother:	Work Phone – Mother:	
Family Email Address:		
Emergency Contacts		
Name:	Phone:	
Relationship to student:		
Name:	Phone:	
Relationship to student:		

Explanation of Permission to Publish: The school/Department of Education and Communities may publish information about your child for the purpose of sharing his/her experience with other students, informing the school broader community about school and student activities and recording student participation in noteworthy projects or community service. This information may include your child's name, age, class and information collected at school such as photographs, sound and visual recordings of your child, your child's work and expressions of opinion such as in interactive media.

The communications in which your child's information may be published include but are not limited to:

- Public websites of the Department of Education and Communities including the school website, the Department of Education and Communities intranet (staff only), blogs and wikis.
- Department of Education and Communities publications including the school newsletter, annual school magazine and school report, promotional material published in print and electronically including on the Department of Education and Communities' websites.
- Official Department of Education and Communities and school social media accounts on networks such as Youtube, Facebook & Twitter.

Parents should be aware that when information is published on public websites and social media channels it can be linked to be third parties and may be discoverable online for a number of years, if not permanently. Search engines may also cache or retain copies of published information.

Publish: ALL students have been set to YES unless you return this form clearly stating NO to publish.

Religion: ALL students who are Catholic, Protestant, Baptist, Christian, Uniting, Anglican, Presbyterian & Salvation Army have been set to YES to attend religious instruction unless you return this form clearly stating NO to attend.

Medical: Has your child got a Medical Issue or is your child currently taking medication? If so and you haven't informed the school or updated our school records recently, please ask your child to collect a Medical Information form for Admin or phone and one can be posted to you.