

ELIZABETH COLLEGE E-NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It was wonderful to see our returning and new students back at school, brimming with enthusiasm and energy after the summer break. We are tremendously proud of the results our students achieved in 2019, and I look forward to celebrating their achievements at our upcoming Prize Night on 25 March.

One of our aims at Elizabeth College is to build resilience in our students, so they can face life's challenges with confidence and achieve their goals with self-assurance. At the start of this year, we were fortunate to have Martin Heppell from The Resilience Project present to our students at their welcoming assembly. His message focused on the importance of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness. He spoke about the benefits of music, laughter and exercise to their wellbeing, how mobile phones and social media need to be cautiously managed and the importance of sleep. Martin also ran a community session for our parents and local community members at the Derwent Entertainment Centre and this was really well received.

We will continue to work with our students to further develop Martin's ideas and strategies and promote health and wellbeing. Our Student Services team, weekly Home Group, Enrichment program, Breakfast Club, celebration morning teas and Student Leadership Group focus on providing the support our students need throughout the year. All students have access to these support services. They might talk to one of our trained counsellors when things don't quite go to plan, discuss their progress with their Home Group teacher, or grab a muffin and have a chat with our friendly chaplain at the Breakfast Club. Our students are a part of our community from the moment they enrol and our goal is to make every student feel that they are valued and they belong.

Our aim is to keep all students 'Connected and On Track' by working in partnership with you, so please keep in touch. I hope your child has settled into the new school year and I warmly invite you to our Meet the Teacher evening on 19 March in the Elizabeth College Library, 3.30pm - 6.00pm.

Dr Dianne Purnell



EC's 2019 Duxes in front of our new 'Connected and On Track' mural



*Artwork by Isabelle Ward,
Art Studio Practice 3
(Digital Art and Media)*

CONNECTED AND ON TRACK

Regular attendance can have a significant impact on academic outcomes. We know that when students are 'Connected' with their peers, their teachers and the College community, and 'On Track' with their study goals, they experience greater academic success.

Home Group teachers play an active role in monitoring the progress of your child. Weekly attendance reports are sent to Home Group teachers, who will discuss any concerning attendance patterns with your child. Parents will also receive an SMS message if a class has been missed without reasonable explanation and regular attendance letters will be sent home outlining your child's attendance rate. If you notice that your child is struggling to attend for any reason, please contact their Home Group teacher. While some absences are unavoidable due to health issues or personal circumstances, students who miss out on course delivery often fall behind. If your child is sick or going to be away for any reason, please ring the office on 6235 6555.

STUDENT AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Rio Kawaguchi recently completed her grade 8 double bass exam through the AMEB and was awarded the Australian Strings Association Tasmania Prize for the most outstanding candidate in strings
- Billie Raffety, Elijah Davies and Sebastian Folvig were awarded the three 2019 Clarence Jazz Scholarships, which included six months of lessons from specialist Conservatorium staff. They recently performed at the 2020 Clarence Jazz Festival
- Phoenix Robey has been selected in the Tasmanian U18 Basketball team to compete at the National Championships in Ballarat in April
- Keisy Ureleo presented at the 58th Commission for Social Development Side Event: Hidden Faces of Homelessness from the Perspective of Women and Children, at the United Nations, New York, in February
- Aiden Midson will represent Tasmania in the Under 21 Youth 8 at the National Youth Rowing Championships in Penrith in March

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| Wednesday 4 March | Enrichment Enrolments |
| Monday 9 March | 8 Hour Day – College Closed |
| Tuesday 10 March | Teacher Moderation – Student Free Day |
| Wednesday 18 March | Interim Reports to Students |
| Thursday 19 March | Meet the Teacher Evening |
| Wednesday 25 March | Elizabeth College Prize Night |
| Thursday 26 March | Parent Group Meeting |