



ELIZABETH COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

April 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we conclude Term 1, I want to acknowledge the strong and positive beginning our students have made this year. The term has been marked by purposeful learning, meaningful connections and moments that highlight the strength of our college community.

Attendance and Learning Routines

A major focus this term has been reinforcing the importance of consistently high attendance and developing strong study habits. Being present in class, engaging with learning and making the most of available support sets students up for ongoing success.

It has been pleasing to see the Library Learning Hub buzzing during study lines and in tutorial slots (Mondays and Tuesdays 2.30pm). Staff are on hand to provide expert advice and feedback, particularly for courses that have a strong literacy and numeracy foundation.

Interim Reports and Learning Goals

Interim Reports that focus on work habits have now been distributed, offering a valuable snapshot of each student's engagement, effort and progress to date. I encourage students and parents/carers to reflect on these together, recognising areas of strength, areas for development and identifying next steps. In Connections Group, students have worked with their teacher to develop meaningful learning goals. These form an anchor point for ongoing discussion through the year. Our staff are committed to providing support and strategies to help every student achieve their goals.

Attendance reports will continue to be provided throughout the term. Our data clearly shows that students who maintain 90% attendance or above are significantly more likely to achieve a Commendable Achievement or higher. Regular attendance remains a key determinant of academic success and overall wellbeing.

Looking Ahead to Term 2

Next term includes several important checkpoints in our young people's learning journey:

- **May Progress Reports** - 20 May
- **Discussions of Learning** - 27 May
- **TCE Progress** - reports are regularly generated to gain an indication of whether students are currently "On Track" to meet Tasmanian Certificate of Education requirements

These points of reflection help us work together to ensure each young person remains engaged, supported and On Track to experience a successful pathway.

Celebrating Our Community

Term 1 has also offered opportunities to celebrate our diverse and vibrant college community.

Our Evening of Excellence was a clear standout where we recognised the academic and leadership achievements from 2025. It was wonderful to do this via the 165 awards that were distributed. It is a reminder of what hard work and perseverance can lead to, and an inspiration for our current cohort.

A second community-based highlight this term was our annual Community Day which saw students and staff bond and share experiences in one of four locations in central Hobart.

Celebrating achievement and building connections are things we enjoy and prioritise, and we look forward to building on these priorities for the rest of the year.

Shaue Fuller

Principal



WELCOME NEW STAFF

We warmly welcome our new staff members for 2026.

GRACE COLEMAN



Grace joins our Student Services team as one of our Social Workers. She has been a School Social Worker for five years, with most of her time spent at Jordan River Senior School and Dover District School, while working as an on-call crisis counsellor with SASS. Grace describes EC

as having a very positive and supportive atmosphere with incredibly welcoming staff and students. A highlight of Term 1 for Grace has been getting to know students through Breakfast Club. Outside of work, Grace enjoys playing underwater hockey, online gaming, hiking and reading.

CAL FOX



Joining EC this year in the Science and Maths curriculum areas, Cal teaches Mathematics Workplace Essential 2. Prior to coming to EC, Cal taught Physical Science 3 at Hobart College. Cal's first impressions of EC have been of a very welcoming community, where support is always close at

hand. A highlight of Term 1 so far has been getting to know the students. Outside of work, Cal enjoys playing, coaching and watching basketball.

ANGEL LIU



Angel completed her first teaching placement at EC, and now joins us as a HASS teacher, teaching Business Studies 2 and Economics 3, as well as supporting international students. As a graduate teacher, Angel also brings the flexibility to teach across the Visual Arts

and Languages learning areas and has previously worked as a relief teacher and teacher assistant across a range of schools, as well as having studied a Bachelor of Business. Having graduated from a public college in Tasmania after arriving as an international student nine years ago, Angel is passionate about teaching in public education and describes EC as an inclusive and supportive environment that offers valuable life skills-based programs for students. A highlight of Term 1 has been returning to EC and working alongside such supportive colleagues. In her free time, Angel enjoys exploring the town, crafting and creating artwork.

MOYA RICHARDSON



Moya joins EC teaching English Literature, English Foundations, and Applied Communications. She comes to EC from Preston High School in narm/Melbourne, where she taught English and Literacy and co-facilitated

the Creative Writing program. Moya describes EC as a place where students are deeply cared for and supported in their learning by highly dedicated staff. A highlight of Term 1 has been taking classes outside to work in the late summer sunshine. Outside of work, Moya loves swimming in the ocean, working in the studio, and spending time with loved ones.

ANITA SPINKS



Anita joins our Student Services team as one of our Social Workers. She comes to EC from Hobart College, where she also worked as a Social Worker. She is a team player and hard worker, invested in obtaining the

best outcomes for young people and their families. Anita's first impressions of EC are of a lovely college with dedicated staff. A highlight of Term 1 has been being interviewed by a student for a Sociology assignment, where she was impressed by the student's thought-provoking questions. In her free time, Anita enjoys visiting Bruny Island with her husband, two children, and their cat.

LIAM TILLEY



Liam's role is a Teacher Assistant, supporting students in Essential Maths. Prior to this, he worked as a Teacher Assistant at Emmanuel Christian School in both primary and high school. Liam attended EC as

a student in 2022/2023 and his first impressions working as a staff member have been very positive, describing a welcoming atmosphere and passionate colleagues who foster a productive and growth-oriented learning environment. A highlight of Term 1 has been getting to know the EC community and supporting students as they build their understanding of mathematics. Outside of work, Liam is completing his final year of a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Chemistry, and enjoys scuba diving and weightlifting in his spare time.

CAMPBELL WIGGINS



Campbell is our new Sports Science and Flexible Learning teacher. Originally a Victorian, he comes to EC from Far North Queensland, where he taught HPE, Science and AV Systems Technology in Cairns.

Campbell has found everyone at EC to be very friendly, helpful and happy, noting the organised environment and the pride staff take in their work. He has also enjoyed the opportunity to see how education is delivered in Tasmania. A highlight of Term 1 has been working with such skilled and happy colleagues while settling into the college. Outside of work, Campbell loves the outdoors, particularly camping, four-wheel driving and hiking, and is keen to develop new skills such as diving and fishing. Bringing a wealth of life experience to EC, Campbell has travelled extensively across Australia and overseas, played professional baseball in his early twenties, worked in remote communities, and has a strong practical background drawn from both city and farming life.



STAGE BAND SUMMER SCHOOL

There's nothing quite like bringing together more than one hundred students and staff who share a passion for jazz and big band music for a full, immersive week of music-making.

This January, students from a record twenty-three schools across Tasmania and interstate filled the college with the energy and excitement of rehearsals, tutorials, masterclasses, workshops and performances in what was an unforgettable week.

It's incredible to think that since its inception, more than a thousand students have come through the doors of our Summer School.

A huge thank you to the students, parents and our outstanding team for making this year's Summer School such a memorable experience. We look forward to seeing you in January 2027!



TRAINING THE BRAIN FOR SUCCESS

At the start of Term 1, all Year 11 and 12 students took part in an engaging session focused on retraining the brain to optimise learning. Students explored how the brain works, including the science of neuroplasticity and how habits can reshape learning pathways. Students discussed various mindfulness activities to improve focus and manage stress, as well as the importance of good sleep routines and fuelling their bodies with nutritional meals. The session also equipped students with strategies to challenge and reframe unhelpful thoughts with the activity, 'catch it, check it, change it'. Parents can support this learning at home by encouraging mindful routines and positive self-talk.



EVENING OF EXCELLENCE CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Elizabeth College proudly hosted its annual Evening of Excellence in February, honouring the remarkable achievements of our 2025 student cohort. Held at the Stanley Burbury Theatre before an audience of over 300 parents and invited guests, the event recognised 165 students for their academic dedication, perseverance and exceptional work ethic across a wide range of subjects.

A highlight of the night was keynote speaker and EC alumna Katie Robertson, who inspired students with her message about following their passions, embracing uncertainty, and surrounding themselves with people who lift them up.

We were also thrilled to celebrate our high achievers: Year 11 Dux Mira Corry and Year 12 Dux Sanjo Pakkathu Soviachen, who achieved an outstanding ATAR of 99.95 and is now embarking on a medical degree at UTAS. Their success reflects the spirit of hard work and aspiration that defines our college community.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Elizabeth College offers scholarships annually to students from Hobart City High School and Taroona High School. Scholarship recipients are chosen in consultation with High School Year 10 leaders based on academic excellence, commitment to learning, demonstration of DECYP values, and demonstrated

leadership capacity. The successful students will represent Elizabeth College in various forums and will play a key role supporting Year 10 students who are transitioning to Elizabeth College. Each scholarship recipient will receive a bursary in Year 11 and 12 to support them with school related fees.

2026 Scholarships – Current Year 11s - Hobart City High School



Academic Excellence Scholarship:
Raphael Lontos



Leadership Scholarship:
Myra Churchill



DECYP Values Scholarship:
Jessie Baillie



Commitment to Learning Scholarship:
Gabriel Lontos

Taroona High School



Ada Fischer

2025 Scholarships – Current Year 12s



Commitment to Learning Scholarship:
Mark Langfellner



Leadership Scholarship:
Jessie Jurd



DECYP Values Scholarship:
Kritima Dhakal





ECAAD OFF TO A FANTASTIC START

ECAAD students have enjoyed a busy and exciting start to the year, beginning with a BBQ to welcome our Year 11 students and our first guest speaker, Julian Hohnen, who shared inspiring insights on leadership, resilience and connection. The group then set off on an exciting two-day camp featuring a visit to the Port Arthur Historic Site, a Pennicott Cape Raoul Cruise, campfire storytelling, Aboriginal star-reading stories and Dadirri deep listening under the stars, finishing with surf lessons at Clifton Beach. What a fantastic start to the year!





OUTDOOR ED FREYCINET CAMP

Over the past few weeks, all Outdoor Education students have had the opportunity to spend a few days up at Freycinet for their Term 1 camp. They continued the focus this term of pushing their comfort zone with an abseil at Lassies Wall, worked on hiking as a team on a bushwalk to see the beautiful Wineglass Bay, and set up some campsite living skills as they planned and prepared their meals and equipment in small teams, all whilst being good 'Leave No Trace' environmental ambassadors and enjoying our favourite outdoor classroom. It has been a great supplement to their weekly excursions this term, which have focused on the water environment. We look forward to seeing their skills and teamwork progress throughout the year as we move into the cooler months!



RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

This term students in both Year 11 and Year 12 Communities have participated in the first of our Respectful Relationships sessions for the year. Students in Year 11 attended a presentation delivered by School Health Nurse, Carlie, exploring consent, online safety including potential risks, and strategies for staying safe in digital spaces. In Year 12, students revisited consent, healthy and unhealthy relationships, and learnt about protective behaviours and coercive control.

Both the Year 11 and Year 12 sessions are designed to equip students with practical knowledge to navigate relationships with confidence and respect. Students then followed this up with sessions in Connection Groups to empower them with the tools to build and maintain respectful relationships, understand their rights and responsibilities, understand consent and the law, promote safe bystander action and feel confident in seeking help when needed. Students were also encouraged to connect with a safe adult or professional support staff at Student Services, for further guidance and support.



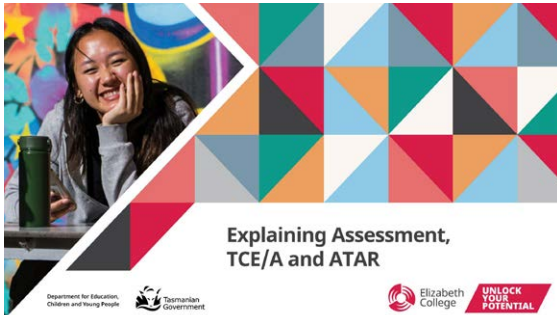
MEET THE CONNECTIONS TEACHER

Early this term, families joined us on the Deck for conversation and a warm welcome from our staff team, with the sun making a timely appearance after a rainy start. The relaxed BBQ setting created the perfect space for parents and carers to meet their young person's Connections Teacher and learn more about how the program supports academic progress and wellbeing. This term, students have explored respectful relationships, setting meaningful goals and building personalised learning plans for the year ahead. Parents are encouraged to contact their young person's Connections Teacher as the first point of call with any questions or concerns they may have throughout the year.



SUNDAY, MONDAY... HAPPY DAYS ARE COMING!

“Sunday, Monday, Happy Days” truly came to life at the recent *Happy Days, A New Musical* auditions. Close to fifty students took part, gaining first-hand experience of the audition process. Participants learned and prepared a short dance and song, and worked in small groups to create a brief scene. For many, it was their first taste of auditions, building confidence, teamwork, and performance skills in a supportive environment. Laughter, nerves, and plenty of creativity filled the room as students stepped outside their comfort zones. All this preparation is leading toward bringing *Happy Days, A New Musical* to the stage in early June. ‘These days are sure to be ours’, so keep an eye on our social media channels over the next month for information about tickets.



DEMYSTIFYING THE TCE/A & ASSESSMENT FORUM

On Monday 2 March, Elizabeth College hosted a successful Parent Forum in the College Theatre. The session provided valuable insights into the requirements of the TCE/A, ATAR and how assessment works for Year 11 and 12 students. Shane, Ollie (Assistant Principal), Chris (TASC Liaison Officer), Dannica (Careers) and Year 12 students, Heidi and Annabel, unpacked key aspects of the 11/12 curriculum, assessment processes, and the TASC website, to help build understanding for all those present.

Parents, carers and students had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion with expert staff and students. For those who attended, we hope the information shared will help in supporting students through their Year 11 and 12 journey. The presentation can be found on our website:

[Explaining-Assessment-TCE-and-ATAR.pdf](#)



TUTORIALS: LEARNING SUPPORT THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We're thrilled to see so many students taking advantage of our after school tutorials and we encourage parents to continue promoting this valuable opportunity. Held Mondays and Tuesdays from 2:30–3:30pm in the Library, these sessions provide targeted support from a range of subject teachers who are ready to assist with coursework, revision, and study habits.

Students can enjoy a hot drink, fruit, or a healthy snack while getting help with everything from starting an English essay to navigating tricky Maths or Psychology concepts. It's also an ideal time to catch up on work or check understanding before heading home or waiting for buses.

We encourage parents and carers to check in with their young person, ask how they're using these sessions and what support they might need. Together, we can help them build confidence, independence, and strong learning routines.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KATIE'S REMARKABLE JOURNEY

Elizabeth College alumna Katie Robertson continues to shine on Australia's creative stage. Since training at the Sydney Theatre School in 2008, Katie has built an impressive career as an actor, director, and producer. Audiences will recognise her from standout roles in *Rosehaven*, *Five Bedrooms*, *Deadloch*, and *The Kettering Incident*. Most recently, she captivated crowds in *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Botanical Gardens. Now balancing life in southern Tasmania, raising a son and running a farm with her partner, Katie proves that a thriving national acting career and a Tasmanian lifestyle can coexist beautifully.





HARMONY IN ACTION

Elizabeth College warmly celebrated Harmony Day on Wednesday 15 April, embracing the theme “Everyone Belongs.” The school community came together to share food from every continent, wear national dress or a touch of orange, and enjoy games from around the world. There were also performances by our talented Music students. At the end of term assembly, we were delighted to welcome a guest speaker from Francesca Jewellery, who shared insights into their work with Be Hers Foundation and the value of a culturally diverse workforce. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of our community together.



HARMONY IN ACTION



STAFF CREATIVITY ON DISPLAY

Each year at EC, staff have the opportunity to showcase their creativity in our annual art show. This year the variety of work ranged from glass, etching, photographs, lino prints, embroidery, drawings, painting, ceramics, wood and sculpture. Some of the pieces were inspired by the creative process itself; other works were inspired by people, places and ideas, including landscape, portraiture, underwater, and abstraction.

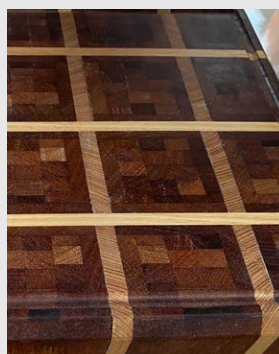
Principal Shane Fuller highlighted his New York state of mind, with photos taken on his 2025 school trip.

AP Ash Snigg's photos and delicate fineliner and coloured pencil drawings provide a moment for reflection, away from her busy role.

Judy McDonald, Jenny Morgans, Caitlin Fargher, Joy Mackey, Damian Stolp, Pete MacFarlane, Angel Liu and Alice Bowman-Shaw created work using a range of media - etching, screen and lino printing, painting, cast pewter, charcoal drawing and ceramics. Some of the work was created during collaborative professional learning experiences in 2025 at Press West, Archaic Schola and with artist Joy Allison. Art Assistant, Nina Ahlgren showed another of her many art skills with her mixed media embroidery portrait.

Jason Hoare showcased the stunning underwater critters with his beautiful photographs. Georgie Perry was also inspired by the ocean, with the gulls flying overhead.

Karen Drysdale showcased some of her glass art plates and pendants, and Stewart Edward showcased his skills with a variety of chopping boards and a beautifully crafted bird hose.



DEFENCE LEARNING IN THE FIELD

After a highly successful inaugural year in 2025, the VET Defence Skills course has launched into its second year with energy and enthusiasm. Students hit the ground running on day one tackling the obstacle course, an exciting and challenging start that set the tone for teamwork.

The term has been building towards the major field exercise in early April. In preparation, students have been refining their fieldcraft and bushwalking skills, testing their equipment, and developing the confidence and capability needed to operate effectively in the outdoors.

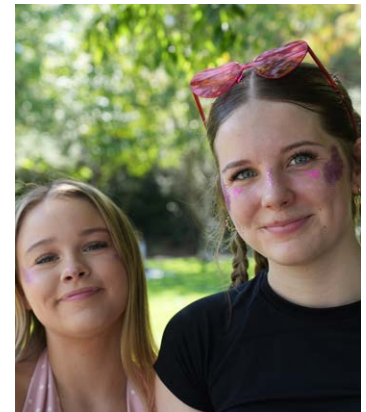
A new and exciting addition this year has been the introduction of a survival skills component. Students have been fortunate to learn from returning guest instructor Ben, an ex-Army survival expert, who has brought a wealth of real-world knowledge and experience to the program. Under his guidance, students have explored practical survival techniques, including collecting water using transpiration bags and rain or dew capture methods, and filtering ground water safely using natural materials such as charcoal and sand.

They have also learned how to construct emergency shelters and practised a range of signalling techniques designed to attract the attention of rescue crews, both from the ground and air.



CONNECTING THROUGH COMMUNITY

Elizabeth College students stepped away from screens and into nature for our recent Community Activity Day, an event designed to strengthen friendships, build school belonging, and celebrate wellbeing. In their Community Groups, Warwick, Murray, Elizabeth and Tasma, students explored local Hobart parks, sharing lunch, soaking up sunshine, and enjoying activities from giant Jenga and cornhole to swimming at Long Beach and craft sessions. A BBQ and homemade pizza added to the festive atmosphere, while plenty of colour filled the parks thanks to students proudly wearing their house colours. It was a day to unwind, connect and simply enjoy being part of our vibrant college community.





FIRST DAY FUN





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College

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Department for Education,
Children and Young People

