



ELIZABETH COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

October 2026



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 3 can be one of the most challenging times in the year for our Year 11 and 12 students. Final assessments and exams are approaching, decisions about future study, training and employment are becoming more real, and for many young people the transition beyond college can feel both exciting and uncertain.

During these periods of pressure, prioritising wellbeing matters more than ever. Taking a proactive approach to mental and physical health is key to academic success. Through our Connections Program, students have explored practical strategies around sleep and understanding the stages of change. This learning can help to build the deep resilience needed to navigate challenges, maintain balance, and stay focused on personal goals without burning out or becoming disheartened.

True resilience also means knowing when to ask for help. We strongly encourage students to be proactive in seeking support early rather than waiting until they feel overwhelmed. To connect young people with help beyond the classroom, our recent Wellbeing Expo welcomed more than twenty health and community providers to campus, giving students direct access to vital resources.

As author Roy T. Bennett reminds us, “Believe in yourself. You are braver than you think, more talented than you know, and capable of more than you imagine.” By pacing themselves, managing their energy, and actively utilising available supports, our students can face uncertainty with confidence, maximising their potential and opening up future possibilities.

Best Wishes

Shaue Fuller

Principal



CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Approximately 90 students were recognised at our recent Celebratory Morning Tea, held to acknowledge outstanding achievement in their August Progress Reports.

The event celebrated students who are achieving excellent results across their subjects and provided an opportunity to recognise their hard work, dedication and commitment to learning.

The Celebratory Morning Tea forms part of our ongoing commitment to recognising and rewarding student achievement. Throughout the year, students have been acknowledged for positive attendance and work habits, including commitment and punctuality. This term's focus on academic excellence highlighted the many students who are striving to achieve their personal best in the classroom.





FROM EC TO THE UN

We were very proud to see Charlotte Thomson represent both Elizabeth College and Australia at the 31st AFS Youth Assembly at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

After earning her place through a highly competitive selection process, Charlotte joined more than 500 young people from over 100 countries to explore some of the most significant challenges facing her generation. Throughout the program, she engaged in a range of workshops, discussions and simulations, including an international negotiation, where multinational teams worked together to achieve a positive global outcome for 2040. She also explored important questions about whether the United Nations has lived up to its promise of promoting peace, prosperity and human rights, while learning about international cooperation and diplomacy at the Palais des Nations and the International Labour

Organization. The program also included workshops focused on authentic youth-adult partnerships and the idea that young people are leaders of today, not just leaders of the future.

Adding to this special experience, Principal Shane Fuller travelled with the Australian delegation as a travel leader, supporting students throughout their time in Geneva. Congratulations to Charlotte on her outstanding achievement and for representing Elizabeth College with distinction on the world stage.





ALL THAT JAZZ

The annual trip to the Devonport Jazz Festival has become a much-loved tradition for our Stage Band and Jazz Ensemble musicians. This year, the rare gift of clear skies and sunshine made the journey north even more enjoyable, setting the scene for another unforgettable experience filled with outstanding music, laughter and great company.

As always, the EC musicians were crowd favourites, and 2026 was no exception. Both the Stage Band and Jazz Ensemble received a warm welcome and performed to enthusiastic audiences throughout four days of public concerts, school visits and inspiring performances by some exceptional artists.

Good music, great vibes and fun times. From making new friends to sharing countless laughs and a passion for music, the Devonport Jazz trip once again delivered memories that will last a lifetime. See you in 2027 Devonport Jazz!





SNOW, SKILLS AND SMILES AT MT HOTHAM

In the final week of July, 17 Elizabeth College students travelled to Mount Hotham for four days of skiing and snowboarding in the Victorian Alps. Students experienced everything from sunshine and spring snow to fresh powder and winter storms, making for an unforgettable alpine adventure.

As the week progressed, students developed their skills, built confidence on the slopes, and embraced new challenges. Alongside the skiing and snowboarding, the trip provided opportunities for new friendships, shared experiences and lasting memories. For many students, it was their first time in the snow, and certainly an experience they won't forget.



FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN: MEDIA STUDENTS IN ACTION!



GROWING MINDS, BUILDING SUCCESS

Parents recently attended our Grow Your Mind: Building Focus for Learning Success Wellbeing Forum. Families learned about practical study approaches students have been developing throughout the year, including chunking study into manageable sections and using time management strategies to strengthen retrieval of information. A highlight of the evening was a student panel, where students shared the techniques that help them stay focused, organised and engaged in their learning. They also provided valuable insights into how parents can best support learning at home, helping students stay motivated, confident and switched on for success.

Media Studies students are busily planning, scripting, casting and beginning the filming process for their short films. Creativity is in full swing as students bring their ideas to life and develop skills in storytelling, production and editing. The community will have the opportunity to see the results of their hard work at the 2026 Media Showcase on 5 November, with further details to be shared closer to the event.

Beyond the classroom, student Ben Conolan is also studying Object Design through UTAS, developing a project that explores public art through installations intended for locations around the Hobart CBD.





CELEBRATING SCIENCE WEEK

Elizabeth College students and staff enjoyed an inspiring National Science Week, taking part in a range of events that highlighted curiosity, discovery and innovation.

The week began with students and staff attending a special reception at Government House hosted by Her Excellency the Honourable Caroline Wells, Governor of Tasmania, to officially mark the beginning of National Science Week. The event celebrated the wonders of science, bringing together students, scientists, researchers and mentors from across the state. Our talented musicians, performing as the Snow Gum Quartet, had the privilege of providing music for the official reception.

Students also explored science beyond the classroom, attending TMAG After Dark and the Beaker Street Debate. Highlights included a moth dissection, fossil extraction activities, a guided tour of the Australian modernist art exhibition, and a lively debate on whether social media restrictions should be extended to over-16s.

Our Physics students gained valuable insights into cutting-edge research through a visit from the National Quantum & Dark Matter Road Trip, learning about developments in quantum technology, dark matter and the diverse pathways into scientific careers.

Throughout the week we welcomed students from 11 local primary schools for a series of hands-on workshops. Activities included exploring ecosystems, engineering challenges, chemistry experiments, athletic performance testing and balloon-powered investigations. Thanks to the enthusiasm and expertise of our staff and students, the program inspired the next generation of scientists, innovators and problem-solvers.

Science Week 2026 showcased the vibrant culture of scientific learning at Elizabeth College and the many opportunities available for students to engage with the world of discovery.







CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER, CELEBRATING BOOK WEEK

Book Week brought our college community together in a vibrant celebration of stories, creativity and reading. Staff embraced the fun by dressing as iconic characters, with many teachers appearing as Thing 1 and Thing 2 from Dr Seuss, while others transformed into favourites from *Alice in Wonderland*, including the Mad Hatter, Queen of Hearts and Caterpillar. The costumes also provided a playful introduction to our 2027 musical, *Alice by Heart*. Students enthusiastically joined in, dressing as their favourite book characters.

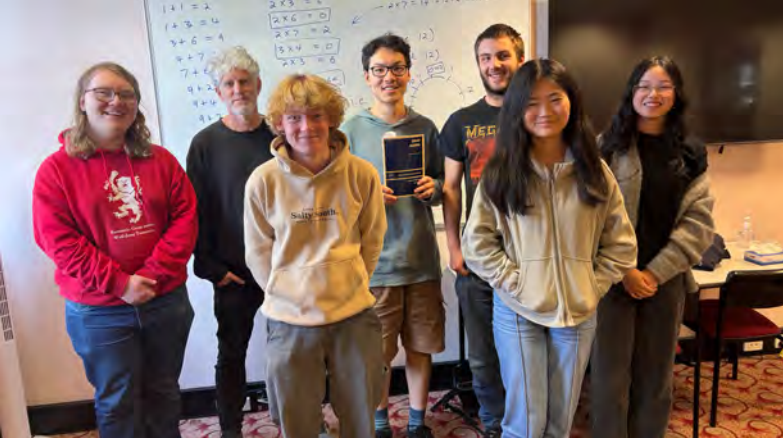
The week was enriched by a range of guest speakers and special events. At our Writers Fest, students celebrated stories and creativity alongside four talented Tasmanian authors, Arianne James, Katie McMahon, James Dryburgh and Brendan Colley. The authors shared readings from their work, spoke about their writing journeys, and explored themes

of inspiration, place, character and the craft of storytelling with students.

History students were also treated to a visit from historian and author James Boyce, who gave the first public reading from his forthcoming book and led a thought-provoking discussion about the nature of history. Adding another perspective on creativity, Associate Professor Jeremy Sumner from the University of Tasmania challenged students to view mathematics as a creative discipline, encouraging new ways of thinking about mathematical ideas and problem-solving.

Together, these experiences highlighted the power of imagination, curiosity and creative thinking across literature, history and mathematics.







MYFUTURE STUDENTS SHOWCASE ENTERPRISE SKILLS

MyFuture students have been putting their business enterprise skills into practice by planning, organising and running a variety of activities across the college.

From car washes and lolly sales to a sausage sizzle and a game of Dunk the Teacher, students have taken the lead in every stage of the process. Through these activities, they have gained valuable hands-on experience in customer service, teamwork, marketing, budgeting and financial management.

The initiatives have not only helped students develop practical workplace and life skills but have also encouraged creativity, problem-solving and confidence in a real-world setting.





LEGAL STUDIES STUDENTS GAIN VALUABLE REAL-WORLD INSIGHTS

Legal Studies 3 students have enjoyed a range of enriching learning experiences this term, connecting classroom studies with the realities of the legal profession.

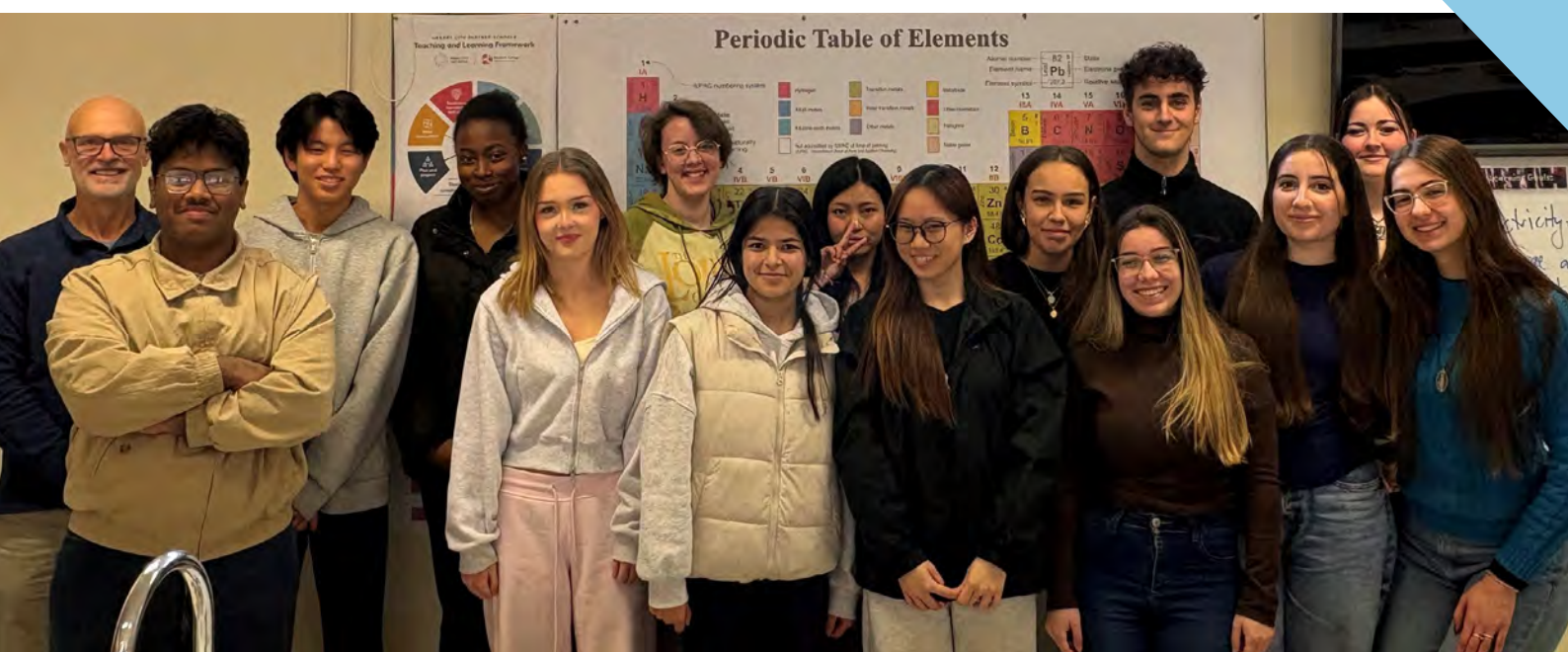
Earlier this month, students visited the Supreme Court of Tasmania, where they toured the historic Andrew Inglis Clark Law Library and viewed a fascinating collection of artefacts that highlight Tasmania's legal history. The visit also provided the opportunity to observe court proceedings in action, as well as explore an empty courtroom and jury room, offering valuable insight into the workings of the justice system.

The learning continued last week when students attended LawFest at the University of Tasmania. During the event, they listened to panel discussions on current political and legal issues, observed law students participating in mooting competitions, and took part in a question-and-answer session.

A highlight of the day was meeting The Hon Justice Robert Beech-Jones, who has served as a judge of the High Court of Australia since 2024, following 15 years as a judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales. A proud graduate of the Tasmanian public education system, Justice Beech-Jones generously shared his experiences and insights with Legal Studies students from across the state, discussing his career journey and life in the law.

These experiences provided our students with valuable perspectives on legal practice and pathways within the profession, making for an inspiring and memorable term of learning for Elizabeth College's aspiring legal scholars.





INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

At the end of Term 2, we held a farewell morning tea to say goodbye to 11 wonderful ISP students that returned home. While they are dearly missed, our school community continues to flourish with 13 new ISP students joining us this term from Japan, Italy, Belgium, Thailand, and Brazil.

Our newcomers are adapting wonderfully. Recently several students dressed up as their favourite book characters during Book Week (giving our local students a run for their money for best costume!), and others have volunteered as skincare and makeup models for our Retail Cosmetics group, making great local friends and experiencing a VET class environment. Meanwhile, our returning international students are thriving and their teachers have commented on their significant academic progress and improvement in their English language abilities

and confidence since the start of the year. These more experienced students are now mentoring their new peers with course selections during Term 3 as they dive into the unique subjects we offer that are unavailable in their home countries and will help them build valuable skills for the future. Bring on Term 4!





INTERNATIONAL VISITORS EXPERIENCE LIFE AT ELIZABETH COLLEGE

Elizabeth College was delighted to welcome students and staff from the Taiwan International Education Exchange Alliance Study Tour for a memorable cultural exchange experience.

During their visit, our students partnered with Taiwanese buddies, attending classes together, participating in a friendly volleyball match, and building connections across cultures. The exchange provided valuable opportunities for students from both countries to learn from one another, share experiences, and form new friendships.

Our visitors also enjoyed delicious lunches prepared by Elizabeth College's talented Cookery students and gained firsthand insight into life at the college. Beyond the classroom, the group explored some of Tasmania's most iconic attractions, including Port Arthur and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG), giving them a broader appreciation of Tasmania's history, culture, and natural beauty.

The visit was a wonderful opportunity for cultural exchange and learning for everyone involved. We thank all students, staff, and volunteers who helped make the experience such a success. We hope our Taiwanese guests had a fantastic time in Tasmania and leave with many happy memories, meaningful connections, and lasting friendships.



BRAVO! FRENCH STUDENTS SHINE IN ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE COMPETITION

Félicitations to our talented French students, Samantha Downie, Mariana Sabato Villela and Julia Rodriguez De Araujo, who stepped out of their comfort zones to participate in this year's Alliance Française French Speaking Competition. Competing in a conversational format involving aural exchanges with a panel of two assessors, the students demonstrated confidence, resilience and a passion for the French language.

A special congratulations to Samantha, who received an Honourable Mention in the Level 3 French Conversation Competition, narrowly missing a podium placing.

Mariana Sabato Villela and Julia Rodriguez De Araujo were both awarded Honourable Mentions in the Level 2 French Conversation Competition. As students with international backgrounds, they competed in the Hors Concours (Out of Competition) category, which recognises participants separately from those competing as native English speakers.

Bravo!



SAIMA CROWNED TASMANIA'S OVERALL *WHAT MATTERS?* WINNER

Elizabeth College student Saima Zaman was named the Overall State Winner of the 2026 *What Matters?* Writing Competition, standing out among almost 300 entrants from across Tasmania. Saima's powerful and moving piece, *the last voicemail*, explores themes of grief, memory and climate change through the perspective of a young person coming to terms with the loss of their grandmother. Through thoughtful storytelling and emotional insight, the work resonated strongly with judges and readers alike.

This outstanding achievement is a testament to Saima's talent, creativity and ability to connect with important contemporary issues through writing. We are very proud to see her work recognised and celebrated at a state level.

You can read *the last voicemail* at [Saima-Zaman-\(Elizabeth-College\)-the-last-voicemail.pdf](#)





CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: A BIG YEAR OF BUILDING

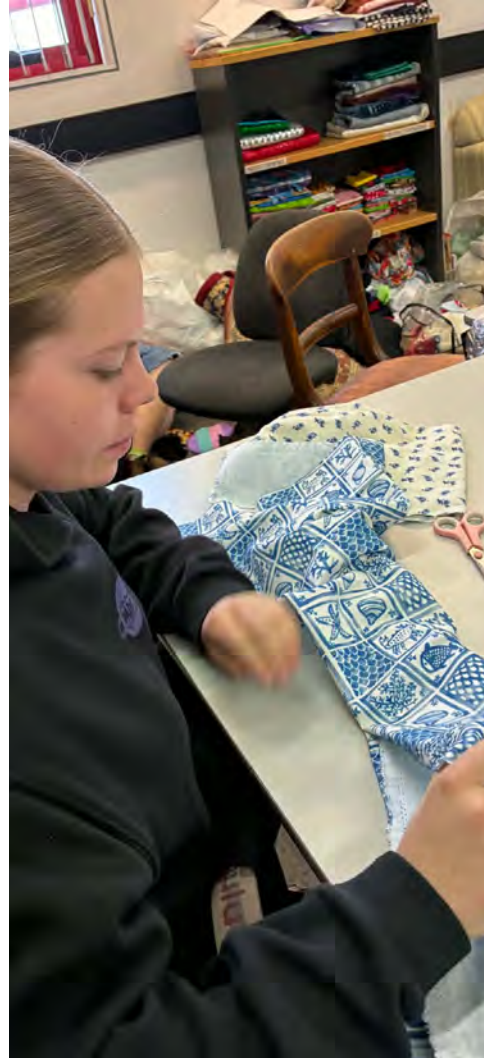
It's been a busy and productive year for our VET Construction students, whose handiwork can now be seen right across the school and beyond.

Throughout the year, students have designed and built custom cupboards for the LEAP room, F Block, and art rooms, with work currently underway on new cupboard storage for the theatre. They've also built a number of picnic tables that are now in use around the school grounds, giving the whole college somewhere to sit and enjoy the results of their work.

One of the standout projects this year was the renovation of the T Block toilet to provide wheelchair access. This was a meaningful project that gave students real experience working to accessibility standards while making the school a more inclusive place for everyone.

Beyond the school gates, students have been building for the real world. A shed and a cubby house were constructed for sale, and the classes are currently completing their most ambitious commercial build yet: a 6m x 3m pod/office complete with its own bathroom, also to be sold. Projects like these expose students to the full scope of a professional build, from framing and cladding through to plumbing, wet areas and handover-ready finishes.

Every one of these projects has been planned, measured, cut, and constructed by students, developing genuine trade skills they can carry into apprenticeships and careers. Well done to all our Construction students on a fantastic year of building. We can't wait to see what they take on next!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TECHNOLOGY?

Term 3 has been busy across our Technology learning areas, with students continuing to develop practical skills, complete industry-standard projects and work towards important qualifications.

In Design and Production (DAP), students have been showcasing their creativity and craftsmanship across a variety of projects. In Metal, students have been developing sheet metal fabrication techniques while constructing cantilevered toolboxes and completing negotiated final projects. In Wood, bedroom shelving units continue to be a popular choice, proving that everyone can use a little extra storage space! We have also benefited from the expertise of Mr Matt Westland, who has been teaching these classes throughout Term 3.

In Automotive, students have been working on small engine projects, setting engine timing and carrying out electrical testing on workshop vehicles under the

guidance of Mr Adrian Kaczsmarski, further developing their practical diagnostic and mechanical skills.

DAP Textiles students, taught by Ms Dana Gerke, have been creating bags, soft toys and a range of negotiated projects. The popularity of the class is clear, with many students arriving early, eager to get started on their work.

Our Foods students have also been achieving impressive results. Under the leadership of Chef Peter Handy, VET students recently prepared and served a three-course luncheon for the Ambassador of Switzerland and other distinguished guests, an outstanding accomplishment reflecting their growing culinary skills. Meanwhile, students in our TASC Foods courses have continued to produce classic family favourites, with newly certified teacher Ms Lorraine Upton guiding students through dishes including the famous Quiche Lorraine.

As the immortal Darryl Kerrigan would say, "Looks like everybody's kicked a goal!"





AN UNFORGETTABLE JAPANESE ADVENTURE

Eighteen students and three staff recently enjoyed an enriching and memorable study tour to Tokyo, Kyoto and Hiroshima. The trip provided valuable opportunities to develop Japanese language skills while experiencing Japanese culture firsthand.

Highlights included visiting the Tokyo Skytree, a day at Disneyland, exploring Kyoto's historic sites, and shopping for anime and Japanese souvenirs. A particularly meaningful experience was spending time at our sister school, Hiroshima Inokuchi Senior High School, where students built friendships and practised their language skills in authentic settings.

Students also reflected on the importance of peace during visits to the Hiroshima Peace Park and Memorial Museum.

From cultural experiences to culinary adventures (including plenty of sushi!), the trip was an outstanding success and created long-lasting memories.



PYJAMA DAY PROMOTES SLEEP, WELLBEING AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

With perfect weather for staying cosy, students and staff embraced the spirit of Pyjama Day, coming together to raise funds for the Hobart Women's Shelter, thanks to the efforts of the Student Leadership Group.

Students and staff donned their pyjamas, took part in a game of Sleeping Lions and showed off their sleepwear in a lively fashion show. The event also provided an opportunity to focus on the importance of healthy sleep habits and overall wellbeing.

Pyjama Day complemented our recent wellbeing assemblies, with School Health Nurse Carlie presenting on the vital role sleep plays in supporting physical health, mental wellbeing and learning. These sessions have encouraged students to reflect on their sleep routines and understand the positive impact of quality rest.



WELLBEING WORKS: A FESTIVAL OF HEALTH, CONNECTION AND CARE

The end of term culminated in our annual Wellbeing Expo, connecting students with a wide range of community services and agencies dedicated to supporting health, wellbeing and positive lifestyle choices. Students explored stalls, asked questions, gathered valuable information and collected plenty of colourful freebies along the way. Representatives from services such as Headspace, The Link and other local organisations were on hand to share advice and resources. Students enjoyed a healthy lunch while engaging in meaningful conversations and discovering the many supports available to help them thrive both at college and beyond.





GRADUATION CELEBRATION

In September, Year 12 students gathered at the Hotel Grand Chancellor to celebrate their graduation from Elizabeth College. Students dressed in their finest attire for an evening of celebration, marking an important milestone in their senior secondary journey. The night was filled with dancing, laughter and friendship as students enjoyed capturing memories in the photo booth and sharing a light supper. The celebration was a joyous occasion, bringing students and staff together to recognise the hard work, achievements and successes of the graduating class. It was a fitting way to celebrate the end of their time at Elizabeth College and the beginning of the many opportunities that lie ahead.



GRADUATION CELEBRATION



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: REBECCA THOMSON

Rebecca Thomson is a Hobart-based writer and director whose bold, imaginative work spans documentary, comedy and horror. She has created ten short films, including cult favourites *Cupcake: A Zombie Lesbian Musical* and *Slashed*, with her work screening at more than 70 international film festivals and earning numerous awards. Her film *The Jelly Wrestler* was selected for the feature anthology *7 from Etheria*, released in the United States.

Rebecca is also the creative force behind the multi award-winning documentary series *Women of the Island* and continues to develop new projects across film and television.

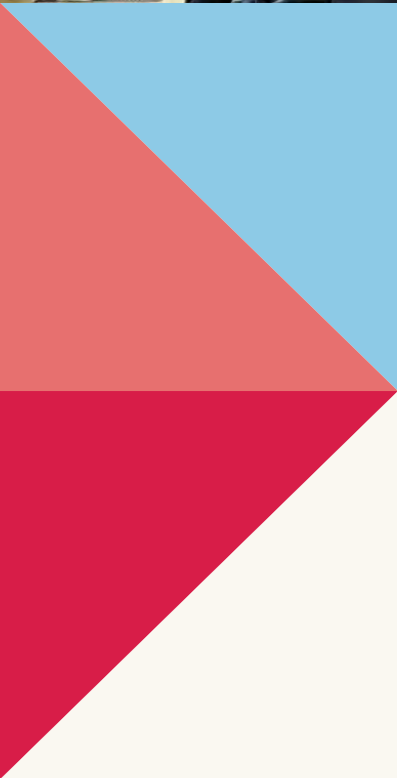
Earlier this term, our Media Productions students were lucky to hear Rebecca speak about her filmmaking journey and career in the screen industry. She also screened two of her powerful documentaries from the *Women of the Island* series, providing students with valuable insights into storytelling, documentary filmmaking and creative practice.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Take a journey through time with these aerial photographs of Elizabeth College, taken decades apart. Much has changed over the years but look closely and you'll find familiar landmarks that continue to connect generations of students and staff.





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