

ELIZABETH COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ENCE

April 2025



UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of Term 1 already. In this short time, we have achieved a great deal, and it is wonderful to see positive interactions and learning taking place each day. We have:

- Welcomed new students, including those from overseas
- Welcomed new staff
- Engaged in professional learning experiences
- Celebrated the terrific results from 2024 at Awards Evening
- Commenced course and assessment work schoolwide
- Hosted parents/carers and students at the Meet the Connections Group Teacher event
- Enjoyed Communities Day activities across four locations
- Embarked on the ECAAD Camp
- Visited TMAG, Botanical Gardens, and The Playhouse on excursions
- Elected a new School Association committee
- Hosted Japanese students from our sister school
- Set learning goals in Connections Group
- Sought student and staff voice via our Teaching and Learning Survey
- Reported back to students and parents/carers around work habit progress in all courses
- Celebrated Harmony Day
- Participated in the World's Greatest Shave event
- Showcased musical talent via live performances and the Stage Band Summer School
- Started work with Year 10 students around potential transition to our school for 2026
- Set strategic plans for the year

I am sure you will agree that Elizabeth College is a vibrant and supportive community with a range of experiences on offer. We are committed to providing students with an education that focuses on wellbeing as well as academic outcomes, so that our young people can unlock their potential as they transition to further study or employment.

As a school we have two main priority areas this year:

- Wellbeing for Learning with goals around attendance and learning practices (learning styles, organisational skills and completion of work)
- 2. Building a Collaborative and Expert Teaching Team with goals around student results, reading fluency and staff peer observation

These two priority areas will guide our work as a staff and with students so that we are supporting both groups to thrive, noting that the success of one group directly impacts the other. Ultimately, our core work is around working together to ensure that those who can, do receive their Tasmanian Certificate of Education, or Tasmanian Certificate of Educational Achievement where appropriate.

Thanks for your partnership and best wishes,

Shaue Fuller

Principal





WELCOME NEW STAFF

We warmly welcome our new staff members for 2025.

LEAH BURGESS



Leah joins our Student Services team as one of our School Health Nurses. She most recently worked in Alice Springs as a Paediatric Nurse, so is new to EC and Hobart itself! Leah is loving getting to know lots of students through Brekky Club and facilitating Pride Group within

her School Health Nurse role. She loves camping and hiking as well as scuba diving and snorkelling, with a dive trip to the Philippines planned for later this year.

PHILLIPA COWARD



Phillipa is our new Student Support and Safeguarding Lead. Her previous position was Director of Pastoral Care at MacKillop Catholic College and she has most recently been on maternity leave. Phillipa loves the diverse community that is EC and her highlight of Term 1 was

supporting the Student Leadership Group's World's Greatest Shave event in Week 5. Phillipa loves camping and exploring with her family and hopes to travel around Australia one day.

VIRGINIA DOWLING



Virginia arrived in Hobart from Melbourne 11 weeks ago, and 10 of those weeks have been spent at EC. She is teaching Japanese 2/3, Work Readiness 2 and Business 2. Virginia loves the calm atmosphere at Elizabeth College, with supportive staff and great students. She

likens the campus to an M.C. Escher drawing, with stairs everywhere! Virginia studied Korean history and politics at a university in South Korea (before South Korea was cool!) and describes herself as an introvert and a homebody who now enjoys reading books and comics, playing computer games and watching classic movies.

TEENA DUNSTAN



Teena has joined us at EC, most recently teaching at Bayview Secondary College and has worked in many public and private schools in Tasmania and Victoria. Her first teaching position was

at Launceston College so EC feels familiar in many ways. She has found working at EC to be a positive and vibrant experience, surrounded by many talented and inspiring students. Teena is working in our LEAP program, and teaching Sociology and English this year. In her spare time, she loves to travel, read, garden and seek out the best coffee spots in Hobart!

STEWART EDWARD



Stewart's role at EC is Teacher Assistant in the Construction and workshop areas. He has worked in the building industry for 37 years in various roles and brings a wealth of experience to our programs. Stewart

has been impressed with the facilities at EC and the professionalism of the staff. He has loved being involved in the construction of a new workshop area for students to work in. In his spare time, Stewart loves any activity that involves the great outdoors, hiking, mountain bike riding, and ocean swimming to name a few.

BIANCA ELLIOTT



Bianca works in the front office as our new School Business Manager, responsible for the corporate areas of the college, with a focus on finance, budgets, staffing and recruitment, facilities, operations, WHS and

IT Support. She comes to EC from the Department of Justice – Community Corrections. She has found the college to be very welcoming and all staff passionate about working together to improve outcomes for students. Outside work, Bianca enjoys going to the gym, spending time with her family and travelling.

CAITLIN FARGHER



Caitlin's role is as the new Visual Arts teacher, teaching across Ceramics and Contemporary Art Practices. She is a practising artist and has worked in the DIY arts and gallery sector for many years, and

now excited to start her teaching journey in the arts! Caitlin completed one of her teaching placements at EC last year, so B Block feels somewhat familiar to her. She is a veggie gardener and ocean swimming enthusiast outside of school, as well as working on her own art in her city studio.

LOIC FERAL



Loic has lived most of his life in France and comes to EC to teach French, Sport Science 2 and Sport, Recreation and Fitness 1. Most recently he was teaching French and Literacy at Sacred Heart College. Loic says there

is a lot to learn and discover about EC which is exciting and a little overwhelming, but he is feeling welcomed and supported and confident he will grow as a teacher and person in this environment. A highlight of Loic's first term was being part of the EC "Run the Bridge" fun run team – what a great community to be part of.

GUS LEIGHTON



Gus comes to us as an instrumental musician and Teacher Assistant for the Performing Arts Curriculum Area. His area of expertise is teaching saxophone and jazz improvisation. Gus has just begun studying a

Master of Teaching and is honoured to be working with and learning from the team of highly skilled artists and educators at EC. Outside of school Gus is active on the local music scene, performing alongside DJs at weddings and events around the country and with an array of local bands. In recent years he has also begun competing in Girevoy, or kettlebell sport!

AMY PARK



Amy has spent most of her teaching life working in sports and leadership schools in sunny Queensland and joins EC as a teacher of Outdoor Education, Athlete Development and Food, Cooking and Nutrition.

She loves the bustling and vibrant atmosphere on campus and can sense freedom and opportunity hanging in the air! Getting students active is something Amy loves, and a highlight of Term 1 was tennis lessons up at the domain in the glorious sunshine. Away from work, Amy enjoys watching live performances and gigs and travels far and wide to see art that makes her think.

LUKE POWELL



Luke is a newly graduated teacher, teaching Philosophy 3, Ancient History 3 and History 2 this year. Luke believes that EC's strengths are its expert teachers and everyone is willing and wanting to help both

fellow colleagues and students. He is very interested in learning about the impact of growing up a digital native for the generation he now teaches. Luke loves reading history books, spending outdoor time with his young daughter and playing volleyball.

MORGAN ROSENBOOM



Morgan is teaching Health Studies 3, Psychology 3 and Intro to Sociology and Psychology this year, coming to EC from GYC and previously having taught in Victoria and London. So far Morgan

has been impressed with the very friendly and bright environment, being based in F Block the colourful flags and beanbags make her happy! Away from work, Morgan spends time with her two young daughters Charlie and Hazel and dog Albie at the beach, camping, playing sport, and travelling as much as possible.

LISA SHERRIN



Lisa is one of our EAL (English as an Additional Language) Support Teachers; she works at both EC and Rosny College. She has also taught in similar roles at Clarence High School, Hobart City High School

and Rose Bay High School. Lisa's first impressions of EC are that it is like a TARDIS, it does not seem very big from the outside but it is definitely bigger on the inside (and there are a lot of stairs!) Lisa lived in Ecuador and Colombia for about 6 years and speaks Spanish so she is well placed to understand the challenges of learning a new language in a new country!



STUDENT SERVICES – WHO'S WHO

Most of the Student Services team are located at the front of Elizabeth College on Elizabeth Street in the building 'Nangaree', via the red door. Here students can access a range of supports from our experienced Counsellors, School Health Nurses, Psychologist, Social Worker and Chaplain. We also have an Aboriginal Education Worker and Careers Counsellor who work out of the library. This term as well as supporting all students with their transition to college life, Student Services have been busy providing education sessions around Consent and Protective Behaviours; supporting our International Students' program; organising our country and small feeder students' morning tea and launching Yarn Up and Pride Group for 2025. We support students with concerns or questions relating to health and wellbeing, relationships, reasonable adjustments, study habits and work practices, housing, Centrelink and Service Tasmania and so much more.

If students would like to speak to any of the experienced team or would like extra support, they can complete the referral form available around the College via QR code, or come up and see us. Parents can also contact Student Services by completing the referral form available on the website or contacting the College and asking for Student Services.





CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AT AWARDS EVENING

The annual Elizabeth College Awards Evening was held in February at Wrest Point Convention Centre. There was an air of excitement and anticipation as the invited students who would be receiving one or more award gathered.

The event was adeptly hosted by Ella Bridges-Thomsen and Stanley Foster who remained calm throughout, despite the pressure of the role. Toby MacGregor was the guest speaker and talked about his memories of studying at Elizabeth College and his current role as a lawyer in human rights.

The dux of Year 11 was Franklin Legg. The dux of Year 12 was Daniel Ocoleanu with an outstanding ATAR score of 99.9.

The Elizabeth College music department, led by Damien Oliver-Black and Tomas Webster, and students Orlaith Badger, George Willmot and Ruben Beretta Grande provided instrumental music and exceptional solos.

Awards were presented to all students who were dux of their subjects as well as special awards such as the Rotary of Salamanca Sunrise Award for a deserving student about to embark on a tertiary pathway and the Tasmanian Association for the Gifted Award for overcoming barriers and creativity.





Elizabeth College offers scholarships annually to students from our Partner School, Hobart City High School. Scholarship recipients are chosen in consultation with Hobart City 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

2025 Scholarships – Current Year 11s

forums and will play a key role supporting Year 10 students who are transitioning to Elizabeth College later this year. Each scholarship recipient receives a bursary in Year 11 and 12 to support them with school related fees.

Congratulations to our new Year 11 and continuing Year 12 scholarship recipients:



Commitment to Learning Scholarship: Mark Langfellner



Academic Excellence Scholarship: Yusuf Ahmad



Leadership Scholarship: Jessie Jurd



DECYP Values Scholarship: Kritima Dhakal

2024 Scholarships – Current Year 12s



Commitment to Learning Scholarship: Kaden Alley



Academic Excellence Scholarship: Addison Nhan



Leadership Scholarship: Melinda North



DECYP Values Scholarship: Billie Lowenstein





STAGE BAND SUMMER SCHOOL SIZZLES

It doesn't get much better than bringing together one hundred students and staff, with a common love for jazz and big band music, for an immersive week of music making.

In January this year, the college came alive to the sounds of the 20th annual Stage Band Summer School. It's hard to believe over a thousand students have been through our Summer School doors since its inception!

New friends were made, new music was created, old music was reinvented and all students found and shared their voice. Students from over seventeen schools toiled away in rehearsals, tutorials, masterclasses, workshops and performances during what was an exhilarating week.

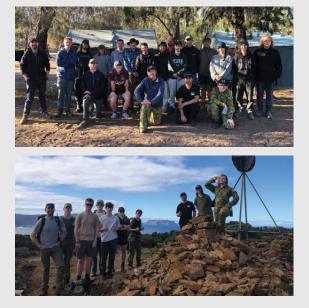
A big shout out to the students, parents and amazing team who made the Summer School such a wonderful experience! See you in 2026!

VET DEFENCE SKILLS LAUNCHES

The Defence Skills course is an exciting new Vocational Education and Training (VET) program at Elizabeth College that consists of weekly outdoor activities, camps, work placements and off-campus day trips to make up the practical component of the course.

The course is taught by former Defence Services member, teacher Joe Cleary, veteran of military campaigns in Afghanistan and East Timor.

The course highlight this term has most certainly been the camp at Lime Bay towards the end of term. The aim of the three-day camp was to teach students about the practice of establishing and maintaining an overnight military field operating base, and to learn how to live like Defence members when in the field. Students had the opportunity to set up and sleep in individual and group military shelters, cook and eat military field rations, test their teamwork skills with some fun challenges and games, practice nighttime camouflage and concealment and put their walking boots to the test with a challenging walk around Crescent Bay and up Mount Brown on the Tasman Peninsula. There was also plenty of time for swimming, footy and general camaraderie and telling of "war-stories" around the brew point (that's the coffee point for you civilians). We were also fortunate to have Corporal Bonnie Grynglas, a military leader and member of the Royal Australian Air Force Security Force section as a support staff member to share her knowledge and skills and help mentor the students through some of the challenges of the exercise.



SUCCESS INTEGRATED

In the very first week of Term 1, all Elizabeth College students were treated to a presentation from Melbourne-based group, Success Integrated. Success Integrated provide motivational speakers who are highly experienced at working with school groups. Students participated in an engaging and interactive 90-minute session 'focusing on some of the skills necessary to be successful at college: resilience, study skills, time management and problem solving. The experience really set the platform for a successful year for our students as they work towards their TCE.







MEET AND GREET – CONNECTION GROUP

On the evening of Wednesday 26th of February we welcomed parents and students onto campus to meet Connection Group teachers. Starting off with a BBQ and refreshments on the T Block Deck we were able to capitalise on the beautiful weather and socialise in the open air. Everyone spent some time in their Connection Group rooms to speak with the staff members who are the first point of contact for parents and to find out more about the Connection program and other opportunities that students can undertake this year.

We look forward to seeing parents, families and community members at our upcoming Community Showcase on Wednesday 25th June from 3.30-6pm. Keep an eye out for further information on our socials!

LEARNING ON COUNTRY: ECAAD DIGS DEEP

The stunning Tasmanian Aboriginal property of Longwinny was the site of the annual ECAAD camp this year. Students and teachers explored Aboriginal cultural knowledge led by amazing elders and educators. Uncle Rodney, who has spent a lifetime as a campaigner and educator, walked students through the ancient tool quarry that holds so much history of the island. Bron Dillon guided us through meditative activities to deepen our connection with country, while Nerissa, EC's Aboriginal Educator, shared knowledge of bush tucker and helped students create their own personalised Acknowledgements of Country. Students were catered for by VET Cookery students and the food was delicious. The camp ended with a swim in the crystal waters of the private beach, and a reflective goal-setting session overlooking the beautiful bay where Truganini, the ancestor of this beautiful site, once fished. Indigenous ways of knowing are part of ECAAD's academic extension program and they were vividly brought to life in this hands on, immersive experience.





INOKUCHI HIGH SCHOOL VISIT

In late March, Elizabeth College had the pleasure of hosting students from our sister school, Hiroshima Inokuchi Senior High School. The week was filled with enriching experiences, including a range of classes with EC students, where both groups exchanged ideas and learned from each other. The visiting students explored Tasmania's natural beauty with trips to Russell Falls, kunanyi, and Kingston Beach, enjoying the stunning landscapes along the way. They also visited the historic Port Arthur site, learning about Tasmania's colonial past, and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery focusing on local culture. Throughout their stay, the group enjoyed delicious Tasmanian food with ice cream a particular highlight! A cultural exchange with our Japanese language class offered an opportunity for both groups to share their traditions and forge lasting friendships. It was a week full of education, connection, and unforgettable memories!

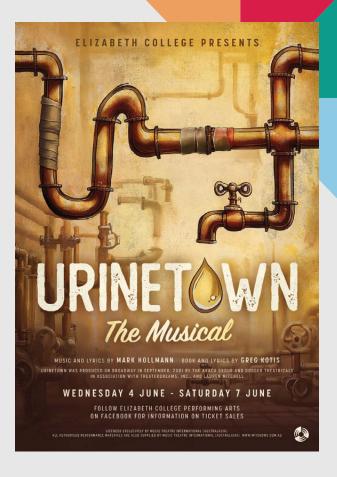
RUN THE BRIDGE

Run the Bridge was held on Sunday the 2nd of March and bright and early students and staff gathered at their 10km or 5km start line, running to the finish line on the Hobart Waterfront. Views from the top of the bridge were breathtaking, literally for the 10km participants who ran up from the bottom!

EC Team members included teachers Sarah Briggs, Loic Feral, Dannica Burrows, Morgan Rosenboom, Oliver Close and John Schuringa. Students Seb Deeley, Ewan Anderson, Stanley Foster, Sophie Siberas, Montanna Arnold, and Oliver Hardie also participated in the event. All completed their races with effort and determination and had a great day. Special mention to teacher John Schuringa who ran his 10km distance in 38 minutes! There were very impressive efforts from all.







CREATING URINETOWN: THE MUSICAL

How do you start to create a dystopian, gotham-like city of public amenities and tunnels of sewers? This is the latest project for the Technical Theatre class in building the set for this year's production of *URINETOWN: The Musical*. Chris Oakley is a past student and one of Hobart's finest set designers working with our creative team this year. Chris recently visited the Technical Theatre class to brief the students on the design and how we will bring this to life over the next few months. Keep an eye on our Facebook page to see how rehearsals are going and upcoming ticket sales. Remember it shouldn't be "a privilege to pee!"







COMING TOGETHER FOR COMMUNITIES DAY

The sun shone and sausages sizzled for Elizabeth College's inaugural Communities Day as each of our four communities, Elizabeth, Murray, Tasma and Warwick, set off to Cornelian Bay, Long Beach, The Domain and The Waterworks for an afternoon of fun activities and time to get to know one another. It was great to see staff and students dressed up in their community colour and prizes were awarded for best dressed and participation. We are already planning for next year which will hopefully be bigger and better!





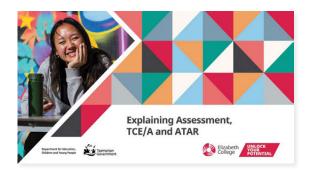




DEMYSTIFYING THE TCE AND TCEA

On Monday 31 March, Elizabeth College hosted a successful Parent Forum in the College Theatre. The session provided valuable insights into the requirements of the TCE/A and associated assessments for all Year 11 and 12 students. Shane and the Assistant Principals unpacked key aspects of the curriculum and assessment processes, ensuring a thorough understanding for all attendees.

Parents, carers, and students had the opportunity to ask questions and receive direct answers from our knowledgeable staff. For those who attended, we hope the information shared will help in supporting students through their Year 11 and 12 journey.





CONNECTING THROUGH LEARNING PLANS

Connection Groups have focused on getting to know ourselves and others throughout Term 1. Students have engaged in learning by identifying goals for themselves and recognising supports and pathways to make these possible. It is important for Connection Group and subject teachers to know their students and what they want to achieve in life, and through education, to help them to find success. We will continue to reflect on and build towards these goals as the year progresses and students discover more about themselves and what possibilities the future holds.



MORE THAN JUST TEACHERS

Staff at Elizabeth College currently have their artworks on display at the annual Staff Art Show. Contributions range from a handmade drum by Damien Oliver-Black and colourfully painted boots by Nerissa Fenton to drawings, paintings, digital entries and photographs from several teachers. It is always great to see what creative exploits our staff get up to, from Judy McDonald's beautiful knitted piece to Karen Drysdale's delightful glass work. Ashleigh Snigg's range of intricate works reflect the attention to detail she brings to her work as Assistant Principal.

In conjunction with the staff art show, Nina Keri, artist in residence at EC in 2024, is currently showing her beautiful painting Mary, along with her more experimental work *Untitled*, created at EC during her residency in Term 3 last year, in the library. The work will be on display until the end of March.

During her time at EC, Nina got to know some of the students who shared the space, and had some interesting and enriching conversations, not always about art! Nina shared her experiences of being an artist and answered questions students had about her practice. Nina was very impressed with the level of skills, talent and insight students shared about themselves and their work. Nina says of the work, *Untitled*, created during her residency:

"This artwork is an experimental piece, it is the beginning of a larger body of work. It is my deep-felt response to Gaza. The material is a mix of fibreglass and aluminium screen/mesh. The layering of this material makes a visual distortion that I am drawn to, it also has a combination of looking fragile and yet holds great strength. I was conscious of my reality here constructing these buildings and rooms and thought much about the simultaneous destruction. The shaping of this work could have taken many different paths, its final arrangement considered during a ceasefire, is of ascension."



RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Each Year 12 Community attended a Respectful Relationships presentation this term, delivered by School Health Nurse, Carlie. The session explored essential topics such as consent, protective behaviours, and help-seeking, building on and equipping students with practical knowledge to navigate relationships with confidence and respect. Online safety was also highlighted, emphasising potential risks and strategies for staying safe in digital spaces. The goal of the presentation was to empower students 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 in Nangaree, for further guidance and support.



SPOTLIGHT ON VISUAL ARTS

All Art students are currently preparing for their first exhibition of the year: Arboreal. Trees in various guises, from representational to symbolic and surrealistic are beginning to appear in B-Side Gallery. We look forward to seeing a range of works on display along with copies of two visual diary pages where students plan and reflect on their art making practice.



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GOING THE DISTANCE FOR COUNTRY STUDENTS

The Country Students Morning Tea, held towards the end of term, was an opportunity for students who travel large distances to attend Elizabeth College to share morning tea and connect with Student Services. At the event we discussed the positive changes that have been instigated for our Country Students including Breakfast Club and extended library hours, and highlighted the support services available to them. After sharing some food the students met with one of the experienced counselling team and discussed some of their experiences and any concerns. This year we have students who are travelling from as far away as Bothwell and Derwent Bridge, all the way to the Huon Valley and then up to Orford.

WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

The first major event run by the Student Leadership Group for 2025 was the World's Greatest Shave to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation to fund life changing blood cancer research and support.

On a bright sunny Friday in March, the T Block deck was buzzing as Principal Shane and four amazing students braved the shave! Even our college dog, Mr Waffles, got involved in the action with a light grooming.

It was a great atmosphere with live music from music students and team EC has raised \$2075 to date – we are still taking donations at https://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/fundraisers/ elizabethcollege





HARMONY DAY

On the last Wednesday of term, our whole community came together to celebrate community, culture and harmony at our Harmony Day event. Students and staff heard from Patrick O'Connor, the Principal Lawyer and CEO of the Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service, before a great afternoon of international food, games, activities and music from around the world. The campus was a sea of colour, as our community embraced the theme by wearing international dress and shades of orange—a symbol of unity and support. This annual event celebrates the diversity, unity and understanding that is a feature of our College and is a highlight of our calendar each year.























elizabeth.college@decyp.tas.gov.au | 03 6235 6555 😗



Department for Education, Children and Young People



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