



ELIZABETH
COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER

JULY

2023





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As a teacher and Principal, there are few things better than working with students. This is particularly important when we are talking about their education. Research tells us how important student voice is. It increases engagement in learning, fosters positive relationships and school climate, and encourages collaboration.

Many mornings I have the privilege of greeting students as they arrive at school, seeing most entering college grounds with a smile. Along with Kirsten Bacon, each week I work with the Student Leadership Group (SLG) around issues that concern students and the wider college community. Members of the SLG are also part of the School Association which is composed of staff, parents/carers and the students. We try our very best to ensure that students have what they need, and I am very deliberate about including students, where I can, in conversations to get their perspectives. This allows me to check my understanding and think in different ways. We sell our young people short when we do not seek their opinion. You can read more about our wonderful SLG further in this newsletter.

At Elizabeth College, we have a model of Learning Walks, which sees a small team of teachers visiting other teachers' classrooms. The observers reflect on their own practice on the basis of what they see teachers and students doing. It is really affirming to see the interplay between the two and

overwhelmingly, our students who are in class are interested and engaged in their learning. The other aspect that is interesting is the range of issues/concepts/skills being taught on a daily basis around our college.

Of course, this term there have been many highlights: the 60 students who received Outstanding Academic Achievement Awards after the May reports, students shining in the *Footloose* musical, students performing at the Generations in Jazz Festival, our Pride Group students raising awareness for IDAHOBIT and the list goes on. I thank the students who care about Elizabeth College and its community, and those who value education. A worthwhile aim in life is to always try and leave a positive mark on the places/people you interact with and many of the young people we work with subscribe to this thinking.

Shane Fuller



ATTENDANCE SUPERSTARS

Research shows the importance of regular attendance at school. This term over 130 students were recognised for their outstanding attendance. Certificates were distributed to our attendance stars who have attended over 95% of classes for the school year. Congratulations to all these students, and their families who support them. Every school day matters!



WELCOME TO BETTY'S

The college café has had a rebirth and looks fantastic. VET Construction and Technology teachers and students drove the project, supported by teacher assistant and qualified interior designer, Bessie Lette. Foods teachers were consulted on the design of the space, which will be used as a functioning café for authentic industry learning opportunities for VET (Hospitality and Cookery) students and Food, Hospitality and Enterprise students. VET Construction, Introduction to Construction

and Design and Production classes all contributed to the renovation, including demolition works, tiling, cabinetry, painting and construction of furniture. It was truly a team effort; congratulations to the construction students who were ably lead by their teachers Jason Clifford, Andrew Olding and Fin Poke.

NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

It was wonderful to be able to hold Discussions of Learning (formerly Parent Teacher Interviews) face-to-face again this year after the last two years of COVID restrictions. Following the conclusion of the May reporting period, over 190 parents/carers took the opportunity to connect with their child/ward's teachers and discuss their academic journey through 340 individual bookings. The atmosphere during the evening was uplifting. Smiles were shared, stories were exchanged and valuable insights were gained. The ability to have these face-to-face conversations brought a sense of normalcy and strengthened the sense of community within our school. As we move forward, we will continue to explore opportunities to strengthen the parent/carer and teacher partnership



and enhance our communication channels. Ongoing collaboration is key to providing the best possible learning experience for everyone and we are looking forward to seeing families again in August.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP UNLEASHED

There are exciting things happening in the Student Leadership Group (SLG) at the moment. The group has been involved in consultation with the Department for Education, Young People and Children's Strategic Planning process, which has included identifying our community values and what students want from our department. Additionally, the SLG has engaged with Hobart City Council

about parking, advocated for more resources for homelessness in Hobart and represented our school at Discussions of Learning, school tours and Information Evening. They are great ambassadors! New members are always welcome at SLG meetings, it is never too late to join! Meetings are held every Wednesday at lunchtime in room B106.





ALL THAT JAZZ

26 students, 4 staff, 3 states in 5 days, 2 buses, buckets of rain and mud and endless fun... Generations in Jazz 2023 was a hit! For the first time since the disruptions of COVID, music students were lucky enough to return to Mt Gambier for the 3-day jazz festival; a totally unique educational and social experience. The small jazz combo, vocal ensemble and two stage bands all played their hearts out

over the weekend and one of the stage bands even took out second place in Division 3.1 – a wonderful achievement competing against schools from all over the country. Students were proud to not only represent Elizabeth College, but also their home state, as one of only two Tasmanian schools at the festival. We can't wait for GIJ 2025!



IDAHOBIT

The Elizabeth College Pride Group held a free badge stall in honour of IDAHOBIT. This is an important day for the college community to stand together against LGBTQIA+ discrimination. IDAHOBIT stands for the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia. It marks the day in 1990 when the World Health Organisation declassified homosexuality as a disease. It is a day of awareness about working towards eliminating LGBTQIA+ discrimination. The Pride Group were busy making badges specific to different LGBTQIA+ identities and enjoyed educating staff and students about the meaning behind each.



AS I SEE IT

As I See It was an exhibition of artworks by all students studying Visual Arts at EC this year. It was an open themed exhibition with students expressing individual ideas and imagery. A variety of work was shown, from ceramics and sculpture to photography, digital art, drawing, painting and printmaking. These works represented students' first finished artwork and became the starting point for their year's work.

Next term, Level 2 Visual Art students will produce an exhibition called *W.I.P. (Works in Progress)* showcasing their latest works. The final exhibition for the year will be *WHAAM!* where all level 3 Visual Art and Art Studio Practice work will be exhibited.

THE YARNING COLLECTIVE

The Yarning Collective has been revived in 2023! This committee was created several years ago to create an inclusive and supportive environment for our Aboriginal staff and students. The big focus this term has been preparing for NAIDOC week, which occurred in the last week of term. Legal Studies 3 students prepared information on The Voice to Parliament to share with the college community at our NAIDOC week assembly. The Yarning Collective has also been working with staff to build confidence in including Indigenous content in their teaching and beginning our college's Reconciliation Action Plan journey.





WRINKLING TIME IN DRAMA

Earlier in the term, Drama 2 and 3 students presented the children's classic *A Wrinkle in Time*, originally written by Madeleine L'Engle and adapted for the stage by Morgan Gould. This colourful production took the audience on a galaxy adventure from Uriel and Camazotz to 'Wrinkle Time'. During rehearsals the students actively took part in workshops,

learning about Strasberg, Boal and Lecoq acting techniques. As well as playing a variety of individual characters, students had to work closely as an ensemble to create the settings for each scene. Audiences enjoyed the whirlwind of colour and lively characters and the Drama students gained valuable experience in working together as an ensemble.



BREAKFAST CLUB A HIT

This year we have increased our Breakfast Club to five days a week as part of our student wellbeing strategy. Student numbers have tripled, with up to 80 students arriving in The HIVE each morning for a range of rotating breakfast items. Waffles, pancakes and toasties are popular choices, all served up with

friendly smiles from teachers, professional support staff, and cooking and VET students. Students can also grab a piece of fruit and a hot drink on their way to class. It is a great way to connect with friends and start the day right.



FOOTLOOSE FANTASTIC

It was big hair, taffeta and a taste of the 80's for our annual musical this year, *Footloose*, with over 100 students on stage, behind the scenes working as a technical crew, as well as the talented band. This was a big project with lots of costume changes and big hits like 'Holding out for a Hero' and 'Let's Hear it for the Boy'. Audiences tapped and sang along, enjoying the spectacle of colour, movement and talent. Fantastic *Footloose* will be remembered as a popular choice for some time.







FUTSAL FINALISTS

Elizabeth College was represented in the Intercollege Futsal Tournament by the Athlete Development - Soccer class earlier in Term 2. The team made a strong start to the day, winning two back-to-back games and

reaching the semi-finals before being knocked out just one game short of the grand final. A special mention goes to injured team member, Thomas, who was an excellent team manager for the day. Go EC!

NEW COURSE – CERTIFICATE II IN ELECTROTECHNOLOGY

VET course, Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Statement of Attainment) is being offered at EC for the first time this year! This hands-on course provides students with the opportunity to be at the front of the queue when applying for apprenticeships in the fields of electrotechnology, electrical, and other sustainable and communication fields. The math requirement of this certificate is traditionally one of the hardest units for apprentice electricians to pass, and can be a hurdle to them gaining their final qualification. For this reason, teacher Tim Price has been emphasising this aspect for students. This term the class have also completed the WHS unit, solved single path circuits and attached components to various structures, including plasterboard, wall studs and timber frames. Students are gathering valuable skills and the confidence to gain employment in an in-demand industry!



takara nipaluna

On a sunny Friday afternoon during Reconciliation Week, the Tasmanian Aboriginal Studies class and one English 3 class were lucky enough to participate in the takara nipaluna (Walking Hobart) tour. This tour follows the route taken in 1832 by members of the Aboriginal Resistance, retracing

their steps as they progressed to old Government House to negotiate an end to the Black War. It was an incredible experience, allowing students and teachers to begin to understand some of the complexities of Tasmanian Aboriginal history.



INTRODUCING ARTIST IN RESIDENCE – DEAN STEVENSON

Dean Stevenson has been Artist in Residence at Elizabeth College for the last two terms. While also juggling his role at the Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) five days a week, Dean has generously dedicated his Wednesdays to inspiring EC's music students. Dean is a Tasmanian composer and artist with a wealth of experience in Tasmania, Australia and overseas. During his time in E Block, he has provided students with a unique opportunity to witness an artist at work, up close and personal. Through observing Dean's creative process, students have gained valuable insights into the life of an artist. This residency has certainly been an enriching



experience for the budding musicians of EC as they have taken the opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance on pursuing their own artistic endeavours. Thank you Dean, for your time and expertise!

TUTORIALS - WHAT I NEED NOW TIME

A new, timetabled, tutorial program has been implemented in the first half of 2023, fostering a culture of formal study outside regular class time. Covering a wide range of subjects including Mathematics, English, Visual Art, Languages, HASS and Science, the tutorials cater to all students studying Level 2, 3 and 4 subjects.

The response has been fantastic, with many students attending tutorials during lunchtimes and after school. Our dedicated teachers and committed students are a winning combination, driving academic growth and achievement. Success is not just limited to the classroom, but also achieved through dedication in



these extra tutorial sessions. Everyone is welcome, check the tutorial timetable on the college website and social media to find out what is running each day.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Outdoor Leadership students embarked on an epic journey into the Walls of Jerusalem National Park and World Heritage area last month. Students led their peers for their major projects

through challenging and wild terrain, developed skills in safety, group management and multi-day hiking and enjoyed a winter wonderland on their last day. Amazing effort team!





Elizabeth College

inspired resourceful learners

elizabethcollege.tas.edu.au | (03) 6235 6555 |  