



ELIZABETH
COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER

JULY
2022





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we near the end of another busy term, it is a good time to reflect on recent highlights and to acknowledge the aspiration and commitment of all our students as they work towards their goals.

Firstly, a huge thank you and congratulations to all the staff, cast and crew involved in our College Musical, *Pippin*, for their energy, talent and professionalism in pulling together such outstanding performances with the added challenge of COVID. It was great to see it all come together as well as reflect on the growth and memories for such a diverse group of students.

There is increased focus in Term 2 on supporting students to remain 'Connected and On Track' as they work towards achievement of their Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE). In May, students received progress reports and the Parent Teacher Interviews that followed provided a valuable opportunity for parents/carers to have conversations with teachers around supporting their child to achieve their best. In June, many students were involved in the Mid-Year Assessment Period where they undertook a mid-year exam or major assessment designed to simulate their end-of-year experience. Assessment, reports and teacher feedback form an important part of each student's learning arc and allow reflection on both successes and areas to focus on.

Transition to college for our prospective 2023 students has also been a focus of Term 2 and whilst our annual Taster Day has been postponed until Term 3, we were able to hold our Information Evening where we welcomed future students and their parents/carers to learn about the many subject choices on offer at Elizabeth College next year. The evening was extremely well attended and provided a chance for parents and carers to hear some key messages in the theatre, then attend a subject expo in our gym where teachers and current students were on hand to provide subject-specific information, answer questions and ultimately support Year 10s with their transition to college.

After the retirement at the end of Term 1 of our long-standing principal, Dr Dianne Purnell, we are excited to welcome our new principal, Mr Shane Fuller. Shane has been principal at Hobart City High School – New Town Campus for the last 12 months and prior to that he was an Assistant Principal here at Elizabeth College. It is great to have Shane back and his expertise and recent experience will be pivotal as we forge a closer alliance with Hobart City High to deliver cohesive and supported pathways for all students from Years 7-12.

Oliver Close
Acting Principal

INTRODUCING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL – SHANE FULLER

WHAT ARE YOUR MOST RECENT EXPERIENCES AS AN EDUCATIONAL LEADER?

My previous position was Principal at Hobart City High School - New Town Campus and before that I was one of the Assistant Principals here at EC.

WHAT IS YOUR TEACHING BACKGROUND AND WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SUBJECT TO TEACH?

I am passionate about whatever I am teaching, however, Ancient History and Legal Studies are my "loves".

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR ELIZABETH COLLEGE?

- All students to feel safe, cared for, valued and respected
- All students to reap the rewards of working with our expert teaching team
- All staff to feel safe, cared for, valued and respected
- Parents, carers and families to work as partners to improve learning, wellbeing and life opportunities for all students in our care
- Our community to be inclusive and value diversity

WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU WILL DO AS PRINCIPAL OF EC?

Meet with and talk to people (staff and students) and get into as many classrooms as I can.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

The important role we have as teachers and the moral obligation that goes with that. My family motivates me, and I am driven from within too. I like to feel like I make a positive difference and I can see an impact.



WHO IS SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE?

I have great respect for Ash Barty. She models our core values of resilience, aspiration and growth. As a champion tennis player she has not been without her challenges, yet she has set herself goals, worked hard and achieved them. You can see from the way other tennis players speak about her, she is a genuinely good person and someone who is respected universally.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT TASMANIA?

The beauty of the environment, great food and we have a cooler climate than NSW.

WHICH FOOTBALL TEAM DO YOU SUPPORT?

I am a rugby league tragic. I am very passionate about the Sydney Roosters. If I am wearing a red, white and blue tie on a Monday, it means we had a win.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP

The Student Leadership Group is a group of students with a keen interest in participating in the continuous improvement of facilities and processes at Elizabeth College – for the benefit of the whole college and wider community too.

Some of the projects that students have initiated this year, working on in small action teams, include: installing recycling stations in all classrooms, extending the peer tutorial program which runs during Home Group, English conversation support for EAL students and fundraising ideas for local charities.

The SLG is open to all students and it's never too late to join! They meet every Wednesday at lunchtime in Café Tang and new faces are always welcome.

A TALE OF FEDERATION

In May, Drama 3 students performed their mid-year production of *Hanging on to the Bottom of World* to supportive audiences. This hilarious and thought-provoking tale of Australian Federation included rejected brides, squabbling state governors, babbling tea ladies, a regal Queen Victoria, moving from the goldfields of Ballarat to a cricket match between the Federationists and Anti-Billites of the late 1800s. This theatrical feast did not shy away from the darker side of Australian history - touching on the White Australia



Policy and the lack of female voice in those early years of European settlement, as well as the

treatment of First Nations people. This was certainly a history lesson the audience will never forget!

PLAYGROUP

Elizabeth College Playgroup is planned, organised and facilitated by Working with Children and Certificate II Community Services students. While COVID has presented some hurdles to overcome in recent years, students work diligently to maintain hand hygiene and other ways to minimise risks to themselves and the little children they interact with on a weekly basis.

At the end of 2021, the College was awarded a grant to build an outdoor space that can serve multiple purposes and we are looking forward to this construction as it will further enhance the great play and learning opportunities we provide for our 0–5 year old visitors.

Already this year, students have been privileged to witness milestones of some of the children who attend our playgroup. This term a baby rolled over for the very first time during playgroup and we have had others who have started walking, sitting up and others still who are learning to use scissors all by themselves. Playgroup is



a great learning process for both students and children and is the highlight of the week for everyone.

Playgroup operates on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:30-12:00 and the Monday sessions currently have vacancies – contact Nicki Morrisby for more information: nicki.morrisby@education.tas.gov.au.

SPOTLIGHT ON HOUSING & DESIGN

It's been a busy and productive start to the year in Housing & Design 3. Through an integrated Science, Technologies, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) inquiry model using individual and collaborative learning experiences, H&D students consider environmental, aesthetic, functional, social, technological and ergonomic influences and impacts.

So far this year, students have spent time learning about 'design communication'; this concept involves freehand and scale drawing techniques, lettering, layout and general presentation. Responding to a Design Brief involves examining the site and context before commencing initial ideation and design development, a real skill for architects. Notable local and not-so-local dwellings such as 65 Queen Street, the 'Glass House', and New Canaan, Connecticut, amongst others, have been the focus of discussion in class this term.



AUSTRALIAN REPUBLIC MOVEMENT LUNCHEON

In bold font atop an invitation to the Australian Republic Movement's (ARM) 2022 luncheon reads: "British Colony or Independent Republic? The time is coming for the people of Australia to choose their own future".

Elizabeth College was fortunate to have multiple students interested in trying to answer that question. So, on Thursday 12th May, four students attended the luncheon to hear about the ARM's reinvigorated plan to ignite the debate of whether Australia should remain in the Commonwealth or become a wholly independent nation.

As the only school group in attendance at the luncheon, EC was positively lauded by each speaker on the day. Other key speakers and dignitaries included Independent Member for Clarke Andrew Wilkie, Leader of the Tasmanian Labor Party, Rebecca White, and former Tasmanian Premier, Lara Giddings.



Overall, it was a fantastic opportunity for our students to get an insight into one of the ongoing debates of Australian politics and reignite a conversation that hasn't heavily featured in public debate since the 1999 Referendum.

EC STAGE BAND – AN EC, HCHS AND BIG PICTURE COLLABORATION

Since 2021 the Elizabeth College Stage Band has been working with our partner school Hobart City High School and Big Picture (Ogilvie Campus), creating an extension opportunity for high school students. The College Stage Band is an ideal platform for high school music students to collaborate with EC music students and provides an opportunity to extend and expand their skills, while bringing the fun, excitement and opportunities of playing in a college level ensemble.

Last year the band performed at the Hot August Jazz Festival in North Hobart and to rousing applause at the 2021 Devonport Jazz Festival as well as numerous school events. We're excited to hit the road again this year, heading to Devonport for another appearance at their jazz festival. There are so many positives from working together as a group throughout the year: getting to know each other, building strong camaraderie within the ensemble and taking that enthusiasm and wonderful sound on the road to a very appreciative audience.



It's been delightful having the high school students join us each week; working with the college students, getting to know the college environment and staff and making their transition to Year 11 just that little bit easier. It's wonderful to see the high school students continue their involvement in the band and music when they begin Year 11 at EC. Keep an eye out for the band at this year's Hot August Jazz Festival! It will be a performance you won't want to miss!



H BLOCK BECOMES THE HIVE

This term has seen the rejuvenation of the H Block Common Room into THE HIVE. VET Construction students worked tirelessly to renovate the space and it looks fantastic. THE HIVE has been created to provide a space for all students to feel safe, connected and supported. It will be a calm, friendly and respectful space for all students to access as a “chill-out” zone. There is a roster of staff to supervise the area at break times and run various activities such as board games, origami, mindfulness, art, knitting, yoga and Breakfast Club. A large TV has been

installed to allow for the presentation of films, music and information. The HIVE will also be a place where outside agencies can offer drop-in sessions – such as: Centrelink, UTAS and the Aboriginal Health Service. College groups and individuals will be able to take advantage of the space to run programs such as the Diversity group, country student groups and nipaluna karati. We are excited to see all students enjoy our new and improved wellbeing hub, THE HIVE.

IDAHOBIT

May 17th is the International Day Against LGBTQIA+ Discrimination (IDAHOBIT). IDAHOBIT is a day to grow visibility, educate on inclusion and change the world for LGBTQIA+ communities. May 17th marks the anniversary of the World Health Organisation removing homosexuality from the Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems in 1990.

As part of EC’s recognition of IDAHOBIT, we were fortunate to have Tasmanian activist Rodney Croome speak to our students. Rodney is a warm and engaging speaker, and his commitment is evident through his role in the historic campaign to decriminalise homosexuality in the 1990s, through to ongoing struggles for equality. The stark change in attitudes in Tasmania is testament to how ordinary people can bring about change and Rodney sparked lively discussion by asking students how our schools can be more inclusive and safer spaces.

Our school health nurses also coordinated an IDAHOBIT stall at lunchtime on this day, with rainbow badge making, face painting, fairy bread and a true spirit of allyship and support for LGBTQIA+ communities.



PIPPIN

This year's production, *Pippin*, was performed to packed audiences in the first week of June. A double cast was necessary due to COVID and while this was challenging, students rose to the task and produced magnificent performances. *Pippin* first appeared on Broadway fifty years ago but the theme of self-identity is universal and timeless and audiences were enthralled as the titular character, Pippin, tried to find his "corner of the sky". Congratulations to all students involved in the musical, and a huge thank you to the many staff who supported the production as well.



"In this show I saw displays of talent that surpassed the expectations of any other school performance. I believe the main cast and many of the supporting cast have a bright future in the performing arts, and I'll be keeping my eyes out for familiar names in all my programmes from now on." Jack



"I really enjoyed being involved in such an energetic and fun musical, it was a blessing to work with everyone." Amelia





“Pippin was truly an amazing experience for me this year. The cast was really what made it such a fun time. Everyone was extremely supportive, kind and respectful to one another, making for such an enjoyable environment to be a part of.” Lily



STATE FUTSAL TITLES

On Monday June 6 the State Futsal Titles were held at Futsal Tasmania in Goodwood. Teams from across Tasmania entered the competition and EC entered two teams made up of students from our Athlete Development Program. Both teams played well through the qualifying rounds and one of our teams made it through to the Grand Final. Elizabeth College were the 2021 reigning champions and took to the field full of confidence, but Leighland Christian School were the stronger team on the day and deserving winners, winning the game 6-3. Overall, it was an excellent day and all college entries played well and showed good sportsmanship.



STUDY GROUP

When students learn from each other, something magical starts to happen. That's what increasing numbers have been finding when they come along to Study Group. Our peer tutoring program runs during Home Group every Wednesday in the EC Library, supported by Library teacher Marie-Rose, who also dishes up the Milo and cookies. The volunteer tutors, all students from our ECAAD program, love working with their peers and contributing to the community. "Helping teach someone else solidifies our own learning, so everyone benefits," commented Lucia, one of our tutors. All students are welcome. Students are encouraged to negotiate with their Home Group teacher and come along at 10:45am each Wednesday.



WORKS IN PROGRESS

On Friday 11 June the Visual Arts department welcomed over 80 students to the opening of Works In Progress, an exhibition showcasing works by Level 2 Art students across all mediums. There were 70 entries this year and approximately 80 votes were cast for the People's Choice Award.

The winners of the prizes for 2022 were:

2D Category:	Chloe Skinner
3D Category:	Anisah Johnson
People's Choice:	Eli Mulcahy



AWARD-WINNING SUPPORT FOR EAL STUDENTS

We are thrilled to announce that the English as an Additional Languages Team at Elizabeth College was the recipient of the Teachers Health Wellbeing Award at the 2022 Department of Education Together We Inspire Awards.

The award recognises the work of our support teachers, classroom teachers, relief teachers, social worker and managers who have created a safe, supportive space and tailored learning program for migrant and humanitarian students. The program offers extra English classes and language support for all subjects, one-on-one tutoring and help with navigating all aspects of life; you'll find the friendly team in the EAL Hub, a bespoke learning space in the College Library. Congratulations and thank you to all the staff who assist these amazing, courageous and resilient young people on their journeys.

Check out all the award winners at: www.education.tas.gov.au/community-and-engagement/awards-program





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