

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to our first e-News for 2024, with an especially warm welcome to new members of the Elizabeth College community.

Students studying in senior secondary education take more ownership over their education, gaining more rights but also more responsibilities. Parent/carer engagement is important during the college years and is associated with improving academic attainment for students. They can influence school adjustment, attendance, motivation, self-regulatory behaviour, social skills, retention and graduation rates. During Home Group students will work with their teachers to develop learning goals. These will be shared with families and used for coaching conversations in Home Group throughout the year.

It was wonderful to celebrate our 2023 Awards Evening this month. Many guests commented on the amazing students we have at EC. Below is a snapshot of our 2023 academic results:

- Our dux with an ATAR of 99.05 was Mackenzie Stone
- We had 5 students in the top 101 across Tasmania, with 40 students gaining an ATAR of 90 and above
- 101 Vet Certificates 1/2s were attained by students
- We had 33 students obtain a TCEA this year. This is the Tasmanian Certificate of Education Achievement which is awarded to students who encounter additional difficulties whilst pursuing a TCE
- 143 students received awards at Awards Evening with 180 on offer

In May, as part of an ongoing improvement cycle, we are engaging in an external school review process which will see a panel from DECYP meet with students, staff and parents/ carers. More information on this is to come and we encourage you to participate.

Our School Improvement Priorities for 2024 are Wellbeing for Learning, Building a Collaborative and Expert Teaching Team, and Implementing Effective Pedagogical Practices. Aligned with these three priorities will be an explicit focus on reading - disciplinary literacy and attendance. These foci will underpin our decision making as a school.

Central to Elizabeth College being a welcoming and inclusive community are our lived values. We are all accountable for respecting and upholding them as we engage with each other and our environment. Our values are:

**Courage**– accepting challenges and embracing opportunities.

**Growth**– aspiring to learn, and improving even when it is tough.

**Respect**– caring for ourselves, each other, and our environment.

**Responsibility**– stepping up and doing what is right.

**Connection**– building positive relationships and a sense of belonging.

Best wishes to you all for 2024.

Shane Fuller



*Students enjoying their first day*



## WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE... OF COLLEGE LIFE

We pride ourselves on our supportive culture here at Elizabeth College and our focus on wellbeing. Every student is encouraged to feel a part of our community and to achieve success.

The Student Welcome Guide, which was emailed to all families and a hard copy provided to students in Week 1, is a great place for students to begin to orientate themselves with all that EC has to offer. Students should ensure they know who their important people at college are, what each of their teachers expect of them, and when and where their classes are timetabled. Home Group Teachers, Subject Teachers, Student Services Staff, Assistant Principals and Support Staff are all here to help make your time at college as stress-free, productive and enjoyable as possible.

It's easy to make connections within our large community. Come along to Variety School Breakfast Club in the HIVE every morning from 8am, have fun at the upcoming Home Group Activity Day and sign up to an Enrichment activity over the next few weeks. Take advantage of this exciting time in your life and enjoy all the opportunities on offer to you at EC.

## STUDENT AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENT

- Kayedel Smith competed at the Perth WA 2023 All Schools Athletics Championships, where her team secured a silver national medal for Tasmania and broke the u18 state record for both the 4x100m and 4x400m relays. After coming 6th in the 400m heat and 700m heat, and beating multiple PBs, Kayedel came 6th in the 400m final, and has made all the national qualifiers for Adelaide in April this year.
- Teacher, Michael Graham-Smith, had his debut for on-field international cricket umpiring in Perth.

## UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 6 March	Home Group Activities Day
Monday 11 March	Eight Hour Day Holiday - College Closed
Wednesday 20 March	Interim Reports to Students
Tuesday 26 March	Parent Forum - Explaining the TCE
Thursday 28 March	Moderation Day - Student Free Day