

**\* DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Monday 9 February:**  
Student Photo Catch up Day

**Sunday 22 February:**  
Working Bee

**Tuesday 24 February:**  
Year 7 Meet the Teachers Night

**Wednesday 25 February:**  
Swimming Sports Carnival

**YEAR 7 WATERMARC EXCURSION:**  
**Wednesday, 4 February 2015****STUDENT PHOTO CATCH UP DAY:**  
**Monday, 9 February 2015**// **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT****Welcome Back**

Welcome to all staff and students to the 2015 school year. I hope that you all had a wonderful long summer break and that you took advantage of this time to do all those things that the busyness of 2014 did not allow you to do. In particular, I welcome all of our Year 7 students and all new students in the subsequent years into the school, and of course, a big welcome to all the new families that have joined our learning community for the first time.

At the end of 2014 we farewelled the following staff: Mrs Melissa Hughes (Leading Teacher-Whole School Professional Growth Coach and teacher of French and Integrated Studies). Melissa was a wonderful asset to have in the school, so much so, that she was swept away by the Australian Council for Educational Research to work as a Senior Research Fellow in the Assessment and Psychometric Division of the organisation. We wish Melissa all the very best as she embarks on her new position in the field of educational research. We farewelled Mrs Val Muir, a much valued member of the Education Support Staff, who for many years, worked in support of our Resource Centre. After a period of leave Val will move into retirement. We also farewelled Mr Harry Knock who as a graduate teacher worked very hard in all aspects of his job teaching Indonesian and English and taking a large responsibility for the organisation of the Didaktika High School (Indonesia) Australian Study Tour. Harry has taken up a position at Balwyn High School. We farewelled Ms Elizabeth Campbell; Elizabeth was not new to us. She had been a teacher in the school in past years and returned to us for 2014, teaching English Literature and English. Elizabeth has taken up a position at MacRobertson Girls' High School. We also farewelled Ms Eva Natsis; Eva worked in the role of Student Support Worker within the Student Services area of the school and was responsible for supporting a range of programs in the school. Eva has moved into a teaching position at Caulfield Grammar School. Finally we farewelled Mrs Lucy Blackburne and Ms Cathleen Cachia who were both in short term positions covering people who were on leave. We wish them both well. Mrs Sue Keating will be away on leave for the length of Term 1.

I extend a special welcome to the following staff who join us for the first time:

Miss Alice MacKinnon (Health/PE)

Miss Catherine Considine (French, Integrated Studies, English) (Past Student – Class of 2006)

Mrs Alicia Easteal (English, Drama)

Miss Adeline Tallarida (English)

Mrs Susan Valenzuela (English Language, English)

I wish them all the very best and hope that they have a very positive experience throughout their time with us.

**CONTENTS**

- 1 **Principal's Report**
- 5 **Assistant Principal's Report**
- 6 **Middle School**
- 7 **Subschool Coordinators 2015**
- 8 **Careers**
- 8 **Eltham High School Swim Squad**
- 9 **Interschool Debating**
- 9 **Musical Notes**
- 10 **Parents and Carers**
- 11 **Sport**
- 12 **Student Services**
- 13 **Working Bee**
- 14 **Community Announcements**

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY 2015

#### Wed 4

- Year 7 Watermarc Excursion
- Scrambled Prince Rehearsal:  
Drama Space (3.30pm - 7.00pm)
- EHS Community Choir Rehearsal  
(7.30pm - 9.00pm)

#### Fri 6

- Black Saturday Reflection

#### Sun 8

- Scrambled Prince Rehearsal:  
Drama Space (10.00am - 2.00pm)

#### Mon 9

- Student Photo Catch Up Day

#### Wed 11

- Year 11 OES Indoor Rockclimbing
- Scrambled Prince Rehearsal:  
Drama Space (3.30pm - 7.00pm)
- Indonesian Immersion 2015 Trip  
Information Evening: 400s  
(7.00pm - 8.30pm)
- Year 7 Music Information Evening:  
(7.00pm - 8.30pm - sausage sizzle  
at 6.30pm)
- EHS Community Choir Rehearsal  
(7.30pm - 9.00pm)

#### Fri 13

- Year 11 OES Indoor Rockclimbing

#### Sun 15

- Scrambled Prince Rehearsal:  
Drama Space (10.00am - 2.00pm)

#### Wed 18

- VCE Study Camp  
(Wed 18 - Fri 20)
- Scrambled Prince Rehearsal:  
Drama Space (3.30pm - 7.00pm)
- EHS School Council  
(7.30pm - 9.30pm)

#### Sat 21

- Eltham Jazz Festival Performances  
at the Terrace Stage, Eltham  
(2.15pm - 3.00pm)

#### Sun 22

- Working Bee
- Scrambled Prince Rehearsal:  
Drama Space (10.00am - 8.00pm)

#### Tues 24

- Year 7 Meet the Teachers Night  
(7.00 - 8.30pm)

Similarly, I welcome back Ms Soile Keskinen and Ms Panagiota Vassis from their period of extended leave and wish them all the very best as they re-engage with the profession.

### Changes to the School Structure

A reminder to parents that the structure of the school has changed for the start of 2015. The Sub-schools consist of the following students:

**Junior School: Year 7 only**

**Middle School: Years 8 and 9**

**Senior School: Years 10, 11 and 12**

An outline of the Sub-school Leaders and the various coordinators is included in a further section of this newsletter. Your child's coordinator is the first port of call when needing to contact the school for a range of matters relating to your child's education and his/her personal health and well-being. Coordinators can be contacted through the Compass Parent portal via e-mail.

I take this opportunity to remind parents of the use of the Compass Parent Portal. If you are a new parent and do not have your username and password, please contact the relevant sub-school office through the General Office on 9430 5111. The Compass Parent Portal gives parents up-to-date information about your child's timetable, attendance, reports, upcoming events etc., as well as allowing you to approve attendance on excursions and make payments on line, plus a host of other things. If you have accessed the Compass Parent Portal before but have forgotten your password please contact the relevant sub-school office through the number indicated above.

The organisation of the day has also changed. The day is now structured around 4 periods of instruction of equal length (72 minutes), organised in the following way:

08.45	Warning Bell
08.55	Period 1 start
10.07	Period 1 end
10.12	Period 2 start
11.24	Period 2 end
11.49	Warning Bell
11.54	Period 3 start
13.06	Period 3 end
13.50	Warning Bell
13.58	Period 4 start
15.10	Period 4 end

Furthermore, the timetable is now organised over 10 days, not 5 as was previously the case.

The introduction of the Involve Program at Years 7, 8 and 9 and the Tutorial Program at Years 10, 11 and 12 is also a new initiative.

We trust that the year has begun on a positive note for everyone!

### Student Achievement

Congratulations to all the Class of 2014 for their success in their exams and for gaining entry into their selected courses. I once again congratulate our School Dux, **Alessandra Prunotto** (Class of 2014, **Everard House**) on achieving an ATAR Score of 99.6 and securing entry into her chosen course in the Faculty of Arts at Melbourne University. On the whole students have been very happy with their future pathways and I take this opportunity to wish them all the very best in 2015 and beyond.

Congratulations to **Alex Clayton** (Class of 2014, **Andrew House**) who has been selected for the Victorian Season of Excellence - Top Sound Performance for his Music Composition. Alex achieved outstanding academic results and this recognition in terms of his music talent highlights just what an exceptionally talented musician Alex is. His composition will be performed at a concert on Friday, 27 February. I wish him all the very best with his future career path.

**CANTEEN  
ROSTER & MENU**

**ROSTER FOR FEBRUARY 2015**

**Wed 4**

- Penny Cross
- Carolyn Ottinger

**Thurs 5**

- Sarah Harrison
- Kathryn Phillips

**Fri 6**

- Cynthia Walker
- Mandy Abbott

**Mon 9**

- Jenny Reeves
- Volunteer Needed

**Tues 10**

- Jen Barry
- Amber Blackwood

**UPCOMING MENU**

Weds: Homemade Wedges

Thurs: Sushi

Fri: Hamburgers

Mon: Nachos

Tues: Veggie Quiche & Salad

Congratulations to **Sunni Holt** (Class of 2014, **Andrew House**) who also has been selected for the Victorian Season of Excellence – Top Class Performance for 2014 top performers. Sunni achieved outstanding academic results and is also reaping the benefits of her exceptional dance talent. She is a wonderful young person. Sunni will be performing her Jazz solo at the concert. I wish her all the very best with the performance and her future.

Congratulations to **Sasha Pollnitz** (Year 12, **Stewart House**) who has recently been selected into the Under 19 Australian Women's Lacrosse Team. Sasha has demonstrated a strong commitment to the sport and has reaped a number of accolades. Sasha is also very committed to completing a highly successful Year 12 this year; she is well organised and is planning her work around the very busy training and competition schedule that will come her way. She will be heading off to the USA in August and I wish her all the very best for the year, both in her school work and in her sport.

Congratulations to **Max McDonald** (Year 10, **Everard House**) who once again represented Eltham High School in the Australian National Schools Kayaking Championships on the 4-5 January 2015, in Eildon, Victoria. Max Achieved first place in K1 slalom for his age category and, as a result, has been selected for the 2015 National Talent Squad (slalom). This is a fantastic achievement and I wish Max all the very best as he continues to excel in the sport. He is an outstanding ambassador for our school and community. Well done! I refer any interested students to the Paddlepower poster that is included in the community notices of this newsletter.



### Gay Pride March 2015

Eltham High School was once again represented at the Gay Pride March this year which took place on Sunday, 1 February. I wish to thank Louise Heathcote for organizing our participation in the March. I congratulate and thank everyone that took part in support of our young peoples' basic human right to be themselves without prejudice or fear. We marched under our banner but in collaboration with the Safe Schools Coalition in support of the entire community. A great effort!



### Black Saturday Anniversary

The anniversary of the events that took place on Black Saturday, 2009 is on Saturday, 7 February. We will be remembering this day by conducting a ribbon tying ceremony around the memorial tree which is located in the central courtyard of our school on Friday, 6 February at 11.45 am. Students and staff will be invited to attend this expression of remembrance.

### Student Accident Insurance

Parents/guardians are reminded that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Likewise the school does not have a whole-school policy for personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including transport costs. Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance. Parents/guardians may wish to purchase such a policy for individual students.

### A big thank you to the Eltham High School Community

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all members of our community that extended a hand of support to the Eltham Primary School Community throughout December 2014 after the tragic death of their much valued Principal, Dr Mark Thompson. The solidarity shown to the staff, the students and the parents can only be admired. This is what community really means and I feel honoured to be part of this dynamic community and humbled by the generosity and spirit of you all. I have received a note from the now Acting Principal, Mrs Lyn Truran, and therefore I know that all your efforts have been greatly appreciated.

### A Note of Condolences

I extend the most sincere condolences of the Eltham High School Community to the Holmes family, Tom, Robyne and Lachlan and their extended family on their recent loss of Darcy (Class of 2009). Our thoughts are with you all at this very sad time.

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**VINCENT SICARI, Principal**

## // ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Attendance and Absences

#### Attendance:

At Eltham High School we recognise the importance of regular attendance at school and the links with likelihood of success in learning. Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally. Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.

In support of regular school attendance the Department of Education and Training have produced resources for schools and families on promoting attendance at school. The resources 'Every Day Counts' can be accessed at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx>. Resources available for families include:

- Recommended Approaches to Absence for Parents
- My Child Has Anxiety About Going to School
- How Can I Get My Teenager to School?

Support to improve student attendance is available at school. Please contact your child's sub-school if you have any concerns about getting your child to school.

#### Late arrivals:

Classes commence at 8.55am. If students arrive late please go to the general office and sign in at the Compass kiosk, then take the printed ticket with you to your class and give to your teacher so they can add you on the attendance roll.

### Peer Helper Program at Eltham High School

When young people have problems, they are far more likely to discuss them with their friends rather than their parents, teachers or other caregivers. Social media enables young people to share life-changing events with strangers without ever talking to someone within their own homes.

To equip young people to act as a resource to help other youth with the issues they face, the concept of "peer helping" was developed. Peer Helpers are students who are trained to recognise when their peers may have a problem, listen to fellow students confidentially and assist them with emotional, societal, or academic struggles. Peer Helpers at Eltham High School are supported/ supervised by Student Services team.

In term 4 students across Years 9-11 were given the opportunity to apply to be trained as a Peer Helper. Thirteen students were selected, with eleven students completing the two day training program. The training was held at school and conducted by Fran Mullins, Assistant Principal, and Louise Heathcote, Student Services Leader. While both had an interest in Peer Helping programs, the impetus for running the program at school came from two students – **Brock Manson** (Year 11, **Everard House**) and **Antares Car** (Year 12, **Everard House**). Brock and Antares approached their Principal, Vincent Sicari, wanting to set up a structure at the school to promote peer helping within the school community. It was this enthusiasm that led to the program being run at school.

Based on a program set up by Kids Helpline, students learn a set of skills – attending, empathizing, summarizing, questioning, genuineness, assertiveness, confrontation, problem-solving, conflict resolution and confidentiality – that assist them in meeting the needs of their fellow students. An important component of the training is getting an understanding of what confidentiality is and is not, and what they need to do when they are concerned about one of their peers.

Peer Helpers not only assist peers by listening empathetically, providing options for making healthy choices, becoming advocates, and helping them get involved in school life. In the process of helping others improve their self-esteem, Peer Helpers can themselves become leaders and role models.

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**FRAN MUJLLINS, Assistant Principal**

**ELTHAM HS CLUBS**  
**WHY NOT GET INVOLVED!**

**Drama**

When: Tuesday (Junior)  
Thursday (Senior)  
Location: 111 Drama Space  
Time: 3.30pm – 5.00pm

*George Franklin*  
*Art/Technology KLA Coordinator*

**EHS Swimming Club**

When: Thursday  
Location: Eltham Leisure Centre  
Time: 7.00am – 8.00am

*Phil Boyd*  
*Junior School Coordinator*

**Interschool Debating Team**

When: Monday  
Location: Room 301  
Time: Lunchtime

*Leanne Ipsen*  
*Debating Coordinator*

**PRISIM**

(People - Respecting - Individual's -  
Sexuality - Identity - Movement)

When: Tuesday (fortnightly)  
Location: Room 156  
Time: Lunchtime

*Louise Heathcote*  
*Student Services Leader*

**Secondary School Immunisation**

**Vaccine Program:**

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

1. The Nillumbik Council's immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccine program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school [pot@elthamhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:pot@elthamhs.vic.edu.au) by 28 February 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Nillumbik Council.
2. In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.
3. The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form/s coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination go to [immunehero.health.vic.gov.au](http://immunehero.health.vic.gov.au)

**Secondary School Immunisation Forms (Years 7, 8, 9 and 10):**

If you have not already returned your completed Immunisation Form to the Main Office, can you please do so as soon as possible. Please note, spare copies are available from the Main Office.

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**DARREN SQUIRES, Assistant Principal**

**// MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Summit to Sea 2015 – a new opportunity for Year 10 students**

The Summit to Sea Expedition is a program offered to all Victorian secondary schools students by Outdoor School Bogong and Rubicon Outdoor Centre, which in partnership with schools, provides an opportunity for students to undertake one of the best wilderness journeys possible in Australia. Students and staff journey through some of the most scenic and diverse environments in South Eastern Australia, using snowshoeing, bush walking, white water rafting and canoeing as their modes of transport. The expedition journeys from Australia's highest mountain, Mt Kosciusko, all the way to the ocean seaside town of Marlo, over a 3 week period.



Eltham High School has been invited to nominate a group of students to participate in the 2015 Summit to Sea Expedition. Whilst exact dates are yet to be confirmed, the Expedition usually runs for a 3 week period that includes the September school holidays. Any 2015 Year 10 students interested in participating in the Expedition are encouraged to email Mr. McKinnon ([mki@elthamhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:mki@elthamhs.vic.edu.au)) to register their interest. Further information will be available early in Term 1.

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**ROSS MCKINNON, Middle School Leader**

## // SUBSCHOOL COORDINATORS 2015

### TRANSITION/JUNIOR SCHOOL (Jodie Sutton: ext. 270)

7A	Jodie Sutton	<b>Jodie Sutton x. 270</b>
7B	Jodie Sutton	
7C	Anam Javed	
7D	Kimberley Ames	<b>Kimberley Ames x. 211</b>
7E	Anam Javed	
7F	Anam Javed	
7G	Anam Javed	<b>Anam Javed x. 268</b>
7H	Kimberley Ames	
7J	Kimberley Ames	
7K	Kimberley Ames	

### MIDDLE SCHOOL (Ross McKinnon: ext. 222)

8A	Jon Baly	9A	Kimberley Starr
8B	Peter Seymour	9B	Peter Seymour
8C	Natalie Tate	9C	Natalie Tate
8D	Kimberley Starr	9D	Jon Baly
8E	Pompa Brady	9E	Pompa Brady
8F	Nural Seker	9F	Nural Seker
8G	Nural Seker	9G	Natalie Tate
8H	Peter Seymour	9H	Kimberley Starr
8J	Pompa Brady		
8K	Pompa Brady		

**Jon Baly (ext. 208)**      **Pompa Brady (ext. 224)**

**Natalie Tate (ext. 208)**      **Peter Seymour (ext. 258)**

**Kimberley Starr (ext. 259)**      **Nural Seker (ext. 161)**

### SENIOR SCHOOL (Anna Panas: ext. 132)

VET/VCAL:	Terri Wood (ext. 148)
10A, 11A and 12A	Shane Hart (ext. 204)
10B, 11B and 12B	Luke Herring (ext. 169)
10C, 11C and 12C	Lyn Milner (ext. 203)
10D, 11D and 12D	Danielle Cotter (ext. 136)
10E, 11E and 12E	Chevelle Alderton (ext. 167)
10F, 11F and 12F	Diane Parry (ext. 131)

## EXTRA CURRICULAR CLASSES & TUTORIALS

### Extra Maths Help

When: Tuesday  
Location: Room 706  
Time: 3.10pm – 4.00pm

*Briony Turner*  
*Maths KLA Coordinator*

### Smart not Scattered - Year 7

A group for Year 7 students wishing to get on top of their time management, goal setting and organisation.

When: Wednesday  
Location: Room 142

*Ashlea Oates*  
*English/Integration Studies Teacher*

## // CAREERS

### The Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program ceased at the end of December 2014, and as such, School TFN forms will no longer be processed.

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN.

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

More information on applying online can be found at [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au).

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at [ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au) by searching for 'QC22604'.

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**ROSS PRINGLE, Careers and Pathways Coordinator**

## // ELTHAM HIGH SCHOOL SWIM SQUAD

The EHS Swim Squad offers students a one hour structured program at the Eltham Leisure Centre each Thursday morning from 7.00am under the guidance of Coach Neroli Nixon.

Students from all year levels and ability levels are invited to sign up for Term 1 2015 and become one of our squad members. Each week we work on developing confidence, fitness and stroke with the emphasis on having fun and becoming part of a positive team of students who support each other both in the pool and around the school environment. After squad, students meet back in the Main Staffroom at EHS to share hot chocolate before classes commence for the day.

The Eltham High School Squad is a self-funded, 'user pays' activity and payment is required at the commencement of each term. Term fees cover both the cost of coaching and pool fees, as well as hot chocolate each week and the annual end of year breakfast held after the Lap-a-thon event in term 4 (an event we run to raise money and awareness for a charity we decide upon each year).

The 2015 Squad will commence Thursday, 12 February and run each Thursday for the term finishing on Thursday, 26 March, then recommencing in Term 2 on Thursday, 16 April. New Squad Members are most welcome!!! Meet on the pool deck at the Eltham Leisure Centre by 7.00am each Thursday.

Payment for Term 1 will be \$84 and is payable at the school cashier in person or by BillPay.

**What to bring:** Bathers, towel, goggles, dry clothes to change into and breakfast.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact either Louise Heathcote at [hea@elthamhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:hea@elthamhs.vic.edu.au) or Phil Boyd at [bod@elthamhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:bod@elthamhs.vic.edu.au)

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**PHIL BOYD, Swim Squad Coordinator**

## // INTERSCHOOL DEBATING

Welcome all debaters. From Monday, 2 February, and each Monday thereafter, we will have Debating Meetings to organise our teams for Interschool Debating, or just meet to argue and have fun.

Please come along to Room 301, and bring your lunch, to meet with Ms Ipsen. If you were involved last year, or new, please come along and register your interest.

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**LEAN IPSEN, Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator**

## // MUSICAL NOTES

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a relaxing holiday ready for a very busy Term 1 in the Music Department.

### Instrumental Lessons

Due to the school timetable changing to 4 periods, there have been some changes to the structure of Instrumental Lessons.

Instrumental Lesson Times 2015 (seven 45 minute lessons starting at 8.30am)

Lesson	Times
Instrumental Lesson 1	8:30am - 9:15am
Instrumental Lesson 2	10:00am - 10:45am
Instrumental Lesson 3	10:00am - 10:45am
Instrumental Lesson 4	10:45am - 11:30am
Instrumental Lesson 5	12:00pm - 12:45pm
Instrumental Lesson 6	2:00pm - 2:45pm
Instrumental Lesson 7	2:45pm – 3:30pm (if required)

Due to the new 4 period day structure there was no way to avoid Instrumental Lessons starting before school and finishing after 3:10pm. Not every instrumental teacher will schedule lessons during these times, but the lessons needed to be created to provide the most flexibility possible for staff to fit in all of their lessons.

Instrumental lessons will commence in week 3, starting on Monday, 9 February. The Instrumental Staff will be setting up your lessons on Compass during the week, so check for your lesson time later in the week. **Please check Compass carefully for the time that your lesson starts, as you can see from the timetable above Instrumental lessons will not be starting at the same time as your school timetable.** It is the students' responsibility to come to their lessons on time.

Instrumental lessons will be scheduled a month or more in advance. This will allow you to look at your timetable in advance and notify your teacher if there is a clash and therefore a reason to change your lesson. Instrumental Staff will have less flexibility with their timetables, so it is important that you give them as much notice as possible to accommodate a change.

### Year 7 Music Information Evening: Wednesday, 11 February

The year starts off with our Year 7 Information Evening. This is where students and parents come along to hear about the school's Music Program and to have a 'hands on' opportunity of trying different instruments. Our 'Friends of Music Group' provides a sausage sizzle prior to the 'information' part of the evening. So mark on your calendar:

When: Wednesday, 11 February

Location: Performance Centre

Time: 7.00pm (sausage sizzle at 6.30pm)

Information regarding this event can also be found on Compass.

## PARENT INFORMATION

### Compass Parent Portal

Log into for Information on:

- Black Saturday Reflection
- Drama Ensembles
- Interschool Debating
- Sport Term 1 Round Robin
- Tuning in to Teens - Emotional Intelligent Parenting
- Year 7 Compass Parent Portal - Attendance Data
- Year 7 Cricket Try Outs
- Year 7 Watermarc Excursion
- Year 9 Girls Volleyball Trials
- Year 10 Summit to Sea Expedition
- Year 10, 11 & 12 Student Planners
- Year 11 & 12 - Are you a Community Volunteer?
- Year 12 Study Camp - Payment Due
- 2014/15 EHS Anthology Website
- 2015 School Vaccination Program
- 2015 Volleyball Team Trials

### School Term Dates

TERM 1:

Finishes: Friday 27 March

TERM 2:

Starts: Monday 13 April

## Second Hand Instrument Register

Have you left the program and want to sell your instrument? Bring the instrument to the Music Office for the appropriate staff member to check that it is suitable to be listed on our Second Hand Instrument Register. Registration cost is \$10.00. To be available for listing for our new Year 7s, checking must be done prior to Wednesday, 11 February. **We request that the instrument be serviced prior to inquiries.**

If you have any queries about the Music Program, please contact the Music Office on 9430 5127 or email Jill, our Music Secretary, at [bro@elthamhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:bro@elthamhs.vic.edu.au)

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**RICK PLUMMER, Music Director**

## // PARENTS AND CARERS

### Schoolkids Bonus

The Schoolkids Bonus will continue until the end of 2016. The last instalment will be paid in July 2016.

#### Eligibility Basics:

- a parent or carer receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A for a dependent child in primary or secondary education
- a primary or secondary student turning 19 years or younger in the calendar year, who receives certain government payments
- satisfy an income test[1] (applicable from 1 January 2015)

#### Payment rates for the Schoolkids Bonus:

From 1 January 2015, eligible families will receive Schoolkids Bonus in:

- 2 instalments of \$211 for each child in primary school - a total of \$422 each year
- 2 instalments of \$421 for each child in secondary school - a total of \$842 each year

If you share the care of your child with another person, you will receive a percentage of this payment. This will be based on the percentage of Family Tax Benefit you receive for the child.

Further information available <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/schoolkids-bonus>

### Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance for 2015

The Victorian Government recognises that students from disadvantaged backgrounds require additional support to have the opportunity to excel.

In the 2013 School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government committed to change the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

By making this change, Victoria was able to secure a record increase in education funding which will benefit all students, and in particular those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

#### **The EMA program will cease at the end of 2014.**

For more information about the changes to the EMA, see: Education Maintenance Allowance:

[http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/department/vic\\_emaifact.pdf](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/department/vic_emaifact.pdf)

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**KATHLEEN HANNAN, Business Manager**

## ELTHAM SPORTS TIMETABLE

February 2015

**Thurs 12**

Year 7 Boys Cricket

**Mon 16**

Senior Boys & Girls Round Robin:

- Tennis
- Table Tennis
- Basketball
- Volleyball

Senior Boys Round Robin Cricket

## // SPORT

### Eltham High School Volleyball

#### Australian Volleyball Schools' Cup:

Eltham High was the best placed Victorian school at the Australian Volleyball Schools' Cup finishing 5th. Well done to all players and thanks again to all the staff and ex-students who acted as Coaches and Managers to allow the 17 teams to take part. Photos are displayed on the Volleyball page of the Eltham High web page. Students can also collect a team photo from Mr. Thomas in the PE Office.

#### Trials for the Volleyball Program:

Any student interested in trying out for a place in an Eltham High Volleyball Team for 2015 should attend the appropriate trial in the show court over the next two weeks. Girls this week and boys the following week:

Monday, 2 February: Year 11/12 Girls' lunchtime trial and the Year 7 Girls during their sport session

Tuesday, 3 February: Year 7 Girls

Wednesday, 4 February: Year 9 Girls

Thursday, 5 February: Year 10 Girls at lunchtime and Year 8 Girls during sport

Friday, 6 February: Year 8 Girls

**NB: Boys same days next week.**

#### Competitions:

A number of Volleyball competitions will be starting soon to provide games for students:

Monday, 9 February: Year 7 competition begins at 3.25pm in the Stadium (open to all)

Thursday, 12 February: Year 8 – 12 competition begins at 3.25pm in the Stadium

Thursday, 19 February: Spikezone (Primary School competition) begins at 4.15pm

Referees are required for these competitions. Any student with a Level One Referee qualification can apply in writing to Mr. Thomas: [tho@elthamhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:tho@elthamhs.vic.edu.au)

#### 2015 Volleyball Dates:

16th February: Senior Volleyball Round Robin

11-13 March: Victorian Beach Volleyball

17th March: Year 7 Volleyball Round Robin

17th April: Senior Boys and Girls Northern Zone

21st April: Intermediate Boys and Girls Northern Zone

21st May: Intermediate State Volleyball Final

22nd May: Senior State Volleyball Final

6th July: U/15 Albury Cup

24th -26th July: Volleyball Victoria Schools' Cup

13th October: Year 8 Volleyball Round Robin

27th October: Year 8 Northern Zone

28th October: Year 7 Northern Zone

28th October: Intermediate 2016 Round Robin

12th November: Year 8 State Volleyball

13th November: Year 7 State Volleyball

6th–11th December: Australian Volleyball Schools' Cup

If your child has a unique sporting moment or is selected in a state or National team please let us know so we can share the good news. (I have copies of the Nillumbik sporting achievement grant application form if you require one).

.....  
**GREG THOMAS, Volleyball/Elite Sports Coordinator**

# Tuning in to Teens

## Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

**A seven-session parenting program  
for parents of adolescents aged from 10-16 years**

Would you like to learn how to:

- be better at talking with your teen?
- be better at understanding your teen?
- help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?
- teach your teen to deal with conflict?

### Tuning in to Teens

shows you how to help your teen develop *Emotional Intelligence*.

**Adolescents with higher Emotional Intelligence:**

- are more aware, assertive and strong in situations of peer pressure
- have greater success with making friends and are more able to manage conflict with peers
- are more able to cope when upset or angry
- have fewer mental health and substance abuse difficulties
- have more stable and satisfying relationships as adults
- have greater career success –
- Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!



**Where:** Eltham High School  
30-80 Withers Way, Eltham

**When:** Tuesdays 10 Feb - 24 Mar 2015  
7.00 - 9.00pm

**Cost:** \$160 / \$240 couples for 7 x 2hr sessions

**For all enquiries or to make a booking please call:**  
Kate Culy - 0404 042 789 or Jodie Harris - 0412 822 858

For more information visit  
[www.theparentingjourney.com.au](http://www.theparentingjourney.com.au)

Or visit us at



Parenting Journey

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LOUISE HEATHCOTE, Student Services Leader

## Yoga at Eltham High



**STARTS WEDNESDAY,  
4 FEBRUARY at 4.45pm**

**1 hour sessions in 400s  
(Open Space)**

Come & Try \$15 \*Students \$12

10 week Course: \$125

\*Students \$100

\* Dynamic Yoga for a strong and supple body.

\* Restorative postures to focus and calm your mind.

\* Deep Relaxation for peace and contentment.

\* Ease stress and re-energise.

Teachers, students, parents and friends of all ages and abilities welcome.

More info:

<http://www.geniuswellbeing.com.au/elthamhigh.html>

Enquiries to Gillian Lazenby:  
[mail@geniuswellbeing.com.au](mailto:mail@geniuswellbeing.com.au)  
or 0425 860 170

## // WORKING BEE

### Working Bees at Eltham High School 2015

Working Bees at Eltham High School have been an institution for the last three decades and have been an important mechanism in improving and maintaining the environmental amenities for those who teach and learn in this educational establishment.

To facilitate these events the Grounds Committee, comprising parents, past parents and teachers, plan and organise these events throughout the year. The Grounds Committee is about 20 members strong but we are always looking for new members to join our group.

Seven Working Bees are scheduled throughout the year; always held on a Sunday between the hours of 9.00am and 12.30pm, with morning tea and barbecue lunch provided for those in attendance.

The Working Bee dates for 2015 are as follows:

Sunday 22 February

Sunday 22 March

Sunday 24 May

Sunday 21 June

Sunday 23 August

Sunday 25 October

Sunday 15 November

Many parents will have already designated their commitment to one of our Working Bees via the Parent Volunteer Response form distributed in late 2014. Leading up to a designated event a member of the Grounds Committee will phone volunteers to organise job allocation in advance which makes for a much more efficient effort on the day.

#### Working Bee - Sunday, 22 February:

Traditionally our first Working Bee of the year is one that focuses on a clean-up, pruning, weeding and watering of the many garden beds around the campus. Given that we have experienced a relatively mild summer, the weeds and many of our plants have grown profusely over the summer period, since our last Working Bee in November.

Listed below are a number of tasks that have been identified as priorities for the first Working Bee of the year on Sunday, 22 February:

- The sleeper retaining wall that was almost completed last November needs to be backfilled with stones and soil.
- We plan to build a food garden on the western end of the 400s block. Sleeper metal uprights need to be concreted into position in preparation for two small retaining walls in that garden.
- The 500+ plants that were planted late last year will need to be watered. They have grown so well that many of the bags stakes and tree guards will need to be removed to allow for expanded growth.
- Pruning and weeding of the garden beds around the 400s block.
- Pruning and weeding of the garden beds between the 800s and 900s.
- Construction of a short section of sleeper wall (3 metres) adjacent to the cricket nets.
- Brush cutting and mowing in a range of locations across the campus precinct.
- Paving around the raised box gardens adjacent to the Stadium.

If you are a volunteer for the Working Bee on Sunday, 22 February please park your vehicle on the hard courts adjacent to the Stadium complex. Follow the directional signage to the area adjacent to the school Canteen where you will be signed in by a member of the Grounds Committee and directed to an appropriate task. Please remember to bring protective clothing, gloves, sunscreen, hat and a water bottle on the day.

I look forward to your anticipated support on Sunday, 22 February.

.....  
**JOHN COATES, For the Grounds Committee**

## Community Announcements

**DISCLAIMER: "Eltham High School does not endorse any company, organisation or product referenced in the Community Announcements"**

### Introducing 'The Inklings': A Writers' Club for Gifted Year 7-9 students initiated by G.A.T.E.WAYS (Gifted and Talented Education)

The Inklings was the writing club originally formed by J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis and their literary friends who all wanted the chance to hang out with other writers, write more, be inspired and share their ideas about books (it's where Tolkien read the first draft of The Lord of the Rings!) Now it's the place you can come, stress-free, to revel in a fellowship of fiction, friendship and fun, and let your creative writing talents flourish!

Bring the latest book you're reading or the new story you're working on, or just bring a blank page and pen and let your imagination take you... Accept creative writing challenges, warm-up your wits with word-play games, share your love or loathing for the greatest and worst novels of today and yesterday: The Inklings are all about getting together and indulging our mutual passion for literature and language. Whilst there is a structured and wide-ranging program there will be no pressure, and no obligation because you're not writing anything to hand in or be marked... you're writing because you LOVE it! Come join the Fellowship!

The club will run between 11.30 and 1pm on a fortnightly basis during term time on a Saturday morning at Alphington Primary School – it will meet 7 times over the course of Semester 1.

For further information please see the G.A.T.E.WAYS website:

<http://www.gateways.edu.au/programs/brainwaves/host-schools-dates-and-clubs/year7-8-and-9-the-inklings>

## Community Announcements



**8 week kayaking program! - Term 1, 2015**

# Paddlepower

**Advance your skills, try the rapids and get your  
Paddlepower Passport!**

**Westerfolds Park, Templestowe**

An exciting Paddlesport program for young people with awards, fun games and activities! Parents and advanced sessions also available.

**Go Ahead. Give it a Go!**

**Location:** Westerfolds Park, Templestowe (all equipment provided)

**Dates:** Thursdays 4:15 – 5:15pm (Thu Feb 5 to Thu Mar 26)  
Or  
Thursdays 6 – 7pm (Thu Feb 5 to Thu Mar 26)

**Cost:** \$155 (\$120 for 8 sessions, plus \$35 club youth membership)

**Contact:** [warwickdraper@yahoo.com.au](mailto:warwickdraper@yahoo.com.au) (Bookings essential!)  
Bookings close Wednesday January 26<sup>th</sup>

This program will be coordinated by 3 time Olympian Warwick Draper and delivered by qualified coaches. We thank Canoeing Victoria for their support through PaddlePower.

PADDEPOWER® The British Canoe Union – This Australian version has been modified by Canoeing Victoria with permission from the British Canoe Union and support from the Victorian Government



## ***Community Announcements***

**ELTHAM JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**REGISTRATION DAY**

**SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**



**CENTRAL OVAL**

**Panther Place,**

**Eltham**

**8.30am to 12.30pm**

**BOYS TEAMS**

Under 9 to U17

**GIRLS TEAMS**

Under 10, Under 12, Under 15 & Under 18

**\*\* New Players \*\***

Must bring a copy of their birth certificate

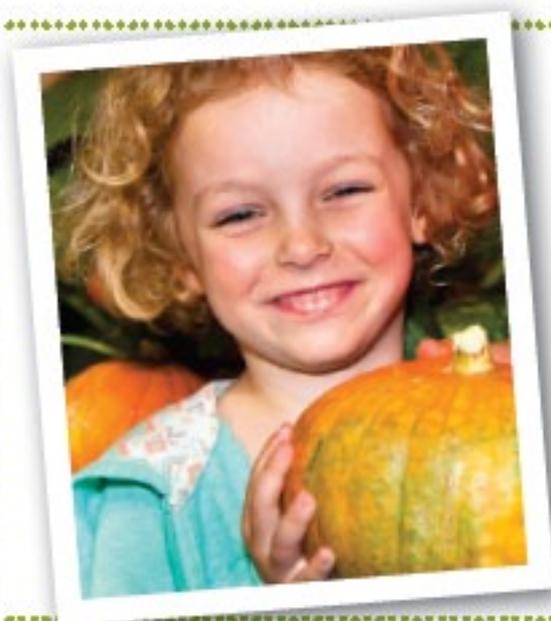
**[www.elthamjfc.com.au](http://www.elthamjfc.com.au)**

Contact: Roslyn McCormick 0419 305 814

# Sign up to be a Grower



Celebrate the summer harvest this March with local food activities and events in Harvest Month, including the Home Harvest Feast on 15 March 2015.



We are looking for volunteers to grow and supply the produce for this harvest feast.

No matter your level of experience or how green your fingers are, everyone is invited to take part and get growing and plenty of advice and support will be provided to all.

In return for your efforts, you will get to enjoy the fruits of your labour at the Home Harvest Feast, where trained chefs will turn the harvest into a feast of culinary delight!

**Interested? Of course you are!**

Sign up as a Grower and find out more about Harvest Month at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

