PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Excellence at Elderslie High School

Elderslie High School was mentioned on numerous occasions at award ceremonies during Week 5, this term. It started with Ms Dennis receiving a Classroom Teacher award for her contributions to Public Education. The award was presented to Ms Dennis at Come Together – A Celebration of Excellence on Tuesday 4 November 2014 at the Sydney Town Hall. Ms Dennis was a worthy recipient of this award for her significant contribution to both the students at Elderslie High School and to students in Public Education, not just for her quality teaching and learning in the classroom but also for her outstanding work in the Creative and Performing Arts – drama, dance, public speaking and debating. I was sitting in the audience with Ms Martin on the night and we were both honoured to be there to support Ms Dennis and to acknowledge her excellent and substantial achievements.

This was followed with the Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Student Achievement presented at Parliament House, Sydney on 5 November 2014. This year Erin Middleton, Year 12, was selected as one of twenty to receive this prestigious award for students in NSW Public Education. Erin was presented with the award by The Hon Adrian Piccoli, NSW Minister for Education. Sitting in this audience was an honour. It was obvious that the students presented with these awards have achieved their full potential at public schools, while enhancing the value and reputation of public education. Erin’s citation recognised her academic achievements, contribution to Youth Parliament, public speaking accolades and leadership. Congratulations, Erin.

Finally, on 7 November 2014 Ms Martin attended a function at University of Western Sydney where three of our Aboriginal students, Courtney Jones (Year 9), Catherine Lambeth (Year 12) and Georgia Eggert (Year 9) were presented with awards for their achievements in sport, leadership and culture. The school is very proud of our Aboriginal students and all their significant achievements. Ms Martin has a report on the UWS event in her DP report.

Farewell and Thank You
At the end of this year we will have a number of staff leaving Elderslie High School. Mr Thomas, Mr Buckley, Mrs Ulrich and Mrs Moore have all decided to retire leaving a legacy and significant contribution to Public Education.

I would also like to thank our bank of casual and temporary staff for assisting us in delivering courses and programs at Elderslie High School this year. Without their involvement we would not have been able to complete the year successfully. This group of staff...
includes Ms Spero, Mr Price, Mrs Christophers, Mr Quinn, Ms Roberts, Ms McEvoy, Ms Sakr, Mr M Russell, Mr P Russell, Ms Wheeler, Mrs H Rouen, Ms L Rouen, Mr De Bono, Mr McAdam, Mr J Stewart and Mr Sanderson. Some of this group will return in 2015 and once again help us in delivering quality teaching and learning at our school.

EHS Uniform – Check Before You Buy!
All students and families are reminded that when they are purchasing school uniform items they should check the website for verification that the items meet the school’s uniform requirements. The policy will outline all uniform expectations, especially in regards to appropriate and approved footwear. Although the number of students wearing inappropriate footwear has reduced significantly since last year there are still some students trying to wear canvas style shoes or leather shoes that do not protect them adequately (eg ballet style). Our advice is that all parents look at this policy and check before money is spent on the wrong items. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Last Day of the School Year for all Students
A reminder that the last day of school, for Year 7 to 11 students is Wednesday 17 December 2014. This includes Year 10. During the last three days, recognition assemblies will be held for Years 7 to 10 and reports distributed. Year 11 have already commenced the HSC program of study and this will continue to 17 December 2014.

Staff will be involved in a two day training and development program before the school officially closes for the December-January vacation period on Friday 19 December 2014. This means that the School Administration Office will be minimally attended during the last two days as the School Administration Officers will also be involved in training and development.

School resumes for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Wednesday 28 January 2015 and Years 8, 9 and 10 on Thursday 29 January 2015. If for any reason students are unable to commence on these dates in 2015 then it is crucial that the school is informed in writing before the end of this year.

Clearance Procedures
Students are reminded that it is crucial at this time of the year to complete clearance procedures so that the school has the resources for the following group of students. Clearance involves such things as library books, subject text books, costumes and outstanding subject/course charges. Your support in this matter is very much appreciated.

M Fawcett
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS’s REPORT
Natalie Martin (DP Years 7, 9 & 11)
Aboriginal Student Achievement Awards
On Friday 7 November Catherine Lambeth of Year 11, Courtney Jones and Georgia Eggert of Year 9 received an Aboriginal Student Achievement Award at a ceremony that was held at UWS. The Elderslie High School Aboriginal Education Team nominated these students for this prestigious award. Catherine received her award for her contribution to school leadership, Courtney received a Sporting award for her involvement in school, zone and regional Netball, Touch Football and Cross Country running and Georgia received an award for her culture, courage and commitment to her education. These girls were extremely deserving of their awards and represented Elderslie High School with pride and also exemplified our school motto of Excellence, Honour and Service.

Year 11
On Thursday 6 November all of Year 11 attended the University of Western Sydney (UWS) Campbelltown Campus Open Day. Students attended an introductory lecture which explained many aspects of university life. This lecture was presented by current university students who were able to engage the audience by explaining their real life experiences. UWS offers a large variety of courses at their multiple campuses in Sydney; they also have UWS College which provides an alternative pathway into university courses for students who don’t manage to achieve their targeted ATAR. Students can enter UWS College with a lower ATAR and complete a one year diploma, which on successful completion, allows them to enter into the second year of their chosen Bachelor degree. Alternatively they also offer Foundation Studies for students who achieve a lower ATAR and on successful completion of this one year preparatory course students may be offered a place in a four year degree course. Students were able to attend two information sessions of their choosing which varied from law, nursing, engineering, teaching, environmental science, construction management and many more. All activities including transport and lunch was provided free of charge to the whole year group. Year 11 students behaved spectacularly well and I was extremely proud of the way they presented themselves at this community event.
Camden Community Connections
Teearn Page a Youth Worker from Camden Community Connections (CCC) has been working on a job readiness program with a number of students in Year 9 and Year 10 over the last four weeks. Students responded well to the program and were able to start working on their resumes and participate in some mock interviews with employers in the local community. Teearn also provides one on one case management and will be working with some of our students this term. Our girls’ roll call group will also be attending a girls’ day out which is a free event sponsored by CCC held annually at Mount Annan High School. In Term 1 2015, CCC will also be running a girls’ group every week for two terms. Accessing this valuable community service enables the school to provide additional welfare support to our students which cannot always be provided by the school.

Reports
Yearly reports for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be issued on Monday 15 December; this will also be the last recognition assembly for the year. All parents are encouraged to attend the recognition assemblies to celebrate student achievement throughout the year.

Jennifer Lawrence (DP Years 8, 10 & 12)
Farewell Year 12 2014
Our class of 2014 has now completed their HSC examinations and will commence a period of anxious waiting for the release of the HSC results on December 17.

On Tuesday 18 November, I had the pleasure of attending the Year 12 Formal held at City Beach Function Centre in Wollongong. It was an amazing sight to see the students and staff “dressed up” for this formal occasion. There was a wonderful atmosphere throughout the evening which was enjoyed by all. We have now invited all Year 12 students back to share morning tea with the staff on Thursday 18 December so that we can all celebrate their success. I would once again like to thank Ms Woo, the Year 12 Year Adviser, for her tireless work with the organisation of Year 12 events and the support she has provided all students through the stress and anxiety of the HSC. Year 12, we will miss you enormously around the school campus! I look forward to seeing you at the morning tea on 18 December.

Year 7 2015 Orientation
All Year 7 students who have accepted an offer to attend Elderslie High School in 2015 should have received their Orientation package by now. This important package contains details of the Orientation Day on Wednesday 3 December and also of the exciting camp we have planned for all students. This camp has been planned to take place very early in Term 1 and with this in mind, we are seeking deposits for the camp before the end of the year. We are very much looking forward to meeting all new students at Orientation.

In addition to our mainstream students’ Orientation Day, we are holding an additional morning session for any students who may have special learning needs and their parents. These families will receive a special invitation for the extra event on Monday 24 November.

How can I support my child’s education more effectively?
At the time of writing, our staff are busy finalising yearly assessment marks and writing reports. We are in the throes of our Yearly Examinations and have spent quite a lot of time both within the classroom and at Year Assemblies revising in preparation and reminding students about ways they can be more organised. For future reference, we always load our examination rosters and assessment schedules onto our school website so that parents can help their children from home to be prepared. Downloading the assessment guidelines for your child’s year group can also be a great help. Just visit the Elderslie High School website and type in assessment guidelines along with your child’s year (eg: Year 10 Assessment Guidelines). Knowing what your child has due is a great first step to helping your child to be organised and this is a crucial issue for all students so that they do not lose sight of the tasks that are due in any one term.

We do have a very small number of students at the school who are not completed adequate class work or submitted assignments and when these students are in Years 10-12, the consequences of a less than diligent approach can be seen through the allocation of what is known as an “N Determination”. An N Determination is basically a “Non-Award” and means that students are unsatisfactory in a particular subject. We believe this outcome shows the importance of the high expectations that we have of our students whilst validating the hard work that the vast majority have undertaken.

Uniform Donations
The end of the year marks a time when many families are discarding old uniforms that have been outgrown. If you are having a clean out, we always appreciate any donations you may like to make as we place these in the school second hand clothing pool. We are happy to take any unneeded items. Please have your child drop off any clothing to the Student Office.

Mobile Phones
It is a fact of life that most teenagers in this day and age own a mobile phone. There are most certainly occasions when their use in the classroom is fitting such as the photography of art work or the use of the stop watch in a fitness lesson however, mobile phones should be unseen during lesson time. All students are reminded of the need to keep mobile phones switched off in lesson time so that they are not tempted to check them and also to keep...
them in their pockets. At no time should a student ever make or receive text messages or phone calls in class. We ask all parents to reinforce this message at home so that the classroom continues to be the most focused and settled environment that we can create.

**SRC MUFTI DAY: SUPPORTING MOVEMBER AND BREAST CANCER**

The SRC is organising a mufti day on Thursday 27 November to support Movember and the McGrath Foundation. Movember supports men’s health programs whereas the McGrath Foundation raises money to place breast care nurses in communities across Australia.

Students in Years 7-12 are invited to wear blue and/or pink clothing or accessories and provide a gold coin donation to show their support for these worthwhile causes. The SRC will also have a cake stall and a pink eye-shadow stall for students who would like to participate.

Please ensure your child is wearing modest clothing that is not revealing, enclosed shoes and has equipment for subject specific classes (e.g. aprons, PE/athletic shoes, leather enclosed shoes for practical courses). The school will contact the parents of students who are inappropriately dressed.

With many staff and community members being affected by cancer, the student representative council elected to make this their focus of the year, organising the most successful World’s Greatest Shave day and Biggest Morning Tea at Elderslie High school. We hope to end the year on another successful fundraising day.

Thank you for your support,

Ms Hana Jan  
SRC Coordinator

**PRESENTATION EVENING 2014**

The annual Presentation Evening is on Tuesday 16 December 2014 at Camden Civic Centre from 7.15pm. This is shaping up to be a wonderful evening with over 200 students receiving awards for leadership, academic, agricultural, cultural and sporting achievements at Regional and State level during 2014. Students receiving awards will be given a letter by the end of Week 8 detailing the organisation for the evening. There will also be some dance, public speaking and music performances on the evening. Please come along and celebrate the achievements of the wonderful students from Elderslie High School.

Ms S Dennis

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**TAS**

**Year 10 Child Studies**

Year 10 Child Studies have just completed a unit on becoming a parent. During this unit of study the students were given the opportunity to take the virtual baby home to experience ‘real parenting’. Many students found this to be a challenging but exciting exercise. Their last major practical project was to create an original baby bunting for an infant’s nursery. Throughout this task the students demonstrated their creativity, sewing and design skills. Everyone had their own individual buntings from owls to phrases and names. Lastly they were given the task to plan and hold a Baby Shower. The students created some delicious food for this party and they had great fun playing are variety of games they developed for this event.
**Year 8 Technology**

Year 8 Technology Mandatory have been working hard this semester creating café style foods. Year 8 have also been researching food labelling and packaging. The Technology Mandatory classes have designed labels and baked delicious muesli cookies. As part of the unit students have designed a shop name and logo which have been incorporated into their websites.

![Image of students baking](image1.png)

**SPORTING NEWS**

Congratulations to the following students:

Congratulations to Gabrielle Plain who not only made the CHS School Girls Softball Team but also went to Hawaii for the Australian Girls School Softball Team!!! Well Done!!!

Ella Wooldridge came 3rd in the 12-13 year olds (she is 12 years old) and 7th out of all age groups on the weekend in her first Enticer race distance—300mtr open water swim, 8km bike and 2km run at Huski.

She has also been selected for a scholarship in the development program with SWSAS (South-West Sydney Academy of Sport) for Triathlon. Well done Ella!!

The Girls KO Cricket team defeated Liverpool Girls High School. The girls managed to score 240 runs with Hannah Trethewy top scoring with 113 runs not out. Liverpool Girls were bowled out for 67 runs with Yardley Polsen taking 5/3 and Tiarne McDonald 3/16. The team now progresses to the Final.

**CAREERS**

**UWS Day**

On 6 November 2014, Year 12 students visited University of Western Sydney at Campbelltown. This was their first formal taste of University. The students attended forums, the first was based on general information, and then our students were divided into interest groups for the final two sessions. Topics included subject choices, various degrees, life at university and even tours of the nursing and paramedical clinical areas as well as student residential accommodation. Many students commented on the fantastic sessions they attended.

Thank you to UWS who provided the buses and the barbeque lunch together with interesting and informative sessions.

*Mrs Skaroupka, Mrs Rouen, Mrs Martin*

**CAPA NEWS**

**Debating Update**

The *Year 8 Debating Team* consisting of Dylan Maclou, Anneliese Munro, Lachlan MacDonald, Merralisa Wintzloff and Jasmine Cardona defeated Bankstown Girls High School in the Inter-Zone Final, Leumeah High School in the Regional Quarter Final, Hurlstone Agricultural High School in the Regional Quarter Final and Concord High School in the Regional Final. The team will now attend the *Year 7 and 8 State Debating Championships* at the Women’s College, University of Sydney in early December. Best of luck!

**CAPA Update**

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in making *Year 10 CAPA Evening* a fun and successful evening. Well done to all!

The next CAPA Evening will be *Year 9, A Christmas CAPA on Tuesday 2 December 2014* from 7.00pm in the School Hall. Please come along and support the Year 9 Music, Drama, Dance and Visual Arts classes. Tickets will be on sale from the Student Office and are $6.00 for all. Doors open at 6.45pm. See you there!

There are still a few *Dance Calendars* available for purchase from the Student Office. The calendar would make a great Christmas present and is an excellent memory of this year’s routines.
Congratulations to all of the students who performed at Elderslie Public School’s Fete. You represented Elderslie High School admirably.

The first major Rehearsal, first and second Segment Rehearsals for Combined Dance - Schools Spectacular, 2014 are all complete. The students should now have received the information for the show week and permission notes and payment for transport and costumes are due to the Student Office by Monday 24 November 2014.

Studio/Dance Stocktaking will be taking place on Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 December 2014. Students who are interested in helping on one or both of these days need to see Ms Dennis in the Studio to get a permission note.

The Vocal Ensemble, The Dance Ensemble, Douglas France, Erica Sheather, Abby Sklenar, Merrallisa Wintzloff and Maya Ascaino performed on behalf of the school at Light Up Camden on Saturday 15 November 2014. All of the students did a wonderful job entertaining the crowd at this event.

Year 7 Visual Arts 9 class competed in The Advertiser’s Design An Ad competition, with Courtney Smith’s entry featuring in the feature. Well done, Courtney and the students from 7VA9!

Congratulations Leah Francis from Year 7 for successfully auditioning for a role in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at The Concourse in Chatswood. This will be alongside Sam Moran, ex-Wiggle. The Packemin production will run from January 9-24 2015. Good luck, Leah!

CAPA Faculty

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM
At Elderslie High School there are many programs happening to enhance student learning in faculty areas. The Gifted and Talented program is designed to support what is already happening in classrooms and to offer students some extra opportunities.

On Monday 8 December 2014 the students from the Gifted and Talented program will be participating in a final workshop for 2014. Lunch will be provided for the students on that day. Information sheets about both of these events will be given to students in coming weeks.

Stay tuned for more exciting things happening for the Gifted and Talented students at Elderslie High School.

Gifted and Talented Team

LIBRARY REPORT
It has been a frantic term in the library, with students busily researching for assessments. Seniors are embarking on special interest HSC projects, so please be aware that we organise inter-library loans for seniors. We also help with note taking, as it is a hard skill to acquire, so please come along and let us help you.

Many students also print out assignments in the library, so if your printer is out of ink we can always help you. We have staplers and plastic sleeves, too-all the things you need to make that assessment look professional!

We have many new books this term. Some are what is now called “sicklit”, which is nicer than it sounds. It just means someone in the book is literally sick. “The Fault in our Stars” and “If I Stay” are two such titles and have been very popular. We also have the Maze Runner series and the Pittacus Lore books so come and grab something to read over the long holidays. You know it’s true, the more you read, the better your reading becomes. Our most popular purchase of the year has been in new manga titles. These are flying off the shelves so you need to get in quick. If you are a bit reluctant to read a book, graphic novels might be for you!

A new HSC section has been created, with notes on most subjects being accumulated as well as new book purchases for all subjects. A section on the English topic “Discovery” is also in the process of construction so pop along and have a look. If there is something you need, please ask, as we are keen to stock our shelves with useful resources.

The library has had a lot of student work on display. This is a great way to find out what is done in a subject that you might choose in the senior years, so come along and have a look. We are here to support each other’s endeavours.

It is holiday season in the library and we will be running competitions from Week 7. You don’t have to believe in Christmas alone. We have competitions for a host of cultural days like Eid, Waitangi, Thanksgiving, Diwali and Hannukah to name a few. So don’t feel left out, come and get into the holiday groove and maybe win a prize!

That’s all from the fun loving library crowd!
DEC STUDENT VOLENTEERING AWARDS FOR YEARS 9 AND 10

General Information
It has been great to have many of our students now recording their volunteering hours. The Peer Tutors readers have achieved over 60 hours of helping others. There are many other students who assist other and should log their hours. The DEC Student Volunteering Awards programme encourages all students to undertake a minimum of 20 hours of volunteering during the time they are in Years 9 and 10. Now is the time to log onto the site and begin or continue to enter your hours to be eligible for certificates this year.

How To Log On:
Log on to the student portal and follow the “other sites” prompt. Scroll down until P and find the Premier’s Student Volunteering Awards then enter new activity. The process only takes a few minutes. If you required assistance see Mrs Rouen, Mr Kafataris or Miss Zammit for help enrolling.

Mrs Rouen, Mr Kafataris and Miss Zammit

TENDER FOR COMMERCIAL FRIDGE/ FREEZER

The Home Economics faculty seek to dispose of a non working commercial fridge/freezer supplied to the school approximately 10 years ago.

The fridge/freezer is a Kirby model, serial number 51141. The successful bidder will be responsible for removing the item from a first level building.

General enquiries and inspections of the fridge/freezer can be arranged by contacting Ms McClelland on 4658 1110 or via email elderslie-h@school.det.nsw.edu.au marked attention to “Kerrie McClelland – Commercial Fridge/Freezer Enquiry”.

Tenders must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Confidential Commercial Fridge/Freezer Tender” and sent to:

The Principal
Elderslie High School
Hilder Street
Narellan NSW 2567

Tenders close at 3pm on Monday 8 December.

G’DAY JAPAN
School Excursion to Japan 2015

The annual student exchange between high school students from Camden and Narellan areas and students from Kashiwa City in Japan is planned for the October 2015 holidays. Travelling to Japan you will gain knowledge through a range of experiences such as:

✔ Sightseeing
✔ Japanese foods
✔ Tokyo Disneyland
✔ School life in Japan
✔ Family life in Japan
✔ Sport in Japan
✔ Cultural Activities

If you are in Years 10 or 11 and interested in finding out more details about this exciting opportunity see the contact Mr Tan at Elderslie High School on 4658 1110.

There will be an information evening early in 2015.
PROPOSED CALENDAR –
More detailed Calendar events can be found on our school website

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