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ST EDWARD'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

A WEEKLY COMMUNICATION FOR PARENTS, FRIENDS, STAFF & STUDENTS



**EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
 AUSTRALIA**
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Term 4, Week3 – 26 October 2017

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Edmund Rice Education Australia Touchstone

Inclusive Community

As a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition we recognise the traditional ownership and cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples of Australia, and welcome them into our community

Justice and Solidarity

As a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition, we develop a curriculum that integrates the themes of justice and peace, underpinned by Catholic Social Teaching

The values that underpin the touchstones of Inclusive Community and Justice and Solidarity as outlined in the expressions above, were emphatically highlighted through the work of Mrs Hatfield-Smith's Year 8 English. In a unit of work studied throughout Term 3, this class researched the inequities experienced by Indigenous Australians. As a result of their research, they collectively worked on means of raising the awareness of the members of the St Edward's Community to the injustices experienced by our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Members of this class wrote a letter to me at the conclusion of this unit highlighting ways in which we as a community can become even more inclusive of Indigenous people. I was invited to their class to engage in a conversation about their work, thoughts and ideas on how we can better stand in solidarity with, and promote greater inclusiveness, of Indigenous people through an awareness raising campaign. Three members of the class, Ben Taylor, Jasper Langford-Martin and Riley Walsh were invited to present their thoughts and ideas to the College Executive. The passion in which these three boys spoke about their learnings from this unit of work and their eagerness to establish an awareness raising campaign is evidence of the touchstones in action in the classroom.



I congratulate Mrs Hatfield-Smith and the students in this Year 8 class for their work. It is through this type of liberating education we can open the hearts and minds of young people through critical reflection and engagement to become hope-filled and free to build a better world for all.

I look forward to working with Mrs Hatfield-Smith and the boys from this Year 8 class on their ideas.

An extract from the letter the class wrote to me appears below.

Only 1.8% of our school community are indigenous. That is an appalling statistic. Why is it that in our current world of equity we have such a low percentage of Indigenous students at our school? We must do more to address this. We think this is reflective of the issues of injustice within the wider community. We came up with this idea from our work in class and what we had learnt about the suffering, injustice, racism and hardship that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people continue to endure in Australian society. We see it as our social justice obligation as students of St Edward's to address this injustice. We would really like to make a change.

Are you aware that:

- *Aboriginals die 10 years younger than white Australians*
- *Indigenous people make up fewer than 3% of the Australian population and yet make up 25% of the prison population. They are 13 times more likely to be imprisoned than their non-indigenous counterparts.*
- *An indigenous child is more likely to be locked up in prison than finish high school with 50% of the incarcerated population of juvenile justice facilities being indigenous youth. They are 26 more times likely to be in detention than non-indigenous youth.*
- *Indigenous women are the fastest growing population in incarceration.*

These rates are continuing to increase in our modern society, highlighting the growing inequity and our lack of real effort to address this issue.

As students in the Edmund Rice charism, we feel it is our obligation to help those who cannot help themselves, those that have been marginalised and discriminated against. We see this as an opportunity to lead the way in terms of creating cultural change. We want St Edward's to empower Indigenous youth with education and support, as Edmund Rice did for those who were suffering in his community.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2018 MISSION MASS

The annual Catholic Mission Mass was celebrated at the Diocesan Cathedral, Waitara, last week. All schools from the Diocese were in attendance to acknowledge the great work Catholic Mission does to raise awareness and money for disadvantaged communities all over the world. St Edward's was represented by Lachlan Smith, Alex Waite and Zac Boyce from Year 10. Joseph Hussain, Logan Pugsley, Sam Mashman and Aaron Judd were in attendance from Year 9. Our students were fine ambassadors of the College mixing with students from other schools and catching up with some of their old primary school teachers.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

At our recent Parents and Friends Association meeting it was agreed that the focus of this group in 2018 will be to transition into a Parent Network group. The distinct difference is that the members of the group believe that great opportunities lie in developing a series of information sessions throughout the year that will assist parents with their sons in areas such as their education, social life, appropriate use of social media, relationships and mental health. Members from this group will still be calling for assistance from parents in the organisation of College Discos and suppers at various college events, but it is anticipated that meetings will not be as regular and will focus on the delivery of the information sessions. I fully support this refocus and encourage more parents to become members of this network.

ANNUAL ROSEMAREE FREEMAN TROPHY CRICKET MATCH

Freemans XI will take on the St Edwards XI on Sunday at St Edward's Oval on 5th November 2017 at 10am. Come and enjoy a great day of Cricket, bring a picnic lunch and help support **LIFELINE** or make a donation. www.everydayhero.com/au/rosemaree-freeman-trophy-2016 or phone 131114.

2017/18 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CURRENT YEAR 10 AND YEAR 8 STUDENTS

The process for scholarships has changed as of this year and there will only be two scholarships for which parents can apply for their son. Other College scholarships will be determined by the Principal and the Executive, and are not open for individual application.

Scholarships open for application:

Year 10 students going into Year 11: Catholic Women's League Scholarship

Year 8 students going into Year 9: Judy Skeahan Bequest (St Vincent de Paul – Gosford)

Further information and electronic application forms can be obtained by emailing Meagan Armstrong marmstrong@stedwards.nsw.edu.au. Final applications need to be emailed back to principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au by Friday 3rd November. Enquiries can be directed to Meagan Armstrong via email or by phone 43216403.

Mr Mark Bonnici (College Principal)

WOMEN FOR WOMEN IN AFRICA

Funny things have been happening in the Library over the last two weeks. Boys, with downcast eyes, have been sneaking up to the Front Desk and handing over packets of women's underwear. Normally they comment, "My mum said to give you these!" Then they run out quickly – often before we can thank them. Currently we have collected around 300 pairs of underwear for the most underprivileged women and children in Africa. So why are we collecting underwear for women and children?

When Mr Bonnici went to Kenya earlier this year, he was confronted and shocked by the level of poverty and hardship, and the challenge to provide just the basics. There was no food, limited water, no sanitation, make-shift homes, if any, and no means of employment. He was astounded by what a mother would do to feed her child, to clothe them and shelter them. It was a very confronting experience and formed the basis of doing something very simple, such as providing new underwear, to women so that they were protected and able to travel outside their homes. You can view the daily lives of the women and children of Kibera on this YouTube clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzaxrKmX1Yk>



If you'd like to donate underwear here's the brief:

All you have to do is buy a packet of women's or children's undies and send them to the Library staff in the Shanahan Learning Centre. They must be **new** and size wise for **children aged 8-14** or **ladies size 8-16**. Your undies will be delivered to Kenyan women and children in need in December with Mr Bonnici and students from St Edward's College.

CANTEEN

The canteen is still looking for any new volunteers to help in the canteen. The number of volunteers halved this year and we are struggling to get the amount of food made to feed our hungry boys. We try to give the boys good healthy choices at a minimal cost. If we don't get more help this will mean we will have to look for alternative ideas and prices will increase. We may also have to look at cancelling lunch orders on Fridays. If you have a spare day over the next term or can put your name down for next year, we would appreciate your help. You can contact the canteen through the College phone number – 4321 6400 or via the canteen email address canteen@livedwardsnswedu.onmicrosoft.com.

Thank you in advance.

Mrs Sue Devetak (Canteen Supervisor)

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Mr Pat Dell's contact details are 4321 6439 or pdell@stedwards.nsw.edu.au

COAST SHELTER

Volunteer parents and boys are needed for Monday 23rd October and Monday 30th October. Please contact me asap to arrange. Time is 5.30-7.30pm at Gosford. 5 Waterford hours for the boys.

EDMUND RICE CAMP LEADERSHIP TRAINING

This event occurred last week and camps for disadvantaged kids will be held in January. Thank you to the many boys who volunteered.

OUR COLLEGE VALUES

St Edward's as a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, continues to stand in solidarity with

- Human rights for asylum seekers and other disadvantaged groups
- Reconciliation with Aboriginal people
- Positive relationships with Muslims in our community
- Inclusion of same gender families and transgender students
- Educating our boys about these issues and other important SJ issues, in the curriculum and Waterford.

The college values are counter-cultural to popular media views and some politicians' views, which seek to make profits or win votes and are based often on fear and ignorance.

The college message on Human Rights and other Justice issues is based upon and supported by:

- Edmund Rice Education Australia (Touchstones)
- Catholic Church
- Gospel values, teachings of Jesus
- United Nations humanitarian principles
- Edmund Rice Centre for Justice Sydney

WATERFORD

Please ensure that your son has submitted his Waterford commitments to his RE teacher this week. Many boys registering for **Edmund Rice Honours** award (100 hours or more of service and outreach) is pleasing.

GOSFORD HOMELESS SUPPORT

The lunch meal service is on this Sunday at Gosford Uniting Church. Please call me this week if you can support this. Parents are needed to provide and work at this service, as other parents and their sons have now left the college. Please contact me if you can assist.

Mr Pat Dell (Social Justice Coordinator)

SPORT

SPORTS AWARDS ASSEMBLY - (FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER)

This year the decision has been made to move the Sports Awards Evening to a daytime assembly on Friday 1 December (Week 8). This will be held in the morning, with all students in Years 7-11 in attendance. The daytime assembly will allow for full College participation and peer recognition. Invitations for our awardees and their families will be sent out in the coming weeks with details regarding the assembly.

Mr J Carpenter (Sports Coordinator)

ST EDWARD'S OPENS CRICKET

The team scored an exciting 26 run victory over Mackillop Catholic College in the 1st Round of the Downie Shield for Season 2017/18. St Edward's won the toss and batted first and following a brisk 26 from opener Joshua Toohey, St Edward's collapsed spectacularly to be 5/59 after just 14 overs. It was the lower order who showed patience and determination to occupy the crease and build the score towards a defendable total. Ben Dignam (17) and Lochie Allison (21) took the score over the 100 mark before a hard hitting 21 from just 13 balls by No 11 batsman Ethan Short helped contribute 25 for the last wicket that was to prove vital in the overall outcome of the game. St Edward's were bowled out for 140 in the 44th over.

Mackillop began their run chase steadily with their openers scoring 33 in 12 overs. After Luke Jacobs took the first wicket, the introduction of Mitchell Giltinan by captain Haydn Harris proved to be the turning point of the game. He took two wickets in one over and Mackillop lost three wickets for the addition of just 5 runs. A fourth wicket stand of 41 put the game back on an even keel before a direct hit run out, followed by a vital wicket by Joshua Toohey had Mackillop 5/94, still requiring 47 from the final 16 overs. Mitchell Giltinan together with Luke Jacobs returned for their second spells and tied Mackillop down to the point where the required run rate blew out to over 5 an over during the final 10 overs. Mitchell Giltinan finished with the match winning figures of 4/14 from 10 overs with 5 maidens. Luke Jacobs finished with 1/20 from 10 overs and provided excellent support with good, consistent line and length bowling. Haydn Harris (1/8) and opening bowler Ethan Short (1/17) cleaned up the tail and Mackillop were bowled out for 114 in the 47th over. Congratulations to captain Haydn Harris for leading the team admirably in the field and using his bowlers effectively to maintain constant pressure throughout Mackillop's innings. Man of the match was Mitchell Giltinan following his extremely impressive display of fast bowling.

Mr Frank Samyia

CALENDAR - TERM 4, 2017

Term 4		
Week 4B	Mon 30 Oct	Drama Excursion
	Tue 31 Oct	TAS – Metal and Engineering Industry Visit
	Thu 2 Nov	Year 7 for 2018 Parent Evening
Week 5A	Thu 9 Nov	Allwell Catch-Up Exam
	Fri 10 Nov	Year 12 Graduation

CANTEEN ROSTER FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY - 30 October 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Michelle Neilson Iiona Norman Kylie Dodds	Sandy Norquay Karen Orr Nancy Sparks Julie Dominguez	Lisa Livesley Maria Cross Janelle Jack Lisa Victor Meagan Kirby Jenny Whiteman	Michelle Snedden Janice Gardner Shirley Wright Leonie Austin	Alysia Murray Meghan Byrnes Amanda Green Jo Hardiman Lynette Taylor Joanna Heginbotham

WHITE RIBBON DAY

This year in support of White Ribbon Day, an event has been organised called 'Domestic Violence is Not Trivial' (see flyer below) and members of our college community are warmly invited to this event. Why not get a table together and make a night of it?

This evening is not a school organised event, but does have the endorsement of Mr Mark Bonnici, St Edward's College Principal, and money raised will go to Kara's Refuge in Gosford (a Coast Shelter initiative), with a small portion going to White Ribbon.

To book tickets visit www.Stickytickets.com.au/53293 or should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Brenda Donnelly at bdonnelly@stedwards.nsw.edu.au.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS NOT TRIVIAL

ONE IN THREE Australian women has experienced violence.
Of those women, more than half have children in their care.
These statistics are not okay.

To **END VIOLENCE** against women and children we **MUST** stand up,
speak out and act!

JOIN US for a night of trivia, raffles, laughter and music, as we raise awareness and funds for Kara's Refuge and White Ribbon Australia.

WHEN: 6:30pm on Saturday 25th November

LOCATION: Gosford Golf Club - 22 Racecourse Road, Gosford

TICKETS: \$60 pp or \$550 for a table of 10. This includes dinner, a drink on arrival, trivia plus a gift for you AND a donation.

Tickets are available at www.stickytickets.com.au/53293



Spirituality in the Pub

SIP CENTRAL COAST

The Grange Hotel Function Room

Cnr: Renwick St & Pacific Hwy, WYOMING

1st Tuesday of the month March – October

2nd Tuesday in November

Bistro opens at 5-30pm

Theme 2017: “My Spirituality: Influence on the Way”

Second Tuesday 14th November, 2017, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Rev Neil Smith: An ordained minister of the Uniting Church with an interest in interfaith relations and cooperation, Neil has an 8 year relationship with members of the Newcastle Mosque and a close personal friendship with Imam Sheik Khamis.

In conversation with

Sheik Mohamed Khamis: Educated in Alexandria, Egypt, Sheik Khamis came to Australia in 2008 as Imam at the Newcastle Mosque and is on the Executive of the Imams Council of NSW.

SIP Central Coast is an Ecumenical & Interfaith Speakers Forum with Q's & A's.

The focus is on developing understanding & encouraging dialogue about Spirituality through sharing one's life journey. We meet 1st Tuesday in the month from March to October and 2nd Tuesday in November.

Enquiries: Maryke - 4328 2596 or 0498 588 261