



# Evans High School

A diverse and innovative school of excellence

Newsletter Term 3, 2015



## From Bridget Sarris Principal (Relieving)

### *Farewell Year 12*

The end of term is fast approaching and our Year 12 students are nearing the end of their time at Evans High School. Trial examinations and school-based assessment have concluded, allowing students to

continue preparing for the HSC exams which start in a few weeks. Many thanks go to all of Year 12 for their positive and enthusiastic contributions to our school. We wish them all the best and hope that each one of them is able to follow whatever career path they seek to

choose.

We will officially farewell Year 12 on Friday. We hope parents and other family members can join us for the Graduation Assembly in the Hall at

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Dates to remember

|              |                                         |           |                                                |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------|
| SEP 16       | Year 12 Formal                          | NOV 16—20 | Year 8 Swim School                             |
| SEP 16       | IEC Leavers Assembly                    | NOV 16—20 | Year 10 Work Experience                        |
| SEP 17       | Year 11 reports distributed to students | NOV 16    | Scripture                                      |
| SEP 18       | Year 12 reports distributed to students | DEC 2     | IEC Vaccinations                               |
| SEP 18       | Year 12 Graduation                      | DEC 3     | High School Year 6 Orientation Day             |
| SEP 18       | Last day of Term 3                      | DEC 9     | Presentation Night                             |
| OCT 5        | Labor Day Public Holiday                | DEC 11    | IEC Leavers Assembly                           |
| OCT 6        | Term 4 begins for staff and students    | DEC 15    | IEC Gala Day                                   |
| OCT 7        | Vaccinations for HS and IEC             | DEC 16    | Last day of term for students                  |
| OCT 12—14    | Yr 11 Camp at Vision Valley             | DEC 17—18 | School Development Day                         |
| OCT 12—NOV 4 | HSC Exams                               | DEC 18    | End of Term 4 for staff                        |
| OCT 21       | Yr 10 Excursion to Sydney Jewish Museum | JAN 26    | Australia Day Public Holiday                   |
| OCT 26—NOV 6 | Years 7—10 Yearly Exams                 | JAN 27    | Staff return for Term 1, 2016                  |
| NOV 9—13     | Year 7 Swim School                      | JAN 28    | Years 7, 11 and 12 return for Term 1, 2016     |
| NOV 11       | Remembrance Day Ceremony                | JAN 29    | Years 8, 9, 10 and IEC return for Term 1, 2016 |

*(Continued from page 1)*

9:30am. We look forward to seeing them there.

#### *New student leaders*

Well done to all Year 11 students who put themselves forward for selection as captains and prefects for 2016. The selection process for the 2016 student leadership team was completed on Monday and congratulations go to Regine Bautista and Ryan Campo who were selected as Captains and Hannah Zou and Yosha Ali who were selected as

Vice Captains. Our prefects for 2016 will be Maaz Goda, Eva Hawa, Adam Kassem and Yesmin Ghamraoui. I know they will all lead with passion and enthusiasm and I am confident they will set a high standard of conduct and leadership throughout the school community.

#### *Retirement*

It was with great fondness that we farewelled Ellie Riad who has retired after 24 years of working in the Intensive English Centre, both as a School Learning Support Officer and later as the School Administration Manager. We

extend our thanks and best wishes to Ellie who made a wonderful contribution to public education and made a difference to the lives of our students. She will be greatly missed by all at Evans.

#### *Evacuation and lockdown drills*

As required by Work, Health and Safety regulations, the school holds both evacuation and lockdown drills. The evacuation procedure occurs when there is a need to move out of the school buildings because of possible emergencies such as a fire, gas leak, or explosion. When the evacuation siren sounds, students under the direction of classroom teachers move via the safest route to one of our school's designated Evacuation Assembly Areas



(Continued from page 2)

which are our top oval or front lawn. Everyone must remain secure in the Evacuation Assembly Area until the situation has been declared safe by the Principal.

Another possible emergency procedure is called Lockdown. Lockdown is when everyone in the school must remain secure in rooms because it may not be safe to go outside. This procedure occurs when there is a potentially dangerous or suspicious person or group of people on or around the school grounds. Everyone must remain secure in rooms until the situation has been declared safe by the Principal.

During these emergency procedures it is very important that students do not communicate electronically with any other person

either inside or outside the school.

Parents should be aware that there will be no access to the school grounds and that information will be restricted until the emergency situation has been resolved. It is important that parents or other members of the school community do not arrive at the school in order to pick up their child or attempt to contact their child by telephone or text message, unless contacted by the Principal or Police to do so. Parents should also be aware that, depending on the type of emergency, their arrival at school may place themselves in danger, and hinder the work of emergency personnel.

Please be aware that we practise several of these procedures each year and they are a normal part of providing a safe and secure environment for our students and staff.

#### *Quad Resurfacing Works*

We are thrilled with the

outcome of the resurfacing works carried out in the quad at the end of Term 2 and during the school holidays. Over 1,000 square metres of concrete were poured to replace uneven surfaces and brick walls were removed and replaced with fencing to open the area up. Plans are underway to erect a COLA-like structure over the raised section of the quad to provide shelter from the sun and rain. Additional undercover seating will also be provided.

#### *Last day of term*

Friday is the last day of Term 3. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at Evans High School for the extraordinary work they have done with our students this term. I wish everyone a restful and relaxing break.

To our students, I hope you have a happy and safe holiday, and return ready for a big Term 4.

*Ms Bridget Sarris*

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## Updated Student Information

In the interest of safety and security, it is essential that the school has your current contact details. The school will make available an *Updated Student Information* sheet. If your contact details have changed or if the emergency contact details have changed, please fill in the form and return to the front office or roll call teacher.

Forms are available at the front office and on the school's website.



## From Belinda Hunter

### Deputy Principal 7, 9 & 11

Term 3 has been yet another busy term with many exciting events taking place. I attended my first MADD Fest and was extremely impressed with the variety and quality of performances. During Education Week, I was fortunate enough to attend the Education Week Assembly at Walters Road Public School. The performances were fantastic, and we will certainly have many talented students joining us in the years to come once they have completed primary school.

#### *Peer Support*

Ms Petschy and I have selected 30 Year 9 students to complete Peer Support Training over the next term, and these students will assist with a variety of activities including primary school orientation days, taster lessons and activities to support the transition to high school for younger students. During our recent training day at Narrabeen, our Peer Support leaders demonstrated exceptional leadership skills

and I look forward to working closely with them over the coming months to complete their training modules.

While I was not able to manoeuvre the high ropes course or the flying fox, I certainly enjoyed spending the day with such a mature and inspirational group of students. They did a fantastic job!

#### *Creating Chances*

This term Year 8 have been participating in a program called 'Creating Chances'. The program is delivered by facilitators from the Rugby Youth Foundation and Football United, and has continued the wonderful partnership we share with these groups. Each Friday, Year 8 have been completing modules that cover topics like diversity, tolerance and acceptance, goal setting and achieving your best at all times. Some of our Year 9 and 10 students have been trained as Youth Coaches, and have assisted the facilitators each week with lessons and

activities. They have been doing a fabulous job, and I have been extremely impressed with the leadership they have shown. Based on their involvement in the Creating Chances program, some of our Year 10 Youth Coaches have been invited to attend a camp at Berry Sport and Recreation Centre during the upcoming school holidays. Creating Chances is covering all costs associated with the camp for these students, in recognition of their efforts in delivering the program within our school this term. Again, another example of the fantastic work our students have been doing.

I look forward to hearing all of their camp stories next term!

#### *Year 11*

Year 11 have completed their Yearly Examinations and are preparing to commence the HSC course next term. Some students have incomplete assessment tasks which need to be finalised prior to the start of the HSC Course, and I have been conducting regular interviews with these students to support them through this process. Please feel free to

contact me at the school if you are concerned about the progress of your child in the Preliminary Course.

**Many of our Year 11 students are currently undertaking Work Placement at the moment,** and this provides them with an opportunity to be part of the workforce in their chosen field. Whether it be Hospitality or Construction, this process is of huge benefit to our students in preparing them for life after high school. I know that they will achieve great success during this time, and it will no doubt provide them with many ideas regarding future career paths and education.

**Details are currently being finalised for the Year 11 Camp** which is in Week 2 of Term 4. All students should have now finalised full payment for the camp, however please contact me at the school if you are experiencing any difficulty in finalising these payments.

Year 11 have also been participating in a 'design competition' in preparation for their Class of 2016 jersey. More information regarding the final design and cost will be distributed early in Term 4.

I know that it is a very exciting time for Year 11, watching their friends in Year 12 attend the Year 12 Formal and Graduation. I have been fielding numerous questions

regarding the 2016 Year 12 Formal. Again, further information will be distributed during Term 4 and early in 2016.

I would like to wish all students a relaxing and enjoyable holiday as we approach the end of Term 3, and I know that Year 11 will continue to study and prepare as best they can for the start of their HSC studies next term.

**Please remember to visit the school Facebook page, website and the school sign for upcoming events and important dates.**

*Ms Belinda Hunter*

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## DEC Attendance and Exemption Policy 2015

The DEC has released an updated policy on student attendance and exemption from schooling that is to be followed by all schools this year. There are some significant changes to past practice and some aspects will affect our families:

1. Exemptions from school can no longer be given for family holidays. Absences for this reason will be recorded as "leave".
2. If a student is absent from school for an "appointment", proof that the student has attended will be required within 7 school days. For example, if a student has an appointment during school time, this will be recorded as an unjustified absence until a medical certificate or other proof of attendance is provided to the school.



## From Steve Fenech

### Deputy Principal 8, 10 & 12

As Term 3 comes to a close, we are preparing to bid a very fond farewell to Year 12 as they complete their secondary education and venture into the next chapter of their lives.

Year 12 have spent this term consolidating all they have learned in preparation for their forthcoming Higher School Certificate Examinations. Good preparation is always the key to success – remember the four P's: Preparation Prevents Poor Performance.

I would like to remind Year 12 students of one final administrative point – that on the day of the first English examination, that is Monday 12 October, all Year 12 students must arrive for their examination by 9.50am (for a

10.20am start). For all other papers, students must arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of each examination to ensure they can start as close to time as possible. I wish them all the very best as they depart Evans and thank them for the valuable contribution they have made to the school community.

Term 3 also marked a particularly busy time for Year 10 and Year 8 students who were engaged in Subject Selection Processes for 2016. 'Go For It' for Year 10 was especially successful. It was great to see such a positive and overwhelming response from enthusiastic parents and carers to the events during 'Go For It'. Undoubtedly, the selections the students have made will lead to greater engagement and better results because the students have selected courses to which they are best suited and which they enjoy.

Our Reading To Learn

Literacy Program is now in full swing with the majority of teachers having received training in the program. We have analysed data from the program for Semester One and are pleased to report excellent results across the whole school. More detail will be made available in the *Annual School Report*.

Enjoy the break from school over the next two weeks and we look forward to seeing the students again after the October long weekend on Tuesday 6 October.

*Mr Steve Fenech*



## From Linda Cheeseman IEC Deputy Principal (Relieving)

Term three 2015 was both extremely busy as well as highly successful. It was very pleasing to see students from all classes improving their literacy skills within their classrooms. Students also had the opportunity to be involved in a variety of student performances, sporting activities and leadership opportunities that took place both at school and within the community. This term we exit thirty four students.

Within school, IEC drama and speaking classes provided the basis for our entertaining and interesting performances. Students from our performance group of over fifty students rehearsed for weeks during their drama classes and lunchtimes. Many of these students performed successfully in the whole school activity, MADD Fest. As well, over fifty students entertained all of the IEC students at our IEC Performance Day. It is pleasing

to view the positive aspects within the IEC that flow on from the creativity and camaraderie created through the drama, dancing, singing and comedy routines. I was very proud to watch our students dance, sing and act in front of all of our students.

Sport provided all of the IEC students with the opportunity to participate and develop an interest in potentially life-long healthy activities. At our IEC Swim School over eighty students successfully developed their water safety skills. Many junior and senior students represented the school at the *In League in Harmony Gala Day*. Three students from the group, who displayed exemplary sportsmanship, were chosen as ambassadors for the program. Many junior and senior students also

successfully represented the IEC at the *Football United Gala Day*. Once again the students were very competitive and were excellent role models for our school.

Students from the IEC were given chances to develop their leadership skills. Our student representatives ran our weekly assemblies, were Masters Of Ceremonies at our Leavers' Assembly and the IEC Performance Day and they were involved in whole of school planning at school SRC meetings. As well as they assisted at our well attended Parent Teacher Afternoon and acted as school guides for local primary school students who recently attended our Evans Taster Lessons. Furthermore at school, junior IEC students from our 3A class participated in the *Creating Chances Program* that concentrated on developing their skills in goal setting, leadership and

teamwork as well as highlighting future educational pathways. Also some senior IEC students participated in the ABCN Internet Program where once a fortnight students visited CSR to learn about working in a large corporate organisation. Needless to say, they did an excellent job and were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Senior IEC students used up to date technology to actively

participate in practical Science studies at the Brewongle Environmental Education Centre.

During the day students linked information about the Darag aboriginal people and their care for the land with environmental science experiments to monitor such things as water pollution and the long term implications of pollution on our ecosystem. Hopefully, this excursion will encourage our students to become roll models within our

community in developing sustainability by using their knowledge and skills to effect and manage positive changes in caring for the environment.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all students who received awards at the Merit Assemblies, the IEC Leavers' Assembly and to those who attended the CPR Celebration Day. I wish the thirty four exiting students all the best in their studies at high school and TAFE.

Have a happy and safe holiday.

*Ms Linda Cheeseman*

## Footwear Requirements

Please be aware of the following footwear requirements that are especially pertinent to practical lessons in TAS and Science. These requirements are for all school activities including excursions and non-uniform days.

Acceptable styles: The school expects that students wear **BLACK** closed-in leather lace-up style shoes **ONLY**. They must cover the top of the foot and have a nonslip sole. The school's uniform policy requires **ALL** students to wear acceptable footwear as shown below:



Styles that are not acceptable: Students **MUST NOT** wear black soft "ballet" style shoes, open styled "Mary Jane" shoes, canvas shoes or any similar. It includes those shown below:





# Awards Merit System

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| QUALITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For demonstrated excellence in the school's curriculum, for one or more of the following:</li> <li>Assessment/Exam results</li> <li>Bookwork</li> <li>Educational leadership (assisting others)</li> <li>Consistent application to course work</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| HEAD TEACHER OR YEAR ADVISER AWARD<br><br>DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S AWARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For demonstrated excellence in one or more of the following areas of school:</li> <li>Attendance (100% over a semester)</li> <li>Academic Excellence or Achievement</li> <li>Extra-curricular activities</li> <li>Community Service involvement</li> <li>For outstanding excellence and/or application in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All subject areas</li> <li>Student Leadership</li> <li>Representing the school in the wider community</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p>12 Quality Achievement Awards + Bronze Award OR<br/>4 Head Teacher/Year Adviser Awards + Bronze Award OR<br/>2 Deputy Principal Awards = Bronze Award</p> <p>Head Teacher Award—the value of three Quality Achievement Awards<br/>Deputy Principal Award = the value of six Quality Achievement Awards</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| BRONZE AWARD<br><br>PRINCIPAL'S AWARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Accumulates throughout school career at Evans HS<br/>Presentation of award at Merit Assembly, presented by Year Adviser<br/>Awarded to students for outstanding achievement or effort in a range of subjects demonstrated in semester reports;<br/>Invitation to Principal's Morning Tea</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| SILVER AWARD = THREE BRONZE AWARDS OR THREE PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS (or combination)                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| SILVER AWARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Accumulates throughout school career at Evans HS<br/>Presentation of award at Merit Assembly, presented by Deputy Principal<br/>Parents/carers invited to attend Merit Assembly</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| GOLD AWARD = TWO SILVER AWARDS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| GOLD AWARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Accumulates throughout school career at Evans<br/>Presentation of award at Merit Assembly, presented by Principal<br/>Parents/carers invited to attend Merit Assembly</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| THE EVANS MEDAL = TWO GOLD AWARDS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| EVANS MEDAL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>Accumulates throughout school career at Evans<br/>Presentation of medal at Presentation Night, presentation by Principal<br/>Parents/carers invited to attend Presentation Night<br/>Students receive framed certificate, medal and voucher</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |



## From Priti Mann Year 7 Adviser



Learning the language and putting it to good use! 7S ran a café, French style, for the teachers.

It was a great success and all students behaved with great professionalism. Thank you to their LOTE teacher Mrs Welch for helping them prepare for the big day and all her hard work behind the scene.

Year 7 are currently busy delivering their speeches for different assessment tasks and are doing a great job gaining confidence and improving their public speaking skills. The yearly exams will be held early next term and I encourage everyone to continue revising the content and focus on improving the areas as suggested by their teachers in Semester 1 reports.

*Ms Priti Mann*



**7S serving staff at their French style café**





## From Sarah Baldwin Year 9 Adviser

Term 3 has been another busy term for Year 9 demonstrating their Co-operative, Polite and Responsible behaviour out in the community. A large group of students trained as peer support leaders earlier this term under the guidance of Ms Petschy and Ms Hunter. A smaller group of Year 9

students was invited to be mentors to Year 8 as a part of the Creating Chances program held during sport time on Fridays. Four of the mentors also attended a Cultural Exchange Program at UNSW between Football United, the Creating Chances program and the Cathy Freeman

Foundation.

As we enter Term 4, and yearly examinations around the corner, I encourage students to put into practice the study skills from Planning My Future lessons.

*Ms Sarah Baldwin*



## From Ronie Quinn Year 10 Adviser

Students continued with the Go For It program this term, attending a Careers Expo and Try-A-Trade Day, an information night and interviews for Subject Selection for senior studies. Thank you to the parents and carers who supported their child in this process.

Students were involved in two Beacon events this term – Speed Careering and Mock Interviews. Speed careering assisted students to become more familiar with different

types of jobs that are available for them when they finish school and some of the paths experienced

adults travelled to arrive in their current positions. Mock interviews gave students practice for applying for work. They selected a “job” and were asked a series of questions about this job, their



skills and interests in the area. This gave students valuable feedback for future career opportunities.

A number of Year 10 students

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

were selected to be leaders in the Creating Chances program with Year 8. Some of these students were also selected to attend a Cultural Exchange Program at UNSW between Football United, the Creating Chances program and the Cathy Freeman Foundation.

Students are fundraising for the end of Year 10 Celebration

to be held on Tuesday 1 December 2015. They will be committing to achieving to the best of their abilities in senior years of school.

Our second group of Work Experience students will be going out in Term 4, Week 7, November 16-20. If you or your business is able to accept a work experience student please contact us to arrange a placement for a student.

Next term students have Yearly Examinations in Weeks 4-5. I encourage students to be revising for these examinations and putting into practice their study skills learnt in Planning My Future lessons. I hope to see students achieving excellent results in their yearly examinations and their ROSA tests.

*Ms Ronie Quinn*



**Year 10 students attend Speed Careering**



## From Saheeb Khan Year 11 Adviser

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all teachers and Year 11 students for their dedication and hard work in completing the Year 11 Preliminary course. It has been a wonderful experience to be your Year Adviser.

Some of the highlights of this year were the safe driving

excursion at Homebush Olympic Park, UWS, and visits for careers expo, Norton Rose Fulbright mentoring program, Digital Thumbprint and Financial Literacy incursions. I was always humbled and proud of the compliments I received on our students' behaviour and application in all our programs.

I look forward to the Year 11 Vision Valley Camp from 12 to 14 October, 2015. It will definitely provide students with a great opportunity to strengthen their skills, knowledge and importance of team work, great professional

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relationship and friendship as young individuals as leaders of tomorrow.

Year 11 students are also excited about the Higher School Certificate course due

to start from Term. I have no doubt that it will be very demanding and hence requires a lot of hard work and due diligence but I am confident that they have the ability and support from their teachers and parents/carers to

try their best and succeed with great results.

Thank you all for your great work, keep it up.

*Mr Saheeb Khan &  
Ms Michelle Petschy*



## From Leonie Miller Year 12 Adviser

Well, this is the final term for Year 12. Six years are nearly over. This has been a very hectic term for Year 12. We have had MADD Fest with some of our students performing in the event, including John Santillana, Marielle Danguilan, Melissa Marotta and Klaudia Bakhos. This was a very moving moment for them in their final performances for Evans High School.

The Trial Higher School Certificate Examination went for two weeks, and the students were vigorous in their study. Since then we have had the Drama performances and the Music performance examinations for the Higher School Certificate. Students are now working diligently on finalising the content in their subjects in preparation for the Higher School Certificate Examination.

With the Formal on Wednesday, 16 September and the Graduation on the 18 September, it is indeed a very busy time for all.

*Ms Leonie Miller*

## Tell Them From Me Student Survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The

survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 October and 14 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by 18 September. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

*Ms Bridget Sarris*

## Partners in Learning Parent Feedback Survey

Our school will also be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks

parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school

understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include:

*(Continued on page 16)*

*(Continued from page 15)*

communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online at home or on public computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted until 16 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, however, your responses are very much appreciated. Parents are

invited to complete the survey in the computer rooms at Evans High School on Tuesday 13 October. An expression of interest form will be sent home with students.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

*Ms Bridget Sarris*

## ABCN Interact 2015

Interact is a series of workshops designed for recently arrived, high school-aged migrants and refugees whose first language is not English.

The idea of Interact is to support these students in gaining the cultural and vocational literacy they need to participate in Australian life. The emphasis is on socialisation, communication and on building relationships.

Students learn to sustain adult conversations in English with a positive role model outside

their immediate community.

The target group is students aged 14-19. They are placed in groups with mentors. 4 groups were established with 1-2 mentors per group.

Mrs Welch together with Mrs Cheeseman chose, in consultation with staff, students who would embark on these interact sessions. 20 students from the IEC and high school have been chosen.

The sessions began with an initial meeting here at Evans on August 19, where the mentors met staff and students and were shown around the school.

The subsequent 4 sessions will take place in September and October at CSR headquarters,

North Ryde. Students will be accompanied by Mrs Tolhurst and travel by minibus to North Ryde.

There will also be a session at the CSR brickworks in Schofields. There we will be taken on a tour of the factory and walk around a 'model' home built with CSR products.

The students who participated in the first session on Wed 2 September were excellent role models for our school and a positive experience was gained by all. They were enthusiastic and participated wholeheartedly. I look forward to the subsequent sessions.

*Ms Lisa Tolhurst*



# Families in Cultural Transition (FICT)

FICT workshops have been held in the Common Room every Tuesday since 11 August. The aim of this workshop is to assist parents from refugee backgrounds to meet and exchange ideas with people from their community. The workshops enable parents to deal with changes in family relationships and improve relationships with their children.

Our targeted group consists of parents with an Arabic speaking background from the IEC and High School. The workshops are conducted by two trained facilitators from South Sydney Area Health Services. Over a ten week course, facilitators will address the following modules that will help parents to settle in the new environment. The modules are: **Schooling in NSW, Money, Support Systems, Trauma and Healing, Families, Youth, Children and Employment.** The sessions will conclude with an excursion on 13 October.

Over the last four weeks, we have seen an increasing number of participants as they are finding the workshops meaningful and practical. With continued support from the community, we intend to hold similar workshops with other targeted groups in the future.

*Ms Shabnam Shah*



Testament from participants about the Workshops.

*"Since my arrival in this country, this is the first time I have been invited to an event. I was impressed to receive an invitation translated in my language from the school. I will attend all the workshops because they tell me about things I need to know while settling in."* - Mr Imad

*"I enjoy the way the facilitators run the workshops- it is easy to understand."* - Mr Reemeh

# Swim School by Jane Yuen Mendoza

This term Evans IEC once again had swimming lessons for students to improve their swimming skills. Swim school runs for two weeks which is enough time for the students to learn the basics of swimming. Many students joined swim school - some students didn't really know how to swim and some were really good at it. Students

Strickland. This was the orange group. They were learning gliding, putting their face in the water and floating.

Secondly, there was the white group led by Mrs Parsons.



were learning how to do freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and some important survival skills. They



were grouped into four groups. Each group was recognized by the group colour assigned by the instructors.

Firstly, there was the beginners group led by Mrs

They were learning how to glide, front float, back float, back skull, do freestyle and attain survival skills. Survival is done by throwing the board in the water and floating the body without treading.

Thirdly, there was the red group led by Mrs Samuel. They were learning the front and back float kick.

Lastly, there was the blue group led by Miss Kavanagh. They

have just started diving.

In swim school the instructors taught the students all of the safety rules like not swimming alone, not diving in shallow water and to think "don't sink, turn your on back and float." This term all the IEC students who joined the swimming lessons had fun and all of them learned how to swim. They are not scared of the water anymore.

*Jane Yuen Mendoza  
(IEC student, class CS2A3)*



# Peer Support



**IEC students participate in a dance workshop**



Our Year 9 Peer Support Leaders recently took part in a training day at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation at Narrabeen. The training involved students participating in activities and discussions, team building challenges, initiative games and so much more! The training day was designed to assist our leaders to develop the skills needed to support our younger students. These skills included relationship building, communication, empathy, decision making, group facilitation, planning and group management, and not to mention the role plays!

Probably the most entertaining activities of the day were the high ropes course and the flying fox, not to mention the kookaburra that 'shared' Ms Petschy's lunch!

Our leaders were outstanding ambassadors for

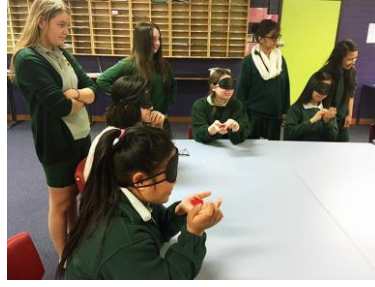
the school, and will serve as excellent peer support mentors for their fellow students in years to come. At the beginning of the day, our group instructor Suz, asked each student to set a goal, to challenge themselves and take themselves out of their 'comfort zone'. To their credit, that's exactly what each of them did! Not one student sat out of an activity, they all realised the power of being part of a united group, and that by supporting each other and pushing themselves, it made them even stronger. We could not have been prouder of the way our students conducted themselves throughout the entire day. It was an absolute pleasure to share that experience with them.

The Peer Support Program will officially commence in 2016, where these leaders will be allocated to work with small groups of Year 7 students, to assist in their transition to high school.

*Ms Michelle Petschy & Ms Belinda Hunter*



# Girls Group 2015



Year 9 girls participating in activities for

Term 3 saw the reintroduction of Year 9 Girls Group for 2015. The girls have had the opportunity to participate in a range of activities designed to develop *Tolerance, Empathy, Appreciation, Positive Communication, and Confidence*. The girls have had a blast engaging in the practice of mindfulness, drama games, discussions, yoga, conflict management and a variety of creative activities. The girls have had the following things to say about their experience.

*"I had fun and loved the activities that we did. I kinda learned something about having friends."*

*"I like how we interacted with each other."*

*"Girls Group shows us that everyone is unique and perfect in their own way."*

*"Girls Group is a great way to interact with girls you don't often talk to."*

*"I loved the activities and the compliments, the teachers too!"*

*"I liked that we got to know each other."*

The group will kick off again next term with the remainder of the girls in the Year 9 cohort.

*Ms Amanda Shannon & Ms Laura Anderson*



## Under 15s Netball

In Week 6, the Under 15s Netball Team played against Seven Hills High School in the State Knockout Competition. The game was goal for goal, however unfortunately the girls were defeated by only two points. This is the closest match of Netball that Evans High School has played in many years, so the girls should be very proud of themselves.

*PDHPE Faculty*

## Year 7 & 8 Swim School

In Term 4, Year 7 and 8 students will be participating in Swim School. The program will occur in:

**Week 6 for Year 7 students and**

**Week 7 for Year 8 students.**

During the week, students will be placed in groups suited to their level of swimming ability and will then participate in a program that is catered to each group. Activities will be aimed at increasing students' swimming ability, correction of swimming strokes and developing their lifesaving skills.

Students should have already received their permission note, but may collect another from the PDHPE Staffroom. The cost of the program is \$55 payable to the Front Office by 23 October (Week 3) for Year 7 or 30 October (Week 4) for Year 8. We hope Year 7 and 8 are looking forward to the program!

*PDHPE Faculty*

## Sydney West Athletics

This term 15 students competed at the Sydney West Athletics Carnival. These students were Kaitlyn Findlay, Hope Tevaga, Kurt Diks, Tamzid Ahmed Dipto, Shaquille Chandra, Brayden Findlay, Robert Eremugo, Chazeland Farrar, Shahil Chandra, Alhaji Bangura, Drew McNamara, Rahmatullah Neikzad, Benedict Leavai, Michael Mutamba and Ahmad Ghanem.

It is a great achievement for students to progress to this level. At this carnival, Kaitlyn Findlay placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 12 Girls 80m Hurdles event and Michael Mutamba placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 17+ Boys 110m Hurdles event.

Michael will now compete at the CHS Athletics Carnival. Congratulations Michael!

*PDHPE Faculty*

# Belvoir Priority School Program

Every year, Evans High School is provided with the opportunity to see professional live theatre for free through Belvoir St Theatre and, every year, the plays keep getting better! Last term, we took 30 students to see *The Cat/The Dog* at Belvoir's downstairs theatre. This term, we took 52 students to see *Seventeen* in the upstairs theatre. Both plays were spectacular!

Alisha Ganda and Lauren Jansson write about their experiences of seeing Belvoir's plays.

We thank Belvoir for continuing to provide Evans High School and Intensive English Centre students with the opportunity to see live theatre, for free.

*Ms Amanda Shannon*



## *The Dog/The Cat and Seventeen*

By Alisha Ganda

*The Dog/The Cat* were two separate plays. Watching *The Dog* dealt with the idea of friendships and that there is always hope for a broken friendship to be fixed. *The Cat* looked at a couple going through a divorce with joint custody of their pet cat. When the cat was introduced to the audience, the audience burst into laughter upon seeing a man wearing spandex, cat ears, a collar and a tail. I didn't know how the cat was going to be portrayed so when I met the cat- I was just amazed at the creativity of the writers. My parents live happily together but I do know of some cases where a child's parent doesn't live together. I could imagine how some of them felt through their perspective of events. When the couple was signing their divorce papers, the shattered look on the cat nearly brought a tear to my eye. The character of a cat instead of a child gave me a completely different viewpoint to the play.

Watching *Seventeen* was surreal. The elderly cast playing teenage characters allowed me to watch the play from a completely unique perspective. One of the discoveries (shout out



**Evans HS students at the Belvoir Theatre, Sydney**

to HSC Area of Study) about one of the character's dysfunctional family was really confronting and made me reflect on and appreciate the relationship that I have with my parents. The plot twists were amazing and were challenged tradition. Shout out to Belvoir for letting the amazing productions happen and shout out to Mrs Shannon for giving us the opportunity to view the play. Belvoir St Theatre never fails to impress.

*Alisha Ganda*  
(Year 12)



## Seventeen

By Lauren Jansson

Seventeen changed the way I view being a teenager, feeling that we are all alone when we, as teenagers, are experiencing very similar emotions and experiences. This play had older actors which made me question the intimacy of love and really emphasized that we are all young at heart. As a Year 12 student it really resonated with me as Seventeen is about graduating from high school.

*Lauren Jansson  
(Year 12)*



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## 2015 In League in Harmony Youth Ambassador Conference



**Youth worker Joe Tau with Evans HS students at the Youth Ambassador Conference**

On Friday 7 August, four Evans High School students who had been selected as youth ambassadors for the NRL 'In League In Harmony' program were taken to Parramatta Leagues Club for the inaugural ILIH Youth Ambassador Conference. This was a great day for the students where they enjoyed talks and seminars from several prominent figures from the NRL and the wider community such as former Canberra Raiders legend Alan Tongue, multiple premiership winner Joe Galuvao and youth worker Joe Tau. They were given detailed seminars on community, values and how to recognise and stop domestic violence. It was a great day that the students really enjoyed and we look forward to sending another contingent back next year.

*Mr Rhys Murphy*

## TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER !

Lets get organised early!

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in January 2016 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Japan, the U.S.A and Canada will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Call your local coordinator today on: 0429406126 to request some student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

## Dance

Term 3 has been a busy term for the Dance Ensemble. On the back of the successful performances at MADD Fest, the Evans Dance Ensemble travelled to Mt Druitt Westfield as part of Public Education Week Celebrations. Congratulations to the Dance Ensemble for placing first at the Curtain Call Song and Dance Festival At Mt Pritchard. They received an impressive mark of 85!

On 17 October, the dancers will be performing at McHappy Day 2015 at 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Blacktown.

2015 will see three of our Aboriginal dance students, Brooke McKenzie, Kahlesha Wilson and Drew Walker, taking part in this year's Schools Spectacular along with 3600 other students in November. We wish them luck with their performances along with all the other students across the states who are also

taking part in this year's production. Tickets are now available through Ticketek.

*Ms Sarah Baldwin*



**Evans Dance Ensemble performing at Mt Druitt Westfield**



# HSIE

## *Year 7 HSIE*

Year 7 are excited to be studying Geography in Terms 3 and 4. They are currently 'Investigating the World' and looking at World Heritage Sites.



## *12 Business Studies*

Year 12 Business Studies have worked very hard this term. There have been assessment tasks to complete and their Trial Higher School Certificate Examination to study for. The topic we have covered this term is Human Resource Management. This is not only a great topic to learn in Business Studies, but it will give the Year 12 students an insight into what will be expected by their employers in the workplace. This will be the last term for this class, and they will be spending much of their time preparing for their Business Studies Examination in the Higher School Certificate on the 28 October. Therefore, I would like to wish every student the very best for their up-coming examinations and I bid them all a fond farewell.

## *10 History*

Year 10 have had an exciting time this term, with the introduction of the new History syllabus. The classes have studied an overview of the Modern World and now they are

learning about the difficult times experienced by the Aboriginal People and their fight for their right to freedom. The students have watched the movie, "*The Rabbit Proof Fence*", which has provided an insight into the experiences felt by the Aboriginal families during the period of time known as, "The Stolen Generation". They have been able to compare the impact of the "Freedom Rides" on both sides of the world, the United States of America and Australia. The students have enjoyed learning about the fight for freedom and Self-Determination by the Aboriginal People by gaining a deep understanding of the origins of the "*Wik Statement*" and the results of the "Mabo decision". Studying these particular areas in detail has allowed the students to develop much empathy and understanding for the plight of the Aboriginal people in Australia.

## *10 Commerce*



The Year 10 Commerce class just finished the practical component of their assessment task on 'Running a Business'. The students were involved in running businesses for 3 days in Week 8. There were 3 groups. The first group took part in running a BBQ business, the second group organized a pizza business and the last group washed cars. It was an excellent opportunity for them to plan for a business and

*(Continued on page 26)*

*(Continued from page 25)*

execute it successfully. They learnt many business concepts in the process. The students were effusively engaged in the whole process – from its inception to completion. Each member of the respective groups worked collaboratively to achieve the best possible outcome. Most importantly, students not only worked well within their own group but also provided help to other groups. All 3 groups together made \$830 profit, which will be donated to Year 10 celebration fund.

It was a pleasure to see the students working hard, developing first-hand knowledge on how to run a business and above all, having fun. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and teachers, who helped me and my students to complete this task

*Ms Swati Dey*



**Ms Swati Dey and Year 10 Commerce students**



**Subject Selection Evening**

# Maths

All students doing mathematics are required to have a scientific calculator.

It is used extensively in classwork and in all exams including NAPLAN and HSC.

Students can purchase the Casio fx-82AU Plus II at school for \$20. Students that may need financial assistance can see Mr Chung. Please note that mobile phones cannot be used in exams.

Maths Online – All students have been provided access to Maths Online for revision and homework purposes. Maths Online covers mathematical content from Kindergarten right through to Year 12. World-renowned Australian maths teacher Pat Murray has helped tens of thousands of students excel at maths. He can help your child too. Pat presents each lesson in his unique friendly, step-by-step manner. The



lessons are concise and logical, making them really easy to understand and retain. This gives students that important self-confidence in their own ability.

Parents can also sign up to receive regular updates of their child's progress.



In the lead up to the Yearly Examinations, this is a wonderful resource for students to improve their skills, consolidate their learning and improve their results. All students have been provided with a login name and password in their Maths class.

*Mr John Chung (Head Teacher Maths)*

# TAS

We have been having a productive year here in the TAS faculty. Firstly, we are pleased to introduce our new teaching staff. We welcome Mr Easterbrook as the new Head Teacher of the TAS faculty and Ms Lewis as a new TAS teacher. Together, they have introduced a number of engaging and practical activities into the classroom.

At the end of last term, Sudjai Phatthaisong and



*(Continued from page 27)*

Awa Love from Year 12 Hospitality teamed up and competed against eight other schools in the Annual Culinary Cooking Competition which was held at Loyola High School. They cooked up a succulent spatchcock presented with potato lyonnaise, creamed spinach and roast dutch carrots. The judges said it was a close competition and we are proud to announce that they won second place. These students should be congratulated not only on their performance, but how they represented Evans High School.

During this term, Ms Sinclair's Year 11 Hospitality class has

been successfully running a café every Monday and Friday lunchtime for teachers and senior students. Mouth-watering burgers, warm toasties, delicious cookies and refreshing beverages are featured on the menu.

On 1 September, the TAS faculty hosted the annual Hospitality Cook Off competition. Twelve students from Years 11 and 12 teamed up and competed against each other. We are proud to announce that the winners of the competition were Luisa Meatoga, Eseta Taukolonga and Nikita Faatau.

*TAS Faculty*





# CAPA

It has been an extraordinarily hectic term for all CAPA staff and students with many performances, exhibitions and excursions providing opportunities for students to perform, create and observe best practice throughout the domains of Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, Photography & Music. The last fortnight has seen our Year 12 students complete their HSC Practical Examinations in Drama and Music, with our senior Visual Arts students (all 32 students spread across two classes)

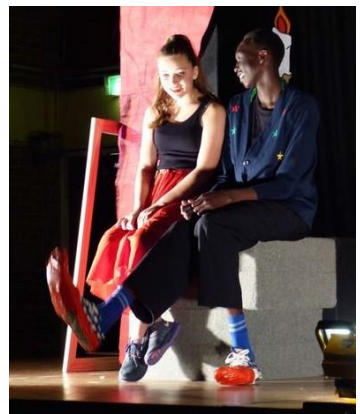
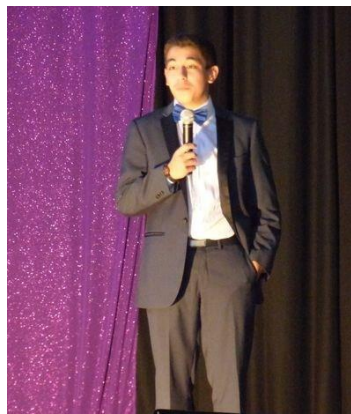
putting the finishing touches to their final *Body of Work* before packaging them for submission to BOSTES for marking.

However, without a doubt our biggest celebration occurred early in the term with our biennial MADDFEST celebration, this year entitled 'MADDFEST 2015: A Variety Spectacular' celebrating the performing talents of students throughout Years 7-12 across our High School and Intensive English Centre. A selection of photos is included below.

Thank you to all staff and students (including our dedicated student hall crew and sound/lighting crew) and our wonderful parents, carers and volunteers for your ongoing and valuable support. On behalf of the faculty, I would like to wish all Year 12 students the very best in their upcoming Higher School Certificate written examinations that commence early next term.

*Mr Kyle Williams (Head Teacher CAPA)*





Evans HS students performing at MADD Fest 2015

# Congratulations to our 2015 Year 12 students!



*Farewell to another chapter in your life.  
Best of luck for your future endeavours.  
Stay in touch!*



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