



ESPERANCE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 5 2024



UPCOMING EVENTS

Swimming Carnival
Friday 1st March

**Labour Day - Public
Holiday**
Monday 4th March

**Year 11/12 Workplace
Learning Block Week**
Monday 11th to Friday
15th March

NAPLAN
Wednesday 13th to
Monday 25th March

**Esperance Farm Training
Centre - Condingup Fair**
Saturday 16th March

Interschool Swimming
Wednesday 20th March

**Parent Night
Years 7 to 12**
Thursday 21st March
3:30pm to 6pm

**Esperance Farm Training
Centre Workplace
Learning Week**
Monday 25th to Thursday
28th March

Athletics Carnival
Thursday 28th March

School Holidays
Friday 29th March
(Good Friday) to
Sunday 14th April

**School
Development Day**
Monday 15th April -
Students do not attend

ANZAC Day
Thursday 25th April

School Ball
Saturday 27th April

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

2024 sees a number of initiatives to ensure that every Esperance Senior High School student succeeds and is on a pathway to achieve the West Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) which will ensure further pathways into higher education, training or employment for every student.



Our goal is that every student achieves their academic potential. At the heart of our vision is **"A strong community, creating opportunities for personal excellence"** for all students.

After much consideration and review, the school has decided to introduce a more differentiated approach to the configuration of classes in Years 7 to 10, commencing this year. Our experience is that at times students are not fully prepared for the high demands of Years 11 and 12 ATAR, VET and General course pathways. Introducing differentiated classes and bringing more rigour to our academic care, including exams in Year 10, will encourage students to meet academic expectations and establish good habits while in lower years.

This model will increase the focus for all students and teachers as we can further differentiate the curriculum. It will also ensure transparency in the process for staff, students and parents. Classes will require a different pedagogical approach and a differentiated program that challenges and engages students in the classroom and beyond. This is an opportunity to challenge students in a safer and more academically appropriate learning environment – capitalising on the basic skills, knowledge and understanding these students have already mastered and moving into the pedagogical realm of collaboration, problem solving and project-based learning.

The objective is to create an Esperance Senior High School learning environment that ensures that the pace of instruction aligns with students' abilities. Students who grasp concepts quickly can be challenged with more advanced material, while those who require additional support can receive it without feeling overwhelmed. This can help maintain students' motivation and engagement, leading to improved overall learning outcomes.

Overall, this model has the potential to provide a more tailored and engaging learning experience, foster a positive learning environment, optimise teaching resources, and reduce frustration or boredom. It is a strategy that aims to meet the diverse needs of students and facilitate their academic growth and success.

The organisation for 2024 is to have:

Year 7 to 9

English, Humanities, Science and Mathematics.
Pathways: Enrichment, General and focus classes.

Year 10

English, Humanities, Science and Mathematics.
Pathways: Enrichment and General classes.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

In addition, our new behaviour framework ensures that students have a clear understanding of behavioural expectations because these expectations are explicitly taught by their teachers.

This will mean that:

- Clear behaviour expectations are developed around our school values;
- Behaviour expectations are clear and visible and discussed with students;
- Students are able to state these expectations;
- That students are recognised for demonstrating positive behaviors;
- That positive behaviors and expectations are explicitly taught and encouraged.

This Positive Behaviour support model is a framework for supporting students in making positive choices while at school which will:

- Support students in improving their academic success;
- Ensure that there is consistency in managing behavior across our school;
- Improve the way behavior is taught and managed;
- Increase teaching time and the positive climate of our school.

These expectations will be referred to by teachers and rewarded when they spot students practicing them.

Student Good Standing is an important component of this framework that recognises and rewards students who uphold the School Code of Conduct. Students must maintain Good Standing if they wish to remain eligible to be invited and participate in many of the schools' extra curricula and reward activities.

Good Standing is a whole-school educative behaviour improvement strategy designed to provide every student in the school with the opportunity and support to learn and maintain positive behaviour. Good Standing procedures encompass the school ethos and Code of Conduct to give every student the opportunity and educational support to learn and maintain positive behaviour.

All students commence with Good Standing, and students will retain this status so long as they continue to meet the Good Standing standards required. A student with Good Standing is eligible to participate in all school activities including extra-curricular activities and social events.

A student who consistently fails to meet school behavioural expectations will lose Good Standing for a specified period of time during which they will not be eligible to participate in activities outside of the mainstream compulsory education program such as the school ball, reward activities, school representation at competitions and carnivals and other non-compulsory events.

Staff will be working hard this year to ensure that students are given the opportunity to be the best they possibly can. Education is one of the most valuable life opportunities that can be given to a person and with regular attendance, some hard work and application the young people will set themselves up with a skill set that will allow for them to enjoy a happy, fulfilling, and successful life. The young person will also be equipped to participate fully and make a valuable contribution to the community in which they will live.

Finally, the beginning of the new school year is off to a great start and I would like to acknowledge the work of all staff in making a valuable contribution to assisting with a successful commencement to the school year. I would also like to welcome new staff, along with extending a warm welcome back to continuing staff members. Fortunately, the school is well served by continuing staff, both teaching and support, who have been working hard to assist those who are new to the school.

Apart from the formal reporting process that takes place at the end of Semester one and two you can expect to be kept informed by staff about your child's progress and I would like to encourage all parents to make contact with the teachers. I am keen to ensure that the school continues to have a strong relationship with the school community, based on an open dialogue with students, parents and teachers and through this warrant that students at this school receive a quality education that is meaningful and relevant. Parents are welcome and encouraged to visit the school and discuss any aspect of their child's education. Involvement with the school's School Board and the Parent and Citizen Group is an excellent way to make a contribution to the school and active participation assists in strengthening the relationship between school and community. I personally am looking forward to meeting parents and welcome any parent to the school who wishes to discuss their child's educational program with me.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

I have been pleased with the way in which the school has settled down and have observed the pride and respect that the students have for their school, each other and the staff. I will make every effort to ensure this continues with the provision of quality teaching and learning programmes and the continued maintenance and upgrading of school facilities and grounds. I would like to encourage all parents to ensure that student dress standards are maintained and that students come to school dressed in full school uniform and that student's feet are protected by wearing closed in shoes. The school considers the provision of a safe and happy school environment of paramount importance.

Ian Masarei Principal.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

HEALTH

Welcome to the new school year. My name is Jude, and I am the Community School Health Nurse based at Esperance SHS.

School health services are an easy way for secondary students to access health care and health information for issues including;

- mental health and wellbeing
- healthy lifestyle – nutrition and physical activity
- development and growth
- relationships and sexual health and
- alcohol and other drugs.

School Health Nurses are skilled in assessing adolescent health needs. We engage in health counselling with young people to identify issues, risks and protective factors, provide advice and brief intervention, assist with access and referral to other services, and provide follow up care. Young people can drop into the health centre or make appointments to discuss health and wellbeing issues.

Young people are always encouraged and supported to talk to their parents or guardians about significant health issues. The services provided are free and confidential.

The School Based Immunisation Team will be visiting Esperance SHS on Tuesday, 7th May for Year 10 immunisations. Only students with consent from a parent or Legal Guardian will receive immunisations.

Please see the fact sheet for information on how to provide consent attached to this newsletter – if you would prefer a paper copy of the consent form, this can be collected from the school Front Office.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss immunisation, please contact the school and leave a message for the Community Health Nurse, who will contact you.

If you have a concern about your child's health or wellbeing please contact me on 9071 9529, or via email Judith.walker2@health.wa.gov.au

Miss Judith Walker - School Nurse

MESH NEWS

ENGLISH

The start of the school year has brought with it three new English teachers. Ms Abbey Wilson, Ms Siobhan Honan and Ms Imogen Genest have all reported that they have really enjoyed working with and getting to know the students over the last five weeks.

The returning teachers (Ms Taylor, Ms French, Ms Bezuidenhout & Mr Blechynden) have also commented on how well the students have transitioned back into the routines of school-life. Students have done a fine job settling into the expectations of the English classroom, and for that, I commend them.

Personally, I have thoroughly enjoyed returning to the Year 10 space. We've kicked off our year with an exploration of survival stories. From the events of September 11 to the Thai Cave rescue, students have been looking at why readers and viewers are so obsessed with these stories of struggle and survival. The work here will culminate in the students writing their own short text inspired by the unit theme.

For an insight into other year groups, see below some snapshots from our Year 8 and 9 Course Coordinators:

Year 8

As we dutifully prepare the first newsletter of the year and reflect on what our 131 Year 8 students have been up to in English, it astounds me how much content we have covered since we started in February. Our focus: genre analysis. In particular, a deep dive and dissection of the horror genre. With regular attendance, focussed engagement and participation, our Year 8 should by now have a good grasp of the generic conventions of horror and all the visual elements to look out for. Once students collected enough evidence that the poster or book cover in question belongs to the horror genre, they needed to present their findings in a short answer response format to convince the reader as well. This format is commonly referred to at Esperance Senior High School as a TEEET paragraph. By now, most students have completed their first summative assessment task in which they had to prove how the 1990s book cover from a Goosebumps novel conforms to a specific genre. Next, we dip our toes in the world of literature and venture out as authors as we prepare to write our own spooky stories.

Mrs Bezuidenhout

Year 9

This term, Year 9 students have been working hard on preparing short-answer responses for their unit of study on persuasive techniques. The students have enjoyed looking at a number of different texts, such as advertisements, feature articles and letters, as part of their analysis and preparation for their English assessment in Week 5. Year 9 students have also been getting ready to sit their NAPLAN exams in Week 7. In Week 5, they sat a practice exam in the computer labs to ensure everything was working perfectly before testing begins in a few weeks' time. We want to remind students that your NAPLAN results do not define who you are. More so, it provides you with a measure of your achievement at a moment in time. Please take it seriously and give it your best effort, but don't lose sleep over the outcome. Good luck.

Ms French

As you can no doubt glean from the above vignettes, it's been an exciting and energetic time here in the English Department. We hope this momentum continues as we roll into the second half of the term. A few final reminders for parents and students to support your child's learning in English:

1. Viewing notice has been posted to Connect (and distributed in class) - please read carefully.
It is an OPT-OUT notice.
2. Pathway Letters for Years 7 to 10 have been posted to Connect.
Please read carefully and direct any questions to your child's classroom teacher.
3. Connect - check Connect regularly for any missed content or assessment reminders/information
4. BYOD - students in Year 10, 11 and 12 are required to bring their devices to school EVERY day.
If you need support connecting it to the school's network, please see your English teacher.
5. Attend every day - regular attendance is critical to success

Here's to a fantastic 2024.

Mr Jamie Pearce - Head of Department, English

SCIENCE

Microscopes

Year 8 students started the school year with our topic of Cells and Reproduction. In recent lessons students have learnt how to safely use light microscopes, how to examine specimens and even how to prepare their own microscope slides for examination.



The photo above shows two future Scientists from Mr Fisher's Year 8 class, hard at work producing a slide.



Paul Coggan, Lachie Pope, Talon Christie on the excursion to Esperance Jetty.

Marine Ecology Study in Esperance Region

The Year 11 and 12 Integrated Science students are currently studying Marine Ecology in the Esperance region. The focus of their study is on biodiversity and human impacts on the area.

On Monday, 26th February students went on an excursion to Woody Lake and Esperance Jetty. Various activities were undertaken with the main focus on sample collection to conduct tests for pH, temperature, and dissolved oxygen levels.

The students visited Woody Lake Nature Reserve and Esperance Jetty. The highlight at Esperance Jetty was the B.R.U.V Deployment (Baited Remote Underwater Video footage) for further in-class investigation. Special thanks to Mr Macleay and Laetitia Simonet for facilitating this unforgettable experience for our students.



A group of Intergrated Science students at Skeleton swamp, Woody Lake.

MESH NEWS

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Welcome back to 2024! We have started the year in a positive way and all classes have settled in well with their routines. The Humanities and Social Sciences (known as HASS) welcomes some new faces to the team:

Dr Esme-Joan Redpath has made the move up the stairs from Science to HASS. Dr Redpath is proving to be multi-talented as she tackles teaching HASS, Aboriginal Culture and Language, Digital Technology, Graphic Design and Electronics!!!

Mx Cass Kitson has joined the team from Applecross SHS. Mx Kitson has settled in well with her lower school classes and is enjoying the change from the city to country life (especially the beaches!).

Ms Kalira Docherty is no stranger to the school as she transitions from being a student, student teacher to fully qualified teacher. Ms Docherty's classes are full of fun and laughter. She is fast becoming favourite due to the positive atmosphere that has been created in her classroom!



L to R: Dr Joan Redpath, Mx Cassandra Kitson and Miss Kalira Docherty.

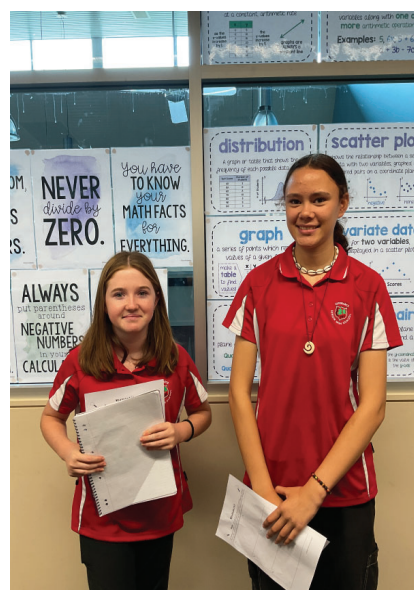
We are looking forward to a fun and productive year!

Mrs Leanne Cassam - Head of Department, Humanities and Social Sciences

MATHEMATICS

Miss Higgin's Year 8 Enrichment Maths Class completed a murder mystery investigation where the clues could be found by answering maths questions involving Order of Operations!

Below we have Amelia Foo and Finlay Hunt solving some questions and our winners Summer Boast and Ngami Pirangi-White. Great to see everyone so engaged with their learning.



Mr Michael Zani - Head of Department, Mathematics

ACTIVITY ARTICLES

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Design and Technology options and taster subjects are well underway for 2024, with students engaged in learning the new skills and processes associated with their new subjects. Year 7 students carry out term long taster courses, Year 8 students carry out semester long taster courses, and Year 9s and 10s carry out semester long option courses.

Jewellery runs as a taster course in Year 7, and it can then be picked up as an option in Year 9 and 10.



Year 7 Jewellery students working on abrading their nickel silver name tags.



Year 9 Jewellery student Emma Scott working on the laminated wooden pendant project.



Year 9 Jewellery student Declan Dyson working on the laminated wooden ring project.

Mr Daniel Seinor - Head of Department, Design and Technology

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Carnivals

Our first event is the Year 7 and 8 swimming carnival on Friday, 1st March. We encourage all Year 7 and 8 students to attend. Notes were handed out in Phys Ed classes in week 4. If your child does not have signed note, they will attend school as per usual. Year 9 to 12 students who would like to swim for Champion Boy/Girl are invited to attend the day also.

On the Last day of Term 1 the school will hold the athletics carnival. This is a whole school event and students are encouraged to dress up in their faction colours and participate in as many events as possible. Parents are welcome to spectate at our carnivals.

Please be aware that Phys Ed shirts are available at Sports Power. Year 7 to 10 students are required to wear their Phys Ed shirt while in their Phys Ed class.

Country Week

Country Week is held on the last week of Term 2, 23rd to 28th June. Students who wish to be considered will be given a note with details of the selection criteria. This will need to be signed and returned before the student can try out for a team.

Mr Brett Landers - Head of Department, Physical Education

ACTIVITY ARTICLES

HOME ECONOMICS

The Year 7 students have transitioned well into their classes within the Home Economics department. Year 7 Food Technology students have been creating Pizza Muffins in week 3 and are now preparing for their first assessment task "Making sensible snack choices."



Oskar Graham and Alex Hay are keen to get their pizza muffins under the grill.



Maebh Wooster and Addison Drake-Brockman preparing the toppings for their pizza muffins.



Mitchell Whiting and Isaac Stokes enjoying the end of the cooking lesson.

Year 7 Textiles students have been creating Felt pin cushions for their first assessment task. The class has also completed a ClickView activity looking at the properties and history of Felt.



Emma Bailey and Khloe Charles sewing their Felt Strawberry's.



Nate McCall carefully cutting his felt.



Kaiden Brenssel carefully cutting his felt.

Mrs Natalie Myers - Head of Department, Home Economics

LIBRARY

Welcome to the start of a new year. We're excited that our new bookshelves are already looking nice and full. We love getting to know our Year 7 students and revel in their excitement about exploring and enjoying a whole new collection of books. We encourage all students to read every day. Year 7s will make fortnightly visits to the library with their English classes for book borrowing and reading time. There are many reasons to read, but here are five reasons we discuss with the Year 7s:

1. Reading brings us joy
2. Reading calms the mind and relaxes the body
3. Reading helps us improve our spelling, grammar and vocabulary
4. Reading helps us improve our general knowledge
5. And Reading helps us develop empathy

We celebrated Library Lovers' Day on 14th February. Staff and students were invited to share with us why they love libraries or who their favourite author is. We love these two gems: "Reading washes away the stress of the day" and "I like sitting on the beanbags and talking to friends!"

Happy reading everyone!

Mrs Hillary Duffy - Library Manager

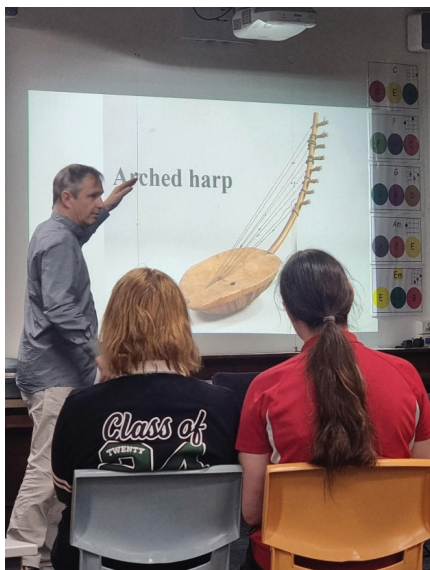


ACTIVITY ARTICLES

THE ARTS

2024 has kicked off strongly in The Arts both in the Performing and Visual Arts classes. We have welcomed Mr Tim Holland who has joined us with his expertise in teaching Music. We also welcome back Mr Peter Henson who has returned from a well-deserved 6-month long service leave break and Ms Jemma Donovan who joined us last year teaching instrumental and some music classes.

Mr Watchorn is still with us co-ordinating and teaching the instrumental music classes as well as taking on the Certificate Year 11 and 12s for this term. Mrs Watchorn has been taking some time off this term, so Mrs Schubert has been taking on the Head of Learning for her until Mrs Watchorn returns at the end of term 1 – students and staff alike are looking forward to seeing her happy smiling face soon.



On Friday of Week 4, The Arts department hosted internationally renowned French musician Philippe Villa along with local classical music extraordinaire Ingrid Riollot. The specialist instrumental music students were treated to Philippe's knowledge, skill and passion of the classical guitar and how they go together in mastering an instrument. Philippe took the students on a musical journey across the nations of the world captivating their minds and musical souls, and with humour led the students through the history of what we know as the modern classical guitar. Two lucky students received free tickets to Philippe and Ingrid's performance at the Civic Centre on the following Saturday night – we hope they enjoyed this musical experience.

We would like to thank Phillippe for his time and sharing his talents with our students, Ingrid for assisting in translating for Phillippe and coordinating with the school to have Phillippe visit, and the Twin Towns committee for allowing this special experience to take place.

Mrs Kathrine Schubert - Acting Head of Department, The Arts

ACTIVITY ARTICLES

CLONTARF

In Week 3 the Clontarf Year 12 lads made the trip to Busselton for the Year 12 Leadership Camp.

The 2024 Clontarf Leadership Camp was held in Busselton and represents a great development opportunity for our most senior boys. The aim is to continue building the students' capacity to make the future transition from school to work, broaden their understanding of potential employment prospects, as well as reinforce the value and importance of work and/or future post-school training. Under the theme of "Setting the foundations for the rest of your life", there was a focus on leadership, teamwork, and goal setting, as well as building camaraderie and awareness amongst the group of their true value as leaders and role models in their respective Academies and broader communities.

Once we arrived in Busselton the boys spent the afternoon swimming, playing basketball and catching up with their mates from the other 6 academies from around the Perth metro area. We had a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage information session on the Busselton Foreshore. The next morning all the boys came up with some goals for the year ahead and all agreed on the 6 smart goals, then signed a pledge to carry out those goals to the best of their ability.



David Schultz



Justin Bennell

We then headed off on a community activity which was Quedjinmia Reserve Tree Injecting. This process preserves the trees from die back for up to 3 years.

That afternoon we headed into Margaret River and had a surf lesson at Redgate Beach from the Margaret River Surf School. All of the boys enjoyed a well earned dinner at the Dunsborough Tavern that evening.

A 5am alarm on the final morning was set for our drive back to Esperance. Some very tired lads on the drive! A great few days was had by all and I wish the boys all the very best for their final year of schooling.



Mr Kevin Johnson - Director, Esperance Clontarf Academy

ACTIVITY ARTICLES



Polly Farmer
Follow the dream



Follow the DREAM
ESPERANCE

Mrs Hettie Maree - Program Coordinator

The program supports the aspirations of Aboriginal students to successfully complete their secondary schooling. Achieving academic success lies at the heart of the program through students having access to after-school tutoring and mentoring. Throughout the academic year, students also engage in a range of extra-curricular activities that broaden their horizons, build resilience, develop confidence and promote cultural pride. The program further introduces students to a wealth of opportunities and experiences, opens their eyes to a huge range of post-school pathways, and encourages them to dream big. Students who are part of the 'Follow the Dream Family' gain a sense of identity, belonging, and purpose. Not only do they embark on a positive post-school pathway, but they emerge as strong role models for their peers, siblings and wider community.

At Esperance SHS, we kicked off the program for 2024, with forty, Year 7 to 12 students. These students will visit the centre three days a week, volunteering their time after school, to be supported by various tutors and mentors. Through our Outreach program, aspiring primary school students in Year 6 are also invited to participate and we are very pleased to provide this opportunity for young students, transitioning to their high school studies. The Outreach program extends beyond Esperance, and has been made available to students from Norseman, Leonora and Leinster, who will participate off site with a tutor from their local school.

The program operates as a partnership between the Polly Farmer Foundation and Department of Education with the core purpose of: 'Empowering Indigenous students through education to pursue their aspirations at school and beyond'.

We are looking forward to the experiences and opportunities 2024 will bring, supporting FTD students to maximise their learning journey.



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Kaya,

At Esperance SHS, we strive to provide a strong community that create opportunities for students to achieve personal excellence. Achieving this requires authentic relationships, strong partnerships and effective collaboration amongst all stakeholders. Additional to the support networks in place at school, we are very fortunate to also host programs like Clontarf, STARS foundation and the Follow the Dream program that each provide their own unique layer of support to make a difference in the learning journey of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

To kick off 2024, students from the Clontarf, Follow the Dream and Stars programs were invited to engage with Teamworks Development Australia. The activities they participated in allowed them to discover and develop their leadership and teamwork skills. It was pleasing to see how this experience contributed to the way they settled into the new school year and hopefully empowered them to apply the problem solving and collaboration skills when approaching tasks and challenges they may come across with confidence.

We concluded the day with Esperance SHS staff, students and their families that were invited to an Open day. This great opportunity allowed for information about the programs to be shared, getting to know each other better and having a yarn while enjoying a sausage sizzle.

We are looking forward to what the rest of this year may bring for the learning experience of our Indigenous students at Esperance SHS.



Mrs Hettie Maree - Aboriginal Education

ACTIVITY ARTICLES

CAREERS DEPARTMENT

Welcome to the Esperance SHS Careers Department as we embark on a brand-new school year! We are thrilled to share exciting updates with you, particularly regarding the recent makeover of our space. Introducing the all-new Careers Hub, now officially open and situated in the library campus. This vibrant, modern area is brimming with valuable career resources and is home to our Career Practitioner, Mrs. Karen Wooldridge. Mrs. Wooldridge is available throughout the day, during lunch breaks, and before and after school to engage with students from all year groups on any career-related matters.



As we delve into the current term, we kicked off Week 4 with a dynamic start, hosting the first of our visits from Curtain AHEAD. This remarkable program conducted aspiration and information workshops for students, aiding them in identifying their preferred pathways post-secondary education. Claudia Carpenter led sessions for year 10, 11, and 12 students, covering study skills, career discovery, and information sessions on TISC, scholarships, and alternative pathways to further study for our VET and General students.

Excitingly, our Careers Department introduces new lunchtime career-based sessions for students to attend. Some upcoming sessions include:

Getting Your First Part-Time Job:

Explore the age requirements, working hours, pay rates, and local businesses that employ juniors. We will also provide valuable information on becoming 'work-ready,' including obtaining tax file numbers, setting up bank accounts, dressing appropriately, communication skills and tackling a job application.

Lunch with...

We are also bringing in professionals from our community to engage with students during lunchtime sessions. Look forward to inspiring talks about diverse career pathways and insights from talented individuals who hail from or currently reside in our beautiful town.

CV Building Session:

We have partnered with Tiffany from Worklink to guide interested students in creating their first CV or enhancing their existing one.

Keep an eye on Connect/Facebook for event times and dates of these fantastic sessions!

For any inquiries or assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Karen Wooldridge at 9071 9555 or via email at karen.wooldridge@education.wa.edu.au.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to a successful and enriching school year ahead!



Mrs Karen Wooldridge - Career Practitioner

ACTIVITY ARTICLES

DEAR ESPERANCE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

As we embark on another term filled with learning, growth, and camaraderie, we are thrilled to announce the upcoming return of our beloved Breakfast Club! Some of you may have noticed its absence at the start of this year, but fear not – the aroma of freshly toasted bread and the laughter of shared mornings will soon fill our halls once again.

Our dedicated coordinator, who has been on the mend from an injury, is preparing to reopen the doors of the Breakfast Club after the March long weekend. This exciting news comes with immense gratitude to the generous support of our community partners: the Food Bank, Woolworths Esperance, Brumbies Esperance, Red's Bakery, and the Esperance Women's Progress Association. Your unwavering contributions have made it possible for us to provide over 5000 meals since Term 2, 2022.

We extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to each organization and individual involved. Your kindness fuels our mission to ensure that every student starts their day with nourishment and warmth.

Now, how can you contribute to this vital initiative? There are several ways you can lend a hand:

Volunteer: We welcome volunteers with open arms! Whether you're an early bird or have some time to spare during the week, your help is invaluable. The bulk of food preparation happens on Monday and Friday mornings from 7:30am but opportunities exist at other times as well. Wednesdays, especially, are crucial for slicing donated bread ready to freeze.

Donate: While many essentials are provided, there are still some gaps to fill. Consider donating the following items:

- Frozen berries/fruit (used in smoothies and muffins)
- Margarine/Butter (for toast/toasties)
- Jam/Honey (for toast, as we have plenty of Vegemite)
- Yogurt (preferably plain or low-sugar, used in smoothies or served with fruit)
- Sliced cheese (for toasties)

Encourage Breakfast Everyday: A simple yet impactful way to support the Breakfast Club is by encouraging your student to eat breakfast daily. A nourished body sets the stage for a productive day, even on weekend sleep-ins!

Together, let's reignite the spirit of the Breakfast Club and ensure that every student feels welcomed, nourished, and ready to seize the day.

If you're interested in volunteering or making a donation, please reach out to Roslyn Woodhouse at Roslyn.Woodhouse@youthcare.org.au or 9071 9536.

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to our students well-being. Let's make the Breakfast Club the heart of our mornings once again!

LABEL YOUR BELONGINGS: A QUICK REMINDER

As we go about our busy days at Esperance SHS, it's not uncommon for items to get misplaced. From jumpers to water bottles, things have a way of wandering off.

We want to remind everyone of a simple yet effective way to ensure lost items find their way home: **labelling**. A quick label with your child's name can make all the difference in reuniting lost treasures with their owners.

Our Chaplain helps in finding the owners of lost items, but without clear labels, this task becomes tricky. To streamline the process, please take a moment to label belongings clearly. A simple name tag or a marker can do the trick.

Also, if you happen to lose something, don't forget to check with Roslyn the Chaplain, in her new office located in the Breakfast Club room, next to the Health and Phys Ed Department office.

Let's work together to make sure lost items can find their way back home swiftly. Thank you for your cooperation!

Warm regards,

Roslyn Woodhouse - Chaplain

YEAR GROUP REPORTS

YEAR 7 - Welcoming Our Year 7s to High School!

Dear Year 7 Students and Parents,

Welcome to Esperance Senior High School! As we wrap up our first few weeks, I'd like to share some of the highlights so far!

A Peek into Welcome Week

Our inaugural Welcome Week was a whirlwind of activities, laughter, and learning. From "Building the Tallest Tower" to "Team Building" exercises, it was wonderful to see everyone diving into the new school year with such energy and positivity. Student, teacher and parent feedback has been invaluable. It's clear that while many activities were a hit, we also have opportunities to make next year's Welcome Week even more inclusive and engaging.

Week One BBQ

Our first week culminated in a BBQ outside of the library with students, parents and teachers in attendance. It was a great opportunity to put faces to names and meet everyone. Your effort and enthusiasm set the stage for the year to come.

What's Next?

This year is about more than academics; it's about building a community where every student feels valued and supported. Some big events on our radar are the Swimming Carnival, Athletics Carnival and it is also great to see so many Year 7 students who have signed up to be involved with the school drama production that will be held later during this year.

Thank You!

Last but not least, thank you to our Year 7 students for kicking off the school year with such enthusiasm! Here's to a fantastic year ahead.



Warmest wishes,

Mr Christopher Jackson - Year 7 Coordinator

YEAR GROUP REPORTS

YEAR 8

Dear Families,

We hope you are doing well and had a good start to the new year. This newsletter contains some important announcements and updates from our school community for Year 8 students.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SPARK Expectations: We continue to uphold our SPARK expectations, focusing on Safety, Persistence, Achievement, Respect, and Kindness in all aspects of school life.

Current Learning: Our students are currently engaged in exploring the fascinating world of Microscopes and Cells in Science. They are also enjoying their new taster subjects, expanding their knowledge and skills in various areas.

Upcoming Events:

- Year 7/8 Swimming Carnival on Friday, 1st March.
- SPARK expectations Student Reward on Tuesday, Week 6.
- Athletics Carnival on Thursday, 28th March.

Student Highlights:

- Photos: Our Year 8 students were recently assessed on their food preparation and cooking skills while making delicious Honey Soy Chicken Kebabs. The photos capture their hard work and culinary creativity.



*Kai Landers and
Daniel Palmer*



*Libby Gurney and
Charlie Wooldridge*

- Photos: Last week, students showcased their talents during their microscope practical assessment. We are proud of their dedication and commitment to learning.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and support in your child's education journey. Thank you for being a part of our school community.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact me on 9071 9555 or Cara.Gurney@education.wa.edu.au

Warm Regards,

Cara Gurney - Year 8 Coordinator



Lola Rose and Isabella Scott

YEAR GROUP REPORTS

YEAR 9

Year 9s need to be commended on a great start to 2024. So many positive comments have come from school staff regarding Year 9s being respectful and engaging in their classrooms, great to hear!

Important Announcements for Year 9

- New Area Near Canteen: We're excited for the Year 9s to have moved into their new outdoor seating area near the canteen! Students can now enjoy their lunches in a fresh new space.
- NAPLAN Practice This Week: This week, Year 9 students will be engaging in NAPLAN practice sessions to help prepare for the upcoming assessments. Please encourage your child to participate actively in these valuable preparatory activities.
- Enjoying Option Classes: We hope your child is enjoying their option classes this semester. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or feedback.

Celebrations from the Week

Congratulations to those involved in Country Week Basketball! A big shoutout to all the students who represented our community in the recent Country Week Basketball tournament. Your hard work and dedication are truly commendable!



Mrs Bronte Tyrrell-Starceвич - Year 9 Coordinator

YEAR 10

Welcome back to all Year 10s and congratulations on making it through to Week 5! We recently had a Year group meeting where we discussed the importance of this year in shaping our futures, in particular in how our last few years at high school look like.

It is imperative that we understand the different pathways and what opportunities they will present for us, in saying that, we have a few more opportunities coming up that will assist students in making these decisions. We have recently had some of our students go through the CurtinAHEAD program which was a great experience for those involved. Next term we will be taking a select group of students to the careers camp in Perth, this is a great experience and students will need to have their good standing in place in order to be invited on this.

There will also be plenty of opportunities for students looking to engage in workplace learning and general pathways in Year 11 and 12, so all students need to make sure they are putting their best foot forward and developing good work ethics, preparing them for their senior years.

We will be rewarding all students who have been displaying their SPARK attributes in class and around the school, which has been a significant amount of Year 10s, well done to all of those students!

I am looking forward to continue working with all the Year 10s this year!

Mr Aogan McCallion - Year 10 Coordinator

YEAR GROUP REPORTS

YEAR 11

Welcome to the 2024 school year. As we approach the middle of term one, it's great to see that most students have settled back into the routine of school life and the huge adjustment that is upper school. Please see the photo below of our ATAR students making the most of their private study time.

Year 11 Coordinator and Support

This year I have the privilege of taking on the role of Year Coordinator as the Year 11 students transition into their senior schooling. The best way to keep up to date with things happening at school is by checking the Esperance SHS Connect page. A key aspect of my role is attending to your child's social well-being. Please be sure to contact the school or myself if situations arise that are going to impact on your child's education and/or well-being.

Some other key people that students can seek help and guidance from this year are:

- Upper School Deputy: Mr Ken Duffy
- VET Coordinator: Mrs Cynnamon Harper
- Workplace Learning Coordinator: Mrs Molly Zanker
- Career Practitioner: Mrs Karen Wooldridge
- School Chaplain: Ms Roslyn Woodhouse
- Engagement and Participation: Ms Sharon Henning

Special Examination Arrangements

For example, it would be appreciated if parents/carers could notify me if their child is eligible for special examination arrangements. Provisions can be made that will assist candidates who have a permanent or temporary disability to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills in the external examinations. These disabilities include physical disabilities (e.g. multiple sclerosis), illness (e.g. diabetes, chronic fatigue syndrome), vision impairment, hearing impairment, fine motor disability, specific learning disability, psychological/neurological disability and/or ADD/ADHD. Arrangements that may be granted include extra reading time, extra working time, non-working (rest) time, specialised equipment (e.g. desks, chairs, magnifying aids etc.), food and extra drink, special instructions in writing, use of a scribe, use of a computer, paper modification (e.g. coloured, in braille, enlarged etc.) and/or alternative format for a practical exam.

OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment)

Students who did not sit or didn't pass OLNA last year will have another two attempts to pass this year. It is now a requirement of secondary graduation (WACE) that students pass each component (Writing, Reading and Numeracy) by the end of Year 12. OLNA will begin early in Term 2.

Upper School Assessment Policy

The Upper School Assessment Policy contains information relating to WACE requirements and consequences for Year 11/12 students who do not meet deadlines for assessment work. A copy of this can be found in the Policies section of the school's website.

I would like to wish you and your child all the best for the 2024 year. If you have any concerns or issues regarding your child's schooling, please contact me on 9071 9555 or by emailing:

peter.turner@education.wa.edu.au



Mr Peter Turner - Year 11 Coordinator

YEAR GROUP REPORTS

YEAR 12

Our Year 12 students have settled back onto schooling with enthusiasm, ready to tackle the academic year ahead! One of the highlights so far this term has been seeing our Year 12 students in their leavers jackets! Everyone looks fantastic!

WACE Requirements: Please take the time to find the WACE manual on Connect and familiarize yourself with the requirements for graduation.

Reminder about Good Standing:

Just a friendly reminder to all students that maintaining good standing is essential to be eligible to attend extracurricular activities such as the School Ball and Country Week. Here's a quick overview of the expectations:

- Maintain above 80% school attendance
- Wear appropriate school uniform
- Behave appropriately at school
- Stay up to date with class work.

Upcoming Events:

- School Ball: Organisations for the ball are underway which will be held in Term 2 on Saturday, 27th April
- Country Week: Country Week will take place in Term 2, Week 11.

Below: Sophie MacKenzie, Amy Clarke, Federica Pagliara modelling their Leavers jackets.



Ms Shelley Defrenne - Year 12 Coordinator



Year 10 school-based immunisation program – information for parents

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is an uncommon, but sometimes life-threatening illness. The disease is a result of a bacterial infection of the blood and/or the membranes that line the spinal cord and brain.

Although treatable with antibiotics, the infection can progress very rapidly, so it is important that anyone experiencing symptoms of meningococcal disease seeks medical attention promptly.

At any one time, approximately 10 per cent of healthy people carry meningococcal bacteria harmlessly in their nose or throat, and do not become ill.

How is meningococcal disease spread?

Meningococcal bacteria are spread by respiratory secretions (coughing, sneezing or kissing). The bacteria do not survive more than a few seconds in the environment.

The disease is most likely to be spread only to very close contacts, such as people who live in the same household, sexual contacts and children attending the same day care for more than four continuous hours.

Why does WA Health offer a vaccination program for Year 10 students?

Meningococcal disease can affect any age group. However, some of the highest rates of meningococcal carriage and illness occur among adolescents and this age group can transmit bacteria to people who are at an increased risk of infection, including young children.

It is anticipated that immunising Year 10 students will reduce transmission of the bacteria to others and help prevent infections within the larger community.

What do I need to do to make sure my child gets the vaccine?

As a parent/guardian, you are required to provide consent via:

VaccinateWA online platform
(vaccinatewa.health.wa.gov.au)*

or

By printing a form at
healthywa.wa.gov.au/schoolimmunisations
and returning it to school

*Option unavailable for schools within City of Joondalup and Christmas and Cocos Islands.

Which vaccine will be used and how effective is it?

Meningococcal ACWY vaccine will be used. This vaccine protects against four serogroups of meningococcal bacteria: A, C, W and Y. The vaccine brand Nimenrix® will be used in this school-based program.

These vaccines are safe and effective. Meningococcal ACWY vaccination programs have been implemented in adolescents aged 13–15 years in the UK since 2015 and adolescents aged 11–12 in the US since 2005 with no significant concerns reported. The vaccine is routinely offered as a single dose. Further doses are recommended for those at increased risk of this disease and those travelling where this disease is common. Studies have shown that the effectiveness of the meningococcal ACWY vaccines are between 80–85 per cent in adolescents.

Who should not get this vaccine?

Tell the person giving the vaccine if:

- **you have any severe, life-threatening allergies.**

If you have had a life-threatening allergic reaction after a previous dose of a meningococcal ACWY vaccine, or if you have a severe allergy to any part of this vaccine, you should not get this vaccine. Your provider can tell you about the vaccine's ingredients.

- **you are pregnant or breastfeeding.**

Meningococcal vaccines are not routinely recommended for pregnant or breastfeeding women but can be given where clinically indicated. Please discuss further with your GP if you could be pregnant or are breastfeeding.

What are the vaccine side effects?

With any medicine, including vaccines, there is a chance of common adverse reactions. These are usually mild and go away by themselves. Serious reactions are also possible, but are rare. There is a very small chance of a vaccine causing a serious injury or death. You cannot get meningococcal infection from the vaccine.

Common adverse events include pain, redness and swelling at the injection site, fever, irritability, drowsiness, decreased appetite, headaches, rash and nausea. However, serious general adverse events are rare.

Vaccines are continually checked to make sure they are safe and effective. For information about vaccine safety and common and rare side-effects, please read more at: healthywa.wa.gov.au/immunisation



This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.

What if there is a serious reaction – what should I look for?

Look for anything that concerns you, such as signs of a severe allergic reaction, very high fever, or unusual behaviour. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, and weakness – usually within a few minutes to a few hours after the vaccination. For any severe reaction, call an ambulance or go to your closest emergency department.

What should I do?

Paracetamol can help reduce mild fever or pain and a cool damp cloth can also reduce pain at the injection site. Please seek medical advice or go to the local emergency department if you have any reaction you think is serious or unexpected.

Or call **healthdirect Australia** on 1800 022 222.

All immunisation providers in WA are required by law to report an adverse reaction following immunisation. Parents can also report concerns about any serious reactions after immunisation. Learn more at healthywa.wa.gov.au/WAVSS or call 6456 0208.

Contacts

Your local doctor, pharmacist, community health centre, hospital or public health unit

healthywa.wa.gov.au/publichealthunits

healthdirect Australia

Phone: 1800 022 222

More information

Department of Health

healthywa.wa.gov.au/immunisation

Commonwealth Department of Health

1800 671 811 or

health.gov.au/health-topics/immunisation

Produced by the Communicable Disease Control Directorate

© Department of Health 2024

Copyright to this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.