



ESPERANCE RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

TERM 2 NEWSLETTER 2024

Important Dates for Term 3

14th July	College re-opens for Term 3, 3.00pm
15th July	School starts
10th August	NAIDOC Youth Ball
19th August	School Development Day. No school, college remains open
29th August	Grandparents Dinner
31st August	Football Grand final at Ports oval
12th September	Year 12 Dinner
13th September	ERC Awards night and year 12 farewell
20th September	Last day of Term 3, College closes at 5.00pm

Dear Parents, carers and staff,

Another term and half way through the year. As always we have been super busy doing activities with the students. We have had a few staff changes in term 2 with Simon McLernon settling in for his second term as a male supervisor and Luke Rance taking on the Senior Supervisor role in term 3. Peter Jarzabek has gone to Geraldton for term 3 helping out as the Manager whilst they go through the recruitment process. I have been Managing Esperance for the last few weeks and will continue until Peter gets back in term 4. Lisa Swayn will remain in the female Senior Supervisor role during this time.

We have also said good bye to Tony our Cook, who has been with us for two and a half years and has decided to take a break from cooking and try new things. We are currently going through the recruitment process and will hopefully have a new cook starting in term 3.

Tutors are still available 3 days a week and available to all our students.

Term 3 is always busy with football and netball grand finals, which we encourage parents and carers to watch their child if they are lucky enough to get there. Sport finals have always had a good atmosphere in Esperance. We make it an outing for the other students to support their peers and cheer them on from the sidelines. The college is also running our very own Lego club and with enough interest this will lead into a Lego Masters comp in week 9.

Parents please put the College Award and year 12 farewell date in your diary, 13th September.

We would love to see you all there.

Kind regards

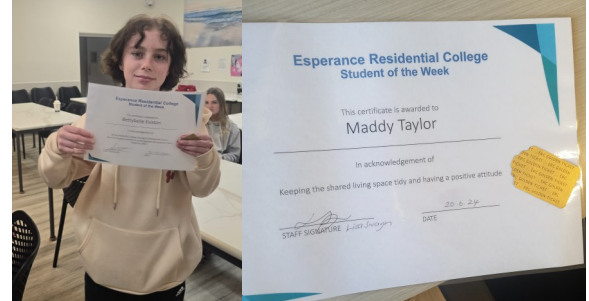
Andrea Hearn

Term 2 Student of the week

Along with our PBS system, which students can earn tokens for doing the right thing, we are also acknowledging the students who are noticeably consistent with their good behaviour. Awarding "Student of the Week" has been a great way to recognise the students and their efforts to follow the College guidelines and to reward good behaviours. This will continue into term 3 and we will keep rewarding those that are consistently doing the right thing.



WELL DONE



Mother's Day Classic

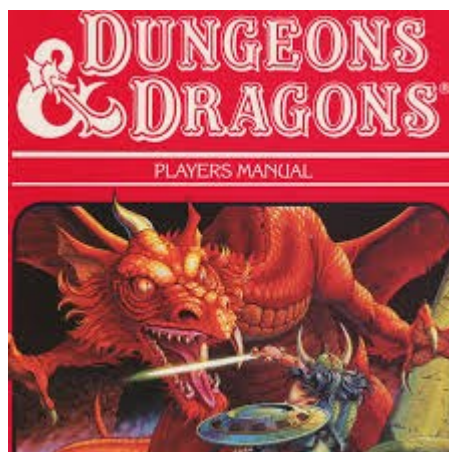
On the 12 May, students and staff participated in the local Mother's Day Classic raising money for breast and ovarian cancer. Our weekend Cook Naomi Haggett and Supervisor Lisa Swayn participated in the 8 km run, whilst our Students and JJ did the 4km walk. This is a worthy cause and hopefully next year we can participate again with even more students.



Term 3 Activities

In term 3 we are hoping to run a Lego Club with a competition at the end. If any families have old Lego they wish to donate to the College please bring it in. We will encourage students to use their spare time to be creative with what they build and awards will be given for most creative, biggest, most unique etc.

We are also looking to start a DnD club, maybe run a campaign or two over the weekends. Luckily we have three staff members that are 'perfect' for the job (aka nerds) who are happy to take on the task and bring out the creativity in the students.



Term 2 Activities

As we bid farewell to another fantastic term, it's time to look back on the incredible activities that have made the past 11 weeks unforgettable. From thrilling adventures to creative pursuits and moments of relaxation, here's a recap of what we've been up to:

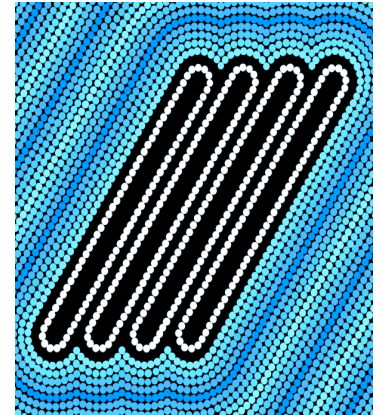
- Fishing and Snorkelling Adventures:** Our outdoor enthusiasts embarked on exciting fishing trips and underwater explorations through snorkelling. From reeling in big catches to marvelling at marine life, these activities brought us closer to nature and created lasting memories.
- Planting Succulents:** Green thumbs were hard at work planting and caring for succulents. These resilient plants not only brightened our rooms and dorms but also taught us valuable lessons in patience and nurturing.
- Tie-Dying Extravaganza:** Creativity soared as we experimented with vibrant tie-dye patterns on shirts, tote bags, and more. Each piece became a unique reflection of our artistic flair and personal style.
- Pottery Workshops:** In the art studio, students moulded clay into beautiful pottery pieces. From handcrafted mugs to intricate sculptures, pottery allowed us to unleash our creativity and learn new techniques.
- Board Games and Bingo Nights:** The dining room was alive with laughter and friendly competition during our board game and bingo nights. These gatherings strengthened friendships and provided a fun way to unwind after a busy week.
- Karaoke Showdowns:** Voices rang out in spirited karaoke sessions, where students showcased their vocal talents and sang their hearts out to favourite tunes. It was a fantastic outlet for self-expression and entertainment.
- Minute to Win It Challenges:** Agility and precision were put to the test in our Minute to Win It games. From stacking cups to completing tricky tasks under time pressure, these challenges brought out our competitive spirit and teamwork.
- S'mores Bonfire:** Gathered around crackling fires, we toasted marshmallows and crafted delicious s'mores. The warmth of the fire and the sweetness of the treats made for cosy evenings filled with joy and camaraderie.
- Embracing Responsibility Through Chores:** We learned the importance of teamwork and responsibility by pitching in with chores around the College. These efforts contributed to a cleaner environment and fostered a sense of pride in our shared spaces.

As we reflect on these activities, we're reminded of the joy, learning, and connections they brought into our lives. Each experience has enriched our journey and added a chapter of fun-filled memories. Here's to many more adventures and discoveries in the weeks and months ahead. Thank you to everyone who participated, organized, and supported these activities—we couldn't have done it without you!



Makuru Season– June July

The Noongar Season 'Makuru' is represented by the colour dark blue as it symbolises rain and cold weather.



Makuru sees the coldest and wettest time of the year in the South West.

Traditionally, this was a good time of the year to move back inland from the coast as the winds turned to the west and south bringing the cold weather, rains and occasionally snow on the peaks of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges.

As the waterways and catchments started to fill, people were able to move about their country with ease and their food sources changed from the sea, estuarine and lake foods to those of the land, in particular the grazing animals such as the kangaroo.

As well as a food source, animals provided people with many other things. For example, the 'yongar' or kangaroo, not only provided meat but also 'bookas' (animal skin cloaks that were used as the nights became much cooler). Nothing was left. Even the bones and sinews were used in the manufacturing of bookas and for affixing barbs to hunting tools such as spears.

Makuru is also a time for a lot of animals to be pairing up in preparation for breeding in the coming season. If you look carefully, you might see pairs of 'wardongs' (ravens) flying together.

Upon the lakes and rivers of the South West, you'll also start to see a large influx of the Black Swan or 'Mali' as they too prepare to nest and breed.

Flowers that will start to emerge include the blues and purples of the blueberry lily (*Dianella revoluta*) and the purple flags (*Patersonia occidentalis*).

As the season comes to a close, you should also start to notice the white flowers of the weeping peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) as the blues start to make way for the white and cream flowers of Djilba.

Bus trips

Another reminder our bus service is a courtesy service and as such, students need to remember that with so many people wanting to be somewhere or picked up at the same time to allow 15 minutes in getting to and from your destination. We can't drop everything to do a drive and it requires students to plan ahead.

We also expect respectful behaviour on our buses just like students would if traveling on a TRANSWA bus. Any disrespectful behaviour or disruptive behaviour by students will not be tolerated.

Students need to put appointments into the bus book (before school that day at the latest) so that trips can be planned in advance and routed to the best time advantage. Entering the drop off time 10 minutes BEFORE the actual appointment/training is best to make sure you are on time.

