



*Inspiring Independence, Transforming Lives*



## Principal's Message ...

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of St Edmund's,

**Lent** is one of the most profound of the Christian seasons and we commence the 40 days of Lent on Ash Wednesday next week. A ceremony involving the distribution of the ashes to students and staff will be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Lent is a time when Christians are called to reflect on their basic humanity, with all its limitations.

They are also called to reflect on their own personal limitations and those things within themselves which form barriers between them and God and limit their potential to be the best people they can; particularly in relationship with others. We live in an imperfect world and we are all imperfect in different ways – during Lent, God's call is to examine ourselves and open our hearts to him to find a way back to the full humanity to which we aspire.

This week's '**Eddie's Big Night In**' provided an invaluable opportunity for parents to meet teachers and other key College staff. Although called an 'information night' and with plenty of valuable information imparted, the most important aspect of the evening was the chance to initiate conversations and build relationships between parents and teachers; relationships which may prove vital in the months ahead as students and parents navigate the College year.

Things are not usually straight forward when it comes to young people and education, so knowing who to talk to and having the confidence to make contact when necessary is an indispensable part of College life. For those few who were unable to attend it is not too late to make contact via phone, email or in person, to begin the joint endeavor of educating your children this year. Thank you to the parents and teachers for taking time during a busy week to gather at the College to this end.

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Jon Franzin  
PRINCIPAL



## Eddie's Big Night In book sale

Thank you to all the parents who purchased a game or book from the sale at Eddie's Big Night In. All items were sold! The College would also like to thank **Novella Fine Books** in Wahroonga for supplying the amazing range of books and **Kidstuff** in St Ives and Hornsby for supplying the games.

## Pizza Event

A **BIG** Eddie's thank you to the **Comensoli family** (Adrian is a former student) for supplying the scrumptious pizzas at Eddie's Big Night In and many thanks for their continued support of this College function. Pizza Event and the Comensoli family are also strong supporters of our annual fundraiser, Eddie's Big Night Out with Pizza Event being a hugely popular Live Auction prize.

If you have an 18th, 21st or a celebration coming up and would like to have it catered for, please visit [www.pizzaevent.com.au](http://www.pizzaevent.com.au)



DATE	YEAR	NAME
25.2.20	9	Maria Martin Therese Yeung
3.3.20	7 & 8	Lee Currie Cordelia Kalantzis Karen Neville Ann-Maree Zofrea
10.3.20	9	Donna Hunt Sabrina Fork Dale Winckel
17.3.20	12	Liza-Marie Barber May Mak Susanna Wagner
24.3.20	7 & 8	Samantha Gojak Angela Roberts Juliet Phelps Felicity Taylor
31.3.20	10	Maria Burwood Sally Carson
7.4.20		VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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## Deputy Principal's Message ...

The first term is progressing well and students have been enjoying their new classes, sport, excursions and activities. Thank you to those parents who have joined Class Dojo as it is a wonderful and simple way of seeing your child engaging in various activities here at the College. If you would like any help in connecting to ClassDojo please contact me here at the College.

**Name Labels** - A reminder that it is important to label all of your child's items including hats, jumpers/jackets, water bottles and lunch boxes. It is easy for students to leave their belongings around the College and without name labels it is difficult for us to return them to their rightful owners.

**Lenten Season** - Next Wednesday begins our Lenten season and we celebrate this as a College with a liturgy at the end of the day. Students will be invited to receive ashes on their foreheads or hand as a sign of beginning the Lenten journey.

**College Rules** - The College rules which guide our student behaviours and attitudes are - Be Safe - Be Caring and Be a Good Learner; these highlight our student expectations and continue to motivate our students to be the best they can be inside and outside the classroom. We encourage parents to emphasis these rules at home to create a common language and boundaries for our children.

**Personalised Plan Parent/Teacher Meetings** - Personalised Plans (PPs) are important documents which support each child holistically in their learning at school. The PP enables teachers to connect with parents and specialists to establish goals for each child to be reviewed each Semester. Early next week each family will receive login details to Edval Parent/Teacher bookings. Bookings can be made from Weeks 5 to Week 9 (27th March) with your respective Homeroom teacher. Any problems with the booking process please contact me [scanlon@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au](mailto:scanlon@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au)

**Communication** - As we begin the new school year, a reminder that the process for contacting your child while at school is through the College Administration office. Students hand in to the office their phones or Smart watches (those with a sim card) so that they are not a distraction from learning or social interactions. Students cannot access external emails either. Thank you for supporting us with this process.

Jason Scanlon  
Deputy Principal



Year 11 Hospitality students wearing their new uniforms





## Mission and Identity

At the start the College year, it is always good to reflect upon our College values. These values are Faith, Relationships, Community and Joy.

### FAITH JOY RELATIONSHIPS COMMUNITY

Our whole identity is built around our Catholic faith and the stories from the Gospels that inspire and educate us to be like Jesus in all that we do every day. This faith is where we get our strength and the spirit to work hard to improve ourselves and make our world a better place for all. At our Ash Wednesday liturgy next week, as we receive the cross of ashes, we will hear the words "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospels." A reminder to live like Jesus in the way we treat others.

It is with this faith that we build relationships. Relationships between staff and students; between staff and parents; between the students and their parents; between our College and the local parish community; between our College and many others in the wider community. These relationships are where we can experience Jesus and share Jesus with others around us to build his Kingdom.



Our community continues to grow every year as we build these relationships and I would like to highlight a couple of the community aspects that we offer through the College. Firstly the opportunity to come together as community to celebrate mass together. We had a great celebration with our Opening College Mass on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Fr David always makes it an occasion that our students can relate to and to see many parents there makes it even more special.

Our next whole College Mass will be our celebration of Blessed Edmund Rice's feast day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. At this mass, we also invite past students to come and join us. Keep an eye out in the Newsletter for details. We also celebrate mass with the Parish community on Friday morning throughout the year. Students from class 12O joined in the parish celebration last Friday morning for the first time this year.



Another special community offering is the **Men's Group**. This is an opportunity for the men in our community to gather, share a meal and some drink and share stories in an effort to support each other through any stress or pressure they may be experiencing. It is a very welcoming group and we would love to see more men there to join us. The next gathering will be at St Edmund's on **Tuesday evening 24th March**. Food and drinks from 6.30 p.m. and our meeting at 7.00 p.m. See details of how to RSVP in this Newsletter.

Our final value is Joy and this is the feeling that visitors always comment about when they come to St Edmunds. The smile and the happiness of our students radiates around our College and leaves an indelible imprint on all who visit this faithful community. Below is a copy of the prayer that our College Captains, Jack Thompson and Kristian Deidda, shared with us at Eddie's Big Night In. It highlights our values and the prominent place they have in our College.

*"As we journey together this year to live out our school values of Joy, Relationships, Community and Faith, we ask God to bestow His grace upon us. Father, in Joy, there is strength and love. Help us to experience joy in our encounters with one another and to know that we grow in strength and love together. Through relationships, we experience the essence of your Kingdom God; help us to see Jesus in the face of others and to bring to life your commandment to love one another. As a community, we are welcoming and inclusive, Father with your guidance, help us to give life to a just community that allows us to live life to the full. God, let our Faith be full and unreserved, may Jesus provide us the example needed and send the Spirit to open our hearts and minds for the journey ahead."*

God Bless,  
Terry O'Keefe  
Head of Mission and Identity



## Relationships Matter

Many thanks for your support at Eddie's Big Night In on Tuesday. It was so wonderful to meet all the families! This night provides an excellent opportunity to connect and build relationships between home and school.

On 17th March we will be holding our first Parent Group meeting on *So Safe and Keeping Teens Safe Online*.

I will be presenting that evening on So Safe, the social safety program that I spoke about on Tuesday night. So Safe has been designed for students with intellectual disabilities and ASD and provides a set of rules using visuals. It promotes social safety by teaching the type and degree of verbal and physical intimacy appropriate with different categories of people in society.

The necessity of providing social training to people with disabilities is compelling and well documented. People with disabilities have a long history of maltreatment. Considerable research shows that children with disabilities are more likely than others to be victims of various forms of neglect, physical and sexual abuse.

These are our children and they are so vulnerable. It is our responsibility to provide them with social training and with the language and confidence, to protect them and to upskill them so that they learn the rules to safe and healthy relationships.

Also presenting will be one of Australia's leading cyber safety experts "The Cyber Safety Lady" - Leonie Smith. Leonie is certified by The Office of the eSafety Commissioner, is a mum of 4 and has 2 children with additional needs. She has presented at many schools around Australia and has been featured on "60 Minutes", ABCTV and Radio, Channel 9 News, Channel 10's "The Project", Channel 7's "The Morning Show" and "The Daily Edition" and has written columns for many newspapers. Leonie will give you extremely practical tips to keep on top of your child's screen time including:

- ⇒ Protecting your children from adult content
- ⇒ Hidden traps, safety and privacy settings
- ⇒ Gaming safely, where to get help etc.

Look forward to seeing you at the Parent Group Meeting on 17th March – **St. Patrick's Day**.

Karen Houlcroft  
Head of Pastoral Care



## Open Day

TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
9.15am – 11.15am

*Inspiring Independence, Transforming Lives*  
[www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au)

If you have friends and family who are interested in finding out more about St Edmund's College for their child, please let them know about our Open Day!

# Community News



## From the Parent Group

Wow, what a night it was last Tuesday at Eddie's Big Night In. It was lovely to see so many parents supporting the night. I hope you found it informative as well as providing the opportunity to have conversations and possibly the start of get togethers for your child and you.

As mentioned, our next opportunity to meet as a group is **Tuesday 17th March** at our **Parent Group meeting**. The topic for the meeting is **'SoSafe'** and **'Keeping Teens Safe Online'**. A key part of the information session will be with guest speaker, Leonie Smith, 'The Cyber Safety Lady'. Leonie will provide extremely practical tips to keep on top of your child's screen time. For more information please see Karen Houlcroft's 'Relationships Matter' section in this Newsletter and to RSVP for this information session, please see the details in the ad in this Newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you at our **Parent Group meeting**. Best wishes for the year ahead.

Janine Eastham – Tom's mum  
**Parent Group Leader**

## KNA All Stairs - All Abilities Netball

Did you know that Ku-Ring-Gai Netball Association (KNA) runs an All Abilities Netball program on Saturday afternoons during the winter netball season?

The **"KNA AllStars"** is open to females and males 14 years and over with a disability. The focus is on participation, netball skill development, fun and friends in an inclusive, structured, social environment. Netballers from beginner to more advanced levels are supported with the help of wonderful coach volunteers. Everyone is welcome! **Please refer to the flyer attached to this Newsletter for more information.**

## Men's Group Meetings

The Men's Group is a quarterly 'get together' for a few drinks and a sausage sizzle with other dads from St Gabriel's School, St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College.

We have lots of laughs, share stories and discuss relevant topics around the pressures that our families encounter from day to day. Come along and bring another dad from your child's class!

Please watch for reminders in these Newsletters and also information on who the guest speakers will be at the upcoming meetings.

The dates for this year are:

Tue 24th March	(St Edmund's) (new date)
Tue 9th June	(St Lucy's)
Wed 26th Aug	(St Edmund's)
Tue 17th Nov	(St Lucy's)

Please RSVP to Cathy Laing on  
laing@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au



**6.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.**

# Around the College

## Awards

### Students of the Week:

**7S** Michael and Seul Yi  
**8C** Sonnet and Luke  
**9F** Byron and Dominic  
**10J** Ben and Piper  
**11G** Jesse and Angelica  
**12M** Lucy and Lachlan

**7T** Ella and Liam  
**8L** Shamro and Sean  
**9H** Ben W and Teena  
**10V** Ella and Lachie  
**11T** Tague and Anant  
**12O** Luca and Gus

### Eddie's Best:

**7S** Lucy  
**8C** Christian  
**9F** Mikayla  
**10J** Angelica  
**11G** Mitch  
**12M** Emily

**7T** Arpita  
**8L** Chris  
**9H** Olivia  
**10V** Niki  
**11T** Kori  
**12O** Aaron

## Parents and Carers

### Staff Days (pupil free) for 2020

**Monday 27th April**

**Friday 5th June**

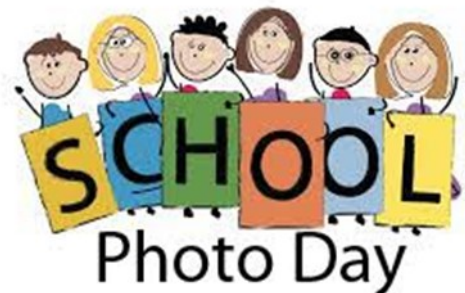
**Monday 12th October**



Please note the change of date  
for the College photos.

Now:

**Tuesday 9th June**





# Around the College

## Term 1 Mufti Day - Tuesday 3rd March

At this week's College leaders' meeting it was decided that the proceeds from our first Mufti Day (casual clothes day) on Tuesday 3rd March will go to Project Compassion. Our contribution will go towards empowering communities with hope and help those in great need to shape a better future for people who are most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.



### On Mufti Day:

- Come dressed to school in mufti dress (casual clothes)
- Bring along a gold coin towards Project Compassion
- Remember to also bring your money for the canteen as it is a Tuesday



### Absentees

If your child is absent from the College for any reason:

- ⇒ Please phone Mrs Acret in the College office or email: [secretary@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au](mailto:secretary@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au) on the first morning your child is absent so that the homeroom teacher can be advised; and
- ⇒ A written note (or email) must accompany your child when he/she returns to the College - this is a legal requirement for the class roll.

### Requesting Leave during College term (for any reason)

It is expected that every endeavor is made for students' leave to be taken during the College holidays. If however, this is not possible, a request should be:

- ⇒ Emailed to Mr Franzin on [franzin@erses.nsw.edu.au](mailto:franzin@erses.nsw.edu.au) asking for permission and giving the reason for the leave. The necessary form will be emailed back to you to be completed and returned to the College. Mr Franzin will respond to your email, copying in the Homeroom teacher and Mrs Acret. This is also a legal requirement for the class roll.





# Around the College - Important Dates

## Term 1

Tue 3rd Mar	Term 1 Mufti Day
Tue 10th Mar	Open Day
Tue 17th Mar	Term 1 Parent Group Meeting
Tue 24th Mar	Term 1 Men's Group Meeting (St Edmund's) (see Newsletter) <b>(new date)</b>
Mon 6th Apr	Year 7 Immunisation
Wed 8th Apr	2019 Year 12 Reunion (pizza night)
Thu 9th Apr	Last day of Term 1

## Term 2

<b>Mon 27th Apr</b>	<b>Staff Day (no students)</b>
Tue 28th Apr	Students return to Term 2
Tue 28th Apr	ANZAC Day Ceremony
Fri 1st May	Edmund Rice Day celebrations - Mass and BBQ lunch
Fri 8th May	Mother's Day Liturgy and Morning Tea
Tue 13th May	Year 10 Immunisation
Fri 15th May	Term 2 College Disco
Tue 26th May	Term 2 Parent Group Meeting
Tue 2nd Jun	Term 2 Mufti Day
<b>Fri 5th Jun</b>	<b>Staff Day (pupil free day)</b>
<b>Mon 8th Jun</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday public holiday</b>
Tue 9th June	Students' school photos <b>(new date)</b>
Tue 9th Jun	Term 2 Men's Group Meeting (St Lucy's)
Sat 13th Jun	Eddie's Big Night Out (Miramare Gardens, Terrey Hills)
Wed 10th - Fri 12th Jun	Years 7 & 8 Camp
Fri 26th Jun	RFS Cadet & Leadership Award Assembly
Fri 26th Jun	Last day of Term 2

## Term 3

Mon 20th Jul	Students & Staff return to Term 3
Fri 7th Aug	Term 3 College Disco
	Senior Information Evening
Tue 11th Aug	Term 3 Mufti Day
Wed 19th Aug	St Edmund's Golf Day
Wed 26th Aug	Term 3 Men's Group Meeting (St Edmund's)
Fri 4th Sep	Father's Day Breakfast
Tue 8th Sep	Term 3 Parent Group Meeting
Tue 1st Sep	St Edmund's Athletics Carnival
Sun 13th Sep	Family Fun Day (St Edmund's field)
Wed 23rd - Fri 25th Sep	Senior Retreat
Fri 25th Sep	Last day of Term 3

## Term 4

<b>Mon 12th Oct</b>	<b>Staff day (no students)</b>
Tue 13th Oct	Students return to Term 4
Mon 14th Oct	Year 7 Immunisation
Tue 20th Oct	St Edmund's Swimming Carnival
Fri 23rd Oct	Term 4 College Disco
	Wed 28th Oct - Fri 30th Nov Years 9 & 10 Camp
Tue 3rd Nov	Term 4 Mufti Day
Tue 3rd Nov	Term 4 Parent Group Meeting
Tue 10th Nov	Orientation Day
Tue 17th Nov	Term 4 Men's Group Meeting (St Lucy's)
Fri 20th Nov	Abbotsleigh Concert
Fri 27th Nov	Year 12 Graduation Formal
Tue 1st Dec	Presentation Ceremony
Wed 9th Dec	Year 12 Farewell Mass & BBQ lunch and Last day of Term 4

# The Dish

## What do we need?



We are looking for members of our parent community to volunteer to help us in 2020 to supply dinner to the homeless people of our local community.

### Our rostered days for this year are:

Tuesday 25th February - Term 1

Tuesday 26th May - Term 2

Tuesday 25th August - Term 3

Tuesday 27th October - Term 4

### What is involved?

- ◆ We need **two main courses** and **two desserts** prepared and delivered to school on the set Tuesdays (see above).
- ◆ Each dish should be able to feed about **10 people**. Some of the people attending have poor dental health and so the meals should not be too hard to chew (pizza and steak are not recommended) so this often includes casseroles, sausages, meatballs and sometimes baked meals. Last year we supplied meatball and sausage casseroles and some very special butter chicken.
- ◆ Mains are complemented with potato based dishes, pasta or rice. Green vegetables served are appreciated by most.

If you are interested, **please complete the slip below and return to Bernie in the College office** and she will allocate you to a date. If you have a specific date in mind, please inform Bernie and she will roster you for that date. Also indicate whether you will be providing a main or a dessert.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

✂-----

### THE DISH

I \_\_\_\_\_ am interested in providing some food for 'The Dish' in 2020.

I will be able to provide (please tick which box applies)

a dessert course

a main course

I am available **any date**

I am **only available on this date** .....

# SO SAFE AND KEEPING TEENS SAFE ONLINE



**Parent Group Meeting**  
**Tuesday, 17th March 2020 7pm-8.30pm**

Karen Houlcroft will introduce So Safe and we will

## **Hear from Leonie Smith**

Practical tips to keep on top of your child's screentime.  
Learn how to protect your child from adult content, hidden traps,  
privacy settings, and where to get help.

Leonie is certified by the Office of the E safety Commissioner.



**PLEASE RSVP**

**Candice on [palin@erses.nsw.edu.au](mailto:palin@erses.nsw.edu.au) by Monday 16th March**

*Come join the*  
**KNA ALLSTARS!**  
**ALL ABILITIES NETBALL**



The **KNA ALLSTARS** are inclusive  
of **everyone!**

You can make new friends, learn netball skills,  
play games, laugh and have fun!

- All players (male and female) must be 14 years or older
- The season runs from March 28 to September 5 2020
- Games run every Saturday from 2.00pm to 3.30pm at the Canoon Rd Netball Courts, Turramurra
- Cost for registration is \$50.00 with a free uniform supplied

If you are interested please contact:  
**Deb Frost** - [debfrust@bigpond.net.au](mailto:debfrust@bigpond.net.au)

