



Inspiring Independence, Transforming Lives

Newsletter

Term 2. Week 3. 7th May 2021



Principal's Message

Mother's Day Liturgy & Breakfast

With Mother's Day this weekend, love of mothers is the trigger to get us all to spend up and it's hard to begrudge mothers a dose of generosity; after all they do and give. To bring balance and a broader perspective to this, it is worth keeping in mind that May is also the month of Mary

the Mother of God in the Catholic tradition. So I think we can combine the two things; linking all mothers and motherhood with our deepest religious beliefs and origins. This morning we celebrated this at the College with a Mother's Day Liturgy and breakfast to which mothers and grandmothers, along with their children, attended. Despite the wet conditions and the threat of another COVID lockdown, it was great to see so many mothers



and grandmothers enjoy some quality time with their children or grandchildren. Many thanks to Jason Scanlon - Assistant Principal Religious Identity & Mission, with the support of many staff, for their organisation of this important event.

Blessed Edmund Rice Feast Day
On Wednesday, 5th May, we celebrated the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice. This is a celebration of the life of the founder of our school, the Irishman, Edmund Rice, who became a holy man through the great work of providing schooling to uneducated boys and young men, particularly the poor and disadvantaged. Through the order he founded, the Christian Brothers, schools were started all over the world, including many in Australia. Fifty-four of these schools now continue under the banner of Edmund Rice Education Australia, the body that now carries on the founder's work and, of which we are all a part. We celebrated with a special Mass led by Fr Paul as well as the students undertaking a range of activities in their House groups. There was also an opportunity for parents and students to gather together for Eddie's Got Talent which was a wonderful afternoon of entertainment as classes competed against each other with a range of musical performances. As always, it was wonderful to have many of our old Collegians join us on the day and help us celebrate the life of Blessed Edmund Rice.

COVID-19 Update

The following precautionary restrictions are in place for the Greater Sydney region from 6th May to Monday 10th May:

- Students over the age of 12 and staff must comply with the Public Health (COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings) Order 2021 when travelling to and from school and during school excursions by public transport or by chartered or private transport services;
- Staff and students are not required to wear a face mask while at school and this also includes parents and carers visiting schools:
- Singing by audiences is to be avoided.

I remind parents that children should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any students with any COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home and are asked not to return until they have received a negative test result and are symptom free. Parents are asked to provide a copy of the test result by forwarding this to Mrs Alison Andrews - College Nurse via her email address: andrews@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au

Best wishes for the week ahead Jon Franzin **PRINCIPAL**

Principal's Message's continued

Staff Awards

On Blessed Edmund Rice Day we took the opportunity to congratulate our longer serving staff who were acknowledged for their dedicated service to the St Edmund's College community. We recognised the following staff:

30 YEARS: Terry O'Keefe

25 YEARS: Elisabeth Wegener and Lionel Dickman

20 YEARS: Marilyn Noonan

15 YEARS: Jackie Reilly, Catherine Heuzenroeder, Janine Brackenreg, Sheena Macdonald,

Rachel Hopkins, Cathy Laing, Lisa Stokes

10 YEARS: Carl Southern, Wendy Scott, Katie Peacock, Julie Modra, Lisa O'Neil, Julie MacPherson,

Brenden Jones, Jacqui Campbell, Karen Houlcroft, Tina Portelli













Deputy Principal's Message ...

This week has been busy at St Edmund's with many events almost each day. We began the week with College photos and I thank parents for ensuring students attended wearing the correct uniform and were looking well presented for the photos. We have also had a very enjoyable Edmund Rice feast day with students participating in activities about the life of Edmund Rice, a whole College Mass and Eddie's Got Talent show in the afternoon. Finally, this morning we have had a lovely Mother's Day event in the hall with a delicious breakfast served to our amazing Mums.

I would like to acknowledge the many staff who have worked hard this week to make all of these celebrations such a success as well as the efforts of many families who were able to attend these events.

A few reminders below:

Disco:

As you are aware, there is a College disco for current students only, scheduled for next Friday, 14th May. You are able to register your child's attendance here:

 $\frac{https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-umcsf8qmzHzbcx98nehz2ET6LZRPX75fq9U-245jv2bivw/viewform?usp=sf~link}$

Please be aware however that we are waiting on the NSW government restriction updates early next week to see if this event is able to go ahead. We will update families as soon as possible with further information.

Year 7/8 Camp:

This week paperwork has been sent home in your child's bag in a large envelope which is needed to be completed for the upcoming Year 7/8 Camp on 2nd - 4th June at Stanwell Tops. I urge parents to complete this paperwork as soon as possible and return to the College office so that we are able to prepare. We will be holding a Zoom meeting online prior to the Camp to share information and allow parents to have the opportunity to ask questions. Details for this meeting will be sent out to families in the coming days.

Rebecca Kirwan **Deputy Principal**



Beautiful images from this morning's Mother's Day Breakfast (many more throughout this Newsletter)







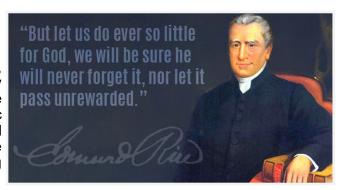


Mission and Identity

Who was Edmund Rice?

Edmund Rice was born at Westcourt, the family tenant farm in Callan, County Kilkenny, Ireland on 1st June 1762. He grew up in a relatively well-off Catholic family where he developed in faith and received a limited education before

joining his uncle's business in Waterford, providing supplies for ships and for the British Navy and Army.



He was respected on all sides because of his fair dealings, particularly in paying the producers for their livestock of which he was a good judge. Edmund was very successful in business and became very wealthy as did many of his social class. He married and it is understood that his wife was Mary Elliot. She died at about the time their daughter, also Mary, was born in 1789. She was raised by Edmund and his step-sister, Joan, who became his housekeeper. In his grief and the turmoil of these circumstances, his commitment to God developed to the stage where he considered entering religious life.

After much discernment and the recommendations of some who knew him, including the forthright Bishop of Waterford, Thomas Hussey, he "abandons the ambitions of his class", sells his business and begins instructing boys of the poor, living on the streets of Waterford.

In 1802, the project begins in a stable in the town while a new school is built on the edge of the city closer to where many of the poor reside. He is determined that school will be conducted according to his improvements on the best standards of the day. The free school, known as Mount Sion, opened in 1803. Edmund and his first couple of helpers were soon caring for two to three hundred students, providing food and clothing as well as an education that would help them in the work places of business and commerce and that would build their prayer life and knowledge of the Bible.

The Ireland of Edmund's day was an unjust place where many lived in poverty and social structures deeply oppressed the majority of the population. Edmund was following the call of the Spirit into a religious life that would impact both Church and society. He and his helpers lived at Mount Sion and this was the beginning of the Christian Brothers. Edmund continued to be involved in helping new orders of sisters with finances and investments, works of charity involving orphans and children of alcoholic parents as well as helping slaves to escape and hide. His life was more and more about Liberation which begins with 'welcoming strangers'. He died in 1844. Pope John Paul II beatified Edmund Rice at a ceremony in St. Peter's Square, Rome, on 6th October 1996. He became known as Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice. His official feast day is May 5.

Living the spirit of Edmund Rice today.

Here at St Edmund's students truly enjoyed the day exploring the life of Edmund and how they are reflected throughout our College culture. We celebrated Mass with Fr Paul from Holy Name Parish. We also had a House war-cry competition and congratulations to Callan for their win! The last part of the day was the highly anticipated Eddie's Got Talent. It was wonderful to have parents join us again as well as old Collegians. All students and groups presented so well and displayed so much talent.





Mission and Identity continued ...

130 Years of Christian Brothers' School Lewisham

This week we gathered with all Edmund Rice schools to celebrate the 130th anniversary of CBHS Lewisham at St Mary's Cathedral. Our College Captains, Anant and Kori represented the College and enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate in the Cathedral, the mother Church for Catholics in Australia.

The Dish

The Dish is a local outreach to those most in need in our local community. The Dish is asking in these winter months for donations of clean blankets for distribution to the homeless in our local community. If you are able to donate a blanket please drop it off at the College Office.

Mother's Day

It was wonderful to have over 60 mothers join us for our Prayer Breakfast this morning as we gave thanks for their presence and love in our lives. We thank the many staff that supported the preparation and organisation of this most important event.

We give you thanks for our mums. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them and that they received the gift of life from your hands and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they have made for us throughout our lives. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they have shown us.

For some of us this may be our birth mother, for others, it will be the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood – an adopted mother, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother or someone else. We wish to express our thanks for those women who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain.

Mother's Day Blessing

God of Sarah, Ruth and Rebecca; of Elizabeth, mother of John, of Mary, mother of Jesus, listen to our prayer:

Bless all who 'mother' and bring new life in any way, these 'mothers' who teach and guide, who encourage and heal.

Invite them to the table of your eternal feast, these 'mothers' who feed and nurture the life that has been entrusted to them.

Embrace them warmly in the intimacy of your love, our 'mothers' who embrace with affection those who are in need of their love.

Bless them today with all good things: with health, with laughter, with joy and with love, with pride in their 'children' and the support of many friends.

May all 'mothers' who have nurtured life in others be themselves nurtured one day in your strong embrace, there, for all eternity, to rejoice with their families and friends.

Amen



St Edmund's College Mother's Day Breakfast



Our College Captains at St Mary's Cathedral

Around the College Celebrating our beloved Mothers ...







































Relationships Matter

Family Planning Association FPA

Family Planning NSW respects the rights of people with disabilities to have control over their own lives. For over 30 years they have worked alongside people with intellectual disability, their support people and representative organisations to promote disability inclusion. Their work covers a wide range of projects, resources and workshops for people with intellectual disability and their support people. To find out more information about FPA please visit the following website.

https://www.fpnsw.org.au/who-we-help/disability

Puberty

Family Planning NSW has created a new website all about puberty. This website specifically aims to help parents and carers of children with an intellectual disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder navigate puberty. *The Planet Puberty website* provides practical advice on subjects like menstruation, dealing with mood swings and emotional changes and even strategies on how to cope with parental anxiety.

https://fpnsw.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b2ab18aead865d56ccc1c263b&id=1f88b9f383&e=a852f20805

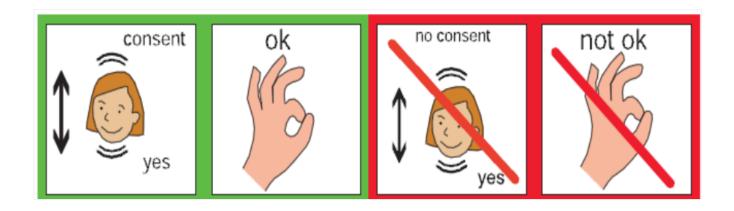
Consent

All students at St. Edmund's participate in the So Safe program. So Safe provides each child with the type and degree of verbal and physical intimacy appropriate with different categories of people. A poorly developed sense of appropriate personal boundaries between the students and others is a major risk factor and increases their vulnerability.

Our current focus at St. Edmund's is the concept of *consent*. "Consent means I ask, you say yes. You ask, I say yes." The language of consent is used across the school day in many situations including asking consent to borrow items such as pencils, consent to take photos of peers in lessons, consent to ask to do up shoelaces or help with personal care.

The nature of disability will often require a lot of personal touching. Dressing, toileting and other types of physical contact and personal care are part of many students' day-to-day routine. Consistent communication and specific language are so important.

The following symbols are used to support consent. These symbols can be found in the People and Relationship booklets that every student in the College has been given.



Karen Houlcroft Head of Wellbeing

EDDIE'S GOT TALENT!



















A huge thank you to all those involved with Eddie's Got Talent this week. Congratulations to all our students who competed and entertained us all. Well done to our Year 12 students for their overall win and we must not forget to thank our wonderful judges and Mrs Eldridge for her hard work in making this favourite event such a success!

From the Parent Group

Thank you to Jon for presenting the Child Safeguarding Information Session last week. The parent community appreciated the information provided and also the opportunity to interact and ask questions.

We have an exciting opportunity here in our school to be a part of a St Edmund's Community Business Directory. This Directory will provide parents, carers and school supporters who have small businesses the opportunity to list and promote their business. It is aimed at supporting those who give to the school the platform to advertise their business and, at the same time, gives us the opportunity to use local trusted businesses for our services. A link to the application form is below.

https://www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au/our-community/community-business-directory/

Eddie's Big Night Out is approaching. Tickets have gone on sale! Such a great event to look forward to and to support. It's on Saturday 17th July and promises to be a great night of entertainment, fundraising and friendship. Put in your calendar and book your ticket. It's certainly exciting to be able to celebrate and support Eddie's.

Wishing all the Mums, carers and grandmothers in our school community a very Happy Mother's Day. I hope you enjoy time with your families and that you feel appreciated, loved and cherished on Sunday. We wear many hats: carer, supporter, NDIS planner, chauffeur and the list goes on but the most important and rewarding role we play is Mum ...Happy Mother's Day!

" A mother understands what a child does not say"

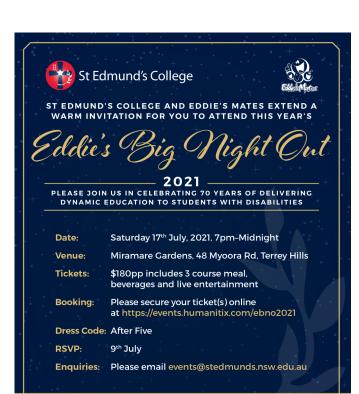
Jewish proverb

Janine Eastham, Tom's Mum Parent Group Leader









CORPORATE TABLES - PLEASE CLICK HERE





Eddie's Big Might Out

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF DELIVERING DYNAMIC EDUCATION TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

MATE'S TABLE OPTIONS

TOP MATE TABLE \$10,000

- 2 tables of ten guests each
- Table signage & company logos on screens during evening
- Acknowledgement throughout the evening
- Half page advertisement in the Events Program
- (\$6,400 tax deduction sponsorship)

BEST MATE TABLE \$5,500

- I table of ten guests
- Table signage & company logos on screens during evening
- Acknowledgement throughout the evening
- Quarter page advertisement in the Events Program
- (\$3,700 tax deduction sponsorship)

GREAT MATE TABLE \$3,500

- I table of ten guests
- Table signage & company logos on screens during evening
- Acknowledgement throughout the evening & in the Events Program
- (\$1,700 tax deduction sponsorship)

All Mate's Tables can be booked online on https://events.humanitix.com/ebno2021 or please email Cathy McNally-Sheppard at events@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au to discuss securing your Corporate table or for any enquiries.

Thank you.











We need YOUR help with our Eddie's Big Night Out 2021 prize pool.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

SOURCE PRIZES AND/OR VOUCHERS FROM BUSINESSES YOU FREQUENT:

Suggestions - hotels, restaurants, your local shops, beautician, hairdresser, butcher or family and friends' contacts.

ITEMS WE NEED FOR HAMPERS:

Gourmet items: specialty oils, pickles, mustards, vinaigrettes, dressings, olives

Sporting items: balls, sport towels, hiking, golf Baby / Toddler / Kids items/educational toys

Alcohol for hampers

LET US DO THE SHOPPING FOR YOU:

We know you lead busy lives so we are happy to do the shopping for items for our Silent Auction hampers for you. Please send your taxable donation to the College Office marked 'Donation EBNO'.

COME ALONG TO THE EVENT BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS

Bring a table of 10 or join a year group table. Please click on the link below for more information.

https://events.humanitix.com/ebno2021

If you have any questions please email Wendy Scott on scott@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au.

Thank you for your support!

Around the College Awards

Students of the Week:

7F	Isaac and Isabella	7V	Brendan and Daniel
8T	Antonio and Lauren	8S	Amie and Saskia
9C	Sean and Annamieke	9E	Elliot and Hugh
10M	Luke and Mackenzie	100	Daena and Mikayla
11J	Brendan and Claire	11S	Lachie and Sid
12 G	Emilia and Kiara	12L	Ben and Zac

Eddie's Best:

7F	Christopher	7V	Finley
8T	Bradley	88	Seul Yi
9C	Chloe	9 E	Luke
10M	David	100	Olivia
11J	Lucas	11S	Owen
12 G	Jesse	12L	Kori



Changes to the St Edmund's Disco



Due to the restrictions placed on us by COVID-19 and also the limitations due to our current building work, we have decided to split our Disco into one for current students only and one for former students only.

Therefore:

Term 2 Disco at St Edmund's on Friday 14th May will be for our *current students* only.

Term 3 Disco at St Edmund's on Friday 6th August will be for our former students only.

Term 4 Disco at St Edmund's on Friday 22nd October will be for our *current students* only.

Attached to this Newsletter is the invitation for our current students for Friday 14th May. **RSVP is essential via the link on the invitation**.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Cathy Laing on laing@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au.



PATHWAYS TO TERTIARY for those transitioning out of secondary education

Starting this week the National Disability Coordination Officer (NDCO) Program is facilitating an online **Pathways to Tertiary** series for students with disabilities who are transitioning out of secondary education into tertiary education. The series will run over multiple weeks with speakers from University, TAFE, the NDCO Program and other industry experts, with the aim to assist students to develop knowledge and skills to support a smooth transition into tertiary education. The series will comprise a number of online Q&A sessions, resources and live events with details as follows:

When: 28th April to 19th May 2021

Time: Varied times depending on sessions

Where: Online

This **free** event is open to **ALL** secondary education students with disabilities and/or chronic health conditions throughout Australia. There are also specifically tailored sessions for parents/guardians and educators.

Registrations are now open, so be sure to <u>register online</u> to save your place. Please also share with those who may be interested in attending.

For more information, please contact Audrey Housbey AHousbey@verto.org.au



If you have any questions about this workshop, please contact Cara Suen (School Occupational Therapist) on suen@erses.nsw.edu.au or Caitlin Hassell (School Speech Pathologist) on hassell@erses.nsw.edu.au. We look forward to seeing you at the workshop.

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 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** 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 2

Tue 11th May Post School Information Evening (Invitation in this Newsletter)

Wed 12th May Year 10 Immunisation

Fri 14th May Term 2 College Disco (current students only - see this Newsletter for RSVP)

Tue 18th May Menstruation Management Workshop for Parents (see this Newsletter)

Tue 25th May
Wed 2nd - Fri 4th Jun
Term 2 Mufti Day
Years 7 & 8 Camp

Thu 10th Jun Term 2 Men's Group Meeting at St Edmund's (see this Newsletter)

Fri 11th Jun Staff Day (pupil free day)

Mon 14th Jun

Wed 16th Jun

Queen's Birthday public holiday

Term 2 Parent Group Meeting

Fri 18th Jun Leadership Assembly & Cadet Graduation

Fri 18th Jun Last day of Term 2

Term 3

Mon 12th Jul First day of Term 3 for students and staff

Sat 17th Jul Eddie's Big Night Out (Miramare Gardens, Terrey Hills)

Tue 3rd Aug Subject Selection Evening Fri 6th Aug Disco (former students only)

Tue 10th Aug Term 3 Men's Group Meeting at St Lucy's School

Tue 17th Aug Term 3 Mufti Day

Fri 13th Aug Staff Day (pupil free day)

Tue 31st Aug Athletics Carnival (to be held at PLC Pymble)

Fri 3rd Sep Father's Day Breakfast
Tue 7th Sep Term 3 Parent Group Meeting
Thu 9th Sep St Edmund's Golf Day
Fri 10th Sep Eddie's Got Talent

Wed 15th - Fri 17th Sep Senior Retreat Fri 17th Sep Last day of Term 3

Term 4

Mon 4th Oct Public Holiday

Tue 5th Oct First day of Term 4 for students and staff
Tue 12th Oct Swimming Carnival (to be held at PLC Pymble)
Fri 22nd Oct Term 4 College Disco (current students only)
Thu 28th Oct Term 4 Men's Group Meeting (external venue)

Tue 2nd Nov Term 4 Mufti Day
Wed 10th Nov - Fri 12th Nov Years 9 & 10 Camp
Tue 23rd Nov Term 4 Parent Group Meeting

Tue 10th Nov
Pri 19th Nov
Abbotsleigh Concert
Year 12 Graduation Formal
Tue 30th Nov
Presentation Ceremony
Fri 3rd Dec
Year 12 Farewell Mass
Fri 3rd Dec
Last day of Term 4



Canteen Roster - Term 2

WEEK / DATE	YEAR GROUP	NAME
Week 4 11 May	9	Karen Neville, Felicity Taylor
Week 5 18 May	7	Suzanne Casey, Paula Rofail, Elizabeth Whiting
Week 6 25 May	9 & 12	Juliet Phelps, Anne-Maree Zofrea, Michelle Fry
Week 7 1 June	10 & 11	Maria Burwood, Marie Martin, Therese Yeung
Week 8 8 June	7	Georgia Hicks, Tessa Tobin, Tina Triantafilakis
Week 9 15 June	8	Scarlett Howard, Con/Cordelia Kalantzis, Angela Roberts

Men's Group - Term 2

The Men's Group is a quarterly 'get together' for a few drinks and a light dinner with other dads from St Edmund's College and St Lucy's School. 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!

Our Term 2 gathering is **Thursday 10th June.** Please see the Important Dates in this Newsletter for all the 2021 dates.

6.30 p.m. Light dinner and drinks

7.00 p.m. Discussion

Venue: St Edmund's College hall

RSVP: Cathy Laing on 9487 1044 or email laing@stedmunds.nsw.edu.au

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









This new webinar, **eSafety's guide to parental controls**, will look at how parents and carers can set up devices and apps to help keep young people safer online. This webinar is targeted to parents and carers of 5 to 13-year-olds.

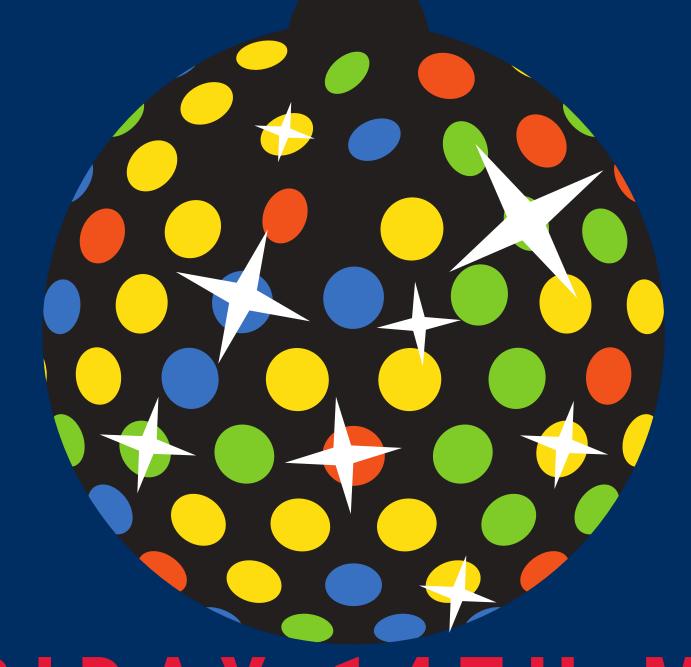
Register for the free webinar, eSafety's guide to parental controls, for parents and carers from the eSafety Commissioner.

The webinar will look at how parents and carers can set up devices and apps to help kids and young people stay safe online. It will cover:

- the benefits and limitations of parental controls
- how to set up iOS and Android devices for safety
- box how to set up popular games and apps like YouTube and Roblox for safety
- using family tech agreements and other parenting strategies to manage online risks
- how eSafety can help when things go wrong.
- ♦ This webinar will include practical tips, demonstrations and advice.

To register, visit: esafety.gov.au/parents.

<u>Learn more</u>



FRIDAY 14TH MAY
7PM-8.30PM

Disco

for current students only

\$15 PER PERSON

ALL STUDENTS MUST BE SIGNED IN BY A

PARENT AT THE DOOR.

DRINKS AND SNACKS AVAILABLE ON NIGHT.

NOTE: SMOKE AND BUBBLE MACHINE AND

LASER SOMETIMES USED.



ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE GYM
ENTER FRONT OF COLLEGE
60 BURNS ROAD,
WAHROONGA
PLEASE CLICK HERE TO BOOK



The students of St Luke's Grammar School invite all of our friends at Northern Beaches Interchange to join us for ...



SOCIAL BASKETBALL

DATE: Term 2 - Wednesdays

Term 3 - Wednesdays

(Excl public holidays)

TIME: 4.15pm - 5.15pm

Come and join us whenever you can make it!

VENUE: St Luke's Basketball Centre,

Unit 7, 224 Headland Road, Dee Why

COST: Free (Afternoon snack is provided)

For further information, please contact Jo Armfield on jarmfield@stlukes.nsw.edu.au

