



*Inspiring Independence, Transforming Lives*

## Principal's Message ...



**Resilience:** I have witnessed a great deal of resilience in our College this term. I would have preferred an easier journey for our students, staff and parents but challenge after challenge is what was delivered. We look for the silver lining and the positive outcomes that come from struggle – a tangible sense of community, new skills and the development of positive character traits, such as resilience. Resilience is frequently advocated in school settings as a disposition to be acquired and developed for a productive life at and beyond school – Resilience is an attribute needing development in our students. I worry that resilience may sometimes be confused with being stoic. Sharing how we are feeling, showing we are struggling and asking for help are attributes of resilience. Fleur Johnston, a Social Impact Entrepreneur, wrote an article last year in the AHISA publication, 'Independence'. In her article, she shares her own ideas about resilience and the evidence-based work of Kathryn McEwen. Kathryn identified actions we can take to have or maintain a resilience response when change and challenges inevitably come our way:

- Living authentically
- Finding your calling
- Maintaining perspective
- Mastering stress
- Interacting cooperatively
- Staying healthy
- Building networks



It's important to remember that resilience is not a fixed trait – you can work on it by being attentive to the 7 resilience factors. People are not inherently resilient or not resilient. We all have the capacity to acquire the skills and learn strategies to build our resilience over time. It's important to distribute our efforts across the 7 resilience factors rather than allow a couple to dominate. Life is full of things that are beyond our control – we need to recognise that and let go of the things we cannot change – note to self. We should focus on what we can control or influence. Our capacity to have a resilient response is determined by what is happening around us and within us. Cultivating resilience allows us to keep going and recover even when things get tough.

We cultivate resilience in our students, teachers and school culture so we can all experience success in an increasingly, **V**olatile, **U**ncertain, **C**omplex, and **A**mbiguous future. As Term 1 comes to a close, I express a huge 'thank you' to students, staff and parents for your resilience, patience and goodwill in what has been a VUCA start to the year.

**Building Update:** Unfortunately, continued rain has resulted in further delays. Realistically, we are looking to move into Stage 1 of the build-in week 6 of Term 2. This is not a bad outcome if it results in the demolition for stage 2 occurring in the June/July break.

**Swimming Results:** We had twelve students compete in the BBSSSA Swimming Championships and they came away from the event with outstanding success. The swim team included Ben, Dom, Johann, Zane, Niki, Adam, Sonnet, Christian, Ella, Isaac, Isabella and Sophia. Congratulations to the swim team for their outstanding results and effort. A special mention to Ben, Dom, Johann, Niki, Isaac, Isabella and Sophia who will represent the College and BBSSSA in the NSWCCC Swimming Championships at SOPAC on 6th April. A full list of their accomplishments is posted in this Newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend and Term 1 break.

Michael Farrell  
**PRINCIPAL**



## Deputy Principal's Message ...

As we approach the end of term, we reflect on the busy time it has been. We have again had many learning opportunities for our students and they have enjoyed their various subjects across the College, however, we have continued to battle the impact of COVID, the continual rain and the first full term in school for all students since Term 2 last year.

It is fair to say that students have begun to tire and are ready to renew and refresh themselves over the holiday break. At this time of year we all have been called to reflect and renew ourselves. Lent calls us to renew our relationship with God and with others so that we can bring ourselves closer to him. We can fast, pray and give to others to achieve this. Next week, we will have our Holy Week liturgy in preparation for the season ahead where students will have an opportunity to understand and reflect upon the journey of Jesus and the sacrifice that he made. We will listen to the story students have heard many times before and remember the message of love and hope that it brings. It will remind us that there is more to Easter than the chocolate eggs that students will be sure to enjoy.

This week we welcomed Ms Niamh Mulkeen to St Edmund's College - Ms Mulkeen will be the Homeroom teacher for class 9E and we very much look forward to having her as part of our community.



Finally a big thank you to all of the community, staff, students and families for your contributions this term. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to seeing everyone in Term 2.

Rebecca Kirwan  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

## TERM 1 PARENT GROUP MEETING

**Monday 4th April, 2022**



### Hear from Michael Farrell, Principal

We will provide an update on the new building, new courses, Eddie's Big Night Out and what to expect in Term 2.

**To register, please visit the Zoom link in the body of this email.  
Any queries, please email Candice on [palin@erses.nsw.edu.au](mailto:palin@erses.nsw.edu.au)  
Meeting will start at 6.30pm**

**We look forward to seeing you online. Thank you.**



**St Edmund's**  
COLLEGE

# Eddie's Big Night Out

Last week we held our first Eddie's Mates meeting as part of the preparation for **Eddie's Big Night Out** on **Saturday 18th June**. Eddie's Mates, for those parents who are unaware, is a group of well-connected businessmen, some of whom are current parents at the College, some are former parents and some have no connection to the College but have been heartened by the students and the sense of purpose we provide for our young people. This group has been together since the start of our Eddie's Big Night Out events back in 2005 and in that time have helped raise over \$2 million for the College, through their business connections, known supporters and their own wallets. This magnificent support, together with our parent community, has afforded new classrooms, air conditioning, technology, the main playground, buses, the commercial kitchen, increased internet connectivity, all for the benefit of our students. To say this has made a difference is an understatement.

This night may be promoted as a fundraiser, but it is equally well known for its great atmosphere and spirit, both strong enough to bring many of you back year after year. After missing the past two years as an in-person event, we please ask you to consider attending as a means to connect or reconnect with friends and experience this truly wonderful community event and all that it has to offer.

To our Year 7 and 8 families, this night is unique to Eddie's so we also encourage you to consider supporting the night. Being there in person is the best way so perhaps bring a neighbour or a friend if babysitting is not an option for the family. **Many of our year groups also get together and book a table of parents.**

The students have been practising dancing and drumming routines, honing their serving skills as part of Hospitality and parents have been wrapping prizes for the raffle and silent auction. It is such a joy to see and hear the 'noise' that this much loved event creates. All of us at the College are looking forward to celebrating face to face as a community. We hope that you can be a part of it.

Bookings are online via [www.trybooking.com/BYBBO](https://www.trybooking.com/BYBBO)

Thank you  
The Development Team



# World Maths Day

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, every student in the College took part in the World Maths Day Mathematics Challenge. In total, 9007 schools from 130 countries took part in the event with St Edmunds's College scoring within the top 1000 schools in the world and the top 100<sup>th</sup> place for schools in Australia!

Today in Assembly, the students with the highest scores received certificates for their amazing Maths skills. Here are the results:

Year 7 – Ruby 107 points  
Year 8- Cameron 162 points  
Year 9- Antonio 137 points  
Year 10- Moses 101 points  
Year 11 - 150 points  
Year 12- Ben M 138 points

Well done to Cameron for achieving the highest score in the College!

Certificates were also presented to Bridie (Year 8) for a fantastic Pic Collage about 'Everyday Maths' and to Leela (Year 8) for two wonderful coloured pictures of a 'Cool Maths Dolphin' and a 'Maths Lion'.

Tracey Snell  
Coordinator - Maths



# sourcekids DISABILITY EXPO



Well done to the St Edmund's College leaders, Lachie, Ben and Claire together with members of our staff who worked together over the weekend at the Source Kids Disability Expo at the International Convention & Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, raising awareness of St Edmund's to the community. It was terrific to have both St Edmund's and St Gabriel's represented at this very important event.



# Around the College

## From the Parent Group



We are looking forward to our Parent Group meeting being held this coming Monday night via Zoom. This is a great opportunity to hear from our Principal, Mr Farrell, with an update on the College building, our new subject being offered - Retail - and what to expect in Term 2.

It was very exciting to receive an emailed invite to Eddie's Big Night Out (EBNO). Such a highly anticipated event in our College calendar and community that has been sadly cancelled the past two years due to COVID-19 restrictions.

EBNO is St Edmund's largest fundraising event, held at Miramare Gardens; it is a semi-formal affair with a three course meal, drinks included and entertainment.

In the past this event has raised funds that have afforded new facilities, technology and resources. The evening is a wonderful opportunity to gather with our school community but also the broader community who give their time and money to support our children.

The ambiance in the room is quite amazing for us as parents. The feeling you get walking into the room of up 500 guests who are there because they care about our children, giving their money for greater opportunities for our children, to create awareness to the guests on their table about disabilities in young adults is quite the **silver lining** for us as families.

***Please consider attending the event with fellow class parents, friends or family.*** Spread the word - maybe your work organisation might like a night out to support a charitable cause!

The opportunity to gather after two years of lockdowns, restrictions and cancellations in itself is a reason to come along.

**Please see the link below to purchase tickets:**

**<https://www.trybooking.com/BYBBQ>**



*Lets celebrate the silver linings together ....*

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

# Year 12 Reunion and Happy Birthday Zac!



## Around the College

### **FIVER FOR THE FLOODS** Special Mufti day – last day of term!

As you have all watched on television, NSW has had tens of thousands of homes and businesses damaged by flood waters. People and families have been evacuated and don't know when they will be able to return home. Donations to the NSW Floods Appeal will help the Red Cross to provide vital humanitarian support to the people and communities affected by the floods. That support will include:

- ⇒ Enabling volunteers and staff to help with relief centres and outreach services;
- ⇒ Supporting people and communities to recover and to build resilience to disasters.



Please come along on the last day of term, **Friday 8th April**, dressed in Mufti clothes with a \$5 note if you can! Every dollar collected will be sent through to the Red Cross NSW Flood Appeal.



# Around the College

## Awards

### Students of the Week:

7E	Ashley and Zara	7V	Daniel L and Holly
8D	Gemma and Cameron	8F	Alexander and Christopher
9C	Lucy and Adam	9E	Jameson and Lauren
10J	Kate and James	10S	Elliot and Zane
11A	Johann and Rafe	11S	Nathan and Teena
12M	Bianca and Niki	12O	Owen and Lachie

### Eddie's Best:

7E	Lucy	7V	Daniyal
8D	Sienna	8F	Campbell
9C	Ella	9E	James
10J	Harry	10S	Chloe
11A	Sebastian	11S	Luke
12M	Sarah	12O	Samuel

**Congratulations everyone!**

## Absentees

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

- ⇒ Please phone Ms 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 Farrell on [farrell@erses.nsw.edu.au](mailto:farrell@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 Farrell will respond to your email, copying in the Homeroom teacher and Ms Acret. This is also a legal requirement for the class roll.



## BBSSSA Swimming Championships

Congratulations to the 12 St Edmund's College students who represented our school at the BBSSSA Swimming Championships at SOPAC on 21st March. They were a credit to their school and their families with many personal best times achieved. They all performed extremely well and supported each other throughout the day.

### St Edmund's Swimming Team

Ben P, Dominic, Johann, Zane, Niki, Adam, Sonnet, Christian R, Ella, Isaac, Isabella and Sophia.

### The Multiclass BBSSSA Championship results are outlined below:

#### Ben P

1<sup>st</sup> - 50m freestyle - New Record  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m breaststroke  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m butterfly - New Record  
1<sup>st</sup> - 100m freestyle - New Record  
Ben also recorded four personal best times on the day.

#### Niki

1<sup>st</sup> - 50m freestyle - New Record  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m backstroke - New Record

#### Christian R

2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m breaststroke  
4<sup>th</sup> - 100m freestyle  
6<sup>th</sup> - 50m freestyle

#### Sonnet

2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m breaststroke  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m backstroke  
4<sup>th</sup> - 50m freestyle

#### Ella

3<sup>rd</sup> - 50m freestyle

#### Sophia

2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m backstroke  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m breaststroke - New Record  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m freestyle - New Record

#### Dominic

2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m backstroke  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 50m freestyle

#### Johann

2<sup>nd</sup> - 100m freestyle  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m freestyle  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 50m backstroke

#### Zane

3<sup>rd</sup> - 100m freestyle  
4<sup>th</sup> - 50m freestyle  
4<sup>th</sup> - 50m backstroke

#### Adam

5<sup>th</sup> - 50m freestyle  
5<sup>th</sup> - 50m backstroke

#### Isaac

1<sup>st</sup> - 50m backstroke - New Record  
1<sup>st</sup> - 50m freestyle - New Record

#### Isabella

1<sup>st</sup> - 50m backstroke - New Record  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m breaststroke  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 50m freestyle

Congratulations to Ben, Niki, Isaac, Isabella and Sophia who broke carnival records at the Broken Bay Swimming Championships.

St Edmund's College was also rewarded with 4 Multiclass Age Champion Trophies. **These were awarded to:**

Ben P: 16 -19 Years Multiclass Boys Champion  
Sonnet: 16 -19 Years Multiclass Girls Champion  
Isaac: 12-15 Years Multiclass Boys Champion  
Sophia: 12- 5 Years Multiclass Girls Champion

A special mention must go to those students who have been selected into the BBSSSA Swimming Team. Ben P, Dominic, Johann, Niki, Isaac, Isabella and Sophia. These students will be competing in the NSWCCC Swimming Championships at SOPAC on 6th April. **Congratulations on your outstanding results!**

Lois Horne  
PDHPE Coordinator

# Assembly Awards



# Around the College - Important Dates

## Term 1

Mon 4th Apr	Parent Group Meeting - via zoom
Wed 6th Apr	Year 7 Immunisation
Fri 8th Apr	Special Fiver for the Floods Mufti Day (see this Newsletter)
Fri 8th Apr	Last day of Term 1

## Term 2

<b>Tue 26th Apr</b>	<b>Staff Day (pupil free day)</b>
Wed 27th Apr	First day of Term 2 for students
Thu 5th May	Mother's Day Breakfast
Fri 6th May	Blessed Edmund Rice Day celebrations
Tue 10th May	College photos for students
Tue 24th May	The Dish
Tue 31st May	Term 2 Mufti Day
Wed 8th - Fri 10th Jun	Years 7 & 8 Camp - Stanwell Tops
Thu 9th Jun	Men's Group Meeting
<b>Mon 13th Jun</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday public holiday</b>
<b>Tue 14th Jun</b>	<b>Staff Day (pupil free day)</b>
Sat 18th Jun	Eddie's Big Night Out
Fri 24th Jun	Leadership Assembly & Cadet Graduation
Fri 24th Jun	Last day of Term 2

## Term 3

Mon 18th Jul	First day of Term 3 for students and staff
Tue 30th Aug	Term 3 Mufti Day
Thu 1st Sep	Men's Group Meeting
Fri 2nd Sep	Father's Day Breakfast
Tue 6th Sep	Athletics Carnival (to be held at PLC Pymble) <b>new date</b>
Tue 6th Sep	The Dish
Wed 21st - Fri 23rd Sep	Senior Retreat
Fri 23rd Sep	Last day of Term 3

## Term 4

<b>Mon 10th Oct</b>	<b>Staff Day (pupil free day)</b>
Tue 11th Oct	First day of Term 4 for students
Tue 25th Oct	Swimming Carnival (to be held at PLC Pymble) <b>new date</b>
Tue 25th Oct	The Dish
Tue 8th Nov	Term 4 Mufti Day
Thu 17th Nov	Men's Group Meeting
Fri 25th Nov	Year 12 Graduation Formal
Wed 30th Nov - Fri 2nd Dec	Year 9 & 10 Camp - Canberra
Thu 8th Dec	Presentation Day
Fri 9th Dec	Year 12 Farewell Mass
Fri 9th Dec	Last day of Term 4

