



Partnerships for Success

April 2019 Newsletter

From the Principal

Today I had the pleasure of being a participant in the school's ANZAC remembrance ceremony. A large number of community representatives attended the event with the ANZAC speech being delivered by Mr. Eric Smith, a member of the Mundaring RSL. Mr. Smith is a retired member of the RAAF and used the speech to reflect on his experiences in the services. The Ode was delivered by the Head Girl Brooke Dunstan and other members of the student body read well known pieces of prose and poetry appropriate to the occasion. Wreaths were laid by students as well as by Mr. Smith and Mr. James Martin, who represented Ms Jessica Shaw MLA. The contributions of the School's Senior Band and Cadet Unit must also be recognized. School representatives will attend the combined schools' commemoration at Blackboy Hill early in Term 2.

A group of students is currently visiting Canberra as part of the National Capital Tour. This tour provides students with the opportunity to visit significant places such as Parliament House and gain valuable perspectives on the way in which our democracy has developed and functions. All reports indicate that the students have not only learned a great deal but have also had a terrific time while they have been away.

I would like to thank all parents who were able to attend the recent Parent Evenings. These are a valuable opportunity for parents to speak with teachers about student progress. If you were unable to attend but wish to speak with a teacher, please contact the school to make an appointment for either a phone or face to face meeting.

Friday the 12th of April is a School Development Day. This date was chosen to allow students who will be attending the school's annual ball at Government House to prepare for the evening without missing classes.

I trust all students will enjoy a well-earned break and that they will be ready to commence Term 2 refreshed.

Regards

John Dunning

Principal

School Board

The School Board recently called for nominations from parents and staff to fill vacancies for positions to commence in Term 2, 2019. The result of this was Ms Kerry Congdon and Ms Linley Williams were re-elected as parent representatives, and Ms Charlotte Edwards was elected to succeed Ms Michelle Pengelly as staff representative. I would like to thank Ms Pengelly for her contribution over the past two years.

At its recent meeting the Board approved the 2019 school budget and finalized the 2018 School Report. The report summarizes the school's achievements in 2018. This report will be available on Schools Online shortly and will be posted on the School Website.

The results of the 2018 National Schools Opinion Survey were also discussed at the meeting. It is pleasing that in most survey items the school is rated very well indicating significant positive opinions and support for the school. The Board were briefed on the school's response to the ratings for behaviour management which were lower than other items. This feedback from survey participants was very helpful when the school undertook a restructure of the Student Services area. The result has been an increase in the number of Year Coordinators which provides one for each year group with their time to undertake their duties increased. They work as two teams (Year's 7 -9 and 10 -12), each with a Program Coordinator. A Deputy Principal oversees the whole program. The School Nurse, Chaplain and School Psychologist work closely with the teams to provide high quality services to all students. This structure has now been in place for two terms and has demonstrated significant, positive results.

NAPLAN Year 7 & 9

NAPLAN practice tests have been conducted over the past two weeks. This has provided students with the opportunity to experience the online testing process.

NAPLAN will be conducted during weeks 3, 4 & 5 of Term 2. This is the second year Eastern Hills has used the online format. This is a significant test for students and our experience has been that all of our students take these tests very seriously.

The school has been recognized as one where our students demonstrate very sound achievement in almost all areas, being above that of other schools on all measures.

Results for NAPLAN are scheduled to be available to mail out to parents late in Term 3.

OLNA

The first round of OLN testing with Years 10 – 12 was conducted in March. This testing went very well. All students required to complete the tests in Years 11 & 12 participated. In Year 10, 97% of students completed tests. These are excellent rates of participation. Students should be congratulated on this and the manner in which they have approached these tests. OLN is a very important contributor to the WACE and Eastern Hills students achieve above the average. Results of this round of testing will be available late May and will be included in Semester 1 Reports.

Images from ANZAC Commemoration, Canberra Tour and Girls Football



