



ELIZABETH
COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER

SEPT
2016



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



After scrolling through the pages of this newsletter, I was left with a sense that our young people are leading us into a more positive future – where what matters is

connecting with the community and getting the most out of life.

One of the stories featured is of Photography students who joined their teacher, Jane Giblin, to take photos in an aged care home. The photos speak for themselves: the lives of these elderly people were honoured that day through the lens of the camera. Our students helped to capture the significance of the 125th anniversary and it is an experience they will all remember.

The photos of students having adventures in the snow at Ben Lomond also capture the excitement and friendships that are formed during these important years of education.

Getting involved in competitions is also a key part of the learning at Elizabeth College - Creative Writing, Languages and Maths competitions are all featured. Behind each success is the commitment of parents and teachers who give up their time to help.

It's no surprise to me that so many of our teachers and support staff gain awards each year. The photo of our RBF awards finalists highlights just a few of our outstanding educators. Each day I see examples of teachers who go out of their way to make the lives of young people better.

And they repay us by living full lives and giving to others, as you can see in these pages. I know you join me in feeling positive about the futures they will create.

Dr Dianne Purnell
Principal



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

In Term 3, Elizabeth College hosted students and teachers from our sister schools in China and Japan. These relationships are central to our international program and provide opportunities for learning across cultures. The visitors from Kunshan Senior High School in China and Hiroshima Inokuchi Senior High School in Japan were hosted by families in the college community. They enjoyed participating in classes here and in other local schools as well as visiting some of Tasmania's best attractions. Lifelong memories and firm friendships were formed in the process. This is the 17th year Inokuchi school has visited Elizabeth College, making it one of the most long lasting sister school relationships in Tasmania.

HOSPITALITY

VET Hospitality students recently put in a mammoth effort, polishing 650 table settings, 1900 glasses and setting fifty tables of twelve, preparing the City Hall for a health professional's conference.

“IT WAS SUCH A GREAT OPPORTUNITY BECAUSE I’VE MET PEOPLE WHO SAID I SHOULD START APPLYING FOR JOBS!”

—BRANDON THOMPSON





JAPAN STUDY TOUR

Over two weeks in June, students and staff experienced the sights and sounds of Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Nara and Hiroshima. Here three students describe some of their highlights:

ERICA PAGE

Hiroshima Peace Park and Peace Memorial Museum were both very powerful places for us to visit. It truly shows the devastation of war and yet remains as a beacon of peace and hope that similar weapons are never used again. We all learnt a great amount from the experience and it is definitely one we will remember for the rest of our lives.

BLAKE ZAMYKAL

Cooking class at Inokuchi High School was an amazing experience. We were guided by Japanese students who were very intelligent and skilful with their cooking. I learnt about a new type of dish with new methods of cooking and I was able to have a great conversation with the Inokuchi students and learn about their school. They spoke very good English and it was very easy to make new friends.

ABBEY MURPHY

I can't thank the students and teachers of Inokuchi High School enough for their uplifting welcome into their English classes. At first I found it a little scary introducing myself in front of each class. I felt very lucky when a group of students worked on writing my name in Kanji. The students came up with the meaning 'love is beautiful' which made me feel very special and the way in which it was written was extraordinary. I am so very grateful to my host family for allowing me the opportunity to stay in Hiroshima and experience an immensely different and beautiful culture.

BEN LOMOND SKI TRIP

Throughout the winter, students in Outdoor Education have been studying alpine safety and survival, nutrition and weather systems in the lead up to the Ben Lomond ski camps. Cold weather meant good snow falls and we were lucky to have excellent cover when we arrived. The trip produced some pro skiers and snowboarders, some great cooks and we discovered some interesting personal skills during the games night! Thanks to all students for their great attitude to teamwork, as well as Cameron Brett who came along to assist.

Excerpts from student journals:

"Overall the ski trip was amazing, I made heaps of new friends and learnt some pretty amazing skills."

- Gabby Jacobs

"At first I was a bit worried, but after going down, it was the best fun. Soon after this I ditched my poles and felt like I had more control." - Olivia Barr



Sam Crawford and Jack Hutchins

"The ski trip was amazing! It is the only camp I have been able to go on this year, and I loved it! It was fun, entertaining, and most of all, provided an opportunity for us to learn a new sport and and make new friends."

- Sam Crawford

"We had frozen faces and huge grins."

- Alex Walden-Baur

PORTRAIT PROJECT

In late August, Art teacher Jane Giblin and a group of Photography students visited the Queen Victoria Aged Care Home. The home, which celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, is preparing an enormous collection of portraits of the residents. Our students threw themselves into taking portraits, working perfectly in unfamiliar circumstances.

Sharnni Coleman, Caitlin Crellin and Annabelle Wakefield Morgan described the experience:

"We captured photographs as we socialised with the residents and connected through their stories. Some of us went to the same high school as two residents, we shared stories and then got a photo with them which they called 'the old and the young of Ogilvie High'. It was an educational and a privileged experience and we are grateful for the opportunity."

"WE CAPTURED PHOTOGRAPHS AS WE SOCIALISED WITH THE RESIDENTS AND CONNECTED THROUGH THEIR STORIES."



LIBRARIES AND LITERACY IN VANUATU

Earlier in the year, teacher Dana Gerke travelled to Vanuatu, where she has a key role supporting our sister school, Ndui Ndui Primary. In 2014 EC staff and students built and installed a library for the school. Here's Dana's update on its progress:

After 3 full days of cleaning, sorting and training we not only got the Miracle Library shipshape and open for business but Open the Door Foundation has employed and trained a local woman, Sylvia, to be in charge of the Library, who is not only highly educated but also part of the school community. This way we are not only employing a local person and injecting money into the community but now the Library is sustainable.

However, cleaning and sorting was not an easy task as every time a shelf was sorted, little eager readers were quickly removing the books, or there would be several children sitting waiting for a story to be read to them. It was just beautiful and they were all so excited. One of the Librarian's tasks is to run an after school reading program to assist in the children's literacy levels and now there is scheduled class time in the Library.

PATHWAYS AND CAREERS

The annual Careers Expo was held earlier this term with over thirty exhibitors presenting a wide variety of education, training and job opportunities for students to access beyond Year 12. The event is an important chance for students to gain information about future pathways. Year 11 student Connor Thornton said "I discovered a new career path, a new way to go that was beneficial!"

Representatives from the University of Tasmania and TasTAFE described courses, scholarships and accommodation services. AFL Sports Ready, Industry Link, Work and Training, and MEGT were there to



discuss training and apprenticeships. Students interested in gap year options were able to meet with AFS Exchange, Latitude Global Volunteering and ImmerQi.

Year 12 students are now lodging their University applications online, registering for TasTAFE courses or searching for job, apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities.



YOUNG TASMANIAN WRITERS' PRIZE 2016

Two of our talented English Writing students have been celebrated in the Young Tasmanian Writers' Prize. Amber Lohrbacher won the senior section of the competition and Zoe Rabone was one of the two runners up, the other being Carolina Peneda from Ogilvie High School. Competition Judge Cameron Hindrum said it was difficult to decide between Amber and Zoe's work, demonstrating the high quality work of the students.

Hindrum described Amber's story, 'He Called To Say' as "a compelling, thoughtful and honest story that charts emotional territory which, in and of itself, cannot surely be within the writer's range of direct life experiences." And said that "To address such subject matter successfully requires a willingness to tread lightly and reveal enough without becoming explicit."

EXCERPT FROM 'HE CALLED TO SAY' BY AMBER LOHRBAECHER:

The house in front of me is a hulking shape in the dusky evening light, and as I step carefully onto the doorstep, no lighting appears to illuminate the porch.

I fumble in my handbag, trying to find my keys.

Lip balm. Purse.

Cursing silently, I reach further in, fingers stretching out, running over various objects.

Gum. Mobile.

My hand closes around the familiar ridged shape and I pull it out with a sigh.

The silver key glints slightly as I slide it into the lock. With a worn out creak, the door opens and I enter the house. After fumbling around for a moment, my fingers connect with a switch, and, as though someone is sucking away the darkness, the narrow hall flickers into a feeble kind of illumination.

Amber (left) and Zoe celebrating their win with Principal Dianne Purnell

LANGUAGE COMPETITIONS

Japanese, Chinese, French and German students all take part in state-wide language competitions. Everyone benefits from the experience and for those who win a prize this is a special bonus. Congratulations to the following students who have won prizes this year:

CHINESE

Oliver Barratt and Eaden Munro received equal second place, and Charlotte Ragus received Certificate of Honourable Mention in the Year 11/12 Conversation category, Sarah Attard received third place in the Speech and Cultural Performance category and Ayesha Jarvis received Honourable Mention in the Year 10 Conversation category.

JAPANESE

Catherine Marendy took first place in the Speech category and will go on to represent Tasmania in the national competition in October. Alma Nicolau came second in this category and Blake Zamykal came third in the Interview section.



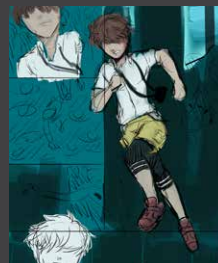
FRENCH

Anni Zhang took first place in Advanced Listening Comprehension and third place in Conversation, Jack Bachelor received an Honourable Mention in the Beginners Listening, and Louise Hogue and Elise Cook received Honourable Mentions in the Poetry section.

GERMAN

Adele Tenni received an honourable mention in the Poetry section, and our Swiss exchange students Valentin Macheret, Joana Grilo Aires, Lea Cunin and Marine Savoy all did well in Poetry and Conversation.

VISUAL ARTS AT EC



Clockwise from top left:

Hariette Ross-Kitchiner, Niamh Donnelly, Gareth Prince, Alicia O'Brien, Claudia Harris, Loughlin Conway, Lily-Joan Rudd, Ruby Brothers

STATE MATHS RELAY

Elizabeth College entered three enthusiastic teams in the Senior Secondary Division of the State Maths Relay. The 'A' Team, comprising Jo Ellis, Irene Legg, Mae Cockerill and Hannah Howells, came third overall. Heaps of fun was had by all and Nick Curtain, an ex-EC student now in third year Engineering at UTAS, assisted as a marker on the day.



RBF EDUCATION AWARDS

Congratulations to Elizabeth College's staff members who have been announced as finalists in the Department of Education RBF awards:

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Susan Oakden

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

SPECIALIST OF THE YEAR

Jane Shearing

WREST POINT YOUNG

DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Alex Silsby

TELSTRA OUTSTANDING

USE OF INNOVATION OR TECHNOLOGY

Stephen Dodge & Luke Yates



Elizabeth College has been successful in all the RBF Teaching awards since its inception, with many nominations and winners in the Teacher of the Year and Support Staff categories. All of our staff are worthy of nomination and these finalists represent our highly professional and dedicated team, who always put students first.

SCIENCE WEEK 2016 GOES OFF WITH A BANG!





GIFTED AND TALENTED

The biennial conference of the Gifted and Talented Association was held at Elizabeth College in August. Conference delegates were entertained and fed in grand style by Elizabeth College students. Hospitality students provided a beautiful array of hors d'oeuvres, morning teas and lunches and music students performed a wide range of entertaining numbers to the delight of all who were there.



Ryan Williams and Jonathon Metcalfe at Foodbank

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Students at Elizabeth College are helping the community while helping themselves by volunteering at Foodbank of Tasmania.

Foodbank is Tasmania's largest food relief organisation, collecting donated food and supplying thousands of meals every day to families in need. Students enrolled in Vocational Pathways have been volunteering at the Foodbank warehouse, sorting and packing the donated produce and creating attractive food hampers.

This purposeful work makes links between the classroom and the workplace. Students have experienced the satisfaction that comes from helping others, and have described the work as rewarding. At times the work has been hard, but this does not deter the students, who often ask to spend more time at Foodbank.

