



St Euphemia College

School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 5

Principal's Report

Upcoming Events

27 August
Father's Day
Breakfast

30 August
Year 12 Divine
Liturgy

5 September
2025 Year 12
Information
Evening

22 September
St Euphemia
Fete



Reading is Magic

Our Primary students celebrated Book Week this week, with the highlight event being the Book Parade and performances in the College Hall. Our youngest students shared their energy and enthusiasm for their favourite stories and characters through storytelling and song.

This year's Book Week theme "Reading is Magic" highlights reading as more than just a skill; it's a gateway to endless possibilities, a tool for lifelong learning and a source of joy and inspiration. The College encourages our students, from Prep to Year 12 to read for pleasure as well as learning. Books are the gateway to different worlds and cultures, allowing children to consider different perspectives and visualise different possibilities.

We have invested in purchasing new books, both fiction and non-fiction, for both our libraries this year, to encourage our students to take up the opportunity of reading something new and different. Our Book Clubs in the Secondary School continue to thrive, and the Book Fair in the Primary School Library was a hive of activity this week, with students purchasing new books to read at home and share with their families.

Aside from the academic benefits of strengthening cognitive development, reading gives students an opportunity to relax and escape into the pages of a good book. Engaging with a book offers a quiet moment of calm and reflection. Studies have shown that reading can lower stress levels, improve focus and contribute to a healthier wellbeing.

As we encourage students of all ages to embrace the joy of reading, let's celebrate the power of reading together. Modelling reading and sharing your reading and favourite books, builds a positive culture of reading as a skill for learning and a skill for relaxing. In a world where we are surrounded by constant distractions, the simple act of slowing down and sharing in a moment of reading can have a lasting effect and build a lifelong love of books and learning.

Community: a group of people who are considered as a unit (Cambridge Dictionary)

This week, the entire St Euphemia College came together as a true community to assist one of our own in getting their life back together after a devastating fire destroyed their home and belongings. In the true spirit of love and compassion, our College families have rallied and raised funds, provided clothing and organised fundraising events at the last minute. We are truly blessed to be part of a group that supports each other and steps in to offer a helping hand.



On behalf of the family, I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to our students for their donations on mufti-day, to our P & F for the sausage sizzle and to our fantastic families who assisted with vouchers, clothing donations, the Go FundMe page and helping with administrative tasks that were overwhelming and too much to bear for the family at this difficult time. St Euphemia College is a true community when faced with adversity and this week was remarkable.

Penny Pachos



Victor Chang Science Award

We are thrilled to announce that Year 11 student **Anastasia Lambros** has been honoured with the prestigious Victor Chang Science Award. This award, established in 2004 in memory of the pioneering cardiac surgeon Dr. Victor Chang, recognises gifted students and encourages growth in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).



Anastasia has demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication in her science studies, excelling in both Biology and Chemistry. Her passion for science and her academic achievements makes her a deserving recipient of this award, which aims to inspire and foster interest in STEM subjects among secondary school students.

The Victor Chang Science Award not only celebrates Anastasia's hard work but also highlights the importance of nurturing young minds to pursue careers in STEM. We are incredibly proud of Anastasia's accomplishments and look forward to seeing her continue to thrive and contribute to the scientific community.

Theony Nikas
Head of Department - Science



Deputy Principal's Report - Primary

Our students recently took part in an Australian wide competition where they had the opportunity to design their own Australian football.

I would like to congratulate **Wency Zheng** from 6D who won third place in the "Design a Football" art competition.

As a result, Wency has won a \$200 online voucher for our school to spend on new sporting equipment. Well done to Wency and what a brilliant design.

Book Fair

The students were buzzing with excitement all week as the book fair rolled into our school! They couldn't wait to explore the colourful displays, filled with new and exciting books. Each day, they eagerly browsed the shelves, searching for the perfect story to take home. By the end of the week, their arms were full of new books, ready to dive into their new adventures.

Thank you to all the teachers who volunteered their time throughout the week to help man the Book Fair and to Ms Vourtsanis for her exceptional organisation.

Upcoming Events

28 August
IPSHA Athletics
Carnival

29 - 30 August
Father's Day Stall

6 September
Sport and
Co- Curricular
Photo day



Infants Book Week Parade

The Infants classes had a fantastic time dressing up and entertaining their parents with a selection of plays and songs. The performance started with the littlest members of our school the Preps, performing 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'.

Kindergarten took to the stage next with their adorable performance of 'The Three Little Pigs'. Dressed as pigs and the Big Bad Wolf, the children brought the classic tale to life with their enthusiastic acting and playful costumes.

Year 1 performed a wonderful play about a bear who wanted to find someone to help him read and Year 2's play was about how books extend our imagination.

The audience, filled with proud parents and teachers, couldn't help but cheer as the little ones performed enthusiastically. It was a memorable performance for everyone!

Elizabeth Xanthoudakis

St Euphemia College supports work life balance for staff and advises that employees are not expected to reply to emails, telephone calls, or text messages from parents (or other members of the School community) which are outside of ordinary work hours (other than in the case of a genuine emergency). If you have any questions in relation to the above, please contact Penny Pachos: principal@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au



Year 12 Report

Congratulations on completing your Trial HSC Examinations! Your dedication and perseverance throughout this challenging period have been truly remarkable. Each of you has demonstrated strength, resilience and commitment. Some of your results have been outstanding, testament to the hard work you have put in, not only during these trials but throughout your entire Year 12 journey.

As you prepare for your final HSC Examinations, beginning on the **15th of October**, remember that the journey is not yet over. Now is the time to harness the momentum you have built, stay motivated and continue striving for excellence. Your teachers, family and entire school community have been with you every step of the way, and they will continue to support you as you approach this final stretch.

Success in the HSC is not just about academic achievement. It's about the character, discipline, and determination you have developed along the way. These qualities will serve you well, not only in your upcoming exams but in all your future endeavours. Believe in your abilities, trust the process and know that your hard work will pay off.

Keep your eyes on the prize, stay focused and give it your all. The finish line is well within sight, and with continued effort, you will reach it with pride. Best of luck as you prepare for your HSC Examinations. You have what it takes to achieve excellent results—now go out and prove it!

Dimitri Verghios
Year 12 Advisor

Year 11 Report

As we approach the middle of Term 3, our Year 11 students are working hard to finish their Preliminary courses before the HSC courses begin.

As Year 12, approaches our students are beginning the process with Ms Pachos and Mr Koutsoukis to establish the Leadership Team for 2025. On Monday 19th August Year 11 attended a meeting with our College Principal Ms Pachos who provided an extensive talk on Leadership to begin the process of nominations for next year's prefect body.

School leaders will be expected to attend all events and be an integral part of College life. Moreover, prefects will be expected to maintain an extremely high standard of behaviour and to be an exceptional role model in word, action and demeanour.

A list of portfolios has been created in which a College prefect will be appointed to. These include: Captain, Vice Captain, Faith and Social Justice Prefect, Sustainability and Environment Prefect, Sport and Wellbeing Prefect, Middle Leaders Liaison Prefect, and finally Cultural Spirit Prefect.

Nominations close on **Friday 23 August** followed by interviews and elections in the upcoming weeks.

We also encourage our parents and carers to attend our HSC Information evening on **Thursday 5 September**.

Mr John Koutsoukis
Year 11 Advisor

Youth State Orthodox Conference

Youth State Orthodox Conference NSW will take place at St Euphemia Bankstown on **Saturday 21 September 2024 from 8:00am till 6:00pm** with a morning service and finishing with a Greek taverna night on the premises of the Parish.

Students aged from 17 and over are encouraged to attend this spiritual event. His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia will preside.

[Click here for registration.](#)



College Chaplain's Message

With God's Grace, the date of the arrival of His All-holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is drawing closer. The Apostolic Visit of history's longest serving Ecumenical Patriarch is a historic moment, a spiritual milestone celebrating the 100th Anniversary since the establishment of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, and a unique opportunity for all of us to be a part of something that transcends time and borders.

His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is not only the spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians, but also a beacon of hope, light, peace, and environmental stewardship for all humanity. He is a global figure, a leader who is often referred to as the "Green Patriarch" as a result of his pioneering work in environmental conservation and interfaith dialogue.

His presence in Australia is a rare and precious gift, one that offers us the chance to connect more deeply with our faith, our heritage, and the values that shape us as individuals and as a community.

The visit of the Ecumenical Patriarch is a historic event for the Orthodox Church in Australia and for the broader Australian society. This is only the second time an Ecumenical Patriarch has visited our shores. In fact, the first time was in 1996, when His All-holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visited Australia. He even visited and blessed our school!

Many events have been organised in order to offer us the opportunity to receive his blessing. These are opportunities that may not be repeated in our lifetimes!

The arrival of His All-Holiness is more than just a ceremonial event; it is a profound spiritual experience which links us directly to our faith and heritage. It is a time for reflection, for renewal, and for deepening our connection with God. In a world that is often fast-paced and filled with distractions, this visit offers a moment of stillness, a chance to reconnect with the core of our beliefs, and an opportunity to receive the blessings of one of the most respected spiritual leaders of our time.

We will be standing in the presence of someone who has dedicated his life to serving God and humanity, one who has protected and maintained the sacred sites of Holy Orthodoxy under challenging circumstances, someone who has walked the halls of power and the corridors of the soul, advocating for peace, justice, and the care of God's creation. This is a chance to be inspired, to listen, to learn, and to grow in your faith.

I encourage each and every one of you, together with your families, to make the most of this opportunity. Attend as many of the events as possible, participate in the Divine Liturgy celebrated by His All-holiness, listen to his words of wisdom, and allow yourself to be moved by the spirit of this extraordinary occasion. This is not just about showing up; it's about being fully present, open-hearted, and ready to receive the blessings and inspiration that this visit will undoubtedly bring.

In years to come, when you look back on your lives, you will remember this visit not just as an event you attended, but as a moment that enriched your spiritual journey and connected you more deeply to your faith and community. You will remember it as a time when you stood with the whole church in welcoming a leader who has touched the lives of millions across the globe.

Please ensure that you register your attendance here:

<https://forms.gle/BwLELpyhTzpWpUaNA> .



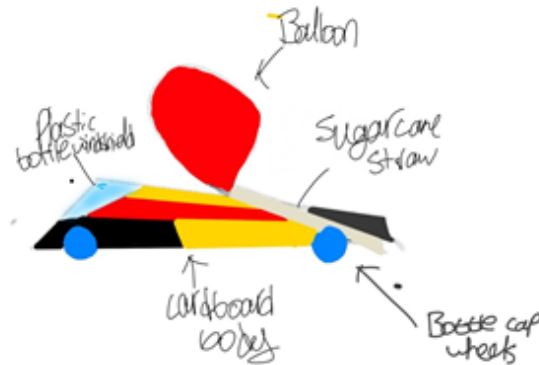
Fr Peter Mavrommatis

[Click here for Parish Calendar](#)

Year 7 and 8 Technology Report

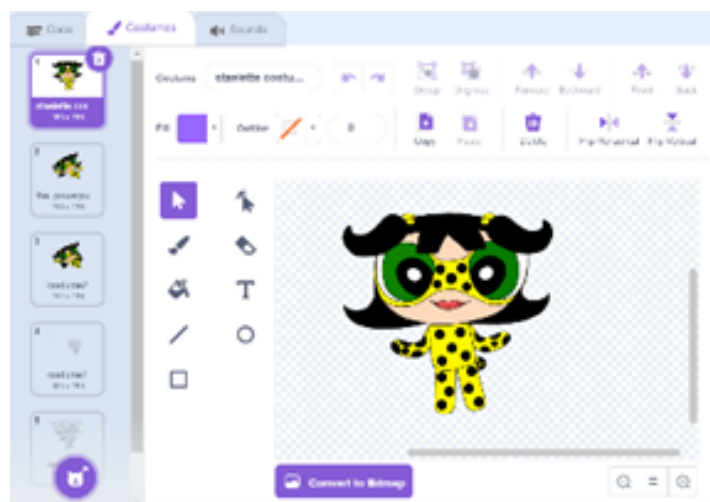
Year 7 Bin on Wheels

In our Year 7 Technology class, students are fully immersed in the exciting world of Engineered systems, taking on the role of budding engineers. They are having a great time exploring the principles of Engineering by constructing a simple machine, a car powered by kinetic energy. Using a balloon as the energy source, which stores potential energy that converts into kinetic energy. The students creatively use every day throwaway products that are recycled. This not only brings their engineering concepts to life but also teaches them the importance of sustainability, as they contribute to reducing their own individual carbon footprint.



Year 8 Catch the Code

In our Year 8 Technology class, students are deeply engaged in the world of Digital Technologies, where they dive into Graphic Design, Computational thinking, Programming, and the development of Digital solutions. They begin by designing unique characters from their own Individual hand drawn sketches and then transform them into digitally drawn creations. Building on these designs, they use various complex codes to bring their games to life. This hands-on approach not only enhances their technical skills but also fosters creativity and problem-solving as they design, test, create, and evaluate their digital games and solutions.





Secondary School Sports News

SWISSA OzTag Draw for next week

Open Girls A	vs	All Saints
Open Girls B	vs	International Maarif
Junior Boys	vs	Redeemer B
Senior Boys	vs	St Mary and Minas

SWISSA Netball Draw for next week

Senior Girls	vs	All Saints
Junior Girls	vs	All Saints

Primary School Sports News

IPSHA Athletics Carnival

Recently, students from Year 2 to Year 6 were selected to represent our school at the IPSHA Athletics Carnival, based on their athletics results. IPSHA is the Sports Association for Independent Schools, to which our school belongs. The carnival will be held at the International Athletics Centre in Homebush on **Wednesday, 28 August**. The bus will leave the school at **7:00am** and return by **3:30pm**. Parents are welcome to attend and support our school. We wish all our athletes the best of luck.

PSSA

What an exciting semi-final for our Winter PSSA teams! We are incredibly proud of our Junior Newcombe Ball team, our Senior Girls Soccer team, and our Senior Boys Soccer team. The teams played with the utmost determination and displayed excellent sportsmanship.

The results were as follows:

Team	Played Against	Results	Score
Senior Soccer Boys	Condell Park	LOSS	2-3
Senior Soccer Girls	Birrong	DRAW	0-0
Junior Newcombe Ball	Banksia Road	LOSS	0 sets to 2



Gina Vourtsanis
Primary Sport Coordinator



P & F Volunteers Needed

Your participation plays a crucial role in creating wonderful experiences and lasting memories for our children.

Please sign up to volunteer via the link provided.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment we look forward to coming together as a community to create cherished memories for our children and community.

Our P&F meetings will be held in the primary college library at **6:30pm** on the last Wednesday of every month beginning **August 28** please come along!

Call Out For Sponsors

We are reaching out for any businesses that want to sponsor us! Please reach out via email parentsandfriends@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au for more details.

Father's Day Breakfast Invite and Gift order link

Click on the link to order your Father's Day Breakfast and or Gift.

Please note the Father's Day Breakfast is **Tuesday 27th August**.

[P & F Click Here](#)

[Father's Day
Breakfast and
Gift Order
Click Here](#)

ST EUPHEMIA COLLEGE
2024 'FETE'
SUNDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER
11am - 4pm

Prepare for a day of sharing, creating memories, and taking part in a variety of enjoyable activities. Here's what to anticipate:

- ✓ Performances ✓ Stalls
- ✓ Fun-filled attractions

MC George Kapiniaris

☎ 02 9796 8240
✉ ParentsandFriends@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au

CrashClaim
ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT
MEETING NEW FRIENDS BY ACCIDENT

Pre-Sale RIDE pass

[Click here to pre book your ride passes](#)

Stall holders - Expression of Interest

Please email your interest to: parentsandfriends@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au

P&F Executive Team



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