



St Euphemia College

School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 7

Principal's Report



Upcoming Events

16 September
St Euphemia Day
School Closed

21 September
Youth State
Orthodox
Conference

22 September
St Euphemia
Fete

R U OK? Day: Thursday 12 September 2024

R U OK? is a national charity dedicated to encouraging conversations that can make a difference for those going through tough times. The campaign promotes the importance of staying connected and lending support when people around us may be struggling.

The focus of R U OK? Day is to equip people with the motivation, confidence, and skills to check in on others and start meaningful conversations. These discussions can help support someone experiencing difficulties, often preventing more serious challenges down the road.

By encouraging strong personal connections, R U OK? plays a crucial role in empowering friends, family, and colleagues to be observant and proactive, checking in on loved ones when they notice signs of distress and guiding them to seek help when necessary.

However, it's important to remember that before we can care for others, we must take care of ourselves. It's OK to acknowledge when you're not in the right headspace to reach out. In those moments, think about who else in the person's support network might be able to have that conversation.

A gentle reminder: our College Wellbeing Team is always available for students and their families. For support, please feel free to contact:

- **Ms. Rachel Richardson**, College Counsellor: r Richardson@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au
- **Ms. Rebecca Kozman**, College Counsellor: Rebecca.Kozman@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au
- **Reverend Father Peter Mavrommatis**, College Chaplain: revmavrommatis@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au
- **Deacon Father Meliton**: fr.meliton@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au

Penny Pachos



Deputy Principal's Report - Primary

What an incredible week we've had, filled with fun and exciting learning opportunities! From engaging classroom activities to special events, our students and teachers have embraced every moment with enthusiasm and curiosity.



Upcoming Events

9 September
Excursion

11 September
Year 2
Planetarium
Incursion

13 September
Excursion
Kindergarten

17 September
Alpha
Production

Movie and Pyjama Day

Recently, we held an exciting Movie and Pyjama Day at school, and it was a huge hit! Students came dressed in their warm winter woollies, cozy and ready for a fun-filled day. This special treat was our way of celebrating the incredible effort everyone put into fundraising. Thanks to the students' hard work and enthusiasm, we surpassed our goal and raised over \$20,000!

It was a well-deserved reward, and everyone enjoyed watching a movie while lounging in their comfy pyjamas. The day was filled with laughter, warmth, and a wonderful sense of accomplishment.





Primary Debate News

On **Thursday 29 August**, our Year 5/6 debate team had the pleasure of hosting another IPSHA debate against Trinity Grammar Prep. The topic of this debate was 'That iPads are better than books,' a subject that sparked insightful arguments and lively discussions from both sides.

Our affirmative team, comprising of **Mary Tezaris, Georgina Grapsias, Andrey Savic** and **Ellene Pro**, argued that iPads offer a more interactive and engaging learning experience, with access to a wealth of information and multimedia resources at the touch of a button. They emphasised the convenience, portability, and environmental benefits of using digital devices over traditional books.

On the other hand, our negative team, comprising of **Sofia Alevris, Christian Savic, Jennifer Sentas** and **Evelyn Kappas**, highlighted the timeless value of books. They argued that books foster a deeper level of concentration and comprehension, free from the distractions associated with digital devices. They also pointed out the reliability of books and the benefits of reducing screen time for students' health and well-being.

After two highly competitive debates, St Euphemia College emerged victorious with a double win. Both our teams delivered well written and researched speeches, with great speaking and persuasive skills, and clever rebuttals.

Congratulations to the Primary debate teams for their outstanding efforts and double win!

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



College Chaplain's Message

With God's Grace we embark on the Ecclesiastical New Year. Like every beginning, this is an opportunity to reflect on the cycle that has passed and prepare ourselves for the year ahead. The Gospel reading (Luke 4:16-22) reveals the fulfilment of the words of the Prophet Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:18-19).

This revelation ought to be an important companion for us as we embark on the New Ecclesiastical Year. Jesus has come to proclaim the good news. He has come to remind us that He has become human and assumed human nature, and sanctifying human nature through union with the Divinity. He has come to grant healing. He has come to give sight to the blind; and spiritual sight to the spiritually blind. He has come to preach good news to the poor; the good news of salvation that is offered to all who believe, regardless of status and race. He has come to free prisoners. Those imprisoned to the passions and have become slaves to sin can be free through repentance and confession. Those held captive by death are set free through the death of the Saviour!

As we walk with Christ in the year ahead, let us do so in a spirit of faith and hope. Let us remember that Christ has already granted us victory. In all the challenges we face, let us remember that Christ is with us, guiding and supporting us on the way.

For Orthodox Christians, September 1st has a deeper significance because 35 years ago, the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate established this day as a Day of Prayers for the Protection of the Natural Environment. It is a day on which the faithful pray for the natural environment, and that God grants people wisdom to care for the environment.

This most auspicious occasion reminds us of our responsibility and duty, as stewards of creation, to care for God's creation. It reminds us of our obligation to maintain our world, and not abuse it carelessly or selfishly. We are called to ensure that we protect the natural environment for future generations. We are also reminded to look to our loving God through the marvels of His creation.

Fr Peter Mavrommatis

[Click here for Parish Calendar](#)

[Patriarchal Divine Liturgy Sydney 2024 Registration](#)



[NSW Youth Conference Registration Form 2024](#)



STATE YOUTH CONFERENCE OF NSW * 2024

CHURCH OF SAINT EUPHEMIA
6-12 East Terrace, Bankstown

8.00 AM: DIVINE LITURGY
9.30 AM: REGISTRATION AND MORNING TEA
10.15 AM: COMMENCEMENT

Keynote Speaker: ——— ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS OF AUSTRALIA
Theme: **We are ready for the future**
Guest Speaker: ——— DR PHILIP KARIATLIS
Theme: The Church and the Future – Where are we going? How do we get there?
Guest Speaker: ——— JONATHAN WILLMOT & HARRISON WHITFIELD
Theme: My Future in Orthodoxy
Panel Discussion: ——— FR TIMOTHY KLINTSARIS, FR ASTERIOS AND PREBYTERA ZOURIAKAS, DR PHILIP KARIATLIS, EVAN NUNER AND ISABELLA OLGERS

WORKSHOPS - MAKING A PROSFORO: LAMBROS LAMBROU • BYZANTINE CHANTING AND MUSIC: BASILIOS PSILACOS • ICONOGRAPHY: KOSTA AND ANASTASIA MITSIS • CHURCH ETIQUETTE: BISHOP CHRISTODOULOS OF MAGNESIA



Year 12 Divine Liturgy



On Friday 30 August, Year 12 students participated in a Divine Liturgy organised by Fr. Panagiotis Protopsaltis, offering a final blessing before their HSC Examinations. The service was co-officiated by Fr. Peter Mavrommatis and Dn. Meliton, with invaluable assistance from Year 12 students **Lachlan Mansour, Chrisoula Zouriakas, George Papadimitriou, and Khalil Fajloun**.

As their Year Advisor, this service held deep significance for me, marking the last Divine Liturgy I would share with this cherished year group. Fr. Protopsaltis offered his blessings and emphasised that our Church will always be our spiritual home. He encouraged the students to seek the guidance and support of St. Euphemia and Christ as they move forward in life beyond school.

The class of 2024 is truly blessed to have such inspiring spiritual leaders and a nurturing community that has supported and watched over them for the past 13 years. This was a service I will hold in my heart forever. God bless you, Year 12. May you continue to grow in wisdom, kindness and love, becoming not just knowledgeable but wise and compassionate individuals.

Dimitri Verghios
Year 12 Advisor

Careers News

Schools Recommendation Scheme closing – 16 September

Applications for the Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS) close at **11.59pm on Monday 16 September**. Students can access the SRS application once they have submitted their UAC application for admission.

The first SRS offers will be released on **Friday 8 November**.

Early bird applications closing – 30 September

Early bird applications close at **11.59pm on Monday 30 September**, after which UAC's processing charge increases from \$80 to \$215. This deadline is not related to early offers.

Anastasia Prevezanos
Careers Advisor



Secondary School Sports News

SWISSA Competition

There is no SWISSA competition taking place next week on **10 September**. Students will be training.

OzTag Results

Open Girls A	vs	International Maarif	7-1	WIN
Open Girls B	vs	St Marouns	3-5	LOSS
Junior Boys	vs	International Maarif	6-4	WIN
Senior Boys	vs	Redeemer	5-4	WIN
Senior Boys	vs	St Marouns	3-5	LOSS

Netball Results

Senior Girls	vs	Redeemer	24-23	WIN
Junior Girls	vs	Redeemer	16-11	WIN

AICES Athletics Championships

We are pleased to announce that 21 students from St. Euphemia have successfully qualified to represent SWISSA at the AICES Athletics Championships, competing in a total of 47 events. The championships will be held at the Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre on 10 September 2024. We extend our best wishes to all our athletes for their upcoming performances.





P&F update

Fete volunteers

We need your help to make it a success!

We're looking for volunteers to assist with various activity throughout the day. Even a couple of hours of your time would be greatly appreciated and will help ensure a memorable event for our community. A schedule will be shared a couple of weeks before the event to confirm a roster.

[P & F Click Here](#)

Pre-Sale
RIDE pass

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

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

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