



St Euphemia College

School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 1

Principal's Report



Upcoming Events

22 October

Year 11

Parent/Teacher Interviews

27 October

Year 7

Sunday Divine Liturgy

29 October

Year 12

Information night

Welcome back to Term 4!

As we kick off Term 4, it was heartwarming to see the smiling faces of our students as they returned to school on Tuesday, eager to reconnect with their friends and share stories of their holidays. The excitement and energy in the air set a positive tone for the term ahead.

Our Year 12 students also returned on Tuesday to begin their HSC examinations. While there were understandable nerves amongst our students, they approached these important assessments with confidence, knowing that their months of dedicated study have left them well-prepared for this final stage of their school journey.

The holiday break was a significant time for our College, highlighted by the Ecumenical Patriarch's visit to Sydney. We were deeply honoured to host His All Holiness at our Parish Church on Friday evening, followed by a special dinner in his honour by the Imbrian Benevolent Society that was held in our College Hall. This Patriarchal visit was a momentous occasion for our College community and a source of great pride for us as Greek Orthodox Christians. Our Primary students also had the unique privilege of chanting Patriarch Bartholomew's Fimi, impressing both His All Holiness and His Eminence Archbishop Makarios with their heartfelt performance.

In other exciting news, our after-school care program launched this term, and I had the pleasure of visiting the students this week. The Primary Library was a hive of activity, with students engaged in board games and creative craft activities, fostering a wonderful sense of community and fun. We are excited to be offering an after-school service to assist our families in balancing their workloads and family responsibilities.

Our campus has also been a busy place during the break. We've made some important upgrades, including roof repairs and air conditioners. Additionally, the finishing touches are almost complete on our new synthetic grass area. We anticipate opening the new playground in Week 3, pending final safety checks.

Lastly, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our families for their continued support. Together, we look forward to a busy, productive, and rewarding term ahead.

Penny Pachos



Deputy Principal's Report - Primary

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful and rejuvenating break! As we step into Term 4, we're excited for the opportunities and experiences that await us in the final stretch of the year. It's hard to believe we are in our last term, but there's still so much to look forward to.

This term promises to be filled with learning, growth, and plenty of special events, including our much-anticipated Grandparents Day and of course our graduations and Christmas events.

Wishing everyone a fantastic Term 4!

Upcoming Events

22 October

Combined
Greek Orthodox
Athletics
Carnival

23 October

Grandparents
Day

28 October

OXI Day



Prep Spotlight

This week in Prep, our students have been busy with hands-on activities aimed at developing essential skills! They've been working on recognising and writing their names using a variety of fun materials like sand, playdough, and tracing boards, helping them become more familiar with their letters while building confidence in early writing.

We've also focused on developing fine motor skills through threading, cutting, and drawing activities.

In numeracy, our Prep students are strengthening their number recognition and counting skills through interactive games and group activities, setting a solid foundation for their mathematical understanding.

It's been a fantastic week of learning and discovery!





Grandparent's Day

We are delighted to invite our grandparents to Grandparents Day on **Wednesday, 23 October**. This special day is dedicated strictly to grandparents only.

The event is scheduled to begin at 9am. Grandparents are asked to meet in the Infants undercover area where at 9am they will be escorted up to the classrooms by the Prefects.

At 9.50am, all grandparents will meet undercover again and be escorted to the church hall where morning tea will be served. The event concludes at 10.30am.

The grandparents are asked to bring along a plate of food or dessert to share with the other grandparents for morning tea. These can be placed on the tables near either of the school gates. The gates will be open at around 8:50am.

Please RSVP to your child's class teacher via email by **Monday 21 October**.

OXI Day

We are delighted to extend a warm invitation to you to join us for a special celebration of OXI Day. The assembly will take place on **Monday, 28 October** at 2 pm in the Church Hall.

To commemorate this significant event, our students will be presenting a variety of performances. We are especially excited to announce that Year 4 and Year 6 will be showcasing their Greek dancing.

We look forward to celebrating this meaningful occasion with you!

Extend After School Care

Extend After School Club commenced operation this week. The service operates in the Primary Library. If any other families are interested in using this service, we encourage you to register your interest.

BOOKINGS

Extend supports your family with flexible, easy booking options to suit all family requirements including:

- No enrolment, membership or administration fees
- A 10 minute, once off, online enrolment process
- The ability to book on the go, up to one minute in advance, from any device
- Flexible payment options.

For further information on your schools program and to enrol, please visit [extend.com.au](https://www.extend.com.au).

EARLY BIRD RATE*

- Booking 14 days in advance will give you access to the Early Bird Rate
- Fees are per session per child. Visit [extend.com.au](https://www.extend.com.au) for a full list of fees.

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY^

- Based on a maximum possible entitlement of the Child Care Subsidy (CCS)
- To find out what level of CCS you are entitled to, visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/child-care-subsidy or call 13 61 50.

SCAN THE QR CODE AND MAKE YOUR BOOKINGS TODAY!





Prep and Kindergarten Enrolments

Enrolments for our 2025 Prep and Kindergarten programs are still open! Our nurturing and dynamic learning environments provide the perfect foundation for your child's educational journey. If you would like to learn more or schedule a tour, please contact the College.

St Euphemia College



ENROLLING NOW

**PREP CLASS
2025**

Call our Enrolment Officer
to organise a school tour
on 97968240 or email
office@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au

steuphemia.nsw.edu.au

Elizabeth Xanthoudakis

Parents and Friends

Our first Parents and Friends meeting for term 4 will be on **Wednesday 23rd October** at 7.30pm in the Primary School Library.

We'd love for you to join us!

Our goal is to make each event bigger and better than the last, and we can't do it without your help.

Your support will make a difference, and we're excited to see what we can accomplish together.

See you next week!

P&F Executive Committee

Uniform Shop

If you are unable to visit during these times, you can conveniently place your orders online at steuphemiauniformshop.com



College Chaplain's Message

The Parable of the Sower, as recounted in the Gospel of Luke (8:5–15), is one of the most well-known teachings of Jesus. It offers profound insights into the spiritual life, illustrating the varying responses to the Word of God among people. For Orthodox Christians, this parable is not only a reflection on how we receive and respond to God's Word, but also a guide to cultivating our hearts as fertile soil for spiritual growth. As we begin our final school term, the parable becomes even more relevant, emphasizing the importance of preparation, cultivation, and perseverance in the learning process, both spiritually and academically.

In the parable, Jesus tells the story of a farmer who went out to sow seeds. The seeds fell on four different types of ground: the path, the rocky ground, the thorns, and the good soil. Each type of ground represents a different condition of the heart:

Seeds that fall on the path are trampled and eaten by birds. This symbolizes those who hear the Word but are indifferent or immediately reject it.

Seeds that fall on rocky ground sprout quickly but wither because they have no deep roots. This represents those who receive the Word enthusiastically but fall away when trials or temptations come.

Seeds that fall among thorns are choked by the cares, riches, and commitments of daily life. This reflects those who hear the Word but allow worldly distractions to stifle their spiritual growth.

Seeds that fall on good soil grow and yield a hundredfold. This represents those who hear the Word with a noble and good heart, retain it, and produce fruit with patience.

In this parable, the Sower represents Christ Himself, who generously spreads the Word of God without discrimination. Just as the sower scatters seeds on all kinds of terrain, Christ offers His teachings to everyone, regardless of their background or predisposition. The seed is the Word of God - His divine teachings, grace, and truth. God's generosity is evident in the way the sower freely spreads the seed, knowing that not all will respond positively.

As we begin the new term, this image of the Sower can serve as a reminder of God's generosity in providing opportunities for growth and learning. The classroom, like the field, is a place where seeds of knowledge are sown, both academically and spiritually. The question is whether the hearts and minds of the students are prepared to receive this knowledge and allow it to take root.

The various types of soil in the parable represent the different ways in which people respond to the Word of God. The challenge, both spiritually and academically, is to become like the good soil, receptive and capable of bearing fruit.

The key to success in both the spiritual life and in academics lies in the preparation and cultivation of the heart and mind. Good soil doesn't just happen - it requires effort, discipline, commitment and care. In the Orthodox tradition, this cultivation is accomplished through prayer, fasting, reflection, repentance, and participation in the sacraments. These practices soften the heart, remove obstacles, and allow the Word of God to take root and grow.

Similarly, the beginning of the school term is an opportunity to cultivate good habits that will help us succeed. This might include setting goals, establishing a routine, seeking help when needed, and remaining disciplined in our studies. Just as a farmer works diligently to prepare the soil before planting, we must also prepare ourselves to receive and retain the knowledge we are offered.

The final aspect of the parable emphasizes the importance of patience and perseverance. The seeds that fall on good soil produce fruit only after a period of growth and maturation. This is a reminder that spiritual and academic growth is a gradual process. There will be moments of difficulty, frustration, and even failure, but these are all part of the journey.

Our Church teaches that perseverance in the faith leads to the fruits of the Holy Spirit, such as love, joy, peace, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23). Likewise, students who persevere in their studies, even when the going gets tough, will eventually see the fruits of their labour in the form of knowledge, skills, and personal growth.

The Parable of the Sower challenges us to examine the condition of our hearts and the effort we put into cultivating a fertile environment for spiritual and intellectual growth. As we begin a new school term, the message of this parable inspires us to approach our work with diligence, openness, and perseverance. By becoming like the good soil, receptive to the seeds of knowledge and faith, we can bear fruit in both our academic pursuits and our spiritual lives.

Fr Peter Mavrommatis

[Click here for Parish Calendar](#)



Primary School Sport News

PSSA

Unfortunately, PSSA Summer round 5 was cancelled due to the rain. We are looking forward to beginning round 6 on Friday 25 October.

A reminder that PSSA training for Basketball, Cricket, Softball and TeeBall resumes on Wednesday and Thursday.

The Senior Basketball teams will be training on Wednesday 23 October. The Junior Basketball teams will be training on Thursday 24 October. All teams will be training on school grounds after school. Students need to be picked up by 4:00pm.

The TeeBall, Softball and Cricket teams will be training at the Bankstown Sports Complex, High St Bankstown. Students will be leaving school at 2:40pm and must be picked from the park by 4:00pm – a bus will not be returning to school.

The fixtures for round 6 are as follows:

Team	Playing Against	Venue
Senior Boys' Basketball	Bankstown North	Bankstown Basketball Stadium
Senior Girls' Basketball	Bankstown North	Bankstown Basketball Stadium
Junior Boys' Basketball	Birrong	Bankstown Basketball Stadium
Junior Girls' Basketball	Birrong	Bankstown Basketball Stadium
Softball Girls	Georges Hall	Kinch Reserve
Softball Boys	Georges Hall	Kinch Reserve
TBall Girls	Banksia Road	O'Neil Park
TBall Boys	Banksia Road	O'Neil Park
Senior Cricket	Birrong	Jim Ring Reserve
Junior Cricket	Birrong	Jim Ring Reserve

Games are due to begin by 10:00am and end by 12:00pm.



Basketball Boomers Clinic

We are delighted to welcome back the Little Boomers and coach Gerard, for Thursday sport for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2, for the next 6 weeks. Students will have the opportunity to learn various age-appropriate skills in dribbling, passing and catching through various drills and games. No doubt, students will enjoy every moment.



Combined Greek Orthodox Athletics Carnival

Students have been selected to represent our College at the 2024 Combined Greek Orthodox Schools' Athletics Carnival. This year St Spyridon College will be hosting the carnival at Hensley Athletic Field. We look forward to an amazing day and showcasing our students' talent, sportsmanship, and school spirit.

Gina Vourtsanis
Primary Sport Coordinator

Secondary School Sports News



Taekwondo All Schools

Congratulations **Panagiota Katri** (Year 5) and **Georgios Katris** (Year 8) who have both received GOLD at the Taekwondo All Schools. The event took place at Mont Saint Angelo North Sydney on **7 September 2024**.

CIS Athletics Championships

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements at the CIS Athletics Championships which took place on **24 September 2024**.

Angelo Mamalioga; 2nd 12 year boys 200m and 3rd 12 year boys 100m run.
Mila Drageljevic; 9th 15 year girls high jump.

Term 4 SWISSA Tennis and Volleyball Competition

Tennis

The SWISSA draw is currently being finalised, and the competition will begin next week on **October 22**. Please keep an eye on Teams for updates on the tennis draw.

Volleyball

The competition starts on **October 22, 2024**, with St Euphemia teams scheduled for a BYE week. We will use this opportunity for additional selections for the boys' teams and pre-season training for the girls' teams.

Monique Lou
Sports Coordinator



[Click Here](#)

Sports/co-curricular group photo's

You can now view and purchase group images and if you place your order before 21/10/2024 you will get a 20% early order discount. Just click on the link. Please note the discount will be automatically applied at checkout.

Images can also be viewed by visiting www.advancedlife.com.au entering the code: 4B5 WFH CW7 and clicking on "Group Photos"

Important

- Sports and co-curricular group photos can only be purchased online, PLEASE DO NOT return payment to your school
- If your child's group or team is scheduled to be photographed at a later date, you will receive an additional email notification when the images are ready to be ordered
- Photos will be returned to your school for distribution approximately six weeks after the discounted early order period has closed
- Past years' photographs including sports, co-curricular and representative groups are also available at your school's advancedorder and your child's advancedyou photo sites

advancedlife would like to express our appreciation to St Euphemia College for placing your trust in us. Please remember we offer a 100% money-back guarantee on our products to ensure your peace of mind. We would also love to receive your feedback or resolve any issues you may experience, to ensure your satisfaction. If you have any questions, comments or feedback relating to your advancedlife experience, please contact us at www.advancedlife.com.au/contact