



St Euphemia College

School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 2

Principal's Report



Our College Celebrates Grandparents and Teachers: A Tribute to Wisdom and Dedication

This week, the College celebrated the deep impact certain individuals have on our lives—Grandparents Day and World Teachers' Day. Both days offered us a perfect opportunity to reflect on the invaluable roles played by these figures who, through their wisdom and dedication, help shape us.

Grandparents Day: Honouring Life's Best Storytellers

Grandparents Day at the College was an opportunity for our students in the Primary School to share their love of learning and showcase their class and classmates. Grandparents hold a unique place in our lives, often bridging the gap between the past and the present. They are often the keepers of family traditions, and the pillars of wisdom. Whether it's through stories of their own childhoods, or simply being there with open arms, grandparents provide a sense of continuity and belonging.

All our students engaged with the grandparents who visited their classroom, showcasing their dancing skills, helping in the creation of sweet snacks or creating special memorabilia for our visitors to take away with them.

Our grandparents had a wonderful morning and were able to connect with each other and make new friends. We thank them for their time and being a part of this special morning in the Primary School.

World Teachers' Day: Celebrating Dedication to Learning

If grandparents are the custodians of life's lessons, teachers are the architects of our futures. World Teachers' Day, celebrated on 25 October recognises the tireless efforts of educators across the globe.

Our teachers do much more than teach lessons from textbooks—they impart values, encourage critical thinking, and provide the emotional support that students need to thrive. Teachers are role models, guiding our students in their academic journeys and in their personal development.

Upcoming Events

27 October
Year 7

Sunday Divine
Liturgy

29 October
Year 12
Information
night

31 October
Year 7
Orientation
Session 1



Today we acknowledged the patience, creativity, and commitment that the teachers of St Euphemia College bring into the classroom each day. From early mornings preparing lesson plans to late evenings marking, teachers go above and beyond to ensure every student has the chance to succeed.

Both Grandparents Day and World Teachers' Day remind us that education and guidance come from multiple sources. While teachers work hard to instil academic knowledge and life skills, grandparents complement that learning by sharing personal experiences, cultural values, and life lessons. Together, they provide a strong foundation for our children to grow, learn, and succeed.

As we celebrate these two days, let's take the time to thank both the teachers who inspire us and the grandparents who love us. Whether it's a simple "thank you" or a meaningful gift, these gestures of gratitude go a long way in acknowledging their profound impact on our lives.

In the end, the love, wisdom, and dedication of both grandparents and teachers help shape the future, ensuring that each generation is well-equipped to face the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Penny Pachos

60
years
1964-2024

**ST EUPHEMIA
60 YEARS
GALA DINNER**

16.11.2024

**THE LEMNOS
44 ALBERT STREET BELMORE 2192
6:30PM**

**3 COURSE MEAL
ALL DRINKS (EXCLUDING SPIRITS)**

**BOUZOUKI SHOW / DJ / GREEK
DANCING PERFORMANCES
DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE**

**TICKETS
ADULT: \$130
CHILDREN 2-12 YEARS: \$75**

**FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT
Steuphemiaevents@gmail.com
Georgia: 0412192232**



Deputy Principal's Report - Primary

Upcoming Events

28 October
OXI Day
Assembly

1 November
Year 1
Excursion



Grandparent's Day

On Wednesday, 23 October, we were delighted to welcome our grandparents into the classrooms for a special Grandparents Day celebration. It was wonderful to see the excitement on their faces as they participated in the grand children's learning activities, from art and singing to dancing and reading.

We extend a big thank you to our dedicated teachers for organising such fun and engaging activities that allowed the grandparents to join in the learning experience.

We also want to express our gratitude to the grandparents for not only showing up but for also bringing in enough delicious food to feed a small village!



OXI Day

We are excited to invite you to a special celebration of OXI Day. The assembly will be held on **Monday, 28 October, at 2:15pm** in the Church Hall.

To honor this important event, our students will present a range of performances. We are particularly thrilled to share that Year 4 and Year 6 will be showcasing their Greek dancing.



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

KINDERGARTEN 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

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.

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 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!



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

In Sunday's Gospel reading (Luke 8:26-39), we are once again brought face-to-face with one of the many miracles of Jesus, demonstrating His divine authority and compassion. As Jesus enters into the region of the Gadarenes, He is immediately confronted with a scene that is both tragic and terrifying. A man, tormented by a number of evil spirits, lives among the tombs, isolated from society, cut off from all that is good and life-giving. He is so far from life, that he is effectively dead. His condition is so severe that he is not only a danger to himself, but also to others.

When this man approaches Jesus, something extraordinary happens. Recognising the authority of Christ, the evil spirits, immediately cry out in fear. They recognise Jesus's Divinity and his authority to cast them into the abyss. In their desperation, they beg not to be sent there but instead ask to be cast into a herd of swine grazing on a nearby hill.

It is important to note that the presence of the swine was forbidden by the Law of Moses. This reveals a deeper layer of the spiritual condition of the people in this region. Despite knowing God's law, they had chosen to defy it, placing their financial interests above their obedience to God's will. In a symbolic act of cleansing, not only of the demon-possessed man but also of the entire region, Jesus grants the request of the demons, commanding them to enter the herd of swine. The swine, unable to bear the presence of such evil, immediately rush down a steep cliff and drown in the waters below.

The reaction of the herdsmen and the people of the region is telling. Rather than being moved to gratitude for the miraculous healing of the man who had been possessed, rather than praising God for His power over evil, they instead focus on their material loss. Jesus' actions have disrupted their comfort and their livelihood. In their eyes, the cost of spiritual liberation was too high, and rather than embracing Christ, they ask Him to leave. They preferred the safety of their sins, the security of their compromised state, over the transformative power of Jesus.

This Gospel passage, while recounting an ancient event, speaks to us as clearly today as it did to those who first heard it. We are challenged to reflect on our own lives. How many times do we, like the Gadarenes, cling to our "swine" - the passions, sins and attachments that keep us comfortable but far from God? How often do we knowingly defy God's commandments, choosing convenience or profit over faithfulness?

Consider the times when we hold onto anger, grudges, or judgmental attitudes, allowing them to possess our hearts, much like the evil spirits possessed the man in the tombs. How often do we become unloving or lack compassion, preferring to push Christ away rather than face the discomfort of repentance? Just as the Gadarenes valued their material wealth over the freedom Christ offered, we too may find ourselves pushing Jesus away, unwilling to surrender our sinful habits or worldly attachments.

Yet Christ's love and power remain. His desire is not to condemn us, but to free us from whatever binds us - whether it be possessions, pride, anger, or fear. The question is whether we will allow Him to heal us, or whether we will ask Him to leave, preferring the familiar chains of our own making.

This miracle is not merely about demonic possession; it is an invitation to examine our hearts. Let us not be like the Gadarenes who chose to compromise with evil. Instead, let us invite Christ to remain with us, transforming us with His grace, and liberating us from all that separates us from His love. In doing so, we find true freedom, the kind of freedom that the man from the tombs experienced, when he, once bound by darkness, was restored to life and community, sitting at the feet of Jesus, healed and in his right mind.

Fr Peter Mavrommatis

[Click here for
Parish Calendar](#)



Investigating Ecosystems

In Term 4, the Year 11 Biology class delved into the study of ecosystems, focusing on ecological fieldwork methods, including the use of transects. This hands-on investigation provided students with a valuable opportunity to observe and analyse the distribution of organisms in different environments.

During this field study, the students laid transects across a habitat to gather data on species abundance and distribution patterns. They used quadrats along these transects to systematically sample and record the types and numbers of plants and animals present. Through this practical approach, students gained firsthand experience in understanding the importance of biotic and abiotic factors that influence ecosystem diversity and structure.



The students demonstrated keen analytical skills as they worked together to compare different ecosystems and interpret their findings in the context of ecological theory. This fieldwork not only enhanced their understanding of the complex interactions within ecosystems but also honed their research, collaboration, and data analysis skills—essential competencies for senior Biology studies.

Theony Nikas
Head of Department - Science

Careers News

Macquarie University and InspirEd Free Kickstart Seminar 3 November

This is a free day of HSC sessions designed to help students get ahead in their studies. This is for students entering Year 11 and Year 12 in 2025.

- How to manage stress during the year
- Secrets to HSC success
- Understanding the ATAR
- English tips and tricks

[Click Here](#)

University of Sydney Webinar 13 November

Gain an inside look at what drives your aspirations, discover the support available and gather the practical insights you need to navigate the road to university.

[Click Here](#)



**YEAR 7 ORIENTATION
2025**

31st Oct
2:10pm to 3:10pm
Welcome | Tour | Timetables

7th November:
2:10pm to 3:10pm
Study skills | PBIS Values

14th November:
1:10pm to 3:10pm
A Taste of Secondary School

3:30pm to 6:30pm
BBQ Meet and Greet
Presentation

Contact Mr. Panayotopoulos for more information
mpanayotopoulos@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au

STEUPHEMIA.NSW.EDU.AU

Please inform the College if you have any specific dietary requirements. You are welcome to bring a plate of food or dessert.

RSVP Essential [Click here](#) by 7 November 2024

Videos here

You may also view your child's [Year 7 Orientation Guide](#) with the link provided.

If you are unable to attend any of the workshops, I recommend watching our prerecorded sessions.



Primary School Sport News

PSSA Sport

We were thrilled to kick off our Summer PSSA rounds once again. With the sun finally shining, students enjoyed being back on the fields and courts, playing in their respective teams.

The scores for round 6 were as follows:

Team	Playing Against	Score	
Senior Boys' Basketball	Bankstown North	18 - 8	won
Senior Girls' Basketball	Bankstown North	84 - 0	won
Junior Boys' Basketball	Birrong	4 - 6	loss
Junior Girls' Basketball	Birrong	52 - 0	won
Softball Girls	Georges Hall	4 - 5	loss
Softball Boys	Georges Hall	12 - 1	won
TBall Girls	Banksia Road	9 - 15	loss
TBall Boys	Banksia Road	8 - 14	loss
Senior Cricket	Birrong	87 - 98	loss
Junior Cricket	Birrong	61 - 139	loss

Combined Greek Orthodox Schools' Athletics Carnival

This year, the Combined Greek Orthodox Schools' Athletics Carnival was hosted by our sister College, St Spyridon, at Hensley Athletic Field, on Tuesday 22 October. Congratulations to all the students from Years 2 to 6 who were selected to represent our college in what was a wonderful day, filled with sunshine and great sportsmanship.

A special congratulations to St Spyridon for showcasing remarkable athletic talents and claiming the trophy once again. Congratulations also to All Saints Grammar, whose students competed with enthusiasm, achieving many impressive placements.





Our students put on a fantastic display of effort and determination, with many placing in a variety of track and field events. Some standout achievements include:

Ana Macura	2nd place in the 11-13yrs 800m race
Evangelia Kokkinis	1st place in the 8yrs 100m race
Caroline Papaspirou	2nd place in the 8yrs 100m race
Marija Subara	2nd place in the 9yrs 100m race
Sophie Axiotis	1st place in the 8yrs 200m race
Sofija Veljovic	1st place in the 8yrs Long Jump event and 2nd in the 8yrs 200m race
Panayiota Hirpis	2nd place in the 8yrs Long Jump
Kerelos Samaan	2nd place in the 8-10yrs High Jump
Nikola Tepsa	1st place in the 8-10yrs Shot Put
Eli Meskeen	1st place in the 11-13yrs Shot Put
Alexia Issa	1st place in the 11-13yrs Shot Put

It was heartwarming to see the support and encouragement our students showed, not only to their teammates but also to participants from other Colleges. I am extremely proud of everyone's efforts and achievements.

Congratulations to all students.

Gina Vourtsanis
Primary Sport Coordinator

Secondary School Sports News

SWISSA Basketball Gala Day

The annual SWISSA Basketball Gala day will take place on **01 November 2024**. Selected students have been invited to represent St Euphemia College at this event. Students will also be selected to form a combined SWISSA Basketball team to represent at AICES in 2025. We wish all our students the best at this event.

Volleyball Fixture for next week

Tennis Fixture for next week

Girls SEC B	v	Redeemer Baptist School
Girls SEC C	v	International Maarif School
Boys SEC A	v	Redeemer Baptist School
Boys SEC B	v	All Saints Grammar School

Senior Boys	v	All Saints Grammar School
Senior Boys	v	St Mary and St Minas
Junior Boys	v	All Saints Grammar School
Senior Girls	v	All Saints Grammar School
Senior Girls	v	St Marouns
Junior Girls	v	All Saints Grammar School

Monique Lou
Sports Coordinator