

EGGSNEWS



Epsom Girls
Grammar School

Volume 5, Issue 5 - June 2020



Assembly lights



Community EGG - Can for a Cookie

Dear parents, caregivers and students

Term 2 ends today and I want to start by thanking everyone for their willingness and flexibility over the recent period as everyone has made the adjustment to being back onsite, first under Level 2 and now at Level 1. Students have adapted to one way stairwells and are maintaining all the important hygiene practices. Students and teachers have worked together to settle back into learning onsite and to make a plan to make the best outcomes possible happen for the rest of the year.

We have seen the return of some normal things such as sports practices and pre-season friendly games, Cookie for a Can, Mufti Day, and this week has also been Spirit Week, organised by the prefects. It is really good to see a lot of involvement and I can proudly announce that the staff were the victors in the Multi-Sport competition against the prefects yesterday!

Recently we also held the Scholars' Morning Tea, which is usually held in Term 1. It was wonderful to be able to celebrate again the very high achievement levels of students who represent the top 5% of students in their cohort. This often means at least 100 credits at Excellence, which is formidable. Many of these students, and others, who are now in Year 13 (plus a small number of Year 12 students) will be entering the New Zealand Scholarship Examinations later this year. Last year EGGs students gained 83 scholarships, with 6 of those at Outstanding level. Scholarships were spread across 23 different subjects reflecting that students are able to achieve at the highest level, across the curriculum. Emily Varney, from 2019, with 6 Scholarships (2 at Outstanding) was also recognised as a 2019 Outstanding Scholar Award Winner by The New Zealand Qualifications Authority. This is a prestigious award with only 58 students across the country recognised. Year 13 students interested in entering NZ Scholarship in one or more subjects should contact Mr Nowell, the Qualifications Manager at the start of Term 3.

At assembly this week students who achieved major awards in the Kangourou Mathematics online Competition were recognised at both assemblies – see Page 4 for details. It seems obvious to say it – learning, making progress and achievement are what a school is all about. All three happen in the classroom, in co-curricular activities and leadership opportunities. Today the Mid-Year Reports will be up on the web portal for parents and students to view. There are no surprises – students know what they gain in each assessment in the assessment programme for a subject course and the Mid-Year Reports provide an opportunity to see that information as well as subject teacher comments, gathered together in one place. Assessment programmes have been affected by the lockdown in a variety of ways and there may be fewer indicators of achievement in some areas than we might have expected in a normal half-year. The New Zealand Curriculum (NZC) prescribes skills and knowledge to be taught in New Zealand schools and assessment arises out of this, against the NZC's Achievement Objectives. In senior years assessment for qualifications is managed by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority who administer NCEA which also arises out of the NZC.

Next term the Father-Daughter Breakfast will be at Eden Park on Wednesday 5 August (Week 3). Tickets are selling fast – go to the website and you will find SHOP in the top right hand menu. Fathers, grandfathers, father figures are all welcome at this annual event and Tana Umaga is the guest speaker.

Lastly, I hope everyone has a really good break over the holidays.

Ngā mihi / Regards

Lorraine Pound - Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As a long disrupted term draws to an end the coming holidays will be a welcome break for all. Covid19 remains at the forefront of all our lives as we learn to live with this virus that continues to wreak havoc on the global stage. In New Zealand we need to remain extra vigilant to ensure we remain in Level one and benefit from what this allows us to do.

Level one has allowed EGGs to return to some form of normality from an educational perspective but the board is acutely aware of the massive impact endured by the students, staff and school community as a result of this pandemic. The financial impact on the school is also expected to be significant and a recent review of our income streams does highlight the importance and reliance of our on-going ability to self-generate income to ensure we can continue to provide the learning environment that EGGs delivers.

The Board has arranged a meeting with the Ministry of Education to discuss the financial implications on schools as I feel the education system has been largely ignored by this government and the pandemic support packages. The public funding model for a school like EGGs is simply inadequate and places a huge reliance on our self-generated income to fund the many aspects of an EGGs education that we have today. The reality is already being felt as we defer expenditure on IT projects, capital works and maintenance to ensure all available funds are directed towards learning outcomes. Additional funding from the Government will be needed over the coming years and the Board will be seeking this support.

As part of the strategic plan that was finalised last year is a real focus on well-being and the events of 2019 and now 2020 emphasise why this has become so important. Ensuring the school has the capabilities and capacity to provide the support networks required, not only for the students but for the staffing team is of paramount importance and taken very seriously by the Board of Trustees. The recent events that have impacted us all have created unprecedented levels of anxiety across New Zealand and our school community can be reassured that the school support structures are extremely empathetic and professional and working very hard with other services to ensure our students are provided with a high level of care and support.

The remainder of 2020 will no doubt see further disruptions and changes that not all will agree with and support. It is important that all communication to the community is timely and provides adequate context but rest assured no decision is made lightly. We remain in uncertain times and with that there will be further challenges that the school will face. The immediate financial burden does present genuine issues that we cannot shy away from and some tough choices will need to be made over the coming months.

I would like to acknowledge the support and direct communication from many of the community over the past few months. In some instances the community has been directly impacted by events created from Covid19 and the Board and myself directly will continue to support in any way we can but also acknowledge the outcomes to date have in some instances been frustrating.

I wish all families a safe and relaxing term break. Support NZ businesses at this time and support each other and we all look forward to another busy and successful term.

*Kind regards
Chris Iles, Board Chair*

GENERAL NEWS

Can For A Cookie

The Community Egg's Can for a Cookie event was an enormous success this year. This event ran on the 24th and 25th of June during lunchtime, and thanks to active participation from the Community Egg committee leaders and some other prefects, we were able to bake over 400 cookies and donate around 450 cans to the Auckland City Mission. Epsom Girls' donation contributed to the 23,000 food parcels the City Mission donates to families in need each year. Along with various types of cans (e.g peaches, tomatoes, tuna) we also received a few other food items such as pasta, rice and dried foods.

This year the Community Egg was able to raise more canned donations than ever before due to our wide range of promotions through Instagram, Facebook, posters and assembly announcements. It was truly rewarding to see students of all year levels participate in this event with enthusiasm and help contribute to the wider community around them.



Overall, the Community Egg was thrilled that our first official event (after cancellations due to Covid-19) was a success and students were educated about what their donations were going towards. These two days highlighted the school value of community by enabling students to form an interconnectedness with the community around them by simply donating a can or more!

Amazing Race (Learning Edition)

Last Friday, the Learning Committee organised a fun lunchtime event where 35 teams took part in an Amazing Race around the school. Each of the 7 learning committees (Careers, Challenge, IT, Pasifika, Peer Tutoring, Sustainability and Library) had created a clue station identifiable by a Year 13 student in a coloured crown. Teams had to answer questions related to that committee's area of interest before getting their next clue and setting off to it at a cracking pace. It was great to see such a buzz around



the school (with the mass running even causing alarm among some staff) and the reinforcement of the message that learning doesn't just take place in the classroom. The winners received a tray of Krispy Kreme donuts and the runners up chocolate prizes. Thanks to the learning prefects and committee for their hard work.

Sustainability



Members of the Sustainability Committee, Jasmine Murray and Joshna Bhaskar, Year 13 students doing their presentation to the Finance and Property Committee of the school board. The committee have been learning, deliberating and working alongside the business team to investigate decision making for the pool boiler replacement options. Their argument was compelling, well received and delivered with passion and the outcome being that the school will favour their preferred boiler replacement option.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Writing for Publication

On the 16th of June Year 11 students of Writing for Publication took part in a Zoom conference with New Zealand novelist Annaleese Jochems. Read NZ send writers into NZ schools to speak with students, and the initial planned visit was rescheduled due to lockdown. Annaleese was determined to find a way to speak to these young writers, and in the end a successful online forum allowed them to ask her lots of interesting questions and hear about how she approaches the challenges of writing.'



Visual Arts

Visual Arts teacher and practising artist Ella Brewer's artwork in collaboration with Tiffany Singh has been selected to accompany the first ever music album made with the Dalai Lama of Tibet. It is set to release on July the 6th the Dalai Lama's 85th birthday.

The album has gained a lot of global interest, mentioned in Rolling Stone magazine, the Guardian UK and many other publications .

Here is the YouTube clip below with the first track which has now been viewed over 700, 000 times since it was released a week or so ago.

► <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84Fe-2ezVsc>

Mathematics

Students from all year levels participated in the Kangourou Mathematics online Competition.

Congratulations to the top award winners:

Ella D'Arth	Year 9 Distinction
Angela Bi	Year 10 Distinction
Kelly Chen	Year 10 Distinction
Cindy Kim	Year 10 Distinction
Taylah Harris	Year 11 Distinction
Hellen Ding	Year 11 Distinction
Nancy Wei	Year 11 Distinction
Kyubeen Kim	Year 11 High Distinction
Michelle Feng	Year13 Distinction

Science



Protein synthesis is a tricky concept to learn however Ms Cotton designed a fabulous activity for our Year 12 students.

CAREER NEWS

The University of Otago has managed to reschedule its Auckland Information Evening and would love EGGs students and parents to attend. This is a great opportunity for you to hear all about Otago, including accommodation, scholarships and study options.

Thursday 30 July | 6.30pm–7.30pm

Great Northern Room, Level 1 | Ellerslie Event Centre

100 Ascot Avenue, Ellerslie, Auckland | Free on-site parking

You must register for this event using the link provided:

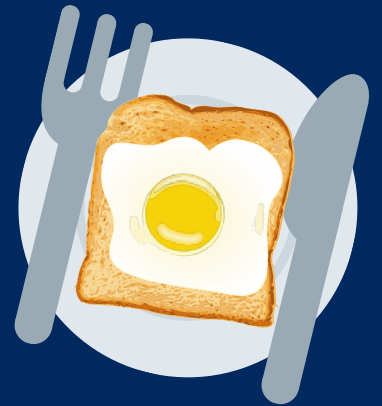
► [Otago University Information Evening](#)

★ 2020 FATHER AND DAUGHTER BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY 5TH AUGUST
7:00-9:00AM AT EDEN PARK

With Special Guest Speaker
TANA UMAGA

Former Player and Captain of the All Blacks,
and current assistant coach for the Blues

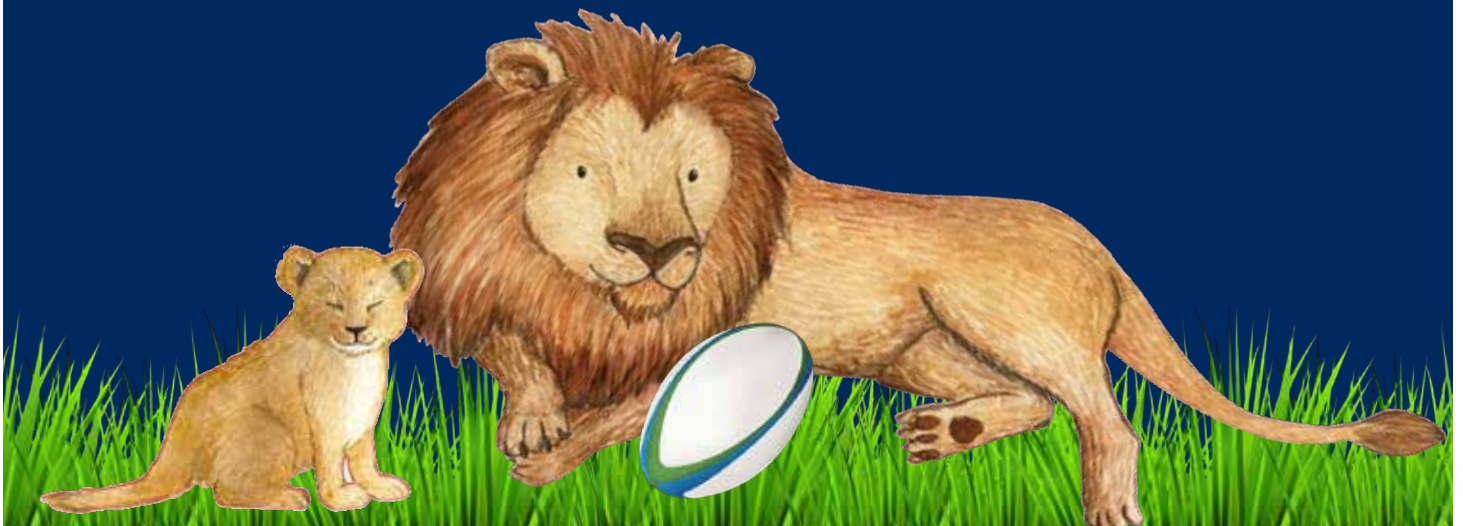


Proudly
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TICKETS \$60 EACH

To purchase tickets please go to the EGGS website <https://www.eggs.school.nz/>
Click SHOP (top right of screen) and you will go to our Kindo shop where you will need to create an account which is free.)



OGA NEWS

With Covid-19 restrictions limiting our capacity to operate during the first half of the year, like everyone else, the OGA has had to work a little differently.

The OGA Committee has met via Zoom, and this has proved a successful way for us to continue to conduct business.

Sadly, we had to cancel our Reunion Morning Tea in April.

We did hold our AGM on 9th June – it was via Zoom and it was a great success. Holding it online meant people from around the country and around the world could attend. We have people from Australia, Hong Kong, Hawaii and from throughout New Zealand. We held a break-out session where people shared a School memory. And we acknowledged our two new Honorary Members – long-serving staff members Kalvir Martin and Jeanette Davidson, both very worthy – and delighted – recipients.

We farewelled long-serving OGA Committee member Virginia Bishop, who has been our Secretary and done so much hard work behind the scenes in relation to Archives. Work commitments, as well as her involvement on the Board of Trustees and the Foundation, has reduced her capacity to contribute to the OGA Committee. Thank you, Virginia, for all you have done.

Margi Leech has stepped back from regular OGA activities but will continue to be involved in Centenary planning.

Usually, in June, we honour our new Founders Award recipients but this year, due to Covid-19 we decided not to do this. We will, instead, honour more recipients next year, in our Centenary year. The blank space on our Founders Board for 2020 will serve as a poignant reminder of a year like no other.

Heritage Gardens Project: Plans for upgrading the quad have been drawn up, in honour of long-serving Staff members and OGA Committee member Ro Bellamy, whose family have donated funds for this work. It will really make a difference to this space. We are planning a special fundraising event in September.

Meanwhile, we continue to work on plans for our OGA Centenary on **Saturday 27th March 2021** (originally Friday 26th but, after consultation and feedback, the date is now confirmed as Saturday 27th March).

We are also looking towards the 2020 Graduation Dinner which is always a highlight in the calendar. The date is set for Wednesday 9th December 2020.

It's been a disrupted year, but there's still plenty on the agenda!

*Sally Blyth & Lynley Sheweiry,
OGA Co-Presidents*





Cycling

1st U19 Girls - Ella Wyllie

3rd U19 Girls - Scarlett Buissink

Sarah Harvison, Queenie McElwee and Lily Brinsdon followed behind Scarlett with 5 of our riders in the Top 6!

Special mention to Ella Wyllie and Bee Townsend who took 58 points from a possible of 60!

Thank you to Mr Townsend and all of the parents who supported the team! If you want to check out more Cycling events, the team are competing in the TTT series every Sunday at Pukekohe Race track!



Photo credit to: Auckland Schools Cycling

Basketball

Epsom Basketball Tram qualified for the Auckland Premier Grade! They won 79-52 against Auckland Girls. Congratulations to the team



Netball

Netball@Epsom is underway again after a lengthy delay due to the COVID Pandemic. With a new 10 week playing season going into late September all teams will begin playing the first Saturday after the school holidays **Saturday 25th July 2020**. In the meantime thank you to all of our student and community coaches who have volunteered to support our netball teams.

We have also hosted several school exchanges with Lynfield College, Westlake Girls, Carmel College and St Peters allowing our teams some valuable practice games.

Ana Manuopangai has been invited to the NZU21 Skills Sessions this weekend, a fantastic reflection of Ana's skills as a netball athlete.

For all things Netball@Epsom please use our new Netball Googlesite by using the following link

https://sites.google.com/d/1wbOjmW4chALb87s2_tRddrtsmrAWK0Kr/p/1SiDV5COlspfqI3apPhqpcIqOpWPOoctY/edit

Have a safe and enjoyable school holidays and we look forward to seeing you all at the courts in Term 3.

Epsom Year 9A and Year 10A Netball teams played two grading games. Congratulations to the Year 9 team who won both and the Year 10 team who won their first game and had a very close second game losing to MAGS by two goals. Both teams have their last grading game this weekend. The Premier team also played their first game for the season and came away with a comfortable win. St Peters Cambridge Premier also came to play our Premier team last night in our stadium. Epsom won the game (x5 10 minute intervals) 41-21.



We hosted a mini pre season Netball tournament. Westlake Girls and Carmel College came over to play our Y9 A, Y9 B, Y10 A, Y10 B and Senior Epsom teams. Thank you to the coaches, managers, umpires and supporters who joined us for the afternoon. Grading for Y9A and Y10A begins this Saturday and Premier 1 are playing their first competition game at St Kentigern, all the best to the team



Westlake Girls High School came over to play a friendly match with the Premier 1 Netball team. On Tuesday morning we had 20 runners at Distance Squad. On Wednesday afternoon Baradene Junior A played our Epsom Junior A Football team in a friendly match. On Thursday June 19th the [Epsom Basketball team qualified for the Auckland Premier Grade](#). Congratulations to the team!



RANGERS 12-17 YEARS



High school is a great time to find out about and develop skills that make you stand out and give you confidence. Rangers, part of Girlguiding NZ, gives you the chance to develop your skills and passions in a range of areas and demonstrates to scholarship boards, selection panels and future employers that you've got resilience and stickability.

Your local Ranger group (Rahiri) has spaces now. Join Rangers, a supportive space for girls and women, and develop skills in event management, learn about governance and social issues and enjoy outdoor adventures.

Please check out our website, girlguidingnz.org.nz.

FACILITIES FOR HIRE

Epsom Girls Grammar School has a variety of venues and spaces for hire during evenings, weekends and school holidays.

For enquiries about the Marjory Adams Hall, Outdoor Courts, Gymnasiums, The Joyce Fisher Sports Centre, Dance Rooms, Field, Lecture Theatre and Classrooms, please contact :

Katie Holmes
Facilities Manager
kholmes@eggs.school.nz

A poster for the Raye Freedman Arts Centre. The top half shows a person in a black and white striped outfit, possibly a performer, against a dark background with stage lights. The text "RAYE FREEDMAN ARTS CENTRE" is in the top right. The bottom half is a solid pink color with the text "What's on?" in large white letters, followed by "For event listings. go to our website!" and the website address "www.rayefreedmanarts.co.nz".

**RAYE FREEDMAN
ARTS CENTRE**

What's on?

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