# EGGSNEWS **Epsom Girls** Grammar School

Volume 6, Issue 10 - July 2021



Matariki hikoi

Cond performance on the 1st July at the Aotea Centre.

It has been wonderful to see so many families at the Subject Teacher Interviews over the last two weeks. With missing this opportunity last year, this connection has been very important.

Students have been doing end of term assessments and for 6 Year 10 art classes there has been the major project of the Walk of Art - installations, magically lit on Wednesday night across two buildings and outside, a real biennale event. Congratulations to everyone involved. Images from the night – Page 7.

I want to reiterate what I said to the media in the article last weekend about a former teacher - the School and the Board have taken this matter seriously and we acknowledge that this process will have been deeply painful for the young woman concerned.

We take student safety seriously and we encourage students to raise concerns of any nature with us. We provide regular reminders at assemblies about this, and this was done again this week at the senior assembly. If a student feels uncomfortable or unsure about anything they should talk to an adult about it.

Last Friday was the Matariki hikoi up Maungawhau in the dark before dawn and then a hangi at lunchtime. Some of you may have seen online or in the print edition of the Herald this morning that the hangi pit was put to excellent use again for the Auckland City Council https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/council-celebrates-matariki-by-cooking-traditional-hangiin-the-ground/WDZ744N57DFVGH0736XG0IYC5Q/

#### Next term we start the options choice round - see Page 4. We take all choices and then form up the option lines in order to make the most choices possible. It is important that the deadline is met for making the selections online as choices affects our staffing needs for the following year. We are really pleased that, even in financially constrained times, at Epsom Girls Grammar School we are able to offer a very broad curriculum for students.

Preparations for Chinese Extravaganza are well underway for performances at the end of the first week back. Also next term, tickets are on sale through the School Shop online for the Father Daughter Breakfast on 11 August. We are feeling very fortunate to have Sir Michael Jones as the guest Speaker and what better venue than Eden Park.

Everyone will be looking forward to the end of the term today – best wishes to all students and staff for a good mid-winter break.

Ngā mihi / Regards Lorraine Pound – Principal

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gratulati	ons to th	e Show Que	est 2021 teo	am on their	outstand	ling

### Coming up in Week 1....

Mon 26 Jul	Term 3 begins	
Tue 27 Jul	Year 10 Options Assembly	
Wed 28 Jul	Pathways Info Evening, 5.30pm	
Sat 31 Jul	Chinese Extravaganza	
Sun 1 Aug	Chinese Extravaganza	

### Coming up in Week 2....

Mon 2 Aug	International Languages Week	
Mon 2 Aug	Online Option selection opens	
	Year 9 Options Assembly	
Wed 4 Aug	Course Information & Option Selection Evening	
Thu 5 Aug	Epsom Music Showcase, RFAC	

### TO VIEW MORE EVENTS CLICK HERE >



## **SCHOOL BOARD**

As Term 2 draws to a close the Board now focuses on the our 3 year strategic planning cycle. The EGGS community has an important role in this process by providing input via the questionnaire recently sent out and also the follow up face to face meetings that are planned before the Board finalises our new strategic plan in September. I often get asked why a school sets a strategic plan, surely this is determined by the Ministry of Education. Yes and No. A Board's primary focus is to ensure ongoing improvement in achievement and outcomes for all students. The MOE provides the framework but ultimately schools are responsible and accountable for achieving improved outcomes for all students. If you stop improving you go backwards so our strategic plan is future focused while also ensuring our learning environment is conducive to meet the ever changing demands of our wider eco-system. We are in a rapidly changing world so EGGS needs to remain agile and open to how this change will influence future learners. I encourage everyone to please take a few minutes to respond to the questionnaire and if possible participate in the face to face meetings.

It is also pleasing to report that the school is financially performing above expectations at this time of the year. The support from the community is greatly appreciated and the MOE has provided funding to support much needed infrastructure needs, such as the re-roofing of many buildings, a replacement lift and much needed heating and ventilation replacement in the swimming pool complex. We have other smaller projects that we intend to bring to fruition as part of the maintenance catchup after deferring these due to the Covid uncertainties.

# 2021 Father Daughter Breakfast



The Board would also like to recognise all those involved in the achievement to become the first organisation in NZ to be accredited with the Energy Management ISO standard. A fantastic achievement and a stepping stone for many other student led sustainability projects and environmental enhancements for the school.

I would like to close by acknowledging the deep impact on the whole EGGS community as a result of the behaviour, as identified by the media, of a former teacher. It is a totally unacceptable situation and the Board and school management take this very seriously and have worked closely with the MOE and the Teaching Council while it undertakes its investigation. We all encourage the students and staff to utilise the school's support structures and please reach out if you need this support.

I thank the Board and the Principal for your support this term and wish everyone a safe and enjoyable term break.

Ngā mihi Chris Iles - Board Chair

### **NCEA Subject List**

As you know NZQA is currently reviewing the NCEA Subject List. This is the proposed Level 2 and Level 3 Subject list.

Feedback can be given from today and closes 11 August. It is important to note that the proposed subjects are still provisional. The feedback that NZQA receives from the community through this engagement process will inform the Ministry's final decision. To support the public to provide feedback, a survey is available at <u>NCEA.education.govt.nz</u> - as well as discussion documents for subjects in both The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, fact sheets and other resource materials.

### Matariki

We were blessed yet again on the morning of our hikoi with incredible weather and a very special ropū of students, family and teachers to welcome in Matariki together. The star cluster was so clear and sparkly as we gathered on the summit of Maungawhau. There we had karakia and waiata together before heading back down the mountain for breakfast.

Thank you to everyone who ordered hangi and helped out on the day. Having korero around the fire is always memorable. Our Kaumatua Richard Nahi taught us a Matariki waiata and the Kapa Haka performed. What a great way to celebrate Matariki! A huge thank you to the staff and parents that helped make it all possible, particularly those who were on the end of a shovel or working in the kitchen. Your mahi is appreciated!



### **2022 Course Information and Options Selection Evening**

On **Wednesday 4th August 6.00 - 7.30pm**, we invite students and families to attend the **Course Information and Options Selection Evening**. Course information, examples of learning and curriculum displays will be available around the school in the various Learning Areas and staff will be on hand to answer questions. There will be a presentation from the Careers Department in the staffroom about Med School. Two sessions 6.20pm and 6.50pm. The Senior Deans, year level Deputy Principals and Qualifications Manager will be available to help with any queries.

Course selection for 2022 will be available to students in Years 10, 11 and 12 on the Web Portal from **Monday 2nd August** and they must have made their selections by **8am on Monday 16th August**. More details to come.

## **COURSE SELECTION - IMPORTANT DATES:**

Tuesday 27 July	Year 10 Options Assembly
Wednesday 28 July	Pathways Information Evening
Monday 2 August	Course selection available on the Web Portal
	Year 9 Options Assembly
Wednesday 4 August	Course Information and Option Selection Evening (Years 10, 11, and 12)
Monday 16 August	8am Completion of online Course selection

## CURRICULUM NEWS National Science and Technology Forum

Olivia Mabey was invited to speak to a large gathering of Rotarians on Saturday 26 June about her experience at the National Science and Technology forum. She presented a well written and confident presentation and everyone was very impressed. Olivia was highly commended for her presentation.



### World Scholar's Cup



On June 22nd and 23rd, 15 junior and senior students participated in the Auckland round of the World Scholar's Cup at Kelston Boys' High School.

In teams of 3, students participated in Debates, Quizzes, Writing Challenges and the Talent Show in a hugely fun and engaging event. All Five teams qualified for the Global Round, whilst achieving highly across each subject area and discipline. Students received individual medals (silver and gold) depending on their scores, as well as an overall team result for which the students would qualify for further rounds of the competition.

Those involved were: Linxi Lin, Hellen Ding, Ella Simons, Emily Wu, Vivian To, Katerina Ward, Helene Muschamp, Natalia Eady, Ansonia Chen, Lucy-Kate McCallum, Heranna Gu, Genevieve Cartmell, Washma Hayat, Elizabeth Reeve, Paige Young. Congrats to the girls on their stellar individual and team performances!

### **Brain Bee**

Last Thursday twelve Year 11 students visited the medical school. These students had been selected by scoring highly in Round 1 of Brain Bee NZ. Students participated in a range of activities including a visit to the AMRF Learning Centre, lab tours, a brain quiz and meet the scientists session.

One team of four, Paige Young, Katherine Fulton, Arina Chaptynova and Alicia Yong, placed third in the quiz. They each won a speaker.

All students had the opportunity to hear about current neuroscience research. Round 2 of Brain Bee will take place in August.







You are cordially invited to our annual Pathways Information Evening. This is a great opportunity for students at all year levels to come and have a chat to tertiary representatives and to have impromptu career conversations with professionals doing interesting jobs. We have 20+ professionals attending this year, all of whom are eager to talk to students about their career path. A biography and photo of each speaker will be sent to all students and parents in a separate email. Tertiary organisations will be in the School Hall and working professionals will be in the Judith Potter Centre. Please join us - we look forward to seeing you there!







Thank you to our Career Ambassadors for helping us organise Pathways Information Evening 2021

### "A Walk of Art" - Year 10

This year, the Semester One Year 10 Art classes have been working hard for the entirety of Term 2 on a collaborative, large scale, site-specific Art work. The event is based on the International Art Festival; the Venice Biennale. These works were showcased and erected in different "pavillions" around the Arts Learning Area on Wednesday night.



### **National Spanish Debate Competition**







Lida Bao, student helper, Pauline Garmychev, Mariana Nascimento, Mariana Nascimento

On Friday 2nd July, Pauline Garmychev, Sophia Javier, Mariana Nascimento and Mrs Torrealba travelled to Rangitoto College on the North shore to represent EGGS at the National Spanish Debate competition run by STANZA (Spanish Teachers' Association Aotearoa New Zealand). This competition is an opportunity for advanced students of Spanish (Years 11, 12 and 13) to demonstrate their language competence in a competitive academic context.

Pauline, Sophia and Mariana competed against Year 11 students. They beat Kings' College in the first round and McClean's College in the second round then defeated Green Bay College in the final.

The students embraced the challenge and displayed courage, determination, and character. They impressed the judges with excellent command of the language, well-developed arguments, ideas and opinions, range of vocabulary as well as clear pronunciation and overall level of oratory skills.

A special mention needs to be given to Lida Bao, Year 11, who helped coach the team and was our back-up student along with everyone who helped prepare the group for this competition.

### Year 11 French



This term, Year 11 French students have been learning to talk in French about having a healthy lifestyle. As part of this, we learnt about the French gastronomic meal, which is on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list. French meals are on average the longest in the world, but the main purpose is to cover all food groups in appropriate quantities in each meal. They can have between 6 and 9 courses and each course has its own drink (typically wine, but we did sparkling grape or apple juice and flavoured Perrier). With the Year 11s, we had an 8 course meal and in groups, students brought one of the courses or some of the drinks. Our meal lasted 1 hour 30 and the students set the table, served each other, did the dishes and cleaned up. The Year 11s are now prepared to visit a French family's house and know exactly what to expect or even to host their own French gastronomic meal.

### **Education Perfect Languages Championships Results**

This week we congratulated some outstanding senior language students who competed in the Education Perfect Languages Championships earlier this year. This week-long international online competition challenged students to gain as many points as possible over the week by testing their vocabulary knowledge. Overall, EGGS students answered over 282,000 questions and spend 522 hours online learning languages over this period.

An Elite certificate and badge was awarded to Serena Zhang who answered 19,354 questions and was in the top .2% of 208,000 competitors around the world.

An Emerald certificate was awarded to Charlotte Holt who answered 15,781 questions and was in the top 1% of competitors around the world.

Silver certificates were awarded to Aiswarya Gayathri Shyju, Callista Ivanka, Clarissa Ivanka and Serena Trinh. These students answered at least 4000 questions and gained at least 2000 points over the competition period.



Clarissa Ivanka, Callista Ivanka, Charlotte Holt, Serena Zhang and Aiswarya Gayathri Shyju (Serena Trinh absent)

## **EPSOM MUSIC** The Big Sing

We were thrilled to host our Epsom Choral Showcase on Friday 18th June to a full house. Our choirs Canto Vivo, Epsom Singers and Paradisum performed their repertoire for the Big Sing, with guests from Auckland Grammar School, Grammarphonics and Grammar Voices. Many thanks to all our performers and Ms Virginia Le Cren, Mrs Deborah Orr, and Mr Takerei Komene, and Ms Emma Roxburgh from Auckland Grammar School for their musical direction.



Canto Vivo group photo with their runner-up best junior choir



Canto Vivo performing at the Big Sing



Paradisum performing at the Big Sing

The choirs then took part in The Big Sing on Wednesday 23 June in the Auckland Town Hall. The Auckland region saw 60 choirs perform over three days. Canto Vivo started the day with their recital, followed by Epsom Singers and Paradisum later in the day. The Gala Concert at the end of the day saw all choirs from the day perform to a full Town Hall. Congratulations to all of our performers and particularly to Canto Vivo who were Runner-Up Best Junior Choir of the Auckland Region.

### **Epsom Music News**

Congratulations Katherine Fulton for placing third in the 2021 Bassoon and Oboe Competition, organised by the New Zealand Double Reed Society.



Epsom Singers performing at the Big Sing

Meryl Gogolashvili in Year 11 entered the Play it Strange Youthtown Songwriting competition (Year 9-11 students). Congratulations Meryl on being announced as a Finalist in the Voice of Youth genre with her song 'Ugly Girl'. As a finalist, Meryl was also given funding to record her song in a professional recording studio.

### **Upcoming Concerts**

Please come and support our orchestras in the Mid Winter Melodies on Thursday 5th August at 5:30pm and our bands in the Mid Winter Blues concerts on Thursday 5th August at 7:30pm. Epsom Symphonia, Epsom Chamber Orchestra, Epsom String Ensemble, Epsom Intermediate Concert Band, Epsom Concert Band, and Epsom Stage Band will perform their programme for the festival.

Tickets are \$5 and now available on iTicket. If you would like to attend both concerts, please purchase tickets to one of the concerts and email Josephine at <u>jchan@apps.eggs.school.nz</u> to be issued complimentary tickets for the second performance.

Book your tickets here for Mid Winter Melodies:

https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2021/aug/mid-winter-melodies

EPSOM MUSIC PRESENTS

Mid

# Winter <sup>\*</sup> Melodies

FEATURING EPSOM SYMPHONIA, EPSOM CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, AND EPSOM STRING ENSEMBLE

Thursday 5th August 2021 | 5:30pm Tickets: \$5 Raye Freedman Arts Centre

Tickets are available from iTicket

Book your tickets here for Mid Winter Blues: https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2021/aug/mid-winter-blues



RAYE FREEDMAN ARTS CENTRE

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ITICKET

## ARTS & CULTURAL NEWS Korean Night

Last week, the annual EGGS and AGS combined Korean Night took place at the Centennial theatre. Korean Night (KONA) is a fully student-run show encompassing a spectrum of Korean culture. The show includes both traditional and modern performances including traditional fan dance and Korean modern dance. The show has run successfully at Auckland Grammar School for many years, and this year's performance was also very successful. Although this year's show is over, Korean Night will be back again next year, so please look out to support us again as an audience in 2022.





### Show Quest 2021

Congratulations to the Show Quest 2021 team on their outstanding performance on the 1st July at the Aotea Centre.

Show Quest is the new alternative to Stage Challenge and is a performing arts competition involving art, music, drama, dance, culture and technology. There were 58 students from EGGS participating this year and our theme was on the five stages of grief.

The team came away with 3rd place on a very competitive night. They also collected a number of other awards including best use of drama, most effective use of live music and the best lead performance by Jay Cochrane.

Olivia Wright who co-led with Jay, gave an outstanding performance as the shadow (representing the lost loved one) whist wearing our wearable arts entry.

I would like to make a special mention to this year's student leadership team consisting of; Mika Chang, Paige Ardern, Jay Cochrane, Samara Kake, Tessa Gribben, Ashley Sutton, Selina Yang, Zoe Stringer and Joanna Lee for their creative input.





Thanks to the teacher support, we couldn't have done it without you. Courtney Wentz, Courtney Horler, Julie Waddell, Emma Cotton, Sabrina Street, Sophie Meade, Nicola Rennie, Virginia Le Cren and Rachael Mannering.



# SPORT **F**

### Netball

The Netball season has started out very well, with EGGS entering 24 teams into the competition. Rain or shine, our netballers show up on a Saturday and play hard and represent Epsom Girls Grammar School proudly.

Our Premier 1 team are currently sitting 2nd on the table, only behind Baradene by 4 points. Our Premier 2 team are 5th on the table, however equal on points with current 3rd and 4th place holders, Howick College and Glendowie College.





### Rowing

With winter rowing currently under-way, we have our current rowers keeping active with two trainings a week- one during the week and one over the weekend. The big focus for Term 2 and Term 3 is recruitment of new rowers, which is where see our Learn to Row Programme kicking off. We had a special 'Have-A-Go' day at school where students were able to have a go on the rowing machines, as well as check out one of the EGGS boats. New rowers were welcome to attend sessions at the Waitemata Rowing Club where lead by the coaches and senior rowers, they got training on the ergs as well as a chance to do some on-water training. Learn to Row will continue into Term 3.



### **Ultimate Frisbee**

On Sunday 4th July, we had four EGGS teams compete at the Ultimate Frisbee Senior Indoor Championships at Pulman Arena. The students had an awesome time, played hard, which resulted in the final being an all EGGS final: EGGS Gold vs EGGS Silver, with EGGS Gold taking out the top spot. Epsom Yellow came 3rd for team spirit.





### Curling

EGGS entered 3 teams into the Secondary Schools Curling Championships, and our students came up with some funky names for these teams: EGGS (Green) & Ham, EGGS Cracked, and EGGS Benedict.

## Football

Congratulations to Katherine Futon, Vibha Godha and Lara Colpi for making the U17 Identification camp! This will be a great opportunity for development and growth within the sport.

## **North Island Artistic Swimming Competition**



Aquarina Trio

Aquanau Team

Congratualtions to Sarah Grant and Eva Miller who competed at the North Island Swimming Competition held in Tauranga from July 2nd - 4th.

Athlete	Placing	Event
Sarah Grant	1st	Aquarina Figures
Sarah Grant	1st	Aquarina Trio
Eva Miller	2nd	Aquanaut Team

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Exam Centre Manager**

### To help facilitate the running of our NCEA examinations we seek an Exam Centre Manager.

The Examination Centre Manager (ECM) is responsible to the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) for the conduct of the NZQA examinations held at examination centres in November / December 2021. As ECM, you will be responsible for the management of all processes relating to the conduct of secondary examinations at your examination centre according to NZQA procedures.

Please follow this <u>link</u> to find out more about what this position involves. All expressions of interest are to be directed to Karyn Dempsey, Deputy Principal, Qualifications and Assessment at <u>kdempsey@eggs.school.nz</u>

### **Epsom House Weekend Supervisor**

We are looking for a Weekend Supervisor Friday 1.30pm-10.00pm / Saturday 3.00pm-10.00pm and Sunday 6.30am-3.30pm to work positively with the Epsom House team to maintain a safe, supportive and caring environment for all the students who live at Epsom House.

All applicants must include the completed School Application Form.

Please visit the school website for more details: Epsom House Weekend Supervisor



# Periods are a fact of life for half the population. Period.

### Access to period products: Information for parents and whānau.

Periods are a normal part of life for half our population and no one should miss school because of their period. Young people can't always access the products they need to feel comfortable at school and sometimes they may simply get caught unprepared. Whatever the reason, free period products for young people who need them means that they don't have to miss school because of their period.

As parents and whānau, your young person's education and wellbeing is important to you. Providing period products is part of supporting their wellbeing. Students can better focus on their learning and know they can get what they need, when they need it, to manage their cycle.

#### What products are available?

Pads and tampons – regular and super – are being provided at school. These products are easy for students to use at school and will meet a range of different age, developmental, and cultural needs.

Schools and kura can order enough products for young people to use for their whole cycle, based on an average of 20 items per young person per month. There will be mix of brands.

#### How can students access product?

Each school or kura will arrange an appropriate way for young people to collect period products based on what works best for them and the school eg it may be from the school office, a teacher, counsellor or other trusted adult. Using these products is not compulsory. Young people are free to make their own choices about what they use and can continue to bring products from home if they prefer.

If you are a parent or caregiver and have any questions or concerns about period products being available to any young person in your family or whānau, please speak with staff at your school or kura.

> Access to period products in schools and kura.