

# EGGSNEWS



Epsom Girls  
Grammar School

Te Kura Tuarua o Ngā Taitamāhine o Maungawhau

Volume 8, Issue 15 - December 2023



Principal Lorraine Pound with (from left) 2024 Board Student Representative Jasmine Huang, Head Prefect Arina Chaptynova and current Board Student Representative Charlotte Bratley at the Board farewell.



Board members Tui Kaumoana, Sara Tuitupou, Andy Patrick and Tovia Va'aelua

Last week was the Year 9 Dance-off and today it is the Year 10 Ki o Rahi Tournament. The junior school is busy and on Monday we are collecting non-perishable goods for the Auckland City Mission Christmas boxes appeal. Everyone is encouraged to donate a package or can or jar of food towards this.

In this edition of EGGNEWS you can see details of wonderful student achievements across a wide range of interests. The Year 9 and 10 Speech Competition is a wonderful example of growing confidence for EGG students who go on to be articulate and confident members of their communities as adults. It was a privilege to be at the Young Sportsperson of The Year Awards last week where Epsom had twelve finalists and four winners in their categories. Congratulations to all finalists and to Dinithi, Stevie, Tessa and Ava.

A big shout out to the Music Department. Music staff and students contribute so much to school occasions throughout each year, as well as focussing on their learning and co-curricular competitions and thank-you, in advance, for the valuable contribution musicians are making to the Junior Prizegiving to be held next Friday.

Wishing the Epsom Condor Sevens team, the NZSS Athletics competitors and the NZSS Touch Rugby team the very best as they head to their competitions.

I want to thank everyone who I have engaged with over the last eight years as principal; six years before that as deputy principal and also in the 1990s when I was in charge of the History Department for five and a half years. This is a fine school and it is the people who make it so.

He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.

Mā te wā.

Ngā mihi / Regards  
Lorraine Pound – Principal

## Coming up in Week 9...

Tue 5 Dec	Year 13 Graduation Dinner
Fri 8 Dec	Junior Prizegiving 10.00am
	Junior reports on the portal
	End of Term 4

## Starting Dates for 2024

Wed 31 Jan	Powhiri - 10.30am (all new students)
Thur 1 Feb	All year levels - 10.30am
Fri 2 Feb	Normal times for the whole school - 8.30am
Mon 5 Feb	Normal times for the whole school - 8.30am
Tue 6 Feb	Waitangi Day



## Board farewell for Principal Lorraine Pound held at the Judith Potter Centre



Julie Goodyer



Rachael Mannering with some of the Epsom musicians



Tovia Va'aelua



Vanessa Bainbridge and Michael Alofa

## UNIFORM/STATIONERY SHOP HOURS

The shop will be closed from Friday December 8th until Tuesday January 16th, 2024

### Additional Hours 2024

Tuesday January 16th ..... 10am – 4pm  
Wednesday January 17th ..... 10am – 4pm  
Thursday January 18th ..... 10am – 4pm  
Friday January 19th ..... 11am – 3pm  
Saturday January 20th ..... 11am – 3pm  
Monday January 22nd ..... 10am – 4pm  
Tuesday January 23rd ..... 10am – 4pm

Wednesday January 24th ..... 10am – 4pm  
Thursday January 25th ..... 10am – 4pm  
Friday January 26th ..... 11am – 3pm  
Monday January 29th ..... CLOSED  
Tuesday January 30th ..... 10am – 4pm  
Wednesday January 31st ..... 10am – 4pm  
Tuesday February 6th ..... CLOSED

## LOCKERS

A reminder that students need to remove locks and clear lockers before **Tuesday 2 December**. Any items left in lockers after this date will be removed and disposed of by school staff.



# CURRICULUM NEWS

## Photography



Photography by Drayton Colson - Year 13

Photography students entered a nationwide student Photography competition called 'Stills'. They selected their own work to be submitted into 5 categories. We are proud to announce –

Sarah Taylor Year 12 placed 3rd in the 'Place' category

Drayton Colson Year 13 and Aiyana Anderson Year 12 placed in the top ten finalists of their categories.



Photography by Sarah Taylor - Year 12

## Year 9 and 10 Speech Award finals

Earlier this term the English department held a speech competition to find the strongest speakers in both years 9 and 10. This is the first time Epsom Girls Grammar School has had this event, and it was great to be able to showcase some of the talented orators in the school.

During the year, all students presented to their English class a speech they had prepared from a range of prompts and topics. The focus was on engaging your audience with strong delivery skills and with thoughtful, interesting, and sometimes humorous content. Each class selected one student for the semi-finals that we ran during lunchtimes.



The finals were an evening event held in the library. Thank you to our student emcees: Kuini Campbell-Behar (9STC) and Jasmine Huang (10GRT); and our judges: Ms Slattery and Ms Heywood.

Congratulations to all who took part in this event.

### Year 9

WINNER .....Zoe Dodson  
Second.....Sabine Harris  
Third .....Halamehi Mahe  
Finalists .....Florence Heap and Aimee Seah

### Year 10

WINNER.....Esther Polavarapu  
Second.....Christine Wan  
Third.....Pranvi Mathur  
Finalists .....Tehreem Fatima, Sukhlyn Kaur, Angelina Tuiono

# EPSOM MUSIC NEWS

## Students accepted for NZSSO

Yanice Yue (Year 12) and Sierra Sharma (Year 9) auditioned for the New Zealand Secondary School Symphony Orchestra (NZSSSO) and have been accepted into the 2024 programme. This will involve them travelling to Christchurch in the Term 1 holidays for an intensive workshop week with some of the top secondary school orchestral musicians in the country. They will perform famous works such as the Aotearoa Overture by NZ Composer, Douglas Lilburn and Symphony No. 2 by Alexander Borodin. The hundred-fold orchestra will be an amazing experience for Yanice and Sierra and we wish them well in their preparation.



## Music Scholarship for recent Old Girl Mysty Cooke



EGGS Old Girl, Mysty Cooke is studying music performance in Wellington. She has been awarded a Te Kōkī - New Zealand School of Music Fisher Trumpet Scholarship. The scholarship is for undergraduates who demonstrate excellence in jazz and contemporary trumpet performance and allows Mysty the use of a Bach Stradivarius trumpet throughout her degree. Charlotte Fisher is a philanthropist passionate about empowering women in their field and we are thrilled that an Epsom Girls music student has been recognised as a worthy recipient of this generous scholarship.

## Junior Musicians prepare for Prizegiving

Our junior musicians have joined together to form our Junior Prizegiving Orchestra. Together with the junior choir, Canto Vivo, they have been preparing for our upcoming Junior Prizegiving. Weekly rehearsals at various times have meant students have had to be on to attending and refining their varied repertoire for the event. For lots of musicians in this group, this will be their first performance and we are very proud of the progress the groups have made. This performance will be a lovely way to close our busy year and we thank these musicians for all of their hard work.





## School Singing

The junior cohort have also been preparing for Prizegiving with weekly singing assemblies. We have been very impressed with their enthusiasm for learning new waiata. Due to NCEA exams, these practices have had to be in the Stadium and their ability to be adaptable and have a positive attitude at these rehearsals is admirable. Thank you to Year 10 students, Honey Schaumkel, Saye Kiuchi, and Deziree Kharat for accompanying the singing as well as Canto Vivo for your support of the junior school.



# EPSOM HOUSE NEWS



Everyone at Epsom House was counting down the days till Christmas Week at hostel, and we are very excited to announce that it's finally here! Monday was a very special night for us, complete with a visit from Secret Santa, and a delicious Christmas dinner. Tuesday brought out our competitive sides as we versed each other in various board games. And it wouldn't be Christmas Week without some karaoke and Christmas carols which we danced and sang to till dark. We were very lucky to have Mr Whippy stop by afterwards to cool off from the approaching summer heat.

However, although we thoroughly enjoyed munching down on some soft serve there was sadness in the air as we had to say goodbye to one of the supervisors. Bronte had been working at Epsom House for a few years and her fun, helpful and intelligent spirit will be sorely missed by many girls in hostel, some of whom Bronte has been acquainted with from the beginning of their schooling to the end.

Today, (Wednesday the 29th) the juniors of Epsom House (Years 9 &10) are heading up to Newmarket's Event Cinemas to watch the new Marvel movie. We are all very excited because, in addition to having a cinema all to ourselves, hostel is treating us with popcorn, ice cream and drinks on the house... literally!

We are very lucky to have the annual tradition of Christmas week in Epsom House as it brings joy into our evenings and distracts us from the fact that school is not over yet. Believe me when I say we are counting down the days until pack-up. Speaking of pack-up, you might not know what that is. Let me explain:

At the end of every term, the last night in the hostel is dedicated to packing up everyone's rooms. This means stripping down your bedrooms until the only thing left is your sheets, toiletries, and uniform ready for the last day of school. Due to construction occurring in the last week of school, Epsom House is closing a week early. So that means that pack-up is this Thursday! Good luck to all the juniors who will be packing their rooms this Thursday. For Year 9s this is their first EOY pack-up and for Year 10s, they will no longer be returning to the junior blocks as they are moving up in the ranks. Yay! Doors!

And that brings us to the end of Christmas week in Epsom House.

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer break wherever they are. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Honey and Lillian - Year 10, Epsom House*



## College Sport Young Sportsperson of the Year Awards

### FINALISTS:

Abigail Liufalani	Waka Ama
Ava Gatie	Lacrosse
Ava Maddison	International Achievement
Dinithi Bamunusinghe	Lacrosse
Gemma McCall	Lacrosse
Iris Feng	Softball
Katherine Fulton	Ultimate Frisbee
Mikaya Kaipo	Rugby Union
Nicole Hume	Yachting
Stevie Mabey	Rowing
Tegan Feringa	Cycling
Tessa Swinson	All Rounder and Ultimate Frisbee

### WINNERS:

Dinithi Bamunusinghe - Lacrosse



Stevie Mabey - Rowing



Tessa Swinson - All-Rounder and Ultimate Frisbee



Ava Maddison - International Achievement



## Additional Netball Representative Players

The following players have also represented their selected centre at a representative level this year. Congratulations on your achievements.

### Auckland Netball Under 14's

Kasmira Faapaiaogo

Elia Landon-Paniora

Kyra Tuihalangingie-Midson

Catelyn Aho - Was named MVP 2023

## Netball update for 2024

Please familiarise yourself with our netball page: Click on the Netball link under the Netball page, <https://elearn.apps.eggs.school.nz/co-curricular/sports-hakinakina> it will take you here <https://sites.google.com/apps.eggs.school.nz/eggs/netball> where you will see all the updated information for our teams and season info.



## Junior Volleyball Auckland Champs



Well done to the Junior A Volleyball Team who competed at the Auckland Champs this term. Hard competition with over 50 schools competing. The team had a tough pool and close results with all games going to the third set with only a few points difference. Some great final games, the team finished 22nd overall. The team had an enjoyable 3 days and are all looking forward to next season.

## Junior Water Polo North Island Champs

Last week, Epsom's Junior Water Polo team competed in the Year 9 and 10 North Island Secondary Schools Championships. Our juniors did extremely well to step up to such a fast-paced level of sport that demands endurance, strength, agility, and very strong swimming abilities. Playing and placing among some of the best teams and players in the country.

The team has been steadily growing in both numbers and skill, and this tournament was a great display of our progress. It was a great experience and amazing to witness our hard work pay off as we proudly secured 6th place out of competing schools in the North Island. This achievement reflects the dedication and determination of every team member who contributed their best in the pool.

The enthusiasm and support from our seniors who came to cheer us on was truly appreciated. A special note of appreciation to our coaches Quentin and Emma who continuously strive to elevate our water polo program. Their guidance, commitment, and unwavering support have been one of the biggest keys to our success.



The Epsom Girls water polo program is undoubtedly on the rise, and the North Island Champs was just a stepping stone in our journey toward greater accomplishments as we continue to grow and improve together.

Thank you all for your support and dedication.