

2021

CAMPUS NEWSLETTER



Our Principles

Tools to create a safe and happy school community
EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL

RESPECT



=

Being kind, listening
and following
instructions

HONESTY



=

Keeping it real!
Making things right

PARTICIPATION



=

Doing your best
and having a go!

SAFE & LEGAL



=

Following the
working agreement
and making safe
choices



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA



OSCAR ROMERO
Flexible Schools Network

Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition



"Just to be able to keep chipping away, keep putting yourself out there, let yourself be vulnerable, just be yourself, knowing that everything that comes with that is an opportunity to learn."
Ash Barty

Dear Edmund Rice Flexi School Community

Each year in our flexi communities we invite our young people and staff to co-create a radically different space for learning, wellbeing and personal growth in many dimensions. We commit to being together in a different way by creating a Common Ground guided by our 4 Principles – Respect, Safe & Legal, Honesty and Participation.

As we conclude our year it is important to celebrate together what we have achieved in so many areas of life in our community. I hope all of us can reflect on the past year and have something for which we are grateful. I hope in some small way our young people are able to say I am a better person than I was at the beginning of the year.

I would like to express my gratitude to our staff for their devotion to create opportunities for learning, wellbeing and growth during the year. They keep inviting our young people to keep chipping away and become better people for their journey ahead.

I am particularly grateful to Dani, Dijana, Toby and Kirsty for the leadership and support they have provided to our staff and young people at St Joseph's during a very busy year.

As we celebrate Christmas, we reflect on the Gospel infancy narratives about the birth of Jesus. Jesus is the reason not only for this season but for our work in EREA Flexi Learning Centres. At times life can be rather challenging for many people but at Christmas we celebrate the light of Jesus and hope for a better future for all. We continue to bring light to our young people and provide them with opportunities to shine their individual light for their families and their community.

I hope the light of the birth of Jesus is a special time for everyone in our Flexi Community this Christmas.

Every Blessing
Gerard Keating
Network Principal

PS this photo is me putting myself out there and holding a Boa Constrictor 😊



What a year 2021 turned out to be! Challenges and highlights brought us a very busy and ever-changing year. As a member of our school community, I have been so proud to walk alongside our brave, resilient young people and skilled, caring staff, to see the way in which we all worked together to keep each other safe and well.

This year has brought us incredible opportunities to be grateful for the Principles we strive to live by while sharing our school site every day with each other. From extreme weather moments to managing the pandemic still affecting our world, we found comfort in the knowledge that by following our Common Ground Principles of Respect, Honesty, Safe and Legal and Participation, we had a way to sort through issues and find positive solutions.

We have seen the highlight of building and completion of our new Davoren Park site, and had time to explore the ways our school will enjoy using it for 2022, as well as challenges of working around buildings affected by hail, water and fire damage at our Elizabeth site. The way our young people on site managed to adapt to classes moving location and even using those Port-a-loos has been so wonderful to see. Our school community is definitely putting the "flex" in Flexible Learning! ☺

Congratulations to all young people who achieved their set goals for this year, from increasing attendance and making new friends, to trying new skills and following learning pathways. We say goodbye to those who have discovered it's time to move in another direction with their learning journey and hello to those returning in 2022; as well as the new students who are ready for a fresh start.

I must thank our school families and support people, who have helped us create a school where everyone who visits and spends time with us is treated with respect and kindness. Thank you, especially, to all the wonderful staff of Edmund Rice Flexi School, 2021, who have shown our young people how fun and engaging school life can be by creating exciting and special experiences while showing professional and individual support to every young person we are lucky enough to spend our days with.

Here's to a fun and safe Christmas holiday break for all.

Dani Stratford
Head of Campus



It has been an absolute pleasure to join the Edmund Rice Flexi School community. I was privileged to join the team in Term 3 and getting to know the young people, staff and community has been the highlight for me.

We have continued to support our young people through on-site counselling services from Connected-Self and have also introduced employment support for our students through Workskil, for those who identified employment and training pathways.

We had a great Term 4 with a focus on healthy science, connecting and visiting services such as; Sammy D Foundation, SHINE SA, Metro Youth Health and NACYS. We learned about the amazing human body, reproductive system and drug and alcohol awareness as well as accessing supports and services.

The wellbeing team has continued to grow and evolve. This year we have welcomed three new youth workers Craig Starkey, Chris Calvert and Jessica Bezzina, and sadly we say goodbye to Nat Mills who departs us after two amazing years at our school. We also welcome back Louise Stevens who returns from maternity leave in 2022.

Dijana Karaahmetovic
Wellbeing Leader



Wellbeing Classes - Snapshot

Craft

Students used a range of different craft materials to make lava lamps and fairy jars, they went on an excursion to an op shop where they learnt about recycling and upcycling preloved clothing and made beautiful, scented candles and soap to give as gifts along with Christmas cards and decorations. Overall students commented that they enjoyed learning how to express themselves in different ways using colours and materials and got in touch with their creative side.

Men's shed Gym program

The men's shed looked into nutrition and physical conditioning at the gym with a weights program to promote physical and mental health benefits. The boys all worked hard and encouraged one another at the gym, to push through and exceed their previous best and increased their knowledge around nutrition. During the term our students learnt what foods to eat before and after training and have made great progress in their choices. Students said they felt tired after the weight's session, but also felt great within themselves.

Holiday programs

We have continued to offer a range of holiday program including movies, cooking and nutrition, gym and fitness and roller skating. We seek feedback and guidance from young people about activities we offer and encourage them to guide our holiday program agenda, as we want to offer connection and support for our young people during the school breaks.

We will again be offering a variety of school holiday programs during the summer break (please see attached flyer), and we encourage as many of our young to sign up and join us for the festive and fun activities. We are excited for the new year, amazing programs, activities and supporting our young people to be the best version of themselves.

TOBY



This year I was fortunate to work across multiple classes for Literacy and Numeracy sessions. With the Middle School class (Years 7-9) we spent time learning about different forms of English language and how to use appropriate forms of text while in maths we worked on topics that would assist us in everyday tasks.

In Term 4, I spent time with the Career Maths and English class, and we spent most of the term working on Financial Literacy tasks through developing our independent living skills. This year we introduced some new subjects that I was lucky enough to lead.

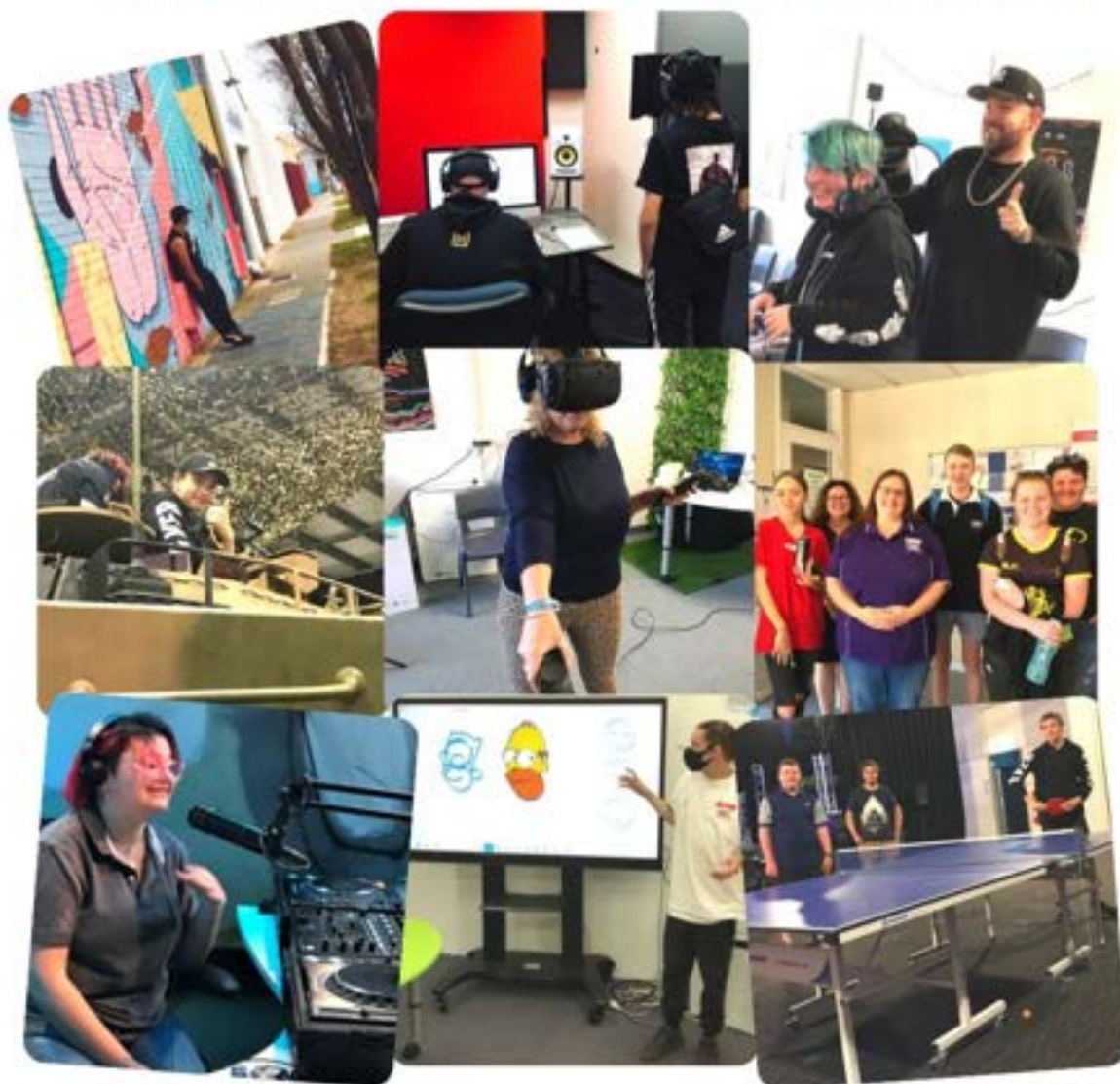
In term 1, we had a group of students interested in getting out and about riding bikes that we had worked on in Term 4 of the previous year. We bought a trailer and carried the bikes to various conservation parks to explore the local tracks.

In Term 2, we took a group of students fishing down at Semaphore Jetty and Garden Island and had some really good catches. In term 2 we also had our AFL stars practice their footy skills but unfortunately couldn't organise a match against another school, hopefully next year.

In Term 3, I was able to facilitate the Gym Fitness program where we linked with the services of Blue Fit to run a fitness program out of the John McVeity Centre. Students engaged extremely well and showed some promising results. During Term 3 we also ran a basketball program at the Ingle Farm Recreation Centre with some awesome attendance and engagement.

This year saw the amazing development of our Flexi Chiefs Ice Hockey team. Having formed in Term 4, 2020 it has been inspiring to watch our team grow in terms of skill and development as a team, playing in three tournaments.

CAREER PATHWAYS



This year students connected with community providers such as 'Northern Sound System' (Beats n Bars, Broadcast and Gaming) to explore music, culture and the creative industries.

In Cert III Volunteering, students connected with 'Northern Volunteering' to learn about community development and build on the foundation skills required by all volunteers.

We also had 'Thelements Hip Hop' teaching about positive graffiti and aerosol art expression with plans to complete art pieces on the new Davoren Park site. In class, students also explored tradition art and photography techniques with industry professionals.

The Rock Band crew have written and recorded their own composition for a nationwide competition and have connected with NSS outside of school hours. Some students have also started 1:1 tuition with Bron.

The Cert II Kitchen Operations 'Flexi Cafe' gave students the opportunity to work at the 'Red Door Cafe' in Adelaide, while they learn on the job. This opportunity has turned into paid employment for some students at the Cafe.

The Work Ready class explored social enterprise and created their own fast food companies and planned for global domination. Some students also completed work experience, while others have moved into employment or apprenticeships. Well done!

SACE

Congratulations to our Class of 2021, what an incredible achievement!

Avery Belstead
 Bianca Bleakly
 Lachlan Cameron
 Blake Carter
 Reanin Collison
 Mason DeWitt
 Tai Douglas
 James Evans
 Brandon Fidock
 Naiah Hawkins
 Hannah Hemmerling

Zaine Jamieson
 Brianna Johnson
 Joshua Lockwood
 Kirrilee Molloy
 Trinity Myers
 Mikaylah Myles
 Connor Pedler
 Blakely Sheppard
 Aaliyah-Tashae Thomas
 Emily Webber
 Tazlyn Young

We have seen the following outcomes for our hardworking young people whose commitment to their compulsory Yr 11 studies has been inspiring.

The results speak for themselves, and we wish them the best of luck for their chosen learning pathway.

Stage 1 SUBJECTS:

ESSENTIAL ENGLISH : Sem 1
 ESSENTIAL ENGLISH: Sem 2
 ESSENTIAL MATHS: Sem 1 and 2
 PLP: Sem 1 and 2
 COMMUNITY STUDIES: Sem 1

COMPLETIONS:

13
 15
 10
 13
 1

KATY



This year in the middle school we enjoyed a range of engaging activities including creating a community garden, a Zen Den and creating our own businesses.

In maths, the students particularly enjoyed creating the Zen Den as a quiet space for our classroom. We used cushions, curtains, and fairy lights where students could retreat when they needed a break. The students created a list of items we purchased from various shops as a budgeting task for numeracy.

We also visited a community garden in Parafield Gardens where the students were inspired to create our own garden at the new campus in Davoren Park. The students were learning about volume and area and used these formulas to plan our garden area around the school.

As part of literacy, we looked at advertising and business strategies where the students created their own mini business and looked at ways in which they could advertise and fund their business. Some students created their own posters and social media pages to specific target audiences who would purchase their products.

As part of our class community, we also made memory boxes where the students could decorate their own box to keep school items like awards and letters in. The students were able to use their creative flare to personalise their boxes.

CARLY



This term students have explored measurement and money in Maths. Students created a community garden for our new Daveron Park Campus, using their new measurement skills to plan the garden beds. Students also explored discounts and unit prices. They used all the learning about best buys in real life when we travelled to Coles to purchase items for our end of year class party.

In literacy, students planned a small business and explored ways businesses advertise by social media. Students improved their letter writing skills and wrote letters to Santa. Instead of asking for presents, our young people asked Santa to change one thing in the world. Lastly, students planned and created a special project where they researched, purchased and packed a small toy hamper to donate to less fortunate children. The class had a great time choosing toys based on an age group and creating a personalised gift bag and Christmas card.

We had two local Adelaide Drag Queens do a performance at the Gawler Town Hall. The Performers also ran an information session with the students about the Drag scene, it's history and importance to the LGBTIQ community. This performance aimed to expose students to a different art form and be inclusive of our LGBTIQ students. This performance/information session linked with our Healthy Science subject and complimented the sexuality and identity content the students had been exploring in previous lessons.

We also welcomed the Sammy D foundation to present to our whole school. Students engaged with learning around safe partying, drug awareness and alcohol facts. This session was the first time Eddie Rice Flexi students had utilised the new Daveron Park campus for learning, the large open space was perfect for this style of large group learning.

On Friday 29th October the Flexi Chiefs put away their sticks and glammed up for the Ice Factor Spectacular. The Ice Factor program is not just about learning how to play Ice Hockey, it's about developing teamwork skills and building confidence in their own abilities, both on and off the ice. The Ice Factor Spectacular allows our students to demonstrate the confidence and resilience they have built up through participation in the program and to have the opportunity to 'be a hero, just for one day'.

The Flexi Chiefs joined around 200 other Ice Factor students at the Adelaide Oval where they strutted their stuff on the catwalk in the Magarey Room in front of over 400 glamorous guests, including the Premier, Mr Stephen Marshall and Governor General, Ms Frances Adamson.

The students spent the day rehearsing their routines and finalising their fittings, getting hair and makeup done, also enjoying the downtime with some Uno, team banter, and plenty of food as we enjoyed the view of the Adelaide Oval through the large windows. Cheyenne and Lauchlan represented the Flexi Chiefs with pride as they wore their jerseys during the Opening number. Students then followed through with outstanding choreography as they showcased clothing from some amazing local designers. Some of the clothing companies worn by the Flexi Chiefs included Ms Gladys Sym Choon (Connor, Cameron, Lauchlan & Noah), ORTC (Charlee), Ryderwear (Mikaylah), Elle & Elka (Bianca), and Showies (Cheyenne).

The event concluded with every student moving across the stage with an overwhelming cheer from the whole crowd. It was great to have our Head of Campus, Dani Stratford and our Network Principal, Gerard Keating attend the event and support our young people on such a special occasion.

I would like to thank Gary Day for his support throughout the whole day, but the biggest shoutout needs to go to our Flexi Chiefs. I can not put into words how proud I was, and continue to be, of these inspiring and resilient young people. It was an extremely long day, and they all just took it in their stride and showed what remarkable young people they are. You really are my heroes!

Toby Noble
Flexi Chiefs Team Manager



Congratulations

The Flexi Way Award

This honor is for students who epitomise the spirit of our four common ground principles

Connor Pedler
Tazlyn Young

Edmund Rice Community Award

This honor is for students who go above and beyond to help out our school and community

Bianca Bleakley
James Evans



SCHOOL HOLIDAY

PROGRAM - TERM 4

TUE 14TH DEC - COOK UP & XMAS CRAFT 11AM - 1PM
THURS 16TH DEC - XMAS MOVIE & PIZZA 12PM - 3PM

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WED 12TH JAN - ST KILDA & BBQ 11AM - 2PM
TUE 18TH JAN - WATERWORLD 11AM - 2PM
THURS 20TH JAN - MOTOR MUSEUM 10AM - 2PM



IMPORTANT DATES

WED 8/12/21

Last Day

14/12 - 16/12

Holiday Programs

Merry
Xmas

12/1 - 20/1

Holiday Programs

TUE 1/2/22

First Day

2022

TWICE AS FUN!!

What's on offer?

- Yr 7-9 Maths, English and Electives
- Yr 7-12 Healthy Science
- Yr 10 Pre SACE
- Yr 10-12 Carer Hero's (VET Pathways)
- **SACE** compulsories and Electives

Coming Soon:

- Work Experience (15+)
- Job Prospects (15+)
- Traineeships + Apprenticeships

Electives:

- Ice Factor
- Music
- The Arts
- Sports and PE
- Gaming and Streaming
- Community Programs
- + More...

Welcome to new students, staff and opportunities!

See you in 2022!!



@erfselizabeth



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Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition