



EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL ELIZABETH NEWSLETTER

SEMESTER 2 - 2025



EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL
Elizabeth & Davoren Park – SA
Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition

STUDENT VOICE



"Favourite memory of Flexi 2025?"

"Spending time with staff and friends. The staff are very funny!" - Zoe

"My favourite memory was getting to meet all the staff and playing soccer and rugby." - Kyle

"Getting the support I really needed" - Hera

"Getting the hermit crabs and making the friends I have. I love all of it - I don't have just one!"
- Sienna G

"Going on excursions with my friends" - Duncan

"FOOD, ALL THE FOOD! IT WAS SO MUCH FUN WHEN WE WENT TO TREE CLIMB AND THE BEACH, IT WAS A GREAT REWARD FOR RITE OF PASSAGE." - PATRICK

"Tree Climb was fun, but it was super scary. I love coming in and having banter with the staff." - Portia

"I'VE ENJOYED ALL OF IT SO FAR, BUT TREE CLIMB AND THE RITE OF PASSAGE CHALLENGES HAVE BEEN MY FAVOURITE MOMENTS" - SERENITY

"I HAVE ENJOYED LEARNING MORE ABOUT ART IN GRAFFITI ART AND ART ENTREPRENEUR WITH STILES. I'VE LEARNT SO MUCH!" - OWEN M

"I loved going swimming because it was something I hadn't really experienced recently" - Joseph

"My favourite moment this year was going to the Paws-A-while pool party where I got to swim with the dogs. It was a highlight for me!" - Brooklyn



Messages from Leadership



SHAUN
AREA PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, life continues to be extremely busy at Edmund Rice Flexi Schools – and life in general no doubt! What is one of the ironies of this time of the year is that we are not only finishing off this year but are having to work extremely diligently in all our preparation for 2026! This includes preparing budgets, finalising numbers and advertising for new staff, guiding young people and families who will be transitioning from our school and at the same time continuing to do our best in our core business – teaching and learning.

It has been an extremely busy semester with many activities such as Ice Factor, formals, graduations, excursions with the culmination of our Fiesta at the end of the term. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate the achievements of the year before we commence our Christmas break. This year has seen both Davoren Park and Elizabeth grow in enrolment with some seventeen young people completing their SACE and at least 4 young people gaining apprenticeships. Next year our Elizabeth site will commence Year 10 and Davoren Park is undertaking significant expansion and development. This will bring our total enrolment at ERFS to over 200 in 2026.

One thing that most teachers will report is that, from time to time, young people will ask the question “Why do we have to learn this?” More regularly is the question “How is this going to be useful to my life?” The following story entitled “The Magic Pebble” illustrates that we can never predict the value of what we learn as it impacts further down the journey of life.

One night a group of nomads were preparing to retire for the evening when suddenly they were surrounded by a great light. They knew they were in the presence of a celestial being. With great anticipation, they awaited a heavenly message of great importance that they knew must be especially for them.

Finally, the voice spoke, “Gather as many pebbles as you can. Put them in your saddle bags. Travel a day’s journey and tomorrow night will find you glad and it will find you sad.”

After having departed, the nomads shared their disappointment and anger with each other. They had expected the revelation of a great universal truth that would enable them to create wealth, health and purpose for the world. But instead they were given a menial task that made no sense to them at all. However, the memory of the brilliance of their visitor caused each one to pick up a few pebbles and deposit them in their saddle bags while voicing their displeasure.

They travelled a day’s journey and that night while making camp, they reached into their saddle bags and discovered every pebble they had gathered had become a diamond. They were glad they had diamonds. They were sad they had not gathered more pebbles.

(by: John W. Schlatter, A 2nd Helping of Chicken Soup for the Soul)

The success of this year has been the result of the openness of our young people to explore every opportunity that has been offered to them. I believe we continue to make our schools a safe place and always celebrate the achievements of all no matter how small or large. Our focus on both the wellbeing and tailored learning allows our young people to be awesome. I know at times our young people may struggle to see the relevance of their studies and find it difficult to stay focused. That’s when they need to remember the “magic pebble” and trust that, by remaining attentive to their studies, they will be benefited in the long term.

Have a Merry Christmas and enjoy your break.

As with everyone else, I can not believe how quick this year has flown by and we’re now thinking about Christmas and 2026.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people that have made this year memorable. We at ERFS – Elizabeth have built a culture where everyone is accepted and everyone is given the opportunity to grow and become amazing individuals, building a sense of self and belonging. To make this happen we need to have a community of people coming together to work alongside our awesome young people to help them grow and flourish, both with their learning and their wellbeing. Firstly, to my amazing staff, you have all gone above and beyond and I can’t thank you enough for the amazing contribution you make to helping our young people each and every day that you come to work. A huge thank you to our families and caregivers for your ongoing support in working with us to help make your child’s learning experiences positive and encouraging continual connection with our learning spaces. I would also like to extend my thanks to our community partners who provide various services to assist our young people to stay connected with their learning, from individual sessions to providing spaces for our school to access in the community.

My final thanks must go to the young people themselves. Without you turning up each day and connecting with our staff, the space and the learning, we wouldn’t have such an amazing school. I feel privileged to come to school every day and have the opportunity to connect with you all and feel the passion that you have for your learning and wanting to achieve great things in your life.

Our school community has been involved in so many great learning and wellbeing activities throughout the year, as you will see throughout the newsletter, and I have been in awe of how much growth we have seen amongst individuals, and groups, over the course of the year.

Everyone within our community should be extremely proud of how much we have achieved together this year. I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and Holiday break and can’t wait to see you all back with us in 2026.



TOBY
HEAD
OF CAMPUS



Welcome

MEG

Youth Worker

FAV FOOD?

Honey Chicken (only if it's fresh)

FAV THING TO DO?

Shopping!



Shout - Out

Admin

KRISTY

Relief Teacher

JAMIE

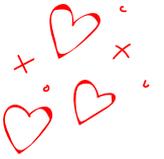
Outreach

LOUISE + LEON

IT & Media

ALEX - MATT

WELLBEING



Dijana
Gary - Meg - Stuart - Xandria -
Leon - Louise



It has been a busy Semester 2 at our school, with a big focus on building our wellbeing and safety with the support of our community.

Students were involved in various workshops and discussions around online safety and responsibility, consent, healthy relationships and where to access support.

Our holiday programs continued to provide fun and engaging activities for young people including Movies, Bounce, art and craft and delicious food.

We have continued to work with external services to accommodate a range of 1:1 support services for our young people, and these have been invaluable. Our amazing school counsellor Tayla (Creating Connections Therapy) has continued to provide wellbeing support to our young people and school site. We would like to take this opportunity and say a big Thank You to all of our community supports and partners for their ongoing work in ensuring our school community's safety and wellbeing.

We wish everyone a safe and happy festive season and look forward to another great year at ERFs Elizabeth.

Shout-out to our Wellbeing partners



MIDDLE SCHOOL CALLAN

Danielle - Xandia - Mel

What an incredible year it has been for the Callan Crew! Our young people have truly shone with their friendships, teamwork, enthusiasm, and positive energy across every activity. From exciting excursions and engaging incursions to Blooket challenges, 3D model-making days, and even the occasional hermit crab search party — there's never been a dull moment! We've loved diving into workshops, taking fun brain breaks, and tackling some serious learning along the way. With outstanding attendance and endless spirit, this group has made 2025 unforgettable. Dani, Xandia, and Mel are so proud and will always cherish the impression you've left on our hearts. Go Callan Class of 2025!



WATERFORD

Ashley - Meg - Gary - Lee-Ann

Waterford class has been enjoying some great stories together, including Holes and Freak the Mighty. These shared reads have sparked thoughtful conversations and plenty of ideas. Alongside group reading, students are exploring their own interests - manga has been especially popular, with its unique art and storytelling styles. From classic novels to graphic narratives, the class is discovering that there's something for everyone when it comes to books. Reading has become a rewarding part of our day.



SION

Kim - Stuart - Reece

It has been an exciting and fun-filled year in the Sion class. Term 3 started out with a bang with our young people jumping straight into preparing for their transition towards Year 10 next year. There were various activities that included life skills learning around jobs, Medicare, Centrelink, VET Pathways, and becoming independent. Rite of Passage challenges had our young people building and decorating signs for the school, assisting with set up/pack up for Sports Day, volunteering with Parafield Gardens Helping Hand, and preparing for ERFS very first camp!! This has been such an incredible year and Stuart, Reece, and I couldn't be prouder of our young people! I wish them all the best for their move to Year 10 next year and will miss all the laughter, antics, and Silent Ball!





Callan (Year 7) – The Foundation: Finding Stability

Callan represents the early life of Edmund Rice, where he experienced the values of family and community. In Year 7, students, like Edmund, begin their journey of education, finding stability and belonging in a new environment.

This foundational year sets the stage for their personal growth and the development of their identities.

Kaurna Symbol: Waterhole

The waterhole symbolises a place of gathering, where people come together for support and nourishment.



Sion (Year 9) – Building Identity and Strength

Mount Sion was the location of the first Christian Brothers' school, founded by Edmund Rice. It signifies the development of his mission to provide education and support to marginalised youth. In Year 9, students focus on building emotional strength and personal identity, learning to embrace their unique qualities and resilience in the face of challenges.

Kaurna Symbol: Shield

The shield represents strength, protection, and resilience.



Waterford (Year 8) – Discovery and Belonging

Waterford is where Edmund Rice established his first school for impoverished boys, driven by his desire to provide education and opportunities to those in need. For Year 8 students, this year emphasises discovery—exploring identity and finding a sense of belonging. Students develop skills in creativity, cultural awareness, and teamwork as they begin to recognise their role in a broader community.

Kaurna Symbol: River

The river symbolizes discovery, flow, and interconnectedness, reflecting the students' exploration of identity and their connection to others.



Westcourt (Year 10) – Reflection and Connection to Self

Westcourt was the home of Edmund Rice and a place where he reflected on his mission and values. It serves as a reminder of the importance of introspection and understanding one's roots. In Year 10, students engage in self-reflection, examining their past experiences and grounding themselves as they prepare for the future.

Kaurna Symbol: Tree

The tree symbolises growth, reflection, and connection to one's roots.



Shout-out to our learning partners



Amber Dibben

HIGHLIGHTS

FIRST NATIONS ART & CULTURE



HIP HOP DANCE



BOXING



MAN CAVE



HOBBY HUB



HIGHLIGHTS

ART



GARDEN CLUB



SPORTS DAY



Awards

The Flexi Way

This honour is for the student who epitomises the spirit of our four common ground principles

Zoe Lord

Edmund Rice Community Award

This honour is for the student who goes above and beyond to help out our school and community

Jai T

Respect Award

This honour is for the student who treats everyone kindly

Hera Moses

Participation Award

This honour is for the student who is willing to have-a-go!

Riley Dare

Honesty Award

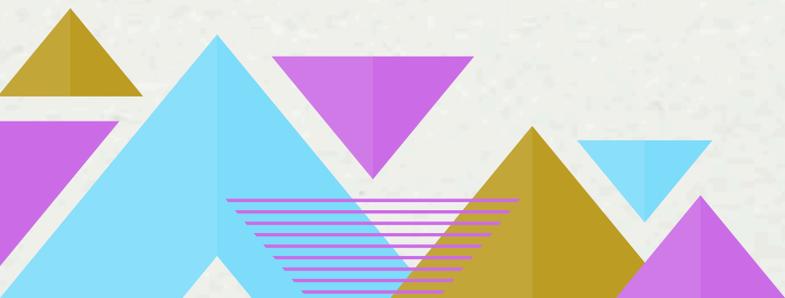
This honour is for the student who is truthful and trustworthy

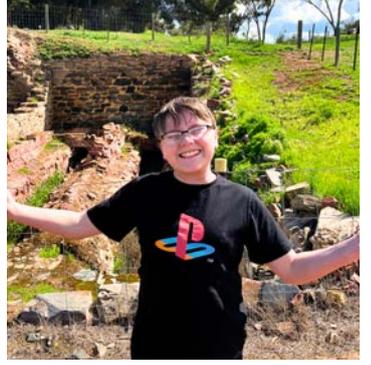
Duncan McFarlane

Safe & Legal Award

This honour is for the student who makes responsible choices

Jacinta Deantonellis-Todd







Express Yourself

Share your Thoughts

Commit to Growth

CARERS & YOUNG PEOPLE ONLINE SURVEY



SCAN ME!



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

- It only takes a few minutes
- It's completely anonymous
- Your answers help make our school better!

Thank You

EDMUND RICE FLEXI SCHOOL

SUMMER

HOLIDAYS

ELIZABETH CAMPUS

2026

WEDNESDAY 14TH JAN - POOL HANGZ

AQUATIC CENTRE SALISBURY 11AM - 2.30PM

(DROP OFF AND PICK UP FROM ERFS ELIZABETH)

TUESDAY 20TH JAN - MOVIE & GAMING

GAMING, MOVIE AND LUNCH AT ERFS ELIZABETH

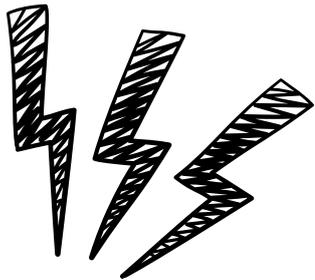
11AM - 2PM

SPACES ARE LIMITED!
SIGN UP NOW!



EDMUND RICE
FLEXI SCHOOL

AUTOGRAPHS



WHAT'S NEW?

Over the years our waiting list to enrol at our flexi sites at both Elizabeth and Davoren Park has continued to grow. To cater for this ongoing growth, ERFS Elizabeth will be offering a Year 10 class in 2026, with a Year 11 class in 2027 and Year 12 class in 2028.

This class will be located at Northern Sounds System (NSS), conveniently located across the road near the skate park. The focus of this class will be around vocational pathways, linking students with community through work experience opportunities and work site visits. Young people will still work towards SACE completion, beginning with an EIF (Exploring Identifies and Futures), which is an essential component of SACE, Essential Maths and Work and Community Life Skills along with continuing their literacy journey and afternoon electives options. These subjects being offered will allow our young people to gain SACE accreditation in Year 10.

We are really excited to be able to offer this opportunity to our young people and look forward to our continued growth over the next few years.

CONTACT US

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want your journey to be a part of ours?

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