

Epsom Girls Grammar School – Principal's Bulletin

Dear Parents and caregivers,

We have been delighted with the way that our Epsom Girls Grammar School students are stepping up to the challenges of this term, academically in particular, but also in areas of the creative arts, music, culture and sport. Undaunted by opportunities to demonstrate what they are learning in classes, senior students have been working hard on internal assessment pieces and are preparing well for practice examinations coming up in weeks 8 and 9. Junior students are also responding well to the high expectations set in topic tests and treating these as learning opportunities as they look to prepare well for their end-of-year examinations in Term 4.

Thank you for your support in helping your daughter(s) engage with discussions about planning their career and study pathway through school, and beyond. It has been pleasing to see so many of our students confidently choosing subjects for 2025, knowing they have met prerequisites to advance in their studies and are putting study plans in place to strongly finish the academic year. There are a very few students who have not selected final subjects and the Deans are following up with these students this week.

We congratulate our EGGS Choirs and Paradisum who will perform at the Big Sing Finale Gala in Wellington next week and also five of our music students who were selected for the Honours Program following outstanding performances by all of our bands in the KBB Music Festival last week. In the Art Exhibition, Incubate, students were able to demonstrate their creative skills, selling almost all artworks to family, friends and members of our community who came to this fantastic event.

We also congratulate a number of our sports teams who are finishing the winter season with strong results, many winning their grades or competing in semis or finals in the upcoming weeks. Winter Tournament Week also runs from 2-6 September and we wish our students well who are competing and look forward to sharing the progress of our teams with our community throughout the term. We congratulate our students who have already been selected for regional and national honours as a result of their performances this year and look forward to seeing their progress continue to flourish.

This bulletin has important information about work being done to continue to improve our school, as well as other school events and notices.

EGGS Mid-term Break on Friday 23 August

As has been advertised on our School website and calendar for the year, this Friday 23 August will be a Mid-Term Break so students will not attend school on this day. We wish our students, their families and our staff a safe and restful long weekend.

School Donation reminder

We want to sincerely thank our families who generously support Epsom Girls Grammar through their payment of the School donation. The operational funding provided by government sources provides for only basic teaching and learning requirements and as a school, and Epsom Girls Grammar community, we are proud to offer exceptional opportunities and resources for learning and development that are only possible due to our parents' generous support.

We appreciate your support of the School. We know though, that some families may not be able to support the School by paying the donation in full. If you wish to make an alternate arrangement to the options available, please contact accounts@eggs.school.nz

Silver Road traffic management changes

Discussions regarding an upgrade to Silver Road have been underway for a number of years. This term we will be installing barrier arms at each end of Silver Road and creating a one-way traffic flow for vehicles (entering at Gillies Ave and exiting at Manukau Road). These changes will reduce congestion and limit access to car parking for those not associated with the school or its community. With reduced congestion, we also anticipate a safer environment for our students as they walk through our grounds and make use of this private road.

Focus on Term 3 School Practice Examinations for seniors

The schedule for the Term 3 Practice examinations for senior students has now been published and you can find this <u>here</u>.

Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 September: Year 11 examinations

Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 September: Literacy & Numeracy Common Assessment Tasks

(CAA's)

Wednesday 11 – Thursday 19 September: Year 12 and 13 examinations

Friday 20 September: Invited students only attend school to catch-up

on assessments

This means that on Friday 20 September, all students do not need to come in to school for timetabled lessons, but can study from home independently. Only students invited in to school to complete catch-up assessment opportunities will need to attend school on Friday 20 September.

Year 10 students will also have an opportunity to sit the Numeracy CAA (if they have not already passed this earlier in the year) on Wednesday 18 September.

Enrolment for 2025

We have seen a significant increase in the numbers of applications for enrolment in 2025 and we thank our community for being proactive in getting these in to us early. An additional step to our enrolment process this year, for year 8 students, will be entrance tests (for English, mathematics, and logical reasoning) to be sat either at our main feeder schools, or at Epsom Girls Grammar School. The purpose of this testing is to allocate our resources to where they are most needed and provide learning opportunities at the School that match students' current capabilities (to be equitable and aspirational in our approach). Further details of dates and times for this entrance testing will be available on our website later in the term.

Any alumnae of Epsom Girls Grammar School who wish to enrol their daughter for 2025 are strongly encouraged to do so before the ballot, to be held on Wednesday 11 September. Any out-of-zone applications after the 11 September deadline will not be able to be accepted so we encourage anyone wishing to enrol at the school in 2025, to apply early.

Homestay host families needed

The Epsom Girls Grammar School International Department are looking for families who can provide a caring and supportive home environment for an international student. If English is your first language, you have a spare room and live within close distance to school, we look forward to hearing from you.

Hosting an international student is an enriching experience and a wonderful opportunity to share your family life, Kiwi culture, and hospitality, to experience other cultures and learn more about the world.

In 2024, NZ\$380 per week is paid to cover full board and in 2025 will increase to NZ\$400 per week.

Please call Jo Bostock on 970-6757 for further information or email jbostock@eggs.school.nz

Thank you for your continued support of our school. We wish all our students every success this term and look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming events on campus.

Rind regards,

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Brenda McNaughton

Principal

Epsom Girls Grammar School