From The Principal
BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR
We would like to wish all our families a safe and happy Christmas and break, and the peace of Christmas in to the New Year.

A BUSY END TO A BIG YEAR – THANK YOU TO OUR TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS
Our school has been a very busy place right up until the last day. It is great to see our students involved in so many different activities at this busy time of the year. Our teachers have worked across the school to use this end of year time as productively as the weather and teaching cycle will allow us. It has been a big year, and our students have involved themselves so much in school and community activities and events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their contributions and efforts right up to the end of the school year. From the Bulletin each week, you will see the large number of activities that our staff are involved in, and so many of them beyond the normal classroom. These experiences provide a rich variety of experiences for our students, and in many ways, the memories of their school days in years to come.

Santa made a special early visit to our Preschool this week.

We wish all our Essington students, families, and staff a wondrous and safe festive season.

VIEW THE ESSINGTON WEEKLY BULLETINS ONLINE
www.essington.nt.edu.au
Weekly Bulletin under the Our Parents tab.
Hard copies are still available at the Reception Areas.

We wish all our Essington students, families, and staff a wondrous and safe festive season.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd January 2016
- Uniform Shop Open 9am - 4pm
- Teachers PD Days

Friday 22nd January 2016
New Student Orientation

Monday
25th January 2016
School Resumes

Tuesday 26th January 2016
Australia Day Public Holiday

OFFICE HOURS
DECEMBER/JANUARY :
- Our School offices close on Friday 18th December 2015.
- Our School offices open again on Monday 4th January 2016.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Few people get to do what they want to do in life. Be one of them. – Andy Broer
Our teachers are always keen for our students to do even better and to provide new programs, experiences and ways of making learning interesting and fun. Our support staff complete a multitude of tasks to support our teachers in what they do on a daily basis in the classroom. Their dedication shows through and they go that extra bit without expecting thanks or reward. It is great seeing parents these last few days expressing their thanks to our teachers and staff.

Thank you to our students who so readily get involved in such a range of activities. Your willingness to contribute to school activities and to our teachers and parents who make it all possible.

SUPPORTING SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES
CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS
Sara Materazzo, who has coordinated our Somerville Community Services Christmas appeal, delivered a huge number of food items to Somerville Community Services – and over $2000 raised by students in the last few weeks. We are supporting Somerville Community Services with gifts that can be passed on to needy families for Christmas, and also food for food hampers (and cash to purchase food items for Christmas hampers).

Thank you to our students and families who have supported this appeal. We know that it will make someone’s Christmas a better day for them.

YEARS 6 – 12 SECOND HAND TEXT BOOK SALE
A number of textbooks from Years 6-12 in 2015 are able to be reused in 2016. Books that can be resold are listed on the school website in the Our Parents section.

To assist parents to keep textbook costs down, we have identified a number of books used in 2015 that can be reused in 2016, and sold as second hand books. Some new editions of textbooks means that we cannot use previous editions for next year.

Second hand textbooks have been coming in this week. This week they have been delivered to the Middle School office off Chirp Street (where our Middle School Curriculum Administration Office is located). From Monday 14th December, we will also open up the delivery of books to our Main Office in the Essington Education Centre, off Chirp Street. To allow us to track and pay you for any books that might be sold by the Second Hand Book Shop, we do need you to complete a Book Sale Form.

Second hand books are available for purchase from 14th December to 18th December, and again after the 4th January. The Second Hand Book Shop closes down in mid February, 2016, and any unsold books will be able to be collected from the Book Shop. (Check times and places by phoning our Reception before coming in if you are not sure about this).

Only good quality textbooks can be sold, and books will be sold at half price (plus 50 cents for handling costs). [Thank you to our parent volunteers who are making this Book Shop possible].

COMBATING CYBERBULLYING
Cyberbullying is a concern for many adolescents (and children) these days. We have received notice of a new initiative by the Federal Government to confront this area, and to deal with cyberbullying complaints. The program is an initiative of the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commission. We understand grants to develop programs to counter cyberbullying will be announced in the near future for 2016.

More information about the cyberbullying complaints scheme can be found under ‘Complaints and Reporting’ on the eSafety Commission’s website: www.esafety.gov.au.

With the support of the Children’s eSafety Commission, we look forward to working with our students and parents to assist them to deal with this difficult area.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2016
In line with all NT Government schools, our first day of school for 2016 is Monday 25th January, 2016, with the Australia Day Public Holiday on Tuesday 26th January, 2016. Again, we encourage parents to assist their children’s transition in to their new school year by being at school from Monday 25th January. (Our teachers return to school on Wednesday 20th January, 2016. Our main school office will re-open on Monday 4th January, 2016).

David Cannon
Principal/CEO

This is some of the large amount of food and Christmas presents our school delivered to Somerville Community Services to support their Christmas Appeal.
From the Assistant Principal

Class Placements for 2016
Final enrolment numbers, staffing, and teacher allocation for 2016 will be confirmed in late December 2015 and early January 2016.

Our aim is to provide each individual student, across all year levels, every opportunity to continue with their learning journey at Essington with minimal disruption. Classroom teachers’ recommendations for next year placements are taken into account while class placements are confirmed.

If you have a particular request for your child to be placed in a certain class, please email it directly to me jaya.srinivas@essington.nt.edu.au. If you have any queries or concerns or require more information, please call me on Phone: 8985 0117.

Congratulations Tadhg!

Hearty congratulations to Tadhg McQuillan in Junior School who, after submitting several photos, found himself one of 25 finalists in the K-6 category of the Moran Contemporary Photographic Prizes - Students.

We are delighted to note that there were at least 100,000 entries in this K-6 student category. Tadhg had a 1 in 4000 chance of being included in the winning pool of 25 finalists. Tadhg was presented with a certificate and a camera that he won for being a finalist.

I wish him the very best for the future and hope to see him achieve higher accolades in the field of photography. Well done Tadhg!

Happy and safe school holidays! See you all in the new year!

Jaya Srinivas
Assistant Principal - Preschool to Year 12

From the Junior School Coordinators
We have enjoyed a fabulous last week in the Early Years’ Programs. Our classes have been full of happy children and families eagerly awaiting the holidays. This week in Preschool we even had Santa visit us!

Congratulations to Sarvesh Ramamoorthi from TE, a budding artist who received some amazing feedback from Dr Amy Jackett, Lecturer of Visual Arts at Charles Darwin University. Dr Amy believes that “his drawings show excellent control of line and understanding of pictorial structure. His work is expressive and he has a natural ability to sense harmonious colour relationships. Being able to form long, uniform single brushstrokes is a precise skill which Sarvesh has mastered. With imagination, experimentation and continual practice, Sarvesh will be able to further refine his techniques.” Well done Sarvesh! We are very proud of you!

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the wonderful staff who I have the pleasure of working with every day. Their dedication and commitment to our students is exemplary and truly appreciated. I wish all our students and their families an amazing Christmas and lovely break, and look forward to seeing you all in 2016.

Renee Schultz
Junior School Coordinator
Early Childhood Programs

ENROLMENTS 2016
We are working through a large number of student enrolments for 2016 and will not be able to meet the number of requests for places. If you are not returning in 2016, please email jayne.lomas@essington.nt.edu.au so we can assist new enrolling families with their enquiries. This information, if requested, will be treated in confidence.

We are currently accepting enrolments for 2017/2018 if you know families who are thinking of enrolling at the School. They should contact our Director of Enrolments immediately (enrolments @ essington.nt.edu.au, and submit an Enrolment Form. Early enrolments are highly recommended.

Some of our lovely young ladies enjoying the Year 9 Graduation Cruise.
Early Learning Notices
Preschool Long Day Care Centre (Wombats)
The year has flown by once again. We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our wonderful parents who have given so much support in Wombats.

For the last two weeks, the children have been having fun with Christmas activities. They also share and take turns to use materials and resources at play. Educators created Christmas songs to teach the young children to be creative in their own thinking, and interact verbally.

Congratulations to all the children who have shown a great attitude of learning through play, increasing their skills and making them proud of themselves.

Please note: Wombats is closed from 25th December to 31st December 2015. We reopen on 4th January 2016. If you are going to be away or will not attending over the holidays, please fill out a pink form and let Wombats staff know. This will assist us with staffing arrangements. Pink forms are located in the Wombats room. Please do not hesitate to ask staff assistance.

During the school holidays, the Wombats program is working with Vacation Care Program activities. This will help young children to be socially responsible, and gain a sense of belonging to other groups of children.

It is sad to say goodbye to our children who will move to the next level of their study, but we are very proud that they have made it with huge effort and dedication.

We would like to wish all our families a wonderful and safe Christmas break, and all the very best of luck for 2015.

Miss Daisy and the Wombats Staff

Junior School Notices
Year 2C Hartley
Thank you for all your ongoing support this year. It has been a pleasure helping your child grow, and make achievements in their learning.

We have had a great last week with loads of fun Christmas activities, our class party, and celebrating all the things we have done.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas break and a happy and healthy 2016.

Cristina Hartley

Year 2D Scaturchio
Congratulations to all students in 2D for a wonderful and productive year in 2015! It has been a pleasure to be part of Year 2D’s learning journey this year, and I wish all students all the best as they prepare for their adventures in Year 3 next year.

A fantastic achievement this week with the class achieving 13th Top Class in the World on Mathletics – a wonderful accomplishment and a fantastic way to end the year.

Thank you to all Year 2D parents and families for your support this year, and for helping to make it such a successful year for the class.

I wish all students and families an extremely safe, relaxing, and well deserved Christmas holiday break, and I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Susannah Scaturchio

Year 3A Yarran
I cannot believe the year is over! We have had such a fantastic year in 3A, and it was such a pleasure teaching each and every student.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every parent for their support over the year. I hope all students have had an enjoyable year full of lots of learning and new experiences.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a wonderful and safe holiday wherever you may go, and I look forward to seeing you all again next year.

All the best for the students in Year 4 next year!

Krissy Yarran

Year 3B McGregor
Who can believe that we are at the end of the year already? A big congratulations to all students in our class on a successful and productive year. All students can be proud of their efforts throughout the year. There are many changes to look forward to leading into Year 4, as they enter the senior side of the Junior School.

Thank you to all parents for their wonderful contributions to the class

Susannah Scaturchio
this year, from helping out with reading groups at the beginning of the year, to running Christmas craft activities now.

Well done to all students for a great year, and I hope everyone has an enjoyable holiday and good luck for Year 4 in 2016!

Amanda McGregor

Year 3D Decurtins
It is hard to believe that we have already come to the end of another school year. It seems like only a few months ago that twenty-four timid, wide-eyed, little people entered their Year 3 classroom for the first time.

I have had a great year working with all the children, and have really enjoyed watching them grow, mature, and develop in so many different ways. I would like to congratulate all the students for their hard-working, cooperative, and positive ‘can do’ attitudes. The children have been a joy to work with, and I wish them all the best in Year 4.

I look forward to seeing all the returning students next year, so make sure you ‘pop’ in and say hello. I hope you all have a happy and safe Christmas, and a fantastic 2016.

Leonie Decurtins

Some of our Essington Athletes representing the Northern Territory in Canberra this week at the Asia-Pacific Athletics Competition

Our Year 5s had a boot skootin’ time at their Graduation Barn Dance
Middle School Report

Year 8 and 9 Report

Year 9 Graduation

Sincere congratulations to the Year 9 cohort of 2015 for their successful completion of Year 9. The Year 9 Graduation was a huge success, and students had a wonderful evening aboard The Charles Darwin with Darwin Harbour Cruises.

Thank you to teachers who attended and assisted with the evening, and a very special thank you to Kylie Hyde, Media teacher, who spent many hours preparing the Year 9 Graduation video and was our official photographer of the evening. Thank you to Darwin Harbour Cruises for a fantastic evening!

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all Year 9 students for a fantastic year. You are a very special cohort, and will be dearly missed. I do not always get the chance to say just how fantastic you all are, but I genuinely mean it when I say that you are an irreplaceable group of students who brought energy, care, maturity, and a sense of community to 2015. Thank you for being your wonderful selves in Year 9, and best of luck in all of your future endeavours. You will no doubt do amazing things.

Activities Week

Activities Week 2015 was a great success. Thank you to all students who participated in the vast range of activities offered this year. The week was a lovely and fun end to a fantastic year. Thank you to all of the teachers for leading the activities, and a special thank you to Daniel Hogg for organising the entire week.

Welcome to 2016

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Year 8 and Year 9 students into the Essington Education Centre building next year. For the Year 8s moving into Year 9, you can look forward to being at the top of the Middle School, which means you will be serving as leaders and role models for the rest of the school. For the Year 7s moving into Year 8, you will get the chance to have new friends, teachers, classrooms, and learn new things as you take part in Elective subjects for the first time.

Have a wonderful holiday, and see you all in 2016.

Cassandra Kawiuk
Acting Middle School Coordinator

Middle School Notices

Year 6B Materazzo

It is with a heavy heart that I say goodbye to my amazing students. We finished off Year 6 with fun, happy, and exciting times with their first experience of Activities Week. I was impressed how all my students took advantage of this week of fun, being with their friends and reaping one of the bonuses of being in Middle School.

Our Class Party and Secret Santa was a huge success, and we all felt truly spoilt and appreciated by our classmates.
Senior College Report

Our final hurrah this week was delivering the food and gifts to Somerville Community Services for their food hampers for needy families at Christmas. It was warming to hear from the staff at Somerville how much they appreciate the efforts of Essington students and families who assist and support this cause. Year 6 further supported the Food Drive, and contributed the funds raised from the Christmas Market. We were very proud to donate $2,000.

It has been a wonderful year of special times, learning, growing, and preparation for Year 7. I look forward to seeing you all next year, and hearing about what new opportunities you are involved in.

A thank you to the parents for your support, both in and out of school. When looking back over the year, it could not have been achieved without your support, time, and contribution.

Sara Materazzo

Senior College Report

Important Upcoming Senior College Dates:
- Tuesday 15th December: Stage 2 NTCET Results and ATAR Scores released.
- Monday 4th January: Final closing date for University Preference Changes (SA and NT).
- Tuesday 19th January: First round of University Placement Offers (SA and NT).
- Wednesday 20th January: Senior College staff return.
- Monday 25th January: Senior College students return.
- Tuesday 26th January: Australia Day Public Holiday.
- Thursday 28th January: Second round of University Placement Offers (SA and NT).

Farewells
We farewell:
- Ms Lessa Gore-Brown, our Geography and History teacher, who is taking maternity leave for 2016.
- Ms Sharra Martin, Senior College Physics teacher, who is taking maternity leave for 2016.

We wish them both well during the birth of their babies.

Congratulations to all Stage 2 Students who have completed their Final Examinations
NTCET (Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training) results for Year 12 students are scheduled to be released on Tuesday 15th December. Students will receive their results by mail. These results can also be accessed on 15th December through the SACE website: http://www.sace.sa.edu.au/students-online. All students were given access to this site during the term. If students have forgotten their passwords, they can contact Mr Moore to assist in resetting the password.

The results will include:
- A list of Stage 2 subjects studied and their final scaled score out of 20.
- A calculation of the University Aggregate out of 90. Best 4.5 Stage 2 subjects are counted.
- ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) out of 99.95. This rank does not include any bonus points that are given separately by universities.

Mr Moore will be available up until COB on Friday 18th December at the Senior College on Phone: 8946 6451 to assist in interpreting the results.

Changing of preferences for university courses in South Australia and Northern Territory closes on 4th January 2015. Mr Moore will be available up until COB on Friday 19th December to assist if required.

The majority of offers for places at universities will occur in the main round starting on Tuesday 19th January. SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admission Centre), on behalf of the universities, will make an offer to the highest preference for which your son or daughter is eligible and sufficiently competitive. If they do not receive an offer to their second or a lower preference, they can keep their highest preference(s) alive for a possible later offering on 28th January. Mr Moore will be available from Monday 10th January at the Senior College on Phone: 8946 6451 to assist in this process.

Subject Choices 2016
All current students in Year 9 have attended a preliminary enrolment session at the main school and have attended an orientation session during Week 10 at The Senior College. All students were introduced to the range of subjects on offer. Students and parents can access the full range of subjects on the Essington School website at the following address: http://www.essington.nt.edu.au/our_school/senior.htm.

This page includes copies of the 2016 Senior College Handbook and Prospectus. If you would like to discuss your child’s choices for next year, please contact the Senior College office on Phone: 8946 6821 to make an appointment to see Mr Moore. Students will be bringing their initial enrolment choices home early next week to sign off on.

All current students in First Year have begun to look at subject choices for 2016 in their Personal Learning Plan classes. All students have been given a copy of the latest SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admission Centre) entrance booklet to assist with subject choices that align to the Charles Darwin University and universities in South Australia. If you would like to discuss your child’s choices for next year, please contact the Senior College office on Phone: 8946 6821 to make an appointment to see Mr Moore.

All current students in Second Year have begun researching career choices and looking at possible University courses. All students have been issued with a SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admission Centre) University Guide and a SATAC booklet for students in Years 10, 11 and 12. All students are currently considering which Stage 2 TAS (Tertiary Admission Subjects) they require for their university courses. If you would like to discuss your child’s choices for next year, please contact the Senior College office on Phone: 8946 6821 to make an appointment to see Mr Moore.

Peter Moore
Dean of Studies
General Notices

Music Notices
Academy of Youth Arts NT
Top End Music Voucher for Semester 2
Each semester, we acknowledge our musicians who are involved in the Academy of Youth Arts NT Music program, and award a deserving musician a $50 voucher from Top End Music Centre.

This semester the voucher goes to Michael Neill. Michael is a piano student of Jill Kuhn, and has been a most conscientious student all this year. He practised consistently and with great attention to detail. He managed to do Preliminary Grade work through to First Grade in one year, culminating in earning Honours for First Grade in the Australian Music Examinations in late October. Michael also learns the guitar privately, and plays in a small band with some friends. He has many outside interests but still manages to fit his piano practice in. He has a very enquiring mind, and is always keen to understand how and why to play in good musical style. We congratulate Michael on his outstanding achievement.

We are grateful to Top End Music Centre for sponsoring the voucher, and thank them for their generosity and support of our Music program.

It has been a pleasure to read the Semester 2 Music Reports, and to see the progress that our musicians have made during the year. Each and every student is to be commended on their efforts and achievements. Thank you to our Music tutors for their commitment and dedication to our musicians.

Assembly Items
Thank you to all our Music students for their fantastic Music items at the Junior and Middle School Assembly throughout the year. I know that parents, teachers, and students look forward to the performances, and are amazed at the varied talents of our young musicians.

A few reminders...
Outstanding hired instruments, and band and choir uniforms are to be returned to the Music Office.

If you have any queries in regard to the class Music program for 2016, please email music@essington.nt.edu.au and we will gladly assist you.

If you require any information about the instrumental and vocal tuition through our Academy of Youth Arts NT Music Program, email admin@ayant.org.au.

The Music Office will be closing on Friday 18th December and reopening on Monday 18th January.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday ahead, greetings for the New Year, and a Merry Christmas. Thank you to all students, parents, and teachers for a fantastic year of Music.

Leanne Bakker
Music Administration Coordinator

Dance Notices
Thank you to all students, teachers, and parents who were involved in making our Dance Recital evening an enjoyable time. A very special thanks to Michelle O’Reilly, Ruth O’Brien, Filomena Lay, Tanna Ross, Nicole Tabell, Corey, Anna, Mandy Boots, Mark & Sarah Spring, Paris Van Derik, Jenna Considine, and Lucy terBogt. It has been one very busy year of Dance, and a lovely way to celebrate our achievements.

This week in Activities Week, the Middle School students have been participating in Dance Workshops which has involved mentoring some of the Junior School classes. Much fun was had by all. The recess and lunch time Junior School Dance Parties were a big hit. We look forward to lots more Dance fun next year.

I wish everyone a safe and happy festive season, and a relaxing holiday. Save your energies for another big year of Dance in 2016.

There are still a number of WAR Dance Showcase DVDs available from the Main Reception off Chrip Street, including those that were pre-ordered. They are $15 each.

For more information regarding Junior and Middle School Dance, please contact Ms Lisa: lisa.svara@essington.nt.edu.au.
For Senior School Dance, please contact Ms Noonan: joanna.noonan@essington.nt.edu.au

Community Dance Performances:
- ‘The Circle of Dance’ Darwin Performance Academy Sat 12th and Sun 13th December @ DEC.
- Melbourne Ballet Company April 2016 @ DEC.

Lisa Svara
Dance Teacher

CASUARINA STORM SWIMMING CLUB
New members welcome - 6yo upwards.
Squad sessions available at Goldfish Swim School, Casuarina Pool Training session:
Monday, Thursday 3:30-4:30pm
Club Night fun, social and family friendly. Enquiries: casuarinastorm@gmail.com.

Middle School students mentored Junior School students during Dance Workshops as part of Activities Week.
YEAR 6 CHRISTMAS MARKET

YEAR 8 MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVE STUDENTS
SANTA’S SPECIAL EARLY VISIT TO OUR PRESCHOOL