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Principal's Message:

Reflecting on a Remarkable Year

Dear East Hills Girls Technology High School Community, As we approach the end of 2024, I find myself reflecting on what has been an extraordinary year for our school. It has been a true honour to serve as your principal, and I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our school community for your support during my first year at this school.

A special thank you goes out to our Senior Executives, Head Teachers, teaching staff and support staff. You are indeed a group of dedicated staff who are truly the bedrock for East Hills Girls. It is not an understatement to say that your unwavering commitment and enthusiasm have played a crucial role in fostering a positive learning environment. Together, we have achieved remarkable outcomes for our students.

As we conclude this year, I wish you all a joyous and restful Christmas break. May the new year bring you and your families prosperity and success.

Warm regards,
Lucy Andre
Principal
East Hills Girls Technology High School

Celebrating Student Achievements

This year has been marked by significant accomplishments among our students, showcasing their talents and hard work. The Celebrating Student Success Day, where students who excelled in various aspects of their work presented their projects to their year cohorts was one of my highlights. These presentations brought to the fore some of the brilliant and amazing work undertaken in our classrooms every day. They truly demonstrated our staff's tutelage, as well as the creativity, dedication, and innovation of our students. In addition to the above event, Year 11 students Israa H and Alyssa N successfully achieved outstanding results in a subject each, at Western University through the innovative Academy U program. Our students also excelled in various sporting and artistic pursuits, with the highlight being Charlise B's success in the regional Aboriginal Art competition. Our students demonstrated their global citizenship through the Solar Buddy program, where they wrote letters to children in need as well as constructed lights to send to these students who lack basic night light to complete their study at home. This initiative involved collaboration across multiple faculties, including Science, English, and Human Society and Its Environment. What a joy it was to watch students addressing social and inequality issues through this engagement with someone else who is less fortunate than themselves. Our partnership with UTS has further enriched our students' experiences, with opportunities such as the Apple Foundation program and a remarkable meeting with NASA scientist, which also featured Australian astronaut Katherine Benell-Pegg during one of the Science Week visits. Our school leadership opportunities continue to grow with the Senior Mentors, SRC and the CARE committee. Together these leaders have contributed much to the life of the school.



Focus on Literacy and Numeracy

In 2024, once again, we have placed a strong emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy in our professional learning, yielding positive results in the Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN assessments. Our dedicated teachers have engaged in professional development focused on writing projects, collaborating through faculty and staff meetings and Quality Teaching Rounds. Their commitment to explicit teaching strategies has significantly enhanced student learning and achievement. The exceptional results our students attained in both Semesters One and Two are a testament to their dedication to their education. Final reports for Semester Two are now available through the Sentral Parent Portal.

Apple Distinguished School

Apple Distinguished School - We are a centre for Innovation and Technology. As a recognition of the school's deep integration of Apple apps (Photos, iMovie, GarageBand, Pages, Keynote, Numbers, iBooks Author, and Clips), and other educational apps. East Hills Girls Technology High School is proud to be recognised, once again, to be an Apple Distinguished School. We are delighted to be the only girls' school in NSW to provide educational excellence. We are passionate in integrating technology into our teaching and as a result, we join other schools as one of the most innovative schools in the world.

Preparing for the New Year

In Term 4, our focus has shifted to assessments and reporting and planning for 2025. We recently welcomed our incoming Year 7 students for a successful orientation, which was preceded by an information afternoon for parents and students to help ease their transition into high school. Our Peer Support Leaders are being prepared to serve as mentors for the new students. The Year 7 Team, led by Deputy Kylie Rytmeister and Year Adviser Mr. O'Halloran, is carefully reviewing information from Year 6 schools to ensure we are well-prepared for the students' first day on February 6.

Year 7 2025

We look forward to welcoming our newest students when school reopens on 6 February 2025. We have met most of these students during the recent Parent Information Evening on 27 November, and the Orientation Day on 3 December.



Staff Changes

In the middle of the year we bid farewell to Mr. Jay Short, the Head of HSIE, who has gained a position at another school. Ms. Sue Simonsen, the Head of Student Support, retired after a long and distinguished career. We also bid farewell to Ms Rita Agius, one of our administration staff. Their invaluable contributions to our school community will be greatly missed. We are excited to welcome Ms. Hailey Lynch as our additional school counsellor, who, along with Ms. John, will continue to provide essential support and guidance to our students. Additionally, we are pleased to announce Ms. Andrea Kocsi-Thwaites as our new Head Teacher of Student Support, bringing her extensive expertise in welfare and learning support to our school. We also warmly welcome Ms. Denise O'Brien as our newly appointed Head Teacher of HSIE, who has already begun making a positive impact on our community. We also welcome Sonia Giwargis who will be relieving in the Student Support Officer role whilst Gabbi Sandrussi is on maternity leave. Ms Louisa Bailey and Ms Karen Halwagy will continue their maternity leave in the new year. Ms Gabbi Sandrussi and Ms Hosun Han will also be on maternity leave in 2025.

Congratulations to all award winners

We are immensely proud of the students who excelled throughout the year, and were recognised during the Presentation Awards Ceremony and Sports Assembly. Well done to all of you! Thank you to parents and carers who have supported these students, including attending these presentations at the school.



The school office will be closed from

**Friday 20 December 2024
and will re-open on
Friday 31 January 2025**

All staff will return on Friday 31 January 2025

**All students will return on 6 February 2025
Summer uniform is to be worn**



Important Dates 2025

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| 14 February | School Photo Day |
| 19 February | Swimming Carnival |
| 7 April | Yr11 & 12 Parent Teacher Meetings |
| 12 May | A-K Parent Teacher Meetings Years 7-10 |
| 21 May | L-Z Parent Teacher Meetings Years 7-10 |
| 28 May | Athletics Carnival |
| 23 June | Year 10 into 11 Subject Selection Meeting |
| 28 July | Year 8 into 9 Subject Selection Meeting |