

# *The Homestay Times*

*International Program - Elanora State High School*

FEBRUARY 2026

## MONTHLY NEWS



WATER  
SKILLS  
PROFICIENCY  
=  
♡ SAFETY

## International student events' highlights - Feb 2026 - Sharing the VIBE!



### Bond University

Set on the stunning campus of Bond University, our International High School Welcome is both a fantastic day out and a valuable insight into university life.

Students explore the campus and learn about study options and pathways available.

It's an inspiring introduction to future opportunities in a welcoming and vibrant setting.



### Water Skills

To ensure everyone stays safe while making the most of these experiences, we conduct a swimming assessment for all new students each term upon arrival at Elanora SHS. It's not just about safety - it's also a fun day in the sunshine and a great opportunity for us to get to know each student's confidence and capability in the water.



### Birthdays

In February we celebrate two very special students on their birthdays! Sophia and Oliwia. We are so lucky to have you both as part of our school community.

We hope both students' life are filled with laughter, fun, and lots of wonderful surprises. May this year bring you new achievements, great friendships, and exciting adventures.

**Happy Birthday to both. Sophia and Oliwia!**



### Surf Day

Surfing is a significant part of Australian identity. Learning to surf helps students engage with an important part of national lifestyle and history. In Australia, a surf school program in high school usually isn't about becoming a professional surfer — it's so much more than that!



### Byron Bay Day

Each year in Terms 1 and 3, we run a day-out excursion to Byron Bay - always a standout highlight of our international program.

Beyond the stunning scenery, the excursion connects students, strengthens rapport and trust in a relaxed and enjoyable setting.



# Upcoming & notes

# March 2026



## Gym Memberships

Our students have been joining local gyms - It's wonderful to see them prioritising their wellbeing and building great habits from the very beginning of 2026

01.03

## Surf program Continue

Did you know our surf program also supports students by:

- Reducing stress
- Building resilience
- Encouraging mindfulness
- Improving self-esteem

12.03

## Sports Program term 1

Students are continuing with their chosen sports into March, which is fantastic to see.

Activities to enjoy, such as volleyball, netball, basketball, surfing, rugby and more.

02.03

## Tangalooma

23rd–25th March – One of our most memorable trips, The beauty of Moreton Island, including snorkelling, feeding wild dolphins, and enjoying breathtaking sunsets.

23.03

## Monthly meeting

At Elanora, we make sure we meet each and every student at our office every month to check how they are and if they need anything. Support is always available!

07.03

## Exploring GC

We encourage students to explore different parts of the Gold Coast. March is a month when students are getting more comfortable and confident to do so.

25.03



## Host Family & Coordinator Catching up - Term 1 - 2026

To celebrate the beginning of Term 1, our school organised a special breakfast catch-up with our wonderful host families. This monthly gathering is something we truly value, as it gives us the opportunity to connect in a relaxed and welcoming environment before the busy day begins.

These mornings are all about building rapport and strengthening the trust that is so important within our host family community.

It's a chance to share experiences, exchange stories, and get to know one another on a deeper level. Over nice food and great coffee, we celebrate the partnership that supports our students every day.

It's always a special occasion — filled with warmth, joy, and a shared commitment to creating the best possible experience for our students. We're so grateful for our host families and the incredible role they play in our school community.

Thank you for reading!



|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| PRINCIPAL           | PROGRAM COORDINATOR  |
| Rochelle Lewis      | Brook Rees           |
| STUDENT COORDINATOR | HOMESTAY COORDINATOR |
| Kathia Faranda      | Renata McCarthy      |