

The Homestay Times

International Program - Elanora State High School

MAY 2026

MONTHLY NEWS



International Student Event Highlights – May 2026

Sharing the Vibe!



World Surf League

The 2026 event was an amazing experience for our students to be part of, with unforgettable moments from Samuel Pupo, Carissa Moore, and the legendary heat between Filipe Toledo and Gabriel Medina. Local favourite Ethan Ewing thrilled the crowd at Snapper Rocks, while Stephanie Gilmore capped off the event with her 34th CT victory.



The biggest weekend EVER!!!

Our students had the time of their lives experiencing one of the world's biggest surf events right here on the Gold Coast. Surrounded by thousands of fans, they watched the world's best surfers showcase their talent on the waves while enjoying the incredible atmosphere, beach lifestyle, and energy that made the event so special.



Farewell

As Term 2 comes to an end, we also say farewell to many of the wonderful students in this beautiful group. It has been a pleasure watching their friendships grow and sharing so many memorable moments together throughout their journey with us. We wish them all the very best for the future and hope they carry their Aussie memories and experiences with them for many years to come.



Hosting students is so rewarding, host mum mothers days. Thank you beautiful girls ☆



Mother's Day

Happy Mother's Day to all our amazing host mums! 🌸
We celebrate and thank the incredible women who open their homes and hearts to our students, making them feel safe, supported, Our students enjoyed spending this special day creating lovely memories together with their host mums and showing their appreciation for all the care, kindness, and love they receive every day. ❤️



Birthday Celebrations

This month, we also celebrated several of our students' birthdays, bringing everyone together for cake, laughter, and lots of warm wishes. It was a lovely opportunity to make our students feel special, supported, and part of our community away from home.



Upcoming & notes



Mid Year School Holiday

As the school holidays approach on Friday, 26 June, many of our international students will soon be returning home after creating unforgettable memories, building friendships, and experiencing life on the beautiful Gold Coast.

Thank you all for being part of such a special journey!

26.06

E-Bike Rules

In Queensland, e-bikes must follow standard bicycle rules, including wearing a helmet at all times. From July 2026, a licence will also be required.

Riders are expected to always use compliant bikes, follow road rules, and ride safely. All e-bike holders must apply for a Learners License with Queensland Transport office.

Our school continues to reinforce these expectations through regular reminders and clear guidelines for students who ride to school.

30.06

Winter Free activities

perfect time to enjoy sunny days, crisp mornings, and a more relaxed coastal lifestyle. With mild temperatures averaging between 12°C and 22°C, winter offers beautiful clear skies, fewer crowds, and ideal conditions for bike rides, beach walks, whale watching, and hinterland adventures.

01.06

Lady Elliot Island

This June, most of our international students will be travelling to Lady Elliot Island for an unforgettable experience on the Southern Great Barrier Reef. From snorkelling in crystal-clear waters to discovering incredible marine life, this annual trip promises plenty of fun, adventure, and lasting memories with friends. As they prepare to head back to their home countries and complete their program here at Elanora SHS, it's the perfect way to finish on a high note!

01.06



Laughs, Chats, Hard Work & Connections

I hope this newsletter gets to both students, Carlota and Liliana - we miss you girls!! ❤️

Elanora State High School was proudly represented overseas at a recent agent orientation session in Germany by Carlota and Liliana, who studied with us in 2025. As former international students, they shared their first-hand experiences of life at Elanora SHS, offering valuable insights into our school community, academic programs, and the Gold Coast lifestyle. Their involvement provided an authentic student perspective, helping to strengthen our global connections and showcase the positive impact of our international program. Thank you!

During the month of May, our International Coordinators have been encouraging students to drop in during their breaks for a chat about their weekends, to enjoy a sweet treat or two, and to share how they are feeling and how things are going.

We have absolutely loved the response and the daily visits, which are often filled with laughter, funny stories, and meaningful conversations.

This open-door approach is a daily reminder to our students that support is always available. It creates a welcoming space where they can connect more deeply, build trust, and develop lasting friendships.



Thank you !

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