Principal: Aaron Taylor
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54 326 247
elmore.ps@education.vic.gov.au

THE GATEWAY Thursday 14th May, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL
AARON TAYLOR

I hope that all our Elmore Primary Mothers had an enjoyable day on Sunday and were suitably recognised for all of the love, effort (and sacrifice) you've put keeping your families on track!

Thanks to those that stepped out for our Elmore Educators Group Mother's Day event last Thursday. It was well attended and a fun afternoon for all.

A big thanks to Meg, Honnie and Kylie who ran a very efficient Mother's Day stall on Friday.

WALK TO SCHOOL

On Thursday 21st May, we will be celebrating Walk Safely to School Day. Those interested are asked to meet at Railway Square at 8:25am, for an 8:30am departure. This is another event shared with the Elmore Educators Group, with Kinder and OLSH also attending.

SMILE SQUAD VISIT

The smile squad provides free access to dental care to all Victorian school children. If you haven't already, please complete the registration and consent form here:

https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic

The will be visiting the school in the week of Monday 25th May.

DO IT FOR DOLLY

Our school came together last Friday to recognise 'Do It For Dolly' day. This was a timely event and reminder for all of us to remain vigilant in understanding what platforms our children are accessing and what avenues for supports they can access when they encounter issues.

In the relatively unsupervised online environments, conversations and language sometimes goes beyond what is deemed acceptable in a school or home environment. With younger children, particularly primary aged and early adolescents, they benefit from help to navigate these spaces and any potential challenges that may arise.

Parents must be aware of the platforms being loosely used and monitor interactions.

PLAYGROUND UP AND RUNNING

After much anticipation (and frequent questioning), the new play space for students was officially opened on Monday. To say it was well received by students of all ages, would be an understatement.

I just wanted to point out that as well funds coming from a successful grant application, School Council contributed

EPS VALUES

RESPECT

We are thoughtful and socially responsible. We are considerate of others, our environment and ourselves

RESILIENCE

We understand the importance of having high expectations and striving to achieve our personal best.

CITIZENSHIP

We strive to build meaningful connections and contribute to the collective success of our school and the wider community.

INTEGRITY

We are honest with ourselves and with others.

We acknowledge the traditional land owners of Australia and we welcome all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to our service.

around $15,000 toward this project, with the money coming directly from the funds received through our volunteer involvement with the Elmore Field Day Catering Committee. I'd like to thank everyone that has contributed in some small (or large) way toward the completion of this project.

BERRY STREET TRAINING

As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting school wide positive behaviors, Sam, Daisy and Nick will be participating in a 4 Day Professional Learning, course. The first 2 days are May 20th and 21st, with additional dates in August.

Aaron LSL

At the end of this week, I will commence a brief period of Long Service Leave. My LSL is from Friday 15th to Wednesday 20th.

Helen Tuohey will be replacing me as Acting Principal. She can be contacted through the normal channels.

In addition, she will have the school mobile: 0428 091 896.

Friendly reminder Student Free Tuesday 9th June

Following the Kings Birthday public holiday on Monday 8th June, staff will be participating in a full day of professional learning on Tuesday 9th June. This is a shared day with our Community of Practice Schools with a focus on Mathematics assessment and using this for point of need teaching and learning. Students should not attend school on this day.

CROSS COUNTRY

Finally, good luck to our district cross country runners, Jack S and Thomas L. They will head to Moama on Friday 15th to represent our school and cluster. Best of luck!

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As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

If you have any questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Aaron

DATES TO REMEMBER — 2026		
May		
Friday 15th		**Campaspe Cross Country—Moama**
Thursday 21st		**Walk to School**
Friday 22nd	2.30—3.00pm	**Open Classrooms** **Assembly**
Monday 25th	12.30—1.30pm	**Sorry Day**
Tuesday 26th	9.00—11.00am	**Open Morning**
Wednesday 27th	12.00	**Simultaneous Story Time** **Winter Sports Day—Colbinabbin PS**

ELMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

RESPECT | RESILIENCE | CITIZENSHIP | INTEGRITY

STUDENT AND SCHOOL SHOWCASE – Friday 22nd May, 2:30pm – 3:20pm

New, current and former parents, families, and the wider Elmore community are invited to join us to celebrate the fabulous learning being completed by our students on a daily basis. Student learning will be on display and classrooms open to visitors. This will conclude with our whole school assembly.

OPEN MORNING – Tuesday 26th May, 9am – 11am

Elmore Primary School invites all new and prospective families to attend an Open Morning and school tour. Come in and see our literacy program in action and get a glimpse of our daily routines at EPS. Visit our classrooms to see the innovative and engaging learning programs being delivered every day.

Enrolment enquiries are always welcome.
School Tours can be arranged at any time.

Principal: Aaron Taylor
Phone: 5432 6247
Email: elmore.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Prep- Grade 2—The Quirky Quokkas

Hello families,

Thanks to all the mothers who joined us for our Mother's Day activities last week. We hope you were spoilt on Sunday.

What's been happening?

We had a visit from the City of Greater Bendigo educating us about the 'war on waste'. We learnt about the different types of waste collection and how our families and school can ensure that we are using each bin correctly.

We also had a visit from Chuck and Nicola teaching us about responsible pet ownership. Chuck was super happy to have a pat from a few students after showing us his very obedient listening skills.

What are we learning?

The Quirky Quokkas have been busy in Literacy continuing work on our informative posters. Students are now moving into the publishing phase of the writing process, adding labelled diagrams, colour and final touches to make their posters engaging and informative for readers. It has been fantastic to see the creativity and effort students are putting into presenting their learning.

Students will have their finished pieces ready to share at our Student Showcase afternoon next Friday 22nd May. Students who would like to will also have the opportunity to present their work at assembly. We are looking forward to celebrating all of their hard work and sharing it with our families and school community.

In Maths, we have been exploring measurement, focusing on capacity, length and mass. Students have enjoyed participating in hands on investigations and using different informal units to measure and compare objects. A highlight has been making estimates before measuring and then checking how close their predictions were to the actual measurement. It has been great to see students building confidence using measurement language and sharing their thinking during class discussions.

What's coming up?

Week 5 - Walk to school day is next Thursday followed by out Student Showcase on Friday starting at 2:20pm. We would love to have lots of families come along to help celebrate our students amazing learning.

Week 6 – Sorry Day – students will come together during our Wellbeing sessions to participate in activities highlighting our indigenous cultures.

Elmore Primary School Open Morning – Our classrooms will be open to any families thinking about enrolling.

Have a great week and if you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact us via uEducateUs or contact the school.

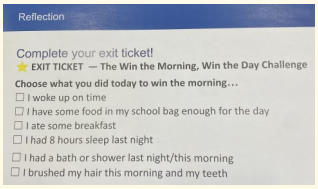
Cheers

Nick and Daisy

The Wacky Wombats! Grade 3–6

Hi everyone,

The weeks are certainly flying by, and we have had another busy and exciting fortnight at school! Throughout the term, we have been focusing on the idea of "Winning the Morning to Win the Day" by establishing positive routines and habits that help students arrive at school ready to learn. It has been wonderful to see students building strategies to maintain a positive mindset and approach each learning day with confidence and enthusiasm.



A big thank you to everyone involved in our 'Mother's Day Stall'. It was also fantastic to see our school community come together for the activity's afternoon at the hall. Events such as these are a wonderful opportunity to strengthen connections within our community.

Last week, we recognised "Do It For Dolly Day" by wearing blue and participating in activities that highlighted the importance of kindness, inclusion and speaking up. Students enjoyed making cupcakes and engaging in meaningful discussions and activities focused on supporting others and promoting positive wellbeing.

We would also like to wish Jack Simmie and Thomas Lonsdale the very best as they compete in the next level of 'Cross Country' this week. We are very proud of your efforts and achievements.

Yesterday, students participated in our 'Waste Wise' incursion, where they learnt more about reducing waste, recycling correctly and caring for our environment. Students explored which bins should be used for different types of rubbish and have already begun discussing ways we can continue improving our sustainable practices at school.

In the Classroom

Literacy: Students are enjoying reading nonfiction texts and news articles while analysing and critiquing authors' techniques, perspectives and purpose. In Writing, students are focusing on persuasive and opinion texts, while continuing to refine their paragraphing and punctuation skills.

Mathematics: We have begun our Measurement unit, exploring metric units, length, height, area and perimeter through hands-on learning experiences.

Inquiry – Sustainability: Students have been preparing presentations for our upcoming open afternoon, researching a variety of sustainability topics and sharing ways we can care for our environment.

Spelling (Spellex): Students are learning about prefixes and suffixes to strengthen their spelling, vocabulary and understanding of word meanings.

Through our Respectful Relationships learning, students have been exploring ways to treat others kindly and respectfully, as well as strategies for managing disagreements through role-play scenarios and class discussions. Our current wellbeing focus is: "Using kind words and manners."

We are looking forward to the fortnight ahead as we celebrate 'Education Week' and 'Reconciliation Week' together as a school community. Please remember that I am available most afternoons if you have any questions, concerns or would like to discuss your child's learning further.

Please feel free to reach out if there is anything you need

Cheers

Sam

WELLBEING @ EPS

Parent Forum

The next parent forum is to be held this week, Friday, May 15th at 2.30 (before Assembly) to give parents the opportunity to meet and discuss any topics of interest to the school they may have.

Please feel welcome to attend. Dates are Fridays, 2.30-3.10pm – May 15th, May 29th and June 12th.

School Wide Positive Behaviours Program

Our lessons are continuing across both grades including We put away our belongings, We participate, We use an appropriate voice, We wait our turn and We stop when asked, are a few of the lessons being covered across the school. The intent is for everyone to have the same message and to make our school the best place we can, and for everyone to feel safe and valued. Happy to talk further about the program on the Parent forum this Friday, May 15th at 2.30

Junior School Council

At our last meeting a number of items were discussed-

Upcoming events -

Tuesday, May 26th - National Sorry Day. An activity to acknowledge this day will happen during the day

Clean Up Australia Day. To be re-scheduled and to coincide with **World Environment Day on Friday, June 5th**

Friday, June 26th (last day of Term 2)- PJ Day- wear your pyjamas to school for the day!

New study shovels and buckets for the sand pit have been bought as well as more pump attachments for the Sports Shed.

JSC will meet again shortly

Premiers Reading Challenge

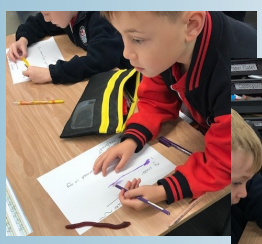
We will be involved in the challenge this year. The challenge is to read and complete as many books as you can up to Friday September 4th. All students have their Logins and can log books, read both at home and at school. The theme this year is 'Stories to Discover'. Stories to tell'. Certificates will be awarded along the way to those who complete milestones. More info is on this newsletter.

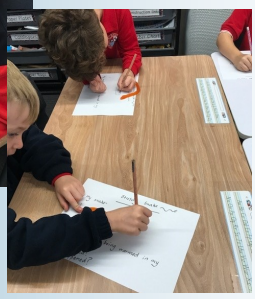
Do It for Dolly Day

We had a great day last Friday acknowledging and supporting Do it For Dolly Day. Everyone joined in to wear something blue and we made cupcakes and iced them blue to support the day. Charlie Baxter and his Mum also made blue cookies to eat on the day!

Proudly Supporting Dolly's Dream

Science





We had some fun in Science last week. The P-2 class used lolly snakes to explore how the warmth of their hand can change the 'material' of the snake to enable to stretch. The Grade 3-6 class predicted what the gas from a bottle of coke would do to a balloon connected to the neck of the bottle. This was linked to the exploration of solids, liquids, and gases.

If parents have any concerns please see me, or make contact through uEducateUs.

Cheers Helen

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge 2026

Dear parent/carer,

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and we're excited to be taking part!

All children from birth to Year 10 are welcome to join in.

This year's Challenge theme is 'Stories to discover. Stories to tell'. Stories can inspire and challenge us and help us grow. They open our eyes to new worlds and new ways of thinking.

The number of books read can be varied for everyone's needs.

All children who complete the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former premiers.

To learn more about the Challenge, visit [Premiers' Reading Challenge | vic.gov.au]

You can also contact our Challenge Coordinator, Helen Tuohey with any questions.

Happy reading!

Helen Tuohey

Bendigo Community Health Services

5 ways to wellbeing

Child & Family Wellbeing

Looking after yourself & your children

Wellbeing is an important part of our lives and can have a big impact on our overall health.

However, at times, we can feel overwhelmed and it can be hard to know where to start in supporting our children, while also looking after ourselves.

Below are some resources you may find helpful:

E-Safety Commisioner - Safety online

Raising Children Network

Student Wellbeing - Parent Resources

Where can I go locally for support?

- **Bendigo Headspace** - mental health support (for those aged 12 - 25)
- **Mental Health & Wellbeing Local** - Mind Australia (for those aged 26+)
- **BCHS** - Loddon Children's Health and Wellbeing Local (for children up to 11); Supported Playgroups & Stepping Stones Early Childhood Intervention program; Counselling & Mental Health Support
- **The Orange Door Bendigo**
- **Anglicare Victoria**
- **Arc Justice** - legal & tenancy advocacy support
- **Rights Information & Advocacy Centre Bendigo** - Disability Advocacy support services
- **Bendigo & District Aboriginal Co-operative**

www.bchs.com.au

WEEK 1 AWARD WINNERS

Odin, Wyatt, Charlie B, Thomas, Noah, Will

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES 2026

MONDAY	
12:30 – 3:20pm	**MACC – ART** Alternating fortnight with Sue Cowan
TUESDAY	
12:30 – 3:20pm	**MARC – Library** Alternating fortnight with Sue Gentry
1:30pm	**Lunch orders – Elmore Bakery** Orders placed at school in sealed envelope.
2:20pm	**Living Well** P-2s with Helen Tuohey
WEDNESDAY	
8:20am – 8:45am	**Breakfast Club** Multipurpose room with Aaron Taylor
2:20pm	**AUSLAN** Weekly sessions, Tim Pitts visits fortnightly
THURSDAY	
8:20am – 8:45am	**Breakfast Club** Multipurpose room with Lesley
1:30pm	**Lunch orders – Elmore Bakery** Orders placed at school in sealed envelope.
11:30pm – 1:30pm	**Specialist Classes** PE – Natalie Pelly STEM – Helen Tuohey
FRIDAY	
2:20pm	**Living Well** 3-6s with Helen Tuohey
3:05pm	**School Assembly**