Principal: Aaron Taylor
36 MICHIE ST, ELMORE 3558
54 326 247
elmore.ps@education.vic.gov.au

THE GATEWAY Thursday 19th March, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL
AARON TAYLOR

Hi Families

HARMONY DAY

This Friday 20th March is Harmony Day. This is a day that recognizes cultural diversity, inclusivity, and respect for all. At Elmore PS, we take pride in being an inclusive learning environment. Our differences are what make us unique and special. By embracing every individual's unique background and circumstances, we enrich our learning environment, fostering a community where everyone feels valued and included. Importantly, inclusion goes beyond acceptance; it's about actively embracing and engaging every member of our community. Every student, staff member, and family should feel a sense of belonging. By actively promoting inclusion, we create an environment where everyone can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

On Friday, children are encouraged to wear a 'Splash' of orange to celebrate Harmony Day.

RIDE TO SCHOOL

This Friday is also Ride to School Day. For those interested in walking/scooting/ riding to school, we will meet at the end river end of Childers Street and make our way along the Campaspe, back to school. We will depart at 8:30am.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School council held the Annual General Meeting and first meeting of the 2026 council this week. The following people will be filling our executive roles; President: Kylie Gardam (3rd term), Vice President: Caitlyn Curtis, Treasurer: Amy Holmes. General committee Meg Fiedler.

School council plays an important role in supporting the governance and strategic direction of our school, and we thank these parents for volunteering their time to support the Elmore Primary School community. They will join myself as the Department of Education staff member.

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.

NAPLAN TESTING

This week marked the end of the annual NAPLAN testing for students in Grades 3 and 5. It has been fantastic to see our students approach the assessments with a positive attitude and show great resilience and patience in completing the suite of assessments.

EASTER MARKET 9am – 1pm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The EPA is holding an Easter Market at the school on Sunday 29th March. In conjunction with OLSH and the kinder, we will be holding a joint fundraising BBQ. I require 3 volunteers to assist with our shift from 8:30am – 10am. The main roles would be setting up the station, cooking and selling sausages, burgers and soft drinks. The stall will also be selling raffle tickets for an Easter Hamper raffle.

We'd appreciate any contributions toward the Easter Raffle being dropped to the school on or before Wed 25th March, 12pm.

In addition, we are also coordinating an Easter Egg Hunt. 12pm – 0-3yrs, 12:10pm – 4 – 8 yrs, 12:20 pm– 9 – 12 yrs (or primary), 12:30pm – 13+. Parents are then invited to help find the last of the eggs and help pack up the straw bales at the end of the hunt!

As this is coordinated by the EPA and school staff are not required to be in attendance, we will not be organising any student stalls. Depending on the success of the event, we may look to replicate the market later in the year, where there may be an opportunity to open it up student stall holders, in a similar way to our Social Enterprise projects in 2025.

Those wishing to book a self run stall through the EPA can visit https://www.trybooking.com/DJKAP

AEU – Strike Action Tuesday March 24th

As many of you may be aware, the Australian Education Union has called on its members to take protected industrial strike action on Tuesday 24 March 2026.

At this stage, I do not anticipate this impacting our normal classroom routines, however, I cannot confirm this until 2pm on Monday 23rd March. If classrooms are to impacted, I will contact families at this time.

PURPLE UP for EPLIEPSY Thursday 26th March

2026 is our year to stand with the *1 in 26* people who will be diagnosed with epilepsy in their lifetime.

Thursday March 26th is the world's annual moment of unity for epilepsy awareness, we're helping to remind everyone that this movement is global, urgent and growing.

Here in Australia, it's estimated that 266,000 people are living with epilepsy: our families, friends, colleagues, students, carers and community members whose experiences are too often invisible.

To help raise money for this campaign, students are encouraged to wear all things purple and bring along a gold coin donation.

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Term 1 ends at 2:20pm on Thursday 2nd April. As is tradition, we will be holding an easter egg hunt for all students and siblings at the end of the day. This will commence at approximately 1:45pm.

There will be a brief newsletter issued on this day.

Have a great fortnight everyone.

Aaron

Prep- Grade 2

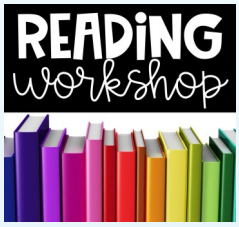
Hello families,

We are almost there; the end of the term is nigh. The P-2 students have been fantastic this term, I thought we would be seeing some tired eyes rolling in but they are continuing to come along smiles on faces and ready to learn. Well done to all the kids and parents.

What's been happening?

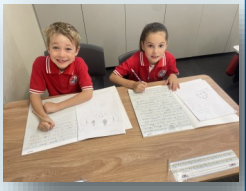
Business as usual, students are really stepping up in following routines and engaging in their learning

Thanks to the parents who helped by bringing in cardboard boxes for the students to use for their inquiry project. We have been learning how we all fit into our community and been creating pieces that reflect this. Next step is to create a cardboard version of ourselves; we are looking forward to what the students create.



What are we learning?

In Reading Workshops, students are breaking down the week into different reading strategies, this week we have looked at summarising and using the 'W' questions to manage it in to smaller pieces. They are also looking at being detectives and inferring what is really happening to our characters whilst also identifying the problems and solutions in a narrative.



In Writing, students have began writing their narratives, starting off with planning it first, then recording themselves telling the story and then writing it. Some very creative students coming through

In Numeracy, our focus continues to be on place value. This week we have been looking at number bonds and fact families.

What's coming up?

No special events next week.

Week 8 – Friday, Ride to School and Harmony Day

Week 9 – Art

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

We made our own human number slider

The Wacky Wombats! Grade 3–6

Hi everyone,

This term is certainly flying by! We have been focusing on recognising our strengths and personal qualities, while showcasing our learning superpowers in the classroom. It has been fantastic to see students actively helping to create a classroom where everyone feels valued, supported, and confident to learn together.

What's been happening!

Students have been working hard putting the finishing touches on their canvases for the Rochester Mural Festival, based on the theme 'Small Moments'. They have done a fantastic job bringing their ideas to life through creative and thoughtful artwork. Be sure to head to the Rochester Shire Hall to check them out!

In PE, students have begun learning all things safety through bike education with Miss Pelly. They have also enjoyed engaging activities with Mrs Gentry and the opportunity to borrow some fantastic books from the 'Library Van'. We are looking forward to the upcoming 'Art Van' visit on Monday.

NAPLAN

Our students successfully completed NAPLAN this week and should be proud of their efforts. They approached each assessment with focus, resilience, and a positive attitude. It was wonderful to see them trying their best and applying the skills they have been developing in class.

Our Learning Focus

Literacy: Applying comprehension strategies to think within, beyond and about the text across both fiction and non-fiction. In writing, students have been following the writing process to develop a movie script.

Numeracy: Solving worded problems using a range of addition strategies, as well as rounding and estimation.

Inquiry: Investigating cultural diversity and celebrations from different cultures.

Respectful Relationships: Exploring how we cope with emotions, along with personal strengths and qualities that shape who we are.

Spellex: Vowels, consonants, graphemes and common spelling patterns.

Here's to the next two fabulous weeks filled with new learning opportunities! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything.

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

Cheers

Sam

WELLBEING @ EPS

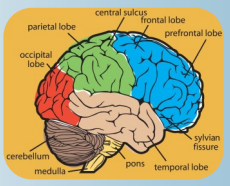
Junior School Council

Upcoming events

Clean Up Australia Day. Yet to be re-scheduled

Friday, March 20th - Harmony Day. We will acknowledge this day with some activities and students invited to wear a 'splash of orange' on the day to school

Thursday, March 26th- Purple Up. Epilepsy Day. We will also acknowledge this day with some activities and students invited to wear a 'splash of purple' on the day to school. Gold Coin donation



Science

Grades 3-6 have started looking at the brain and how it operates, the amazing things it can do, understanding ourselves and our brain and how all our brains are all different

Grade Prep- 2 have begun to deign and construct a lego bridge across a river to hold the Three Bears.

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

Cheers Helen

DATES TO REMEMBER — 2026		
March		
Friday 20th		Ride to School Day Harmony Day
Monday 23rd		Paralympian Triathlete Speaker—Grades 3—6
Thursday 26th		Purple Up for Epilepsy Day
Sunday 29th		**EASTER MARKET DAY 9.00am—1.00pm**
April		
Thursday 2nd		Easter Egg Hunt/Hat Parade **END OF TERM 1—Early Finish 2.20pm**
Monday 20th		START OF TERM 2

WEEK 7 AWARD WINNERS

Jack R, Ivy, Peter, Mary, Hadleigh, Tommy

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 Hanna
1:30pm	**Lunch orders – Elmore Bakery** Orders placed at school in sealed envelope.
12:30pm – 3:20pm	**Specialist Classes** PE – Natalie Pelly STEM – Helen Tuohey
FRIDAY	
2:20pm	**Living Well** 3-6s with Helen Tuohey
3:05pm	**School Assembly**

EASTER MARKET

9 AM
1 PM

Family Fun Day

Sunday
29TH
MARCH

Our
Sponsors

AGNICO EAGLE

ElmoreEventsCentre

Community
Partners

ELMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

EPA EVENTS COMMITTEE

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART ELMORE

FREE ENTRY	**Gold Panning** **FREE Inflatables** **Giant Egg Hunt** Local stallholders Handmade goods Kids activities Coffee & food Live entertainment	Location **Elmore Primary School** **36 Mitchie Street, Elmore**

ELMORE EDUCATORS GROUP

Easter Raffle

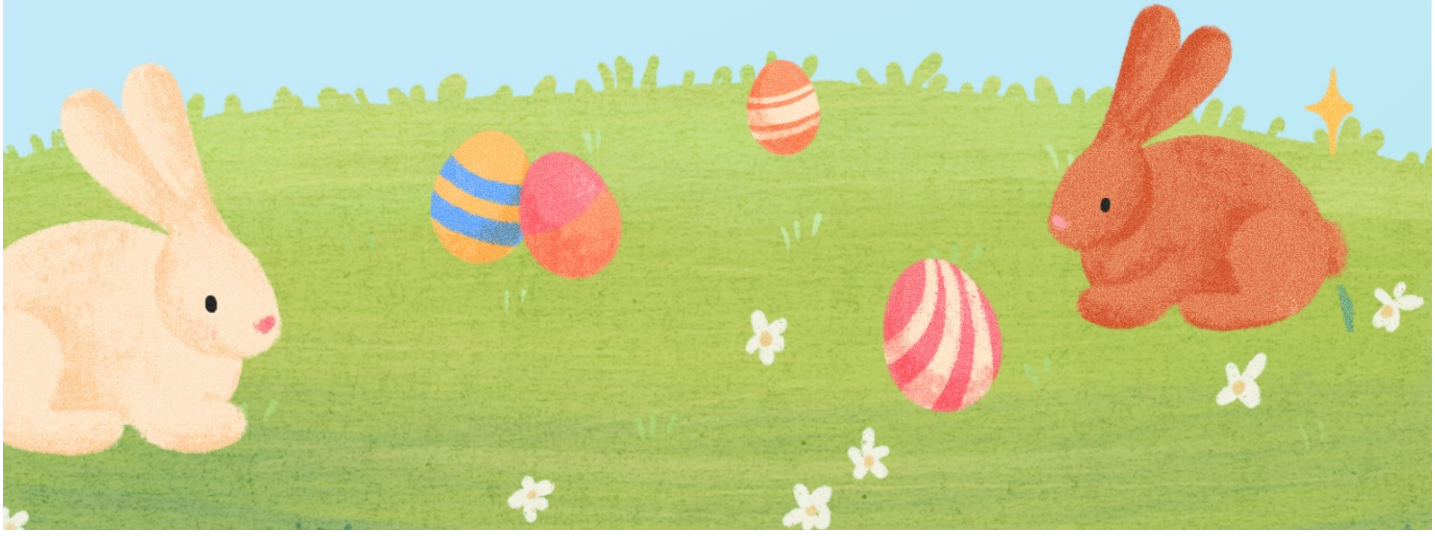
Calling for Easter themed donations to go into a giant Easter hamper.

All funds raised from raffle go towards this years combined acvitiy.

Dotations can be left at OLSH, Elmore Kinder or Elmore P.S

Raffle drawn at Elmore Easter Market 29th March

Raffle tickets avaibable to purches in coming weeks.



MINI'S NETBALL TRAINING

EFNC

START DATE:
THURSDAY 26TH MARCH
4 - 5PM

ELMORE NETBALL COURTS

GIRLS & BOYS
AGED 5 - 11YEARS

PLEASE COMPLETE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM ONLINE (QR CODE).

For more information contact:
Liz, Netball Operations 0409 622 766

BENDIGO CHINESE ASSOCIATION 大金山中華公會

PARADE COSTUME FITTINGS

AGED 7 OR OLDER AND WANT TO BE IN THE EASTER PARADE?

Come see us at 13 Bridge Street, Bendigo every Tuesday from 4pm - 6pm and Saturday & Sunday from 1pm - 5pm until Easter to register!
Please email - secretary@bendigochinese.org.au for more information!