ELMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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THE GATEWAY Thursday 30th April, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL
AARON TAYLOR

Hi Families

WELCOME BACK TO TERM 2

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and refreshing holiday break. We are looking forward to another busy and rewarding term ahead, filled with learning and growth.

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION

ANZAC Day holds great importance for our nation and our school community. It is a time to honour the courage and sacrifice of Australian and New Zealand soldiers who have served in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations.

Commemorating ANZAC Day provides valuable opportunities for our students to learn about bravery, mateship, and the importance of peace. It helps foster an understanding of remembrance and gratitude, while also strengthening our appreciation of history, unity, and respect.

It is a meaningful time to reflect on our heritage and the freedoms we enjoy today.

As a school we acknowledged ANZAC Day at last Friday's assembly, with several year 3-6 students presenting to the whole school.

Our school captains proudly represented the school at the 8am Elmore service on Saturday, reading the Anzac requiem and laying a wreath on behalf of the school.

CROSS COUNTRY

Last Tuesday, students enjoyed competing in the annual Cluster Cross Country. Congratulations to all competitors, and anyone that was brave enough to run, jog or walk their allocated distances. With only year 3-6s able to progress to the division event, in Moama on Friday 15th May, I'd like to congratulate Jack S for finishing 1st and Thomas L for finishing 2nd in their respective age groups. Good luck boys.

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.

HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Due to the size and closeness of our school community, I'm aware that some parents have the private numbers of some teachers. Where parents wish to discuss or inform teachers of a school related matter, private numbers are not to be used. Staff are directed not have their phones on in class or when on duty. So, messaging via mobile, may result in the messages not being seen.

Further, it is part of the current EBA for teachers not to respond to student matters outside their normal working hours. This includes email and school communication platforms.

During the school day, if the matter is "not" urgent, please message through uEducateUs. If there is greater urgency, please call the school office on 54 326 247. This ensures that important messages get through.

I'm also reachable on my mobile, 0400 841 718. Although be aware that I am not always at school. The above method of reaching teachers is the preferred method.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION UPDATE

The AEU has advised that further industrial action may occur on May 13. We will provide updates as soon as more information becomes available, particularly regarding any impact this may have on school operations.

SCHOOL UPGRADES

Our new playground installation is scheduled to begin next Tuesday 5th May, and it is hoped to be in use by the end of the week. Soft fall is scheduled to be spread during the day on Thursday, making it ready for use

In the lead up, an arborist will be onsite on Saturday 2nd May to lift the canopy of the oak tree in the new play space. They will also be removing several high-risk trees in the school grounds which were identified through a 'Safe tree Audit' last year.

Elmore Educators Group - Mother's Day/Special Person's Day

All mother's, grandmothers and special friends are invited to join us for an afternoon of activities on Thursday 7th May at the Atheneum Hall (next to the kinder), 2pm -3pm. We will be joined by families from the kinder and OLSH, with special door prizes and a shared afternoon tea. If you are able, please bring along a small plate to share.

MOTHER'S/SPECIAL PERSON'S DAY STALL

Our school Mother's Day stall will be held on Friday 8th. Gifts will be available from $1 -$5, with a limit of 2 items per child. Please send along some loose change and a calico carry bag to keep the gifts hidden.

THANK YOU – Let's Chat

Helen will be reintroducing the "Let's Chat' session for parents to meet and discuss school related events, documents and opportunities. This will be a fortnightly session, held each Friday prior to assembly.

We look forward to working together to make Term 2 a positive and successful experience for every student.

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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		
Tuesday 5th	1.00—1.30pm	**Rochester Secondary College Visit—Gr 6's**
Thursday 7th		**Mother's Day/Special Person's Day 2pm @ Hall**
Friday 8th	10.20-11.00am 11.30—12.10pm	**Do It For Dolly Day** **Responsible Pet Ownership (Prep—Gr 2)** **Responsible Pet Ownership (Gr 3—Gr 6)** **Mother's Day Stall**
Wednesday 13th	9.30 am 10.15am 11.00am	**Grade Prep—2** **Grade 3—6** **Whole School**

Prep- Grade 2

Hello families,

Welcome back everyone for Term 2. It has been great to see all the students come back into the classroom and being eager to start their learning again.

What's been happening?

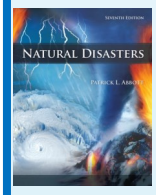
Students participated in the Cluster Cross Country at the Elmore Field Days Site on Tuesday. Conditions were warm but manageable, but the students gave it their all and showed great enthusiasm and resilience to finish their races. Congratulations to everyone who participated and good luck to those 3-6 students who will head off to Moama for the Regional cross country.

We have been lucky enough to have Darren from Song Room join us again for a music program in Term 2. Many of our Grade 2 students remember him from his visit in 2024. The kids have had a couple of lessons now and have got their bodies moving as well as beginning to learn the keys for the Glockenspiel.

Learning Conversations

Thank you to all the families that attended their learning conversations, always great to give updates on the fantastic learning our students are doing.

If you missed out and would like to catch up, please feel free to send us a message through uEducateUs.



What are we learning?

Reading – Students are delving in to non-fiction texts, in particular Natural Disasters which is also part of or writing unit. Students are researching, finding facts and cool information as well as making connections to their own experiences.

Writing – Students are focusing on creating a non-fiction poster which will be showcased in a few weeks where they will aim to teach to rest of the class about their topic. Students will also have the option to present at a school assembly also.

Maths – Place value and rounding of numbers. Student are learning about rounding numbers and how it relates to everyday situations, and also how we can use it to make reasonable estimations.

What's coming up?

Week 3 – Art with Ms Cowan, Song Room, Respectful Dog Ownership, Do it For Dolly Day, Mothers Day Stall and Activity Day.

Week 9 – Library with Ms Gentry.

Proudly Supporting

Dolly's Dream

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

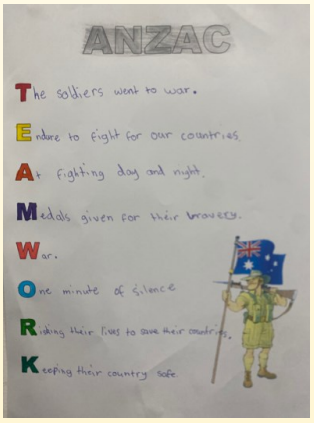
Cheers Nick and Daisy

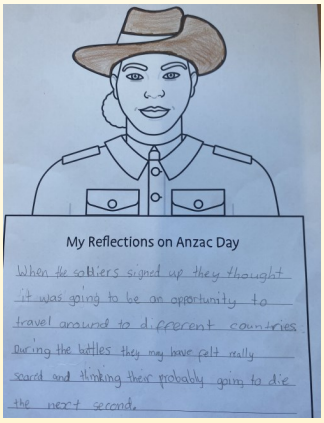
The Wacky Wombats! Grade 3–6

Hi everyone,

We have had a fantastic start to Term 2, with a strong focus on re-establishing our classroom expectations, behaviours, rules and routines. Students have settled in well and are demonstrating a positive and respectful approach to their learning.

We also took time to acknowledge and learn about ANZAC Day, reflecting on its importance and showing respect for those who have served our country.





A big congratulations to all students who participated in the Cluster Cross Country. It was wonderful to see such determination, resilience and sportsmanship on display. All students should be very proud of their efforts.

The students have been enjoying music and movement with the Songroom program. They have been learning to play tunes and stick to a beat. Its great to see them all trying something new!

We are looking forward to the many exciting events coming up throughout the term.

In the classroom:

In Literacy, students are enjoying reading texts that interest them and connect to their passions, helping to build engagement and comprehension skills. In Writing, we are focusing on persuasive texts, learning how to effectively convince our audience using strong arguments and supporting evidence.

In Mathematics, our focus is on time and financial maths, developing practical skills that students can apply in real-life situations.

Our Inquiry unit explores sustainability, where students are investigating ways to care for our environment and make responsible choices. In Spelling (Spellex), students are learning about prefixes and suffixes to strengthen their word knowledge.

Through Respectful Relationships, students are building important coping skills and developing strategies for problem solving, supporting both their learning and wellbeing. "Win the morning win the day" is our focus!

Thank you to everyone who took the time to book a learning catch-up conversation. I really value these opportunities to connect and discuss student progress. Please remember I am available most afternoons if you have any concerns or would like to follow anything up.

We look forward to a productive and engaging term ahead.

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

Cheers

Sam

WELLBEING @ EPS

Parent Forum

A parent forum is to be held each fortnight beginning this week, Friday, May 1st at 2.30pm (before Assembly) to give parents the opportunity to meet and discuss any topics of interest to the school they may have.

I am organising the meetings as a flow on from the successful ones held by Ms Stanford last year. All welcome! Dates are Fridays, 2.30-3.10pm – May 1st, May15th, May29th and June 12th.

School Wide Positive Behaviours Program

As parents may know this program has begun across our school this year. In Term 1 we re-visited and refined the 'Systems' that operate across the school eg Walking inside the Buildings, Going to the Toilet, Lining up for Class etc and discussed and reinforced the expected behaviour that goes with doing these things. The same lessons were taught in each classroom and for most of our students it was a reaffirmation that they are doing things the most positive way they can. This term we will be re-visiting a number of lessons around more detailed behaviour to keep everyone safe and thought about. The lessons include 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 1st at 2.30.

Junior school Council

At our last meeting a number of items were discussed-

Upcoming events

Friday, May 8th- Do It For Dolly Day. We will 'go blue' for the day with some activities and students invited to wear blue for Dolly on the day.

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

Song Room

The Song Room program began successfully last week, and it is great to have Darren back in our school each Monday for Term 2. We enjoy having him and his varied guitars.

The program is funded under the Mental Health in Primary Schools umbrella. Each Monday Darren will engage with both classes to explore music and involve both classes in activities around appreciating and being involved in music. The sessions will culminate in a whole school performance for the community on Monday, June 22nd.

Do It for Dolly Day

Next week on Friday, June 8th we will be joining in to support Do it For Dolly Day. Everyone is encouraged to wear something blue to school on the day and bring along a gold coin donation to support this cause. We will be making cupcakes and decorating them blue and creating blue bunting to hang in the school to remind us of the day and to be kind to everyone.

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

Cheers Helen

Bendigo Community Health Services

Navigating Puberty for Parents & Caregivers

Bendigo Community Health Services invites parents and caregivers to a puberty education evening to talk about:

- LGBTIQA+ information
- Changes in puberty (physical, emotional, social)
- Conception & pregnancy
- Consent
- Online safety & pornography

Wednesday
May 13

7pm

Online

For more information or to register your attendance, scan the QR code.

bchs.com.au

Bendigo Community Health Services

5 ways to wellbeing

Being Active Everyday

Aim for 30 minutes of active movement.

Being active has many physical, social and emotional benefits, and everyone can benefit from movement throughout the day.

Finding it hard to fit in 30 mins at one time? Try two 15 min sessions or three 10 min sessions! You can also build up from shorter sessions to longer ones!

Find resources and information below:

HLC - Geocaching & other activities

Bendigo Cycling & Walking Trails

Get Active Vic

What are the benefits?

- Time spent with friends and family
- Assists with emotional regulation
- Improved confidence
- Lower stress and anxiety
- Healthy growth & development
- Lowered risk of disease

Tips:

- Sports such as football or netball.
- Bike or scooter riding
- Swimming
- Dancing in the house
- Yoga
- Walking to/from school
- Walking the dog
- Helping with chores around the house
- Make it a family activity!

www.bchs.com.au

WEEK 1 AWARD WINNERS

Noah, Thomas, Charlie D, Peyton, Aaryan and Mary

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**