



TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY, 2024

EPS NEWS - ISSUE 1

FROM THE PRINCIPAL AARON TAYLOR



Welcome to our new and returning families for 2024.

The year has started very smoothly and I'm very excited to see the productive and supportive learning environments our staff and students can create.

We begin the school year with 26 students, which is slightly lower than anticipated. Amongst these students are 6 excited new preps. I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to Charlie R, Sam, Jack C, Charlie B, Harlow and Hadleigh!

We also welcome Tymika Weppner as our new Business manager. She will be in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday

School Leadership Roles

Student leaders for 2024 will be announced at this Monday's Assembly, This will include School Captains, House Captains, Values and Environment leaders and our junior school council. Parents are encouraged to attend. We will start a little earlier, at 3pm.

As part of this week's learning program, aspiring leaders will be presenting speeches at

9:30am, Friday 9th. Parents are invited to attend.

Information Night – Welcome back BBQ

On Wednesday 14th February at 6pm, we will be holding a parent information session at the school. This will cover whole school processes, which includes the use of UeducateUs, classroom learning routines and how to support your child with any at home learning requirements.

This will be followed by an informal BBQ dinner (provided by the EPS council) where families are encouraged to attend and meet and make welcome, the new families who have joined EPS in 2024.

Announcements on uEducateUs

Please regularly check uEducateUs for announcements. Already this year, we have sent out communications surrounding prep rest days, lunch orders, book collection as well as several permission forms.

The calendar of events, on the home page, is also updated regularly with everything you need to know for the coming weeks.



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.





Attendance

Across the past 2-3 years, we have seen a gradual decline in student attendance, with a dramatic rise in students with 20+ days of absence per year.

Following the success of our attendance incentives put in place in term 4 last year, the school will be implementing several strategies to reverse this trend. This will include:

- Weekly attendance award at school assembly
- Termly reward for students reaching attendance targets
- End of year celebration for outstanding school attendance

In addition, where your child's absence has not been entered on uEducateUs by 11am, parents will receive a notification. If you receive this message, please log onto the app to enter the reason for the absence.

There may be times when you receive this message incorrectly, as this system relies on teaching staff marking the role on time. We kindly ask for your patience as we all adjust to this new process.

Parents can also contact the office to register an absence.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will be run each Tuesday and Thursday from 8:25am – 8:45am in the Art room. Students arriving at school prior to 8:45am must attend breakfast club. No new customers will be accepted after 8:45am.

Volunteers connected with our neighbouring church will host the Thursday morning sessions. Tuesdays session will be run by EPS staff.

Oasis Menu

The 2024 Lunch order menu and pricing was released last week on uEducateUs. Lunch order days will remain on a Tuesday and Thursday.

Mowing Roster

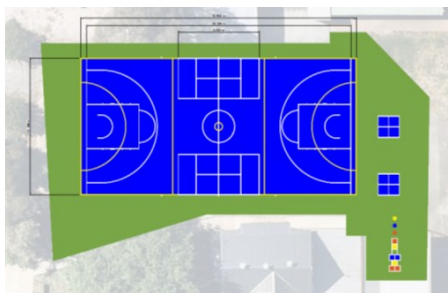
We are once again calling on volunteers to fill our 2024 mowing roster. Your duties would include mowing the school grounds and the nature strips, at least twice during your allocated month. You can nominate your own month, when things are less busy OR share the responsibility during the busier growing periods in spring.

If you can help – please speak to the office.

Thanks to Nathan Lawler who tackled January – it certainly turned out to be busier than we expected!

Grounds works

You may have noticed some garden edging and additional drainage was added to the basketball court and surrounds. This is in readiness for the resurfacing of our basketball court. At this stage, I anticipate these works to begin in March and occur over a 2-week period. These works were approved by the EPS school council, with details finalised late in the school year. This is an exciting upgrade to our schools outdoor learning spaces!



Swimming Program

Swimming lessons will begin Monday 19th FEB. Running on Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th, Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd held at the Elmore Swimming Pool and run by Splash and Learn to Swim. Lessons will run – Prep, One Two class: 12:45pm – 1:30pm, Grade 3-6: 1:30pm – 2:15pm. Classroom teachers will walk with students to the pool, where they will then get changed into their bathers and apply sunscreen then begin their lessons. After the lesson students will change back into their school uniform and walk back to school with their teacher.

Each day students will need:

~Bathers

~Rashie – We are a sun safe school, it is a requirement that all students participating in swimming lessons wear a rashie or t shirt to help protect them from the sun

~Towel

~Goggles (optional)

~A bag to carry bathers, towel and goggles to the pool

~Extra snacks (students will eat before they head to the pool, and we will offer the opportunity to have another snack when they return. Pop an extra snack or 2 into the lunchbox, as swimming seems to increase everyone's appetite.

Please clearly name all clothing and towels – as you can imagine there are often items of clothing left unclaimed after each changing process. It makes for a smooth changing transition if all items (uniforms, bathers and towels) are named.

If you have any concerns or would like some more information, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

EPS House Swimming Sport 2024



Friday 23rd Feb at the Elmore swimming pool. We will be having our House Swimming Sports at the Elmore Pool beginning at 1.30pm. All students and staff will walk down to the pool at 12.30ish, have lunch, get changed and then be ready to begin our swimming sports at 1.30pm. Parents are most welcome to attend the Swimming Sports from 1.00pm onwards to cheer on our Red and Blue Houses. Students are most welcome to come to school on that Friday

dressed in their house colours red or blue – please ensure students stick to sun safe guidelines – no singlets or open toe shoes.

Parents may take their children home from the pool at the end of the sports competition. They must be signed out by their teacher. Bus students will be walked back to school in time for their buses if they are not being collected from the pool.

Students will need:

- ~Bathers and rashie
- ~Towel
- ~Goggles (optional)
- ~Lunch and snacks
- ~Drink bottle.

Week 1 Award Winners



Congratulations to our Award winners this week: Jack R, Daniel, Easton, Charlie R, Hadleigh & Jack C.

Grades 3/6

Welcome back, everyone!

We are thrilled to kick off the new school year with excitement and enthusiasm. The dynamic teaching duo of Nick and Sam will be guiding our 3-6 students through a year of learning, growth, and discovery. The first week was a fantastic start to the academic journey. Students have settled in seamlessly, fostering a positive and inclusive atmosphere within the classroom.

This year, our class totem was chosen by the students themselves through a vigorous voting process, we had plenty of excellent choices proposed by the students, many incorporating native Australian animals. After robust discussions and lobbying by some students, the final vote gave us our class totem.

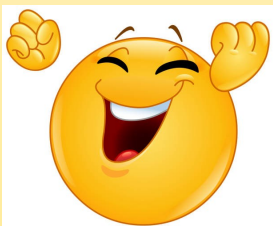
I would like to introduce the 'Rockin Roos'.

Students have been making use of AI technology to help design our representation of the Rockin Roos, we will put the finishing touches on that this week and show it off next week.

A big welcome to Jack Renshaw, who has transitioned into Grade 3 and joined the senior room. We're excited to have him as part of our class and look forward to the unique contributions he will bring.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING

This Friday our year 3-6s will be taking part in an open water learning experience in Echuca. Students need to bring a change of old clothes, bathers, towel, plastic bag (for wet items) as well as their lunch and drink bottle.



THIS WEEKS LEARNING FOCUS:

Literacy: Persuasive writing / Leadership Speeches

Numeracy: Number and Place Value

Inquiry: Learning for Life (School Values, Leadership, and more)

Respectful Relationships: Emotional Literacy and Personal Strengths

Here's to a fantastic school year filled with laughter, growth, and countless opportunities for our Rockin' Roos

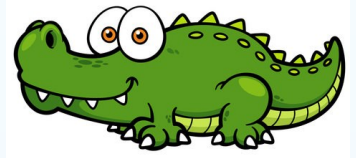
Nick & Sam



Prep –2 Wild Crocodiles

Welcome everyone to 2024.

This year it was voted that we be the ‘Wild Crocodiles’ (can’t get much wilder than that)!! All the students have started off the year full of enthusiasm and happy to be back with their friends and ready to learn. Welcome to Harlow, Sam, Hadleigh, Jack C, Charlie B and Charlie R who have begun Prep and we know they will have a great year.



Literacy and reading

In Literacy we are working on the daily routines for reading and writing. We have Independent reading to begin each morning and during that time individual teacher/student reading conferences take place. Books that are being read are checked, as is the yellow read at home diary and new books added and changed. The yellow read at home diary is important as we can discuss what they have read, did they like it or not? What was the best bit in the book, what characters are in the book etc. If it’s not filled in we don’t know what is being read- are the books too easy, hard just right, so please take the time to complete it as it is a great help to us.

The aim for the term is to read at least **50 nights at home.**

Lunch boxes

Students seem to be very hungry as soon as school begins, so could parents please ensure that they have fresh fruit, snacks and something main for their lunch. At times we will have extra fresh fruit here at school for those who need it. Fruit time is 10.00am each morning

Hats

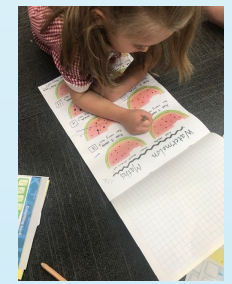
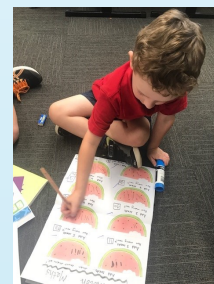
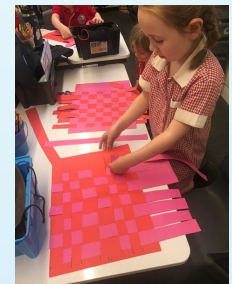
Again, for Term 1, students will need to wear their hats when outside for recess, lunch, PE etc. Please ensure that the hats are named as this makes it easier for us to get the hat back to its correct owner!

Watermelon Day

On Friday we had a ‘watermelon day.’ We read a story about a crocodile, of course, who loved watermelon. We wrote about the story, ate some watermelon, did some watermelon maths and some watermelon weaving. Great fun for Week 1.

Below is the weekly reading/teacher conference roster. This is also the roster for when, if they like, students may bring something to show to the class or talk about. This is done during fruit time.

If parents have any concerns please see me, contact me through UEducate Us. Cheers Helen & Daisy



<i>Reading Conference/Sharing Timetable 2024</i>			
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Charlie R</i>	<i>Charlie B</i>	
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Sam R</i>	<i>Charlie D</i>	<i>Isla</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Xander</i>	<i>Easton</i>	
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Cody</i>	<i>Hadleigh</i>	<i>Jack C</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Jack S</i>	<i>Ashleigh</i>	<i>Harlow</i>

We would like to extend
a very special thank you
to the Bendigo
Community Bank for
their generous
contribution towards our
5/6 Canberra Camp in
2023

Community Bank
Elmore, Lockington and Rochester

B Bendigo Bank



**2024
COME & TRY DAY**

Ever wanted to play an instrument?
Maybe you've always wanted to play in a community band?
Come along and see what it's all about!

5pm Tuesday 6th February
Marist Brass, 122 Hargreaves St, Bendigo
Adults and children aged 8+ welcome!

Come along to:

- Learn about brass instruments and community banding
- Ask band members questions
- Try playing an instrument!

Whether you've previously played in a band, or never even picked up an instrument, this session is a great introduction.
Anyone aged 8-80 is welcome!

This session is FREE!
Simply RSVP here!



band@maristbrass.org.au
044 8000 975

Find us on 



**nab AFL
Auskick**

JOIN THE FUN!

**Register to the 2024 Auskick Season for
the opportunity to be involved in a clinic
with North Melbourne or Carlton as part
of the AFL Community Camps in Bendigo!**
Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity!

Find your closest centre & register!



Note: clinics occurring mid Feb



**RUNNYMEDE JFC
REGISTRATION
NIGHT**

Wednesday 21st February
Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve
5.00pm
U10's & U12's
Light training & BBQ
New & old players/families encouraged to
come along
Contact Craig 0428694648 or Tymika
0434100521 if you are keen to play but can't
make it on the night