



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to come back this week and see the decking finally finished off completely, washed and oiled. Luke Button has done an amazing job and we have had so many positive comments already.

The completion of the decking sees a conclusion to a number of 'wish-list' jobs that Elmore Primary School families and staff have worked towards since they were originally identified back in 2015. At that time, we successfully applied for a grant with FRRR and Meg Dollar led a team to upgrade the area where the railway carriage is, working with students, families and staff to paint the fences, the carriage, create beautiful art works and develop the gardens. Sadly, the grant was never going to be big enough to address upgrading the undercover area and so it kept being put on the backburner.

Finally, we have been able to put enough money aside from fund raising and having me in the classroom, to afford to complete this project and create a beautiful outdoor space for generations of Elmore Primary School students and families to enjoy. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our fundraising efforts over the years to enable us to meet this goal. It is a community effort to be very proud of.

The **Elmore Swimming Pool Roster** has been included in today's Newsletter. Our day remains the same—Tuesdays. Small communities such as Elmore rely very heavily on community members volunteering in order to keep their pools open. We ask that all families please indicate any dates that they are able to assist by running the kiosk at the pool and either indicate it on the form in today's Newsletter and return it to school, write their name on the master list in the undercover area or send a text message to the school mobile (0428 091 896) indicating the date(s) and I will add your name to the master copy. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this community matter.

Please note that **Monday 4th November** is a **curriculum day** and no students will be required at school. **Tuesday 5th November** is **Melbourne Cup Day public holiday** so we will see students all back at school on Wednesday 6th November. I have informed our bus services.

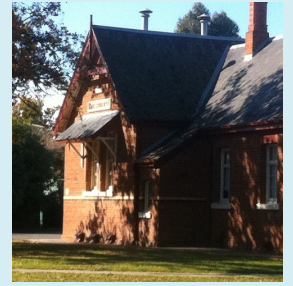
Grade 5 and 6 students in our Cluster head off to Canberra Camp on Monday 11th November, where they undertake an educational tour of the national capital, Canberra. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit Canberra as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families, the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program towards the costs.

I wish to acknowledge the significant work Mrs Tuohey has put into organising this event for the cluster. Mrs Tuohey will be attending the camp from our school and Ms Stanford, Ms Acocks and myself will be taking the remaining students.

Medication at school: there have been a number of items coming into school recently as the allergy season hits us all. Staff can only administer medication when it is sent to school in its original packaging with the student's name clearly marked on it and with written instructions as to dosage and time etc. This applies to asthma inhalers too. Although the DET prefers to have an Asthma management plan wherever possible, we understand that some children use puffers for allergies and may not have one. Whatever the medication, without clear instructions in writing staff cannot administer medication for legal reasons.

Enjoy your week.

Michelle. 1



**Respect**

**Resilience**

**Integrity**

**Citizenship**

## Calendar and Dates

### TERM 4

**31/10 Walk to School Day.**  
**Meet at Railway Square 8:30am**

**School Council**  
**6.30 pm**

**4/11 Curriculum Day**  
**No Students**

**5/11 Melbourne Cup Day**  
**No Students**

**7/11 Big Day Out**  
**10.00—12.00pm**

**11/11— 15/11 Canberra Camp**

**22/11 Cluster Summer Sports**

**Reminder—Home Reading**  
should be done every night by every student! Diaries are due in on Mondays please.

### Attendance Rate

14/10 to 18/10 - 96%  
21/10 to 25/10 - 92%  
Y.T.D. - 92%

### Walk to School Day—

Tomorrow (Thursday 31st October)

Meet me at Railway Square at 8:30am! I will walk down from school with any bus students who want to participate.

**PROTECT**

Everyone has the right to be safe  
and be protected from abuse.



## The jumping kangaroos

### Thank You

We would like to say a special thank you to Angus who has been completing a placement at the school as part of his course. He has been a fantastic support to students and staff and hopefully he gained an insight in the day to day running of a classroom and school. Angus finished his placement this week.

Emily was also in our classroom helping out last week as part of Year 10 Work Experience and we were lucky to be able to use her enthusiasm and skills over the week.

### Poetry

Our literacy focus is currently around poetry and poetry writing. I have included some of the great pieces written and published to date.

### Star of the Week

Congratulations to Dan who was our Star of the Week during the past two weeks. He has enjoyed this role wearing the cape for the week.

### Basket Ball clinics

Everyone has been enjoying the clinics run by Nick Gibbs and the weather has been perfect for the sessions. They will run for another 2-3 weeks.

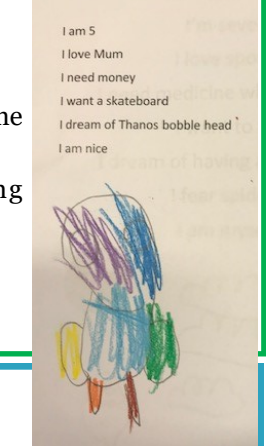
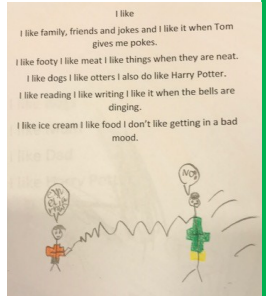
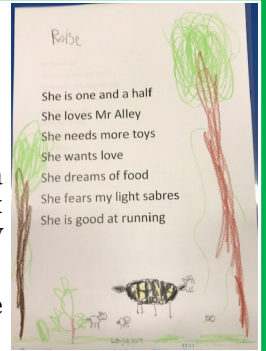
### Premiers Reading Challenge

The challenge has finished for another year and awards for the Challenge will be presented to some students at the next assembly.

Don't forget our **Elmore Community Walk to School Day on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 8.30 am** meeting at the Railway Square. Everyone welcome to be involved!

Have a great week everyone

Helen Tuohey



## The Wonderful Wombats



The Wombats have been enjoying their Inquiry topic of my Country / Australian history and have been doing some fantastic research work for their projects. We look forward to sharing these with families once they are completed. Last week, we watched a video about indigenous Dreamtime stories which prompted some very deep conversation about beliefs held in different cultural groups.

The elders in the video spoke about their cultural belief being that humans were shaped from the earth. This led to a lot of questions about what different cultural groups believe and teach their children. We discussed how there are different religious beliefs and books of learning such as the Jewish Torah, the

Muslim Qur'an, the Christian Bible, the Word of Buddha and so on. Students showed a great deal of interest in hearing about what some other cultural beliefs may be and comparing it to their own in a non-judgemental way.

Michelle Griffiths

## Student Photos and images—important information

The Child Safety Code of Conduct for all Government schools states that: "<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spaa/safety/pages/photoandfilm.aspx>". The policy says the school should get consent before taking and publishing photos of a student. This applies **every time** a photo is taken. The same policy applies for excursions and school activities." (see attached)

After discussing this at staff meeting, we have decided that there will be no new student photos used in any format—Newsletter, online, etc— unless a parent specifically requests in writing that we do so, for example, "Here is a picture of my child at dancing on the weekend, could you please include it in the Newsletter." sent as a text message or email. We will still include photos of work or other items.

It is disappointing because seeing the many images of our students smiling and having a great time at school was a real highlight for many of us but we must ensure we act in accordance with DET policy and procedure, and this is the best way we have identified for our staff to manage this situation at our school.



## October is Walk to School Month



**Elmore Community Walk to School Day**  
**Thursday 31st October**

**Meeting at Railway Square at 8.30am**



Walking, scooting, riding – from Railway Square, crossing at the pedestrian crossing, past the Senior Citizens Centre to Hervey Street – Preschool drop off then students and teachers will make their way to school.

If riding or scooting please make sure helmets are worn.  
 No helmet - no riding or scooting!  
 Hats for all other walkers.



### ***Follow up from "ideas meeting / box".....***

Cameron Renshaw and Michelle Simmie have put together a table categorising the ideas and suggestions from the children and parents. They are currently working through the list determining each item's priority in accordance with

School council's policies and procedures. Information will be put in the newsletter as they progress with each item.



### ***WANTED***

If you have a Mulberry bush at home, could we please have some leaves for our silk worms.

Thanks.







## KIDS CHRISTMAS CLUB

### ALL WELCOME

Explore the meaning of Christmas through Story, Craft & Song

For primary school-aged children & pre-schoolers with a parent

It is to be held at the Uniting Church Hall, ELMORE.

**Tuesdays:** November 26, December 3 and December 10, 3:30 to 4:30pm

### BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

\*Please register with Liz: 0408 315 253 by 16 November to ensure sufficient craft and snack supplies available.

**All leaders have Working with Children checks**

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

3:30pm: after school snacks

3:45pm Christmas story time

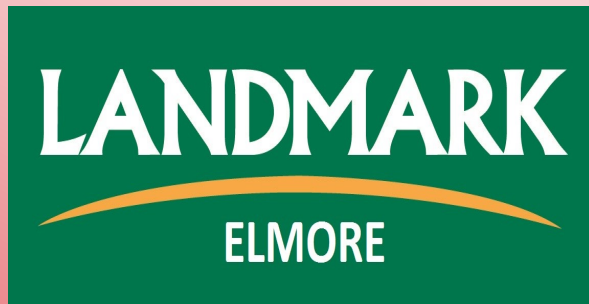
4:00pm related craft activities/music

\*Parent to sign children in and out

\*Adult helpers welcome

\* a **free program** provided by the Uniting Church ELMORE.

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**THANK YOU**  
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# PROTECT

# CHILD SAFETY CODE OF CONDUCT



Education  
and Training



August 2019

Elmore Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Our school community recognises the importance of, and a responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment which respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children and young people, and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

This Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also assists in understanding how to avoid or better manage risky behaviours and situations. It is intended to complement child protection legislation, Department policy, school policies and procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The Principal and school leaders of Elmore Primary School will support implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide inclusive, safe and orderly schools and other learning environments.

The Principal and school leaders of Elmore Primary School will also provide information and support to enable the Code of Conduct to operate effectively.

All staff, contractors, volunteers and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work are required to comply with the Code of Conduct by observing expectations for appropriate behaviour below. The Code of Conduct applies in all school situations, including school camps and in the use of digital technology and social media.

## Acceptable behaviours

As staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work individually, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times [Include <and adhering to the school's child safe policy> when the school has a policy in place]
- treating students and families in the school community with respect both within the school environment and outside the school environment as part of normal social and community activities.
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of students with a disability
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the school's leadership
- understanding and complying with all reporting or disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) as they relate to protecting children from harm or abuse.
- if child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe and protected from harm.

## Unacceptable behaviours

As staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work we must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, offering gifts)
- exhibit behaviours or engage in activities with students which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or service delivery context
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate

- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with students, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivering the education curriculum or a therapeutic setting
- treat a child unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity.
- communicate directly with a student through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc) except where that communication is reasonable in all the circumstances, related to school work or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter

## **Child Safe**

**PROTECT** | The Department of Education and Training | ©2016

- photograph or video a child in a school environment except in accordance with school policy or where required for duty of care purposes<sup>①</sup> in the school environment or at other school events where students are present, consume alcohol contrary to school policy<sup>②</sup> or take illicit drugs under any circumstances.

*This Code of Conduct was endorsed/approved by the Elmore Primary School Council on 14.9.2016 for review if legislative or other changes require in the interim or no later than December 2020.*

SPAG: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/photoandfilm.aspx> . The policy says the school should get consent before taking and publishing photos of a student. This applies every time a photo is taken. The same policy applies for excursions and school activities.

<sup>2</sup> SPAG: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/alcohol.aspx> . The policy says the school must obtain school council approval before alcohol can be consumed on school grounds or at a school activity. The policy says staff members should not consume alcohol during camps and excursions. It is silent on whether they can consume alcohol at other school events where students are present, this is a matter that the school needs to decide upon – draft text is provided in the guidance fact sheet

*Ratified by School Council March 2019.*