
Whipstick Whispers

Eaglehawk North Primary School No. 1428

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 11th 2008

NO 40

CALENDAR

Friday	December 12 th	Return of Xmas Hamper Raffle Tickets Last Day for Uniform Shop Sales
Monday	December 15 th	Parent Helpers Morning Tea from 11-15am Presentation of Student Digital Portfolios by all students from 3-45pm to 6pm
Tuesday	December 16 th	Xmas Hamper Raffle drawn Class Parties
Wednesday	December 17 th	No After School Care Program
Thursday	December 18 th	Grade 6 Graduation Assembly from 9am
Friday	December 19 th	Last Day Term 4 (1-30pm finish)
2009		
Thursday	January 29 th	Booklist Collection from Multi Purpose Room(10am to 3pm)
Friday	January 30 th	Booklist Collection from Multi Purpose Room(10am to 3pm)
Monday	February 2 nd	Students start back at school

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Principal's Awards

Our final group of award winners for this year are listed below. Well done on your achievement. I look forward to presenting these at Monday's assembly. My congratulations to all students who were recognised by their teachers and received Principal's Certificates throughout the year. *Nikita H, Konnor H, Benjamin W, Monique W, Chelsea K, Annabel B, Michael T, Elli W, Madison A, Shelby H, Natt N, Brandyne B, 3/4 Gilligan, Rani M, Darcy T, Samuel H, Krista Rand Harley B.*

Thank You and Best Wishes for the Future

I wish to use this week's newsletter to acknowledge those families who will be leaving our school from the end of the year. Some families have a long connection with the school while others have been with us for shorter periods. These families have also had varying degrees of involvement and I wish to acknowledge the support provided. I'd like also to extend my best wishes to the students and parents involved for the path ahead. Some families, because of their extensive level of support and commitment to our school, will be further acknowledged at our Graduation assembly.

Best wishes to the families of: Darcy B, Joshua D, Braydan D-H, Kaleb G, Dalton M, Lethan S, Nick W, Paige A, Katie B, Jazmin H, Emma J-T, Alana L, Laura McG, Kathleen McK, Madison McK, McKenzie N, Demi and Shelby R, Morgaine S, Ebony S, Renee S, Brianna T, Yasmin M, Meg and Jack Ph, Keely, Neve and Devan B, Jackson and Daniel L, Makalah K, Kiara and Ebony B, Thomas and Kieran F, Abbey and Connor Wn, Kiara C, Fraser Sait and Ethan S.

If I have overlooked any families, please let me know and I shall acknowledge you in next week's final newsletter of the year.

A Job Well Done

I wish to use this week's newsletter to also extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to our school's staff for the very caring and professional manner in which they have addressed their duties over the course of the year. We are one of the larger schools in Bendigo and with our size can come challenges. It's an unfortunate reality that schools are often the brunt of criticism for many of society's ills but I know that we have a group of people here who are committed to their work. Some of the staff here are the best I have worked with in a 38 year career. We have had many highlights throughout the year and, working with these people on a daily basis, I know your children are in very caring and capable hands. Well done everyone. I'm proud of the quality of school we have and the work we do.

Repeat Notice – End of Year Dismissal

Please note that on next Friday, 19th December ***school will conclude at 1.30pm.***

The Department requires four hours of instruction on this day and, with the timetable provided, this will be met. Our day will consist of a two hour instruction block, a 30 minute recess period followed by another two hour instruction block and then dismissal. School Council has approved this arrangement.

Our school bus driver has been informed and the bus will run to this schedule. After-School Care provision will be available until 6.00pm as usual, however parents wishing to use this program on the last day of school will need to book students in ***NO LATER THAN*** Tuesday, 16 December as we may need to engage further staff.

Parents are requested to ensure appropriate pick up and supervision arrangements are in place for their child/ren from 1.30pm.

Working Bee Last Weekend

My special thanks to a small group of parents who worked with me in spreading 30 cubic metres of softfall under our play equipment last Saturday morning.

The Houlden family, Tim and James A, Robert F and Sara H worked tirelessly. What we lacked in quantity we sure made up for in quality. It was a big effort. Well done everyone.

Thanks also Tim for allowing us the use of your hired scoop. Without it we'd have still been there.

During the week our senior students have been spreading a further five metres of softfall under other equipment. Well done everyone. This will have our play areas well and truly safe and ready to start the new year.

New Tanks and toilet Upgrade

Over the past couple of weeks we have had three new water tanks installed and new toilet cisterns and pans installed in our children's toilet blocks. Some of the taps have also been converted with water saving flows inserted. Let's pray for some rain now to fill the tanks. This will be used to rejuvenate and maintain the garden beds around the school.

Classes 2009

Already there has been some change in our staffing profile that will result in minor revision of staff assigned to our 2009 classes. Mr. Brett O'Sullivan will be taking leave for the year and I am presently undertaking the replacement process. With the potential of further change I will finalise all staffing and class placements during the summer break. Already we have had a further 12 students in or out of the school since our classes were published last week. Classes and their teachers will be confirmed on the first day of school in 2009. While I always aim to be well planned, even the best laid plans are challenged at times.

Reminders

- ***School Graduation and Awards Assembly*** – to be held next Thursday, 18th December (9.00-11.00am) in the school's Rutherford Hall
- ***School Dismissal for end of the year*** – 1.30pm on Friday, 19th December
- ***Booklists for 2009*** to be picked up at the school on Thursday and Friday, 29 & 30 January between 10.00am-2.00pm.
- ***School resumes for students in 2009 on Monday, 2nd February.*** This includes our new Prep grade students. Prep students do not attend on Wednesdays during February.

Ron Payne

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN***Your Child's Teacher Needs You***

We are in the unique position of having to move every set of classroom furniture in the school next Tuesday and Wednesday. The only classes to virtually remain where they are, are the three surviving Pre/1 classes for 2009 in Rooms 10, 11 and 12. On Tuesday afternoon staff will commence assembling things to be moved and generally have a clean-out. Wednesday will see furniture and classroom items shifted all over the place. Please consider making contact with your child's teacher and offering an hour or two of manual labour, nothing too heavy, to help them complete their part of this massive task. Many hands make light work. It's usually more fun than it sounds. There is a slip at the end of this newsletter. If you can help, return the completed slip. This will make your child's teacher very happy!

Working Bee

Thanks to Sara H, the Filcocks, the Attwaters, Ron Payne and the Houldens. The mountain of softfall has been spread under the various climbing equipment around the school. It was a big job completed by a small determined group. We owe them big thanks.

Canteen

Our School Council Canteen Committee consisting of myself, Laurie Hill and Alison Bacon met to review the operation of our School Canteen. As a committee we acknowledged the positive profile of our canteen and the energy of our operator Mrs Anita Pilling. She will continue in the position into 2009. Anita has managed to grow her business steadily. As well as running the school canteen's daily business, Anita also caters for special events around the school such as special morning teas, curriculum day lunches and bigger events such as the Grade 6 Graduation.

After School Care

Due to unforeseen circumstances there will be no After School Care Program for Wednesday December 17th. We apologise for any inconvenience to our families who use this service on this day.

Nicole, our After School Carer, will be running her program on the last day of term from ***1.30pm til 6.00pm***. Obviously numbers will be limited and we will certainly try to give preference to regular users and people who book early.

John Morton

5/6 TEAM NEWS

Don't forget the Graduation Assembly and Dinner coming up next week on ***Thursday the 18th December***. Parents and family members are encouraged to attend the assembly from 9am-11am. Please ensure that all grade 6 children are dressed in school uniform on this day.

Tomorrow is the last day for Graduation Dinner money to be returned.

There have been a number of notes given out regarding parties and end of year celebrations. If your child is taking part in these festivities please return the appropriate notes as soon as possible.

Don't forget the Digital Portfolio presentation night on Monday the 15th of December from 3-45pm-6pm. Would be great to see lots of parents attend this night and share some of the children's work.

The 5/6 Team would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support this year. We do rely on parents regularly to help run various programs and activities, we could not do it without you. Look forward to another successful 2009.

Thanks

Anthony, Jo, Jason and Bronwyn

3/4 TEAM NEWS

Well, here we are in the second last week of the final term of this year! We have accomplished a tremendous amount of work this year and have enjoyed some fantastic learning experiences. The children should be very proud of their achievements. As a teaching staff we would like to commend them for the effort they have put in and for the results they have achieved.

At present our focus is on bringing to a conclusion the integrated unit 'Commerce' that has been our focus this term. The children have been busy writing advertisements, constructing signs and preparing to open stalls and sell their wares. It is an exciting time for all.

We would also like to remind you that Monday night has been set aside for viewing digital portfolios. The children have worked hard on these and would love it if parents could come along and have a look at the work they have been doing. The grade 3/4's will be operating from the Multimedia centre. We look forward to seeing you there.

Emily, Rob, Brett G and Brett O

1/2/3 TEAM NEWS

On Monday 15th students from our classes will have the pleasure of singing along to some Christmas Carols performed by Olive B (Shanae's Grandma). This was certainly a highlight last year in our Christmas celebrations.

A note will be going home today in regards to our End of Year Class Parties. They will be held on Tuesday 16th during the lunch period. Students will not need their normal lunches on this day as we have organised a range of foods to be brought in by the students. Please check with your child for this note.

Mr Allen hosted a Christmas performance as a part of the Religious Education Program today in the Multi Purpose Room.

All Take Home Readers need to be returned **TOMORROW**. On Monday we have some terrific parent helpers who will be checking and organising the boxes so they will be ready for next year. If you are able to assist please see your teacher, it will take place after Monday's assembly.

Tuesday and Wednesday are our allocated days for shifting classrooms. It's going to be a big job and we need all the help we can get. If you are able to assist with moving furniture on either of these days please see your child's teacher.

Carolyn, Amy and Judy

**SUPER SANTA**

One Christmas Eve I was sleeping in bed. It was a great bed. It was so cosy, I always never fell off. That morning I heard a noisy sound- BANG! "What was that?" I said to myself. So I went down the stairs and it was Santa. Not any Santa, Super Santa. He was like a super hero. I said to him, "Can I come to your castle?" "Yes Saxen." So I went on his back and he flew all the way there.

There were lots of presents. I got a laptop and all the bad people got carrots. Santa said, "Blink one time and think of home." So I blinked and I was home and there were a lot of presents. I was so happy and it was time to open the presents.

By Saxen Merckens

PREP/1 TEAM NEWS

We have been very busy completing Christmas activities and practising our performances for the Christmas concert. Some grades have been making props and the students are very excited about this upcoming event.

Christmas Concert

Each grade will be performing a Christmas song and there will be opportunity for parents to join in with a sing-a-long. The concert will be held after assembly this Monday and will last for approx 1hr. You are welcome to stay after and share snack time with your child but please byo snack and drinks.

Class Party

This is being held Tuesday. Each student will need to bring a plate of food for sharing. The party will take place from 12.45pm onwards. Could we also ask that each child brings along their own '*named*' plastic cup for drinks.

General Classroom News

As the year draws to a close we will be sending lots of the children's work home. We will try to stagger this throughout the week but could we ask that each child brings a green bag or plastic shopping bag to school to help pack these items, as it is not always possible to fit these in to their school bags.

Looking forward to seeing you on Monday.

Cheryl, Sharna, Mandy and Tina.

YCDI AWARDS

Kaecy N, Kayleigh B, Toya G, Shauna C, Gypsy M, Samantha B, Tiarna L, Jackson G, 3/4 Purvis, Georgia B, Mitchell L, Nicola S, Deanna J, Nick Wand Leah D.

TAKE HOME READING BOOKS

On Friday December 12th we need all take home readers to be returned so that they can be sorted and distributed to where they need to go. We are asking everyone to have a **BIG SEARCH** for these books because a lot of money is spent each year replacing lost and damaged ones. We also need some volunteers to help sort them out. If you have some time available on Monday morning, could you please see Mrs Wright.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

We are at the end of the year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped in the library this year. A special thank you to Roxanne M for helping me with stocktaking, many hands make light work.

I look forward to seeing everyone next year and have a safe and happy holiday.

Imagine, Live and Dream!

Liz Davis

VISUAL ARTS

As Specialist Art/Craft lessons come to an end, all students need to take their art smocks/shirts home. Some have been lost, used to the maximum! or are too small and will need replacing ready for use in the new year.

MUSIC

This Sunday our School Choir will be performing at Canterbury Carols in Canterbury park, Eaglehawk, commencing at **7pm**. Bring the whole family to this annual community event and get into the festive mood with song and music. There is a free sausage sizzle at 6pm and our school will be the second one on the program. All music students will need to return their t shirts, and recorders...descant, tenor and treble.. by the last week. Please ensure they all come back to school before the last minute rush!

*Keep creating,
Sue O'Hara*



CANTEEN NEWS

The canteen will be open on Friday December 19th at recess for over the counter sales.

There will be no lunch orders on the last day due to the 1-30pm finish for students.

Next week we will have a special treat for students. We will be selling Mrs Claus chocolates for \$1 and Santa chocolates for 50c each. Orders must be placed in lunch baskets each morning (no over the counter sales).

UNIFORM SHOP

The last day to purchase uniform items for this year will be tomorrow Friday December 12th.

The Uniform Shop will open until 9.30am on this day. 2009 orders can be paid and collected when you pick up your child's booklist on 29th/30th January.

Ricky and Katrina

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking has now finished for the year.

The school received commission of **\$134.49**.

It will recommence again in 2009 on Tuesdays.

Thank you to all those students who used this service.

Ricky and Katrina

SCHOOL FAIR SPONORS

Last week's newsletter included a list of businesses who supported our fair.

We would also like to thank The Meat Master at Strath Village Shopping Centre for their support and apologise for the omission from last week's list.

Please support this business where you can.

Fair Committee



XMAS HAMPER

Thank you to everyone who has supported the raffle with donations and selling of tickets.

Donations of non perishable food/items would be much appreciated and can be left at the office up until Monday December 15th.

Tickets are to be returned by this *Friday December 12th. The winners of the hamper(s) will be drawn on Tuesday December 16th.*

Fundraising Committee



TARGET CHRISTMAS TREE

5/6 Coffey has decided to help those less fortunate by donating money to buy two gifts to place under the 'Target Christmas Tree.' The students in 5/6C can opt to bring in a monetary donation and then as a grade we'll think of an age-group and brainstorm things to buy for each child.

We hope that the children will appreciate our efforts to make this Christmas one that they will never forget!

By Carly O'Neill



TWILIGHT NETBALL

Wednesday December 17th

11/Under Section 3

E/H Nth V St Monicas White Crt 8 4.10pm

13/Under Section 3

Grand Finals 1st V 2nd Crt 7 5.00pm

FOUND

A charm tag has been handed into the office.

Please come to the office to identify and collect this item.

Community News

1. **YMCA School Holiday Program** will run on December 22nd, 23rd, 24th and January 5th to 30th from 8am to 6pm each day. Bookings are now open and can be made by phoning 54471444 or call into the YMCA at 9 Browning St Kangaroo Flat. **Brochures are now available from the office foyer.**
2. **YMCA Aquasafe School Holiday Swim Program** will run during January at Bendigo Leisure Centre YMCA, Bendigo Aquatic Centre, Kangaroo Flat, Brennan Park & Inglewood Pools. This program runs over five days and are 30 minute classes. Cost is \$45 plus daily pool admission. To book or enquire please contact the Bendigo Leisure Centre YMCA on 5446 9222.
3. **Monday Ladies Netball** at the Schweppes Centre. All grades are catered for with the competition starting in February 2009. Free crèche is provided. Phone Marj on 54437379.
4. **City of Greater Bendigo** are offering a School Holiday program over the summer holiday break. For more information phone 1800813153.
5. **Tweed Sutherland Real Estate** are holding a colouring competition for students U11. 2 bikes are

on offer as prizes. Entries close at 5pm on Thursday December 18th at the real estate office. Entry forms are available from the school office.

.....
THE BIG SHIFT !!!

YES I can help with furniture and carrying classroom items on... ***(circle the ones you are available for)***

Tuesday PM

Wednesday AM PM

Name.....

Teacher(s)