
Whipstick Whispers

Eaglehawk North Primary School No. 1428

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THURSDAY MARCH 12TH 2009

NO 6

CALENDAR

Friday	March 13 th	Shave For a Cure and Crazy Hair Day(Gold Coin Donation) Farewell for Mandy Costello from 3.45pm to 4.15pm
Friday	March 20 th	Harmony Day
Saturday	March 21 st	Dahlia and Arts Parade
Wednesday	March 25 th	Grade 5/6 Athletic Sports
Wednesday to Friday	March 25 th to 27 th	Scholastic Book Fair in Room 15
Friday	March 27 th	Return of Easter Raffle tickets
Wednesday	April 1 st	Easter Raffle(s) drawn
Friday	April 3 rd	Last Day Term 1(2.30pm finish)
Monday	April 20 th	Term Two starts

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Principal's Award

The awards for presentation at Monday's assembly have resulted from teacher choices over the past two weeks. Congratulations to those children selected on your achievements. I look forward to presenting your certificate on Monday. *Amber S-S, Claudia H, Reilly Hanson, S D-M, Sophie A, Amy R, Bradyn McG, Rani M, Georgia A, Logan r, Mayla R, Shelby H, Jordan N, Maraide C and Jordy S.*

Bendigo Advertiser Article – School Mergers

I wish to make brief comment on the article in today's Bendigo Advertiser that makes claims of schools being forced to merge. It's simply not so!

As part of the broader Eaglehawk group of schools we have, for a number of years, been in discussion about how to best enhance the educational opportunities of all children in our community. The new Secondary College being built within our community is one very positive and progressive result of those discussions. These discussions continue between principals and school councils around primary provision in the broader area. It would be irresponsible of us if we didn't continue to look at and pursue best practice. Significant federal funding for education is presently supporting those discussions.

At no time have I as principal, or we as a school community, been bullied in any way into thinking we have to merge. Any reorganisation of schools or educational provision at the primary level would only come as a consequence of broad consultation which includes the wider community, beyond the immediate school level.

1:1 Netbooks

Our grade 6 students will soon be provided with personal netbook computers for use in their daily learning program. Parents of grade 6 students will be provided with a comprehensive package of information on this program and will be asked to attend an important meeting next week (details in the package). Please ensure you ask your child for the package tomorrow.

Prep Fun Night

Most of our prep children and their parents participated in our annual Prep Fun Night last night. This is always a highlight of our calendar and it's great to see the pleasure that comes from families doing "*fun things*" together. I wish to extend my thanks to our P/1 team of Cheryl Healey, Tina Fitzpatrick, Sharna Holland and Simon Kiel for their work in organization and leading this program. They've had a big term already and their efforts are very much appreciated.

Dahlia & Arts

Our school will again be involved in the Dahlia & Arts program beginning next week.

Mr. Gilligan is organizing our relay teams who always give a good show. Mrs. O'Hara and Ms Probert are busily pulling ideas together for our participation in the street procession.

Our children always look forward to being involved. Please support their efforts with costuming and attendance.

Policy Sharing

This week's policy for your reference is our '*Medication Administration*' policy.

This is obviously a very important policy. If this relates to your child, please ensure all requirements as detailed are addressed.

Contact me if you have any concerns relating to this policy

All of our policies are located on the school website if you have need for future reference.

www.ehnps.vic.edu.au

Ron Payne

5/6 TEAM NEWS

Last Friday afternoon saw the beginning of the popular Hobbies and Clubs program. All students in 5/6 enjoyed participating in activities that were of interest to them. Thanks to the parents who are involved this time around. Mr O was very happy to receive a magnificent cheese burger at the end of the cooking session and is looking forward to tasting whatever the cooking group makes tomorrow.

All 5/6 teachers and Mrs Forrest attended a Laptop PD on Tuesday. Teachers were given information about the laptops and the new software that will be on them. There will be more information about the laptops shortly.

The 5/6 Athletics Sports will be run later in the term (*Wednesday 25th March*). Please let Mr G know if you can help out on the day.

Great to see so many children having a go at the Premiers reading challenge.

Keep up the great work with homework. Children are improving their homework habits and organisation. There is an expectation of homework each week.

Next Friday will be a Cultural Day at school. The 5/6 department will be involved in different activities on the day. Children can come dressed up if they wish.

Amy, Jo, Jason, Bronwyn and Rob

3/4 TEAM NEWS

The value being investigated this week in social competencies is "*compassion*": means caring about someone who is hurt. We looked at how we felt when we were hurt and the body feelings experienced-butterflies in the stomach. We talked about how we can help new students to the school or a game or a group. Because of the holiday on Monday this value was carried over into this week.

The usual homework program has been sent home this week. However the time for homework to be returned has been extended for another week. This will allow the students to complete their projects which will be presented to their grades as part of the Harmony Day celebration. Students will have some class time to work on their projects but they are expected to complete some of the tasks at home. The focus of the project is learning about another country. By looking at other countries the students should gain some understanding that people from different countries are different in some ways and yet they are also similar to Australians in some ways. Further information about our celebration of "*Harmony Day*" will be sent home with the students next week.

Parents are encouraged to use the diary book as a way of communicating with us for information. We will also use them as a way of communicating information to you eg. illness, missing library books – but general notes are also acceptable.

Library books should be returned to school to be replaced or re borrowed each week. **Thursday** is our Library day.

Mr Gilligan still needs more grade 3 girls for a grade 3 netball team.

Although some of the students have enjoyed playing with their “*Pokémon*”, cards, the students have been advised that they (and other types of cards) are not to be brought to school as they cause problems as to the ownership of cards when games are played and swaps take place. Thank you for your help with this matter.

A group of students from the 3 /4 unit will have the opportunity of attending a baseball workshop. 20 of the students who have said that they would like to attend this activity will be selected. Further details will be sent home closer to the event.

Colin, Anna, Anthony and Cherie

PREP, 1/2 NEWS

PREP

Prep Literacy Focus- next week’s letter is “*f*” and the high frequency word is “*like*”.

Prep Family Fun Night- It was great to see such a fabulous turn out by a very large percentage of our 2009 Prep families! Many different aromas from a range of picnic teas filled the air of the MPR, with our Family Bingo game being a great ice breaker and encouraging lots of mingling. The obstacle course, Twister and vortex throwing burnt off some pent up energy while the mintie wrapper challenge tested persistence and the collage and drawing tables catered for the creative. The fun-filled evening concluded with some funky dancing and Spin the Bottle. It was a very positive first “*Camps Experience*” for the Preps.



Mad Hair Day is tomorrow. Please return permission slips if you wish your child to have their hair sprayed.

Dahlia and Arts- each class has been working on a banner with a Magic theme. Consider being part of the school parade which will walk in class groups holding their banner.

Jurassic Book Fair –March 25th to 27th. This is a special event that celebrates books and reading. Please come along and purchase quality books to raise funds for our school.

Farewell to Mandy Costello – who was a wonderful junior teacher for 5 years at our school will be here tomorrow. Parents are able to say farewell from 3.45pm to 4.15pm in the Staff Room.

GRADE ONE & TWO

Grade 1 Literacy Focus- this week’s blend is “*fl*” and short rime endings are still focused on the short “*i*” sound, eg. “*ip*”.

Spelling Homework - please support your child with his/her spelling homework routine. Specific blends and patterns are introduced each week and reinforced in spelling homework lists. Common words misspelt in writing are also included. Children are expected to complete their weekly homework and will stay in Friday Lunchtime if this is not done!

Grade 2 Literacy Focus- this week’s focus are words that start and end with “*sk*” as well as plural endings.

Simon, Tina, Sharna, Carolyn, Cheryl and Judy

YCDI AWARDS

Breyarna W, Darcy P, Alex G, Sharni B, Keelie R, Maisy McP, Alia M-H, Ruby C, Lachlan H, Nick G, Mitchell L, Jara D, Cooper H, Leah D and Travis B.



LIBRARY NEWS

“*Book Fair*”. Yes our first Book Fair for the year is nearly here.

The Book Fair will be held in *Room 15* this year on the *25th to 27th March*. Our theme this time is *Jurassic Book Fair* and we are having a competition for the best design and name for a dinosaur. The kids will have a chance to win a book of their choice from the Book Fair.

Reading can take you anywhere!

Liz Davis

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Tomorrow Friday 13th March our school will be involved in helping raise money for The World's Greatest Shave which supports the Leukemia Foundation. **Mr Ash J** (Teisha's dad from P/1K) is volunteering to have his head shaved and contribute his donations to our efforts. The shave will happen at lunch time(11.30am).

The children can be involved in '**Crazy Hair Day**' to help raise money and we ask for a gold coin donation. **Coloured hair spraying will be happening at lunch time between 11.15am to 11.15am.**

You must have your permission note returned to have your hair coloured.

Junior School Council

'FAREWELL TO MANDY COSTELLO'

Tomorrow Friday March 13th we are organising a farewell to Mandy Costello who left our school to take up an Assistant Principal position at Comet Hill PS. Mandy has worked at ENPS for several years and in that time she has contributed in so many ways to our students, staff and school community. Her boundless energy, drive and friendship have been valued by so many. **Parents are invited to say farewell at 3.45pm to 4.15pm** and staff will continue with the more formal acknowledgement and presentation. It will be held in the Staffroom and refreshments will be available. Mark your diaries if you would like to say thank you and farewell to a former, wonderful staff member of ENPS.

VISUAL ARTS

The Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts Street Procession is coming around quickly (**Saturday 21st March**) and students are busily creating banners and assorted magic constructions. Our school's entry will comprise our famous Eaglehawk **BIG BIRD** (dressed as a magician!) and Mr. Surplice's trailer plus a walking contingent of students, staff and parents. The theme is Eaglehawk, it's Magic and students are invited to dress as a magical character or anything that they consider is **MAGIC!**

The parade starts at **12.30pm** and all those participating are asked to arrive at **12.00pm** in Reserve St/ Barrell St. where all the floats will be assembling. If the weather is hot, students will need to wear head gear, sunscreen and bring a water bottle. The procession finishes at the Court House/Lock Up in Sailors Gully Rd and parents can collect their students from there. Be a part of the festivities and celebrate what's great about our school and community.

Keep Creating

Sue O'Hara and Bekki Probert



CANTEEN NEWS

If you would like to order an Apple Slinky machine for \$25-00 please let me know by **Wednesday March 25th**.

Anita Pilling

Mother Hen Catering



EASTER RAFFLE

Tickets were sent home with each student yesterday.

Please return tickets to your class teacher and money to the office, in a named envelope, by Friday March 27th.

The raffle(s) will then be drawn on **Wednesday April 1st**. Donations of Easter eggs are most welcome and can be left at the office.

Fundraising Committee

KOOLTIME STORY

In KOOL time Evan and I made a ship. We worked together. We had a problem. We solved it by working together. We did the same ships, but not exactly the same. We had fun in KOOL time today.

Brodie James

1/2W

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

No wheels ,No fuss join the Walking School Bus.

Each Wednesday the Walking School Bus departs from the corner of Simpsons Road and Burnside Street (opp Lake Neangar) at 8.10am and via leg power heads for our school along a series of streets arriving at the school gate at approximately 8.40am.

It's Fun ,it's exercise and it's a wonderful way to start your school day! If students would like to join, permission forms are available from the office. If there are any parents/grandparents who wish to walk with the WSB you are most welcome and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays!

Community News

1. **The Bendigo Regional YMCA** will take bookings for the **Eaglehawk holiday program from March 16th to 20th**. Bookings will be taken at B Central in Mundy St. Phone 54458300 or go online to www.bendigo.ymca.org.au to view the brochure.
2. **Falcons Baseball Club** will hold a Come & Try/Registration Day on Sunday March 29th at the Albert Roy Reserve from 11am. Team coaches will be present on the day, lots of activities and BBQ. New players are most welcome.
3. **Eaglehawk Hockey Club** advise that the season will commence on Monday April 14th for U13 & U15 and from Friday April 17th for U17. Training is on Thursdays at the Ashley St complex from 6pm. For further information contact eaglehawkhc@gmail.com
4. **Family Day and Cultural Festival** will be held in Canterbury Park on Sunday March 22nd from 11am to 3pm. Lots of free activities for the whole family. Information brochures are available from the office foyer.
5. **U12 Footballers needed for Calivil FC** which is based at Raywood. They play in the Bendigo Junior

Competition U12C age group. We are a friendly family orientated club with an emphasis on enjoyment and skill improvement. Phone Andrew on 54414645 or 0423312812.

6. **Southern Cross Cultural Exchange** are seeking host families to host international students arriving in July for stays of 3,5 and 10 months. Phone 1800500501 for more information.
7. **The Capital Theatre** is offering buy 2 tickets to Check Out and get the 3rd ticket free. This play is for children aged 5-12 yrs and is on March 18th at 1pm and 6pm and March 19th at 10am. Phone 54346100.

Attachments

1. **Paul Sadler Swimland Holiday Program**
2. **Bendigo Easter Festival Brochure**