
Whipstick Whispers

Eaglehawk North Primary School No. 1428

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THURSDAY MARCH 19TH 2009

NO 7

CALENDAR

Friday	March 20 th	Harmony Day
Saturday	March 21 st	Dahlia and Arts Parade/Relays
Monday	March 23 rd	Grade 6 Parent Netbook Information Meeting (6pm to 7pm in the Multi Purpose Room)
Wednesday	March 25 th	Grade 3/4 Athletic Sports (from 9.15am)
Thursday	March 26 th	Grade 5/6 Athletic Sports (from 9.15am)
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

Congratulations to the following children selected to receive Principal's Awards for your achievements. I look forward to presenting your certificate on Monday. *Dante P, Hayden T, Karlie B, Andrew M, Monique W, Shauna C, Emily G, Nicholas K, Emily G, Cleo L, Alyssa G, Hayden T, Mikeely W, Leisha M and Jade W.*

Northern Bendigo Primary Schools Provisioning Project

Parents may be aware that there have been some recent conversations around educational provision in schools in the northern parts of Bendigo. The schools involved are California Gully, Comet Hill, Eaglehawk, Eaglehawk North and Bendigo North.

The discussions have been initiated by the schools and are the consequence of a number of circumstances. In fact the conversations started back in 2005 with the Bendigo Education Plan and a provisional plan was published in 2007. The availability of significant federal government money, however, has put the agenda back on the table and a working party comprising school principals and Regional Office staff has been meeting on a weekly basis. A steering committee with broader representation has also been established and it is the steering committee that will present final recommendations.

The discussions are an acknowledgement that all the primary schools need major capital works. Such works, however, are constricted by such issues as heritage overlays, site size, existing building materials etc. Current school populations are such that the potential to attract the facilities for a broad range of programs is limited and classrooms designed in the 19th and 20th centuries are not easily adapted to meet the needs of education in the 21st Century. A recent Council decision to provide for 800 new homes in the Jackass Flat area has also added impetus to the need to look objectively at the broader context of school provision.

A further consideration is the funding available for a Children's Centre which will include long term and occasional child care, maternal and child health, intervention services and a preschool. It is the strong policy preference at state and federal levels that such a centre be co-located with a primary school wherever possible to support a seamless transition to school.

All these circumstances may lead to a recommendation that some schools merge to form a school community that can continue to provide outstanding education in facilities designed to prepare children for the 21st Century.

Parents need to understand that no decision has been made with respect to which, if any, schools may decide to merge or if, or where, any new school or children's centre may be built. That will be the outcome of the consultative process being undertaken with schools, school communities and the broader community at the moment. In the end the School Councils of the schools involved in the process will make the final recommendations.

It is expected that the Steering Committee will make recommendations in the context of an educational plan by the end of Term One. If action is recommended a business plan, including site recommendations, will be developed during Term Two.

Collaborative Learning & Research Program – Congratulations Jason

Our grades 5/6 Learning Team Leader, Jason O'Neill, has been successful in his application to be part of the Web 2.0 Collaborative Learning & Research Program during Term 2.

Jason and his class are undertaking a range of learning technologies explorations as part of this year's program so his inclusion in this research work will be of great value to enhance the work presently being done.

It is a significant achievement by Jason to be selected, one of nineteen educators across the state, and further highlights the high level professional engagement of many of our teaching staff.

Well done Jason and best wishes for the program.

External Academic Competitions

Students from years 3-6 will once again have the opportunity this year to participate in the University Of New South Wales Academic Competitions. Many students enjoy the challenge these academic competitions offer and our school willingly supports their endeavours. Mr. O'Neill coordinates this program and has included an information letter covering all details with today's newsletter. Students may enter Spelling, Writing, English or Mathematics. Please note the timelines as late entries cannot be accepted.

Healthy Eating Program

The Smith Family organisation is currently running a Healthy Eating Program at Eaglehawk Primary School every Wednesday morning for parents. It is completely free!

Parents even get to take home the food they cook. Vouchers are also being given away to those who attend. The idea of the program is to encourage parents to learn how to prepare healthy food options for the family. Needless to say, parents are taught how to budget, prepare and cook healthy food.

If you interested in attending, please let John Krakowiak know by emailing john.krakowiak@thesmithfamily.com.au or, if you are having difficulty with this, let me know and I'll pass your details onto John. It does not start until 9.30, so this would give you time to travel to the school.

Policy Sharing

This week's policy for your reference is our '*After School Sports Teams*' policy.

Teams are presently being arranged for a number of sports and so this policy is presently very relevant.

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

Reminders

Monday, 23rd (6-7pm) – Important meeting for parents of grade 6 students in school hall

Tuesday, 24th (7.30pm) – School Council Annual General Meeting – staffroom. Any interested parents welcome.

Ron Payne

5/6 TEAM NEWS

Wow! How time flies. Only two more weeks left for this term.

Harmony Day is Tomorrow- The students will be involved in lots of different activities celebrating the cultural diversity of the Australian population. They will be involved in making a Chinese dragon, Aboriginal art, world games and Japanese Culture.

Athletic Sports will now be held on Thursday 26th March. The events will run from 9.15am – 2.00pm. Students are able to wear house colours on this day. We would love to see lots of parents attend and cheer for the students. If you are able to come and help it would be appreciated. Please see Mr Gilligan.

Homework- Students should have completed for tomorrow their times tables booklet (11's & ?'s), 3 nights of reading, and the English BAR key activity. Please keep supporting your child in these demands. **Those students that do not hand in their homework on Friday will be in the Homework Club during Monday lunchtime recess.**

1:1 Computer Documentation and payment (as outlined in the 1:1 computer package) are to be returned to the office as soon as possible. All Grade 6 parents are required to attend an information evening on **Monday 23rd March from 6pm -7pm.** This meeting will take place in the Multi Purpose Room.

Premiers Reading Challenge – Please return your notes as soon as possible.

Amy, Jo, Jason, Bronwyn and Rob

3/4 TEAM NEWS

The value being investigated this week in social competencies is **“confidence”** : confidence is being certain. It is being sure you can do something. It is knowing your strengths and weaknesses We looked at what we are good at and proud of about ourselves. We discussed heroes in our lives.

Our celebration of **“Harmony Day”** will be **tomorrow.** The students should have their projects completed and ready for presentation. They are asked to bring some food of their country to share. They are also invited to dress up in some way to represent their country (this might just be wearing the country's flag on their jacket.

The presentations parade will begin at 12.00pm in the **undercover area of the grade 3 /4 rooms** and will be followed by the shared food back in the classrooms. Parents and visitors are welcome to join us.

We were fortunate to have a visit from the CFA on Wednesday. With all of the great work that the CFA

have done over the terrible summer season it was great to include them in our study of community values.

Library books should be returned to school to be replaced or re borrowed each week. Some overdue notices were sent home last week.

The grades have made banners for the Dahlia and Arts parade on Saturday. Students are invited to join the parade and march behind their banner. The theme of this year's parade is **“magic”**.

Colin, Anna, Anthony and Cherie

PREP, 1/2 NEWS

Drive Through -In order to keep our young children safe, please ensure that you respect our School Departure rules. If your child is being picked up from the Drive Through they must wait at the sheltered area under teacher supervision. If you are picking up your child from other designated spots please be punctual. If you park your car, please use the paths provided for your own and your child's safety.

Dahlia and Arts- Please refer to Wednesday's note regarding our team's involvement in this wonderful Eaglehawk Parade.

Jurassic Book Fair –is next week from Wednesday to Friday.

Home Readers- Could all families please check at home for any readers that may have been misplaced. As you can appreciate we would rather use our Literacy budget to add new stock rather than replace resources.

PREP

KOOKA visited the Prep/ones this week. See the photos below. Watch out also for some great photos in the Addy today!



Prep Literacy Focus- next week's letter is **“h”** and the high frequency word is **“the.”**

GRADE ONE & TWO

Grade 1 Literacy Focus- this week's blend is "fr" with a focus on the short "o" vowel sound and rime endings "ot" and "op."

Grade 2 Literacy Focus- this week's focus is end blends with "l" and "t" in them. eg *lt- bolt, lp-help, ld-hold, ft-left*.

Harmony Day- we are looking forward to finding out about the different family cultures of the children in our classroom. Already in KOOL time, 1/2 Healey have been enjoying listening to music, dancing and playing instruments from the Koorie culture. A big thank you to Robyn and Sean Howley for sending along these wonderful Koorie items to share.

Simon, Tina, Sharna, Carolyn, Cheryl and Judy

YCDI AWARDS

Shane D, Liam A, Ebony L, Tia M, Todd W, Monica H, Molly McL, Liam P, Connor S, Joel M, Kirsten R, Olivia S, Zach Band Ethan K.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

It has been great to see kids borrowing some interesting books, please let me know if there is anything in particular that you would like the library to purchase.

Our Book Fair is on next week Wednesday – Friday in Room 15, please come and see what books you can buy. Don't forget our Dinosaur competition.

I would like to thank Bev Frank and family for the donation of some great books for our library, all donations are appreciated.

Reading can take you anywhere!

Liz Davis

**VISUAL ARTS**

The Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts street procession is on this Saturday 21st March.

Students are busily creating some expressive banners and assorted magic constructions. Our school's entry will comprise our famous Eaglehawk **BIG BIRD** (dressed as a magician!) and Mr Surplices' 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!!**, or come just as you are or in school uniform.

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.

As Easter is fast approaching and Art/Craft activities will focus around this theme, students who bring a blown egg to Art will be able to decorate it, as we have done in the past.....a la Faberge!

Keep Creating

Sue and Bekki

SPORTS NEWS

Dahlia And Arts Relays

A reminder for those students who are involved in the relays to be at the Eaglehawk Town Hall at **11:15am** so we can put you into your teams. School uniform must be worn, but please remember your running shoes!! Go Eaglehawk North. Hopefully we can win a few of the races.

3/4 and 5/6 Athletic Sports

Next week will be the Grade 3/4 and 5/6 athletic sports. **The Grade 3/4 Sports** will be held on **Wednesday 25th March** and the **5/6 Sports on Thursday 26th March**. Both events will start at **9:15am**. We require parent helpers for both days to make sure all events run smoothly. If you can assist, please give your name to Mr Gilligan.

JRFH Update

It's been three weeks since our team went to Melbourne and we are closing in on our first routine. All students have been working really hard with their tricks and have been training 3 times per week. Look forward to a demo at school in the near future.

Golden City Netball

Teams, coaches and umpires have been chosen for the Eaglehawk North teams for this year. If you have not been informed of your team, please see Mr Gilligan.

Training for students in the Grade 3 clinic will be held on Wednesday April 1st at 3-45pm. Meet at the netball courts with your coaches Gen and Katelyn Williams.

Brett Gilligan

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

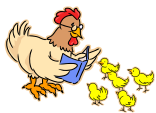
Congratulations to all teachers and students who participated in crazy hair day and thank you Ash John (Teisha's dad from P/1 K) Mr Bortolot and Jo P for shaving their heads. The day was a great success as our school raised **\$738.80** for the Leukemia Foundation. Miss Slattery would like to congratulate all of the Junior School Council representatives for their fantastic leadership and organizational skills of running the day.



Ash John (Teisha's dad) had his head shaved.



Jo Pitt (Jamie and Lachlan's mum) had her hair shaved.



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

Thank you to those students who have sold and returned their tickets.

Just a reminder to 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

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

What: WSB Volunteer Training and Induction Session

Where: Cnr Avery's and Simpsons Roads, Eaglehawk

When: Tuesday, 31st March, 8am – 10am

Prerequisites: Completed CoGB Volunteer Rego Form, copy of WWCC application with receipt and cleared Police/Crim Check

RSVP: Karen Larkins, 27th March 2009

Our school has a very successful Walking School Bus Program. Thank-you to the parent volunteers who continue to support this wonderful program each week and the students who participate. It's fun, it's exercise and has many benefits.

FOR STUDENTS:

- .They enjoy the exercise
- .There is increased social interaction between children of different ages/school classes and building of friendships.
- .They learn road safety and geography of school/home area.
- .Walking to school instils a sense of pride and achievement.
- .The WSB program highlights the benefits of exercise encouraging other students to participate.

FOR PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS

- .Confidence that child will get to school safely and on time
- .Confidence that child is supervised and taught road rules when walking to school.
- .Contribution to the school community by being involved.
- .Getting to know other parents and students who participate in the program.
- .Improved health through exercise and encouraging children to be active.

For further enquiries please contact the office or Suzy McGregor.

FREE SCHOOL SHOES!

Dear Parents,

We have had some brand new school shoes donated to Eaglehawk North Primary School via the Salvation Army. The shoes are black lace up shoes and black covered in sandals.

If you are interested in trying them on, please come to the *Uniform Shop* on *Monday 23rd* or *Tuesday 24th* after school between *3.30 pm and 4.30 pm*.

Many Thanks
Wendy Kofoed
Chaplain

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. *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
3. *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.

4. *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.
5. *Allwares Night* will be held at Bendigo North PS on Thursday April 2nd from 7pm. Cost of \$5 includes supper. Tickets can be purchased on the night. Phone 54433645 for more information.
6. Eaglehawk Basketball Association URGENTLY require players for the junior games on Friday nights. Only \$2.00 per game. Phone Rosemary on 5446 2809 for further details.

Attachments

1. **Book Fair Brochure**
2. **Auskick Footy Information Sheet**