
Whipstick Whispers

Eaglehawk North Primary School No. 1428

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THURSDAY MAY 7TH 2009

NO 12

CALENDAR

Friday	May 8 th	Mothers Day Stall
Monday	May 18 th	Back to School Assembly-Education Week
Tuesday	May 19 th	School Cross Country Grade 3-6 students
Wednesday	May 20 th	Open Day- Education Week
Wednesday	May 27 th	Regional Cross Country Grade 3-6 students at Bendigo Racecourse
Monday	June 8 th	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	June 12 th	Pupil Free Day

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Principal's Awards

Congratulations to this group of children selected to receive Principal's Awards this week. Certificates will be presented at our assembly on Monday. Parents, grandparents and friends are welcome to join us in sharing these fine achievements.

Jordan P, Rene K, Dylan B, Noah B, Joshua P, Lain J, Jayden H, Amy H, Tahlia M, Clayton N-D, Madison T, Cooper G, Nikaylah P, Aimee C, Molly M, Harley H and Travis B.

Education Provision in Northern Bendigo

This very important project continues to progress and is strongly aligned to the significant funding currently being made available through both the Federal and State Governments. Already we have seen in the press examples of other school communities having been allocated very large amounts for school development.

Our Working Party and Steering Committee have done a good deal of work and discussions and decisions are being strongly influenced by the funding and associated timelines being set by government.

Staff and School Councils of the schools involved have been requested to meet this week and make recommendation on the way forward. I appreciate that broader parent and community consultation has not yet been undertaken however timelines implemented around some of the funding is making this a challenge.

Notwithstanding these challenges, the opportunities presenting to the school communities involved are extremely positive and can help us in shaping the education scene for many decades to come.

I hope to be in a position in the very near future to provide more concrete information on the direction that will be taken in relation to our project.

Student Assessments

Our years 3 and 5 students will next week undertake the annual National Assessment Program in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy (Naplan). This is one of the planks in our program of student assessment.

Mr. Jason O'Neill has responsibility for implementation of this program within our school and he will be providing information directly to parents of students involved.

Jason also coordinates the programs involving any External Academic Competitions and a number of our students have again registered to participate in these in the coming weeks.

This is a busy time for Jason in this part of his work and I express my thanks for the excellent job he does in ensuring it all runs smoothly.

Education Week

Education Week will this year be held during the week *May 18th-22nd*. To celebrate Education week our staff will be conducting a *'Back to School Assembly'* at which past students are invited to present to our audience. Wednesday will be set aside as our *'Open Day'* during which family and friends are welcome to visit and look at the work going on throughout the school. This year we shall have a special focus on *'Grandparents'* with each class being asked to do something special in relation to the children's *'Grandparent(s) or Special Friend.'* You will be provided with timeslots for each class in next week's newsletter so that we can ensure our program is coordinated for all classes.

Student Attitudes to School

An important set of data we gather each year is the student *'Attitudes to School'* which is gained through a survey conducted with our grades 5/6 students. Mr. John Morton is presently conducting this with each of the 5/6 classes. John does this annually in order that we have as much consistency as possible in our process.

The results provided are part of the School Level Report we receive that provides an insight into how our school is progressing. My thanks to John for his work in ensuring this important aspect of our work is completed effectively.

Homestay Accommodation

Schools have been contacted by Bendigo Senior SC requesting support in seeking Homestay Accommodation for international students. I have attached documentation to the newsletter on this matter. Please contact BSSC if interested in finding out more about this program.

Ken Wellard – Thanks

I wish to acknowledge the very generous support of Mr. Ken Wellard, one of our parents, who has provided us with native plants for use in the development of our wonderful Eagle earthscape fronting Franklin Street. Earlier this week students from each class undertook the planting under the direction of two supportive volunteers, Mr Alan Windust and Mr Bill Niemann.

Thank you Ken. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and further affirms the wonderful support our school receives from its parent community.

If intending to do some planting of natives, you would do well to visit Ken's nursery and speak with him.

Policy sharing

This week's policy for your reference is our *'Assessment & Reporting'* Policy.

Staff will soon commence the report writing process for our mid-year reports so the weeks ahead will clearly mirror what is set out in this policy.

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

ASSISTANT PRICIPAL'S COLUMN***Walking School Bus***

Great to see numbers are holding steady with this program. There were fifteen queued up for Milo yesterday morning and nineteen children actually walked. If you are interested in joining as a walker or enrolling your children contact me or leave a message at the office. I would love to hear from some mums or dads who might like to train as *'drivers'*.

Please Help Us With Safe Routines

We regularly remind the children to go promptly to their designated places for end of day pick-up. Please help us by reinforcing this with your children. We don't want children wandering about aimlessly at home time or going off with friends for a play. Remind them of your expectations. This particularly applies to children being collected by motor vehicles whether it be through the drive-through or out in the streets. A reminder also that children are not permitted on climbing equipment after school until after 3.45pm and then only if they are supervised by their parents.

Auslan

All classes from Grade 3 to 6 have a weekly session of Auslan with me. One of my goals this year is to get Auslan classes underway at night time for adults. There would be a small charge for this to cover the person who would deliver the sessions. Stay tuned for more information. I am also keen to get a small Auslan Choir together as an extension activity for our highly motivated Auslan students. You will find a page in the Whispers this week highlighting a

magnificent illustrated Signed Alphabet drawn by Sarina Aduring my weekly session with Miss Hurford's grade 5/6 class.

Attendance Highlight

After scouring our attendance records recently I discovered that 94 lucky students have not missed one day of school this year. That is more than one quarter of our enrolment. That figure was current at the start of Term 2. We'll see how many are still on this list at the end of Term 2. We displayed the names of these children at a recent School Assembly thanks to a hastily typed Powerpoint created by Carly O'N.

John Morton

5/6 TEAM NEWS

NAPLAN: This national testing program will occur next week for all grade 5 children. The children will be tested in writing, language conventions, reading, and maths. We have prepared as well as we can and are looking forward to each child doing their best. Good luck to all.

Our Integrated theme for this term is ***Natural and Manmade Disasters***. Just a reminder that the first assessment task is due this ***Friday, 8th May***.

Netbooks: The grade six children are really enjoying having these as a resource in class, and at home! Well done to all on the responsible approach that is being taken.

Homework: Just our regular reminder that homework is due in on each Friday. Students are required to read for at least three nights, complete an English task, and complete a maths task. Congratulations to all those students who have tackled this requirement in a conscientious manner.

Nintendo DS: The grade five children have started using these for ***'Brain Training'*** this week. They are really enjoying using this kind modern technology to improve their maths skills. Notes have been sent home with grade six children that invite them to bring their personal DS to school, if they have one, and the conditions involved in doing so.

Cross County: Just a reminder that the school cross country event for this year is fast approaching. This year the school cross country will occur on ***Tuesday 19th May***.

Peer Mediation

The grade 6 Peer Mediators are back out the front of the school working hard to solve any problems that may arise. They are doing a wonderful job giving up their break times to help out the younger children in the school. You will see them in their bright yellow singlets with folder in hand ready to – ***'create win win'*** solutions for all. Well done guys – keep it up.

NSW Academic Competitions

Thank you to all parents and children for entering these competitions. Good to see so many students willing to challenge themselves and have a go. These competitions will take place later in the term and early next term, the Spelling and Writing tests on Tuesday 23 June, English on 4th August and Maths on 19th August. More information as the dates get closer. Good luck.

Amy, Jo, Jason, Bronwyn and Rob

3/4 TEAM NEWS

The value being investigated this week in Social Competencies is ***Courtesy - "acting in a way with others that helps them feel valued and respected courtesy"*** – having good manners.

The grade 3 students will be involved in the NAPLAN testing program over the next week. All grade 3 students across Australia will sit the tests over this week. The tests are conducted under very strict conditions and the students cannot be given any external help. This is why we have been giving them some practice tests over the last few weeks so that they understand the tests and therefore can do their best. Language conventions and writing will be tested on Tuesday, Reading on Wednesday and Numeracy on Thursday. Should you have any questions about the tests, please don't hesitate to ask Mr Brown (coordinator). The results of the tests will be sent home later in the year, usually Term 3.

ADVANCE NOTICE- Our excursion this term will be to ***'CERES'*** in Melbourne on ***Tuesday 23rd June***. We will be leaving by 7.30am and so the students will need to be at school by ***7.00am***. We will be returning to school approx 5.00pm. We will be going by bus and the cost of the excursion will be approximately ***\$36***. If you are a family that receives the EMA or pay the excursion levy this will cover all of the cost! More notice will follow in regards to the precise amount once costs are finalised. ***'CERES'*** expect that the students will bring a rubbish free lunch for the day. We will be discussing this before the event to prepare ourselves. We will need some parent helpers for the day. If you are able to assist on the day please let one of the teachers know. Permission forms will be sent home closer to the time.

Students are asked to bring bottles to make terrariums and recyclable objects to make our sculptures in education week. We are still collecting beautiful things for our projects. Please continue with this!

Education Week will be between the 17th and the 23rd of May. To celebrate this week the 3 / 4 department will be organising an *'interview with a grandparent on the Wednesday'* and a *'Recycled Rubbish Sculpture'* for the Friday! Please begin organising clean recyclables for this event!



*Thankyou
Colin, Anna, Anthony and Cherie*

PREP, 1/2 NEWS

KOOL Time Parent Information Session. Our KOOL Time sessions are based on the Developmental Curriculum. A Parent Information Session, to promote an understanding of the Developmental Curriculum and how you can support that development, will be held on **Monday May 11th** from 1.30pm to 2.30pm at "The Church" Eaglehawk PS.

Mother's Day Stall. Just a reminder for children to bring a plastic bag to keep their *'special gifts'* safe. All money is to be in a named purse or envelope and handed to the class teacher.

Prep/1 Teachers will be attending PD tomorrow to familiarise them with a new initiative of the Australian Government – the **Australian Early Development Index (AEDI)**, which enables them to reflect on the development of children in their first year of full-time school.

Good Eating Practice An article in the Herald Sun over the weekend highlighted the affect that artificial colouring and sugar can have on some children's behaviour. It is important that children eat natural healthy foods and limit their intake of these additives. *(See article later in this bulletin).*

PREP

Prep theme for this term is **Toys**. Children are able to bring toys (not expensive ones) to school to share and investigate in class. They must be named.

Prep Literacy Focus – Next week's letter is **"Nn"** and the high frequency word is **"see"**.

GRADE ONE & TWO

Transport Immersion Day

Today the children thoroughly enjoyed viewing and learning about semi-trailers, motorbikes, garbage trucks, hot-rod cars and model gliders. **A BIG THANKYOU** to those parents who gave their time to show and share their knowledge. The children wrote interesting and detailed reports. We will showcase children's writing and photo's next week.

Grade 1 Literacy Focus- Next week's is **"cl"** and rime endings **"eg"** and **"em"**.

Grade 2 Literacy Focus – Next week's focus are words with **"ae"** where it has the long a sound and the blend **"thr"**.

Simon, Tina, Sharna, Carolyn, Cheryl and Judy



VISUAL ARTS

We are drawing to the end of our art/craft lessons on **COLLAGE**, and students have produced some excellent imaginative artworks. Senior students Anzac collages are being completed and mounted. These photomontages have been carefully and expressively composed and the finished artworks are worthy of framing and hanging in your home!

Our next area is Modelling/Ceramics and students will need to check that they have their own art smock ready for this very popular activity.

PERFORMING ARTS

Our Choir and Recorder Band are progressing well with many talents coming to the fore, with choreography and song writing to name a few! This Monday the Recorder Band will be performing at Assembly, so come along and enjoy their efforts.

Keep Creating,

Sue O'Hara and Bekki Probert

YCDI AWARDS

Lexi H, Kadel W, Amber C, Megan B, Lydia M-H, Bailey T, Jasmine L, Michael T, Jordan A, Samantha B, Alyssa G, Natt N, Sarina A, Jayden D and Deanna J.

MOTHERS DAY STALL

This annual event will be held *tomorrow*.

- Just a reminder for students to please bring along a plastic bag to take home their purchases.
- If anyone is available to assist with the stall from 9am please meet at the Multi Purpose Room.

Thank you to everyone who has donated for this fundraising event.

I hope all our mums enjoy their gifts and have a lovely Mothers Day.

Fundraising Committee

STUDENT BANKING

If students would like to commence student banking please collect an information pack from the office. Banking is done each Tuesday.

Ricky and Katrina

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Jelly Baby badges are available for sale to help raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The money raised will help support research into helping find a cure for type one diabetes. *The badges will be \$2.00 each.*

Junior School Council representatives will visit each grade at *9.30am each morning* for children who wish to purchase a badge.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

We are in full swing for Term 2 and the students are borrowing lots of books which is great to see. Please don't forget to look for your *overdue books* and if you have any problems please come and see me.

'Reading can take you anywhere'

Liz Davis

SPORTS NEWS***Jump Rope For Heart***

This week saw our team perform at California Gully PS. It was great to see the team showing the California Gully students how to perform many of the tricks from the routines. All involved had a great time. A big thank to Roxanne Matthews for her help on the day.

School and Regional Cross Country

Another reminder about our school Cross Country on Tuesday 19th May. We would appreciate any parent support on the day. Notes went home today for the Regional Cross Country at the Bendigo Racecourse on Wednesday 27th May. Notes and money for the Regional XC need to be returned to class teachers as soon as possible.

Orienteering

Our team has been in full training and is looking forward to The Bendigo School Champs. The full team will be listed next Tuesday on the Sports noticeboard. Our school team also had a good opening round of the Space Racing series. The series continues in Kangaroo Flat this weekend. If anybody is interested in Orienteering on Saturday mornings, please see Mr G for more details.

Lacrosse

On Wednesday, Neville B from Lacrosse Victoria spent the day with Grade 5/6 students. After a short time practising skills like passing, catching and scooping (very difficult) the classes finished with some very hard fought matches. Neville was very impressed with the high skill level of a number of our students. If your child is interested in playing Lacrosse, matches are played on a Thursday night starting at 6:30pm at the Kangaroo Flat Leisure Centre on Browning St. You can contact Neville directly on 0438 042 111 or Mr G at school for more information.

Football Trials

I would just like to take the time to acknowledge the efforts of two of our students, Ged H and Justin B, for being recognised as two of the best junior footballers in the Bendigo area. Both boys were chosen to go to the next stage of trials to play for the State Football Team after trials at Canterbury Park on Wednesday. We wish them good luck.

Brett Gilligan

**NETBALL DRAWS*****Saturday May 9th******13/Under Section 5***

E/H Nth Blue V St Killians Blue Crt 3 11am

11/Under Section 1

Lockwood Gold V E/H Nth Navy Crt 8 11am

11/Under Section 4

St Josephs Orange V E/H Nth Gold Crt 9 9am

Grade 3 Clinic at 12 Noon

E/H Nth V Maple St Crt 10

Community News

1. ***Dr Harry Little Pre School Annual Fair*** will be held on Sunday May 17th From 11am to 2pm. Lots of craft activities, spinning wheel, raffles etc.
2. ***Student Exchange Australia*** are keen to hear from families who might be interested to host an overseas student. Phone 1300135331 for more information.
3. ***Girl Guides Victoria School Holiday Camp*** will be held during the June/July holidays at Iluka on the Mornington Peninsula from June 28th to July 4th. This

is a camp for girls aged 10 to 14 years and is open to Girls Guides as well as non members. Phone 86063500 for more information or see flyer on main noticeboard.

4. ***Epsom Preschool Open Day*** will be held on Tuesday May 26th from 1pm to 3pm. Phone 54484037.