SCHOOL VALUES

- Care and Compassion – Care for self and others
- Honesty and Trustworthiness – Be honest, sincere and seek the truth
- Respect – Treat others with consideration and regard: respect another person’s point of view
- Responsibility—Be accountable for one’s own actions, resolve differences in constructive, non violent and peaceful ways; contribute to society and civic life, take care of the environment

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

GRIP Leadership Conference
I attended the Grip Leadership Conference with the Grade 6 students last Wednesday. This was a fantastic day where the students had the opportunity to mix with other children from a range of schools throughout the Loddon Mallee Region. They took part in many hands-on activities and were provided with practical ways to become great leaders for our school. I am looking forward to seeing these young people grow and develop as leaders throughout the course of the year.

BSE Secondary College Information Evening
To all our Grade 6 families don't forget the BSE Secondary College Information Evening is being held tomorrow, Wednesday the 7th May at 7:30pm in the Year 7 Neighborhood (access via Ellis Street, Flora Hill). This is an open event and all family members are welcome to attend. The school also welcomes you to come and see the college in 'work mode'. Please call the general office on 5443 4522 to arrange a time.

The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness Presentation
Thank you to those parents who attended this session last Tuesday evening and braved the wet and cold weather. The session was a real eye opener for many and proved that as parents and educators we must keep on top of emerging trends and keep the communication lines open with our young people to ensure their safety online. One thing that came out of the session for me was that we can’t attend just one of these sessions and tick it off our ‘to do list’ thinking we are up to date with everything. These types of information sessions need to be provided, and attended, regularly because trends change and our children are always two steps ahead of us. The presenter even stated that she has to update her presentation at least every 6 months because a lot of it is old news! So please continue to monitor your children’s internet use, keep mobile devices out of their bedrooms and regularly talk to them about what they are doing online and who they are interacting with. Did you know that YouTube is the most popular site for primary school aged children but there is no monitoring and classification around what is put up on this site – do you know what your children are looking at and is it age appropriate? Check out this fantastic website; http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/ . There is loads of information for parents and children. I will also be putting various information in the newsletter over the coming weeks so stay tuned.

A few reminders:
- INTER SCHOOL SPORTS CARNIVAL
  Our grade 5/6 students will be joining with students from Quarry Hill PS to play netball and football this Friday 9th May against other grade 5/6 students from Kennington & Spring Gully Primary’s schools in our Transition Cluster Sports Carnival. This is a great opportunity for our students to mix with and make connection with other students in our area. Letters were sent home yesterday to Grade 5/6 families.
- NAPLAN TESTING
  This year’s NAPLAN testing will occur on Tuesday 13th May, Wednesday 14th May & Thursday 15th May for grade 3 and grade 5 students.
• **AFTER SCHOOL CARE ARRANGEMENTS**—We are trialling a new system for After School Care as we are having increased numbers attending and on some nights we need to employ two carers and this can be tricky if we are not notified until late on the day that children are in care. All children who are in After School Care need to be placed in the After School Care Book and/or the school notified by **3.15pm the day before**. Obviously we understand that at times things come up that parents are not able to foresee and therefore we will still be accepting children into After School Care if we are notified by 2pm on the day (which has been the usual arrangement). What we do ask is that if at all possible parents could please give us advance notice i.e. the day before or even earlier, then this would really help us to ensure the best possible care for all children. We also ask that parents let their children know what arrangements have been made for them after school and if this changes let the school know during the day. We have had a few instances where children are upset as they don’t know what is happening after school and neither does the school. It is important that we, and the children know what they are doing after school for the smooth running of the program and the safety of all.

• **ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CARE**
Active After School Care commences tonight, Tuesday 6th May with Multiskills and Thursday night with the children taking part in Circus Skills. Please note this is only a 7 week program and will concluded on Thursday 17th June.

• **EDUCATION WEEK DATES & ACTIVITIES**
The prospective Prep Parent Information Evening at Eppalock Primary School is on Monday May 19th between 6.00pm-7:00pm. For an individual tour of the school & appointment, please contact the school at any time.

**Whole School Open Morning**
Wednesday May 21st from 9:00am. Includes a Grandparents & Special Friends Morning Tea in the Project Space.

**Kinder Visit**—students from Jenny’s Early Learning Centre in Regent St Strathfieldsaye will be having a school visit on Thursday 22nd May between 9.30am and 10.30am.

**Whole School Open Morning**
Wednesday May 21st. Guided Tours from 10am–11am followed by a Grandparents & Special Friends Morning Tea in the Project Space at 11am.

**Orientation Program Dates for 2014 Preps**
Visit 1; Thursday 13th November - 11.30am-1.00pm
Visit 2; Wednesday 19th November - 9.30am-11.00am
Visit 3; Monday 24th November - 10.00am-11.30am
Whole school Orientation Day/Classroom visit 4 Tuesday December 9th - 9.00am-11.30am

Have a wonderful week. Mrs Ryan

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**SLIPPERS & EXTRA SOCKS**—Students are welcome to bring a pair of slippers and spare socks to keep at school over the winter months. Now the cooler weather is with us we are finding that the outside area and, in particular, the oval, is very wet each morning. Many students are ending up with wet shoes, socks and feet. If you are bringing slippers and/or extra socks, please ensure they are named.

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**ATTACHMENTS ....**

♦ **BILLY G’S GOURMET COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER INFORMATION**
♦ **ASTHMA AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER**
♦ **PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE ENROLMENT FORMS**
♦ **SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB—CATALOGUES AND ORDER FORMS**
## IMPORTANT DATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Drama / Music Active After School—Multi-Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>School Cross Country at Elmore (whole school)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Active After School—Circus Skills</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Living Green Clubs Inter-school Sport (Grade 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Confucius Classroom</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Drama / Music Active After School—Multi-Skills</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Prime Program</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td>MARC LIBRARY Active After School—Circus Skills</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Living Green Clubs Inter-school Sport (Grade 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Confucius Classroom Prep Information Evening (2015) 6.00 pm—7.00 pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Drama / Music Active After School—Multi-Skills</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Whole School Open Morning followed by Grandparents and Special Friends morning tea at 11.00 am</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Active After School—Circus Skills</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Living Green Clubs</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Confucius Classroom</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>27th</td>
<td>Drama / Music Active After School—Multi-Skills</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>29th</td>
<td>MARC Library Active After School—Circus Skills</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>30th</td>
<td>Living Green Clubs</td>
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**JUNE**

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>PUPIL FREE DAY—staff attending Michael Ymer PD</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Drama / Music Excursion—Capital Theatre—Mr McGee and the Biting Flea ($16.00 per student) Active After School—Multi-Skills</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Active After School—Circus Skills</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Living Green Clubs</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Public Holiday—Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Drama / Music Active After School—Multi-Skills</td>
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<td>MARC Library Active After School—Circus Skills</td>
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<td>Living Green Clubs Inter-school Sport (Grade 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Confucius Classroom</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Living Green / Clubs Inter-school Sport (Grade 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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Happy Birthday to the following students ...

- Tilly—4th May
- Ari—7th May
- Logan—7th May
- Bridie—10th May

We hope you all had a great day celebrating with family and friends.

VALUES AWARD FOR BEING HONEST & TRUSTWORTHY

- Hannah

Ari—for great work in Reading and Writing
Jessica—for a good attitude in school
Angus—for being switched on and ready for learning

Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week …

Fun Run Results

Congratulations to all students who participated in and sourced sponsorship for our fun run that was held at the end of last term.

Most money raised  …  Hannah ($200)
Most laps …
Prep/Grade 1  Asher, Banjo, Emma, Mackenzie, April
Grade 2/3/4  Will, River, Bella
Grade 5/6  Jesse Jack, Chloe, Abby, Jazz

A wonderful effort by everyone and we have raised approximately $1000.00.
Special thanks to our hard-working, dedicated Parent Club for organising this event.
USING THE INTERNET SAFELY AT HOME

Internet safety important is equally important in the home, the library and other public places. By planning to be cybersafe in any location, children are most likely to enjoy fun and rewarding online experiences.

There are four key steps to cybersafe practices in the home:

- **Educate**
- **Empower**
- **Make the computer safe**
- **Supervise**

The four work together towards positive and safe online use. The aim is not only to protect children but to help them learn to make good decisions.

**Educate** - an essential part of keeping children safe is making them aware of risks, and talking to them about how to avoid potential problems. Visit the Cybersmart website for internet safety information and educational programs suitable for children’s use.

**Empower** - encouraging and supporting children is a positive step towards making them feel confident in their internet use. Children need to know they can make the right choices. They also need to know they can talk to a parent if something happens online that makes them feel uncomfortable.

**Make the computer safe**—one of the most practical ways to help children stay safe online is to set up the home computer with an internet content filter and other security software.

**Supervise** - children may behave differently online, to in person, so it’s important to be involved. By placing the computer in a family area, supervision becomes easier.

- **Before starting:**
  - talk with the family about the importance of staying safe online and having an internet safety plan
  - teach children how to use the internet safely. Use an educational program suitable for the child’s age
  - learn about the internet and the types of internet services children use. Check with the local public library to see what courses are offered.

- **Set up correctly:**
  - determine if your internet service provider can assist with advice for staying safe online. If not, switch to one that can look at where the computer is set up. If it is in a bedroom, move it to a public area of the house where it’s easier to supervise make sure safety software is installed on the computer. This may include an internet content filter and other security software such as anti-virus programs, spyware and adware use a safe search engine for all web searches.

- **Create family guidelines:**
  - discuss the benefits and risks of going online with children and offer support if they get into trouble
  - create an internet safety contract with children, setting house rules for internet use.

- **When online:**
  - stay involved in the child’s use of the internet and new technologies. Work with them. Set up an account, join the child’s ‘friends’ and see what they are doing. It can be a fun experience for parents too help the child set up their profile to make sure that they don’t put too much personal information online check the privacy settings for internet services and see how to report abuse. Many social networking, virtual networks and gaming sites have facilities to do this supervise and monitor the use of the internet, particularly with younger children. If issues arise, address them quickly and know who to report problems to above all, keep the lines of communication open. Children need to be confident that they can talk to an adult about what’s happening, without being afraid that they’re automatically going to get into trouble.
AXE CREEK COMMUNITY FRESH PRODUCE SWAP

Do you have excess vegetables, fruit, eggs or herbs from your garden?
Not sure what to do with them?
Bring them to the Axe Creek Community Fresh Produce Swap at Eppalock Primary School.

If you have excess vegetables, fresh fruit, eggs, herbs or any other items, please bring them along and be part of our Fresh Produce Swap program. There are baskets on the bench in the school foyer and the process is that you can swap your produce for other produce.

If you do not have produce to swap that’s OK, just help yourself to the fresh produce displayed. You do not need to pay for any of the produce, however if you wish to make a monetary donation for anything it will be put towards our Living Green Program.

BENDIGO BANK SCHOOL BANKING

The staff from Bendigo Bank’s Strath Hill branch visit Eppalock Primary School each TUESDAY MORNING providing a school banking service for students.

Participants in the program will use a Bendigo Piggy Bank Passbook Account and moneybox to learn about the process and the benefits of saving.

With no account keeping fees, no transaction or government fees, no penalties and no deposit restrictions—plus a lot of fun games and rewards—a Piggy Bank Passbook Account makes saving fun.

Please note—the school banking program provides a deposit service only, however, withdrawals can be made at the Strath Hill branch.

Further information is available from the school office or by calling into the Bendigo Bank Strath Hill branch.

PIANO LESSONS AVAILABLE

FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT

AMY— 0408 102 126
CROSS COUNTRY—TOMORROW, Wednesday 7th May

Prep to Grade 6 students will participate in the Campaspe Cluster Cross Country Run tomorrow at Elmore (the Field Days site).

As a school, we will be travelling by bus, departing approximately 11.00am and returning by 3.00pm. The students will participate in one cross-country run on the day, with the distance dependent on the student’s age group.

Parents are welcome to come and cheer our students on.

The cost is $8.50 per child – payment would be appreciated prior to the day.

Permission forms were sent home last week, if you have not returned it, please do so TOMORROW.

Students will need to wear suitable warm clothing and footwear (including a jacket), have a packed-lunch and plenty of water. Anyone requiring asthma medication must have it with them.

Cross Country starting at 12
- 12:15pm-3km runners (older age group)
- 12:50pm-1km runners (younger age group)
- 1:15pm -2km runners (middle age group)

Presentations after the last race.

If families have ‘rubber backed mats’ that we could use that would be great—send them along with your children tomorrow, but please ensure that your name is clearly marked on them.

The Premiers’ Reading Challenge is a great way to get students reading and talking about books. Students can discuss book lists with their friends to find out what they’re reading and what’s worth reading. The Challenge also encourages students to push themselves to read as many books as they can.

The 2014 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is currently on and officially ends on 12 September 2014. Students in Prep to Year 2 who accept the Challenge need to read or ‘experience’ 30 books during this period. Students in Years 3 to 10 who accept the Challenge must read 15 books during this period.

Three elements support students and schools participating in the Challenge: the rules, the book list and the online system for recording books.

Students must choose most of their books from the Challenge book list, and record their reading online as set out in the six rules for the Challenge.

Enrolment forms are attached to this newsletter and our hope is that ALL students join.

For additional information, please see Mrs Lindhe.
Major fundraising initiative on behalf of the Eppalock Primary School Parents Club

We are conducting a Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser as a major fundraiser for this term so we do ask for your support. Family support is most appreciated.

Funds raised will provide additional resources for to support our Living Green Program and or for continued upgrades to our playground equipment.

There are new exciting flavours in 2014 which include Gluten Free Choc Chunk, Lower sugar/fat/salt Choc Chunk, Caramel Fudge, Triple and wait for it..... Doggie Dough!!

Students have received a Billy’s Gourmet Cookie Dough order form. An individual prize program has been included for every student/family that sells one or more tubs. The more tubs you sell the better the prize! There is a selection of over 55 prizes to choose from such as Britz ‘n’ Pieces, Wahoo, Kazoom and much, much, more. If you have misplaced your order form, please see Marie in the office.

Please take the order form to your family, friends and work colleagues and even take the order form to your child’s sporting activities. Students who sell one or more tubs will be entitled to a prize of their choice.

**WIN A FAMILY HOLIDAY** - You also have the chance to win a 7 night family holiday for 2 adults and 2 children, staying at either the Gold Coast or Hamilton Island or Fiji including a Virgin Australia airfare voucher and $1,000 spending money. So don’t forget to enter. For more details on this promotion and how to enter, please view the inside of the order form.

Once the fundraiser is complete, please detach the order form with your orders and don’t forget to select a prize! Please return the order form along with your monies on or before the Wednesday May 21st 2014. The planned delivery date is Monday June 16th. Please ensure that you make arrangements to collect your cookie dough order on the day of delivery as the product is frozen and we do not have enough storage to store your order when the cookie dough arrives.

Happy fundraising!