Nationally Consistent Data Collection on School Students with Disability

Our school has been selected to participate in the 2013 Nationally Consistent Data Collection on School Students with Disability (Data Collection). This national Data Collection is taking place in schools across Australia and will provide information about the number of students with disability in schools, where they are located and the adjustments they receive.

The information provided by this new data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources. This will assist students with disability in government and non-government schools across Australia to complete school and go on to further education or find employment.

If your child is eligible to be included in the Data Collection, you will be sent a Privacy Information and Consent Form in the next few weeks. Inclusion in the Data Collection is voluntary. If you wish your child to be included in the Data Collection, you can complete the Privacy Information and Consent Form and return to the school.

If you do not receive a Privacy Information and Consent Form and believe your child has a disability and should be considered for inclusion in the Data Collection, please contact me.

For further information about the Data Collection, please visit the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website


CFA S.A.F.E. (Safety Awareness Field Education) DAY

The whole school will be attending the CFA S.A.F.E. day next Thursday, 11th September. The program will be interactive, allowing students to learn a wide range of safety messages. Students will rotate through 5 structured lessons throughout the day in order to gain maximum impact and benefit from the educational sessions.

The cost is $5.00 per student, could all CFA ‘Talent Release Forms’ be completed and returned to school prior to the day.
Still Wanted – Outdoor Cushions for the Sensory Garden

Are you able to help? We are after some large, colourful, outdoor cushions for the Sensory Garden. If you (or a family member or grandparent) have some cushions you don’t want or are able to sew and have some colourful canvas etc. to make into cushions the school would greatly appreciate them. Please let me know if you are able to help out.

Ideas/Feedback Box

Don’t forget the Ideas/Feedback box on the table in the foyer next to the Random Acts of Kindness box. If you have an ideas to improve the schools, feedback on what we are doing well or thoughts you would like to share please feel free to jot them down and pop them in the box. I am really interested to hear the thoughts/opinions/ideas of all parents and community members on ways to continue to improve Eppalock PS.

Have a wonderful week ....... Mrs Ryan

REQUEST FROM THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD CLUB

There are 9 kids doing Operation Christmas Child in Clubs on a Friday afternoon. We are sorting out items to put into shoeboxes. To make this possible we need these items:

- Some more shoeboxes
- More item donations
- Money donations for $9 for shipping.

We desperately need items in the following groups:

- **Personal Hygiene** (e.g. soap and face washer, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, scrunchies, hairclips, etc.)
- **Something to play with** (e.g. tennis ball, cars, skipping rope, marbles, musical instrument, yo-yo, slinky, finger puppets, wind-up torch, etc.)
- **Something special** (e.g. carry bag, sunglasses, bangles, stickers, necklaces, craft kits, a personal note, a photo of yourself, etc.)
- **Something to love** (teddy bear, doll, soft toy, etc.)
- **Something to wear** (e.g. t-shirt, polo shirt, shorts, skirt, cap, beanie, sandals, etc.)

Thank you from the Operation Christmas Child Club

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART 2013

Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is renowned as being one of Australia’s most popular fundraising event programs in schools. Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is all about learning how to keep fit and healthy. It improves the kids’ strength and confidence in physical activities and builds healthy bones and muscles. Students can have lots of fun with their class mates and play lots of skipping games too. At the same time they will be helping save Australian lives by asking their family and friends to sponsor them for being a part of this fun program. Funds raised go towards research to help the fight against heart disease and stroke.

Each year over **400,000** students get involved and over **700,000** families and friends sponsor participating students in support of the Heart Foundations lifesaving work.

This year Eppalock Primary School are getting involved with Jump Rope for Heart and holding a ‘**Jump Off Day**’ on Monday 16th September 2013. As part of ‘Jump Rope for Heart’ a Sponsorship form is attached to this weeks newsletter in which students can collect donations which will help the Heart Foundation continue their important work, fund lifesaving research and educational program. There are also some great thank you prizes available and these and more details are listed within you ‘sponsorship form’.

We hope that everyone can be involved and support this great cause as the students have really embraced the skipping at school!
Next Meeting
Friday 13th September—12.30 pm at Axedale Tavern for lunch

Available—Gold Coast Resort Vouchers
$20.00 EACH
Various Resorts & Deals - eg, $169 to pay for 2 Adults, 4 nights (children $15 extra, per night)
Fully Transferable and would make a great gift for family and friends!
For further details please see Marie in the office.

FEDERAL ELECTION DAY—This SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER

Our school will be used as a POLLING VENUE and we plan to take the opportunity to hold some fundraising events ....

♦ Sausage Sizzle
♦ Tea & Coffee Stall
♦ Plant Stall (calling all gardeners to pot cuttings and plants for this stall)
♦ Cake Stall (disposal plates & bags have been sent home—all ingredient must be listed and NO Cream)
♦ Memorabilia Stall

Thank you to the families who have offered to help on Saturday (a roster will be sent home on Friday confirming your time) - we still need helpers for the 11.30—1.30 pm timeslot - if you can help, please let us know.

We are also considering hiring out tables for a market stall to outside vendors. If you are interested or know anyone who may be interested, please contact the school.

Hopefully this will bring some extra funds for the kids as well as show the people in the community what a welcoming school we are!

Wanted

If anyone has a ‘cake stand’ we would appreciate the use of if for the weekend. Please leave them at school on Friday. Thank you.
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**SEPTEMBER**

- **Thursday 5th**  
  ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Multi-skills

- **Friday 6th**  
  LOTE

- **Tuesday 10th**  
  ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Cricket

- **Wednesday 11th**  
  CFA SAFE DAY

- **Thursday 12th**  
  MARC LIBRARY
  
  ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Multi-Skills
  
  SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING - 6.00 pm

- **Friday 13th**  
  LOTE

- **Monday 16th**  
  Jump Rope for Heart - Jump off Day

- **Tuesday 17th**  
  DRAMA / MUSIC
  
  ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Cricket (last one for this term)

- **Friday 20th**  
  END OF TERM (1.30 pm Dismissal)

**OCTOBER**

- **Monday 7th**  
  START TERM 4

- **Friday 18th**  
  SCHOOL SPORTS—Bendigo Athletic Centre

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**SUPA IGA Strathfieldsaye**

939 WELLINGTON STREET
STRATHFIELDSAYE, VIC 3551
PH: 54 319 300

SUPA IGA Strathfieldsaye is your local independently owned supermarkets servicing the grocery and liquor needs of our growing communities.

Their commitment is to provide our local community with a high standard fully serviced independent supermarket that exceeds our customers expectation in service. You, our customer, are the most important aspect of the business and we will challenge everything we do to seek improvement in our services and to deliver what we promise.

**Why Shop at Community 1st Supermarkets?**

For many years now Strathfieldsaye SUPA IGA has conducted a Community Benefit Programme.

Simply our customers nominate their preferred Community Organisation and we donate 1% of their purchases back into that organisation.

**EPPALOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL is part of this Community Rewards Program and this week we received a cheque for $201.69.**

If you would like to enrol to support EPPALOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL please speak to one of our Customer service staff at SUPER IGA Strathfieldsaye or see Marie in our School Office for details.
Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week:

- **Jaiden** - for always learning his spelling words
- **Harmony** - for her commitment towards her ‘Passion Project’

**Responsibility Award** was awarded Riley for being responsible for his jumper and belongings.

**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS**

Thank you to Haven for letting Bendigo for Homeless Youth use them to help (from Nicole)

Mrs Lindhe for being so passionate about ‘Operation Christmas Child’

Mrs Ryan for letting us have the opportunity to go to Somers Camp (from Nicole)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO …**

Mac L for this Friday, 6th September

Jack for this Friday, 6th September

We hope you both have a great day.

**THANK YOU**

**McDonalds  Plants Plus Nursery, Retreat Road, Bendigo** has donated 6 fruit trees to our school (2 plum, 1 white nectarine, 1 yellow nectarine, 1 cherry, 1 apricot). Thank you very much to Keith and Chris—we appreciate your support and generosity.
Sun Smart Hats - It is that time of the year again when students need to wear a school hat! From now on UV levels reach three and above more regularly so we need to protect our skin from harmful rays. We can do this by covering as much skin as possible with clothing, wearing sunglasses, using sunscreen, wearing a wide brimmed school hat and seeking shade where possible.

There are hats for sale at the office for $10:00 if you need to purchase a new one. Please ensure that your child’s hat is clearly named.

PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE—final call—all completed lists to be handed to Mrs Lindhe tomorrow.

Benefits of Reading to Children

Did you know that reading to young children every day has enormous benefits for their brain development, thinking skills and language? Young children who are read to regularly also do better at school according to a study conducted by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research and funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

MELBOURNE researchers have proven what parents have intuitively known all along - the more often you read to your children from an early age, the greater the positive effect on their reading and thinking skills.

The Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research has not only proven a causal effect between the frequency of reading to a child and his or her development, but have also for the first time measured the benefits.

Children four to five years old who are read to three to five times a week have the same reading ability as children six months older (who are read to only twice or less a week).

Reading to children six to seven days a week puts them almost a year ahead of those who are not being read to. It was also found that reading to small children has a positive effect on the development of numeracy skills.

"It does appear to be the case that children who are read to more often keep doing better as they age than other children," said Professor Guyonne Kalb, director of the institute’s Labour Economics and Social Policy Program, and co-author of the study.

The research - which was funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development - found the positive outcomes occurred in children regardless of parental income, education level or cultural background. That is, children with poor backgrounds or parents of limited education or ability have the same benefit of being read to frequently.

"We wanted to try and determine whether reading itself is leading to better outcomes, or do parents who read to their children have other things going on," Professor Kalb said.

"We worked with children representing a whole range of families, from all different backgrounds and economic circumstances. We found it doesn't matter if a child is from a poor or rich family, or if the parents are highly educated or not, doing this basic thing of reading to them leads to better developmental outcomes."

The longitudinal study followed the reading skills of more than 4000 children, aged four to five years in 2004, through to age 10 to 11.

Victorian Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development Wendy Lovell said the research was "an exciting step forward" in understanding the importance of reading to young children.

"These findings send a clear message to parents, grandparents, teachers and carers that the benefits of reading go way beyond a shared bonding experience."

**PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS**

Private lessons are held every Tuesday at Eppalock Primary School.

- **Guitar lessons**
- **Vocal lessons**
- **Bass lessons**

For more information, please contact Mel on 0430 042 405

Email: sina_rox@hotmail.com

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**AXE CREEK PLAYGROUP**

*Wednesday morning 9.00 am—11.00 am*

Eppalock Primary School (old school building), 149 Patons Road, Axe Creek.

_All welcome_ - morning tea and activities provided

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**Bendigo Gem Club**

2013 Annual Exhibition

_Gemarama_

YMCA Leisure Centre
Browning st
Kangaroo Flat
BENDIGO
Just off High street

- Gem Cutting
- Silver Smithing
- Demonstrations

*Sat 7th Sept*
10am-5pm

*Sun 8th Sept*
10am-4pm

- Gem
- Minerals
- Fossils
- Opals
- Pearls
- Jewellery
- Lapidary Equipment & Tools

*ENTRY*  
Adults $5  
Children under 16 FREE if accompanied by an Adult

Refreshments available

Contact ph. 03 5413 3401
STRATHFIELDSAYE TENNIS CLUB REGISTRATION DAY

When—Sunday 8th September 2013, 10am-12pm
Where—Inside Strathfieldsaye IGA Complex.

Registration forms will be available on the day. For all enquires, contact Joanne Rowlatt 5439 4757 or joanne.rowlatt@bigpond.com.au

BENDIGO TENNIS ASSOCIATION MLC TENNIS HOT SHOTS PROGRAM

The Bendigo Tennis Association are proud to continue their delivery of MLC Tennis Hot Shots, the only modified tennis program endorsed by Tennis Australia. MLC Tennis Hot Shots targets players from 4 to 10 years of age, who are looking to develop their tennis skills.

The BTA will hold a FREE a come and try day of Hot Shots on Saturday 12th October, 2013. Three sessions will run from 9.00am and 9.40am and 10.20am with each session running from 40 minutes. Any students who are interested in coming to the FREE come and try are requested to book their space by contact the Complex on 5442 5744 or emailing info@bendigotennis.com.au

For more information on the 8-week Term 4 BTA MLC Hot Shots Program, please contact the Complex.

SOME PHOTOS FROM THEO & THE LION EXCURSION