PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Wow the end is nearly here to a very busy, fun filled term. It’s amazing the range of opportunities, extra-curricula activities and experiences the children at Eppalock PS are exposed to and term 2 will be no exception.

Some of the highlights will include;
- Grade 3-6 Camp 23rd – 24th April
- Good Start Kinder Visit – Tuesday 29th April
- Cybersmart Outreach Presentation – Students/Staff/Parents – Tuesday 29th April
- Grade 6 students GRIPP Leadership Development Day at The Capital – Wednesday 30th April
- Grade 5/6 Inter-School Sports start – Friday 9th May
- Prep Information Night – 19th May
- Education Week Open Day and activities – 21st May
- Michael Ymer Staff PD – 2nd June (No school for students)

PARENTS & PRINCIPAL CHAT

Don’t forget to join me for a cuppa and a chat in the staffroom tomorrow morning, 2nd April at 9am. If you have any ideas or thoughts on how we can better Eppalock PS please bring them along to discuss or you might just like to have a social catch up. Either way I look forward to seeing those available parents tomorrow morning.

Curriculum Days

Last week School Council approved the following Curriculum Days;
- Monday June 2nd
- Wednesday September 17th
- Friday November 7th

Please mark these dates on your calendar as these will be Pupil Free days where no students are required at school. On these days all staff will be working with staff from Axedale PS and Heathcote PS and Maths Specialist Michael Ymer to improve our knowledge and understanding of Numeracy teaching and develop techniques to best teach our students the fundamental skills of Numeracy. This project has come about through grant funding the three schools have received through the Partnerships of Learning Initiative funded by the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development. This is a fantastic opportunity for our staff and one that wouldn’t have occurred without the $24,000 grant the schools have received.

Please also put the following dates on your calendar for future reference;
- End of Year Concert and Community Night – Friday 12th December
- Grade 6 Graduation Dinner – Tuesday 16th December
The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness Presentation

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the internet and mobile phones to socialise, study, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your children stay safe online, **Eppalock Primary School** is hosting a range of **Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentations**. Designed for parents, teachers and students, these presentations are provided by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) as part of a national program of cybersmart initiatives.

Presentations will be held at **Eppalock PS** on Tuesday 29th April 2014;
2.15 – 3.15 pm = Student Presentation & Workshop
3.45pm – 5.00pm = Staff Presentation
6.00pm – 7.30pm = Parent Presentation

If you are interested in coming to the parent presentation and/or know of other parents in the local community who would like to attend please return the RSVP slip attached to today’s newsletter to school as soon as possible and mark the date in your diary. It should be a very informative session.

WANTED – Natural Play Space Items

We are looking to develop the play space at the bottom of the oval on the corner of Axe Creek & Patons Road. At this stage we have some large rocks in this area but need some other natural products to develop the children’s imagination as they learn and explore through nature. If you are cleaning up over the holidays and have the following items we would love you to drop them at school for us to use to work on this area.

Items required include;

- 1 metre (approximately) long sticks with a circumference of around 10 – 15 cm to use as edge borders to form paths and define spaces.
- Large tree branch – up to 5 metres long (can have other thick branches coming off) – for the children to climb and explore on.
- Large and small rocks.
- Mulch
- Natural Cubby building items
- Cut off timber stumps to use as seats and stepping planks – can be varying heights.
- Pavers or large flat rocks for stepping stones.

Early School Finish End of Term

Term 1 concludes this Friday 4th April with the Annual School Fun Run and special lunch order day. Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm and ASC will run till 3.30pm. Please let the school know asap if your child will be in After School Care on this day. **Please Note—the school bus will leave from school at 1.30 pm for the afternoon run.**

Thank you so much to the wonderful staff for their hard work and dedication this term and to our fantastic parents and school community for their ongoing help and support. I hope everyone has a lovely, restful holiday. Don’t forget we come back to school on Tuesday, 22nd April after Easter and the first Friday of term 2 is a public holiday for ANZAC Day.

I hope everyone has a great week. Mrs Ryan

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

A reminder to all parents regarding After School Care arrangements. All children who are in After School Care need to be placed in the After School Care Book and/or the school notified by 2pm of that day. Also just a reminder that Active After School Sport finishes at 4.30pm, those children not picked up at that time will be placed in After School Care and charged accordingly.

CHILD CARE BENEFIT REBATE

We have just received notification that our After School Hours Care program has been approved for Child Care Benefit Rebate.
We are currently working through the implications of this for families and the process that needs to be gone through to claim this rebate.
We will keep you notified of any changes to the After School Hours Care payment system etc. as they arise.
Invoices will be sent out as soon as we finalise this process.
IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

Wednesday 2nd  Parent and Principal chat—9.00 am

Blue Day—Autism Awareness (organised by Junior School Council)

- see attachment for details -

Thursday 3rd  MARC Library

Friday 4th  Lap-a-thon & Sausage Sizzle

Last day Term 1 (1.30 pm finish)

Tuesday 22nd  FIRST DAY TERM 2

Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th  Camp—Grade 3/4/5/6 students

Friday 25th  ANZAC Day—public holiday

MAY

Thursday 15th  School Council Meeting—6.00 pm

Wednesday 21st  Whole School Open Morning followed by Grandparents and Special Friends

morning tea at 11.00 am

• Monday June 2nd  - Pupil Free

• Wednesday September 17th  - Pupil Free

• Friday November 7th  - Pupil Free

Friday 12th December  End of Year COMMUNITY NIGHT

LIBRARY NOTICE—MISSING BOOKS

All books in the Harry Potter Series are missing from our library. Please check for any library books your child/ren may have borrowed.

SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDER

Please note—we have been advised that our School Uniform order will NOT be dispatched from the factory until the middle of our school holidays—we will arrange for the printing as soon as the items arrive, however garments may not be available to families until a week or two into TERM 2.

In the meantime, we have a selection of second-hand uniforms and you are welcome to come an take any items that you can use.
School Awards - Congratulations to the following students:

Hamish— for doing lots of writing
Sam— for being very honest
Nicole— for trying hard and doing her best

Care & Compassion Award this week is awarded to
SIENNA
for being kind, caring and thoughtful

2015 Enrolment & Education Week

2015 Prep Dates
The 2015 Prep Enrolment Information Booklet will be available in kindergartens soon and outlines key dates for 2015 Preps in all Bendigo schools including information sessions for prospective Prep parents and transition days for students.

EPPALOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL:
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/State Wide Orientation Day/Classroom visit 4 Tuesday December 9th - 9.00am-11.30am

Education Week Activities & Dates
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. Guided Tours from 10am–11am followed by a Grandparents & Special Friends Morning Tea in the Project Space at 11am.

LIVING GREEN

WRIGGLING WORMS
Have you got an amazing worm farm that made it through the summer? Do you have a spare handful of worm farm worms? Our school worms have an abundance of fruit that they are struggling to eat and we need to boost their numbers to get our worm farm really working. If you can spare some worms we would really appreciate it. We currently have red wrigglers (the ones you buy from the hardware shop in the yellow box).
NUDE FOOD LUNCH BOX IDEAS
To help each other in our efforts to be wrapper free at school, the parent club has decided to include a regular weekly ‘Nude Food Lunch Box Ideas’ section in the newsletter.
This will be an opportunity for us to share lunch box ideas that are quick, easy, cost effective, kid friendly, and most importantly, wrapper free.
Please email any recipes you come across throughout the year to mark_bee@iinet.net.au so we can be sure to have it included.
In Term 2, look out for a recipe book the parent club will be organising.

NUDE FOOD LUNCH BOX IDEA # 4      ONE CUP FRUIT SLICE

Ingredients:
230 g wholemeal SR flour
200g desiccated coconut
100 g brown sugar
100 g chopped dried fruit
250 ml milk (can use reduced fat)

Method:
1. Pre heat oven to 180 degrees
2. Grease and line a slice tray
3. Mix all ingredients together
4. Press into tin
5. Bake for 25-30 minutes until brown
6. Allow to cool
7. Cut into 20 pieces
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.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you or a friend would enjoy being a volunteer in an aged care facility, we would love to have you on our team. Please call Cheryl or Andrew at Victoria Heights Residential Care on 5443 2731.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A BABYSITTER?

Ashleigh is 13 ½ years old and is well liked by younger children. She would be looking to charge about $10 an hour but is negotiable according to how many kids and how, when & where. Anyone interested can contact Donna on 0408 509 061.
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.

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BENDIGO LEGO FAN EXPO—18th, 19th & 20th April 2014

Rediscover the magic of building and join us for the Inside The Brick LEGO Fan Expo in Bendigo during Easter weekend, Friday 18th, Saturday 19th and Sunday the 20th of April.

See amazing creations by master builders including LEGO Ninjago, a huge train layout, LEGO City, Star Wars, LEGO Friends and many unique creations. Tickets are only available via online booking.

We'll have a huge brick pile to play with in the LEGO play area and lots of DUPLO for the little fans as well. LEGO sets and printed LEGO bricks will be available for purchase.

More info available at www.insidethebrick.com
Book at http://www.trybooking.com/76480

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A Holiday Program

For primary school aged children will run at the Church on **Monday April 14 to Thursday April 17 from 9.30am to 12noon each day**.

Then we will have a celebration Church service on Easter Saturday April 19 at 5pm. The coordinator is Steve.

For more information about these or any other local Church activities contact Rev. Steve Weickhardt on 5439 4817 or steve@southeastbendigo.com.

The address is Strathfieldsaye Uniting Church, 920 Wellington Street.
CATHOLIC COLLEGE BENDIGO
Current and prospective families are most welcome to attend our OPEN DAY to be held on SUNDAY 18th MAY, 2014 between 12 and 2.30 pm at La Valla, McIvor Highway, Junortoun. In 2015 there will be two providers of Catholic secondary education with the opening of Marist College Bendigo in Maiden Gully. We therefore are happy to advise that there will be more places available for families seeking Catholic Secondary education for their children in 2015 and beyond.

ENROLMENTS YEAR 7, 2015
Each year Catholic College Bendigo welcomes new students. For students currently in Year 6, a Transition Day is held to experience life as a Year 7 student. Hence, students in Year 6 are invited to attend a Transition Day on Friday 6th June 2014. It is necessary to register by contacting Mrs Trish Martin, College Registrar on 5449 3466 or email tmartin@ccb.vic.edu.au to register attendance.

STEAM TRAINS FOR KIDS - FAMILY RAILWAY FUN
Maldon Station
Trains from Maldon to Muckleford – Rtn to Maldon
SAT / SUN : APRIL 12 / 13
TRAIN RIDES - STEAM & DIESEL, ANIMAL FARM MODEL RAILWAY, CLOWN ON BOARD, NOVELTY RIDES.
Sausage Sizzle, Horse Cart Rides, Donkey Rides, Jumping Castle
JOIN THE FUN FROM 10.00AM
ADULTS : $25    KIDS : $15    FAMILY $75 ( 2ADS & 3CH )
FARE COVERS MOST ACTIVITIES
ON LINE BOOKINGS AVAILABLE WWW.VGR.COM.AU

PAST STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS
Congratulations to two of our Grade 6 graduates from last year;

Riley Tresize for being awarded the Bendigo & District Cricket Association Under 13A Champion Player Award with 328points! Riley also won the BDCA League 13A bowling average with an extremely economical average of 4.5.

Kobi Shue for being awarded an $800 grant from the City of Greater Bendigo to hold a photography exhibition as part of National Youth Week. The exhibition for will be held on Sunday 6th April from 1pm-3pm in the Auditorium Foyer at Victory Christian College.

Congratulations on your achievements boys!
Dear Parent,

Internet safety presentation helps children stay safe online

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the internet and mobile phones to socialise, study, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your children stay safe online, Eppalock Primary School is hosting a Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation. Designed for parents, teachers and students, this presentation is provided by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) as part of a national program of cybersmart initiatives. The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation is thorough and non-technical. It covers a range of issues including:

- the ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- potential risks for children online, such as cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure to inappropriate content
- tips to help children stay safe online.

The presentation is conducted by an ACMA Cybersmart trainer and is free of charge.

Eppalock Primary School is committed to helping students develop appropriate behaviours when using digital technologies, both at school and home.

The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness Parent presentation will be held on:

Tuesday 29th April 2014, 6pm – 7.30pm in the New School Building.

To register your attendance, please return the RSVP slip below as soon as possible.

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I wish to attend the Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness Parent presentation on Tuesday 29th April 2014, 6pm – 7.30pm at Eppalock PS.

Name/Names: __________________________________________________________________________
Autism Day

Junior School Council

TOMORROW, Wednesday 2nd of April we are having a fundraiser for Autism.

Please bring a gold coin donation and wear blue.

We will also be selling cupcakes for 50c (only one per person).

The reason we are doing this is because we are raising money for families and people with autism.

Junior School Council