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

School Sports
A big congratulation’s to all the students who took part in the Athletics Carnival last Friday against Axedale Primary Schools. Not only was Eppalock Primary School the overall winner on the day but more importantly all students showed great respect, sportsmanship and care and compassion for their fellow competitors and were great ambassadors for the school. Well done to everyone. A big thank you to Ms Hartney for all her hard work leading up to the day, to all the staff for their commitment to ensuring the day ran smoothly and to all the parents for providing valuable help and support.
Interschool Sports—Our Grade 5/6 children will be joining with children from Quarry Hill PS and participating in interschool sports against Kennington, Strathfieldsaye and Spring Gully again this term. They will be playing European handball and Kanga 8s cricket.
Dates for games are as follows;
Friday 31st October - Spring Gully (home) V Quarry Hill/Eppalock
Friday 28th November - Quarry Hill/Eppalock (home – Quarry Hill) V Strathfieldsaye
Friday 5th December - Transition Round Robin (BSE)
The games will begin at approximately 1:30pm, parents are most welcome to come and watch. We also need a couple of parents who are able to transport students to and from the location on these days – please let me know if you are able to help.

Out and About—I will be out of the school tomorrow visiting Dallas Brooks PS with Lex Johnstone from Axedale PS. This is part of our collegiate partnership and involvement in the Bastow Leadership Program, Leading School Improvement. This is a great opportunity for us to learn from our peers and see how other schools function. On Thursday I have the pleasure of being a Peer Reviewer for Taradale Primary School so will be working there all day helping to set the direction for the next four years. The new Peer Review process is a great opportunity for Principals to work with colleagues in a collaborative way to improve and enhance all government primary schools.

Orientation Program Dates for 2015 Preps - Below are listed the dates and times for this year’s transition and orientation program for our 2015 prep students. We will also be holding a Prep Parent/Staff/Student Picnic on Thursday 6th November from 5.30pm – 7pm. This will be a great chance for our 2015 prep families to get to know each other and the staff in a friendly, relaxed setting.
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
Visit 4; Whole school Orientation Day/Classroom - Tuesday December 9th - 9.00am-11.30am

SWIMMING PROGRAM 2014—Our school swimming program commences next week and will run over the next few weeks at the YMCA complex, Eaglehawk.
Tuesday 28th October lesson commencing at 1.00 pm
Tuesday 4th November lesson commencing at 1.00 pm
Tuesday 18th November lesson commencing at 1.00 pm
Tuesday 25th November lesson commencing at 1.00 pm
Thanks so much to Ms Hartney for organising this program for our students. This is another wonderful extra-curricula activity that our students are able to participate in twice a year.
Students need to bring or wear their swimming gear to school (if wearing bathers, please remember to include some underwear for after the session). A water-proof bag is recommended to put wet swimming gear in. It is recommended that students bring a little extra lunch/playlunch on swimming days.

Public Holiday—Just a reminder that there is no school next Wednesday, 29th October, due to the Bendigo Cup Day Holiday.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS—Just a reminder that all 2014 school accounts need to be finalised by the end of November to ensure all accounting is completed for the end of year roll over. Thank you to families who have already finalised their account - if you have not, it would be appreciated if you could do so as soon as possible. If you wish to discuss your account or organise a payment plan, please see myself or Marie.
Banking Details below (please add your name)
Commonwealth Bank—Eppalock Primary School Council Official Account
BSB 063-506 Account Number 10152204

Education Maintenance Allowance 2015—It is really important for parents/carers to be aware that there will be no EMA in 2015 due to a change in Government Funding. Therefore parents will not be able to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance in 2015. Funding will be allocated to eligible schools, with the neediest schools receiving the most funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015 and Eppalock PS is one of those schools that will not receive any additional funding. Those parents who previously received EMA need to be aware that they will now have to cover all booklist costs.

Help Us Win!!! Please vote for Eppalock PS to win a water tank for the school. WaterStore Poly Water Tanks are running a Facebook competition for the next couple of weeks to give away a free 5,000 litre poly water tank. Competition ends on 4th of November. Please go https://apps.facebook.com/waterstorewatersmart to vote.
Mindfulness in the News—Last week the Smiling Mind crew launched their new 'Everyday Mindfulness' commercial across TV and cinemas nationally. They also featured in a great story by Channel 9 News that shone a light on Mindfulness Meditation in Education. The clip includes Auburn South Primary School and Smiling Mind ambassador and consulting psychologist Olivia Downing. You can view the clip on YouTube.

Smiling Mind on Channel 9 News - Mindfulness Meditation in Education.

Head Lice
We have had a few cases of head lice reported, so please check your child’s hair and treat accordingly if required. Sian Knight will be doing Head Lice checks again on Friday morning. Parents will be notified and notes sent home if Lice or Eggs are detected. Thank you for your constant vigilance with this.

The Continued Importance of Reading
Please find below a very interesting article on the importance of reading at all age levels.

Children who read for pleasure are likely to perform significantly better in the classroom than their peers who rarely read, according to a recent report published by the University of London’s Institute of Education.

According to a study published by the institute, its research examined the childhood reading practices of 6000 teenagers from similar social backgrounds, comparing their test results at ages five, 10 and 16 in the areas of vocabulary, spelling and maths.

The researchers concluded that children whose parents regularly read to them performed better in all three tests at age 16. It was also determined that children who read often at 10, and more than once a week at 16, also scored higher in the same tests than those who read less often.

Lead researcher Dr Alice Sullivan reported that although vocabulary development was found to be the most affected area, the impact on spelling and maths was still significant.

"It may seem surprising that reading for pleasure would help to improve children's maths scores, but it is likely that strong reading ability will enable children to absorb and understand new information and affect their attainment in all subjects," Dr Sullivan said in the institute’s report.

Jo Padgham, a school principal in the ACT and national vice-president of the Australian Literacy Educators’ Association, says students who read a lot become learners who are risk-takers – who will have a go at learning. "Those who find reading easier at whatever age will read more and thus increase their vocabulary," she says. "Increased vocabulary is closely related to comprehension as children move through school."

The study also concluded that reading for pleasure was a more important factor in children's cognitive development between the ages of 10 and 16 than their parents’ level of education.

"The combined effect on children's progress of reading books often, going to the library regularly and reading newspapers at 16, was four times greater than the advantage children gained from having a parent with a degree," Ms Padgham says. Children who read often for pleasure are exposed to more complex language structures and vocabulary than they are exposed to in oral situations alone, she says. "This building of a rich language and vocabulary from books from an early age is crucial to reading development," she says.

Teacher librarian Olivia Neilson has noted that young children appear to have a natural enthusiasm for reading and borrowing books. "As students move up the grades and become more independent readers, they usually voraciously devour whatever they can get their hands on, as they enjoy the feeling of reading to themselves."

Encouragement is crucial, however, particularly for reluctant readers. Ms Neilson says reading aloud from a variety of authors and genres, and offering children a range of reading materials including magazines and graphic novels, is critical in helping to meet their reading interests.

She explains that to support children in finding the success and positive self-esteem that reading can set them up for, we need to live what we teach.

"As parents, teachers and the whole community, we have a job to demonstrate to young people that reading has value for them personally. Lectures and speeches about that won't do it for them, but modelling slow reading of great books and articles will."


Have a great week. Mrs Ryan
### OCTOBER

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<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd</td>
<td>Active After School—Basketball</td>
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<td>Tuesday 28th</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons 1:00-1:40pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 29th</td>
<td>Bendigo Cup Day Holiday—no school</td>
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<td>Thursday 30th</td>
<td>MARC Library</td>
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### NOVEMBER

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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons 1:00-1:40pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 5th</td>
<td>Questacon Science Spectacular</td>
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<td>Thursday 6th</td>
<td>2015 Prep Parent / Staff / Student Picnic (5.30 pm—7.00 pm)</td>
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<td>Thursday 6th</td>
<td>Active After School—Basketball</td>
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<td>Friday 7th</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day—Michael Ymer Staff PD</td>
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<td>Tuesday 11th</td>
<td>Active After School—Multi Skills</td>
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<td>Thursday 13th</td>
<td>MARC Library</td>
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<td>Tuesday 18th</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons 1:00-1:40pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 19th</td>
<td>2015 Prep Transition 9.30 am—11.00 am</td>
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<td>Thursday 20th</td>
<td>Active After School—Basketball</td>
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<td>Monday 24th</td>
<td>2015 Prep Transition 10.00 am—11.30 am</td>
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<td>Tuesday 25th</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons 1:00-1:40pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 26th</td>
<td>Sink or Swim Incursion</td>
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<td>Thursday 27th</td>
<td>Active After School—Basketball</td>
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### DECEMBER

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<td>Wednesday 3rd</td>
<td>Special ‘all you can eat pot-luck’ Lunch organised by Parent Club $4.00 per head</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9th</td>
<td>Orientation Day</td>
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<td>Friday 12th</td>
<td>End of Year COMMUNITY NIGHT</td>
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<td>Tuesday 16th</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<td>Friday 19th</td>
<td>Last Day of Term—1.30 pm finish</td>
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Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week

- Ari for being a great friend
- Bridie for always doing her best in school
- Nicole for being a great Ambassador for our school

Our Value this Term is RESPECT—treat others with consideration and regard; respect another person’s point of view. Congratulations to Sam who received our RESPECT AWARD this week.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to River for this Friday, 24th October.
We hope you have a great day.

MARC Final Borrowing Dates
The end of the school year is fast approaching and it is time to start chasing up all of the missing and overdue library books for this year. Your last chance to borrow MARC books will be: Thursday 30th October and all books borrowed on this day or prior to this must be returned in the fortnight following this day. Please remember that if books are lost or damaged, families will be asked to replace or provide an appropriate donation to make up for the missing book.

Regards, Keira Haddow, (MARC Van Library teacher)

WANTED Freezer in working order (chest or upright) - if you have a freezer that you no longer require and would like to donate or sell to the school, please let Emily know.

PREP & GRADE 1 STUDENTS—Could all students in Prep and Grade 1 class please bring an empty shoe box to school this week?
PARENT CLUB NEWS

WANTED: Pie Warmer that can be donated to the school or purchased by parents club for a small price.

WANTED: Second hand/new bricks that can be donated to the school. Parents Club/Living Green is looking at building a Pizza Oven for School and Community Use. If you have any bricks that can be donated to the school please contact the school or Nikki Mannes

WANTED: Pizza Oven Building Specifications. If any one has built a pizza oven before and has plans for one or has the knowledge on how to build one could you please see the school or Nikki Mannes.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER— as part of our end of year Community Night we will have a Christmas Hamper. We ask families for a donation or two of non-perishable goods (please check use-by dates) for this hamper. Items can be left in the box in the school foyer.

SUPPORT OUR LIVING GREEN PROGRAM AND ORDER A TRAY OF FRESH KEN- SINGTON PRIDE MANGOES FOR ONLY $25.00.
Information and order forms are being sent home today. Orders and money must be returned to school by Friday 24th October. NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

Fruit will be available to be collected from school early December—date to be advised.

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.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

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.