Today we welcomed a new staff member, Kristie Woodward. Kristie will be co-ordinating and delivering our Drama and Music program for 2016. Here is a short note from Kristie …

As a singer, actor, director and teacher, I am passionate about Performing Arts education. I taught classroom Drama and directed the school’s Musical Productions at Girton Grammar School for the past two years. I enjoy performing in community theatre companies and choirs; I recently performed in "Mary Poppins" with Bendigo Theatre Company and I am a chorister in the Gisborne Singers. I also teach private singing lessons. I am really excited about meeting all of the students, staff and families in the Eppalock Primary School community and sharing a wonderful year of Drama and Music experiences together.

Kristie will continue with the Australian Chamber Orchestra Music and Art Program for the Grade 4-6 students and co-ordinate our involvement in the Victorian State School Spectacular. She will also organise our end-of-year drama performance.

Hi, my name is Kristy Fitzpatrick and I am working with Mrs Lindhe in the Prep Grade 1 classroom. I am married with four children (12, 10, 8 and 5). I am a nurse but having a career change so working as a teacher’s assistant. I completed Certificate 111 Education Support last year. My hobbies include patch work, quilting and reading. My favourite food is chocolate chip cookies. Our family has one dog, one cat, five fish and one turtle. We have lived in Bendigo for nine years.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS ….**

- **PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**—**WEDNESDAY 2nd MARCH**—**5.30 pm**
- **COMMUNITY NIGHT**—**FRIDAY 4th MARCH**—**6.00 pm onwards**

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**—Richard Gibbs from The Loft Studio, Bendigo, will be here on Wednesday 9th March from 9.00 am to take our school photos. Envelopes detailing packages available are attached to this newsletter. Each child must have their own order. Completed order forms and money enclosed (cash or cheque **PAYABLE to THE LOFT STUDIO**) must be returned to school prior to Wednesday 9th March. Please do not make cheques payable to the school.
EPPALOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NIGHT
FRIDAY 4TH MARCH
6.00 PM ONWARDS
BYO PICNIC TEA
LOTS OF FUN AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
PLUS OUR FAMOUS CRAZY BINGO

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB—catalogues and order form attached. Orders and payment are due next Monday, 22nd February.

Attachments …
School Photo Envelopes
Inside the Brick—Construction Play & Lego Model Expo information
Catholic Care Sandhurst—Family Newsletter
Scholastic Book Club catalogue and order form

CENSUS DAY—The Department of Education has made Monday 29th February as Census Day. The number of students enrolled at Eppalock Primary School on this day establishes our school budget for 2016. We would ask that all absences, especially over the next few weeks are followed up with an Absence Note. If you are contemplating a longer absence in February, can you please indicate this in writing and leave at the school office.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS—CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND—
CSEF is again this year provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Please note the CSEF payments cannot be used towards voluntary school charges, nor towards books, stationery, school uniforms, before/after school care etc.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be: $125 for primary school students
Application forms were sent home to each family last week—if you are eligible and have not completed your form, please do so by the end of this week (if you need another form, please contact the office). IF YOU HAVE A HEALTH CARE CARD YOU CAN APPLY…. DON’T MISS OUT!

PLAYGROUP
Fridays 9.00 am—11.00 am in the old school building
Come along and join other families for a cuppa and chat whilst your pre-school children are enjoying lots of fun activities. Fresh fruit is provided.

SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM—as per note sent home yesterday, we are offering a four-week Sporting Schools CRICKET program commencing tomorrow, Thursday 18th from 3.30 pm until 4.30 pm here at school. There is no cost to families for this program which is aimed at primary aged children and based around the national MILO in2CRICKET program. The program will comprise of four (60 minute) prescribed lessons that encompass all the skills required to score runs and take wickets. Students will be given a snack before commencing the program. If you wish your child to participate and have not returned the form, please do so tomorrow. The program is limited to 30 participants.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING— WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH (a separate note will be sent home with details).

HAVE YOU RETURNED YOUR FORMS? Over the past two weeks several forms have been sent home, have you completed them and return them to school? Please check and if they are still lying around at home, fill them in and return to school tomorrow.
IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY

Thursday 18th
MARC LIBRARY
SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM—CRICKET 3.30 pm—4.30 pm
SCHOOL COUNCIL—FEBRUARY MEETING

Friday 19th
PE / HEALTH

Monday 22nd
CHINESE
SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDERS & PAYMENT DUE

Tuesday 23rd
LIVING GREEN
SWIMMING PROGRAM

Wednesday 24th
DRAMA
PREP STUDENTS—NO SCHOOL—PREP ASSESSMENTS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY MRS LINDHE

Thursday 25th
SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM—CRICKET 3.30 pm—4.30 pm

Monday 29th
CHINESE
PARENT CLUB MEETING—9.30 am

MARCH

Tuesday 1st
SWIMMING PROGRAM

Wednesday 2nd
SPECIAL LUNCH (Wraps & fruit salad) (details and order forms next week)
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - 5.30 pm

Thursday 3rd
SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM—CRICKET 3.30 pm—4.30 pm

Friday 4th
COMMUNITY NIGHT—6.00 pm onwards —BYO PICNIC TEA and lots of fun activities including CRAZY BINGO

Wednesday 9th
SCHOOL PHOTOS

Thursday 10th
BENDIGO HEALTH—ORAL HEALTH SCREENING
SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM—CRICKET 3.30 pm—4.30 pm

Monday 14th
PUBLIC HOLIDAY—LABOUR DAY

Thursday 24th
LAST DAY—TERM 1

APRIL

Monday 11th
FIRST DAY—TERM 2

PREP ASSESSMENTS TIMETABLE

Thursday 18th February
8.00 am Katie

Tuesday 23rd February
8.00 am Will

Wednesday 24th February
9.00 am Patrick
10.00 am Jessica
11.30 am Rowan
12.30 pm Chloe
Introducing FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

Benefiting the health and wellbeing of our Bendigo school children

Proudly funded and supported by:

EASTER BOOK SALE

TIMES:
> 9AM - 5PM   Easter Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday
> 9AM - 1PM   Easter Monday

ABSOLUTE BARGAIN PRICES
1000'S OF PRE-LOVED BOOKS, MAGAZINES, RECORDS, CD'S & DVD'S. TO SUIT ALL TASTES.

YMCA - TOM TWEED STADIUM, MUNDY STREET, BENDIGO