Dear Parents

End of Term
As another term draws to a close at Elwood PS, I would like to wish everybody an enjoyable break. All students and staff will be able to recharge for another great term at EPS. I would like to particularly acknowledge our teaching and support staff who work incredibly hard to make sure that both your child and you have a fantastic experience at our school.

Front of School Beautification Program
In line with our school master plan the renovation of the garden between the staffroom and the courtyard will commence in the June holidays. This project, at a cost of $19,600, will be funded through the Building Fund. It will compliment the work completed in the courtyard last year.

Whiteboard Project
Our whiteboard replacement program was also approved at our Finance Meeting at a cost of $39,000. This will mean the boards in Grade 3 and 4 will be replaced during the June holidays. The current boards are almost unusable due to their age. All teachers are looking forward to new effective boards. This project will be funded by the 2016 market profits.

Asia Week
We are having a fantastic week of learning more about our neighbours in Asia. Each grade level has focussed on a different country and all areas of the school have been a hive of activity.

A highlight of the week has been the many performances and incursions that have provided new experiences and lots of excitement. Our Asian lunches have provided a real taste of Asia once again. A huge thank you to Kirsteen Reid for the many hours of organisation and enthusiasm in bringing this week to us all.

Semester 1 Reports
Your child’s reports will be given out on the last day of term.

It would be very beneficial that when you read the report you then discuss it with your child. Your teachers have spent many hours assessing and then writing your child’s report. All reports are then read by Nicole Richards, Jay Tucker, Sara Walsh or myself.

The report uses graphs to give you a clear overview of what your child has achieved, as well as more detailed comments from your child’s teachers and, in many cases from your child too, on progress made and the next steps forward.

The A-E ratings and comments on your child’s report show you what your child has achieved against state-wide standards, not against the other students in your child’s class or year level.

To get a clear picture of your child’s progress against the state-wide standards use the box headed ‘Ratings’ on the report card, which tells you exactly what each of the A-E ratings means. This along with the detailed written comments form the basis of this report.

* A “C” rating means that a student is at the standard expected at the time of reporting and that their learning is on track. (“C” is for Coping well; in Command and Consolidating)
* A “B” rating means that a student is above the standard expected for their year level at this time of reporting
* An “A” rating means a student is well above the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting
* A “D” rating means a student is below the standard expected
* An “E” rating means well below the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting.

As students transition from one level to the next at school (P-1, 2-3, 4-5) there may appear to be a slowing of learning progress which can be attributed to the much larger amount of student outcomes to be covered. This can be a factor in the Semester 1 Reports as all learning outcomes will not have been covered at this time of the year.

A more detailed explanation of the report is contained in the report package you will receive on Friday.

**Staffing News**

From the start of next term Ariana Peters and Brooke Crawford will be returning to Elwood PS. Ariana will continue in a coaching role and focus on the Grade 3 - 6 teachers. Sara Walsh will continue to work with the teachers from Prep – 2. Brooke will be here for two days a week and provide support for our students in Grade 2 and 3. We welcome both of them back to the Elwood PS family.

Rob Csoti

**Election Day BBQ**

Hi everyone, Elwood Primary is holding an Election Day Sausage Sizzle! If you are available to help for an hour or so on Saturday 2 July, please put your name on the roster (www.elwoodmarket.com/volunteer/july). We will set up from 7.30am and finish by 2.00pm. We need about 5 people per 1.5hr shift. We are just doing sausages and onions in bread, and will have our barista making coffees. If anyone feels like baking, we’d love to sell some cupcakes etc. Any queries please contact Bec Long 0407 803 141. All proceeds to our school, and all help appreciated greatly! Thanks from …

The Election Day Sausage Sizzle Committee

**Parent Maths Information Night**

On Tuesday 31 May Jay Tucker, our Assistant Principal led an informative night on the way we teach Mathematics at Elwood Primary. With the support of Corey (teacher of Grade 2C), Rob and I over 50 parents were able to see firsthand warm-up games, our lesson structure and the detailed planning that our teachers do for all our students.

Feedback from parents was very positive. Christine, mum of Damon (Prep G) and Charlotte (4A) commented that ‘It was great to walk away with practical and simple ways to help my children with Maths.’

The home-school partnership is so important particularly in ensuring that our students see themselves as successful and capable Mathematicians. Thank you to all the parents that braved the cold to come along.

Sara Walsh … Teaching & Learning Coach

**Elwood Student Council**

How much fun was last Thursday with everyone dressed as zoo animals?? Thank you to everyone for your gold coin donation … we have raised over $1,100 for the Monash Children’s Hospital. Awesome effort!!

**Can you help?**

The Elwood Garden Art Project Team and The Reconciliation Team are looking for a sign writer to donate their time to the Elwood Garden Art Project. Contact me at hohneck.chloe.c@edumail.vic.gov.au if you are interested and can help.

Chloe Hohneck (Grade 3C Teacher)

**District Cross Country**

This year all students that qualified for District Cross Country performed extremely well with many students achieving top 5 spots. This meant that we had many students going through to Divisions (as seen in a previous news letter item).

The students who qualified for Divisions were Sam A, Jones G, Hugo R, Jack K, Angus E, Mikayli B, Myra H, Scout H, Cooper D, Kai V, Kristian F, Mason S, Alyssa V, Alice D, Finlay Jones, Maia S, Elizabeth S and Fiona D.

Congratulations to all that took part in Districts. As a school we came 1st in the competition which is our best ever performance at Cross Country.

The following students now progress onto Regionals by coming in the top 10 in their age group. This was a great achievement and we wish the best of luck in Regionals to: Cooper D, Kai V, Hugo R, Jones G and Sam A, Maia S, Tom H and Finlay J.

Thank you to Sara Walsh for looking after our Division team on the day.

Amy Parsons …

Sports Teacher
Junior School: Time for celebration and reflection

Mid-year is a great time to be able to boost the energy levels, reflect on the year so far and celebrate the learning journey of all our students. This is also a great time to set new goals for the terms to come.

For many of our Junior School students reports coming home can be an exciting and thrilling part of the end of term; a time to celebrate the learning with you, with family and friends and time to reflect on all the understandings, key concepts and learning that has taken place this semester. For some, reports coming home can also be an anxious time; students worry about how they performed, how their friends compare .... It is important to remember we are all on our own learning journey, everyone’s journey is different and we need to celebrate each and every step we take on that journey – whether it be little steps along the way or giant leaps.

Yes, we need to also focus on where learning needs to go next. What strategies and goals will be the focus to drive learning in Semester 2 and how we can improve in various areas. This can be done in a positive and encouraging way with discussion around goal setting, striving to do your best and remembering that school is just the right place for these things to be completed!

A reminder as to why we may be a little tired:
* Eco Centre visits and walks with guest speakers
* Parent Info Nights and Clinics
* ANZAC Day assemblies
* Prep Teddy Bear’s Picnic
* Mother’s Day stall and activities
* Markets
* Assemblies
* Prep Silly Science Incursion
* Fundraisers such as Touch of Pink Day and Dress for the Zoo Day
* Asia week performances and dress ups
* Grade 2s to Melbourne Museum
* Open Morning for Education Week
* Prep Nurse Program
* Prep 2017 Info Night
* Ready Set Go with over 100 kinder kids
* Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea
* Simultaneous Reading Time
* Fresh Fruit Friday
* Farewelling Leyna and Kristy from the Junior School
* Creative Music
* Literacy
* Numeracy
* Investigations
* Art
* Music
* PE
* Library and ICT ......... and that is just Term 2 and all I could remember!

So, with our colder weather, darker mornings and learning happening continuously, we are all a little tired and ready for some rest and relaxation. Please make sure you do spend some time relaxing – continuing the learning journey at home through some daily reading, playing some maths games and catching those teaching opportunities are certainly important. However relaxing, playing, being mindful and spending quality time as a family and with friends is just as important, if not more so at this time of the year. Take time to stop and be still, curl up on the couch, get out into what sunshine there might be and take it easy. See you in Term 3!

Nicole Richards … Assistant Principal

Our Global Calendar

Our Global Calendar is a way to celebrate significant cultural and environmental events and is a terrific springboard for conversations at home! What’s on in the coming weeks?

Month of July: JulEYE
Get your eyes tested this JulEYE. 75% of vision loss is preventable or treatable if detected early enough, yet every 65 minutes an Australian loses part or all of their vision.

4th-10th July: NAIDOC Week
NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society.

7th July: Eid al Fitr (Islam)
During the month of Ramadan Eid al-Fitr is a time of charitable giving, peace-making and spiritual renewal.

8th July: Tara Day (Buddhist)
The eighth of every month is Tara Day. Tara is a female Buddha, whose name means Rescuer; she is the embodiment of swift compassion. If we rely upon Tara sincerely and with strong faith, she will protect us from all obstacles and fulfill all our wishes.

10th-16th July: National Diabetes Week
Each year, Diabetes Australia celebrates National Diabetes Week to raise awareness about diabetes in Australia. The campaign aims to educate Australia of the risk factors for Type 2 diabetes and how Type 2 can be prevented.

11th July: World Population Day
World Population Day serves to both celebrate humanity itself, and to remind us that we need to look after each other and the planet we live on.

Enjoy your upcoming weeks, whatever it holds or whatever you are celebrating.

Nicole Richards … Assistant Principal

Attachments:
Running Club
Big Night Out Costumes
Our Bay Treasures & Truths
Camp Australia
Running Club -
Friday’s 8:15am 😊

All kids are welcome to join Amy F, Ryan M & Nick, come along and walk, jog or run as many laps as you can. You can go as fast as you like.

Use your personal running card to work out how far and where you have travelled to..... it’s lots of fun!! 😄

- Where? = on the mound next to the turf
- When? = every Friday at 8:15am-9:00am
- Who? = any one - Parents are welcome too!!!
- Why? = be healthy, improve your running and earn point for your house.

Each house has a card we will use the card below to work out points for each house. Points are also given for participation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10Km You Have Run To the MCG</th>
<th>15Km</th>
<th>20Km</th>
<th>25Km</th>
<th>30Km You Have Run To Melbourne Zoo and Back</th>
<th>35Km</th>
<th>40Km</th>
<th>45Km</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50Km You Have Run To Mornington</td>
<td>55Km</td>
<td>60Km</td>
<td>65Km You Ran To Frankston and Back</td>
<td>70Km</td>
<td>75Km</td>
<td>80Km You Have Run To Geelong</td>
<td>85Km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90Km You Have Run To Sorrento</td>
<td>100Km</td>
<td>110Km</td>
<td>120Km</td>
<td>130Km You Have Run To Lorne</td>
<td>140Km</td>
<td>150Km</td>
<td>160Km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>170Km</td>
<td>180Km</td>
<td>190Km You Have Run To Apollo Bay</td>
<td>200Km</td>
<td>220Km</td>
<td>240Km</td>
<td>260Km</td>
<td>280Km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300Km</td>
<td>325Km</td>
<td>350Km You Have Run Half way to Adelaide</td>
<td>375Km</td>
<td>400Km</td>
<td>450Km</td>
<td>500Km</td>
<td>550Km You Have Run To Canberra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rewards are given when student reach the grey shaded squares*
FILM NIGHT: ELWOOD

Our Bay: treasures and truths

Two short films about Port Phillip Bay's amazing marine life and threats from plastics in the marine environment - "Melbourne Down Under" and "Baykeepers". You will marvel at the sea life that's so close and ask yourself "How can I protect our nearest wild place?"

Tuesday 19 July 6.30 - 8.30 pm
Phoenix Theatre
Elwood College 101 Glenhuntly Rd Elwood
Tickets: $5.00
Bookings - contact Jill e: loveourstreet3184@gmail.com

Proceeds to Beach Patrol Australia
and Love Our Street 3184

We gratefully acknowledge the generous sponsorship of Elwood College and continuing support from St Columba's Primary School.
ELWOOD OSHC HIGHLIGHTS

Can you believe it is end of Term time again? Time sure flies when you are having fun!

Photo Wall
Our photo wall for our hall is finally underway. We have been collecting and are still collecting photos of children who attend our service. If you would like to be included in this initiative please continue to bring in recent or baby photo of your child/children ASAP, so that our wall can grow.

Buddy Leader Applications
Buddy Leader Applications are now open. If you like helping, sharing and are kind and responsible you may want to apply. Children of any age may apply for these positions and we will be accepting applications up until the end of the first week back in Term 3.

Medicare Number
If you have not provided us your Medicare number on your enrolment form, please bring in your card next time so we can write down the details. If you are unsure, please bring it in just in case so we can fill it out. This is a legal requirement for us and we must have it ASAP.

WINTER ACTIVITY DONATIONS
There are plenty of activities and resources we offer; however, the program is always looking to provide more games/activities. If any families have board games, foosball tables, mini pool tables or would like to donate any other indoor activities to OSHC we would very much appreciate it.

Please contact So on 0422 005 489 to make arrangements.

Please remember to cancel your child or notify us if your child is not attending aftercare on any given day. This will save us time in following up whether your child has been picked up or not and will allow us to run the service more smoothly. Furthermore, please ensure you book your children in as this alters how many staff members we need to have at the service. Please text us on 0422 005 489 if you have last minute cancelations or bookings. In addition, if you have any questions about the program, please feel free to drop by, meet the team and see what happens in our program first hand.

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campaustralia.com.au