Dear Parents

December Market
Our final market for the year is on this Saturday. The weather will be sunny and warm so we are hoping for a fantastic turnout. There will be Christmas trees, opportunities to purchase presents, great food and of course exceptional coffee.

It will be a great way to catch up with everyone before the end of the year. Our famous cake stall is an opportunity for everyone to contribute to the market from which the school makes 100% profit from; so everyone is invited to bake and deliver their tasty delights to the cake stall on Saturday morning. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

I would like take this opportunity to acknowledge one of schools biggest supporters of both the market and the Kitchen Garden program. Leon from The Leaf Store continues to be a very generous supporter of our school. Leon is always amazed by our community involvement and our wonderful Kitchen Garden Program. His support is greatly appreciated.

Staffing News
Two new staff were appointed to EPS recently: Sarah Price (currently teaching Grade 4L) and Olivia Waller currently teaching at Black Rock PS will be joining us as full time members of staff in 2017.

We will have minimal turnover of staff next year with a number of returning staff sharing grades:
• Sarah Galbraith & Tara Devers
• Brooke Crawford & Laura Collins
• Rebecca Hoban & Suzy Knorr

Amy Parsons will be leaving us after week 2 next year and I am pleased to announce that Sam Casey currently in Grade 4 will take over the PE. Sam has a PE background and is very much looking forward to being our new PE teacher in 2017.

Transition Day
Transition Day is next Tuesday with students finding out their teachers, classrooms and grades for next year. This will take place between recess and lunch. There are 136 new excited Preps joining us to start their journey at EPS. We are looking forward to making them welcome as well as supporting all students as they transition through the school.

Staff Opinion Survey
The last of our opinion surveys has arrived at school. The staff opinion survey completes the students and parent surveys which were completed earlier this year. The student and parent surveys were well above the state average and the staff survey continued this trend. All areas of the survey were extremely high further validating the magnificent school we have.

The staff were surveyed under the following headings:
• Collective Efficacy
• Collective Responsibility
• Academic emphasis
• Trust in students and parents
• Teacher collaboration
• Parent and community involvement
• Collective focus on students learning
• Guaranteed and viable curriculum
• Shielding and buffering

Nearly all areas received over 90% endorsement by staff with parent and community involvement receiving

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Community Market (bookings) : www.trybooking.com/36342

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Scott Street, Elwood Vic 3184
Phone : 9531 2762
Fax : 9531 5497

Website : www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au

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School Finish at 1.30pm
Tuesday 20 December
97%. Our staff are extremely happy at EPS and continually do their best to provide the very best education for your children.

House Swimming
The Grade 3 - 6 House Swimming Sports are this Friday. It will be a fantastic day with lots of fun, house colours and songs, swimming and the annual staff versus students and parents race a highlight. The winning House could go towards determine the overall House winner for 2016. Please ensure that your child has a hat, t-shirt and sunscreen at the event. We would love to see as many parents at the sports which are at Carnegie Swimming Centre, Moira Ave, Carnegie

Rob Csoti

School Council Report – November meeting
The November School Council meeting was held on Thursday 24 November. The various sub-committees presented their reports and all of these were passed. The Strategic Planning sub-committee has been working on updating/revising existing policies and the following polices were tabled and passed at the meeting:

- Mandatory Reporting
- Responding to Incidents
- Child Safety Code of Conduct

All of these policies will be uploaded to the EPS website.

The Environment / Grounds sub-committee have been looking to modify the entry area of the school to make it more usable and inviting. The school will also be receiving some new portable classrooms to accommodate the increase number of classes in 2017. The sub-committee has been charged with looking at the outside areas around the portables and how we can make these spaces engaging for our students.

Finally Rob presented the Staff Opinion Survey, this is an Education Department facilitated survey which compares our results to other primary schools in the state. It was great to see that our staff rate EPS very highly. We have also seen an increase in our results over the last three years. Surveys have now been received from students, parents and staff and EPS has performed extremely well in all of these. The staff of EPS should be very proud of these achievements as they positively reflect what our teachers are doing on a daily basis.

This was the last formal council meeting for 2016 and we will shortly be publishing dates for 2017 as well as calling for new committee members to fill vacancies.

Haydn Janney … School Councillor

Music News
Bay Street Festival – Grade 3/4 Choir Performing
Come one and all to the Bay Street Festival in Port Melbourne, 5.00pm - Friday 2nd December. Reminder to the students participating that you need to wear your uniform and preferably your black shoes. PLEASE NOTE we’ll meet in front of Coles on Bay Street. Look for either Kaz, Chloe or Ryan. Thanks to the parents who have offered to help on the night. We will be singing ‘You’re The Voice’ with the other schools and two performances on our own.

Orchestra
The EPS Orchestra will be rehearsing regularly second week back in 2017! I know it seems like a long way off but I would like to know who is interested in joining. Please express your interest by emailing me with what instrument you play. We are looking for at least two keyboard players and one guitar to double the wind and horn parts and play chords. Jesse our Violin teacher will be assisting the new violin players. Thanks and if you don’t have any experience still get in touch and we can organise parts that suit everybody. Regards

Kaz … sieger.kaz.k@dumail.vic.gov.au

End of Year in the Library
Thanks to all parents who have searched high and low for overdue library books, we have had over 400 returned!

With the end of the year approaching, we would like to let you know that all student library loans will need to be returned to the library by Friday 2 December. This will allow us to return them in time to give you an up-to-date list of outstanding books before the end of the year :)

We hope that you and your children have enjoyed a wide variety of books from the library this year, we have certainly enjoyed sharing their reading journey’s with them! Thanks.

Ange & Debbie

Victorian State Schools Spectacular
Earlier this year sixteen of our Grade 6 students participated in this amazing event. Don't miss the Channel Seven broadcast of this year's Victorian State Schools Spectacular highlights on Saturday 3 December from 7:00pm–9:00pm. The show will also be simulcast via livestreaming on the PLUS7 app and be available on the PLUS7 catch-up website for 30 days. Enjoy.

Paula Russell … Performing Arts Specialist
School Uniform
New uniform items are no longer available for sale here at school. EPS uniforms can be purchased from the PSW retail outlet at Unit 1, 596 North Road, Ormond. Parents will now be able to buy uniform six days a week. The other option is to order uniform online and have it delivered to the destination of your choice.

Hats are still available to purchase from the main school office - cash sales only.

2nd hand Uniforms
Parents will be able to purchase second hand uniform on Thursday mornings from 8.45am to 9.45am. The boxes will be behind the school office with all items $5.00. Cash sale only.

You Can Do It
Term 4: CONFIDENCE
Confidence means......feeling I can do it. Confidence also means not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new. Confidence also means standing up tall and speaking with a clear voice (not too loud, not too soft).

Work confidence means choosing to participate in new, difficult activities or classes, doing hard work without asking for help, offering to take responsibility and trying problems and answering questions when not too sure of the answer.

Social confidence means meeting someone new, sharing ideas with classmates, speaking in a clear voice so that you are heard and starting up conversations.

This fortnight, we focus on staying positive
Staying positive keeps you happy, provides the energy to overcome challenges and makes others around you feel positive too.

But if you’re like most of us, staying positive consistently is tough.

Here are 5 ways to stay positive:

1. One way of staying positive is to just take a little time each day and think about the things you’re grateful for. Start with the obvious and work from there. Be grateful for having food, water and a roof above your head to friends and family and adults that care. If you’re facing a challenge, be grateful for the opportunity to learn from it.

2. When you’re struggling or worried you can feel miserable and sad. Even in everyday life, the weight of a million little things can be heavy. But always remember the saying; “This too shall pass.” Your negative feelings won’t last forever; there’s a light at the end of every tunnel. It might not happen today or tomorrow, but you’ll feel better eventually.

3. Having high self-esteem keeps you positive, improves personal relationships and encourages happiness. If you don’t appreciate yourself enough – or are feeling down – try making a mental list of awesome stuff you’ve done recently. You’ll find that, as you go over your awesome actions and choices, you start to feel great about yourself. It’s hard not to when you remind yourself how amazing you are!

4. It’s easy to become worried over the little things: the human mind can blow things way, way out of proportion. To stop that from happening, always ask yourself: what’s the worst that could happen? Chances are, “the worst” isn’t that bad. Sure, it would be better if things went according to plan, but sometimes they don’t. When you’re no longer afraid of any outcome, you can focus on having fun and getting things done. Don’t wind yourself up for no reason!

5. If you want to feel great about yourself, try giving to someone else. It takes very little to help someone out. When you make a big difference with just a few minutes you’ll always remember how important and amazing you are. And with an attitude like that, it’s hard not to be anything but positive.

You Can Do It!
Nicole Richards

Manners Matters
SMILE!
With only a few weeks left of school, we can all feel busy and a little stressed. Smiling is such a wonderful friendly thing to do. It’s fun and contagious and you can’t say that about too many things! And did you know, according to research, smiling takes less muscles than to frown. So, plenty of smiles for the last few weeks together!

Manners Matter at Elwood Primary School!

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?

3rd December: International Day of Persons with Disabilities
Australia celebrates the International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD) every year on 3rd December to acknowledge the valuable contribution people of all abilities make to our community.

8th December: 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 December: **Human Rights Day**
A day to celebrate the basic rights of all humans and to remember that many people still have to fight for their human rights.

10th - 23rd December: **UnitingCare Christmas Appeal**
The Target and UnitingCare Christmas Appeal (previously Giving Box) has been an exclusive gift giving campaign to Target, offering support to disadvantaged people of all ages for over 20 years. For more information or to donate, visit: www.unitingcarechristmasappeal.com.au/about/christmas-appeal/

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

**Nicole Richards** … Assistant Principal

**School Holiday Activities**
If you are looking for activities to keep the family busy during the upcoming school holidays... there are a number of brochures at the main school office with information regarding different activities and camps.

**Attachments:**
What’s Happening during weeks 9 & 10 at EPS?
Extra-curricular Activities 2017
Camp Australia
Noah Code
Code Camp

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**5-12 YRS**
**Team Holiday**
**Holiday Program**

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS!**
**12th DEC - 27th JAN 2017**

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DATES AND ACTIVITIES AT YOUR PREFERRED VENUE**

- **Hip Hop**
- **Laser Tag**
- **Sand Sculpting**
- **School of Rock**
- **Adventure Parks**

...AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

8am-6pm daily • Fully approved holiday care - www.teamholiday.com.au • ph: 03 9532 0366
What’s happening during Weeks 9 & 10 at Elwood Primary School?

Level 1 (Prep)

**Literacy:** In Literacy this fortnight, we will be looking at the blends ‘st’ and ‘pr’ and how we use them to spell words. When reading, we will be continuing with comparing books to film by reading books such as ‘The Lorax’ and ‘Charlotte’s Web’ and watching a film. For our Big Talk and Big Write session in week 10 we will be writing a letter to someone special and using the seed ‘My year in Prep’. When writing, we will be focusing on how we can use ‘Wow’ words to engage the reader and ‘Connectives’ such as ‘and’ to connect two sentences.

**Maths:** During maths this fortnight we will be Learning about capacity. The Preps will identify measurement attributes of capacity in practical situations and compare capacity of familiar objects. We will be using the sandpit, water buckets and various containers to make estimations and measure how much they hold. We will be finishing the year with lots of revision about the many mathematical concepts we have learnt throughout the year.

**Investigations:** During investigations we will continue to learn about gardens and what can be found in them. This fortnight we will be posing questions such as: What is flora and fauna? What are our local indigenous plants? Can living things be plants and animals? We will also be practicing our Manners Matter/YCDI foci which are ‘Smile’ and ‘Being positive’.

**Other:** Some of the Prep classes will continue their garden walks. Thank you to the parents who have offered to host these and share their home with us. It is a wonderful learning opportunity for the children and a beautiful time of year to be doing it (Well the gardens...not so much the weather!).

Level 2 (Grade 1 & 2)

**Reading:** This fortnight we are revising what it means to be a clear and confident independent reader. This means that’s students are identifying and practising strategies that help them to read such as: choosing a just right book, sounding out tricky words, using the pictures to help further understand a text, make connections with the characters to infer their motives and take notes of key information from non-fiction texts. During Guided Reading we are exploring new books on Reading Eggspress, practising our fluency and expression during reader’s theatre and also enjoying finding a calm and comfy spot to get lost in our favourite books.

**Writing:** This fortnight is a Writer’s Workshop cycle which means that students are choosing pieces to write based on their interests and passions. The VCOP focus this fortnight is openers so students will be analysing their writing to try and up level their sentence openers such as after, next, all of a sudden, also and meanwhile. Our Big Write this fortnight will be a letter written to our teacher for 2017. We are so excited to meet them so what better way to find out a bit more about them and share a little more about ourselves. Our handwriting focus this fortnight is making sure that our tall sticks i, f, b, h, k are reaching up to the head line on the dotted thirds.

**Maths:** In weeks 9 and 10 we will be revisiting the concept of place value. This unit requires students to name digits within numbers and what their value is. For example, in the number 24 the digit 2 is in the tens column so it represents 2 groups of 10 which is 20. The students love playing lots of hands on games that involving bundling, number expanders and renaming. The students are encouraged to think a lot about the digits in our number system and explore the importance of 0 as a place holder within a number. Having a sound knowledge of our number system and place value helps students when solving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems.

**Investigations:** During this fortnight our Gr 1&2 students are spending a lot of time connecting with our You Can Do It focus which is ‘being positive’. The students are reflecting on their year and highlighting events, people and places that they have made them feel happy, proud and confident. Our Manners Matter focus is to smile, which the Gr 1 &2 students have no trouble with! 😊😊😊
Level 3 (Grade 3 & 4)

Literacy: In Reading, our Year 3’s are investigating the structure and features of a scientific report in readiness for their ERP’s, with a focus on the technical language that is used throughout. For this fortnight’s Big Write, grade 3 students will be celebrating their achievements this year by upleveling a draft from their folio for their Writer’s Gift demonstrating all they have learnt in writing. Our Year 4 students are continuing to question in reading, exploring how questions change as they uncover new information in a text. In Writing, grade 4’s are researching and planning in preparation for their Big Write which will draft the literacy component of their ERP as either an Information Report or a Persuasive text.

Maths: Year 3’s will continue to focus on the four operations (addition, subtract, multiplication and division), place value and problem solving, consolidating these understanding in preparation for year 4. Year 4 will also continue to revise the four operations with more of a focus on structuring each algorithm correctly to minimise the chance of errors.

Inquiry: Year 3 are conducting scientific experiments following the scientific method, whilst Year 4’s are researching for the ERP literacy component with a focus on persuading the intended audience to take action and care for wildlife.

Level 4 (Grade 5 & 6)

Literacy: In Writing, the grade 5 classes are busy publishing and sharing a variety of forms of poetry. We are celebrating and showcasing our grade 5 poets by sharing our writing during class ‘poetry slams’ or by creating class poetry books. Grade 6 classes are exploring explanation texts. We are immersing ourselves in the structure and language features and looking at the ways we can explain things in an engaging way.

In Reading Grade 5 students are finishing up our Book Club books and are planning creative ways to celebrate and share their experience with classmates. Grade 6 classes are becoming very skilled at analysing the many elements that filmmakers use to create their films and will continuing doing so while we finish watching and analysing our movie club movies.

Maths: Both grade 5 and 6 students are finishing our geometry unit and then we will be reviewing and practicing our strategies for using the four operations. We will be revising how to use many strategies such as split, compensation, jump and the traditional algorithm to solve equations. We will also use estimation and rounding or multiple strategies to check the accuracy of our work.

Inquiry: Grade 5 and 6 students are working hard to transform their research and experiments into artifacts for their ERP’s. We are busy planning, making, building, creating and even painting.
# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (optional/user pays)
by outside providers here at Elwood Primary School

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<th>Activity Name</th>
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| Kids Unlimited | **Chess**
Chess makes kids smarter – learning while playing! Building Mental Muscles – problem solving, tactical & strategic planning, lateral & logical thinking, memory, visualisation and decision making. Children learn a new strategy, idea or skill at the start of each session. Chess Club meet Thursday lunchtime. Students must be enrolled prior to attending.  

**Electronics**
Do you ever wonder how stuff works? This program takes a hands-on approach at building electronic circuits that perform specific functions that are relevant to the real world. Each week students will build a working project. Enrol for either courses online at www.kidsunlimited.com.au or phone 1300 424 377 or pick up a form from the school office.  

**Drama Time**
DRAMA TIME is an exciting and rewarding drama program. Our goal is to help children develop creatively, explore their imagination, build self-confidence and improve communication skills while having great fun! Classes run from 1.45-2.30pm on Monday (Grade 3 - 6) and Wednesday (Grade 2). To enrol contact Kelly at contact@drimatime.com.au or call 9525 9977. For more information visit www.dramatime.com.au.  

**Mini Picasso’s/Artea**
This class introduces a variety of drawing and painting processes and exposes participants to a range of fun yet educational exercises. Drawing, painting, sculpture, wood, paper mache, murals, public art, tiny canvas - large canvas, resin, glass, fashion design, mosaic’s, guest artists!! Just to name a few of the amazing fun activities for kids to learn and explore. For more information email mini.picassos.artprogram@gmail.com, 0415 039 791 or visit www.artea.com.au.  

**Brass & Woodwind Music Program**
Tuition is available in SAXOPHONE, CLARINET, FLUTE and TRUMPET taught by professional musician and educator, Dean Hilson. Classes are Wednesday during school term. Private or small group lessons are available. A FREE TRY-OUT session can be arranged where they play on all of the instruments and are assessed as to which may suit them best. For further information or to enrol your child, please contact Dean Hilson deanhilson@optusnet.com.au or 0433 456 455.  

**Kelly Sports**
Program for Prep to Grade 6 Students
Super Soccer: Tuesdays 3.30 – 5.00pm. Play Soccer with your friends ... now with 3 levels of coaching. Beginners (Prep), Intermediate (1s) and Soccer Squad (2+). We recommend that children bring a snack for after school. To enrol email pierre@kellysports.com.au or call 0432 832 466.  

**Creative Music Program**
Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, guitar. Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week. Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument. Tuition costs from $19.90 per lesson (payable per term). Enrolments are now being accepted for Term 4 2016. Interested parents should call Swee during office hours on 9818 2333 for more information or visit our web page at www.creativemusic.com.au.  

**Violin Lessons**
Professional violinist Jessie Regan, Alumnus of the Australian National Academy of Music, is offering violin lessons on Wednesdays* and Thursdays during school hours. Suitable for all ages. A fun and supportive lesson environment! $32 per half hour lesson, 8 lessons per term unless starting mid-term. Enrolment forms are available from the office. For further enquiries please email jdst93@email.com.
*Wednesday lessons commencing in 2017! ENROLMENTS for 2017 now being accepted - limited spots available!  

**New ** Football Star Academy**
Australia’s leading football (soccer) coaching academy is currently running weekly coaching clinics at EPS on Sunday mornings. Students at EPS are being offered a free coaching trial – they can see how much they like it first. The following age groups and session times are available: 5-7 year olds at 9.00-10.00 am and 8-12 year olds at 10.00-11.00 am. To claim your free trial please contact Patrick Scully at vic19.football@sportsstaracademy.com.au or call 0405 443 700. For more information visit www.sportsstaracademy.com.au.  

**New ** Girls in Sport**
girlsmakeyourmove Inspiring, energising and empowering young girls to be more active  

We love inspiring healthy & energetic EPS students and the opportunity to enhance sport skills, fitness, coordination and teamwork. Join Carolyn and Elwood College student coaches for a variety of fun and active team sports and activities. Sessions on Wednesday after school. Cost $180 for 10 week term program. Contact Carolyn Milles 0410 495 998 or carolynmilles@gmail.com.  

**Ukulele Classes**
The ukulele is now the preferred introductory instrument in Primary Schools in Australia. Our program makes learning even better. Lots of discounts available for our in school group classes. Enrolments from grades 1-6 are being taken for 2017. Enquire now for fee information, or to enrol your child contact 0418 356 574, info@uke4kids.com or www.uke4kids.com.  

**NoahCode**
Learn to Computer Code - "1 build, 2 style, 3 program... Tuesday after school 3.45-5.15pm. If have a question or would like to register email admin@noahcode.com.au or pick up a registration form from the school office.  

Please Note: At the bottom of the Elwood Primary School website home page, there are icons for most of these activities which will link directly to their websites for registration and more information.
Hi parents and children!

My name is Kelly and I am the new coordinator at Elwood primary. I’ve been working at Brighton Primary Camp Australia for nearly four years now and in the childcare industry for 6 years! So far I have met quite a few parents and children and am very excited to be here with all the regular staff such as Angie, Divya, Giselle, Samira, Christina and Shila. We have a new addition to our team Katrina as well who is going to be here every day.

If you have any issues or anything to be addressed drop in as I’m happy to meet you all. Other than that I hope you all have a wonderful week!

Remind to all parents:

Please ensure you are cancelling your child if they are booked into after school care and not attending. If they don’t show up to after school care we will have to contact parents to confirm where they are.

Thanks,

Kelly and the Camp Australia Elwood Team
New at Elwood PS ...

**NoahCode**

*Learn to Code!*

**Tuesdays after school**
@ **3:45-5:15pm**

*Only $22 per 90 minute class!*

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**Costs & Payment Details**

- $22 per weekly lesson (1.5hr)
- $176 per term (8 classes)

**BSB** 063 571

**Account Number** 103 762 11

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*Register for our after school computer coding class at*


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"Coding is fun" - Bruce

**NoahCode Student @ Wesley College**

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Please send any questions that you may have to thomas@noahcode.com.au.
LEARN TO CODE
Build your own iPhone app at Code Camp!

Jan 16-18
8:30am - 4pm
$350 for 3-days
Elwood Primary School
Computers Provided!

Learn to code, have fun, be creative, and enjoy using logic and problem solving to build your very own app in the Summer holidays!

www.codecamp.com.au/elwood