Dear Parents

Elwood PS
I would like to thank all of the EPS staff for working extremely hard in 2016 to do the best for your children. Our teachers are committed, passionate and enthusiastic about providing the best curriculum and engaging their students.

I would to thank both Nicole Richards and Jay Tucker who have done a wonderful job as Assistants Principals. They have been a great support to me, are highly skilled and want each child and teacher in the school to thrive.

Our school leadership team of Nicole, Jay, Amy Wilson, Lauren Thomas, Louisa Dretzke, Sara Walsh, Ariana Peters and Amy Parsons have all done a fantastic job with their teams making sure that every grade level in the school is strong and high functioning.

Our fabulous office staff have been extremely committed to making sure the school runs smoothly and that every interaction with staff, parents and students is positive and fun. All of our support staff do their jobs to the highest level.

To all of our parents I thank you for your support and passion for our school. Your willingness to be involved in all aspects of the school is truly amazing.

Lastly I would like to thank every student in our school who make coming to work every day so enjoyable; they are a credit to you all.

Our results this year have been outstanding;

NAPLAN
Our results this year were very high and on the whole well above state benchmarks. High relative growth from Grade 3 – Grade 5 is around 40%; which is exceptional.

Survey Results
All three survey results in 2016 were at their highest levels. Our student, parent and staff surveys were exceptionally positive reinforcing the alignment between parents, staff and students.

There have been many highlights in 2016 and we all look forward to our 100 year celebrations next year which is shaping up as another year to remember at EPS.

Staffing 2016
Our final staffing set up for 2017 will be as follows:

Assistant Principals :
Nicole Richards & Jay Tucker

Prep: Amy Wilson PA, Sam Brumpton PB, Christine Lomp PC, Ashleigh Jordon PJ, Millie Henderson PM & Sarah Galbraith/Suzie Knorr PS

Grade 1: Charlie Cooper 1C, Diana Du 1D, Jacq Vawdrey 1J, Kate Helms 1K, Rebecca Hoban/ Tara Devers 1RT & Steph Yarwood 1S

Grade 2: Adele Meren 2A, Corey Hall 2C, Jess Smith 2J, Lauren Thomas 2L, Olivia Waller 2O & Rick McConchie 2R

Grade 3: Chloe Hohneck 3C, Kathryn Millett 3K, Nat Payne 3N & Valerie Zedda 3V

Grade 4: Caroline Heath 4C, Ryan Bouy 4R, Sarah Price 4S & Thess Lohman 4T

Grade 5: Brooke Crawford/Laura Collins 5C, Gretl Tan 5G, Julie Allen 5J, Nick D’Amelio 5N, & Sarah Clair 5S

Website : www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au

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

14 December 2016
No. 21

100 YEARS
ELWOOD PS

CALENDAR

Thursday 15 December
3-3.30pm Grade 4 ERP Expo
5.30pm Grade 6 Dinner in hall &
7.00pm Graduation at St Kilda Town Hall

Friday 16 December
9-9.30am Grade 4 ERP Expo
Pg & PC Garden/Home Visit
Reports sent home

Monday 19 December
BIG Day Out - Grade 6

Tuesday 20 December
NO Lunch orders
Final school day for 2016
1.00pm Whole School Assembly
1.30pm Dismissal

2016 End Term 4
Tuesday 20 December
1.00 Assembly
1.30pm Dismissal

2017 Return Dates
Wednesday 1 February
Grades 1 - 6
Thursday 2 February
Prep

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Happy Holidays

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Happy Holidays
Grade 6: Jad Ryan & Jenny Zimbachs 6J, Louise Dretzke 6L, Ryan Murphy 6R & Tim Ghys 6T.

L/T Coach : Sara Walsh & Ariana Peters

Specialists: Sam Casey, Jo Nathan & Jay Tucker PE, Ange Dawson & Debbie Packham (ICT/Library), Kaz Sieger (Music), Kirsteen Reid & Made (LOTE), Leanne Murray, Andrea Robinson & Jo Nathan (Visual Arts)

Reading Recovery : Marianne Garby
Student Support : Kazz Stafford, Natanya Fisher & Sarah Godlee
Kitchen Garden Program : Kitchen: Janet Cameron and Sam Somerville, Garden: Kate Bulling
Office: Chris Delaney (Business Manager), Deb Nelson, Debbie Packham, Kez Stubbs & Sharron Hoggett
Sick Bay : Katie Murray & Sue Leening
Groundsman : David Guadagno

Grade 6
Congratulations to our Grade 6 students who will shortly finish their primary school education. This particular group is also the first group I have seen through from Prep to Grade 6. Over their seven years at EPS they have grown in every way. They have become confident young people who know their talents and are well prepared for their secondary school journey both academically and socially.

I would like to acknowledge their wonderful grade 6 teachers from this year; Louisa, Tim, Ryan, Jad & Jenny. To all the other teachers they have had along the way that have helped piece their learning journey with us together I thank you on behalf of our community.

Please join us at the last assembly next Tuesday at 1:00pm to say good bye and good luck.

Families leaving Elwood PS :
Good bye and good luck to the following families who are leaving Elwood PS.


I wish everybody a safe and happy holiday break.

Rob Csoti ... Principal

Well, that was 2016!
Where did 2016 go? Thinking back to the start of the year in the Junior School; all the learning experiences, friendships formed, the way your children have developed and changed, it may not seem that long ago!

At this time of the year, I tend to reflect on all of the events, learning opportunities and experiences and the people and friends in our community that helps makes our school such a vibrant, happy and positive place to be. We often get stuck in the everyday goings on and thinking “that’s just what we do”, often not reflecting on what truly makes us a great school.

When I look back on the year in the Junior School, yes it is all of the learning opportunities in the classroom with our amazingly dedicated, hard-working and talented staff but it much more too.

The special events such as 100 days of Prep, the excursions and incursions, Grade 1 dinner, Grade 2 sleepover, Investigations with parents running amazing clinics, blowing out candles for our Big Write wishes, Book Week dress ups, Picnics with Choirs and Orchestras and bands, our creative art on display at the Art Show, play times in the shade of the trees, rolling in barrels from the POD and all manner of things particular to Elwood!

Most importantly, it is also the partnership with you, our families and students – learning together, sharing the learning journey and celebrating together that makes for a wonderful school.

We look forward to all of the opportunities for you to continue to take an active part in your child’s learning with us next year.

We hope that everyone gets to spend time with friends and family without having to rush around - slow down, reflect and enjoy the year that was – ready for the new year to come!

Have a safe break … see you back in 2017.

Nicole Richards ... Assistant Principal

Health Alert - Whooping Cough (Pertussis)
There has been a confirmed case of Pertussis or Whooping Cough in your child’s Year level. This is a highly contagious respiratory infection. The disease begins like a cold and then the characteristic cough develops and may last for an extended period. The whoop is not always obvious and vomiting after coughing is common. Babies under 12 months of age are particularly at risk. Medical diagnosis and treatment is required. If you have any concerns contact your local doctor or call the Department of Human Services on 1300 651 160 or visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/whooping-cough.
2017 February Market
Thank you for your contribution to the Elwood Primary School Community Market in 2016. Your efforts over recent years have helped to provide interactive whiteboards in classrooms and the beautified central space and stage area.

The next school market is on Saturday 4 February, 2017, which is just after school starts. The Market Committee would like to fill the February volunteer roster now, before the commencement of the Christmas school holidays.

Can you help for a couple of hours on Saturday 4 February? If you can, please select a volunteer activity for the February market at: www.elwoodmarket.com/volunteer/february

Volunteer Opportunities for Elwood Primary School Class Rep 2017 are now OPEN
An Elwood Primary School Class Representative is one of the points of contact for and distributor of, school correspondence within your class, as well as a connection between the class teacher and parents of the grade. As a Class Rep, you will be required to attend four Parents & Friends meetings per year (one each term), which are brief, informative and fun. Finally, as a Class Rep, you’ll enjoy getting to know lots of other parents across the school community.

We still need people for the following grades:
- Prep S
- 1D, 1J & 1R
- 2C, 2J, 2L, 2O & 2R
- 3N
- 4C, 4R & 4T
- 5C, 5G, 5N & 5S
- 6R

Please copy the address below into your web browser and go to the sign up sheet: www.volunteersignup.org/PTTKD
Then just follow the instructions on the page. It only takes a few seconds to do. Thanks for volunteering! If you have any questions, please email me at saralevene@hotmail.com and I will get back to you ASAP.

Sara Levene

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.