



# Newsletter



**Website :** [www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au](http://www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au)

Scott Street, Elwood Vic 3184

Phone : 9531 2762

Fax : 9531 5497

**Community Market (bookings) :** [www.trybooking.com/236549](http://www.trybooking.com/236549)

Dear Parents

## School Council 2017

Our School Council comprises of parents, DET employees and community members who meet monthly to partner together to ensure our school provides a quality education for all students. Parents on School Council do not need to have special skills, just a commitment to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

As a parent you can nominate or second a nomination for other parents to be on School Council for the next two years. It is a fantastic way to be deeply involved in the school.

**If you would like to stand for School Council or nominate a parent to stand please collect a nomination form and return it to the office before 4.00pm Wednesday 1 March**

The following School Council members have completed their two year term or are retiring/retired: Ralf Huempel, Michael Newton & Glen McCann. They can choose to renominate if they choose.

If there are more than three nominations an election will need to be held. The following teachers have completed their School Council terms: Jay Tucker, Nicole Richards and Poeta Hope who resigned in 2016. If there are more than two teacher nominations an election will also need to be held in this category.

## Timeline for School Council Elections:

Wednesday 15 February : Nominations called for School Council

Wednesday 1 March : Nominations closed.

*Note : A list of candidates, nominator and seconder will be displayed (if there are more nominations than vacancies)*

Monday 6 March : Distribute ballot papers if required

Monday 13 March : Close of ballot. (4:00pm)

Monday 13 March : Count votes and declare the poll

Thursday 16 March : New council is able to meet

**15 February 2017  
No. 2**

## CALENDAR

### Thursday 16 February

Gr 6/Prep Buddy Picnic  
7.00pm School Council

### Friday 17 February

Prep Parent Morning Tea  
& Welcome - JLC

### Monday 20 February

Learning by Doing - Grade 1  
3.00pm Assembly  
7.00pm Prep (Level 1) Information  
Night followed by classroom visit

### Tuesday 21 February

Learning by Doing - Grade 1  
Scholastic Book Club Orders due  
7.00pm Grade 1 & 2 (Level 2)  
Information Night followed  
by classroom visit

### Wednesday 22 February

Prep Gap  
7.00pm Grade 3 & 4 (Level 3)  
Information Night followed  
by classroom visit

### Thursday 23 February

School Photos : Prep to Grade 2  
7.00pm Grade 5 & 6 (Level 4)  
Information Night followed  
by classroom visit

### Friday 24 February

Curriculum Day

### Tuesday 28 February

Fancy Feathers Incursion - Grade 2  
Sub committee meetings

### Thursday 2 March

District Swimming Carnival for  
qualifying students

**Friday 24 February  
Curriculum Day  
Student Free Day**

## Elwood Primary School turns 100

Elwood Primary is on the lookout for school memorabilia, such as photos, uniforms, reports and anecdotes to display as part of their 28 October celebration. Bring in your memorabilia and tell us your stories. Items can be delivered to the office during school times.



Logo designed by  
Grade 3 student Zali.



## Centenary updates

[www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au](http://www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au)

[facebook.com/elwoodprimary](https://facebook.com/elwoodprimary)

### Information Nights – Next Week

Information Nights are being held for all grade levels at 7.00pm.

Prep : Monday 20 February  
Grade 1 & 2 : Tuesday 21 February  
Grade 3 & 4 : Wednesday 22 February  
Grade 5 & 6 : Thursday 23 February

All families will receive an information booklet which will be emailed the day after your information night to ensure all families receive it. For more information see the attached flyer.

### Student Welfare at Elwood PS

Students, teachers and parents work together to make Elwood Primary School a lovely place to be. We want students to be the best they can and be 'Organised, Persistent, Confident' and able to 'Get Along' with others. To do this, we must respect each other's differences, treat each other kindly and listen to each other.

We all need to remember that we have rights and responsibilities to make Elwood Primary work well, and must follow some simple safety rules.

These ideas and rules help with the safe running of the school and make sure students can enjoy their time here and develop as co-operative individuals.

Each class teacher and specialist teacher develops a set of Rules, Consequences and Rewards which the class work by and are on display in the classroom. A short description of what may occur in each classroom follows:

#### Rules

Each classroom develops a set of rules/expectations/values that the class work to. These will generally be set up to cover respect for others, safety, social expectations, responsibilities and desired behaviours.

### Rewards

Our school believes that children respond to positive reinforcement. Notes of praise are sent to parents. Children's efforts are recognised by verbal praise and awards in class and whole school assembly.

Good behaviour by individuals and the whole class may accrue points towards a reward. This reward is negotiated between the children and the teacher. It does not devalue any area of the curriculum and should not incur any cost for the parent.

A typical reward may be a class party or extra time provided for a favourite activity. Accrued points are not taken away for misbehaviour.

### Consequences

For those children who choose not to comply with our school rules and behavioural expectations there is a sequence of consequences.

Just as points accruing towards a reward for good behaviour cannot be deducted, so consequences for misbehaviour are always carried out.

**All teachers will email home a copy of their grades classroom procedures this week for you to read and discuss with your child.**

*Rob Csoti*

### Wednesday Lunch Order Reminders

Lunch orders are supplied on this day by two different suppliers. If your child is ordering sushi **and** something from the bakery then you need to provide separate bags and payment. There are also separate boxes at the office to place your lunch orders into please ensure the orders go in the right box. Thanks.

### Reporting Absences

If you are reporting your child's absence on our school website, please include their actual grade, not only their year level. This will help us to forward their absence onto their home teacher.

### Music Lessons

Sign up for music lessons and borrow an instrument from the school for FREE! We have instruments that students may hire at no cost for an agreed length of time. This is all possible thanks to the wonderful donations to the music program. We hope this provides everybody with the opportunity to experience learning an instrument. We have Flutes, a Clarinet, Alto Saxophones, a Trumpet, Violins and Guitars – even amps!

Please consider booking a trial lesson with one of our

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

### Thursday 23 February

(Prep, Grades 1 & 2)

**School uniform must be**

**worn both days**

**Family and extra Student Envelopes are available from the school office.**

**Note : Family photos are taken on both days**



wonderful teachers: Dean – Brass and Woodwind or Jesse - Strings and perhaps discover the lifelong enjoyment of playing an instrument!

For more information please collect a flyer regarding lessons at the office and send instrument requests to [sieger.kaz.k@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:sieger.kaz.k@edumail.vic.gov.au).

*Kaz Sieger*

## Interschool Chess

EPS has a chess team which competes against other primary schools in a few competitions each year. Our first 2017 competition is on Wednesday 8 March. EPS will also be hosting an interschool competition on Monday 8 May.

*If your child knows how to play chess and is interested in representing EPS, they are welcome to join our chess team!*

Note: Each competition entry costs \$22.00 per child, and our team's participation relies on parents sharing transport and supervision at competitions.

Please contact me for further information at [pip.and.michael@bigpond.com](mailto:pip.and.michael@bigpond.com) or 0407 099 194.

*Pip Felferkranz*

## State Schools Victoria (SSV) State Team Trials

These trials are strictly for **Grade 6** students currently competing at an **ELITE LEVEL** in their chosen sport. These **highly skilled** students may be suggested for the nomination process (by parents) for selection in the following sports:

GIRLS	BOYS
Basketball	Basketball
Netball	Football (AFL)
Soccer	Soccer

If they are successful in the nomination, students who are selected must be available to participate in a series of SSV trials at each level as outlined below -

Beachside Division trials > Southern Metropolitan trials > SSV trials/camp

**ALL costs are covered by the parents for successful participants and may include interstate travel and accommodation costs.**

**To nominate your child:**

**Parents (not students) must first;**

- seek approval from your PE teacher and school principal
- complete an online nomination form, with evidence of eligibility (refer to SSV website for appropriate evidence)
- This is then signed if approved by the PE teacher and Principal
- Submit \$25 non refundable payment

**Please note: This is for Grade 6 students who are already performing at an elite level in their sport.** Permission will only be given if the correct and substantial evidence of elite level experience has been provided. Teachers/Principals are not eligible to sign these applications if insufficient evidence is provided.

**Online nominations are now open and close Friday 10 March. Late entries will not be accepted.**

All SSV team pathways, processes, selection criteria & nomination forms are available via the SSV website - [www.ssv.vic.edu.au](http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au)

**Attachment :**

Grade 6 Leadership  
Herald Sun : Meeting in the Middle  
Specialist Overview  
Level Information Nights  
CSEF Flyer

**Elwood Community Market - 2017.**



**Elwood Primary School**  
cnr Mitford and Scott st

[www.facebook.com/elwoodcommunitymarket](http://www.facebook.com/elwoodcommunitymarket)

**Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/236549](http://www.trybooking.com/236549)**

<b>4 Feb</b>	<b>5 August</b>
<b>4 March</b>	<b>2 Sept</b>
<b>6 May</b>	<b>28 Oct</b>
<b>3 June</b>	<b>2 Dec</b>

[stalls@elwoodmarket.com](mailto:stalls@elwoodmarket.com)  
**0422 976 276**  
[www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au](http://www.elwoodprimary.vic.edu.au)



# TERM ONE SPECIALIST OVERVIEW

## Music Program - Kaz Sieger

**Prep :** Students come to Music once a week to sing and play! We'll begin to explore and understand musical concepts through singing, games, dancing and playing instruments. Students are encouraged to perform confidently in front of each other and have fun!

**Grade 1 & 2 :** Students in Grade 1 and 2 learn to perform and create music through singing, games and playing instruments. We learn to read and write rhythm and pitch, explore new musical concepts and enjoy making music together! Students perform in the Grade 1 or Grade 2 Choir at assembly throughout the year.

**Grade 3 & 4 :** Students in Grade 3 learn how to play the recorder! Students work on reading and playing fluently, individually and with others. Each individual Grade 4 student will begin to concentrate on a modern instrument. They learn more challenging notation and develop greater aural skills. All students are welcome to join the 3/4 Choir and Orchestra.

**Grade 5 & 6 :** Students in Grade 5 and 6 will amp it up a notch and make a band! Bands are made up of class members who write and rehearse together. Students plan and discuss what they practice and decide the arrangement of the songs. Students can join the Senior Choir and the school Music Leaders have the opportunity to run the School Talent Show during Wednesday lunchtimes.

## Performing Arts - Paula Russell

**Prep :** As part of our Performing Arts program students in Prep will develop dance and drama skills through a variety of activities and games. In Dance, students will explore movement, improvising ideas in response to a range of music and imagery stimuli. Our focus will be on shapes and levels. In Drama, students will use dramatic play to explore ideas for characters and situations in order to communicate ideas and stories. Our focus will be on mime and facial expressions.

**Grade 1 :** As part of our Performing Arts program the Grade One students will develop body awareness through structured and improvised activities. In Dance, students will explore personal and general space, composing and presenting their own 'Name Dance' and learning folk dances. In Drama, students will use voice, mime and gesture to build on character representation and story-telling. Our focus will be on creating short plays in small groups.



## PE & Sport - Sam Casey & Jay Tucker

Check out the our new PE website for more information on all things Sport and PE @ Elwood PS:  
[www.elwoodpspe.com](http://www.elwoodpspe.com)

**Prep :** This term the prep students will be taking part in different tasks and games to develop their spatial awareness, boundaries and knowledge of different rules. Further into the term we will start a Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) where the students have a variety of experiences in seeing, hearing, touching, processing, making perceptual judgements and reacting through carefully sequenced activities.

**Grade 1 & 2 :** We will begin by completing tasks and problem solving activities to develop our ability to work as a team in a cooperative way. We will also start exploring the Fundamental Motor Skills (FMS) of throwing and catching and striking. This will be done through games such as Newcomb and T-Ball, developing the skills and knowledge we need for these games.

**Grade 3 & 4 :** Team building and problem solving will be a focus to improve skills in co-operation and communication. We are then moving on to striking and fielding sports such as Rounders and T-ball, developing the skills and knowledge we need for these through skills stations and other conditioned games.

**Grade 5 & 6 :** A major focus will be taking part in team building and problem solving activities to explore the different roles that we use to develop our ability to communicate and work together. The senior school students will then move onto striking and fielding games such as Cricket and Softball through conditioned games and skills stations to help develop our skills in preparation for Friday Sport.

**Grade 5 & 6 Summer Sports & Round Robin :** The sports for this term are Softball, Basketball, Hockey, Volley Stars and Cricket. After several practice sessions we compete in the Summer Round Robin against other schools in the Balaclava District on Wednesday 22 March. For more information, and to learn more about how teams are picked, please refer to the "GR 5&6 Sport" tab on the PE website.

# Term 1 Specialist Overview continued

## LOTE Program - Kirsteen Reid & Made

Selamat Tahun Baru ! ( Happy New Year !)

Great to see so many excited students looking forward to a fun year of learning "Bahasa Indonesia". Each student will be given an exercise book which their Indonesian work will be completed in this year. These books will be stored in the LOTE classroom in the JLC.

**Supporting LOTE at home :** If you wish to encourage Indonesian language development at home the school has access to a wonderful language site that provides vocab lists and great games and activities to complete. You can access this by visiting [www.langaugenut.com](http://www.langaugenut.com), user name: **elwoo4791**, password: **elwoo0523**, then enter the 'Modern languages' and click on 'Indonesian,' I would suggest levels 1-6.

**Grade 2 :** Students will be introduced to the wonderful world of Indonesian! Students will learn the answers to pressing questions such as, 'Where is Indonesia?' and "Why do we study Indonesian at Elwood Primary ? Students will study the vocabulary associated with basic greetings, colours and numbers during term one.

**Grade 3 & 4 :** Students will revisit the daily language related to basic conversations and greetings as well as further develop their language skills using more complex colour and number sentence structures.

**Grade 5 & 6 :** Students will explore commonly used classroom language in Bahasa such as please enter, sit down, please be quiet and learn how to use and respond to these appropriately. Students will write and translate simple passages which include common greetings and expressions.

## Visual Art - Leanne Murray, Andrea Robinson

Welcome back to a very creative year! This term is very exciting ...

**Preps** will be welcomed into the art room through a series of self-portrait pieces, exploring line, collage, paint and a variety of mixed media to create their artworks.

**Grade 1** will begin the year discussing the concept of taking a risk and having a go. They will be learning to use materials including ink and watercolour paints. Students will be inspired by themselves and animals. Students will also learn and practice how to create detailed patterns in their art.

**Grade 2** will begin the year exploring and discussing the uniqueness of each of their individual ideas and artworks, that it is okay to make a mistake and that their artworks will not be perfect! As well as this they will be creating artworks inspired by themselves and animals, drawing and using painting techniques.

**Grade 3** will look into the world of self-portraits. Creating artworks in their own images, exploring the use of colour and pattern to reflect who they think they are.

**Grade 4** will begin to explore the work of Keith Haring and explore the use of movement in their own artwork.

**Grade 5 & 6** will begin work on their personalised folios, creating unique pieces of their choice ranging from intricate drawings to collaborative constructions.

## ICT/Library - Ange Dawson & Debbie Packham

Welcome back to 2017! Please feel free to come and see us in the library before school every day, or just pop in to say hi during the day. We would love to have helpers in the library at any time, so if you have an hour or so where you would like to cover books, shelve books, or even help students with books or computers, feel free to email me on [dawson.angela.m@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:dawson.angela.m@edumail.vic.gov.au).

This year, students will begin each Information Learning Hub session by immersing themselves in books. They will search for and borrow books that interest them and that also support their classroom learning, and students will also use the library search engine to find these books.

This term in ICT, **Prep** students will be introduced to our school library organisation and processes and will learn how books are loaned in and out of our library using barcodes. They will investigate how books are organised in our library into fiction (picture books) and non-fiction (information) books and develop their skills at choosing appropriate 'just right' books to borrow from the library. They will also become familiar with the procedures and protocols we use at EPS when on the computers, such as why we log on and off and how to use a mouse accurately.

# Term 1 Specialist Overview

## ICT/Library continued

In ICT, **Grade 1** students will be experimenting with very simple, step-by-step procedures to explore a programmable device, in particular a Bee-Bot robot. They will also be jointly writing and entering simple instructions to sequence the actions their Bee-Bot undertakes.

In **Grade 2** they delve into the way that we keep our information private, in particular with passwords. They will begin to use their own individual usernames and passwords when logging in to our school system, which gives them access to their own private folders and files. They will also delve into how to use visualisation software to create mind maps (brainstorming).

**Grade 3** students will begin their introduction to the Google Apps for Education (GAFE). They will initially set up an organised folder and file system in their Drive. Then they will collaboratively work within Docs, Slides and Sheets and will also learn how to share documents with their peers and teachers. They will also create questionnaires in Forms and will learn about how responses can be collated automatically in a Sheet.

**Grade 4** students have a focus on manipulating and presenting data this semester. They will be collecting, accessing and presenting different types of data using simple software (Google Sheets) to create information and solve problems.

**Grade 5** students will be looking at data and how it can be presented, in particular through the use of infographics. After selecting an appropriate data source, they will present this information in a visually appealing way as an infographic. They will plan the design of their product and develop criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the infographic data presentation style.

**Grade 6** students will also begin their introduction to the Google Apps for Education (GAFE) and begin to use it for collaboration. They will also develop their understanding of how information is transmitted between devices, through the use of Makey Makey - **an invention kit where students can turn** everyday objects into touchpads and combine them with the internet.

### Scholastic Book Club

The Book Club catalogue will be coming home soon with your child.

**DUE DATE: Tuesday 21 February**

If Paying by Credit Card and/or Vouchers – please order online at [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)

No need to return any forms to school. You can order for multiple children with the one transaction.

Please ensure you link each child's order to their class.

If Paying by Cash or Cheque – please return your completed order form with payment to the classroom teacher.

Please ensure cash payments are the correct amount as we are unable to give change.

If you have any queries please speak to your child's teacher. Thank you

*Book Club Parent Volunteers*



## **2017 Grade 6 Leadership Program**

In 2017 there will be a slight change to the school leadership program. Our leadership program will continue to acknowledge that all grade 6 students are leaders who set the tone of the school. The program will give all grade 6 students the opportunity to be acknowledged as the leaders of the school while also teaching them ways in which they can develop their understanding of how to be a good leader.

Every grade 6 student will be given the role of School Ambassador, and given the opportunity to run assembly, take school tours and help around the school with projects that are of interest to them. Rosters will be drawn up for leading assembly and taking school tours aiming to give all students who are interested in this a chance to do at least one of these tasks. All students will also receive their leadership badge at an assembly.

There will also be other roles available for those students who have an extra desire for further leadership opportunities. For those who are interested, we will still have Music Captains, Art Captains, House Captains, Sustainability Ambassadors, Technology Captains, Elwood Student Council (ESC) Presidents and 100th Birthday Ambassadors. These will be extra responsibilities and will require giving up time to pursue them. This may include meeting during lunchtimes, after or before school and sometimes during class. These roles will be acquired through an application process that is currently underway. Interested students have completed a written application outlining why they are interested in the role and why they think they would be suitable for the role. These students will then be asked to demonstrate their leadership skills and commitment they will bring to the extra role by participating in a trial session with the teachers in charge of each role. After that the teachers will select the students who they think will be the most suitable for each role.

All grade 6 students (in their role as School Ambassadors) will participate in fortnightly leadership workshops run by the grade 6 teachers. These sessions will take place every second Wednesday for the last hour and will explore different styles of leadership and teach skills such as public speaking and microphone use; how to be a role model and develop positive relationships; how to influence change and how to engage with local issues.

We believe that this re-vamped leadership program will provide students with a range of real leadership opportunities and a chance to develop their leadership skills.

## **Leadership Passports**

Another way that we acknowledge that Grade 6 students are role models for the younger students whose conduct (both in and out of the classroom) helps to set the tone of the whole school is by giving our Grade 6 students "Passports". These list the five values necessary for building and sustaining a positive learning culture at Elwood Primary. These values are: respect, responsibility, integrity, resilience and empathy.

Passports carry school-wide and classroom-based privileges (which have been developed through consultation with the students). When a student is in possession of his/her Passport, it is assumed they demonstrate those qualities needed to be a positive and contributing leader of our learning community; someone who is ready to accept extra responsibilities and the privileges that come along with that trustworthiness. Students value their Passports and work hard to show that they are worthy of them.



# MEETING IN THE MIDDLE

Elwood Primary students Jeyda, Reilly, Aquinnah and Riley. The school doesn't punish kids with detention. Picture: TONY GOUGH



## Schools get bullies, victims to talk it out

SCHOOLYARD bullies are more often stopped by meetings with their victims than by being punished, new research has revealed.

A study of 25 Australian schools found the best way to curb bullying was through restorative practice — asking a bully to reflect on the damage they have done and “act restoratively”.

Mediation and improving the social skills and assertiveness of victims also helped, schools said. But direct sanctions, such as verbal reprimands and detentions, were labelled least effective.

Researcher adjunct professor Ken Rigby, from the University of South Australia, said schools weren't going soft on bullying by tackling the issue with mediation and meetings.

“You can't stop all cases of

**MONIQUE HORE**

bullying,” Prof Rigby said. “But teachers are increasingly seeing that direct sanctions don't work particularly well.”

The study, published in the *Australian Journal of Education*, found some schools used direct sanctions in cases of extreme bullying or when restorative practice had failed.

Elwood Primary School uses mediation and meetings with students to stop bullying, but doesn't punish kids with detention.

Over a picnic lunch in assistant principal Nicole Richards' office, bullies and their victims nominate three goals to “make things better out in the yard”.

They visit the office after play breaks to report with a thumbs up whether the goals have been achieved.

“We try to create an atmosphere where bullying doesn't happen in the first place,” Ms Richards said. “Very rarely do parents have to be involved because there is so much work done before any incidents get to that stage. We don't do direct sanctions whatsoever. It demoralises the kids and doesn't teach them anything.”

Parents Victoria has lobbied for ongoing funding for counsellors and conflict resolution specialists in schools to lessen the damage of bullying.

Executive officer Gail McHardy said some bullies could be “sly and manipulative”, and cautioned that they could use mediation and meetings to evade punishment. She said it was “human nature” for parents of victims to want the bullies to face consequences.

monique.hore@news.com.au





## Learning & Teaching across Elwood PS

We welcome you to our Year Level Information Nights to meet your teachers, hear more information on Literacy, Numeracy and core curriculum areas in your child's grade level and also hear from our Specialist teachers. We will also inform you about: opportunities to volunteer, homework and classroom expectations, incursions and excursions to look forward to and more...

Monday 20th February

Level 1: Prep

Tuesday 21st February

Level 2: Grades 1 and 2

Wednesday 22nd February

Level 3: Grades 3 and 4

Thursday 23rd February

Level 4: Grades 5 and 6

All Information Nights start at 7.00pm in the JLC.

Please take this opportunity to meet the 2017 Teaching Teams, hear more about our Home and School Partnerships and our Learning and Teaching Programs. This is also an opportunity to go into the classrooms, look around and spend some time with your child's teacher.

We hope to see you there.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be 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. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

### HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

