



Newsletter

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Welcome to the new school year.

After the 2020 year filled with doubt, uncertainties and very little time face to face at school – we have begun the new school year reflecting on the lessons learnt, the ways we stayed connected to each other and in some way, finding the positives of what we all went through together as a community.

I think this made the first day back for the new school year even more exciting, special and joyful.

Seeing all of your smiling faces – kids, staff and families – on the first day back, fills us all with optimism and hope and we are re-energised and excited for the year to come.

Although we have had to take a little step back in regards to wearing masks when inside our school buildings, we are happy and delighted to see you all in the school grounds and volunteering. Volunteering in our classrooms and programs such as kitchen and garden, swimming trials and the up-coming market will all occur in a COVID safe way.

 Please keep an eye on newsletters, our website and our app Konnektive to keep up with it all. I will always endeavour to get all and any information to you as soon as it comes to light.

What does 2021 hold?

As always at EPS, we have an exciting and action packed year planned. This year we will enjoy our biannual Whole School Production, our EPS Community Markets, the start of our Grounds Masterplan and a host of class activities providing a myriad of opportunities for you to be involved with the education of your child and



all of our students. We have a fantastic community that forms the heartbeat of our school!

Preps 2021

Although our Preps' first day was completely wet, soggy and rainy – having to stay indoors all day – they took it all in their stride and enjoyed every bit of it!! Our preps even had their first assembly on Monday. They were terrific audience members and it seemed as though they had all done it before. Even singing the National Anthem with gusto!

We also welcome all of our new students, their families and new staff throughout the school and hope that you have made some friends and are settling into EPS.

Grade 6 Leaders

Already, our most senior role models are ready to take on Grade 6 Leadership. I thank Louis, Riley, Lily and Xavier for offering to take our first assembly so confidently.

I am excited to partner with all of the Grade 6 students in making EPS 2021 another great year with Prep Buddies beginning soon, passion projects taking off and listening to their ideas, suggestions and plans for the year ahead.

February Market **THIS WEEKEND!**

What makes Elwood such a great school is our community and your contribution to the Elwood Primary School Community Market.

This year our Grounds Masterplan and new playscapes will be funded from your efforts. Over recent years interactive whiteboards, new gardens, the stage in the courtyard and our Assembly area, air conditioners in every classrooms and interactive whiteboards were some of the projects

03 February 2021

CALENDAR

Saturday 6 February

EPS Community Market

Monday 8 February

POSTPONED - Prep 2021 Information

Night: 6pm-8pm, JLC

Tuesday 9 February

POSTPONED - Level 2 (Grade 1&2)

Information Night: 6pm-8pm, JLS

Wednesday 10 February

Prep Gap Program

Students do not attend school

Saturday 13 February

Elwood Farmers Market

Monday 15 February

Whole School Assembly

Tuesday 16 February

POSTPONED-Kitchen Garden

Volunteer Information Night

POSTPONED-Level 3 (Grade 3&4)

Information Night

Wednesday 17 February

Prep Gap Program

Students do not attend school

POSTPONED-Level 4 (Grade 5&6)

Information Night: 6.30pm-8.30pm,

JLS

Wednesday 24 February

Prep Gap Program

Students do not attend school

Saturday 27 February

Elwood Farmers Market

Monday 8 March
Labour Day Public Holiday

completed. Our first school market is on THIS Saturday. Our Market Committee have worked hard through the school holidays to prepare and complete our COVID plan for the Government to ensure we are safe and following all DHHS guidelines.

I hope to see you there – come and grab one of the BEST egg and bacon rolls from me and parent volunteers on the BBQ to nourish your shopping bodies!

Information Nights

It was disappointing to have to postpone our Information Nights, particularly after our teams of teachers had worked so hard on their presentations. EPS Community safety will always be our priority and we promise we will either reschedule them as soon as we are able to, or find another way to get important information about your child's level to you – good old Zoom may provide the positive connections! More information will be communicated to you as we work through this.

School Council

School Council elections will take place later in Term 1, with more details shortly. If you are interested in becoming a School Councillor, please feel free to have a chat with me or any of our current councillors to get a sense of the role and responsibilities this position entails.

I take this opportunity to publicly thank the current School Council on their guidance, partnership and assistance throughout last year – we worked together – often late into the night over zooms and phone calls – to ensure we were all supporting each other as a Community.



Children at Risk of Anaphylaxis

There are a number of students in our school who have severe allergic reactions. Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction which can be life threatening, however with your help and careful management any risks can be substantially reduced. The school has a number of strategies in place to support students at risk of anaphylaxis, one of which is ensuring that our community and our students are aware of, and sensitive to, the needs of these students. It is our policy at school to minimise the risk of allergic reactions during class time by:

- Asking that you avoid sending your child to school with food that might in some way, through accidental contact, cause such an allergic reaction
- Ensuring that children do not share food at any time and that they wash their hands before and after eating
- Ensuring that children always eat in a supervised environment
- Regularly cleaning spaces where children eat
- Promoting an awareness of anaphylaxis, allergens,

reactions and what they can do to help should the need arise.

As we are sure you can appreciate, parents of a child at risk of anaphylaxis often worry about their children when they are at school, out of their care and relying on others to ensure their safety. We need your support to reduce the risks and thank you for your care in ensuring our learning environments are safe for everyone.

If your child is in a class with a child at risk of anaphylaxis you will receive a letter advising you of their allergy and what triggers a reaction. Please make sure you check your child's bag for any notices sent home from school.

SSV state team nominations 2021

Nominations are now open. These trials are strictly for students currently EXCELLING in their sport, e.g. currently playing in a representative team, won previous year's league best and fairest, etc. These EXCELLING students may be nominated (by parents) in a range of sports including: GIRLS - Basketball, Netball, Soccer, Cricket BOYS - Basketball, Football (AFL), Soccer, Cricket To nominate your child, Parents (not students) must;

- Gather evidence of your child competing at an ELITE level, eg. letter from representative team coach.
- Set up a meeting to discuss & seek approval from your PE teacher.
- If approved by the PE Teacher & Principal, parents then complete an online nomination form and submit a \$25 non refundable payment to the SSV.
- Download the form and then have it signed by the PE teacher and Principal.
- Take the signed form on the day of the trial.

Please note: This is NOT a "Come & Try" activity and is strictly for students who are already EXCELLING in their sport. Permission will only be given if substantial evidence has been provided. Teachers/Principals are not eligible to sign these applications if insufficient evidence is provided.

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 follows - 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.

Online nominations close 1 March 2021. Late entries will not be accepted.

For more information on SSV team pathways, processes, selection criteria & nomination forms, go to the SSV website - <http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/team-vic>



Attachments: 2021 at EPS!, Elwood Netball Club, St Kilda FC.

We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered today, the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung People and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect their continuing relationship to the land upon which we meet.



Settling into EPS 2021!



Performing Arts....



Kitchen Garden Class



Hanging Out...



Prep R's got talent ↑



Grade 1 & 2s, come and try netball!



The Elwood Netball Club are hosting
2 free introductory sessions of their learn to play netball program.

Come and see why so many people love playing netball!

The program is designed to give kids of all abilities a positive introduction to netball, and aims to teach the basic skills of the sport.

It's fun, safe, social and active.

Wednesday 3:45-4:30 Elwood Primary School Courts
\$160 for 17 weeks (weather permitting)
Starting Wednesday 10th February

To register or enquire please contact Lizzie on elizabeth@eoimages.com.au



**Welcomes all girls and boys (ages 7-18)
to come and play in 2021**

Located at Wattie Watson oval at Elwood foreshore



To register go to
www.stkildacityjfc.com.au

Or for enquiries email
play@stkildacityjfc.com.au