

NEWSLETTER NO.01

FEBRUARY 3, 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 9th Breakfast Club
- 9th Strings Kickstart Day at Geebung State School
- 12th School Leaders Inauguration
- 12th Uniform and Tuckshop Subcommittee meeting, 2pm, in the Library
- 12th Band Kickstart Day at Everton Park State High School
- 15th P&C AGM meeting 7:00pm in Library
- 16th Breakfast Club

MARCH

- 14th Parent Rep meeting at 6:00pm in Library
- 14th P&C meeting in Library at 7:00pm
- 18th School Cross Country
- 21st P&C meeting at 7:00pm in Library

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to 2016

I would like to begin by welcoming back all of our EPSS families and extend a particularly warm welcome to those new families and teachers who have joined us at Everton Park State School this year. We welcome Ian Bird as our new HPE teacher. Mr Bird comes to us with a wealth of experience and we are very grateful to have him on our team. We also welcome Deborah Jackson from Dysart to the Year 5 team and Deb Heather on her return from leave to the Year 3 team. I'm sure all of these teachers will also make wonderful additions to our teaching team.

This year, we are commencing the year with approximately 477 students and have grown by one class since last year. It is exciting to see our fantastic school beginning to grow and prosper. This year will hold many exciting challenges and experiences and I look forward to sharing with you all.

Leadership Induction

Our Leadership Induction Ceremony will take place next Friday, 12 February at 9am in the school hall. During this ceremony, we will publicly acknowledge all of our 2016 leaders and present them with their leadership badge. We invite the parent community to join us afterwards for coffee/tea. We look forward to seeing you there.



Anita Bond
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Keeping Our Children Safe

There's no question that sending children off to school for the first time each year is an experience full of mixed emotions. As soon as we walk them through the gate that first time, we morph into hyper vigilance mode. You know exactly what I mean, experiencing thoughts like... "I'm so sad my baby is growing up... What is it going to be like this year? Will he/she be safe?" or "I'm so happy my baby is growing up! etc."

While we all may feel a host of conflicting emotions, there's one emotion that seems to plague even the most experienced of parents. Fear!

Fear is the most common response to the unknown. We send our children off into the care of others that we really may not know much about. For the first time in a while, we aren't exactly sure how they're spending their day or who they're spending it with. We are not exactly sure how the teacher will react if our child cries, loses something, gets into a fight or forgets their lunch. Whilst we can't be there in person we have to trust that school will do everything it can to ensure our children are safe, happy and healthy in their learning environment.

At EPSS we all want our children to be safe, happy and healthy in their learning environment.

At EPSS the health, safety and wellbeing of all of our children is our highest priority. Parents and families send their children to our school each day, trusting us to provide a secure environment in which their children will learn and flourish. We do everything we can to ensure that this expectation is a reality in our school.

In order to do this, a wide range of measures are put in place. The major change we have made this year is to the arrangements we have for the children's eating breaks. We, as a school, have been compelled to act on a number of points regarding the safety of children during these times of the day. These actions involve the Years 4 to 6 children eating under the shade of the multipurpose shed, the Year 2 to 3 children eating under B Block in the seated area and our Prep to Year 1 children eating on the western end of the terraces until the new outdoor learning space is constructed between the Library, A and B Blocks.

At this point the children have managed the change exceptionally well as they have adapted to the new routines with ease. Feedback from the staff managing the spaces has been very positive e.g. "The students are very calm compared to last year during the breaks".

Children will always look to their parents for reassurance about school. Please be assured that all decisions we make are with the best interests and safety of the children at the forefront. Be assured that you can reassure your children about this.



David O'Connor
Deputy Principal

CURRICULUM NEWS

Students are straight into a very busy term and settling well into their new class groups. As part of our scheduled student monitoring process, students in Years 1 – 6 will complete Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT tests) in comprehension and Mathematics. These are tests that students complete online and provide detailed diagnostic information to inform ongoing teaching, resourcing and support training. The information from these tests also provides a means by which student achievement and progress in literacy and numeracy can be tracked and measured across school years.

Sound Waves materials continue to be used to resource our school spelling program and all students have been allocated a Sound Waves work book. An invoice will be sent to all families to cover the cost of this resource, which in the past has been added to the cost of the book pack. If you receive an invoice for this and have already purchased this text for your child you will not be required to pay again. The office will receive lists from teachers to confirm this. However, if you have any concerns please email our BSM, Joy Lenzinger on jlenz3@eq.edu.au

This year the big ticket item on our school improvement agenda will be writing. Of course, we will continue to value and implement high quality teaching and learning in all areas of literacy, but student achievement and progress in writing will be given an added focus. Teachers will be using the Seven Steps to Writing Success materials, a resource that has proved to be engaging and promote achievement in the quality of students' writing. This resource will be used across the school and support the teachers in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in English.

Jo Campbell
Master Teacher

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

It's so exciting to see the happy smiles of the students after the 6 week break.

Thank you to all the families who came to our back-to-school pool party. A great time was had by all and if you missed it due to the uncertainty of the weather, we will be having another.



I will be in attendance at Everton Park State School each Monday and Friday this year.

The Chappy room will be open from next week and if students would like to see me they are asked to meet me in the shed area and they will then accompany me to my room.

Following on from last year's Fathering Project:

Plan your school involvement for the upcoming year

It's the start of the school year, so parents will be asked to volunteer their time for many roles, including helping in the Tuckshop, assisting teachers in the classroom, helping at working bees, etc. Sit down with your child and discuss with them what you will volunteer for and how often.

Children love to see Dad at school, even if it is only occasionally. Discuss with your child at the start of the year what you will volunteer for and how often and then mark these dates in your diary.

Not only will your child love having you volunteering, but it is a great way to get to know other parents at the school. It will also give you the opportunity to meet some of your child's friends and their class teacher.

I am looking forward to another exciting year at Everton Park State School.

Chappy Nikki

STUDENT PAYMENTS

You may have noticed at the bottom of our invoices there is now another option for payments.



BPoint is an Online System provided to schools by Commonwealth Bank as a

safe and secure payment method. It can be accessed via ANY Computer or Smart Phone.

		
BPOINT Bill Payment		
Online Card Payment		
CRN: 0231000036518		
Online Card Payment	Invoice No. 17587	
	This invoice can be paid by card via BPoint	
	http://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete	

- Log on to <http://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete>

- Quote your Customer Reference number (CRN).
- Quote the invoice number that the payment is relating (5 digit number).

The school is automatically notified of the payment and are usually matched in an overnight process.

We will still be accepting direct bank deposits, envelopes with credit card details completed and, of course, cheques and cash.

As we do not operate an 'open' receipting area, we cannot process EFTPOS payments at this stage, even though the 'generic information' on the invoice states otherwise.

Any further questions please contact Joy or Barb in the office.

ART CLUB

Art Club meets every Wednesday at second break. Meet Mrs Johnston in The Shed after eating and she will take you to the Art Room. All students are welcome to join in the creative activities on offer.

CHEERLEADING

Welcome back everyone! 2016 is going to be a great year. Cheer squad has already started, practising on Monday and Thursday afternoons.

Cheer Squad - there will be **NO practise** this Thursday afternoon, we will resume as normal next week.

Pups and Reserves will begin in **Term 2**. More information will come out later in the term.

All new students to the school (from Prep - Grade 6) are welcome to come and join a team, just come and see me before we start.

Pups practise will be on Monday mornings (7.45-8.30am) and Reserves (Grade 3-6) will be on Tuesday mornings (7.45-8.30am).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on kroge8@eq.edu.au. Miss Rogers

CHESS LESSONS

This is just a reminder that **chess classes** have commenced again each Wednesday at first break in the Library. Statements will be coming out later this week.

If there are any questions or suggestions about the classes, we would love to hear your feedback! I personally can't thank you enough for your support of the program. It really means a lot.

Ash Reddy
Chess Coordinator

MUSIC NEWS

It's great to be back after my long service leave. I have really enjoyed getting back into our classroom music lessons and I am looking forward to starting Junior Choir next week.

Junior Choir

Junior Choir is a great opportunity for boys and girls in Years 2, 3 and 4 to sing, rehearse and perform together. Singing in choirs has been shown to be wonderful for our health and well-being,

so I encourage all our students to consider joining and trying it out. We will be meeting on Friday mornings at 8.00 am in the Music Room, commencing in Week 3.

Look out for the permission slip for Junior Choir, then complete and return it to the School Office.

Classroom Music

Thank you to all the students who have been so well organised with recorders, their Big Notes Music Book and pencils. Make sure everything is named, particularly recorders, as they do all look the same!

Bernadette Crook
Classroom Music Teacher

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS

BAND KICKSTART DAY – FRIDAY, 12 FEBRUARY

The Beginner Kickstart Day for all first year Band students with Mrs Hall will be held on Friday, 12 February at Everton Park State High School, Stafford Road, Everton Park from 9am - 2.30pm. All children are to meet at Everton Park State High School's Hall.

All children need to bring is their lunch, hat, instrument, music equipment and drink bottle.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from the venue of Everton Park State High School. Children are to meet Mrs Hall at Everton Park State High School's Hall from 8:15am.

Lessons and Band Rehearsals with Mrs Penny Hall will be held again on Wednesdays.

BEGINNER STRINGS KICKSTART DAY TUESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY

Miss Keenan's Strings Kickstart day for beginner students will be held on Tuesday, 9 February from 9am – 2:30pm at Geebung State School.

All students need to bring their lunch, hat, instrument, music equipment and drink bottle.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from the venue of Geebung State School.

For further information regarding the Strings day please contact Anne Keenan at akeen9@eq.edu.au

*****PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO LESSONS OR BAND REHEARSALS WITH PENNY HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY*****

Senior Band rehearsals for 2nd and 3rd year students will commence on Wednesday, 17 February at 7:30am. Junior Band rehearsals for beginner students will commence on Wednesday, 17 February at 8.15 am

For all band queries (woodwind, brass and percussion) contact Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au For all string queries (violin, viola, cello and double bass) contact Anne Keenan at akeen9@eq.edu.au For all classroom

music queries contact Jewel Lucas at jlucas85@eq.edu.au

FOUND

A pair of child's reading glasses with a blue wire frame has been found. Please enquire at the office.

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to the new year. The Library is open for borrowing before school at 8:30am for all students, at first break for Preps – Year 3 and second break for Years 4 – 6. Please could I ask that all students have their library bags for borrowing books.

Please check with your teachers about class borrowing.

Any parents who may be interested in assisting in the Library (eg. shelving, covering books) please drop in and see me.

Bernadette Lukey
Librarian

Uniform Shop



The Uniform Shop is open each Friday from 8:15am – 9:30am.

The Uniform and Tuckshop Subcommittee will be meeting in the Library at 2pm on Friday, 12 February. All welcome.

Volunteers Needed – Urgent request

The Uniform Shop urgently needs volunteers to help out on Monday mornings. You'll be required from 8.15am - 9.30am and if you can only do one Monday a month that's fine. If you can help out please contact me on ijbounceback@optusnet.com.au, or phone me on **0402880216** or pop in and see me one Monday morning. It's a great way of meeting all the wonderful families in our school and I would really appreciate your help.

Flexischools

Do you need to get uniforms from the Uniform Shop? Why not order it on **Flexischools**. No need to come into the school at all. I will fill your order and hand-deliver it to your child in class. So save time and order on **Flexischools**!

2nd HAND UNIFORMS NEEDED

Do you have uniforms lying around the kids have grown out of? Bring them into us!! We need your 2nd hand uniforms.

Bring them to the Uniform Shop on Monday between 8.15 - 9.30am and we'll have a look at them. They need to be in good condition and if they are we'll PAY you \$10 per item for them, \$20 for Sports Jackets. Just remember to also bring along your account details so we can transfer the money into your account.



Jeanette Jenkinson
Uniform Shop Convenor



TUCKERBOX

Hello and welcome to a new year at the EPSS Tuckshop. You may notice the exciting Tuckerbox name and logo above and the awesome Tuckerbox makeover continues this term.

The Tuckerbox is open Monday, Thursday and Friday until the end of first break.

Ordering is easy, as I strongly recommend using our online ordering system, flexischools.com.au, to order your child's lunch. If you do wish to have a printed copy of the 2016 Menu, it will be available on the school website shortly.

At this stage, there has only been one price increase this year - boiled eggs and all egg items have been increased by 10c.

The new volunteer roster commences next Thursday, 11 February. If you would love to help and you haven't already done so, please complete a Volunteer Form, attached to this newsletter. I would love to have them returned to me by this Friday.

Until next week.

Katrina Coomber
Tuckshop Convenor

ATTACHMENTS

- All About Aquatics
- All About You – Suit Me Program
- Tuckshop Volunteer Form

