



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our Vision – an invitation to parents/caregivers

As a part of our Quadrennial School Review we are developing a vision for Everton Park State School and we need your help!

Over the next few months we will be asking caregivers, staff and students to help us shape what we want for our school over the next four years.

This term we are inviting caregivers to come along to one of our sessions to share their thoughts about outcomes for our students –

Where: Library
Times: Session 1: Thursday, 16 March: 9:00-10:30am
Session 2: Monday, 20 March: 5:30-7:00pm (prior to the P&C Meeting)

If you are interested in attending please contact the office.

The future is not someplace we are going to, but a place we are creating. The paths to it are not found, they are made.
-Jane Garvey



School Administration 07 3550 2222

Student Absentee Line 07 3550 2277 Principal: **Aminta Miller**

Deputy Principals: **David O'Connor, Joanne Campbell**

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CALENDAR

MARCH

17th Chaplaincy meeting 9:30 – 10:30am
20th Prep R Bilby Excursion
20th P&C meeting in Library 7pm
21st Prep P & Prep K Bilby Excursion
21st Harmony Day (**NO coin donation**)
23rd P-6 Cross Country 9 - 11:00am
23rd Beginner strings and band concert 4pm in the Hall
30th Year 3 Celebrations of Learning
31st Prep – 2 Easter Hat Parade 9 – 9:30am
31st Last day of term 1

APRIL

18th First day of term 2
17th Public Holiday
28th Gala Day (Interschool sport)



Reading with the Principal

I love reading! Every morning next week, I will be reading some of my favourite picture books in the library from 8:30. Please come along and join me!

Terraces update

We have been in contact with Regional Facilities and have been able to negotiate some additional support with the works needed to complete the Terraces upgrade. This week we saw some additional seating added to the area – we hope to be able to complete all the works on the Terraces sooner rather than later so that our students are able to use the area again.

Our school review — an opportunity to have your say

Our school is scheduled for a school review early in Term 2. The Department of Education and Training regularly reviews Queensland state schools to ensure they're delivering quality education to students. The reviews are conducted by the department's School Improvement Unit.

The reviews do not rate or compare schools, but provide teachers and other staff with independent feedback to help them continue to improve learning outcomes for students.

All schools have a review at least every four years. Key findings from the review will be made available to parents and the community on the school's website.

The review team would like to hear from our school community and I encourage anyone who is interested to have their say. If you are interested in speaking to the reviewers, or would like more information about the

review process, please contact the school office. Your feedback is important and will help us continue to deliver a great education for students. More information about the review process is available from the department's website at www.schoolreviews.eq.edu.au

We made the news!

We have been identified by ACARA (Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority) as showing significant gains in NAPLAN testing. I was asked yesterday what contributed to this – my response was quality teaching and learning through an explicit improvement agenda around reading, writing and learning and wellbeing. I mentioned that this improvement agenda has been communicated to the community and refined and deepened over the past few years. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate everyone involved in our school community on such a great achievement.

Aminta Miller
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS - DAVID

EcoMarines

Friday, 1 March will see our EcoMarine Ambassadors receive their T-Shirts on Parade. They will be presented by Kylie Roche who is the Tangalooma EcoMarines Coordinator.

PBL

Classes will now be moving into more specific lessons about behaviour. Don't forget to check in with your children about what they are doing.

David O'Connor
Deputy Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS - JO

Home Reading survey

Thank you to all of the families who contributed to the EPSS Home Reading Survey that was included in the last newsletter. The information provided some valuable feedback on ways we can refine and improve our processes around home reading. I will share the information with class teachers to engage them in some discussion about the positives and negatives identified.

The following is a summary of the survey results:

Q1. How satisfied are you with our new whole school home reading program?

A. 60% gave a 4 or above/ out of 5 star rating.

Q2. How many reading sessions are your children completing on average each week?

A. 72% did 5 sessions.

Q3. How long does the average reading session take?

A. 15 minutes.

Q4. Does your child select their own home reading materials?

A. More than 70% reported that students self-selected texts for home reading.

Q5. Are home reading texts usually easy for your child to read independently?

A. Most answered that they found the texts to be easy.

Q6. Has the amount of time spent on home reading increased this year?

A. 60% answered time spent on reading was the same, 13% said it had increased.

Q7. Which statement best describes your experience during most home reading sessions?

A. More than 70% described it as routine or enjoyable. None described it as stressful.

Q8. What type of book would your child prefer as their 100 session reward?

A. A variety, but mostly fiction.

Q9. This question provided an opportunity for open responses. This was the most valuable question as it highlighted some of the specific strengths and weaknesses of the program. Some examples include:

"A great process that, once understood, is easy to follow and complete."

"Does it include parents reading to children?"

"Minor issue but it is a pain to sign and date two records for each book, could this be streamlined?"

"The teacher indicated that the home reading book could only be the school reader. I think this should be expanded to include any book (ie from the school library) as sometimes the reader is not so interesting and harder for the child to engage with as opposed to a book they choose themselves. It then becomes less routine and more about the spirit of teaching kids to love reading. It also would encourage extra reading - as we do the reader anyway. Thanks, I think overall it's a good program as my child likes the idea of me ticking off towards a goal. We have yet to have the green sheet marked with any stars. It would be good to see this progressing along to keep the interest levels up."

"We usually read together as a family before bed. This is something we've done since birth so we wanted to make sure we kept this routine. Reading isn't done as part of homework, so it's not really a chore. Usually by the time the kids are all in bed, I want to flop on the couch and not fill out the book details. Because of this I've given up completing the reading log. I just sign the box to say they've read the book."

"My children read their own books independently each night and have done for quite some time, however the effort involved in locating their reading folder and recording that info (particularly for more than one child) means that for the most part the recording doesn't happen, which unfortunately impacts on them."

"It is a great incentive to encourage the kids to read."

Thanks for the responses. Your feedback is very important. I will keep you posted regarding any modifications we make as a result of this.



Joanne Campbell
Deputy Principal



WELLBEING NEWS

Welcome back to all our returning families and a warm welcome to our new families. Last year the Chappy room was open Mondays both breaks and we had a great time with board games, colouring, beading, arm knitting, dress-ups, a little soft music and a dance party. The chat lounge is open again this year, with lots more fun to be had. Meet me at the undercover area as soon as you are released from eating your lunch.

Also, last year we followed The Fathering Project with hints and tips for families dealing with life issues and helping dads realise just how big and impacting their role is in their children's lives. This year I will be publishing excerpts from Michael Grose of the Parenting Ideas Club. He has made appearances on the Project, has regular columns in newspapers and magazines, conducted over 1500 seminars and published 10 books. So let's start.

Respect starts at home

As parents, we have an incredible power to shape positively children's attitudes and behaviours, including how they treat others.

Here are three ideas you could try:

1. Start by insisting that siblings treat each other well. Encourage both genders to resolve conflict and disputes using low power methods, such as talking things through; give and take and apologising.
2. Socialise your sons. It's easy to excuse boy's aggressive behaviour as part of being a boy. Yes, their physiology may mean they are more prone to handle disputes physically, but that doesn't mean it is acceptable behavior. Be a model for your sons on how to resolve disputes in a civil way.

3. Put respect on the agenda. Healthy families talk about the things that matter to them. If respect matters then you need to hold conversations around disrespectful behaviours – whether they occur with-in the family or outside. Be willing to listen to children's and young people's views, but also to challenge views that are questionable.

Respect is the core value of a civil society and that's also the core value in every healthy, functioning family that Mr Grose has ever worked with.

I love this article and what a fantastic way to start the new year, strong and positive. See you around the school soon.
Chappy Nikki

Chaplaincy Committee Meeting

There will be a chaplaincy committee meeting on Friday 17 March at 9:30-10:30am. Please meet outside the school office.

Super Holiday Activity

Get active this school holidays and have a great time at the Super Sports Day Camp April 5,6,7 for Grades 5,6,7. 3 days, \$20/day or \$45 for 3 days.

<http://sucamps.org.au/camps/sports-day-camp/> for more info and registrations

P&C NEWS

The Easter Egg-stravaganza is well and truly underway! By now, all families should have received their raffle ticket books and we have started to see some great donations in the Library. Remember though – the more donations we have, the more hampers we get to hand out at the Prize Draw on 24 March.

Also, before the end of term is our March P & C Meeting – 20 March at 7pm in the Library. It will be the first for our new VP, Beki Dixon and I am pleased to say she has done an amazing job transitioning into the role. There are a number of exciting initiatives planned for the school over the next few months, so make sure to come along, particularly if you're interested in what is happening to the Terraces. Keep in mind, the Parent Rep meeting will be held beforehand, so there is also an opportunity to pass your feedback through via your Parent Rep.

Sam Nicholson, our new U & T Chair, is still sourcing information/opinions about the uniform and possible opportunities for improvement, so if you would like to be involved, please get in touch, via our Facebook page or email pand@everparkss.eq.edu.au

Tanya Milgate
P & C President

ICAS

ICAS Testing will be taking place in May, June and August this year. The sitting and payment dates are shown below:

ICAS Subject	ICAS Sitting Date	Closing Date for Payment
Digital Technologies (Yr 3-6)	Tuesday 23 May	Monday 3 April
Science (Yr 2-6)	Tuesday 30 May	Monday 3 April
Writing (Yr 3-6)	Tuesday 13 June	Friday 12 May
Spelling (Yr 2-6)	Wednesday 14 June	Friday 12 May
English (Yr 2-6)	Tuesday 1 August	Monday 19 June
Mathematics (Yr2 – 6)	Tuesday 15 August	Monday 19 June

WANTED

If you have any spare plastic shopping bags please could you drop them in at the office.
Thank you.

HARMONY DAY



Our diversity makes Australia a great place to live. Harmony Day is a celebration of our cultural diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. It is held every year on 21 March. The Day coincides with the **United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**. The message of Harmony Day is **'everyone belongs'**. The day aims to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and foster a sense of belonging for everyone. In our school community, we will celebrate Harmony Day by asking all students and staff to wear an orange sun safe shirt (**no coin donation**) on Tuesday, 21 March. A music group from Everton Park State High School has been organised to perform for our students early in Week 10.

MISSING

A very distinctive notebook approx. A5 size in the shape of an ice cream cone and a Smiggle pencil case in the shape of an eye mask has gone missing. These items were left outside the girls toilets today whilst the owner was inside and they were missing when she came back. If anyone knows where they might be please contact the office.

LIBRARY NEWS

One of my all-time favourite series of books is called *A Series of Unfortunate Events* by Lemony Snicket. These 13 books follow the turbulent lives of the Baudelaire children after their parents' death in a fire, and their encounter with the murderous Count Olaf and his subsequent plots to get his hands on their fortune. Series books are often a great way to engage your children with books and reading. They become familiar with the characters, the locations and the style of writing. We have many series here in our library. Some of the series are: *Spirit Animals*, *Wings of Fire*, *Land of Stories*, *Rangers Apprentice*, *Percy Jackson*, *365 conspiracy*, *Harry Potter*, *Billie B Brown and Hey Jack*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Weirdo*, *Tom Gates*, *Star of Deltora*, *Deltora Quest*, *Rowan of Rin*, *The 39 Clues*, *The Last Thirteen*, *The Kaboom Kid*, *Goosebumps*, and the list goes on. Whether it's humour, fantasy, action, adventure, realistic fiction or mystery you will find a book to suit here in our library.

Mrs Lukey
Teacher/Librarian
bluke1@eq.edu.au



MUSIC NEWS

Band queries - contact Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au
String queries contact Anne Keenan at akeen9@eq.edu.au
Class music queries – contact Wendy Wood at wstep2@eq.edu.au at EPSS Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

2017 PREP – YEAR 2 EASTER HAT PARADE



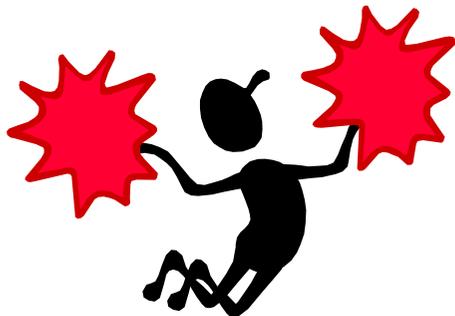
The 2017 Prep – Year 2 Easter Hat Parade will be on Friday, 31st March from 9:00 – 9:30am in the school hall. All Prep – Year 2 students, their parents/carers, grandparents, uncles and aunts are invited to attend!

CHEERLEADING NEWS

It's great to see everyone back and welcome to all of our new members. Please remember to bring a water bottle to all practise sessions. A reminder to all Reserve members to return your contract.

Cheer squad - there will be NO cheer practise on Thursday, 23 March.

Thanks, Miss Rogers 😊



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

School Sun Smart Policy

Our school's Sun Smart Policy has been updated and uploaded to the school website. I have included some important information from the Sun Smart Policy for parents and students.

Parents/carers will:

- provide a Sun Smart hat for their child and ensure that they wear it to and from school.
- ensure that their child applies SPF30 or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before leaving for school
- ensure that their child's clothing provides adequate protection from UVR.
- act as positive role models by practising Sun Smart behavior.
- support the school's Sun Smart Policy and help to design and regularly update the Policy

Students will:

- be aware of the school's Sun Smart Policy.
- take responsibility for their own health and safety by being Sun Smart.
- comply with Sun Smart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats, clothing, sunscreen.
- act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of Sun Smart behaviour.
- help to design and regularly update the Sun Smart policy.
- participate in Sun Smart education programs.
- Drink an adequate amount of water during the day.

School Cross Country

Our School Cross Country Carnival is less than 3 weeks away. It's been held on Thursday, 23 March which is Week 9. A program, as well as maps, has been uploaded to the sports webpage on our school website. I have also emailed the maps and the program. Please make sure your child wears their house colours on the day. A permission form requesting permission for students in grades 2 – 6 to leave the school grounds prior to the day has been sent home. Please return this to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. Cross Country training is available for all students from Prep to Year 6. It occurs every day from 8:15am.

QLD Running

Every Saturday QLD running hold running events. Locations change each week. Please go to their website for more information.
<http://www.queenslandrunning.com.au/>

The program is as follows:

2:00 pm 500m, 2:15 pm 1500m, 2:35 pm 3000m, 5000m, 2:55 pm 4000m, 6000m & 8000m, 3.00 pm Fitness Fun Walk - 500m, 3:25 pm 2000m, 3:40 pm 1000m.

Triathlon Squad

This week we have running and swimming. Can you please ensure your child has a visor, running shirt and water bottle for training.

Just a reminder that Early Bird entries are now open for the **Weetbix Triathlon which is being held on Sunday, 21 May. Early bird entries close Sunday 26 March.** I have registered a school team "Everton Park State School" under the group section.



Please go to <https://tryathlon.com.au/locations/brisbane/> and register your child. It would be fantastic if we could have the whole squad compete at the event. Students will be competing as individuals, completing all 3 sections on their own.

Thank you.
Ian Bird
HPE Teacher
ibird1@eq.edu.au

TUCKERBOX NEWS

The Tuckerbox is open each Monday, Thursday and Friday

Coffee and Fresh Tea now available in 2 sizes!

Small: 3.50 Large: 4.00

MARCH ROSTER

Thursday 9 – Sherryn
Friday 10 – Katrina, Kirstin, **EMPTY**
Thursday 16 – Jennifer

MARCH ROSTER

Friday 17 – Janene, Karla, Penny
Thursday 23 – Melissa
Friday 24 – Vicky, Johanna, Ann
Thursday 30 – **EMPTY**
Friday 31 – Katrina Langtry

We are still looking for some volunteers...please call Bee on 0452 662 358 if you are interested.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

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



FLEXISCHOOLS

Do you need some uniforms? Why not order them on Flexischools. No need to come into the school at all. Send in your order and I will fill it and hand deliver it to your child in class. 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 Friday during normal opening hours 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

LATTICE FOR SALE

MAKE US AN OFFER!!

Good quality framed hardwood lattice available.

Approximate measurements are:

- 1 x 1030 x 890
- 2 x 1030 x 2100
- 5 x 1030 x 2550
- 2 x 1030 x 2950



Yours for a donation towards the beautification of the school.

Please see Joy in the office.

ATTACHMENTS

- 2017 Term 1 Calendar
- Everton Park State High School Open Day flyer
- Out of the Dark Expo flyer