Dear Parents and Careers

Online Learning
In 2014 our school is focussing on individual learning pathways. We have been exploring different ways of matching learning opportunities to match the differing needs of our students. This week I will outline some ways we have been doing this in an online environment. We have been able to get access to additional teachers through various online learning opportunities. Below I have outlined just some of the creative ways we support our students in their learning endeavours.

Many thanks to the ongoing support from our P&C in helping us maintain our computers and ICT hardware. I would encourage parents to consider making a voluntary ICT contribution to the P&C. Last week saw the introduction of the initiative known as Project UTB. We have some of our Year 5 students enrolled in an online course through the Brisbane School of Distance Education, which aims to support students move into the top 30% of students across the nation. The students will participate in one web conference per week during school time in a small group. Each web conference goes for one hour and the students are supported by a staff member at our school and an online teacher. Each student will also complete approximately 30 minutes of online learning activities each week. This opportunity also provides our students with the chance to experience learning targeting their specific learning needs with an online teacher and student from other schools in a safe and secure environment.

Last week also saw the introduction of the new Accelerated Cluster for Enrichment (ACE) for some of our Year 4 students. The aim of the ACE Online project is to enrich students’ critical thinking in English as they participate in an online literature circle (eCircle). Through the eCircle, students will gain an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the persuasive devices used in narratives at a complexity beyond the learning expectations of their age peers. Students participating in this enrichment project will develop and apply their knowledge, thinking skills and attitudes on topics. Participating students will take part in a weekly web conference with their online teacher and be encouraged to actively participate in online discussions during these web conferences.

We have also had students involved in the Solid Pathways Project, which targets the top 10% of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students currently attending a school within the Metropolitan Region. The program aims to support high achieving students to continue achieving the good results they are currently attaining. The Solid Pathways program is planned to improve students’ creative and critical thinking skills (problem solving skills) that are important in achieving good academic results, and to support them in being ready for a pathway to high school.

The solid pathways program will be delivered as an on-line program for online teachers through a safe and secure virtual classroom called iConnect. Education Queensland has partnered with the University of Queensland to
support the training of teachers and to support events and camps for students. The students involved in this project engage in a 60 minute online lesson per week at school, as a group activity of approximately 10 students and 20-40 minutes of online, at home activities. Students are also invited to be a part of the mentoring, events and camps at the University of Queensland.

Parking
Many thanks to the support from our parents to help make our pick-up and drop-off time safer. Over the next few weeks we will continue to try new approaches to encourage parents to demonstrate safe driving behaviours and to follow the local road rules.

Writing Competition
Everton Park State High School’s annual whole school writing competition is just around the corner. On Monday, 31 March our Year 7 students and many students from our local primary schools and the students of Everton Park State High School will compete in a highly competitive academic writing competition. All students will write between 500 and 700 words in response to an unseen stimulus sheet. Year 7, 8 and 9 students will have 60 minutes and the Year 10, 11 and 12 students will have 120 minutes to write their best written work in either a persuasive or creative genre. Fantastic prizes and trophies will be awarded to our best writers and this year the publication of many stories from Years 7 to 12 will be published for distribution. Over the next few weeks more information will follow on how to respond to the unseen stimulus and how best to use your 60 or 120 minutes. We are very excited about continuing our academic partnership with the schools for the future alliance.

Brad Clark
Principal

EVERTON PARK STATE SCHOOL’S RULE OF THE WEEK
I am punctual and organised for all learning activities.

The links to our School Rule – Be an Active Learner.
This rule means:
1. I am in line by the second bell
2. I have all my equipment, books and notes at school
3. I have all my classroom equipment ready (pencil is sharp, rubber, glue, ruler, scissors)

Thank you goes out to our school community for supporting our school rules. This makes a huge impact on the consistency and meaning attached to our school rules and transforms what we are aiming to achieve with our learning experiences into lifelong learnings. Throughout all of our lesson around rules, we will continue to link all of our school values.

P&C NEWS

2014 FETE!!!
Fete planning is well underway! We’d love to see everyone involved, or interested in helping along to the fete meeting on Friday. We will be meeting after parade (about 0920) in the library on Friday, 28 February. We’d love to see you there! If you’re not able to make it but have some good ideas for us we’d love to hear from you – pandc@everparkss.eq.edu.au

Our special offer for Fete sponsorship is closing soon, and we will be offering the opportunity to local businesses. If you have a business and want to promote it through our fete, please contact us before the end of the week.

Amy List
P&C President

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM
Chaplains, or Chappies as they are endearingly called, are uniquely placed to support children and young people as they navigate life’s increasingly complex issues. They come from all walks of life, at all ages, with a heart to care for young people and their families. We will be recruiting our first Everton Park School Chaplain before the end of this term and still need support to fund this important program. Why not set up a regular donation of $10 or $20 a fortnight? It is easy to arrange online at http://donate.to.sugld.org.au/. For more information email the LCC at Chaplaincy@everparkss.uq.edu.au

CLASS NEWS

PREP B – We have been impressing visiting parents with our seriously smooth group routines and transitions. We look forward to seeing more parents visiting the classroom throughout the term. Thank you for all your help so far. Remember our (hush hush) AST walk on Friday – we’d love to see everyone from our class able to make it. This week we’ve been number hunting around our environment. Do you have any numbers around your home? When reading stories, we’ve been discussing the beginning, middle and end of the story – this is something you could do at home. Student of the week will go to Connor at assembly on Friday.

PREP C – We have begun our unit of work on Australian animals in preparation for our Bilby trip. This week we have been identifying native and non-native Australian animals. We have also learnt some interesting facts about the wombat. This week in Maths we have begun to recognise number words. This is quite tricky for us but everyone has been trying hard to look at the first letter to help us work out what number the word is. In Science we have started identifying living and non-living things and discussed the needs of a living thing. Student of the week: Leon M.

PREP R – This week we are looking at feelings in books and how characters feel. We are also looking at the pictures, because they help tell the story. In Maths, we are learning to sublise - look at a group of things and know the number WITHOUT counting. In Science, we have been talking about Living things and what they need. In Geography, we have been concentrating on common features on our planet. Using simple pictures that everyone will understand to recognise that place (ie a book for the library).

Student of the Week - Jayden F.

YEAR 1/2P – Wow, we are nearly half way through the term already! We have been learning and having fun!!!! The children have been starting to complete their assessment pieces for English and Maths this week.

The children are being split this term for Science. The Year 1 children are staying with me and the Year 2 children are being taught by Mrs Parkinson. Their homework (in their book) is handed out on a Monday and due back on a Friday. The children will change their home readers every second day. Please read with your child every day. This can be a book, comic, newspaper article, email, catalogue, recipe etc.

A quick reminder, we need parent helpers for our swimming session on Mondays from 9am-10am.

Also, on Friday 28th February it is Active School Travel day, so remember to walk, cycle, scooter/skateboard, go by public transport or carpool to and from school to get your passport stamped.

Thanks for your support

YEAR 2E, 2M, 2W – This week Year 2 are completing their Literacy assessment which involves reconstructing the poem ‘Mr Brown the Circus Clown’. The students have to keep the same syllable count and rhyme pattern, which is certainly a good challenge! In Maths we are looking at measurement and using informal units to measure items e.g MAB blocks, paper clips. For Science we are investigating different glue types. We were looking to see which clues do a better job at sticking plastic, foil and fabric. In 2 weeks time, the students will be making a lunch box as their assessment item, and this will need to be strong and water resistant. Students of the Week: Milly 2W, Brodie 2E and Rhys 2M.

YEAR 3M - The children have continued to examine persuasive texts and have been reading letters to the editor to help identify how persuasive language is used. We will be discussing the sentence “Is there something you can do” versus “What can you do?” in science. Students of the Week: Archie and Oliver.

YEAR 3R – We have been reading advertisements about pets and food. This is helping them to write their own advertisement, e.g MAB blocks, paper clips. For Science we are investigating different glue types. We were looking to see which clues do a better job at sticking plastic, foil and fabric. In 2 weeks time, the students will be making a lunch box as their assessment item, and this will need to be strong and water resistant. Students of the Week: Dominic A.

YEAR 3/4K – A NEW timetable has been issued for all instrumental students, which outlines that their lessons will take place each Thursday. Please remind your child on that day what time their music group needs to attend their lesson. THIS Friday (28 February), our Year 3R students will be recruiting our first Everton Park School Chaplaincy Program.

To ensure that you don’t miss out on your chance to receive double stamps and a FREE breakfast start making plans on how you will actively travel to school THIS Friday!

Student of the Week: Sarah C.
Year 3 students (with WALT and WILF): sorting, grouping and classifying various items, during our Year 3 Science lesson.

YR 4/5 – Thanks to those parents who have returned their child’s Behaviour Management note, these need to be read, signed and returned to school ASAP. We will always need parents to attend the swimming lessons, so if you are free on Mondays from 11.40-12.40 we would love to have you help us with our lessons. In English this week we will be beginning our assessment task of writing a new chapter of Matilda in Year 4 and comparing the book and movie of Matilda in Year 5. For Maths this week we will be looking at fractions, time and length in both Year 4 and Year 5. Please make sure your child has all items that were listed on the booklist. Some children still don’t have necessary books and items such as calculators. Have a great week.

Student of the Week: Joshua C.

YR 5S – This week 5S have enjoyed being scientists, exploring plant and animal adaptations. We would like to welcome Ned C to our class who has had a brilliant week. Don’t forget swimmers for Thursday.

YR 5T – This week heralds the beginning of the students’ cross-country training program in readiness for the cross-country competition later in the term. We will baseline our general fitness using the “beep test”. Students will set personal fitness goals and work towards achieving them over the next 6 weeks. As a tie-in to our geography, we will be running to or from school next Friday will receive two stamps in their AST passport to or from school that day, importantly, your head) safely in your helmet.!!! Again, to celebrate this magnificent active travel event, if you actively travel to or from school that day, your teachers will be providing double stamps in your AST passports!!!

PE NEWS

Swimming

Thank you to all the parents who attend swimming lessons to help out. More help would be appreciated in grades 3 and below. This is to enable students to work in smaller groups and thus get more out of their swimming lessons. If you can help out please see the PE team or your child’s teacher.

District Swimming

Congratulations to all the students who represented the school at the recent North District Trials. The following students have been chosen to represent North District at the Metropolitan North Regional Trials: Tanisha J, Ashley N, Mia L, Eva H and Kiana J

INTERNET BANKING

When paying via internet banking please ensure that your child’s unique EID number is used as a reference. This number is 10 digits and one letter long and is on your debit statement/invoice. Thank you to those families who are already using these numbers as a reference as it makes for accurate receiving.

SYDNEY/CANBERRA TRIP

Further information will be give out next week to the Year 6 and 7 students who are going on the Sydney/Canberra trip regarding payment plans.

SEPTEMBER

Please remember that the deadline for orders and payments for senior shirts is this Friday (28th February). The order will be placed on Monday, so Friday is the final cut-off. Don’t miss out on your 2014 senior shirt!

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Let’s get active!

*Fun. Fit Fridays are back!!! We will relaunch our AST program THIS Friday the 28th February. To celebrate the relaunch, all students that actively travel to or from school next Friday will receive two stamps in their AST passport!!! Wow!! But there’s more!!! All students that actively travel to school that morning are invited to head to the hall for a FREE healthy breakfast!!! If there are any parents who are available and willing to assist our Active School Travel Crew to hand out breakfast, we welcome you to the kitchen hall.

“Ride to School Day” will be on Wednesday 19 March. We will have a special theme for active travellers that day. As it’s a Wednesday, we’re making it a Wigs and Wheels Wednesday!!! Be sure that you secure your wig (and most importantly, your head) safely in your helmets!!! Again, to celebrate this magnificent active travel event, if you actively travel to or from school that day, your teachers will be providing double stamps in your AST passports!!!

Artslink Performance “No Way!”

Thursday 3 April

This is an interactive dance theatre production that tackles the serious issue of bullying in a creative and vibrant way. The cost is $6 per student. Envelopes will be given to all students tomorrow (Thursday). Please complete the back of the envelope with your child’s details, enclose the correct money and return to the Students Payments box in the office. (No credit card payments under $10).

WALK ‘N’ TALK IS BACK IN 2014

I just wanted to advise that Walk ‘n’ Talk recommenced on Monday with sessions being held on Monday and Friday mornings from 8.30am on the oval. Parents, grandparents and carers are encouraged to join their children for some early morning exercise, while listening to some music and enjoying the sunshine. So grab a hat and get walking! I look forward to seeing you all on again on Friday morning.

Tanya Kendall
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education is held weekly for each class at a cost of $6.00 for the year. Invitations have been given to students who will be participating in RE. If you have not already advised the office that you do not wish your child to participate in these classes could you please do so as soon as possible.

**BOOK CLUB 2014 ISSUE #1**

Thank you for your support of Bookclub during 2013. Through this wonderful endeavour our school received over $2600 in free products last year from Bookclub alone, with additional funds earned from the Book Fair organised by Mrs Lukey. I am sure that plenty more resources will be earned for our classrooms and library again this year. What a great achievement!! Thank you. If you have any queries regarding Bookclub, please don’t hesitate to leave a message for me at the office and I will contact you as soon as possible.

Tanya Kendall
(Bookclub Coordinator)

**LIBRARY NEWS**

**World Book Online**

Students from years 1 to 7 now have access to World Book online, both at school and home.

Username: eps
Password: e4053

This is our direct link:
http://worldbookonline.com/?subcat=AU014006

**Mater Fun Run – Walk – only 5km!**

Please join The Everpark Ladies Team for the Mater Fun Run/Walk on Sunday the 9th March around South Bank. This event is about raising money to provide practical support to women with cancer and fund world class cancer research.


You need to register online and then join our team Everpark Ladies. Any queries please email me and I can send you the direct team link. (Team Captain, that’s me – Bernadette Lukey)

bluke1@eq.edu.au

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS**

Bravo! Bravo! to all of kickstart beginner students who did a great job last week at Mitchelton State High School. A special thank you to all parents and guardians for coming along to listen to your child’s very first concert.

**WEDNESDAYS - WOODWIND, BRASS AND PERCUSSION - Mrs Penny Hall**

Concert Band for Mrs Hall (2nd and third year students ONLY) is at 7.45 am on Wednesdays.

 Beginner Band for Mrs Hall’s 1st year students commences at 1.20 pm in the music room.

For all band queries please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Penny Hall at ph35@eq.edu.au. Penny will be teaching at our school on WEDNESDAYS.

**THURSDAY’S - VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO AND DOUBLE BASS - Ms Anne Keenan**

First lessons for all levels Thursday, 20 February

First String Orchestra rehearsal will also be Thursday, 20 Feb- (students in the 3rd, 4th and 5th year of strings) – 7.45 am in the Music Room.

I look forward to meeting all the string families at Everton Park SS. If you have any queries please contact me at akleen9@eq.edu.au.

****DON’T FORGET TO PLEASE PAY FOR A GREEN MUSIC FOLDER FOR YOUR CHILD’S INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSON. THESE ARE GREAT FOLDERS WHICH ARE $10.00 AND ENABLE YOUR CHILD TO NOT LOSE THEIR MUSIC, KEEP THEIR MUSIC BOOKS IN GREAT CONDITION AND ALWAYS TO HAVE A PENCIL AND RUBBER ENCLOSED****

**STRINGS MUSIC NEWS**

*Celtic Strings Workshop*- All Senior Strings students are eligible to attend the Celtic Strings Workshop on March 12th at Windsor State School. This is a fabulous opportunity to work with one of Australia’s best Fiddlers – Emma Nixon. The registration date has been extended to Wed 28th Feb, so if you haven’t registered get in now it is sure to be an inspiring event.

*It was lovely to finally meet all the string students last Thursday when I had my first day of teaching at Everton Park SS. I could tell there was lots of enthusiasm and a high standard of playing amongst the students.*

Please note that the Strings Timetable has been redrafted and students will need to check with their class teacher or Mrs Crook to find out their lesson time for this Thursday. This timetable is Draft 2.

Looking forward to seeing the Senior Strings students for Orchestra rehearsal at 7.45am this Thursday 27th February,

Ms Keenan
akeen9@eq.edu.au

**MUSIC NEWS**

Elements and the Junior Choir are settling in and working hard on their new songs, and are really starting to work as two great teams! Try to arrive before 8.00am to make the most of our rehearsal time!

**CLASSROOM MUSIC NEWS**

Our Prep students are singing, moving, and playing instruments, and are settling into the routine of coming to the music room really well! Thank you to Mrs Bibey, Mrs Craven and Ms Rogers for having our Preps really ready to actively participate at music time! Our Year 1 and Year 2 students continue to sing songs, chant rhymes, play music games and musical instruments and generally participate beautifully in their music lessons. The hot weather sometimes provides us with a good opportunity to sit quietly and listen to some great classical music as well! Year 3s are singing songs, playing glockenspiels and xylophones, and reading and writing music on the staff.

Our Year 4 students are playing some tunes on their recorders – so far, they’ve learned B, A and G, and are reading and writing them on the music staff as well.

We have been working on always starting in the correct playing position, covering the finger holes firmly, and blowing gently!

All students from years 4 – 7 require their recorder, big notes music book and a pencil, at every lesson. Singing and playing, reading and writing, listening and creating are all aspects of music literacy that we need to focus on and having all the necessary equipment is a great advantage to our students.

**VACANCY - SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR**

A casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at Everton Park State School. Some pre-employment conditions apply. Roster - up to 5 days per week in all weather conditions. 1 hour 15 minutes per day on a rostered basis. Pay Rate $26.90 per hour.

Applications are available from the School Administration.

Applications close: Friday 7 March 2014.

**GARDENING CLUB NEWS**

We have had lots of interest in our Gardening Club, so much so that we really need some parent helpers! If your green thumbs are itching for a little extra workout and you can spare an hour or so on Wednesdays, around 11.00 am, please drop in and see me in the Music Room or leave a message for me at the Office.

Bernadette Crook
Classroom Music Teacher

**UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

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

**Second Hand Uniforms**

The Uniform Shop is in need of second hand uniforms of good quality (no stains or tears). If you have any we will pay $10 for each item. Could you please bring them to the Uniform Shop along with your account details so that a deposit can be made directly into your account.

Jeanette Jenkinson
Uniform Convener

**Tuckshop**

February Roster
Thursday 27 – Jo Baird
Friday 28- Melissa Hubert , Janene Ashton, another volunteer needed please
March Roster

Monday 3 – Loretta Cavallo
Thursday 6 – June Lever
Friday 7 – Misato Betts, Vicky Wilson, Greg Scott

Volunteers don’t just do the work – they make it work.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help in Tuckshop one morning a month. There are still a few vacancies for Friday, our busiest day. If you can help, please email your contact details to tuckshop@everparkss.eq.edu.au as soon as possible.

Order online flexischools.com.au

This year in Tuckshop, we really encourage families to use the convenient and easy online ordering system via Flexischools. Orders can be placed weeks in advance or before 9.00am on the day. The online Menu is updated regularly plus there will be online only specials throughout the year.

The 2014 Tuckshop Menu is now available to download from the EPSS website everparkss.eq.edu.au. Printed Menus will not be sent home this year however, you can pick up a copy from the Tuckshop or the office.

NEW!

Gluten Free Bread, Butter Chicken Curry and Custard Tubs.

Katrina Coomber
Tuckshop Convenor

COMMUNITY NEWS

Remember when you believed in anything and everything?

Researchers from the University of Western Australia are investigating children’s ability to detect and avoid potentially harmful social interactions, such as being easily fooled or tricked into doing something. We are looking to see how this develops in children, and when children outgrow this vulnerability.

We are looking for parents of Kindergarten – Year 6 children across Australia to complete an online survey (15 – 20 minutes). Participants will go into a draw to win one of 10 $50 gift certificates to Coles/Myers. To participate go to:
http://tinyurl.com/childsvq

Or for more information please contact Rebecca Seward at (08) 6488 4652

Mitchelton State High School

High School Experience Days are conducted each term to give students a taste of high school life. In 2014 dates are as follows:

- Year 7 Term 1 Thursday 6 March
- Year 6 Term 2 Wednesday 30 April
- Year 5 Term 3 Monday 25 August
- Year 4 Term 4 Friday 17 October

Transition Days are offered to students who are intending to attend Mitchelton State High School in 2015.