Dear Parents and Carers

Newsletter Change
Next week there will be a change to the format of the school newsletter as outlined at the parent information evenings. Class news as of next week will be sent home via email to all parents who have provided an email address and agreed to receiving correspondence through this form of communication. If you do not receive an email from your child’s class teacher next week, please contact the office so we can update your contact details. This change was based on feedback from the Parent Rep Meetings last year as the preferred communication method. This will strengthen the line of communication between school and home. Teachers will be able to provide more details in a timely manner that relate to the learning experiences in their classroom, including adding attachments such as homework, photos and permission notes. Just a reminder that report cards will also be emailed home at the end of this semester instead of the paper copies. As we are moving towards working more in a digital format we will not duplicate this methods of communication and we will not be able to provide printed versions of this information. We will not disclose the email addresses of parents in the emails that are sent home from school, they will be merged into a mailing group. Be careful if you are replying to an email and do not use the ‘reply to all’ feature to avoid sending an email to every parent in the class. Finally, a reminder that all of our teachers’ emails addresses are available on our school’s website.

There will still be a paper copy of a school newsletter sent home each week. This will now contain whole school messages such as P&C news, Principal news, Sports Reports, Fete Updates and Tuckshop News.

Before School Mathematics Club
Yes, it is a Mathematics Club! Like our very successful Morning Reading Club, next week we will launch a Before School Mathematics Club. The intent behind this is to provide students with the opportunity to increase their confidence with Mathematics and to assist them in developing fundamental numeracy knowledge and skills. Early next week we will send home invitations for individual students to participate in this initiative. We are also looking for some parent volunteers to assist us with this project, please contact the school if you are interested in helping out.

Reading
Improving the reading abilities of all of our students is still one of our main priorities. We expect that each student will read or share a book every night as part of their homework. Reading is a complex skill that requires the mastery of many complex thinking processes. Students need to practise their reading every night to become fluent and confident at reading which then leads to an enjoyment of reading. Children enjoy doing things that they are good at,
the more they read the more they will enjoy reading. As reading is a fundamental skill, we aim to help our students from change from 'learning to read' to 'reading to learn'. Below I have outlined some important things to remember when reading with young children:

- Make it a positive, fun learning experience. Don't make it a frustrating experience.
- Talk about the book. Reading is so much more than pronouncing the words on a page. Ask lots of questions to check if you share the same understanding. If you spend ten minutes reading, you should spend at least five minutes talking about the book.
- Reading can be a shared experience. Children can learn to read by watching and listening to others read. It is a great family activity that is free and environmentally friendly.
- Books are made to be read more than once. Re-reading a book helps develop fluency and confidence.

Mobile Phones
Mobile phones provide us with immediate access to our friends and family and are a fantastic tool. They can also be used in a manner which can have negative consequences especially for children. Most mobile phones have cameras and social networking capabilities and to protect the privacy of our staff and students we do not allow mobile phones to be used within our school.

I am sure parents and carers can also appreciate we need to monitor who is making contact with your children during the school day, so we request that if you or your child need to get in touch with each other, you always do this through the office.

I understand that some students walk home or have circumstances that require them to have a mobile phone. Please download the mobile phone permission from our website informing the school of this for our records. Students are reminded that at no time are they to use this for our records. Students are also responsible for their own mobile phones have cameras and social networking capabilities and to protect the privacy of our staff and students we do not allow mobile phones to be used within our school.

I am sure parents and carers can also appreciate we need to monitor who is making contact with your children during the school day, so we request that if you or your child need to get in touch with each other, you always do this through the office.

Brad Clark
Principal

EVERTON PARK STATE SCHOOL’S RULE OF THE WEEK
I keep hurtful and bullying actions out of our school

This links to our School Rule – Be Respectful (All areas)

This rule means:
1. I use and follow the High 5 steps
2. I use welcoming body language, facial expressions, voice and words
3. I keep hands, feet and objects to myself
4. I am not a bystander
5. I report bullying to a staff member

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 here at school into lifelong learnings. Throughout all of our lessons around rules, we will continue to link all of our school values.

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM
Chaplains provide a listening ear and a caring presence for kids in crisis and for those who just need someone to believe in them. They are also on-hand to provide support for staff and parents in school communities. Thank you to everyone who has donated to help our school to establish our first Chaplaincy Program. We have had great support from school families and our local community. Donation forms are still available on our website or online at http://donate.to.suqld.org.au/. For more information email the LCC at Chaplaincy@everparkss.qld.edu.au

CLASS NEWS
PREP B – This week we are beginning to discuss problems and solutions in stories – try to integrate this into story time at home. In Prep Maths we have begun to identify number words using the first letter/sound as a clue. We are also moving into comparing quantities. Our stories and Science this week will be linked to native animals in preparation for our upcoming bilby excursion (next week). Look out for the Prep B Sound Charts book on our classroom bookshelf – a great experience to share with your child before or after school. Student of the week will go to Amelia A at assembly on Friday.

PREP R - This week we have been using positional language in Maths. We had a star treasure hunt in our classroom, where we had to describe the position of each star. We are also making our first video for the year. In English we are making connections between the pictures and the story. We also love doing our "Letter of the Day". In Geography we each sketched a map of Mr Clark's office and in Science we are looking at what a plant needs to survive. We are also very excited as we have started learning about bilbies in preparation for our excursion next week. Student of the Week - Shery K.

YR 1/2P – Homework books are due back on Fridays. As far as I am aware our class does not have a parent rep for the P&C, please let me know if you can do this or are interested. In English we are looking at a new unit: Creating persuasive imaginative texts. In this unit, students will read and view elements of persuasion in multimodal texts to create additional pages (Year 1), or a new blurb for a persuasive imaginative text (Year 2) and present this to the class.

If you have any old magazines or comics could you please send them into class as we will use pictures from these to help us with this unit. One of our music times has changed. We now have music on Tuesdays 2.20-2.40pm on Wednesdays 11.40 – 12.10pm. Student of the Week: Jada Charuvastra.

YR 2E, 2M, 2W – We have reached the halfway mark of Term 1 and what a busy and exciting term it has been! This week the children are completing their healthy food assessment and designing a menu for two meals of the day. In English the students have been presenting their poems to their peers - all students have done a wonderful job in their presentations. We have begun a new unit of work based on stories with animal characters. Students of the Week - Alex 2E, Ellie 2M, (2W to be advised).

YR 3/4K – Well done to the majority of 34K students who actively travelled to and/or from school for the re-launch of Fun, Fit Friday! With only 3 students NOT actively travelling last Friday, we have a good chance of winning the AST Star Award! There are still 4 families who have not returned their yellow 'contact details' forms. Please ensure that these forms are completed/edited and returned to the school office ASAP. We will switch to electronic (email) correspondence within the coming week/s. Thank you to those families who have returned their yellow forms, you will continue to be informed about what's happening inside and outside our classroom via email. Student of the Week: Ahona R.

Leilani discovers evidence of a 'living' thing within our school environment.

YR 4/5I – Thanks to those parents who have already returned their child's Behaviour Management note and the yellow form. These need to be read, checked, 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 complete our assessment task of writing a new chapter of Matilda in Year 4 and comparing the book and movie of Matilda in Year 5 and then begin our next unit which is looking at Poetry. 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 booklet. Some children still don't have necessary books and items such as calculators.

Have a great week. Student of the Week: Grace B.

YR 4SP - Week 6 marks the start of assessment in English and Maths and the beginning of Unit 2. We will be focusing on poetic language features in English and fractions, length and time in Maths. History has us exploring the significance of Captain Cook's journey.
and his contact with other societies. We are still chasing completed yellow forms, permission slips for our upcoming history excursion and magazines for our Technology unit. Student of the Week: Paige Willis.

**YR 5T** – In Geography the students are working to extend their mental map of the world with a focus on Europe and North America. We are learning to identify and describe locations in relation to scale. We will look at and apply cartographic conventions. We explore locations by examining the human and environmental factors that impact on the place. This relationship between people and environment will be examined through climate and development data, and maps of vegetation and landforms. Students will represent and interpret data to identify simple patterns and trends. From this information, they will draw their own conclusions. The geography compliments our science and HPE units.

A letter will go home this week seeking parent assistance in the classroom. This could involve one-on-one recall work, supervision of small groups, or running one off reward tasks like cooking. If you can help weekly, fortnightly or occasionally, we’d love your input.

**Students of the Week:** Flynn G, Kaela S.

**YR 6P** – We have finished 2 main pieces of assessment this week. The first is the English task involving the analysis of a short story. The other is the ‘Data Decoder’ Maths test. Thanks to all the students for their dedication and patience while completing both tasks, which are quite long. Please remember parents, we will need your support for swimming supervision. In order to have as many children as possible in the water at once we do need extra eyes at the pool. It’s on Thursdays at 2:20. Have a great week, everyone!

**Attention Year 6 parents!**

We need a volunteer from Year 6 to act as “yearbook co-ordinator”. Please give this careful consideration as this is a parent-run project. If you are willing to take on the role, please email me at jprit6@eq.edu.au and I will email you the contact details for the company that produces the books.

**YR 7L** – We have had another productive week in grade seven. Students have commenced revision for their unit 2 assessment in Mathematics and are about to enter into the assessment phase for Science. Students are also progressing well with the development and application of specific reading strategies and have also produced some very interesting and amusing journal writing. Next week we move further into History and Geography where students will undertake practical activities concerning water use and conservation. In rock band news, we have just completed auditions for our lead and back-up singers, which has unearthed an array of vocal talent.

**THE ART CLUB**

Are you keen on some art in your life? Join us on Friday morning at first break in the art area (under Yr 3 classrooms). We’ll have some fun activities ready to go! Also, let us know what you love doing and we’ll do our best to include it in the coming weeks. See you there!

**ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL**

Let’s get active!

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

**BOOK CLUB 2014 ISSUE #2**

A reminder that Issue #2 of Bookclub closes on **MONDAY, 10 MARCH 2014**. **PLEASE NOTE THAT ORDERS AFTER THIS DATE CANNOT BE ACCEPTED**

To order please complete the student order form on the back of the book club brochure. Orders and correct money are to be placed into the “Book club” box located in the library. Please make cheques payable to Scholastic Australia Credit Card Payment Method.

To pay by credit card you must pay be phone or online, then record the receipt number only on the “CREDIT CARD RECEIPT DETAILS” coupon on the back of the book club brochure. **DO NOT WRITE YOUR CREDIT CARD NUMBER ON THIS COUPON**.

There is a supply of the different book club forms at the library (Wombat/Lucky/Arrow/Star)

If you have any queries, 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)

**MUSIC NEWS**

There will be a beginner music concert for all 1st year players of strings and band instruments on Wednesday, 26 March in our school hall at 4 pm until 4.45 pm. Letters will be sent home this week to beginner students only.

The Bandtastic Everton Legends are my beginner band students and they started very enthusiastically last Wednesday and they are all looking forward to sharing their music with their family and friends at the concert on Wednesday, 26 March.

All of our music students are required to have a music shirt for the year. Don’t forget to please send in your money for your child’s shirt.
Band folders are also a requirement. Don't forget to send your money in.

If you are sending a musical payment into the office please make sure your child's name is clearly marked on the envelope.

CLASSROOM MUSIC NEWS

Students in the Instrumental Music Program, Junior Choir and Elements need to hire their music shirts for 2014. Please send $10.00 in an envelope, with your name, class and MUSIC SHIRT HIRE written on the front. When you are given your receipt, please come to the music room and receive your music shirt from Mrs Crook, Mrs Hall or Ms Keenan. The number on your shirt will be recorded, and you can take the shirt home and have it ready for any music performances during the year. Shirts will need to be returned in excellent condition at the end of the year. Instrumental students who have not yet purchased their green music folders, please send in your $10.00 in an envelope with your name, class and MUSIC FOLDER written on the front. Please bring your receipt to the music room to receive your folder. Bernadette Crook Classroom Music Teacher

STRINGS MUSIC NEWS

Instruments - Cello and Violin
Could students please ensure they take their instrument home after their lessons on a Thursday. I noticed a cello and a violin were left behind last Thursday, 27 February. Could you please check that you have your instrument at home to practise? If you discover it is not there then the instruments in Mrs Crook's room are probably yours and you should go and claim them. Also one of the beginners has left their music stand in the community room. Make sure you collect that because it will be helpful to you when you do your practise.

Urgent message to students attending the CELTIC WORKSHOP.
The workshop date has been changed to Tuesday, 11 March. All other details remain the same.
The venue is Windsor State School Hall (Harris St Windsor).
Arrival and registration from 8am.
Workshop 8.45 – 2pm.
Concert 2.00 – 2.30 Entry is free.

Ms Keenan is away Thursday, 6 March so there are no lessons or rehearsals.
Lessons and rehearsals as usual Thursday, 13 March.

There is a Beginner Strings and Band Concert coming up after school on Wednesday, 26 March.

I recently sent home a note asking you for your email address to set up a strings contact list.
Could all families in the strings program please ensure they have either returned their email address on the form provided or just email it to me akenen@eq.edu.au
Ms Anne Keenan Strings Teacher

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.

INTERNET BANKING

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

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is held weekly for each class at a cost of $6.00 for the year. Invoices 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 you please do so as soon as possible.

2014 FETE

It's that time again!! Our Fete meetings are up and running preparing for another fabulous event.
The date of our big day is Sunday 1st June from 10am to 3 pm and there will be rides, games, entertainment, market stalls and some spectacular food! This day is only possible thanks to our entire community so that our entire community can enjoy a great day out while raising funds to support our student's learning journey. There are still some positions available for those of you who would like to assist, including:

- Works and Equipment Coordinator
- Entertainment Coordinator
- Rides and Games Coordinator
- Food Coordinator
- Class stall Coordinator

Each role is different and may not be as time consuming as you think. If you have an interest in discovering if you fit any of these roles, please contact me (karlachaffey@aapt.net.au) and I can fill you in with what is required.

Our next Fete meeting is Thursday, 13th March at 3:10pm at the terraces. Come along and see what is being discussed and let us know your thoughts.

Kara Chaffey (Fete Coordinator)

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

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

Tuckshop

It's a bit tricky finding the 2014 Tuckshop Menu on the EPSS website everparkss.eq.edu.au. Go to 'Support & Resources' tab on the homepage, 'Forms & Documents' and it is in the 'Documents' list. A friendly reminder that children in Prep to Grade 2 are not able to spend money buying treats over the counter at first break. All their orders, including treats, need to be online or written on a paper bag.

Order online flexischools.com.au

It's a casual dress day! Please ensure your child is in their best clothes for the day.
The menu is as follows:

- Chicken Curry and Custard Tubs.

Kathrina Coomber Tuckshop Convenor

COMMUNITY NEWS

Everton Park Scouts and Cub Scouts are looking for new members: Everton Park Scouts (10 – 15 yrs) and Cub Scouts (7 – 11 yrs) are looking for new members (boys and girls) at their Den at Teralba Park. Activities including an overnight hike, lessons in knot tying, first aid, how to read maps and compasses and bush walking. Please contact (Scouts) – David Mort 0414 675 392 or (Club Scouts) Samara Fife 0432 875 704.