FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

Congratulations Year 7 Students
Tonight we have the Year 7 Graduation in our school hall. It is a special evening to acknowledge the contributions to our student leaders and their achievements. It is also an opportunity to thank the parents who have had a long and fruitful association with the school. Our students leave Everton Park State School with many academic, sporting, musical and civil achievements and leave behind traditions for generations to come.

On Friday we will have the Year 7 final assembly at the different time of 10:15. At 11:00 we will have our volunteer's morning tea, held in the hall. This is to thank our army of people in our school community kind enough to donate their time to make a difference to the lives of our students.

Shuffle Up Day
Next week on Wednesday from 2:00- 3:00 we will have a shuffle up day where students will be put into different classes for next year. The intent of the shuffle up day is to take away some of the unknown factor and to give the students something to make a positive connection to their class next year. As such, we will do everything we can to make this experience a positive one. Parent input for class placements has now closed and the majority of classes have been finalised.

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Please assist us to set your child up for success by recognising that their transition into next year will be a positive experience. Students are very perceptive and will pick up on any anxieties or negative feelings.

Below is the outline of our class structure for next year. At this stage it is unlikely that we will have to shuffle classes for next year, but not completely out of the question.

**Carols Night**

On Monday, 9 December we will have our Carols Night at 6.30pm on the terraces. If we have any trouble with the weather we will split the event up into junior and senior carols and move the event to the hall. Food and drinks will be on sale before the start of the carols, so come along early to get a good seat and set up a family picnic. Make sure you bring along your singing voices, chairs and blankets, torches and fluoro products (no candles please).

We will also be dressing up and giving away the Christmas raffle prizes. There are some great prizes this year so be sure to purchase your tickets. We will also be drawing the winner of the Active Travel prize of a bike donated by Ridgways Cycles.

**Report Cards**

Next week we will be sending home report cards to keep parents informed about your child’s progress in Semester Two, 2013. If a student is able to demonstrate the required knowledge or skills then they receive the appropriate achievement rating. We use a standards based assessment so it is technically possible for all students to achieve an ‘A’ or ‘Very High’. We do not use bell curves. Please remember, a student who achieves a ‘C’ or ‘Sound’ is making age appropriate progress. A student working at this level is progressing in a manner expected for that year level.

Student work is compared across year levels through moderation meetings. I attend all of these moderation meetings so I can see firsthand the evidence of great teaching and learning. Teachers assess the required knowledge or skills then they receive the appropriate achievement rating. We use a standards based assessment so it is technically possible for all students to achieve an ‘A’ or ‘Very High’. We do not use bell curves. Please remember, a student who achieves a ‘C’ or ‘Sound’ here at Everton Park is working at the same level as a student in Melbourne or Darwin who is also achieving a ‘C’ or ‘Sound’.

Equally important with a student’s achievement level is the effort which the students complete their work. Students are rated from A-E on their efforts in each subject area. Our report cards are a great way for formally acknowledging the wonderful efforts that our students demonstrate on a daily basis. I ask that parents spend some time talking to their child about this achievement rating to celebrate hard work.

I ask that parents not to give rewards, gifts or punishments when the report cards come home. We know that this method can be very counterproductive and also send the wrong message to our students. A lifelong learner develops an intrinsic motivation to continue to learn and develop. They are not dependent on rewards or incentives. The report cards are written with parents’ and students’ intended audience. Your child will be curious and will be looking for reassurance and affirmations which is done best by open conversations. The report cards will be sent home in a sealed envelope.

Regards

Brad Clark
Principal

**P&C NEWS**

**Year 7 Graduation**

On behalf of the P&C, I would like to congratulate the Year 7’s on their graduation tonight, and wish them all the very best for their next adventures. As parents and families at EPSS, we look on proudly as we can see how much you’ve grown as you’ve taken on leadership positions at the school this year and set a great example for the junior grades. Good luck next year as you move to High School. A big thank you too to the families who are leaving EPSS at the end of the year. We hope to still see you around the place as part of the EPSS Community!

**Christmas Raffle**

We’ve had some amazing prizes donated for the Christmas raffle including an Android Tablet, Christmas lights and vouchers from local businesses. Thank you so much to all families who have donated so far. Don’t forget to sell those raffle tickets and return them by Thursday. If you’ve sold all your tickets you can pick up some more at the front office. And we are still accepting donations for the Christmas Hampers which will be raffled off too – please have these at the Library by Thursday.

**Christmas Carols**

At Christmas, it’s a time to think of those who are less fortunate than us. At Christmas, there is time to think about our classroom shop will be open for customers to spend their cash. Our final PE lesson (with Mr Crawford) will be this Thursday from 12:10 – 1:10pm. We will have another two FREE TIME sessions next Tuesday and Thursday from 10 - 11am. Please email Miss K if you are available to supervise. Don’t forget that the carols night is next Monday from 6.30pm onwards – don’t forget to wear Christmas clothes! Gold Card Day will be held next Wednesday from 10 – 11am. The theme is ‘Water Play’. Students are required to wear their swimwear underneath play clothes (thongs are to be worn while engaging in the water play – on the oval). Please make sure that you pack your underwear, school uniform and shoes in your swim bag, so that you can change into clean/dry clothes and footwear after all the action and fun. Our Break Up Day party will be next Thursday. For those students who have not paid ($5) for the catered lunch, remember to bring your own morning tea and lunch in your lunch box. The final day will be ‘Clean Up Day’. If your child is very good at cleaning, please send them to school. Many hands make light work.

**CLASS NEWS**

**Prep C** -What a fantastic night we had at our Prep End of Year Show. Thank you so much to all the families who made it along. I think you would all agree what a wonderful performance the children put on. It was a great way to celebrate all our hard work and the fabulous year we have had together. Just a reminder that there are many wet activities planned for next year. The children will need their togs on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

**Prep R** - This week we have been focussing on practicing for our End of Year Show. Thanks to everyone who came along and joined in this special night. The children did a great job! Now we can focus on our Christmas activities and finishing off the year. Don’t forget next week we have 3 days when we need our togs (Monday - Prep Swimming Carnival, Wednesday - Gold Card Wet Day and Thursday - Free swim with Prep C). Student of the Week - Nina G.

**2E & 2W** – The Junior Swimming Carnival was held today and was enjoyed by all. Thank you to all the parents who provided a red T-shirt. These have been decorated and will be handed out on Monday afternoon. Please wear them on Monday night to our Carols Night. It should be a good night as we have been practising our songs and actions daily!

**3K** – On Tuesday our class was fortunate to participate in a FREE soccer skills session from the IGA Football program. Thanks to Mr Crawford for organising this for our class. Today we had our Junior Swimming Carnival. I’d like to congratulate all the students for their swimming efforts today. Well done for finishing STRONG!

Tomorrow morning will be the final time (for this year) that our classroom shop will be open for customers to spend their cash. The next Monday from 12:10 – 1:10pm. We will have another two FREE TIME sessions next Tuesday and Thursday from 10 - 11am. Please email Miss K if you are available to supervise. Don’t forget that the carols night is next Monday from 6.30pm onwards – don’t forget to wear Christmas clothes! Gold Card Day will be held next Wednesday from 10 – 11am. The theme is ‘Water Play’. Students are required to wear their swimwear underneath play clothes (thongs are to be worn while engaging in the water play – on the oval). Please make sure that you pack your underwear, school uniform and shoes in your swim bag, so that you can change into clean/dry clothes and footwear after all the action and fun. Our Break Up Day party will be next Thursday. For those students who have not paid ($5) for the catered lunch, remember to bring your own morning tea and lunch in your lunch box. The final day will be ‘Clean Up Day’. If your child is very good at cleaning, please send them to school. Many hands make light work.

**Gold Card Day** will be held on Wed. 11 December. Students must bring footwear, hat, Mariska, Gwen and Matthew were among the many that ‘Blinged their Thing’ for last week’s ‘Terrific Traveller Tuesday’. 3/4B - The holidays are fast approaching and we are busy organisations activities that will reward the children for all the hard work they have done this year. Firstly, Gold Card Day will be held on Wed. 11 Dec. Students must bring footwear, hat,
sun-safe clothes, swimmers, towel and their uniform. We will be participating from 10-11am. Students who have had a detention this term will not participate fully. On Thurs, 12th Dec. we will hold an end of year pizza party. Notes have been sent home, so please return money ASAP. Also on this day, the children will have another chance to swim in the pool, so they will require their usual swimming gear. I am looking for parent volunteers to help me supervise these sessions. Please let me know if you can help out at all (Yr. 3s: 10-11am, Yr. 4s: 1:50-3pm). Finally, congratulations to Mario who has achieved Junior Black Belt at Rhee Tae Kwon Do. This is a special achievement for someone of his age and size.

5T - I would like to express my thankfulness for all the support and assistance parents and staff have provided over this very busy year. I have been astounded by the generosity of the many people who gave of their time and energy to ensure each activity 5T undertook was a successful learning opportunities for all of the students. This included parents who attended excursions, supervised class reward sessions or acted as another pair of eyes in swimming lessons. Please consider attending the Volunteers’ Morning Tea this Friday so we can formally thank you for your support. We really do appreciate you.

5/6M – Well done to students for putting in such a wonderful effort to complete tasks and participate in classroom activities throughout the week. We have had a busy lead up to the end of term and there are still many more activities to come. Don’t forget to rehearse our Christmas carols, Jingle Bell Rock and You’re a Mean One Mr Grinch, in preparation for carols night.

6/7P - This is a big week for the Year 7s – graduation! This is a celebration of all your time at primary school. The end of the year is fast approaching and we are working hard to complete all of our work and end of year activities. Remember everyone, finish strong! Just a reminder that we need volunteers to supervise swimming next week – Monday and Thursday 11:50-1:10. Without you we won’t be able to use the pool due to the need for adequate supervision. Please let me know if you can come. Have a great week everyone!

LIBRARY NEWS

All books need to be returned to the library by this Friday. Please help your child look for any books that may be missing or overdue. Now is the time to get ready for Summer Reading. Have you joined your local city council library yet? It’s free. Bromwyn and Loren from Everton Park Brisbane City Council library are keen to have you visit and join if you are not a member already. All the Brisbane City Council libraries will be offering the Summer Reading program which combines reading and library activities to help kids experience the joy of reading over the school holiday break as well as keeping them on track for the next school year. The program offers a range of school holiday events and activities including pantomimes, storytelling, craft and cartoon and writing workshops. The Cybersmart presentations were extremely informative and if you and your family are using social media, games, apps and virtually any device that connects you online, take some time to visit their web site. http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/

GRADE 7 FINAL ASSEMBLY

Friday, 6 December
The final assembly for our Grade 7 will be held on Friday, 6 December at 10:15am at the school hall and will be followed by a Volunteers Morning Tea.

FINAL EVENTS FOR GRADE 7’S

Wednesday, 4 December- 6pm (for a 6:30 start)- 9:30pm GRADUATION Night in the Hall.
Thursday, 5 December- Students permitted to wear High School Uniform for the day.
Friday, 6 December- 10:15am Final Grade 7 Parade. End of year awards presented. (Followed by volunteers morning tea for parents).
Monday, 9 December- 11:40- 1:10 6/7P and 7S Free Swim (We need parent volunteers please).
Wednesday, 11 December- Gold Card Day middle session (Need swimmers/daggy clothes/thongs/ towel) Thursday, 12 December- 11:40-1:10 6/7P and 7S Free Swim (We need parent volunteers please).
Friday, 13 December- Clean Up Day!!!!

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.
Parents we require some extra volunteers for 7S and 67P on Monday and Thursday for our free swim time. If you can come help supervise please let the teachers know asap.

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL UPDATE

*At last week’s assembly, it was stated that last Friday would be the final ‘Fun Fit Friday’ for this year. The good news is, Active School Travel will continue in 2014!!! On Monday, we collected all student passports for safe keeping. Miss. K will hold onto all the passports until 2014. When Active School Travel resumes next year, your class teacher will return your passport to you, so that you can continue to get stamps and ultimately collect ALL of the prize rewards!!!

*Last Friday, the class that actively travelled to school the most by walking, was Prep C. Congratulations to Prep C for having 100% of their students actively travelling to and from school, by using their legs! We will present the Gold Star Award to your class at the upcoming Christmas Carols night.

*The winner of the Bike Voucher will also be drawn on the Christmas Carols night. Be there to find out who the winner is

‘Congratulations to Aliyah from Year 1 and Eric from Year 7 for their brilliant entry in the Active School Travel calendar competition! We’re extremely proud to have your pictures within the 2014 calendar © All families should have received an Active School Travel calendar with last week’s newsletter. If the youngest child in your family didn’t receive an AST calendar, please notify their classroom teacher.

Some active school travellers who ‘Blinged their Thing’ for last week’s ‘Terrific Traveller Tuesday’.

MUSIC NEWS

We had a terrific night last Wednesday at our Music Soiree. We appreciated the great effort all our students put into their performances. We also had a very attentive audience – thank you to all our families and friends who supported all our music students. Well done, Everton Park! Congratulations and thanks must go to our three hosts for the evening, Adrian, Mallika and Imogen, who did a fantastic job. We will miss you all next year!

A special thank you also to all members of the community group No Strings Attached and our Deputy Principal Mr David O’Connor for his wonderful performance too!

MUSIC SHIRTS

Music shirts must now be returned for stocktake – please ensure they are washed and returned to school in a plastic bag, as soon as possible. School instruments must be returned to your instrumental teacher.

MANSUSCRIPT BOOKS

Please remember music manuscript books can be carried on to the next year level, if there are still empty
pages. Recorders can now be taken home, washed, dried thoroughly, and packed away till next year.

NEW STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM FOR 2014
All payments for the kickstart day and the loan of an instrument need to be paid for by FRIDAY 31st JANUARY 2014. School Instruments will not be loaned out until money is paid for the instrument. For all payment queries please don’t hesitate to contact our Business Services Manager Mrs Barbara Morris.

Lessons for Mrs Hall’s (2nd and third year students ONLY) will commence for 2014 on WED 12th February. Concert Band for Mrs Hall (2nd and third year students ONLY) will commence at 7:45pm WED 19th February. Mrs Hall’s beginner students (first year students) will commence their musical journeys at the Kickstart day at Mitchellton State High School on Thursday 13th February.

For all string queries (please contact Kathryn Payne who teaches at our school on THURSDAYS) - kpayne49@eq.edu.au
For all band queries (please contact Penny Hall who teaches at our school on WEDNESDAYS) - phall35@eq.edu.au

BREAK-UP BREAKFAST - THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER
To celebrate all of band and strings students hard work this year we will be having a break-up breakfast party on Thursday 5th December at 7:45 am. We would like all strings and band students to please bring a small plate of breakfast food to share. Some food suggestions are: bread with your child’s favourite spread, healthy muffins, a small plate of fruit cut up. Please don’t send along junk food ie chocolate, sweet biscuits or chips. Mrs Payne and Mrs Hall will organise drinks. Letters will be sent home this week.

CHEERLEADING BBQ
Are you coming to the Christmas Carols on Monday night? Don’t feel like cooking dinner? The Cheerleading teams will be happy to cook for you. Come along, enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner and support our Cheer teams. Dinner will be served from 5:30pm. See you there.

Cheerleading parents - We will need volunteers for cooking and serving, so if you can help, please return the note that was sent home, or let me know via email - kroge8@eq.edu.au. We will start preparing from 4.30pm.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
In preparation for the New Year, the Uniform Shop will be open on the following days:

2013
December 9, 11: 8:30 – 9:30am

2014
January 23, 24: 8:30 – 10:00am
January 28 – 31: 8:30 – 9:30am

TUCKSHOP NEWS

DECEMBER ROSTER
Thursday 5
June Lever
Friday 6
Karla Chaffey, Caroline Chorley, Susan Seeto

The last day of Tuckshop for the year is this Friday 6th December. This day is a pre-order day only. Orders have closed. No other prepared food is available. Treats in stock can still be bought over the counter.

Please understand that with the summer holidays approaching some flavour options or items are not in stock. The online Menu is updated daily and I will endeavour to see all over the counter orders on Thursday before the children leave the Tuckshop. Out of Stock – macaroni and cheese, drumsticks, jacket potato, tuna, carrot sticks and tzatziki, pikelets, orange juice and Vaalia vanilla yoghurt tubs.

I would like to thank the wonderful volunteers for their help and laughters in Tuckshop this year. The Tuckshop couldn’t function without you all.

Wishing all families a safe, happy and restful Festive Season and holiday.

Katrina

Tuckshop Online Ordering is here!
Getting online is easy and only takes a few minutes to register. Simply go to www.flexischools.com.au and follow the instructions. Please note - paper bag ordering is still available.

ONLINE ORDERING
• Available 24/7
• Convenient for parents
• Removes paper orders and cash
• FREE registration

Online ordering is more convenient, providing a 24/7 payment and ordering system that can be accessed from home, work or a mobile device.
No more fumbling around for coins in the morning or sending kids to school with excess cash. online orders are faster and more accurate giving parents peace of mind that their order and payment is received accurately at the school.
Registration is free and only takes a few minutes.

ATTENTION !!! STUDENT ABSENCE NOTIFICATION
To leave notification of student absences please call our hot line on 3550 2277 at any time, day or night. Absences can also be emailed to: absences@everparkss.eq.edu.au

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