FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

Have you been watching the Winter Olympics in Sochi?
As I write this, an 18 year old from Australia has just skied down the Slalom. What a marvelous achievement to be competing in an Olympic Games at such a young age. Go Australia!
Perhaps sometime in the future we may be watching a student from EPSS compete on a world stage in their chosen field, marveling at their achievements and celebrating their accomplishments. But we don’t need to wait until then. We can do that right now!
Here we are in week 3 of our 2014 school year. Our students are focused and dedicated to learning and improving. We see our Preps skip into their classrooms each morning with excitement and anticipation.
We see our year 1–3 students enjoying the knowledge of “how school works” and our year 4–7 students settled with curricula and extra curricula routines already well in place. And we celebrate. These routines, understandings and anticipation of school are achievements worth celebrating. Every day when our students arrive home ask them, “What went well today?” When they relay their special thought, we can award them all a gold medal for improving and committing to achieving at school.

P&C AGM
On Monday, 17 February we will have our 2014 AGM. Before the official proceedings kick off the P&C have planned a welcome BBQ. At Everton Park State School we pride ourselves on having such a strong school community supporting the very important work that we do. Last year was an outstanding year for our school with accolades and acknowledgements all made possible with the support of our dedicated parents and P&C.
Next week is another opportunity where you can have input into your child’s education by coming along to the P&C AGM. You can be a part of our 2014 success story. At the Parent Information Sessions this week you will receive more information about this as well as a P&C membership form.

National Apology
This Thursday will mark the anniversary of the Federal Government’s Apology to Australia’s Indigenous Peoples. The Apology to Stolen Generations first took place on 13 February 2008 when the Prime Minister, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, introduced the Motion of Apology to Australia’s Indigenous Peoples in Parliament. At our school some of our classes examined the significance of this event in Australia’s history.
As much as the apology was about acknowledging the wrongs of the past and making room for our nation’s sorry business to be dealt with in a heartfelt way, it also marks our pledge to begin a new journey together.

Contact Details
Tonight is the last of our Parent Information evenings. I hope parents were able to take the opportunity to meet their child’s class teacher. Teachers also outlined how best to get in touch with them. All teachers have an email address and this is a great way to communicate with them, especially when things get very busy. I ask that parents make contact with their child’s class teacher if they need to communicate important information or if you have any questions or concerns. The class teachers will be able to best answer your questions. At the parent night
we also asked for each class to have a P&C contact represent activities. We believe behind this role is to have a stronger connection from our parents to the P&C.

If you did not attend the parent Information evenings please contact your child's teacher to collect relevant information and to confirm your contact details.

Brad Clark
Principal

P&C NEWS

Hopefully every family has received a P&C information pack this week. We strongly encourage all families to join the P&C and be involved in the school community. The Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, 17 February in the school library. Everyone is invited to attend. If you are unable to attend, please put in your membership forms and that way you will receive all the news about what is happening.

We had a first visit from Zero the Hero on 10 days at school already, this week we had an exciting visit from Zero the Hero who came bearing gifts and number tasks. We’d also met two new puppet friends named WALTer and WILFred who have come to help us with our learning. In Science we are exploring how we use our five senses and in Geography we have delved into learning about places which are familiar to us. Keep a look out for the Parent Helpers Roster sign-on this week. Ask your child about their new experiences playing with the ‘big kids’ in the playground. No Student of the Week this assembly.

CLASS NEWS

PREP B – Having achieved a whopping 10 days at school already, this week we had an exciting visit from Zero the Hero who came bearing gifts and number tasks. We’ve also met two new puppet friends named WALTer and WILFred who have come to help us with our learning. In Science we are exploring how we use our five senses and in Geography we have delved into learning about places which are familiar to us. Keep a look out for the Parent Helpers Roster sign-on this week. Ask your child about their new experiences playing with the ‘big kids’ in the playground. No Student of the Week this assembly.

PREP C – Thank you to all the parents who attended last night’s Information Session. If you were unable to make it your child will have an information pack for you. Please take some time to read the handbook and fill out the forms enclosed and return to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions please come and see. This week started our morning rotation groups. The class have really enjoyed these activities and have worked beautifully during this time. This week we have been practising our counting patterns and counting groups of objects to find out “how many”. We had a first visit from Zero the Hero on Monday. He is our counting friend who is going to help us learn more about numbers that have a zero in them. He gave us a worksheet all about number 10, a hide and seek game and special little treat. We LOVED our visit and can not wait for him to come again. Don’t forget to send in your email address so that you can receive a copy of our class newsletter via email next week.

PREP R - this week we have been learning about authors and illustrators. Did you know that the author writes the words and the illustrator makes the pictures? We’ve also been practising our letter of the day and we really like singing the song. In Maths, we are concentrating on matching our counting to the number of objects. This is called one to one correspondence. In Science, we have started investigating living and non living things.

YR 1/2P – We are learning the c/k sound this week. In Soundwaves, we are practising strong and weak sounds and counting the sounds in words. Reading IS the most important activity your child will undertake this year. Please read with your child every day, this could be books, magazines, recipes, brochures, poems, comics, The newspaper, instruction manuals etc. Record on Home Reading Record sheet. Just a reminder, swimming is on Mondays at 9am. Please have your child in their swimming bags before school starts. A final reminder that 1/2P’s Parent/Carer Information Night is Wednesday, 12 February at 5 – 5.30pm in our classroom. If you haven’t already, please forward your email address to me at npoco2@eq.edu.au and I will add you to my mailing list. Thanks for your support.

YR 2E, 2M, 2W – What a busy couple of weeks it has been! Year 2 are well into their units of work. Last week was the first time the class rotated between lessons of Health, History and Science. In Health, the students are learning about the Healthy Food Plate and what sort of foods they should be eating for a balanced diet. In History, they are comparing and classifying different objects and devices used in the past and the present. Finally in Science, the students have been investigating the different properties of matter. It has been wonderful to see all the students working well together and following the school rules to be safe, respectful and active learners. Homework sheets have been distributed this week so please make sure your child completes this and returns it by Friday. Just a reminder that the parent night is on at 5pm this Wednesday. Hope to see you all there.

YR 3M - Thank you to all the helpers at swimming last week. It was lovely to see so many parents at the Parent Information Night. I look forward to getting to know you throughout the year. If you have not yet returned the yellow form updating your details please do so as soon as possible so you can be added to the class email list.

HOUSEKEEPING: Library is on Wednesday. Homework needs to be returned every Friday.

YR 3R - We have some mathematicians in this class! We have been making and adding three digit numbers using MABs to show thinking strategies. A special mention to Alec for using mathematical language to explain his reasoning. The class will explore the many spelling choices for the ‘k’ sound. I’d like to throw a challenge to 3R students - there will be a prize for the student who brainstormed a sentence with the most spelling words included, eg “The clumsy cat quickly crawled.” Please email me your ideas to krama15@eq.edu.au and the winner will be announced on Monday!

YR 3/4K – Thank you to all the parents who attended last night’s Parent Information Night. For those parents who were unable to attend, a hand out of the information conveyed has been sent home for your perusal. If you haven’t already, please forward your email address to me at akend5@eq.edu.au and I will add you to my mailing list. Thank you to those students who remembered to hand in their homework on Friday morning! Once again, nightly reading is our focus. Do try to practice the multiplication facts and division facts (for the Year 4 students). The other activities on our homework
sheet are revision, for what has been taught in class time, please continue to assist your child at home with these homework tasks to consolidate the concepts taught. Telling the time is quite tricky. The best way to learn how to read the time on both analogue and digital clocks is to provide real life experiences/purpose - read and tell someone the time regularly, both at school and at home. There is no Student of the Week this week due to this Friday's special Student Leadership Induction assembly.

**YR 4SP** – The class are now fully immersed in their units of work. They are doing well with improving handwriting and a book as well as revising language features such as noun groups, verb groups and pronouns. They have begun to learn about exploration and settlement in history and are practising their mental strategies in Maths. A great start 4SP! Due to the school leaders induction at assembly there will be no student of the week this week.

**YR 4/5I** – Thanks to those parents who have already 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 please love to have you help us with our lessons. In English this week we will be looking at noun, verb and adverb groups as well as how direct speech builds characters in Year 4 and exploring narratives in film adaptations, as well as making and writing comparisons in Year 5. For Maths this week we will be looking at basic addition and multiplication facts and fractions in Year 4 and multiplication, addition, fractions and time in Year 5. Homework began last week. It is given out on Wednesdays and is due back at school the following Tuesday. Have a great week.

**YR 5S** – Over the past week students have set themselves a learning goal for Reading, Writing and Maths. Students will be working to achieve these goals throughout Term 1. Please remember that swimming for 5S is on THURSDAY! Please remember to bring a bottle of water for what has been an extremely active week. Oil and vinegar are essential in history and are practising irreversible changes this week so if you see your children commenting on dinner as it bubbles away you’ll know why! Our student of the week is Ella Slater for making such a huge improvement between last week’s spelling pre-test and post-test. Well done Ella!

**YR 7L** – This week sees the students entering into the revision phase for Mathematics. Over the coming days we will be focused on revisiting and practical concepts we have covered to date, in readiness for unit 1 assessment.

Science is also hotting up as we delve further into experiments concerning both the mixing and separating of substances. The students are also looking forward to their inauguration ceremony which will be taking place at Assembly, on Friday morning at 9am. On behalf of all of the students in years 4 to 7 I would like to extend an invitation for all parents to attend if they are able, as this will be a special day in their schooling life at Everton Park State School.

**CHEERLEADING**

E.P.S.S - EP Cheer Squad is the best! We are only having one practice this week. Let’s support this team.

**ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL**

**Let’s get active!**

Active School Travel’s colourful ‘Roadstar’ and his friends ‘Red’ and ‘Green’ were special guests at assembly last Friday when they re-launched Active School Travel for 2014. Our dedicated Active Travel Dome will be again this year and in a couple of weeks we will be holding our first Active Travel Day for 2014. Stay tuned for event details.

We know that everyone is different, so there are lots of ways you can actively travel to school. How will you actively travel to school?

**Walk**

Leaving the car at home and walking your kids to school. If you live too far away, drive part of the way and walk the rest. We call that “Park and Stride”.

**Ride**

Ride a bike or scooter with your children to school. It is legal to ride on the footpath and remember to always have your helmet secured.

**Public Transport**


**Carpool**

Find a friend and carpool to school. It’s an easy way to save money and time. Talk to other parents in your child’s class to see who is going your way.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education is held weekly for each class at a cost of $6.00 per 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.

**PE NEWS**

**Cricket**

Congratulations to Brayden M in 7L for making the North District U12 boys cricket team. Good luck for the regional competition next Thursday!

Upcoming North District Trial Dates

- Boys and girls U12 Basketball Trials are being held on Tuesday 25th Feb (Week 5).
- Boys and girls U12 Hockey Trials are being held on Thursday, 27 Feb (Week 5).

Students interested in the above trials will need to see Mrs Hughes or Mr Crawford for forms.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Students in Prep to Year 3 must have a library bag. Waterproof bags are the best. This year we are encouraging students in years 4 to 7 to also bring a library bag. Please take the time to get involved in your child’s reading and the library books they bring home. Read with them, ask questions, take an interest drop into our library before or after school, or visit other council libraries to source a wide range of books to choose from. International Book Giving Day – 14th February.


**Mater Fun Run – Walk – only 5km**

Please Join The Everpark Ladies Team for the Mater Fun Run/walk on Sunday 9 March around South Bank. This event is about raising money to provide practical support to women with cancer and fund world class cancer research. We would love any of our gals in the Everton Park School community to join us. [http://www.womensdayfunrun.com.au/](http://www.womensdayfunrun.com.au/)

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) blukenq@eq.edu.au
**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 21 February 2014

**MUSIC NEWS**
Both our Vocal groups, the Junior Choir and Elements are starting up this week. It’s not too late to join up. Come and see me if you’d like to join.

**INSTRUMENTAL NEWS**
Our Kickstart program for brand-new instrumentalists is happening on Thursday this week. We hope all our beginners learn a lot about caring for their instrument, and making those beautiful first sounds they produce! String lessons with Ms Keenan will commence in week four.

**GARDENING CLUB**
I’ll be carrying on Mrs Gillies’ Gardening Club this year. If you like to grow some fruit, vegies and herbs, this could be just the club for you. We will be gardening on Wednesdays at first break, commencing in week four. Look out for meetings and information letters this week. Bernadette Crook
Classroom Music Teacher

**STRINGS MUSIC NEWS**
Welcome to a new year and a new strings teacher. My name is Ms Anne Keenan and I am replacing Ms Kathryn Payne. I am looking forward to meeting all the Everton Park Strings students as I have heard such great things about you. I work in 4 other schools so the best way to contact me will be via email akeen9@eq.edu.au If you have any queries please either come and see me or phone the school on a THURSDAY, which is when I will be at Everton Park SS, or of course send an email.
Please note that due to my involvement in Beginner Strings Camps on Thursday, 6 and Thursday, 13 February, the first official day of lessons will be Thursday, 20 February (week 4). I will be in the school this Friday morning, 7 February, to organise the instruments for the beginner strings students attending Kick Start on Thursday, 13 February at Mitchelton High School.

Lessons will commence Thursday, 20 February (week 4). Senior Strings Orchestra will also commence rehearsals that morning at 7.45am. That means on Thursday, 20 February all 3rd, 4th and 5th year Strings Students should be at school by 7.40am ready to commence rehearsal at 7.45am. Last year’s Adagio Strings students are now members of the Senior Strings. Last year’s Beginners will become Adagio Strings. Adagio strings will commence rehearsals later in the term. Looking forward to meeting everyone. Ms Anne Keenan
Strings Teacher

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS**
**EVERTON PARK KICKSTART - BEGINNERS WORKSHOP DAY – THURSDAY, 13 FEBRUARY**
This day is for all of our new strings and band students who will be learning an instrument this year.
Venue: Mitchelton State High School’s Hall, Samford Road
Arrival time: 8.15am

**“Transport to and from Mitchelton State High School is Parent/Guardian Responsibility”**

Uniform: school uniform

What my child needs to bring: Instrument, musical equipment needed to play instrument, music stand, morning tea, lunch, hat, water bottle

Concert time: 2pm in the hall and all parents are welcome. Finish time and where do I collect my child: 2.30pm

Please note there will be no supervision of children after 2.50pm**

**WEDNESDAYS - WOODWIND, BRASS AND PERCUSSION - MRS PENNY HALL**
Concert Band for Mrs Hall (2nd and third year students ONLY) will commence at 7:45 AM (before school on WED 12 February)

For all band queries please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au Penny will be teaching at our school on WEDNESDAYS.

**THURSDAYS - VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO AND DOUBLE BASS - MS ANNE KEENAN**

Everton Park Beginner Strings – Kickstart Thursday, 13 Feb Mitchelton State High School.
First lessons for all levels Thursday, 20 Feb.
First String Orchestra rehearsal will also be Thursday, 20 Feb- (students in the 3rd, 4th and 5th year of strings) – 7.45am 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 akeen9@eq.edu.au.

**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

**Uniform and Tuckshop Sub-Committee Annual General Meeting**
The U&T sub-committee will hold its Annual General Meeting on Friday, 14 February at 2pm in the Library. At this meeting we will elect new sub-committee members – so if you would like to be involved in this sub-committee please come along. We would love to see you. If you would like to know more about the committee and the available roles, please contact Penny via pandc@everparkss.eq.edu.au

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

**February Roster**
Thursday 13 - Anita Reynolds, Friday 14 - Genevieve Moller, Karla Chaffey, Nikki Clur
Monday 17-
Thursday 20 - Jenny Sewell, Megan or Ben Limpus
Friday 21 - Carol McLean, Penny Valentine, Janene Ashton

**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. Check out Flexischools on your smartphone/tablet/pc.
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.

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.