Dear Parents and Carers

2014 NAPLAN- National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy
This year the NAPLAN assessments will take place on 13, 14 and 15 May for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 at our school. If your child is in one of these year levels and not participating in the assessment, please contact the school as soon as possible. There may be two reasons that your child will not complete the assessment, parents may wish to withdraw them from the assessment or your family may be away on holidays at that time.

As a school, we like all students to undertake this assessment, but we understand and respect that some parents may wish to withdraw their child from participating. If you wish to withdraw your child from NAPLAN testing please collect a form from the office. Parents are encouraged to chat to their child’s class teacher about the assessments involve and to answer any specific questions.

Students will have their skills assessed in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar), and Numeracy. National test results provide information on how students are progressing and support improvements in teaching and learning.

It is important to help students become familiar with the test materials to help them develop confidence and skills to complete these assessment tasks. Visit the NAPLAN website, which has support materials, and more information about the program. [http://www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html](http://www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html)

Junior High School
At the end of this year we will have our Year 6 and Year 7 students heading off to high school. This is not only a very unique time, but also a great opportunity. We have been working very closely with Everton Park State High School to make sure this transition is smooth and effective. Below is a link for parents to give feedback on the Junior Secondary School programs and to outline what you would like to see in secondary school. Please take a few minutes to pride this feedback to the high school. [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TSXPR6W](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TSXPR6W)

Parent Teacher Meetings
During the next few weeks our teachers will be holding their Parent Teacher meetings. I would advise all parents to take up this opportunity to discuss their child’s learning and development with their child’s class teacher. These
meetings are a great chance for parents to make a stronger connection to the classroom and develop a deeper understanding of your child’s lifelong learning journey. The report card sent home later in the year is another way we like to share this wonderful news with parents and believe that both forms of communication are very informative. Please note that interviews will not be offered again at the end of the semester.

Every Day Counts

Over the last few weeks we have begun to notice a decrease in student attendance. If your child is going to be away please contact the school on the 3550 2277 any time of day or night. Our aim to have no unexplained absences, so we may be following up with phone calls to confirm absences.

Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Why is regular attendance at school important? Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day and:
• they learn better
• they make friends
• they are happier
• they have a brighter future.

Brad Clark
Principal

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

Chaplaincy has become a major and integral support mechanism in schools especially in the area of supporting students at risk either as individuals or as target groups. The work of School Chaplains is making a difference with identified students who demonstrate behavioural and emotional need. The implementation of the Chaplaincy Program will add great value to our school and we look forward to introducing our Chaplain to the school community in second term. Thank you for all the support we have received for this important initiative for our school. For more information email the LCC at Chaplaincy@everparkss.eq.edu.au

SENIOR LEADERS

Any year 6 and 7 students who hand in their leadership booklet to Miss Pritchard by this Friday (21 March) will have their badges presented at the last Assembly of this term (4 April). Congratulations to those students who are continuing to follow the leadership process at our school. Parents are welcome to come along and see the presentation!

THE ART CLUB

Great painting last week - everyone had a ball with the colour and mess! You can see some of your artwork hanging up around the art area. So what’s on for this Friday’s art club?? We have a 3D theme! We’ll have stations setup with a few activities to choose from - come along and explore. Parents - anyone out there great at making play dough? If you can span a batch of dough, we could definitely use it this Friday. (Call Nadya on 0411 18 18 20).

We are slowly going to be creating a recycle centre in our art area. To start with, we are looking for any cotton cardboard cartons, flat cardboard pieces and packaging. Got that stuff? Want to give it to a good home? That’s us! Look for the signs near the art room. You see at Art Club - Friday morning, first break, in the art area (under Yr 3 classrooms). As always, let us know what you love doing and we’ll do our best to include it in the coming weeks.

LIBRARY NEWS

Students can access World Book Online both at home and school http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Loginn?wb=subacct=A014006

Username: epss Password: e4053

Can you spare anytime for Morning Reading Club? Come when you can, even 5 or 10 minutes once or twice a week to assist our students with their reading. Also I am always looking for volunteers to cover books or helping out with shelving books. I can provide air-con, music, coffee, tea and biscuits, and/or any special requests!

Overdue Notices: Please help your child look for these books. Give me a call or email if you have any concerns.

Ms Lukey
Teacher Librarian bluke1@eq.edu.au

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Let’s get active!

A BIG thank you to all the students, parents, carers, grandmas and grandpas for an awesome ‘Ride to School Day!!!’ It was amazing to see so many people actively travelling to school wearing their wonderful wigs!!! Keep your eyes open for some photos in next week’s newsletter!

Although we will only be meeting and greeting you at the school gates for very special active travel days this year, you will always receive a stamp in your Active School Travel passports (from your classroom teacher) for every Fun, Fit, Friday that you support ☺ Special news!!! As Fun, Fit, Fridays have been a great success this past year, the Active School Travel crew have decided to make another weekly ‘Active Travel Day!!!’ Will it be on Mondays? Tuesdays? Wednesdays? Or Thursdays? Be sure to read the upcoming AST newsletter snippets!!!

Don’t forget that your AST prizes can be claimed at Miss K’s room (room 22) at first break (after eating time) every Friday.

FAIRY GARDEN UPGRADE

Bunnings at Stafford have very kindly donated some items for our Fairy Garden at the front entrance of the school. A few dedicated Senior members of the community have offered their time and energy to redo the garden which will take place in early April.

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. Please place the correct money in a marked envelope and return to the Students Payments box in the office. (No credit card payments under $10).

CHEERLEADING

There will be NO cheerleading (all 3 teams) during Week 10 Term 1 (31 March - 4 April) or Week 1 Term 2 (22 - 24 April). All cheerleading teams will resume practises Week 2 Term 2. Miss R o)

MUSIC NEWS

As you know, 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 4pm until 4.45pm. All students need to meet Ms Keenan and Mrs Hall at 3.30 for a 4pm start. Reminder letters have been sent home to our students this week.

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. Please make sure your child has a receipt to show Mrs Crook.

School Band folders are also required for the band lessons. Don’t forget to send your money in and once again make sure you show Mrs Crook or your child’s instrumental music the receipt from the office.

Keep encouraging your children to practise on the days with the letter Y in it. The more practice your child does, the easier the instruments will be to play and sound wonderful!!

***PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO BAND REHEARSAL BEFORE SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, 23 APRIL. PLEASE NOTE LESSONS WITH MRS HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 23 APRIL WILL COMMENCE AT 11.40 AM***

For any string queries please contact Ms Keenan at jkken@eq.edu.au (Ms Keenan teaches at our school on THURSDAYS)

For any band queries please contact Mrs Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au (Mrs Hall teaches at our school on WEDNESDAYS)

For any other musical queries please contact Mrs Crook at bcrood4@eq.edu.au

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(Mrs Crook teaches at our school on MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS)

ELEMENTS
“ELEMENTS” will perform a short item on parade this Friday. Junior Choir will perform in April on a date TBA.

MUSIC SHIRTS and MUSIC FOLDERS
All members of our vocal groups and our instrumental students, brass, woodwind, percussion and all the Strings, are asked to hire a music shirt for the year. The cost is $10.00, and the shirt can be worn for any performances during the year. Instrumental students please check with your teacher if you need to purchase a music folder. Please place your $10.00 in an envelope with your name and either Music Shirt Hire or Music Folder on the front and send to the school office.

Bernadette Crook
Music Teacher

GARDENING CLUB
Our first planting of veggies and herbs in the citrus garden are holding their own in spite of the heat. We will be meeting again this Wednesday at 11.00am but we will be mainly working on the garden beyond the cricket nets. We are still in great need of some parent helpers – please let me know if you can be available for an hour on Wednesdays from 11.00am.

Bernadette Crook

VACANCY- SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR
This Friday, 21 March is the deadline for acceptance of Applications for our School Crossing Supervisor position. If you are interested please pick up an application form from the office.

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.

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.

2014 FETE NEWS
So many donations!!! Thank you to all the businesses who have donated to our raffle so far. The latest include:

- Collins Family
- My Bike Shop
- Bellrose Jewellers
- Tim Mander, Member for Everton
- Fruition
- Event Cinemas Chermside
- Sports co
- Suburban Salon
- Angus and Robertson
- Nextra Newsagents Brookside

We are also looking for a “big ticket” entertainment item for the day. If you have a grand idea or belong to an amazing cultural dance/ theatrical group we want to hear from you!

There are also still some roles to be filled to make this important event work. If you are yet to find a way to get involved around the school then perhaps one of these might be for you. Get in touch at the email address below to find out more.

We also still have spaces for sponsors and fete friends. If you or your workplace want some affordable advertising to anything from 2000 people on fete day or 10 000 cars daily let us know.

Email us at pandc@everparkss.eq.edu.au

Karla Chatfield
Fete coordinator.

Karla Chatfield (Fete Coordinator)

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

TUCKSHOP

March Roster
Thursday 20 – Jenny Sewell, Ben Limpus
Friday 21 – Carol McLean, Penny Valente, Janene Ashton
Monday 24 –
Thursday 27 – Jo Baird
Friday 28 – Melissa Hulbert, Greg Scott, Carmel Privitera

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

The Tuckshop still needs one more Friday volunteer for one morning a month. The work is not difficult and you are gone by 12:00md. So if you can help, please email your contact details to tuckshop@everparkss.eq.edu.au as soon as possible.

Order online flexischools.com.au

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.

Katrina Coomber
Tuckshop Convenor

!!! 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

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL
If your child requires medication at school eg. antibiotics, allergy creams, etc.
A Medication Permission form is required to be completed by parents/carers. This form can be collected from the office. We have refrigeration facilities for antibiotics in the Health Room at Administration.