FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

Junior Sports Day
What a great morning! Thank you to Mr Crawford and the teachers and parents for supporting our students on Monday at the Junior Sports Day. Participation was at its best, with all students enjoying being active and having fun at the same time.

Absenteeism
School absenteeism and truancy can impact significantly on students’ learning and wellbeing. Attending school every day helps children build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. It is also associated with higher student achievement.

It is a legal requirement that your child is enrolled and attends school every school day unless there is a reasonable excuse such as illness or competing in school sporting events. Reasons for not attending school such as birthdays, shopping, visiting family/friends and sleeping in are not considered reasonable excuses.

Establishing good routines at home can help with regular school attendance.

Children can feel anxious about going to school for a number of reasons such as:

- Separation anxiety
- Problems at school (bullying, no friends, learning difficulties)
- Fear of failure
- Fear of losing a parent

Do not dismiss your child’s anxiety. Encourage them to tell you about their fears and feelings. Remain calm and positive when they are feeling anxious. Being involved in the school (e.g. tuckshop, P&C, establishing quality relationships with the class teacher) can also help.

If you have difficulty sending your child to school, please contact either myself or David O’Connor for advice or support.

School Opinion Survey
The School Opinion Survey is undertaken each year by the department’s State Schools Division to obtain the opinions of parent/caregivers, students and school staff about important aspects of schooling. The survey is designed to help schools identify what they do well and what they can improve.

The annual School Opinion Survey opened on 21 July and will close on 3 August 2014. All families from our school (previously only a sample of families), school staff, and a representative sample of students from our school
have been invited to take part. Parents are encouraged to take this opportunity to have their say about what Everton Park State School does well and how we can improve. The access information for parents to complete the surveys on line has been sent home via the eldest child in the family. To date 56 surveys have been completed out of the 350 sent home. Can I please encourage parents to complete this by 3 August so that we can use parent feedback to make informed decisions at our school.

Anita Bond
Principal

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN NEWS

Fantastic to see everyone’s happy, smiley faces with red noses and rosy cheeks. Keep warm and keep active.

I’m enjoying getting to know everyone still as it is a really big school and I can see how a new student would find it overwhelming. Please continue to BE KIND AND remember to ask “ARE YOU OK?”. It makes a huge difference to someone struggling or confused. How cool are our Footsteps Classes? You guys have rhythm, style, attitude (required in Hip-Hop) and you are so quick to pick up the moves. Well done! Parents, if you can help I would really appreciate some silk or plastic flowers (any kind really). They are for a gratitude and friendship project. At lunch times I will bring the children together as I will be teaching the children to knit using just their arms and wool. So if there’s a special colour they may want to use I know some of the dollar stores have wool at $6 for $10 (they only need 2 but could share). Alternatively I have approximately 20 balls to get us started.

Sincerely
Chappy Nikki

SCHOOL INTERNET BANKING

We have received a direct payment to the school account on 16 July with the following reference:

1006683559 7464407 FMC

If you made a payment on or around this date and have not received a receipt please contact either Joy or Barb to check.

Please note – the preferred reference to use would be your student’s EQID which is 11 character (10 numbers then 1 letter). It appears on all invoices, statements and reports. If this is not possible then please use your STUDENTS NAME - not parent’s name.

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Congratulations to 1B for once again winning the Gold Star award for the previous week’s Fun, Fit, Friday. 1B had 10 students actively travelling by bicycle! Wow! Great effort 1B.

As this month’s Golden Boot award focus is carpooling, the class that has the most number of students carpooling this Fun Fit Friday will be awarded the Gold Star award. For your chance to receive double stamps in your AST passport, start organising with your parents/carers on who will be driving yourself and your friends to school this Friday.

On Friday, 15 August our school has scheduled another Park and Stride event. This time, we are keen to have students actively travel from two of the Park and Stride points – Colbert Street and Teralba Park (marked on your Active Travel School map). Meet us at one of these points to receive a special ‘Park and Stride’ ticket! With this ticket, students will receive TWO STAMPS in their passports and parents will receive a FREE COFFEE from the coffee van. If you are able to assist us to walk the students safely from either of the ‘Park and Stride’ points, please email Miss K at akend5@eq.edu.au to let her know. Thank you in advance for your support.

A special thank you to Leila and Amity for their Active School Travel message during last Friday’s assembly. If you’d like to present an AST message on assembly, please see Miss K.

Congratulations to Sarah from 5S on winning the ‘Bruce the Bus’ illustration competition! Sarah’s entry will be published in an Active School Travel picture book. Wow! It’s exciting having a published illustrator at our school.

The AST shop (room 22) will be open (at first break after eating time) this Friday for students to claim their AST prizes.

MISSING

An EPSS school jacket has been misplaced. It has the name ‘Ahona Rahman 34K’ clearly marked on the inside. If found please return it to Miss K’s classroom (room 22).

BLAK HISTORY MONTH

Last week we celebrated Blak History Month which seeks to promote, celebrate and remember the history of Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. All classes celebrated Blak History Month by completing a variety of activities. A big thank-you to all Teachers for their efforts in making Friday a special day for their children. An extra-special thank you goes to Daniellle Jackson and her band of merry helpers for their exceptional effort in making Damper for all our students. It is very much appreciated by everyone at EPSS.

Tracey Irwin

SCIENCE WEEK

Science Week is next week! The theme this year is ‘Food For Our Future’. All students will be enjoying a full week of Science activities either in the Science Lab or in the hall. Our wonderful teachers and Year 7 student leaders will be running these. The activities involve melting chocolate (Year 2), yeast balloons (Year 3,4,5) and drought proof soils (Year 6,7). Everton Park High School will be visiting us to run some AMAZING science shows for our preps and year 1’s. Prizes will be awarded to the best scientist in each class. Happy Science everyone!

FASHION, FUN AND FUNDRAISING!

Saturday 23 August at 6pm

Get together with some friends for a fun night out at Everton Park State School’s Fashion Parade Fundraiser. One Perfect Day will be showcasing their collection aimed at busy mums with a budget. Clothing that generally needs no ironing, dry cleaning or hand washing with a price range that you can afford!

A $20 ticket gets you entry, a welcome glass of bubbles and canapés. Wine and cheese plates are available to purchase on the night along with raffles and a lucky door prize!

You deserve a Girls Night Out - so come along and help raise some money for the school while enjoying the opportunity to buy some fabulous clothes for yourself! Tickets available through Flexischools! 6pm for a 7pm start in the school hall, Saturday August 23.

If you would like further information, please contact Jo on 0424 418 819

LIBRARY NEWS

CONNECT TO READING

EPSS BOOK WEEK – 25 - 29 August

Do you love to read? I do. I read for enjoyment, to explore new places and worlds, to learn, to experience new and wonderful emotions and make connections. This year’s Book Week
Between commencement in the end of this week, Teeny Tiny  looks for a parent/parents who will be attending. BIG thanks to those who have already donated materials to Art Club. It all finds a way to be used. Art Club meets every Friday at first break in the art area (under the Year 3 classrooms). All parents are welcome too!

GARDENING CLUB
Gardening Club will continue this term on Wednesdays at first break. Mrs Sorensen and Mr Cannard will be here volunteering again on alternate Wednesdays. We really appreciate their support!

MUSIC NEWS
The Music Teachers will be starting the recruitment process for the Instrumental Music Program 2015. Students from Years 2, 3 and 4 will perform short listening tasks to test their suitability for the program and for appropriate instruments. Commencing next year, Band students will be commencing in Year 4, as our Year 7 students head off to high school. Strings will still commence in Year 3. Bernadette Crook

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS
Intermediate Music Camp – Tuesday 12 and Thursday 14 August
There are a number of students who will be attending a two-day camp which will involve special guest conductors and ensembles to work with children from across local schools. Please note that the camp will be held at Mitchelton State High School and Mitchelton State School. All students need to meet at Mitchelton State School at 8.30 am on both days of the camp. The best drop off zone and pick up zone is Turnbull Street. They need to wear their school uniform, bring their school hat, morning tea, instrument, instrument equipment eg spare reeds, tutor book, etc, pencil and water bottle.

Please note that the camp will finish at 2.30 pm on Tuesday, 12 August and there will be no teacher supervision after 2.50 pm.

There will be a free concert on Thursday, 14 August from 2:00 – 3:00pm in the hall at Mitchelton State High School. All welcome!

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO BAND REHEARSALS OR BAND LESSONS WITH MRS HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 13 AUGUST DUE TO THE SHOW HOLIDAY.
PLEASE ALSO NOTE THERE WILL BE NO STRING REHEARSALS AND NO STRING LESSONS WITH MS KEEN ON THURSDAY, 14 AUGUST DUE TO THE INTERMEDIATE MUSIC CAMP.

BAND PROGRAM - 2015
Initial information has been sent home to parents about the band program for 2015. Years 4 and 5 students will be eligible for 2015 except for those students who are already in the strings program with Ms Keenan.

For any band queries please contact Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au
For any string queries please contact Anne Keenan at akeen9@eq.edu.au

AUGUST ROSTER
Thursday 7 – June Lever
Friday 8 – Genevieve Moller, Karla Chaffey, Carol McLean
Monday 11 –
Thursday 14 – Anita Reynolds
Friday 15 – Carol McLean, Janene Ashton, Penny Valentine

Order online at flexischools.com.au

Winter Menu items for first break
• Delicious homemade soup - Creamy Chicken and Vegetable plus a serve of garlic bread $5.00
• Single serve garlic bread $1.00
• Warm milo $1.50
• Pizza slices $3.00. Two delicious flavours – BBQ Chicken and Hawaiian (Ham & Pineapple).

By the end of this week, Teeny Tiny Sumo Mini Cookies will be sold out and longer available. Please cross them off your Menu. Flexischools will be updated accordingly.

NEW! Slush Puppie Natural Flavour range. The old flavours are being phased out and two new natural flavours have been introduced this week – Strawberry/ Vanila and Tropical. Hope you like them!

Katrina Coomber
Tuckshop Convener

UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop is open each Friday from 8.30 – 9.30 am

COMMUNITY NEWS
EVERTON PARK STATE HIGH SCHOOL
Parents and students are invited to a Junior Secondary School Information afternoon on Tuesday, 19 August from 3:30 – 5:00pm. Speak with the Principal, Head of Year 7 and 8 and classroom teachers for 2015. RSVP 3354 0222.