Dear Parents and Carers

This week students in years 3, 5 and 7 will be receiving their National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) reports. The information contained in these reports should be considered together with other school based assessments and reports. I would encourage you to read the detailed information on the report to assist you with interpreting your child’s results. Should you have any further questions please direct these to your child’s teacher, Mr O’Connor or myself.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

Over the next few weeks, Everton Park students will participate in several activities as a part of celebrating National Literacy and Numeracy Week which will culminate at our school on Friday, 29 August 2014 at 9:00am with our Book Week Parade.

During this time, one area of focus and celebration will be reading. Developing a love of reading is such an important part of developing solid literacy skills in our children. Parents sometimes find it easier to encourage reading in young children with establishing routines, such as story time just before bed time but as children grow older, how do we encourage children pick up a book and read it? Scholastic (scholastic.com) has developed some ways for parents to help their middle school aged children to ‘keep turning the pages’.

1. Let your child choose what to read. While you may cringe at his preferences, he may never touch a title if it’s force-fed.
2. Talk about what she reads. Ask her what she thinks of a book and make connections with ideas or issues that are relevant to her life.
3. If he’s struggling or bored with a book, let him put it down. Forcing him to stick with a difficult or dull book that’s intended for pleasure will reinforce the idea that reading is a chore.
4. Subscribe to magazines that will interest her. Ask her to choose one or two titles and put the subscription in her name.
5. Read the newspaper together. Whether it’s for 15 minutes over breakfast or on weekends, establish a routine and discuss what you each read.
6. Be flexible with bedtime and chores when your child is reading. Within reason, avoid asking your child to stop reading.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST
20-22nd Year 5 Camp
23rd Fashion Parade in the Hall 6:00pm
25 – 29th Book Week
21 – 26th Scholastic Book Fair in Library
27th Readers Theatre Prep – Yr 2
28th Authors Visit Yrs 3 - 7
29th Book Week Parade

SEPTEMBER
2nd Breakfast Club
9th Breakfast Club
9 – 12th Northside District Honours Music Camp, Craigslea State High School
15th P&C Meeting 7:30pm in Library
16th Breakfast Club
19th Last day of Term 3

OCTOBER
6th Labour Day Public Holiday
7th First day of Term 4

FROM THE PRINCIPAL
7. Play games that utilize reading, word- and vocabulary-building games like Scrabble or Boggle are great, but many board games provide reading opportunities (even if it's just the instructions). Crosswords provide opportunities for learning new words and spelling practice, too.

8. Encourage your middle-schooler to read to a younger sibling. Letting him take over ritual reading at bedtime once a week will ensure he reads something, and he may find his sibling's enthusiasm for stories contagious.

9. Visit the library together. Try to make it an event where you share some quality one-on-one time and both choose a few books.

10. Find an outlet for your child to "publish" a book review. When she finishes a book, encourage her to write it up for a family or school newspaper, magazine, or Web site. She could also try posting a review at a local bookseller or an online retailer (parent supervised).

11. Keep up on what she's reading. If you can, read a few pages of her books yourself so you can discuss them with her.

12. Encourage writing. Whether it's via snail mail, e-mail, or a blog, request that he keep in touch with distant friends or relatives. Keeping a journal or chronicling a family vacation will also provide reading practice.

13. Suggest books from movies he liked. He may enjoy getting even more detail in the book.

14. Model reading. Your pre-teen will still follow your reading habits (though she'll never let you know). Let her see you reading, make comments, and share interesting passages with her.

Writing Competition held in March this year.

Emileigh Bowman for being selected for the State Team for girls soccer.

Anita Bond
Principal

**CHAPLAINCY NEWS**

What exciting times!

Thank you so much Mrs Bond for giving us a new place to meet after we have eaten our lunch. And thank you to Col and John for being so helpful with the transition.

We have a Chappy room big enough for at least 15 or more children. We have a few games and some fun activities happening every lunch break. We will be doing different activities throughout the year. Today we had some very patient and persistent girls learning to knit scarfs on their wrists which is easy once you get the hang of it but is quite tricky to start. Donations of thick wool are most appreciated.

If you have any thinking cap on for a Father’s Day activity….. Please feel free to message me if you have a great cost effective idea.

Our new space gives us the freedom to have posters up on the wall explaining what a Chappy does, how I can help and about confidentiality. Please feel free to drop by and say hello.

Chappy Nikki

**P&C NEWS**

Well another busy month ahead for the P&C and families…..

We had a special general meeting on Monday night to farewell and thank Amy for her wonderful contribution to the P&C and to elect a new President. Tanya Mitgater was nominated for the position and appointed. Welcome to Tanya who has a child in Prep. Tanya is at school every morning and afternoon around the Prep area so please do not hesitate to seek her out and ask any questions you may have or ideas that the P&C could support.

Fashion Show Extravaganza

Mums and their friends please don’t forget to get your tickets for the “Fashion Show Extravaganza” on Saturday night. Come and relax, have a glass of bubbles and enjoy the company of friends. There are great door prizes, raffles and, of course, the fashion show itself. Tickets can be purchased via Flexischools or by placing your money and ticket requirements in the P&C box in the office.

Father’s Day

This year we will be having a BBQ breakfast Friday, 5 September from 8-9am. Come along and meet other dads and their children. If you are able to help with the cooking please contact Kim Pickering on 0418 314 214. There will also be a stall for the children to purchase a small gift for Dad the week prior to Father’s Day.

**Working Bee**

Before the end of this term, our Prep students will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Pro-Scooter Skills training program for Prep students. For more details about the Pro-Scooter Skills training program, keep your eyes open for the AST flyer in your child’s school bag over the coming weeks.
SPELL-A-THON 2014
Wednesday, 3 September
The P&C are again running a Spell-a-thon this year. Sponsorship Cards and Spelling words will go home with your child on Wednesday. The children will have 2 weeks to learn the words. The Spell-a-thon will be held in class on the 3rd September. All money raised will be returned to the school by Wednesday, 17 September. A marking bee will be held on Thursday 4th September. Anyone interested in helping please contact Suzie Chandler via email, suzie@suziechandler.com

The student who raises the most money will win a voucher and the class which gets the most correct answers will receive a free dress day and Juicy Tube each.

SHOE BOXES NEEDED
The Year 5’s need normal sized shoe boxes with lids (not large boxes) for their current Science Unit. If you have any that you no longer need could you please drop them off at Year 4/5’s classroom. Thanks in advance,
Tracey Irwin

YEAR 6/7 CANBERRA TRIP
The Year 6 & 7’s were recently a part of Everton Park State School’s education tour of the national capital, Canberra. This was a fantastic trip that gave our Year 6 & 7 students the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. It was also a great opportunity for them to gain some independence and experience life away from home.

There were many memorable experiences during our five day stay in the capital and it was great for us to learn about not only Australia’s democratic history but the way Canberra has changed in the time since Federation. We visited many of Canberra’s well known destinations however our visits to Parliament House, Old Parliament House, The Australian Institute of Sport, Government House, Questacon and the Australian War Memorial stood out as real highlights.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding to the amount of $60 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program. On behalf of EPSS I would like to thank the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program for its contribution to this year’s camp.

James Wren
Year 6 Teacher

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 – 25th August to 29th August
This year’s Book Week theme is CONNECT TO READING. We want children to connect by simply participating in the act of reading, whether that reading is a book, magazine, sign, label, game or even food packaging! It’s all about getting them to understand how important reading is in their lives and to develop reading skills so they can connect to the world around them.

Children can make connections between what they read and other things they think, feel and know. Talking about books and sharing ideas and opinions is a great way to connect with other people and develop a broader knowledge about literature. At EPSS we celebrate the short-listed books chosen by the Children’s Book Council of Australia. This selection includes picture books, information books and paperbacks by some of the best authors in Australia.

READERS THEATRE – Wednesday the 27th August - Prep to year 2
AUTOR VISIT – OLIVER PHOMMAVANH Thursday 28th of August - Years 3 to 7
You should have received this note already. Only $3!

BOOK WEEK PARADE – Friday the 29th of August

At parade during book week the students all get to dress up as a book character. We encourage students and parents to use things at home rather than buy any costume. There will be a book prize for a student from each class who has the best costume. I know the teachers love to dress up for this and we are hoping this year more parents will get on board.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR – 21 to 26 August in the library
Last year we raised over $1000 to purchase more books for the library. A great time to buy for Christmas presents.

Looking for a parent/parents who can help me run it this year?
Ms Lukey (bluke1@sq.edu.au)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS
Good luck to all the students participating in the Regional Athletics Trials next week. For the next 5 weeks students are learning about OzTag and will be visited by an OzTag coach in Week 9 of this term.

MUSIC NEWS
Our Music Room has been freshly painted and I am gradually getting everything back in order. It’s great to have a lovely fresh space to make music in! Some of our students have been singing a song called “The Maori Stick Song” and we have had quite a lot of fun using paper sticks to add rhythms to our singing.

ELEMENTS
We are continuing to meet on Tuesdays at 8.00 am. It won’t be long before we are ready to do a parade performance!

JUNIOR CHOIR
Don’t forget we start at 8.00 am every Friday! We hope to be ready for a visit to a local nursing home this term. We’ll have to learn lots of songs!

GARDEN CLUB
Thanks to Mrs Swain for your generous donation of tools and bottles for our young gardeners. We are lucky to have such wonderful support from our parents. Thanks to our fantastic P&C who has donated money for our Garden Club to be able to do our own composting, lots more planting, watering and mulching. I hope everyone has checked out the giant sunflowers in our Oval Garden - they were covered in lots of tiny Australian stingless bees - a sign of a lovely healthy garden!

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS
Mrs Hall will be on Long Service Leave from 1 September to the end of term 3. Her replacement teacher, Mrs Melissa Cain, will commence on Monday 1 September at 7.45am.

Please note Band lessons and band rehearsals will be on Mondays for the remainder of the term 3.
Mrs Hall will be back teaching at our school on Wednesdays starting on Wednesday, 8 October.

**Intermediate Music Camp**

Congratulations to all of our students who did a great job at the camp concert last Thursday at Mitchelton State High School.

Mrs Hall will be on leave from Monday, 25 August until Monday, 6 October. In regards to band lessons and rehearsals for the last 4 weeks of this term while Mrs Hall is on leave, please contact our school administration about this. Mrs Hall will be back teaching at our school on Wednesday, 8 October.

Instrumental Music band testing for years 3’s and Year 4’s for 2015 will be happening in week 2 of term 4. Our information night about our Instrumental Music program for strings and band will be held on Wednesday, 13 November at 6.30pm. Initial information about the program has been sent home to parents in Years 2 – 4.

Congratulations to Lachlan Gavegan in Year 7 who has been accepted into the Northside Honours Camp later this term.

For any further information please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Bernadette Crook (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday) at bcroo4@eq.edu.au (classroom teacher and choir specialist)

For any further information about the band program please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Penny Hall (Wednesdays) at phall35@eq.edu.au

For any further information regarding the strings program please don’t hesitate to contact Ms Anne Keenan (Thursdays) at akeen5@eq.edu.au

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

Katrina Coomber
Tuckshop Convenor

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**MAU MUSIC**

Mau Music has supported the school for many years with student’s musical resources. Parents are notified that there will be price increases of musical instruments in the near future but if laybys are made now staff will ensure that parents get the instruments at the current prices. Please see flyer on front verandah noticeboard.

**TUCkSHOP**

**AUGUST ROSTER**

Thursday 21 – Jenny Sewell, Megan Limpus
Friday 22 – Melissa Hulbert, Jo Hennessey, Annesley Milestone
Monday 25 –
Thursday 28 – Jo Baird
Friday 29 – Karla Chaffey, Kirstin Banvill, Carmel Privitera

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

Teeny Tiny Sumo Mini Cookies are sold out and no longer available. Please cross them off your menu.

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