Dear Parents and Carers

A warm welcome to our returning and new families to Everton Park State School for 2014. Unlike the previous years, this year we begin without flooding, without loss of power and without any day 8 class changes. At present we have 478 students enrolled in 19 classes and we are confident that we will not have to reshuffle classes. It is my privilege to work with our dedicated staff, to lead such a successful, thriving school. EPSS is a school where children are encouraged to become confident, caring and active and to learn beyond their potential. As parents, you play an important role in the education of your child and I hope that this will be the beginning of a happy and rewarding relationship with your family. Strong, committed partnerships between our school and our parents play a crucial role in our children’s development. By working together we will give your child the best start in life.

In week three we will have our parent information evenings, where parents will get to hear about their child’s class and meet their teacher.

Contact Details
In the near future we will send home a copy of your contact details that we have on file. Please make sure you check this and advise us of any changes to your contact details. It will be important that we have your email address on file as this year we will be emailing home report cards at the end of the semester. We are also changing some of the ways we communicate. Later in the year we will be testing our SMS emergency contact system which will enable us to send bulk phone texts to notify parents. This system will only work if your mobile phone details are up to date. The school newsletter will also have a different look and we have some strategies planned to strengthen home/school communication.

Below I have outlined some ways that you can get connected to our school.

Our website has been updated to include the email addresses of all of our staff, new tuckshop menu and key bits of information.

If you have a smart phone I would also encourage you to download the Qschools App. This is a free app for android, iphone and now Windows phones. It will give you access to up to date information, as well as all of the documents listed above.

Our P&C also have a facebook page dedicated to keeping parents informed- www.facebook.com/epsspandc.

Follow us on Twitter @EvertonParkSS. This provides parents and community members with tweets of info about school activities and events.

Of course the best information is the one you get first hand. We love having parents involved in the school and in their child’s classroom.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2014
4th Breakfast Club
7th First Active School Travel Meeting 9:30am
11 & 12th Parent Information Evenings (see Class News)
13th Kickstart Beginner Music day at Mitchelton State High
17th P&C Meeting and AGM 7:30pm
28th Active Travel day

MARCH
11th Prep Bunyaville Bilby Excursion
12th Skate Night

FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Absences
Just a reminder that if your child is going to be absent to contact the school to inform us. This is extra important at the start of the year as we are confirming our enrolments. If you are emailing please email your child's class teacher and the office (absences@everparkss.eq.edu.au).
If a student is going to be absent from school for 10 or more consecutive days, parents need to apply for an exemption of compulsory schooling. We encourage students to attend school every day, but if your child is going to be away from school for an extended period you will need to submit an application. Please contact the school for more information. Application forms may be collected from the office.

Uniform
The students look fantastic in their school uniform. It was wonderful to see almost every student in the school wearing the correct school uniform. We will continue our focus on making sure our students represent our school with pride by wearing the correct uniform each day.
Please assist us by making sure all of your child’s belongings are clearly labelled with a permanent marker. All labelled belongings are generally returned to their owners fairly quickly.

Parent Information Evenings
All meetings will be held in the respective classrooms.

Tuesday 11 February – 5:00pm
Years 4SP, 3M, 4/5I, 3/4K and 3R

Tuesday 11 February – 6:00pm
Prep B, Prep C and Prep R

Wednesday 12 February – 5:00pm
Years 1/2P, 2E, 2M and 2W

Wednesday, 12 February - 5:30pm
Years SS, 5T, 6W, 6P, and 7L

Wednesday, 12 February – 6:00pm
Years 1B and 1S

Brad Clark
Principal

WELCOME BACK FOR A GREAT YEAR AT EVERTON PARK SS
Ev the Emu will be making a multitude of appearances as he promotes our School Rules and values. We will be starting with a focus remembering our 3 Key Rules which are: Be Respectful; Be Safe; and, Be An Active Learner. Ev will be part of our weekly assemblies and will make his first appearance for 2014 on Friday’s assembly.
All Teachers are developing their class rules underpinned by our three key School Rules. This is a positive framework and will ensure consistency across our school.
As a school we will also be continuing on our SWPBS journey. This will enable us to refine our practices further to ensure we are enacting the most effective model of classroom and behaviour management here at Everton Park SS.
I look forward to seeing everyone at Friday’s assembly and as this exciting year progresses.

David O’Connor
Deputy Principal

P&C NEWS
We hope everyone has had a great start to 2014! It’s great to see the excited faces on the first day back!
Over the next few weeks, you’ll get lots of information about how parents and carers can be involved in this great school through the P&C. One way is to get involved in the bi-annual school fete. Please take a moment to read through the flyer in the newsletter – not only is it a great day for the students and the community, but it’s also our major fundraiser so we can keep putting resources back into the school.

Annual General Meeting
The P&C meets on the third Monday of every month. The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday the 17th of February at 7:30 pm at the school library. We’ll hold a free sausage sizzle beforehand so you can come along and meet everyone and ask any questions you might have. At the AGM we will elect the P&C Committee, so if you’d like any information on the roles involved, please contact me on pandcpresident@everparkss.eq.edu.au.
We’d love to see you there!
For more information about anything to do with the P&C, including how you can get involved, please email the P&C on pandcpresident@everparkss.eq.edu.au, or like our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/EPSSPandC

Amy List
P&C President

CLASS NEWS
PREP B – We have made a wonderful start to our first year, demonstrating outstanding manners, behaviour and thinking. This week we are learning the rules and routines of the school. We are also exploring The Kissing Hand story and four new letter sounds! Can’t wait for Week two!
PREP C – Welcome to all our students and their families. We are looking forward to a great year in Prep. We are enjoying stories and learning to write our name the school way. It was so lovely to see everyone start the year in full school uniform. Parent Information Evening will be on Tuesday 11 February at 6pm.
PREP R – Welcome to a great 2014! We have started well with the whole class being involved in a wide variety of activities. We have loved starting the year off with a special book, called “The Kissing Hand”. Everyone in Prep R is looking forward to a wonderful year!

YR 1B & 1S – What a wonderful start we had in Year 1! The children were all very eager to start the new year and the teachers were just as excited. Swimming permission forms are due back ASAP. Would you complete these and return please? We will be having our Parent/Teacher Information Night on Wednesday, February 12. However, if you have any urgent questions please come and see us. We look forward to a great year working with you.

YR 1/2P – We have PE on Mondays from 9 – 10am (swimming). Permission notes for swimming are to be returned before students can participate. All students to wear a rash vest, goggles and cap. All items are to be named and in a bag. As it is my first year here I am looking forward to getting to know the students and parents of the community. If you need to see me please drop by after school. Looking forward to a very exciting first term.

YR 2E, 2M, 2W – Wow! First week of grade two is progressing well and we have all settled into our new classes. A swimming permission note has been sent home and needs to be returned ASAP. Each class will require 3 adults to assist with the swimming program. Swimming will begin next week. A big thank you also for making sure that your child was ready with all labelled books and other requirements. This has made the beginning of the year run smoothly.

YR 3M & 3R - We would like to say a BIG welcome to year 3! Both classes have had a very calm and positive start to what will be an action packed, fun and challenging year ahead. We have spent time finding out where each student is at so we can best develop our individual learning pathways. If you have any queries about year 3, please see Mrs Ramage or Miss Moser. Wishing you all a fabulous year!

YR 3/4K – Welcome back! It’s wonderful to see so many familiar faces AND new faces in our wonderful school. This year is set to be another big year with lots of fun and learning. 3/4K’s Parent Information Night will be on Tuesday, 11 February from 5:00 – 5:30pm. If you would like to receive communication via email (most reliable form of communication these days) please forward your email address to akend5@eq.edu.au and I will add you to my mailing list. Homework will begin next week (Week 2). The students will be set homework tasks that require no more than 15 minutes of work time per night. Homework will be distributed on Monday afternoons and is due on Friday mornings. Parents of Year 4 students, if you have any spare Year 3/4 ruled exercise books (left over from last year) that you would like to donate to the Year 4 students in 3/4K, please ask your child to bring them in.
Please note the following specialist times for 3/4K:

*Music – Tuesdays 12:40 – 1:10pm and Wednesdays 12:10 – 12:40pm.
If you have any questions regarding our school music program, please visit Mrs Crook in the Music room.

Wednesday, 12 February
– 6:30pm
Years 1B and 1S
**PE (Swimming)** – Thursdays 9:00 – 10:00am. Swimming permission notes will be distributed within the coming week. Please help us in the pool by volunteering to assist our P.E teacher.

**Library Borrowing** – Wednesdays 12:40 – 1:10pm. Please ensure that your child brings their library book/bag EVERY Wednesday. No bag = No borrowing.

On a final, but VERY important note, please read 3/4K’s upcoming weekly School Newsletter items and Curriculum Newsletters, to keep informed about your child’s education.

**YR 4SP** – The children in 4 SP have made a very positive start to the year. We welcome two new students Kyan M and Zanda M to our class and school. We will be sending home quite a few letters this week so please check your child’s homework folder. Mrs Spencer and I are looking forward to meeting all the parents of 4SP at our parent/teacher night on Tuesday, 16th February from 5pm to 5:30pm.

**YR 4S** – We had a very successful week two and are looking forward to the rest of the term, and year, ahead of us. I trust you all had a lovely holiday and are ready for a profitable and productive year. Later this week, a curriculum newsletter will go home and notices will be given at the parent information night on 11th February with regards to the main areas concerning the general running of 4/5I for this year. Our Swimming lesson will be on Mondays from 11.40-12.40 beginning in Week 2. Parent help is needed for this lesson to go ahead. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to email me at: tlrw2@eq.edu.au

**YR 5S** – Welcome back everyone. Looking forward to another busy year with all our enthusiastic readers here at Everton Park State School. Borrowing starts next week and it would be great if everyone could have a waterproof library bag ready to go. There are still some overdue books outstanding from last year and would appreciate these being returned. I hope you had a chance to visit some of our great libraries around Brisbane over the holidays. Please drop in and say hello, I’m always looking for volunteers for covering books and tidying up.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Welcome back everyone. Looking forward to another busy year with all our enthusiastic readers here at Everton Park State School. Borrowing starts next week and it would be great if everyone could have a waterproof library bag ready to go. There are still some overdue books outstanding from last year and would appreciate these being returned. I hope you had a chance to visit some of our great libraries around Brisbane over the holidays. Please drop in and say hello, I’m always looking for volunteers for covering books and tidying up.

**EPSS BREAKFAST CLUB**

Every Tuesday our wonderful volunteers from the Nexus Church provide a nutritional and varied breakfast for all our students, held in the Hall before school.

**GENERAL RUN**

We have a very successful week two and are looking forward to the rest of the term, and year, ahead of us. I trust you all had a lovely holiday and are ready for a profitable and productive year. Later this week, a curriculum newsletter will go home and notices will be given at the parent information night on 11th February with regards to the main areas concerning the general running of 4/5I for this year. Our Swimming lesson will be on Mondays from 11.40-12.40 beginning in Week 2. Parent help is needed for this lesson to go ahead. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to email me at: tlrw2@eq.edu.au

**YR 5L** – Undeterred by construction or rain, the students launched into the learning year with great gusto this week. It was wonderful that so many students had all their books and equipment named and at school for day one. We are going to have a great year. I look forward to meeting parents at the 5T Parent Information night, which will be held at 5:30pm on 12th February. We need to have a Class Parent Representative for 5T. Sounds scary? Not at all. The purpose of the Class Parent Rep role is to facilitate communication between the school, teachers, P&C and fellow class parents. If you are interested in taking this role on, please contact me eriier3@eq.edu.au

**YR 6P** – Welcome to 2014! This week we have been busily setting up our books and preparing for a productive year. Please attend our parent information evening – Wednesday, 13th February at 5:30pm in our classroom. Swimming starts next week, so volunteers will be very welcome – Thursdays at 2:20. Have a great week everyone!

**YR 6W** – So holidays are over and it’s back to school, and I know I’m really excited to be here! This first week is going to be very busy as we all get to know each other and settle into our routines, but we’ll get a chance to have a bit of fun too. I haven’t had a chance to meet all the 6W parents yet so feel free to drop in before school and say hello.

**YR 7L** – This will be a very busy and exciting term for Year 7. Along with our standard units of English, Maths and Science, we are introducing Geography to Year 7. I look forward to getting to know all the students and parents.

**CHEERLEADING**

E.P.S.S - EP Cheer Squad is the best! Cheerleading practices will begin in Week 2. Please remember to bring a bottle of water!

Pups (Prep - Yr 2) - Monday morning - 7.45-8.45 am

Reserves (Yrs 3-7) - Tuesday morning - 7.45-8.45 am

Squad - Monday and Thursday afternoons - 3-5pm.

Are you new to the school and would like to join a Cheer team? Are you in Prep and would like to join a Cheer team? You are most welcome to come along and join us - please come and see Miss Rogers (in the single Prep room) and we’ll see you at practice. Miss R (o)

**EPSS BREAKFAST CLUB**

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

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**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Welcome to PE for 2014! I am the new PE teacher, Mrs Emma Hughes, and am looking forward to working at Everton Park State School. Swimming notes have been handed out, ready to start week 2 for years 1-7. It would be great to have some parent helpers so please see your child’s classroom teacher if you can assist.

For students in years 5-7, District Sport trial announcements will be made on parade and you can also find information in the newsletter each week. Cricket trials will be held on Wednesday, 5 Feb for students turning 12 in 2014. If your child plays cricket for a club outside of school and is interested in going to the trials, please see me for forms. Form 1 will need to be signed by Mr Clark and taken to the trial, along with the other forms.

Emma Hughes
PE Teacher

**CLASS MUSIC NEWS**

Welcome back to another year of music making! Years 4-7 will commence recorder and music lessons in week 2, so please make sure all your music equipment is named and ready to go! Year 3 will also be use their music writing books so please bring them and a pencil to your lesson.

**Vocal Groups**

Our Junior Choir and Elements groups will both commence in week 3. Keep an eye out for the information letter and the permission slips so we are ready to go! Bernadette Crook
Classroom Music Teacher

**STRINGS MUSIC NEWS**

Strings day will be THURSDAYS. No Strings 6th Feb as Ms Keenan is involved with a Beginner Strings Camp for other schools on her circuit.

**EVERTON PARK BEGINNER STRINGS** – Kickstart Thursday 13th Feb Mitchelton State High School

First lessons for all levels Thursday 20th Feb.

First String Orchestra rehearsal will also be Thursday 20th Feb- (students in the 3rd, 4th and 5th year of strings) – 7.45 am 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 , Ms Anne Keenan
Strings Teacher

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS**

**NEW STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM FOR 2014** (1st year students and 1st year band students only)

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 Wednesday, 5 February. Concert Band for Mrs Hall’s (2nd and third year students ONLY) will commence at 7:45 pm Wednesday, 12 February.

Mrs Hall’s beginner strings (first year students) will commence their musical journeys at the Kickstart day at Mitchelton State High School on Thursda,y 13 February.

For all band queries please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au

For all string queries please don’t hesitate to contact our new strings teacher Ms Anne Keenan at akeen9@eq.edu.au
UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
The Uniform Shop will be open for the remainder of this week (till Friday 31 January) from 8:30 – 9:30am. Thereafter it will be open on Fridays only 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

TUCKSHOP NEWS
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.

Unfortunately, there are a few small price increases this year, mainly with fresh ingredients. This is the first time in five years. Our food remains the highest quality, nutritious and great value.

Volunteers don’t just do the work – they make it work.
To enable the Tuckshop to run we rely on our great group of volunteers. Volunteering in the Tuckshop is a great way to get to know other parents at the school and the children as well. If you would like to volunteer, please fill in the enclosed form and return by next Monday, 3 February or alternatively, email your preference and contact details to tuckshop@everparkss.eq.edu.au. The 2014 roster will be emailed to you and starts on Monday 10 February.
Wishing every family a wonderful 2014!
Katrina Coomber

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.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS
Come and play Australian Rules Football with the EVERTON WOLVES J AFC

SIGN-ON
FEB 8TH AND 9TH 2014
10am – 2pm

AUSKICK
Feb 15th to Apr 12th
8am – 9am

Enoggera Memorial Park
93 Mott St, Gaythorne
Email evertonjuniors@ aflbj.com
http://evertonjuniors.aflq.com.au