Dear Parents,

A reminder that Monday 11th March is a Public Holiday and Monday 18th March is a curriculum day. Children are not required at school either of these days. The School Council Annual General Meeting will still be on at 6pm on March 18th even though that day is a curriculum day.

On Friday 15th March at 9am there will be a special assembly to give out the badges to the student leadership team. Congratulations to Jarrod Duncan and Zoe Green on their appointment as School Captains and Prue Harrison and Jack Bolding as Deputy Captains. Junior School Council reps will be announced on next week’s newsletter. Please come along and see our student leaders recognised.

This year we are also intending to implement a peer mediation program. The Peer Mediation Program aims to reduce incidences of bullying by providing a school environment that is positive, caring, safe and friendly. Peer Mediation teaches students to resolve low-level conflicts using their peers as mediators. Mediation opens up communication channels allowing the disagreeing students to discuss their problems and come to a resolution with the guidance of the mediators. I am currently calling for expressions of interest from Year 6.

Today we have had a report of school sores. Please keep your eye out with your children as they are quite contagious.

Enjoy the rest of the week
Kerry McGuffie


Parent Teacher Interviews

Online Parent Interview Bookings
Parents can book their parent teacher interviews using our online booking form. Go to http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the code BL6QU. Anyone who doesn’t have internet access is very welcome to call into the school and use one of our computers.

You will notice that teachers are available on different days and at different times.

Easter Raffle
Easter is just around the corner and with that comes Epsom’s annual Easter Raffle. Families are asked to donate Easter goodies with which hampers are made up and raffled. The Easter baskets always look fantastic thanks to the contributions from families. Raffle books are being sent home with this newsletter. (Thanks to Chris G. for making up all the raffle books.) The books are $5 each, with tickets being 50c each. Please use both sides of the tickets to write name and phone numbers on. If a winner is not from the school community they will be notified with a phone call.

Request for Help!!!
We have the opportunity to pick up a rather large and heavy book display unit for FREE! In order to get this unit we are putting out a call for anyone who has a tandem trailer (or something suitably large) to pick it up for us and deliver it to school. Anyone who can help please ring the Office for details of the pick up point. Can be picked up at anytime and dropped off at school anytime.

EPSOM PS CHOOK EGGS
Please buy some eggs—$2 for 1/2 dozen. Please save your scraps for our chooks.

You Can Do It!!! Awards
DATES TO REMEMBER:
Active After-School Communities Gr 3-6 start 3.30-4.45pm
Student Banking
Active After-School Communities Gr P-2 start 3.30-4.45pm
Subway lunch orders

WEEK 7
Mon 11th March Labour Day Holiday
Friday 15th March Special Assembly @ 9am
                     Book Club orders due back

WEEK 8
Monday 18th March School Council Meeting—A.G.M @ 6PM
Friday 22nd March Curriculum Day
                      Ride to School Day

WEEK 9
Thur 28th March Last day of Term 1
Saturday 20th April Netball competition starts

TERM 2
Mon 15th April 15TH APRIL—28TH JUNE
                      First day of Term 2
Mon 23rd April - BOOK FAIR
Friday 26th April

Tues 7th May Fundraising Meeting @ 2.30pm
Friday 10th May Mothers Day Stall
Thurs 23rd May Soup Day
Friday 31st May Curriculum Day
Saturday 1st June Bunnings BBQ (Fundraiser—BBQ’ers required)

TERM 3
Mon 12th August 15TH JULY—20TH SEPTEMBER
                      Fundraising Meeting @ 9.30am
Thurs 15th August Soup Day
Friday 6th Sept Fathers Day Stall
Friday 20th Sept Footy/Pie Day

TERM 4
November (Dates TBA) 7TH OCTOBER-20TH DECEMBER
                      Swimming program

OFFICE NEWS
Subject Contributions $80 per student-
This fee covers the students requisites for the whole year. ie: Pencils, pens, books, art materials, printing, readers etc.
Please pay at the Office A.S.A.P.

Headphones available from the Office for $5.

PREP SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM
Prep parents can still return the questionnaire to the Office for the nurse. The school nurse visited Tuesday and was back again today and will be here tomorrow.

Weekly Grounds Roster
I will be sending keys home today with Jesse T, Gianni and Bevan.
The trees are losing their leaves so there is lots of sweeping required around the place and raking along the fence lines. The Green Bin is in the gardening shed to use for the green waste.
Next week's keys will be going home with Chloe, Darcy and Bree.
Deanne Hendy – Environmental Coordinator
ICT Fee for 2013
A yearly fee of $40 for each student will help maintain our technology and help lessen the burden with the government cutting funding for ICT in schools. Please support our use of technology this year as we need to stay up to date and your $1 a week will ensure we can. ICT equipment is not being sent home with students at the moment.

NATIONAL RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY
—FRI 22ND MARCH
This event is only 2 weeks away! Ride, scoot, skate or walk! There will be a staff member at the (White Hills Oval) end of the bike path to supervise your child’s ride to school. So start planning now to get your child to the path with their bike, scooter, skates or runners.

EPSOM CHOOKS
Please remember to save your vegie scraps for the chooks.

HELPING YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME
Do you want some ideas on how to help your children at home with reading and writing? Come along and learn how.
When: Wednesdays 2.30-3.30 p.m.
13th, 20th and 27th March
Where: The new portable
Who: Anyone!!
Sue Hinton

HELPING YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Yes, I’d like to attend these sessions.

NAME:

CHILD/REN’S NAMES AND GRADES

SWIMMING
We wish Justyce the best of luck for Friday March 1st. Justyce is competing in Bendigo at the Division Swimming Championships in Freestyle and Backstroke.

NETBALL NEWS!
What a great preliminary meeting we had on Friday to get our Winter netball teams organised. At this stage we have 4 senior girls for the 13 / Under team, 6 girls for the 11 / Under team, 7 Junior players for the Grade 3 Clinic and two coaches.
Where necessary we will be negotiating with Huntly to finalise team numbers.
If there are any other girls wanting to play, please give your name to Mrs Brunswick ASAP!
The season commences Saturday April 20th.
Fees are split into two requirements.
VNA Fee:
13 / Under $43.20
11 / Under and GRADE 3 CLINIC $33.20
TEAM FEES:
13 / Under $125 per team
11 / Under $100 per team
GRADE 3 Clinic $10.00 per player
Additional information will be sent home to the players when more details are finalised.
Jan Brunswick

Grade 5/6 B
Just letting parents know they should have received an information sheet outlining details regarding our class routine, focus and expectations.
Jan Brunswick
Gr 5/6 B Class Teacher

HEADLICE CHECKS
Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help with head lice checks. If anyone else would like to volunteer please let me know in the Office. Many hands make light work.

Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal
This year we won’t be handing out fundraising envelopes for the Good Friday Appeal. Community members can donate on the link below. This will take you to our school’s page which will be open until January 2014.
http://fundraise.goodfridayappeal.com.au
epsom_primary_school
RUN AROUND AUSTRALIA
IT’S ON AGAIN!!!!!
Bendigo Marketplace is running this competition again and the prizes are BIGGER!
Last year our school won this competition!
It starts on Monday 15th April and will run for 6 weeks ending on Sunday 26th May, 2013.
There will be thousands of dollars worth of prizes, including a cash grant for the winning school. Every dollar spent by our school’s supporters at Bendigo Marketplace will help us earn kilometres.
Receipts simply need to be presented at the Customer Service Desk or in-centre drop boxes.
Please support our school, and ask family and friends, to keep their Marketplace dockets for Epsom P.S.
Remember it starts next term………

FUNDRAISING EVENTS
A few events were discussed at the fundraising meeting and have been listed in the calendar…..please put them in your diary.
Helpers are required for these events. Please leave your name at the Office and list the events you will be able to help with.
If anyone has a fundraising idea, please let me know in the Office and I will pass it on to the Committee. New ideas are always welcome.

ICT - Do you know what your children are playing?
Ever wonder if those games your children play are suitable? And why they might not be suitable?
Checkout common sense media the app/website where you can search a range of games, movies etc.
Here is an example for Call of Duty or COD as its called and played by some of our students.

Call of Duty: Black Ops II
Extremely violent military shooter with profanity, drugs.

Grade 5/6F Skype Around the World reports

By Darcy

Epsom students Skype around the world for 24 hours

On the 1st of the 3rd week, Epsom Primary school had a 24-hour Skype Around the World. They rang over 100 phone calls to children from the world. The first Skype was at 8 am and it finished at 8 pm. It was a long night for 5/6F kids. The world’s values are rights and responsibilities, fairness and respect. They like these values because it makes them take responsibility so they make others happy.

2013 Skype around the World

This year grade 5/6F kids at Epsom P.S. are participating in this 2013 Skype around the World.
This Skype around the World is over 1 hour. They will be called the night at school. They will Skype 30 schools from all over the globe.
The students will be talking about school values and what values different school have.
We know that Grade 5/6F will have a great time!