Dear Parents,

As we work towards the plans for 2014 and the orientation program for next year’s Prep students, it is timely to reflect on our school, what it means to us as a community and how we can work together to continue to build our partnership.

Epsom is a “small school” that maintains its community feel. At our school all the children know each other and the teachers know all the students. Through programs, such as, our Chinese Immersion Program and buddies we are developing in our students an understanding and empathy for people from different walks of life, ages and backgrounds. Children and families are supported by our wellbeing programs (e.g., social skills groups, CASEA), regional support staff and Bridget our Wellbeing Officer. We are building communication strategies and problem solving skills in our children which will be life long skills they can use. All the while continuing to have their learning at the forefront of their day at school.

As already mentioned on previous newsletters the staff at Epsom work as a closely knit team sharing a vision of “Everyone can learn at Epsom!” We are constantly reflecting on our practices and seeing how we can improve to enable more learning to occur in our classes. Teachers are supported with this objective by Sue Hinton, a teaching and learning coach and Jenny Ashby ICT coach. Few schools of our size are able to provide this additional expertise in the staffing profile.

As always, we have a genuine open door policy so I would welcome you to come and see me or the teaching staff if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions at any time. We all have the students best interests in the forefront of everything we do and it is essential that we continue to work in partnership with families.

We welcome back Mrs Nevinson (and her new hip!)

Kind Regards
Kerry McGuffie
Principal

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AFTER SCHOOL CARE

As you know we are very interested in providing an after school care service at Epsom and asked all interested families to complete a short survey online.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT INTERESTED PARENTS COMPLETE THE SURVEY

The log in details are on the front page of the newsletter or type:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/epsomprimaryschoolbeforeaftercare

If you would like assistance with this or a hard copy of the survey to complete please contact the school office.

BENDIGO CUP HOLIDAY
NEXT WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 30TH

EXCITING INFORMATION INSIDE

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Mondays  Active After-School Communities Gr 3-6 start 3.30-4.45pm
Tuesdays  Student Banking
Wednesdays  Active After-School Communities Gr P-2 start 3.30-4.45pm
Fridays  Subway lunch orders (Must be in before 9am on Friday)

TERM 4  7TH OCTOBER-20TH DECEMBER

WEEK 4  October 28th– November 1st WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

Wed 30th October  BENDIGO CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY—
NO SCHOOL
NO AASC FOR PREP—2

Friday 1st November  Festival of Tennis for Gr 3-6 @ Tennis Complex

WEEK 5  November 4th—November 8th
Thurs 7th November  Prep Orientation Program 9.15am-12pm
Friday 8th November  Junior Excursion to ScienceWorks, Melbourne ($25)

WEEK 6  November 11th—November 15th
November 11th-15th  Swimming program (5 sessions—P/1S, 1/2F, 3/4S and 5/6F)
Thurs 14th November  Prep Orientation Program 9.15am-12pm

WEEK 7  November 18th—November 22nd
Mon 18th November  School Council Meeting
Mon 18th November  Prep Orientation Program 12pm-3pm
November 18th—22nd  Swimming program (5 sessions—P/1H, 1/2O, 3/4D and 5/6B)

WEEK 8  November 25th—November 29th
Mon 25th November  Prep Orientation Program 12pm-3pm
Tues 26th November  Whole School Extravaganza

WEEK 9  December 2nd—December 6th
Mon 2nd December  CURRICULUM DAY—NO STUDENTS REQUIRED (NO AASC Gr3-6)
Tues 3rd December  Orientation Day

WEEK 10  December 9th—December 13th
Mon 9th December  LAST AASC for Term 4—Gr. 3-6
Wed 11th December  LAST AASC for Term 4—Prep-2
Thur 12th December  Grade 6 Graduation at White Hills Cricket Club Rooms

WEEK 11  December 16th—December 20th
Mon 16th December  School Council Meeting
Friday 20th December  Last day of Term 4

PAYMENT OF FEES
To deposit directly into school’s account
BSB: 633000  Account No: 107661738
Account Name: Epsom Primary School
Please use child’s surname as your reference.

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You miss 100% of the shots you don't take.
Wayne Gretzky

Respect ● Integrity ● Excellence
NAPLAN REPORTS

Years 3 & 5 student Naplan reports are available for collection from the office. If you would like them sent home with your child please let the office know. Please contact the class teacher if you have any queries or concerns about your child’s report.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

On Monday the grades 3-6 played golf and Wednesday night the Prep-2’s played basketball. If your child is registered to participate in AASC and will not be attending, please advise me in order for attendance data to be updated. Parents/carers are reminded that the children should be picked up promptly at 4.45pm.

Jake Saddlier
Coordinator

GARDENING DUTIES FOR OUR SCHOOL

Keys are sent home to families each week and they are asked to donate one hour of their time during that week to help keep our grounds tidy. Many families attend to the grounds for longer than an hour and we thank them for that. There is always weeding, sweeping or general tidying to be done around the place. Thanks to Nat Bishop we also have a Green Bin which is emptied fortnightly.

Gardening families this week are Maggs, Maka and Manion.

Thank you

OFFICE NEWS

HATS ARE NOW $11.50 and I have some in stock.

Family Statements have been sent home. Please ensure the swimming is paid before the program begins and that your account is settled in full before the end of the year. The school bank account details are on this newsletter and payments can be made directly into the account.

Grades 3-6 students will need to pay $3 to the Office for the Festival of tennis. This was not on the statements.

If you did not receive a statement it means you are up to date with fees.

Remembrance day goods are for sale at the Office. Items range from 50c to $5.

CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER??
CHANGED YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACTS??
CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS??
Please let the Office know.

EPSOM DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 26th
7.30 START

ADULTS @ $7
CHILDREN (U13)@ $3

Bendigo Baptist Church, Junortoun

TICKETS ON SALE NOW.......MONEY CAN BE SENT IN AN ENVELOPE WITH THE NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED.

TICKETS WILL NOT BE FOR SALE ON THE NIGHT.

Further information regarding this Extravaganza being sent home with the Newsletter today.

2014 SCHOOL DATES

TERM 1  29th January—4th April
(Teachers start on 28th January)

TERM 2  22nd April—27th June

TERM 3  14th July—19th September

TERM 4  6TH October—19th December

The first day of Term 1 is a student-free day in all government schools to allow for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. Each year government schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning and administration, curriculum development, and student assessment and reporting purposes. The remaining three student-free days are determined by each individual school.
Giggle your way to good health
You may have already heard about Squash Vic’s innovative female only learn to play program, affectionately known as ‘Hits & Giggles’. With many women from the Bendigo area having already completed a program, the ‘Hits & Giggles’ program is on again in October women providing more local women with the opportunity to learn the sport of Squash in a unique way.
Run over six weeks from Wednesday 30th October, the Bendigo Squash Club ‘Hits & Giggles’ Program introduces women and girls to the sport of Squash in a supportive and judgement free environment that promises a bit of fun as well as fitness. Participants will receive coaching designed to their fitness level and playing abilities all whilst in the company of like minded women, helping to boost their self confidence, self esteem and form new friendships.
For more information or to sign to Hits & Giggles program, visit www.squashvic.com.au. Or visit the Bendigo Squash Centre, Barnard Street, Bendigo.

EAGLEHAWK DANCE GROUP
As part of the Grade 6 Transition program an Eaglehawk Secondary College dance group came to our school last Thursday.
They split us all in to groups, the boys had more people in their groups than the girls. The boys had a different dance to the girls. The dance is a traditional Aboriginal dance, and we learnt how to do it, step by step. When we finally got the hang of it, we performed the dance in front of the grade 5s. It was like a dance off, Girls vs Boys. We were all very excited to learn the dance, but when it came to dancing in front of the grade 5s, we all got a bit shy and embarrassed. The grade 5s were impressed. We all had a lot of fun and hope to do it again. By Ella

NATIONAL BANDANNA DAY
What a great response to Bandanna Day. We raised $457 for the CanTeen organisation who support children with cancer. Well done Epsom!

COMMUNITY NEWS
(Please check notice board for more information)
1. BUNNINGS THANK YOU BBQ
Tuesday 22nd October 6-8pm in the timber yard at Bunnings. BBQ Tea will be supplied.
Short info session on sausage sizzles and cake Stalls for 2014. Please RSVP by 14th October for Catering purposes by email (bendigoactivitiesorganiser@bunnings.com.au)
Or phone Kirsty or Dani on 5444 8555.

2. GREAT STRIDES FOR SYSTIC FIBROSIS MELBOURNE & BENDIGO
Sunday 27th October.

3. Annual General Meeting
The Annual General Meeting of the White Hills Junior Football Club will be held on MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2013 commencing at 7.30pm at the clubrooms in Scott Street, White Hills. Everyone welcome.

4. Sunday School Picnic—Wednesday 30th Oct. 11am-2pm @ Canterbury Gardens, Eaglehawk (Sound Shell)

WALK TO SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER
Epsom Primary School has signed up for VicHealth’s Walk to School 2013, a month-long activity that encourages children to walk to and from school every day in November.
Walk to School encourages children to make walking part of their daily routine to improve fitness, friendships, the environment and their confidence.
Walk to School is free, it’s fun and there are fantastic prizes for schools up for grabs.
Grades Prep to 6 are all participating in Walk to School.

Each class will have a chart in their classroom that has every name listed. If the children walk to and from school they put a tick next to their name. If your child is driven to school you may like to park around the corner and walk with them. This is not compulsory but the more participation the better the chance of winning some great prizes.