Professional Learning

Our staff has already started to engage in their professional development requirements for 2016.

Last week, Ms McGuiness attended the Principals’ Association and Network meetings in Deniliquin. Principals from across our network met with Director, Troy Mott, to examine State and area priorities, and the implications these have for us as NSW schools and as a network of schools. The Minister for Education and Local Member, Adrian Piccoli, also dropped by briefly to address the meeting and take questions from Principals about current reforms and priorities in NSW education.

Mrs Werner, as our Reading Recovery teacher, has commenced her ongoing training requirements to fulfil this role. Reading Recovery is an extremely valuable program run to assist year 1 students and is heavily supported in its implementation. There is high accountability and expectations of the teacher, the students and the parents of those students who participate. EPS is fortunate to be able to offer this program and to have teachers willing to undertake the intensive and highly demanding training involved.

Mr Day has commenced his training as a L3 teacher. Language, learning and literacy (L3) is an early intervention program designed for kindergarten and stage 1 classes.

Ongoing teacher professional development is a mandatory component of teacher employment in NSW as the state government recognises the importance of teachers continuously upgrading their skills to remain current with contemporary research, practices, programs and pedagogies.

Hearing Screenings

All Aboriginal students enrolled at EPS should have received letters this week regarding hearing screenings that are being conducted through Murrumbidgee Aboriginal Health Services. Parents and carers are urged to return these completed forms on or before Thursday this week to ensure the screenings can take place.
Basketball Trials

Good luck to our girls and boys who will be travelling to Echuca this Friday to participate in the PSSA basketball trials.

District Swimming Carnival – Hay

Last Thursday in blistering heat, 31 students headed across the Hay plains to the District Swimming Carnival. All the Edward students swam their fastest times with several PB’s being achieved. Highlights from the day were Erica Hayes claiming victory in the 8 years 50m freestyle, Henry Michael winning the 11 years boys 50m Breast-stroke, Darcee Robinson-Davis coming second in the 11 years girls 50m freestyle and Maisy Edwards who has qualified in all strokes in the disability category. Erica, Henry, Maisy, Tayissa and Tom have all qualified for the regional carnival at Albury. Undoubtedly Tom Bradley’s friendly rivalry with James Thompson from Deni South all day proved to be a heart stopper in every event they competed in. In the 50m freestyle, Tom won by a ‘fingernail’ in a scorching 34 seconds (his fastest ever time). Victory was short lived, however, as James anchored the Deni South Senior boys Relay team home and just won by a touch.

Congratulations to all our Edward swimmers on their great participation and sportsmanship on the day. Thanks also to the parents, grandparents and supporters who cheered Edward on and especially to Chris and Glenn Hayes for their coaching.

Library – Thank You

A very big thank you to Anne Lipple and Rita Jefferies who are volunteering their time to cover and repair books in our library.

Student Information & Permissions – Yellow Form

Each year there are student information and permission notes that need to be reviewed and renewed. This yellow form was sent home to each family and we ask that parents carefully read through each of the items included and respond as requested and where necessary.

Thank you to the families that have already returned this form. If you are still to do so, could you please return as soon as possible.

While parents will have already given a number of permissions for students when they enrolled, the Department requires that some information and permissions are updated each year.

Annual Medical – Blue Form

Our annual medical form went home with students last week and needs to be returned immediately as it covers all local excursions. Parents are thanked for their support.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd March</td>
<td>Sarah Graham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4th March</td>
<td>Julie Saunders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 7th March</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 8th March</td>
<td>Sarah Graham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 9th March</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 10th March</td>
<td>Tracey Ho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11th March</td>
<td>Sarah Graham</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The P&C have a catering function on Friday 11th March. Donations of slices or muffins would be greatly appreciated.

Literacy group students have been learning to identify and use nouns, verbs and adjectives as well as using prefixes to make new words. They have read ‘Where the Forest meets the Sea’ and considered what has changed and what changes may take place in the future and why. Spelling pre-test are conducted each Monday and list words tested each Friday to check what learning has taken place. Home readers need to be returned each day and students are to be congratulated for their improvement in doing this.

In maths, students have been learning to double and half numbers. They have learnt to differentiate when a shape has been flipped, slid or turned and we will be looking at symmetry of shapes as well as fractions in the coming weeks. Addition, subtraction and 2D shapes have been explored and practised.

The focus for science this term is ‘All Mixed Up’ which covers different types of mixtures and how students can record their observations and experiments as well as hands on making mixtures.

On Fridays, poetry and handwriting sometimes combine. Previously topics have been Homework, Ants and Easter. This week our poem was a Limerick by Edward Lear:

There was an Old Man in a tree,
Who was horribly bored as a Bee;
When they said, ‘Does it buzz?’
He replied, ‘Yes it does!’
‘It’s a regular brute of a Bee!’

Children cut out and coloured a bee and added wings with their traced hands.
In 3/4MD hands on activities and games are an important part of our maths learning.

Our art this term is related to our science unit. We will look at light, tone, shadows and colour. Below are our examples showing the colours of the colour wheel.

In 3/4MD we are all superheroes. We all have our strengths and play an important part in our class.

We are learning to value the importance of mistakes in the learning process.

In science, we are studying the unit day and night. We will be learning about the phases of the moon and the structure of the sun.

In class literacy, we are learning about how authors develop the characters. Here we all contributed ideas of character traits of the main characters. We are going to see how they change throughout the book.

In 3/4MD is the place to be!
The first P&C meeting is scheduled for next **Tuesday 8 March** in the staffroom commencing at 7.00pm. All parents are encouraged to attend these meetings and to become involved in supporting the education of your child/ren. Our P&C is eager to welcome new members. The meetings do not usually go for long!

**Edward On The Edward**. This inaugural event is a very special initiative of our P&C. It supports the school and showcases the talent that has come out of it! Share a relaxing afternoon on the Edward with family and friends and music! Tickets are available from the school office. School staff look forward to seeing you there!
**Deniliquin Cycling Club**

**MURRAY 2 MOYNE MYSTERY MOVIE NIGHT 2016.**
Help us raise money for a great cause— the Deni Hospital by attending this fun night. This year’s event is Friday 4th March at 597 Harfleur St starting at 7pm. $20. Spread the word.

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**Billabong Bog Run**

**Sunday March 6th 2016**
**Jerilderie Racecourse**

Gates open 8:30am
First runners 9:00am
Juniors $20 pp
Adults $40 pp

You can find us on Facebook
Email billabongbogrun@hotmail.com to register

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**Are you a parent of a young person?**

**Do you sometimes feel like a broken record?**

If you have young people between 12 and 18 years of age, join us for a free program that will help you better understand the young people in your house!

The program ‘Understanding Adolescents’ talks about practical parenting tips that work, and information such as:

- Asking the question – is it serious?
- What’s worth reacting to and what’s not,
- How to hold those difficult conversations more successfully,
- Understanding adolescence: A time of reconstructions, redveloping social landscapes, brain snaps and body make-overs, and
- Understanding your job as a parent of a teenager—observer, adviser, negotiator, director.

**When:** 3 sessions: Thursday 17th, 24th & 31st March
**Where:** Interreach, Deniliquin
**Time:** 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Contact: Libby Barker
Interreach Parenting Support
Phone: (03) 9890 5252 Please leave a message with your name & number. Or email libby@interreach.com.au
www.interreach.com.au
District Swimming Carnival - Hay