December is upon us and we certainly seem to be racing toward the end of the year at a hectic pace. The teachers and support staff at EPS have been busy in preparation for 2015 as well as putting finishing touches to the teaching program and, of course, report writing for this semester. Reports will be sent home on 12 December – if you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child’s class teacher before the end of the year.

On Wednesday morning we were delighted to welcome many of our parents and friends to Edithvale Primary School for a special morning tea in order to thank them for the excellent work that they do for our students and staff. We are so lucky to have the support of a great number of people who assist us in classrooms, on excursions, in the running of special events and on camps (just to name a few). They all help us to make our school a wonderful place to learn and grow. Thank you from the staff and students at EPS.

Preparations for the Junior School Christmas Concert and the Year 6 Graduation are progressing and we are looking forward to celebrating these events with our students and their families. There will also be many other activities held in classrooms which enable students to celebrate the past year. Check tiqbiz and your child’s purple pockets for notices which outline these extra special events.

Next week we begin our whole school transition program where all students will spend time in their 2015 classes with their new teachers and classmates over the course of three mornings – Wednesday 10 December to Friday 12 December. This has proven to be an extremely successful and valuable program for our students and for our teachers who are able to get to know their students and have that in mind when they are planning for the coming year.

On the last day of term, 19 December, students will be dismissed at 1.15 pm. Please note that After School Care will run from this time through to 6.15 pm.

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**eSMART**

**Mr James Whitla**

Edithvale Primary is an eSmart School

The Summer holiday period is an important time for our students and families to think about being eSmart. As many parents search for activities for their children to do - some of these will inevitably be online. It is also a time when our young people may have received new technologies for Christmas and will be learning how to use them. Included below are some recommended links and ideas that may assist you to keep our children to be smart, safe and responsible when spending time online, and with their new ‘technology toys’.

- Take a look at the [parents guide](#) to online safety (via ACMA)
- Offer a ‘technology contract’ that could be included in a gift of technology (via Safechild)
- Read [The 5 myths and truths about kid’s internet safety](#) (via Commonsense Media)
- Pull out some of these [online games parents can say yes to](#) (via Commonsense Media)
- Have a look at [The best movies, games, books and more of 2014](#) (via Commonsense Media)
- Get girls excited by looking at the [9 video game heroines to inspire your daughter](#) (via Commonsense Media)
- Have a look at the [12 Best YouTube Channels for Kids and Teens](#) (via Commonsense Media).

To access the links, right click and open hyperlink.
**Year 5/6 Sailing Day 2014 at Chelsea Yacht Club**

Sailing Day was a blast, what a shame it went so fast. Smiles, laughs and eyes so wide because of all the different sights. Rescue boats, speed boats and sailing boats so many things to do in such a little time. The speed boats went as fast as lightning and the rescue boat went zip and zap racing all the other boats.

Sailing was such a challenge trying to get the hang of it, but once you got it everything went by like a breeze, except for when you needed to turn a corner. A little treat was at the end, sausages in bread and to wash it all down with a soft drink as well as a packet of chips! All the smiles turned to frowns once it was time to go back to school. Overall it was an amazing day that no one would ever want to change! **Holly Cox 5/6A**

You climb into the inflatable rescue boat (IRB), excited to take off. Sit down and hold on tight otherwise you’re going to fall off. As fast as a flash, it takes off through the deep blue sea. All you can see are little dots in the distance when you’re out in the sea. Did you hear? Drew let go and fell off the rescue boat. All you could hear was lots of laughter, even Drew thought it was hilarious. He was rescued quickly, so don’t worry, and we all had to wear life jackets. Everyone thought that the speed boat was really good fun. **Daisie Cooper 5/6A**

Sailing Day was fantastic, but it was over too quickly! When I rode on the rescue boat it went really fast. We went far out to sea, holding our hats so they wouldn’t blow off. The little yachts were awesome. I actually fell in the water and it was really, really cold. I was very hungry after we had finished sailing for the day. I was glad that the sausages and chips were filling. Overall the day was the best and afterwards I felt I needed a rest! **Bronte Martine 5/6**

A short Sailing Day poem. **Olivia Hampson and Lauren Bond 5/6A**

Year 5/6 went to Chelsea Beach
Climbed onto a yacht, that was hard to reach
We learnt the importance of a mast, but
The speed boat went so very fast

As I went to the rescue boat I felt a bit sick. However when we went out to sea I felt better. The driver did a tight turn and I almost fell off but luckily he quickly turned the other way. We went with the others on the little sailing boats and then I swam back to shore with my best friend Aleeya. **Josie Guarino 5/6 A**
CANTEEN NEWS
Mrs Diane Cameron

Some important notices to all students, parents and staff.

♦ Last day for lunch orders will be next FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER.
♦ Spinach and Ricotta Rolls and Party Sausage Rolls are out of stock.

A great response to Sushi day on Tuesday 2/12 with 288 pieces ordered. Thanks to Bridget & Ant (past students) for helping out on the day. Thank you too to those clever parents who ordered using Qkr.

I would like to thank all the helpers who have given up their precious time to help volunteer in the Canteen this year. I have enjoyed your friendship, recipes, sharing family stories, many laughs and much more. This year I farewell four parents, two have joined the team recently and the other two have been here for seven years. To Fiona Hefford, Michelle Lothian, Antoniette Butta and Kellie Kingsley, I thank you all and hope you stay in touch and visit.

With the departure of four parents the Canteen will need some new helpers for next year. I will get in touch with my current helpers in January next year about 2015 roster. The canteen starts back on Monday 2nd Feb 2015.

Have a great break; chill out and I will see you all next year.

WANTED IN THE ART ROOM
Ms Jenny Lang

We are running out of our supply of newspapers in the art room, so if you are able to help us out by sending your old newspapers along to school, we would be very grateful. Please bring them straight to the art room.

QKR and the CANTEEN
Mrs Sandie Wishart

Our canteen has gone LIVE on Qkr, so you can now order and pay using your Smartphone. Thank you to the families who have used this method this week, we have had a positive response and everything is working perfectly. Note: You can still order from the canteen using cash; and window sales are still available each day (not Wednesdays).

PREP ENROLMENTS 2015
Ms Claire Goudey

This year 13,000 students from more than 100 schools in Victoria have participated in the Year 3 to 12 French Poetry Competition organised by Alliance Française in St Kilda. Each student had to recite by memory, with their best French pronunciation, a poem suitable to their age level.

A “Grand Bravo” to Year 3 students Jacinta Gallagher and Macey Austen, who came second and third and also in Year 6 Laetitia Ah-Young who came third in the State of Victoria. Oh la la! et Merci!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Ms Jenny Lang

During the holidays our new gardens and trees will need to be watered.

If there is anyone who might be able to help us by coming to the school to water these plants, could you please let me know?

You can leave your name and phone number at the office and I will contact you with details.

Thank you.

CANTEEN ROSTER—TERM FOUR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 8</th>
<th>Tue 9</th>
<th>Thu 11</th>
<th>Fri 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shauna McMillin</td>
<td>Kate Gibbon</td>
<td>Debbie Bond</td>
<td>Kellie Kingsley Fiona Hefford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS
Victoria Police

BURGLARY

Almost 29,000 cases of residential burglary were reported to police in the 2013 / 2014 financial year. The most alarming aspect of these reports is that in nearly half the cases there were no signs of forced entry.

We know that moist burglaries are opportunistic and occur during the day when most residents are not home. This is particularly relevant as we plan to take a vacation and leave our homes unoccupied for an extended period.

To avoid being a victim yourself, there are some very simple steps you can take:

- Install good quality locks on doors and windows.
- Lock all windows and doors, even when you are at home.
- Make your house look occupied at all times.
- Ask your neighbour to bring in your mail if absent.

Please report suspicious activity to police via 000.

Further information and advice sheets can be accessed on the Victoria Police website www.police.vic.gov.au
NEW BUSINESS HOURS IN 2015: As of the 28th January, our new office hours will be:
Monday, 9.00am to 1.00pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 9.00am to 3.00pm
Thursday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

OCCASIONAL CARE - CASUAL OR PERMANENT BOOKINGS
We are offering 2 occasional care sessions per week in 2015:

**Tuesday**
1st session - Tuesday 10 February (to 24 March)
12.15pm to 3.15pm
Cost: $224 for one child ($32 per session - 7 weeks)
$420 for 2 or more children ($60 per session - 7 weeks)

**Thursday**
1st session is Thursday 5th February (to 26th March)
8.30am to 12.30pm
Cost: $256 for one child ($32 per session - 8 weeks)
$480 for 2 or more children ($60 per session - 8 weeks)

To book a permanent place in Term 1, 2015 please contact our office. As spaces are limited, your booking will only be secured once payment is received. If you wish to book your child(ren) on an occasional (casual) basis, the office take bookings one week in advance.

OPEN DAYS will be held on Thursday 29th January (9.30am to 12.30pm) and Tuesday 3rd February (1pm to 3pm) to give you the opportunity to meet the staff and ask any questions.

If you any queries, please contact us on 9587 5955.

NEW IN 2015:

PRIMAL LIVING LIFESTYLE PROGRAM - presented by Carolyn Gray
This is a 12 week program introducing the foundation of Primal living. This is a step by step course where you will learn the tools to get stronger, leaner, fitter, increase your energy levels and make positive changes. Sessions will focus on Primal nutrition, meal planning, local and online resources and Paleo meals and treats. For more details or to book your place, please contact Carolyn directly on 0419 139 755 or visit her website www.holisticwellnessforlife.com

HELEN O’GRADY DRAMA ACADEMY
Boost your child’s creativity, confidence and communication skills through the fun of developmental drama classes.
For more details contact 9530 6080 or visit their website www.helenogrady.com.au
UN-NAMED LOST PROPERTY

Please name all of your children’s clothing—especially school jumpers; or rename them if they’ve been handed down or purchased from the second hand uniform shop.

Any un-named (and unclaimed) uniform items left at the end of term, will be donated to the second hand uniform shop.
Qkr is working well! We have had our first special lunch day (Sushi) on Qkr and although not all parents took up this option, those who did found it very easy. Canteen orders are also now available using Qkr. Please download the App, at no charge, from Apple’s app store for iPhones (iPads should download the iPhone app) or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

After downloading the app and registering, simply type EDITHVALEPS after tapping the magnifying glass in the top right of the home screen of Qkr, and then the app will always recognise you as part of Edithvale Primary in future to make payments even easier. Qkr is now our preferred option for all payments.

Why not download it today and be ready for 2015 - all feedback to the school office is very welcome.

School charges will be added as they arise so you can get started using this quick and efficient technology.

New features are always being added to Qkr, and you need to ensure that your phone keeps up to date in order to have the new feature-rich versions working correctly.

Apple claim that over 95% of iPhones are now using iOS 7 or 8, but clearly there are still some people using old versions of Apple’s operating system and this will limit your ongoing ability to use Qkr.

It doesn’t necessarily mean you need to go out and buy a new phone, as even an old iPhone 4 can support iOS 7, but for those who ignore Apple’s free updates, it means you will have to use the website version of Qkr if your phone operating system does not keep up with the new feature rich versions of Qkr being released.

Apart from potential problems with Qkr, not updating your operating system will limit your ability to use a wide range of new apps, and it even exposes you to security flaws or bugs from Apple that have since been fixed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6-10 Oct</td>
<td>First Day of Term Four</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>13-17 Oct</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Photo</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20-24 Oct</td>
<td>Hoopline Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>27-31 Oct</td>
<td>Gymkhana Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3-7 Nov</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10-14 Nov</td>
<td>Laser Tag</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>17-21 Nov</td>
<td>SEDA Cricket Clinic Yr F-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>24-28 Nov</td>
<td>Curriculum Day No School today</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1-5 Dec</td>
<td>Little Athletics Yr F-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8-12 Dec</td>
<td>Bike Ed 2015 Founation Transition Parent Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>15-19 Dec</td>
<td>School Council Remembrance Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>22-26 Dec</td>
<td>Sport Back to School Friceshice Year F</td>
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</tbody>
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**Monday**
- First Day of Term Four

**Tuesday**
- Gymkhana Basketball
- SEDA Cricket Clinic Yr F-3

**Wednesday**
- Little Athletics Yr F-4
- Bike Ed 2015 Foundation Transition Parent Information

**Thursday**
- Sport Back to School Friceshice Year F

**Friday**
- Gymkhana Basketball
- SEDA Cricket Clinic Yr F-3

**Weekend**
- Laser Tag