PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Denise Webster

We had a wonderful morning tea yesterday to thank all of our helpers for the 2011 school year. Parents and friends of Edithvale Primary School were welcomed by very grateful staff members who have benefitted from their assistance throughout the year. We believe very strongly that the partnership between school and home is a vital part of each child’s learning and we were delighted that we could demonstrate our appreciation for the help given.

Next week we will begin our whole school transition program that has proven to be very successful over the past few years. All students will spend three mornings with their class for 2012 and have the opportunity to meet their teacher and their classmates. We have most of our plans in place for 2012 in terms of staffing and next week we will send out a flyer in which we will confirm those staffing and class arrangements. There will also be a list of important dates that you can put on your calendar for 2012.

Over the past term, our Year 6 students have been preparing enthusiastically for their graduation and they are now starting to realise that this very important occasion is almost upon us. Once again it will be held at the Chelsea Community Centre and we are looking forward to celebrating their achievements from their time at EPS. Teachers have been working with students so that the memory of graduation from primary school will stay with them over the years. Already we have had wonderful assistance from parents, with more to come as the event gets closer. It is a very exciting time which culminates with our final assembly on Thursday December 22nd beginning at 12.30 pm.

Our Year 5 students are also in preparation mode; this time as they learn about leadership and consider whether they want to apply for a position as School Captain, SRC leader or House Captain. Year 4 students are also involved as there will be a Year 5 House Captain for each of the houses as well. We wish all the very best of luck to the students who have opted to take part in the process.

And finally...don’t forget the Prep - Year 3 Christmas Concert on Thursday December 15 at 2.30pm. We hope to see you there.

DISABLED CAR PARK IN FRENCH AVENUE
There have been a few times recently that the disabled car space in French Avenue has been inaccessible to those who need it most.
Can you please consider the wellbeing of those who regularly use this space and keep it clear for cars that clearly display a Disabled Parking Permit.

IMPORTANT DATES

**DECEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 13th</td>
<td>Prep Transition / Orientation Day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 15th</td>
<td>Prep to Year 3 Christmas Carols—2.30 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 16th</td>
<td>Canteen Closes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 20th</td>
<td>Graduation Year 6.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 22nd</td>
<td>Last day of school.</td>
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<td>Assembly-12.30 pm. Dismissal-1.15 pm</td>
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**FEBRUARY**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1st</td>
<td>All Staff Return.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3rd</td>
<td>Students Return—Start of Term 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13th</td>
<td>Canteen Re-opens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 21st</td>
<td>CBA Student Banking Sign Up Stall.</td>
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EMA CHEQUES & 2012 APPLICATIONS FOR EMA & SCHOOL START BONUS

All EMA cheques not collected from the office, have now been posted to you.

If you have a child going into Year 7 or Prep, you may be eligible for the School Start Bonus—which is a $300 one off payment, paid to those who hold a current Concession Card.

Applications are now completed on the same form as the EMA form—these are available from the school office.

If you wish to claim the School Start Bonus, you will need to collect an application form from the School Office and return it before **13 December**, either to the Edithvale Primary School office if a Prep student for 2012, or to your Secondary College if going into Year 7.

You will then receive your School Start Bonus payment in Mid January.

LOST PROPERTY

There is an abundance of lonely jumpers and other assorted clothing in lost property at the moment. Many of these articles have been sitting by themselves in the box for many weeks. Those with names are returned to their grateful owners but those without a name just stay in the box.

To alleviate this problem, lost property without names will be kept for four weeks and then given to the second hand shop where they can find a new owner.

Lost property will be displayed on the seats in the area in front of the office before and after assembly. Please have a look to see if anything belongs to you!

THE SMALL COIN HAS NOW ENDED

Thank you to everyone who sent along their unwanted coins. We raised $1,000—well done.

All money raised will go towards Buildings and Grounds—Landscaping.

The final results are:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First</th>
<th>Prep 1</th>
<th>$187.50</th>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Prep 2</td>
<td>$154.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>4B</td>
<td>$79.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>$61.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>4A</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
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FAMILY STATEMENTS

Sandie Wishart—Business Manager

Family statements have been emailed out this week. Please have a look at your statement and finalise any outstanding charges for 2011 ASAP. If you believe there are any discrepancies, please give me a call to discuss these.

If you have EMA remaining on your account, this will be carried over to 2012, so you can then allocate it to 2012 charges as they occur.

If you have a credit on your account, and no students here next year, please send me a written request to have your credit refunded. Thank you.

YEAR 6 COMMEMORATIVE JUMPERS (RUGBY TOPS)

Rugby tops are currently being organised for our Year 6 ‘class of 2012’. Sample sizes should arrive next Tuesday and students will be able to try these on to work out their sizing. An order form will be sent home in the first week of term 1 next year and will need to be returned by the end of that week, along with full payment (cheque, cash or credit card), so we can get them ordered and delivered as early as possible in the new school year. The rugby tops are $47 each, (No orders will be taken without full payment).

YEAR 6 GRADUATION TICKETS

Year 6 Graduation Tickets have now been distributed. If you haven’t received your tickets - it’s because we haven’t received your order form.

A second order form was given to those who have not ordered, today.

2012 BOOKLISTS

All Booklists have been sent out now.

We encourage you to place your order on-line. Those who are returning their orders to the school please return them by **TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2011**

Book Collection day is on Friday 27th January, 2012 between 11:00 am—3:00 pm

Please note: unpaid parcels not collected on book collection day will be returned to OfficeMax warehouse.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Our library has now been closed for the year, in order to complete our annual book stocktake.

Would you please check at home and return all borrowed books by the end of next week at the latest.

Thank you.
TOWEL DRIVE

We are a team of six here at the Snowy River School for Student Leadership, who want to make a difference back in our home community.

♦ Our main aim is to help out the Keysborough Animal Shelter, raise awareness and provide knowledge about puppy farms.

♦ For you to help us out we ask if you would all bring in old towels you don’t use anymore between 8th to 16th December. Once all your towels are collected we will collect them and give you all our greatest thanks.

♦ We (Arielle Cathcart and Chelsea Lovitt), finished our years at Edithvale Primary in 2008 and we are proud of the school and would be so thankful for everything you may be able to do for us, while supporting our CLP (Community Learning Project).

Note: Please make sure the towels are in reasonable condition and have been washed.

WHOOPING COUGH ON THE RISE IN 5-14 YEAR OLDS

The number of children aged 5-14 years old catching whooping cough has increased dramatically in Victoria over the last four years.

Whooping cough, also known as pertussis, is a highly infectious disease causing a severe, persistent cough. Whooping cough is spread by coughs and sneezes from an infected person.

While most children and adults eventually recover, often after weeks or months of illness and household disruption, there is a serious risk if infected people pass the disease to young babies.

Around one in every 200 babies under six months of age who catch whooping cough will die. Some babies will suffer permanent disability from brain and lung damage.

Family members, including siblings and parents, are the main source of whooping cough infection in babies.

Timely immunisation offers the best chance of preventing the spread of whooping cough. Whooping cough vaccine is provided free for children at two, four and six months, at their fourth birthday, adolescents in Year 10 of secondary school and parents of newborn babies. The two month vaccine can be given early at six weeks to start protection earlier.

Parents are urged to ensure their children are vaccinated on time and to consider their own whooping cough vaccination needs. Vaccination is recommended for all adults caring for or working with young children, including school teachers, as well as all health care workers.

Parents should talk to their doctor or nurse if they have questions about the whooping cough vaccine.

For more information search ‘whooping cough’ on www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

CANTEEN NEWS: The canteen will be closing on Friday 16 December, so there will be no more lunch orders after that date. The canteen reopens on Monday 13 February 2012.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much to Chris Ozane, who has kindly donated a clothing rack for the second hand uniform
The final week of canteen is fast approaching and some items are now out of stock.

**OUT OF STOCK ITEMS ARE:**

- Dim Sims
- Lasagne
- Callippos
- Frozen Juice Cups
- 250ml Fresh Apple Juice

All other items should last the distance.

The last day for lunch orders this year will be: **Friday 16 December**.

As this is my last newsletter entry for 2011, I would like to thank all the wonderful parent volunteers, who have assisted me throughout the year. I hope you all have a wonderful break and hope to see you next year.

To our fantastic school community, I hope you all have a wonderful break and I will see you all in 2012. The canteen will re-open on Monday 13 February.

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**PFA NEWS**

I’d like to say a HUGE thanks to the Parents who helped out on Thursday at our final Sausage Sizzle activity for the year.

The PFA has had a great response to all the activities run throughout the year, and we are keen to see some new faces at our meetings next year.

The winners of the ‘Harvest n Graze Festival’ will be drawn at assembly on Friday 9 December.

Thank you also goes to our hard working PFA committee members, Rachel, Karen, Melinda, Sarah and Helen. Thank you again for you support throughout 2011.

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**Aspendale Gardens Community Service Inc**

103-105 Kearney Drive
Aspendale Gardens Vic 3195
Ph 9587 5955 Fax 9587 5280
Email: agcsinc@bigpond.net.au

Aspendale Gardens Community Centre has a variety of activities for the young and young at heart. From sport and fitness classes (for kids and adults), dance, kids music classes, playgroups, occasional care and more. For a copy of our activity brochure, or for enquiries, phone 9587 5955 or check out our website www.agcsinc.org.au

**ZUMBA-** Tuesdays from 7.30pm-8.30pm Join the Zumba fitness craze. Get fit & toned. Cost $12per class. Book now for 2012. Enquiries phone Mel on 0414 353 827 or email melly@net2000.com.au

**Fitness & Weight Loss Challenge/Booty Boot Camp-** Wednesdays 1.30-2.30pm and Thump Boxing-Thursdays 2-3pm. Book now for 2012. Outdoor walking, fitness & personal training sessions also available. Contact Connie at Be Tru 2 U Fitness 0414 671 066

**Zumbatomic–Zumba for 4-12yr olds.** Thursdays from 3.45pm and now due to popular demand extra classes on Wednesdays 3.45pm-4.30pm and Thursdays 1-1.30pm. Book now for 2012 Phone Dani on 0411 139 795

**Mini Maestros-** Music program for babies and preschool kids – Fridays from 9.15am. Book now for 2012. Ph. 9511 8689
Dear Families of Edithvale Primary School...

I have recently started my own garden maintenance service ‘Clean Cut Gardening’ & I’m looking for clients/properties in Edithvale & surrounding areas.

If you mention this flyer (ie: You’re a parent/family member of EPS student) I will donate $50 back to the school, (which will go towards school funding for the kids) for every new client who books a regular service, prior to April 2012.

Regular maintenance or a once off ‘Clean Cut’ for summer, it’s up to you?

SERVICES:
* Edging
* Mowing
* Tree Trimming
* Weed Control
* Window Cleaning

Quotes Available...

Regards
Nick Macmillan (Ryan’s Dad Prep 2)
Ph: 0419 140476 or E: nickmac9@bigpond.com

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Chelsea Heights Tennis Club—Tennis Lessons 2012

- MLC Hot Shots 5-8yrs
- Junior group classes up to 18 yrs
- Adult Classes
- Free racket 5-8 years

Rackets provided for all other lessons
All Group lessons $99 per term

To register call 0439 616 748 or online at www.chelseahadfieldtennis.com.au
Our PSW Retail Stores will be closed between Wednesday 21 Dec 2011 - Monday 2 Jan 2012 (Inclusive) - Re-Opening Tuesday 3rd January 2012

On Campus Stores will be closed between Monday 19 Dec 2011 - Sunday 22 Jan 2012 (Inclusive)
Re-Opening Monday 23 January 2012

These closure dates are on our website and signage in store for your convenience. Thank you.
AFTER SCHOOL CARE
The After School Program is conducted by Kingston Council in our school hall from 3.30 pm to 6.15 pm on school days. After School Care was established to provide quality care for primary school children in a supervised, relaxed, safe & fun environment.

The program caters for parents who work, study or due to other commitments require After School Care and to allow children to play together, participating in the varied recreation activities provided.

Parents wishing to enrol their children are asked to contact Charmaine at Kingston City Council on 9581 4867 or Paromita on 0439 081 059 for further information.

BPAY OPTION
You can pay your excursions and other charges, via internet banking. Your BPAY reference will be printed on your statement.

Please only use BPAY for payments of $20 or over. You can of course, combine several outstanding charges to make the $20 minimum.

For ALL BPAY payments, we need to be notified of what your payment is for. The easiest way is to email us on edithvale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au with BPAY in the subject line. Or of course, tick the BPAY option on your payment envelope or excursion notice.

If you have any queries, please phone Sandie Wishart on 9772 1393.

CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION
Thank you to those families who have filled in and returned the confidential student information forms we sent out earlier in the year. It is important for us to hold current student information at school, which includes medical information and emergency contacts, in case of an unforeseen accident or illness.

Would you please send any outstanding forms back to the school office urgently so we can have this up to date information at hand. And also, if you change any of your details, please let us know ASAP.

ELECTRONIC STATEMENTS AND NEWSLETTERS
We are now sending family statements out via email, which has been a big success. Our first lot newsletters were also sent electronically late last term (as well as providing the usual hard copy).

In time, we will commence sending newsletters via email every fortnight and eliminate the number we need to print. This should make things easier for everyone and will make us a much ‘greener’ school! If you don’t have an email address, then of course, you will still receive a hard copy.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
Some of the EMA cheques have arrived at the school office. Please enquire at the counter to see if your cheque is in, as soon as possible.

LATE PASSES
If you are late to school, you must come to the office for a late pass. It is then taken to class and given to your teacher, where it is collected and recorded on our CASES21 attendance system. This is a legal requirement—not just a requirement of the school.

MONEY ISSUES
Please note that we do not have money readily available at the office to give change. The day’s takings are banked every day and we do not hold a ‘float’ for the next morning. Please endeavour to bring the correct money when making payments or use BPAY where possible, which will save you a trip to the office—and save us a trip to the bank!

PARKING ISSUES
Please observe all parking signs around the school, particularly in Haig Avenue. Reports have come in from parents, that people are being booked by by-laws officers in that area on a regular basis. Please note also, that parents are not to park in the staff car park to collect their children.

SCHOOL CROSSINGS
Our school crossings are an important part of our school. They enable both children and adults to cross the roads that bound our school in safety. Please use the crossings correctly to ensure everyone’s safety and to set a good example for our students.

STUDENT BANKING DAY
Bank books are brought to school on TUESDAY for processing on Wednesday. Forms for new accounts are available from the school office. With as little as 50 cents and a Youth Saver Account, you can become a super saver!

Don’t forget your school banking. If you have a camp or an excursion, drop your banking off at the office before you go. Keep on saving for your rewards—and help raise funds for your school at the same time as we receive a commission on all deposits made via the school.

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop is located in the Prep corridor between Prep 1 and Prep 2 and is open every Tuesday afternoon from 3:00 pm—4:15 pm. Payments can be made by EFTPOS or cash.

UNIFORM SHOP—SECOND HAND
The Second Hand Uniform Shop is located in the School Hall and is open every Tuesday afternoon from approximately 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm.