PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Denise Webster

WORKING BEE: A huge thank you to all who helped at the Working Bees on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Armed with rakes, shovels, pitchforks and wheelbarrows our willing band of ‘landscapers’ transformed the area along French Ave from a lazy patch of weeds to the beginning of a wonderful outdoor learning space. Our aim was to plant out the area which runs alongside the main entrance. The rest will become part of a work in progress which we can complete in sections. The plans that we have include a variety of surfaces and seating so that students will have choices as to where and how they work in the outdoor flexible learning environment. Many, many thanks to the following people who gave us a hand:

Members from the Quenell, Sewell, Sinclair, Weatherly, Telfer, Davies, Vella, Smith, McMillan, Markby, Nightingale, Bond, Hampson, Syme and McIntosh Families as well as

Mrs Karen Laurent, Miss Sharlotte Cua, Miss Britt Baker, Miss Amanda Scafidi, Mrs Deb Obstojic, Mrs Deb Johnson, Ms Bronwyn Molloy, Miss Kim Rolls, Mrs Nikki Howard, Mrs Ann McAllen, Mme Sylvie Snow, Miss Jaime Rohan, Stephen Webster, Mrs Denise and Mr Trevor Webster and James Whitla.

OPENING OF THE LEARNING CENTRE: We are busy putting the final touches to our preparation for tomorrow’s official opening of the Learning Centre. The event will be held outside (weather permitting) and all students and staff will be attending. Please come along and join us.

PANCAKES: The wonderful aroma of pancakes cooking wafted through the building earlier in the week as many classes took the opportunity to become involved in what has become part and parcel of Shrove Tuesday. We had many fine cooks who looked very pleased with the day’s activities.

YEAR 5 & 6 CAMP: Next Wednesday the Year 5 and 6 students will be heading to the city for their Melbourne Discovery Camp. They have a very full itinerary and I’m sure that they will return home to regale us with tales of what they have seen and experienced. We hope they have a great time.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2012: Following the call for nominations last week, one nomination was received. Tracey Griffiths is therefore duly elected. Under the DEECD guidelines, I am extending the call for nominations for a further three school days. Nominations will now close on Tuesday 28 February at 4.00 pm.

The revised timeline for the election is listed below with the incoming School Council to be fully constituted and operational as from the declaration of the poll.

♦ Wednesday 29 February - list of candidates and nominators will be posted.
♦ Thursday 1 March - ballot papers prepared and distributed.
♦ Thursday 8 March - close of ballot.
♦ Friday 9 March - Vote count.
♦ Tuesday 13 March - declaration of ballot.

IMPORTANT DATES

**FEBRUARY**

- Fri 24th ♦ Official Opening of the BER (Learning Centre).
- Mon 27th ♦ Metlink Invisit—Level 4s
- Wed 29th ♦ EMA Applications Close.
- Wed 29th–Fri 2nd ♦ Level 4 Urban Camp.

**MARCH**

- Thu 1st ♦ Running Club Begins—8.15–8.45 am.
- Mon 5th & Tue 6th ♦ Circus Challenge—Whole School.
- Fri 9th ♦ Level 4 Interschool Sport Commences.
- Tue 13th ♦ Meet & Greet Afternoon Tea.
- Thu 15th ♦ Young Leaders Day.
Last Friday I was fortunate, and very proud, to take our Edithvale Primary School Swimming Team to compete in the Chelsea and Patterson District Swimming Carnival.

All of our students swam in a determined manner and achieved some outstanding results. All team members competed enthusiastically, with great spirit and camaraderie.

It was great introducing the team to our school community at last week’s assembly where we saw an amazing array of First, Second and Third placed ribbons.

Well done to all of those who gave their very best efforts on the day! A big thank you also to Mrs Nikki Howard, Mr Ashley Howard and Mrs Karen Vella for their hard work and organisation on the day.

2012 Edithvale Primary School Swimming Team Members were: -
BERTHE MOUCHETTE COMPETITION / FRENCH POETRY COMPETITION

WHAT IS IT?
The Berthe Mouchette Competition is an opportunity for students to practice the French language by participating in a competition with great prizes to be won!

There are two categories, oral and an additional “nouveauté” a Drawing Competition for the Primary level participants.

Years 3-6 recital of a French poem ($5 entry fee)

WHO CAN ENTER?
The competition is open to all students from Year 3 to Year 12 in all schools across Melbourne and Victoria.

Who is interested this year at Edithvale Primary School? If your child is keen, Madame Snow will enrol them for this year’s competition - we must know before Friday 2 March!

Merci
Madame Snow—French Teacher

IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICES
Sandie Wishart—Business Manager

BPAY PAYMENTS
It’s wonderful to see so many parents taking advantage of BPay and paying their fees & charges that way. However, please remember that BPay payments must be for amounts of $20 or more. You can combine several payments to reach the $20. Anything under $20, still needs to be paid via the office. Thank you.

EMA CHEQUES & 2012 APPLICATIONS FOR EMA & SCHOOL START BONUS
EMA & School Start Bonus applications are due in to school by 29 February 2012, for those parents holding a current health care or pension card.

Also, if you have a Prep or Year 7 student, and have not yet received your one-off School Start Bonus of $300, and you are the holder of a current Health Care or Pension card, you may be eligible for this payment.

Application forms are available from the school office.

CANTINE NEWS
Diane Cameron
Canteen Manager

CANTINE ROSTER—TERM ONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 27th</th>
<th>Tue 28th</th>
<th>Thur 1st</th>
<th>Fri 2nd</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shauna McMillin</td>
<td>Michelle Aronleigh</td>
<td>Mark O’Hehir</td>
<td>Antoniette Butta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 5th</td>
<td>Tue 6th</td>
<td>Thu 8th</td>
<td>Fri 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgina Devereaux</td>
<td>Claire Stewart</td>
<td>Deb Bond</td>
<td>Kellie Kingsley</td>
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</table>

As of next week, all items on the menu will be available. Due to changes in delivery days, some items were unavailable until now.

The canteen offers a wide variety of items such as fruit salad, which are freshly made daily. Our fruit salad has pineapple, cantaloupe, apple, orange, kiwi fruit, grapes, strawberries & blueberries. The yoghurt we use is Evia.

A big THANK YOU to all the parent helpers from the last fortnight and an even bigger THANK YOU to Kellie for helping me each day while I was recovering from surgery.

Frozen items available at the moment are Paddle Pops ($1.20) and Calippos (.80c).

LOST PROPERTY
All lost property will be held at the LOTE room. Madame Snow will place the bin containing the lost property outside her room at the beginning of each day and return it inside at the end of the day (weather permitting). Please feel free to look through the bin for any lost items at your leisure. No lost property will be held at the office. Named items will be returned to students at our earliest convenience.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Swimming Team Practice
CDPPSSA Swimming Carnival
Level 4 Urban Camp
Hip Hop Club
Cheerleading Club
Running Club
PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER’S OWN RISK

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, electronic games, calculators, toys, musical instruments, sporting equipment, and cars parked on school premises.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Staff and students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

For information about the Department’s insurance arrangements, see the School Policy and Advisory Guide at:


SINGING AND DANCING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2012

The Australian Youth Choir and the Australian Youth Dance Theatre not only give young people the opportunity to develop their skills within the Performing arts under expert guidance, but the chance to make new friends and perform in exciting concerts. Our kids work as a team, develop life long friendships and have great fun. Visit our website to find out more about our programs www.niypaa.com.au

READING AT EDITHVALE PRIMARY

The Literacy Team

2012 is the National Year of Reading and our aim is to have all EPS students to be involved in the Premiers’ Reading Challenge.

This involves students reading books from the challenge list which are available from the school library or can be brought from home. If in Prep, Year 1 or Year 2 can books can be read by the student or with someone else, for example, a parent, teacher, brother or sister, classmate, buddy or friend. They can read the book to the student if they are just learning to read. Certificates will be received by students who complete the challenge.

A permission form will be sent home for parents to sign and return to school. Students will receive a sheet on which to write down the book name, author and a parent will sign to verify that it has been read.

Online books must be verified as read by a Coordinator in your school.

All information will be completed online before 10 September 2012. This means that student lists must be returned to school by Friday 1 August.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Number of books</th>
<th>Number from the Challenge book list</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>15 books</td>
<td>10 or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>15 books</td>
<td>10 or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>15 books</td>
<td>10 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>15 books</td>
<td>10 or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like more information on either the Premiers’ Reading Challenge or The National Year of Reading please see the links below.

www.education.vic.gov.au/prc  
www.love2read.org.au/index.cfm

We would like everyone to take up the challenge during this National Year of Reading. Looking forward to seeing your child involved in the Challenge.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The fundraising committee will be running a sausage sizzle at Bunnings - Keysborough on Saturday 3 March, from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm and they need your help to cook and/or serve for as little as an hour.

Please see the flier, which was sent out with today’s newsletter for more information and to sign up to help. Thank you.
**MEET AND GREET AFTERNOON TEA**

All classrooms will be open for afternoon tea on Tuesday 13 March. Come and meet the other parents and teachers from your children’s year level. If you have more than one child there will time to mingle with all.

**When:** Tuesday March 13th  
**Where:** Your child’s room  
**Time:** 2:20 pm

Hope to see you there!

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**ASPENDALE GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTRE INC**

103-105 Kearney Drive, Aspendale Gardens 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 the 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 any enquiries, phone 9587 5955 or check out our website www.agcsinc.org.au

**Fun, Fitness and the Pelvic Floor.** Tuesday 20th March from 7pm-9pm. This free evening is for all women to find out more about the pelvic floor and those exercises we all know we should be doing. A light hearted look at the pelvic floor and ways of avoiding problems. Presented by the Continence Foundation of Australia. Cost: FREE!!  
**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL!!** Ph. 9587 5955

**Zumba**- Tuesdays 7.30pm-8.30pm. Get fit for 2012 while having fun with the fitness craze that has taken the world by storm. Only $12 per session. Contact Mel on 0414 353 827

**Cartridges for Planet Ark**- Do your bit for the environment and drop off your used ink cartridges, toners and even your old mobile phones to the Aspendale Gardens Community Centre reception during office hours (9.30am-3pm Tuesday to Friday). These will be collected by Planet Ark and recycled into many different items including pens and garden beds.

**Zumbatomic** for kids 4-12 years. Big starz (8-12yrs) Wednesdays 3.45-4.30pm and Thursdays 4.15-5pm. Lil’ Starz (4-7yrs) Thursdays 1-1.30pm and 3.45-4.15pm. Enquiries ph Dani on 0411 139 795.

**Thump boxing** Thursdays 2pm-3pm with B Tru 2 U Fitness. Outdoor 30 minute express classes and personal training sessions also available. Enquiries ph. Connie on 0414 671 066

**Mini Maestros**- Music program for babies and preschoolers. Fridays from 9.20am. Enquiries ph. 9511 8689

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**CLEAN CUT GARDENING SERVICE**

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.

Services include mowing, edging, hedging, tree trimming, green waste removal, weed control, pre-sale facelifts, window cleaning. Quotes available.

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

**Nick Macmillan** (Ryan’s Dad—Year 1)  
Ph: 0419 140476  or  E: nickmac9@bigpond.com
CHELSEA BASKETBALL CLUB

WINTER SEASON 2012
U10, U12, U14, U16, U18, MIXED, MEN & WOMEN
STARTS APRIL
ENTRY FORMS MUST BE IN BY MARCH 10TH
JUNIOR ENTRY $140, SENIOR ENTRY $160
CONTACT PETER ON 0448 557 323
EMAIL manager@chelseabasketball.com.au
Entry forms can be mailed out

Develop the confidence of a winning smile
Take advantage of our free initial visit and get some professional advice from a specialist orthodontist today. No referral is necessary.

Aspendale Tennis Club
OPEN DAY
Launch of new ‘Aus Open’ plexicushion courts
Sunday March 4th 2012
11.30am
For further information contact:
Dayle Brown on 0458 977 426

Sausage Sizzle
Face Painting
Wii tennis
Prizes and Raffles
Come along and Join our club! Competition & Social tennis
THE A–Z OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE

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
Shortly a package will be sent home to all families, with several forms which need completing and returning to school. This pack will include a print out of the details we have recorded on your Confidential Student Information. These forms need to be returned to school by 29 FEBRUARY at the latest. 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 the forms back as early as possible and 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)
EMA applications are closing soon, so if you have not completed your application, please collect a form from the school office and return ASAP. This also applies to School Start Bonus, for parents of prep students, who hold a Pension or Health Card.

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.