PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

This term, for me, has been one of the busiest on record! When we planned our year we had a fairly clear idea of what was on the drawing board - we knew that term 2 was going to be a challenge with the School Review, the Art Show and Report Writing on top of our normal teaching and learning program. What we hadn’t really thought about was the unexpected, but wonderful, addition of the federal funding and the work that has eventuated as a result of this. Members of both the staff and school council have been involved in some parts of the planning for the new facilities and the refurbishment projects and their input has been highly valued. The good thing is that we have reached the end of week 10 and we are all still smiling! (But really looking forward to the holidays, I might add!)

From my perspective, the Art Show was one of the greatest achievements for us at EPS in the 18 months that I have been here. It highlighted the fantastic spirit that we have in our school and it gave everyone - teachers, students, families and friends - the chance to showcase the array of talent that we have within the school community. It gave our students the opportunity to show how proud they were of themselves as learners and, especially, as artists! Again, it was the generosity of many that enabled us to be so successful in this endeavour.

There will be a few changes in staffing at the beginning of next term: Jim Griffin, our PE teacher will be taking up a position at Sandringham East PS. We thank him for his contribution to the PE program and wish him well in the future. We are still involved in a process to appoint a new teacher to this position and this will be concluded soon.

Many thanks to Jessica Smith and Ashley Howard who have worked so well with the students in 3/7 and 5/12 during this term. Deb Johnson will be on Long Service Leave during term 3 and Jessica Smith will again be joining us, this time in 6/11. Last but not least, Janice Lawrence will be Acting Principal during the first two weeks of Term 3 while I take some extra leave.

I am sure that you are looking forward to the break and I would like to wish you all a very safe and happy holiday.

ADVANCE NOTICE…………….!

DISCO
FRIDAY, JULY 24
P ~ 3 1st Session
4 ~ 6 2nd Session

Notes will go home with all the details
1st week back next Term

IMPORTANT DATES

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<td>Friday 26th</td>
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<td>• End of Term 2</td>
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<td>[1.30 pm Dismissal]</td>
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<table>
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<th>JULY</th>
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<td>Monday 13th</td>
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<td>• Term 3 Begins</td>
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<table>
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<th>AUGUST</th>
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<td>Monday 31st to Wednesday 2nd September</td>
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<td>• Year 4—Camp Manyung</td>
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I wish to start this report with a HUGE thank you to the parents who volunteered to help out with Hot Dog Day on Wednesday. Also thanks to the year 6 girls (Leila, Imogen and Isobel) for sticking orders to paper bags.

The Term 3 roster has been sent out and Term 3 menu is complete and will be sent home on Thursday.

I hope you all have a great break. See you all next term.

Diane

The new girls tunic is now available from the uniform shop and has become very popular. The tunic has a detachable ‘bib’ which would be worn through prep to grade 4. Once the girls get to grade five or six, the bib can be removed.

The tunic retails at $45 and has become a valuable addition to our school uniform. The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays from 3:00 – 4:00pm.

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

• be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
• be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (28 January 2009 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (13 July 2009).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009 for the first instalment and 7 August 2009 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $221 for primary students and $443 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school.

If you are eligible for EMA, please collect a form from the school office and return it on the first day of term 3. Thank you.

The Term 3 after-school PlaySports activities at Edithvale Primary School for Prep to Year 4s will consist of Softball & Soccer.

Commencing Wednesday 22 July and running for eight weeks, each session includes warm up games, skill activities and modified competitions, that are fun, engaging and age appropriate.

The cost is $69.00.

Enrolment forms accompany this newsletter and spares are at the school office or phone PlaySports on 9532 5584. Enroll early to ensure a place. www.playsports.com.au.

At this time of year, it is important to observe good hygiene practices in order to prevent the spread of these ailments. Please remember to wash your hands thoroughly and often, to cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, to use tissues—and to dispose of them properly—in a rubbish bin.

Also, please note that there have been a couple of cases of Chicken Pox at school recently, so if your child is feeling unwell, please check for the telltale signs.

Our School Newsletter is produced weekly and distributed on Thursdays. School Newsletters are also available on our website, www.edithvaleps.vic.edu.au and will continue to be online for all families to access. To access the newsletter online, please follow the prompts on the website. Select PARENTS, Then NEWSLETTER (from the drop down box), Then click on NEWSLETTER and select the edition of the newsletter you wish to read. Newsletters can be printed from this site. Some hard copies will be available at the General Office if you need another copy.