



EDITHVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

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Term 1—Week 5

1 March 2019

Working Together, Aspiring Higher, Connecting with our Community & Doing

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Mr James Whitla

I wonder if we asked our children "What is your goal for today?" what answers we might get.....

Over the last few days I have been privileged to attend our annual Principal Conference with a number of our School Improvement Team members, and listened to Lee Watanabe-Crockett discuss how we can continue to improve as a school and as a system. His clear message is that Student Agency and Voice is a clear lever in helping to engage and educate our students and that asking Essential Questions such as "What is greatness?" or "How much is enough?" can encourage us all to think critically and creatively. Lee referred back to the use of effective questioning many times over the two days and this helped confirm that we are on the right track.

Examples of different levels of questioning that he mentioned were provided to all parents who attended our recent Practical Parent Workshops. It was great to see almost 100 parents turn up for these workshops last week and hopefully these gave a bit of an insight into how we teach Literacy and Numeracy in a personalised manner. For anyone who was unable to make these sessions, our English and Maths leaders (Bec Laver and Jess McGeachin) have spare copies of their presentation available for you.

Our extra curricula activities are a fantastic way to get involved in the school by sharing your passions and interests with our students. A variety of activities will be offered to all of our students during lunchtimes over the next few terms. These include cooking, robotics, wellbeing, yoga, library, lego and we'd love for you to add to this list if you would like to. Thank you to those parents who have returned a form, and are keen to share their talents and passions with our students.

School Council. Our President Mr Stephen Smith has included information about our School Council in his column in this week's newsletter and I would like to welcome Lisa Carter and Kate Middleton to our 2019-2020 School Council. Kate and Lisa, along with Bree Ryan and Stephen Smith, have been nominated to the Council and join a dynamic and progressive team who continue to help build a great community spirit in our school. I wish to acknowledge the work and significant contributions made by departing members of Council - Sally Lucas and Alison Read. Both members have been great supporters of our school over the last few years. Hayden Callahan also joins our team as the DET representative and replaces Dinelle Bates who is currently on leave.

Robotics. A few weeks back we launched our Robotics program and this has been very well received by our students who are loving the chance to explore and experiment with new technology on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It's well worth popping your head into the library space and feeling the energy in the room once the students dive into their learning and collaborate to program small robots to carry out set tasks - our students are truly amazing!

Swimming. On Wednesday our swimming team headed off to the District Swimming Carnival and again performed very well. Above and beyond their efforts in the pool, their humility and encouragement of each other was exemplary and made our staff in attendance very proud indeed. The team was: Sam Alford, Erin Besnard, Luke Butcher, Ethan Carter, Taj Dix, Alex Fraser, Karen Hall, Connor Hulme, Lachlan Jowett, Rose Marsh, Michael Marsh, Dylan Palmer, Sophie Ryan, Jaden Smits, Remi Sneddon, Lachlan Welsh and Verity Wilson. Connor Hulme was our most successful swimmer and he heads off to the Divisional Championships in the next week or so - we wish him all the very best.



SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr Steve Smith

Last week we had a call out for School Council nominations for the 2019 School Council. We had four parent member positions available and one DET position available. We received the exact number of nominations, which means we now have our 2019 School Council.

A quick introduction to all our 2019 School Council Parent Members:

Bree Ryan - mum to Sophie (Year 3), Annie (Year 1) and Sam (2 years old but thinks he should be at school)! I often get involved in writing grant applications so if you have any ideas please let me know!

Jodi Vuat - Hi, I'm Jodi, mum to Ella (Year 3). I've been so fortunate to be a part of the school council for the last 3 years - it's very rewarding to see our ideas being brought to fruition through the development of the school master plan, and I can't wait to see what's next in store for the school.

Katie Middleton - Katie's eldest son Jett is in Foundation. She's British, a Mum of two boys, a teacher and former Assistant Principal and is not related to the Royal family. New to school council and looking forward to getting involved.

Kerrie Jowett - I am mum to Lochy in Year 6. I love helping out where I can and think we have an amazing school community.

Lisa Carter - Hi I'm Lisa Carter, mum to Ethan Year 6 and Kaitlyn Year 3. I love both helping out and the feel of this amazing school community, you'll no doubt see me behind the cake stall, BBQ or canteen!

Mark Eddey - Hi, I'm Mark Eddey, dad to Josh in Year 4. This is my seventh year as a parent at EPS and I continue to be amazed at the dedication of both staff and parents to making this school a wonderful community.

Mike Smits - I have two sons at EPS, Noah (Year 6) and Jaden (Year 3), and this will be my fourth year on the school council. It has been a rewarding experience to contribute where I can and to understand the machinations of how our school really operates, and I'd encourage everyone to consider joining in the future.

Steve Smith - I have a daughter at EPS, Chloe (Year 5) and my son, Liam, is now in Year 7 at Mordialloc College. This will be my sixth year on the school council. I enjoy organising countless BBQs and Twilight Fairs for our school.

We also have two parent members of the School Council leaving this year:

Alison Read has been on School Council for 2 years and has been a valuable member of the Fundraising, Fair, and Buildings and Grounds committees. We will miss her contributions on the council, but look forward to her continued participation on the above sub-committees.

Sally Lucas has been on School Council this past year and is also a valuable member of the Fundraising and Fair committees. We will miss her contributions on school council. She has decided to focus on School Fundraising efforts this year, which is great news for our school.

The following is a complete list of the EPS School Council for 2019.

DET MEMBERS: James Whitla, Jaime Rohan, Jacqui Miller, Hayden Callahan

PARENT MEMBERS: Bree Ryan, Jodi Vuat, Kate Middleton, Kerrie Jowett, Lisa Carter, Mark Eddey, Mike Smits, Steve Smith

Our next School Council meeting will be our AGM on Tuesday 26 March 2019.

CANTEEN ROSTER							
Mon 4	Tue 5	Thu 7	Fri 8	Mon 11	Tue 12	Thu 14	Fri 15
Sally James	Patricia Raimondi	Kate Gibbon	Katie Schneider	Labour Day No school	Melissa Heath	Alice McCarthy	Sasha Dent

Twilight Fair Update

Only three more weeks until the **Edithvale Primary School Twilight Fair on Friday 22 March.**

This week's classroom donation item was blocks of chocolate for our "choc-a-block" stall. Next week we are collecting items to be used in themed hampers. The themes were selected by each class and can be found in the table below:

Class	Hamper Theme	Class	Hamper Theme
Foundation A	Sports (raffle prize)	3A	Easter
Foundation B	Lollies	3B	Chocolate
Foundation C	Beach	3C	Fun with science
Foundation D	Pamper	4A	Games
1A	Art & Craft	4B	Sports (silent auction)
1B	Night in pack - movies, board games, popcorn	5/6A	Gardening
1C	Beach	5/6B	Toys
2A	Baking with kids	5/6C	Family Fun
2B	Cooking	5/6D	Baby goods

Thank you to all the families who have been donating items for our Twilight Fair.

Raffle tickets are now on sale. Each ticket is \$2 and additional books are available at the office. We have some great prizes including a Vuly trampoline, a sports hamper, and a 1kg block of chocolate from Yarra Valley Chocolaterie.

If you are interested in helping out with the Twilight Fair please contact us at EdithvalePrimaryFair@gmail.com.

We also have an online volunteer roster setup on the following web page:

<https://volunteersignup.org/9LRY3>

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Twilight Fair on Friday 22 March.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families.

The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$125 for primary school students.

To obtain an application form or if you have any queries please contact the school office.

Term 1: Important Dates

March 7	School Photos
March 11	Labour Day — students not required at school
March 22	Twilight Fair
March 26	Sushi Day
March 26	School Council—AGM
April 4	Foundation Grandparents and Special Friends Afternoon
April 5	Last day of Term 1. 2.30pm dismissal

