



EDITHVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

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Term 2—Week 6

31 May 2019

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr James Whitla

Winter came a couple of days early and certainly struck with a vengeance this week! With the change in weather conditions and the upcoming Drainage works set to begin on French Avenue, we are as determined as ever to ensure all of our students and families arrive and leave school safely. With the worsening weather comes increased traffic on roads in and around schools.

We will continue to educate and encourage our students to be safe by reinforcing the importance of:

- wearing helmets when riding bikes and scooters
- crossing roads at designated and patrolled crossings
- looking both ways when crossing roads (particularly on French avenue)

We ask that all parents can help us by reporting any unsafe or dangerous behaviours that are witnessed so that we can promptly address these as much as we are able.

The Drainage works along French Avenue are due to start in early June and will cause some disruption to traffic at certain times of the day. As information from our Kingston Council is communicated to us, we'll be sure to pass on any updates to you. The disruption might be temporarily annoying and frustrating but I'm assured that with the extra 'speed humps' being installed close to our school entrance, our families will ultimately be safer when crossing the road.

Very exciting news out of the State Budget for Edithvale Primary School! We have extra funding coming to us. This update from Minister Merlino: "I am delighted to confirm that the Victoria Government has allocated \$0.672 million to fund a new permanent modular school building at Edithvale Primary School as part of the Permanent Modular School Buildings Program."

I am not yet privy to many of the details surrounding this, nor how much independence and creativity we can exercise when accessing the funds. As more details come to light we will socialise this in our community. Tentative conversations with the Victorian Schools Building Authority suggest that the money has been targeted to remove the current Year 1/2 Light Timber Construction Building.

Good news is that the majority of the construction occurs off site and that the entire process takes less than 38 weeks to complete.

It's a great fillip for our school and this — along with our STEM facility construction that is due to start early next term, and our oval upgrade — confirms our strong commitment to having modern and up-to-date classrooms and facilities as it is a fundamental part of ensuring that every child has the best possible education.

Reconciliation week.

I wish to acknowledge the importance of Reconciliation week, as has our DET Secretary who this week wrote to all schools reminding us of its significance.

This week is National Reconciliation Week. It is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared history, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation.

I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the deep significance of National Reconciliation Week. The timing of the week is framed by two landmark events:

- *The 1967 national referendum in which more than 90 per cent of Australians voted 'Yes' to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the census and allow the Commonwealth Government to create laws for them*
- *The anniversary of the 1992 High Court of Australia Mabo decision, named after Eddie Mabo, the man who fought for recognition of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of their land and waters.*



Edithvale Primary School students will be running assembly this week to help acknowledge the significance of this week, and again, raising awareness during NAIDOC week on June 21.

Attendance

If your child is away for any reason, please provide a written explanation to the child's teacher or report it via Compass.

Absences can be submitted using **Compass**. It is a government requirement to have all absences explained. In the case of unexplained absences, letters will be sent home each term for you to complete. If a child is to be away longer than a week please keep the school informed. The school is required to report any unexplained absences to Department of Education and Training. Please refer to the attached instructions on "Adding an Attendance Note/Approval" on Compass.

Family Holidays

If you are planning a family holiday during the school term, please write a letter to the principal explaining the time that your child will be away from school. You will then have the absence recorded as an extended family leave. Please also discuss the option of developing an 'Absence Learning Plan' with your child's teacher.

Taking Children Out of School for Appointments

When parents or their nominated representative are picking children up early from school for appointments, personal reasons or sickness, children must be signed out at the office and an early dismissal pass for the class teacher will be given to you. Children cannot be released by teachers without this formal process being completed.

SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr Steve Smith



On Saturday 18 May, was our school's **Election Day BBQ**. We had a great day - with a lot of hungry voters, and a great team of volunteers. This event brought in over \$2,100 which will go towards digital technologies at our school.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped out on the day:

Katy Middleton, Jodi Vuat, Jack Dix, Catherine Pietrzak, Carl Wilson, Sally Knorr, Audrey Hulme, Jordan O'Mearna, Fiona Vaular, Anna Welsh, Jaime Rohan, Michael Smits, Hayden Callahan, Dan Exeter, Michael Cummings, Nicole Butcher, Glenn Butcher, Dan Exeter, Sarah McDonald, Justin Bradley, Ellen Boyle, Fleur Eddey, Joanne Mills, Bree Ryan, Helen Arden, and James Whitla.



The EPS Book Fair is next week from Monday to Thursday (June 3-6). There will also be an 'early bird' session tomorrow (Saturday 1 June) from 10am to 1pm in the library - be sure to drop in and check it out. More details are on the school website: <http://www.edithvaleps.vic.edu.au/bookfair>

Term 2: Important Dates	
June 3-6	Book Fair
June 3	Year 5/6 Swimming starts
June 10	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
June 21	The Ridiculous Rhyme Show

CANTEEN ROSTER							
Mon 3	Tue 4	Thu 6	Fri 7	Mon 10	Tues 11	Thurs 13	Fri 14
Jasmin Miller	Sue O'Brien	Tarsha Warren	Nicole Butcher	QUEENS BIRTHDAY	Patricia Raimondi	Erin Cogar Mel Foster	