



Epping Heights Public School

"Quality education in a caring environment"
Values for this term: Participation and Personal Best

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Term 2 Week 9

21 June 2011

Coming events

- 22 June Maths Olympiad
- 24 June 1.45pm – K-6 Assembly
- 27 June 2pm – Yr 5 Debate
- 29 June 2J Cake Day – swapped with 2S
- 30 June Reports sent home
- 1 July Last day of Term 2
- 19 July Students' first day for Term 3

Deadline for Newsletter articles is Friday

Dear Parents,



Last Friday afternoon we welcomed back our very tired and mostly 'dirty' Stage

3 children from camp. Those I spoke to talked about the fun they'd had and the bag of muddy washing they'd brought home. Teachers also spoke highly of the wonderful program that was offered and



adapted to suit the rather awful weather during a lot of the time. I'm sure parents are gradually hearing about all the **challenging and exciting experiences** the children enjoyed whilst at the Aussie Bush camp. I'd like to **thank Miss Gerard** for her organisation of the camp as well as **Miss Smith, Mr Geniale and Miss Pike** who accompanied and cared for the children over the 3 days away from home.

Earlier in the day I enjoyed the first **K-2 Assembly** led by a kindergarten class. **KS were magnificent** – every child in the class spoke on the microphone and demonstrated their growing confidence in speaking to an audience. One of the reasons, I believe, our school is so successful in the public speaking arena is the development of their skills from very early in kindergarten. As part of the Talking and Listening strand of the English syllabus, teachers develop children's skills in oral language and these skills were evident last Friday and on many other occasions.

Last week the Band Committee asked for expressions of interest from our **young musicians to perform** at a **musical evening, 'Strictly Live'**, during Education Week next term. The evening provides a wonderful opportunity for your child to showcase their talents and reward themselves for the effort in learning the skills and practising to perform. As well as solo performances by talented young musicians, and there are so many amongst our students, there will be performances by the School Band and the Vocal Enrichment Group. Thank you to all those who have already expressed interest in performing. I encourage many more to offer to perform for us. After all one of the most pleasurable aspects of learning an instrument is the chance to perform in front of an appreciative audience. Please complete the tear-off or contact Band Convenor, Chris Salmon directly by email chris.salmon@tpg.com.au.

At the end of next term all children will perform in a Dance Concert, **"Let's Dance"** to showcase the skills learnt during weekly dance lessons. **If you are able to sew, we need you.** We are hoping to make some costumes for the children. They will be simple but may involve stretch fabrics. If you are able to help, please complete the tear-off.

This week as happens at the end of each term, teachers are involved in **Stage Planning**. This time spent planning together ensures consistency across each stage of

learning and allows teachers to share their talents and ideas with each other. During each session, teachers begin by discussing a current educational article. This term's discussion will focus on the **importance of 'The Arts in Education'**. Just as students are continually learning so are teachers; and maintaining knowledge of current educational practices and trends is a very important part of a teacher's professional development.

Last week I began the task of reading the 330 student **end of semester reports**. I commend the teachers for their time spent reflecting on each child's learning progress over the semester and articulating their achievement resulting in the reports you will receive next week.

Due to some dissatisfaction expressed in last year's surveys regarding the **reporting processes**, some **changes** have been made this year.

Parent teacher interviews were held earlier this term and I hope parents found this time frame beneficial in providing the chance to discuss any concerns much sooner than previously. The time allocation for each interview was also increased to allow more time for discussion.

The **semester 1 reports** have also changed and your child's report will include a **detailed and longer written comment** about progress in **English and Maths**, but no comment or grades for the other Key Learning Areas. The social development and commitment to learning areas will still be covered.

The end of year report will cover all of the above as well as comments for the other 4 areas.

I am very happy to receive **feedback** regarding these changes which we feel reflect the wishes of most parents.

In reading the reports I gain a great insight into the learning progress of each child in the school. One thing I especially like about leading a school of this size is the opportunity to get to know every child and their family. This is a great privilege and gives me great pleasure. The children are working hard and making great progress in their learning.

Yesterday Tim, Daniel, Keira and Niamh took part in the Multicultural Speaking Competition. A very proud Tim rang me yesterday to tell me his good news. He had been successful in making it through to the next round. All the children spoke very well. Congratulations to all of them for their hard work in preparing their speeches.



Our Year 6 Debating Team also debated the team from North Ryde PS at North Ryde. Unfortunately our team lost the debate. Whilst I know the team is disappointed, I'm sure the advice given by the adjudicator will help them in future debates.

Today **Stage 1 children** travelled up the F3 to the **Australian Reptile Park**. I'm sure they'll have some reports and photos of their day that can be shared in a future newsletter.

I was delighted and proud to hear that 2 wonderful ex Epping Heights students have been elected as **School Captain and Vice Captain at Cheltenham Girls HS**. I remember both girls well and am not surprised at their wonderful achievement. The new **School Captain is Sharfah Mohammed** and the **Vice Captain is Grace Grierson**. There is a Senior Prefect and 25 prefects. I believe a number of our students were also elected as prefects although I don't know their names at this stage. It is very gratifying to know that the skills our students develop in their primary school are nurtured and continue to develop through high school. Congratulations Sharfah and Grace. We are very proud of you and all members of the school leadership team.

There are a few families who have still not paid the **term 2 invoice**. I would appreciate your **payment** this week. If you are having difficulty making the payment, please contact our Office Manager, Wendy Morritt, or me to discuss this matter. Also if you have been unable to pay the 'voluntary contribution' but are now able to do so (in full or part) this would be very much appreciated. We fund our Key Learning Area programs through these contributions.

It's hard to believe that we're almost at the halfway mark in the year. School will break for the Winter vacation on Friday 1 July. School will resume on 19 July.

Best wishes,
Julie Hanley
Principal

Week 8 Assembly Awards – Congratulations!

Assistant Principal: Elly H, Ethan H, Alana Z, Cameron M, Jonathan G, Harry C, Nathan N

KD Josiah S, Chiara B, Eric K
KM Imogen W, Andonis D, Lydia K
KS Kevin W, Davin J, Shubhi S
1H Brianna R, Jessica H, Oliver P
1T Joshua L, Jessica N, David S
2J Josie L, Matthew C, Issac A
2S Hugo D, Josephine K, Thomas G
ESL Josiah S, Evelyn M

Club 100: Alyssa X, Emma L, Joshua S, Arien R, Nicholas J, Jayden O, Neda S, Anika J, Elyssa R, Tahoorra J, Max P, Teresa A, Josephine L, Christie C, Tom G, Joshua L, Sasha H, Matilda M, Lily C, Esther A, Maya R, Kate H, Eugenie C, Ka-Hee O, Marcela A, Alisha G, Chloe C, Sanya M

Magic 100 Words: Anika J, Jade K, Isabella K, Henrietta M, Sophia M, Ka Hee O, Arien R, Jessica T, Domenic S, Marcela A, Esther A, Zara C

Magic 200 Words: Christie C, Alisha G

Kindergarten Enrolments 2012

Any parent with a child attending Kindergarten next year who has not yet been enrolled should call in to the office

for an application form, or complete the tear-off slip at the end of this newsletter. **Please note that you need to enrol siblings of current students.** We do not automatically know this information. Please also advise any neighbours or friends who have Kindergarten children starting next year that they should contact the office to enrol their child as soon as possible.

Cybersafety

I'm sure all parents are aware that dangers can happen on the internet. ACMA (Australian Communication and Media Authority) has released a short video on cybersafety. Even though this video is mainly to help parents navigate through the online world of their teenagers and provides strategies on how to protect their children from potential online risks I think it is a very worthwhile to view and discuss with your child. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHj0gKGYzfY> or <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/outdoor.aspx>

Mrs Jarvis
Technology Coordinator

New Technology Tools for Your Child

Over the next few weeks students will see their student portal change with a new look, enhanced features and a new URL. Four new student portals have been developed to support the different needs of students: Kindergarten to Year 2, Years 3-6, Years 7-12 and TAFE.

On 14 June 2011 Year 9 students will receive their new student portal. Year 9 will be followed by Year 10, Years 7 and 8, then TAFE. Years 11 and 12, Kindergarten to Year 2 and finally Years 3 to 6 will follow early in term 3.

From 14 June 2011 all school students will access their student portal, from home and at school, from a new URL: <http://student.det.nsw.edu.au>, whether or not they have access to the new student portal.

Students will be able to search, access and organise information for school tasks via their student portal on computers used at home or at school, at any time. The new student portal will have timetable and calendar portlets for students to add their own details. Students will also be able make their portal look the way they want by changing the colour scheme and rearranging, opening or closing portlets.

Strictly Live!

As part of Education Week 2011, the musical community of Epping Heights presents:

A Musical Evening – Strictly Live!

On the evening of Thursday 4 August in the School Hall, come along and enjoy performances by the School Band and our talented young musicians.

We are currently seeking those who want to be Featured Performers on the evening, playing a solo item or in a small group. The only rule is, it must be Strictly Live. There will be no recorded music on the evening.

Performers and parent volunteers, if you would like to be a part of the evening, please contact Mr Chris Salmon by email: chris.salmon@tpg.com.au and/or complete the tear-off at the end of the newsletter.

Year 6 Photos

The **Year 6** and **Year 6 Fun** photos are now available to view at the school office. If you wish to order either of these photos you may collect a photo order envelope from the office. Please place payment either Cash, Cheque or Credit Card in the envelope provided and return to the school office by **Friday 24 June**. The cost of the photos is **\$14 each**.

Any orders not received by that date will need to be sent directly to The School Photographer.

Canteen News

Canteen Roster – Friday 27 June – Sylvia Mazur, Jenny Read, Tracy Wendelborn

Tuesday 28 June – Tammy Valassis, Carolyn Button, Mel McGirr, Kate Player

CLASSIFIEDS

Please note that as we have no means of checking the bona fides of advertisers, Epping Heights Public School will not accept responsibility for any advertisements.

“World Wide Web: the good, the bad and the ugly”

Worried about how much time your teen is spending online? Psychiatrist Dr Philip Tam will talk about gaming, internet addiction, social networking and more at a parent forum on **Monday June 27** from **6.30pm** in **Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers**.

Dr Tam will discuss how and why young people use the internet before addressing any issues of concern to parents and counsellors, including practical treatment options.

Dr Philip Tam is a Psychiatrist at the Rivendell Adolescent Unit. After studying at Cambridge and London universities, Dr Tam moved to Australia in 2009 and specializes in internet-related issues. He writes regularly on the topic in the media.

Event details

Date: Monday June 27

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm (registration from 6.15pm)

Venue: Council Chambers, Level 3, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon (enter at rear of building via Dumaresq Street)

Cost: Gold coin donation

Bookings: Ku-ring-gai Youth Services on 9424 0837 or youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au

Join the new choir in Epping

Monday nights at 7.30pm from 25 July
St Aidan's Hall West Epping

The director is Anna Humberstone. Anna's passion for music making is infectious and is sure to get you singing your heart out!

Fees are \$160 per school term (10 weeks). If you love to sing and want to be part of a fun local choir please register your interest :

Ph. 9665 8054 Mobile/sms 0403 869 405
Email singup@optusnet.com.au
web www.stuarddavis.biz

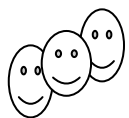
Funky Canvas

July 2011 School Holiday Workshop

Upstairs at the Children's Bookshop, Becroft
July 11 – 14

Morning workshops include **Paint a Funky Canvas** or **Play with Clay** – Cost is \$50 per workshop
Please wear suitable clothing for painting and bring your own morning tea ...

Bookings essential. Telephone Katie 0424 780768 or Email Katie@funkycanvas.com.au



North Shore Speech Therapy

Speech Pathology and Literacy Specialists

Social Skills Groups, 4 – 8 July 2011

Phone 9411 3727 or www.speechtherapy.com.au for more information
you can also enrol online

KICK PERFORMANCE GROUP

Learn to Sing, Dance and Act

Classes for students aged 3-30 during school term including Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Ballet, Contemporary, Musical Theatre, Drama plus GLEE Club Australia

Holiday Workshops

Visit kickperformancegroup.com.au
for details on this and more!

KICK Performance Group is a Naremburn based performing arts school in its 15th year

Ph 9966 5013

Email: kpg@aipa.com.au

ENROLMENT FOR KINDERGARTEN 2012

This detailed information is required so that we can generate a personalised enrolment form for your child.
Please return to school office as soon as possible.

PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

I request a 2012 enrolment form -

Parent's Name

Phone Numbers

Child's First Name (M or F)

Child's Surname

Pre-School

Date of Birth

Eldest Sibling's Name & Date of Birth -

.....

Costume Making for Dance Concert

(Please return to collection box in office foyer)

I am happy to help make costumes for the Dance Concert in Term 3.

Name

Phone Number/s

Eldest Child's Name & Class

Strictly Live!

(Please return to collection box in office foyer)

I am interested in performing at the Musical Evening on Thursday 4 August.

Name and Class

Item description

My parent gives permission for me to perform on 4/8/11.

Signed(parent)

Phone No