Dear Parents

Planning for classes for 2016 is now well underway. If you have a child starting in Kindergarten or leaving the school in 2016 (other than Year 6) you should have notified the front office by now. Student numbers are vital in effectively planning for next year and finalising staffing requirements. Please notify the school immediately if you have a child starting kindergarten next year. Thank you to those parents who have written to me regarding placements for their child 2016. Please be aware that although your letters have been submitted each case will be considered on educational basis only. No further correspondence will be accepted. Student placement in classes is considered very carefully so please feel confident that the teaching staff make appropriate decisions when placing your child in classes.

Kindergarten Orientation/Transition

Last week the school held a very successful Kindergarten Orientation morning which was well attended by parents of our 2016 Kindergarten students. The morning was very informative. Our new Kindergarten children will be participating in our Transition program starting this Tuesday. The Kindergarten teaching team for next year will be Mrs Gilmore, Mrs Duncum, Mrs Burgess, Miss Sideris, Miss Morgan and Miss Brunning. Thank you to Mrs Gilmore and Mrs Sams for organising the program.

Mrs Sams and Mrs Browne will be taking leave in 2016 and I would like to thank them for their efforts on Kindergarten over the previous years.

Play Day Performances

Many of our classes have been working diligently to prepare their performances as part of the Play Day program. This is a great learning experience for all the students involved. Good luck to all the classes participating in this initiative.

Remembrance Day

Engadine West Public School will be holding its Remembrance Day ceremony on Wednesday 11 November at 11.00 am in the school hall. Students are invited to wear appropriate uniforms (e.g. girl guides, scouts etc.) to the ceremony. Parents are welcome to attend the assembly.

Engadine West Public School would like to acknowledge the ongoing support provided to the Community of Schools on the Park (COSOtP) by the Rotary Club of Engadine.
Mobile Phones

It is school policy that students do not have mobile telephones with them at school. Should this occur the telephone must be taken to the front office and kept in a secure location for collection at the end of the day by the child or parent as required.
The school will contact parents in cases of emergency.

Parents Taking Photographs

Engadine West Public School has a number of students who do not have permission to publish their photographs due to family and legal reasons. As a result, I would ask that if you take photographs of students at school functions that you do not publish them on facebook or other media. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Have a great week!

Garry Royston
Principal

SRC Playground Initiative

An idea brought to the attention of the SRC was to have a 'K-2 only day' on the back grass.

We have trialled a few options and with the support of the staff, Mr Royston and the SRC, we are going to implement a new idea for the remainder of the year.

The K-2 children will have sole access to the back grass for 1st half lunch on a Monday only.

The whole school has 15 sessions on the back grass in a week. 5 x recess, 5 x 1st half lunch and 5 x 2nd half lunch. With K-2 having one session per week, the 3-6 students will still have 14 sessions in which they can use the back grass.

1st lunch on a Monday will be a good time for 3-6 students to make use of the pickle ball equipment and the numerous handball courts we have available.

This idea will be re-evaluated at the end of the year.

Thank you for your support.

Karen Weppler
SRC Co-ordinator
**K-2 Christmas Sing-a-long 2015**

**Carols under the COLA**

As this year comes to a close, all K-2 classes are busy preparing for our annual Christmas performance. This year we will be having a Christmas sing-a-long. We will be having one sing-a-long on Friday 4th December 2015 at 12pm under the EWPS COLA. Visitors are encouraged to bring chairs/picnic rugs to sit on. Throughout this term the children will be learning Christmas carols and classes will have an opportunity to lead one of the carols on the day.

Following the sing-a-long all visitors are invited to join their children for a picnic lunch. Children are asked to wear Christmas attire – there will be no formal costumes. We hope you can come along and join in the fun!

Miss M Emmett  
Christmas Sing-a-long Co-ordinator

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**Engadine West Public School Skoolbag App Launch**

Last week we officially launched our new school app: Engadine West Public School through skoolbag.

Last term, at a P&C meeting, parents asked if we could investigate such an app to support parents in their organisation and communication with the school. One of our Strategic Directions in our School Plan 2015-2017 is ‘Strong, positive school community partnerships’. Under this direction we have evaluated our communications policies and processes and have found that Skoolbag fills a gap in our communication systems.

The Skoolbag app has many functions. Initially, we will mainly be using the app to ‘push’ notifications to parents. This means that once you download the app to your smart device, you can receive notifications and your phone or device will make a sound, just like receiving a message. We have created different notification groups in the app which parents can manage. For example, parents may like to receive notifications just for Year 6 events, so they could turn on notifications for that group. The push notifications will be particularly useful for last minute messages, such as late excursion buses; and important reminders, such as notes due.

We will explore the additional functions of the app as time progresses and will keep all of our community members up to date as things change. As with all new technology, there may be hiccups and things to iron out, so we appreciate your understanding in advance.

The app is free to download and use for parents. Instructions for downloading and setting up notifications have been included in this newsletter (see next page) and posted on our school’s official Facebook page.

Please remember that the key portal to our school is still through the official website at [http://www.engadinew-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.engadinew-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/). The website hosts all of the vital information for our school and should always be checked before calling the school.
How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:
1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

For Android users:
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:
1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!
Year 6 Farewell slideshow

The Year 6 Farewell will be held on Wednesday 9 December at Engadine Bowling Club.

A slideshow displaying photographs of our Year 6 students and memories from their time at EWPS will be displayed at the farewell.

Parents are invited to contribute to the slideshow by sending in photos. Photos of students can be from any age/year; if there are old photos of students from school events from when they were younger, these can be included in the slideshow. If group shots are submitted, parents should ensure that they have parental permission of all students shown in the photo.

Photos need to submitted by email to Miss Davis by the end of Week 8 (Friday 27th November) at jennifer.davis34@det.nsw.edu.au

Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

What’s the Buzz - Playground Report from our Beediators

We would like to remind all students of the following before/after school bus line expectations. Please follow the expectations below to ensure you are being a safe respectful learner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before/After school/Bus Lines</th>
<th>Safe</th>
<th>Respectful</th>
<th>Learner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| SAFE                          | • Be seated until a teacher arrives for morning duty.  
|                               | • Be in the right place at the right time.  
|                               | • Sit sensibly on the silver seats in the correct bus line.  
|                               | • Walk to the bus and board it safely in one line.  
|                               | • Stay in your seat and try not to distract the driver.  
| RESPECTFUL                   | • Be respectful and polite to all community members.  
|                               | • Arrive and leave school at the correct time.  
| LEARNER                      | • Have your bus pass ready to show the driver.  
|                               | • Know your morning/afternoon routine.  |
For Your Diary

Week 5

Monday 2 November
  • Play Day at Sharks Leagues Club

Tuesday 3 November
  • Canteen Closed
  • Student Banking
  • 2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 10.00am

Wednesday 4 November
  • Uniform Shop Open 9.15am

Thursday 5 November
  • 2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 10.00am

Friday 6 November
  • PSSA
  • 3-6 Swimming
  • Year 5 Leadership Applications due

Week 6

Monday 9 November
  • 2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 2.15pm
  • Sports and Special Groups Photographs

Tuesday 10 November
  • Canteen Closed
  • Student Banking
  • Year 6 Fundraising Fete

Wednesday 11 November
  • 2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 2.15pm
  • Remembrance Day 11.00am in the school hall

Thursday 12 November

Friday 13 November
  • PSSA
  • 3-6 Swimming
  • K-2 Assembly 12.00pm
  • 3-6 Assembly 2.30pm

Excursions and Payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Excursion or Payment</th>
<th>Please pay by</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band Members</td>
<td>Term 4 Band Fees</td>
<td>As soon as possible</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PSSA News

EWPS Green Teams play at Kingswood Oval
EWPS Gold Teams play at The Ridge

All games start at 9.30am and are completed by 11.00am
Buses depart EWPS at 9.00am
Cost: $6.00 per week

Go to engadine.sessazones.com/ to view draws

Library News

The Library has many wonderful new books from the book fair that require covering. If you are able to assist, please call in to see Mrs Evans. All help is greatly appreciated.
## Term 4 Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2 November</td>
<td>Primary Play Day Performances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3 November</td>
<td>2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 10.00-11.00am Meet in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5 November</td>
<td>2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 10.00-11.00am Meet in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9 November</td>
<td>2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 2.15-3.15pm Meet in Hall Sport and Special Group Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11 November</td>
<td>2016 Kindergarten Transition Day 2.15-3.15pm Meet in Hall Remembrance Day 11.00 am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18 November</td>
<td>Band Christmas Concert in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4 December</td>
<td>K-2 Christmas Sing-a-long in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>Kindergarten Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8 December</td>
<td>Year 1 Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9 December</td>
<td>Year 3 Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Year 4 Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>11 December</td>
<td>Year 2 Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>Year 5 Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Presentation Assembly at 10.00am in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>16 December</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 4 for Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17 December</td>
<td>School Development Day for Staff (No Students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>18 December</td>
<td>School Development Day for Staff (No Students)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Term 1 - 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>27 January</td>
<td>School Development Day for Staff (No Students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28 January</td>
<td>First Day of Term 1 for Students Year 1 to Year 6 Best Start Testing for 2016 Kindergarten Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>29 January</td>
<td>Best Start Testing for 2016 Kindergarten Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1 February</td>
<td>Best Start Testing for 2016 Kindergarten Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2 February</td>
<td>2016 Kindergarten Students First Day of School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Uniform Shop News

The next Uniform Shop opening time will be:

Wednesday 4 November 2015 from 9.15-10.15am

The Uniform Shop is open every second Wednesday. If there are any parents wishing to be placed on our roster to help on Wednesdays, please leave your details at the front office.

Tracy Farquhar & Kathy Cunynghame
Uniform Shop Co-ordinators

Canteen News

Find us on Facebook - EWPS Canteen
Please note that lunch orders must be placed by 9.30am.

2015 Roster - Your Canteen Needs You!
We are in urgent need of more volunteers for this year. Volunteers are rostered on once every 4 weeks from school drop off until approximately 3.00pm, however, we are very flexible. Whatever time you can spare is greatly appreciated. Options to consider:
★ Once a term.
★ A few hours of a morning to prepare fresh food.
★ Serving at recess and/or lunch breaks.
★ A few hours in the afternoon.

All training is provided and we endeavour to provide a fun work place. You are welcome to drop in and have a look around and meet some of our wonderful volunteers.

Lunch Order Specials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medium Fruit Salad</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Fruit Salad</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yoghurt</td>
<td>50c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banana Smoothie</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate Smoothie</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If anyone has any questions regarding the canteen, please come in and see me.

Leanne Best
Canteen Supervisor

This Week’s Roster

Tuesday - 3 November
CANTEEN CLOSED

Wednesday - 4 November
L Adams, N Rylands

Thursday - 5 November
H Trenberth, D Herd

Friday - 6 November
N Brydon, B Keegan, A Mathieson

Monday- 9 November
J Morando, R Davoren.
NSW Health would like to provide information about whooping cough to parents and carers of children attending NSW schools.

Whooping cough information for schools
There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.

- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.
YOUR CHILD’S SAFETY DEPENDS ON YOU

Do you have children starting kindergarten next year? Starting school is very exciting for your child. They may not be thinking much about safety, but you should.

Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable. Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. They will need your help to spot the dangers around traffic.

Sutherland Shire Council wants all children to be safe going to and from school - and that depends on you. Act safely when driving or walking around schools so our children will learn to be safe too.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

- Make sure your children are in an appropriate child restraint in the car that is fitted and used correctly.
- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit and keep a sharp lookout in school zones as children are about and can be unpredictable.
- Always park and turn legally around schools and avoid dangerous manoeuvres like U-turns and three-point turns.
- Up until the age of eight, always hold your child’s hand whenever cars and other vehicles could be around. Park your car and walk them to the school gate.
- Drop older kids off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school’s designated drop-off and pick-up area.
- Avoid calling out to children from across the road because they may run to you without checking traffic.
- It’s safest for the kids to get out of the car on the kerb side of the road, away from passing traffic.
- If walking to school, plan your trip so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.

STOP, LOOK, LISTEN AND THINK

Every time children cross the road, remind them to:

- Stop one step back from the kerb
- Look for traffic to your right, left and right again
- Listen for the sounds of approaching traffic
- Think whether it is safe to cross

Young children can learn these safe pedestrian habits from you and use them when they are old enough to travel alone.

This brochure has been developed from the Transport NSW Centre for Road Safety website http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au
You can find out more about Australian Road Rules at www.rms.nsw.gov.au

Sutherland Shire COUNCIL

4-20 Eton Street, Sutherland NSW 2232
Tel 02 9710 0333  Fax 02 9710 0265
www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au
ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES AND GIVE BLOOD

Mobile Blood Service visiting:
Engadine Tavern
50 Station Street (enter via rear of hotel)

Wednesday 4 November  1.30pm – 6.30pm

Drink up! Have 3 or 4 glasses of water or juice in the hours before you donate
Eat! Have a good sized breakfast or lunch
Please bring photo I.D. with you

To make an appointment call 13 14 95
or visit donateblood.com.au

Australian Red Cross BLOOD SERVICE
Important information about the School Opal card

The School Opal Card will officially launch its new online application for relevant parents and students travelling in the Opal public transport region today.

Just like current paper travel passes, the School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days. However, the School Opal card makes travel simpler, because now students don’t need multiple application forms and passes if they use different transport operators within the Opal network.

Students with school travel passes this year will not need to apply for the School Opal card unless they are changing school, campus, their home address or moving from Year 2 to Year 3 or from primary school to high school.

Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to your school early in first term 2016.

More information will follow shortly to help with the transition.

The Opal Team