Dear Parents

This is a very busy week with the school having it’s scheduled three year audit. The auditor will be focusing on student attendance and school finances. As Principal I would like to thank my administration staff (especially Mrs Stevenson) for their efforts in ensuring the school financial records are kept so thoroughly and professionally.

Congratulations Miss Connor

Miss Connor has been successful through merit selection to be appointed as a Regional Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) co-ordinator in Queensland for twelve months. While her appointment is a major loss for our school Miss Connor is pursuing her passion for student welfare. I’m sure that everyone at EWPS wishes her all the best in her new position and we hope to see her back in 2017.

Staff Awards

This Tuesday will see four of our staff receive “Network Awards for 2015 for excellence in education”. Our school is lucky to have such a talented staff and the following personnel will be recognised at a major ceremony. Our award winners are:-

   i) Tracey Stevenson (School Administration Manager) for her outstanding efforts not only at Engadine West but also her leadership as Chairperson of the SASS Reference Group.
   ii) Ross Edwards for his excellent efforts as Deputy Principal and his outstanding input into the community of schools - Community of Schools on the Park
   iii) Nicole Gilmore for her promotion of executive leadership both at EWPS and her organisation of executive conferences - Primary Executive Network
   iv) Jen Davis for impressive teaching skills and her extensive leadership in technology.

Well done to all four award winners!

Year Six Fete

Last week saw students from Year 6 hold a very successful fete to raise money for their Farewell and gift to the school.

Students in all grades enjoyed the fete and thanks to the generosity of families at EWPS our Year Six students raised $3400 (after costs). The community support is greatly appreciated. Special mention to Beau V, Kuen G and Lachlan H who handed in a wallet that they found on the day. Well done boys on being very honest students of EWPS
Deputy Principal’s Report

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Georgia C (5M) who has been selected to join the Rhythmic Gymnastics Team Future Camp to be held in Canberra at the Australian Institute of Sport in December. Well done Georgia!

Band Christmas Concert

To celebrate a very successful year our School Band will be holding their annual Christmas Concert on Wednesday 18 November at 6pm in the school hall. Parents of our talented musicians are invited to attend and listen to both bands. Well done to our musicians and the hard working “band team”.

Helpful Information

In view of current events in the media from Paris a recommended flyer relating to children dealing with disaster and trauma has been included later in this newsletter (page 10). Parents may find it informative.

Have a great week!

Garry Royston
Principal

Principal’s Message Cont’d

Play Day DVD’s

Play Day DVD’s are being produced this week and will be distributed early next week.

Rules of Engagement for Commenting on our School Facebook page.

Engadine West Public School welcomes you to our official Facebook page. We invite parents, carers and community members to use this page as a method of communication about events that are happening at Engadine West and to celebrate our school’s successes.

We encourage you to contribute, keeping in mind that Engadine West Public School follows both the DEC Code of Conduct and Facebook terms and conditions. We have some guidelines to make the page enjoyable for all users. These are:

1. Keep comments respectful with no swearing or personal criticisms. Inappropriate content will be removed.

2. Please be aware of others’ privacy. Don’t post images or private or identifying details (including surnames) of children or adults without permission.

3. We will try to respond to your questions as soon as possible, between 9am and 4pm on school days. If you have an urgent matter needing clarification please contact the school on 9520 8134.

Please remember to visit our website to view our weekly newsletters which contain information about upcoming events and copies of all permission notes.


Ross Edwards
Deputy Principal
**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 on Friday 4th December 2015 at 12.00pm 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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**Year 6 Update**

**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 or on a USB to Miss Davis by the end of Week 8 (Friday 27th November) at jennifer.davis34@det.nsw.edu.au

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**BEAR Reading**

**BEAR**

reading has now finished for the year. Thank you so much to all the tutors who assisted this time. The children who participated have enjoyed working with you all.

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**Early Bird Reading**

Early Bird Reading will finish on Thursday this week. Thank you to the primary students who have volunteered to be peer tutors. An outstanding effort from everyone involved!
**Library News**

A big thank you to all those volunteers who helped cover our new books. No further help is required at this stage.

All library books should be returned by Week 7 (this week) for stocktake and Pillow Week. Children are allowed to bring a small pillow to relax and read books in their library time. All home readers need to be back by Week 8 for library stocktake.

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**For Your Diary**

**Week 7**

| Monday 16 November | Pillow Week in the Library Commences  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All Library books returned this week please</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Tuesday 17 November | Canteen Closed  
|                    | Student Banking |
| Wednesday 18 November | Band Christmas Concert 6pm in the Hall |
| Thursday 19 November | Last Early Bird Reading |
| Friday 20 November  | PSSA  
|                    | 3-6 Swimming |

**Week 8**

| Monday 23 November |  |
|--------------------|  |
| Tuesday 24 November | Canteen Closed  
|                    | Student Banking |
| Wednesday 25 November | Christmas Scripture Assembly |
| Thursday 26 November |  |
| Friday 27 November  | PSSA  
|                    | 3-6 Swimming  
|                    | Reach Out Party |

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**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>

Outstanding invoices have been sent home. Please settle these accounts by Wednesday 25 November. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

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**PSSA News**

**Friendlies**

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

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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18 November</td>
<td>Band Christmas Concert 6.00pm in Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19 November</td>
<td>Last Early Bird Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>25 November</td>
<td>Christmas Scripture Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>Reach Out Party (Note to follow soon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2 December</td>
<td>Parent Thank You Morning Tea 11.15am –11.45am in Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4 December</td>
<td>K-2 Christmas Sing-a-long 12.00pm under the COLA</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></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell at Engadine Bowling Club</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**

| Wednesday| 27 January    | School Development Day for Staff (No Students)                          |
| Thursday | 28 January    | First Day of Term 1 for Students Year 1 to Year 6                        |
|          |                | Best Start Testing for 2016 Kindergarten Students                        |
| Friday   | 29 January    | Best Start Testing for 2016 Kindergarten Students                        |
| Monday   | 1 February    | Best Start Testing for 2016 Kindergarten Students                        |
| Tuesday  | 2 February    | 2016 Kindergarten Students First Day of School                           |
Uniform Shop News

The next Uniform Shop opening time will be:

**Wednesday 18 November 2015 from 9.15-10.15am**

The uniform shop will open on **Wednesday 2 December 2015** for the last time this year. No orders will be filled after this date due to stocktake.

Students commencing Year 3 in 2016 will need to purchase a gold polo shirt with school logo for sport. They are available from the Uniform Shop at a cost of $20.00 and should be ordered by 2 December 2015.

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*

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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 extra</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*

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**This Week’s Roster**

**Tuesday - 17 November**
Canteen Closed

**Wednesday - 18 November**
K Quine

**Thursday - 19 November**
M Healey, K Zaknich

**Friday - 20 November**
A Pillington, D Osmand, K Holmes, B Maguire

**Monday - 23 November**
S McFarlane, B Eshman, K Kingston
Community News

Movember Foundation

The Movember Foundation is a global charity, committed to men living happier, healthier, longer lives. Since 2003, millions have joined the men's health movement, raising $685 million and funding over 1,000 programs focusing on prostate cancer, testicular cancer, poor mental health and physical inactivity.

This year, Mr Field has taken on the challenge and decided to grow a “mo” in support of Movember. He would love you to support his “mo” growing during the month of Movember. You can do this by donating online http://moteam.co/mocann-s or to Mr Field directly. Every donation makes a difference. Thank you very much for your support.

Regards,

Mr Field
SHARKS BASKETBALL
HOLIDAY CAMP

19th to 22nd January 2016
9am - 2pm  Age 7 to 15 years
T-Shirt & Ball for all Camp Participants

Download enrolment form from our website:
www.sutherland.basketball.net.au

Enrolments close
16th December 2015
(Unless maximum
numbers are reached prior
to closing date).

Waratah Park Rawson Ave Sutherland
Phone: 9542-1999  Fax: 9521-5696
Email: admin@sutherlandbasketball.net.au
Website: www.sutherland.basketball.net.au
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 is available on the website www.opal.com.au

The Opal Team
Helping Children after Disasters

Helping the child through grief...

1. Get back to a regular household routine as soon as possible.
2. Let the child know he/she is safe and protected.
3. Try to understand the child’s behaviour. Sometimes he/she does not have the words to express grief.
4. Involve the child in ceremonies to say goodbye.
5. Talk about bad dreams.
6. Let the child help you in an age-appropriate way.
7. Look together at photos of the person who has died.
8. Give the child a memento of the person who has died.
9. Let the school know about the death.
10. Don’t lean on the child for comfort and support. Let the child stay a child.

These suggestions also apply to grief experienced after divorce, death of a pet, moving house / school, losses after bushfires, storms etc...

Helping your child through trauma

The way in which we talk to your children about distressing situations can teach them a lot about how to cope with negative things that happen in the world.

- Do not force discussion of the traumatic event.
- Try not to make the discussion too detailed.
- Children are often happy with a few ideas and will come back later for more detail.
- If you child wants to discuss a disaster, check on their understanding of what they have seen and heard. Sometimes what they are concerned about is not what you might expect. Use words and concepts they understand.
- When talking about traumatic events, give children simple, factual information. Avoid talking in images that can hold a lot of their imagination.
- Point out how rare such events are, and how people dealt with them in the past.
- Keep communicating, talk about what is happening. This prevents children from feeling alone, isolated and misunderstood.
- Reassure them they are safe and cared for.
- Allow expressions of emotions - they are part of the healing process.
- Do some fun things as a family.

When to seek help

If these common reactions continue for more than a few days further help may be needed:

- Severe and continued sleep disturbance
- Severe anxiety on separation from loved ones
- Continued fears about things which may remind the child of the trauma
- Behavioral problems at school or home
- A return to “babyish” behaviour they had grown out of.