**Special Events Next Week**

**Tuesday 5th May**
- Grade 2-6 Tennis

**Wednesday 6th May**
- Lunchtime Chess
- Soccer State Trials

**Friday 8th May**
- Open Morning 9.00am-10.30am
- Mothers Day Morning Tea—10.30am
- Interschool Sports Practice

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**STUDENT LEADERS**

Billie Tobias & Caleb Millen

Congratulations to Caleb Millen and Billie Tobias who are our new Student Leaders for the next two weeks.

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**Our School Values**

- **Respect**-having regard for self, others and the environment
- **Inclusion**-sense of belonging
- **Integrity**-being honest and fair
- **Responsibility**-being responsible for your actions & words
- **Personal Best**-striving for excellence

In Term 2 our focus is on **Respect.**

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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**ANZAC Day Service**

On Saturday, I attended the Echuca ANZAC Day service with school leaders Kody Davison and Sophie Petersen, who laid a wreath at the cenotaph on behalf of our school. Alicia Callander and Mason Golding also marched at the front of the cavalcade to represent the local WW1 soldiers and sailors, including their own great-great-grandfathers.

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**Mother’s Day Morning Tea**

Don’t forget our Mother’s Day Morning Tea next Friday 8th May. All mothers, grandmothers or special friends are invited to attend. Children will be serving their mum a special treat on a decorated paper plate and teachers will be offering cups of tea and coffee. Our Mother’s Day Raffle will also be drawn. We look forward to your attendance. Please bring along a gold coin donation to help pay for the ingredients. The morning tea will start at 10:30am.

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**Open Morning**

On Friday 8th May we are having an open morning from 9.00am to 10.30am. Parents are encouraged to come along and visit classrooms before our Mother’s Day Morning Tea.
**Attitude to School Surveys**
This week all Grade 5 and 6 students completed the Attitudes to School survey. This survey is an annual student survey for Year 5 to Year 12 students offered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students’ perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child’s schooling experience. All responses to the survey are anonymous and the survey results will be reported back to the school at the end of July.

**NAPLAN**
On Tuesday 12th May to Thursday 14th May, students in Grade 3 and 5 will participate in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This includes tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. Schools use the results from NAPLAN to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in Literacy and Numeracy. Teachers also use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.

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**STAR OF THE WEEK AWARD**

**Grade Prep A—Taylor Clarke** for being a pleasant and well-mannered student in and out of the classroom. Taylor is also working hard to become a good reader and writer. Keep up the great work, Taylor.

**Grade 1B—Tayah Healey** for being a fantastic grade one student. You work hard and always try your personal best. You are a great friend to everyone as well. We wish you all the very best at your new school in Queensland and hope that you settle in quickly and make lots of new friends. We will miss you very much.

**Grade 2/3C—Blake Healey** for being a wonderful member of our Grade 2/3 class. We will miss you very much, but wish you the best of luck up in Queensland.

**Grade 4D—Chloe Schultze** for working hard in the classroom and always offering to help out when there’s a job to be done. Well done, Chloe!

**Grade 5E—Natalia Williams** for her effort and dedication to improving her maths skills. She always tries hard and seeks help when needed. Well done Natalia!

**Grade 6F—Billie Tobias** for showing confidence in herself and stepping up to her leadership role this week. You represented Echuca West perfectly when we had a visit from the city kids.

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**CLASS OF THE WEEK**

This week’s Class of the Week is Grade 2/3C: For respecting each other’s choices about the types of games they play at recess and lunchtime.

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**MY SCHOOL TOO**

**Jayde Evans** for helping younger students to sort out a problem. She listened to all sides and sorted it out fairly.

**Kale Bayley** for being a great buddy to the Grade 2/3’s in the classroom and the yard.

**Kloey Mitchell** for getting the teacher when a student was upset.
SCIENTIST OF THE WEEK

Luke Maynard for concentrating and making valuable contributions about earthquakes to our class discussion. Great work Luke!

GARDEN GURU OF THE WEEK

Dakoda Mills Firebrace for doing an exceptional job of packing up at the end of our gardening session. Thank you and well done Dakoda!

MUSIC/INDONESIAN WORKER OF THE WEEK

Hayley Rankin for being so very considerate and helpful to others during Indonesian/Music. Well done.

SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK

Kiralee Macumber for always participating in PE to the best of her ability and displaying great skipping skills.

PARENT LIBRARY

In the office at school is our “Parent Library”. The library contains a selection of high quality reading material aimed at supporting parents as they raise their family. The books support a range of topics, from more serious issues such as relationships, conflict and depression as well as the not-so-serious such as pocket money and homework. The books have been carefully selected and feature authors such as Andrew Fuller and Michael Grose (who writes the articles that regularly feature in our newsletters).

It is free to borrow any of our books from the Parent Library. Please come in and have a look, and if there is a book you would like to read, you can borrow it through one of the ladies in the office.
As part of our kitchen/garden program we have included a recipe that the students have cooked recently at school. It was delicious!

**Bruschetta Fingers**

**INGREDIENTS**
- 1 small roll (Turkish bread or the like)
- 1 teaspoon of sundried tomato pesto
- ½ a ripe tomato diced
- 30gms of grated parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon of finely chopped red onion
- 1 tablespoon of finely chopped fresh flat parsley
- Olive oil spray
- Balsamic vinegar

**METHOD**

Turn the frying pan on and turn the dial to 8. Leave to warm.

Finely chop the tomato, parsley and onion with a sharp knife.

Split the bread in half and toast on both sides in the frying pan until lightly browned. Cut the bread into finger like slices. Spread the toasted fingers with 1 teaspoon of sun dried tomato pesto. Top with tomato, onion, cheese and then parsley. Add salt and pepper if desired. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar and olive oil. Serve on a plate. Enjoy!

**EQUIPMENT**
- Frying Pan
- Sharp knife
- Chopping board x 3
- Teaspoon
- Tongs
- Serving plates x 3

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**ECHUCA WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL CENTENARY—SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST**

Save the date in your calendars—Saturday 15th August, 2015 for our Centenary Celebrations. The day will begin with the Opening of the Time Capsule at 10.00am. There will be displays of memorabilia throughout the school, a BBQ lunch and more. Gates will close at 2.00p.m. Celebrations will continue with a dinner at Rich River Golf Club on the night. We will be producing a School Book continuing on from the 1990 75th Anniversary Book up until 2015. We are seeking past students, teachers who would like to join us to celebrate the Centenary. If you would like to register your interest in purchasing the book or attending the Centenary or if you have old school memorabilia to go on display please contact Echuca West Primary School on 03 54822263 or by email on Echuca.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**BIRTHDAYS IN THE SCHOOL THIS WEEK**

There are no birthdays in the school this week.

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**REMINDERS**

- Lunch Orders are Monday, Wednesday & Friday.
- Lost Property Box is in the Undercover area.
- Student Banking Day is Thursday.

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**ADVERTISING SPACE**

If you would like to sponsor our newsletter and advertise your business in this space we would love to hear from you. This will cost $20 each week to include your business card or logo in our weekly newsletter. If you are interested please contact the school on 54822263.
FUTURE DATES

Tuesday 12th May
Naplan

Wednesday 13th May
Lunchtime Chess
Naplan
School Council Meeting  7.00pm

Thursday 14th May
Naplan

Friday 15th May
Grade 5/6 Soccer Echuca
Orange Day

Monday 18th—Friday 22nd May
Education Week

Tuesday 19th May
Prep/1 Grade Responsible Pet Ownership

Wednesday 20th May—Friday 22nd May
Grade 3/4 Sovereign Hill Camp

Wednesday 20th May
Lunchtime Chess

Thursday 21st May
Grade 2’s at Sovereign Hill for the Day

Friday 22nd May
Grade 5/6 Interschool Sport

Friday 29th May
Grade 5/6 Echuca Netball
Prep/1 Melbourne Zoo Excursion

Monday 1st June
Student free day (teacher curriculum day)

Tuesday 2nd June
Regional Cross Country—St Arnaud

Thursday 18th June
Jump Rope for Heart Jump off day
**Grade Prep A:** This week we have been reading ‘Those Yucky Meanies’ by Joy Cowley which has some great rhyming words. The book also helped us understand the differences between reality and fantasy texts. We have introduced Literacy Planet which is another great online reading program. Passwords may come home in the near future in your child’s home school journal when we become more familiar with the layout. The Preps are really enjoying it so far. Paper mache continues in the Art room and next Monday we begin the final layer before the bottle turns into a penguin-hopefully! We studied ordinal number and had a circus parade to show which animal or performer came into the Big Top first, second, third and so on. We used a tracing of our hands to measure how far we could throw a pom-pom and have continued writing, reading and making numbers to 10. Next week we start Australian animals, with particular focus on desert animals. Skipping will continue to be the focus for Phys Ed for a while. Hats away Ist of May- a sad day indeedy for the Prep teacher-NOT! Don’t forget the Mother’s Day morning tea on Friday and there are some awesome raffle prizes on offer as well. Enjoy your weekend.

**Grade 1B:** Grade one’s wilderness expedition continued this week with virtual tours of the savanna and jungles. We have been fantastic super sleuth’s learning many interesting facts about lions and tigers. We impressed Mrs Bourke with our ability to work exceptionally well with a partner to create an informative Lion poster. We have been enjoying creating our camouflaged tigers in Art. In Maths we continued to develop mental strategies for addition and have started to look at how we can collect and represent data. Literacy Planet has been a new implementation into our classroom and passwords for this will be coming home shortly. We are still using Reading Eggs and Mathletics, so remember these are great programs to use at home to consolidate the learning we do in our classroom. We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing many of you at the Mother’s Day Morning Tea, next Friday 8th May. Mrs Bourke and the Fabulous First graders.

**Grade 2/3C:** Grade 2/3 have had another great week. In Literacy we talked about the writer’s purpose. We learnt that there are 3 main reasons we write: to entertain, to inform and persuade. We also wrote excellent narratives about our best day ever. The students have been trying really hard to use detail to write about the character in their story. In Maths we have been learning about angles. We made angle makers and used them to find lots and lots of angles in the playground. We discovered that right angles are used a lot in buildings. We also enjoyed learning more about the Australian Gold Rush. We had to make some tough choices when deciding what things we would spend our “money” on so that we would survive life on the goldfields after we left Melbourne.
Grade 4D: It was another busy week in Grade 4. In Literacy we have been working on our persuasive texts and ‘pushing in’ more effective words to make our written argument convincing. We have started using Spelling City, which is an online program and a fun way to practise our spelling words. In Maths we have been working on counting sequences for 2, 4 and 8. We played a great number game called Buzz Fizz which really had us thinking hard. On Wednesday in our computer lessons we have been learning about cyber safety. The focus this week was on making safe passwords when we go online and how to keep our personal information safe. In Science we have been examining rocks and investigating how rocks and soil change over time. Next week in class we are looking forward to making a delicious sweet treat for our Mother’s Day Morning Tea which will be on Friday. Mother’s Day raffle tickets also went home yesterday and the winners will be drawn on the day. Have a great weekend, everyone.

Grade 5E: Grade 5 have had a fabulous week. Our visit from the city kids was definitely a highlight. 30 students from Heatherhill Primary visited our grade 5/6 students on Tuesday morning. Each school presented a PowerPoint on their school and then we got into small groups to interview each other. We created a diagram of the similarities and differences between kids from a country school and kids from a city school. We were surprised by how similar we all were. Students were then given a tour of the school and joined in a game of world war 3 at recess. We have also completed a newspaper scavenger hunt in reading. In Writing we analysed and improved our persuasive pieces. In Maths we have looked at measurement, area and perimeter. PE saw us skipping and practising our routines. Some students from grade 3-6 participated in Interschool Cross Country today.

Grade 6F: Grade 6 have had a super week! We were very lucky this week to be a part of ‘City kids meet Country kids’ where a primary school from Melbourne came and met us and we discussed the similarities and differences in our day to day lives. It was extremely exciting to meet another grade 5/6 class from a completely different culture, even though they only go to school in Melbourne. This week we have also been continuing with a few focuses and projects. In Maths we have looked at BODMAS with Mrs Irving, and fractions of whole numbers with Mr Watson. In Art we are finding inspiration for our creative pieces focusing on a particular element of art. We have also started a new project as part of our media studies where in groups we create a short film around the theme ‘Why Movies Matter’ and they are going to be entered in an online competition. Last but not least, we said goodbye to our student teacher Miss Anderson on Monday, she had been with us for a week and she was a great help in the classroom.
**Echuca Library News.**

**World Comic Day.**
Celebrate World Comic Book Day at Campaspe Libraries on Saturday May 2nd. Free comics, Super hero colouring and craft, Family Games. Come dressed as your favourite super hero or comic book character. Free Comic Book Day is the biggest celebration of comic books and a great time to discover new types of comics, get children involved in reading and have fun as a community. For more information phone 54812400 or at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/library

Author Jill Sanguinetti, former Kyabram Resident will talk about her book School Days of a Methodist Lady, A journey through childhood on Thursday April 30th, 10.30am at the Kyabram Library, 19 Lake Rd Bookings on 54812867 or at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/library

In 1958, Jill left her home in the Victorian town of Kyabram to attend Methodist Ladies College, MLC as a boarder. In this coming of age memoir she interleaves her MLC story with lively vignettes of her early school years, the family newsagency, church, and country community life. All Welcome, Free Event. Books for sale on the day.