GRADE 6
Leadership
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Grade 6 Leadership Day

Last Friday, I spent the day with Grade 6 students at the Moama Bowling Club for their Leadership Development Day. We were privileged to listen to three Year 11 students (Stephanie Pearson, Maegan Johnson & Rylee Dixon) talk about their experiences at school and their involvement with the Beacon Leadership Foundation. They also answered lots of questions about starting secondary school; putting to bed some of the rumours that were simply not true and telling the students about all of the things to look forward to at secondary school. Luke Judd then talked about his leadership experiences and told the students that the first step to leadership is putting your hand up when an opportunity comes your way. He then presented a slide show about his trip to China with the Alpine School of Student Leadership. I would like to thank the Moama Bowling Club for sponsoring this day and covering all associated costs.

Regional Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday, I attended the Regional Swimming Carnival in Swan Hill. We had seven swimmers represent our school and all of them performed admirably. The highlight of the day was watching our 12/13 Year Old Girl’s Freestyle Relay team win gold. They will now represent our school at state level on the 15th April at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre. I would like to thank Viv Collins and Page Gallimore for helping to transport the students to this event.

Results

**Individual Results:**
- Emma Judd – 4th in Girls’ 9/10 Freestyle and 4th in Backstroke
- Asha Gray – 2nd in Girls’ 11 Freestyle & 3rd in Breaststroke
- Nemesha Collins – 3rd in Girls’ 12/13 Freestyle and 3rd in Breaststroke
- Billy Barnes – 2nd in Boys’ 12/13 Freestyle
- Raya Gallimore – 2nd in Girls’ 9/10 Butterfly

**Relays:**
- Erin Blachford, Nemesha Collins, Jayde Evans and Asha Gray – 1st in Girls’ 12/13 Year Old Freestyle Relay
- Erin Blachford, Nemesha Collins, Raya Gallimore & Asha Gray – 4th in Girls’ 12/13 Year Old Medley Relay

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 1 our focus is on Inclusion.
Easter Bonnet Parade
On the last day of term, Friday 27th March, we will be conducting an Easter Bonnet Parade. The parade will start at 1:45pm and go for approximately 20 minutes. We will have a short assembly after the parade before the students are dismissed at 2:10pm. The bonnets have all been made at school during Art classes.

Guess the Easter Eggs in the Jar Competition
The Parents and Friends Committee have organised a Guess the Eggs in the Jar competition. The winner of this competition will be announced straight after our Easter Bonnet Parade. The cost to enter the competition is $1 a guess or 3 guesses for $2.

School Photos
School photos will be taken on the last day of term, starting at 9.00am. Please make sure your child is dressed in full school uniform (white & navy, not house colours).

LAST DAY OF TERM 1 & LAST NEWSLETTER
The last day of this term is Friday 27th March. School is dismissed at 2.10pm. Buses will run as normal, just an hour earlier. As this is our last newsletter for the term we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and hope you enjoy your Easter. Term 2 begins on Monday 13th April.

STAR OF THE WEEK AWARD

**Grade Prep A**—Olivia McKay for trying really hard to work well in the classroom in a more settled way. Olivia is always keen to contribute to class discussion and often brings things to school that she has made or found to support our topics. Olivia is also reading like a rock star and she also finds time to help others with their learning. Keep up the good work, Olivia.

**Grade 1B**—Lila Rix Lila, I am very impressed with your positive attitude in the classroom at the moment. You have been very responsible at group times, making sure that you find yourself a spot where you can listen attentively. You have been following directions quickly and giving your work your personal best. What a great way to finish Term 1 Lila, I am very proud of you. You are my STAR this week.

**Grade 2/3C**—Tegan Lenne for the fantastic narrative you wrote called “Found”. The detail you added to this piece of writing was excellent and you completed all the stages of the writing process thoroughly. Well done Tegan.

**Grade 4D**—Dael Buntine for being so focused and quickly completing her work, and really thinking ‘outside the box’ when it comes to ideas for writing. Congratulations Dael!

**Grade 5E**—Sean Tuckerman for his enthusiastic approach to his narrative writing. He has developed a fantastic writing piece demonstrating great originality. Well done Sean!

**Grade 6F**—Tyler Williams for getting so involved in learning about shapes this week. In particular, the 2D shape puzzles.

CLASS OF THE WEEK

This week’s Class of the Week is Grade Prep: For getting along well with each other at recess and lunchtime.

MY SCHOOL TOO

Nemesha Collins and Emily Bray for supporting a student when they were upset about something.

Sophie Peterson and Chloe Peterson for looking after their bus buddy.

Chloe Schultze for looking after a younger student who didn’t have anyone to play with.
Our school is once again participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to read lots of books. Children in Grades 2-6 are required to read a number of books including 10 from the challenge list to complete the challenge which runs until September 2015. If you would like your child to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge please sign and return the consent form which has been sent home next week. This consent form is for participation in the challenge as well as permission to publish your child’s name in the online Honor Roll. Happy Reading!! For more information on the Challenge visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc)
**FUNDRAISING**

**Cake Stall.** What a fantastic cake stall we had this week which raised a total of $290. Well done. Thank you to everyone who donated the delicious cakes, slices and produce.

**Fun Run—**

Students should have received some information regarding our Fun Run which will be held on the school grounds on Friday 17th April. Registration can be completed online. We will need some volunteers on the day so if you are able to help out please let the school office know.

**Easter Egg Guessing Competition—**

We are holding a Guess the Number of Easter Eggs in the Jar again. If you would like to enter the competition this can be done at the school office. Each guess costs $1 or 3 for $2.

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**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Our School Photos are being taken on the last day of this Term Friday 27th March from 9am. Order forms have been sent home. As orders can now be placed online, each envelope is now personalized with student name and unique ordering code. If you wish to hand in an order on Photo Day, orders and correct money are to be given to the photographer on the day. No change will be given on the day. Each child needs his/her own envelope if ordering. Family Photo envelopes are available at the office. Credit card orders are now strictly online.

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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**

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Hayley Rankin, Archie Childs, Ms Martin, Abbey Brooks, Kynan Baldwin, Jake Underwood, Zoe Irving, Charlie Mundie, Gabriel Gallimore, Will Kervin and Stevie Lever who are celebrating their birthdays this week, next week and over the school holidays. We hope they have a great day.
REMINDERS
Lunch Orders are Monday, Wednesday & Friday.
Lost Property Box is in the Undercover area.
Student Banking Day is Thursday.

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
Monday 13th April
Term 2 begins
Wednesday 15th April
State Swimming
Friday 17th April
Adidas School Fun Run/X Country Trials

GRADE REPORTS

Grade Prep A: Term One has flown by and it is so pleasing to note how settled the Preps are and how much they have learned in a short time. This week we have been really trying hard to write by recording the first sounds we hear in words. Our sound focus has been ‘l’ and ‘e’ as well as lots of revision with the rest of the sounds and letters. We have been copying and repeating patterns in Maths and have made some groovy Easter Egg designs with the patterns. Counting collections carefully by moving each object and remembering number names have also been our foci. The Preps looked fabulous in their dress ups today and completed some great writing tasks to complement their self-portrait. We had a super time on St Patrick’s Day making green jelly and eating it. We made leprechauns in Art and mastered the skill of curling paper to make the beards. We watched a snippet of River Dance which was mastered by the Preps in a very short time. They jigged all over the room in great style. As the term closes, I would like to thank you all for hearing reading at school and at home as well as the other ways you have supported your child’s first 9 weeks at school. It is much appreciated and I look forward to your help again in Term 2. Have a great Easter break and enjoy the family time.

Grade 1B: This week we have been reading ‘Fred the Frog.’ We focused on r blends at the beginning of words to help build our general knowledge of sound / spelling relationships. In Writing, we wrote about frog lifecycles. We started learning our spelling routines this week for our Words Their Way program. We have learned how to do an independent sort, a partner sort, a word hunt and how to play memory. We will practice our routines again next week before launching into our full spelling unit in Term 2. In Maths we have explored numbers beyond 20 and length. We celebrated St Patrick’s Day in style with leprechauns, shamrocks and green jelly! We are looking forward to an Easter focus in the classroom next week as we wind our way to the end of Term 1. Remember next week we have school photos on Friday and our Annual Easter Bonnet parade on Friday too! It has been a fantastic Term 1. We have worked very hard in Grade 1 and look forward to a well-deserved two week holiday break. Thanks for all your support this term. See you in Term 2 - Mrs B and the fabulous first graders!

Grade 2/3C: What a lovely week we have had in Grade 2/3. In Literacy, we have been learning how to identify the main idea of the text. This proved to be quite tricky, trying to say what it was about in just a few words. We also finished our “Found” narratives. We used the writing process for the first time from start to finish: planning, drafting, revising, editing and conferencing. Everyone should feel very proud of their work. In Maths, we have been practising written addition. We have been using MAB blocks to make the numbers so that we can see what happens when we add bigger numbers together. In Art we have finally finished our weaving circles! They are looking fantastic; bright and colourful with lots of detail. Please come into the classroom and have a look. And finally, well done to everyone who came today dressed up as what they would like to be when they grow up. It was great to see and we have hopefully raised lots of money for two very worthwhile charities.
Grade 4D: We enjoyed our tennis lesson on Tuesday. David coached us through lots of fun activities and our hitting skills are noticeably improving. In Maths we have been investigating number sequences involving multiples of 3 and 6 and knowing our 3 times tables automatically. Our reading focus this week was all about working out the main idea in a paragraph. We read about some fascinating real life mystery events like the Bermuda triangle and the discovery of Otzi the Iceman, who lived 5,300 years ago. It was a fun day today with everyone coming dressed up as what they would like to be when they grow up. We raised money for The Kids Cancer Project and Leukemia Research, which are both very worthy causes. We have started working on our hats for the Easter Parade next Friday. Don’t forget to bring in some cereal boxes so we can re-inforce and strengthen our hats. We are looking forward to the One Stop rock Shop performance at school next Tuesday. We have already listened to some of the songs and composed an extra verse for one of them. It will be good to hear the songs performed live.

Grade 5E: Grade 5 have practiced summarising picture story books this week. We have learnt 3 different summarisation methods and are becoming experts. In Spelling we have continued to look at long vowel sounds and prefixes and suffixes. Writing time has seen lots of editing and publishing of our fantastic narrative pieces. Our passion projects are due next week so students have been placing finishing touches on these. We also worked towards completing another module towards receiving our digital licence. In Maths one group has been working on decimals and money and have looked at menus and ordering items which has required addition and subtraction skills. The other maths group have been challenged with 2D shapes. In Art we have started our fantastic Easter bonnets and in PE we are finishing off our unit on netball. Parents are invited to our passion project open morning on Wednesday the 25th of March between 8:15am and 9:30. We hope to see you there.

Grade 6F: This week the grade 6’s have been really busy getting ready for their passion project showcases next week on Wednesday morning. There has been a lot of gathering of materials and ideas for them to complete in time and it looks to be a show stopping exhibition. In Literacy we have been looking at more ways to summarise a text or story including the 3 word summary, and the ‘Someone, Wanted, But, So, Then’ approach. The students have also been continuing their narrative stories, each becoming more and more detailed and imaginative each day. In Maths the grade 5/6s have been learning about geometric 2D and 3D shapes and have been getting their brains teased with some tricky problems. It is almost the end of Term, which means Easter... and starting to construct some wonderful Easter Bonnets for the parade next week!
COMMUNITY NEWS

Movie Fundraiser for Echuca South Community Preschool on Sunday 22nd March at 1:00pm. The movie showing is ‘HOME’. Tickets are $15 per person and can be purchased on the day at Echuca Paramount Cinema (Cash only).

ECHUCA LIBRARY

A slice of Poetry Pizazz - Poetry Competition. Entries of original poems are invited from all age groups, poems will be short listed and the finalists can present their poem at the final judging night in May. Prizes for various categories. Entry form From your local Library or from www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/library Closing March 25th.

Easter Spectacular on the Wharf!

Celebrate Easter with flair this year on the historic Echuca Wharf. Fun for the whole family including:
- roving magician
- fireworks
- live music
- slushies
- hot food & beverages
- laughing clowns game
- fairy floss
- popcorn
- special appearance from the Easter Bunny!!!

SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO COMPLETE THE FESTIVITIES!

Easter Sunday, April 5th
$8 adults, $5 children, $25 family (up to 2 adults and 4 children)
From 5.30pm with fireworks at 8pm

Port of Echuca Discovery Centre
Tickets available to purchase from The Port of Echuca Discovery Centre
Ph 5481 0500 or visit us at 74 Murray Esplanade Echuca
Join our Easter Family Night
FREE

Thurs 26th March - 6pm-8pm.
BOOKINGS - 54 820 200. FREE!

Activities:
So much FREE fun to be had! Professional Face Painting, 2 X Roving Balloonist, Reptile Farm, Echuca 1st Scouts Arcade Games, Echuca Basketball Association games, Echuca SES Unit display, Heaps of Craft, Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt. Free Sausage Sizzle [cooked by Kiwanis Club Ech/Moj] & SO MUCH MORE!

Bookings recommended – for more information or to book speak to a team member in-store or go to www.bunnings.com.au and locate your nearest store.

50% of funds raised will be donated to the Echuca Regional Health - Echuca Breast Cancer Foundation.
50% will be donated to the Echuca Oncology Ward.

Girls Ride Out
SUNDAY 12TH APRIL 2015
9.00am for a 9.30am start
6th annual family bike ride, 12km or 20km
Commences and finishes at the Echuca Aquatic Reserve (behind the Echuca Tourist Information Centre).
A family BBQ will follow with prizes for best dressed & best decorated bike (male, female, groups & junior.)

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK facebook.com/girlsrideout
All enquiries to girlsrideout.echuca@gmail.com Tel: 0435 824 089