We’ve finished one term and now they tell us there are 27 more terms to go until we graduate from Grade 6!!
Special Events Next Week

Monday 20th April
Grade 2-6 Hockey Clinic

Wednesday 22nd April
Basketball State Trials
Lunchtime Chess

Friday 24th April
Anzac Day Service 10.30am

STUDENT LEADERS

Sophie Peterson & Kody Davison
Congratulations to Kody Davison and Sophie Peterson who are our new Student Leaders for the next week.

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.

Echuca West Primary School
Personal Best at the West

newsletter No. 9 Friday 17th April 2015

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome back

Welcome back for another exciting term. I hope everyone had an enjoyable Easter break and enjoyed eating lots of chocolate eggs. I know my wife did after winning the Guess the Eggs in the Jar Competition.

State Swimmers Rise to the Challenge

On Wednesday, Erin Blachford, Nemesha Collins, Jayde Evans and Asha Gray travelled to Melbourne to participate in the State Swimming Championships. The girls qualified for the 12/13 Year Old Freestyle Relay event at the regional carnival in Swan Hill last term and were looking forward to racing at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. They were matched against some of Melbourne’s well known swimming club schools including MLC and Ruyton but were not daunted by the task. In front of a large crowd they all swam magnificently, smashing their qualifying time by 11.25 seconds and coming seventh with an official time of 2.27.03. Well done girls!

Anzac Day Ceremony

Next Friday 24th April, Grade Six students will be conducting an Anzac Day ceremony. The ceremony will start at 10:30am and all parents are welcome to attend.
Congratulations to Mason and Alicia

I would like to congratulate Mason Golding and Alicia Callander for being selected to march behind a WW1 banner and represent the local WW1 soldiers and sailors on ANZAC Day. Both Mason and Alicia are descendants of WW1 soldiers and were selected by the Echuca Sub Branch of the RSL to be involved in this year’s march as part of the 100th Anniversary Commemoration of ANZAC Day.

Fun Run

Today we held our school fun run. The focus of the run was to raise money for the school and encourage our students to get active, have fun and maintain a healthy lifestyle. It was fantastic to see all of the students actively participating and supporting each other to do their best. I would like to thank the Parents and Friends Committee, particularly Christine Millen, for organising this event. It was a big success and lots of money has been raised. We will announce our profit in next week’s newsletter. I would also like to thank the parents who volunteered their time to help ensure the event ran smoothly. Unfortunately, due to the inclement weather, Grade 5 and 6 students did not get to run. Their run has now been rescheduled for Monday morning at 9.15am.

STAR OF THE WEEK AWARD

**Grade Prep A**—Benjamin Martin for being a great helper in our classroom by tidying up the tables and the floor without being asked to. Ben’s scissor cutting is snippy snappy and he has worked hard to make his cutting neat. Good job, Ben.

**Grade 1B**—Kym Underwood for her great participation in class this week and her keen interest in sharing all the facts she has learned about polar bears. Kym, you also did a fantastic job publishing your polar bear writing as well. Great work.

**Grade 2/3C**—Kiarrah Johnson for the fantastic work you do during writing time. You always try your very best and write with great imagination and detail. Well done Kiarrah!

**Grade 4D**—Ryan Griffiths for challenging himself to improve in speed and accuracy when working on the daily dozen in Maths and for using strong and effective words in his persuasive writing. Well done, Ryan.

**Grade 5E**—Abbey Brooks for consistently trying her personal best and taking pride in her work. She puts time and effort into the presentation of all her work. Abbey is also a very friendly and helpful member of the classroom. Well done Abbey!

**Grade 6F**—Bailey Harding for working with, and helping different students in the grade 5/6 class. You are a kind and mature student who is always willing to lend a hand.

CLASS OF THE WEEK

This week’s Class of the Week is Grade One: for showing respect for each other in the playground by sharing equipment and taking turns.

MY SCHOOL TOO

Max Collins and Noah Mundie for supporting a peer and continuing to help until the problem was resolved.

Blake Harding and Kynan Baldwin for letting a member of staff know about a concern on the bus.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Watson is House of the Week.

Points:
- Stratton – 2530
- Millewa – 1970
- Watson – 2670
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. 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

MUSIC/INDONESIAN WORKER OF THE WEEK

Asha Gray for displaying great care and effort in all her Indonesian work and joining in all music activities enthusiastically. Well done.

SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK


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.

PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE

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. 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

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

BIRTHDAYS IN THE SCHOOL THIS WEEK

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Jayda Golding and Imogen Tall who are celebrating their birthdays this week. 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
Wednesday 29th April
Lunchtime Chess

Friday 1st May
Echuca Cross Country

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

Wednesday 13th May
School Council Meeting 7.00pm

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

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

Thursday 18th June
Jump Rope for Heart Jump off day

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Tutoring Available

Book a FREE assessment
School Term Programs

✓ Maths
✓ English
✓ School Readiness
✓ Dyslexia Friendly
✓ Proven Programs

Ph 5482 2421 (24hrs - Please leave message)

ECHUCA
Level 1, 189 Hare St Echuca
kipmcgrath.com.au/echuca

Enrol Now!
**Grade Prep A:** Well, I am exhausted and I just watched the Fun Run today! Well done to the Preps for their mighty effort running, jogging and a little walking around the course. We are straight back into work and have started our inquiry unit on Animals around the world. There are polar bears and penguins in our room. The polar bears are busy playing in the snow we made from shaving cream and PVA glue. Our writing has been based around these animals and it is pleasing to see all the Preps having a go at writing down what sounds they can hear. In Maths we have continued our number work and counting. We measured how long things were with our feet, then string and then a metre ruler. We did find out that our waists are bigger than our heads. Next week there will be a focus on ANZAC day and you are more than welcome to attend the school service. Our Zoo trip is building in excitement and there will be a detailed note sent home soon. The skipping ropes are out in Phys Ed and soon we will be champions at that too. Enjoy your weekend.

**Grade 1B:** Welcome back to Term 2. It was great to have all our smiling faces back in the classroom after a fun, filled holiday break. This week we have launched our inquiry unit – ANIMALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. We are currently in the Arctic studying polar bears. We have been reading about polar bears, writing about polar bears and even published our very first good copy on polar bear facts. Addition and counting on has been our maths focus for the week. We visited www.fun4thebrain.com to practice our addition skills with Cone Crazy 2. Skipping has been our sports focus as well as preparing for the fun run. Please make sure you have checked tiqbiz for our Term 2 planner which has lots of important dates for the coming term. Signing out after a great week, Mrs Bourke and her fabulous first graders.

**Grade 2/3C:** Welcome back to Term 2. Everyone seems to have had a great Easter holiday and have eaten lots of chocolate! All the students have settled straight back into our classroom routines and are really focused on their learning. Well done everyone. In our reading time, we have been focusing on using a range of comprehension strategies to answer questions about a text, and in writing, we have started to learn about persuasive texts. We know the key features and can write an argument with 3 clear reasons. During Maths, we have been practising addition and have been adding big numbers without using MAB counters. We started our inquiry unit this week (Gold Fever) and have learnt a lot already. Ms Martin played a trick on us to get us to think about what it felt like when people either did or didn’t find gold by hiding cubes in only some of our locker tubs (each cube was worth house points!). We realised that for lots of miners it was all about luck. Will anyone be lucky when we pan for gold at Sovereign Hill?
**Grade 4D:** It was really good to catch up with all of the holiday stories and events on Monday. Everyone slipped back easily into our well known class routines and we all had a very productive week. We have started practising our skipping skills in P.E. as we work towards the jump off for Jump Rope For Heart later in the term. What has been really exciting is finding out about gold and the gold rush days of the 1850s. One interesting fact we read was that you can stretch a 5 gram piece of gold into a piece of wire that is more than 12 kilometres long! That is unreal! We are really enjoying this topic and can’t wait until we go to camp at Sovereign Hill. We started learning about Cyber Safety in rotations on Wednesday and we also began creating our Gold Rush figures in Art. We are excited about today’s fun run. Yesterday we walked the track in preparation and worked out how we would record the time for our buddies. Congratulations to everyone who raised money for the school. There are some great prizes coming your way! Next Monday we are looking forward to starting the week off with a Hockey clinic. That should be fun!

**Grade 5E:** Grade 5 all had a fantastic holiday and are now back in the full swing of the school routine. Students enjoyed term 2’s new daily 5 reading activities. Students particularly enjoy reading and responding to newspaper articles. We have been working hard on persuasive writing this week and have learnt about the writing structure and how to use persuasive techniques. In Maths, we have been looking at BODMAS and order of operations. We have enjoyed challenging our brains with open ended questions to see how we can make different equations equally a set total. We were thrilled to have an ex-service man come to talk to us and we learnt a lot more about the importance of Anzac Day. We also enjoyed being able to hold the torch and seeing the torch lit. In Art, we have created Poppies ready for our Anzac Day ceremony next week. In PE, we have started learning skipping skills in preparation for jump rope for heart. We also practiced for Friday’s fun run.

**Grade 6F:** It has been a fantastic start back to term 2, everyone has settled back very well and gotten straight back into the normal routine which is great. This week we have started new reading, writing and maths focuses. We are looking at recognising the difference between fact and opinion in our reading, which ties in well with our new persuasive writing theme for this term. Students have begun planning and drafting their first persuasive piece, some choosing to persuade the school for better equipment, or for most, a school canteen. In Maths in Mr Watson’s class the students have been gathering data in different ways including tables and Venn diagrams and then displaying them in a horizontal or vertical bar graph. The grade 5/6s were lucky enough this week to have a visit from the Camp Gallipoli representatives which is being held next Friday the 24th of April. They brought with them the official Anzac Torch and lit it for us to see, as well as talked about the importance of Anzac Day.
Stuck during study? Get unstuck.

Thanks to your local library, you have FREE access to YourTutor.

This means you can be your best in school this year. No more after-hour homework battles, no appointments necessary. Just log in online for one-to-one, expert help, from the library computer or from home.

A real-life local tutor is ready online to help you get back on track and feel more confident, when you get stuck on a homework question.

This is also great for parents and families because sometimes, study can be stressful for the whole household. Students can ask for help with a question in maths, English, science, study skills and more.

The best part? The service is entirely free, thanks to your local library.

So why not try it out next time you get stuck?

Get unstuck, with YourTutor.

FAQ for parents

Who are the online tutors?
The online tutors are Australian teachers or university experts, located across the country. The online staff must go through all necessary checks and a long application process, to make sure only the best are allowed in the network. The tutors will not “give” answers, students are taught to think for themselves and reach their own answers ethically.

How does it work?
Students sign in online using their library card, from a library computer or from home. They’re connected to an expert tutor in a one-to-one session, and can ask their question using a live chat function, interactive whiteboards to demonstrate problems like math equations, and can also browse the end or attach documents for tutor feedback.

FREE with a library card number
Open: 10am - 5pm
Closed: Sunday, Monday
Go to yourtutor.com.au | Click Log In and find your library - Campaspe Regional Library

Border Raiders Junior
Come and Try Days
(Saturday Morning Competition)

Saturday April 18th & May 2nd

U-7 / U-9 FROM 9:00 – 10:00AM
U-11 / U-13 FROM 10:15 – 11:15 AM
U-14 FROM 11:30AM - 1:30PM

ALL PLAYERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THEIR RELEVANT AGE GROUP TIMES

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

COACHES ALSO REQUIRED FOR THESE SESSIONS

For additional information please contact:

Head Coach Dave Coward
E: dcoaching@hotmail.com or M: 0407 115 147

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ECHUA AUSKICK 2015
Crofton Street, Echuca. Starts Sunday 19th April at 9.30a.m. Enrol on www.auskick.com.au Enquiries to Kane Henson on 0400 821 658

When: Thursday 23rd April
Time: 4:30—5:15pm
Where: Region Hockey & Tennis Facility
Echuca College, College Drive Echuca VIC 3564
Cost: $50.00
Contacts: Renee Thompson 0409 43 48 68 or lh2hockeyechuca@gmail.com
ECHUCA COLLEGE
DISCOVERY EVENING

HAVE YOU DISCOVERED ECHUCA COLLEGE?

Discovery Evening
Year 7, 2016
Current Grade 4-6 students and
prospective students of other year levels

Wednesday 22nd April at 7:00pm
Echuca College, College Drive,
Café Learning Area

The evening provides an excellent opportunity for
parents and prospective students to meet key
members of staff, hear from students, tour the
College facilities, observe students at work and gain
an insight into the curriculum and extra-curricula
activities available at the College.

Enquiries can be directed to;
Melissa Gould – Acting College Principal
Chris Jennings – Acting Assistant Principal
Phone: 5482 1133