FIRST GRADE
DREAM BIG
SPARKLE MORE
Special Events Next Week

Monday 23rd February
Grade 5/6 Swimming

Tuesday 24th February
Tennis—Grade 2-6

Wednesday 25th February
Prep Rest Day

Friday 27th February
Family BBQ at Apex Park—6pm

STUDENT LEADERS

Jayde Evans & Gabe Gallimore
Gabe Gallimore and Jayde Evans continue as our 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 1 our focus is on Inclusion.

Echuca West Primary School
Personal Best at the West
echucawestps.vic.edu.au.
SMS 0428937348

Newsletter No. 4 Friday 20th February 2015

STAR OF THE WEEK AWARD

Grade Prep A—Miley Wiltshire for being a happy, smiling Prep who is always ready to learn. Miley is a good friend and includes everyone in her play. You are a star, Miley.

Grade 1B—Zoe Irving for being a writing star in the classroom this week and trying really hard to make her writing exciting for the reader. I love the way your voice shines through in your writing Zoe!

Grade 2/3C—Kloey Mitchell for her amazing attitude towards learning. You always come to school with a beautiful smile, ready to learn and always give everything a go. Well done Kloey.

Grade 4D—Jacob Collins for always trying to do his personal best and for writing a really descriptive personal narrative that had the class enthralled. Well done, Jacob.

Grade 5E—Chloe Peterson for always trying her best in all situations. She gives everything a red hot go and is a polite and friendly member of the classroom. Well done Chloe!

Grade 6F—Luke Maynard for giving his personal best at swimming this week and swimming a whole lap in freestyle. Well done!

CLASS OF THE WEEK

This week’s Class of the Week is Grade 2/3C: for being actively involved in lots of fun games during recess and lunch play.

MY SCHOOL TOO

Brandon Hall Rosendale for standing up for himself in a smart way out in the yard.

Olivia Brewis & Abbey Collins for getting help from a teacher after trying to sort out a problem by themselves.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Stratton is House of the Week. Well Done.
Points:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stratton</td>
<td>920</td>
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<td>Millewa</td>
<td>680</td>
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<td>Watson</td>
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SCIENTIST OF THE WEEK

Billie Tobias for always trying her best in science and bringing in interesting and relevant specimens to share with the class.

GARDEN GURU OF THE WEEK

Bailey Brown for enthusiastically completing all tasks that were asked of him in the garden. Well done Bailey!

INDONESIAN WORKER OF THE WEEK

Norah Lenne for always trying her best and having a go at new words.

SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK

Liam Hamilton for great sportsmanship and coaching.

CENTREPAY FOR SCHOOL PAYMENTS

CentrePay is a free direct bill paying service available to customers who receive a Centrelink payment. The deductions can be used to pay school charges, camps, swimming, uniform etc. The minimum amount you can have deducted is $10 per fortnight. A one off payment or fortnightly deductions can be selected. If interested, application forms can be obtained at the front office.

BIRTHDAYS IN THE SCHOOL THIS WEEK

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Tom Evans and Mrs Campbell who are celebrating their birthdays this week. We hope they have a great day.
## FUTURE DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9th March</td>
<td>Public Holiday - Labour Day</td>
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<td>Wednesday 11th March</td>
<td>School Council Meeting 7.00p.m.</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17th March</td>
<td>Regional Swimming</td>
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<td>Tennis—Grade 2-6</td>
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<td>Friday 27th March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>Easter Bonnet Parade</td>
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<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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## GRADE REPORTS

### Grade Prep A:
Thank you to all the Parents who came to our Information Night. We appreciate your time and hope you found the session informative. There are a few bugs and colds floating around the school which have already claimed a few Preps. While on the subject of bugs, please check your child’s hair weekly for head lice/nits. So far, we are nit free but they are out and about, so make regular inspections. The Preps have worms but these are in the vegie garden! The Preps have been looking at the worms with Mrs Mathers and how they help the soil. ‘Bb and Mm’ have been our literacy focus this week. The Preps are ‘writing’ and it is great to see them having a go at writing a message. We are focussing on writing what sounds we can hear. Our first Art lesson was a great success as we finger painted a quilt for Teddy each. Next week we take on the paint brushes to create our masterpieces. Maths has been lots of counting, number recognition and shapes using the geoboards. We hope you can make it to our ‘Welcome’ school barbeque next Friday, February 27th at the Apex Park. Enjoy your weekend.

### Grade 1B:
We listened and sang along to the song – What’s in the hole in the bottom of the sea?
Then we wrote an improvisation to the song, adding in our own sea creatures.

What’s in the hole in the bottom of the sea? - Lila
There’s a hole in the bottom of the sea.
There’s a chocolate fish in the dark hole in the bottom of the sea.
There’s a hole. There’s a hole.
There’s a hole in the bottom of the sea.

What’s in the hole in the bottom of the sea - Tanner
There’s a hole in the bottom of the sea.
There’s a giant squid in the dark hole in the bottom of the sea.
There’s a hole. There’s a hole.
There’s a hole in the bottom of the sea.

What’s in the hole in the bottom of the sea - Tegan
There’s a hole in the bottom of the sea.
There’s a dolphin in the dark hole in the bottom of the sea.
There’s a hole. There’s a hole.
There’s a hole in the bottom of the sea.
Grade 2/3: In Literacy this week Grade 2/3 have been working so hard on using sticky notes to record their “reader’s voice” that they are becoming experts! Well done everyone. We have also been busy writing about some fantastic memories and we are making a great effort to add detail to them. In Maths we have been stretching ourselves with numbers. We have been learning about number lines and how to work out the increments. In our Grade 2/3/4 rotations we have been learning how to create and save a document in Computers and in Art we are creating woven colour wheels, inspired by the book “Collecting Colours”. Thank you to everyone who came along to our information night on Wednesday. For those of you who were not able to attend, a copy of the handout has been sent home in your child’s reader pouch.

Grade 4D: It’s been another busy week in Grade 4. In Literacy we have been fine tuning our reading skills, in preparation for starting reading groups and we also practised writing letters in response to books we have been reading and thinking about. Our writing has been really fun as we concentrated on writing personal stories in an interesting way to get the reader’s attention. We have shared some unusual and funny stories. In Maths we have been working with 5 and 6 digit numbers and working out where to place them on a number line. Library started for our class on Wednesday and it was good to see that some students remembered to bring their library bags. Our personal profiles are finished, complete with our very detailed self-portraits, and they look great on display in our class room. As we are learning about plants in Science, this week we planted grass seeds and looked at Ryan’s Venus fly Trap that he brought to school. In Technology we enjoyed designing our own title page, inserting pictures, borders and headings. We used the book ‘Collecting Colours’ in Art as inspiration for our woven colour wheels that we are working on. Thank you to everyone who attended our Information Night on Wednesday. If you weren’t able to make it, there is a copy of the information in your child’s Home School Journal. Have a great weekend, everyone.

Grade 5E: Our cereal box autobiographies have been finished off this week and they are looking fantastic. We also got into full swing with Daily 5 and have been working hard to improve our reading stamina. We have looked at reading comprehension and how to better understand and respond to the books we are reading. In Maths we are working hard on our times table and improving our numeration skills through our daily 10. We have also had a focus on subtraction in Mrs Irving’s maths class and worded problems using the 4 operations in Mr Watsons maths class. We had an excellent information night on Tuesday and we thank all parents for their attendance. Grade 5/6 have been busy learning to swim every afternoon this week. We have all really improved and enjoyed learning the correct strokes. We look forward to having our last lesson on Monday. Good Luck to the swimmers representing Echuca West Primary at the Echuca pool today.

Grade 6F: Grade 6 has had another great week together with grade 5. Again our normal routine has been interrupted with various events but all in all it has been enjoyable and we have been learning new things. All throughout the week we have had swimming lessons which have been great in this hot weather. During writing time we have been working hard on our autobiographies which are almost complete and ready for displaying. In Maths we have been solving various equations involving the four operations, including using reverse operations to find missing numbers in number sentences. Half of our students are heading off to compete in the Interschool Swimming Sports tomorrow and we wish them all the best!
SWIMMING CARNIVAL PHOTOS
Does your child like to sing and perform? Consider enrolling them in River Voices where they will sing in a group setting with a trained music and voice teacher. River Voices ‘Piccolo’ group is for children 7-12 yrs old and meets Tues. from 5-5.45pm during school terms. ‘Allegro’ group is ages 12 years old and up and meets from 5.45-6.30pm. Cost $80/term; begins Tuesday, 17th Feb. at Echuca Moama Uniting Church in the Chapel. For inquiries contact rivervoicesechuca@gmail.com or 0477 436 375.
City of Echuca Bowls Club

Car Boot Sale

Sunday 29th March

9.00 am start for stalls
Set-up from 8.30 am

Sites available - $20 for 6 metre by 7 metre space

Contact Pat Schram 0409 949 008 or schram.pat@bigpond.com to book a site

Plant sale and refreshments available from the Clubhouse

Access from High Street

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2015 Enrollments now being taken!!

- Vocal
- Guitar (acoustic, electric)
- Drums
- Bass
- Piano/Keyboard
- Theory
- Glee (singing & movement)
- Pre-school Music (4-5 yr olds)
- Tots n Tunes (2-3 yr olds)
- Dance (ages 5-10 yr old)

Billear Entertainment also takes lessons at the following schools: (not all instruments are available at all schools)

- Echuca West School
- Kyabram P-12 College (primary campus)
- Lockington Consolidated school
- Nathalia Primary School
- Nathalia Secondary college
- Sacred Heart Primary School
- St. Augustine College
- St. Francis Primary Nathalia
- St. Mary of the Angel’s Nathalia
- St.Pat’s Tongala
- Tatura Primary School
- Tongala Primary

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Campaspe Regional LIBRARY

Lots of LEGO

LEGO AFTERNOONS

4th Wednesday of each month

4.00 - 6.00pm

Bring your own or use ours!

Echuca Library
310 Hare St, Echuca

Online: www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/library
Phone: 5482 1997
Email: libraries@campaspe.vic.gov.au
Which would you choose for your child - I.Q. or persistence?

It will impact heavily on your child’s success at school, his future levels of achievement and eventually income as an adult.

Imagine at the birth of your child you are given a choice between bestowing great intelligence or great persistence on your baby. Which would you choose? Take your time and think about it!

Your choice will make a profound difference. It will impact heavily on your child’s success at school, his future levels of achievement and eventually income as an adult.

Smarts or persistence? What would you choose?

If you chose persistence then you are on the money. You are giving your child a significant leg-up for future success. This is the finding of the ground-breaking research into factors determining children’s achievement levels by Professor Charles Desforges from the University of Exeter in the UK. Desforges found that the greatest individual characteristic that determined children’s success at school was persistence. It was number one by far.

In fact, persistence was a staggering seven times more significant than intelligence as a determinant of a child’s achievement.

SEVEN TIMES!! THAT’S HUGE!!

Now the good news is that persistence is not merely an inborn trait. It is the one aspect of a child’s temperament that can be impacted by people.

Desforges found that parents, rather than teachers, are the people most likely to impact on a child’s persistence. This is consistent with many other studies in the area.

What does a persistent child do?

Persistent kids do some or all of the following:

- They stick at tasks until the end.
- They set goals and work toward them.
- They are not easily distracted.

- They don’t let failure stop them.
- They are more likely to take risks as learners.
- They can sometimes be seen as stubborn or unwilling to bend

There are heaps of ways you can encourage your child to persist. But the BIG strategies all revolve around MODELLING, ENCOURAGEMENT and VOCABULARY.

As a parent think how you:

1. Model persistence on a daily basis so your child sees what persistence is
2. Actively foster and promote persistence so your child sees it is possible
3. Develop a set of words and phrases about persistence that your child hears routinely so that persistence becomes part of your child’s frame of reference.
4. Make a fuss when your child sticks at a task regardless of their success so they know that it is something you value.