A Home To Roost

All in a day's work!
Special Events Next Week

Monday 7th March
5/6 Swimming—last session
Sporting Schools—Session 3

Tuesday 8th March
Book Club Orders and money due

Wednesday 9th March
Welcome Morning Tea 9am
School Council Annual General Meeting 7.00pm

STUDENT LEADERS

Kiralee Macumber & Max Childs
Thank you for your work as Student Leaders.

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.
(03) 54822263

Newsletter No. 6 Friday 4th March 2016

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

School Council
School Council elections have now been completed. I would like to congratulate the following people for successfully being appointed as new school council members:

- Erin Jenkins and Alana Rix have been appointed as new parent representatives
- Judith Martin & Phyllis Engstrom have been appointed as staff (DET) representatives.

The full composition of school council is as follows:
DET Representatives: Phyllis Engstrom, Judith Martin & Andrew Judd.

Zone Swimming Sports
Last Friday, Echuca West Primary School participated in the Campaspe Zone Swimming Carnival in Echuca. After our swimming sports on 17th February, fifteen students were selected to represent our school at zone level. Everyone displayed outstanding sportsmanship and we achieved some fantastic results in both individual and relay events. Thank you to Mrs Irving for organising the team and Mrs Campbell for being the team manager on the day.
Thanks also to the parents who were able to come along and support our swimmers. Good luck to Emma Judd, Raya Gallimore, Alice Davidson and Asha Gray who have qualified to represent our school at the Regional Swimming Carnival in Swan Hill on Thursday 17th March.

Chook Shed
Wow, what a fantastic effort by Apex and Kiwanis who worked together to build us a wonderful chook shed. This project was the brainchild of the Student Action Group but it was Mrs Mathers who decided to make it happen. She did an outstanding job getting the community involved and coordinating the day.

Buddies
Classroom buddies have been running for 4 weeks now and our new Preps have all been buddied up with Grade 5 students. Throughout the year, buddies will be doing lots of activities together and the older students will be looking out for their younger buddies in the playground, stopping to have a chat to see how things are going. Grade 6 students have also started working with their Prep buddies from last year, further developing this relationship. Grade 2, 3 & 4 students are working in buddy groups every Friday and rotating around different activities that the teachers have planned.
STAR OF THE WEEK AWARD

**Grade Prep A — Brodie Spedding** You are always cheerful and happy. You play well with your friends and you try to include everyone in games. You have great reading habits Brodie, and it is fantastic to see you organised and ready to read every morning. I love the way you always practice your writing. Excellent effort.

**Grade 1B — Mia Clarke** You are an industrious little worker Mia, with a great enthusiasm for learning. You bring that big smile of yours to school every day and it just lights up our room. Thank you for the wonderful way you jump in to help to make our classroom a beautiful place. You are this week’s STAR!

**Grade 2C — Kayesha Bellwood** for the way you apply yourself to all classroom activities. I have been particularly impressed with your effort during writing every morning and I enjoy reading your writing pieces each day. Keep up the great work. Well done Kayesha!

**Grade 3D — Kloey Mitchell** for her attentive nature in the classroom, and a great attitude she shows towards all learning tasks. You ask very constructive questions in the search for the answers you need. Keep up the good work!

**Grade 4E — Tegan Lenne** for the wonderful way you have settled into Grade 4. I particularly like your involvement in class and group discussions. You always listen attentively and respectfully to the teacher and your classmates; joining in with thoughtful and interesting comments. Well done Tegan!

**Grade 5F — Blake Harding** Each morning you come into the classroom with that big bright smile of yours. You’re always a happy and friendly student to those around you. I love the way you show one of our schools values of inclusion to the highest possible standard. Keep up the excellent work. Well done!

**Kynan Baldwin** I’ve loved the way you have applied yourself with our narrative writing. It’s been excellent to see that you’ve continued using constructive feedback to want to improve in your writing. Your wow words and your all round dedication has been impressive. Keep up the great work. Well done!

**Grade 6G — Max Childs.** He has been working very hard this week and has made good choices about who to work with. He is a polite and thoughtful member of the classroom. Well done Max, keep up the great work!

CLASS OF THE WEEK

This week’s Class of the Week is Grade One: For being inclusive and making sure everyone is involved in activities.

MY SCHOOL TOO

Shyloh Chique, Roxi Clarke, Kloey Mitchell and Emma Judd: For always being there to help and support other students.

Logan Monro for seeing and helping a younger student who was having a tough time during lunch break. Well done for being a great leader Logan!

SCIENTIST OF THE WEEK

**Dakoda Mills Firebrace** for exhibiting excellent science inquiry skills when exploring what surfaces absorb and repel water. I was impressed with your inquisitiveness and application during science. Congratulations Dakoda!

SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK

**Braydyn Taylor** for following instructions really well, demonstrating sportsmanship and being a great helper.

**Alice Davidson** for demonstrating amazing teamwork and digging skills in volleyball...you’re a natural!
SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM (formerly known as Active After Schools Program)

**Sporting Schools Program in Term 1**  Our Sporting Schools Program has commenced and will run for 6 weeks. We are running sessions between 3.30pm and 4.30pm on Mondays. This term the activity is Martial Arts.

**Monday 7th March — Martial Arts — Session 3**

Because of the late start and a long weekend this term Martial Arts will continue into next term. Interested children can pick up an enrolment form from the office. Children will be given a snack straight after school. Please make sure that you pick your child up at 4.30pm. School policy requires students to be picked up at the front of the school after finishing the Sporting Schools Program.

GARDEN GURU OF THE WEEK

Gabriella Carmelotti for putting in 110% effort when shifting the compost heap in preparation for the new chicken coop. You worked tirelessly, did not complain and got the job done. An outstanding effort!

WELCOME MORNING TEA

The Parents and Friends Committee are hosting a Welcome Morning Tea next Wednesday 9th March from 9am onwards in the staffroom. Everyone is most welcome to attend, in particular new families. Come along and have a cuppa and chat — we would love to see you there.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our School Photos are being taken on the last day of this Term Thursday 24th March from 9am. Order forms will be sent home on Monday. 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.

SCIENCE IN ACTION

This term in Science, our students are enthusiastically exploring the world around them.

Prep students are being introduced to the very beginning of physics — Movement. They are investigating the things around them that move and how they make their bodies move.

Grade 1 and 2 are investigating water. They are learning about the water cycle, groundwater, conserving water and we are looking forward to a visit from 2 water experts next week from Coliban Water.

Grade 3/4 are learning about what it means to be a budding taxonomist (a scientist who studies groups of living things that share common features)

Grade 5/6 are investigating the extensive world of micro-organisms which include fungi, mould, bacteria and yeast.
Roll up, roll up!! Come and see our newly constructed chicken coop. It’s “eggsactly” what the children wanted and what our garden program needed!

The chicken coop and the idea of raising chickens as part of our curriculum was initiated by the Student Action Group. This project has been in the pipeline for about 6 months and it has finally come to fruition.

Last year, our Grade 5 and 6 students wrote letters to a range of community groups kindly requesting some help to build a chicken coop. We were overwhelmed with support and donations.

On Sunday at 8am, a group of 15 people gathered together with the single intention of building a chicken coop for our students. These wonderfully committed and skilled people were members of the Echuca Moama Kiwanis and Echuca Moama Apex Clubs. It was an incredibly productive and rewarding day for everyone involved.

On behalf of our school and our Student Action Group, we’d like to extend a huge thank you to the following people, organisations and local businesses who donated their time, equipment, supplies and money to enable this project to be completed to such a high standard:

- **Echuca Moama Kiwanis** for assisting in the construction, catering and donating $500 towards this project.
- **Echuca Moama Apex** for coordinating all the donations and leading the construction of this structure.
- **WB Hunters Echuca** for donating most of the materials needed for the chicken coop’s construction.
- **Echuca Steel** for supplying brackets.
- **Rochester Mitre 10** for supplies.
- **Barastoc** for donating all the required chicken feed for our chickens.
- **Echuca Build Pro** for supplying roofing materials.
- **Fleming Family** for the donation of the chickens.
- **Bayley Family** for kindly offering the use of the post hole digger for the day.
- **Lucy and Maddison** for their assistance on the day.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to extend our gardening, cooking and science programs with the inclusion of happy hens housed in the Taj Mahal of hen houses!

Thank you all once again for all your help, it was greatly appreciated.

Anthea Mathers

### GARDENING GURUS

- **Prep**: are learning to use the garden tools safely, identifying weeds and planting new plants.
- **Grade 1/2**: are learning about the importance of mulching and composting. They are also learning about the importance of mini-beasts in the garden.
- **Grade 3/4**: are exploring different foods made by hand across the world and the importance of wheat production.
- **Grade 5/6**: are investigating the PH scale, and how it relates to soil and plant health including testing our own garden beds. We will also be studying garlic and how it fights off invasive micro-organisms in the garden.

### KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

Our Grade 1 – 6 students will be learning the skills to become “mini master chefs”. These students will be cooking twice a term using produce from our garden and seasonal vegetables and fruits. The recipes will often be with an international flair. These recipes will be posted in the newsletter for you and your children to share.
PARENTS AND FRIENDS FUNDRAISING—TERM 1

THAT’S MINE LABELS FOR ALL YOUR SCHOOL CLOTHING, LUNCH BOXES AND OTHER BELONGINGS!

Keep track of your belongings and help to reduce our lost property at school with these quality labels we are promoting as a fundraiser for our school. Order forms were sent home this week. Extra brochures are available in the office for family or friends.

Stick-on labels can be used for plastic containers, books, drink bottles, etc and are dishwasher-resistant.
Iron-on labels will not come off in the wash! Use for clothing, hats, towels, etc.
Other products are also available eg bag tags, shoe overlays
Suggestion: Use just your surname on the label if you want to share them between different family members.

Order via the order form sent home from school or order online at thatsmine.com.au (Please select Echuca West Primary School at the checkout to ensure we obtain the commission for our school!)

GUESS THE EASTER EGGS IN THE JAR COMPETITION.

We are holding another Easter Egg guessing competition. The jar of Easter Eggs is in the school office and you can have a guess for $1 or 3 guesses for $2. This will be drawn on the last day of term at the Easter Bonnet Parade.

Thank you for your support
Parents and Friends Committee.

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.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club brochures have gone home last week with students. Orders and money are due back at school by Tuesday 8th March. Thank you.
**Rice Paper Rolls**

**Ingredients**
- Rice paper roll packet
- Lots of colourful vegetables cut into thin even slices
- Rice noodles
- Herbs
- Sweet soy or sweet chilli dipping sauce

**Equipment**
- Chopping board
- Sharp knife
- Bowl
- A wet Tea Towel
- Tongs
- Serving Plate

**Method**
Cut all the vegetables finely. Soften rice noodles in boiling water for several minutes and then drain. Soften rice paper by dipping it in and out of warm water and lay flat on a damp tea towel. Place some noodles, sliced vegetables in the bottom section of the rice paper. Add a little sauce, salt, pepper and or vegetable salt. Roll up carefully, turning in the sides after making edges damp. Serve with sauces on the side and salad.

---

**Indonesian Spring Rolls**

**Ingredients**
- Spring roll pastry
- Cooked thin noodles (we used rice noodles)
- Selection of colourful finely cut vegetables
- Freshly cut herbs such as mint, coriander or parsley
- Season with vegetable salt, soy sauce, sweet soy or sweet chilli

**Equipment**
- Knife
- Chopping Board
- Damp Tea Towel
- Bowl for the vegetable noodle mix
- Colander to drain noodles

**Method**
Place the pastry on a damp tea towel. Place a large spoonful of vegetable and noodle mix across the bottom third of the pastry. Dampen around the edge of the pastry and roll up tightly folding in the side edges to secure the filling. Cook in a hot oven for 15 to 20 minutes or fry for 2 minutes in hot oil. Cook until golden brown. Serve with dipping sauces.
BIRTHDAYS IN THE SCHOOL THIS WEEK

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Braydyn Taylor and Sophie McKee 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.

TERM DATES FOR 2016
Term 1—Thursday 28th January to Thursday 24th March
Term 2—Monday 11th April to Friday 24th June
Term 3—Monday 11th July to Friday 16th September
Term 4—Monday 3rd October to Tuesday 20th December

FUTURE DATES
Thursday 17th March
Regional Swimming Carnival—Swan Hill

Friday 18th March
Family BBQ

Wednesday 23rd March
Grade 6 Leadership Day at Moama Bowling Club
Grade 3/4 Special School Buddies

Thursday 24th March
Easter Egg Competition draw
School Photos
Last Day Term 1—dismissal 2.10p.m.

Monday 11th April
Term 2 starts

Monday 11th April—Wednesday 13th April
Grade 3/4 Camp

Wednesday 13th April
State Swimming

Tuesday 19th April
Grade 5/6 Twisted Science Excursion

GRADE REPORTS

Grade Prep A: The Preps have coped really well with their first full week of school and I am only a little bit tired! We made it to the Art room on Wednesday and had a great time painting a free picture, then a background for our collage and finally a quilt of colours for teddy. The hen house is up and the Preps have been learning lots about chickens in Science with Mrs Mathers. In Maths we are continuing to count carefully and ordering our numbers from one to ten. We measured cups and half cups to make our Wednesday celebration punch and today we worked on position and movement, using location words correctly. It was very exciting to have a Geelong football player at school today. Literacy rotation groups are in full swing with the students managing Reading Eggs and Literacy Planet on the computers really well. The password for Reading Eggs is ewps0 and the user name is the same. Please allow your child to work steadily through the program or even better, utilize the playroom and library as we do not get to them very often at school. There is a note in the newsletter and Home/School journals inviting you to a meet and greet morning tea next Wednesday. We hope to see you there. I am away on Monday and Tuesday at a course and Mrs Devlin will be taking the Preps for those two days. Enjoy your weekend.
Grade 1B: We are having a ‘beary’ good time in Grade 1 with our current teddy bear theme. Today we enjoyed using our teddy bears in maths. We measured them with unifix, textas, pencils, paper clips, counters and lots more. It was also exciting to have our teddy bears lined up from shortest to tallest. We welcomed autumn on Tuesday with a special poem written on autumn leaves and we enjoyed some special writing with Mrs Mathers on Wednesday using the text Graeme Base’s ‘The Waterhole.’ In Art, we finished our water colour painted teddy bear quilts. Have you seen them on display in our room? The visit from the Geelong football players this morning was definitely another highlight for our week. Have a great weekend, Mrs Bourke and her fabulous First Graders.

Grade 2C: Another week has flown by. During Literacy we have continued to practice our CAFÉ skills with the grade ones each morning. Our big book focus for this week has been “Where’s my Teddy?” As we have started a short teddy bear theme we have been finding out lots of facts about brown bears and polar bears. Just ask one of the grade twos, I am sure they can tell you all about both of these bears! We have enjoyed having our own teddy bears from home in the classroom this week. During Maths we compared our teddies from shortest to tallest and used a ‘baseline’ to compare length. We have also celebrated the beginning of autumn by writing creative autumn poems on paper leaves. Autumn has begun but it certainly still feels like summer at the moment! Looking forward to another great week. Have a great weekend everybody.

Grade 3D & 4E: Week 6 has come and gone and Grades 3 and 4 have made it another very successful week. Every student continues to work well in our new team teaching routines, with both our grades working together in mixed groups. In Literacy, we began learning how to write ‘Reader Response Letters’ on the current or past texts that the students had read, providing their classmates with a summary of the chosen text and the thinking that they had completed while reading, using their ‘readers voice’. We also started our first rotations for this year in our reading groups having an opportunity to explore the new computer program Literacy Planet. Spelling rotations continued, which included practising our skills using Spelling City on the computer. In Maths, we continued our focus on place value and the students in all groups showed excellent progress from last week. We also began our weekly focus on problem solving and the strategies that can be implemented to solve each problem. During or inquiry units, the students have continued to provide a great understanding of being cyber safe, and we hope to have our Skooville social and educational site, fully up and running ASAP. Finally, we would like to congratulate Cora, Luke, Archie and Emma, for their excellent effort displayed at the recent Interschool swimming carnival. Well done, it was great hearing how you went. Have a great weekend, from Ms Martin and Mr Cole.

Grade 5F & 6G—Grade 5/6 students have thoroughly enjoyed their swimming lessons this week with the final lesson being on Monday. It is fantastic to watch students become more confident swimmers. Students have also been working hard to finish off and publish our Narrative writing pieces. Our Maths groups have also been working hard with one group finishing off learning how to read the time and the other maths group looking at decimal numbers. In P.E., students have been practicing volleyball skills. Today we had a visit from the Geelong football club and students enjoyed creating questions to ask the players. Grade 5/6 students also had the opportunity to try out for a kick off with the players. We hope everyone has a fantastic weekend and don’t forget your swimmers for our last swimming session on Monday.
Join our Easter Family Night

FREE

Thursday 17th March 6pm–8pm
Bring the family along for a great night of fun!
- Easter D.I.Y. Workshops
- Visit from Easter Bunny
- Fun Easter egg hunt
- Easter activities for the whole family
- Light refreshments provided

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.

Rochester Dental Clinic

Mouthguard Evening

Special Price
$115
Save $66.20

Monday 21st March
5.00pm – 5.30pm
Enquiries ph. 54842010
No Appointment Necessary