Maximising Achievement……..Every day counts!

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Reflecting on Term 1!

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of many to make term 1 a successful start to the 2015 school year.

Classes were abuzz with learning from the very first day and soon each class could demonstrate the qualities and capabilities needed to be a community of learners.

Credit goes to a dedicated group of staff who know our students and their needs so intimately. Our classroom teachers are supported by a group of specialists (English as an Additional Language or Dialect Teacher, Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy, Guidance Officer, Speech Language Pathologist and AVT Disabilities). These professional partnerships allow teachers to cater for the individual needs of our students and set every student up for success.

In term 1 a number of teachers received professional support through our coaching program and developed their competency in curriculum content (vocabulary & philosophy) and their pedagogical practices.

Throughout the term teachers engaged in conversations about our school’s explicit teaching model and honed their skills through modelling and think alouds. I have witnessed commitment to this pedagogical approach in each classroom and consider it exceptional teaching.

What is most exciting is seeing students take up the challenge to be “exceptional”. Exceptional in their attendance, uniform wearing, their behaviour and their attitude to learning. It is this engagement in the learning process that gives me the greatest joy. I regularly speak to students who can articulate where they are at with their learning, what they need to do to improve and what feedback they have received from their teacher. They can also talk about their own mindset to learning and recognise when it needs improvement. This is powerful. For our students to see themselves as learners, to take responsibility for their learning shows a reflective practice that will empower them well beyond their time at East Brisbane. Full credit to teachers who are daily creating and facilitating a classroom environment for this to take place.

I would also like to acknowledge our other specialist teachers – Mrs Florager for PE, Mrs Brackenreg for Library, Mrs Hodgson for Music and Ms Akada for LOTE. These special subjects are not “fillers” for the students but meaningful and robust programs to develop the specific skills in these distinct areas.

Our flagship program – Philosophy In Schools continues to embed critical, creative and caring thinking throughout all our curriculum subjects and allow for weekly Philosophical discussions in this discrete subject area. Our Philosophy Coach Liz Fynes-Clinton continues to support the professional development of our staff.

Our support staff – Teacher Aides, Office Administration, Groundsman and Cleaners all contribute to the “feel” of the school and their roles all support our agenda to improve outcomes for students.

And finally, parent support is crucial and I am thankful to have a generous group of P&C Members and parent volunteers who contribute to the success of the school on a daily basis. Perhaps your circumstances have made this hands on support difficult but I would like to acknowledge the large number of parents who have taken advantage of the opportunity to meet with their child’s classroom teacher throughout term 1 and this too is a valuable connection with the school.

Newsletter Emailed If you would rather receive an email version, please email me on jnich19@eq.edu.au.
ANZAC Service – Wednesday, 22nd April 2015

“Lest we forget” On Wednesday we had a special ANZAC Ceremony (pictures below). It was an honour to have special guests Kylie March Diversional Therapist Coordinator-Marycrest Nursing Home, Retired Squadron Leader Harold Cassell R.F.D. Marycrest Nursing Home, Troop Sergeant, Clinton Rowe, attend. It was also very special to have Vice Captain, Emma Enright play the Last Post on her trumpet. Thank you to Dave Taylor and family for the New Zealand national anthem. Well done to all the students who participated.

Class of Term 1 Congratulations 5/6M!

A number of staff are consulted when deciding the class of the term. All specialists and support staff are asked to review the work they do with each class and I also look at our school’s behaviour data to determine our award winning class. Well done to the students in 5/6M for receiving Class of Term 1. They are a respectful and responsible community of learners who strive to do their very best. Their excellent behaviour and attitude at school is evident in all settings including specialist lessons and in the playground.

NAPLAN

The annual NAPLAN tests will take place from Tuesday, 12th May to Thursday, 14th May. Please ensure that you contact the school if your child will not be present for these dates. We are able to arrange an alternative testing time during NAPLAN week if necessary.

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<tr>
<th>Tuesday, 12th May</th>
<th>Wednesday, 13th May</th>
<th>Thursday, 14th May</th>
<th>Friday, 15th May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>Catch up testing permitted.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3: 40min</td>
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<td>Year 5: 40min</td>
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If you have any concerns regarding your child’s participation in the testing program, please contact your child’s class teacher as soon as possible.

While additional school support resources are directed to year 3 and 5 classes for term 1 and term 2, our school prepares for NAPLAN through expert teaching of the Australian Curriculum. NAPLAN tests give our school information about how effective our school, class and individual student programs are in supporting student learning in every year of schooling.

Winter Uniform

As the weather is starting to cool down considerably, the students will be beginning to need to wear warmer clothing. Our uniform shop has a supply of school jackets with the school logo. Alternatively, bottle green jackets or jumpers can be purchased at large department stores. These complement our existing uniform and ensure students are looking their best whilst at school. While our entire Dress Code Policy can be viewed on our school’s website I have inserted below our expectations regarding our winter uniform.

Winter Items for Prep to 7:

- Green long sleeved jacket with school logo. (This jacket can be purchased at the uniform shop- Mon & Wed 8.30am -9.15am.)

- Bottle green tights. (School tights can be purchased at the uniform shop- Mon & Wed 8.30am -9.15am.)
• Several additional winter uniform pieces can be purchased at local department stores. Acceptable uniform pieces such as plain jumpers, jackets, skivvies and track pants must conform to the school colour of bottle green.

Please note that if students are coming to school wearing a non-uniform jacket/jumper they will be asked to swap it at the office for a loan item for the day. The loaned item can then be returned at the end of the day with the student collecting their own jacket/jumper.

P&C Movie Night – Prep-Year 3. Friday 1st May. Movie – “MR PEABODY AND SHERMAN” starts at 5.30pm. Adults must stay to supervise their child/children. It will be held in the school Hall. $5/child or $10/family. One lucky door prize. Book your spot at the office NOW.

Have a great week,
Joanne Nicholls
Principal

PE NEWS

Touch Football-Term 2 will see all students in Year 3/4K, 5/6B and 5/6M participate in Touch Football clinics at Raymond Park, on Fridays. We are lucky to have approximately 30 TAFE students working with us over a 6 week period. Please ensure all forms are returned to the office before this event starts this Friday. Students will need school uniforms, hats and plenty of water.

District Sports Representatives-Term 1 has seen an outstanding number of students representing our school at District Level - we have Ryan T at AFL, Roth for Rugby League and Maddy P for Dance. Now also very proud to announce that Nick G and Emad have been selected for boys District Soccer. We are the only school with two representatives for this very competitive sport and were so close with Cooper only being eliminated at the last round with great maturity and grace. Awesome job EBSS students and we do look forward to many more amazing reports during the year. Good luck to Gus F, Dash, Maddy P, Rame, Andy D, James F, Samson, Nick G, Emad, Cooper, Sam S, Jack S and Meisio who competed in the District Lytton Cross Country event today. I look forward to reporting on these results and the children's performances.

The Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is returning to Brisbane and will to be held at a fantastic new venue, the Sleeman Sports Complex, Chandler on 17th May 2015. With Australia’s largest competition swimming pool and ample free parking, it’s sure to be a great day for all! Enrol on line at Weetabix Kids TRYathlon if you are interested in this event for your children. If you are interested, please check the website.

Soccer-Michael Theo soccer academy soccer clinics will also be held in the next school holidays please look at info@soccer-academy.com.au for information about 3 day clinics and 2 day specialist goal keeping clinics held at Fairfield and Yeronga. Information about these clinics is up on the PE Board at administration near the photocopying room.

Sporting Kids are offering our Prep-Year 4 students 2 clinics after school this term- Running rugby starts Thursday April 30 on the oval and also Dynamic Dance in the hall starting on Thursday April 30. These clinics run for 8 weeks at a cost of $80 and students must enrol online to participate. Information has been sent home earlier this week concerning these clinics, if you did not receive a form please see the office for one or visit http://www.sportingkids.com.au or http://www.danceoz4kids.com These clinics are limited in space but require a minimum number to occur so please enrol asap. Sorry for the late notice on these clinics with myself being on LSL for 2 weeks prior to Easter last term.

Game Monitors-I look forward to seeing our Games Monitors spending this term in the Prep Area and involved in games, play and most of all fun. Thank you students for donating one lunch hour each week of your time to others.

Free Soccer Clinic-Thank you also to Olympic Football and Steve Gunn for your dedication to our school over the last 3 years. Steve will visit all of our students in school term for free soccer clinics for the 1st 4 weeks on Thursdays of this term. We look forward to practising and improving our football skills over the next month.

Thoughts until next time: "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life but by the obstacles which he/she has overcome." and "Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday’s success or put its failures behind you and start over again. That’s the way life is and that’s the way sport is."

Yours in Sport
Karen Florager