The Eleebana News

The Next 7 Days......

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Thu 11th</td>
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<td>Fri 12th</td>
<td>Captain's Induction Ceremony</td>
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<td>Sat 13th</td>
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<td>Sun 14th</td>
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<td>Mon 15th</td>
<td>School Swimming Carnival, P &amp; C</td>
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Band Meeting Tonight @ 6pm

Congratulations Kindergarten
A very warm welcome to our kindergarten students who commenced last Wednesday. They have settled in very well and look 'very much at home' already. Many thanks to our fantastic teachers, our buddies and our parents who have helped make the transition to school such a successful one. Congratulations to our kinder students and best wishes to them for a fantastic educational experience at Eleebana. We look forward to watching them grow and develop over the next 7 years.

Class Compositions 2016
It has been a wonderful start to 2016. I am so proud of our students and very appreciative of parent support as children settle into their new classes. In K-2 we have formed 4 mixed ability classes for both kindergarten and Year 1 and 5 mixed ability classes for Year 2. In the primary grades we have formed 3 composite classes to match our numbers and 8 non composite classes. Our non composite classes have children of all ability levels. There are certainly no 'streamed' classes. Our composite classes tend to have independent workers of various abilities but this is certainly not the only criteria. In all classes we have endeavoured to match student needs to teacher expertise and different working environments that may best suit your child's learning. I am looking forward to a fantastic year for all.

Our induction ceremony for 2016 student leaders will be held this Friday morning @ 9:15 in the COLA.
**Welcome to Barbara Tilley: Community Liaison Officer**

We are very excited to introduce Barbara Tilley, our Community Liaison Officer for this year. We are fortunate to be able to utilise a community grant to have Barbara support our partnerships with our families.

Barbara has been involved with our school for many years as a volunteer, a clerical in the office, a Learning and Support Officer and parent so she certainly understands the values and needs of our school and community.

Barbara will be a point of contact between the community and our school to assist parents with school related issues or questions, provide information on school and community services, provide opportunities to involve parents in school activities and to liaise with families to help them better understand student learning.

You can contact Barbara by emailing her at barbara.tilley@det.nsw.edu.au or you might like to leave a suggestion or question in the box in the foyer.

**Important Safety Information for Parents**

There has been a spate of bomb threats around our region over the last week. Bomb threats are very disruptive for all students and staff as well of course being of great concern to parents. The vast majority of bomb threats to schools are hoax calls and all of the recent threats have indeed been a hoax. All are reports however are taken seriously. If the school receives a bomb threat, police will be notified immediately and the school’s evacuation procedures will be followed.

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<th>Term 1 2016 Calendar</th>
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**Teacher Information Sessions**

Please mark Wednesday Feb 17 on your calendar for our teacher information sessions & afternoon BBQ (fundraiser run by our band parents).

- 3:15 - Kindergarten
- 3:45 - Stage 1
- 4:15 - Stage 2
- 4:45 - Stage 3

The BBQ will be running from 4 to 5 so come and enjoy a bite to eat before or after your session(s), make connections with other parents and meet our fantastic 2016 staff.

**Please Note**

Dogs are not permitted in our school grounds without prior permission, whether on a lead or not.

Thank you

Happy Week 3

Kind regards,

Josie Bailey (principal)
Special Religious Education (SRE) & Special Education in Ethics (SEE)

Please note that scripture will commence next week for all Year 1, 2, 5 & 6 children next Tuesday 16 February.

The right to make an informed decision: All parents at Eleebana PS are enabled to make informed decisions about Special Religious Education (SRE), Special Education in Ethics (SEE) or other meaningful activities through the provision of access to all relevant information - including the range of SRE and SEE classes that are available within the school. This includes the provision of a preference letter to kindergarten students and all subsequent new enrolments outlining options available for SRE and SEE, including the option to withdraw.

Availability: Eleebana Public School provides access to non-denominational SRE, non-scripture and SEE for each class for one semester per year. Students can ONLY attend Scripture, Non-Scripture or Ethics - not all, as they run concurrently.

Students in each grade attend SRE, Non-Scripture or SEE for 30 minutes for one semester only each year (due to teacher availability).

SRE groups and SEE groups have equitable access to classrooms and resources required by them to offer their respective programs.

SRE: Special Religious Education is provided by registered and approved representatives of local churches. Students attend SRE lessons unless parent / caregivers opt out of this program.

SEE: Special Education in Ethics is only available in primary schools and the only approved provider is Primary Ethics. SEE classes are an option for students whose parents/caregivers have chosen to withdraw their child from Special Religious Education (SRE).

Enrolling in Ethics Classes: Eleebana Public School is bound by the recommendations of the Final Report from the Inquiry into Education Amendment (Ethics Classes Repeal) Bill 2011 which state in part that:

- students may only join ethics classes if parents have opted for non-scripture, i.e. must first opt out of SRE/scripture before choosing ethics.
- consent letters offering parent/carers of non-SRE students the option to attend SEE classes should only be distributed only after an 'opt out' decision by parents/carers has been communicated to the school. Parents can then choose ethics for their child by notifying the school of their preference in writing.

Non-Scripture: Students not attending SRE or SEE are provided with meaningful alternative activities.

If you need to update your scripture and/or ethics preferences, please contact the office at your earliest convenience.

Library News

Scholastic Book Club Information for Parents

Scholastic Book Club provides parents and students with a convenient way to purchase worthwhile and appealing books. The books span a wide range of reading levels and interests and are offered at very reasonable prices. There is only one pamphlet this year which covers all ages. The Scholastic website http://www.scholastic.com.au/schools/bookclub/ also provides additional information about any of the books offered. Each year there is a total of 8 issues - 2 per term. Spare copies of pamphlets are available from the Library. Orders are usually back at school within two weeks of the closing date. In addition to teaching posters, our school receives free books and/or teaching resources from Book Club as commission from the sales of books to students which allows our collection to be updated.

To help our volunteer Book Club organisers, would you please note the following details:

- Indicate your selection on the list of books on the order page of each pamphlet.
- Complete the top section - name, class, number of books ordered and total value.
- Place the list in an envelope or press seal bag along with Credit Card details including receipt number, cash (the correct amount) or cheque.
Write on the front of the envelope: Book Club, the name of your child and class and return to the container in the Library.

Preferred Payment Option: Credit Card details can be provided Online, then fill out the order form accordingly and include the receipt number.

Cheques are to be made payable to Scholastic Australia and they request that you write your address and phone number on the reverse side of the cheque.

Cash will be accepted, if necessary, however if the correct money is not provided this will delay processing of the order. No responsibility is taken for lost or incorrect cash.

Send your envelope to the library any day, but before 9am on the closing date. Unfortunately any cash orders received after 9.30am on the closing date can no longer be accepted.

If you wish your selection to be a gift for your child, please include a note for the organiser, giving the relevant details for contact when the order arrives, so you can be informed and collection arranged.

All students in the school will be registered by the Department in March. Students are being encouraged to participate as part of quiet reading time at school and for Home Reading. Participation in the Challenge exposes the students to a wide variety of quality literature broadening their experience and enjoyment of reading and Mrs Bailey is hoping the school improves on the success of last year.

After registration in March, students and parents can enter reading details online listing the books read. Access will be through the student’s DET portal using their username and password – they will not be able to view any other student’s records. The website is: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/premiersreadingchallenge

As students complete the Challenge - 30 books for K-2 (25 from the Book List and 5 personal choice) and 20 books for 3-6 (15 from the Book List and 5 personal choice) please return their Reading Log (or computer print out) to school so I can note their completion and publish their names in the newsletter and on the list on the Library window. Reading logs need to be completed by Friday, 19th August, 2016.

All the Premier’s Reading Challenge books are clearly marked in the Library with the identification number and colour code: Red for K-2, Yellow 3/4, Green 5/6 and Blue for 7/9. Capable students can read the next level up but if they read the level below, they are counted as choice books. Only two books from any series can be read and counted as sticker books, any others in the series then count as choice books.

If you have any questions with regard to Premier’s Reading Challenge please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a time for discussion.

Those who read – Succeed
Robyn Forbes
P&C News
REMINDER FOR NEXT P&C NEXT MEETING:
A reminder that our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 15th February at 6:30pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome so please come along and show your support for our school.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
We are in need of volunteers to help with our student banking. This is a fantastic program that helps children develop good savings habits, in which they earn Commonwealth Bank reward items, and at the same time provides valuable financial support for our school. So if you have some available time and wish to assist with this program please contact the office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop is in desperate need of volunteers for this year. If you have any spare time around school drop off and/or pick up on any week day, could you please contact Alex McCoy on 0419 252 137. Any time you are able to spare would be appreciated. Once volunteers have come forward, regular opening hours will be outlined in the School Newsletter so watch this space. If you cannot make it to the uniform shop, please feel free to collect an order form from the front office and leave it with the office staff. Once payment has been processed, the orders will be delivered to your child's classroom.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours: Wk 3 (8-12 Feb)
(Please note: These times are for this week only)
Monday: 2.30-3.00pm
Wednesday: 8.15-8.45am
Friday: 8.30-9.30am

Please be aware that closing times cannot be extended as our volunteers have their own work commitments so cannot stay later than advertised.

Swimming Carnival Program
Monday 15th Feb - CHARLESTOWN POOL
Leave school at 9-9.15am for 9.45 start
Year 2-6 Only
1. All age medley (Heats/Finals) and All age 100m. These events will start at 9 before the official start of the day. Please make sure you are there at 8.45am. (if you want to swim in the medley or All age 100m it will mean you will have to get your own way to the pool). Please note: This event is for confident/proficient swimmers. There will be a 15min break between each race. (All age Boys, All Age Girls)

2. Age Races (Heats)
(Boys 10, Girls 10, Boys 9, Girls 9, Boys 8, Girls 8, Boys 11, Girls 11, 12/13 Boys, 12/13 Girls)
All timed, top 5 from each heat recorded, top 8 through to final

3. Form Strokes (Heats/Finals)
Breaststroke - (Jun Boys, Jun Girls, 11 Boys, 11 Girls, Sen Boys, Sen Girls)
Backstroke - (Jun Boys, Jun Girls, 11 Boys, 11 Girls, Sen Boys, Sen Girls)
Butterfly - (Jun Boys, Jun Girls, 11 Boys, 11 Girls, Sen Boys, Sen Girls)
50M finalists announced

Lunch and free swim if time permits

4. Freestyle Finals
(Boys 8, Girls 8, Boys 9, Girls 9, Boys 10, Girls 10, Boys 11, Girls 11, 12/13 Boys, 12/13 Girls)

5. Relays (Recorders to coordinate with house captains)
Jun Boys/Girls, Sen Boys/Girls

6. Free Swim if time permits (All Teachers to supervise)

7. Approx 2.15 (Clear Pool/ Clean Area/ Rolls Marked)

Please encourage all students to participate and be vigilant with sunscreen application!!
**Connect with Creativity**

**Parent & Child Connection Through Music & Play!**

- Active listening
- Visual/ sound awareness
- Development of body awareness

Promotes responsive communication with child
Balance between active and passive play.
Infants to 12 m - Tuesday 9.30-10.30 @ Cardiff
Toddlers to 3y - Friday 9.30-10.30 @ Valentine
Vicki Mansfield BSW (hons) P: 0427639477

[https://www.facebook.com/flourishwithvickimansfield](https://www.facebook.com/flourishwithvickimansfield)

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**School Banking Day Reminder**

Don’t forget that Wednesday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their regular savings habits. Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Eleebana.

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**Piano for Sale**

Blonde wood piano. Good condition, seat is reupholstered. Asking price is the removalist cost. It will need tuning after being moved. Perfect for beginner student.

Phone Janette Kovacs 4946 7782

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**Canteen Roster**

Week 3 (This week)

- **Monday:** Kris Bircsak, Leah Morgan
- **Tuesday:** Nadine Msia, Rachel Arthur-Kelly & Meagan Nesbitt
- **Wednesday:** Carinna Schiaffi, Pru Tan
- **Thursday:** Liz Darmayanti, Kathryn Clifton & Judy Buckingham
- **Friday:** Jo Thompson, Amber Thoroughgood, Rae Rye

Week 4:

- **Monday:** Kris Bircsak, Anuska Ranasinghe
- **Tuesday:** Kristy Wong, Matt Lumsden
- **Wednesday:** Nicole Kelly, Kim Isenhood & Karen Joyner
- **Thursday:** Jo Hall & Angela Sills
- **Friday:** Jo Thompson & Michelle Wilson