NEW FAMILY
We wish to welcome the Lovell family to our school. Mark and Belinda have just recently shifted to the Axe Creek area and their children – Mac (prep), Ellie (Grade 2) and Logan (Grade 3) started at Eppalock PS yesterday. It is wonderful to have them at our school and part of our great community.

2013 PARENT OPINION SURVEY
The use of opinion data as a measure of school performance is a very important step towards making our school the best it can possibly be. We conduct annual and anonymous opinion surveys for students and parents each year and use this information to inform and direct our plans for school improvement.

The 2013 Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted state-wide in the week from July 29 to August 2. The overall objective of this survey is to collect data about parent opinion across the state, and for individual schools to use this data to inform school improvement.

All families will receive a Parent Opinion Survey on Monday July 29th and I ask that all parents take the time to complete it as your opinions are important to us and will be reflected in the management and organisation of the school. Please complete your survey and return it to the school by Friday August 2nd 2013. Please be assured that your responses are totally confidential. If you would like more information about the parent opinion survey process please do not hesitate to ask.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
The Active After School Program for term 3 commences next week and will run on a Tuesday and Thursday night after school. Tuesday’s program will be Cricket and Thursday nights will be Multi-skill Games for Life.

SCHOOLS TREE PLANTING DAY
As part of National Tree Planting Day the school will be planting trees in and around our school and doing some general gardening and cleaning up this Friday afternoon, 26th July. This is a great opportunity to interact with nature as well as ‘greening’ and beautifying our school grounds. Parents and community members are most welcome to join in the fun between 2.15pm and 3.15pm. Students will need to wear warm ‘old’ clothes and solid shoes/gum boots.

STUDENT TEACHER
We welcome Mrs Rachel Morrissey who is a fourth year student teacher from LaTrobe University and is working in the 5/6 class room for the next three weeks.
SCHOOL ACCOUNTS
Just a friendly reminder that school accounts were sent out at the end of last term and it would be greatly appreciated if families could finalise their accounts as soon as possible. If you are having difficulty or require alternative payment arrangements please don’t hesitate to come and see me.

School Bank Details (if you are using direct deposits, please ensure you include your family or child’s name)
Account Name: Eppalock Primary School Council Official Account
Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Account: BSB 063 596
Account Number: 10152204

EXCURSIONS
The Eppalock/Axedale Football team had a great day last Wednesday at the Football Carnival. They had a couple of good wins and a lot of fun. Thank you to Ms Hartney and Ash for their expert coaching and organisation and to the parents who were able to go along and show their support.

The Discovery Centre Excursion was also a huge success. The students really enjoyed the ‘hands on’ detective work they were required to do to find out Whodunit? and all grades particularly enjoyed their time in the ‘Lab’ conducting experiments and having the opportunity to be ‘real scientists’. We also had a few dare devils who braved the vertical slide – well done to all the students for their excellent behaviour and responsible attitude on this excursion.

SCHOOL NAME CHANGE
Did you know that Eppalock PS used to be Upper Axe Creek North State School no.1788, and the name was changed to Eppalock PS no. 1788 in 1920. People often confuse our location as being at ‘Lake Eppalock’ and many people get lost trying to come out to the school or think that we are a lot further out from Bendigo than we actually are and don’t consider the school as an option to send their children. Lake Eppalock itself was not built until 1962. One of the main reasons for the proposed name change is to help people find us more easily and so that the name of the school fits in with its geographical location. Do you have any thoughts or feedback on this topic? If you do please come and see me or fill out the attached feedback form and return it to the office. Thank you to those parents who have already returned theirs.

VICTORIAN PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE
We encourage all students to participate in this and let’s all take up the challenge and keep on reading!

HELP US KICK GOALS—Yesterday we received a cheque from BLS Financial for $360.00 which is the proceeds from the HELP US KICK GOALS (AFL Games) promotion which we were part of last term. This is fantastic and the money will be put toward completing our Sensory Garden. We sincerely thank Adam Mackenzie, Managing Director, BLS Financial, 3B0 and Bendigo Advertiser for their support of our school.

I hope everyone has a great (warm) week ……..Mrs Ryan

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE - Instalment Two
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. Parents and guardians may be eligible for the EMA if they have a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card. The second instalment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payment is due to be paid from mid-August onwards for parents/guardians who chose the ‘direct deposit’ or ‘pay direct to school’ payment option on their application form.

Parents/guardians who chose the cheque payment option will receive their payment from late August / early September. Parents and guardians who lodged an EMA application at the beginning of the year do not need to lodge another EMA application to receive the second instalment EMA payment.

Parents/guardians whose children have transferred to this school since 28 February 2013 will need to submit a new EMA application form. Applications close on 2 August 2013.

Eligibility information can be obtained from: www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/ema/default.htm
Contact: School Office for an application form and further information.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD—Yesterday we watched a DVD on this program and how it brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes. We had a discussion and our students decided that they would like to participate in the program and our hope is that all children will do ‘jobs’ to earn pocket-money to be able to buy items to fill a shoe-box each. Already Jack has started doing extra jobs to earn money to fill his shoe-box. Attached to this newsletter is a brochure with further information.
IMPORTANT DATES

JULY
Wednesday 24th  JUMP-ROPE FOR HEART
Thursday 25th  MARC LIBRARY
Friday 26th  LOTE
              TREE PLANTING
Monday 29th July—Friday 2nd August LITERACY & NUMERACY WEEK
Monday 29th  Parent Club Meeting—9.15 am—staff room
Tuesday 30th  DRAMA / MUSIC
              ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Cricket

AUGUST
Thursday 1st  ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Multi-skills
              SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING—6.00 pm
Friday 2nd  LOTE
Saturday 3rd  TRIVIA NIGHT
Tuesday 6th  DRAMA / MUSIC
              ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Cricket
Thursday 8th  MARC LIBRARY
              ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM—Multi-skills
Friday 9th  EXCURSION—BENDIGO WRTIERS FESTIVAL (Prep—Grade 6)

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students …

• · Mackenzie— for working very well in reading
• · Angus—for being at school on time
• · Nicole—for her committed attitude towards her learning
• · Harmony—VALUES AWARD for RESPONSIBILITY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to SAM for this coming Friday, 26th July
We hope you have a fabulous day.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

• Reuben gave me a beautiful sticker—from Mackenzie
• I gave Ms Hartney a “Ripple Kindness Card” for a hug—Nikiah
• Angus was very helpful with Mackenzie in After School Care on Friday. He helped her on the computer.
• To Jazz and Abby for showing confidence in their work from Chloe
Axe Creek Community Playgroup

At Eppalock Primary School

Play, Learn and Grow... Together!

Wednesday Mornings 9am -11am

Eppalock PS - Old School Building

149 Patons Road Axe Creek

(Just a few minutes from Strathfieldsaye)

All Welcome

Morning Tea & activities provided

Gold Coin Donation

For further information please phone (03) 54396366
eppalock.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Eppalock Primary School

Trivia Night

Where: Eppalock Primary, New School Building
When: Saturday 3rd August
Time: 6:30pm, for 7:00pm Start
Cost: $20 pp. Tables of 8
BYO: Drinks & Nibbles

Children’s Trivia Night
- Supervised by qualified carers.
- $5.00 per child.
- Bookings essential.

For Further Information & Tickets
Eppalock Primary School 5439 6366
TRIVIA NIGHT—TERM 3—SATURDAY 3rd AUGUST

This date is fast approaching and we are desperately seeking donations for prizes at our Trivia Night. If anyone has any contacts who they think may like to donate something towards the night, could you please ask them and let us know? This is the hardest part of organising the Trivia Night—your support and assistance is very much appreciated.

It is also time to gather your family and friends to make up a table for a great night of trivia, fun and laughs. Tickets are available from the school office.

We also need numbers for the Children’s Trivia part of the evening.

Please fill in the attached slip and return to school with money as soon as possible.

I require ...............................................tickets at $20.00 per person (tables of 8 or individual)

My child/children .................................................................will participate in the Children’s Trivia Night—cost $5.00 per child

Money enclosed .................................................................

SCHOOL NAME CHANGE

I am in support of changing the school name to Axe Creek Primary School

(please circle) YES NO

Family Name ........................................................................
PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS
Private lessons are held every Tuesday at Eppalock Primary School
Guitar lessons—Vocal lessons—Bass lessons
For more information, please contact
Mel on 0430 042 405
Email: sina_rox@hotmail.com

Strathfieldsaye Cricket Club is holding its junior registrations days at the Tannery Lane sports ground on Saturday August 17 between 9.30 and 12.30 and again on Sunday August 18 between midday and 1.00.

Teams this year will again start with Under 9’s and go up to Under 17’s. Players of all standards are welcome to register, and we are particularly keen to welcome new players to the club.
For more information, please contact

Catch the savings bug with school banking every Tuesday.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited,
ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879.
(S28523) (04/10)