2013 Term Dates

Term 1
January 30 – March 28

Term 2
April 15 – June 28

Term 3
July 15 – September 20

Term 4
October 7 – December 20

This week ...

Friday 15th

Scholastic Book Club orders & money due

Did you see the Bendigo Advertiser on Saturday? Eppalock Primary School is one of the lucky schools chosen to receive funds through the Help Us Kick Goals competition. Thanks to BLS Financial we will be given the proceeds from the auction of AFL tickets throughout the footy session. These funds will go towards the grounds projects (playground / sensory garden etc) here at school. Our school will feature in the Bendigo Advertiser and on 3BO in the lead up to the rounds we have been allocated throughout the season. If you would like to bid on tickets to support the school or learn more about this great opportunity go to [www.helpuskickgoals.com.au](http://www.helpuskickgoals.com.au). More information will be included in upcoming newsletters.

The following article was published in the Sunday Age and provides all parents with something to consider. MELBOURNE researchers have proven what parents have intuitively known all along - the more often you read to your children from an early age, the greater the positive effect on their reading and thinking skills. The Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research has not only proven a causal effect between the frequency of reading to a child and his or her development, but have also for the first time measured the benefits.

Children four to five years old who are read to three to five times a week have the same reading ability as children six months older (who are read to only twice or less a week). Reading to children six to seven days a week puts them almost a year ahead of those who are not being read to. It was also found that reading to small children has a positive effect on the development of numeracy skills.

"It does appear to be the case that children who are read to more often keep doing better as they age than other children," said Professor Guyonne Kalb, director of the institute's Labour Economics and Social Policy Program, and co-author of the study. The research - which was funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development - found the positive outcomes occurred in children regardless of parental income, education level or cultural background. That is, children with poor backgrounds or parents of limited education or ability have the same benefit of being read to frequently.

"We wanted to try and determine whether reading itself is leading to better outcomes, or do parents who read to their children have other things going on," Professor Kalb said. "We worked with children representing a whole range of families, from all different backgrounds and economic circumstances. We found it doesn't matter if a child is from a poor or rich family, or if the parents are highly educated or not, doing this basic thing of reading to them leads to better developmental outcomes."

The longitudinal study followed the reading skills of more than 4000 children, aged four to five years in 2004, through to age 10 to 11. Victorian Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development Wendy Lovell said the research was "an exciting step forward" in understanding the importance of reading to young children. "These findings send a clear message to parents, grandparents, teachers and carers that the benefits of reading go way beyond a shared bonding experience."

SCHOOL VALUES

- **Care and Compassion** – Care for self and others
- **Honesty and Trustworthiness** – Be honest, sincere and seek the truth
- **Respect** – Treat others with consideration and regard: respect another person’s point of view
- **Responsibility**—Be accountable for one’s own actions, resolve differences in constructive, non violent and peaceful ways; contribute to society and civic life, take care of the environment
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
It was great to see so many parents attending these interviews last week. We see your child’s education as a partnership between parents, teachers and your child and the stronger that partnership is the better outcome for each of our children.

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence is this Friday 15th March and students at Eppalock PS are showing their support by making a stand against bullying. Children will be taking part in a range of activities throughout the day. For further details go to the website www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/national-day.

LSL – I will be on long service leave next Monday & Tuesday (17th & 18th March) so will not be at school on those days. Please don’t hesitate to see Marie, Diane or Anne if you need anything while I am away.

A reminder to all parents regarding After School Care arrangements. All children who are in After School Care need to be placed in the After School Care Book and/or the school notified by 2pm of that day.

I hope everyone has a wonderful, short week. Mrs Ryan

WELCOME to Melesina Fonua who is with us until 22nd March. Mel is an early years student teacher from Latrobe University and is working with Ms Lindhe in the Prep / Grade 1 / 2 classroom.

CONGRATULATIONS to Abby and Will and their mum and dad (Nikki and Russell) on the birth of Charlie Joseph. Charlie is settling in well at home and enjoying being spoilt by his big sister and brother (as you can see in the photo).

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER—are you interested in receiving your school newsletter electronically?
If so, please email your request to: mannes.marie.t@edumail.vic.gov.au
IMPORTANT DATES
Please mark your diary

MARCH

Wednesday 13th    DRAMA
Friday      15th   Bullying No Way Day

CLUBS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDER & MONEY DUE
Lunch Order Day

Tuesday 19th    SCHOOL BANKING DAY

Wednesday 20th  HARMONY DAY
                 Kooka Visit

Thursday 21st   SCHOOL PHOTOS
                 MARC LIBRARY

Friday 22nd    LOTE

CLUBS

Monday 25th   Parent Club Meeting 9.15 am

Tuesday 26th  SCHOOL BANKING DAY

Thursday 28th  LAST DAY TERM (1.30 pm finish)

APRIL

Monday 15th — school commences for Term 2 and Parent Club will meet at 9.15 am.

HARMONY DAY

On Wednesday 20th March Eppalock Primary School will celebrate Harmony Day. Harmony Day is managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It is a day of cultural respect, widely celebrated across schools, childcare centres, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies.

The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. In 2013 the theme is: Many Stories – One Australia.

Our Australian Story is diverse. We come from many countries around the world. We each make up the pages of the bigger Australia story we share today. From the Dreamtime to the Eureka to the Snowy River, from the outback to the city, in wartime and in peace, our stories may be heartwrenching but also inspirational.

Let’s take the time to celebrate our diversity. Let’s go beyond the cover of the book and wander through the pages of each other’s story. It’s a way we can learn and understand.

Eppalock Primary will celebrate with lots of activities including a Flag Parade (students will make Flags from around the world during their art classes. Everyone is encouraged to wear Orange on this day and we will share food from different cultures—eg nachos, fried rice, lamingtons, scones, rice paper rolls, chilli con-carne, pizza, pasta. If each family could please bring a small plate of food from a different country to share for lunch that would be great.
SCHOOL PHOTOS—THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

This year a local Bendigo firm, The Loft Studio, will be taking our school photos. Attached are pre-paid envelopes and each student MUST return their own order to the school on or prior to photo day (Thursday 21st).

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Attached are catalogues and order forms. If you wish to purchase items, orders and money must be returned to school by Friday of this week (15th March).

CAN ANYONE HELP?

Jack S has football training at Tannery Lane, Strathfieldsaye on a Wednesday afternoon from 4.00 pm. Donna was wondering if anyone was able to drop him off there after school on Wednesdays. If you can help, please contact Donna on 0408 509 061.

FUNDRAISER—HOT CROSS BUNS

Attached to last week’s newsletter was an order form for HOT CROSS BUNS.

Fruit Hot Cross Buns—$6.00 for pack of six
Chocolate Chip Buns—$6.50 for pack of six

Buns supplied by Strathfieldsaye Bakery, Blucher Street, Strathfieldsaye.

Orders and money must be return to school by Friday morning (22nd March)

Orders will be delivered to school on Wednesday 27th March.

LUNCH DAY—THIS FRIDAY, 15TH MARCH

‘cheesiemite’ and ‘pizza’ scrolls will be available at $1.50 each. Orders and money must be in by Thursday of this week (order form attached).

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG FAMILY TICKET OFFER

SAVE UP TO $115.00

TO BOOK TICKETS VISIT
www.smarttix.com.au

Offer is valid for all remaining Wednesday 7pm, Thursday 7pm and Friday 8 pm performances
COMMUNITY NEWS

- FOR SALE— SAUCE TOMATOES $10.00 per 10 kg box - Contact Michele McLaughlin on 0428 397 699
- Strathfieldsaye Junior Football Club - 2013 New Player Registration—Player vacancies still exist in our U9 & U10 Teams. For registration forms please email strathfieldsayejfc@bigpond.com or phone Angela Gamble 0409 304 654
- GREATER BENDIGO GIRL GUIDES are holding a ‘Come N Try’ Day, this Sunday, 17th March from 12.30 pm until 3.00pm at the Strathfieldsaye Guide Hall in Eppalock Road. To register please contact, Julie Kala after 5.30 pm on 5444 0217

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SCRAPBOOK & PAPERCRAFT SHOW

Saturday 16th March 9.30am - 4.30pm
Sunday 17th March 9.30am - 1.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Primary School Basketball Stadium
60-80 Olympic Parade, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo
Entry: Adults $6.00, Kids under 16 free entry,
Husbands who wish they were somewhere else free entry

Following the success of our first show last March, we’re coming back to do it again!
If you love card-making, scrapbooking and papercrafts, then you’ll love our show! We have free parking, show specials and product demonstrations. You’ll have a chance to win fabulous lucky door prizes and get involved with free make-n-take. Bring the kids for our free supervised kids’ card-making area (under 8’s with an adult please). Tea/coffee, soft drinks, sandwiches and yummy home-made slices are available for purchase with a plate for your tea or coffee.

Bendigo Sustainability Group presents...

Rod Quantock

and his latest thought provoking and side splitting show...

PEAK-A-BOO & CATCH CO₂

This fantastic show brings all Rod’s work together to establish where we are, where we are going and what will be left when we get there.

With our finite planet as the star of the evening, Rod takes his trademark humour to the unspoken threats of Peak Oil, Peak People, Peak Everything and Climate Change. Wednesday 13th March, 7.30pm at The Bendigo Club, 22 Park Street, Bendigo

To book tickets go to www.trybooking.com/41843

For more information phone Colin lamble on 03 5442 963 or email colin@tumble.net.au

Full details and tickets on the site www.bendigsustainability.org.au

Finally supported by

Bendigo Advertiser
Community Telecare
Strategem
Bendigo FM

"Changing the world is never such fun as when you are in the company of Rod Quantock."

Susan Proser, Director Melbourne International Comedy Festival
STEAM TRAINS FOR KIDS—FAMILY RAILWAY FUN—MALDON STATION
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH & 14TH
Train Rides - Steam & Diesel, Animal Farm, Model Railway, Clown on board, Novelty Rides, Sausage Sizzle and Horse Cart Rides. Great family day from 10.00 am. Phone 5470 6658 or on-line bookings available at www.vgr.com.au

DODGERS BASEBALL—2013 REGISTRATION DAY—SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 11.00 am—1.00 pm
Club Court, Strathfieldsaye Sports Complex. Free BBQ & Demos!
Boys and Girls (ages 6-17) - Ladies—Mens—All welcome!

Contact President, Craig on 0415 115 922 strathfielddodgers.baseball.com.au