PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

Wow the end is nearly here to a very busy, fun filled term. It’s amazing the range of opportunities and experiences the children at Eppalock PS are exposed to and term 2 will be no exception. Some of the highlights will include;

- Inter school Cross Country – 24th April
- Grade 6 students GRIPP Leadership Development Day at The Capital - 1st May
- Prep Information Night – 20th May
- Education Week Open Day and activities – 22nd May
- Grade 3-6 Camp on the 6th & 7th of June
- Grade 5/6 ‘Legally Blonde’ Excursion – 12th June

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Our school photos were cancelled last Thursday due to the weather and lack of power. Photos will now be taken on Tuesday 16th April 2013 (second day back after the holidays).

HARMONY DAY

What a fantastic day we had last Wednesday to celebrate Harmony Day. Thanks so much to Ms Melesina Fonua (student teacher in Mrs Lindhe’s room) for her wonderful presentation on Tongan culture and for making pizzas with the whole school – it was very much appreciated. Thank you also to all the wonderful parents who sent along a variety of dishes from across the world for the children to share for lunch, they had a complete banquet of dishes and were well satisfied. Please see writing from some one of the senior students about what Harmony Day means to her later in the newsletter.

PLAYGROUP

We had our first official ‘Eppalock Primary School Community Playgroup’ meeting last Friday. Lots of planning took place and we are pleased to advise parents that playgroup will commence at the beginning of Term 2. Playgroup will take place in the old school building from 9am-11am every Wednesday morning (commencing Wednesday 17th April). All parents and 0-5 children are welcome to come along and enjoy the fun. Morning tea will be provided and the cost is a gold coin donation to cover supplies etc. Please pass this information on to anyone outside the Eppalock PS community who might be interested – the more the merrier. If parents have any toys/books etc that their children have grown out of and would like to donate them to the Playgroup it would be very much appreciated.
PARENTS & PRINCIPAL CHAT

Don’t forget to join me for a cuppa and a chat in the staffroom tomorrow, Wednesday morning 27th March at 9am. Bring along your ideas or thoughts on how we can better Eppalock PS or just join me for a social catch up. I look forward to catching up tomorrow morning.

KidsMatter

Today I am in Melbourne, as part of a reference group, to provide advice and information in the development of resources to support school staff and parents with the implementation of the KidsMatter framework in schools. I will receive a $200 Myer gift voucher for Eppalock PS for being part of this group.

Early School Finish End of Term

Term 1 concludes on Thursday March 28th. Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm and ASC will run till 3.30pm. Please let the school know asap if your child will be in After School Care on this day. The bus will leave school at 1.30 pm for the afternoon run.

Thank you so much to the wonderful staff for their hard work and dedication this term and to our fantastic parents and school community for their ongoing help and support. I hope everyone has a lovely, restful holiday – I know I will, my family and I are heading off on a P&O Cruise to Noumea and Pipi Island for 10 nights so I should return to school tanned and relaxed ready to take on the challenges of term 2.

Have a great break. Mrs Ryan

AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS …
Jessica—for her wonderful story writing
Joe—for his great work in maths
Nikiah—for her great effort working with the younger children on Harmony Day

VALUES AWARD …
Nicole—for being kind and caring towards others

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS …
• Kobi, Riley, Jack and Nicole for teaching Lee to catch and encouraging him
• Meredith Gallagher for giving up her time to make the school gardens beautiful—thank you from the Eppalock Community
• Many thanks to Jessie, Joe and Reuben for their joyful enthusiasm in helping bring the loads of fruit and soil into school (from Ronda)
• Jessica and Brionee for helping me find my koala’s nose (from Jordan T)
• Today Lee gave me a hug when I fell over

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS FOR 100% ATTENDANCE FOR THIS TERM …
MacKenzie, Jessica, Will, Lee, Jordan T, Kaden, Brionee, Jedd, Abby, River, Harmony, Nikiah

VICTORIAN PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE

Once again we are encouraging all students to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2013—if you have not yet filled in the consent form, please do so and return to school by the end of this week.

Let’s all take up the challenge and get reading!!!!!
## IMPORTANT DATES

Please mark your diary

### MARCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>27th</td>
<td>Cuppa with the Principal 9.00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hot Cross Buns for recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th</td>
<td>LAST DAY TERM (1.30 pm finish)</td>
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### APRIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td>School commences for Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Club meeting—9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>DRAMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>MARC LIBRARY</td>
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<td>School Council Meeting—6.30 pm</td>
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<td>School Council Meeting—6.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
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## HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day means to me that no matter what colour skin you have or what country you come from or how you speak everyone belongs. Harmony Day is about accepting people for who they are no matter how diverse they are from you. On Harmony Day lots of communities get together and celebrate Harmony Day by doing lots of different activities with the whole community and celebrating diversity. (by Harmony)
• FOR SALE—SAUCE TOMATOES $10.00 per 10 kg box -  

Contact Michele McLaughlin on 0428 397 699

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

Strathfieldsaye Dodgers Baseball Club is looking for junior players to compete with our team in the Winter Competition of the Bendigo Baseball Assoc. We especially need players in the Under 14 and Under 12 divisions. Junior baseball is played on a Sunday morning with our home ground being at the Strathfieldsaye Sporting Complex. Training is of a Thursday evening. Baseball is a great family friendly game with all participants getting “a run”.

If interested please contact Craig Eeles on 0415115922
HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Xtreme Sports at The Zone
Sports oriented holiday program designed for fun, enjoyment and maximum participation
For 4 - 13 year olds

Mini Golf, Kiddie Karts, Saville (Hockey game), Party games, Hockey, AFL9’s, Treasure Hunts, Circus skills, Playcentre, Crazy games, Cricket, Bat Tennis, Basketball, Zumba, Soccer, Laser Tag (up to 4 games)

APRIL 5th, 9th, 10th, 11th
9am - 5pm daily

Don’t miss our giant Easter Egg Hunt on the 5th!

Cost per day:
1 day $49 2 days $47 3 days $85 4 days $84 5 days $81

Enrol online: www.kellysports.com.au/zone/bendigo
Email kristi@kellysports.com.au Call Kristi 0417 308 139

Birthday Parties!

Book KELLY SPORTS for your next Birthday Party! We come to you! 1.5 hours of fun. Choose from Soccer, Football, Cricket, Saville, Zumba and more!
Call Kristi now 0417 308 139

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Invitation: Carbon Farming Field Trip

Are you considering a carbon farming project on your property?

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are now being accepted for a two-day Carbon Farming Field Trip to western Victoria. All participants will visit the first Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) demonstration project in Victoria. The mixed species environmental planting has been established by Samantha Verbi and Christine Flinders in Mukinbudirra, near Mildura, to demonstrate how to establish and register your own CFI project, and generate carbon credits.

Participants will also visit one of the following two properties:
1. Jigawa Farm, Horsham Park: 4,500 ha sheep and cattle enterprise with landscapes scale revegetation and tree forestry plantings. Methods to reduce emissions from grazing systems are also being explored.
2. Contra Brakewa: Sheep and cropping enterprises focusing on the use of grazing management and perennial pastures to increase soil carbon through improved landscape function.

The field trip is open to farmers and landholders in the North Central CMA region. To apply please fill in and submit the attached EOI form – places are strictly limited.

When: Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11 April
Where: Hamilton and Ararat, Victoria
Sponsorship: will cover the cost of bus travel from Bendigo or Maryborough, accommodation and all meals.

EOI: Expressions of interest should be submitted to the North Central CMA by 5pm Tuesday 2 April 2013.

This event and all associated materials are supported by funding from the Australian Government’s Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Victorian Department of Primary Industries, Northern Victoria Landcare Program and Regional Learning Field Lab.

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Would $500 help you pay for school uniforms, books or a laptop?

Match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, through Saver Plus.

You may be eligible if you have:
- a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card
- a child at school or starting next year
- some regular income from work (you or your partner).

Contact Cristean Tilkeridis, your local Saver Plus Worker:
03 5444 9082 / 0409 909 554 or Cristean.tilkeridis@haven.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Bendigo and surrounding Districts by Haven.
Saver Plus is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government
PIZZA SCROLLS

Ingredients
3 cups Self Raising flour
1/2 cup ham or bacon diced
1/4 cup pineapple
Pinch Salt
50 grams butter
200 grams grated cheddar cheese
250 ml (1 cup) milk

Method
To make the Pizza Scrolls, pre-heat oven to 220C.
- Sift flour and salt into a bowl. Rub in the butter until the mixture looks like fine bread-crumbs.
- Stir in enough milk to make a soft dough. Knead on a lightly floured board.
- Roll to form a rectangle that is roughly 40cm x 25cm.
- Spread the ham and pineapple over the dough using a blunt knife.
- Sprinkle 3/4 of the cheese over the top. Roll up the dough starting from a long side first.
- Cut 10 × 4cm pieces from the roll. Place these pieces close together, cut side up on a greased baking tray.
- Sprinkle the rest of the cheese over the top.
- Bake in the oven for 15-20 min.

Can be frozen in freezer bags and defrosted when needed 😊

To make a Puff Pastry version of Pizza Scrolls, substitute the dough for a sheet of pre-made puff pastry – extra quick!!

CHEESY VEGEMITE SCROLLS

Ingredients
3 cups self raising flour
1 – 2 tablespoons Vegemite
Pinch salt
50 grams butter
200 grams grated cheddar cheese
375 ml milk

Method
Pre-heat oven to 220 degrees.
- Sift flour and salt into a bowl.
- Rub in the butter until the mixture looks like fine bread-crumbs. Stir in enough milk to make a soft dough.
- Knead on a lightly floured board. Roll to form a rectangle that is roughly 40cm x 25cm.
- Spread Vegemite over the dough using a blunt knife. Sprinkle 3/4 of the cheese over the top.
- Roll up the dough starting from a long side first. Cut 10 × 4cm pieces from the roll.
- Place these pieces close together, cut side up on a greased baking tray. Sprinkle the rest of the cheese over the top.
- Bake in the oven for 15-20 minutes or until golden

Recipe Hints and Tips …
Our cheesy vegemite scrolls can be frozen in freezer bags for up to two months and defrosted when needed 😊
If making and eating fresh, keep for no longer than two days.
CHARITY/GARAGE SALE

EASTER MONDAY

- Barbie
- Bikes/Toys
- Tools
- Sporting
- Cubby House

& much much more

Open 9am-5pm

HERITAGE DRIVE

SEDGWICK

0422 815 342

All proceeds go to charity
What is happening in the school ground?

Wouldn’t it be fantastic if the school yard at Eppalock Primary School could have a __________ (you can fill in the blank)

You may or may not be aware that the School Council has a ‘Grounds’ committee whose responsibility it is to develop the school yard & grounds. Over the past two years the Grounds team have been focussed on the new school, the builders & getting the school yard back to a safe & useable condition.

Now that the new building is in we think it’s time focus again on the grounds, and to let you know what we are up to & what we are thinking

Buildings

**New School Building:** We’ve recently had our warranty inspection for the new school. A list of issues & defects has been provided to the project managers & builders & we are hoping to get these rectified during 2013.

**Art Shed:** We are pressing the builder to finish off the art shed. The key things to get fixed are: cladding or enclosing around the base of the art shed, installation of a ramp from the front door sloping towards the basketball court & installation of plumbing.

**Portables:** We were hoping to have the portables removed however to get this done we are reliant on funding from Dept Education & Early Childhood Development (DEECD). At this stage we don’t know when then portables will be removed but we do know we will keep pushing to have them go.

School yard

The school yard was neglected whilst we focussed on the building works but we hope to rectify this during 2013 and beyond. The Grounds committee met last week and, along with ideas from parents committee, staff & school council, we have put together a number of ideas and actions. These include:

**Sensory Garden:** This is the mulched area on your right as you walk in the front gate of the school. Working with the awesome design developed by Netti Shue & others the school council has approved funding for the sensory garden & we hope to have work commence soon.

**Beyond the Sensory Garden:** This is the area between the sensory garden & the oval. Plans for this area include repairing concrete step, replacing a broken pipe & creating some sort of native garden (similar to the garden below the basketball court).

**Oval:** The oval has been re-seeded once already but our plans for a lush green surface were thwarted by a lack of rain. We plan to do some more re-seeding & are looking to re-install football goal posts (running north south) & some soccer goals running (east west)

**Bushwalk:** The area between the oval & the road. We plan to replace the fence facing Axe Creek Road, clean up the bush area & provide a bush space for the kids to explore.
**Reading Room Square:** This is the area at the base of the southern steps & outside the reading room window. The plan here is to put an awning or blind over the reading room window (hopefully reducing the heat of that room), level out the ground & install the synthetic grass that is currently in storage. This will provide a seating area for those watching sport on the oval.

**Sandpit:** We know the kids are missing the sandpit & are looking at options. The plan is to place a new sandpit between the basketball court & the Art Shed. We can’t do this properly until we’ve had the Art Shed fixed but stay tuned for some temporary options.

**Playground:** The Parents Committee & School community have done a power of work in raising funds for renewal of the playground. We have quotes for new equipment but these quotes are substantial amounts of $ & do not include installation, removal of the existing or new soft-fall. We believe we can achieve a better outcome for the school through renewal & re-use of the existing playground. With this approach we are looking to brighten up the existing playground (think multi coloured), replace some aged pieces of timber, install some new additions onto the existing & extend the equipment into some of the unused space. Work should commence very soon.

**Sculpture:** Many of you will have seen Rius Carson’s chainsaw sculpture demonstration at our community day. Rius is going to finish off the sculpture so we can place it in the school yard & we are hoping through another contact we can acquire another piece of sculpture for the school yard.

**Chooks:** We need to clean up the chook area, brighten it up a bit & then return the chooks to their home.

**Your Ideas & Assistance**

The items listed above are those that we have come up with. We’d love to hear comments or feedback on any of these ideas, or hear your alternative ideas. If you’ve ever thought “wouldn’t it be fantastic if the school yard at Eppalock Primary School had a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ “ then why not let us know what you are thinking.

Your ideas, inspiration and feedback is welcome - as is any offer of labour or assistance – we aim to turn any working bee into a work ‘party’ so its not all hard labour.

Ideas or offers can be left at the school or speak to anyone on the grounds committee.

Andrew Gallagher  Brendan Wild
Kevin Reade  Neil Bowe
Shane Hodson