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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

School Values & School Wide Positive Behaviours

'To develop resilient students who display behaviours and attitudes that reflect school values.'

We have introduced a small bit of this work with the students by speaking about 'shared expectations' in certain areas of the school. Our eating area has been a focus with students having input into what they think are the most important expectations to consider in this space to make it a respectful, caring and enjoyable place for everyone.

The 3 main points students raised were –

We sit under the covered space on a seat or on the retaining wall – responsibility

We speak quietly with each other – respect & care

We wait until we are dismissed to use our sports equipment – respect and responsibility

In addition to those, teachers discussed –

- We remain seated until we are dismissed - responsibility
- We dispose of rubbish and scraps appropriately – care & respect & responsibility
- We go to the eating area at the start of break time before playing – responsibility, trustworthiness

When we use the SWPBS framework we word expectations in a positive manner and also try to mention the value that it relates to so that students begin to see the connection between actions and values we are trying to build. Early next term you will start to see small posters around the school that display these shared expectations.

Early next term I will invite all families to have input into our current school values and our current school vision so that we can align our thinking to ensure we are all heading in the same direction. Students will also have this opportunity as part of developing more voice and agency on a daily basis.

The information this week about Resilience relates to how we react or speak to others when we are upset or angry when something hasn't gone our way. Even as adults we sometimes need to be reminded of our positive coping strategies. We would encourage families to use these dot points as a starting point for conversations at home to try to develop positive ways to communicate when we are upset.

Think about the people in your life

Your family, friends, teachers and classmates - all of them play a part in your life. They might help you, make you laugh or teach you something new.

It's not always happy times

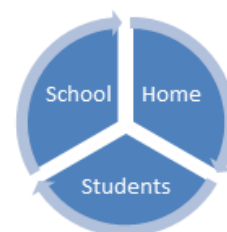
When we are feeling angry or sad we can sometimes act differently towards other people - we might yell, push them away or say something that upsets them.

Take some deep breaths

If you're feeling angry or sad and want to yell or cry - take three deep breaths. It can help to take some time to calm down before you decide what to do next.

Think about how you would like to be treated

We want other people to be nice to us, so we need to be nice to them too. That might mean saying sorry if you hurt them or listening when they speak



DROP OFF TIMES

With the end of term not far away please remember that our playgrounds are supervised by school staff from 8:45am until 9:00am each morning and from 3:15pm- 3:30pm each afternoon. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students. Please ensure students are not being dropped off outside of these times, particularly in the morning. If you feel as though you need some assistance in meeting these time frames, please speak with Mr O'Neill at school.

COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF

While it is always a positive strategy to keep our communication lines open between home and school, if families require a more lengthy conversation with staff please ensure an appointment time is made that allows for this to occur. It is not always ideal for staff to have lengthy and in depth conversations with families at the door of classrooms while having the responsibility of teaching a class.

While our diaries and emails are also a great form of communication for day to day organisation and classroom happenings – I would encourage any families with concerns to make personal contact with classroom teachers first through a phone call or an arranged personal meeting to ensure we continue to maintain positive relationships. Sometimes a written message can be misinterpreted, where a quick phone call can eliminate any confusion or misunderstanding.

I have attached our school code of conduct this week to remind our community of the importance of adults showing respect to each other and modelling this for our students. Even as adults we will make mistakes and forget things from time to time. The important thing is we must continue to learn from these mistakes, work together to solve any issues and move on in a positive manner.

uEducateUs

This system is mostly up and running at school and thanks to those families who have fully embraced it. We have received a number of messages from parents using the system and trying things out. Feedback is welcomed and encouraged. The attendance feature has been great, with families writing in reasons for being away which makes it easy for the teacher. If you would like some assistance with any aspect of the system please let us know. The most recent feature added has been the 3 way conference interviews. Please make sure you log in to book a time. If you have lost or not received your login code please contact the school

3 WAY CONFERENCE INTERVIEW TIMES

Please check the uEducateUs system to book in your 3 way conference time for next Tuesday the 2nd April.

RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY

This will take place on Friday with all students from 3-6 that are participating in the ride to be dropped off at the designated meeting space on Longlea Lane between 8:45-9:00am. Please ensure a staff member is present when dropping off your child. This will also be the pick up point at the end of the day. Please ensure prompt pick up at 3:00pm. Students are able to wear pink coloured items on this day.

P-2 Students and students not attending the ride are able to bring along a scooter or equivalent on the day to use during the break times on the basketball court. Please bring along helmets and safety gear where required.

INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS GRANT

In the past week, groups of people have met to discuss plans around the inclusive schools grant. Some of these ideas have been displayed in the office foyer area. All families have been invited to either attend these meetings or submit thoughts in writing and there is still time to do so. In the coming days a small working group will meet to collate these ideas to communicate with school council and send back to the architect. If you would like to be part of the working group please contact Mr O at school.

AFL TIPPING

Thanks to those families who have entered our Eppalock PS footy tipping. We have 19 entries with a number of families putting in joint tips. Xavier has set the early pace with 6 this week which is a fantastic result. Great to see he didn't get any advice from dad who scored 0!

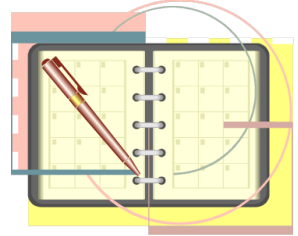
Thanks
Mr O'Neill



PLEASE NOTE—the current arrangements for distribution of our School Newsletter will continue for this term.

Commencing Term 2, our school newsletter will be available to families via uEducateUs.

IMPORTANT DATES



| | | |
|----------|------|--|
| Thursday | 28th | Prep/1/2/3 Excursion—"Room On A Broom" - Capital Theatre |
| Friday | 29th | Ride to School Day for Grade 3-6 students P-2 students—BYO scooter or wheels and safety equipment to school ART SPECIALIST |
| Sunday | 31st | Parent Club—Social Gathering—Bare Foot Bowls |

APRIL

| | | |
|----------|------|---|
| TUESDAY | 2nd | Normal school day for students with '3 way conference' between 12.30—6.30 pm PE |
| THURSDAY | 4th | DENTAL SERVICE CHECKS SCHOOL COUNCIL—APRIL MEETING SPECIAL LUNCH—PIZZA (order forms attached) Easter Raffle tickets, money and donations due |
| FRIDAY | 5th | LAST DAY—TERM 1 Easter Raffle draw—1.15 pm |
| SUNDAY | 21st | EASTER SUNDAY BBQ FUNDRAISER |
| TUESDAY | 23rd | FIRST DAY—TERM 2 |
| THURSDAY | 25th | ANZAC DAY—PUBLIC HOLIDAY |
| TUESDAY | 30th | Elmore Pie Drive—orders and money due |

MAY

| | | |
|----------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| THURSDAY | 2nd | WHOLE SCHOOL EXCURSION—MELBOURNE ZOO |
| THURSDAY | 9th | Elmore Pie Drive pick-up |

BARE FOOT BOWLS—Parent Club Social Gathering
 Sunday 31st March
 12 midday—3.00 pm
 Strathfieldsaye Bowling Green (behind the Primary School)
 \$6.00 per bowler
 \$1.00 per sausage in bread
 Drinks, Chips, Icy Poles at bar prices



AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who will receive an award at Monday's assembly ...

- **Audrey**—for her consistently kind and inclusive nature around the school
- **Rosa**—for showing great confidence in her first term at school
- **Connor**—for his great work in maths

CSEF—CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND—is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for benefit of your child.

Contact the School Office for further information.

Holiday Coaching

4 hours of Tennis FUN!

Dates: (1st week of school hols)
10am-2pm

- Mon 8th April
- Tues 9th April
- Wed 10th April

Venue: Spring Gully Tennis Club
BYO: Packed lunch and snacks

\$50 per day

ENROL NOW!!!

Contact Jim: m. 0431299930, e. jimwidtennis@gmail.com

Jim Wid Tennis Coaching

Tennis. Fun. For Life.
Ages 3 and up

Unsure? **FREE** trial.

ENROL NOW!!!

Contact Jim:

- 0431 299 930
- jimwidtennis@gmail.com
- www.jimwidtennis.com

Venues:
Spring Gully
Strathdale
Maldon

Like and share
@jimwidtennis



Eppalock Primary – A respectful and safe School

Educating with Integrity – Eppalock Primary School's Code of Conduct

Eppalock Primary School's Statement of 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

Aim of this Code of Conduct:

Eppalock Primary School is a values-based educational institution, where School Council, teachers, staff, students and their families actively promote a culture that embodies integrity, mutual respect and common courtesy. We strive for our entire school community to respect each other, to always 'do the right thing' and together make appropriate decisions.

The Code of Conduct or 'Statement of Values' has been created to outline the shared expectations, roles and responsibilities of principals, teachers, parents, students, community members and the Department in maintaining respectful and safe schools.

Objectives:

- To value the health and wellbeing of all members of our school community. All teachers, staff, students, school families and visitors have a right to feel safe and respected at school and during school business.
- To acknowledge the formative role that parents and care-givers play in the development of their child's sense of justice, equity, dignity and worth.
- To respect cultural diversity and ethical difference within our school. We believe our school community's diversity is worth celebrating.
- The responsibility for upholding the values of the school must fall on those with the greatest capacity to reason and control their actions. As such, the 'adult community' of our school is expected to model courteous behaviour and treat all members of the school community with respect and consideration.
- To accept responsibility for the day to day care of our school place and property. We will take pride in our school, our work and care for our education, relationships, school resources and surroundings.

Rules of Conduct

- Direct parent to parent contact/conflict that emerges from a school incident/situation involving their child should be avoided. Mediation via the school is considered to be a priority in diffusing such situations.
- Bullying has no place within our community and as such will not be tolerated. This is as true for adult-to-adult interaction as it is for child-to-child. Instances of bullying need to immediately be brought to the



attention of the Principal in line with the intention of this Code and the school's Bullying and Harassment Policy and Procedures.

- Under no circumstances must a parent, guardian/care giver, or member of the school community intimidate or act in a manner that threatens or harasses any of the teaching or school staff and vice versa.
- In order to protect people's good name and reputation, issues need to be resolved through calm and direct dialogue, respect for each other and due process. Targeting of particular persons or their reputation will not be tolerated.
- There is an expectation that people 'volunteering' at the school will refrain from expressing opinions on other students and their families. Volunteers must not share opinions about children with the broader community. Any concerns should be raised with the Principal.
- All volunteers at the school must have WWCC documentation lodged at the office.
- Every member of the school community has a right to a school that is free from abusive, manipulative or threatening behaviours. Such behaviours have the potential to erode our school culture and our efforts to effectively build positive, productive relationships.
- Explicit behaviours that will not be tolerated and are considered to be a breach of this Code of Conduct (either on or adjacent to the School grounds) include;
 - Shouting, being rude, being aggressive or harassing others;
 - sending rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages;
 - being manipulative or threatening;
 - speaking in an aggressive tone, either in person or over the telephone;
 - making sexist, racist or derogatory comments; and
 - being physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close or over someone.

Implementation

- The Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's (DEECD) 'Creating Respectful and Safe School Communities FAQs for Parents' and its 'Statement of Values template' for promoting Healthy, Safe and Respectful school communities are two key reference documents for this Code.
- All members of the school community will demonstrate and help foster respect when dealing with others both at school, when representing the school at out of school events or attending out of school hours events.
- Clear boundaries and consequences are an important part of life for growing children and the learning environment. When an incident occurs that breaches or has the capacity to breach this Code of Conduct, a warning letter will be sent by the Principal to the person concerned (appendix A). The Principal will manage such an incident using the DEECD's '*Staged Response to managing behaviours*' process.
- When an incident occurs that breaches or has the capacity to breach this Code of Conduct, all parties will be required to have input into a set of specific actions that they can work on to enable the situation to be resolved. The specific actions for all parties will consider how a 'safe and respectful' relationship can be reinstated moving forward. A Parent/Principal Agreement will be a key requirement where a family of the school is directly involved and the process will be managed using the DET's '*Staged Response to managing behaviours*' process.
- As a minimum, a conflict or breach of this code must consider:
 - interventions and sanctions;
 - the ongoing risk to students, teachers, staff, families and broader community;
 - an explanation of all sides in the conflict/situation;



EPPALOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Quality Education in a
Rural Environment

No. 1788

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- an acknowledgement of each other's perspective and agreement on ways to manage differences;
 - an apology or expression of regret;
 - an admission of fault;
 - A change of decision;
 - A change of policy, procedure or practice;
 - Agreement on what constitutes acceptable behaviour moving forward and clear consequences if this is breached.
 - An undertaking that unacceptable behaviour will change.
- Any conflict on school grounds will be dealt with in a mature and appropriate manner in accordance with school procedures and DET procedures. Where students are concerned, an approach to the school will be made in the first instance.
 - Every effort will be made to listen to the grievances of all parties in a calm and rational manner without recourse to involve outside parties who are not directly involved.
 - This Code of Conduct will be distributed to every school family and staff member at the beginning of each school year.
 - Training and awareness relating to this Code of Conduct may be required to ensure that we maintain positive and productive relationships within our school community and a respectful and safe learning environment. DET resources will support these activities.

Consequences for breaching the Code of Conduct

Principals are responsible for determining what constitutes reasonable and unreasonable behaviour.

Unreasonable behaviour and/or failure to uphold the principles of this Code of Conduct may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences. This may include:

- utilising mediation and counselling services;
- alternative communication strategies being applied;
- formal notice preventing entry onto school premises or attendance at school activities. Written notice will follow any verbal notice given;
- an intervention order being sought; and
- informing the police which may result in a charge of trespass or assault.

By agreeing to meet specified standards of positive behaviour, everyone in our school community can be assured that they will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, this will help to create a school that is safe and orderly, where everyone is respected and empowered to participate and learn.

Review & Evaluation

Eppalock Primary School Council will regularly review school culture and conduct of staff, children and the broader community to consider potential vulnerabilities. Risks arising from these assessments will assist in defining and reviewing the content of this Code of Conduct.

Continuous awareness and promotion of this Code of Conduct, as well as the broader approach to building a safe and respectful education environment, will be made a priority in our goal of excellence in education at Eppalock Primary School. Continuous awareness will help sustain interest in and commitment to the code and ensure that compliance is monitored at every opportunity and by every member of the school community.

PARENT CLUB NEWS

We are looking for three volunteers to coordinate/recruit others, with the sourcing of business donations for the upcoming Trivia night's Silent Auction.

This is a fantastic night and the silent auctions are a fun way to meet other parents and raise funds for our little school.

We can provide a list of Businesses and some instructions on how to do this. The aim of this task is to systematically cover a range of businesses with out doubling up or missing any of our regular partnerships.

If you are interested in helping out, please let Kelly Hayward or Alicia Martin know and we will get you connected with what you need to start.

Upcoming dates

- Sunday March 31st Barefoot Bowls & Sausage sizzle (Strathfieldsaye Bowling club) 12-3pm
- Thursday April 4th Special Lunch Day (Pizzas)
- Thursday April 4th Easter raffle tickets, money and donations due
- Friday April 5th Easter Raffle drawn 1:15pm
- Tuesday 23 April - Thursday 2nd May small gift donations requested for upcoming mothers day stall. (Note with details to come)
- Tuesday April 30th Elmore Pie drive forms due back
- Week May 6th-10th (date TBC) Mothers day stall held on one of the days in this week.
- Thursday 9th May Elmore Pie Drive Pick up.

