



ETTALONG
PUBLIC SCHOOL

HOMENOTE

KARINGI ST ETTALONG BEACH NSW 2257

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Term 1 Week 3

9 February 2021

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 8 Feb	Life Ed lessons (Healthy Harold) continue
Wed 10 Feb	P & C meeting 9.15am at Diggers Club
Thurs 11 Feb	Year Six t-shirts and jackets sample sizes available
Mon 15 Feb	Breakfast Club commences 8.30am

Hello Parents and Carers

We've had a great start to the year and it has been a pleasure returning to school to see the smiling, happy faces of our fabulous students. Classes were formed on Monday morning last week with lessons commencing immediately after. This was a terrific effort by everyone and a logistical challenge, following up on new enrolments, children who have left and those who planned returning but did not attend on Friday, the first day back. Congratulations to all the children for a wonderful start to the year and especially to those who have already received a certificate. And not forgetting our fabulous swimmers who did us all proud at our swimming carnival.

Our new 2021 Kindergarten children have made a terrific start to the year. I'm amazed at how settled they are already, sitting around chatting while they eat their lunch together, playing nicely on the K-2 oval, digging in the sandpit or climbing on the equipment. Next week these children will begin literacy groups so watch this space! I'm sure we have some budding authors in our midst and we all know how important literacy is – it is the key to everything.

Thank you for supporting us in our COVID safe program. We are very appreciative of your efforts in adhering to Department of Education requests of only entering school grounds via the office or to drop off our youngest students. Kindergarten children continue to conclude their day at 2.30pm, this week only. Next week, from Monday 15 February, all students finish their day at 2.55pm. Our COVID gate rules recommenced yesterday, with all parents now requested to say goodbye to their child at a school gate between 8.30am and 8.55am. Punctuality is very much appreciated. Access to the school has resumed to entry via the school office only.

Today you will also have received information from your child's teacher about classroom protocols and requirements. Thank you to those who have already been able to pay for the Maths text book and Life Education lessons from Healthy Harold. Payments can be made in cash or, for your convenience, online via our website. It has been a very busy but enjoyable start to the year! Don't forget to label your child's belongings please.

On Thursday afternoon, 11 February, Year Six teachers will have sample sizes for the Year Six t-shirts and jackets available for Year Six students to examine prior to ordering. These samples will be available on the basketball court, from 3pm – 3.30pm. Entry is via the basketball court gate only, please.

Breakfast Club is for all children and reopens on Monday 15 February at 8.30am. Children can sit and chat to friends as they enjoy a bowl of cereal or piece of toast before lessons begin. We are very grateful to the Bendigo Bank in Ettalong for their extremely generous donation of \$5000 to replenish Breakfast Club supplies.

Lynn Balfour

Principal

3R's AWARDS

Class	Name	Class	Name
KS	Jessie H	KT	Savannah J
KZ	Patrick N	KL	Toby W
1H	Jai S	1F	Emile H
1P	Beau M	1/2A	Max G
2L	Calais C	2S	Danica K
2C	Colby M	3/4A	Maeve O'R
3S	Matthew M	3R	Beau H
4B	Manaaki N	4K	Isabel G
4S	Tully S	5J	Oscar T
5H	Jax S-H	5T	Lily T
6R	Harlan M	6H	Angel S-H
6D	Bettyann J	K/6R	Paige N
K/6M	Charles B		Dylan I
K/6JL	Patrick F	K/6P	

PLAYGROUND POSITIVE WINNER

Jett	K/6R
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Congratulations Archer Todd

Archer had state qualifying for state championships and came first in both discus and shot put, which means he gets to represent Woy Woy Little Athletics in the state championships in March at Sydney Olympic Park! Not only did he qualify, Archer has been trying to beat a 35 year old record that was set in 1985 for shot put and was set at 8.76 metres. Archer, on the weekend, threw 8.96 metres, beating the record by 20cms! What a fantastic effort! A name to watch for in future Commonwealth and Olympic Games, maybe.

P & C NEWS

Our first meeting of the school year will be held this coming Wednesday 10/2 at 9.30am at Ettalong Diggers. We would love to see our existing members and welcome new members to come and meet us and learn how you can get involved in helping us support our school.

We would love you to join our P&C, there is no commitment required at all (you can join even if you can't attend meetings regularly) but it will help you stay in touch with all things EPS for the current parent body involved. Follow the link (<https://forms.gle/ZUYY4VBVEW4L5yNj8>) to join and pay your \$2 membership fee to the office.

We are happy to have My School Connect back up and running for 2021 for canteen and uniform ordering. Don't forget to change your child's class to their 2021 class and for new families, welcome! Please follow the link to sign up (<https://myschoolconnect.com.au>). If you've purchased uniforms, you will already have an account!

There has been a slight increase on a few products in the canteen and these have been updated on MSC online ordering.

Zippies, our uniform shop, will continue to operate online, so please order any time and these orders will be filled on a Tuesday and sent home with your child or available for pick up in the office, depending on the option you choose when ordering.

As always please don't hesitate to contact us at epsandc@gmail.com. We would love to have you join us and help us and the amazing staff make our fantastic school even better!

CANTEEN NEWS

Special thanks to Robyn Cattley for making our beautiful slices for our teachers/volunteers at the swimming carnival.

Online ordering has commenced for 2021. When children are ordering a frozen treat, please remind them to eat lunch first, then bring their lunch bag back to canteen to collect their frozen item.

New kindy children are loving our canteen and are very excited, trying to spend their money.

Please check gluten free products. I'm trying to keep these products for children that are not able to have gluten in their diet.

SUPPORT NEWS



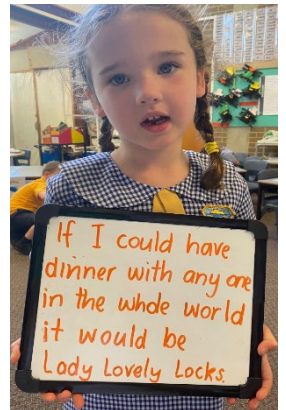
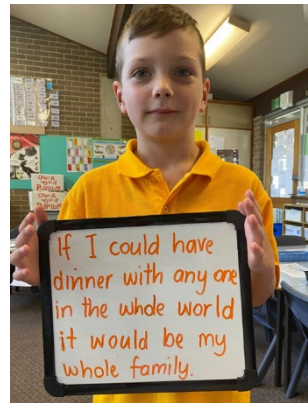
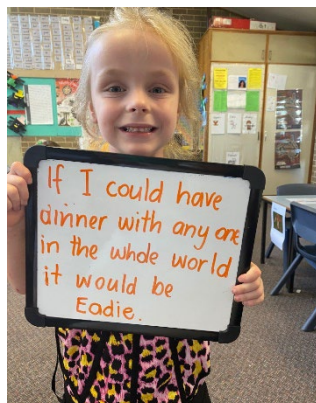
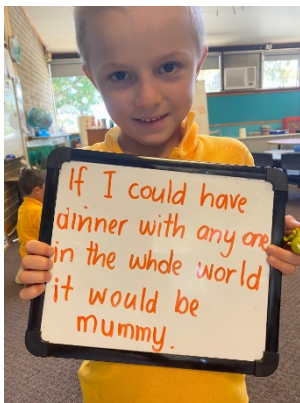
EARLY STAGE ONE NEWS

Last Tuesday, we had many smiles and not many tears as our Kindergarten students began their schooling journey at Ettalong Public School. It is with great joy that we welcome our youngest members to our school. All Kindergarten students are learning to work in groups and rotate our group sessions, ready for our literacy next week. Thank you to all of our parents for your support as you entrust your beautiful children into our care and teaching for the year.



STAGE ONE NEWS

Year 1 and 2 students (known as Stage 1) have had an incredible start to the school year. Mrs Fabri, Mrs Hull, Mrs Jameson, Miss Pardey, Miss Crowther, Mr Leary and Mrs Selwood have smiles on their faces from the amazing work the children have already produced. Looking forward to a great year!



STAGE TWO NEWS

Welcome to 2021! This term Stage 2 students are learning about celebrations around the world. Last Wednesday, 3 February was World Read Aloud Day. 3S students celebrated by sharing a story with a partner and taking turns to read to each other. We also enjoyed a story read by Mrs Robertson and Mrs Jones last year during COVID times. The Interrupting Chicken, is available on the school's Facebook page.



STAGE THREE NEWS

Year 6 looking smart in their brand new school caps. Available to purchase in the office for \$10



Communication at Ettalong Public School

Our school is an exciting and busy place to be. There is always so much happening both inside and outside of the classroom. With this in mind, we aim to keep you as informed and up to date as we can through the various means which are outlined below.

Newsletter: Our newsletter is known as the HomeNote and is produced weekly. The HomeNote includes a principal's report, upcoming events, information about what has happened in each stage, P&C and canteen news and other school related information. It goes home every Tuesday with the youngest child enrolled. An electronic version is available and can be arranged by contacting the office. We strongly urge you to read the HomeNote carefully each week.

School App: The Skoolbag app can be downloaded for free via your phone's app store. Once you have downloaded the app, search for our school. Urgent messages or important information will push directly to your phone like a text message. Please ensure that you allow notifications for this app. Absences and change of details can also be completed via the app. We use this for urgent and important messages, so notifications will be kept to a minimum.

School Website: Visit our school's website <https://ettalong-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/> to access operational information such as bells times, staffing, curriculum and other general information about our school and NSW Department of Education public schools. HomeNotes and term calendars can also be accessed via the website. All electronics payments are made using the **Make A Payment** tab at the top of our website's main page. This is a secure site, hosted by Westpac. Most excursions, school events and activities can be paid using this feature with credit or debit card. Please record your receipt number on the associated permission slip and return to school promptly. You only need to enter mandatory fields marked with an asterisk (please leave Student Registration Number blank) and the reference number is the name of the activity you are paying (for example "Maths Textbook"). Online payments are the quickest and most secure way to pay for school related activities. Regrettably, not all activities can be paid for online. In these rare instances, it will be clearly stated on the note that this activity is 'cash only'.

Social Media: Our official school Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EttalongPublicSchool/> and Instagram account <https://www.instagram.com/ettalongpublicschool/> are used to celebrate student achievement and post announcements and reminders about upcoming events. By liking or commenting on our Facebook page, you are accepting our Terms of Engagement which you can read in full at <https://www.facebook.com/EttalongPublicSchool/posts/3384842974978228> and breaches of these terms are taken seriously. Both the Facebook and Instagram pages are verified and administrated by a member of the school's executive. These are the only official pages run by the school. All other groups, including parent Facebook groups, have no connection to the school and the accuracy of information shared within them cannot be guaranteed. Please always refer to our official pages and documentation for up to date and accurate information.

Letters Home: Children sent out or removed from class due to inappropriate behaviour, have a letter sent home the same day to make you aware of the incident. If your child receives a planning room as a consequence, a letter that includes the details will be sent home. This letter is to be signed by an adult and returned to school the next day please.

Phone calls home: It is imperative that we have current phone numbers to contact parents/carers and emergency contacts in the event of an emergency. Staff also call parents to discuss students' progress. Contact details can be updated at any time in person or via the Skoolbag app.