A Message From The Principal

Dear Parents

Thank you for making every effort to attend the Parent Information evenings which have been scheduled over the next few weeks. These are very important meetings where our class teachers outline school policies and their expectations for student work, effort and behaviour. Thanks teachers for conducting these in the evening when it is more convenient for parents to attend.

Due to an increase in school numbers, we have been allocated another teacher and have formed a Year 2/3 composite class with Ms Mahon as the teacher. Thanks parents for your interest in having your child transfer to this class. The response was very positive and the class was quickly filled. Ms Mahon will conduct her parent/teacher meeting with the Year 3 teachers, on Tuesday 10 February. There has been a change in the teacher replacing Ms Mahon and the new teacher for 3D is Mr Ben Bahnsen, who is very excited about the opportunity to teach at this outstanding school.

Clean and Green at Elanora: Our program to reduce waste and keep our school rubbish-free is really going well. I have never seen our school looking so clean. Children are taking a greater interest in eating nutritious food and are showing greater awareness about our environmental footprint. Thanks for your support with this parents. Most of our students are now eating in classrooms, on verandas or on seats. No Early Years students are eating on concrete.

We would now like to take a step further by inviting parents to become involved in developing our gardens and compost bins. I’ve noticed that some of our local schools involve parents in gardening projects and I’d love to introduce that at Elanora. If you are interested in volunteering, can you please phone the school or visit the school office so we can talk and organise an Elanora parent gardening group. Thank you.

Next Friday 13 February is a very important day, when we celebrate the presentation of badges to our Student Leaders at a special assembly, followed by morning tea.

Parents please note that Chappy Doug has changed his days and now works Tuesday to Friday.

Included in this newsletter please find a link to the Year level term overviews (Prep to Year 6) and the Term One Calendar.

Skateboards are not allowed in the school grounds. This decision was endorsed at the end of last year by our P&C and promoted to students and parents. Student safety is our prime responsibility at school. Last
year, we had several incidents of students being hurt using their skateboards after school at the skate park behind the school. On two occasions, our school office was notified late in the afternoon about students sustaining serious accidents while using the park unsupervised and ambulances had to be called.

Parents we will be conducting a practice lock drill down next week, so please be aware that your child (especially if they are very young) may come home talking about it. As usual, our teachers will prepare our students really well for the drill and make sure they know that it is only a practice. Our local Adopt a Cop, Constable Kurt Foessil has accepted our invitation to attend and provide feedback to us.

Coming Up:

Thursday 5/2  Year One Parent Information Evening
Monday 6/2  Year Two Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 10/2  Year Three Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 11/2  Year Five Parent Information Evening
              6.30 P&C Meeting
Thursday 12/2  Prep Parent Information Evening
Friday 13/2  9.30am Student Leaders’ Investiture Ceremony in the PAC

Have a great week parents, thanks for your support and I hope to see you at our first P&C meeting of the year on Wednesday.

Warm regards,

Tricia Neate
Principal

Term 1 Calendar
Attached

A Welcome To Our New Music Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians

My name is Renee Jones and I have had the fortunate opportunity of joining the Elanora teaching staff, as a part time music teacher. I have a degree in music that I undertook at the Queensland Conservatorium and have a love of teaching and music. I strongly believe in the ways in which music can benefit students. These vary through a multiple of ways including strengthening and soothing the brain (cortex), a way of communication, expression and composition, and emotional outlet.

I am very excited to be directing the Junior Choir and a Boys Singing Club at the school. I hope to meet you within our school community and look forward to getting to know the students. Music has already commenced for Term One and I look forward to the year ahead.

Kind Regards

Renee Jones
Music Teacher
Safe Searching On Our Devices

Make your computer or other mobile connected devices a safe space for your child by ensuring that you have turned all your safe searching settings on.

See our instructions below. If you have any queries about doing this, please contact our school office and a staff member will assist.

When you have Safe Search enabled, your search results should be filtered to remove explicit content.

**Turn SafeSearch on or off**

1. Visit the [Search Settings](#) page.
2. Find the "SafeSearch filters" section.
   - Turn on SafeSearch by checking the box next to "Filter explicit results."
   - Turn off SafeSearch by unchecking the box next to "Filter explicit results."

Click Save at the bottom of the page.

**Keep SafeSearch turned on**

You can lock SafeSearch to prevent others, like your kids or anyone who is borrowing your computer, from turning SafeSearch off if you've turned it on. To keep SafeSearch on, click Lock SafeSearch on the Settings page. Learn more about [locking SafeSearch](#).

**My SafeSearch setting keeps turning off**

SafeSearch should stay on if cookies are enabled on your computer. If you delete your cookies, your SafeSearch setting may be reset.

Your internet service provider (ISP) or network administrator can override your SafeSearch setting. If you feel like the SafeSearch setting you picked isn’t being applied to your search results, contact your ISP or network administrator for more information.

**Pip Traucnieks**
Deputy Principal

**Chaplain's Message**

G’day Parents and Families

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back for another great year at ESS.

For those Families who are new, my name is Dougie Milton, I am the Elanora School Chaplain. The kids call me Chappy Doug. I am married and have 4 amazing kids of my own, 2 of whom attend Elanora. I’ve been the Chaplain at Elanora for 2½ years now and I am at the School 4 days a week. Before I became a Chaplain I was a full time Musician working all over the Gold Coast.

The Chaplaincy program provides a very unique role within the School community. I focus on social, emotional and spiritual support for students and families in regards to common issues such as family problems, confusing relationships, friendship issues, peer pressure, self-esteem issues, bullying and depression.

When kids at school are struggling with any of these issues, I offer a friendly ear, a tonne of encouragement and a safe person to talk to. When it comes to spiritual support, it must be requested by the parents, caregivers and students. I offer Christian based pastoral care, guidance and support for students and families.
Some of the programs I organise within the school are The Blokes Singing Club, where I work alongside Miss Jones, one of our music teachers. We run a club for boys on Wednesday lunchtimes from grades 4-6 to learn the basics of singing and performing. We usually have 1 or 2 performances throughout the year for the parents. We have offered this program for 2 years now and the young fellas love it.

Chappy’s Drumming Circle is another program designed to reward students who have been working hard and displaying SEAS Coach behaviour. It is run for 5 weeks and students are nominated by their teachers and we learn to play the conga drums in a safe and friendly environment at lunchtime on Fridays.

The main program I offer is a mentoring program. This program consists of meeting with students once a week for 20-30 minutes. We usually start by talking about any issues arising, then we have some fun time maybe playing handball, soccer etc. I have had a huge amount of very positive feedback from students and parents and the mentoring program is designed for students who are struggling in any capacity.

I am at the School 4 days a week from Tuesday to Friday, if you would like more information regarding the Chaplaincy program, or you would like to meet with me personally, please contact the School and to make an appointment.

I hope all the Families at Elanora have a fantastic year.

Regards

Dougie Milton
E.S.S Chaplain

Science

Welcome to another exciting year of Science at Elanora State School. Each week in our newsletter article, we will have information relating to all things Science across the school. We will also be acknowledging classes for their efforts & enthusiasm during our science room lessons and their whole school sustainability commitment.

2015 Science Units Term 1

Prep - Biological Science – Our Living World
Year 1 - Biological science -Living Adventure
Year 2 - Chemical Science – Mix, Make and Use
Year 3 – Physical Science – Hot Stuff
Year 4 - Earth & Space Science – Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
Year 5 - Biological Science – Survival in the Australian Environment
Year 6 - Chemical Science – Making Changes

Year Level Focus - Year 3

In this unit, students will investigate how heat is produced and the behaviour of heat when it transfers from an object or area to another. They will identify that heat can be observed by touch and that formal measurements of heat (temperature) can be taken, using a thermometer. Students will identify that heat transfers from warmer areas to cooler areas. They will consider everyday questions about heat and conduct a range of investigations to solve them.

Class of the Week

1D for their participation and involvement when learning about animals’ external features and their needs. They were good listeners and enthusiastic participants in our role play activity.

The theme for the G.A.T.E.WAYS Term 1 Eureka for 2015 is 'Curious Science'
Albert Einstein once said, “The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.” In these exciting workshops your budding young scientists will be exploring some intriguing areas of science. In the three enrichment and extension workshops created by the talented team from G.A.T.E.WAYS, the participants will be encouraged to question, experiment, make discoveries and to take the opportunity to be curious. There will be lots of hands-on activities, discovery and fun. If you are interested in finding out more information about the Gateways Science enrichment program for later this term, please contact your child’s teacher or our Head of Curriculum, Ros Partridge. Please note, there is a cost involved with this program.

Resources needed – Plastic milk bottle tops (rinsed please). You can give them to your class teacher or bring them directly to the Science room.

Term 1 Events & Activities

* Prep & Year 1 classes - Worm Farm visits
* Mr Chandler HOD Science ESHS & Staff – enrichment science lessons with Years 6
* Schools Clean Up Day Friday 27 February – Clean Up Australia Day Sunday 1 March

We hope that all students and parents will be inspired by Science and the continued commitment to sustainability and being a cleaner, greener school.

Jeanette Simpkins & Shirley Ashburn
Elanora State School Science Coordinators

P&C News

A Message from the P&C President

Welcome back to school and welcome to all our new Prep’s. The P&C is looking forward to another great year this year. I would like to invite all past and new parents to our first P&C meeting of the year. It will be held next Wednesday, 11th February at 6.30pm in the staffroom. It’s a great place to meet new people and keep up to date with school happenings. So bring along a friend, as we are looking forward to meeting new people too.

Shoana Muldoon
P&C President

P&C Meeting

Wednesday 11th Feb, 6:30pm in the Staffroom. This is the first one for the year. All are welcome!

School Banking

Banking has started again on Tuesdays. Don’t forget to put your bank book in the grey banking satchel in the morning ready for volunteers to collect.

If you would like to start school banking, a student can open a Dollarmite account at any CBA branch. Bring your new Bank book to school on Tuesday with money to bank and we will get you started.

Once again there are great rewards to collect but also an awesome prize up for grabs. See below for details. School Banking is not so much the dollar value that students bank but learning the regular habit of saving money each week. Students can deposit as little as 5c. They earn 3.8% interest. The P & C
receives 5% for all deposits processed each week. We also receive $5 for the first deposit made by each new banker.

We are also looking for more volunteers to help collect and process banking on Tuesday mornings. Even if you can only help sometimes please contact me pandcpresident@elanorass.eq.edu.au

Melanie Allen
P & C Secretary
**Tuckshop News**

Hi all

Just wanted to say what a warm welcome I’ve had at Elanora State School. Thank you to all who have come to say hello at the tuckshop and introduce yourselves, even the children have been curious to the new face! Who by the way, have all been so well mannered when visiting us. It's good to see lots of healthy orders coming through daily. Well done parents!

We are serving healthy breakfast foods from 8:15am Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Smoothies, raisin toast, scrambled egg and cheese muffins and pikelets.

As you know, I am planning a new more nutritious menu for your children. We have been busy trialling new recipes and replacing processed ingredients as well as making more of the food from scratch. There is some new vegetarian options on the menu.

From now on all the muffins will be sugar free with only naturally occurring sugar from the fruit in them. Our home baked brownie has half the amount of calories with the same amount of taste! We are home cooking all of the meals from scratch without processed sauces or jars, instead we are using fresh ingredients and lots of love! And some flavour from our herb garden! Soon we will be making our own sausage rolls with lots of fresh vegetables and chicken mince.

So with all the home cooking, it would be awesome if you are toddler free, if you could find an hour to pop in and help. And have a cuppa and chat. We have a volunteer roster. And our home bake day is all day Wednesday. Don't forget there will be a booty camp for tuckshop volunteers every Wednesday afternoon. Meet at the tuckshop and bring a towel and water bottle. Great fun and weekly challenge!

Eat clean, stay safe.

_Sharyn Dick_
Tuckshop convenor

**Uniform Shop News**

**Grade 5 and 6 Sports Shirt - 2015**

A new sports shirt is being introduced for Interschool sport for 2015. The shirt will be worn by students every Friday for Interschool Sport regardless of which sport they choose to participate in.

The shirts will be available for purchase from the uniform shop and stock should arrive at the beginning of term 1 2015. Cost $38.00. For all grade 5 students this will be a compulsory purchase; however for grade 6 students this will be optional. Please note that students in grade 5 will need a shirt by the beginning of Interschool sport, which commences in March. Date to be confirmed.

Any questions please email schooluniform@elanorass.eq.edu.au or see Fiona or Leah in the Uniform Shop.

**Volunteers Wanted**

Thank you to those parents who volunteer in the Uniform Shop, your help is invaluable and the shop could not operate without you. We are currently seeking a few more volunteers, so if you could spare any time, particularly between 8.15am – 9.00am please contact Leah in the Uniform Shop.

Thank you

_Leah O'Reilly_
Uniform Shop Convenor
Stationery Items To Donate

Do you have any unwanted stationery items and reading books?

Each year we can end up with extra pens/felts/lunchboxes/pencil cases/workbooks etc that our kids no longer need. If you have any stationery with some life still left in them, please put them into the big box provided in the school tuckshop. This box will remain in the tuckshop for the next few weeks.

I'm also after any reading books you can donate. The items collected are to go to local women's refuges and for other children in need.

Txt if you need me to pick items up ph: 0415 708 343. Many thanks, Tonya Roberts.

Community Notices

Expressions of interest are now being sought from parents/carers who would like their child to attend the following six week Centacare program starting on Thursday 19 February 2015.

**Children First Program** – for students who have experienced **divorce or separation** in their families

- Six week duration – 2 hours per week (in place of regular class program)
- Small group – maximum 6 students of similar age
- Program designed by counsellors from Centacare Family and Community Services – please call Centacare on 07 5527 7211 if you require more details about this program
- Location: Elanora State School PAC (Conference Room)
- Dates – Term 1 Week 3 to Week 8
- This course is provided free of charge for students at Elanora State School
- Limited placements available

If your child has experienced divorce or separation in your family and you would like them to attend this program, please register your interest no later than **Friday 6 February**, by contacting Karen Greenwood, Student Welfare Teacher kgree12@eq.edu.au | telephone 55599222.

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SUCCESS AT HIGH SCHOOL**

*Enrol in Palm Beach Currumbin State High’s Excellence Programs for 2016!*

If you have a child currently in Year 6 and are interested in maximising their opportunities for success in high school, please come along to our information session.

**When:** Wednesday 25 February 2015 at 6:30pm  
**Where:** Palm Beach Currumbin State High School Hall

Bookings are essential for the information night, so please RSVP to Tara Gonzales-Judd on 07 5525 9418 or email exenrolments@pbc-shs.eq.edu.au

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list for the upcoming Excellence Information Evening please email your name and postal address to exenrolments@pbc-shs.eq.edu.au

For more information regarding PBC’s Excellence programs please click on the below link: [https://pbc-shs.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/Excellenceprograms/Pages/Excellenceprograms.aspx](https://pbc-shs.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/Excellenceprograms/Pages/Excellenceprograms.aspx)