A Message From The Principal

Dear Parents

Our thoughts are with Mrs Margaret Howell, one of our team of hard-working dedicated cleaners, whose husband passed away suddenly last Monday. Several staff attended his funeral service on Monday.

Welcome back Mr Hardy and thank you Mr Fraser for taking on the role of Acting Deputy Principal for the past two weeks.

Best wishes to our Year 6 students who are participating in a team building program this Wednesday and Thursday at Tallebudgera Camp School.

In readiness for NAPLAN in May, students in Years 3 and 5 have been involved in practice NAPLAN tests this week. Some of our observations from the students’ participation in the practice tests have been that students sometimes disadvantage themselves by spending too much time on individual challenging questions, rather than pass over these and come back to them if they have time later. Another observation is that many students tire easily and have trouble completing test questions toward the end of the tests. These observations will help us prepare students better for the real NAPLAN tests in Term Two. Once these practice tests are corrected, the data is analysed so that our teachers can work on those aspects and concepts that students have difficulty with.

We are tracking all of our students’ progress very carefully and will provide parents with an interim report card at the end of this term.

Following the recent purchase of a large number of ICT devices to support students throughout the school, we have also advertised for a part-time ICT coach to work alongside our teachers to effectively embed ICT’s into our teaching programs.

I attended a State-wide Principals’ conference in Brisbane last week. We had several national and international educators address us on themes such as accountability, effective instructional leadership, quality and equity of education and the need to collaborate with-in and across schools. I was so pleased that our school is already implementing many of the key messages from the conference such as target teaching, tracking of student data, using learning goals and regular checkpoints.

Congratulations and thank you to our 45 Parent Reps from every class. Our first meeting will be held on Thursday 12 March from 2pm in the Resource Centre.

Thank you to those parents and members of our community who have volunteered to help us with our gardening. We have just ordered another 12 compost bins and will arrange a meeting and working bee later this month when the weather is cooler.

Our next P&C meeting will incorporate our AGM and we are looking forward to interested parents contributing their ideas and energy to our school by taking on executive roles. The meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 March from 6pm in the staff room. Please consider attending.

Parents thank you for your voluntary contributions which we are using for room dividers and the purchase of computers and ICT devices. Included in this newsletter is a report from Mrs T on our ICT plans for the year.
Parents, our school finalised our Gifted and Talented Policy last year and we are starting to implement some strategies. Mrs Ros Partridge our Head of Curriculum would like to share our policy and processes with interested parents. See the invitation to the meeting in this newsletter.

Warm regards

Tricia Neate
Principal

Welcome New Students

A Message From Our Chaplain

G'day everyone

I hope everyone's year thus far is going well. Week six already, the year is flying by. We've had a great Term 1 so far within the Chaplaincy Committee. The blokes sing club is going nicely. We have roughly 15 boys from Yr4-6 attending and we have been working on two songs together. We do have more places available, so if your young fella would like to join us and learn some singing and performing skills, please let me know.

Chappy's Drumming Circle will commence this Friday at first break. This is a program designed to reward students from Yr4-6 that are outstanding Role Models at our school who consistently model our SEAS school rules. Classroom teachers hand pick students to participate in the program which runs for 5 weeks before a new group of students are chosen. In the Drumming Circle, we all get a conga drum. We learn beats, rhythms and have a tonne of fun.

In addition to this, I run a mentoring program for 15 students each week. During this time, we discuss issues such as confidence, resilience, bullying and any other challenges the students may face in life. I have had great feedback from parents and students about this mentoring program. If you would like more information please contact me at School.

Lastly, we have our Chaplaincy Committee meeting coming up on Wednesday the 18th of March in the new library at 8am. If you would like to know more about the Elanora Chaplaincy program, or you would like to be involved, please come to the meeting and see what the Chaplaincy Team are doing to support Elanora State School. We would love to see you there.

Have a fantastic week

Dougie Milton
Chaplain
A Message From The Student Welfare Team

Karen Greenwood & Karen Burdett
Student Welfare Team

Science

Year Level Focus - Year 4 and Year 6

Year 4 - In this unit students will explore natural processes and human activity which cause weathering and erosion of the Earth’s surface. Students relate this to their local area, make observations and predict consequences of future occurrences and human activity. They describe situations where science understanding can influence their own and others’ actions. They suggest explanations for their observations and compare their findings with their predictions.

Year 6 - In this unit students investigate changes that can be made to materials and how these changes are classified as reversible or irreversible. They plan investigation methods using fair testing to answer questions. Students explore the effects of reversible and irreversible changes in everyday materials and how this is used to solve problems that directly affect peoples’ lives.

Class of the Week 4F (Week 4) - For being enthusiastic and engaged during their lessons as geologists while studying different types of rocks and soils. They were co-operative group workers who engaged in scientific language.

Class of the Week 6B (Week 5) - For being co-operative and enthusiastic during our Fizzing Investigation experiment. They used scientific language when discussing chemical changes and the reactions of carbonates & acids.

How will you be celebrating Earth Hour on Saturday 28th March?
This year our theme is the impact of global warming on food and farming, so here’s your invitation to celebrate the fresh and healthy Aussie produce we love so much. Some of our warmest family experiences have involved food: so this Earth Hour why not create a food memory? Millions of Australians will hold lights out dinner events with friends and family. Will you join them? Check out the brand new Earth Hour website & event ideas.
Expression of Interest – 2015 Science Conference and Showcase
Our annual Science Conference will be held at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary on Thursday 21st May - Week 5 Term 2. Students in Years 5 & 6 are invited to show their expression of interest by speaking to Mrs Ashburn or Mrs Simpkins in the Science Room. Selected Year 4 students will be invited to participate after consultation between class teachers and Mrs Simpkins / Mrs Ashburn.

Resources needed
Plastic milk bottle tops (rinsed please). Tops can be given to your class teacher or brought directly to the Science room. Thank you very much. This will assist the Year 2 students with an activity in Term 2.

Term 1 Events & Activities
*Mr Chandler HOD Science ESHS & Staff – enrichment science lessons with Years 6.
*Earth Hour – Saturday 28 March 8:30p.m.

Jeanette Simpkins & Shirley Ashburn
Elanora State School Science Coordinators

ICT @ ELANORA
YOU ARE PART OF THIS... SINCE FEBRUARY we have ordered...

- Clickview Online Media—school wide licence (installed)
- Otter modernising our Resource Centre (changeover in progress now)
- Two huge TV/ monitors for our Music Rooms (delivered)
- 36 Dell 3450 laptops (order placed)
- 2 secure mobile laptop trolleys (each is 16 bay) (order placed)
- 100 iPad minis + covers (orders placed—delivery March)
- IQ Synch and Charge Bundle charges and syncs up to 16 devices at simultaneously (ordered)
- All Prep classrooms now have a Smartboard in their room.
- Multiple smaller peripheral devices for greater connectivity of iPads and laptops.
- Upgrades of online programs.
- We have brought forward $48000 for the school wide upgrade project which is anticipated to be rolled sometime in Term 2. Watch this space.

PAPER CUT | What is it?

A school wide system for printing and copying was installed at the beginning of 2015. Students have been allocated a personal code for their printing requirements. All staff and students have access to commercial quality printer copiers from numerous locations across the school. Already, this system is proving its worth from a servicing perspective. This is another new ICT technology for 2015.

EASY APP | The free NMC Horizon EdTech Weekly App is the constantly-updated mobile extension of the NMC Horizon Project. This app, available for iOS or Android, helps inform the daily decisions of education professionals by putting the latest edtech news and field examples of emerging technology in action right at their fingertips.

NMC Horizon Project Reaches Over 160 Countries!

When it comes to analysing emerging technology uptake in education, the NMC Horizon Project is truly global in scope and reach. This map represents the last 2,000 downloads for the NMC Horizon Report series, which has a readership in more than 160 countries and growing. To date, over 40 editions of the NMC Horizon Report have been published, along with 50 foreign language translations in areas including global higher education, K-12 education, libraries, and museums. The regional- and sector-focused NMC Technology Outlook series has examined STEM+ education, community colleges, Australian tertiary education, European schools, Latin American higher education, Brazilian schools, Singaporean schools, and Norwegian schools.

http://www.nmc.org/nmc-horizon/

Have you got the Q Schools App?

STEM+ education, community colleges, Australian tertiary education, European schools, Latin American higher education, Brazilian schools, Singaporean schools, and Norwegian schools.

NMC HORIZON REPORT
Sporting Success

District Swimming Results

On Wednesday 25th February, a team of 12 students represented Elanora at the new region of Oceanic District Swimming carnival. All of our boys and girls were well behaved and did their best in a variety of events, including a freestyle relay (a new event this year). We have two swimmers going on to Regional level, congratulations to Lucy Garufi who placed 4th in Butterfly, and won the backstroke and breaststroke and Jayda Hughes who placed 4th in the freestyle. Best of luck to the two girls for next week. A big thanks to all the parents who ensured that their children were at the pool on time ready to go and also thanks to Mrs Nicole Bowers, a teacher aide from our school, who did a great job as our team manager. Congratulations once again to all of our competitors who represented our school with pride.

Congratulations to Cooper Cambey from year 5. Cooper was recently selected in the Oceanic Rugby League team. Great job Cooper!

Mrs Penfold & Mr Frazer
PE Teachers

Q Schools Mobile App
Gifted & Talented Program

Gifted Education afternoon Friday 13 March in the Resource Centre at 2PM.

At Elanora State School we have a new Gifted Education Policy. Come along to a parent session to find out about the policy, the processes and how children are nominated and identified for different programs within the school.

This is an information session with opportunities for you to ask questions and find out all you need to know about Elanora’s Gifted Policy.

The session will be on Friday 13 March at 2 – 2.55pm in the Resource Centre.

Ros Partridge
Head of Curriculum

Cyclone Marcia Appeal

Uniform Shop News

MARCH MADNESS SALE!!!
All discontinued stock now on Sale. Prices start from $5.00. Limited sizes available. Yamaha Recorders $10.00.

Second Hand Uniforms
The uniform shop is now accepting second hand clothing. As per our terms and conditions we can only accept officially approved school uniform for re-sale. Please ensure that all items are freshly laundered.

Leah O'Reilly
Uniform Shop Convenor

P&C News

P & C Meeting including AGM
Wednesday 11th March, 6:00pm in the staffroom. The P & C are instrumental in supporting the school so our children’s education and school life is the best it possibly can be. We encourage parents, carers, grandparents to be a part of our efforts to achieve this goal. Many hands of course make light work. Hope to meet some newbies next week for our P & C meeting followed by the AGM.

Melanie Allen
P & C Secretary
Hi again all

Firstly, a big shout out to all the wonderful mothers who have volunteered your precious time in the tuckshop over the last fortnight. Thank you so very much for contributing to our school community, our childrens well being and bringing some personality to our kitchen each day.

I'm very excited to bring back “Sushi Wednesday”. Starting 11th March 2015, please pre order on Monday or Tuesday, at the tuck shop to guarantee your selection, otherwise ordering sushi will be available online through flexi schools. We have found a wonderful local lady who runs her sushi business close by and will deliver fresh sushi every Wednesday morning. Gluten free and vegetarian options including gluten free mayo, tuna, terriyaki chicken, avocado and rice paper rolls. All $3.00. Rice paper rolls $4.00.

I am phasing out brown paper bag ordering. As of term 3 there will only be online ordering for our tuckshop. This is an inevitable part of the future for school tuckshops. Many of our neighbouring schools already have this system in place. flexi schools is an easy and convenient way for ordering your childrens lunch. please come and see me if you need any help with setting up a flexi schools account online. i am more than happy to guide you or provide the information you need to know. In the meantime, all brown paper bags will come directly to the tuckshop, instead of going to your classroom in the morning. We will fill the order and send to your childs class along with the rest of the online orders.

I now have a weekly roster displayed in the tuckshop. Come and put your name down if you can spare even a half hour of your time to volunteer. Keep your eye out for the new delightfully delicious menu coming soon!

Eat clean.

Sharyn Dick
Tuckshop Convenor
tuckshop@ess.eq.edu.au

Clean & Green Message

Helpful Hint

When sending yoghurt to school, buy in bulk and put in sealed containers. It is cheaper and will keep lunchboxes cleaner. Keep your eye out for small airtight containers when they are on special.

Excursions & Activities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excursion/ Activity</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interschool Sport</td>
<td>18 March 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary - Year 5</td>
<td>9 March 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old McDonald's Farm - Prep</td>
<td>18 March 2015</td>
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