

# Dates for your Calendar

(New items on the calendar will appear in italics)

# **February**

Prep classes half day
Wed 2

3 Way Conference bookings open at 9am

Prep parent information Night 7-8pm

Thur 3

Preps commence full day Parent Helper Course—2:15pm

Parent Helper Course—9:30am

**Tue 8**3 Way Conference— 3:45pm to 7:15pm

**Wed 9**Parent Helper Course—7pm

**Thur 17**3 Way Conference 3.:45pm to 7:15pm

Fri 18 EEPS Swimming trials

**Tue 22** School Council Sub Committee Meeting 6:30pm

Meeting 6:30pm School Council Meeting 7:15pm **Fri 25** 

District Swimming
Prep Teddy Bears Picnic
Mon 28

Preps commence full time Bakers Delight Lunch

Curriculum Dates for 2022 (Student free day) Friday 11th March Newsletter: Term 1 No: 1 1st February, 2022

Eltham East Child Safe Statement of Commitment

Eltham East Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This is always our primary focus of our care and decision-making and we have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Welcome to Eltham East Primary School, Eltham Victoria

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the 2022 school year! I hope that you had a lovely break over the summer and had opportunities to 'make some memories' with your child/ren. We had a tremendously positive start to the school year, and it was great to have such a buzz of excitement yesterday and today.

Please remember that, for some children, change and adjustment can take some getting used to, and some children take longer than others to settle into the new school year. This is normal so please just give them, and yourselves, some time to adjust.

A very warm welcome to our new students and families to the school this year and to our new teachers. I hope that your association with EEPS is rewarding for all.

#### **EEPS** in the media

Many of you may have seen 9 out of our 12 sets of new prep twins feature in an article in the *Herald-Sun* on Saturday. It took a bit or organising, but it was lovely to share this positive and happy good news story with the community. We have been told from many sources that 12 sets of twins in one year level is previously unheard of. It was very hot for the photo last week, but we thank those families who were available.

#### Holiday work and preparation for the year

Over the holidays were we able to complete the renovation of our art room. This is a long awaited project that has required significant planning and liaison with the Victorian School Building Authority. I would like to thank Mr David Tyndall, Assistant Principal, for his coordination of this project. The end result looks great! We have also had some new interesting line markings painted around the school. Have a look out for them as you walk around the grounds.

Another special highlight from the holidays is that Shellie, our fantastic Kitchen Garden Coordinator, was sighting several Eltham Copper Butterflies in and around the school grounds. The ECB has also had special significance for EEPS but we haven't had confirmed sightings for some time. Please keep your eyes open for them.

Thank you also to the Leadership Team and to our teachers and Educational Support staff. More work than any other year has been put into the preparation of the 2022 school year, long before yesterday.

Eltham East Primary School—eltham.east.ps@education.vic.gov.au
School Council President: Katie Cramp—Katie.Cramp@education.vic.gov.au
www.facebook.com/elthameast
www.elthameastps.vic.edu.au

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#### **COVID Update**

A short recap of the main COVID related information, back-to-school plan, from last week-

- RAT tests are recommended twice weekly and are available from the office this week and at the start of Week 3. Information has previously been provided on the procedures to follow if a student returns a positive result from a test. However, please contact the school if you have any questions.
- Face masks are required for Year 3-6 students when indoors, unless students have an exemption (communicated directly to the Principal). Masks, whilst not mandatory, are recommended for Prep-Year 2 students
- Face masks are required by adults and carers when entering school buildings
- Please remember to still QR code check-in when entering different school buildings
- Any parent or carer entering a school building will also need to comply with the current vaccination requirements, (2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine) or have a medical exception evidenced by a COVID-19 medical exemption certificate issued by the Australian Immunisation Register. To assist this, from tomorrow (Wednesday 2nd February) please show your vaccination status to your child's classroom teacher so they can record sighting it, when entering the classroom.
- In line with the updated DET instructions, from 25th February all parent helpers are required to have received three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine (or by March 15th if you received your second dose after 25th October). From that date evidence of this will need to be sighted at the school office when you sign-in to help as a volunteer.

#### Our Goals for 2022

As a school we have had a very smooth start to the year, and I would like to thank all staff for their preparation. Last Friday, our first Pupil Free Day for the year, was a very productive day. As a staff we went through our professional goals for 2022. They are under the 2 main headings of;

- <u>Learning-</u> To challenge and support all students across all learning areas and
- Wellbeing- To have connected and resilient children in an inclusive environment

Please see the attached flyer in the Newsletter and feel free to speak to any of the teachers about any of these aspects. We will also provide more detail in newsletters in the coming weeks.

#### **The Resilience Project**

As Principal, I am thrilled to announce to the EEPS community that we are partnering with the Resilience Project in 2022. This is something that has been in the pipeline for some time and strives to build resilience through gratitude, empathy and mindfulness. We talked last year about the fact that developing resilience as a tool was really the only strategy in our toolbox whilst navigating extended lockdowns. The staff have started their Professional Development with the Resilience Project last week. We feel very confident that there our many positive opportunities for all us through involvement in this project-staff, students and parents. Please also take a moment to read the attached introductory letter. I would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Jellis Craig Foundation to allow our whole school involvement and engagement with the Resilience Project at no cost to parents.

#### **3 Way Conferences**

Please see information later in the newsletter regarding the 3 Way Conferences and the booking system which opens tomorrow, Wednesday 2nd February.

#### **Prep Information Night**

We invite all our 2022 prep parents to an informal information night this Wednesday 2nd February at 7.00 pm Please meet outside the Discovery Kitchen deck on Level 2 and BYO fold up chair if you would like! We have some short presentations by the Prep teachers followed by an opportunity to speak to, ask any questions of your own child's teacher and then to collect the communication folder. This event will be held outside.

#### **Student Leaders**

We will be presenting the nominated Year 6 students with their Leadership Badges at the Flagpole Assembly on Monday 7th January. It will be the first assembly for the year and held outside so as to involve parents and to also raise the flag to symbolise the start of the school year. At our final 'Passing of the Keys' ceremony on the last day of the school year in December we bring the flag down, marking the close to the school year.

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#### **Child Safety Compliance**

As we start the year, I would like to remind the EEPS Community that Eltham East is fully compliant with all Child Safe Standards and has a zero-tolerance policy on any form of child abuse. Our Child Safe Policy and Code of conduct can be found on our school website. You are very welcome to familiarise yourself with these policies.

Thank you to all parents for helping to prepare the students for the start of the school year. We look forward to another great year of 'Learning and Growing Together'.

# Learning and Growing Together

Warren Lloyd Principal David Tyndall Assistant Principal Lisa Joseph Leading Teacher

# **EEPS FINANCE NEWS**

#### **Parent Payments**

We remind parents that Parent Payment contributions are on Compass for payment please.

#### **Excursions and Activities**

This year a Compass Event for <u>each</u> excursion/incursion or activity will be created and submitted to parents for payment and consent.

We will not be having a term by term payment as in previous years.

#### CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Please refer to the information on the next page to see if you are eligible to apply. Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form by 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 so that payments can be made from 1st March 2022. However schools can accept parent applications up until 24th June, 2022. Forms are available from the school office as well as via Compass (pencil—School Resources). If you have previously lodged a form you do not need to lodge another one.

Jenny and Lesley

# **Term Dates for 2022**

Term 1 Friday 28th January – staff resume

Monday 31st January – children resume – Friday 8th April

Term 2 Tuesday 26th April – Friday 24th June

Term 3 Monday 11th July – Friday 16th September

Term 4 Monday 3rd October – Friday 20th December

# **Public Holidays**

Australia Day (in lieu)
Labour Day
Good Friday
Easter Monday
Anzac Day
Queen's Birthday Holiday
Melbourne Cup Day

Wednesday 26th January
Monday 14th March
Friday 15th April
Monday 18th April
Monday 25th April
Monday 13th June
Tuesday 1st November



# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

# CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF 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. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools this year.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about CSEF visit: https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx





# **Our Goals for 2022**

Eltham East Primary School is committed to providing a safe, nurturing and respectful environment which supports and inspires our children to be actively involved in their learning, to grow in self-awareness, resilience and social responsibility and to contribute in a positive way to the world around them.

# **Learning**

To challenge and support all students across all learning areas.

- + Understanding our personal learning needs and goals.
  - + Actively embracing different learning opportunities.
  - + Differentiating is the norm in our school.

# Wellbeing

To have connected and resilient children in an inclusive environment.

- + Maintaining healthy relationships.
- + Being self-regulated and self-motivated.
- + Knowing how to help ourselves with our wellbeing.



Learning and Growing Together

# 3 Way Conferences- 'You, me and us'

This year the 3 Way Conferences will take place early in Term 1, on <u>Tuesday 8th February and Thursday 17th February from</u> <u>3:45pm to 7:15pm</u>. They will be held onsite, however there is an option of conducting them through Webex if needed for families. The 3 Way Conferences, 'You, me and us' will provide an opportunity for students to express their own views and thoughts on their learning strengths, for parents / carers to give their perspective and for teachers to provide their observations so far on the year. We would also like to help parents and carers to connect with the school and the learning program as early as possible.

The students will work with their teachers in preparation for the 3 Way Conferences, however you might like to reflect on some of these questions yourself, in preparation for the discussion.

What makes your child 'tick' as a learner?

What are their strengths and weaknesses?

How are they at solving problems and confronting challenges?

What do they do if they get stuck with their learning?

Do they enjoy challenge and extension?

What are their interest and hobbies?

How has the learning journey been for them so far?

What obstacles have they overcome so far?

As parents / carers what are your hopes, dreams and aspirations for your child/ren?

What are three things that are unique to your child?

Please follow the instructions and allow 15 minutes between interviews for siblings. This ensures we run to time as you will have time for movement across the school. If you do require a WebEx 3 Way conference then please book the time through the Compass booking system **AND** then email your child's teacher through Compass, who will then provide you with the necessary link.

Bookings will open at 9:00am on Wednesday 2nd February.

To attend a 3 Way Conference onsite, in classrooms, parents will also need to comply with the current vaccination requirements, (2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine) or have a medical exception evidenced by a COVID-19 medical exemption certificate issued by the Australian Immunisation Register. To assist all families, we will offer the opportunity to hold the 3 Way Conferences in person or via Webex. At the beginning of the 3 Way Conference, we respectfully ask all parents and carers to show proof of their vaccination in line with DET policy upon entering school buildings.

Parents attending onsite we respectfully ask that you maintain social distancing, and wait outdoors, where possible until your scheduled 3 Way time.

# 2022 EEPS SWIMMING TRIALS FOR YEAR 3 TO 6—Optional Event

The EEPS swimming trials will be held on Friday 18th February 2022 at Watermarc in Greensborough.

This event is optional and is for those students who can confidently swim 50m. These trials will be used to select students to represent Eltham East Primary School at the District Swimming competition. You will need to complete the Compass Event permission including which events you would like your child to compete in. The Compass event will appear on your Compass newsfeed this week and will need to be completed by Thursday 10th January.

We will require parent helpers, you will need to have completed a Parent Helper Course and you will need to comply with the current COVID vaccination directives.

Parent helpers are required between 9am and 1pm.

Kind Regards,

Kristian Bain

# Parent Helpers Course Term 1—2022

Our parent helper community forms an integral part of our teaching and learning programs. Since 2014, we have had over 500 helpers complete our Parent Helper Induction Course. This has assisted in ensuring consistently high expectations are met, and respect and confidentiality to all is adhered to, in line with our school values.

**2022** will again see Parent Helper Course sessions held for those who have not previously attended and wish to help out at the school in <u>any</u> capacity. This includes (but is not exclusive to) regular and one off activities involving: Sporting teams, ELOs, Excursions, Camps, Swimming, Classroom Help and School based activities.

The purpose of the course is not to assess competency but to ensure consistency of understandings and direction between school (teachers) and home (parents). Even if you work in the education profession or hold a Working With Children Check or Criminal Record Check, we require everyone to participate in the course regardless.

# Term 1—2022 Sessions

#### TO REGISTER YOUR SESSION TIME:

**Go to:** www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the simple Instructions.

Bookings are now open.

These sessions are held in the staffroom and will run for approximately 45 minutes.

Thursday 3rd February, 2:15pm
Wednesday 4th February, 9:30am
Wednesday 9th February 7pm



Thank you for your support and understanding as we all learn and grow together.

# **Compass Portal**

#### **EEPS Permission and Acknowledgments for 2022**

At the start of each year we ask you to become familiar with, and acknowledge important school policies and programs. The relevant detailed documents for you to read are available on the school website: <a href="www.elthameastps.vic.edu.au">www.elthameastps.vic.edu.au</a> Unfortunately the detailed content in these documents cannot be inserted here.

#### You will be requested to give your consent in relation to the following items.

- 1. ICT Acceptable use agreement for internet and digital technologies.
- 2. Photographing, Filming and Recording Students.

Please ensure that this is acknowledged by Friday 28th February.

**Department of Education provisioned Online Learning Services.** 

This is for new students commencing EEPS for 2022.

At the start of each year we ask you to become familiar with, and acknowledge important school policies and programs, including **G Suite and Office365 online education services**.

The relevant detailed documents for you to read are available on the school website: <a href="www.elthameastps.vic.edu.au">www.elthameastps.vic.edu.au</a> Unfortunately the detailed content in these documents cannot be inserted here.

If you do not agree to the items below, please download the form from our website and refer to the opt out process.

- 1. G Suite For Education Information Pack for Parents
- 2. Office365 Information Pack for Parents

#### **Local Excursions**

**Events**— These excursions are conducted within the local area but outside the school grounds. They may include nature walks, picnics, visits to local historical buildings. You will be notified through a Compass Newsfeed when classes are participating in a local area excursion.

Please ensure that consent for this event is completed on Compass by Friday 18th February.

#### **Student Enrolment Information Form**

Full Student Enrolment Information Forms have been emailed to all families. Please update enrolment information and return to the school office or via email to: Anna.Strebinos@education.vic.gov.au by **Friday 25th February.** 

If you do not have any changes, you do not have to return the form.

#### **Compass Calendar**

Parents have access to the Compass School Calendar. Select this icon. You can view school events.



# **Admin News**

# **Compass Portal**

#### **Absences including Family Holidays**

Parents need to approve any absences on Compass. If your child is, or will be, absent for three or more consecutive days, please contact the school office. The Compass administration system provides convenient online notification to streamline this process.

The DET policy for family holidays is followed at EEPS. To have an approved absence for a holiday 7 days notice must be given and a Student Learning Plan given. You may find more information at:

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/attendance.aspx

In general, it is expected that principals would excuse absences for:

- medical and dental appointments, where out of hours appointments are not possible or not appropriate
- bereavement or attendance at the funeral of a relative or friend of the student, including a student required to attend Sorry Business
- school refusal, if a plan is in place with the parent to address causes
- cultural observance, if the parent notifies the school in advance
- family holidays, where the parent notifies the school in advance (7 days' notice must be given) and the student completes any Student Absence Learning Plan agreed by the school, student and parent.

In general, principals would not be expected to excuse absences, where:

- approval had not been sought in advance or in accordance with school policy
- the student was absent due to participating in leisure or social activities without approval
- the conditions of approval have not been met (e.g. Student Absence Learning Plan for a family holiday not completed) the parent has provided no explanation for the absences.

#### **COVID Absences**

If you child has tested positive, he/she will need to be absent from school for 7 days as well as close family contacts.

Please ring the school office to inform us of this and report this to the Department of Health system (Rapid antigen tests/Coronavirus Victoria) or via the coronavirus hotline at 1800 675 398.

Please also remember to follow the latest advice at https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigentests.

Please ensure to update the parent approval on Compass.

#### **Early Dismissal and Late Arrivals**

Please enter the parent approval on **Compass** if you need to collect your child from school before the normal dismissal time of 3.30 pm.

Parents are asked to sign for *Late Arrival/Collection* into the Compass Kiosk at the general office when a *Student Collection Pass* / Late Pass will be issued to present to your child's classroom or specialist teacher. If your child is returning to school please sign into the *Student Late Arrival/Collection* Compass Kiosk at the office when he/she returns. Children must be collected from the classroom.

Students are not permitted to leave the school unaccompanied, or to meet parents at school boundaries other than at dismissal times.

If students leave school early due to illness, parents are to complete the **Student Late Arrival/Collection** into the **Compass Kiosk** at the office when leaving.



# Message from first aid

#### Important - Children with Allergies

We need to alert all members of our school community that we have several children enrolled in our school with serious food allergies. In each level we have children who have life threatening allergies.

We ask that you avoid sending nuts or nut products such as peanut butter or Nutella in your child's lunch. This would be greatly appreciated.

Exposure to any residue of these products may bring on an anaphylactic reaction to a child and have extremely serious consequences.

In line with our normal practices we will also be reminding all children not to share or trade food as an additional measure to help prevent accidental exposure to children with food allergies.

We thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

#### If an ambulance needs to be called

The responsibility to call an ambulance lies with the staff member present, exercising duty of care. Parents need to clearly understand that the cost of ambulance transport will **not** be borne by the school. The school does not have insurance to cover costs associated with injuries to students. Student accident insurance is available from some commercial insurers.

Private health insurance may cover ambulance transport but each family needs to check the details of their own cover if they have any. Families can also take out ambulance cover through the Metropolitan Ambulance Service.

# Home time messages

We understand that from time to time you may need to ring the office to change pick up arrangements for your child/children. If you do need to ring (**Pease do not send an email**) the office to change arrangements please try to do so before 3:15pm. We have a process for children receiving messages while at school.

- The message will be taken on duplicate paper.
- At 3:20pm a message goes out over the PA to call all children (by name) with messages to come to the office with their bag.
- Children are given the message verbally.
- Children wait at office until 3:30pm bell.
- As always, the emergency procedure for any child not picked up by 3:45pm is to go to the office. Please remind your children of this.

# Personal Goods Brought to School at Owner's Risk

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, electronic games, toys, musical instruments, sporting equipment, and cars parked on school premises.

The Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

# **Car Parking**

The car park inside the school grounds is for staff cars only.

Parents collecting or dropping off children by car should park with careful regard to the safety of children and the free movement of traffic, either:

- On the north side of Luck Street
- Along both sides of Grove Street where permitted
- The small Grove Street car park is only available for parking during the hours of 9:30am and 2:30pm. The gates will open at 4:00pm for after school care pick up.

We ask parents to exercise absolute care in these restricted parking areas. The signage and designation of car parking on the surrounding roads is under the jurisdiction of Nillumbik Council. Parking officers frequently patrol these areas.

# 2022 Community Activities

### **VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR 2022**

We are looking for more parent volunteers for icypole and the Special lunches (Bakers Delight and Sushi) sales on a Monday.

If you can help out, or need further information, please email <u>ana.strebinos@education.vic.gov.au</u> or telephone: 9439 9793.



### **Bakers Delight Lunches & Sushi Lunches**

Bakers Delight and Sushi lunches will begin again in 2022. Please look out for lunch order forms in the newsletter.

Please write your child's name, class, room number and if it's a Bakers Delight or Sushi lunch on an envelope and place lunch order form and cash into envelope. Last day to place a lunch order is the Thursday before.

#### **Lunch Order dates for 2022**

Bakers Delight Lunch	Monday 28th February	Order form need to be at the school office by Thursday 24th February
Sushi Lunch	Monday 28th March	Order form need to be at the school office by Thursday 24th March
Bakers Delight Lunch	Monday 16th May	Order form need to be at the school office by Thursday 12th May
Sushi Lunch	Monday 20th June	Order form need to be at the school office by Thursday 16th June
Bakers Delight Lunch	Monday 25th July	Order form need to be at the school office by Thursday 22nd July

### **Icypole** sales

Icypoles will be sold out of the Discovery Kitchen every Monday. The cost of an icypole is \$1.00.

# **EEPS UNIFORM SHOP**

# Open every Monday & Wednesday 8:45am—11:15am

For Online (Paypal) orders, please go to EEPS website, located under "Uniform".

Alternatively, please order at www.fcw.com.au Go to "Online Schools Shops", Go to "EEPS". Order forms may also be left at the school office, to be processed by uniform shop at regular opening hours. Payment to be made by completing credit card details.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT CASH PAYMENTS. These orders will be delivered to your nominated child's classroom. Price lists are available FCW on EEPS website under "uniform". Prices are subject to change without notice.

Melissa for FCW @ EEPS



TERM 1

# Garden News





# **Eltham Copper Butterflies at EEPS**

We are very excited to discover that we have Eltham Copper Butterflies in our butterfly garden.

The Eltham Copper Butterfly (ECB) is listed as endangered and only found in a few small pockets, including Pauline Toner Reserve. It has a symbiotic relationship with Sweet Bursaria and Notoncus ants. Our butterfly garden was established in 2011 to provide habitat for the ECB. The picture below shows freshly hatched eggs, which is a great indication that we have a healthy population. More information can be found <a href="here">here</a>. In the coming weeks we will have experts visit to advise on how best to manage the area









# Eltham East Primary School



# Special Lunch Order Day Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

(NB: payment required by Thursday 24th February, 2022(Cash Only)

Child's Name											
						Savoury Roll Option - \$5.50					
							Cheese & Bacon	Wate.	r		
Cheese & Pineapple		Apple	e Juice								
Cheesymite		Apple	Apple/Blackcurrant Juice								
	Savoury Bite		ge Juice								
	(consists of a small roll, cocktail										
	frankfurt, tomato sauce & cheese)		Tropical Juice								
Special Lunch Order Day  Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022  (NB: payment required by Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022(Cash Only)  Child's Name											
Payment of \$6.50 enclosed for lunch order of: an apple, fruit juice/water and pizza slice (please tick your selection below)											
Please send cash only in a labelled envelope with child's name, class and room number.											
Pizza Slice C	<u> Option - \$6.50</u>										
	Ham & Pineapple		Water								
	Marguerita		Apple Juice								
	BBQ Bonanza (consists of BBQ sauce, ham, bacon,		Apple/Blackcurrant Juice								
	mild salami & cheese)		Orange Juice								
			Tropical Juice								

# **Newsletter Advertising—Community Notices**

We accept advertisements to be included in our newsletter from most areas of private industry, however it should be noted that Eltham East's School Council does not endorse any product or service advertised.

