



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Echunga Primary School

Together we will strive for academic, social, emotional and personal achievement, working within a positive culture that promotes the pursuit of excellence and the understanding of others



Week 10, Term 1, 7th April, 2016

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DIARY DATES

Mon 14/4—2:45
Assembly

Mon 11-Thurs 14/4—
Swimming Rec-Year 5's

Fri 15/4 End of Term 1
2.20 Early dismissal

Mon 2/5 Term 2 begins

Thurs 5/5—8.30-9.30
Student banking
account opening day

Thurs 5/5 Lorikeet visit
to Mount Barker High
School

View the newsletter on
our website at
www.echungaps.sa.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

JADE'S FAREWELL

As you all know, Jade Brook our Pastoral Care Worker, will be leaving us next week. We are having a farewell assembly in the hall on Wednesday afternoon at 2:00. You are all invited to come along to say thank you and goodbye.

EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW

As you are aware, our external school review is taking place next week on Tuesday and Wednesday. You are reminded that the review panel has invited you to talk to them about the school on Wednesday morning at 9:10 in the staff room.

NAPLAN

On Tuesday 11, Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 May, students will undertake the 2016 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN is a nationally developed program that provides schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

The tests are administered simultaneously in all schools across Australia and are aligned to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics. NAPLAN tests are just one of many assessments your child can participate in and teachers assess continually to identify areas of strength and need.

Students do not have to learn specific skills for NAPLAN but they will have an opportunity to become familiar with them and with ways of showing their answers to questions before they do the tests.

NAPLAN individual student reports show the achievement of an individual student in a series of bands, against national minimum standards and the ranges of achievement for the middle 60% of students in Australia. NAPLAN individual student reports are expected to be ready for distribution to parents/caregivers during August and September.

HATS

Hats will not need to be worn at school from the first day back after the holidays till the 1st of September.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe break.

SCHOOL NEWS

SWIMMING REMINDER

Swimming will be on next week from Monday to Thursday for Reception to Year 5's. Please make sure students are at school by 8.45am as the bus will leave at 9.00am sharp. Bathing should be worn under the students' uniforms. If you haven't filled in a consent form students will not be able to attend even if they have paid. Please see Merridee if you need a new form.

School Banking Account Opening Day

Echunga Primary School offers the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit.

To encourage regular savings behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Once your child has made 10 deposits they are eligible for a Reward.

The rewards available during 2016 are:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm



We will be holding an Account Opening Day at our school:

Time: 8:30-9:30am

Date: 5th of May 2016

Location: Outside of the Art Room

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along your current driver's licence or another form of photographic identification.

Alternatively, you can open an account at your local branch. All you need to bring is your current identification as well as your child's birth certificate. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have NetBank, you can open an account online.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, see Merridee for an information pack or you can collect one from your local Branch. Your closest branch is at **Mt Barker**.

SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to all families that have paid their school fees for 2016.

All fees are due to be paid by the end of Term 1 unless paying by instalments or waiting for School Card approval.

It would be appreciated if final payments could be made by next Friday. It is not too late to apply for School Card if you think you may be eligible.

Speak to Merridee if you would like a School Card Application Form or if you would like to pay your fees by Direct Debit.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

The following workshops are run by the Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges & the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Boards.

Bookings are essential. No booking fee for online booking: www.ticetebo.com.au/mpnrc. Phone 85681907 (\$3 booking fee applies).

Garden Seed Bombs— Wednesday 20th April. 9:45 for 10am start-12 noon. Age: 2+ Cost: \$10/child. Steven Hoepfner will introduce the concept of seed bomb making, demonstrating how these ingenious creations can be used in the veggie garden, revegetation projects and anywhere you want new plants to grow. Just be prepared to get muddy!

Bats— Friday 22nd April 10:30am-12 noon or 1pm-2:30pm Age: 6+ Cost: \$15/child

Join Conservation Biologist Chris Grant to discover the wonderful world of bats. Learn about our local bat species and how to provide habitat for these important native mammals. Each child will assemble their own timber micro bat box ready to take home and install.



Insect Hotels—Tuesday 26th April. 10am-12 noon (Age 2-7years); 1:30-3:30pm (Age 7+) Cost: \$12 child.

Children will make their own insect hotel ready to take home & install in the garden. A range of recycled and found materials including paper, clay and vegetation will be used to create habitat for many of our beneficial bugs, creepy crawlies and insects.



Nature Dreamcatchers—Wednesday 27th April. 10:15 for 10:30am start-12:30pm Age:3+ Cost: \$10/child

Led by artist Emma Shobbrook, children will create a beautiful nature inspired dreamcatcher weaving.

Print & Stitch a Buddy—Thursday 28th April. 10:15 for 10.30am start-12.30pm Age: 5+ Cost: \$12/child.

Emma Shobbrook will take you through the steps of creating your own creature stencil and how to print it onto fabric. You will then learn the basics of stitching and threading to create a colourful textual nest for your chosen buddy!

COMMUNITY NEWS

ECHUNGA UNITING CHURCH EVENTS

Messy Church Tomorrow

Craft and activity, music and story, plus tea provided for the whole family! 4:00-6:00pm this Friday in Wandeen (Echunga Uniting Church). Doors open from 3:30pm after school. Contact Matt or Narelle for more information 83888847. Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/echungamessychurch.

A Meal with Jesus—All-Age Service Sunday

With the final weekend of school term upon us, the 10:00am service this Sunday at Echunga Uniting Church will follow an all-age format. This means that children and youth will be sharing and participating in the whole service, including reflecting on what they have been learning. Our youth band and friends are leading the music, and the theme will be 'A Meal with Jesus' as we learn about and share in Holy Communion together. It will be a fun and meaningful morning for all ages so we look forward to seeing you there!

MOPS—'Super Mums'

All mothers of preschool children are welcome to hear Valerie Trim share on the topic of 'super mums'. Your children will be looked after in the MOPPETS program. Next Thursday April 14th, 9:30-11:30 at Wandeen. More information and the Term 1 newsletter can be found at www.echunga.unitingchurchsa.org.au/MOPS.



Youth Progressive Dinner

Friday April 15th, 6:30-10:00pm. Cost \$10. Meet at Wandeen. Linking with Infusion Youth from Mount Barker. Contact Narelle for more information on 0409 754 298 or www.facebook.com/hillsyouthgroup.

