



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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 3, Term 1, 13th February, 2020

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★ ★ ★ REMINDER ★ ★ ★

Thursday 20th and Friday 21st February are
both Pupil Free Days. School will be closed.
OSHC will be open both days.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Week 3 already! What a great start we have had to the 2020 school year. Our children have returned with big smiles and lots of enthusiasm for their learning. Children also managed very well with the water safety sessions at Woodside Pool last week.

We have welcomed 16 new Reception students (and their families) into Kayla's Rosella class this year. They have all settled in really well and are starting to learn the new school routines. So welcome to Anita, Ariannah, Ava, Charlie, Cooper, Edward, Ella, Eloise, Emily, James, Juniper, Layla, Molly, Sophie & William. Welcome also to Chiara, Lilly and Lucinda (and their families) who have joined us this year. Well done on such a positive start and we hope you have a wonderful time here at Echunga Primary School.

We would also like to welcome Libby Thornton who is our new preschool teacher.

We are also lucky to have Amanda & Jo returning to work with our students.

During the first 2 weeks all teachers have been working **with** their students to develop a positive learning culture in their classrooms and around our school. They are together developing their classroom expectations/norms so that everyone has a responsibility for the learning that happens at Echunga Primary and for the classroom culture. Teachers will be continuing to incorporate learning about Growth Mindset/Fixed mindset learners and learner dispositions with their students.

Our school values are **Care, Challenge, Creativity and Respect**. We have seen a lot of children using these values in the last 3 weeks. A special mention must go to Max in Year 7. During the holidays, knowing that many Hills families had been affected by the bushfires, Max wanted to make a difference. He and a friend made lemonade and set up a roadside stall selling the lemonade and fruit. They raised \$400 and donated \$200 to 2 different families. What an awesome effort. I am so proud of Max – we need more people in the world like Max and his friend ☺

DIARY DATES

**Thurs 20/2 & Fri 21/2—
Pupil Free Days**

Mon 2/3—2:30pm
Assembly

Mon 9/3—Adelaide Cup
Public Holiday

Thurs 19/3—Sports Day

Fri 20/3—Harmony Day

Mon 23/3—2:30pm
Assembly

Mon 23/3-Fri 3/4—
teacher/parents/student
interviews

Tues 24/3-Wed 25/3—
Yr 6/7 Aquatics at Port
Noarlunga

Thurs 9/11—End of
Term 1
2:20pm early dismissal

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

SCHOOL NEWS

Student leaders

Last week student voted for school leaders, sports leaders and class representatives for our Making a Difference (MAD) group. The following students were elected into these positions:

School Leaders: Liam & Alice

Sports Leaders: **Battunga:** Alice; Samara; Liam & Austin R
Kuitpo: Ruby K; Dakota; Austin H & Archie K
Jupiter: Max B; Tristan; Madison & Ruby T

Making a Difference: Archie W; Jorja; Chiara; Levi; Max B & Dakota

Tips for settling into school

Starting school is an enormous change for children. Education expert, and author of '[Your Child's First Year at School](#)' (published by Early Childhood Australia,) Jenni Connor has some valuable tips for parents to ensure the road into school is as bump-free as possible. Check out the article [here](#).

Acquaintance Night

Thanks to those people who attended our Acquaintance Night on Tuesday. I hope that you found the sessions informative and interesting. We believe that parents should be as informed as possible about what happens at school and how we help our students to learn.

Governing Council AGM

I am pleased to advise you of the 2020 Governing Council members:

Luke Gray (Chairperson)	Treasurer TBA	Carly Rosser (Secretary)
Kristy Scherer	Renae Skipworth	Jade Vanzo
Jo Rosenthal	Cassandra Brennan	Rachel Stevens
Pam Thompson	Kayla Richardson (Term 1)	

We still have 2 vacant spots on Governing Council so if you are interested in joining please feel free to speak to me or one of the other Governing Council members.

We really appreciate members being willing to dedicate time and effort for the benefit of our school. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th March at 6pm.

SCHOOL NEWS

Volunteers

We welcome volunteers to help in a variety of ways. If you already volunteer in any capacity, thank you for your contribution. Volunteers can make a big difference to our school and our students. If you would like to volunteer on a regular basis you will need a Working With Children Check. Please let me or Merridee know and we will arrange to send you the relevant information.

All volunteers also need to participate in the **Responding to Abuse and Neglect training**. This training can be done online or face-to-face. If you wish to do the training online please contact us and we can send you the relevant instructions for accessing the training.

We are unable to allow volunteers to work at school without both the WWCC and RAN training.

Much of our communication happens via the skoolbag app. Please download the app so that you don't miss out on any important information. Go to the App store or Google Playstore and search for 'skoolbag'. Once you have the app installed you can choose Echunga Primary School within the app.

Communication is very important to us and we like to make sure our families are as informed as possible. We use the skoolbag app, SeeSaw (classroom based), email and we also have a facebook page. It is so easy with electronic communication to feel that we are constantly "switched on" so, in the interests of everyone's mental health and wellbeing please be aware that any communication after 6pm may not be responded to until the next day.

Pam

STUDENT ILLNESS

If your child or children become ill please notify the Front Office as soon as possible. We need to know what is the illness, or, if not known, what are the symptoms. This way we can keep other families informed of notifiable and infectious diseases.

Families can go to the Communicable Disease Control Branch website at <http://www.health.sa.gov.au/pehs/you've-got-what/you've-got-what-index.htm> to find information on diseases, how to control them and exclusion periods from school. If you are unsure please visit a doctor.

To stop the spread of disease through the school, eg gastro please make sure children are kept home for at least 24 hours after they have stopped vomiting and no longer have diarrhoea. Children also need to be encouraged to wash their hands regularly.

We appreciate your assistance with this.

SCHOOL NEWS

Swimming

In week 2, our R-5 students went to Woodside pool for Water Safety. Here students learnt about safely entering and exiting the pool, what to do in an emergency situation, used some rescue strategies and used floatation devices. It was a big week, and we are very proud of how our students had a go and how some even pushed themselves out of their comfort zone. Thank you to all our parent helpers and to the instructors and staff at Woodside Pool.



Rosella Class



Our Rosella Class (Receptions) have had a wonderful start to school. We have spent the first two weeks with a strong focus on 'Bucket Filling' and kindness tying in with our School Values of Care and Respect.

Students brainstormed and discussed what Care and Respect meant to them.

Care

- We care for our friends (Poppy)
- We care for the world, we don't litter. We care for animals, people, planets—EVERYTHING (Molly)
- We make new friends (Ella)
- We help people (Anita)
- We do nice things (Cooper)
- We fill their buckets (Eloise)
- We give cuddles (Ava)

Respect

- is being a good friend (Juniper) That means we care for them and are nice to them.
- We listen and take turns (Emily)
- We share (Molly)
- And be fair
- We use nice words and our manners (Juniper)
- We treat everyone nicely (Molly)

Here are a few ideas about how we can fill buckets

- Playing nicely together (Ariannah)
- Helping one another (Eddy)
- Making people laugh and smile (William)
- Looking after them (Cooper)
- Sharing (Juniper)
- Looking at the moon together (Charlie)

SCHOOL NEWS

FROM THE LIBRARY...

Premiers Reading Challenge

All our children will again, be participating in the Premiers Reading Challenge 2020.

Reading 8 Challenge books and 4 of their own choice, the children will receive a certificate the first year they participate and PRC medals for each year after that.

For Yr7 children it has changed this year, they can read 4 Challenge books and 8 of their own choice.

More information can be found at:-

<http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/>

Scholastic Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair will be held in May this year. More details closer to the time.

Book Week 2020

August 22nd -28th

This year's theme is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'

New Family Library

Located in the Library foyer, drop in and have a look at our new Family Library and information stand.

See Sue in the Library to borrow, or the front office if there is no-one in the Library.

Until next time, Happy Reading

Sue 

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Hello Everyone. My name is Libby and I am extremely excited in my new role as Preschool teacher at Echunga. I have recently moved to the district from the South East of SA, and look forward to becoming more familiar with community members.

Over the past few weeks the Preschool children have been settling into their new environment, gaining an understanding of Preschool routines, and getting to know their peers. Playdough, painting, junk construction, the train set and home corner have proved very engaging for the children, and have assisted with the settling in process. Outside the swings, construction, saro and water play have been popular learning experiences. The children are exploring the concept and meaning of being brave. We have discussed how brave we all are when we say goodbye to our family member/s in the morning. Trying out new experiences has also challenged the children to be brave, and it has been rewarding to see everyone take safe risks with their learning. The children are learning to have safe hands, safe feet and quiet lips at group times. We have commenced our learning in the relationships strand of the Department for Education (DfE) Child Protection Curriculum. Children are enjoying sharing and talking about their family photo with their peers. It has been a great start to the Preschool year, and we look forward to a fun year of learning together.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ECHUNGA SCOUTS

On Monday the 17th February at the Echunga Scout Hall from 3:30pm to 5:30 pm there will be a Youth sign up day.

This is for all the kids that would like to join the Echunga scouts and become involved in the fun, activities and amazing learning opportunities that Scouts SA can offer.

There will be programmed activities for the kids during the afternoon so they will be well looked after and there will be a light supper offered for all.

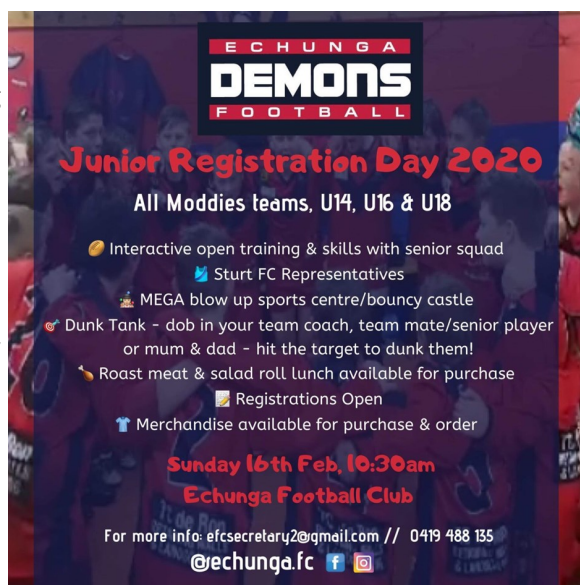
If you would like to attend on this afternoon of the 17th, could you please RSVP Glen via email at gl.echunga@sa.scouts.com.au, phone 0412504010 or sms so Scouts SA can be informed for the activities and for numbers for food.

Also if there are any parents that would like to help behind the scenes, please let Glen know and bring 100 points of ID so I can organise the necessary paperwork for you.

ECHUNGA FOOTBALL CLUB

EFC are looking for junior players for the upcoming 2020 football season, commencing in early April. We are a family friendly club who welcome players of all ability.

If you have (or know of) any children who are interested in playing, from Auskick right through to Under 18s please come along to our Registration Day on Sunday 16th February at 10.30am at the Echunga Oval or contact EFC on 0419 488 135 or via Facebook.



ECHUNGA UNITING YOUTH - TERM 1

31 January - Pool Party

14 February - Games Night

28 February - Bush Walk

13 March - Movie Night

21-22 March - KCO Camp

27 March - Progressive Dinner

Youth runs fortnightly on FRIDAY NIGHTS
6:30pm-9:30pm during school terms for
youth in school Years 6-12.

Contact Michelle - Children & Youth
Worker 0444 509 291
cym@echunga.ucasa.org.au