



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 9, Term 2, 25th June, 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Principal	1-2
School News	2-8
Community News	9-10

REMINDER

- 1) Friday 26th June is a Pupil Free Day.
- 2) Friday 3rd July is the last day of Term 2. School finishes at 2:20pm and OSHC closes at 5:30pm.
- 3) Friday 7th August is a Pupil Free Day.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A big welcome to Brooklyn who joined the Ibis class earlier this term. We hope you enjoy being at Echunga Primary School.

What a term this has been! It has certainly been the most 'interesting' term I have experienced. All staff and children have adapted to the constantly changing situation with a very positive attitude but I think everyone is ready for the holidays ☺.

Student Free Day

A reminder that tomorrow is a student free day with teachers working on the teaching of maths.

There is another student free day scheduled for **Friday 7th August** when we will do some in-depth learning on maths with the staff of Meadows, Macclesfield and Callington Primary Schools.

Term 4 camp

We have booked a 3 day camp at [Woodhouse Activity Centre](#) for Week 3 of Term 4 for R-5 students. We are very excited about the camp and the opportunities there for a wide variety of activities. Invoices will be sent out by the end of term. Check out the website for more information about the camp and the activities on offer.

DIARY DATES

Friday 26th June—Pupil Free Day

Friday 3rd July—End of Term 2.
2:20 Early dismissal

Monday 20th July—Term 3 begins

Friday 7th August—Pupil Free Day

Tues 1—Tues 8 Sept—
Scholastic Book Fair

Mon 7 Sept—School and
Preschool Photos

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

SCHOOL NEWS

Library

Our library is certainly well used and we have found that borrowing of resources has increased quite a lot. We are constantly adding resources to our library and updating our collection. This means there are lots of books coming in that need to be catalogued and then labelled and covered. Would you have any time that you could label and cover some of the books to help us get them on the shelves more quickly for our children to read? It doesn't have to be a regular commitment and we could always negotiate it being done at home. If you can help in any way please contact Sue on 8388 8306.

Nude food

Our school encourages the concept of nude food with minimal packaging so that we can reduce or, even better, eliminate the rubbish around our school. We have a wonderful environment in our area and we encourage our children to appreciate it and use strategies to protect our environment. Unfortunately we have noticed a significant increase in the rubbish at school, especially food wrappers, such as chip packets, cracker wrappers etc. Please support our endeavours to keep our environment rubbish free by keeping packaging to a minimum and encouraging your children to put any rubbish back in their lunch boxes. We will also be reminding them of this at school.

Year 7 to high school

Please see enclosed information flyer regarding the Year 7 to high school transition.

Car park

I have mentioned previously the importance of **driving slowly and carefully** through the car park at the rear of the school. If possible we would also ask that you do not park in the space to the right of the crossing (as you are facing the school) as reversing out of that space means you are reversing over the crossing. I witnessed a near miss in the car park this week at the end of the school day. Children's safety has to be a top priority so please be extra vigilant in the car park.

Have a lovely holiday with your family. Stay safe and warm. See you next term.

Pam

PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to all families who have paid their preschool and school fees.

Fees are now outstanding and it would be appreciated if debts could be paid as soon as possible. Payments can be made by instalments.

Please speak to Merridee or Pam if you are unable to finalise your debt at this stage.

SCHOOL NEWS

GOVERNING COUNCIL



Hello, my name is Sandy and I am the Deputy Chairperson for the Governing Council.

My eldest daughter Eloise is in the Rosella class and my youngest daughter Stella will start preschool here next year.

I live and work locally and love being a part of this beautiful community. This is my first year being involved with the Governing Council and I joined to help support the fantastic teachers, workers and students here at our school. I look forward to being more involved with our school community and working with everyone to continue to build the best stepping stones for our children and their futures.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

This term the children have been involved in a Mem Fox author study. We have read many of her books. We recently created our very own *Where is the Green Sheep?* book. Next term the children will be creating their own books whilst involved in bookmaking.

It has been great fun putting on our onesies and playing in our mud patch. The children have explored a range of mathematical and scientific concepts, including gradient, volume, depth and size during the course of their play. The experience provides an opportunity to fulfil the children's sensory needs, as well as provide the chance for children to learn collaboratively.



What's been happening lately in...

Rosella

The Rosella's have currently been learning about living things and where our food comes from. After showing curiosity around wheat, and how it is processed each student made their own pizza; creating their own dough, before putting on their choice of sauces and toppings. We look forward to doing more cooking next term.



Thursday afternoons have become our nature afternoons, where we take our learning outdoors. Outdoor learning has many benefits, some of my favourites currently being witnessed is the provocation of curiosity, creativity and imagination.

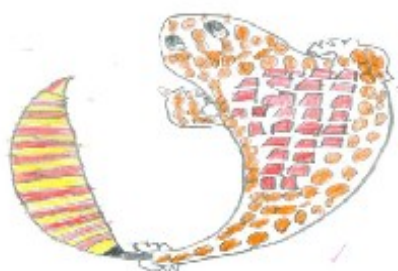


Students are showing a lot of curiosity in their learning about Aboriginal Culture and the connection to country. There have been many conversations about caring for and taking from the land. Last Thursday, a group of Rosellas found a patch of moss growing, and they were eager to include this in the fairy garden they were creating. One student turned to the other and said 'we can take a little bit, then there is some for other people and some for nature. We can't take it all'. Students have enjoyed finding living things, building homes for creatures, exploring measurement and exploring.

Kingfisher Spanish

Children were asked to draw a salamander, similar to one designed by Spanish architect Antoni Gaudi, and decorate with shapes.

Gaudi's salamander



Rabbit Proof Fence

In History, Lorikeet have been learning about the impact of English settlement on Indigenous Australians. We watched the movie Rabbit Proof Fence which was certainly eye opening, challenging to watch and thought provoking.



Here are some of our reflections:

I See...

- Sadness in eyes while they (children) were being taken away. Kym
- 3 girls taken away and wanted to go back to their mother and grandmother. Ruby K
- Aboriginal kids taken away to be raised like white people. Clint
- Gracie, Daisy and Mollie walking miles and trying to go back to their mother. Ruby T
- The girls' mum feeling sad and worried when the girls got taken away. The girls were really scared. Samara
- That Molly, Daisy and Gracie all loved each other dearly and when Gracie got taken, it was very sad. Dakota
- Children getting taken away from their parents because it was the law. Madison

I think...

- I would do anything to escape. Kym
- 'Stealing' kids was the worst thing that anyone could have done. Samara
- That laws were very, very wrong and racist and that they should not have been put in place. Dakota
- That our ancestors were mean and the kids didn't deserve it. Charlie
- It was a really sad movie and I felt very upset that that has happened in history. Ruby T
- It's horrifying that kids have been taken away. Clint
- It was wrong to take people's children from them. Cody

I wonder...

- Why did it take so long to stop taking children and apologise? Why did it take think they were not good enough? Why did they not feel sympathy for them? Why did they have to do that to them? Why did it happen? Why did they not take a vote to see whether they should have done it or not? Ruby K
- Why DID they think they had to be fixed? Kym
- Why there was such a problem with being Aboriginal or half Aboriginal or half white? Why they treated kids badly? Why they thought that their ways were more important than the Aboriginals way? Samara
- How long the rabbit proof fence is? Tristan
- Is the fence still there? Hamish
- How it would feel if it happened to me? Gemma
- Why they stole the kids from their home and put them in that terrible place? Lilly
- How many children ran away from the orphanage? Madison

YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL



Parent Update Week 8, Term 2 - 2020

Connecting with your local high school

We hope your child is enjoying being back at school for term 2. The lead up to the term was challenging for students, families and schools as together we responded to COVID-19.

We know some things had to be done differently, such as high school open days which were cancelled, postponed or moved online.

If you're interested in learning about your child's high school now, speak with your high school about how to best connect. If you're unsure of which high school zone you live in, use the [Find a school](#) tool on the department's website.

Getting ready for the move

Primary and high schools are working hard to plan for the move of year 7 to high school in 2022.

If your child is in year 5 or 6 this year, they'll be graduating from primary school next year. Primary schools are thinking now about how to make your child's last year in primary school a positive experience.

High school planning is also in full swing to welcome year 7s and year 8s together in 2022.

Primary and high schools are working together at every level to make the move a success for your child.

Stay engaged with your school to keep updated with the latest information.

Where to find out more

Stay informed through your school and the Department for Education's website: www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS

Or share your feedback with the project team by emailing: Year7toHS@sa.gov.au.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

SCHOOL NEWS

PASTORAL CARE WORKER NEWS

Hey Everyone,

Well can you believe that its almost half way through 2020? This week I thought that I would write about some of the resources I use at school as some caregivers have asked what I do when I connect with students and classes. While I do a lot of chatting, ping pong and colouring in I also have a tool box of resources which I use to help students problem solve, open conversations and express what's going on for them. Below are four of my favourite providers with a brief explanation of how I use their resources at school, who knows you might even like to use some of them at home, like I do.

Big Life Journal: <https://biglifejournal.com/collections/all>

These have great work sheets, activities and posters to help students develop a growth mindset and build resilience. At home I use their positivity and connection kit to establish family rituals, house hold chores and strengthening our bonds. At school though a fav is the resilience kit which helps kids focus on what they can control to work through their problems. They also send out free printables each Friday on different topics so that's a great win!



What's the Buzz: <https://www.whatsthebuzz.net.au/>

This is a great social skills course that the entire school runs to help students understand their emotions and relate better to each other. I help classes with this program but also run some small group sessions. This is a great program that breaks down social skills into small chunks making them easy to explore and practice. The thing I love best are the Archie stories which accompany each lesson and always bring up a lot of great questions and discussions.

Kimochis: <https://www.kimochis.com/>

This is a resource that helps students better articulate and understand their emotions. Students can identify with the different strength and growth areas of each character, use them in a role play or even just hug them for comfort. The feeling pillows give students the opportunity to explore different emotions, growing their emotional vocabulary and understanding while also being great tactile way for kids to express what's going on for them.



St Luke's Innovative Resources:

These guys put out a number of great card sets to open up conversations, challenge negative thinking patterns and help talk about and identify strengths. One of my favourite resources from them is their "Strength Cards for Kids". I used this last week with the Rosella class for refugee week. After reading "The Little Refugee" by Ahn Do I used the strength cards to begin a conversation about the different strengths the people in the story showed both on their journey to gaining refugee status and in resettling in Australia. I have also used it to help students talk about and identify their own strengths and that of others in their class which helps build positive relationships and boost resilience.



Hope this look into my toolbox is helpful and potentially gives you some new resources for your own. Enjoy the coming holidays everyone, pyjama days and sleep ins are just one week away!

From Rach your PCW

COMMUNITY NEWS



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS ONLINE

Tuesday 14 July, 2pm – 5pm Ages 11+

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS ONLINE

Thursday 16 July, 2pm – 5pm Ages 13+

CREATE WITH CLAY

Pick up a clay pack, watch an online tutorial and create, anytime, any day Ages 11+

CARDBOARD BOX INVENTION

Collect your box and mystery items, invent something cool and enter in the competition

SCRAPBOOKING KIT

Book and collect a scrapbooking kit and create any time, any day Ages 5+

EYE MASK KIT

Book and collect the kit and make a lovely eye mask any time, any day Ages 10+

CRAFT KITS

No booking necessary, collect from the library anytime

FAMILY FUNGI ADVENTURE

Book and collect a kit, watch the online videos & then go fungi hunting

BOOKINGS AVAILABLE ONLINE FROM 10am 22 JUNE AT:
mbcl.eventbrite.com.au



8 8 Parents / Carers and OSHC Services 8 8

**Finding it hard to pick an enjoyable film
that's also suitable for the whole family?**

Then check out ACCM's website for the latest guides to family
movies

available via Disney+, Netflix, Stan and SBS On Demand,
plus access 1000+ reviews developed over the past 18 years
at *Know Before You Go*

[VISIT THE ACCM WEBSITE HERE](https://childrenandmedia.org.au/)

<https://childrenandmedia.org.au/>