Upcoming Events

**Term 4 Week 10**

- Dance to be Fit  
  Mon 7/12
- Presentation Night  
  Tue 8/12
- Dance to be Fit  
  Tue 8/12
- Scripture Performance  
  Wed 9/12
- Carols on the Green  
  Thur 10/11

**Term 4 Week 11**

- Year 6 Farewell  
  Mon 14/12
- Movie Day  
  Tue 15/12
- Elermore Vale Has Talent  
  Wed 16/12
- Last Day of Term  
  Wed 16/12

Important Dates for 2016

The last day for this school year is Wednesday 16th December. The day will finish with the traditional Year 6 clap out under the COLA at 2:40pm.

The first day of Term 1 in 2016 for students in our Kangaroos preschool group and students in years 1-6 is Thursday 28th January, with Kindergarten students starting on Tuesday 2nd February. This later start for Kindergarten is due to the Best Start Assessments, which take place in the first few days.

**Some other dates to mark on the calendar are for early Term 1 are:**

- Parent Information Sessions – Tuesday 9th February
- Swimming Carnival – Friday 12th February
- Band Meeting – Wednesday 10th February
- P&C Meeting – Tuesday 16th February

Happy Holidays

As this is the final school newsletter for this year, the staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a very happy and safe Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all again next year, with your children forging ahead in their primary school education. For those students moving on to high school, we wish you all the best and look forward to hearing about your achievements for many years to come.

Student Reports

Student reports will be sent home Friday 11th December. These reports are an accurate summation of progress within teaching and learning programs for this semester. I was impressed with the quality of these reports and the obvious strong relationships between teachers and students.

Congratulations to all students on their very successful year in 2015 and a special mention to Year 6 on their fine leadership skills and the positive role models they have been to the student body. I wish them well as they continue on to high school.

Presentation Evening

Our formal Presentation Evening will take place tomorrow evening at Glendale Technology High School, starting at 6.00pm. This is a time when outstanding achievements across academic, social and sporting arenas are recognised. Letters have been posted to those families who have a child receiving one of these special awards. We would like to keep this a surprise for those children and would greatly appreciate your assistance with this.

If you have not yet contacted the school with an RSVP please do so immediately as that will confirm that you have received your invite and will assist us with setting up the hall.

All students in the choir and band have been asked to attend as they will be performing on the night. Students who are either receiving awards or performing must wear full school uniform.

On arrival at the High School the students are to go to their teachers where they will be sat in class groups for the duration of the proceedings.
Class Kits for 2016

Next year students in our school will once again be required to purchase a class kit that will contain all of the materials required for 2016. In response to parent requests, the class kits will be ordered and packaged as individual student kits, not as a class kits, however they will still attract bulk order discounts.

The packs will include specific exercise books designed for your child’s grade, homework books/folders, pencils, pens, glue sticks, rulers, etc. which have been carefully thought out and put together by the class teacher as the requirements needed for learning. Next year the packs will continue to include subscriptions to Reading Eggs and Mathletics with the addition of World Book Online.

Please do not buy books and other stationery items during the holiday break.

More information will come home early next year.

Carols on the Green

On Thursday night we will once again host our Carols night on ‘A’ field. The night will commence with a BBQ at 5.30pm with the carols starting at 6.00pm. The night promises to be filled with high quality performances with every child performing in an item with either their class or stage. Don’t miss out on this end of year celebration. Bring your chair or picnic rug and enjoy the BBQ and sing along to all your favourites.

The canteen will also be open for food and drinks. Please note – alcohol and smoking are not permitted on school grounds. This is an alcohol free event. The raffle will be drawn towards the end of the night.

Students are required to sit in the marked area with their class teachers for the duration of the performance. This not only ensures their safety but also ensures that they are ready for their item and that the classes who perform later in the program still have an audience.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday evening.

Library Book Borrowing

All borrowing from our library has now ceased for the year. Students need to return all library books to the library as soon as possible. Please help your child find any missing books. If you have any difficulties locating them, please contact the library. Invoices will be issued for unreturned/lost books. Children wanting to continue borrowing are encouraged to join and borrow from the Wallsend Public Library. Thank you for assisting your children with their library books this year.

Blue and Gold Day

Congratulations to Year 6 students, Mr Brewis and Ms Yeo on a fabulous Blue and Gold Day last Wednesday. The students came up with some great activities that kept everyone entertained. All up they raised just over $3400 and will use the money to purchase a powered lectern as their parting gift to the school.

Movie Day

As part of our end of year activities students will be attending Event Cinemas at Glendale on Tuesday 15th December.

Students in K-2 will be seeing ‘Snoopy and Charlie Brown.’ They will be departing school at 9.15am and will return to school at approximately 12.00pm.

Students in Years 3 to Year 6 will see the film “Goosebumps” and will depart school at 10.00am with an estimated time of arrival back at school of 1.00pm.

As the students are leaving the school grounds they will be required to wear their school uniform for this event.

Class Parties

End of year class parties will be on Monday 14th December. This is an out of uniform day with the theme of the day being Christmas colours.

Individual class teachers will send details home with the students throughout this week.
**Uniform Shop Roster**

| Week 10 and 11 | The uniform shop is now closed for the remainder of the year for stocktake.

**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 7/12</th>
<th>Tue 8/12</th>
<th>Wed 9/12</th>
<th>Thur 10/12</th>
<th>Fri 11/12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dempsey 11-2</td>
<td>Thomas Help Needed 11-2</td>
<td>Feenan 11-2</td>
<td>Help needed at Carols</td>
<td>Help needed at Carols</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Canteen Menu – Carols Night**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pizza Singles</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sushi Rolls</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Burgers</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetarian Burgers</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pies/Sausage Rolls</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea/Coffee</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cakes/Pastries</td>
<td>$2.00 - $3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cold Drinks</td>
<td>$1.50 - $2.00</td>
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</tbody>
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**Reminder**

Volunteers Christmas Night Out will be held on Friday 11 December at the Blackbutt Hotel. Dinner is booked for 7pm. If you would like to join us please leave your name with Deb at the canteen.

**Fundraising News**

We would like to thank all the parents who have donated food items for our Christmas Raffle, purchased raffle tickets and placed candle orders for the Carols Night.

If you haven’t had a chance to purchase tickets or candles please do so by Tuesday 8th November.

Thanks for your support

The Fundraising Team

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**Band Buzz**

**Band BBQ at Bunnings Glendale**

Not only are our students becoming talented musicians but our parents are becoming BBQ gurus.

We have 2 BBQ events this week. The first of these is at our Carols Night on Thursday night. The BBQ will be set up in the cricket nets on ‘A’ field and will sell both food and drinks.

Our second BBQ is on Friday 11th December at Bunnings Wallsend. If you are in the area please call in for a sausage sandwich and pass the message on to your family and friends so they can help support our school.

**From the Band Leaders**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for making the band what it is today, especially Mrs Robertson and the Band Members. Without all the band members we couldn’t have achieved as much as we have this year and I can’t wait to hear them perform in 2016. Thank you for the committee and families dedications for all their efforts to ensure the school band continues to strive. I have watched the band grow each year and even with the year 6’s leaving soon I know the band will continue to grow and entertain people for many years to come.

Congratulations to our entire band on winning 1st place at band fest. I am so proud to have been part of the EVPS Band since 2012 and have thoroughly enjoyed being a Bandleader this year. If you are given the opportunity to be a Bandleader I hope you will love it as much as I have!

Thank you

Lily Kirkwood
Could try harder... always does her best... lacks concentration... easily distracted... a pleasure to teach... Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well, but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report, do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high, then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child's abilities. A quick check of your child's last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friend's children and even yourself when you were a child; instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?
   Self-confidence is a prerequisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

   School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc., with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format, school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

   Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child's report:
   - Focus on strengths. Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.
   - Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.
   - Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and cooperation are highly valued by employers so don't dismiss these as unimportant.
   - Take note of student self-assessment. Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.
   - Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed, celebrate your child's efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way, you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

Michael Grose