Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Michelle has been in Melbourne this week attending the first two modules of Principals as Literacy Leaders.
Good luck to all our swimmers today at Rochester!
Enjoy your weekend,
Michelle.
griffiths.michelle.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**KidsMatter Update**

The Kids Matter Action Team met this week and is really keen to get started on implementing the framework in our school. In order for us to get started we are urging all parents (the Mums and the Dads) to complete the parent survey. They only take about 10 minutes to complete and are vital to the next step for Kids Matter.

A copy is attached to this newsletter. Completed copies can be returned anonymously through the office or to Andrea at school.

Alternatively you can complete the survey online through the Kids Matter website. Follow the links to Primary Schools, Resources for your Journey, Other Resources, School Surveys, Parent Surveys.

https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/other-resources/school-surveys/parent-survey

If you completed a survey last year could you please complete another for this term. These surveys will be a regular occurrence as we implement each stage of the Kids Matter Framework.

All surveys must be completed by **FRIDAY the 14th of MARCH**. Thank you to those parents who have already completed the survey and in advance to parents for your help with this matter.
## Term One 2014 Calendar

* Please note some dates will change from week to week due to updates

| Week 6: March 3rd – 7th | **Responsible pet ownership incursion Monday 3rd March**  
| | **Finance Committee meeting Thursday 6th March 8am.**  
| | **Prep’s first Wednesday – 5th March. Full time attendance from now on.**  
| | **Pupil Free Day #2 – Staff attending Cluster Professional Development Day** |

| Week 7: March 10th – 14th | **School Council AGM Thursday 13th March, 7:00pm.**  
| | **Prep interviews this week.** |

| Week 8: March 17th – 21st | **Finance Committee meeting 8:00am; KidsMatter Action Team meeting in Grade P-2 room 3:30pm; Parents and Friends meeting 2:45pm in the Library; Education and Policy meeting 4:30pm in the Grade P-2 room; SRC meeting 1:30pm in the Grade P-2 room – Thursday March 27th.** |

| Week 9: March 24th – 28th | **Final day of term Friday 4th April. 2:30pm finish.**  
| | **Crazy Hair Day—gold coin donation** |

## SHROVE TUESDAY AT ELMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Come along to Elmore Primary School and enjoy a pancake with the school children for morning tea as part of Shrove Tuesday.

**Date:** Tuesday 4th March 2014  
**Time:** 10:55 - 11:30am  
**Cost:** Gold coin donation  
**R.S.V.P:** Friday 28th February,  
To [Tanya Czuczman](mailto:ajandte@bigpond.com) at [ajandte@bigpond.com](mailto:ajandte@bigpond.com) or **0427 336 240**

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**Remember** —  
Terms 1 & 4 students must wear a wide-brimmed or Legionnaire-style hat when outside. No hat = no play!  
Please remember your water bottle too.
Numeracy Award:
Joe Hayes for displaying such a passion for mathematics and always completing his work in a timely manner. Terrific Effort Joe

Literacy Award:

Quote of the week:
“Wrong is Wrong even if everyone is doing it. Right is Right even if no one is doing it”

Wendy’s Farewell
This term Wendy retired from teaching at Elmore Primary School in true Wendy style...quietly, no fuss, a simple morning tea with the students whom she adored so much...

However, there were many parents and friends of Wendy who also wanted the opportunity to say thank you and good luck. Wendy has agreed to an evening of celebration without any formal proceedings and all parents, caregivers and friends of the school are invited to attend;

When: Friday the 21st of March
Dinner: Bunja Thai Restaurant at 6pm
A movie will follow with details to be advised.

A bus will be running from the school at 5pm and will return approximately 11pm.

Please contact Nicole Hayes on 0438563308 or 54326393 to RSVP for this event and to book a place on the bus.

Bookings must be made by Friday the 14th of March.

Wendy has strongly expressed a casual night, no gifts or accolades, just a pleasant evening sharing two of her favourite things...Thai food and movies!!!
Prep/1/2 News

Congratulations to both Houses on winning the swimming sports! I was very proud of each and everyone of you for your effort and sportsmanship. Well done!

Preps begin their full week as of next week so remember to come to school on Wednesday. Having said that Friday, 7th March (next week) is a pupil free day for everyone so sleep in and enjoy a long weekend as Monday, 10th March is a public holiday for Labour Day. Therefore, the last 2 weeks of term will be their first full weeks.

English

Guided Reading: Takes place daily with students in smaller groups. The chosen text has multiple copies and each student is required to read a line, paragraph or page each. The focus of learning includes punctuation, nouns, rhyming, high frequency words, etc. Therefore, if you haven’t seen my name in your child’s reading log book each day please feel at ease that I am hearing your child read in many varied situations, e.g. Guided Reading, regular Running Records, BURT reading tests, etc. Please feel free to catch up with me if you have any queries.

Writing: Gr 1 & 2 - Persuasive writing will continue for the remainder of term with journal/recounts revisited from time to time. Preps – Journal writing each day.

Handwriting: Nn concentrating on correct starting points and writing on the line.

Mathematics: Money Maths. Preps – recognise and name our Australian Currency. Early Years Numeracy testing will begin next Wednesday. A CRT will be in our room to release me to conduct the tests. Gr 1 - Recognise, describe and order Australian coins according to their value. Gr 2 - Count and order small collections of Australian coins and notes according to their value.

Homework Prep – 2: Reading of readers daily please. This will help to establish good routines and assist your child in developing a passion for books and begin their life long journey of learning from the written word.

Homework/Spelling/Mathematics Gr 1 & 2: Spelling words are sent home each Monday with an activity to follow. There will also be a mathematics sheet to complete. These activities are consolidation of what we have been learning in class. Please feel free to discuss any concerns or queries you may have.

Prep Interviews: Thank you to everyone who has chosen their preferred times. Please check your child’s bag for the note to confirm your time and let me know if there are any changes to be made.

Have a fabulous weekend! Cheers,
Andrea Bacon

3/4/5/6 News

Mr Wright has been away ill and therefore we have no news to share this week. We wish Mr Wright a speedy recovery.
Student Representative Council (SRC)

Thursday we voted on our new SRC members for this term and held our first meeting for 2014. Congratulations to each and every one of them and they are as follows:-

School Captains and Grade 6 representatives – Koby Bacon and Rhys Holmberg
Grade 5 – Hayden Trewick
Grade 4 – Sam Trewick
Grade 3 – Lachlan Giffin
Grade 2 – Joe Hayes
Grade 1 – Della Czuczman
Prep – Darcy McKenzie

New members are voted for each term so that students who are keen have the opportunity to have a go at representing their student body. The role of the SRC is to organise fundraising for equipment for themselves or various organisations, e.g. CARE Australia, Cystic Fibrosis, etc. They also make suggestions to staff, Parents and Friends or School Council on ways to improve their education or learning environment. Meetings are conducted once a month from 1:25pm to 1:50pm. An agenda is available on the metre box in the 3-6 room for all students to add to and students rotate the responsibilities of chairing and taking minutes for each meeting. During the years I have been convenor of the SRC I have always felt extremely proud of the mature conduct of each member and how seriously they take their role. Congratulations to the past SRC and I look forward to working with the new one for this term.

Andrea Bacon

Religious Education

RE begins this Wednesday with Miss Joan Giffin and for the remainder of the year.

Times: P-2 – 2-2:30pm and 3-6 – 2:30-3pm in our classrooms

We are aware of families who have chosen not to participate in RE, these students will remain in the classroom with the teacher and will continue on with work or participate in revision/extension work. Please contact Michelle or the classroom teachers if you have any queries.

Responsible Pet Ownership P-6

When: Monday, 3rd March 2014
Where: Elmore PS respective classrooms
Time: Prep -2: 1:50pm – 2:30pm
      Gr 3-6: 2:35pm – 3:20pm
Cost: Free

Program: We have the pleasure of a presenter and her dog with sensible information on how to care for your pets (cats too) and how to approach other people’s pets safely. This is an annual event and parents and siblings are welcome to attend. Please let Michelle, Craig or myself know if there are any children with fears, phobias or allergies that may impact on their attendance and we will cater for them as required.
Join us again in 2014

This April, step up the amount of physical activity in your life and get more active, more often. Go for a bike ride. Take the stairs at work. Or simply walk to school. All it takes is 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April.

This year we have:

- a new website and app to help track your progress **giveaways** and **prizes** for **every individual** who registers, not just each team.

**Just by registering every participant will receive***:

- 10 free YMCA passes
- 15% off at Rebel Sport
- One free child pass to the National Sports Museum and MCG Tour
- One free child pass to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium
- One free hour of tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Reserve
- Regular tips and ideas on ways to keep active

Every participant who registers for Active April will also go in the draw to win the $10,000 major registration prize***:

- Four tickets to the 2014 Toyota AFL Grand Final and Grand Final Breakfast (GFAFL14/13)
- Four Giant bikes and helmets
- A Tennis Warehouse voucher
- One GoPro camera.

Register before midnight on 28 February 2014

You’ll also go in the draw to win one of the following early bird prizes***:

- A $500 Rebel Sport Voucher
- A Garmin Forerunner 220 GPS enabled watch with heart rate monitor valued at $349.

So REGISTER TODAY and start warming up for Premier’s Active April.

www.activeapril.vic.gov.au

*Terms and Conditions for all prizes and offers apply. Visit our T&Cs page for details. 2014 Toyota AFL Grand Final authorisation code GFAFL14/13
Student Banking

The Elmore/Lockington/Rochester Community Bank® is delighted to be continuing to support the community by providing the new primary school students of 2014 with a $10 voucher to open a new account or add to an existing account at our branches.

The vouchers are part of an initiative by Elmore/Lockington/Rochester Community Bank® branches to encourage savings and budgeting from an early age.

Bek is able to take the students banking to the Bendigo Bank on a Tuesday’s and Thursday’s. If you wish to be a part of this please leave banking in her draw. New students will be receiving their Bank Items very soon :-)

Rochester Basketball Association

Competition 1 will commence on the 18th of March 2014. Fees will be $90 per player, $180 for 2 or $200 for 3 or more players. A registration night will be held to hand out team sheets and singlets on Wednesday 12th of March from 5pm-6.30pm. Eftpos will be available on this night only for registrations if required. Registration closing date will be Friday the 28th of February 2014. If anyone is interested in being an umpire or team coach could they please send through their details and availability asap. Please contact Veronica with any inquiries 0428887952.

Registration Night will be held at the CVCC centre.