Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Today was the final day of our Water Familiarisation program and we ended with a bang on House Sports! It was great to see so many parents and family member there, supporting their children. Congratulations to our winners for this year! Their team’s name will go onto our perpetual trophy to be presented at Presentation Evening to our House Captains. Well done to the students who all participated well and demonstrated good sportsmanship. Great effort from our teachers who worked hard to make sure everything was organised and ready to go for a great day, and thanks to those parents who always help out with whatever needs to be done—thoughtful parents like you make our programs run so much more smoothly and our students have a far more enjoyable time.

I have kicked off the Reading Recovery program at school this week and am working with two students. I will work with more students once these two come off the program. It has been going really well and I am enjoying it as much as the students are!

Next week we can settle into our regular school week without the disruption of swimming. I know that teachers are looking forward to getting their regular timetable established. The only change will be that Grade 3–6 will be attending the Cluster Swimming Sports on Friday at Rochester. Just a reminder to get permission forms in and organise transport. 😊

Enjoy your weekend,
Michelle Griffiths
Principal
griffiths.michelle.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
### Week 2 — Feb 6
- **Tuesday** — Parent Information Evening, 6:00pm
- **Wednesday** — No Preps required today
- **Thursday** — Finance meeting #1, 8:00 am; KidsMatter meeting #1, 3:45pm
- **Friday** — Parents and Friends meeting in the staff room, 9:00am — All Welcome! Come and have a coffee and catch up.

### Week 3 — Feb 9—13
- **Water Familiarisation week #1 of 2** — see information in next week’s Newsletter. This will run for two weeks.
- **Getting to Know You Interviews** — all this week. Grades 1—6 only. Preps are after assessment is completed. Further information will be sent out for Prep students.
- **Monday** — Michelle at Regional Director’s Meeting, Bendigo
- **Wednesday** — No Preps required
- **Thursday** — Grade 3—6 to attend Open Water excursion to Lake Eppalock

### Week 4 — Feb 16—20
- **Water Familiarisation week #2 of 2**.
- **Wednesday** — No Preps required
- **Thursday** — School Council #1, 7:00pm
- **Friday** — House Swimming Sports at the Elmore Pool, all grades. Parents / families welcomed. Parents and Friends meeting at 9:00am

### Week 5 — Feb 23—27
- **Tuesday** — Centacare Parent Information Session — further information to be provided
- **Wednesday** — No Preps required
- **Friday** — Cluster Swimming Sports day at Rochester, Grades 3—6 only.

### Week 6 — Mar 2—6
- **Monday** — Andrea attending Literacy Coordinator’s Day
- **Tuesday** — Responsible Pet Ownership incursion. Both Grades
- **Wednesday** — No Preps
- **Thursday** — Finance meeting #2, 8:00am; KidsMatter meeting #2, 3:45pm
- **Friday** — Parents and Friends meeting, 9:00am, staff room.

### Week 7 — Mar 9—13
- **Prep Interviews this week.**
- **Monday** — Labour Day Public Holiday! - No students required at school this day.
- **Tuesday** — Parent Literacy Evening with Pauline Cleary
- **Wednesday** — Preps’ first Wednesday at school

### Week 8 — Mar 16—20
- **Thursday** — School Council #2, 7:00pm
- **Saturday** — Car Boot Sale

### Week 9 — Mar 23—27
- **Tuesday** — Parent Numeracy Evening with Kim Kirkpatrick
- **Thursday** — Finance meeting #3, 8:00am; KidsMatter meeting #3, 3:45pm
- **Friday** — Crazy Hair Day; Parents and Friends meeting, 9:00am, staff room; Last Day Term 1 — 2:30pm finish for students.
Congratulations to our Student Representative Committee members! Their first meeting is Thursday 26th March. They are:

6 - Mal & Em
5 - Kodi
4 - Lachlan first 1/2 yr & Steph second 1/2
3 - Cody Mc 1st 1/2 & Zara 2nd 1/2
2 - Della 1st 1/2 & Brigid 2nd 1/2
1 - Darcy 1st term
P - Hamish 1st term

**Quote of the week:** “Sometimes its better to be kind than to be right. We do not always need an intelligent mind that speaks but a patient heart that listens.” — Malachie Connally

**Principal’s Award**

Malachie Connally

For demonstrating extremely impressive leadership skills, demonstrating caring for others.

**Numeracy Award:**

Della Czuczman for her confident skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s this week. Fantastic effort Della!

**Literacy Award:**

Stephany West for her awesome week of reading.

**Silly picture of the week...** by request of my three little monkeys. 😊

Last week, students in Grade 3—6 participated in the Open Water day run by Life Saving Victoria at Lake Eppalock. You may have seen them on WIN News! Here are some photos from the day...
**Prep/2 News**

Preps have one more Wednesday at home and then have their first full week in week 7 (Interview week). Having said that Monday, 9th March is public holiday for Labour Day so sleep in and enjoy a long weekend. Therefore, the last 2 weeks of term will be their first full weeks.

**English**

**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:** Downward stroke, lower case, body only letters such as Nn, Mm and Rr focussing on correct starting points, formation and writing on the line with each.

**Mathematics:** Shape – 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes, sorting, recognition, describing and drawing. Number and Algebra – Preps – numbers to 20 and beyond, Grade 1 – numbers in the 100s and beyond and skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s and Grade 2 – numbers to 1000 and beyond and skip counting by 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s.

**Homework Prep – 2:** Reading of readers daily please. Preps may need you to read the sentence for them first and they repeat it. Encourage your child to point to each word as they read it to assist with focussing on each word and learning it by sight.

**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 after swimming. 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:** Please check your child’s bag for the note to choose your preferred time. I will confirm your time with a note being sent home on Friday, 27th Feb with your newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend!
Cheers,
Andrea Bacon

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**Dress – Up Day**

**When:** Friday, 27th February

**What:** Dress-up in your favourite costume and bring along your favourite toy

**Snacks:** Could students please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea and their own fruit break

**Lunch:** Will be supplied by me, prepared and cooked by us

We will have a different theme for each ‘special day’ that we have when the 3-6 are away at cluster functions.

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**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 his/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, Daniel 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.
3-6 News

We’ve had a very busy and productive week in grades 3-6.

Last Thursday we travelled out to Lake Eppalock for THE OPEN WATER LEARNING EXPERIENCE session! The activities were very informative and loads of fun. The students really enjoyed the trip and their behaviour was exceptional. After last Thursday night it was evident that we may have some up and coming news anchors within our group.

Throughout the week the students have been braving the fresh water of The Elmore Pool in preparation for the House Swimming Sports. By the looks of it we could be in store for some intense and exciting racing.

Reading: It’s great to see that most students are reading at home but it’s important to fill out their reading diary after they’ve read to you. Occasionally notes will be stuck into their diaries to keep you up to date on their progress.

Throughout the week, students have been working hard to publish their recounts. The recounts will be compiled into a class book. The book will be sent home with each student so they can share their hard work with you all.

If you have any queries at all, please don’t hesitate to come in and see me.

Cheers,
Daniel Wridgway

Runnymede Junior Football Club
Under 12 and Under 14 Registration Night

When – Friday 13th February 2015
Where – Colbinabbin Swimming Pool
Time – 5.00pm – 7.00pm
BBQ tea will be provided – All boys and girls welcome to come along.
Any queries please contact; Dea Brown 0418 333 177 or David Trewick 0425 710 481

Rochester Basketball Association
Will be holding their AGM and General meeting on Tuesday the 24th Of February, 7pm at the Cri Hotel Rochester.
All committee positions will be open, if you are interested in a position and can’t make the meeting please contact Veronica on 0427 381 384, or brayjella4@bigpond.com. Apologies and RSVP to Veronica.

Guitar Lessons started with Tyson this week! It was very exciting for those students.
Drums also started this week with David.
It is beautiful to hear music around the school! I have been serenaded by guitar next to my office all day. 😊
PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 1ST EVER

Car Boot Sale!

SATURDAY MARCH 21ST
9:00AM—1:00PM
SITE COST IS ONLY $20.00!

ELMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HERVEY STREET ENTRANCE.

PLENTY OF KIDS’ ENTERTAINMENT

YUMMY BBQ BREKKY AND LUNCH

ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL DIRECTLY SUPPORT OUR PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM.

CONTACT MICHELLE GRIFFITHS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: 5432 6247
Crossing the Highway

This week I received a visit from our local Police Officer, Dave Rowland. He wanted to inform me that he had been monitoring traffic along the highway in front of our school and had observed several parents and children crossing the road and not using the school crossing.

Dave wanted to remind us that it is very important to show children the safest way to cross such a busy road, and using the crossing is a priority. Please discuss this with your child and show them where they should cross so that we can ensure we are doing everything we can to keep them safe at all times.

Dave also asked me to remind everyone that we cannot park within 25 metres of the crossing.

Invitation to Past and Present Students of Elmore Primary School

**Date:** Sunday 22nd February  
**Time:** 10am to 12noon

We would like to invite past and present students and interested community members of Elmore to come to the school to place their painted hand prints on our bollards as a sign of our community strength and solidarity. More information can be sought from Andrea Bacon at Elmore PS on 5432 6247

Elmore Footy Club, Junior Footballers, 17 &U, 15&U, netballers and parents are all invited to our junior registration day on Sunday 22nd February at 10:30am at the clubrooms. There will be a combined training session conducted by the teams’ coaches to give everyone the chance to get to know each other. Parents / carers will have an opportunity to register players, complete paperwork and make payments. BBQ lunch provided after training, drinks at bar prices. Spread the word as this will be a great way to kick off the 2015 season!

Please note, this does not include Primary Grades at present.

Religious Education

RE begins Wednesday, 25th February with Miss Joan Giffin and for the remainder of the year.  
**Times:** 3-6 – 2-2:30pm and P-2 – 2:30-3pm in our classrooms

We are aware that some families who have chosen not to participate in RE. These students will remain in the classroom with the teacher and will continue on with unfinished work or participate in revision/extension work. Please contact Michelle or the classroom teachers if you have any queries.
Every year we help out at the B&S Ball with cooking of food, serving and general assistance. The two time slots we have to fill are 6am—10am or 9am—11am. We need to get 10 volunteers. All funds raised will be donated to our Performing Arts program. Please come along and help us out so that we can raise more money to provide great resources for our kids. Even if you can’t do the whole time slot, and assistance that morning would be greatly appreciated.

Please complete and return the form below or call the office (5432 6247) and we will put your name on the list.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Michelle and Parents and Friends.

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**B & S Ball Volunteer Form—Sunday 8th March**

Name _____________________________________________________

I will be happy to help out on Sunday 8th March

Contact number ________________________________________________

Signed _____________________________________________________

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**Canberra Camp for Grade 5 & 6 Student Expression of Interest**

This year our Grade 5 & 6 students head off to Canberra with our cluster schools for their camp. We have not got final costs yet but we anticipate that it will be a similar price to last year which was $420.00.

Bek will organise a payment system for any families who would prefer to pay that way.

The camp dates are November 23—27th.

Please return the form below along with a $50.00 non-refundable deposit if you are interested in your child(ren) attending so we can organise numbers and therefore a final cost.

Michelle

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**Canberra Camp for Grade 5 & 6 Student Expression of Interest**

Student’s name: _____________________________________________ Grade: ______________

I understand that I am required to pay a $50.00 deposit to secure a place on the camp which is non-refundable.

Signed: ________________________________