

## **CONTACT SPECIAL FIRST EDITION**

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2017**

*The school and the community in joint partnership for 38 years of teaching and learning for our children.  
'A Kids Matter School because kids do matter at Eastbourne Primary School.'*

Eastbourne Primary School provides high quality and engaging educational programs that encourage opportunities for success. We promote positive values within a safe, supportive and caring environment for our school community.

We acknowledge that Eastbourne Primary School is built on Boonerwung land.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Welcome to another exciting year in education at Eastbourne Primary School. A huge welcome to all our new students both prep and those who are joining us throughout other areas of the school. A big welcome to all the new parents and staff. Three new teachers include Karen Allison, Alyssa Kent and Melissa Puddy. A detailed list of staffing will be in the next newsletter. As always the school is looking in great shape thanks to the work done by Ron White over the Christmas break.

A big thanks to all staff who have committed themselves over the holiday break to setting up their rooms in preparation for the first day of term 1.

The Office Staff also need a big thankyou for arranging the books and administration over the term break. Thanks Mandy and Glenda.

### **Parents Reminders**

On any given day, the office staff are over run with requests and reminders by parents for their children. Can I ask that pick up arrangements and any other reminders be given by yourself to your child in the morning of that day so the office is not under pressure at the end of the day and your child may as a consequence not receive their message on time.

### **Books**

If you haven't paid for and collected your child's books please do so as they will be returned to our suppliers next week.

### **Library Books and Resources**

Throughout previous years, library books, readers and other resources from around the school are sometimes borrowed by students and not returned. If you have any school books and resources from Eastbourne Primary School they can be returned by placing the item in a box just inside the library door.

### **Car Parking**

Please continue to observe the etiquette required when using the parent car park. A reminder to everyone that the staff car park is for staff **only**. 40 kph is the speed limit around the school precinct. In particular please **DO NOT** use the disabled carpark unless you are legally authorised. **Parents who had special permission to use the carpark in 2016 need to speak to me before making use of this privilege this year as circumstances do change. For student safety reasons you will be asked to leave the staff carpark before and after school.**

### **School Council Elections**

Please read the attached information and go to the office and collect a nomination form if you would like to be part of this important school decision making body. There are 5 parent and 2 staff positions available for 1 or 2 year tenders.

### **Hot Weather**

It is extremely important that your child wears a broad brimmed hat every day. Sun cream on the face before leaving home is also something to be encouraged. **Remember not to leave children for any length of time in cars on hot days.**

### **Canteen**

The canteen will open for sales at recess/lunch and for lunch orders on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club begins on Friday February 3rd from 8a.m. This program runs every morning of the week throughout the year.

### **Walking School Bus**

The Walking School Bus begins **next Monday** from the pool car park in Colchester Road. The bus leaves at 8:30a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

### **Fruit Roster 2017**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Classes</b>
7/2	<b>Rms 4 &amp; 7</b>
14/2	<b>Rms 1 &amp; 17</b>
21/2	<b>Rms 2 &amp; 18</b>
28/2	<b>Rms 3 &amp; 19</b>
7/3	<b>Rms 6 &amp; 10</b>
14/3	<b>Rms 20 &amp; 13</b>
21/3	<b>Rms 21 &amp; 14</b>
28/3	<b>Rms 9 &amp; 6A</b>

The above Fruit Roster is put in place to assist the cutting up and distribution of fruit and vegetables to all classrooms. This is a great program that can only continue with parent assistance. If you can assist go to the Multi-Purpose Room from 8:45a.m. on the above date.

### **Parent Teacher Chats**

Please log on to <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/for> parent Teacher chats on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February from 1pm until 6:30pm. An information sheet with logon details has also been sent home today. This is for all students except Prep children who have their individual assessments.

### **Jump Rope for Heart**

Eastbourne Primary School is committed to this program for term 1. A jump off will be held on the last day of this term. A notice will be sent home today to explain how you get involved.

### **Stephen Wilkinson**

#### **Principal**

#### **School Council**

At this stage there are 6 parent and two community member positions for the Eastbourne Primary School Council in 2017. This is an opportunity for parents to access a closer understanding of the workings of our school and participate in some of the decision making processes within the school.

School Council wishes all parents to be aware of the Election of School Council members that occurs early in term 1. The following guide for these elections is set out below. For those unfamiliar or requiring more insight about this process, I have included some information to assist your understanding. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need further clarification.

The process of the elections remains unchanged:

- \*call for nominations
- \*nominations close, at least seven days later
- \* ballot papers circulated, at least seven days before the close of the ballot
- \*ballot closes seven days later. This must be fourteen days after the close of nominations
- \* poll declared.

The following is the Time Line for the 2017 Eastbourne Primary School Council Election process.

- \*Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017: Term 1 commences
- \*Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 Call for nominations
- \*Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017: Nominations close.

Display list of candidates, nominator and seconder

- Monday 20 February: New council to meet at 6.00 p.m. in the staffroom (if no election required)

#### **If there is a need for a ballot.**

- \*Friday 17 February: Distribute ballot papers by this date
- \* Monday 20 February: Close of ballot.
- \* Tuesday 21 February: Count votes and declare the poll
- \* Monday 27 February: New council to meet at 6.00p.m. in the staffroom

Immediately following the declaration of the ballot, the first meeting of the new school council can be called. This meeting is chaired by the Principal and the School Council coopts up to 2 community members. This meeting will elect the council office bearers. The second meeting can follow on immediately after the confirmation of community members.

### **What is a school council and what does it do?**

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

### **Who is on the school council?**

There are three possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category.

Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be parent members at their child's school. **A mandated elected DET employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council.

The principal of the school is automatically one of these members. **An optional community member category.** Its members are co opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be community members. The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### **Why is parent membership so important?**

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging. How can you become involved? The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in February or March each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

\*standing for election as a member of the school council

\* encouraging another person to stand for election.

### **Do I need special experience to be on school council?**

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### **What do you need to do to stand for election?**

The Principal will issue a notice and call for nominations in January/February. For parents, this notice will be done through this newsletter. If you decide to stand for election, you will need to arrange for someone to nominate and second you as a candidate in either the parent category or DET employee category or self-nominate (there are forms for both types of nominations). Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

#### **Remember...**

\* Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do - 59864884

\*Consider standing for election to council next year.

Be sure to vote in the elections

## **Notice of Election and Call for Nominations**

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Eastbourne Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office .

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Friday February 10 2017.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

**Parent member** From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018

**DET employee member** From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.