Term 1 Week 3
Tuesday 10 2014

Student Leaders
The elections have been held for class Student Representative Council members and Sports Captains. Letters are being mailed to families of students who will receive a badge at the special assembly being held on Friday 20 February. Positions for Library Monitors and Student Peer positions will also be offered to students over the coming weeks and these students assist in administration of the library and helping with the younger children of the school.

Updating Contact Details
This is really important. We have had instances of families moving and/or changing phone details and not telling the school. Please inform the office of changes to phone numbers, addresses or other details such as a list of responsible adults who will be contacted or will be picking up your children from school.

Council Car Park and Play Area
This is a reminder that parents have the responsibility for their children’s safety when they are in the council play park. Teachers at the school will be on duty at the school gate and will return children who have not been picked up to the school office in order that parents are contacted.

I ask that parents remind their children to be aware of strangers and of the time when they are playing unsupervised at the council play park. Children should be instructed to return home if and when they find themselves alone at the park. I also ask parents to be extremely careful when driving in the car park. Please be very responsible and to be extremely alert for children in the car park.

Please do not use the staff car park to drop off and pick up students. The more vehicles going in and out of the entrance will lead to an accident. The Before and After School Care bus from St Anthony’s has reported that they have difficulty dropping off the children in the morning because parents are exiting and entering the school driveway. Please use the car park in Cawarra St.

More importantly, if you pick your children up in the afternoon you need to contact the school prior to 2.45pm- the time taken to get a message to a classroom is not instantaneous, it takes time. If lateness is a regular occurrence then afterschool care needs to be considered. School ends at 3.00 and parents need to pick up their children.

Yesterday, a parent did not arrive at school till 4.30.

The children are told that if their parents have not picked them up from the car park, they
are to go to the teacher on duty at the car park gate and come back to school.

**Eastern Creek Security**
An apology about the opening of the front gates needs to be made. The gate that is now being used as the “day gate” is the middle school gate. Last time I wrote this the school had plumbers out investigating the flooding incident and had all their equipment at the gate so it had to be closed. So when you come to school during the day use the middle school gate-the one with the ramp.

**School Hat**
I have noticed that some children are wearing different coloured hats. Please ensure that your child has a school hat. The same coloured school hat is an added security benefit to the children as all our children wear the same school hat so it is easy to see an “outsider” because a blue or a red colour really stands out when on playground duty. The school hat can be purchased at the uniform shop.

**Swimming Carnival**
We are off to the Mt Druitt Pool today for the 2015 Swim Carnival. Hopefully as many children as possible can attend to participate and to cheer along their team. The primary purpose of the carnival is to not only have fun but also to select a school swim team to represent our school at the Mt Druitt/Minchinbury District Swim Carnival. Last year we won the carnival!

**Commonwealth School Banking**
Please enquire at the office for a Commonwealth Bank account for your children.

**School Text Books**
As we do not want students disadvantaged, all text books are issued in trust that parents are expected to make payment on them. Text book payments last year were an improvement on the previous year but still the school had to pay the full amount. The text books nor the student access to online learning programs, are not free. Soon, an invoice will be issued listing the cost of the books, stationery fee and for the online programs, “Mathletics” and Reading Eggs and the Voluntary Contribution Fee.

**What is the School Voluntary Contribution Fee?**
The Voluntary Contribution Fee of $20 a child or $40 per family is used to purchase school resources such as reading books, maths equipment, sport equipment, music instruments and many other educational items. The fee as you can see is a most valuable contribution. Please consider supporting the school through this fee.

**The Anchor Program**
This program supports children after parental separation and conflict at home. It is fully funded by the Attorney Generals Department and provides children with strategies that will help them to cope. Please read the attached letter. Application forms to a workshop in Blacktown are located in the office and an invitation is offered for families in the school. In addition a school based program is also being planned.

**Matilda-the Musical-An Expression of Interest**
The school is considering organising an excursion to the city to see the musical “Matilda” for our children K-6. The cost will be approximately $80 which includes the bus fare. This is an expensive excursion for a cultural activity and prior to any organisation the school would like to see at least 50 students participate. If you are interested in sending your child please complete the expression of interest form included in this newsletter.

**Junya Family Development Services**
Courses for parents and families run during this term in the Met West Region by Junya Family Development Centre. You may be interested. Please see the attached flyer.

**Library News**
Welcome to an exciting 2015 in the Library. Please ensure your child has a library bag each week, clearly marked with their name and class, so they can borrow books to read for enjoyment and to share a story with you. Kindergarten and Year 1 children may borrow 1 book; Year 2 can borrow up to 2 books; Year 3 can borrow up to 3 books; Year 4 can borrow up to 4 books; Year 5 can borrow up to 5 books and Year 6 can borrow up to 6 books each week. Each class visits the Library for 1 hour every week as follows:
Tuesday: 5/6G; 3/4C; 1/2S
Wednesday: K/1I; 2N; KH; 4/5W
Thursday: 3/4E; 2/3L; KJ; 5/6C

Parent volunteers are always welcome in the Library to shelve and/or cover books. If you are interested please see me.

2015 Book Club
This year Scholastic Book Club has changed their ordering and payment system. Brochures will be sent to the school and given to your child during their Library lesson each term. Orders and payments are only being accepted online direct to Scholastic into the school account by the due date – you no longer need to worry about sending paper order forms to school or finding that loose change for the order. Any late orders will now be dealt with by Scholastic and will incur an additional postage and handling charge. After your order has been placed the books will be delivered to the school and will be given to your child during their Library lesson.

The school Library will still receive reward points which we can spend on new books for our Library.

This is a Scholastic initiative and I hope it will make it easier for you to order and make payments for your child.

For further information please see attached flyer from Scholastic or you can talk to me at the “Tell me about your child night” February 17th at 6.00-7.30pm

Thankyou
Mrs Mead
Teacher Librarian

Before and After School Care
Families in our school have one provider available for before and after school care. It is:
“St Anthony’s Early Learning Centre” at 46-48 Eskdale St, Minchinbury. The telephone number is 9832 7477.

School App
To connect with the school App use the web portal http://www.myauschools.com Eastern Creek Public School. The username is community and the password is easternckps.

P and C Meeting
The first of the 2015 meetings will be held this Wednesday afternoon at 4.00pm. This is a different time just to trial if additional parents can attend. The nine o’clock meetings clashed with family and work commitments, the evening meetings are still the same so it is a trial only to see if it works. So come along to the room called the MPR at 4.00pm Wednesday afternoon.

Auskick Wed 11 February
Last week an invitation was extended to our children to be part of an Aussie rules skills session being held in the playground afterschool. Further information can be obtained from My School Auskick, Adrian Boelhouwer on 0433498254.

February 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 10</td>
<td>Swim carnival-Mt Druitt Pool</td>
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<td>Wed 11</td>
<td>Mandarin Language Class-Stage 3 3.15- Auskick afternoon back playground</td>
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<td>Fri 13</td>
<td>Sport</td>
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<td>Tennis-Elton Stoney</td>
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<td>Music Bus</td>
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<td>Preschool network Meeting-Library</td>
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<td>Tues 17</td>
<td>Scripture starts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 Parent—“Tell Me About Your Child” night- school hall</td>
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<td>Wed 18</td>
<td>3.30 Auskick-back playground</td>
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<td>Fri 20</td>
<td>Assembly- Badge Assembly</td>
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<td>Sport</td>
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Wes Chia
Principal

School Donation
The school would like to acknowledge the very kind donation to the school from Mr Darley of an upgrade to the school communication and security system. Equipment and labour to the value of $8035 was installed this week from “The Tek Group TTG”.

For your information:-
Before and After School Care
Families in our school have one provider available for before and after school care. It is:
“St Anthony’s Early Learning Centre” at 46-48 Eskdale St, Minchinbury. The telephone number is 9832 7477.
School Tennis lessons
Mr Elton Stoney, the school’s tennis coach, is available for lessons both private and group and can be contacted on 0412 122 976. Currently lessons are on Friday morning only. Places are available for two sessions 8.00 and 8.30 at $7 a session.

J & E Piano Music Centre
Some of our children participate in keyboard lessons during the week and are instructed by trained teachers of piano and keyboard. Keyboards are provided for the children to use. If you would like your child to participate please ring Johnny Young on 9651 4892 or 0411 884408.

The Music Bus
If you are interested in your child learning drums, guitar or singing, please contact Kristy. Ph.: 1300 168 742 Fax: (02) 9527 0631 P.O. Box 2675, Taren Point NSW 2229 www.themusicbus.com.au

Taekwondo Classes
David Adlam, from Nepean Wolves Taekwondo instructs Taekwondo classes on Friday afternoon. If you are interested in your children participating in the class please contact David on Tel: 47513494 Mobile: 0408609464 Email: nwtkd@exemail.com.au Website: nwtkd.com.au

Western Sydney Speech Pathology
Western Sydney Speech Pathology is able to offer Speech Pathology Services at Eastern Creek Public School. Doctor referrals are not necessary. Appointments are essential. To make an appointment or enquire about our services call our office on 9622 1616. Any of our therapists Julie, Georgina, Annemarie or Celine will be happy to talk to you and answer any questions you may have.

Bayliss Hardware
For all of your handy hardware needs Shop 9-11 Rooty Hill Plaza Rooty Hill Rd North Rooty Hill NSW 2766 96258549

St Alban’s Church
St Alban’s church runs ESL programs for people in our community twice weekly.
Sandy Galea
St Alban’s MBM Children’s Minister

ph: 0432 592 949
sandy@mbm.org.au
www.mbm.org.au

MBM Kid’s Vision: Transforming kid’s lives through Jesus Christ to the glory of God. Please see the attached flyer.

“A note from the Learning and Support Team:
Thank you to the families who have returned notes indicating interest in ‘The Anchor’ programme. At this stage the programme is being scheduled for Term 2. More details will follow next term.

Mrs Flores will be Learning and Support Teacher for P-2 on Wednesdays and Thursdays and Mrs Parker with be working with Years 3-6 on Mondays, alternate Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We look forward to meeting you at the Tell Us About Your Child Night next Tuesday. Please come and say ‘hello’ and talk with us about how best to support your child’s learning.”

2015 Expression of Interest for Matilda the Musical cost is $80
Please circle the option if you are interested in participating in the excursion to the show.
I am interested in sending my child to Matilda

I would also like to attend to see the show with my child