Welcome back!

Welcome back to the 2016 school year. We hope that you have had a restful holiday and are ready for another great year filled with rich learning experiences.

A special welcome to our new students, Luke (Year 2), William (Year 3), Riley (Year 4), Kaleb (Year 5) and their families. We also welcome back to Eltham Cash (Year 2) and Aiya (Year 6).

Kindergarten students will have their first day at school on Monday after participating in Best Start assessment tomorrow.

This is just a brief newsletter to communicate class structure and information about the upcoming swimming carnival. Class requirement lists and information regarding other requirements for the start of the year.

Our current enrolment is 66. The current class structure will remain the same and all staff have returned for 2015.

New Deck

A huge thankyou to Ronnie Soutar for coordinating the construction of our new deck. Thanks also to Charlie Davies and Michael Border who spent many hours working to ensure that the deck would be finished for the start of school. It is wonderful; to have such skilled, supportive parents who are willing to share their expertise to benefit all students. The space will be a huge asset providing an additional learning space as well as improving the aesthetics of our school. We are now searching for some keen painters to complete the last job! Please contact the school if you are available to help out.

Eltham Public School
“Helping Each Other Grow”

Term 1 – Week 1
Thursday, January 28, 2016

Boatharbour Rd, Eltham NSW 2480
T: 6629 1321  F: 6629 1027
E: eltham-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
W: www.eltham-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Calendar

Term 1
Week 2
Tuesday 2nd Feb  P&C Meeting 7pm
Week 3
Friday 12th Feb  First North Swimming Carnival

Listen to your heart!

The mind determines what’s possible. The heart surpasses it.  Pilar Coolinta
Classes

Our current enrolment is 66 students. Class grouping will remain the same as last year with the K/1 class having 15 students, 2/3 class 20 students and Year 4/5/6 class 31 students. Staff spent a great deal of time at the end of last year considering a variety of combinations to equitably address the imbalance in class sizes. As you can imagine this is a difficult task but we have put in place staffing arrangements that will support all students to achieve their full learning potential.

Hellen Kelly will be working with Stage 1 students (Year 2) 4 mornings per week, targeting Spelling, Reading and Numeracy. She will also team teach in the 4/5/6 classroom on Tuesday and Thursday supporting students in Writing, Grammar and other elements of Literacy.

Tom will target Spelling, Reading and Numeracy with Stage 2 Students (Years 3 and 4) and I will be working with stage 3 students (Years 5 and 6) 4 mornings per week. This structure will allow for smaller group sizes during prime learning time in Literacy and Numeracy.

Leslye will continue the music and library program on Thursdays and our Indonesian program will continue with Pam on Tuesdays. Vickie will be supporting teachers in all classes on Fridays.

Donelle will continue her work at Lismore office on Thursdays and Fridays. On these days Michael will be relieving SAM. He will continue with his General Assistant work on Wednesdays. Vickie will also continue her work in the office on Wednesdays.

Project Based Learning will continue for students in Years 2-6 from 2.30pm-3.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons but with some changes to the structure resulting from parent and student feedback. These changes will be communicated shortly.

Pat Leslie and Helen Kelly will continue to be the casual teachers we use on a regular basis.

Staff have also planned some other new and exciting initiatives to enhance the learning experiences provided to our students.

As our school continues to grow and staff take on additional professional opportunities and responsibilities the staffing of the school becomes more complex. We have a great team at Eltham who work together to support all students. If you have any questions or concerns about the current staffing organisation please contact the school.

Swimming Carnival

Our first major event for the year will be the First North Swimming Carnival to be held at Alstonville Pool next Friday 12th February 2016. All students in Year 3-6 are welcome to attend. Students in Year 2 who can confidently swim 50 metres can also attend but must be accompanied by an adult. Transport will be by private vehicle and students are required to be at the pool by 9.30am. If you are experiencing difficulty organising transport please contact the school. Students will be required to bring a hat, sunscreen, lunch and snacks for the day. The swimming pool canteen will be in operation and students are welcome to purchase but there will be no official lunch break on the day. Entry to the pool is $3.50 per person. The school shade tents will also need to be taken to the pool so if you are available to do this please contact the school. Tom, Vickie and I will be attending the swimming carnival. Classes will be as normal for K/1 students and the Year 2 students not attending. Deb will remain at school.

The office will be unattended on this day as Michael will be recording at the swimming carnival.

Permission notes are attached and should be returned to school by Friday 5th February.

Eltham has a proud traditional of participation and excellent results as the swimming carnival so come along ready to have a go and bring your best cheering voices!!

Condolences

The staff and students of Eltham would like to extend our condolences to Leslye and her family on the passing of her husband David just before Christmas. David was a supporter of our school and regularly attended our end of year performances. Our thoughts are with Leslye at this time.

P&C News

The first P&C Meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 commencing at 7pm in the school residence. We invite new members and welcome everyone to attend. Class organisation and structure will be discussed at this meeting.

Happy Birthday

January 13th – Laura, January 27th – Kaleb, February 2nd – Indie

Happy Birthday everyone! We hope Laura and Kaleb enjoyed your birthdays during the holidays and Indie, that you will have a great day next Tuesday.