**North Coast Swimming Results**

Congratulations to George, Kai, Oliver, Hamish, Riley C and Grace who competed at the North Coast PSSA Swimming Carnival in Kempsey yesterday. All swimmers competed hard against very competitive opposition. There was lots of great racing and personal best times.

Special congratulations to George C who qualified to compete at the State PSSA Swimming Championships at Homebush in April. This is an outstanding achievement and we wish George all the best at the next level.

**Assembly**

Our next whole school assembly will be held next Thursday 17th March commencing at 2.50pm. All families and friends are invited to attend to acknowledge the achievements and celebrate the success of our students.

**Interrelate**

Stage 3 students participated in their first session of interrelate on Monday. Thanks to parents who assisted with transport and to Bexhill Public School for hosting the event. The final session is next Monday 14th March with all arrangements remaining the same.

**Happy Birthday**

10th March – Olivia, 14th March – Zoe, 17th March – Riley H

Happy Birthday from all your friends at Eltham Public School. We hope you have a great day!!

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**Eltham Public School**

“Helping Each Other Grow”

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**Term 1 – Week 7**

**Thursday, March 10, 2016**

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**Term 1**

**Week 8**

Monday 14th March  Interrelate Yrs 5&6

Wednesday 16th March  Combined Band Rehearsal

Thursday 17th March  2.50pm Assembly

Friday 18th March  Welcome BBQ

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**Be new & improved!**

*We know what we are, but know not what we may be.*

*William Shakespeare*
**Combined Band**

Selected students will be part of the combined band for the Lismore Performing Arts Festival to be held at the Lismore Workers Club in August. The first combined rehearsal will be held at Goonellabah Public School on Wednesday 16th March from 10.00am until 2.00pm. Transport is by private vehicle. Thank you to everyone who has returned permission notes and payment. Permission notes are attached for anyone who is still to return theirs. Could you please ensure these are returned to school by tomorrow, Friday 11th March.

**Parent/ Teacher /Student Interviews**

These interviews will take place in weeks 9, 10 & 11 this term. Available timeslots are attached to this newsletter. Interview timeslots are for 15 minutes and should be booked with your child’s Literacy/ Numeracy Teacher (Jackie, Tom, Helen) for students in Years 2-6 and Deb for K/1 students. Parents are asked to choose three timeslots and return the attached note by Wednesday 16th March so interview times can be confirmed. If you require a longer interview or if you are unable to attend during the timeslots available an additional appointment can be made with your child’s teacher at another time. Parents are welcome to discuss their child’s progress at any time but are strongly encouraged to attend formal parent teacher interviews as strong links between school and home are vital to support ongoing success at school.

**Harmony Day and National Day of Action Against Bullying.**

All students K-6 will be participating in a series of Harmony Day and Anti-bullying activities on Friday 18th March. Students will work in groups on a variety of activities with a multicultural focus to highlight the importance of being proactive to stamp out bullying so we can all live in harmony. Students are invited to wear orange on this day.

**Life Education Van**

The Life Education Van will be visiting Eltham Public School on Wednesday 6th April. The Van delivers programs which address many of the components and objectives within the NSW PDHPE curriculum. Cost is $10 per student. Permission notes and request for payment will be attached to next week’s newsletter.

**The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey**

This term, students in Years 4, 5 and 6, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 21 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 18th March. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

**NAPLAN**

Students in Years 3 and 5 will be participating in the National Assessment program, Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in Term 2. Students will participate in Literacy, Numeracy and Writing Assessment tasks over three days on Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th May 2016. Friday 14th May will be catch up day if required due to illness. NAPLAN is a national assessment program and all students will be participating unless they are exempt or unwell on the days of testing. If you would like to discuss NAPLAN please contact the school.

**Year 7 2017 Expression of Interest forms**

Students in Year 6 will today receive an Expression of Interest form for enrolment into Year 7 2017 in a NSW Government School. Please complete these forms and return to school by Wednesday 16th March 2016.

**P&C News**

Please see attached pink note for all the P&C news regarding the P&C welcome BBQ, Telephone Tree and more.

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*“Helping Each Other Grow”*