NEWSLETTER No. 7 March 13th 2014

Important dates:

March
18th – AASC – AFL
19th – Cultural Performance
19th – AASC – Netball
20th – Harmony Day activities
21st – Ride to School Day
25th – MARC Van
25th – School Council AGM 6.30pm
26th – AASC – Netball
27th – AASC – AFL Gala Day Gr 4/5/6

April
4th – Last Day of Term 1
22nd – First Day of Term 2
25th – ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY

AWARD WINNERS
Last week’s award winners were:-
P/1 – Travis – For improving his concentration, working hard and completing work within set times.
2/3 – Cameron – For working really hard on his addition and achieving great results.
4/5/6 – Laura – For being an excellent role model both in and out of the classroom.

GOLDEN BRUSH
The Golden Brush for last week was won by the P/1 room. Well done.

SPELLING AND READING AWARDS
Lots of students are continuing to work their way through the various high frequency word levels in both spelling and word recognition (reading). Together, our M100W Words (Magic 200 Words) and the Oxford Words (200-500) make up the 500 most used words. A mastery of these words in both spelling and word recognition, is a key foundation for continued student success in literacy. Many thanks to those parents who are continuing to work with their children to assist this development. Lots of practice at school and home is making a big difference.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK
Next week is Cultural diversity Week across Victorian Schools. We will be conducting two activities to celebrate this important week.
On Wednesday, we will be joining with our friends from Eppalock Primary School and the Axedale Pre-School at the Axedale Hall for a Cultural Performance from Indigenous artist Sean Dewar. Sean will base his show around traditional cultural dance, rap dancing and beat box, didjeridoo playing, boomerang and spear throwing techniques, bush foods and their medicinal properties and costumes, body painting and artwork. The cost for the performance is $3.50 per student. As part of Cultural Week, next Thursday is Harmony Day. Our students will be split up into four groups and will work their way through four 15 minutes activity groups between recess and lunch, highlighting the diversity we have within our close and extended community.

Orange is the theme colour for Harmony Day. **We are encouraging all students to wear something orange next Thursday.** Orange ribbon will be available at school for those without any orange clothing or clothing with orange parts.

**RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY**
National Ride2School Day is on next week. We will be conducting our Ride2School on Friday 21st March. The plan this year is to start from where the O’Keeffe Rail Trail crosses Giri’s Rd. (approx. 3km towards Bendigo from Axedale) and then travel along the trail into Axedale and then through to the River Reserve area, under the new tunnel, across the new bridge, then return to the Axedale Park. We will all re-gather at the Axedale Park before walking our bikes to the crossing and then into the school. Members of the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail group will be riding with us on the day as will COGB Councillor Mark Weregoda. At the completion of the ride, we will have a quick assembly where the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail group will provide an update of the progress of the trail developments.

Students and parents who wish to ride can join the ride at a point where they think they are capable of completing the ride to school. Younger students who are using trainer wheels or scooters are very welcome to join us at the park for the last part of the ride.

A map with approximate times and consent form is with the Newsletter today.

Because we are riding through the town, our ride this year will involve more road crossings than in previous years. We will require 6 parents to supervise each crossing. Helpers will be required to supervise each crossing for a period of about 20 minutes. If you are able to help out, please contact Mr. Johnstone at school.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM DATE CHANGE**
The School Council Annual General Meeting and first meeting of the newly elected School Council was planned to take place next Tuesday 18th March. **This meeting has been put back one week and will now take place on Tuesday 25th March from 6.30pm.**

**ASBESTOS**
The following information is provided for you from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

**Dear Parent**

As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s Health and Safety Management Plan, new labelling will be installed at our school.

The labels remind people to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up-to-date information from the school’s asbestos register.

Asbestos - which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned - is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition.

The new labels form part of a comprehensive program to ensure Victorian government schools remain safe.

Children’s safety is our number one priority. That is why we are taking this extra step as a precaution.

**NEW BUS TRAVEL PROTOCOLS**
DEECD have updated their bus travel protocols. Attached to the newsletter today are new application forms for all bus travellers.

**COMMUNICATION PHONE TREE**
An updated Communication Phone Tree is also attached to the newsletter today if all families need to be contacted in case of an emergency.
SCHOOL APP
All families with a smart phone are encouraged to download the school app as this gives the school another form of instant communication.
We have both an iOS and Android app available, depending on your phone type – just search for Axedale Primary School. We put the newsletter onto this app along with a calendar, class blogs, school forms etc. Our aim is to continue adding to the app to have it as informative as possible. Please take the time to have a look and let us know if there is anything else you would like to see available.

NETBOOK PAYMENTS
Thank you to those families who are up to date with payments for Gr 5/6 netbooks.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOLS – AFL GALA DAY
On Thursday 27th March, our Grade 4/5/6 students will be travelling into the Tom Flood Sports Centre in Bendigo to take part in an AFL Gala –Skills Day as part of the Active After Schools Program. The afternoon sessions are aimed at promoting involvement in sports, developing positive life styles and teamwork.
As part of this trip, they will also visit the Bendigo Library for a tour and reading time. The Grade 5/6 students missed out on the Library session during the Gym Program as they helped their P/1 buddies at the gym. There is no cost for this activity.

EASTER RAFFLE
The School and Community Group is co-ordinating an Easter Raffle this year. Raffle tickets are attached to the newsletter today and are due back to school by Thursday 3rd April. Tickets are $1 each – please sell both sides. We are asking all families to donate an Easter item that will form part of the prizes that will be bundled up. Donations can be left at the Office.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is on again this year. A consent form was sent home last week. Children are encouraged to participate. Students will be given a challenge checklist and books that have been read are to be listed on this.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Number of books</th>
<th>Number from the Challenge book list</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
<td>15 books</td>
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The list of books on the Challenge book list for each year level can be found at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/booklist.aspx
1. If you are in Prep, Year 1 or Year 2 you can read books by yourself or with someone else, for example, a parent, teacher, brother or sister, classmate, buddy or friend. They can help you or read the book to you if you are just learning to read.
2. Your online books must be verified as read on the website by the Challenge coordinator.
3. All your information must be completed online before 12th September 2014.

EAGLEHAWK DAHLIA & ARTS FESTIVAL RELAY
This Saturday Josh L, Ben, Zayne and Sam will be representing the Axedale Primary School at the Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival Relay Run. We thank them and their families for their involvement and wish them well.
We have some entry forms for the Dragon Mile that is run in conjunction with the Bendigo Easter Parade. The emphasis is on participation and students are encouraged to enter the 1600m run. A ‘Mini–Mile’ (400m) is conducted for Prep to Grade 4 students.
EDUCATION WEEK
Education Week is on from May 18th -24th in all Victorian schools. We will be holding a number of events during Education Week. You may wish to pencil in some of these dates.

Education Week Activities & Dates
Tuesday May 20th – Grandparents & Special Visitor Day & Mosaic Tile Area Opening – 1.00-3.00pm
Wednesday May 21st - BSESC Concert Band
Friday May 23rd – Bright Clothes Day/Walk Safely to School Day - activities with Axedale Pre-School

Prep Orientation Program Dates
State wide Orientation Day – Tuesday 9th December 9.00am-12 noon
Extra preparation sessions - Thursdays from 1.45 -3.00pm – Nov. 20th, 27th and Dec. 4th

LEFT OVER ITEMS FROM THE WORKING BEE- ‘FREE TO A GOOD HOME’
Following our Working Bee, there are a number of items that have been removed from the shed and are no longer needed. Items include a full size freezer that no longer works but would make a good esky, some older tables, a wire cage and a small children’s work bench. They are pictured below and are free.

We also have a step ladder that is not OH&S compliant so is also available. Offers for the step ladder can be written down and placed in the money slot at the Office before 4pm next Wednesday. The highest offer will be successful. This sale amount will go towards the cost of a new, compliant step ladder. The ladder is in the sick bay for viewing if required.

PERSONAL PROPERTY
Personal property is often brought to school by students and visitors. This can include toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property. Students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. If bus travellers have things at school they must be stored in the Day Safe in the office. Please remind your children of this.

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY
Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help cut up fruit on Fridays. A roster is attached for these volunteers.
Friday 14th March – Danielle Burnside
Friday 21st March – Susie McGrath
Friday 28th March – Claire Marshall

TERM DATES 2014
Term 1: 28th January to 4th April
Term 2: Tuesday 22nd April to 27th June
Term 3: 14th July to 19th September
Term 4: 6th October to 19th December
GUITAR LESSONS
Jo Woodward will be taking Guitar Lessons again this year. This will occur each Friday and costs $10/lesson. Interested new students please contact the school.

DRINK COOLERS FOR SALE
There are some drink coolers left over from the Quick Shear available at school for $8 each. Call into the office if you would like to purchase one.

Lex Johnstone
Principal

CLASSROOMS
With the completion of our Gym Program last Wednesday, our normal Wednesday timetable began yesterday. Each Wednesday, students have lessons in Health/PE, Earth Science, Art and ICT.

In ICT yesterday P/1 students learnt new skills in logging in to the school network, mouse practice and have a laminated keyboard to practice typing on (check reader bags), 2/3 worked on Microsoft Word and 4/5/6 worked on Microsoft Publisher.

In Art, students began a four week block of Origami. P-3 students learnt basic skills in folding, creasing and accuracy. The Prep/1s have made people paper chains of their friends and family. All Prep-3 students made and decorated a dogs face. Gr. 4/5/6 students used their Netbooks to go to the origami-instruction.com website and chose a range of objects to create.

In Earth Science we have been talking about why we love Australia. Each student had to pack a shoe box with the things that mean most to them as an Australian.

In Health/PE the focus has been on developing and fundamental motor skills. The focus this week has been overarm throwing and developing co-operation.

Laura Higgins
Jack Di Valentine
RIVER DETECTIVES PROGRAM
As part of our science program, Grade 4/5/6 students are now all certified ‘River Detectives’. Nicole and Erin from the North Central Catchment Management Authority and Fosterville Mine visited the students today to talk about the cleanliness of the Campaspe River and showed us the kit we will be using to test the water. Each child received a booklet to make observations in when we visit the river over the coming weeks. Students practised testing air and water temperature, salinity, turbidity and phosphorous levels from a water sample from the Campaspe River. The program is a follow up to the day we had at Lake Eppalock last year studying the flora and fauna of the Campaspe River below the spillway.

Other schools such as Kyneton, Redsdale, Mia-Mia, Elmore Rochester and Goornong are also ‘River Detectives’ and we hope to contact these schools to compare results from different areas of the Campaspe. Nicole and Erin will be back at various times throughout the year to check our observations and guide our learning.

MARC VAN PREP/1
The students talked with Miss Hadrow about their families as they got to know each other. They then made family trees and each student designed their own format. The result was a very bright and colourful display board for their classroom.

TINY HELPS WITH READING
Matthew had a special helper at reading time today. Danielle Burnside brought along their pet snake Tiny to assist in our morning reading session. We all enjoyed our special visitor and he/she is going to join us again soon.

COMMUNITY
FOOTY TIPPING
This is a great community event and we know how popular the footy tipping was last year. Footy tipping sheets for Round 1 were sent home last week and need to be handed in at school or to the Axedale General Store by 6.00pm tomorrow, Friday 14th March.

MARKET DAY HELPERS
Attached to the newsletter is a request for helper for the next Axedale Market. We will be holding a stall to sell items for Mother’s Day and Easter Raffle tickets.
WOMEN’S NIGHT OUT
Loddon Bendigo Rural Women’s Network is seeking ideas on what types of activities, support and events women in Loddon Shire would like to see. To that end, the network has organised a series of three evenings of conversation led by Wendy Holland, of Bendigo-based consultancy Community Vibe.
The evenings, which include a free meal, are planned for Serpentine Bowling Club on 5 March, Marong Family Hotel on 12 March and Axedale Tavern on 19 March, all at 6pm for a 6.30pm start.
The deadlines for registrations are 14 March for Axedale.
For more details, or to add your name to the list, please phone Christine Coombes on 5494 1251 or email ccoombes@loddon.vic.gov.au

Indonesian Gamelan orchestra and dancers will be performing in Bendigo on Sunday March 16th and March 23rd at part of the Bendigo Festival of cultures. (See program)
This is a great opportunity for all students and families to experience the many local rich and diverse cultures that enrich our Bendigo Region.

Bendigo Festival of Cultures. March 16th to 23rd celebrating Cultural Diversity Week March 16 to 23rd and Harmony Day March 21st.
GRAND OPENING EXTRAVAGANZA Sun Mar 16th. Capital theatre 1-00 to 4-00. Not to be missed. FREE EVENT.
Multi –Faith Dinner/Forum. Wed. March 19th. Bendigo TAFE. 6-30 to 9-30pm
HARMONY DAY Celebrations in the Hargreaves Mall. Friday March 21st 1-00 to 4-00. FREE EVENT
Multicultural Dinner Dance. The Foundry Hotel. Saturday March 22nd.
FAMILY FUN DAY Sydney Myer Place. Sunday March 23rd 10am – 4pm. FRE EVENT includes Multicultural market, Multicultural youth talent contest, live performers, craft & cultural workshops, and food.
Full program visit online at bendigofestivalofcultures.org.au OR Call LCMS 03 54416644

Baby & Kids Market – Saturday 10th May 2014
The Bendigo Community Toy Library's annual Huge Baby & Kids Market is being held on Saturday 10th May from 9am till 1pm at Strathdale Community Centre, Crook Street and is proudly sponsored by Jacinta Allan, the State Member for Bendigo East. With a great mix of new and quality pre-loved goods, it's bargain-central for new and not-so-new parents. Prams, cots, high chairs, clothing, toys, and much much more. Cash only, entry by gold coin donation.
Stalls are available from only $30, so why not boost your bank account by cleaning out the cupboards and toy boxes.
For more information contact Anne Marie on 0466 641 213 or toys@bendigotoylibrary.org.au

HEATHCOTE JUNIOR FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB INC.
DESPERATELY SEEKING PLAYERS FOR U12 AND U16 NETBALL.
IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT KAY
0412476177
Any children and parents of children interested in registering or re-registering for Strathfieldsaye Auskick in 2014 should register now!!

All you need to do is go online and register at: www.aflauskick.com.au

and use the centre locator in the top right hand corner of the site. Type in your post code (3551) to find Strathfieldsaye Auskick. Enter and payment online $70 per child.

Sessions will run on Sunday’s 9.30am for 10 weeks starting Sun April 27th Flight Centre park Strathfieldsaye. Contact Craig Sharam csharam001@gmail.com 04188 351

EAGLEHAWK SOCCER CLUB
The Eaglehawk Soccer Club is calling for all junior players, current and new to attend a sign up day at Rebel Sports Kangaroo Flat on Friday 7th March from 4.30-7pm.
Fees for 2014
Under 6 to Under 9 $120
Under 10 & 11 $150
Under 12 to 16 $165
Youth Under 18 $280
Rebel Sports are offering 20% off all soccer gear for those that sign up on the night.

DAHLIA & ARTS FESTIVIAL
Sun day Family Day
Sunday March 16th
10am-3pm
Canterbury Park, Eaglehawk
The Eaglehawk Soccer Club will be having a come and try day. Come and join in on the FREE fun skills clinics for all the family.
Junor Co-ordinator:
Michael McKechnie 0421 327 157
Email: eaglehawksoccerclub@bigpond.com