**Important dates:**

**March**
- 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
- 20th – Dragon Mile
- 22nd – First Day of Term 2
- 25th – ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY

**AWARD WINNERS**

Last week’s award winners were:

- P/1 – Jodi Burnside – For being a very kind and considerate student and always doing a very good job with any work that is presented.
- 2/3 – Zane Van Wynen – For focussing hard on his spelling and moving through the levels.
- 4/5/6 – Ed Caburnay – For displaying excellent internet research skills and making good contributions to the class blog.

**EAGLEHAWK DAHLIA & ARTS FESTIVAL RELAY**

Last Saturday Josh L, Ben, Zayne and Sam represented the Axedale Primary School at the Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival Relay Run. We thank them and their families for their involvement.

Zayne, Sam, Josh and Ben did a wonderful job competing in the relay race where they each had to run 400 metres with a strong crowd cheering them on. Well done kids!

**SPELLING AND READING AWARDS**

Well done to those below who achieved another level last week. Keep up the good work.

**MARC VAN**

Can all students make sure they have a bag for borrowing books from the MARC Van.
GOLDEN BRUSH
The Golden Brush for last week was won by the Gr 2/3 room. Well done.

HOUSE COMPETITION
Well done to McIvor who had a comfortable win in last week’s House Competition.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
CULTURAL DIVERSITY 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 was $3.50 per student.
Staff and students came dressed in some orange as part of Harmony Day today.
HARMONY DAY
As part of Harmony Day activities today, students worked creating a version of Bendigo’s Sun Loong dragon, as well as mapping where all our school family’s ancestors originated from. A collection of culturally diverse picture story books were borrowed from the Bendigo Library for group reading and students also took part in the Great Australian Nip Off where the task was to nip a milk arrowroot biscuit into the shape of Australia.

The winners of this task in each group were:

Group 1 – Katherine, Zane V and Killeen
Group 2 – Jack, Montanna and Brodie
Group 3 – Cody, Emma and Ava
Group 4 – Lincoln, Campbell, Alex and Josh

At the completion of the activities, students gathered on the oval to make a map of Australia, including the Torres Strait islands.
RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY
National Ride2School Day is on tomorrow. Thank you to the many helpers who have offered their time to help out by supervising a road crossing. At this stage we have all road crossings covered. We have approximately 30 student riders, 5 parent riders and 4 other adult riders ready to go for the morning.
Parents who are on crossings should have received a pack with some important information inside with the Newsletter tonight.
Please have your children at the appropriate start point on time in the morning.

PLAYGROUP
The Axedale Playgroup is on each Friday from 9.30 – 11.30 in the brick building at school. Parents and pre-schoolers are welcome to come along and join in the fun. The two hour session is a chance for parents to have a cuppa, form and develop connections with other Axedale parents and for the children to mix in an informal, but safe and supportive environment. There are lots of toys and other equipment for fun activities Please bring along a gold coin and a piece of fruit to share. Please contact the school or Jocelyn Davies (0409877473) for further information.
In seeking to best suit the community, there is a short survey attached to the Newsletter today to ascertain how we can organise the Playgroup days/times to best suit people needs. Please complete it and return it to school asap.

WELCOME
We welcome two new students to our school – Brodie Gr. 1 (Parents -Sue & Peter) and Bianca Prep (Parents - Rebecca and Daniel). I am sure everyone will make them feel welcome and we look forward to their time at Axedale PS.

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM DATE CHANGE
The School Council Annual General Meeting and first meeting of the newly elected School Council will take place on Tuesday 25th March from 6.30pm.

NEW BUS TRAVEL PROTOCOLS
DEECD have updated their bus travel protocols. Attached to the newsletter last week were new application forms for all bus travellers. If you have not returned these yet, please do so asap.

DRAGON MILE
Axedale PS is encouraging all students to participate in this event held on Easter Sunday, 20th April. P-4 students are required to run a ‘mini’ mile (800m) and Yr 5/6 students the full mile (1600m). Cost is $10. Please see Mr C for an entry form or if you have an enquiry.

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.

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 were attached to last week’s newsletter 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Number of books</th>
<th>Number from the Challenge book list</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>30 books</td>
<td>20 or more</td>
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<tr>
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<td>15 books</td>
<td>10 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>15 books</td>
<td>10 or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

GYM CREDIT
As we missed one week from our Gym excursion due to the heat a credit of $7.50 per child has been placed on family accounts. This can be put towards any future payments.

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

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 21st March – Susie McGrath
Friday 28th March – Claire Marshall
Friday 4th April – Corrine Cummins
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

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
Buddy sessions have continued this week with the 4/5/6 students working with their buddies on ICT – Reading Eggs and ball skills. Our older students are doing a great job teaching their buddies some very important foundation skills.

IT WEBSITE
The Government Department of Communications has recently released a new website “The Easy Guide to Socialising Online” It has cybersafety features of online games, social networking sites and search engines. Have a look at www.communications.gov.au/easyguide/online_games

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. As this is a split round there is no footy tipping sheets this week.

AASC COMMUNITY COACH TRAINING PROGRAM
The next AASC Community Coach Training Program (CCTP) course will be held in Bendigo on Wednesday, 9th April 2014 and is a compulsory requirement for anyone wishing to deliver physical activity sessions as part of the Active After-school Communities (AASC) program. Enrolments for the course close on Thursday, 3rd April and there is no cost involved.
If there is anyone in our local area interested in coaching in the AASC program, could you please pass this information on to them.
Prior to the course, some coaches may need to complete an online Beginning Coaching General Principles course, unless they already have one of the following qualifications:
- Teaching qualifications or are currently undertaking fourth year teacher training
- Childcare qualifications (Certificate III or above)
- Completed the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) Beginning Coaching General Principles or higher (or NCAS entry-level coaching accreditation).
If they are required to complete the online course, log onto the website https://learning.ausport.gov.au and register for the course. Select the ‘Courses’ tab on the top of the page, then click on ‘Enrol Now’ for the ‘Beginning Coaching General Principles’ course and follow the steps. They can print a certificate upon completion and a copy of this certificate needs to be provided at the coaching course.
Please feel free to contact me on the numbers below if you require any further information.
Thanks,
Drew Cathcart
Regional Coordinator - Loddon
Active After-school Communities
Participation & Sustainable Sports
Australian Sports Commission
Indonesian Gamelan orchestra and dancers will be performing in Bendigo on Sunday March 16th and March 23rd as 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.
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. FREE 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

DESPERATELY SEEKING PLAYERS FOR U12 AND U16 NETBALL.
IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT KAY 0412476177

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

BIRTHDAY INVITATION: Free Family Fun
- Baby Animal Farm
- Face Painting
- Stage Entertainment
- Balloons
- Birthday Cake
....and much, much more fun for everyone
FunLoong’s First Birthday Celebration Saturday 5th April 11am to 2.30pm Hargreaves Mall
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:  

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

Sessions will run on Sunday’s 9.30am for 10 weeks starting Sunday April 27th Flight Centre Park Strathfieldsaye. Contact Craig Sharam [csharam001@gmail.com](mailto:csharam001@gmail.com) 0408 188 351

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**BREAST CANCER FUNDRAISER**

You are invited to a **Family Fun Day in the Park**.

Bendigo Botanical Gardens, White Hills  
Sunday 30th March 11am-3pm

**WIN A PRIZE FOR YOUR**  
Best Dressed Doll or Teddy Bear  
**CHECK OUT THE CLASSIC WHEELS**  
at the ‘Show and Shine’ Car Display  
AND ENJOY VOTING FOR THE BEST IN SHOW WITH THE PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS.

- BBQ Lunch  
- Scavenger Hunt  
- Fairy Floss  
- Footy Kicking Competition  
- Lucky Dips  
- Jumping Castle  
- Face Painting

Proudly supported by [Bendigo Bank](http://www.bendigobank.com.au)