**Welcome Night / Twilight Sports TONIGHT!**

Don't forget our ‘Welcome Night / Twilight Sports’ event is TONIGHT at 6pm. You can choose to BYO picnic, or our amazing Parents and Friends group are running a BBQ with sausages in bread for $2 and cans of drink for $2.50. This is a great opportunity to chat with our staff, with each other, and to watch our kids enjoy themselves in the fantastic activities Mr Hackett has planned for them. Don’t forget your picnic rugs/chairs. We envisage the night finishing before 8pm.

**School Council Elections and policies**

This year we have 5 parent vacancies on our School Council. We are awaiting nominations from anyone interested in filling these vacancies—nominations close NEXT WEDNESDAY. It’s a fantastic way to be involved in and stay connected to your child’s school and I encourage anyone considering it to nominate and give it a go. Our School Council is a fantastic bunch of hard working parents who donate their time to make a difference to their child’s school. A nomination form is attached to this newsletter for your convenience.

The Policy sub-committee of our council are about to begin work on a ‘Healthy Eating Policy’ for our school that encourages students and parents to make good food choices for lunchboxes. If you would like to have any input into this policy, or believe you can offer some expertise, we welcome your suggestions.

**Athletics Carnival**

Due to continuing improvement of our school oval, our Athletics Carnival will be held at Central Reserve this year. Students will be bussed from school to the reserve and back again at the end of the day. A detailed program will be distributed to families prior to the event.

**Student Free Day**

Our first student free day is scheduled for Friday 26th of February. NO STUDENTS are required at school on this day.

As this impacts on the Year 1 and 2 swimming program, their lessons for this day have been rescheduled to WEDNESDAY 24th of FEBRUARY.

**Assembly**

Due to a professional learning opportunity that some of our teachers will be attending there will be NO ASSEMBLY on Monday 22nd of February. Assembly will resume as normal on Monday 29th of February. All classes will run as normal on this day.

**ICT**

We now have ALL of our shiny, new, exciting computers set up and ready to use! Unfortunately though, these cannot be in the hands of students until we have signed copies of both the ‘Microsoft 365 Consent’ and ‘EPS User Agreement’ returned to school. Teachers have advised those students who have not returned theirs, so please check with your child and ensure we have a signed copy so our shiny, new, exciting computers can be put to good use!

**Gonski**

As you all know we were fortunate enough to secure some Gonski/Equity funding this year through the State Government that has allowed us to provide multiple additional supports for our students. This week is ‘Gonski Sign up Week’ where around the state we’re encouraging as many people as possible to sign up to support the full roll out of this equity funding. So far the government has only committed to this funding for 2 years.

At the Welcome Night tonight we will have a ‘Sign Up Table’ where you can sign the petition. There will also be local Colac people outside Woolworths on Saturday morning, encouraging people to sign up. For more information, please visit www.giveagonski.com.au

Angela Hall
Principal
Canteen
Friday 19th February, 2016
Morning Supervisor:
Renee Hall
9:00am: Rebecca Graham, Heidi VanEs, Sallee Sell
Afternoon Supervisor:
Janet Walters
12:30pm: Olivia Theodore, Kelly Backhouse

PARENTS & FRIENDS
Remember to join our face book page so you can keep up to date with all that is happening.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:
20th March - Hot cross bun making at CSC (everyone welcome)
Please let Hayley Dewar know if you can help, even if it’s just for a few hours. No cooking experience necessary.
Grandparents welcome too.

Easter raffle donations needed. Anything Easter.
Please leave at the office.

Looking forward to a fabulous 2016 and seeing that new fence go up!
Kerrin Irvine
(President)

KANA 2016
The Kana theme this year is ‘Our Wonderful Otway’s‘ and the parade will be on Saturday 19th March at 1:00pm. Every year our entry in the Kana Parade is well received and popular with the students who love to participate in this whole school/community event. This year we will be having a large dinosaur on our float and we would like the children to dress up as anything from the Otway’s which could be a dinosaur, glow worms (we have 10 small costumes available at school first in for these), trees etc. There will be no time set aside for making costumes at school so these will need to be made at home. If you require any materials for costumes please get in touch with me and I will help out if I possibly can. Further details regarding the parade will be published in the newsletter as they become available. I am looking forward to a successful joint venture with students, parents and teachers. Caroline McCallum.

My child/ren ______________________________________________
will/will not be participating in the Kana Parade on Saturday 19th March at 1:00 pm.
I am/am not available to assist on the day.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) FOR HEALTHCARE CARD HOLDERS
All applications for Camps, Sports & Excursions fund have to be in by February 29th, if you have not yet filled in your application could you please make sure you collect a form from the office as soon as possible.

Thanks,
Lorraine Cole
Business Manager

INDO CORNER:
Can you guess what these words are?
JANUARI       FEBRUARI
MARET         APRIL
MEI            JUNI
JULI           AGUSTUS
SEPTEMBER     OKTOBER
NOVEMBER      DESEMBER

Pak Gray
Indonesian Teacher

NETBALL
If anyone’s son/daughter is interested in playing netball this year, could you please collect a form from the school office and fill in all details and return it to school by Monday 29th February.

For more information call Nicole Walter on 0433 717 244.

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Thanks,
Lorraine Cole
Business Manager

The Cubby House Early Learning & Kinder
91 Pound Road, Colac VIC 3250

Outside School Hours Care
Take the stress out of school rush our.
Call (03) 52314811 to register
• After school care 3.30pm—6.00pm
• Free School pick-up from Local Schools
• Afternoon snacks provided.
**STUDENT AWARDS**

**Prep S**  Mia F for being a very respectful team member. Top effort!
**Prep R**  Noah T for being a respectful member of the Prep R team.
**1G**  Bryson C for his fantastic smile every morning and for always being a great classmate.
**1/2T**  Tiffia H for having a ‘no-fuss’ attitude towards her learning!
**2G**  Cody T for tackling challenges with a big smile.
**3/4C**  Holly M for making a positive start at EPS and being a model student that always demonstrates our school values!
**3/4S**  Indigo D for a super confident start to the school year. Keep up the hard work and role model behaviour!
**5T**  Alena F for doing an excellent job summarising the texts we read and always using independent reading time well.
**6H**  Aiden G for always displaying the school values and being a great role model for Elliminyt Primary School.
**Art**  Riley C for a great start to the school year.
**Sport**  Symantha B for helping other during PE Class.
**Indonesian**  Adriana S for outstanding initiative and behaviour.
**School Value** Jai C for showing the value of Responsibility and Respect.

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**SCHOOL PHOTOS - Tuesday March 1st**

Photo envelops were send home last week, if you wish to have a family photo sibling envelopes are available from the school office. Please make sure you have the correct money in you envelope as we do not always have enough change at the office to cater for everyone. Thank you.

**SRC INFORMATION**

The SRC will be holding a Pyjama Day in the second week of March. All money raised will go towards The Good Friday Appeal. More information in the coming weeks newsletters.
Schedule 5A: Self-nomination form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the Elliminyt Primary School Council.

Name:...........................................................................................................

Residential Address:......................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................

Contact phone(s):..........................................................................................

Email:..............................................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of ..........................................................................., who is/are currently enrolled at Elliminyt Primary.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at or for the school: Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a parent member of the above named school council. Thereby declare that I am not:

- an undischarged bankrupt
- of unsound mind
- currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
- a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004

Signature of candidate: ................................................................. Date: .........................

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, if any, of school council members and notification whether the year was a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting Angela Hall on 52315208.

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
FOUR THINGS YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT GONSKI SCHOOLS FUNDING

WHAT GONSKI MEANS

Australia remains a high-achieving nation in education but our overall performance has slipped in the last decade – at the same time as schools funding has become less equitable.

The Gonski Review found that Australia is investing too little in schools, and that the way we distribute the money is neither fair nor effective.

Students in disadvantaged areas are up to three years behind those of the same age who live in wealthy areas. One in five 15-year-old students does not have basic reading skills – the kind they will need to apply for and keep a job.

The Gonski funding arrangements are designed to ensure that the right resources are in every school to give children the individual attention and support they need to excel.

The six-year Gonski agreements the Federal Government signed with five States and Territories began in 2014 and were designed to bring schools up to an appropriate level of resources in six years.

GONSKI IS GETTING RESULTS

Where Gonski funding is being delivered it is having a significant impact on what students achieve.

Schools are able to provide:

- Smaller class sizes
- Extra literacy and numeracy programs
- Speech therapists and psychologists
- More one-on-one support for struggling kids
- Better training for teachers

THE THREAT TO GONSKI

The Federal Government has refused to honour the signed Gonski agreements or even require State and Territory Governments to spend the Gonski funding on schools.

Its refusal to pay its share of the last two years of Gonski funding will leave schools across the country without the resources they need to educate every child to a high level.

This decision will cut $2.8 billion from public schools alone – enough funding to pay for more than 20,000 teachers.

WITHOUT GONSKI SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS WILL BE LEFT BEHIND

Gonski is all about bringing every school up to the level where it has the resources to properly educate every child.

Without the full funding, children in schools will continue to miss out on the support and attention they need to reach their potential.

The worst-affected will be the ones who stand to gain the most from Gonski: children with disability, those from disadvantaged and non-English speaking backgrounds and Aboriginal students.

We cannot as a nation accept a situation where some students are educated in schools which are properly resourced while others are held back by a lack of resources.

All governments and all political parties need to support this once-in-a-generation opportunity to work together and properly resource our schools.
Thank you to our sponsors....