Term 4 Week 5
7 November 2014

Dates to Remember
November
10 – Food and Drink Parent Information evening
17 – P&C Meeting
19 – Music Parade
21 – Arts Council
24 – Student Council “Movie Day”
27 – Swimming Carnival

December
1 – THSH Transition Day Year 6 & 7
2 – TSHS Transition Day Year 6 & 7
3 – Special Music Parade.
5 – Lowood District Swimming Carnival
9 – Year 6 & 7 Graduation Ceremony
9 – Report Cards issued
10 – Year 6&7 Farewell Parade
10 – Year 6 & 7 Pool Party
11 – School Break-up Day
12 – Clean-up day

From the Principal’s Desk
Unexplained Absences
Last week we had 25 unexplained absences. After follow up from our wonderful admin team all but 2 of these are now explained. It’s important to inform us about absences. We are now adopting a new process whereby each week we will be posting out Absence Letters to parents asking them to explain absences. I am confident that over time this process will help reduce the incidences of unexplained absences.

Education Queensland no longer!
Over these past few months the Queensland Government has made some changes within the Education Department. One of these changes is a change in name. It is no longer called Education Queensland. We are now known as State Schooling. It will take some time for this to sink in but I’ll be giving it a shot.

Food and Drink Policy and Parent Information Meeting
Esk State School is working on the implementation of a Food and Drink Policy being led by Mr Sanderson and a small committee. To spread information about this project we are holding a parent information evening this Monday 10 November from 6.30PM to 7.30PM in the Library. We would love as many parents to attend as possible. Please come along.

Project 600
If any parents of the Year 4 or 6 students who are involved in Project 600 would like to see what happens in a lesson please come along to the Library on Monday from 11:30am.

Happy World Tuck Shop Day Friday 7 November
Thanks Kim and Lesley for your tireless efforts in our Tuck Shop all year!

Esk State School
49 East Street, Esk Q 4312
Phone: 07 5424 4111 Fax: 07 5424 4100
Absenent Messages: 07 5424 4160
Email: admin@eskss.eq.edu.au
Web: www.eskss.eq.edu.au

Parents and Citizens' Association
Email: pandc@eskss.eq.edu.au
Meetings: 3rd Monday of the Month

Be Respectful
Be Safe
Be a Learner
From the Principals Desk continued….

**Master teachers**

This week State Schooling announced the introduction of Master Teachers. Toogoolawah State School and Esk State School will share one Master Teacher between us. There are 300 being appointed across the state. Supporting our schools to be dynamic and responsive is critical if we are to make a positive difference to school communities. School Principals must be given the opportunity to direct resources to activities and programs that will best address the needs of their students. From 2015, 300 new Master Teacher positions will be created to ensure quality teachers are working where they can make the greatest difference.

Master Teachers will have responsibility for leading activities and key tasks in their schools. These will include:

- Working with Principals and leadership teams to prioritise the teaching of literacy and numeracy within the school’s curriculum and pedagogical (teaching) framework
- Improving and enhance teaching practice for all staff by researching and modelling quality teaching across all year levels
- Providing coaching and guidance to teachers and other staff in delivering quality teaching
- Improving the capacity of school teams to use evidence-based assessment to inform teaching and learning
- Supporting all staff in the analysis of and response to, systemic and student data.

Master Teachers will be taking up duty Thursday 22 January 2015. During this month Mrs Cornford from Toogoolawah State School and I will be forming a selection panel to select our Master Teacher.

**Feedback on our Music Program – Intermediate Band Camp and Queensland Symphony Orchestra Excursion** – a copy of an email sent by one of our families.

Dear Mr Poole (Darling Downs Instrumental Music Program Coordinator)

I wish to extend our congratulations to you and your fabulous staff for the organisation of the 2014 Intermediate Band Camp. Our daughter from Esk State School had a wonderful experience, gained more healthy knowledge and an ever growing love of music including a deeper appreciation for what is involved in participating in a large group when performing. The concert performance overall was amazing and as parents we are so proud not only of our own children, all participants played an important role in making the event the special and memorable performance that it was. As a student my daughter is hoping she may get the opportunity in 2015 to attend the camp once more as part of her Primary School education. At Esk State School we are blessed to have Mr Adam Smith as our music teacher. His enthusiasm and dedication is gratefully received by students, staff and parents alike and you were able to witness the result of his great work earlier this year when you were invited to attend a Music Parade. The Esk State School community is also most fortunate to have Principal, Brian Crichton, who’s love and appreciation for the fine art of music is shared and encouraged with the students by arranging a recent excursion to attend the Queensland Symphony Orchestra’s Concert performance of ”The Composer is Dead” held at Southbank Piazza last week. Thank you once again Mr Poole. Without you all, our children would not be exposed to such great opportunities.

**Administration**

**Arts Council** –21 November $6 per student. “No Way”. The bullying jigsaw is a puzzle best solved with friendship. Bounding into a jigsaw puzzle world where not much makes sense, two friends begin to explore the perils of the problem. They both know that bullying exists; they’ve even felt it for themselves. But instead of focusing on the problem, together they try to find a solution. No Way! Is an interactive dance theatre production that tackles the serious issue of bullying in a creative vibrant way.

**School Lunches** - We have had an increasing amount of younger students advising the office that they have no food for second break. Reasons being that they have either eaten it all at first break or they have not brought enough food to school. Please discuss with your child about the amount of food in their lunchboxes and provide enough to get them through the day.

**Fun swim** – if you have paid for your child to take part in fun swim, please ensure that they have all of their swimming gear on Fridays. As this is an optional activity, and if a child forgets their belongings, the office WILL NOT phone home with a message and therefore your child will miss out.

**Payments** – We are still finding students coming in with money to pay for items in a plain plastic bag or envelope. Please ensure that any payments are sealed in an envelope with the following details on the front – Student’s name, year level (or roll class), purpose of payment, amount enclosed.

**Esk State School’s Explicit Improvement Agenda**

Our agenda for improvement is to improve **Teaching Practice**, Deliver a high quality **Curriculum**, Build and Foster **Partnerships**, and **Leadership and Capability**.
**Sport – Mrs Rollston**

**Swimming Carnival**

The interhouse swimming carnival for 8 - 14 year olds will be held on **Thursday 27 November** starting at 8:45.

8 and 9 year olds will participate in 25m swims - freestyle, freestyle with kickboard, backstroke, breaststroke. 10 - 14 year olds will be able to compete in 25m and 50m events. It would be great to see all children having a go in at least one event if possible.

The carnival will finish with the relays. The last one will be the **Ivory v Eskdale v staff** relay. It would be very exciting to have a parent team in there as well.

**Music – Mr Smith**

Our school was ably represented by Emily FitzGerald, Nikyla Richardson, Ethan Versace and Carley Kunde at the Darling Downs South-West Region Intermediate Music Camp from Tuesday to Thursday last week. They tell me it was both fun and educational and even the food was good. I am delighted when we can send our great musicians to regional music camps to learn with other great musicians.

Other outstanding representatives of our school were the 25 students selected to attend the Queensland Symphony Orchestra concert last Thursday. The concert started with ‘Fanfare for the Common Man’ followed by ‘The Composer is Dead’ (a murder mystery through the sections of the orchestra) and ending with ‘The Sabre Dance’. We met the first trombone player, Jason. Behaviour was simply outstanding and the kids looked great and brought glory upon our school. I would like to thank Mr. Ruthenberg for his outstanding bus driving and Mr Crichton for having excellent navigation skills in Brisbane and for having the idea to go to the Queensland Orchestra in the first place. I am proud of this school and so proud of the excellent students in it.

**Literacy and Numeracy Support – Mrs Oxenford**

This week the Year 4 and Year 6 Project 600 students have been learning about Reading and Reflecting as well as Visualising when Reading.

**Read and Reflect**

- Before you **read** closely, remember what good readers do.
- Good readers **visualise**, they make pictures, even a movie in their head as they go.
- Good readers are brave. They don’t give up. If meaning gets lost, try to work out tricky words.
- Good readers know that **reading is thinking**.
- They’ve made predictions about the text, the topic and the genre. They confirm, or discredit these predictions as they read.
- Good readers know that predictions aren’t always true, so they adjust their predictions as they go.
- Now it’s time to read closely and carefully, every word.
- Now that you’ve finished reading, refine your predictions. Use text evidence to confirm or discredit your predictions.
Literacy and Numeracy Support  Continued ............

Visualising when reading

- All good readers visualise when they read a text.
- Visualising is the ability to build mental images while reading — like watching a movie in your head.
- Good readers often use their prior knowledge to form images, but they also adapt their images as they continue to read and new information is revealed through the text.
- Proficient readers use visualising techniques and visual representations before, during and after reading.
- Visualising helps us to understand and remember more of what we have read. It can allow us to confirm thinking and identify the main idea of a text.

Food For Thought — Mr Sanderson  PhD, MEd (Res.), BEd (E.C.), BA (Hons.)

A junior school in the UK which has leapt up the league tables attributes some of its success to a ban on crisps and fizzy drinks at the tuck shop. Pupils at Wolsey Junior School in New Addington, South London, now consume two boxes of apples, two boxes of bananas and two crates of satsuma’s (tangerines) every week. The success rate for 11 year olds has almost trebled since the ban on unhealthy snacks two years ago. The ban was brought in because of fears that artificial additives including flavourings, sweeteners and preservatives, made children hyperactive and more difficult to teach. Wolsey Junior which won praise as one of the most improved schools in Greater London, claims that concentration levels shot up and behaviour improved when tuck shop "junk" was axed from the morning break.

Peter Winder, the head teacher, said "We were very concerned that the crisps and fizzy drinks had all the E-additives. One of our teachers asked if it was possible to trial the sale of fruit in just one year group". The trial in 1996 had immediate results. "All the teachers in the year group noticed a difference in behaviour and concentration."

The old tuckshop was scrapped in 1997. Two years on, the school was the 34th most improved school in the country. Its Key Stage Two test results in English, which were less than half the national average in 1996 with 23 per cent of pupils achieving expected levels, leapt to a 64% rate last year.

Around our School

Student Council— Mrs Smith

Movie Day— Mrs Smith
Movie Day will be held on Monday 24 November.

The Movies being offered will include— The Lego Movie (PG), Rio 2 (G) and How to Train Your Dragon 2 (PG). Please note that children who wish to watch a PG movie will need to return a permission slip. (Permission slip is over page.) Extra forms are available from the Admin Foyer on the noticeboard. All movies will be shown in air conditioned rooms. Children are encouraged to bring along a cushion, sleeping bag, bean bag or blanket to enhance their viewing pleasure.

This will also be a ‘Free Dress’ day. Students who wish to come in free dress will be expected to pay $2. Salty Butter Popcorn or Caramel Crunch Popcorn will be available for $2. Drinks will be available for $2 each. Drinks will include - juice, water and soft drink. A Movie Deal will cost $5 and will include popcorn, a drink and free dress. Payments can be made in advance or on the day.

This will be the last event held by this year’s Student Council. I would like to thank each member of the Student Council for the time and effort they have put into fulfilling their role this year. They have been a pleasure to work with. We have managed to raise enough money to pay for every child in the school to attend eight gymnastics lessons- over $4000. What a huge achievement!

Special Music Parade 3 December
Featuring:- Concert Band, Junior and Senior Choirs, Solo Performance by Ashleigh Rech and a surprise by the Tuned Percussionists.
The Student Council will be hosting a Movie Day on Monday 24 November 2014 during school time. Children will have a choice between the following movies – How to train your dragon 2 (PG); The Lego Movie (PG); and Rio 2 (G). Children who wish to watch one of the PG movies need to bring back the signed permission form.

A Movie Deal can be purchased for $5 per student. Money for Movie Deals will be accepted until 9am on Monday 24 November. While the movie is free of charge the $5 Movie Deal will include Free Dress, Popcorn (salty butter or caramel crunch), choice of Drink (soft drink, juice or bottled water) as well as first choice of seating at their chosen movie. Children are encouraged to bring along a pillow or sleeping bag or bean bag or cushion so they can relax in comfort in front of their chosen movie. Children may purchase the items separately if they prefer. The prices are - $2 Drink, $2 Popcorn and $2 Free Dress.

Please return the applicable forms to the office

MOVIE DEAL:

Student Name: ____________________________ Class: __________________________

☐ $5.00 Movie Deal or/
☐ $2.00 Free Dress
☐ $2.00 Drink
☐ $2.00 Popcorn

Please find enclosed $__________

PERMISSION SLIP: Student Council Movie Day

I do / do not give permission for my child ____________________________ Class__________ to view a PG film on the 24 November 2014.

Signed: ____________________________

Name: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________
Celebrations

Star Pupils
Prep
Year One
Year One/Two
Year Two/Three
Year Three/Four
Year Four/Five
Year Five/Six
Year Six/Seven

Special Award
Prep
Writing a wonderful letter.
Solving problems through communication.
Year One
Sensational speech.
Setting a great example for others.
Year One/Two
Big improvement in Diary Writing.
Year Two/Three
Always trying hard on all tasks.
Using her manners and being respectful to others.
Year Three/Four
Showing great character in a difficult situation.
Year Four/Five
Helping to keep the classroom tidy.
Great effort in swimming.
Great effort in backstroke.
Year Five/Six
Great effort in Homework.
Great work with persuasive writing.
Year Six/Seven
Putting his best foot forward.
Working hard on her English Assessment.

Mathletics Certificates

Accelerated Reader Certificates

Gotcha Gem Cards
Peridot (20 Gotchas)
Opal (40 Gotchas)
Garnet (60 Gotchas)
Amethyst (80 Gothchas)
**Prep – Mrs Richter**

Thank you to all those parents helping out at swimming. Don’t forget to sign the helper’s register with Mrs Rollston before you get wet. Thanks also to Mrs Smith for lending us her baby chickens to look after for a couple of days. This will be a great science experience for our class.

This term in History we are exploring family celebrations so keep those family photos coming in for afternoon talk. We have plotted a few dates on our calendar of days that families celebrate. Some children were able to add their own birthdate on the calendar.

To help motivate the children to learn to write letters we have introduced the travel buddy ‘Pink Pood le’. Whoever writes an invitation to the class pet, gets to take it home for a sleep-over. They are asked to help the pet write a diary page in the book to share the next day. We have also used the pet in maths. The children measure the pet in order to make beds, pillows, blankets and cubby houses just the right size. They have enjoyed it immensely.

There is an Arts Council performance coming up on the 21 of November for the children. Movie day is coming up on November 24. Remember to take payments to the office in a labelled envelope.

Our class will be having a break up day lunch on the 11 of December. I will provide drinks and ice blocks or watermelon on the day. We ask that you send a small bowl of party food to share on that day. Children can bring their normal morning tea to ensure they have a healthy snack first. We usually plan wet activities or a fun swim at the pool so be prepared to send in togs and towels. I am hoping to take Preps to the pool for the first half an hour so parents can help out before leaving for the day.

**Year 1 – Mrs Kitching**

This week we farewelled one of our students, as she is going to live in New Zealand with her family. We all wish her every happiness and look forward to exchanging letters and emails with her once she is settled.

We also joined forces with the Year One students next door and listened to the men from the Rural Fire service talk about what to do in the event of a fire. We were all given booklets and information sheets to share with our families. Next week we need to be able to tell the Firemen our names, addresses and phone numbers and our evacuation plans. Also next week we will get a personal tour of the fire truck, we can hardly wait!

In Mathematics we are now showing off our addition skills to Mrs Kitching. We can successfully complete two digit by two digit addition without regrouping!

In Science we have learnt that sound gives off a vibration and that if you tap a tuning fork hard and place it in water it will create a ripple effect!

In English we are continuing to look at cultural tales and we are now focusing on tales from Asia. We are retelling these tales by acting them out and writing about them.

For Christmas activities much later in the term we are looking for donations of Women’s Weekly magazines, if you can help us out please deliver them to A1.
Dear Parents and Care-Providers,

The last fortnight has been full of fun, freakiness and a phenomenal amount of felicitous learning. Amongst a feast of other activities, the Little Eskies have started swimming, ‘fun’ swimming, seen off Freaky Friday, and have completed some fine assessment feats for this term. We’ve also left behind the free-wheeling gymnastics for this year and the Year 1s have had a fantastic session with the local ‘fireies’ (a.k.a. the Esk and District Fire Fighters). We also welcomed back Tyneal, Harry and our two fabulous Friday helpers Lynne and Phil from their fulsome adventures in further regions of this fine planet.

Please note I will be trying to align homework and spelling with Year 1 (Mrs Kitching) and Year 2/3 (Mrs McTaggert) as of this week. The logistics of such an endeavour can cause a Google mainframe to crash, so please bear with us if this is bumpy.

The Little Eskies can look forward to more swimming (‘fun’ and lessons), Junior Choir, Arts Council, finalising assessment, and the Student Council’s ‘Movie Day’ in the coming weeks.

Please feel free to pop in to our busy classroom. You are always welcome, and the kids would love to see you.

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**Year 2/3 – Mrs McTaggart**

This week students attending Spelling in my classroom have been working on Sound Wave Unit 27 which will be tested on Monday. Homework goes home on Monday and is expected back on Friday for marking.

We require donations of Women’s Weekly magazines for end of term activities. Thank you in advance for these donations.

Parent helpers are still needed to help in the classroom with changing home readers and helping students learn their Sight Words.

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**Year 3/4 – Ms Vaughan**

Students are busy working on their dialogue exchanges between Fantastic Mr Fox characters. The standard of work being produced is very high and I am looking forward to seeing their final presentations.

For Technology the students are planning a design for their own “13-Storey Treehouse.” This project involves lots of creative partner work and active imaginations.

We have some cute little visitors in our class at the moment. Mrs Smith’s baby chicks are in their enclosure, chirping along while we work.

We are currently working towards completing assessment items for all subject areas, so it’s busy times ahead.

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**Year 4/5 – Mrs Nan**

Congratulations to those children who have finished their Technology. We have the makings of some very ‘Amazing Animals’! Look out in the next newsletter for some photos.

We are also very busy in the garden putting in a sprinkler system. Hopefully this will be up and running soon, so we are able to get a last crop of vegetables before the end of term.
**Year 5/6 – Mrs Dolan & Mr Okulov**

What a busy four weeks we have had in Year 5/6! After studying area, perimeter, mass, volume and capacity in Maths during the first two weeks, students have moved onto studying chance and probability. In Science, students have been constructing electrical circuits consisting of batteries, light bulbs and buzzers. Finally in English, students have been learning about the three types of arguments (ethos, logos and pathos) to improve their persuasive writing. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Year 5/6s for a wonderful Prac. I have thoroughly enjoyed both my Pracs at Esk State School. I would like to wish the Year 6 and 7 students all the best in their secondary studies, and good luck to the Year 5s in their leadership roles next year - Mr Okulov

**Year 6/7 – Mrs Smith**

In Maths we are currently working on Division. The test for division will be on Monday 17 November. Following our work on division we will start a new unit on angles. Students are currently working on their assessment Item for English. They are composing a written response to a news article. The written responses are due in Friday 14 November. I am happy to report that every student in Year 6/7 has achieved the milestone of 20 Gotchas. We have had a reward today to celebrate this great achievement.

**Year 6 & Year 7 Students Graduation Ceremony Tuesday 9 December – Mrs Smith & Mrs Dolan**

Work on Invitations to the Year 6 & 7 Graduation Ceremony is well underway. The students in Year 6/7 have made their invitations and they have been sent home. Students in Year 5/6 will make their invitations next week and they will then be sent home. Please note that there is no limit to the number of people each child has representing them at the ceremony. They can bring as many people as they want. To make sure we have enough chairs out for everyone who attends to sit comfortably please let us know your numbers by Friday 5 December.

We ask that guests begin assembling from 6pm ready for a 6:30pm start to the official proceedings. This event is free of charge as a meal will not be served. Dress for the evening will be ‘Smart Casual’. The ceremony will include - the presentation of certificates, a P&C gift and the Year Book, speeches by students and staff, the graduation song performed by the students and a movie prepared by Mr Crichton. Following the ceremony we will share the cake. Tea and Coffee will be available free of charge. Soft drinks, juice and bottled water will be available for $2 each.

**Head Lice**

We have reported cases of Head Lice within the school. Please check your child/ren’s hair regularly and treat as necessary.
P & C News

Exciting Tuckshop News!
This week we have had a brand new oven installed in our tuckshop and the new fridge has also arrived. We have also purchased a selection of cutting boards, knives, oven baking trays and a new hand mixer. The funds for these exciting new tuckshop items were raised by the P&C and friends via the Social Night, school disco BBQ’s and the catering of the Harley Owners Group morning tea. Thanks to everyone who supported these fundraising initiatives.

Friday the 7th of November is recognised nationally as ‘Tuckshop Day’ and we would like to thank Lesley and Kim who run the tuckshop every week for their tireless efforts in providing a wonderful service for the students and staff at Esk State School. Running the tuckshop is a challenging and time consuming job, especially when you make so much of the menu from scratch. So well done ladies and your volunteer helpers, you are to be congratulated on a fantastic job, your efforts are very much appreciated!

More Tuckshop News …. New school food policy and the 2015 menu.
This term we will be working on upgrading our menu to comply with our new School Food Policy that has been drafted recently. Our aim is to remove foods and snacks with high contents of artificial colours, flavours and preservatives that negatively impact on children’s behaviour and learning. If you are passionate about this subject, why not attend the next P&C meeting on the 17th of November to contribute to the conversation and have some meaningful input into what our kids can purchase from the tuckshop in 2015 and beyond. Everyone is welcome.

Yr 6/7 Graduation Pool Party
Currently we have 2 parents donating bread and sausages for the BBQ. We have about 4 parents to help with the BBQ. Is there a parent or two who can donate a couple of watermelons on the day? If so, please contact Mel Hatch-Green on 0411 465114.

Community News

Swimming Caps – Esk Pharmacy has a large stock of swimming caps. Swimming caps are $2.50 each but if you mention you are from Esk State School they will give you a 10% discount on the caps.

Esk and District Kindy – Orientation Day Friday 21 November 2014 9:00 am – 11:00 am. 26 South Street, Esk. No bookings necessary just turn up on the day.

Summer Reading Club - At all Somerset Libraries, Summer Reading Club activities will run from December 1st until January 31st.
Registration is FREE. When participants register at any of our libraries they will receive a Summer Reading Club pack which includes, tattoos, key rings, book marks and an activity booklet. Alternatively they can register through the Summer Reading Club website at www.summerreadingclub.org.au
**2nd Hand School Uniforms for Sale**

Please ring Sharon after 6pm – 0424 312 571

- Prep Broad Brimmed Hat,
- Maroon Broad Brimmed Hat
- Size 6 Esk State School Jumper,
- Maroon netball skirts x 2
- Size 7 Maroon trackpants x 4
- Size 8 Esk State school polo’s x 3
  - Esk State School Jumper x 1,
  - Esk state School Dress x 2,
  - Maroon netball skirts x 3,
  - Ivory Polo x 1
- Size 10 Ivory Polo x 1,
  - Maroon shorts x 2,
  - Esk State School polo’s x 5,
  - Esk State School Jumper x 1,
  - Esk State School Dress x 1

$3.00 each per item, all in very good condition.