From the Principal’s Desk

Best Wishes for the Holiday
Wishing you all a well-earned two week holiday. Looking forward to seeing you next term.

Music Parade
What an absolute delight this Parade was. The joy of music shone in the faces of everyone present. The level of participation of students across all levels of the school is remarkable. This is in no small way a testament to the engaging teaching style and relationships Mr Smith builds with students. Mrs Hails (Assistant Regional Director) was blown away by the music which is Esk State School.

Here are our Preps, playing and singing the Vegemite Song. The students in Year 5 & 6 placed the guitars in their laps and positioned their fingers on the correct chords and the Preps entertained us with their rendition – They were so cute!
From the Principals Desk continued…

Great Attendance Day Yesterday
Yesterday was the Great Attendance Day. 54% of students (93) had an attendance rate of 95% or better. Students were rewarded with time in a jumping castle.

Australian Early Development Census – AEDC Playing our part to build a national picture of child health.

What is the AEDC?
Next term, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school (Preps) to build a national picture of health and wellbeing. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families.

Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children won’t miss any class time and they don’t need to be present when the teacher does the assessment; it’s based on teacher observation. Parents/carers don’t need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers’ individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.

We used the results to support us and our community in providing the best possible start to schooling life. In other communities across the country, census results have helped communities to plan new playgrounds and parental services; schools are seeing improved student performance through new literacy programmes; and governments are using the results as evidence to develop better policies for children. Mrs Richter and Mrs Oxenford will complete the census from the beginning of next term. The school receives relief funding from the government for the time and effort involved.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don’t need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. If you do not want your child to participate you must contact the school and let us know that you are opting out. To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website. There is also a letter attached for Prep families.

Behaviour – Gotcha Gems 68 Awarded in One Month

Student behaviour continues to improve. Over the last month over 1200 playground and classroom Gotchas have been given out. This has resulted in over 60 Gotcha Gems being awarded in Classrooms. An excellent effort by everyone.
Lowood Sports – 9 Year olds

Just after our Sports Day on Monday I found out that the Regional Sport Committee has changed the events in which students can participate and thus go through to the next level of athletics. At the next level (Lowood Athletics) 9 Year Olds no longer participate in field events (Long Jump, High Jump, Shot Put and Discus) or the 200m and 800m. They do participate in the Sprint race. I’m sorry this information didn’t come to hand until after we had announced our Team for Lowood. I have spoken to all students concerned to let them know.

School Opinion Survey

The suite of School Opinion Surveys are undertaken each year by the Department of Education and Training to obtain opinion information from parents/caregivers, students and school staff. The surveys are designed to help schools identify what they do well and how they can improve. The School Opinion Survey suite is comprised of five individual surveys:

- Parent/Caregiver Survey – (This has already been sent home to all families)
- Student Survey – (This is being done early in Term 3)
- Staff Survey – (Being done now)
- Principal Survey – (This has been done)

Opinions on the school, student learning and student well-being are sought from a parent/caregiver in all families and a sample of students from each state school.

Opinions on the school as a workplace are sought from all state school staff and principals. Additional questions are included for teaching staff on their confidence to teach and improve student outcomes, while principals are also asked on their confidence to lead the school, including improvements in student outcomes.

Who is the survey intended for?

Depending on the size and composition of the school, the target population for the School Opinion Survey are:

- Parent/Caregiver Survey - Every family in the school with a child enrolled in Years Prep-12.
- Student Survey - A sample of students in Years 5, 6, 8 and 11. In most schools, a random sample of 60 students from each of the target year levels are selected to complete the survey from a master list of students enrolled in the school. In some smaller schools, this sample will be supplemented by students in Years 4, 9 or 10 as appropriate.
- Student Survey for Special Schools - The survey is administered in special schools to age equivalent students at the Principal's discretion.
- Staff Survey - All teaching and non-teaching school staff in paid employment during the survey enumeration period. The survey includes permanent, temporary, casual, part-time and full-time staff and excludes principals and staff on leave over the survey enumeration period.
- Principal Survey - All principals and includes heads of campus.

Why is the survey conducted at this time of year?

The School Opinion Survey is conducted after semester 2 so that most respondents have had sufficient experience of the school to provide considered opinions and so that all parents/caregivers have had the opportunity to experience school-based reporting. Term 3 is selected to provide sufficient time to provide survey results back to schools during the current school year.

When should the survey be completed?

Ideally, all surveys should be completed during the first survey enumeration week. The online surveys will however remain open for a slightly longer timeframe to ensure maximum response rates are obtained.

Who administers the survey?

The end-to-end processing of the School Opinion Survey is undertaken by the department and includes project management, administration of the online surveys, processing and reporting. An independent private contractor is responsible for the printing and distribution of the paper survey forms and online access slips, and the scanning of completed paper forms.

Is it compulsory to complete the survey?

Participation in the annual School Opinion Survey is voluntary. Respondents are strongly encouraged to provide their opinions, as the greater the response rate from survey participants, the more closely the survey results will be representative of the overall opinions held at each school.

How will individual responses make a difference?

Survey results will be used to assess and investigate on how well schools are going, and to identify areas for future development. If you are a parent/caregiver of a child at a school, your responses can be used by the school to provide a better learning environment for your child. If you are a staff member at a school, your responses can be used by your school to make it a better workplace.

Computer Access?

If you need access to a computer to complete your Online survey, please call the office on 5424 4111 and we will arrange for a computer to be available at school for you.

Thank You - Lions Club of Esk. The Lions Club have kindly donated books and a cash donation of $250 to the school. A huge thanks to everyone who supports all the local charities, who in turn are able to support others.
Administration

We are having way too many late arrivals – school starts at 8:40am!

Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015

Dear Parents,

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit

Learning Support – Mrs Oxenford

GAMES ON THE GO...

Children learn language every single day and in almost everything they do! When you’re on the go, a perfect way to spend time with your child is to play a GAME ON THE GO...Here is an idea for a game that is easy to play, build language, and doesn’t cost a thing! Remember, play these games in the language you know best.

The game for this fortnight is: Word Subs:

Say 2 or 3 sentences that are exactly the same except for one word. Ask your child to tell you the word that you changed in the sentences. For example, your sentences could be, “I folded your shirt and put it into your drawer. I folded your undershirt and put it into your drawer. I ironed your shirt and put it into your drawer.” Your child would then tell you the words you changed were “shirt” and “undershirt”, and “folded” and “ironed”.

Music – Mr Smith

A big, big thank-you to all Esk State School students for your outstanding behaviour at the Special Music Parade on Wednesday June 17. The music performances were all really, really good and I had a feeling they might be. What really blew me away was how well everyone was still and quiet for the whole parade. It is difficult to do but our Esk students did it and made Mrs Hails very impressed and me very proud. I felt that the event went about as good as it could possibly go. So, Well Done everyone!

You won’t believe it but our performance season only really gets underway next Term with the Concert Band and both choirs attending Christmas in July celebration concert for the volunteers at Meals on Wheels on Monday July 20 at the Somerset Civic Centre. Forms went home yesterday and need to be returned on the first day back in Term 3. Basically we all walk to the Civic Centre, perform and then have lunch at Pipeliner Park and then back to school. The Concert Band and Senior Choir will also attend TYME Festival in Toowoomba, which is music festival celebrating State School music.

Holiday Workshops for Gifted Students

Toowoomba – 29 and 30 June

Workshops catering for all ages from Prep to Year 6.
More information at www.brainways.com.au
Library – Ms Benson

**Book Week - Books light up our world 70th Anniversary**

Book Week will be celebrated this year with a different format. On Wednesday 19 August a Book Week performance about some of the shortlisted books will be held. Parent will be notified about any costs in the first newsletter of Term 3. As we will be having the performance instead of the usual dress-up parade, students may still like to come as their favourite character for the day and be selected to choose a book from the great book draw that will be held after the performance. (The draw will take place as it has in previous years – any student dressed up as their favourite book character will be given a ticket and if their ticket is drawn will choose a book as a prize). Classroom activities, prizes and the Book Fair will still be held in this week as usual.

**Somerset- Lockyer Region Readers Cup**

The Readers Cup was held on Friday 19th June at Lowood High School. The Readers Cup is a forum for children to share their passion for reading. Teams of four Year 5 & 6 students read a set of books, and then compete with other school teams from the region to answer quiz questions from the books. The books chosen for the students to read are quality literature. The Quizmaster was Allison Trait, Author of the Map Maker Chronicles.

The books read this year were:
Tunnels of Tarcoola by Jennifer Walsh
An ANZAC Tale by Ruth Starke
1844 Do You Dare by James Moloney
Con Nerd by Oliver Phommavanh
Map Maker Chronicles – Race to the End of the World (The Mapmaker Chronicles) – A.L. Tait

The team performed well in the competition and should be very proud of themselves.

**Around our School**

**Student Council – Mrs Smith**

- **Ice Cream Spider Day**: Wednesday 5 August. The Student Council has decided to hold an Ice Cream Spider Day on Wednesday 5 August (Week 4). Students can purchase a Spider Deal for $5 which will include free dress, ice cream in a cup, spoon, straw and a drink (juice, water or soft drink). Items can also be purchased separately- Drinks $2, Ice cream $2, Free Dress $2. Children can pre-pay or pay on the day.

- **Fathers’ Day Stall**: Monday 31 August to Friday 4 September. Next Term the Student Council will hold a Fathers’ Day stall during Week 8.

- **Free Dress Day**: Friday 18 September. Gold coin donations please.

Our gardens need some bamboo stakes if you have any spare at home. Please give to Mrs Nan or Mr Smith (Groundsman).
Celebrations

Star Pupils

Prep
- Having a cheerful approach
- Showing improved concentration during lessons

Year Prep/One/Two
- Amazing academic progress
- An exceptional Term!

Year One/Two
- An inquisitive and thoughtful approach to tasks
- Fantastic attitude towards Accelerated Reader

Year Two/Three
- Working very patiently with your Prep buddy
- An energetic participant
- Working very patiently with a Prep buddy

Year Three/Four
- Showing great sportsmanship

Year Four/Five/Six
- Fantastic job in writing a short report on Flying Foxes

Year Five/Six
- Helping others
- Willing to lend a hand

Special Award

Prep
- Trying hard in all areas
- Always trying her best
- Being a brilliant bubble of happiness

Year One/Two
- Improved concentration
- For her love of learning

Year Two/Three
- Working with enthusiasm in all subjects
- An enthusiastic learner

Year Three/Four
- Great work in Reading

Year Four/Five/Six
- Great researching skills
- Great researching skills

Year Five/Six
- Having an eye for details
- Having a cheerful outlook

Gotcha Award
Sponsored by Esk Newsagency

Congratulations
Following Esk State School Values

Gotcha Award

Congratulations
Helping Others

Mathletic Awards

Pen Licence

Names and photographs removed for privacy reasons
**Prep – Mrs Richter**

Over the last couple of weeks our class has done lots of revision to try and cement what we have learnt this term. In Maths we have learnt about; time and days of the week, making and continuing patterns, counting collections from different starting points, subitising (arrange) small collections to look like a dice arrangement, following and giving directions to a place, measurement and writing digits. In English we; explored texts that sequence a story, made personal connections to the stories, learnt how to write vowels and consonants, had a try at writing a sentence with a capital letter and full stop, learnt that vowels can be long or short sounds and started to comprehend what we are reading about. In Science we learnt about the properties of materials. In geography we learnt about describing places and where they are. We had a go at mapping. In Active Learning Processes we worked on our art folio, problem solving, music, dance and using technology. We also learnt about resilience, making friends and keeping each other healthy and safe. We set up a café to help us relate to health and hygiene. It has been a very busy term and the Preps have coped beautifully. I am very proud of them all. Have a wonderful break with your families and come back to Term Three smiling. I will be on Long Service Leave for the first two weeks and Mr Cowan will be taking my place. He is looking forward to working with this fantastic class of Prep students.

**Year P/1/2 – Mrs Kitching**

This week we have been very busy finishing off things in our classroom. We have been looking closely at word families, writing sentences and responses to stories.

In Mathematics we have developed a bank of strategies to solve word problems, including number lines, counting on and part-part-whole. We are also looking at o’clock and half-past times, but we need to continue to practise reading times over the holidays. Mrs Kitching brought in some bags of coins and we sorted the coins according to their size and value.

Our classroom is bright and beautiful at the moment as we are displaying our writing, and art work associated with our letters of the week. If you have time, come on by and visit us if you can.

Finally we would like to wish Roman Lewis all the very best in his new school. We will miss your smiling face.

**Year 1/2 – Miss Quade**

Year 1/2 have been very busy lately. In English we have been looking at folk tales, fairy tales and fractured fairy tales. Students are looking at how images and words are used to portray emotions and actions. They are also comparing the similarities and differences between the different stories.

Last Friday we had our Movie party. This was a class reward we have been working very hard at achieving.

**Year 2/3 – Mrs McTaggart**

We have reached the end of Semester Two. Over this time students have grown and experienced a lot. They are becoming very independent young people and are beginning to monitor their own actions. Enjoy the two weeks break. All students deserve this well-earned break, they have worked very hard. I look forward to seeing everyone return safe and sound in Term Three. We do say farewell to one student this term and we wish them well in their new endeavours.

I wish to share a quote from the Year 2/3’s this week. “Yeah we have rotations. This means we have no work.” Upon hearing this I wondered if those words also went home. Here is a typical day with rotations:

**Morning session each student completes**
- 30 minute lesson on constructing an Imaginative Narrative with myself
- 30 minutes of handwriting in their handwriting book
- 30 minutes completing set activities on Reading Eggs
- 30 minutes of Accelerated Reading - reading a book and completing a quiz

**Middle Session each student completes:**
- 40 minute focussed lesson
- 20 minutes on Mathletics completing set tasks
- 20 minutes on a cooperative maths game.

**Last Session:**
- Whole class lesson in Art/History/Science/Geography.

So when your child comes home and says we did no work today. This is their notion of no work.
Year 3/4 – Mrs Nan
What a great time we all had at camp. I’m sure there were some great stories being told around the dinner table on Friday night. We had a very hectic two days. On Thursday all children who attended camp made damper which was later enjoyed covered in raspberry jam, crafted a koala plaque from clay and folded a seedling pot from newspaper which they added a plant to. And YES Mums and Dads your children can clean up after themselves and stack the dishwasher. On Friday we went canoeing and showed our skills with a bow and arrow. The teamwork shown by many groups was great to see however, we did see some canoes performing donuts down North Pine River. By Friday afternoon most children agreed it was great to be home.

Year 4/5/6 – Mrs Dolan
Our campers are home again and the end of Term 3 has arrived! Some photos are below. I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday. I would also like to let you know that I will be on long service leave for the first three weeks of Term 4. I hope you will make Mr Andrew Huntley feel welcome at Esk State School. Looking forward to catching up with you all again in Term 4.

Year 5/6 – Mrs Smith
Wow the Panel discussions last week were a huge success. It was great to see each student stand up and deliver their prepared speech. As well they asked questions of the other panellists and answered questions too.

Work Sample Folders should have made it home with your child’s Report Card yesterday. Have a good look at the work your child has done this term. If you have any questions please feel free to make contact either through a phone call, email or make an appointment for a meeting at school. Please return Work Sample Folders early next term.

Athletic Carnival News

NEW RECORDS - We had one record new record set and one which was a tie with an existing record. Congratulations to the following student who exceeded all expectations:

TEAM ESK 2015 - These 57 Children have been chosen to represent Esk State School at the Lowood District Carnival. Note that 9 year olds will no longer compete at the Lowood District Athletics Carnival in field events or 200m and 800m races. Students 6-9 years old will be competing in a sprint only.

TROPHIES
Ball Games Trophy- Ivory 92 beat Eskdale 80
Tug-o-War Trophy- Ivory 2 to Eskdale 0
Champion House Track and Field Trophy- Ivory 2585 defeated Eskdale 2555

ATHLETICS PRACTICES FOR LOWOOD 2015

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Running</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Thursday afternoons 2:45-3:15 Weeks 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Shot Put</td>
<td>Mr Crichton</td>
<td>Thursday before school 8:15-8:45 Weeks 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Discus</td>
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<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>Mrs Dennehya</td>
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<td>High Jump</td>
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<td>Friday afternoon 2:45-3:15 Weeks 1</td>
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<td>Ball Games</td>
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<td>Monday first break 11-11:30 Weeks 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Thursday first break 11-11:30 Weeks 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Relays</td>
<td>Mrs Rollston</td>
<td>Thursday morning 10:20-10:50 Weeks 1 &amp; 2</td>
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**P & C News**

**P&C Meeting:** Next P&C Meeting will be on Monday 20 July 6:30 in the Staffroom (D Block).

**Aus Lotto Fundraiser**
This runs for 8 weeks - which works out to $2.50/week. Numbers are $20 each and if your number is drawn you win $50 cash. Draw to commence once all numbers are sold. Thanks to those families who have purchased numbers. Please support this fundraiser, put your $20 in an envelope with your preferred number and pop into the P&C box in the office admin area. Thank you!

**GET YOUR LUCKY NUMBERS NOW!**

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**Uniform Shop** – The Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday Morning 8:15am – 8:45am. We have lots of second hand jumpers in all sizes for only $2.00 each.

**Community News**

**Toogoolawah PICTURES**

**Sat., 27th June**
‘TOMORROWLAND’ pg
Doors: 7:00 pm  Movie: 7.30 - 9.55 pm

**Sat., 4th July**
‘SAN ANDREAS’ m

**Sat., 11th July**
‘JURASSIC WORLD’ m

Child to High School: $6
Adult: $8  Family: $25
Snack Bar. Hot Dogs & Pop Corn
Alexandra Hall, T’wah
Inquiries: 043 814 9954

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**Cuppa and Chat**
Esk Community Connection Point

10.30am – 12pm
Friday, 3 July
Stepping Stones, 9 Heap Street, Esk

Meet our volunteers
Have a browse
Guest speaker: Monica Reinano from Drug Arm
Understanding addiction and how the community can respond
Find out what is on offer
Enjoy free refreshments

For more information phone Council
(07) 5424 4000