Term 4 Week 1
9 October 2015

Dates to Remember
October
19 – Pupil Free day
22 – PE Swimming Lessons start
23 – Day for Daniel – wear red
27 – Qld Orchestra Brisbane trip
29 – School Disco
30 – Fun Swim starts
30 – World Teacher Day

November
4 – Year 6 Transition Day TSHS
5 – Year 5 Leadership speeches
5 – Prep & Kindy Open Day
23 – Student Council Movie Day
26 – Swimming Carnival
30 – Year 6 Transition Day TSHS

December
1 – Year 6 Transition Day TSHS
3 – Great Attendance Day
8 – Report Cards go home
8 – Year 6 Graduation Evening
9 – Year 6 Farewell Parade
9 – Year 6 Pool Party
10 – Break-up day
11 – Clean-up day

From the Principal’s Desk
Welcome Back
Welcome Back to Term 4. I hope your holiday break was refreshing and restful. It was good to see such great attendance for day one of school. This being the last term of the year brings with it its own special brand of excitement as the Year 6’s begin thinking more closely about high school and the transition days and all students look forward to the summer holidays. We have a huge amount of learning and teaching to cover this term with new units of work starting across the Australian Curriculum. Teachers have prepared their “Welcome to Term” letters which will be sent home during this week and next. This letter lets you know the main focus areas of study within the English, Maths, Science, Geography, History and the Arts. If you have any questions about what your child is learning please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Reporting to Parents
We are required by Legislation to report to Parents four times each year. This takes the form of two Parent Teacher Interviews and two Report Cards. On Wednesday this week we held the Parent Teacher Interviews for Term 3. It was great to see the many parents who attended. The online booking system has worked. I feel though that many parents, for various reasons, missed the interviews. Now that bookings are online permanently I feel bookings will increase for next year’s interviews. I would be happy to hear any feedback from you about the booking system. Report Cards will be coming home on the last Tuesday of Term 4. Don’t forget that you can make an appointment for an interview at any time by contacting your child’s teacher or the school.

Long Service Leave this Term
Mrs Richter is on Long Service Leave for the first two weeks of this term. I will be on leave on the last day of term as I have a family wedding on that Friday in Canberra.
Great Attendance Day (GAD)

Last term we congratulated 102 students for attending school for 95% or more of the time. They enjoyed a climbing wall, face painting and balloon sculpting. Listening to students planning between them how many days they need to be at school to attend the reward day each term is exciting. This term GAD will be a pool party on 3 December. There will be some cool, special toys for students to play with!!

School Opinion Survey

You’ll remember a few months ago doing the School Opinion Survey for Parents. We have received the results for Parents, Students and Staff. Results of the Parents survey indicate that parents are very satisfied with results to all but one question being between 95% and 100%. The one question related to us having useful information online is at 87%. Student results were mixed with responses ranging from 70% to low 90s%. Students expressed concern about not being accepted by peers. Even so the percentage results are quite good. Staff survey results indicate that staff are very satisfied across all questions with results between 95% and 100% satisfaction.

New Bell System

Over the holidays we replaced the school bell system with one somewhat more modern. The tone quality and clarity of the speakers is remarkable. We are now able to have music play at ‘bell’ times. Currently students come in off the oval to “I like to Move it, Move it” This has resulted in them dancing their way to TDL (Toilet, Drink and Line-up) and class. The new system provides more flexibility and a greater level of security when it comes to reliability and certainty.

Explicit Instruction

Our Brisbane Valley Cluster of schools is working together on skills associated with explicit instruction as researched by Drs Anita Archer and Charles Hughes. Our Mrs Smith and Mr Harris (TSHS) have been trained by Dr Archer herself and are our Cluster’s Facilitators. Ten teachers from across the cluster are meeting at Esk School next Monday for the initial Focus Day. They will observe teaching skills demonstrated by the facilitators. On this Focus Day the skills for the morning session are Action, Written and Verbal Responses and in the afternoon session they are Echo, Cloze, Choral and Pair Reading, New Vocabulary and Paragraph Shrinking. Mrs Smith’s class will be used for these demonstrations. The teachers will reflect and discuss what they have seen, then practice them in their own schools. All of these skills are designed to keep student/teacher and student/student engagement and the time spent on task at a high level of integrity and quality. These Focus Days will be happening through next year also. If you have any questions about this don’t hesitate to contact the school.

Good Luck to our two students who are travelling up to Townsville next week as part of the Met-West team to compete at the Queensland Titles.

Administration

Thanks to all the families who bought in their Woolies Earn and Learn stickers. We have collected over 11,500! This will allow us to purchase resources for each classroom.

Book Club – Book Club will be coming home on Monday. The orders are due back in no later than Friday 23 October. No late orders can be accepted.

Fun Swim – Fun swim is now free.
Celebrations

Star Pupils

Prep – Writing a fantastic letter to Mother Pig
Year Prep/One/Two – Outstanding efforts in spelling testing
Year One/Two – Great effort in the Maths test
Year Two/Three – Working consistently in all subjects
Year Three/Four – Great poem
Year Four/Five/Six – A fantastic effort in Maths Operations
Year Five/Six – A fantastic effort in Maths Operations

Special Award

Prep – Good listening
Year Prep/One/Two – Great improvements in spelling
Year One/Two – A great attitude towards Maths
Year Two/Three – Excellent progress in reading
Year Three/Four – Great work in letter writing
Year Four/Five/Six – Great effort in operations
Year Five/Six – Working hard and smiling big!

Mathletic Awards

Gotcha Gems

Peridot –
Opal –
Garnet –
Amethyst –
Aquamarine –
Topaz –
Sapphire –
Emerald –
Ruby –
Diamond –
Diamond Peridot (220 Gotchas) –

Accelerated Reader Awards

My Camp

On the last week of Term 3, I went on an “Expanding Horizons Extension Camp” for three days at Storm King Dam, Stanthorpe. I participated in activities such as Orienteering, Team-Building, Art and Writing. The writing session was hosted by the famous children’s author Angela Sunde in which I learnt how to write comedy. In the art activity I learnt about ‘hatching’ and ‘cross-hatching’ as well as other art techniques. The orienteering was fun! I had never tried orienteering before. Along the way I met a lot of new people. Overall I enjoyed my camp immensely.

Names and photographs have been removed for privacy reasons
Prep – Mrs Richter

While Mrs Richter is on Long Service Leave, we have Mrs Jenny Grant looking after our Preps. She has extensive teaching experience and has recently moved to Esk.

Don’t forget to complete your Maths extension work that was sent home this week. You have all term to complete these tasks so keep your activity sheet in your Home Reader folder. Any enquiries about the weekly show and tell items, please see Miss Rhonda.

Year P/1/2 – Mrs Kitching

It is wonderful to be back teaching my lovely class once again. I would like to extend a very big thank you to Mrs Lougheed for all of her hard work in my absence. We have been very busy this week looking at new texts in English and in particular the structure of the texts. Preps have been writing letters to characters in books. We have also started our new History unit focussing on family groups, traditions and discussing how these have changed or remained the same over time. In Mathematics we have looked closely at some numbers and have located them on the number chart. We have also expanded these numbers into their number houses and attempted to write their name in word form.

Next week will be even busier as it will be our first full week of school for the term. We are excited that we will be going swimming in week 3 and a note will go home about this very soon. Thank you to the parents who came along to Parent/Teacher interview, it is always nice to touch base about individual children. If you did not get to the interview and you would like one with Mrs Kitching, please call and ask for an appointment.

Year 1/2 – Miss Quade

Welcome back to what will be another busy term. We had a successful parent teacher interview session this week. Just a reminder that parent teacher interviews are not the one and only opportunity to chat about your child’s progress. If you ever have any concerns, questions or just want to touch base, feel free to contact the school to make an appointment with me or pop in before or after school for a chat.

Year 2/3 – Mrs McTaggart

Welcome back to Term 4 it is a very busy term with lots of things happening. Swimming starts in Week 3 please ensure ALL articles of clothing are named it is quite embarrassing when there is underwear left in the change rooms and we have no idea who it belongs to.

Next Monday the Homework Book will be going home but not the Home Reading Folder. Time is required to adjust each students reading level and ensure that they are taking the correct levelled books home to read.

There has been a marked improvement in reading and it has taken a bit of time to assess where each student is right at this moment. If there are Home Reading folders at home please return them whether the book has been read or not. All students in the class have improved at least 3 to 4 levels in reading and need the information updated.

Year 3/4 – Mrs Nan

This week we have been practising our poem we wrote last term. Students have also been given a copy to take home and have been encouraged to practise in front of their parents or their dog or even the mirror. They have been practising at school with partners and in small groups using their presentation voices and using expression to convey the mood of their poem. Next week they will begin presenting the poem to the class.

Could parents please check their child’s pencil case as we still have students who do not have pencils, rubbers or rulers.

Year 4/5/6 – Mrs Dolan

Welcome back to Term 4 – and what a busy term we have ahead of us! Those who are in Year 5 have been completing their Leadership 2016 application forms. These need to be completed by Friday 16 October (next Friday) and then handed in to Mr Crichton. The shortlist of nominees for Leadership 2016 will be announced a couple of weeks later. More information on the Leadership process will be announced soon.

Year 6 will have their first Toogoolawah High School Transition Day in four weeks’ time. This is an exciting time for our Year 6 students who are completing their last year at Primary school and are readying themselves for their new adventure in High School.

Thank you to those parents who attended the Parent-Teacher interviews on Wednesday evening. If anyone was unable to attend and would like to arrange a meeting please advise the office. A Term letter will be coming home next week with email addresses for Mrs Rollston and myself attached if you would prefer to contact us directly.
Year 5/6 – Mrs Smith

Work Sample Folders have gone home following Parent/Teacher Interviews this week. Have a look at the work your child completed in Term 3 then send the folder back so we can add this term’s work before it comes home for good at the end of Term 4. We have started new units in both English and Maths. In English we are looking at news reports. In Maths we are learning about Angles. Later in the term we will need empty cereal boxes for our Maths Investigation. Please send in any cereal boxes you may empty during the term.

Around our School

Learning Support – Mrs Oxenford

Booster Writing and Numeracy Projects up and running for Year 4 students

Two online learning programs are continuing this term for selected Year 4 students – Booster Writing and Booster Numeracy. Each project involves a one hour online lesson each week.

The programs are designed to prepare high achieving students to improve their NAPLAN results.

The students are enjoying the interactive nature of the online lessons.

GAMES ON THE GO...

What are the types of things parents can do at home to help their children become better at maths and improve their problem solving skills? Take advantage of every opportunity that’s available including time spent in the car. The key thing to remember is that you want to ensure that children remain positive about maths, therefore you will need to skip the pencil and paper computations. Computations are easily done on the calculator. Children today need to become problem solvers!

Here’s a list of ideas that will improve mathematical thinking skills while you’re out in the car.

The games for this fortnight all use: Licence Plates

- Be the first one to add up the digits in the licence plate for any car ahead of you or any car that passes you.
- Try making the largest number from a licence plate by rearranging the order.
- Have children tell you which numbers in the licence plate are odd and even or which ones are prime.
- Multiply the first two numbers in the licence plate or the last two numbers.
- Skip count with the first number (or last). For instance, if the first number in a licence plate is 4, see how far you can count by 4’s - 4, 8, 12, 16, 20 etc.

PBL – Positive Behaviour for Learning

This week Mr Crichton welcomed everyone back to Term 4 and encouraged all the students to stay focussed for the last term of the year. The children were told about the new bell systems and were so excited by the back-to-class song “Move it Move it”.

The students were able to contribute to the assembly by saying some rules that we should all be following including:- walking on the pathways, talking nicely to everyone, being inclusive when playing and coming off the ovals/play areas and completing TDL (Toilet, Drink, Line-up) quickly.

Another point contributed by a student was that if you can’t say something nice then we shouldn’t say anything at all. Everyone agreed. The Hi 5 rule was then re-visited, outlining when minor problems do occur that students should try the Hi 5 – Talk friendly, Talk firmly, Ignore, Walk away, Tell an adult. This will help to teach some problem solving and resilience amongst the student body.

Sydney/Canberra Trip 2016 – Mrs Smith

It appears we have enough students to go ahead with the Sydney/Canberra Trip in 2016. Please note we will require an initial deposit of $100 by Friday 13 November 2015 from each student planning on attending. If you have not decided whether your child will be attending please try to do so soon.

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.

In Term 3 we sharpen our attention to include a focus on Number Facts.
Student Council – Mrs Smith

School Disco - the Student Council will host a School Disco on Thursday 29 October at the Esk State School Hall. Doors will open at 6pm. The theme for the Disco is the Letter A - dress up as an apple, arrow, animal, archer or anything!

Students can purchase a Disco Deal for $5 which will include - entry to the disco, a glow necklace, chips and a drink. Disco Deals need to be paid for at the school office by 3pm on Tuesday 17 October. Items can also be purchased individually on the night - entry $2, chips $1, drinks $2 (soft drink, juice or water), glow necklaces 80c and glow bracelets 2 for 50c. The P&C will also be running a BBQ on the night.

Parents are welcome to attend the disco free of charge. Note that only Esk State School students will be admitted to the hall. No high school students please! At Esk State School we are lucky to have the involvement of almost all of our staff in school events like discos. We anticipate more than fifteen staff being in attendance at the disco so children will be well supervised.

The disco will end at 8pm. Parents will need to come to the door of the hall to collect their children as staff will not permit children to leave the hall unaccompanied. Usually by 8:10pm everyone has left and the staff can go home for a well-earned rest.

Movie Day - Monday 23 November. Details of the movies to be shown will be in the newsletter in a few weeks.

Sport – Mrs Rollston

PE - Getting ready for swimming
Swimming in PE will start on Thursdays in week 3 of Term 4 for all classes. Please check that your child has swimmers, a sunshirt, a swimming cap and a towel so that they are ready to swim for the first swimming lesson. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about swimming lessons. Parent helpers for the younger classes would be appreciated if you can come along.

Lesson times
Thursday: 8:45 Year 3 / 4, 9:30 Prep, 11:30 Year 2/3, 12:00 Year 1 / 2, 12:30 P / 1 / 2, 2:00 Year 5 / 6
Friday: 10:00 Year 4 / 5 / 6

Day for Daniel – Mrs Rollston
Esk State School has registered for “Day for Daniel” with 1000’s of other schools across Australia.

We will be wearing red on Friday 23 October to support this important event. Please give a gold coin donation to assist in raising awareness.

Day for Daniel aims to educate children and adults about keeping kids safe through child safety and protection initiatives. It empowers our children to Recognise, React and Report if they feel something is not right. Esk State School has been teaching our students the Daniel Morcombe program for the past 2 years.

P & C News

P&C Meeting: Next P&C Meeting will be on Monday 19 October 6:30pm in the Staffroom (D Block).

Uniform Shop – The Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday Morning 8:15am – 8:45am.
If you are unable to visit our uniform shop during this time, please pick up a Uniform Order form from the Admin Foyer, fill out your order and leave it with your payment in the P&C box and your order will be filled and given to your child.

Tuckshop Roster for October

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<th>Convenor</th>
<th>8:30 -11:30</th>
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<td>15 October</td>
<td>Tamara</td>
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### AUS LOTTO

**Congratulations to our Winners:**

**Week One:** Danielle Jenkins  
**Week Two:** Dave Muir  
**Week Three:** Ronda - Stihl Shop  
**Week Four:** Patrina McLeod

**Week Five:**  
**Week Six:** Kim Byron  
**Week Seven:** Kelsey Farlow

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Danielle Jenkins</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mari Gibson</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Brisbane Valley Hire</td>
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<td>Greg Club Hotel</td>
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<td>Kim Byron</td>
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<td>Llyod Winter</td>
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<td>Mel H-G</td>
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<td>Justin Green</td>
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<td>Nicole James</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Darren Esk Butchers</td>
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<td>Esk Helping Hands</td>
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<td>Brian - Principal</td>
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<td>Dave Muir</td>
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<td>Patrina McLeod</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Ronda Stihl Shop</td>
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<td>Kelsey NAB</td>
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<td>Brian Principal</td>
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<td>Debra Esk Pharmacy</td>
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<td>Bundy Family</td>
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<td>Tamara Stihl Shop</td>
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<td>Esk Fruit Shop</td>
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<td>Black Family</td>
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<td>Wilkes Family</td>
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<td>Laurene NAB</td>
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<td>Dazio Robyn James</td>
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<td>Esk Helping Hands</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Kerrie Rowley</td>
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<td>Paris LJ Hooker</td>
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<td>Ida Esk Post Office</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Versace Family</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Nash - Gallery Café</td>
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<td>Julies At the Rectory</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Tash Luder</td>
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<td>Heather Reibel</td>
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<td>Kim Byron</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>Di Esk Bakery</td>
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<td>Jess Family</td>
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<td>Sam Amiee Luder</td>
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<td>Marlene Home Hardware</td>
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<td>Sharon Guy</td>
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**Community News**

**Esk Community Games Morning**

*Hosted by the Esk Community Connection Point*

When: Each second Saturday and fourth Tuesday of the month, 10am – 12pm

Where: Stepping Stones, 19 Heap Street, Esk

- **Plenty of games for young and old**
- **Brunch and card games**
- **Connect others and join in the fun**

For more information phone Council (07) 4924 4000

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**Halloween Fancy Dress Party**

$5 ENTRY

INC. SUPPER DRINKS ON SALE

**UNDER 13's**

Coominya Town Hall

Fri 30th Oct

5-8pm

Chaperoned event, parents and younger children welcome

Children will be signed in and out

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**Coonima Youth Club**

Support by Somersett Regional Council and funded by the Queensland Government.