From the Principal’s Desk

From Spelling Program to Word Study

We have been reviewing our spelling data and have found that spelling results are not as good as they should be. This is particularly true for the lower end of the school. We have found that the program we are currently using is not flexible enough to allow for differences in student learning styles and natures. From next Term we will be changing to the Words Their Way program. There is no cost involved with this change and any students currently using their Sound Waves book will still keep the book and use it as appropriate throughout the year.

Words Their Way is a teacher-directed, student-centred approach to vocabulary growth and spelling development whereby students categorise words using pictures, pattern and meaning, word sorts and activities. It caters for differentiated learning in the classroom rather than the one-size fits all approach of the other program. Diagnostic tools are available to enable us to assess, clearly identify and document each student’s spelling stage and areas needing further study or support. Rather than students having to ardently memorise list after list of words, Words Their Way arms the students with tools and rules for understanding and unlocking how sounds and letters work to form words. Words Their Way is essentially a word study program taught using explicit teaching techniques. This will engage student interest and motivation to learn about how words work. Lessons will start at three times per week for half an hour each.

Once on the program students will be placed in only a small number of levels of ability. The words being studied won’t be all that difficult as the focus switches from memorising to understanding. This is significant and parents should not be worried about this as students will be explicitly taught the 29 spelling rules and the 44 sounds in the English language. You can google the program to read more about it. Next Term we will hold parent information sessions on the program. Please keep a watch out in the newsletter.

Cross Country

Wednesday 1 April
9:00am start
From the Principals Desk continued…

Operation Slipper welcome home parade and ANZAC Service at Esk SS

Operation Slipper is Australia’s military contribution to operations in Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf which commenced in October 2001. To mark the end of Operation Slipper, Brisbane and Townsville hosted commemoration parades on 21 March, followed by memorial services. We all support our troops and welcome them home to their loved ones and friends. We will be holding our yearly ANZAC Service on Friday 24 April commencing at 8:45am. It will be our first official duty undertaken by our new School Captains. Special guests will include Deb Frecklington MP and a member from the Esk RSL Sub Branch. Everyone is welcome to attend our Centenary ANZAC Service.

Great Attendance Club

Excitement is building as the Great Attendance Club day approaches. Students who have been at school for 95% of the term (at least 47.5 days) will be able to attend the Old MacDonald’s Petting Zoo next Tuesday morning. The number of students attending stands at a whopping 120. How exciting is that. Well done!!

Attendance Rate

Well done everyone! Over these last two weeks our attendance rate has hit the 95% target!!!

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.

Administration

Parent/Teacher Interviews - Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 22 April form 3.15pm to 6.05pm. Letters were sent home this week. Please fill in the slip and return to school office by Thursday 2 April 2015.

School Photos - We have had notification that the Instrumental and School Leaders photos will be available to purchase early in Term 2. We will keep you posted when the sample photo and order passwords become available.

Payments to School – Please make sure when sending money or payments to the school that the money is in an envelope, with your child’s name, class and what the payment is for, clearly marked on it. There are envelopes in the foyer for your use.

Student Absences – Please ensure that you phone, email or write a short note, to explain why your child/ren are absent from school.

Sport – Mrs Rollston

Cross Country - next Wednesday 1 April. Races start at 9am.

Wear your house colours, bring plenty of water, wear a hat and sunscreen and bring your loudest cheering voice!

Don’t forget that the Inter-house cross country is next
Order of events: 12 &13 years (3km), 11 years (3km), 10 years (2km), 7 years (600m), 6 years (600m), 5 years (300m), 9 years (1km) and 8 years (1km)

Head Lice Alert

We have had reported cases within the school. Please check and treat your child’s hair. For more information please check the Qld Health Website for prevention and treatment ideas.
Library – Ms Benson

Somerset Readers Cup 2015
In 2014 over 22 schools competed in the Somerset Lockyer Readers Cup Challenge and in 2015 a group of students will have the opportunity for this unique experience. Highly respected author Allison Tait is the Quiz master and author of *The Mapmaker Chronicles*. The students will read 5 quality titles in a wide variety of genres.

Yrs 5/6:
Do you dare:1844 The Last Horse Race by James Moloney
Tunnels of Tarcoola by Jennifer Walsh

Both 5/6 & 7/8:
Con-nerd by Oliver Phommavah
Mapmaker Chronicles: Race to the end of the world by A.L.Tait
An Anzac Tale by Ruth Starke

The competition is a team event and the selected students will commence reading with the START of the Easter holidays.

Music – Mr Smith
Great job on the special music parade, Junior Choir and Concert Band! I can’t believe you learned all that music in just 8 weeks.

If you are in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6, please think about joining Senior Choir after the holidays. We have all new music and with our sensational piano accompanist, Mrs. Oxenford, I can’t wait to hear you all sing again.
Celebrations

Star Pupils
Prep
Great mapping skills
Year Prep/One/Two
Excellent work in Mathematics
Year One/Two
For working hard in Mathematics
Year Two/Three
Being an enthusiastic learner
Year Three/Four
Great effort in Geography
Year Four/Five/Six
Great effort in Science
Year Five/Six
Always putting her best foot forward

Special Award
Prep
Working hard on his map
Year Prep/One/Two
Consistent effort in all subjects
Year One/Two
For always being kind to others
Year Two/Three
Being an adaptable learner
Year Three/Four
Always working hard to finish class tasks
Year Four/Five/Six
Great attempts at recalling Scientific facts
Year Five/Six
Working hard and smiling big

Gotcha Gems
Peridot
Opal
Garnet
Amethyst
Aquamarine

Mathletic Awards –

Photographs and names have been removed for privacy reasons.
**Prep – Mrs Richter**

Head lice are still a problem. Keep checking your child’s hair on a regular basis. The children are looking forward to movie day. They will be taking their pillow to the movie to sit on. Cross country is coming up and the preps will be with me on the oval cheering on the rest of the school until their race at about 11:00am. After our race we will be coming back to prep. If you wish to take your prep child home early you need to sign them out first with Mrs Lukritz at the tent.

**Year P/1/2 – Mrs Kitching**

The end of term is almost here! We have come such a long way in such a short period of time. We have finally met our buddies and have had two very successful afternoons with them. In these sessions we have worked on Mathletics, reading, writing, craft and mathematics games. It is wonderful to listen to buddy conversations and to have buddies who are responsible, respectful and safe. We were very proud of the children in our class who sang on parade in the Junior Choir, they were amazing! Mrs Kitching has been very busy learning a new way to teach us spelling for next term. She is very excited by the possibilities of her new course!

Next week is going to be so amazing, we have Movie day, Cross country and the Easter Bonnet Parade. Wow we are going to need our holiday!

**Year 1/2 – Miss Mulligan**

In Science we have been learning about living things. Last week in Science, our class watched me planting sunflower seeds into a small pot. Each week we will be observing and recording how our sunflowers grow and change. In art, the children then had lots of fun creatively making 2D and 3D models of living things in their gardens. Examples included snails, butterflies, flowers and beetles. I was really impressed with their creative talents!

I know the children are all very excited about the holidays. They have all worked really hard during the term and deserve a nice long break! In the coming days, I look forward to doing some fun Easter activities with the class.

**Year 2/3 – Mrs McTaggart**

One week to go until the holidays, what a busy term it has been. Students have been enjoying Geography and mapping their way around Queensland identifying human and natural features of the places they have been visiting.

Homework is changing slightly in particular the Home Reading. In order for students to increase their reading fluency and expression, students need to read one book four times in the week. Below is an example of what a student could do:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Read to</th>
<th>Read how</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>An adult</td>
<td>In a normal voice</td>
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<td>Day 2</td>
<td>A sibling</td>
<td>In a robot voice</td>
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<td>Day 3</td>
<td>A pet</td>
<td>In a different accent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 4</td>
<td>Whomever they choose</td>
<td>In any manner of voice</td>
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Each reading still requires an adult’s signature to indicate that this has been completed in their reading folder.

Wishing you all a safe and restful break and I look forward to seeing many parents at the teacher interview evening.

**Year 3/4 – Mrs Nan**

We have now started our Science Assessment. Each child has been given an Australian endangered animal to research. They are not to take their research booklet home but you may help them find information on their chosen animal. Topics in their research include: a description of the animal, a description of its habitat, a labelled diagram of its habitat and a description of its life cycle. There will also be a note coming home today with information regarding the camp in Term Two to North Pine.

**Year 4/5/6 & 5/6 – Mrs Rollston**

**Technology**

At the beginning of Term 2 we will be starting our technology for this Semester. We are making an instillation art piece of an owl using recycled materials. Please start collecting circular objects of various sizes. We don’t need them at school until after the holidays.
Year 5/6 – Mrs Smith

In English students are currently working on the end of unit assessment item - a comparison of the narrative version of Storm Boy and the movie version. Students will have in excess of six hours of class time to work on this assessment item. They may also choose to work on their assessment item at home. This is due in on Tuesday 31 March.

We have begun work on a new unit in Maths on Data and Graphs. We will probably not finish this new unit until after the holidays. Assessment for Science, Geography and History will also take place after the holidays. Keep an eye out for a Term 2 Calendar at the beginning of next term.

Around our School

Fun With Maths – Mrs Smith

Fun with Maths is returning to Esk State School on Monday 4 May (Week 3 Term 2). It costs $5.50 for each child to attend. Fun with Maths is a presentation of colourful, educational activities that are drawn from life challenges that need maths strategies to solve. A range of hands-on stations will be set up in the hall and students will have 90 minutes in their class groups to work their way around the room solving the problems.

Fun with Maths can help improve each student’s ability to:
1. Choose the correct strategy when faced with a problem.
2. Improve their creativity.
3. Change their attitude into a positive one towards maths.

Fun with Maths uses hands-on practical materials. The activities are learner-centred and they have a real-life context. The activities are highly linked to play which promotes problem solving, critical thinking, concept formation, and creativity skills with social and emotional developments. It has been designed to develop co-operative team work. Note that the activities presented this year will be different from those presented last year and the year before so students who have gone in the past will be presented with new and exciting maths situations.

The older students will go during the morning session, the middle classes during middle session and the youngest students will go in the afternoon session. Students in Prep and the Prep/1/2 classes will have an older student buddy to assist them in reading the instructions and completing their booklet. Parents are welcome to attend and engage in the fun maths activities too.

Please pay $5.50 for each child to the school office by Friday 1 May.

Student Council News – Mrs Smith

Our next event will be Movie Day on Monday 30 March (Week 10). The following movies will be shown- House of Magic (G), Amazonia (G), Big Hero 6 (PG) and The Man from Snowy River (PG). Students can purchase a Movie Deal for $5. The deal will include - Free Dress, a Drink (soft drink, juice or water) and Popcorn (salty butter or caramel crunch). These items can be purchased separately for $2 each. Movie Deals can be pre-paid or paid on the day. Children who wish to watch a PG movie will need to return a PG permission form. More permission forms are available in the Admin foyer.

The Term 2 Student Council Events will be
- Mother’s Day Stall – Monday 4 May to Thursday 7 May (Week 3)
- Donut, Hot Chocolate and Pyjamas Day- Wednesday 3 June (Week 7)
- Free Dress Day- Friday 26 June (Week 10)

Year 5 & 6 Camp – Mrs Dolan & Mrs Smith

Students in Years 5 & 6 have already received information regarding the Emu Gully Camp which will take place from Monday 22 June to Wednesday 24 June (Week 10 Term 2). If you haven’t received the information please contact the office for another copy. Note that a deposit of $100 is required before the Easter break for each student who will be attending this camp.
**Year 6 Shirts – Mrs Smith**

This year we will have a special shirt for those students who are currently in Year 6. These shirts will be ordered on Monday. Late orders cannot be accepted after 2pm on Monday 30 March. The shirts should arrive in the weeks following the Easter break. These shirts can be worn on MOST school days as a part of the school uniform.

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**Chappy’s Chat**

A great way to finish the Term is with some prizes. On Monday we were able to present the prizes for the 2015 Esk Paper Plane comp winners and runners-up.

Our winners and runners-up were:

**Prep** – Noah Green threw 4.5m and Jordan Girling threw 4m.

**Yr 1/2** – Isaac Green threw 9.5m and Mia Byrnes threw 9m.

**Yr 3/4** – Jacques Richard with the record 23.5m and Faron Sabine not far behind threw 22m. Jacques also received the “Flight Master” Award for the Longest Flight.

**Yr 5/6** – Seth Palliaer threw 18.5m and Mac Walsh threw 16.5m.

Each student received a Certificate, a $5 (First place) or $2.50 (Second place) Tuckshop Voucher, and Pick Out of the Bag Prize; which were made available by the Local Chaplaincy Committee. If your child received a Tuckshop Voucher, please check with them so that they can make use of it. I am able to extend the use-by-date to the first week of Term 2, otherwise please come and check with me if it has gone missing.

**Easterfest** – Just another reminder about Easterfest happening up in Toowoomba over the Easter weekend. As I mentioned last time, there’s lots of fantastic events, activities and music both free and ticketed over the three days throughout the City.

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday period, and remember the Reason for the Season. Blessings – Chappy Ryan
Aus Lotto Fundraiser
This runs for 8 weeks - which works out to $2.25/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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The P&C have secured another catering fundraiser in May 2015, approximately 40 participants in the Victoria Variety 4WD Trek will be visiting our school on Monday 5th May 2015 and we will be providing lunch for the trekkers. If anyone is able to assist with preparing and or serving lunch on this day, please contact Mel Hatch-Green or leave a message with the Admin staff as soon as possible. We only need 4 helpers.

Food For Thought!
When you’re choosing packaged foods look for items that are low in sugar, salt and fat. Use the ‘per 100g’ column. This can also be used to help you compare two different foods. As a guide, choose items that have less than 10g of fat, less than 10g of sugar per 100g and less than 420mg of sodium per 100g (less than 120mg per 100g is ideal).

The Heart Foundation suggests the total maximum recommended limit of sodium for adults should be less than 2300mg/day and less than this for children. Fats are an important part of our diet but we need to limit eating foods that are high in saturated and trans fats and replace them with healthier fats such as polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fats. In Australia, there are no government recommendations that specify a daily limit for sugar intake however health professionals recommend we limit our sugar intake to reduce our risk of heart disease and other chronic diseases.
Community News

Toogoolawah PICTURES
Sat., 28th March
‘Earth Hour Documentary’ & ‘Marigold Hotel’ pg
EARLY START - Doors: 6.45pm
Program: 7.15 – 10.00 pm

Starlit Dancers
Performance Team/Comp & ‘Just for Fun’
Tap * Jazz * Ballet * Contemporary * Acro * Hip Hop *
C.S.T.D Exam Classes * Singing & Drama Classes
Beginners to Advanced
18 months to Seniors
Esk, Gatton, Helidon & Plainland Studios
Affordable family rates
Come and Join Us
Experience the Love of Dance!
Phone Miss Shandell on 0437013198
starlitdancers@live.com

Random Act Photography
Shoot / Teach / Sell
Specialising in Portraits, Real Estate and Fundraising
Phone Callan: 0407 222 543
Email: callanlewis@gmail.com
F: randomactphotography
Random-act-photography.com
Proudly supported the Esk State School P&C
Social evening

Community News

Toogoolawah Skate Clinics
FREE Skateboarding Lessons and Workshops
Australian Skateboarding Community Initiative
Presented by ASCI

When
Each Saturday
10 AM to 11.30AM
7 March
14 March
21 March
28 March

Where
Toogoolawah Skate Park
Cressbrook Street, Toogoolawah

What To Bring
Skateboard, Helmet, Sunscreen
(Some equipment available)
Photo: Collier Photography

Proudly supported the Esk State School P&C
Social evening

Esk Community Choir
Excerpts Concert
Les Miserables

6pm 2nd May - Somerset Civic Centre
Admission: Adults: $25
Children: $10 (under 14)
Includes a Light Meal and Refreshments
Bar available
RSVP Monday 20th April for catering purposes to kathleenmcwatt1@bigpond.com or 0407 203 239

Sponsored by BOUTIQUE MEATS, Castell Park
Harcourts Real Estate, Bribie Island

Toogoolawah Pictures
Sat., 4th April
‘Seventh Son’ m
Sat., 11th April
‘Cinderella’ g
Child to High School: $6
Adult: $8  Family: $25
Snack Bar. Hot Dogs & Pop Corn
Alexandra Hall, ‘Wah
Enquiries: 0438149954
ROUND 8: HATTONVALE/MULGOWIE versus ESK AND DISTRICT JUNIORS

This game has shown a big improvement in the overall standard of play by the whole team. Although we had a loss this round, the team put up a great solid effort. Especially in week one the fielding and bowling was nothing short of exceptional.

Week 1. The boys lost the toss and had to field and bowl. The attack began with Nick Teske who was in fine form, he bowled four overs two of which were maidens and took the first wicket. Not to be out done, Zane Taipairi bowled two over’s and took two more quick wickets. Natty, Jake and Besu then followed with a further three wickets. As I mentioned earlier the fielding in this game was spot on, very tight and everyone covered each other. The remaining wickets were taken in the field, Nick Teske was in great form he managed a further catch and followed this with a run out. Well done Nick. We saw some great catches from Zane and Charlie Graham not to mention some quick thinking run outs from Harrison Engel and Jordan Brieschke. This first part of the match was the best the boys had played this season. Well done to all the team. The first innings finished with a score of 9/146 from 49 overs.

Week 2. The highlight of this week’s batting was the partnership that developed between Nati Lowing and Charlie Graham, their combined effort gave us a score of 61 runs (Nati 34, Charlie 27), well done boys. As in the first week of this game, the first three wickets fell quickly and early in the innings. Nick, Harry and Zane were the first to fall, with a total of 4 runs. The other player who managed double figures on the scoreboard was Reece Reiser he added a further 14 runs to the score. There were several boundaries achieved by the boys during this innings. One great attempt at the boundary was a hit smashed by Schady (Nickolas Schade), although the ball didn’t quite get to the boundary he managed 2 runs off it. The shot was a surprise to everyone watching, even the wicketkeeper was heard saying, “Where did that come from?” Well done Schady. Nickolas got a total of 3 runs, Blake Dargusch managed another 5. We finished with our total score of 136 runs, eleven short of victory. Better luck next year.

Well that’s the end to another great season. The team this year have played some great cricket, they have improved and become a better side, most of all what is so evident, is the team spirit and the importance of having fun. We as parents can be proud at what the boys have achieved this season.

Thank you to the coaches and to the dedicated parents who are there each week to support the boys.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS EXCHANGE STUDENT

Learn about another culture, learn a new language or perhaps improve your culinary skills

Hosting - An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

Visit: www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student or call 1300 135 331 for more information
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<td>Yoga</td>
<td>9-9.45am</td>
<td>Toogoolawah Community Gym</td>
<td>Circuit combo</td>
<td>6pm-6.45pm</td>
<td>Kilcoy Sports Centre and Gym</td>
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<td>Core Mix</td>
<td>9am-9.30am</td>
<td>CWA Hall, Lowood</td>
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<td>Kilcoy Sports Centre and Gym</td>
<td>Boot camp</td>
<td>5.30pm-6pm</td>
<td>Fernvale Indoor Sports Centre</td>
<td>Triple treat</td>
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<td>Boot camp</td>
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For more information, contact Somerset Regional Council on (07) 5424 4000 or mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

ATTENTION WOMEN OF SOMERSET
IT IS TIME TO
GET OUT
GET ACTIVE

The Get Out Get Active program is all about giving women the chance to discover some of the activities on offer in Somerset. The program includes FREE taster and fly-in sessions of many activities available in Somerset and is a great way to find out what activities you enjoy.

- If you haven’t had confidence to try Zumba®, boot camp, martial arts, yoga, aerobics, yoga or other fitness classes, now is the time to give it a go. Classes are not only free — they are also being offered as women-only sessions.

All women in Somerset are welcome to attend one or all of the sessions.

Have a go and get active.

Activities will run from March to May 2015. Activities include:
- Zumba®
- yoga
- boot camp
- walking groups
- martial arts
- fitness classes

For more information, including activities on offer, visit www.somerset.qld.gov.au/activeandhealthy

To book contact Council on (07) 5424 4000 or mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

Thank you to our local providers and the department of Natural Parks, Recreation, Parks and other funding partners for program support.