From the Principal’s Desk

On Wednesday, members of the Esk Over 50’s Club were treated to performances by both our Concert Band and the Senior Choir. The band played ‘Geronimo’, ‘Louie Louie’ and ‘Power Rock’. Our Senior Choir sung ‘The Sound of Silence’, ‘Just a Single Voice’ and a 3 part round called ‘All Things Shall Perish’. One of the ladies said when the choir started singing ‘The Sound of Silence’, she closed her eyes and thought she was being sung to by angels!

Our students’ musical talents and their impeccable behaviour is a credit not only to our school but also to themselves, we are so proud of them all.

Thanks also must go to Mr Smith for his continued encouragement and inspiration he provides to each and every student at Esk State School. Come along to the Special Music Parade on Wednesday 30 November to hear even more.

School Attendance
School Goal: 95%
Last Week: 92.8 %
This Week: 93.1 %
From the Principals Desk continued….

Back at Work
Hello everyone! After a lovely 7 weeks holiday it is great to be back at work. It’s been nice catching up with all the students, staff and parents. I’d like to thank Mr Tucker for being Principal while I was away.

Report Cards
We are in full swing with writing Report Cards. Report Cards for Semester Two will be sent home with students on Tuesday 6 December. Education Queensland implements a uniform reporting process in all schools using a consistent five point scale as follows:

- Prep – Year 2: Applying, Making Connections, Working With, Exploring, Becoming Aware
- Years 3 to 6: A, B, C, D, E

An important point that deserves clarification is that the 5 point scale has some subtle differences these days and that when we see a “Working With” or “C” on our child’s report card it means something a little different to what it used to on our own report cards, many years ago.

- The best description is that a “Working With” or “C” means a student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be and is ON TARGET or AT YEAR LEVEL STANDARD.

With this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or a “B” than it used to be. These grades are no longer awarded simply to the top students in the class; they are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the assessment criteria for their year level.

Some points to remember as you read your child’s report.

- The “Effort” grades are an important reflection of whether your child is working to the best of their ability.
- An “A” for effort and a “C” for achievement indicates that your child is “On Target” for their age and “applying their best effort”. This grade should be celebrated with students because they have worked hard to be where they need to be.

The end of semester report card is a culmination of your child’s results over the semester. With parent teacher interviews offered to all parents at the end of Terms One and Three, they are well informed of their child’s academic progress.

It is important to note that not every aspect of every subject (English, Maths, Science etc.) is assessed and reported on each semester or term. This means that the result students receive on their end of semester report is indicative of the content that has been taught and assessed during that semester, and not necessarily indicative of the entire subject content. This also means that a student’s results may vary from semester to semester, because they are being assessed and reported on different aspects of the subject/curriculum.

Leadership Nominations 2017
I’d like to add my congratulations to the students shortlisted to leadership roles in 2017. Please come along to the special assembly on 16 November to hear their speeches.

Farewell Kyle Boycon
Today we bid farewell to a past Esk State School student Kyle Boycon. Kyle was laid to rest in the Esk Cemetery today following a horrific incident last weekend. Many staff and even some students remember Kyle with great fondness. He was a kind and gentle boy and a friend to many. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends as they grieve.

Administration
Bookclub - Final Bookclub catalogue for 2016 has been issued this week. We ask that all orders be completed by next Friday 18 November to ensure that the orders are back before the end of term. If you would like to buy Book Club items for Christmas presents, please mark your order as “Gift” and the admin staff will phone you when they are in, so you can secretly collect!
Celebrations

Star Pupils

Prep
- Maddie S – Writing awesome letters
- Kalib B – Working hard at writing sentences

Year 1/2 K
- Max M – Trying so hard to improve his reading
- Hannah B – An outstanding alternative narrative event

Year 1/2 Q
- Ella B – Great work in using the “Magic E” rule
- Tyson C – Writing a creative story

Year 3/4 M
- Chloe P – Being a respectful student
- Luke P – Being a co-operative learner

Year 3/4 N
- Calleigh G – Great effort in backstroke

Year 5/6 D
- Emily J – Writing an excellent speech
- Aislinn G – Being helpful to younger band members

Year 5/6 S
- Pascalle R – Thinking of others
- Darci Lawson – Focussing on the task at hand

Special Award

Prep
- Annabelle H – Preparing an excellent afternoon talk
- Kalib B – Doing great artworks
- Klaire P – Writing great stories

Year 1/2 K
- Kane B – Trying very hard in swimming
- William B – Outstanding improvements in reading

Year 1/2 Q
- Mikayla C – Having a fantastic attitude in class
- Bodean P – Writing a great story

Year 3/4 M
- Elijah G – Making sensible choices
- Tyler H – Improved effort in reading

Year 3/4 N
- Jake R – Great work on his PowerPoint presentation

Year 5/6 D
- Liana H – An excellent clarifying question in English
- Serah T – Taking responsibility for her own learning

Year 5/6 S
- Seoneidin G – Taking care of details
- Jacob B – Being a helpful class member

Mathletics Certificates

Gotcha Winners

Congratulations
To our Gotcha winners so far this Term

Thanks to Esk Newsagency for your continued support of our weekly Gotcha drawer

Esk Newsagency
**Prep – Mrs Richter**

The Preps have worked hard to improve their reading. For some this means knowing all their soundwaves sounds, for others it means getting the next sight words or going up a reading level for home readers. We are still a bit short of home readers so we can’t always keep up with the fast improvements. Think about joining the town library so you can borrow books over the school holidays. It’s also a lovely cool place to read to your children on hot summer days.

Coming up in week eight of this Term is the Movie Day on 21 November. There will be no class swimming in week eight due to the swimming carnival. Lower school classes do not attend. You are all invited to the Special Music Parade on 30 November. If you have taken a group for swimming you are invited to the Volunteers morning tea in the hall on 15 November. Invitation were put in the information pockets. My apologies if I missed anyone or yours got lost before it made it home. RSVP is by phoning the office by 14 November. Thank you all for your help. The Preps are learning so much faster with your assistance.

**Year 1/2 – Mrs Kitching**

The students have been so busy in 1/2 K creating a new ending for the narrative “The spirit of Hope”. They have really closely edited their work and I have been so impressed with their compound sentences as well as the structure of their writing. We have worked very hard on our spelling this week and the children are confident that they will be rewarded when they achieve 100 percent on their tests this Friday!

We have also been looking closely at data and collecting it in order to construct graphs and gain information from this. The focus for this week at our school PBL assembly was the High 5, we have looked closely at what this means in our play areas and we have worked on building our resilience this week.

**Year 1/2 – Miss Quade**

Year 1/2Q have been progressing beautifully this Term. We have been doing a lot of work on the High Five. The High Five is a problem solving strategy that students can use to help them solve issues themselves before they become big problems. When students face a small issue with another child they first ‘Ask Friendly’ then ‘Ask Firmly’ followed by ‘Ignore’ then ‘Walk Away’ and finally ‘Report to an Adult’. Students start to recognise what issues are serious and require reporting immediately and what issues can be dealt with using the High Five. By using this strategy, students will develop stronger relationships with their peers and develop life skills. Ask your child about the High Five and see what great problem solvers year 1/2Q are. All students are producing fantastic results in spelling at the moment. Keep an eye out for the spelling lists that come home to keep you up to date with what we’re doing in spelling and phonics.

**Year 3/4 M – Mrs McTaggart**

We are entering our assessment time again and it is critical that students attend every day. If students are absent, every effort is made to find the necessary time for them to catch up on missed tasks.

With the weather being so warm at the moment please ensure that your child has a water bottle. It is very important that students rehydrate themselves. Water bottles are able to be kept in the fridge, this keeps them cool and helps cool the students after they have been out at break times.

Homework is still going home each Friday regardless of if the homework book/folder is returned - please check your children’s bags for their homework sheet.

**Year 3/4 – Mrs Nan**

We are now in the middle of our English Assessment. The children are writing a recount of a person who was in or around Sydney at the time of the First Fleet. It is important for all children to be at school as much as possible and to have had a good night’s sleep and a nutritious breakfast as they will need to be able to concentrate on their assessment.

The class has earned a class party as part of our GOTCHA rewards. This will be held next Thursday afternoon. They will be allowed free dress and will be watching a movie. A separate note will come out with a permission slip for a PG movie. They have decided they would like to bring a plate of food for the afternoon. Could each child bring a small plate of something for the party?

**Year 5/6 – Mrs Powell**

It’s hard to believe how fast this Term has gone. Students are about to begin their assessment for their English unit where they will participate in a panel discussion. They will compare two stories (Grandma’s Shipwreck and Somewhere Around the Corner) and identify aspects of author style. In Mathematics Year 5 and 6 students have begun assessment on Chance and Data. Congratulations to the Year 5 Students that have been shortlisted as Nominees for leadership roles. Leadership speeches will be delivered on Wednesday 16 November.
Year 5/6 – Mrs Smith

Next week students will take part in their Panel Discussions for our English Assessment. Children have written a prepared speech with a time limit of two minutes. Following the delivery of their speeches in their Panel Discussion each child will then ask and answer questions. Each Panel will have eight members. Panel Discussions should take just under an hour each. These Panel Discussions will take place on the following dates

- Panel A on Tuesday 15 November @ 1:35pm
- Panel B on Thursday 17 November @ 12:05pm
- Panel C on Friday 18 November @ 9:35am

If parents would like to come along and view some of the Panel Discussions they would be most welcome.

In Mathematics we have just started work on a unit which will lead to the students taking part in a Guided Inquiry called “Course for a Cause”. This inquiry will focus on Location and Transformation.

Year 5 Students – Mrs Smith

The Year 5 Students have been busy writing their speeches as a part of applying for leadership positions for 2017. These speeches will be delivered to the school at the special parade at 8:50am on Wednesday 16 November. Parents and community members are welcome to attend this parade. These children have been shortlisted for the following positions:

- School Captains: Hannah B, Naomi M, Shanay J, Thomas C, Aislinn G and Layla K

Year 6 Students – Mrs Smith

This week the children finished compiling photos and writing for the Year Book. Next we are tackling The Year in Review that will be presented at both the Graduation and Farewell Parade. We have been asking for Baby and first day of school photos for a while now, but are still missing photos from the following students Brad and Pascalle. Thanks we have Photos from all other Year 6 Students

Note there are many Year 6 Transition activities planned for this term.

- Monday 14 November: TSHS Gala Sport Day - All Year 6 Students invited
- Tuesday 22 November: Faith Orientation Day - only those attending Faith in 2017 invited
- Monday 28 November: TSHS Transition Day - only those attending TSHS in 2017 invited
- Tuesday 29 November: TSHS Transition Day - only those attending TSHS in 2017 invited
- Tuesday 6 December: Graduation Evening - 6:15pm All Year 6 Students, Parents and Friends invited
- Wednesday 7 December: Farewell Parade - 8:50am All Year 6 Students and school community invited
- Wednesday 7 December: Year 6 Pool Party - 1:30pm All Year 6 Students invited

P&C News

Thank you to everybody that participated in the Billy G’s Cookie Dough fundraiser. We managed to raise $1384.20!!! We want to thank all the volunteers who helped both before delivery and on the day. It all ran pretty smoothly, all orders were collected on time and we thank you for your patience on the day. Until next time - happy baking.

P&C Meeting – 21 November. This will be our final P&C Meeting for the year.

Uniform Shop – The Uniform Shop will be open on Friday 20 January 2017 8:30am – 12:30pm for all your back-to-school uniform requirements. All pre-ordered uniforms will be ready for pick-up on this day too.

2017 Changes – From Term 1 2017 the Tuckshop and Uniform Shop will open on Friday instead of Wednesday.
Around our School

Swimming – Mrs Rollston

Swimming carnival

The Inter-house swimming carnival for 9 - 13 years will be held on Thursday 24 November from 9am. Only students who are 9 years and older will be at the pool. They will need swimming togs, a sunshirt, a swimming cap and a towel plus sunscreen, plenty of water, lunch and a hat.

Order of events:

- 50m butterfly
- 25m freestyle
- 25m freestyle with kickboard
- 25m breaststroke
- 25m backstroke
- 50m freestyle
- 50m breaststroke
- 50m backstroke relays

In age groups that have large numbers of swimmers we will time the first three in all heats and the winners will be the three fastest times across the heats - no finals will be swum.

Students who wish to swim the 50m events must demonstrate in PE lessons before the carnival that they are capable of doing each event without stopping. If they have not done this they can only enter the 25m events.

Literacy and Numeracy Support – Mrs Oxenford

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.

Data Management/Statistics

Data and statistics occurs early in school these days, as early as Prep. Making tally charts can be a great ‘in the car’ activity.

1. Keep a tally of the number of trucks and cars. Make a chart with 2 columns. Put ‘cars’ and ‘trucks’ at the top of the columns. Put a tally mark in each column for each truck or car you see.
2. Keep a tally of the colours of trucks and cars. Brainstorm first what colours you might see. Make a chart with the colours at the top and put a tally mark under each colour, use c for car and t for truck.

At the end of the trip, analyse your data using questions like: Were there more cars or trucks? How many more were there? What’s the most popular colour for trucks? for cars? Why might that be? What is the least colour seen? What seems to be the second favourite colour?

Activities like these are similar to the classroom activities and help to strengthen skills in data management and analysis.

Chappy’s Chat

Hi everyone! Wow this term is flying by!! I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone for making me feel so welcome! I am really enjoying being a part of staff here at Esk! It’s been wonderful getting to know all the students and staff!

Just a reminder, I am here Wednesday, Thursday and every second Friday, please feel free to come and chat, I am here to listen.

Love others as you want to be loved! Have a great week!
Ray White Rural Esk | Toogoolawah in conjunction with the Brisbane Valley Apex Club & Brisbane Valley Care and Concern are proud to announce that this year we will be taking part in the #alittlerayofgiving campaign to help children smile this Christmas!

All you need to do is drop a wrapped present into either of our offices (Esk or Toogoolawah) from 1 December and we will make sure it is delivered to a deserving child in our community on Christmas Day. This is a wonderful initiative and we hope everyone can support it.
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