Term 1 Week 2
3 February 2017

**Dates to Remember**

**February 2017**
- 3: Fun Swim Yr 3-6
- 13: Badge Ceremony Evening

**March 2017**
- 2: School Disco
- 10: School Photos
- 13: Young Leaders Conference
- 22: School Cross Country
- 27: Movie Day
- 29: Music Parade
- 31: Easter bonnet/Crazy hat
- 31: End of Term 1

**From the Principal’s Desk**

**Welcome back to the school year**
Welcome back to another great year at Esk State School. We are so pleased to see our students back at school and especially welcome our new students. I hope you all had a great holiday and are well rested!

We have many great events planned again this year so this will be another busy year. I have included in this Newsletter a note of events, when they are scheduled and a rough idea of cost. I hope you will use this to help with family budgeting and planning.

**What is being taught in your child’s classroom?**
At the start of each term your classroom teacher will send home a letter welcoming you and the family back to school. This letter outlines the Units of study for the term and ways you can help at home. Your child’s education is the reason for our work. It is the focus of what we do so communication between home and school is nurtured and encouraged.

**Staffing**
This year we welcome two new staff members to our school. Miss Bean and Miss Raines. Both teachers are new graduates and very keen and excited about working in our school.

We currently have eight classrooms:- Prep – Mrs Richter, Years 1 and 2 – Miss Bean, Miss Raines and Mrs Kitching, Years 3 and 4 – Mrs McTaggart and Mrs Nan, and Years 4 and 5 – Mrs Dolan and Mrs Smith on Year 6. Our Teacher Aides again this year are:- Mrs Chin, Mrs Porter, Mrs Walsh, Mrs Dennehy (Casual) and Mrs Whiting. Mrs Brough and Mrs Lukritz are in the office again this year and our cleaners and groundsman are again:- Ms Belz, Mrs Carter and Mr Smith. Our other specialist teachers remain the same:- Library – Ms Benson, Physical Education – Mrs Rollston, Indonesian Language – Mr Arwadi and Music – Mr Smith.

**Watch for Newsletters!**
- Week 4: 17 Feb
- Week 6: 3 March
- Week 8: 17 March
- Week 10: 31 March
From the Principals Desk continued….

Before and After School and Vacation Care
We now have this wonderful facility operating from the Hall from 6.15am to 8.15am and 2.45pm to 6.15pm. Enrolment is very easy – call Chris Kelly on 0459089668. Enrolment packs are also available from the school office. **From next Monday students who are still at school after 3:00pm will be sent to After School Care from where you can pick up your child. (a charge will apply)**

New Routines
As school gets underway your child is likely to feel tired as they settle into their new routine, so make sure they get plenty of rest. Remember that starting school is a transition that continues well after the first day of school and is a change that affects the whole family. For some children there may be ups and downs for several months as they settle into the school environment. Be aware of any ongoing issues or changes in your child’s behaviour and talk to their teacher if you have any concerns. Included with this newsletter for Prep students is a fun activity to help them as they transition to school.

Picking Students Up After School - Wet Weather
Students being picked up after school from the East Street pedestrian gate wait in what we call the Waiting Area (garden area at the East Street end of the Admin Block). Please note that during rain the Waiting Area will change to be the Bus Shelter at the end of the Hall. This will keep children dry while waiting for you.

Bus Duty and Pick Up
It’s important to note that once the end of day bell rings at 2:45pm students transition into parental care or they transition to the library to wait for buses. Students who have to wait for siblings to arrive on buses from the high school need to be in the care of their parents from 2:45pm and not wait with bus-travelling students until your arrival in time for the buses. The use of the after school care facilities could be utilised to look after children if required at this time. The numbers of Esk students who travel on buses range between 40 to 50 and to have more students biding time in the library puts an unfair expectation on staff who are required to supervise bus traveling students for 45 minutes each afternoon. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

P&C and Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet
Our first P&C Meeting for the year will be on Monday 13th February from 6:30pm in the Library. A chance for parents and staff to meet will be held on February 20. I encourage as many parents as possible to come along, especially our new families. It will be a time to meet all the teachers and to visit classrooms. It begins at 6:00pm, initially meeting in the Library for 15 minutes and then moving to classrooms. The evening concludes about 7:00pm. Please know that if you need to visit more than one classroom feel free to move on allowing yourself time to get to all the rooms you need.

Bus Committee Meeting
Each year there is one meeting of the Bus Committee (Burns Bus only). This committee is made up of myself, the owner of the Burns Bus run and any interested parents of students who travel on the bus. The meeting will take place in the school library at 10:00am am 7 February. The meeting usually runs for about half an hour. Please come along.

Day 8 Census
Thursday was “Day 8” of the school year. On this day State Schooling takes a census of all students and teachers in the state. The number of teachers per school is calculated on these numbers. We have exactly the right enrolments to maintain the eighth classroom. Next week we will told the outcomes of our day 8 count.

Newsletter and Communication Families
Newsletters this year will be published on Fridays of weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8. If there is information which is urgent, letters will be sent out in between. Also we can keep in touch via our FaceBook Page and school web site. The P&C also has a FaceBook page.

Voluntary Contribution
Each year the school seeks approval from the P&C to ask for a voluntary contribution from families. At the P&C meeting in November 2016, approval was given. **A letter will be sent home within the next two weeks explaining this in more detail.** Voluntary Contributions have been set for the year and are due to be paid by the end of Term One. Students enrolling through the year will be offered a pro rata amount.

$40 per Prep Year student for the year, $25 per Year 1 to 6 student for the year.

Indicative Costs
We have included in this week’s newsletter a copy of the indicative costs for 2017. It allows parents and caregivers to know what events are coming up within our school and gives an estimation of the costs to allow for budgeting.

Congratulations Matthew
A former student of Esk State School, Matthew Heck, was honoured with the title of Somerset Young Citizen of the Year at the recent Australia Day awards. Matthew was acknowledged for his involvement with the Esk Scout Group. Congratulations go to Matthew for this outstanding achievement.
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Please keep this handy as you set up your calendar for the year. It will help you know well in advance what is coming up and what costs are involved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Approximate Cost</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TERM ONE</strong> - Monday 23 January to Friday 31 March</td>
<td>Due by end of Term 1 Pay Voluntary Contribution</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Prep $40 , 1-6 - $25</td>
<td>Not on the booklist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Due in first 4 Weeks Instrumental Music Costs</td>
<td>Selected Yr 4 to 6</td>
<td>$25 Fee &amp; $25 Hire</td>
<td>Mr Smith to advise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 2 March Disco 6.00-8.00 PM - Student Council Fundraiser</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>$5 Disco Deal</td>
<td>P&amp;C BBQ, Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 1 March School Photos</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Varies by order</td>
<td>Students in uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 13 March Young Leaders Conference in Brisbane for 2016</td>
<td>School Leaders</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td>Staff to transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 27 March Movie Day - Student Council Fundraiser</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>$5 Movie Deal</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TERM TWO</strong> - Tuesday 18 April to Friday 23 June</td>
<td>Fri 21 April Cross Country – Lowood Nominated Students</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Details TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 2 to 5 May Student Council Fundraiser - Mother’s Day Stall</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>$0.50-$6.00</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 4 May Cross Country – Lockyer Nominated Students</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Details TBA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 23 May Student Council Fundraiser – Activity TBA</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 22 June Biggest Morning Tea</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>GOAL: $4000</td>
<td>Fundraiser for Cancer Research</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TERM THREE</strong> - Monday 10 July to Friday 15 September</td>
<td>Fri 21 July Athletics- Lowood Nominated Students</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Details TBA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 24- Fri 28 July Student Council Fundraiser – Activity TBA</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 26 July Athletics- Lockyer Nominated Students</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Details TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 21 – 23 Aug Emu Gully Years 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>$260</td>
<td>Payment plan available</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tue 22 – 24 August Darling Downs South West Q-Advanced Music Camp</td>
<td>Nominated students</td>
<td>$220</td>
<td>Payment plan available</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 28- Thurs 31 August Student Council Fundraiser – Father's Day Stall</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>$0.50 to $6.00</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TERM FOUR</strong> - Tuesday 3 October to Friday 8 December</td>
<td>Wed 12 and 13 Oct Stanley River – Camp Years 3 and 4</td>
<td>$100 - Approx</td>
<td>Payment plan available</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues 17-19 October DDSWQ Intermediate Primary Instrumental Camp Band</td>
<td>$220</td>
<td>Mr Smith to advise</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 26 October Instrumental Music Excursion to Brisbane – Qld Symphony Orchestra Band</td>
<td>$30 – Approx</td>
<td>Mr Smith to Advise</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 26 October Student Council Fundraiser – Disco 6-8pm ALL</td>
<td>$5 Disco Deal</td>
<td>P&amp;C BBQ</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 29 November Student Council Fundraiser – Movie Day ALL</td>
<td>$5 Movie Deal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 1 December Lowood District Swimming Carnival Selected 10-12 year olds</td>
<td>$12</td>
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Administration

**Mobile Devices** - Reminder to all students that mobile devices (phones, iPods, etc.) are to be handed into the office for safe keeping upon arrival at school. These items may be collected after last bell at 2:45pm.

**Student Absences** – If your child will be away from school for any reason, even for 1 day, please let us know. A simple phone call to the school absence line (07) 5424 4160 or an email to admin@eskss.eq.edu.au is all it takes. Remember – Every day counts.

**School Photos** – Our school photos will be taken on the 10 March 2017. For the convenience of the school community Advanced Life photography allows school photos to be ordered and paid for online. However envelope orders can still be placed at the office. More information will be available closer to the date.

**Bookclub** – By now your child should have been issued a catalogue for Issue 1 of Bookclub for 2017. Please place your order form and money or online receipt in a clearly marked envelope, return to our Admin office prior to **Monday 6 February.**

**NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED!!!**

Around the Classrooms

**Prep - Mrs Richter**
What a fabulous start to the year. The Preps have settled very quickly and are showing interest in learning new things. The homework page is not compulsory and does not need to be returned to us. We will check their learning verbally. All children will also be given the Golden Sight Words to have a go at learning. Some children will learn these quickly and move onto the red words. Others will take more time and may need to just learn the top row. All children progress at their own pace.

**Year 1/2 - Miss Beans**
Congratulations to all students in 1/2B for settling in so well! We have an exciting term ahead with lots of learning to do and fun activities for students to participate in. 1/2B have been busy reading a range of narrative texts in for our English assessment and learning to skip count in 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. We look forward to starting reading groups in week 4 and ask for any parent volunteers to assist. Please let me know if you can help.

**Year 1/2 – Mrs Kitching**
Wow, what an exciting start to the year we have had! Everyone in our classroom had all of their equipment on the first day. None of the parents cried this year, well not in front of us anyway and they all went home to have a lovely cup of tea, some had a cup of milo as well. We have been very busy getting to know each other and we have been writing up a storm! Everyone in our class wrote at least one fabulous sentence about their holidays.

We listened to a story called “David goes to school” and we realised that David did not know or follow any rules. We decided that it was incredibly important to have rules in order to work like geniuses in the classroom. We were mildly disappointed not to have homework this week but look forward to it starting soon. Mrs Kitching goes home every night very tired, but she is most excited about having a much smaller class this year. Learning in our room is an adventure and every day is exciting!
Year 1/2 – Miss Raines
We have had an excellent start to term one, with all the students in the class settling in well! We have an exciting term ahead with lots of fun and learning to do! 1/2R have been busy exploring a number of narratives, and learning how to write a recount of a story. We’re also learning how to skip count in 2s, 5s, and 10s. We are excited to be starting reading groups in week 4, and ask for any parent volunteers to assist!

Year 3/4 – Mrs McTaggart
Welcome back to school. We are well on our way with our learning having completed various assessment items to identify what students require for further learning. All students have received a beginning of Term 1 letter outlining what will be happening this term. Mrs Nan and I are working closely together ensuring that all Year 3/4 students are receiving the same curriculum. On the last page of the Term 1 letter there was a Parent Helper Expression of Interest Sheet if you are able to help with anything please return the sheet with your child.

Year 3/4 – Mrs Nan
What are great start the 3/4N class has made for Term One! We are well on track to learning lots of new and exciting things this year. So far this term we have completed various assessment tasks allowing us to develop future areas of learning for our classroom. We have started work in the garden already so please remember to pack your child another water bottle as it has been extremely hot. Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to help out in the classroom, it is not too late to volunteer.

Year 4/5 – Mrs Dolan
Welcome back to another exciting year! Year 4/5 has begun their work on cartoons, comic strips, stop motion animation and computer animation. The students are quite enthusiastic to work with comics and watch computer animated movies! We are working towards writing a narrative and completing a comic strip about the narrative. In Maths we are revising our multiplication and division number facts. We will test 2, 5 and 10 multiplication and division facts next Thursday. Please ensure all clothing is marked with your child’s name – with swimming starting again it makes it easier to find the owner of the forgotten shirt/shorts/undies!

Year 6 – Mrs Smith
What a fabulous start to the new school year! I have had a lovely few days as we have begun to settle into our new class and routines. The children are all hard at work. In English we have begun a unit on Short Stories. We will be reading a range of short stories in the coming weeks. In Maths we have been working on Multiplication and have just started work on Data and Graphing. We have spent the last two weeks focussing on the 7 times tables and next week we will go on to the 6 times tables. Please assist your child with additional practice of their tables at home.

**HEAD LICE ALERT!**
Please check your child's hair and treat appropriately.
If you would like more information,
The Truth about Head Lice
kidspot.com.au
Celebrations

Star Pupils
Prep: Maddison Isidro – setting a good example for others to follow

Year 1/2K: having a mature attitude towards her education

Year 1/2B: being a responsible class member

Year 1/2R: always giving 100%

Year 3/4M: being a helpful class member

Year 4/5D: being a great class member

Year 6S: providing a good role model for others to follow

Special Award
Prep: helping others and being a good friend

Year 1/2K: super effort in English

Year 1/2B: being organised and ready for learning

Year 1/2R: putting a fantastic effort into class work

Year 3/4M: being a safe class member

Year 4/5D: a great start to 2017

Year 6S: being a quiet achiever

Welcome to Esk
A HUGE welcome back to all the families here at Esk State School and to the many new families that are now calling Esk home.

A special welcome to all the Prep children and the following families:

Gotcha Award
Sponsored by Esk Newsagency

Congratulations
Playground Gotcha Winners

Walking safely

Community & Bus Gotcha Winner
Doing what is asked of her
Around our School

Master Teacher- Mr Robertson

This year our school will be continuing with our “sharp and narrow focus” on working to improve the writing standards of our students at Esk. Our teaching and support staff have been working extremely hard to begin establishing some consistent, whole school practices to achieve this school improvement goal. As parents and carers there are a number of things you can do at home to help your children become better writers. Some of these include:

- Read every day. Students are able to copy and apply text and language patterns that they read, in the texts they write.
- Gather and record ideas. Record good ideas for stories, characters and setting into a small notepad. Talk about ideas for stories from the texts they read, their personal experiences, TV shows, in fact anywhere.
- Practice telling stories verbally. Students who coherently tell a story are usually more able to write a story.
- Read and tell stories to your children. Kids love it when grown-ups tell a good story.
- Practice writing daily. From simple things like writing out a shopping list to writing their own story.

In the coming weeks you’ll be hearing about the Writing Hamburger. But more ‘juicy’ details about that in coming newsletters.

Please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher or me if you have any concerns about your child’s writing. We’re only too happy to help!

Learning Support – Mrs Oxenford

CHANGES TO LITERACY SUPPORT PROGRAM

There have been some changes to my role regarding the way I will be supporting students this year. As part of my Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy role, I will no longer be withdrawing students from LOTE and Cultural Studies, but will be working with the teacher aides and teachers to support and monitor all students achieving below the Regional Benchmarks in reading.

GAME ON THE GO!

Did you know that playing a game can help your child’s language GROW? Playing a game is a great way to have fun with your child and build language at the same time! Games help your child...

- ask and answer questions
- give and follow directions
- tell stories
- take turns and play fair
- remember things
- learn new words
- describe things
- HAVE FUN!

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... This term each newsletter will include an idea for games that are easy to play, build language, and don’t cost a thing! Remember, play these games in the language you know best.

I Spy: An old favourite but it doesn’t have to be a game using a letter from the alphabet. Take turns guessing things that you see. Pick something that you can both see, but don’t say what it is. Give clues until your child guesses what you are describing. For example, if you spy a knife, you might say, “I spy something sharp”, “I spy something long”, or “I spy something that I eat with”.

FREE HEALTH CHECKS FOR YOUR CHILD

There are many services available at Ipswich if you have any concerns regarding your child’s health or development.

**Hearing:** Hearing problems can be easily missed and can seriously affect your child’s learning.

Did you know

- Hearing loss interrupts the developmental process for acquiring spoken language
- Children with hearing loss have been consistently reported to be at significant risk for literacy outcomes – falling far short of age-matched peers

If you have any concerns regarding your child’s speech or literacy levels, a hearing test is only a phone call away! Free Hearing Screeners are available for children over 4 years of age. For a **free** Hearing Screener for your child, phone 1800 607 030 and book a hearing screener appointment at Ipswich.

**Audiology:** If your child requires an Audiologist, this can be organised at the Ipswich Health Plaza. A referral from the hearing test is required.

**Vision:** There are currently no optometrists servicing the Esk and Toogoolawah areas. If you have concerns regarding your child’s vision, the nearest optometrist is at Fernvale.

**Developmental concerns:** If you are concerned that your child may need to be seen by an Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist, there is a “drop in” clinic at Ipswich health Plaza each Tuesday from 8.30am until 11.30am. No appointment is required. Simply drop in and a therapist will complete a **free** assessment and advise you regarding any issues.

**Speech:** A speech therapist visits the school during each term. Students are referred by staff. Please speak to your child’s teacher if you have any concerns. Only the students of highest needs are able to be assisted through the school program. The nearest private Speech Therapist is at Lowood. For pre-Prep children, there is a “drop in” clinic at Ipswich health Plaza each Tuesday from 8.30am until 11.30am. No appointment is required. Simply drop in and a therapist will complete a **free** screener and advise you.

For any more information regarding any of these services, please phone **Ipswich Community Health 3817 2444**

**CHILD ATAPS: FREE ACCESS TO ALLIED PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AT TOOOGOOLAWAH**

The Child ATAPS Program is for children aged 11 years and under. It is an Australian Government initiative that fully funds access to up to 18 one-hour psychology sessions. See your GP for a referral for your child.

For more information, phone 3819 7577.

**WHAT IS THE WEST MORETON-OXLEY MIND HEALTH AND WELLBEING CHILD ATAPS PROGRAM?**

The Child ATAPS program provides psychological help for children to:

- talk about what is happening in their life
- learn new ways to manage their emotions
- deal with change
- cope at school and at home
- feel better about themselves

Child ATAPS assists children who will benefit from short term support to deal with emotional and behavioural challenges and who experience common issues that are mild to moderate in severity. Often signs and symptoms are notised because they are creating disruption in the every day life of the child e.g. at school or at home.

**PRESENTATION IN IPSWICH FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH ADHD AND/OR ASD**

The Game Plan Presentation – Information, Understanding and Strategies – Dealing with Behaviour/ Social/ Emotional Aspects of Disorder 2.5 hour presentation
THE QUEENSLAND ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN STATE CONFERENCE – Friday 10 and Saturday 11 March, 2017

Did you know...? As a parent, being informed about the opportunities available for gifted children in schools is one of the most effective ways that you can be prepared to effectively advocate for your child.

Hear and speak to leading professionals in the gifted field as well as parents on the same journey as yourself.

Share stories of successful processes in schools that make a real difference to your children.

Know about the variety of accommodations that are available in EVERY school and how to access these for your children.

Specialised PARENT strand of speakers available throughout the conference with content specifically chosen for parents on the Saturday program.

For more information visit the QAGTC website.

New Guidance Officer at Esk State School - Mr Clearwater

Hello to all parents, grandparents, family and community members. My name is Tony Clearwater and I am the new Guidance Officer for the Brisbane Valley cluster, based at Toogoolawah State High School.

I started teaching 16 years ago and have worked in a variety of roles, including Behaviour Support, before becoming a Guidance Officer in 2014.

My role as a Guidance Officer is to support children and adolescents through their educational journey with both their learning needs and their wellbeing needs. I provide confidential counselling and support for students who may be experiencing difficult personal circumstances. I collaborate with parents and school staff around appropriate accommodations for a child’s learning, wellbeing and behavioural needs. I can also provide specialised assessments to inform upon a student’s cognitive, educational or wellbeing needs. Should the need arise for further support, I can assist to link parents and their children with a range of professional agencies.

If you are concerned about how your child is doing academically, or you wish to talk about your child’s mood, mental health or social connections, then please feel free to contact me for a discreet and confidential meeting. I will be working at Esk State School most Wednesdays and appointments can be made through the Esk State School office on 5424 4111. I am looking forward to being a part of the Esk school community in 2017.

Student Council News

Soon the 3/4 and 5/6 classes will select their Student Councillors. With four more members we will then have our complete 2017 Student Council. In the meantime the Year 6 students who were selected at the end of 2016 have begun organising our first event of the year: a Disco.

The Disco will be held on Thursday 2 March in the Esk State School Hall. Doors will open at 6pm. The theme for the Disco is still to be decided. 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 28 February. No late payments will be accepted however you can still come to the disco and pay for items 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.

**Sport – Mrs Rollston**
Swimming started this week. Thank you everyone for a great start to swimming and a huge thank you to the parents who come and help out – it is greatly appreciated. Please ensure that your child has all of their belongings named including their uniforms to avoid issues at changing times.

**Music – Mr Smith**
Welcome back to music for 2017. I am very excited about music this year because our band is going to be the biggest ever and we have some brand new music to play as well as heaps of songs to do in our choral program. I am already thinking about our first special music parade and the school band photo. Would band members please start getting your black pants and black shoes ready for our photo in Week 7? We are already booked in to see the Queensland Orchestra on October 26. Last year was a very musically fulfilling year for me and I think 2017 is going to be even better.

**Library – Ms Benson**
What a fantastic RESOURCE CENTRE we have at our school! Our school library is a catalyst for literacy and reading and for teaching and scaffolding inquiry learning and plays a key role in the cultural and social life of our school.
Students in 4 – 6 are able to access computers during first break, watch DVD’s, play games and read a wide variety of Fiction and Non-Fiction books.
We have competitions, visiting authors and illustrators throughout the year and community celebrations.

- Readers Cup
- Poetry Feast
- Show poster and show visit
- Book Week
- Literature Festival
- National Simultaneous Storytime

Digital Technologies are accessed and taught as part of the school curriculum in the computer area on Monday and Tuesday. Teachers use this area for Reading Eggs, Mathletics and general class work throughout the rest of the week. Accelerated Reader is another program students use to enhance their comprehension and reading skills.

All are welcome to drop in and say hello to the library staff. We would love to see you.

**Chappy’s Chat**
Hi everyone!! It’s GREAT to be back at school and see everyone’s smiling faces again! Welcome to all the new student’s and to our families to our school. I am Ella Green and I am the Chaplain here at ESS. I am here Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday mornings. If you have any concerns you would like to talk with me about, feel free to contact me through the school and I will organise a time to meet with you.

COFFEE’s are back on starting this week for the parents and staff! Friday morning’s before parade. This is a free service, however if you would like to donate anything towards the cost of this there will be a tin available.

RUN CLUB is new to ESS. I will be running on the bottom oval on Wednesday mornings from 7:30am-8am. Students, staff and parents who are interested in joining me are free to do so. The more the merrier! We may get quite sweaty so it may be advisable to wear an ordinary shirt and bring along your school shirt in your bag, also remember to bring a water bottle

*Please note- RUN CLUB will not be on next Wednesday 8 as I will be away on training.

Have a BLESSED week!

**P & C News**

**P&C Meeting:** The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 13 February 2017 at 6.30pm in the Library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Uniform Shop:** The Uniform Shop is open on Wednesday mornings 8:15 am – 8:45am. If you are unable to come at this time, you can complete an order form (available from the foyer) and leave with payment in the P&C box in the foyer and your uniform order will be completed and delivered to your child’s classroom.

**Tuckshop:** EXCITING NEWS! The tuckshop will now be open Wednesday and Friday for both breaks. Tuckshop orders need to be delivered to the tuckshop by 8:45am. Could parents also inform the tuckshop if their child has any food allergies such as nut, gluten or dairy.
Don't know if you want to be a member of the P&C? What does it involve?
The P&C is open to everyone. Our main focus for 2016 was fundraising and bringing in some much needed money to spend on our school. We purchase items that the children and staff need or will benefit from. You don't need to participate in every event, it is about helping as much as you wish to. Apart from the fund raising and purchasing items for our school we also talk about everyday issues within the school, bullying and behaviour, great attendance, sporting achievements and more...

We raised some much needed funds for our school by holding:

- Tuckshop
- Sports day meal deals
- BBQ at the Disco’s
- BBQ at a Machinery Auction
- BBQ at the Election
- Vintage Car Rally Lunch
- Billy G’s Cookie dough fundraiser.

What we did with the funds:

- Security to keep our school safe
- $2000 donation to the school towards school camps
- Year 6 graduation cake and a gift for each student
- Teachers day, teacher aide day and admin day gifts to show appreciation
- A new fridge for the year 1/2's.
- A new washing machine for use of the school.
- 6 industrial wall mounted fans for the hall.

Thank you to everyone that supported us by donating your time, donating goods and of course those who purchased something from us!

We have more up and coming fundraisers already planned with ideas on what we would like to purchase next so stay posted.

Community News

Brisbane Valley Rattlers Junior Football Club 2017 Sign on Days
Dates: Saturday: 4th & Sunday 5th February & Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th March, 2017
Locations and Times:

- Saturday 4 February, 2017 – Fernvale Sports Park – 10:00am to 12:00pm
- Saturday 4 February, 2017 – Lowood Clock Park – 1:00pm to 3:00pm
- Sunday 5 February, 2017 – Esk Recreation grounds – 12:00pm to 2:00pm
- Saturday 11 March 2017 – Fernvale Sports Park – 10:00am to 12:00pm
- Saturday 11 March, 2017 – Lowood Clock Park -1pm to 3pm
- Sunday 12 March, 2017 – Esk Recreation grounds – 12pm to 2pm

Brisbane Valley Rattlers Junior Football Club are looking for player’s boys and girls to be part of our inaugural season 2017: We are also looking for more volunteers to assist on gamedays, Approx 1-1.5 hours per home ground gamedays.

AUSKICK
Come & join in the fun with our great family club at our new home, Fernvale Sports Park: Brouff Road Fernvale. Enjoy the development and growth of your children with your family orientated Community club
U6’s to U12’s both boys and girls are welcome
You can register now by clicking on the RED button on the home page.
https://membership.sportsg.com
For more information please contact the Club President – Graham Smith 0401 931 513

Tennis Lessons: Tennis lessons are available at the Esk Tennis Club courts on a Wednesday afternoon starting the 1 February 2017. Enrolments are welcome at any time. Catering for ages 4 to high school aged children with all levels and abilities. For further details please contact Peter Bourne 0417 779 102