Principal’s Report
Band Fundraiser - An Evening with Dr John Irvine

Thank you to all the parents, carers and community members who attended our band fundraiser ‘An Evening with Dr John Irvine’ on Thursday of last week. The evening was highly successful as we not only raised $1500 for our school band, we as parents and educators received some excellent and worthwhile advice on how to support children who suffer from anxiety. Dr John delivered information to the audience with honesty and with humour. There was also a Q & A session where parents could ask Dr John general questions. The evening was a great opportunity to see that we are not alone and that support is out there for us all. I would like to thank Wattle Early Learning Centre in Empire Bay for providing us with a delicious supper, and the wonderful band committee for providing tea, coffee and juice.

Harmony Day Celebrations
Harmony Day celebrations at EBPS are well under way. Harmony Day, 21 March, celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity and is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. Teachers have organised lots of activities over the next two weeks for the students. Below are some examples:

3LC held a Harmony Day session where a parent, whose family is from Greece, talked to the students about how her family came from Greece to Australia. She also talked about the Greek culture and brought in some delicious homemade Greek biscuits for the students to taste. As you can see from the following pictures, the biscuits were a hit!

To celebrate Harmony Day this year 4M are enjoying the theme Recipes for Harmony. So far we have had Jamaican Patties (like a pastie but a different spice favour) and Rusks which are an African biscuit but like a big biscotti. Next week we will be enjoying more treats and presentations from other 4M parents.

It is so great to hear stories of where people are from and their journey to Australia and of course the beautiful food that comes with it.

EBPS School Chaplain
Our school chaplain, Mr Chris Rubie, attended the P&C meeting on Monday where he was able to introduce himself and explain more about the chaplaincy program. He said he was made to feel very welcome by all and that he is looking forward to commencing his chaplaincy role in Term 2 at EBPS.
Easter Hat Parade
The Easter Hat Parade takes place on Thursday 24th March in the school hall at 11.30am. All students are encouraged to make an Easter Hat for the parade. Everyone is welcome!

Southern Central Coast Zone Swimming Carnival Update
Congratulations to Tyne S for being named Age Champion and also Athlete of the Meet! We are all very proud of you!

PSSA Soccer Representatives
Congratulations to Bailey H and Tommy E who have made it through to the third level trials for primary soccer.

ICAS Tests
The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement. Notes went home last week informing parents of the 2016 assessments dates and list of subjects. Payment for selected assessments is due back to school by March 23rd. Further information can be found at https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ICAS SUBJECT</th>
<th>ICAS SITTING DATE</th>
<th>OFFICIAL CLOSING DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday, 17 May 2016</td>
<td>Tuesday, 5 April 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tuesday, 31 May 2016</td>
<td>Tuesday, 3 May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday, 13 June – Friday, 17 June 2016*</td>
<td>Monday, 16 May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wednesday, 15 June 2016</td>
<td>Wednesday, 18 May 2016</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday, 2 August 2016</td>
<td>Tuesday, 21 June 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday, 16 August 2016</td>
<td>Tuesday, 21 June 2016</td>
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Calendar Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>School Disco – K-2 4.30 to 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Aboriginal ‘Meet and Greet’</td>
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<td>24th March</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>1st April</td>
<td>School X Country</td>
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<td>8th April</td>
<td>School X Country Backup Date</td>
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<td>25th April</td>
<td>Anzac Day</td>
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<td>26th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th April</td>
<td>Term 2 begins for students</td>
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<td>4th May</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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Crazy Hair Day
Thank you to Chinmai and friends for initiating a fundraiser for The World’s Greatest Shave. There were lots of colourful, crazy hair designs to be seen on Friday.
From the students

Maths Camp Report
On the 12th March, Jacques, Aidan and Jackson from Year 6 went on an overnight Maths camp sponsored by Newcastle Permanent Building Society. The camp was held at Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre near Lake Macquarie.

We learned a lot of new interesting math concepts in between fun outdoor activities.

To get invited to the maths camp we had to score highly and receive a distinction or high distinction in the Newcastle Permanent Building Society maths competition held last year.

We thank Newcastle Permanent Building Society for sponsoring the event, the teachers for teaching us in a fun way, Mr Curran for coordinating it and the parents for transporting us to the event. Written by Jacques E, Aidan A and Jackson B

Senior Girls Cricket:
On Friday 11th of March, the Senior Girls Cricket team represented our school at MacKillop Oval with Anne Souden (Mrs Souden) to play a cricket match against Wamberal Public School. The girls played very well but unfortunately Wamberal had a tight win: 101 runs to 77 runs. Wickets were taken by Charlotte, Kayla, Georgia, Ondine, Grace and Libby, who also took catch. Kayla and Charlotte scored 3 runs each while Sail, Charli and Grace E added to the score with one run each. We would like to thank Mrs Souden for coaching, Mr Thorncraft for umpiring and the wondrous parents for transporting on the day. We would also like to thank Wamberal PS for a fun day and congratulate Wamberal, as they are moving on to the next round.

Written by: Grace S and Charlotte L (a part of the girls Cricket team).

ANZAC Day
Once again, our school will be represented at the local ANZAC Day service to be held on Monday 25th April at 11am near the Empire Bay Cenotaph. Mrs Jody Sharma has kindly agreed to be the EBPS coordinator and will help lead the students on the march. Mr Geoff Melville, our school patron, is coordinating the event and has asked if there are any students who would like to lay a wreath (which can be supplied by the Empire Bay Progress Association) in honour of a family member/friend. If you would like your child to lay a wreath, please contact the school to leave the relevant information, which we will then pass on to Geoff.

K – 2 Workers of the Week
Term 1 Week 7
KA Taylah S Sawyer T
KB River M Maddison R
KC Sunny S Scarlett B
KM Brydee N-S Riley S
1SM Hunter H Indiania B
1W Mia H Jack J
2C Davor M-B Taylor H
2M Jackson G Tahlee C
2S Garrett L Eva Lynch

3-6 Workers of the Week
3LC Ky V-W 3H Rainer L-P
4M Tasia S 4L Skye F
4SB Euan M
5J Caleb M 5T Dre T
6K Bennet D 6D Jazmin L

Save the date-Aboriginal Education Team 'Meet and Greet'
All of our Aboriginal families have been invited to attend the annual Empire Bay Public School Aboriginal Education team ‘Meet and Greet’.

When? Wednesday 23rd of March at 3:15pm.
Where? Empire Bay PS outdoor learning area (in front of 2M and 2C classrooms).

Wanted - Buttons, Buttons, Buttons
2M would like donations of any buttons that people are willing to give us for a craft activity.

Easter Hat Parade
Thursday 24th March 11.30 -12.30 in the school hall.
We would love to have your company during the parade of the children’s hat creations.
Thanks, in advance, to all parents for their help in decorating hats at home, not only for your expertise and engineering but particularly for the encouragement you give your children in this endeavour.

Hints: Use a hat your child already owns and decorate it. Ice cream containers make good hat bases or a circle of cardboard around the head – add decorations that suggest an Easter Theme.

From the Canteen – Harmony Day Order Day forms will go home this week and will need to be returned to the Canteen by Wednesday 16th March.

Please note: Sandwiches are provided on wholesome bread without butter unless otherwise requested.

Wonderful workers of the Week:
HELP WANTED for 2016: As little as ONE HOUR of your time in the mornings when you drop your children to school is a BIG HELP to us in the Canteen. Please consider becoming a volunteer if you have an hour to spare now and then. Your time is much appreciated! Drop into the Canteen and see Gaye or Michelle to put your name onto a roster for 2016.

Looking for a quick and easy way to order School Lunches - why not check out ON-LINE ORDERING AT FLEXISCHOOLS. It will take the hassle out of lunch orders and that school morning rush!
Work Health & Safety requires anyone working in the canteen to wear closed in shoes so your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

Uniform Shop

- **Opening Hours**
  - Tuesday 8.30am–9.00am
  - Thursday 2.30pm – 3.00 pm
  - Uniform Shop is behind the hall

Become an Ethics Teacher at Empire Bay Public School

We currently have ethics classes for K-6. Ethics classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgment, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives. [http://www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au) or contact Jenni Bourchier, Regional Manager - Gosford Region, Primary Ethics for more information: gosford-region@primaryethics.com.au or call her on 0411 198 483. We need an additional volunteer for an Ethics Teacher within the school. Members of the school community are encouraged to apply.

Attention Catholics

The Catholic parish of Woy Woy Peninsula is about to start a program to prepare baptised Catholic children who are currently in Year 2 or above and have reached an age of discretion (normally about 7 years of age) for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The parent or guardian who will accompany the child through the program is required to attend an Information Night in order to enrol in the program on Monday April 4, at 7.30pm, Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy. Enquiries please ring 4341 1073

If you would like a hard copy of the newsletter sent home please fill out the slip below and return to the office.

Newsletters are available in the school office and can be obtained on the school website or School App each week.

Thank you

Child’s Name:..............................................................

Class:........................................

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Join our Easter Family Night

**Time:** 6pm - 8pm  
**Date:** Thursday 17th March 2016

Join us at Bunnings West Gosford Easter Family Night. Join us and enjoy lots of great activities including a kids disco, Lego workshops, balloon artists and a petting zoo. There will also be a free sausage sizzle for dinner, face painting, Easter egg hunt and of course a visit from the Easter Bunny. To book call 43439505 or email westgosford@bunnings.com.au

Bunnings was nominated for more information or to book a spot, log on to [www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au) or visit your nearest store.

**Gosford Showground Trust**  
ASN 59 162 148 935  

**Gosford Regional Show**  
31st April & 1st May 2016

Could you please include in your News Letter for your students that once again the Gosford Regional Show is having a section for children to enter produce that they have grown either at home or at school. Schools are also encouraged to enter a display. Last year the display put on by the children of the Central Coast was amazing. The Show committee look forward to another successful year with children from all backgrounds entering produce that they have grown. This year we are also holding a baking section for those children who love to cook. Other activities are Art, Photography, Junior Showgirl and Young Fruit & Vegetable Judging with the winner proceeding to the Royal Easter Show in 2017

Please check our web site for more information. We also have a Facebook page that you can share.

Jennifer Winslade
Just opened at Empire Bay Hall.

**Bay Boppers Fun Dance & Movement.**

Every Monday
Mums & Bubs (6mths +) - 2:40pm-3:10pm
Baby Boppers (18mths-4yrs) 3:20-3:50pm
Bop till ya Drop (5-9yrs) 4-4:30pm

Tuesday
Adults Zumba/Dance Fitness 6pm-645pm

Come and dance with us and make some great new friends.
Community hall disco every school holidays!!!

$10 per class

Contact: Lani Mullen
[www.facebook.com/BlingPromotions](http://www.facebook.com/BlingPromotions)
YOUTH WEEK 2016
8th - 17th April
It starts with us!
what's on?
www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au

DON'T MISS OUT! REGISTER FOR ANY TERM!
Registrations for Term 2 - 2016 are now open. Please your name on the waitlist to reserve your place on future terms. Get in early and tell us your preferred date and time.

Go4Fun - FREE, fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier & happier

Help your 7-13 year old child get healthy, active & happy with Go4Fun.
Go4Fun is a 10 week healthy lifestyle program to improve health, fitness, self-esteem and confidence in children above a healthy weight. The program consists of games, activities, tips on healthy food, label-reading and portion sizes plus much more!

TERM 2 2016
SUN-THURS 1-17th May
Go4Fun programs will be held at:
- Gosford Olympic Pool
  - Saturdays: 1.30pm-3.30pm
  - Start Date: 30/4/16
  - End Date: 20/5/16
- Penrith Leisure Centre
  - Sundays: 4pm-6pm
  - Start Date: 20/4/16
  - End Date: 28/5/16
- Mingara Recreational Club
  - Saturdays: 1.30pm-3.30pm
  - Start Date: 30/4/16
  - End Date: 20/5/16
- Tooway Aquatic Centre
  - Thursdays: 4pm-6pm
  - Start Date: 28/4/16
  - End Date: 30/5/16

Go4Fun | FREE CALL 1800 780 900 | www.go4fun.com.au