

Term 1 Week 4
Thursday 20th February 2025

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Safety for our students outside the school gate is an important focus. Please help us in keeping everyone safe during school times by driving to the reduced speed limit, not doing a U-turn over solid lines and not pulling into the school carpark driveway to drop off or pick up your children. In addition, please help your children learn how to cross the road safely by using the pedestrian crossing and following the instructions of our trusty crossing supervisor at all times.

Congratulations to all the swimmers and their families who joined us for the 2025 swimming carnival last week. We had storms and heavy rain throughout the afternoon and yet the sun shone brightly for our carnival evening. All competitors did an amazing job in each of the events and showed an incredible amount of determination. My gratitude also goes to the staff who stayed back for a late night to ensure the carnival ran smoothly – we couldn't have done it without them!

Thank you to the families who were able to join us for our Meet the Teacher and Welcome BBQ yesterday. It was a great opportunity for families and staff to mingle and explore what the 2025 school year holds.

Student leadership roles have now been filled for School Leadership, Sport House Captains, Semester 1 SRC members and Library Monitors. Congratulations to these students! Badges will be presented to all these students at our first whole-school assembly tomorrow.

Andrea Dziubinski
Principal



STUDENT LEADERS

Congratulations to our Year 6 and sport leaders, who have now started their official roles. They are already demonstrating outstanding responsibility in supporting our students and helping teachers.

School Captains: Sienna Jackson and Dilara Taban

Sport House Captains:

Tizzana – Lucy Hamilton and Shelby Mills

Deerubin – Penny Mead and Nate Morris

Coromandel – Jordyn Lehane and Brayden Sultana

Boorooberongal – Melodee Moffatt and Jye Badans

STUDENT CLASS REPRESENTATIVES (SRC) FOR SEMESTER 1, 2025

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen by their classmates to be the SRC representatives for their class. I look forward to working with you to raise money for our chosen charities and to improve our school.

Mrs Watson

Wombats- Zoe Hall, Harper Xuereb, Lexi Jackson, Mason Botfield

Wallabies- Savannah Rapp, Alexa Hall, Xavier Harris, Thomas Watson

Lorikeets- Lacey Gray, Brodie Smith, Jaxon Jones, Zahlia Harris

Kingfishers- Brayden Sultana, Jed Kemp, Melodee Moffatt, Jake Cowpar

LIBRARY NEWS

Congratulations to our new 2025 Library Monitors:

Indi Clark-Ferguson

Naomi Van Eyk

Kaiden Skillin

SCHOOL BYTES APP

School Bytes is our main way of communicating with parents and care givers. We use this app for all newsletters, permission notes, reminders and general information notes. Additionally, we also use this mode of communication when there is a disruption to normal school routines or access – this ranges from school phone outages to bus delays. I encourage all adults who have a role in caring for our students to download the free app onto their mobile phone to ensure access to information as it arises. An email will be sent to the parent's email address provided to us at enrolment by default if you don't have the app

downloaded, which can mean you miss important information in the sea of emails we all tend to receive.

EBENEZER READING CHALLENGE

We are excited to announce that we have launched the 2025 Ebenezer Reading Challenge this week! This is a whole school focus on reading, as we know frequent readers increase in their confidence and fluency rates, expand their vocabulary range, improve their spelling and sentence structure and become more expressive in their writing. Reading is used in all that we do!

The Reading Challenge will be in combination with weekly homework tasks, with students tracking their reading in a logbook. We understand that families can have busy times after school and on the weekends and reading each day may not be possible. We hope that a 15-minute timeslot to read five times a week can found at some point through the week or weekend and ask for your support and encouragement of your child's reading journey.

Information and log books were sent home with each student as part of their homework. Please see your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

DAILY ATTENDANCE

Once enrolled, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are required to attend school each day. It is important that students arrive at school and class on time so that they do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day. Each day, teachers mark attendance for every student at 9:00am.

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include illness, having an unavoidable medical appointment, being required to attend a recognised religious holiday, exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g. attending a funeral.

Following an absence from school, parents must ensure that they reply to the daily SMS message or provide our school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence within 7 days.

Celebrations and recognition - As we know regular attendance at school positively impacts a child's continuity of learning, both academically and socially, we have a number of strategies that help to recognise and encourage school attendance:

- Weekly: random name draw at morning assembly – two names are drawn on a random day each week by the school leaders. If those students are at school that day they receive an Eagle Token to go into the weekly draw for an ice block and a playground choice.
- Fortnightly: class attendance award at the fortnightly school assembly for the class with the best attendance for the previous two weeks.
- Termly: 90s club lunchtime celebration for students whose attendance is at or above 90% for the term, plus 100% term attendance certificates for eligible students at Week 10 school assembly in Terms 1, 2, 3.
- Annual: 100% attendance certificates for eligible students at Presentation Day.

YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 TRANSITION

In NSW Government schools, moving from primary school to high school is called the 'Year 6 to Year 7 transition' or simply 'high school transition'.

If you would like your child to attend a government high school in 2025, you will need to complete an expression of interest for Year 6 to 7 transition. The expression of interest lets you indicate which school(s) you would like your child to attend in Year 7. After you submit this expression of interest and it has been assessed, your child will be offered a place at a government high school.

This year the process for secondary school enrolment for Year 6 2025 to Year 7 2026 will be conducted online. Parents of our current Year 6 students will need to complete a digital Expression of Interest (EOI) or Placement Not Required (PNR). The online link will be available on our school website in March.

Please advise the office if your child will not require a placement in a government high school next year. We need to know so we can support your child's transition and the department can fulfil its duty of care to all students.

SCRIPTURE AND NON-SCRIPTURE

Our Anglican Scripture and Non-Scripture lessons will be starting Week 5 and your child will be attending the same group as last year. If you would like to change their group please advise the office in writing.

NAPLAN 2025

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All NSW schools will sit NAPLAN online in 2025.

Our school will be participating in NAPLAN between 12 March and 24 March, 2025.

In preparation for NAPLAN, our school will also be participating in a practice test in the week prior to ensure students are familiar with the online platform. The practice test is a trial run and is not an assessment of student ability, nor will the tests be marked.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not recommended. Students can use the public demonstration site (<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) to familiarise themselves with the types of questions and tools available in NAPLAN. If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher.

BOMBER JACKET ORDERS

Any families wishing to order Bomber Jackets for 2025 will need to place an order by Monday 3rd March.

Jackets purchased from the school will be \$55. If families decide to purchase directly from Brynorms the prices are:-

Retail Price at Shop

Size 4-8 \$62

Size 10-16 \$65

Please come to the office to try the sample sizes on before you place an order. Payments can be made on School Bytes via the payments tab & clicking on the add other item.

The school also have a small amount of second hand Bomber Jackets available in a variety of sizes.

P&C AGM AND MEETING

The P&C AGM will be held at school in the Library on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 6.00pm. All parents are invited to attend.

TOYS AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT FROM HOME

Our playground is well equipped with lots of sports equipment, such as basketballs, jelly balls, hand balls, skipping ropes, steppers, hoops, scoops and balls, a blackboard, 4 x basketball hoops. We ask that students do not bring their own toys or balls from home, as this has the potential for problems if it goes on a roof, gets damaged or broken by another student. Small activities to keep children entertained on the school bus are acceptable but we ask that they stay in the child's bag during the school day.

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Please note that dogs are not permitted on school grounds at any time. This is a Health and Safety issue. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

UNIFORM POLICY

The wearing of a school uniform by students will assist Ebenezer Public School community in:

- defining an identity for Ebenezer Public School
- developing students' sense of belonging at Ebenezer Public School
- providing an opportunity to build our school spirit
- enhancing the health and safety of students when involved in school activities
- promoting a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity
- reinforcing the perception of the school as an ordered and safe environment

SMS ABSENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Once enrolled, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are required to attend school each day. It is important that students arrive at school and class on time so that they do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day. Each day, teachers mark attendance for every student at 9:00am. Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include illness, having an unavoidable medical appointment, being required to attend a recognised religious holiday, exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g. attending a funeral.

A reminder that our school converted our absence notifications to text messages. If your child is absent from school from this date on you will receive an automatic SMS from the school notifying you of your child's absence and requesting a justification for their absence by return SMS. Please notify the school office if you have recently changed your mobile phone number to ensure our records are up to date.

All students at Ebenezer PS are to:

- Attend every school day, unless they are legally excused, and be in class on time and prepared to learn.
- Maintain a neat appearance, including adhering to the requirements of the school's uniform or dress code policy.
- Behave safely, considerately and responsibly, including when travelling to and from school.

- Show respect at all times for teachers, other school staff and helpers, including following class rules, speaking courteously and cooperating with instructions and learning activities.
- Treat one another with dignity and respect.
- Care for property belonging to themselves, the school and others.

MOBILE PHONES AND DEVICES AT SCHOOL

At Ebenezer Public School the safety and privacy of all students, staff and visitors is paramount. This mobile phone policy is supported by other school policies including the school Code of Conduct, School Rules and expectations and the school anti bullying policy. The support of parents/guardians and the school community in implementing this policy is greatly appreciated.

A student may need to have a mobile phone during the school day e.g. safety reasons travelling to and from school. To ensure that mobile phones are **not** being used inappropriately however, please follow these steps:

1. All students carrying mobile phones to and from school are required to leave it switched off at the school office during school hours (including bus lines).
2. If a student is found to be in possession of a mobile phone, their phone will be confiscated, and the student's parents will be advised that a permission note is required before the phone is returned to the student.
3. If a student is found to be in possession of a mobile phone more than once without permission, a detention will be issued.

If there is a message you need to communicate with your child about changes to after school arrangements, please call the school office before 2:45pm and we will pass the message on.

OOSH – OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Ebenezer PS has an OOSH (Out of School Hours Care), located near the school hall. OOSH is available for Kindergarten to Year 6 students. Parents of before and after school care children can access the school to drop off and collect their children. An adult is required to physically sign children in and sign out of OOSH.

If crossing the road before or after school outside our crossing supervisor times, please hold your child's hand or walk with them across the road.

Parents interested in enrolling their children can contact OOSH in person or by phone on 0459 784 285 or by email: ebenezeroosh@hotmail.com. Enrolment paperwork is also available at the office.

ROAD SAFETY

We request that parents and students walk to and from school using the road safety guidelines. We have a Pedestrian Crossing Officer who monitors the children's crossing on Sackville Road each morning and afternoon.

Some safety tips:

Children's Crossing-

- Slow down and stop before the stop line if a pedestrian is on or is about to enter the crossing.
- Do not proceed until all pedestrians have left the entire crossing.
- If the road beyond the children's crossing is blocked you must not drive into or stop on the crossing.
- You must not stop in the No Stopping zones either side of the crossing as this blocks vision.
- You must **NOT** conduct u-turns across double lines before or after the crossing.

Walking to school-

- Walking to school is a great way for both you and your children to get some physical activity and stay healthy.
- Remember to set a good example and use pedestrian facilities when available.
- Always hold hands and teach the road safety rules of stop, look, listen and think before crossing the road.

No Stopping zones-

- Do not stop in a No Stopping zone at any time.
- These zones are designed to allow visibility for pedestrians and drivers especially around crossings.

Bus Zones-

- You must not stop within a Bus Zone at any time.
- If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction applies only at those times.

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements are accepted for insertion in this newsletter in good faith and in the belief that the goods and /or services offered are genuine. Inclusion of business advertisements is on a payment basis, and does not, unless specifically stated, imply support for that business or their services or products. Community notices are accepted without charge, subject to space being available.



Add a splash of rainbow

Wow your kids by making everyday lunchboxes fun, colourful and appealing. Lots of colour means lots of different vitamins and minerals.

Swap out cupcakes or lollies and swap in:

- Grapes or berries – sweet, shiny and juicy!
- Rainbow vegetable sticks – try carrot, green beans and capsicum
- Our rainbow recipes - Lunchbox rainbow noodles, rainbow vegetable kebabs or fried rice salad for a colourful vegetable hit!



Find the recipes on the SWAP IT website www.swapit.net.au/recipes



Come and join us for our

Social Playgroup

Starts Monday 3rd
February
1:00–2:30pm

Monday Social Playgroup (0 – 6 Years)

Our Social Playgroups are all about encouraging children and their families to connect with others through fun interactive experiences in a safe and secure environment.

Bookings Essential

Email:

dropin@peppercorn.org.au

Phone: (02) 4577 9804

South Windsor Family Centre.
6 Greenhills Way, South Windsor,
2756, NSW.



Tenpin Bowling Tournament for Students with Disability

Selection Trials 2025

Registrations for the School Sport Unit 2025 Representative Tenpin Bowling Tournament for students with disability are now open.

Students may trial for one of ten Association teams, to compete at the state tournament in Sydney.

Trial Dates Monday 31 March to Friday 4 April 2025 (depending on location).

Locations 10 venues across NSW – Central Coast, Coffs Harbour, Dubbo, Newcastle, Nowra, Sydney x 3, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga.

Ages Students must be turning between 10 and 19 years of age in 2025.

Cost \$16 to be paid online when registering.

Eligibility The event is inclusive of the following impairments:

- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Intellectual – IQ, more significant and autism.
- Physical – Wheelchair / Ambulant
- Transplant recipients
- Vision

Note – Students must have a formal sporting classification to trial. However, for students with physical impairment, a letter from a relevant medical specialist outlining the impairment and its impact on their sporting ability may be accepted, as not all physical impairments have access to a formal sporting classification.

General Parent/carer to transport child to/from venue and remain in attendance.

Students may only attend one trial. particular

Students must attend the trial for the Association with which their school is affiliated and complete two games to be considered for selection. If students are unsure which Association they belong to, they can check here: [Find my school's sporting associations](#).

Scratch scoring – no handicap system or gutter bumpers to be used.

The competition is open to all genders, with no requirement for a certain number of players of a particular gender.

Tournament Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 June 2025.

Zone Bowling, West HQ, Rooty Hill.

More details For more information including trial dates, venues, classification requirements visit: <https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/disability-and-inclusion/representative-tournaments>

Registration Visit DASH here <https://diger.at/4jToiZA> or via the QR code
You will be prompted to register or login to DASH.



We look forward to seeing you at the trials!

For further enquiries please contact inclusiveschoolsport@det.nsw.edu.au or call 02 9508 5534.



Reminders

Lunch orders available via Flexischools App
Friday's ONLY

2025

Term 1

February

Thursday 27 th	Leadership Camp
Friday 28 th	Leadership Camp

March

Friday 7 th	Zone Swimming carnival
Tuesday 11 th	P&C AGM
Wednesday 12 th	NAPLAN Starts
Thursday 13 th	Stage 3 Leadership Conference
Monday 24 th	NAPLAN Ends
Friday 28 th	Cricket Gala Day

April

Wednesday 2 nd	Cross Country and BBQ
Tuesday 8 th	Parent/Teacher interviews
Wednesday 9 th	Parent/Teacher interviews
Friday 11 th	Easter Hat Parade

Costs to Families 2025

Voluntary Family Contribution \$20
Resource Fee \$30

CONTACT US:

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Website: <https://ebenezer-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ebenezerpublicschool>

Assistant Principal: Mrs Alyce Winter

Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs Arline Concha

Principal: Mrs Andrea Dziubinski