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Term 1 Week 6 Thursday 6th March 2025

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to all students who received a merit award!

Wombats Mason Botfield – Always striving to do his best.

Paige Hall – Settling into school routines well.

Sophie Packer – Responsible and respectful class member. Harper Xuereb – Having a go with all new learning experiences.

Wallabies Blair Morris – Being a safe, respectful learner.

Ruby Read – A positive attitude towards her learning.

Archibald Wenck – Reading confidently.

Oaklan Clark - Making great improvement in his writing.

Lorikeets Cesur Taban – Trying hard and taking pride in his work.

Emily Rynott - Settling well in her new class and school!

Tyler Wenck – Showing great responsibility and initiative in class.

Georgie Baynes – Outstanding effort in her classwork!

Kingfishers Tahli Hall – A great start to the year. A positive and willing worker.

Sienna Jackson – Displaying a positive approach towards her work.

Terry Finn – Great effort and achievement in sound waves. Ben Watson – An enthusiastic approach towards his work.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to see students in their full school uniforms each day. Thank you to all parents and carers for maintaining this focus at home. Please remember that black shoes are included in our uniform when you are needing to buy new shoes for your children. We maintain high expectations for students each day and have introduced a daily random name draw at recess, awarding the student with an Eagle Token if they are in full school uniform that day. Once a week we draw two Eagle Tokens out for an extra reward of play area choice with their friends and an ice block.

Congratulations to our two school leaders, who attended the Hawkesbury Leadership Camp at Brewongle last week. The first camp was on Monday and Tuesday, with our leaders attending on Thursday and Friday. Our student leaders represented our school well, participating in all the activities and mingling with other student leaders from local schools. They showed courage, resilience, respect and empathy. I could not have asked for a better representation of our school. I would like to congratulate our captains Sienna and Dilara for being wonderful ambassadors of our school.

I am happy to report that our tennis/basketball court down the back of our playground has now been repaired and is safe for students to use and play on. It has not been able to be in use so far this year, as some of the metal posts holding up the high fence had become rusted and unstable. Some families may remember that this area used to have an adjacent fenced 'wetlands' area, which was the main culprit for the rust. The small body of water was removed when we had extensive drainage improvements completed in 2023. It is great news for our students who have been looking forward to playing there at lunchtimes.

This Friday we have two students representing our school at the PSSA Hawkesbury Zone Swimming Carnival in Windsor. We wish them luck in their individual swimming heats.

Andrea Dziubinski Principal

SCHOOL BYTES

Mobile phone 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.

School Bytes Parent Portal – there is a calendar for school events across the year available in your parent portal. It is updated regularly and is an easy way to keep up to date with upcoming school events.

HARMONY DAY

Although Harmony Day is officially on Friday 21st March, we will be **celebrating Harmony Day on THURSDAY 20 March, 2025**. Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. This year's theme is 'Everyone Belongs'.

Orange is the official Harmony Day colour and students are invited to wear predominantly orange clothing on this day. Students must wear appropriate footwear, a school hat and dress appropriately for the day (including covering shoulders and midriff areas).

This is a student only event, with rotating class activities after lunch, so we respectfully ask that no parents or carers are onsite at this time.

SCRIPTURE AND NON-SCRIPTURE

Our Anglican Scripture and Non-Scripture lessons have now commenced and will be held each Thursday. We have lessons for Kindergarten and Stage 1 11.30-12.00 and then Stage 2 and Stage 3 students 12.00-12.30pm. 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.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not recommended. Students can use the <u>public demonstration site</u> (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.

If you have a child in Year 3 or Year 5, please try to schedule appointments outside of the testing window above where possible. We will be using the order of assessments as stipulated by our testing authority. If your child is absent from school for an assessment, we will do our best to catch them up, however this is not always possible, especially if there have been multiple assessments missed. Below is a rough plan for assessments at our school, although these may change without notice:

NAPLAN at EPS 2025		
Wednesday	Writing assessment, Years 3 (paper) and Year 5	
12.3.25	(online)	
Friday 14.3.25	Last opportunity for writing catch up	
Monday 17.3.25	Reading assessment, Years 3 and 5	
Tuesday 18.3.25	Conventions of Language assessment, Years 3 and 5	
Wednesday 19.3.25	Numeracy assessment, Years 3 and 5	
Monday 24.3.25	Last opportunity for assessment catch up (other	
	than writing)	

P&C AGM AND MEETING

The P&C AGM will be held at school in the Library on Tuesday 11/3/24 at 6pm. All parents are warmly invited to attend.

INTEREST GROUPS

Our staff are once again providing a wide variety of areas for interest groups this year – choir, technology, art/craft, gardening and chess/board games are all on offer. Students have submitted their preferences for interest groups last week. They will commence next week and run every two weeks.

TERM 1 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held in Week 11 this term on Tuesday 8/4/25 and Wednesday 9/4/25 after school. This is a good opportunity to check in with your child's teacher in regards to learning at school.

The 'Interviews' section in School Bytes will become active for parent bookings in Week 9 and an email will be sent to all families notifying you of this closer to the time.

Please make sure you make a booking to secure your spot. We will do ten-minute face to face interviews in the school hall. I ask that you work to keeping the interview at the ten-minute mark. We look forward to discussing your child's learning progress with you.

EXPECTATIONS AT EBENEZER

We strive to ensure all students are supported in their learning in the classroom and on the playground every day. There are numerous ways in which we promote school expectations, acknowledge students who do the right thing and remind students of negative consequences when they forget. Providing a safe and nurturing environment for all students is our ongoing focus. School staff regard parents as collaborative partners in this endeavour, and as such we ask that you are familiar with the expectations, supports and programs available:

- 1) All students at Ebenezer PS are expected 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.

2) PBL TOKENS

During class time, students are recognised when being safe; responsible; respectful or a learner by their teacher with a corresponding token. These tokens are stuck onto a token chart kept in their classroom and a full chart is exchanged for a Token Award at the next Friday assembly. These tokens are also tracked by teachers to ensure we are acknowledging and celebrating student achievements.

15 Tokens (Safe/ Responsible/ Respectful/ Learner/ Attendance/ Eagle) = 1 Token Award

- 3 Token Awards (45 Tokens) = Bronze Award
- 6 Token Awards (90 Tokens) = Silver Award
- 9 Token Awards (135 Tokens) = Gold Award

This system is ongoing, with the names of students who receive a Token Medallion (405 Tokens) have their name engraved on the perpetual Token Shield at the end of each year.

Gold Award recipients are also invited to a free morning tea with the Principal at the end of each semester, as further recognition of their ongoing commitment to displaying school expectations.

Additional Tokens:

- UNIFORM Student leaders randomly draw out two student names daily at the recess assembly. If these students are in full school uniform they receive a bonus Eagle token for their Eagle draw and their Token Chart.
- ➤ ATTENDANCE Student leaders randomly draw out two student names once a week at the recess assembly. If these students are at school that day they receive a white Attendance Token for their Token Chart.

3) EBENEZER EAGLES

The orange Ebenezer Eagle token focuses on positive behaviour in the playground. Teachers on duty before school, recess, lunch and in bus lines have these tokens to hand out to students seen following our school expectations of being respectful, responsible and safe. Students know to write their name on the token and put it in our Ebenezer Eagle Token Tub. Each week two names will be drawn out of the tub

for a reward: a free ice block (or substitute) and the choice of a playground area for themselves and nine friends for the next play period.

After two names have been drawn out, all Ebenezer Eagle tokens for the week will be sorted into their classes by our terrific SRC students and these tokens will be added to each individual token chart in the classrooms.

4) AIM HIGH CHARTS, BEHAVIOUR RECORDINGS AND FURTHER CONSEQUENCES

Students who choose not to display behaviour that is aligned to our school expectations are reminded of these with a number of strategies. All classrooms have an Aim High Chart, ranging from positive behaviour acknowledgements (Learner, Good, Great, Outstanding) through to Reminder, Stop and think and Consequence steps for students. In addition to this we have behaviour recordings to track low level and ongoing behaviour incidences across all settings that may result in a detention accumulatively or immediately. Each teacher also engages with a number of incentives and rewards for positive behaviour during their lessons.

As with all behaviour, the cause or root of the issue is always something we will endeavour to reach and we may contact you occasionally to assist us with this process. Discussions with students, supporting their social and emotional development and digging deeper into ongoing issues is the first port of call when a student is distressed or being non-compliant. The following table is a guideline for teachers to maintain consistency of expectations across the school:

Commendations/Tokens	Recorded Incidents	Reflection (detention)
Helping others	Out of bounds	Bullying
Honesty	Deliberate	Swearing (deliberate)
Being safe	disobedience	Vandalism
Acts of kindness	Not following	Violence/fighting
Following instructions	teacher instructions	Dangerous play
	Disrespect/rudeness	Lying
	to a staff member	Leaving classroom without
	Disturbing others	permission
	Minor playground	Spitting
	infringements	3 recorded incidents
	Classroom timeout	

5) SCHOOL CHAPLAIN AND THE SPARC PROGRAM

Our School Chaplain, Karen Krahe, has been working two days a week at Ebenezer since the start of 2020. She is non-denominational and does a lot of supportive youth care work with our students.

In addition to being available for 'check-in chats' for students, she also runs a social and emotional wellbeing support program once a week for one or two small groups of per term. SPARC is a program that focuses on the following five key areas:

- Social skills Building and maintaining healthy relationships
- Purpose Importance of goal setting
- Awareness Self regulation, awareness of own/others emotions and how they affect us

- Resilience The ability to bounce back
- Confidence Self value and self-esteem building

6) BUS BEHAVIOUR

A number of students use the Busways bus services to get to and from school. It has come to my attention that some students aren't displaying safe behaviours when on the bus, which I have spoken to students and Busways about. It is always important for all students to be safe before, during and after their bus journey and I request that you discuss the safe bus rules with your children if they catch a bus. Bus Rules for Ebenezer students:

- Listen to the driver
- Walk quietly onto the bus and find a seat
- Once you sit, stay in the one seat
- Sit your legs facing the front
- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before you get off, get off slowly and safely.

7) 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 no 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 <u>not</u> 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.

School photos date: Wednesday 14th May



K-6 SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Our school assembly will be on Fridays in the hall at 2.00pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

For your diaries:

Term 1 Week 6 – Kingfishers will be presenting a class item

Term 1 Week 8 – Lorikeets will be presenting a class item

Term 1 Week 10 – Wallabies will be presenting a class item

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL)

Ebenezer is a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) school. Students are expected to demonstrate behaviours associated with our four school expectations/rules:

- > Be Safe
- > Be Responsible
- ➢ Be Respectful
- ➤ Be a Learner

LUNCH BOX NEWS

As we move back into packing lunches for school days, please remember that spoons and forks are okay to pack for your child's lunch but no knives (metal or plastic) please.

Also, please do not include glass drink bottles in your child's lunch – plastic and metal drink bottles or poppers in plastic or cardboard are all ok to bring to school. We have a 'brain break' during the morning learning session so please remember to pack your child a "Crunch'n Sip" snack in addition to their recess and lunch food. This can be any fresh fruit or vegetables and water to drink. Please do not include fruit flavoured snacks or juice/cordial for this snack break.







OPEN NIGHT

HAWKESBURY HIGH SCHOOL

TUESDAY 11TH MARCH, 2025 5.00PM - 7.00PM

BBQ AVAILABLE IN THE COLA FROM 4.30PM

PRINCIPAL WELCOME AND SCHOOL TOUR

Caring learning Connecting



NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

AUDITIONS NOW OPEN







Year 7 and Year 11 2026
INFORMATION AND ONLINE APPLICATION
VIA NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS WEBSITE
Dance, Drama and Music Audition Procedures

Students currently in Year 6 or Year 10 2025 enrolled in public or non-government schools who are seeking entry into Year 7 or Year 11 in 2026 performing arts stream may apply for an audition in one or two of the three disciplines of Dance, Drama or Music.

Audition information and online application is located on the school's website:

Home - Newtown High School of the Performing Arts

Auditions - Newtown High School of the Performing Arts

To assist parents and carers completing the 'Moving into Year 7 in a NSW Government School' form, please note the following:

- Newtown High School of the Performing Arts is a specialist performing arts high school
 providing the highest level of education to students with outstanding potential and/or
 achievement in Dance, Drama and Music.
- If residing outside our catchment area, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts has specific enrolment criteria which requires students to audition. Audition information and on-line applications may be found on our school's website.
- Student from within our local catchment area who have an interest and talent in one or two of the disciplines are encouraged, although not obliged, to audition for places in our performing arts stream via the online application process which is separate to an Expression of Interest provided to parents from their primary schools.
- The closing date for audition applications online is Thursday 1 May 2025.

To be eligible to apply, candidates must be Australian Citizens or holders of a visa granting permanent resident status in Australia on the day of their audition.

For audition enquiries email newtown-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or contact 9519 1544 ext 105.

NHSPA



Bulletin Board



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.







Australian Australian Air League

NSW Group

NSW GROUP IS NOW ENROLLING



Since 1934 the Australian Air League has been teaching young boys and girls nationwide all about aviation, while helping them develop important life skills like leadership, discipline, self confidence and teamwork. When you join the league you will make new friends and take part in fun and exciting activities, on the ground and in the air.

Each week you will attend your local squadron where you will learn valuable skills and take part in fun and interesting activities and classes. Some of our classes include Meteorology, Navigation, Photography and Community Service. Squadrons also attend training camps, sport and recreational days, flying experiences and ceremonial drill.

We welcome boys and girls from the age of 8 years old from all different cultures and backgrounds. Parents and families are welcome to support or even join their local squadron as a volunteer. All adult members and volunteers are Working with Children Checked.

The Australian Air League is running both a fun and educational programme that is making fine citizens out of our young Australians.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE AND YOUR CLOSEST SQUADRON PLEASE CONTACT

www.airleague.com.au Email: info@airleague.com.au

Free Call: 1800 502 175



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

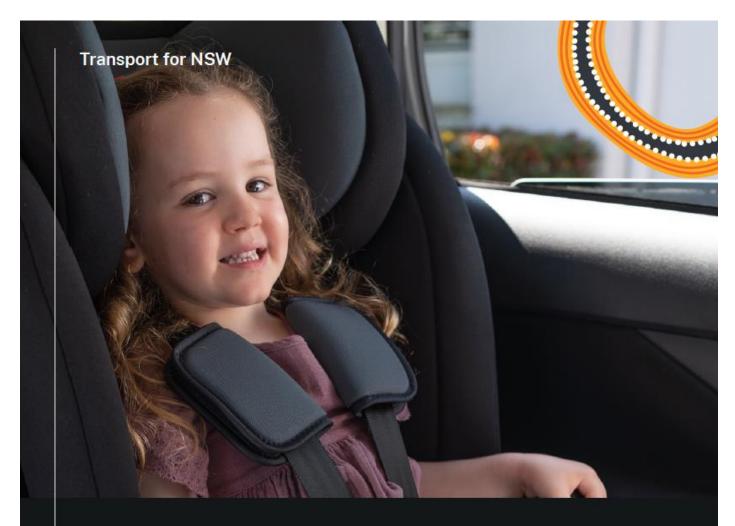
Registration Visit DASH here https://diger.at/4jToiZA or via the QR code

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.







Free child car seat safety check

2 in 3 car seats are not being used correctly

Make sure your child is safe with a free inspection by a Transport for NSW Authorised Restraint Fitter. You can have your child car seats and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit.

Date:	Wednesday, 2 April 2025 from 9am - 1pm
Location:	Glossodia Community Centre, 162 Golden Valley Drive, Glossodia
Contact:	To book in call Council's Road Safety Officer on (02) 4560 4278







Reminders

Lunch orders available via Flexischools App Friday's ONLY

2025

Term 1

March

Tuesday 11th P&C AGM & Meeting

Wednesday 12th **NAPLAN Starts**

Thursday 13th Stage 3 Leadership Conference excursion

Thursday 20th Harmony Day Monday 24th NAPLAN Ends Friday 28th Cricket Gala Day

April

Tuesday 1st P&C Meeting 6pm

Wednesday 2nd Cross Country and BBQ Tuesday 8th Parent/Teacher interviews Wednesday 9th Parent/Teacher interviews Thursday 10th Reading challenge pizza lunch

Friday 11th Easter Hat Parade/ last day of term

Term 2

April

Monday 28th SDD Tuesday 29th SDD

Wednesday 30th First day of Term 2

May

Thursday 1st Anzac Ceremony

Thursday 8th P&C Mother's Day stall Friday 9th P&C Mother's Day stall

Wednesday 14th School photos

Friday 23rd Zone Cross Country

Costs to Families 2025

Stage 3 Canberra Camp \$590 Voluntary Family Contribution \$20 Resource Fee \$30

CONTACT US:

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

Assistant Principal: Mrs Alyce Winter

Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs Arline Concha

Principal: Mrs Andrea Dziubinski