



Term 2 Week 4
Thursday 22nd May 2025

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to all students who received a merit award!

Wombats	Tahlee Pilley – Working hard on her name recognition. Zoe Hall – Outstanding effort in reading. Mason Di Pietro – Developing a more responsible attitude in the classroom. Kayra Taban – Trying hard in athletics.
Wallabies	Scarlett Lehane – Always being an attentive listener in class. Alexa Hall – Being a responsible and enthusiastic member of class. Amelia Mackintosh – Positive attitude towards her learning. Leo Van Eyk – Working conscientiously on his tasks.
Lorikeets	Lacey Gray – Applying herself to class tasks and trying her best. Te Hau Holt-Alexander – Consistently on task and trying his best. Matthew Laurence – Valuable contributions to class discussions. Maggie Woldhuis – Being a responsible and helpful class member.
Kingfishers	Brayden Sultana – Great effort and application in maths. Jake Cowpar – Steady progress being made in all areas. George Watson – A wonderful effort writing an informative text about ANZAC biscuits. Lylah Goff – Improved participation in maths activities.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ebenezer students were well represented at the Hawkesbury Show this year, with some Highly Commended art works. The painted goats were great to see all displayed together. We are proud of all entrants!

I had the privilege of accompanying our Aboriginal students in Years 3-6 to an Aboriginal cultural day last Friday. Our students participated in cultural talks, art, indigenous games and learned more about caring for country. They were amazing representatives of our school, acting with respect and responsibility throughout the day.

Thank you to all the families who were able to join us yesterday evening for our first Dyuraligu evening for the year, where we played some good old fashioned bingo games in the hall. We enjoyed a warming sausage sizzle afterwards. It was a great, family fun filled evening!

Peer support has started this term, with our senior students leading their K-6 groups with kindness and responsibility. They are a credit to their families and our school. The focus for these activities this year is friendships and social skills. Peer support groups and activities will continue each fortnight to the end of Term 3.

Our new school counsellor started with us last week and we welcome Mrs Ann-Marie O'Toole to the Ebenezer team. Mrs O'Toole has been a primary teacher for many years before moving into the school counsellor role six years ago. She will be at Ebenezer each Thursday, with every second Thursday being a half day. She has already spent some time in the playground and will pop into classrooms over the coming weeks to get to know our students and their teachers better.

The Department of Education has replaced the annual Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey with the NSW Public School Survey (NPSS). This year, the survey is open for all students in Years 3-6 to complete on their experiences and thoughts about their schooling. Please see the article in this newsletter for more information and a link to the opt out form if you don't want your child to participate. From next year onwards, there will also be a parent and staff survey available.

Road safety is an important focus for everyone around the school to ensure the safety of all students and road users. Parents, please remember that U-turns are not legal or safe over solid lines. If you need to turn around, please drive past the school zone and do so safely over broken lines.

Andrea Dziubinski
Principal

NEW ACADEMIC REPORT FORMAT K-6

From this term, we're introducing updated school reports. Please see below some further information regarding the updated format:

- The new format has been developed by the NSW Department of Education in response to feedback from parents and educators to make reports easier to read and understand.
- Your child's report will still show their progress across all subject areas.
- Teacher comments will appear in English, mathematics and the general comment section, in line with department policy.
- The general comment for Kindergarten also covers all other key learning areas including, creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, and science and technology.
- A new [achievement scale and descriptions](#) are included to provide a clearer picture of your child's progress.
- Parent-teacher interviews remain an important way to discuss your child's progress and achievement in more detail.
- We welcome your feedback or questions about the new report format.

NSW PUBLIC SCHOOL SURVEY

In Term 2, we are offering our students the opportunity to participate in the NSW Public Schools Student Survey. The survey gives students the chance to share their thoughts and feelings about life at school, including questions about their engagement, learning experiences and wellbeing at school.

Hearing directly from our students will help us understand what's working well and where improvements can be made to our school. The survey is confidential, takes around 10 to 15 minutes to complete, and will be conducted online during school hours.

Participation is voluntary. If you prefer your child not to participate, please complete [the opt-out consent form](#) and return it to the school. Further information about the survey is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/npss>

TERM 2 READING CHALLENGE

The 2025 Reading Challenge continues again this term! Students are challenged to complete five reading sessions each week. Reading sessions are 15 minutes of reading and can be completed during the week or even over the weekend and will still count. Reading logs need to be returned to your child's class teacher each Friday, along with their other homework, so teachers can record the week's total in our tracking log.

Congratulations to those students who reached last term's goal and celebrated with a pizza lunch on the second last day of Term 1. A special mention goes to Miles Iredale (K-2) and Ben Watson (3-6) for being the students who logged the most reading sessions!

This term we are looking for students to complete a total of 50 reading sessions, from Term 1 Week 11 through to the end of Term 2 Week 9.

UPLIFT UPDATE

I am excited to share that starting this term, our school will launch a new initiative called Uplift Update, aimed at fostering a positive and supportive environment for our students.

Uplift Update focuses on the power of positive feedback. By recognising and celebrating our students' achievements, we aim to enhance their learning experience and boost their confidence. Research shows that positive feedback not only motivates students but also helps them develop a growth mindset. When students feel valued and acknowledged, they are more likely to engage actively in their learning and take on new challenges.

Throughout the school year, we often notice small but significant improvements, acts of kindness, risk-taking during lessons and skill mastery to name a few worthy achievements. Whilst we celebrate some of these with verbal feedback, praise and stickers or stamps on the spot, this moment may be swallowed up in the busyness of each school day and students may not remember to relay this success to you. Sometimes we capture these moments for school assembly and Presentation Day awards. Through Uplift Update, we will encourage teachers to share uplifting messages about students' progress and successes with you, either through a phone call or email. We believe that by highlighting individual and collective achievements, we can foster a culture of encouragement and collaboration within our school community.

We invite you to join us in this initiative by reinforcing positive feedback at home. Celebrating small and big wins together can make a significant difference in your child's motivation and self-esteem.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we implement Uplift Update. Together, we can create an even more positive and enriching environment for our students to thrive.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

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.

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays to minimise learning disruptions. If travel during school term is necessary, please discuss this with Mrs Dziubinski. An Application for Extended Travel may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

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.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



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 2 Week 2 – No class item

Term 2 Week 4 – Wombats will be presenting a class item

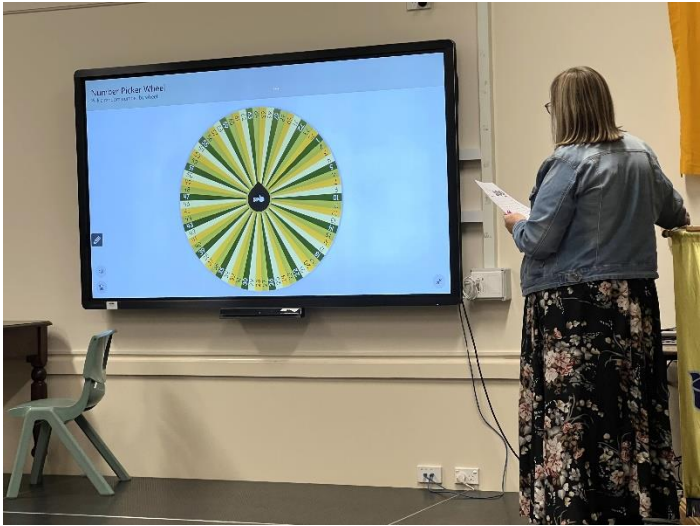
Term 2 Week 6 – Wallabies will be presenting a class item

Term 2 Week 8 – Kingfishers will be presenting a class item

Term 2 Week 10 – Lorikeets will be presenting a class item

DYURALIGU – BANGERS & BINGO





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.

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

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 and device 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 and devices are **not** being used inappropriately however, please follow these steps:

1. All students carrying mobile phones and/or devices 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 or device, their phone will be confiscated, and the student's parents will be advised that a permission note is required before the phone/device is returned to the student.
3. If a student is found to be in possession of a mobile phone/device 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.

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.

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.

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

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/ Eagle/Attendance) = 1 Token Award

3 Token Awards (45 Tokens) = Bronze Award

6 Token Awards (90 Tokens) = Silver Award

9 Token Awards (135 Tokens) = Gold Award

3 Gold awards (405 Tokens) = Gold Medallion

This system is ongoing, with the names of students who received a Gold Medallion throughout the year are engraved on the perpetual Token Shield at the end of each year.

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

CRUNCH&SIP

Crunch&Sip® is a set break for students to 'refuel' on vegetables, salad and fruit and 'rehydrate' with water. Students who are not hungry and are well hydrated perform better in the classroom, show increased concentration, and are less likely to be irritable and disruptive. Many students are not eating enough vegetables and fruit or keeping sufficiently hydrated.

Please remember to send fruit or vegetable and a bottle of water each day.

FRUIT- All fresh fruit, e.g. a banana, chopped melon. Please cut fruit such as apples and place in a zip lock bag or small plastic container for younger children.

VEGETABLES- Fresh vegetables, e.g. carrot sticks, cucumber slices, celery sticks.

DRINK- Only plain water please. No other drinks are allowed as they are laden with sugar.

LUNCH BOX NEWS

Please remember when packing lunches for school days, 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&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.

swop it
everyday in the lunchbox

Easy, simple lunchboxes

Fussy eaters can be overwhelmed by having too many options in their lunchbox. Keep the lunchbox simple for easy, healthy lunches that kids can eat before they run off and play.

Remember an everyday lunchbox is made up of:

- Drink**
Water and/or reduced fat plain milk
- Lunch**
A meal made with everyday foods, such as a sandwich, wrap, salad, pasta or rice dish
- Recess**
Vegetables or fruit + 1-2 everyday snacks
- Veg & Fruit Break**
Vegetables or fruit

The infographic shows a green lunchbox containing a sandwich, a yogurt pouch, and carrot sticks. A blue water bottle and a small blue container are also shown. Arrows point from the labels to the corresponding items in the lunchbox.



06 May 2025

**Ebenezer Public School
Freemans Reach Public School
Hawkesbury High School**

SCHOOL BUS 5111 - AM SERVICE

Dear Parents and Students

Commencing **Monday 19th May 2025**, Morning **School Bus 5111** will operate revised path and times as detailed below.

School Bus 5111 will not service Greens Rd between **South Sydney Juniors Resort & Wheelbarrow Ridge Rd**. Instead, School Bus 5111 will **commence from Former Lower Portland School (7:45am)**, then continue as current path and times to Ebenezer Public School, Freemans Reach Public School and Hawkesbury High School.

Reason for proposed change: Greens Rd is not suitable to operate a full sized bus and is subject to flooding. The mini bus currently deployed to operate this service is reaching the end of its service life and will be replaced by a full sized bus.

Please refer to your schools timetabled services at: <https://www.busways.com.au/nsw/school-services/school-timetables> and select the link adjacent to your schools name; **"New timetable | 19 May 2025"**.

For further information, please contact Busways Customer Service on **1300 69 2929** or infoline@busways.com.au.

Yours sincerely

BUSWAYS
(4138i) SB 5111 154V



06 May 2025

**Ebenezer Public School
Freemans Reach Public School
Hawkesbury High School**

SCHOOL BUS 5611 - PM SERVICE

Dear Parents and Students

Commencing **Monday 19th May 2025**, Afternoon **School Bus 5611** will operate revised path and times as detailed below.

School Bus 5611 will not service Greens Rd between **Wheelbarrow Ridge Rd & South Sydney Juniors Resort**. Instead, School Bus 5611 will operate as **current path & times to 3:24pm Ebenezer Public School** and continue Sackville Rd, left West Portland Rd, Greens Rd, left Wheelbarrow Ridge Rd to **former Lower Portland School at 3:44pm**.

Reason for proposed change: Greens Rd is not suitable to operate a full-sized bus and is subject to flooding. The mini bus currently deployed to operate this service is reaching the end of its service life and will be replaced by a full sized bus.

Please refer to your schools timetabled services at: <https://www.busways.com.au/nsw/school-services/school-timetables> and select the link adjacent to your schools name; "**New timetable | 19 May 2025**".

For further information, please contact Busways Customer Service on **1300 69 2929** or infoline@busways.com.au.

Yours sincerely

BUSWAYS
(4139i) SB 5611 317V



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.

~ PEPPERCORN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ~ CHILDREN'S DENTAL DAY

WEDNESDAY 9TH JULY 2025
APPOINTMENT TIMES START 10AM



Free Dental Health Check delivered by experienced NSW Health Staff at South Windsor Family Centre.



Children **under 18 years** who are NSW residents



No Cost to families, however you must be eligible for **Medicare**



Family must complete **consent forms** and return no later than June 4th 2025



Bookings are essential-
Email: dropin@peppercorn.org.au
Phone: (02) 45779804

In partnership with NSW Health and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District.



SOUTH WINDSOR FAMILY CENTRE
6 Greenhills Way, South Windsor, 2756, NSW



Peppercorn
BRINGING THE HAWKESBURY TOGETHER



Become a foster carer today

**Open your heart
and home to
a child in need**

We urgently need
more foster carers in
NSW, and you could be
who we're looking for!



Interested?
Snap the code
to learn more

➤ **Make a difference**
Give stability and
support to a child
or young person.

➤ **Be rewarded**
Transform lives,
including your own.

➤ **Be part of the
community**
Join a network
making an impact
in young lives.

wesley mission 



THE 11TH ANNUAL
**SMARTPHONE
FLICKFEST** 2025

"from pocket dreams to the **BIG SCREEN**"

ENTRIES OPEN

FOR SMARTPHONE & TABLET FILMMAKERS OF ALL AGES

SF3 GALA
FILMS UP TO 20 MINUTES

SF3 MINI
FILMS A MAX OF 3 MINUTES

SF3 KIDS
UP TO 10 MINS - 16 & UNDER

FEATURE FILMS
40 MINUTES AND MORE, NO MAXIMUM LENGTH

SF3 AI
WRITTEN BY YOU, MADE WITH AI



2025 SF3
**OVER
\$50,000
IN PRIZES**

ENTRIES CLOSE
SEPT 1

SF3.COM.AU

SUPPORTED BY

Blackmagicdesign

RØDE

MELODIE

LumaTouch

CHICKEN
& CHIPS

CITY OF SYDNEY

NSW GOVERNMENT

Screen NSW

...AND
MORE



Aboriginal Grant Christian Mens Group

Every Second Sunday : 25th May

Bring your young fellas along

9am	10am	11am
Group Brekky	Yarn with Uncle Glenn Collis	Cultural Activities with Shane Laws

2/20 West Market St Richmond - Merana - admin@merana.org.au
(02) 4588 5144



Sponsored by: Doolan Co. pty ltd




INVITATION



Annual Commemoration of The Battle of Richmond Hill



1795
Illustration by Uncle Chris Tobin

Sunday 1 June 2025 | 10.45am - 1pm
Richmond Hill, in the St John of God Hospital grounds
177 Grose Vale Rd, North Richmond.

11am Peace Procession to the Memorial site.
Meet in the hospital car park at 10.45am sharp.

RSVP: 30th May 2024 | Light Lunch Provided

RSVP: Melissa Stubbings - ph 0405 154 195 or stubbings.melissa6@gmail.com
or Merana on 4588 5144 or admin@merana.org.au.
If it looks like raining on the day, phone Melissa on the morning on 0405 154 195.

Remembering the Darug people and other Aboriginal mobs who died defending their rights to country.



MERANA RIVERSTONE ABORIGINAL MENS GROUP

In partnership with
North West Community Services

Monday, 2 & 16 June 2025
7 - 9 pm
9 Park Street, Riverstone

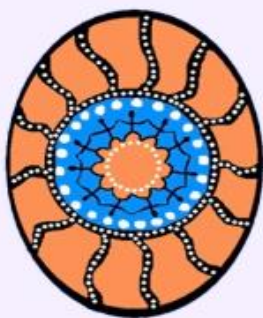
Facilitator, Dean Brien

Transport available to and from the venue.
For more information please call (02) 4588 5144 or email admin@merana.org.au

Follow Merana on Facebook





Merana Aboriginal Community Organisation
for the Hawkesbury Inc

The National Day of Healing

SORRY DAY

Monday, 26 May 2025
1pm - 3pm

2/20 West Market Street, Richmond

Ceremony, refreshments and
community support. All are
welcome!

Please RSVP to Merana
by 19 May 2025

For more information, contact
(02) 4588 5144 or admin@merana.org.au



Reminders

Lunch orders available via Flexischools App
Friday's ONLY

2025

Term 2

May

Thursday 22 nd	AECG Awards
Friday 23 rd	Garden Group Waste Program visit
Mon 26 th	National Reconciliation Week
Thursday 29 th	PSSA Zone Cross Country

June

Thursday 5 th	SRC PJ Fundraiser
Monday 16 th	EPS Spelling Bee – juniors & seniors
Tuesday 17 th	HPAF Choir Rehearsal
Friday 20 th	Stage 1 – Futsal Gala Day
Monday 23 rd	Life Ed Van
Tuesday 24 th	Life Ed Van
Tuesday 24 th	Stage 3 Longneck Enrichment
Friday 27 th	Stage 2 & 3 - Oz Tag Gala Day

July

Wednesday 2 nd	Athletics Carnival K-6 Tamplin Field
Friday 4 th	Last day of Term 2

Costs to Families 2025

Voluntary Family Contribution \$20
Resource Fee \$30
Stage 1 Futsal Gala Day \$15 (max 24 participants)
Stage 2 & 3 Oz Tag Gala Day \$10 (max 10 participants for each stage)
Stage 3 Canberra Camp \$590
Athletics Lessons \$40
Life Education Visit \$12

CONTACT US:

531 Sackville Road, Ebenezer NSW 2756

Phone: 02 4579 9282

Email: ebenezer-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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

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

Assistant Principal: Mrs Alyce Winter

Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs Arline Concha

Principal: Mrs Andrea Dziubinski