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### Term 2 Week 6 Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025

# **MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to all students who received a merit award!

Wombats Paige Hall – Amazing effort to decode in her reading.

Miles Iredale – Outstanding effort in Sound Waves.

Ava Laurence – Consistently trying her best across all tasks.

Sophie Packer – Outstanding sportsmanship.

Wallabies Riley Xuereb – Showing improvement in reading fluency.

Thomas Watson – Demonstrating attention to detail in

independent work.

Xavier Harris – Displaying a good understanding of number facts.

Jemma Brown – Working collaboratively in maths groups.

Lorikeets Joshua Jackson – Quick thinking in mathematics.

Claire Van Eyk – Trying hard to complete set tasks.

Archie Williams – Giving 110% in athletics.

Georgie Baynes – Excellent effort in writing tasks.

Kingfishers Tahli Hall – Striving to achieve her best in all areas.

Melodee Moffatt – Working consistently in Sound Waves activities.

Naomi Van Eyk – Improved effort in Sound Waves tasks.

Nate Morris – Contributing in class discussions. Improvement in mathematics.



#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Thursday we took 28 students to represent our school in the Hawkesbury PSSA Zone Cross Country Carnival. All students participated with their best efforts, despite the cold weather and we are very proud of them! Thank you to parents who were able to transport and to Mrs Winter for a great day. Next year the organisers are looking to include a time limit for eligible zone entries. More information around this will be provided once they have finalised the new guidelines.

Our reading challenge is continuing throughout the year. Every week, students are challenged to read for five lots of fifteen minutes. Please remember to add these to the logbook and return it to the class teacher each Friday. There will be a free pizza lunch for the students who have managed to log 50 reading sessions by the end of Week 9. So far this year Ebenezer students have logged an incredible 2586 reading sessions combined, although only fifteen students are currently on track for reaching 50 sessions this term. This can be caught up with bonus reads! A reading session can include books you read to (or with) your children too.

This term our students have been thoroughly enjoying their athletics lessons each Wednesday. We are looking forward to putting all the new skills into practice at the Athletics Carnival at the end of the term. As this carnival will be a full day event and the Zing Activ instructors will be assisting throughout the day, we won't have any athletics lesson in Week 8. This will still remain a sports uniform day though.

I have noticed a growing number of students wearing jewellery to school. Students should not be wearing necklaces, bracelets, rings or dangly earrings. These items can pose safety risks for the child and others. Additionally, the chance of these jewellery items getting broken, damaged or lost is high. Permitted jewellery at school includes simple stud or sleeper earrings and a simple watch. All other items can be worn outside of school hours or events. I greatly appreciate your support in this matter.

Andrea Dziubinski Principal

#### **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLL**

We have received several requests from parents expressing their desire to explore the possibility of changing our current school uniform from the lemon-yellow shirt to the dark blue sports shirt as the daily uniform (with no separate sports shirt). We appreciate your feedback and understand the importance of this matter to our school community. To ensure that everyone's voice is heard, this survey is to gather more opinions on this topic. Following the survey, the results and any potential changes will be discussed at the next P&C Meeting. Our goal is to have a uniform that reflects our school's values while considering the preferences of our students and families. Thank you for your continued support and engagement as we navigate this important decision together.

Please note that there are still quite a number of lemon shirts in stock, so any change (if this is the majority outcome) would be actioned once this yellow stock was depleted. This is a long-term decision, not an immediate change. Please submit your poll opinion by Monday 9th June 2025: CLICK HERE to go to the poll.

#### **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 <u>achievement scale and descriptions</u> 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 <u>the opt-out consent form</u> and return it to the school. Further information about the survey is available at <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/npss">https://education.nsw.gov.au/npss</a>

#### **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.

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 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.

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

#### HAWKESBURY PSSA ZONE CROSS COUNTRY















#### **2026 KINDERGARTEN**

If you have a child due to start Kindergarten next year, you will need to complete the school enrolment online prior to our transition dates. You will need to provide some important documentation, including proof of address (to 100 points), such as rates notice, your child's birth certificate and immunisation history. Original documentation must be sighted as part of the enrolment process, photocopies are not accepted.

The online enrolment can be found on our school website: <a href="https://ebenezer-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/enrolment.html">https://ebenezer-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/enrolment.html</a>

You are invited to make an appointment to meet with myself in Term 3 (July/ August/ September) to look at our beautiful school and discuss your child's individuality. This would be a good opportunity for you to bring your original documentation to complete the enrolment process. Please use the link below to access the online booking calendar for your Kindergarten Enrolment Interview:

# Click here to book a meeting!

Our 2026 Kindergarten Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025, please bring along all of your questions! A family picnic is being planned for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, which is a great way to meet the other families with Kindergarten students. Your invitation to these events and your child's transition days will arrive early next term.

We are currently organising classes for next year and your child's enrolment will confirm their place at Ebenezer. Please complete your child's enrolment form online by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025.



#### 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, smart watch or other digital device during the school day e.g. safety reasons travelling to and from school. To ensure that mobile phones and devices are <u>not</u> being used inappropriately however, please follow these steps:

- 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.

<u>FRUIT</u>- 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. <u>VEGETABLES</u>- Fresh vegetables, e.g. carrot sticks, cucumber slices, celery sticks. <u>DRINK</u>- 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.



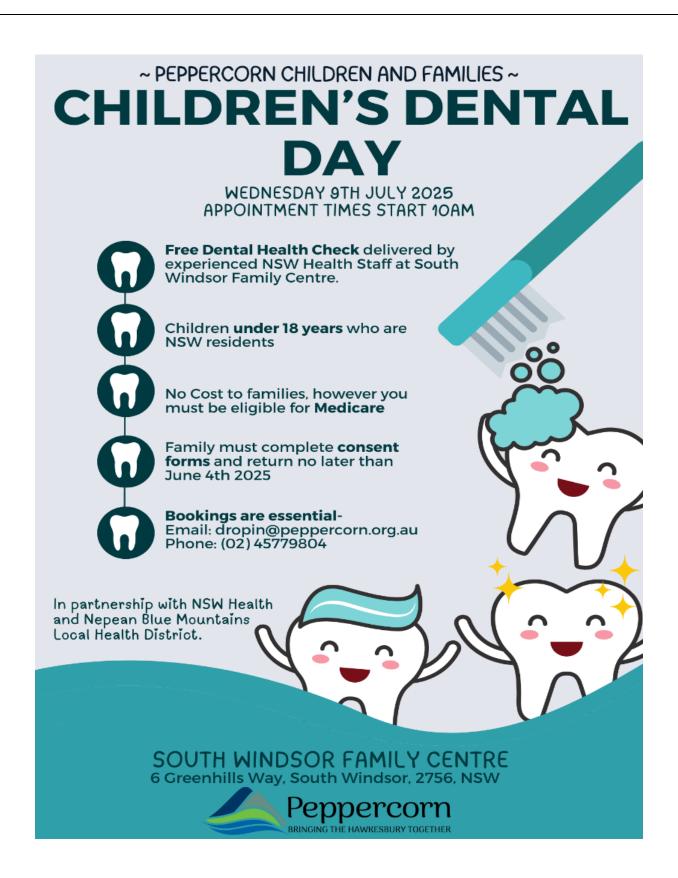


# **Bulletin Board**



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- ➤ Be rewarded

  Transform lives,
  including your own.
- Be part of the community
  Join a network making an impact in young lives.





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# **Reminders**

Lunch orders available via Flexischools App Friday's ONLY

# **2025**

#### Term 2

#### **June**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> EPS Spelling Bee – juniors & seniors

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> HPAF Choir Rehearsal Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Stage 1 – Futsal Gala Day

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Life Education Visit Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Life Education Visit

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Stage 3 Longneck Enrichment Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Stage 2 & 3 - Oz Tag Gala Day

#### **July**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Athletics Carnival K-6 Tamplin Field

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Last day of Term 2

#### Term 3

#### <u>July</u>

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> First day of Term 3

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> HPAF Choir Rehearsal (daytime)
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> HPAF Choir performance (evening)

#### <u>August</u>

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Book Week
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Book Parade
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Zone Athletics
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Art Show (evening)

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Art Show (daytime)
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Lantern Festival

#### **Costs to Families 2025**

Voluntary Family Contribution \$20 Resource Fee \$30 Stage 3 Canberra Camp \$590 Life Education Visit \$12

#### **CONTACT US:**

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Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ebenezerpublicschool">https://www.facebook.com/ebenezerpublicschool</a>

Assistant Principal: Mrs Alyce Winter

Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs Arline Concha

Principal: Mrs Andrea Dziubinski