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Ebenezer NSW 2756 4579 9282

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Fax: website: www.ebenezer-p.schools.nsw.edu.au email: ebenezer-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 4 Week 6 Thursday 20th November 2025

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to all students who received a merit award!

Wombats Zoe Hall – Excellent contributions to maths lessons.

Mason Botfield – Being a responsible and mature class member.

Sophie Packer – Working diligently in maths lessons.

Zac Rynott – Making great comparisons during measurement

lessons.

Wallabies Blair Morris – Displaying an impressive understanding of number

patterns.

Oliver Faint – Using effective strategies to solve number problems.

Riley Baynes - Writing an imaginative story.

Wesley Smith – Creative story writing.

Lorikeets Matias Kennedy – Being a kind and considerate class member.

> Claire Van Eyk – Excellent effort in swimming lessons. Jaxon Jones – Great improvement in writing tasks. Maggie Woldhuis – Absolutely beautiful book work.

Kingfishers Jordyn Lehane – Great effort and application displayed towards her

work.

Ben Watson – Enthusiastic approach displayed towards maths with a

wonderful understanding.

George Watson – Expressing his opinions clearly in persuasive texts.

Excellent effort!

Lucy Hamilton – Displaying a positive approach towards her work.

Beautiful book work.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to our Young Writer writing finalists: Jordan, Jemma, Bryce and Dilara. These finalists attended a presentation evening at Hawkesbury High School on Monday this week. Bryce was the runner up for his stage. We are proud of all students who submitted their writing and were very entertained and amazed at stories about the theme of 'Doors.'

Our youngest students completed their transition visits with us and are ready for Kindergarten in 2026. We have had lots of fun getting to know what big school is like and learning where everything is around the school. Getting to know these newest students and their families has been a highlight for Ebenezer staff this term.

We had two teams of students who attended the Basketball Gala Day at South Windsor last Friday with Mrs Vallis and myself. Our students were keen to be on the court and were fair, respectful players which is a testament to their families and school! It was a busy day and lots of fun was had. There was no overall winner as the scores were taken for game information and not for competition.

Our Term 4 SRC lunch disco was a huge hit yesterday. Groovy dance moves and funny games kept everyone having a great time. The glow sticks and disco snacks were a real treat too.

Our new school website is now live and is looking good. There has been a lot of work behind the scenes to put it together to date, although watch out for more updates before the end of the year. Have a browse through our new pages and photos: Ebenezer Public School website. Please let us know if there is information missing that you think would be relevant to existing and new families so we can include that too. If you are proud of our school, please email the school with a quote about why or what you love and we will add it to our website. We can use your first name only or keep you anonymous. Over the next couple of weeks, we will ask some students to volunteer to provide a quote about their school to include as well.

Andrea Dziubinski Principal

SWIM SCHEME RESULTS 2025

The swim scheme program is an invaluable opportunity for students to improve their swimming confidence and competence, especially as we head into the summer months. Our swimming students did very well in their lessons and showed great progress.

Pre-instruction (freestyle benchmark achieved on day one):

0m: 23 5m: 10 10m: 9 25m+: 4

Students were reassessed in **freestyle at the conclusion of the program** to measure their progress:

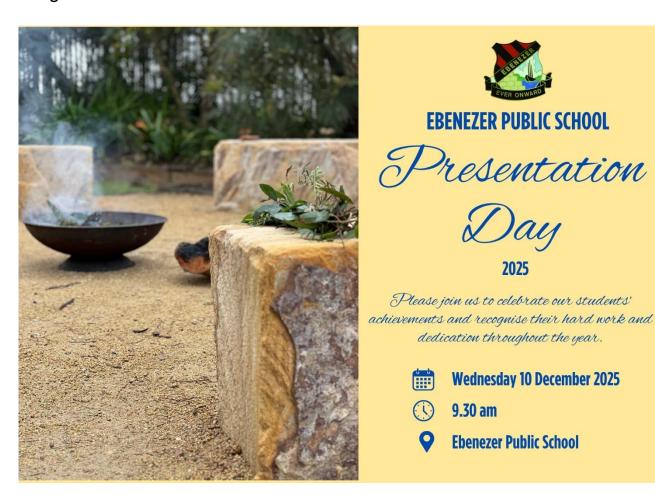
0m: 6 5m: 7 10m: 18 25m: 6 50m: 9

Students were also given the opportunity to complete a **longest distance swim using** a **survival stroke**:

0m: 0 5m: 5 10m: 12 25m: 17 50m: 12

PRESENTATION DAY – WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER

This year's Presentation Day assembly will commence at 9.30am on Wednesday, 10th December 2025. We look forward to celebrating and acknowledging the great learning achievements of our students.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

To be held on Tuesday, 16th December 2025 starting at 6pm at school. There will be a P&C sausage sizzle, lots of singing and a visit from Santa. All are welcome!



2026 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We are pleased to advise that the 2026 Ebenezer Public School Swimming Carnival at the Richmond Pool is fast approaching. As this carnival will be held shortly after the school year commences (Friday of the first week for students), we are getting the organisation completed before the end of Term 4 2025. A note will be sent home in the next week or so.

We are trialling a day carnival for 2026 and will combine our carnival with Windsor Public School for the day. This provides more competition for participants and enables adequate supervision for the day's activities. The results for each school will be recorded separately.

The Swimming Carnival is open to any student turning 8 years old next year (2026) and older. All age eligible students in Year 2 and all students in Year 3-6 are expected to attend the carnival for the day. There will be some structured and supervised non-swimmer activities in the shallow pool during the day. Students who do not meet the age criteria (Kindergarten - Year 2) will remain at school for a normal school day.

INTERNET SAFETY

With an increasingly digital world, children are exposed to many opportunities for unsafe interactions and risks to their overall wellbeing. These can be within apps that are seemingly innocent but have the ability to live chat with someone. 'Stranger danger' risks can seem less threatening when in your own home, which is a big concern but so is saying something mean or unkind to a friend, which is also easier when not saying it in person and directly to their face.

To ensure internet safety for children, parents should set ground rules and parental controls, monitor online activity, and teach children to protect personal information. Key rules include not sharing personal details like their address or school, only accepting friend requests from people they know in real life, and talking to a trusted adult if they see anything uncomfortable or receive a mean message.

More tips, research and advice to help parents:

<u>eSafety Commissioner</u> <u>ChildSafe</u> <u>raisingchildren.net.au</u>

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please remember that black shoes continue to be a compulsory part of our school uniform. Girls wear white socks; boys have a choice between white or navy blue socks. Please also ensure your child has a school hat, a navy blue jumper/jacket and navy shorts or pants to align with our policy.

Jewellery is also restricted to a watch and plain stud or sleeper earrings. We have been reminding students of these expectations and would greatly appreciate your assistance and support in these matters.

Sports uniform continues to be Wednesdays this term, except for our Presentation Day (Wednesday, 10th December 2025).

TERM 4 ASSEMBLIES

Just a friendly reminder that there will be no class items presented at our school assemblies for the remainder of Term 4. There is only two more assemblies for the year (Friday – Week 6 & 8) in the hall at 2.00pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

TERM 4 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 3 Week 10 through to the end of Term 4 Week 9. We will celebrate with cupcakes and donuts with those students who met or exceeded the challenge.

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO EBENEZER PS IN 2026

So that the school can plan classes for 2026 it is necessary to have information from families who are not returning to Ebenezer Public School at the commencement of Term 1, 2026. This may be due to a number of reasons including an extended overseas holiday, moving house or changing schools.

If your child/children will not be returning to Ebenezer Public School at the commencement of Term 1, 2026 could you please contact the school office as soon as possible.

BUSHFIRE SEASON ARRANGEMENTS FOR EBENEZER PS

Ebenezer Public School's Bushfire and Grassfire Risk Rating is Category 2.

This means our school has high landscape-to-site bushfire and grassfire risk. For this reason, early proactive decision making to reduce risk is required. This means that when the NSW RFS has declared a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (FDR) for the following day, the department will direct our school to temporarily cease operations on that day.

Ebenezer PS may also be directed to temporarily cease operations at any time by the department on advice from emergency services or the State Emergency Operations Centre, even if a Catastrophic FDR has not been declared.

During the bushfire danger period, conditions can change quickly so it is important to remain vigilant and informed (for example, staying informed via the Hazards Near Me App, local radio). Early evacuation is always the safest option. If this is not possible, NSW RFS has deemed our safest 'Shelter in Place' is A Block, which is our Office, Wallabies and Wombats classroom building.

To ensure that we continue to support student learning on these days, the following link is available for remote learning geared at your child's grade level: https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/guided-learning-packages

We understand that during a fire warning event, you may not have internet access or be needing to put your family's fire plan into action. This information is provided in case you are in a safe position to access remote learning for your child.

MOBILE PHONES AT SCHOOL

The NSW Government announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones in NSW schools beginning in Term 4, 2023. This applies to mobile phones and devices and will

occur during all school hours, including break times such as during lunch and recess, as well as while students are on school-based excursions (including camps and sport carnivals, etc). As we already have this practice in place at Ebenezer Public School, there are no big changes, however this is a timely reminder for all families about our school policy.

Students will still be able to carry their phones while travelling to and from school. Students MUST drop their phone into the school office on arrival at school each day and collect it at the end of the school day. Students are not to keep mobile phones or devices in their school bag during the school day.

The school Principal can allow students to use their mobile phones in specific circumstances, such as for an educational purpose, for their wellbeing or to support students with specific needs. An application for exemption must be in writing to the Principal for consideration and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

We will pass on any change of plans messages you wish to tell your child during the day and will always make sure you can contact your child in an emergency. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please don't hesitate to contact the school directly on (02) 4579 9282.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

School Shirts - \$26.00 Sport Shirts - \$28.00 Legionnaire Hats - \$15.00

** Special Limited Year 6 Shirts 2025 - \$5.00 **

1 x Size 14 kids

1 x Small Adults

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2025

Kindergarten enrolments are now open for 2026. If you have a child or know of a child in the local area who will be 5 years old by 31st July 2026, they are eligible to enrol in a NSW Public School. Please go to our website https://ebenezer-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/ and click on the ENROLMENT tab as shown below.

Enrolment interviews with the Principal are now underway. This is a great opportunity to look at our lovely school and discuss each child's individuality in preparation for starting school. If your child is starting school next year and you are yet to book in, please call the school office to organise a convenient time.



STAGE 2 & 3 BASKETBALL GALA DAY



SRC DISCO







UPLIFT UPDATE

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, 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...



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

Each fortnight students will be taught lessons linked to one of our school expectations. The focus for this fortnight has been 'Be A Learner – Be an Active Listener'.

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 vegetables 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



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.

THE AUSTRALIANA PIONEER VILLAGE



ROSE STREET, WILBERFORCE

(Behind the Tropicana Hotel/Motel)

Ph: 02 4575 1777 / 0438 751 775 www.theapv.org.au

..... No Dogs or Pets are allowed in The Village.

... Twilight... Christmas Market Friday 5th Dec from 5pm to 9pm

... ALL SET ON 28 ACRES \$3 ENTRY PER PERSON — RIDES ARE EXTRA

Plenty of Parking inside on The Village's 28 acres
Market Stalls - Food Vans - Music
Santa - Coffee Van - Eateries - Shops

for a gold coin donation take your own photos with Santa

Take a Twilight Ride around The Village Lagoon on The Pioneer Express Train or a Tractor Hay Ride

and meet SANTA, Mrs Claus and their Helpers







. . . New Volunteers are always most welcome . . .

www.theapv.org.au Facebook Australiana Pioneer Village



Reminder to parents and carers:

Apply now for 2026 School Opal cards

Getting to school by bus in 2026

Will your child be catching the bus to school next year? Applications are now open for a 2026 School Opal cards. As this is a busy time of year, we highly recommend applying before the end of this year. It's also a good idea to check the bus timetable to help make your child's journey to school as easy as possible.

School Opal cards

- All students catching the bus in 2026 will need a School Opal card.
- Under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS), eligible students can apply for free or subsidised travel between home and school.
- For more information about the SSTS and how to apply for a School Opal Card, visit https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/ (best accessed from a desktop computer) click 'Apply now'.

Bus timetables

Busways operates your school's bus services. To find your child's school bus timetable:

- 1. Go to busways.com.au/nsw
- 2. Click 'School Services' in the navigation bar, then proceed to 'school timetables'
- 3. Enter the school's name in 'Enter a school name' field
- 4. Select the school's name to open the timetable.

If you are unable to find or search for the school's name, use the drop-down menus on the same page to find the school. Once the timetable is opened, you will be able to identify which school bus services are available in your area for your child.

SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES WHAT ARE **YOU** RISKING?*



Children are smaller and harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need YOU to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones.



NO PARKING (KISS & RIDE)

You have 2 minutes to drop-off or pick-up and must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.



PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Do not stop or park on or near a marked crossing.





NO STOPPING

You are not permitted to stop on a length of road with a no stopping sign. PENALTY \$423 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

DRIVEWAYS

Do not stop on or across a driveway.





BUS ZONE

You must not stop your vehicle in a bus zone unless you are driving a public bus. PENALTY \$423 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

INTERSECTIONS

Do not stop within 10 metres of an intersection.

PENALTY \$544 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS



MOBILE PHONE USE

Do not use a hand-held mobile phone while driving. PENALTY \$562 + 5 DEMERIT POINTS

PARALLEL PARKING

Do not park too close to double barrier or dividing centre line.

PENALTY \$423 +2 DEMERIT POINTS

SCHOOL ZONE

8_{AM} - 9³⁰ 2³⁰ - 4_{PM} SCHOOL DAYS

SCHOOL ZONE SPEEDING OFFENCES

40km/h is the speed limit. Children are vulnerable in school zones. PENALTY \$246 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

DOUBLE PARKING

Do not double park in a school zone.

PENALTY \$423 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

FOOTPATH AND NATURE STRIP

Do not stop on a footpath, nature strip or obstruct ramp or path access. PENALTY \$423 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

* Fines current as of July 2025. Fines and demerit points are subject to change.



For more information on road safety and road rules scan the QR code or visit

www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/for-residents/ roads-and-transport/road-safety



Reminders

Lunch orders available via Flexischools App Friday's ONLY

No Canteen on last day of term (Friday 19/12)

2025

Term 4

November

Monday 24th Dental visit Tuesday 25th Dental visit

Wednesday 26th 2026 School Captain speeches at 10am

December

Friday 5th Last School Assembly

Monday 8th Year 6 Fun Day – Luna Park

Tuesday 9th Ty's Water Fun Day

Wednesday 10th Presentation Day 9.30am

Thursday 11th Mini Fete

Tuesday 16th Gold Morning Tea

Christmas Carols 6pm

Wednesday 17th Reading Challenge Reward

Thursday 18th 90s Club Reward

Class Parties

Friday 19th No Canteen

Year 6 Bell Ringing Last Day of Term 4

Costs to Families 2025

Ty's Water Fun Day \$7

Voluntary Family Contribution \$20

Resource Fee \$30

CONTACT US:

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Email: ebenezer-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: https://ebenezer-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

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

Relieving Assistant Principal: Mrs Trudy Becker Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs Arline Concha

Principal: Mrs Andrea Dziubinski