

The Dinawan EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL *Newsletter*

Principal's Message

by Mr Clifton
Acting Principal

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope everyone had a wonderful time during the school holidays and that you all managed to spend some quality time together with the students home from school. The students seemed to have all enjoyed their break.

It was an action-packed end to the term and so much has happened since our last newsletter in Week 9.

The Easter Hat Parade was an absolute delight, weaving together creativity and community spirit. From whimsical bunny ears to elaborate hats, the parade was a kaleidoscope of colours and imagination. Congratulations again to Willo and Sonny, who were voted as having the best hats in the K-2 and 3-6 categories respectively.

We were incredibly privileged to have Miss MacPherson visit us for Week 10. Miss MacPherson has a Master of Education (STEM) and she delivered an incredible week of exciting STEM lessons. I know the students learned A LOT and had a bunch of fun. You can read more about STEM Week in the coming pages. Thank you, Miss MacPherson, for the terrific job you did. We all loved having you here. Hopefully we will be able to have Miss MacPherson back in the not-too-distant future.

Week 11 included our ANZAC Day commemoration and the End of Term Assembly. Again, it was terrific to have so many family and community members join us. I am incredibly proud of all the work the students completed in Term 1. Congratulations again to each of our award winners. That extra little bit of effort and achievement makes each of you very deserving of your awards. We look forward to coming together again at the end of this term to present more awards.

Keep on reading to find out about all the exciting things the 3-6 students did at Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation camp in Week 1!

I am once again very excited about the term ahead. Being Acting Principal at Euabalong West Public School is the privilege of my career, and I cannot wait to see what wonderful things we accomplish together in Term 2.

Andrew Clifton





Attendance Matters

Year to Date

Term 2

92% **93%**

Our attendance goal is for all students to attend school **95%** of the time.

Regular attendance at school is essential for students to achieve quality life outcomes. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school. Children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

Link to [Compulsory School Attendance Information for Parents Document](#).



Curriculum Focus

by Mr South

Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction

We are excited to announce our new Home Reading program! This week students will be coming home with books either from the classroom or the library to continue their journey of becoming more fluent readers.

Students will be rewarded with additional Dojo points for reading at home, 1 dojo per night read which will be doubled if they read every night in a week. We are committed to assisting students in becoming lifelong learners and developing a love of reading is one of our core aims.

Included in your child's folder is a reading log which is chock full of helpful information to assist you in supporting them to become better readers. Soon we will have even more exciting news to support our reading program. Until next time, read on!

Home reading offers benefits that extend well beyond the classroom. It nurtures a lifelong love for reading by allowing children to explore various subjects and appreciate the value of reading. Home reading that involves shared time with family members can also foster meaningful discussions and deeper connections. Reading to and with family members helps students develop their decoding, fluency, and comprehension skills.

Reading is one of the most important skills we can learn. It is a powerful gateway to many other types of learning. Read, read, read as much as you can!

Days missed = years lost

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

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed



Kukuparra News



by Miss Lesker

K-2 Kukuparra students have had a wonderful start to Term 2, where they were kept busy with lots of interesting and exciting learning with our new teacher Mrs Turner last week. Thank you, Mrs Turner for taking care of our four beautiful K-2 students while Miss Lesker was at camp with Mr Clifton and 3-6. We really appreciate it.

The students created some wonderful art and craft out of natural and made materials. They made a kookaburra out of pine cones, feathers and paper. They then glued the kookaburras onto a stick and they look amazing!

In maths, the students have been learning about 2D shapes. They have been learning to use the terms 'side', 'vertex' and 'two-dimensional'. They are also learning to compare, sort and classify polygons according to the number of sides or vertices.

As you can see in the picture below, the students did an absolutely wonderful job creating different two-dimensional shapes using rubbers bands on a geoboard.



Marrawuy News



by Mr Clifton and Mr South

Early this term we are beginning our work with measurement. This week's maths investigation involved proving that 100cm was equal to 1m. Students broke into groups and used 1m long teacher rulers as a guide and then used smaller 30cm rulers lined up correctly to prove that 100cm does in fact equal 1m.

We also looked at how to convert between millimetres, centimetres, metres and kilometres, eventually realising that the 36.9km journey to Lake Cargelligo is in fact 36 900 000 millimetres. We are looking forward to exploring measurement more as the term wears on. This problem solving is incredibly important in making real-world connections to learning and understanding how these concepts can be applied beyond the classroom.

During literacy sessions, the students have been learning how to break words into their parts to assist with spelling. 3-6 have learned about base words and how prefixes are added to the beginning of base words to make new words with different meanings.



STEM Week

by Miss MacPherson

It was an absolute honour to visit Euabalong West at the end of Term 1! We managed to have an action-packed week of STEM.

The Bouncy Ball Challenge

Initially we spent some time building our background knowledge and thinking about how engineers and scientists design things to move efficiently. We identified our design criteria as a group, gathered the resources, then spent our time building, testing, adjusting, retesting and finally sharing! It was fascinating to see all of the different engineering ideas built in a range of creative ways.

Catapult Peg Challenge

It is safe to say this was the challenge that caused the most angst! Using only a peg, an elastic band and any other 'found' objects around the classroom, the students were tasked with the challenge of launching a Skittle as far as they could across the classroom (although some may argue the bigger challenge was not eating the Skittle). With a smidge of persistence, a lot of collaboration and many retests, we were off to the playground for final testing. Every catapult launched a Skittle further than the indoor testing stage and luckily, we had some spare packets to eat too!

Splat 3D Design Tool

The Splat tool provides a hands-on, unplugged solution that allows learners of all ages to master the art of drawing in 3D. We began by experimenting with how to draw a basic cube, cylinder and cone. Then onto the challenge of the impossible triangle - a very difficult optical illusion



design. Finally, the students used the Splats and their imagination to create the ultimate adventure playground design. Their ideas were so impressive and creative that Vinny had a very difficult time choosing a winner, so he picked three!

Robots

The K-2 students loved exploring with Spehro Indi. With Indi's onboard colour sensor, the students can communicate instructions to Indi by placing coloured tiles on the floor that tell it what to do and where to go (and how fast!). There were squeals of excitement as we discovered how Indi reacts to each colour tile. Then the real fun began with building mazes with endless combinations of coloured tiles and strengthening problem-solving skills by navigating the challenging puzzle cards.

The 3-6 students were lucky enough to explore using the EV3 robots. The students spent a significant amount of time building their EV3 Mindstorms piece by piece and collaborating with each other to help solve and for challenges. Once the bots were built and connected to the laptops, the students were able to begin to build their block code to bring their robot to life! Unfortunately, time was not on our side and only some groups got to the stage of making their bots perform some tasks. But, alas, I leave you all in very capable and very knowledgeable hands with Mr South!

A special thank you to Mr South for organising the robots to arrive at school the week before I arrived.

Proud as punch!

I was so proud of the persistence you all showed in all of the STEM tasks throughout the week and I am grateful that you were all so enthusiastic...even if it was out of your comfort zone! You were all so kind and welcoming to Vinny, John and I and we would love to get back to visit Euabalong West VERY soon!





Camp

by Mr Clifton

During Week 1 of Term 2, our 3-6 students embarked on an unforgettable journey at Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Camp. With the entire camp to ourselves, the stage was set for a week filled with excitement, learning, and camaraderie. Led by friendly and knowledgeable instructors who went above and beyond to ensure our students had the best experience possible, each day was packed with thrilling activities and memorable moments.

Day 1: Orienteering, Archery, Night Time Games

The adventure kicked off with a burst of energy as students delved into orienteering challenges, honed their archery skills, and engaged in thrilling night time games in the hall. Erin's team won the orienteering challenge and decided all the students should receive a Zooper Dooper as their reward. Everyone gave it their all during archery and hit the target at least once.

Day 2: Kayaking, Pedal Carts, and Grass Skiing

Day two brought aquatic adventures as students took to the tranquil waters of Lake Burrendong for kayaking sessions. Back on land, they raced around on pedal carts and gracefully glided over the grass on skis. As the sun set, the fun continued with night time sports activities, keeping the excitement alive well into the evening.

Day 3: Team Work Initiative Tasks, BMX Bikes, Bush Walk, and Camp Cookout

Students tackled a series of initiative tasks designed to challenge their problem-solving skills and cooperation. Adrenaline surged as they navigated BMX bike trails and explored the natural beauty of the bush on a scenic walk. They worked together to make a delicious camp cookout for lunch.



Day 4: Paint Ballon Battle, Slip and Slide, Boomerang Making and Throwing, and Night Time Dodge Frisbee

Day four brought thrilling showdowns in a paint balloon battle, where strategic thinking and quick reflexes were put to the test. Students then got very chilly with exhilarating goes down the 50-metre slip and slide! The students absolutely loved making making their own boomerangs and throwing them in the afternoon. A big shout out to Summer for her incredible boomerang-throwing skills! Everyone was talking about how fantastic she was. The evening concluded with an epic game of night time dodge frisbee. Mr Clifton tried to beat everyone, but Macy, Reagan and Sonny proved to be the toughest competitors.

Day 5: Team Building, Bottle Rockets, and Fencing

As the week drew to a close, students embarked on a final day of adventure and discovery. Team building activities strengthened bonds and reinforced the importance of collaboration, while the excitement reached new heights with bottle rocket launches. The week concluded on a high note with fencing in the hall, where students donned their fencing gear and showcased their agility and precision in friendly duels.

Concluding camp

Throughout the week, our students demonstrated exceptional behaviour, enthusiasm, and resilience, embodying the spirit of our school community. Miss Lesker and Mr Clifton are immensely proud of each and every student for their terrific effort and exemplary conduct. We carry with us cherished memories and newfound skills from our time at Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Camp. We are eagerly anticipating the next exciting excursion that awaits us.





Staff Thank You

by Mr Clifton

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all the wonderful staff at Euabalong West Public School.

Thank you to Miss Lesker for giving up her time at home to accompany me and the 3-6 students to camp at Lake Burrendong last week. I am sincerely grateful for the personal time you invested in our students.

Thank you to Mr South for organising the camp. It was a massive undertaking, and Mr South did the vast majority of the work, allowing me the pleasure of simply attending.

Both Miss Lesker and Mr South organise a great deal behind the scenes for the students, and I want to make sure they know their efforts do not go unnoticed. Coordinating all the fantastic activities that happen at school, beyond school, and for the students is no mean feat, and they both work hard to provide our students with wonderful opportunities.

Thank you to Mrs Turner for what was undoubtedly diving straight in the deep end for her return to teaching after a long hiatus. We are really thankful you were able to step in at school.

Lastly, but certainly not least, a massive thank you to our incredible support staff. Thank you to Miss Sally for keeping our school so lovely and clean and for caring so deeply for our students. Thank you to Mrs Brett for her organisation and hard work. Thank you to Trevor for the amazing job he does keeping our grounds looking spectacular. And thank you to Mrs Glover, who shows such terrific initiative and for whom no task is ever too much trouble.

It truly is a team effort at Euabalong West, and I am truly grateful for the work everyone does.

Office News

by Mrs Ruby Glover

I would like to thank everyone involved in the Euabalong West Public School community for your warm welcome as I have settled into the role of Acting School Administrative Manager. It has been so great getting to speak to so many parents, carers and members of our community on the phone and wonderful seeing the smiling faces of the students in the photos I put into the newsletter.

As a child, I attended a small school similar in size to this school and know the important role that the staff there played in my own life. To now be a staff member in a small school feels very rewarding and I am grateful to be able to support and contribute to the operations of the school.

I hope that at some stage in the future I have the pleasure of meeting you all face to face, and look forward to continuing to be a part of this wonderful school community.



"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Malcolm X

Calendar Term 2 2024

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday and Sunday
3	13 May	14 May	15 May	16 May	17 May LLPSSA Cross Country at Tullibigeal Sports Ground.	18 & 19 May
4	20 May	21 May	22 May	23 May Creative Arts Day at Naradhan Public School.	24 May	25 & 26 May National Sorry Day
5	27 May National Reconciliation Week	28 May National Reconciliation Week	29 May National Reconciliation Week Mortimer Shield at Griffith.	30 May National Reconciliation Week Small Schools Athletics Carnival at SFX Lake Cargelligo.	31 May National Reconciliation Week	1 & 2 June National Reconciliation Week
6	3 June	4 June	5 June	6 June	7 June	8 & 9 June
7	10 June June Long Weekend School non- operational. Students do no attend.	11 June	12 June	13 June K-6 Space Incursion Deadly Science at school.	14 June	15 & 16 June

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Week 3
Friday 17 May
Cross Country
at Tullibigeal
Sports Ground.

Week 4
Thursday 23 May
Creative Arts Day at Naradhan
Public School

Week 4
Sunday 26 May
National Sorry Day

KINDERGARTEN
2025

Transition Information Session

Wednesday 19th June
5.30pm - 6.30pm

LAKE EARLY
LEARNING CENTRE

All transition families
welcome to attend to
hear about the 2024
Kindergarten Transition
program.

NIBBLES PROVIDED

Lake Learning Links





NET SET GO

Thursday 3:45pm - 4:30pm

Woolworths 



Venue: School Complex

Starts: Thursday 9th May 2024

Program runs for 10 weeks

Please contact Lisa Fisher 0429 323 231 if you have any questions.

PO BOX 241, LAKE CARGELLIGO, NSW, 2672
EMAIL: LAKE.TIGERSFNC@GMAIL.COM
PHONE: 0497670715 (DARCY)
PHONE: 0427729189 (ANNA)



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EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

WALKING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

Euabalong West Public School
 Uabba St
 Euabalong West NSW 2877

02 6896 6649
euabalongw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
euabalongw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au