



The Dinawan EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL *Newsletter*

Principal's Message

by Mr Clifton
Principal

I am thrilled to have been appointed as the substantive principal of Euabalong West Public School. It is an immense honour and privilege to lead such a wonderful school and be a part of our students' educational journeys. I am deeply grateful for the trust placed in me to guide our school into the future.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the selection panel for this incredible opportunity. Special thanks go to our Director, Educational Leadership, Karen Burke, Primary Principals' Association Representative, Claire Morgan, AECG Representative, Aunty Josie King, Teacher Representative, Josh South, and P&C Representative, Gen Turner. Your confidence in me means the world, and I am dedicated to making Euabalong West Public School the best it can be for our kids.

On a personal note, Cameron and I are equally thrilled to be making Euabalong West our permanent home. Cameron is looking forward to some serious gardening and is excited about transforming our yard into a lush, green haven. He is particularly keen to get the veggies growing in spring.

At the beginning of the year, we conducted a range of quality assessments to determine our students' starting points and identify their future learning needs. Two of these assessments focused on reading fluency and reading comprehension. I am beyond proud to report the considerable growth our students have demonstrated in just 15 weeks of school this year. Our retesting with these assessments this term has shown amazing improvement. As a teacher and school leader, this is the outcome we strive for.

All of our students should be incredibly proud of themselves for everything they have accomplished so far this semester.

As I prepare to take leave for a family wedding in Scotland, I know Mr South and our wonderful staff will take excellent care of our students and school during my absence. I am eager to return on Day 1 of Term 3 and continue building on the fantastic work and achievements we have accomplished so far this year.

Wishing you all a terrific last four weeks of Term 2 and a safe and restful winter holiday period once it arrives. I hope you all find time to spend together as a family and enjoy each other's company and manage to keep warm by a toasty fire.

Yours in public education,

Andrew Clifton



Attendance Matters

Year to Date

Term 1

88% **85%**

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 commencement of the Books in Homes program. The program provides students with books to take home to support their ongoing literacy journey. We have been lucky to be sponsored by the Sydney Sock Project, which will see the program have no cost to the school or families.

I would like to say a big thank you to both the Sydney Sock Project and Books in Homes for their wonderful contribution to our school and their commitment to improving access to vital literacy resources for all students.

This week the students will receive a catalogue at school with pictures and a brief description of each book and the reading skill required to read it. The students will choose from a range of 48 different books catering to even the fussiest of readers. They will then select four books from which they will receive three of those selections. This will culminate in an addition to our end of term assembly, with a special book giving ceremony where a local author will be invited to speak to the children.

The school has been provided with additional books to use as 'Caught Being Good' prizes and a competition that students can enter to win additional prizes!

We look forward to seeing the impact this program has on your children and are looking forward to seeing our home reading journals fill up with the wonderful texts they have been reading at home.

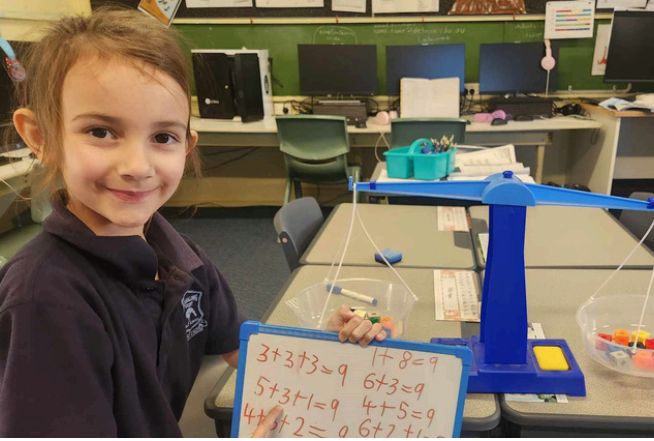
Days missed = years lost

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



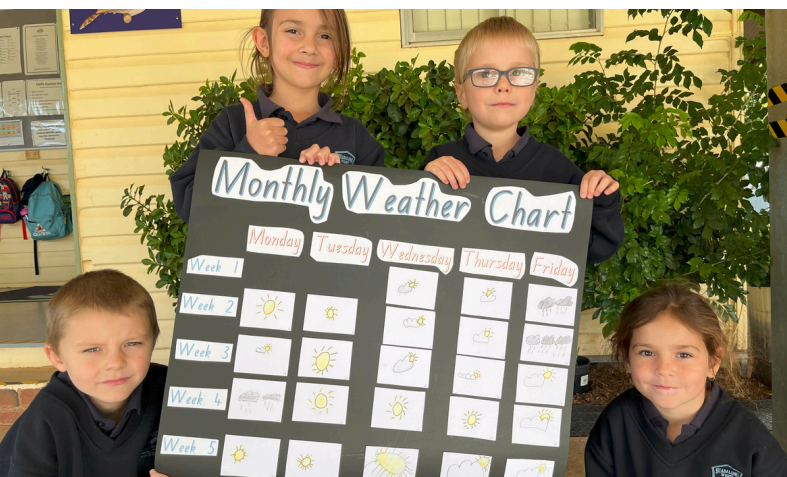
By Miss Lesker

The K-2 Kukuparra students have been enjoying lots of different activities during the last few weeks. They travelled to Naradhan where they joined other small schools to participate in lots of fun creative arts activities.

The students were also busy practising for our small school's athletics carnival which was held last Thursday at St Francis Xavier school in Lake Cargelligo. They had an amazing day and tried their best at each different event. It was wonderful to see them take home so many ribbons. Well done!

In Science they have been learning about the changing environment and how night and day affects different animals. The students also observed and recorded daily weather patterns over the month of May.

In maths the students have been learning to recognise and recall number bonds up to 10. They have been learning to create, recall and recognise combinations of two and three numbers that add up to numbers less than 10.



Marrawuy News



By Mr Clifton and Mr South

We have been incredibly fortunate to have received a shipment of Lego from our friends at the non-profit charity Deadly Science. Deadly Science does fantastic work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students students across Australia. They provide vital resources, learning experiences and access to STEM for students, particularly in remote and isolated communities.

This Lego will support our ongoing stop motion unit of work across the school, giving students access to a wider variety of settings and characters to allow their narratives to evolve and be even more detailed.

Putting together the sets will give them access to procedural informative texts and they can see how a combination of pictures, visuals and text can combine to create a multimodal text focusing on a process.

The students have loved engaging in the Lego building already and we are excited to see what else their build and where their stop motion stories lead.



Turn off the screens and get more sleep

by Euabalong West Public School

In our modern, digital age, screens are an integral part of daily life, from computers and tablets to smartphones and televisions. While these devices offer many benefits, it is essential for parents and carers to enforce digital downtime, particularly in the evenings, to ensure the wellbeing of our children. Reducing screen time at night and encouraging healthy sleep habits are critical for developing brains and bodies.

One of the most significant factors affecting children's health and academic performance is sleep. Growing children need a good night's sleep to support their physical and cognitive development. The Australian Sleep Health Foundation recommends that school-aged children get between 9 and 11 hours of sleep each night. However, many children fall short of this target, often due to excessive screen time before bed.

Exposure to screens at night can interfere with the body's natural sleep cycle. The blue light emitted by screens can suppress the production of melatonin, the hormone responsible for regulating sleep. This can make it harder for children to fall asleep and stay asleep, leading to insufficient rest. Furthermore, engaging in stimulating activities such as gaming or watching exciting videos can keep the mind active, delaying the onset of sleepiness.

The consequences of inadequate sleep for children are profound. Lack of sleep can impair cognitive functions such as memory, attention, and problem-solving skills, which are vital for learning and academic success. Children who do not get enough sleep may struggle to concentrate in class, retain information, and perform well on assignments and tests. Additionally, chronic sleep deprivation can affect mood and behaviour, leading to increased irritability, anxiety, and difficulty managing emotions.

A consistent lack of sleep can have long-term impacts on physical health. It can weaken the immune system, making children more susceptible to illnesses, and contribute to issues such as obesity and diabetes. Ensuring that children get sufficient sleep is crucial for their overall health.

To help children develop healthy sleep habits, parents and carers should establish a bedtime routine that includes digital downtime. Removing devices and screens from children's bedrooms is a vital step in this process. Without the temptation of electronic devices, children are more likely to settle down and prepare for sleep. Encourage activities such as reading a book, listening to calming music, or practising relaxation techniques before bed to help them unwind.

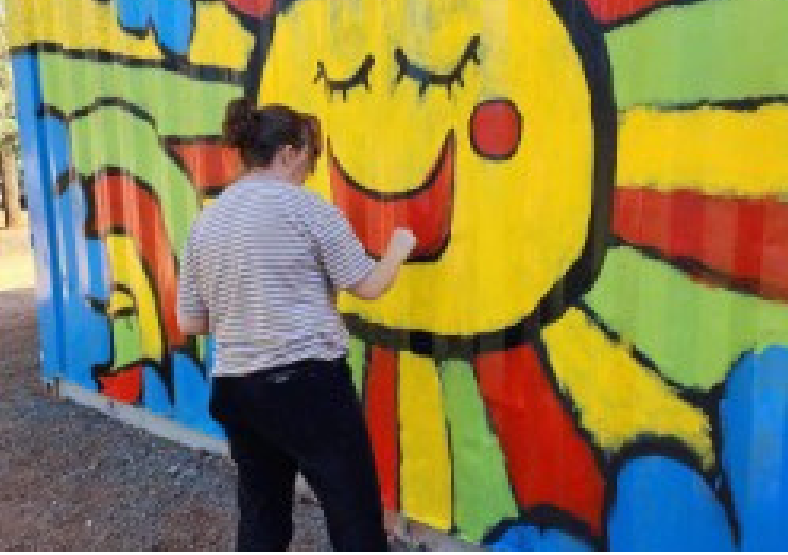
Setting clear boundaries around screen time is essential. Parents and carers should set a cut-off time for device usage in the evening, ideally at least two hours before bedtime. This allows the child's body to begin producing melatonin and start the natural process of winding down for the night. Consistency is key; maintaining a regular bedtime and wake-up time, even on weekends, can help reinforce healthy sleep patterns.

Additionally, creating a sleep-conducive environment can make a significant difference. Ensure the child's bedroom is dark, cool, and quiet. Using blackout curtains, white noise machines, or fans can help create an optimal sleep setting.

Reducing screen time at night and enforcing digital downtime are essential steps in promoting healthy sleep habits for children. Adequate sleep is crucial for their developing brains and bodies, impacting their ability to learn, grow, and thrive. By removing devices from their bedrooms and establishing consistent routines, parents and carers can help ensure that children get the restful sleep they need to succeed both academically and personally.

This does not have to result in arguments. If all else fails, turn off the internet by a set time each night, for example 9 pm, as a first step to reducing screen time and helping your children get the sleep they need.





Creative Arts Day

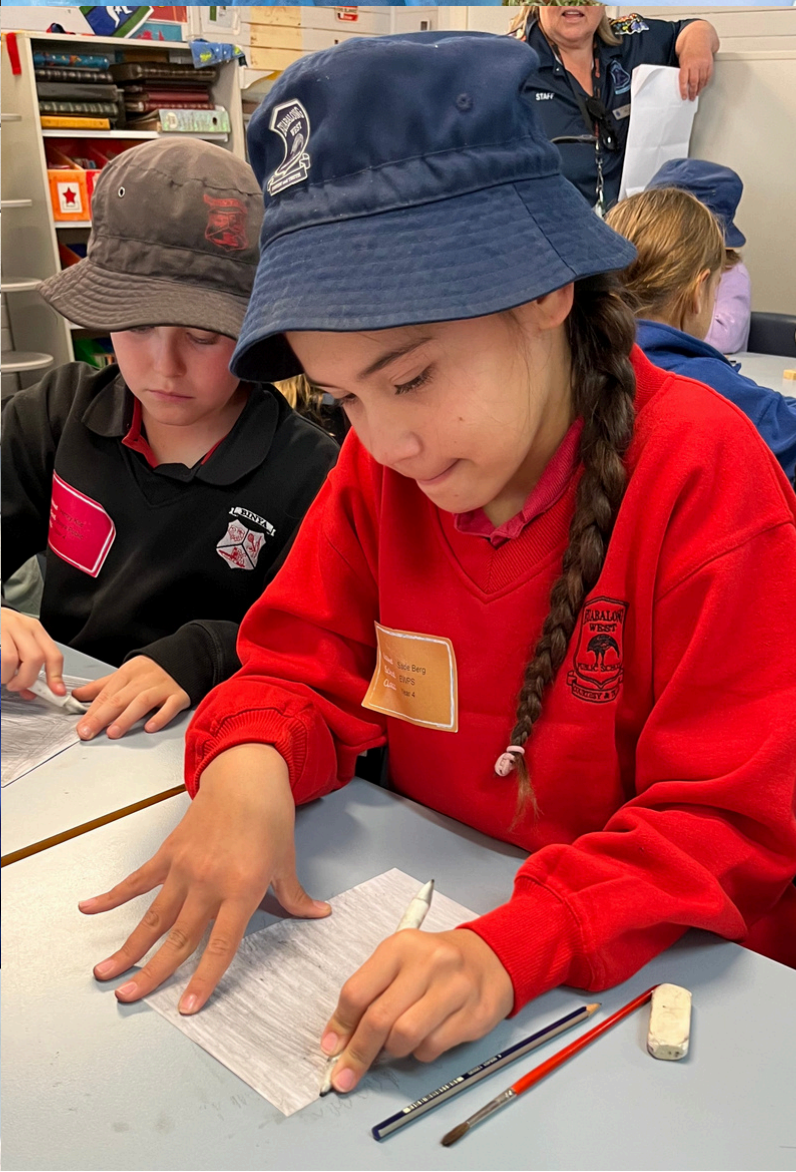
23rd May 2024

Students from Euabalong West Public School had the privilege of attending the Rural Innovative Educational Networks Creative Arts Day at Naradhan Public School. Students experienced a day full of activities including acrylic painting, pottery, rock painting, rainbow fish painting and mural painting, making sensory calming bottles, and engaging in role plays in drama. These activities strengthened team-building skills and student confidence.



"Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." - Albert Einstein





Athletics Carnival

Euabalong West Public School

Our students had terrific time at the recent Small Schools Athletics Carnival. The day was filled with excitement, energy, and outstanding performances from all our participants. Students competed in a variety of events, including high jump, long jump, relay, 100m sprint, discus, and shot put, showcasing their athletic abilities and sportsmanship.

Each student put in an incredible effort, achieving terrific results across the board. The dedication and determination displayed by our young athletes were truly commendable, and their hard work paid off with impressive performances in every event. We are particularly proud to announce that our students won the marching event, a testament to their teamwork, coordination, and school spirit.

Special congratulations go to our individual champions who shone brightly at the carnival:

- Reagan Ohlsen as the Senior Girl Champion
- Sade Berg as the Junior Girl Champion
- Sonny Hague as the Junior Boy Champion
- Halle Turner as the Junior Girl Runner-Up

These students demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication in their respective categories, earning well-deserved recognition for their achievements. We are especially proud of the effort they put into their events.

The Small Schools Athletics Carnival was not just about winning but also about participation, perseverance, and personal growth. Each student's commitment to their events and their support for one another made the day a resounding success.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the teachers, parents, and volunteers who supported our students and helped make the carnival a memorable experience. Your encouragement and assistance were invaluable, and we appreciate your dedication to our school community. Special thanks to Miss Lesker and Mr South for all their efforts in contributing to the event organisation.

Congratulations to all our students for their outstanding efforts and achievements. We look forward to celebrating your successes in the future.





Garden Rejuvenation

Euabalong West Public School

On 4th June 2024, students took part in Gardening Day as part of our Garden Rejuvenation Project.

The project aimed to rebuild our gardens and make the school grounds an inviting place to be. At the same time it has been an excellent opportunity to engage students in the design, planning, and development of the garden.

Students actively participated in the planting and establishment of our new school gardens. This will transform the look of our school and provide a place where students can reflect on their contributions with pride.

We would like to thank Cobar Shire Council for their generous donation to the garden project. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Bunnings Griffith, The Riverina Nursery Griffith, and Greengecko Nursery Griffith for their generous plant donations. Without these contributions, the project would not have been possible.

A heartfelt thank you to our School Administrative Manager, Mrs Glover, for her extraordinary efforts in supporting our Garden Rejuvenation Project. Mrs Glover's dedication and hard work in calling numerous businesses to seek donations of plants were instrumental in securing the wonderful contributions we received. Completing this project would not have been possible without her persistence, unwavering commitment, and support.

Our students and staff had a fantastic time gardening. The energy and enthusiasm displayed by everyone involved made the day truly special and memorable. With shovels in hand and smiles on their faces, they dug into the soil, carefully placing each plant in its new home.

We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who participated and contributed to this successful day. The collective effort and shared sense of purpose have resulted in a garden that we can all be proud of. We look forward to seeing the plants establish and grow.



"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now." - Chinese Proverb

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
Kindergarten program.

NIBBLES PROVIDED

Lake Learning Links



Our Plan for NSW Public Education

Transforming lives through learning

Our plan is built on the power of public education to provide opportunities for all and transform lives through learning. Our plan sets our direction and priorities for the coming years and harnesses the commitment of our teachers and schools to provide an outstanding education for every learner. Our approach has been informed by evidence and insights from engagement with our education community.

Our commitment

Every student learns, grows and belongs in an equitable and outstanding education system.

Acknowledgement of Country

We recognise the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we learn, work and live, paying respect to Elders past and present as teachers of knowledge, songlines and stories. We strive to ensure every NSW Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander learner achieves their potential through education.

Together we will	Advance equitable outcomes, opportunities and experiences	Strengthen trust and respect for the teaching profession and school support staff	Give children the best start in learning	Deliver outstanding leadership, teaching and learning	Strengthen student wellbeing and development	Provide meaningful post-school pathways
With actions that	- Foster a culture that values diversity by advancing reconciliation and eliminating barriers - Ensure schools have access to the staff and specialists they need - Prioritise resources where they are needed most - Develop targeted, differentiated, evidence-informed initiatives and supports - Embed diverse learner, family and staff voices in decision-making - Provide broad, inclusive and rich curriculum with strong co-curricular activities	- Address staffing shortages - Attract and retain more high-quality teachers, especially in high-need locations and specialist subject areas - Ensure initial teacher education is fit-for-purpose by partnering with the university sector - Improve staff wellbeing - Address workload pressures to ensure a manageable workload for all staff - Support staff development through high-quality and accessible professional learning - Make public education a more attractive career with more quality career pathways - Strengthen development for leaders at all stages of their careers	- Increase enrolment and participation in preschool for all children - Build new public preschools co-located with public primary schools - Create better transitions between early education and primary school - Deliver the NSW Aboriginal Children's Early Childhood Education Strategy	- Support schools to deliver school excellence through continuous improvement - Deliver effective teaching practices including explicit teaching and effective feedback underpinned by high expectations - Strengthen educational and instructional leadership - Provide high-quality, evidence-based curriculum resources - Increase student literacy and numeracy - Strengthen high-quality assessment - Improve how data is used to inform teaching	- Implement evidence-informed, whole-school wellbeing approaches - Create positive school cultures that value student voice - Build partnerships with students and families to connect them with the support they need - Provide equitable access to services by building partnerships across agencies - Expand counselling services in schools - Improve support for students at all transitions through school - Ensure schools are inclusive and safe	- Enhance access to high-quality vocational education and training (VET) in schools, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, and HSC pathways - Support, inform and inspire all students to choose post-school pathway options aligned to their goals - Improve access, opportunities and choice across post-school pathways including university, training and work for all students
So	Every learner receives a high-quality education that enables them to excel	Our teachers and staff feel valued, included and supported to perform at their best	All children have the best start in life	Every student achieves ambitious learning goals every year	Every student is known, valued and cared for	Every student finishes school ready to succeed in their chosen pathway as an informed, responsible citizen
And we'll measure success by	- Reducing gaps in student outcomes, due to structural inequities - Increasing community confidence in public education	- Increasing the number of school staff so supply meets demand - Increasing the proportion of teachers and school staff who feel valued, trusted and respected in their profession	- Increasing the proportion of children enrolled in preschool - Increasing the proportion of children who are developmentally on track	- Improving literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students - Increasing the proportion of students completing Year 12 in public schools	- Increasing the proportion of students reporting a sense of belonging - Increasing attendance rates	Increasing the proportion of students who take up university, training or work in the year after school

Support services that are efficient, effective and easy to access

School infrastructure that meets the needs of a growing population and supports improved student outcomes

Our values



Excellence



Integrity



Equity



Accountability



Trust



Service

Calendar Term 2 2024

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday and Sunday
7	10 June	11 June	12 June	13 June	14 June	15 & 16 June
	June Long Weekend <i>School non-operational. Students do no attend.</i>			K-6 Space Incursion Deadly Science at school.		
8	17 June	18 June	19 June	20 June	21 June	22 & 23 June
9	24 June	25 June	26 June	27 June	28 June	29 & 30 June
10	1 July	2 July	3 July	4 July	5 July	6 & 7 July

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Week 7

Thu 13 June

Deadly Science Incursion

Date to be Advised

End of Term Assembly



EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

WALKING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

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