



The Dinawan EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL *Newsletter*

Principal's Message

by Mr Clifton
Principal

It's hard to believe we're already halfway through Term 2 – time is flying! With less than five weeks until the winter school holidays, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible start we've had to the term.

From the outset, Term 2 has been packed with special events, learning opportunities, and community celebrations. Our students represented Euabalong West with pride and determination at the Small Schools Athletics Carnival and the Lower Lachlan PSSA Cross Country, showing not only athletic ability but fantastic sportspersonship as well.

The students also enjoyed creating some Mother's Day presents, with students proudly putting together handmade gifts and cards for the important women in their lives.

Our online Small Schools Spelling Bee was another Term 2 highlight, showcasing the effort students are putting into their literacy learning. It was great to see so many students participate confidently and support one another with such good-natured encouragement. Thank you to Mr South for coordinating our involvement and to Mrs Turner for making sure the event ran smoothly.

The Variety Bash rolled through town and brought a buzz of excitement with it! The visit was a great opportunity to connect with a broader network of people who support kids and communities in regional NSW. A massive thank you to our wonderful P&C for all the hard work, time and effort they put into organising the food for 250 Bashers! It was an amazing day, the students had a blast, and the money donated by Variety to the school and the P&C will be spent wisely on important resources for our kids.

Last week we commemorated National Sorry Day and marked the start of Reconciliation Week. As a proud, majority-Aboriginal school, these moments are important and deeply meaningful. Our students created a beautiful whole-school artwork to reflect on the theme "Bridging Now to Next", and they've engaged in learning that helps build respect, truth-telling, and cultural understanding.

This week, we're looking forward to World Environment Day on Thursday.

It's been a big term so far, and there's still plenty more to come! Thank you for your continued support.

On a personal note, I will be on leave during Weeks 9 and 10 visiting family overseas. The school will be in capable hands with Mr South as Relieving Principal while I am away. I look forward to seeing everyone for Day 1 Term 3.

Andrew Clifton



Attendance Matters

At Last Newsletter

Year to Date

91%  89%

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

Our teaching staff have been engaging in professional learning around Cognitive Load Theory, and the research in this area developed by Australian educational psychologist Professor John Sweller. This research helps us understand how the brain processes and stores information, particularly how students can become overloaded when too much new information is presented at once.

Cognitive Load Theory highlights the importance of managing how we present learning so that students have the best chance of remembering and understanding new concepts. It identifies two main types of mental "load":

- Intrinsic load - the natural difficulty of what's being learned
- Extraneous load - how clearly (or confusingly) the information is delivered

The teachers have explored practical classroom strategies such as breaking content into smaller steps, using visuals and worked examples, and removing distractions. These small but powerful changes help free up students' mental capacity so they can focus on what really matters.

Importantly, our teachers are also working on ways to assist students in forming meaningful connections between new content and what they already know. This strengthens understanding and makes it more likely that learning will be retained and applied in new situations.

We are proud to continually invest in research-based practices that improve teaching and learning.

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 students have made a fantastic start to Term 2, diving into a range of engaging and meaningful learning experiences!

In English, students have been exploring the beautiful and thought-provoking book *The Black Book of Colours*. This imaginative story follows a blind boy named Thomas, who describes colours through taste, touch, smell, and sound. The book, written in both text and Braille, offers a powerful glimpse into how someone without sight experiences the world. Students embraced this concept by creatively describing their favourite colours using their senses, and they also had fun learning about the Braille alphabet by making their own names on cardboard.

Our Kindergarten students have been making great progress with their recognition of single letters and sounds, as well as mastering some tricky words. Meanwhile, the Year 2 students have been confidently developing their writing skills by creating "super sentences" that include a rich mix of nouns, verbs, and adjectives.

In Maths, K-2 students have been enthusiastically exploring the concept of measurement. Year 2 learners have been estimating and measuring length to the nearest metre and using balance scales to measure mass accurately. Kindergarten students have been having a wonderful time comparing length and height, and discovering the concept of mass through hands-on activities like hefting.

It's been a joyful and productive start to the term, and we're excited to see all the amazing learning still to come!

Marrawuy News

by Mr Clifton and Mr South

This term, our students have taken on an exciting and creative challenge: to design and construct a 1:1 scale model of Euabalong West Public School using Minecraft: Education Edition.

Working in teams, students from all stages have collaborated to recreate our classrooms, playgrounds, COLA, library and other key areas of the school. The project is not only fun, but also a rich learning experience. Students are applying real-world skills in measurement, spatial reasoning, digital design and project management. They are following a design brief that focuses on accuracy, structure, creativity and teamwork.

Throughout the project, students have planned their builds using school maps, photographs and their own observations. They've been responsible for dividing tasks, supporting their teammates and ensuring their digital version of the school feels just like the real thing. Interior features such as desks, whiteboards, signs and even school posters are being included to make the build as close to real life as possible.

We are incredibly proud of their innovation and teamwork. This project highlights how technology can be used meaningfully in the classroom to build creativity, confidence and collaboration, all while having a great deal of fun along the way!



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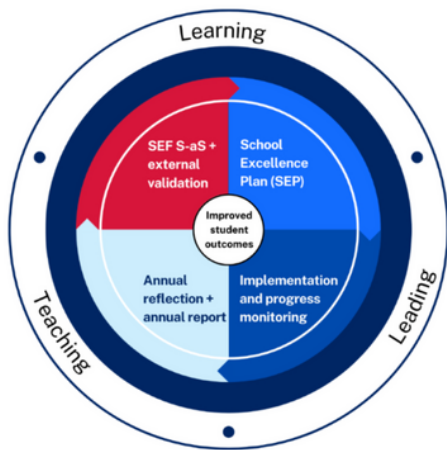
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External Validation

by Euabalong West Public School

Over the past few months, Euabalong West Public School has been undertaking the Department of Education's External Validation process. This is an important opportunity for schools to reflect on their progress, celebrate what is working well, and identify key areas for future improvement. It also helps to inform the development of our next four-year School Excellence Plan, which we will begin writing over the next 12 months.

As part of the process, we have collected a range of artefacts and written detailed analyses that showcase the practices and processes in place across the school. These reflect our ongoing efforts to ensure every student is known, valued and cared for, and that high-quality teaching and learning is at the centre of all we do.

In two weeks' time, we will meet with a panel of experienced school leaders to discuss our submission and finalise the process. Their feedback will play a valuable role in supporting our continued growth and planning for the next phase of our school improvement journey.

We have enjoyed the opportunity to reflect on all the different types of things we do at Euabalong West and we are confident that we can demonstrate to the panel what a wonderful place Euabalong West Public School is to learn, work, and play.

Why Attendance Matters

by Euabalong West Public School

At Euabalong West Public School, we place a strong emphasis on the importance of regular school attendance. Every day at school matters. When students attend consistently, they are more likely to form strong friendships, stay connected to their learning, and build the skills they need for future success.

Research shows that students who attend regularly are more likely to achieve higher academic results, have better wellbeing, and develop positive attitudes towards learning. On the other hand, frequent absences – even just a day or two each fortnight – can quickly add up and lead to gaps in understanding, reduced confidence, and feelings of disconnection.

Attending school every day builds positive routines and habits that will benefit students well beyond their primary years. It teaches them resilience, responsibility, time management, and a strong sense of belonging and commitment to their community.

We understand that absences due to illness or family situations can be unavoidable, and we appreciate families keeping us informed. However, wherever possible, it's vital to prioritise daily attendance and return to school as soon as it's safe to do so.

If students are away, please do let us know the reason why by texting or sending a WhatsApp message to the school mobile. We are required to provide an explanation in our records for the Department of Education.

At Euabalong West, we are committed to supporting every student to attend, engage, and thrive. Let's work together to make sure every day counts – because it truly does.

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." - William Butler Yeats

Variety Bash - oh, what a day!

by Euabalong West Public School



Thursday 22 May 2025 was a day our school community will never forget. Euabalong West Public School was honoured to host more than 250 enthusiastic and big-hearted Variety Bash drivers as part of the annual Variety Bash – an iconic fundraising event run by one of Australia's most trusted charities, Variety – the Children's Charity.

The Bashers arrived in a colourful convoy of creatively decorated cars and buses, dressed in all sorts of fun and wacky outfits that instantly brought joy and excitement to our students. From superheroes to safari explorers, pirates to pop stars, the Variety Bashers lit up the day with their infectious energy and generous spirit. They didn't come empty-handed either – every student received a special gift, and their smiles said it all. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, music, and celebration, and our students had an absolutely amazing time making memories they'll treasure for years to come.

In addition to all the fun, the Bashers also made some incredibly generous donations to our school. We were gifted a set of brand-new soccer goals, which our students have already been putting to great use during sport and lunchtime play. They also donated a range of fruit trees, which we're excited to plant soon as part of our ongoing work to create sustainable and engaging outdoor learning spaces. Variety also provided our P&C with a generous donation of over \$2000 and awarded the school a \$5000 grant to purchase much-needed new sports equipment. We are sincerely grateful for these contributions, which will have a lasting impact on our students' health, wellbeing, and learning.

The day simply would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our incredible P&C. In true Euabalong West fashion, our parents and carers went above and beyond to cater for the Variety Bashers. We know they spent countless hours preparing – cooking homemade soups, crafting fresh salads, and baking an impressive spread of delicious treats. Their hospitality and community spirit did not go

unnoticed, and we are so proud and thankful for the way they represented our school and town. Events like this remind us that while we may be small in numbers, we are rich in heart, generosity, and community strength.

A huge thank you also goes to our amazing school staff, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to organise and coordinate the day. From setting up the grounds to ensuring everything ran smoothly on the day, their efforts made it possible for our students to enjoy every moment. We are lucky to have such a committed and passionate team who continually go above and beyond for our kids.

Thanks also to the generosity of the Euabalong Community Centre, who lent the school some extra chairs and tables so we could cater for the Bashers.

Variety – the Children's Charity – has been supporting children who are sick, disadvantaged, or living with a disability for more than 40 years. Globally, Variety has provided close to \$2 billion in grants, creating life-changing opportunities for young people and their families.

We feel incredibly lucky to have been chosen as one of the stops on the 2025 Variety Bash route. The experience was not only a joyful celebration but also a powerful reminder of what generosity, community, and compassion can achieve. To everyone in the Variety community – thank you for including us in your journey and for making such a meaningful difference to our school and our students' lives.

We'll be talking about this day for a long time to come. The soccer goals will be played with, the fruit trees will grow and blossom, the new equipment will support fun and inclusive physical activity – but more than anything, the kindness and connection we felt will leave the most lasting legacy of all.

From all of us at Euabalong West – thank you, Variety! ❤️







Wiradjuri Pride

by Euabalong West Public School

At Euabalong West Public School, we are proud to stand on Wiradjuri Country and to embed Wiradjuri language, culture, and perspectives in all that we can. We believe it is vital for all students to learn about and celebrate the rich histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and we are especially proud to walk alongside our students as they grow in cultural knowledge and pride.

This term, we are incredibly proud of Summer, a proud Wiradjuri girl who takes great pride in her culture and generously shares it with her peers and the wider community. Summer recently delivered a powerful speech about Wiradjuri culture at a community event, and she did so with confidence, clarity, and deep pride in who she is.

She is really stepping into her role as a school leader this year and as a person carrying forward the traditions of the Wiradjuri people.

We are so thrilled to see Summer standing tall in her identity and becoming a strong cultural leader within our school. Her courage and willingness to share helps strengthen understanding, foster respect, and build a more inclusive future for everyone. Well done, Summer – we are all so proud of you!

Yarning Circle

by Euabalong West Public School

Over the past twelve months, we have been working on the creation of a Yarning Circle, following the advice and guidance of our Aboriginal School Partnership Committee. This has been a truly collaborative process, bringing together staff, students, community members, and local organisations to help establish a meaningful space for reflection, connection, and cultural learning.

The Aboriginal School Partnership Committee carefully considered and recommended a location that offers privacy, calm, and a connection to Country. The site chosen is nestled among some of our most beautiful native trees – a peaceful and respectful place to gather and share stories. We are particularly grateful to Karen Martin and Jenny Griffiths for their continuing engagement and advice.

We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Glover, our former Relieving School Administrative Manager, who played a key role in organising the purchase of the decomposed granite and sandstone blocks. Earlier this year, the edging was installed, and the team from Griffith Bricks and Pavers delivered the decomposed granite. With the help of our staff, students, and the fantastic local team from Cobar Shire Council, the area was levelled and prepared. This week, the sandstone blocks arrived, and the wonderful Rob from Griffith Bricks and Pavers positioned them perfectly.

There are still a few finishing touches to go, including installing a fire pit and tidying up around the edges, but our Yarning Circle is already a beautiful and important space. We are so thankful to everyone who has contributed. This special place will serve as a gathering point for learning, storytelling, and connection for many years to come.



Kindergarten Writing

by Euabalong West Public School



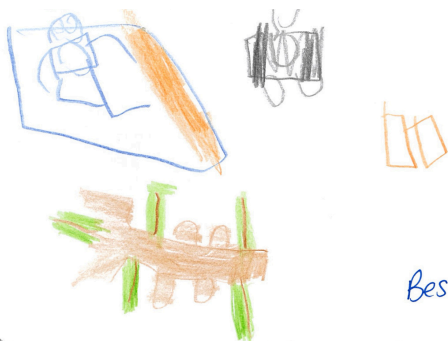
Shan has a rock in her back shed.

Shan has a ship in her back shed.

Shan has a fish in her back shed.

3.6.25

sh sh sh sh sh sh sh



Best ever!

There is the twig.

There is the clip.

There is the clog.

There is the club.

club club club club club

I am so impressed!

28.5.25

Our Kindergarten students have been making wonderful progress in their writing lessons this term, and we're especially proud of the hard work being put in by Bryce, Kelly, and Brodie. These three boys have been working with Mr Clifton in the library three to four times a week, building their confidence and skills as young writers.

Each session begins with a carefully chosen stimulus book, which provides inspiration for the group's Sentence of the Week. This shared sentence helps students learn about sentence structure, vocabulary, and punctuation in an engaging and meaningful way. They also explore three or four stimulus pictures that include words made up of phonograms (letter combinations and sounds) they have already been taught, helping them apply their phonics knowledge in context.

Each student also has two personalised writing goals, displayed on their desk as a visual reminder of what they are working to improve. These goals keep their learning focused and help celebrate individual growth.

We are so proud of the effort, persistence, and enthusiasm that Bryce, Kelly, and Brodie bring to every writing lesson. They are well on their way to becoming fantastic little writers! Keep up the amazing work, boys - we're cheering you on!

That is the map.
That is the cat.
That is the dog.
That is the radio.
h h h h h h h h h h

23.5.25



ABORIGINAL

School Partnership Committee

MEETING NOTICE

THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD ON



**THURSDAY WEEK 7
12 JUNE 2025**



3:30PM TO 4:30PM



**EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL
LIBRARY**

We warmly invite our Aboriginal families, community members and local partners to join us for our next Aboriginal School Partnership Committee meeting.

We are committed to listening to the voices of our Aboriginal community and working in wholehearted collaboration to enhance the cultural safety of our school and provide the best possible opportunities for our students.

We hope you can join us for this yarn.



**EUABALONG WEST
PUBLIC SCHOOL**



P&C MEETING

TERM 2 WEEK 8

THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD ON



**WEDNESDAY
18 JUNE 2025**



3:30PM TO 4:30PM



**EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL
LIBRARY**

Some light snacks,
tea and coffee will
be provided.

WE VALUE CONSULTATION, COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION



OODIE DAY!

Friday 20 June 2025 - Week 8

Students are encouraged to snug up
and wear a comfy Oodie to school for
the day.



Calendar Term 2 2025

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday & Sunday
7	9 June Kings Birthday Long Weekend Students DO NOT attend	10 June	11 June	12 June Aboriginal School Partnership Committee Meeting 3.30-4.30	13 June	14 & 15 June
8	16 June	17 June Kindergarten Transition Information Night 5.30-6.30	18 June P&C Meeting 3.30-4.30	19 June	20 June Oodie Day! Students come dressed in their favourite Oodie	21 & 22 June
9	23 June	24 June	25 June	26 June	27 June	28 & 29 June
10	30 June	1 July	2 July	3 July	4 July	5 & 6 July
Term 3 1	21 July School Development Day Students DO NOT attend	22 July Students' First Day of Term 3	23 July	24 July Excursion to Lake Cargelligo Central School for King Cup	25 July	26 & 27 July

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Week 7

Thu 12 June

Aboriginal School Partnership Committee

Week 8

Wed 18 June

P&C Meeting

Week 8

Fri 20 June

Oodie Day!



EUABALONG WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

WALKING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

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