RULES AND VALUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Rule: Be safe</th>
<th>Work safely, play safely</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Rule: Be responsible</td>
<td>Respect the rights and property of the school and others</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Value: Integrity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Value: Excellence</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

— DATES TO REMEMBER —

Please also check our school’s on-line calendar at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 : Term 1</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival: Granville Pool – 9:00am to 2:00pm <strong>NB: Please see separate note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Stewart House collection day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Responsible Pet Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Zone Soccer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Staff News
We welcome our new school counsellor, Ms Meaghan McKeown. Ms McKeown will work on Fridays on even weeks.

Sports News

School House- and Vice-captains

- **Magpies**
  - Captains - Milan S, Mohammed R.
  - Vice-captains - Tyrone M, Manulevu T.

- **Koalas**
  - Captains - Jay L, Tiymika L.
  - Vice-captains - Mathew J, Chris G.

- **Kookaburras**
  - Captains - Maddison G, Tameeka C.
  - Vice-captains - Alisa A, Lara F.

- **Wallabies**
  - Captains - Saja Z, Callan M.
  - Vice-captains - Simran K, Luis T.

Zone Girls Soccer Team
Congratulations to Olivia, Michelle and Katelyn who were successful in gaining a position in the Zone Soccer team. I am sure they will thoroughly enjoy the gala day on Tuesday 1 April.

Zone Boys Rugby League Team
Congratulations also to Warren and Jay for their success in the rugby league team trials last Friday. Both boys have been included in the zone team amidst lots of competition.

To have five students represented in these teams is a fabulous indication of the talented sportspeople in our school.

Swimming Carnival
What a fun day we had with many families coming along to help the school and support their children on the day. A special thank you to Mrs Simic and Miss Isaacs for their thorough organisation of the carnival. Also, thank you to the parents who assisted with timekeeping, life-saving, swimming alongside the children so they felt safe and for encouraging all of our sportspeople to give it their all.

The points are as follows:
- Wallabies – 98 points
- Koalas – 84 points
- Kookaburras – 64 points
- Magpies – 48 points

Excellence, diversity and opportunity in a caring school
All ribbons for the Swimming Carnival will be presented at this week’s assembly. Ribbons are presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place swimmers. Please note that your child may have come first in the heat, but not in the final.

**Technology News**

An IWB was ordered this week for 4/5S, made possible by a donation from the P and C and your support of activities organised by these hard working parents. Thank you!

**Follow us on Twitter**

@ermington_west

The latest news and reminders will be posted via our Twitter account, keep up to date 24/7/365!

**Creating a community of learners at EWPS**

It is important for parents and teachers to work together and communicate effectively. It can help if you:

- let the teacher know if there is something happening at home that may be affecting your child
- let the teacher know about any health problems your child may have
- read all the school notices and reply as soon as possible
- get involved in school activities, eg attend children’s reading sessions, join parents associations.

If you need to see the teacher, it is wise to make an appointment. Prior to school, teachers have meetings and preparation to complete. It is not a good idea to expect teachers to meet with you as they are taking the children into class in the morning. This is a crucial part in your child’s day and it is important the teacher follows the established routines every day.

**What can I expect in the first few weeks of Kinder?**

Learning, meeting new people, playing and learning to adjust to a new environment are all very tiring for children. Try not to over-plan your child’s afternoons, particularly in the first term of school.

You might need to:

- plan a light, nutritious snack for after school or give your child an early dinner as they may be more tired than usual
- encourage your child to talk about the good things that happened and do not pressure them to talk too much if they are not up to it. Some children like to wind down completely in a quiet environment after a busy day at school. Other children may be happy to draw about their day or play something completely unrelated to school
- make reading part of your daily routine. Reading to your child as they prepare for bed is a wonderful way to relax your child before bed, spend some quality time together and build the important skills of vocabulary, story structure and a love of reading
- pack a spare pair of underpants in your child’s bag. Talk to your child about how they can let the teacher know when they need to go to the toilet.

**What can I do if my child is stressed?**

It is important that you do not become overly anxious and stressed about school, as your child will pick up on your feelings. Some children become tearful and struggle to go to school. Remain calm but firm and reassuring. Contact the school and seek their help.

Most children settle quite well once their parent has left the school, but if you need reassurance organise to ring the school. The teacher can leave a message for you at the office and you and your child will have a better day.

Encourage your child to talk about what exactly is worrying them. Ask your child what they think might help them settle.

Be clear in your expectations. Let your child know you are confident that they can manage. Letting the teacher know is a good strategy, as the teacher will be there to help you. Your child’s older buddy may be a useful support in these situations as well.

**Car park**

The car park is for staff and delivery parking only. It is not to be used as a drop off zone for students, unless you have gained permission to use this area. I am sure you can appreciate that the safety of our students is of utmost importance. The pedestrian gates on Kissing Point Road and Vignes Street and onto the park are the entrances and exits to the school. I look forward to hearing more positive reports about the use of these access points.

**Newsletter Distribution**

The Department of Education and Communities has removed the provision for bulk emails. This means that families who have internet access are encouraged to visit the school website to view or download the fortnightly newsletter. If you do not have internet access at home and wish to receive a print copy, please complete the form in this newsletter and return to the office via your child’s class teacher. As of 5 March print copies of the newsletter will only be produced for those who have returned the request slip. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

_Shanann Judge_

Principal
EWPS students out and about…
Swimming Carnival 2014
Merit Certificates are awarded to students each week by their teachers and presented at the weekly assembly. Congratulations to these recipients who recently attained the following awards:

**Merit Certificates:**

KE  
Tyson S, Giselle D, Hannah S, Adam G.

1-2D  
Elliott C, Ava G, Kiana P, Xavier H.

1-2H  
Johnny D, Amelia L, Catherine C, Krishang T.

2-3P  
Filip S, Mitchell E, Kate L, Leandré P.

4-5S  
Charlie F, Benjamin W, Thomas H, Gemma S.

6I  
Manulevu T, Tyrone M, Matthew J, Saja Z.

**Student of the Week:**

**Value:** “Integrity”  
Primary: Sebastian L.  
Infants: Johnny D.

Value: “Excellence”  
Primary: Manulevu T.  
Infants: Tiarna S.

**Bronze Striver:**  
Johnny D, Callan M, Tiymika L, Marzia H, Sebastian L.

**Silver Striver:**  
Olivia V, Tiymika L, Elliott C.

**Gold Striver:**  
Charlotte E, Ani N, Ayden B, Tiymika L, Maddison G.

**Sport Awards:**  

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**P & C NEWS**

Ermington West Public School P&C Contacts:  
Email: ewpspc@optusnet.com.au  
Phone: 0413 928 126 – Anne van Uden (President 2014)

Executive P&C Members for 2014:

President: Anne van Uden  
Secretary: Jodie Visagie  
Treasurer: Soula Carlson  
Vice President: Rachel Evans, Tracy Connors

**Disco**

What a fabulous night we had at our school disco. We thank you for making it such a great night by bringing your children along, it was especially lovely to see so many of our kindergarten children and their families supporting our school. We are still counting money; however we have made a profit of roughly $700. Apart from the financial gain (which of course is wonderful) I think the community spirit created at events such as these is more than you can put a monetary value on. Everyone I have spoken to had a great time and there were smiles and laughter everywhere you looked.

On a side note – it is with this kind of fundraising that we are happy to announce that the P&C are funding the purchase of a long awaited Interactive Smart board (up to the value of $7000) for the current 4/5 classroom. This has been a long awaited purchase and we are sure the children will be very excited to get to school each morning now!

Last year we were successful in a $25,000 grant for new playground equipment, and the P&C are also donating $5000 to ensure correct soft fall will be installed with the equipment.

**Canteen**

Again we are in a tricky situation with our canteen. We need 2 people per shift to keep it open. We are currently open Mondays and Thursdays for lunch orders and we aim to be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for lunch time snacks, ice blocks and drinks. There will be a survey/questionnaire coming out asking for people’s availability in helping us with the canteen, and if you have an hour spare in your week and can help, it would be great to have you on board for snack openings and a few hours spare for lunch order days. It is unfortunate, but the reality is, if we cannot fill our shifts, the canteen will close indefinitely.

**Fundraising**

The current fundraising committee have met to map our 2014 fundraising events, and I have attached for your perusal, our current calendar. Again, we would love to see some fresh faces joining the ranks of fundraising and volunteering, please contact anyone on the above email or chat to us in the playground to express your interest in coming along to add some fresh ideas. To those parents who have indicated that they would like to help THANK YOU – we are a small school and it takes many hands to get jobs done and we appreciate your time and effort.

**Cake Stall**

As you will see from the attached, we are having a cake stall at the new Rydalmere Bunnings on the 29th March. A note will come out later, but perhaps just remember the date in-case you can come and help run the stall. We will be asking parents to donate cakes, biscuits, cake pops, lamingtons etc. BUT no slices!!!! Also ALL ingredients must be listed on the packaging of your baking.
We will organise a baking drop off at school on the Friday afternoon or preferably a drop off in the morning at the cake stall. Again we must thank Barbara Hungerford for her interest and dedication to helping our school with the interaction with Bunnings.

EWPS Parents Facebook page
Just a reminder that we have a Parents Facebook page. This is for sharing information and putting out notices and reminders. We are NOT able to post photos as this breaches many issues regarding confidentiality. Please request to join and the administrators will accept your request.

P&C
The P&C meets on the second Tuesday of the month in the school library. We very much welcome new members joining our passionate group to help make a difference to our school for the children. If you want to come along and see what we do and how we do it, our next meeting is Tuesday 11th March at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and see how we work together to benefit the children's learning experiences at EWPS. If you want to “join” the P&C, it is a gold coin donation which then gives you voting rights on issues voted on at the next meeting you attend.

Anne van Uden
President

VOLUNTEER INTEREST

Name: ____________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ / ___________________________

Email: _______________________________________________

Child’s Class: __________________________________________

Please note this does not mean you are required for all events or for the entirety of an event, just able to help out where you can. Your information will ONLY be available to the P&C member running an event and is NOT shared information.

SCHOOL BANKING

REWARDS UPDATE

We would like to advise all students and parents that the Commonwealth Bank is still in the process of launching their new reward ordering system. We have been advised that this will be up and running on Monday, 24 February.

Children due for rewards, have not been forgotten and will be asked to choose their reward in the coming weeks. Until then, children can continue banking as normal.

An information pack was sent home with details for opening accounts and detailing the new and exciting rewards for 2014. If you did not receive this pack and would like one, please do not hesitate to contact us on the numbers below.

You can help our school win a cool outdoor marquee by simply opening a School Banking account during Term 1. See advertisement on a following page for full details.

REMEMBER: School Banking day is every Wednesday.

Tina Pandoulis  0433.061.350
Soula Carlson  0410.499.292
School Banking Co-ordinators
Family Bingo/Games Night

Saturday 8 March 2014, - 3:30pm start

Under the School Cola

Bring your family and friends for a fun afternoon

$3 per book (covers 5 games of Bingo)

Bring your loose gold coins for other games that will be held during the afternoon.

ALL Children are to be supervised by an adult at all times during the event and no children will be allowed to attend the function if an adult is NOT accompanying them.

Books will be handed out on the day, so please arrive at 3:00pm to collect your Bingo Books

First game is at 3:30pm

Remember: This is a family night and we are encouraging ALL members of ALL families of EWPS to have fun night with family and friends

Please feel free to bring your own nibbles and drinks

Alcohol is NOT be permitted on school premises at anytime.

N.B. NO catering from P&C will be available

Books are limited, so please forward your order to avoid disappointment. If there are any books left over, they will be on sale on the night @$4 per book.

Thank you for supporting our little school, all monies raised goes towards helping the school in purchasing items / equipment for the students at EWPS

Please return the slip below back to school to avoid disappointment

EWPS Family Bingo/Games Night

Students Name: ____________________________ Class: ________

Bingo books x _____ @ $3 each = $ ________

Marking Pens x _____ @$1 each = $ __________

I will require a table for _____ people.

(The P&C will ensure a table is reserved for your group if you pre-purchase books)
I DO NOT have access to the internet and request that a print copy of the fortnightly school newsletter be sent home with my child.

Child’s Name: __________________________

Class: __________________________

Please complete and return to your child’s class teacher.