Excellence, diversity and opportunity in a caring school

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**RULES AND VALUES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Rule: Be responsible</th>
<th>Value: Respect the rights and property of the school and others.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rule: Be a learner</td>
<td>Value: Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Value: Respect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: Wednesday</td>
<td>School Banking starts</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: Friday</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>All students and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Tuesday</td>
<td>P and C Meeting</td>
<td>All families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Tuesday</td>
<td>School Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Students aged 8 and older</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Wednesday</td>
<td>Scripture starts</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Friday</td>
<td>PSSA starts</td>
<td>3-6 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Friday</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>All students and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: Friday</td>
<td>PSSA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**NOTES CURRENTLY IN CIRCULATION**

Please also check our school’s website at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to 2015! We are so pleased to see our families after the Christmas holidays and welcome new members to our EWPS community. The start to the school year was positive, and the transition to 2015 classes made easier with the enthusiasm of teachers, students and families. Thank you to all for your patience whilst we made the best decisions for students.

**The 2015 class structure is:**

- KE – Miss Elias
- 1/2D – Miss Dixon
- 1/2H – Miss Haynes
- 2/3H – Mrs Hutchens
- 4/5S – Mrs Simic
- 5/6I – Miss Isaacs

**Specialist Teachers:**

- Learning and Support Teacher – Ms Marshall
- English as Second Language and RFF – Ms Nouragas
- Korean language – Miss Kim
- Music (Jellybeans) – Christine Donovan

Class structure is initially dictated by enrolments in each year. Once we know the “numbers” we then form the classes based on students’ needs and interests. Ermington West PS does not have graded classes, and composite classes do not deter from a student’s ability to learn. Every class is a composite class, when you factor in the age of children starting school, as well as the development of skills.

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I encourage parents to talk to class teachers if you have questions regarding your child’s learning.

**Congratulations!**

Well done to all of our new Kinder students on such a wonderful start to BIG school. KE students are already impressing everyone with their independence and confidence. A very warm welcome to our new parents, and a massive thank you to our community for the friendship you have extended. The “Tears or Cheers” morning tea organised by the P&C was greatly appreciated. A special mention to our P&C President in coordinating this event.

Miss Elias will be completing the Best Start assessments during Week 2 and Week 3. The Report to Parents will be distributed as soon as all of the data is entered. May I assure you that we aim to make the assessment as stress-free as possible, which is why we wait until all of the students are settled in before starting.

**Jellybeans Music**

Due to the generous support of the P&C, Jellybeans music is starting at EWPS in 2015. Our Creative and Practical Arts program was so warmly received by students and the community in 2014 and we wish to extend the experiences of students. The P&C voted to contribute 50% of the program, meaning that the lessons will now cost parents $12.00 per child per term. Lessons will start this week, and I am sure all of our students will thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to learn about music from a qualified music teacher. Christine Donovan will teach this program K-6 and I know our community will make her feel most welcome. This fee will be in place of the technology levy and further information will be sent with the general contribution note.

**2015 Timetable**

The timetable for Wednesday will be changing as of this week. On Wednesday, each class will have a 40 minute lesson with Miss Kim (Korean), Miss Nouragas (Public Speaking) and Miss Donovan (Jellybeans Music)

**The bell times for Wednesday will be:**

8:55am – warning bell, games cease, line up at classrooms
9:00–9:30am – Scripture (commencing 18 February)
Eating time – 11:35–11:45am
Lunch – 11:45am–12: 15pm
Recess – 1:35–2:05pm
Home time – 3:00pm

**School Shoes**

A big thank you to all of the parents who sent their children to school with correct school shoes to start the school year. As per the arrangements last year, joggers may be worn by all students on Friday and by students in years 3-6 on a Tuesday.

**Attendance**

If you need to collect your child early from school, you must go to the office to sign an early leaver’s form. Similarly if your child is late to school, the same process applies. It is worrying that we have started a new school year with a number of students arriving late to school of a morning. Not only does this impact the learning time of your child, but it interrupts the learning of the rest of the class. You might think that 5-10 minutes does not make a difference, but it all adds up!

**Car Park**

Under no circumstances are parents to use the car park to park their vehicle or as a walk way.

**Assembly**

In 2015, assembly will be held on a fortnightly basis. This will be on the same week as the newsletter. We have a large number of educational programs running in the school this year and we will be using the additional time to ensure these are a success.

**Flashing Lights on Kissing Point Road**

The NSW Government has provided funding for the placement of school zone signs with flashing lights at all schools by the end of next year to alert motorists of the 40km speed limit required during school drop off and pick up times.

Installing these flashing lights in schools zones has been shown to improve driver awareness of the need to drive at a lower speed to ensure the safety of children and others coming and going from the school area.

Roads and Maritime Services is delivering this safety initiative and plan to install signs outside Ermington West Public School on Kissing Point Road the week beginning Monday 9 February 2015 outside of 40km school zone hours. Work will take up to two hours to complete, weather permitting.

For more information about the flashing lights program please visit the Centre for Road Safety website at: www.roadssafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe (go to the schools section) or you can contact the team on 1800 726 958 or flashinglights@rms.nsw.gov.au

Kind Regards,

**Shannan Judge**

Principal
Welcome Note

Dear Parents and Guardians of Ermington West Public School,

Thank you for your child’s participation in the Jellybeans In-Schools Music Program. The 8 week program brings motivated, experienced and highly qualified Music Specialists into your school to deliver a systematic music program covering:

* Singing * Movement * Performance Skills - through Percussion & Recorders
* Aural/Listening Skills * Composing and Improvising

The emphasis is meeting all your states curriculum requirements by covering musical concepts and providing a level of Creative Arts assessment relative to the curriculum at the course completion.

Dates that Jellybeans Music will be at your school:
TERM 1-4: Wednesdays

Educators:
The Jellybeans In-Schools Music Program provides highly qualified and experienced Music Specialists. Christine Donovan will be the Music Specialist(s) at your school.

What Happens in Jellybeans Music class?
Jellybeans Music provides a sequential, curriculum-based repertoire for students. Approx. 3-4 pieces are taught each fortnight throughout the Term. As Parents/Guardians, you can see which pieces are currently being worked on by checking your child’s class page on our web site www.MyJellybeansMusic.com by entering the class specific password. Pieces are classified by their by coloured beans!

❤️ = Yet to practice 🌿 = Practicing in class 🍋 = Performance Ready!

www.MyJellybeansMusic.com

Our website allows EACH CLASS to have their own individualised repertoire. As a Parent/Guardian you can log in and view which pieces your child has learned in class. All sheet music and audio streaming for every piece is available in this area. To access the class zone enter your class password in the 'See My Progress' area on the home page.
Your entire school has a generic password, which is:

lid

Your class password is the generic school password PLUS your class name. For example, if the generic password is bob and the class name is 5F. Your class password would be bob5F. If the class is called 3/4 J then your class password is bob34J. There is more information at www.MyJellybeansMusic.com/class-password-info

We feel very pleased to be able to provide your child with the gift of quality music education.

The Jellybeans Music Team
Welcome to EWOSHHC- now under new Management
But with your favourite staff still here!
Ph: 0429 331 118   email: ewoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au

Our Centre has a fresh look and feel with some familiar faces and also some new ones.

The team is led by Maria Karam – Primary OSHCare Regional Manager, who has had the pleasure of working with Kate and some of the other team members in training and planning sessions in the last few weeks.

We are pleased that Kate will continue as the Centre Co-ordinator and Nominated Supervisor. We are thrilled that Kate has chosen to continue her work with us in the Ermington West community as she has so much experience and knowledge to share. We hope that Kate will enjoy a new-found ability to focus on all the parts about working with children and families that she loves and to be able to offer her administrative and professional support to deal with some of the burdens of centre management and compliance with the regulations and National Standards.

Alexandra Grimaldi is the Assistant Co-ordinator, who holds a Diploma of Children Services and comes with a wealth of experience and knowledge within the children services industry. Alexandra has lead and developed children’s program that follow the practices of My Time, Our Place and the National Quality Framework.

We are also pleased to confirm that the following familiar faces will continue their employment at Ermington West in 2015.

- Hayley Scriven
- Jessica Bennett
- Carl Hasting
- Adam Smith

The team will also be assisted by Dola Haddad who is an experienced Primary OSHCare Co-ordinator. Dola will continue to provide additional on-the-job training and support to the staff as well as undertaking administration tasks at the Centre throughout Term 1.

Please remember that a new enrolment form is required for all existing and new children. Also, please note our new contact details above.

We will be sending out further information in early Term 1 to assist with any transition issues, together with a date and time to formally welcome new families to the Centre and welcome back existing families. This event, perhaps a welcome breakfast or barbecue, will also be a great opportunity for new staff to get to know the Ermington West Community.

We very much look forward to working with you and your family in 2015 and would like to extend our sincere thanks to Kate, the current staff, the departing EWOSHCH committee members and also Mrs. Shannan Judge for assisting us through the transition phase.

Kind regards and best wishes

Maria Karam REGIONAL MANAGER and Suzanne Blythin DIRECTOR
SCHOOL BANKING 2015

Welcome to another year of School Banking.

School Banking gives every child the opportunity to start saving and earning rewards and is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 for every NEW Activated Account via the School Banking program (i.e. for each student who banks through the school’s program for the very first time) & a 5% commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

Last year the school received $1,060.15 in commission payments from the Commonwealth Bank.

If your child would like to take part in School Banking, it is easy.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online, over the phone or download the application form. For more information visit http://www.commbank.com.au/personal/youth-students/school-banking.html An Information Pack will be sent home soon.

Check out these new & exciting rewards for 2015:-
- Planet Handball
- ET DVD
- Invisible Martian Pen
- Intergalactic Rocket
- Glow-in-the-Dark Solar System
- Cosmic Light Beam Torch
- Outer Space Savers Money Box
- Lunar Light Band

DON’T FORGET: EVERY WEDNESDAY is our School Banking day.

Looking forward to another strong year of banking, we appreciate your support.

Tina Pandoulis        Soula Carlson
0433.061.350          0410.499.292
School Banking Co-ordinators
WELCOME TO 2015

On behalf of the P&C, welcome back to another exciting year at Ermington West. For new families joining us, we extend a warm welcome to you too. It was great to meet some new faces at the recent *Tears or Cheers Morning Tea* on the first day of kindergarten. We hope you and your children settle in quickly to life at Ermington West.

We may be a small school, but our P&C achieves amazing things with thanks to an active and supportive school community. Our monthly meetings are very well attended by a large percentage of families and staff. I encourage you to get involved to help shape the opportunities available at Ermington West. Our first meeting for the year is **Tuesday 10 February at 7pm in the Connected Classroom**. It’s a forum for all members of our school community to have input into decisions affecting our children. Come along and see what it’s all about. You will be made to feel very welcome.

*Vanessa Julien*
President, Ermington West P&C

UPCOMING P&C DATES

- **P&C Planning Meeting for 2015 Events and Activities**
  - Saturday 7 February, 2.30pm
  - *see next page for more details*

- **Canteen Re-Opens for 2015**
  - Lunch orders and recess snacks
  - Thursday 5 February

- **Uniform Store**
  - Friday 6 February, 8.30 – 9.00am
  - Open every Friday morning Term 1

- **Frozen Friday**
  - Friday 6 February, 3.00 - 3.15pm
  - Every Friday afternoon Term 1

- **P&C Meeting**
  - Tuesday 10 February, 7.00pm
  - Connected Classroom

Meet the P&C Executive for 2015....

- **President**
  - Vanessa Julien

- **Vice President**
  - Corey Lee

- **Vice President**
  - Shannon O'Keefe

- **Secretary**
  - Kirsty Archer

- **Treasurer**
  - Soula Carlson

Join the conversation. Connect with our Facebook community *Parents of EWPS*

*Parents of EWPS* is an informal way to chat about school-related issues, get reminders about important events and connect with other families at Ermington West.

DONATIONS AND GRANTS UPDATE

In 2014, the P&C contributed almost **$50,000** to our school for new playground equipment, XO laptops for every student, an interactive whiteboard, cases/charging station/storage for iPads, Presentation Day awards, and a contribution towards gardening and grounds maintenance.

For 2015, the P&C have committed **$10,000** to support the introduction of the *Jellybean Music Program* for K-6 students. Late last year, the P&C were also notified of our successful Community Building Partnerships grant submission to the tune of **$60,000**! These funds will upgrade the multimedia and infrastructure in our hall and build covered walkways so our students can walk to the bathrooms and keep dry on rainy days. With thanks to MP Dr Geoff Lee for his ongoing support of Ermington West, our principal Shannan Judge for assistance with the submission and her ongoing support of P&C initiatives, and to our high-achieving Grants Committee, Roslyn Bathgate, Rachel Evans and Jodie Visage. Well done! This is a huge achievement for us all!
Munchbox, the Ermington West school canteen, will re-open on Thursday 5 February for recess snacks and lunch orders. Please see the menu in this week’s newsletter and on the school website (under the P&C tab). You might notice some new “green” items – let us know what you think! Please get in touch with any feedback. The canteen is wholly volunteer run by the P&C for the benefit of all families at Ermington West and any surplus funds are donated back to the school.

Please note the canteen will be open on Thursdays only this term due to low volunteer numbers. If you would like to see the canteen open another day each week, and you can volunteer some time, please contact the P&C: ewpspc@optusnet.com.au

P&C Planning Day
Saturday 7 February, 2.30pm

The P&C is not just about fundraising…sure it’s a large part of what we do, but we also focus on building the strength of our fantastic school community and encouraging effective communication between families and the school.

All parents and carers are invited to join us at the annual P&C Planning Day – an energetic brain-storming session where we’ll decide the fundraising events, special activities and projects for 2015.

Come armed with ideas.
Come meet new people.
Come eat delicious cake!

Be part of the success of Ermington West.

For more details, please email ewpspc@optusnet.com.au or chat to the P&C on the Parents of EWPS Facebook page

UNIFORM STORE

The Uniform Store is a P&C run initiative operated by parent volunteers. With thanks to Uniform Store Co-ordinator Danie, the Store is open each Friday morning from 8.30am – 9.00am. The price list can be found on the school website under the P&C tab.

If you can’t make it to the Uniform Store on Friday, please send your order to school with the correct change by Thursday, and your items will be sent home with your child on Friday. If you find the sizing isn’t quite right, you are welcome to return and exchange items for another size, as long as the item still has the tags attached, is returned in the clear plastic bag it came in, and is unworn and in saleable condition.
Sure, you pay your taxes, but budgets at every school are tight. Real tight! Money raised in school fundraisers pays for the "little extras" - whether it's an interactive whiteboard or updated reading or maths resources in the classroom - it all enhances your child's learning.

You'll get to know your child's teacher, understand the way the school works, and all the problems, challenges and joys teachers find in their work.

You'll get to know other parents and their children. Important for school matters of course, but also great for a more active social life (for you and your children!)

Contributing to the P&C can be very fulfilling. It's an amazing feeling knowing you helped get a laptop in the hands of every student at Ermington West, that classrooms are cool on hot summer days with thanks to the air conditioners you helped fundraise for, and that children are enjoying their lunch break and making new friends on the playground equipment you helped secure a grant for.

Although occasionally embarrassed, most children actually do like to know that you are there for them, taking an interest and sharing their school experience.

The overall commitment really isn't all that much. Our P&C meets monthly and with more members, our efforts can be spread out over a greater number of people. We all lead busy lives with lots of other commitments - it's a juggle. We know. We really do understand. But as the saying goes, many hands make light work!

Everyone has talents and skills they can share and all contributions are valued. Our diverse community has an enormous depth of experience and knowledge that can really benefit all. And who knows, you might even pick up a few new skills along the way!

8 REASONS TO JOIN THE P&C

Long-term P&C member Rachel shares her experience

"I've had a great time on the P&C over the last seven years. I have made great friends with the teaching staff, other parents and members of the community. I have enjoyed participating in my children's school life and getting to know their friends by being involved in school activities. I've contributed to making our school the best place for my kids to get a great education and have fun. By volunteering and being involved in school life through the P&C, I hope to be a role model for my children to also one day give back to their children's school."

CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Contribute to the success of Ermington West and volunteer with the P&C

P&C Planning Day Join us as we plan our calendar of events and activities for 2015. We'll decide on what favourites we'll keep, what existing activities are due for a revamp, and hear your ideas for exciting new initiatives. Have your say and contribute to the success of your school. Saturday 7 February, 2.30pm. Email the P&C for more details.

Frozen Friday Are you already at school on Friday collecting your children? It's easy to help for just 15 minutes selling ice blocks on Fridays in Term 1 from 3.00pm - 3.15pm.

Canteen Assistants Do you have time once a fortnight or once a month to help in the canteen? Volunteers are required for Term 1 to support the Canteen Co-ordinator. Without volunteers, unfortunately the P&C cannot continue a canteen service in 2015.

To express an interest or for more information email: ewpspc@optusnet.com.au message: Parents of EWPS Facebook page
### Sandwiches, Wraps & Salads

- Choice of bread: wholemeal, white or grain; or wrap. Toasted on request
- Salad sandwich, wrap or tub .......... $2.50
e (lettuce, tomato, grated carrot, cucumber, cheese)
- Add chicken, ham or tuna to salad sandwich, wrap or tub .......... $1.00 extra
- Chicken, Ham or Tuna .................. $2.00
- Tomato .................................... $1.50
- Cheese .................................... $1.50
- Vegemite .................................. $1.00
- Add cheese to any sandwich .......... $0.50

### Snacks

- Yogurt pouch ......................... $1.20
  strawberry, banana or tropical
- Custard ................................ $1.20
- Fruit snack tub ...................... $1.00
  peaches, two fruits or fruit salad
- Freshly air-popped popcorn .......... $1.00
- Apple slinky ........................... $1.00
- Two slices of toast with margarine .... $0.50
  raisin, wholemeal, white or grain
- Rice crackers pack of 8 .......... $0.40
  plain or seaweed
- Frozen pineapple ring .............. $0.40
- Frozen orange quarter .......... $0.20

### Hot Food

- Corn cob margarine on request ...... $1.00
- Lasagne .................................. $3.20
- Spaghetti ................................ $3.20
- Macaroni cheese ....................... $3.20
- Nacho dippers ......................... $3.50
- Pizza .................................... $3.20
  ham & pineapple or cheese & bacon
- Chicken burger ......................... $3.20
  with lettuce & mayo
- Hot dog .................................. $3.20
  with tomato sauce
- Lean meat pie or sausage roll ....... $2.00 each
  halal on request
- Chicken cup noodles .................. $2.00
- Chicken nuggets, fish fingers or
  potato hash browns ................. $0.50 each
- Sauce tomato, BBQ or sweet & sour .... $0.20 each

### Drinks

- Water .................................... $0.80

- Up & Go ................................ $2.00
  chocolate, strawberry, vanilla
- Milk 300ml with Sippah straw ...... $2.00
  chocolate, strawberry, banana, cookies & cream
- Juice Bomb carbonated juice in a can ... $2.00
  apple blackcurrant, vanilla lime or apple raspberry
- Flavoured mineral water ............. $1.50
  blue heaven, cola or apple raspberry
- Plain milk 300ml ..................... $1.30
- Juice popper .......................... $1.00
  apple & blackcurrant, orange, apple or tropical

**Lunches must be ordered on a brown paper bag, otherwise a 10c fee will apply. Please write child’s name and class clearly. Correct money is appreciated. Change will be returned in the corner of the bag.**