--- 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><strong>Term 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Tuesday 12 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Language and Writing</td>
<td>Years 3 and 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Wednesday 13 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Reading</td>
<td>Years 3 and 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Thursday 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Mathematics</td>
<td>Years 3 and 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: Thursday 14 May</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>All students and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: Monday 18 May</td>
<td>School photos</td>
<td>All students and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: Tuesday 19 May</td>
<td>ICAS Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Years 3 to 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: Tuesday 19 May</td>
<td>Zone Cross-Country</td>
<td>Selected students only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7: Wednesday 3 June</td>
<td>ICAS Science</td>
<td>Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9: Mon 15 – Fri 19 June</td>
<td>ICAS Writing</td>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9: Tuesday 16 June</td>
<td>ICAS Spelling</td>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Tuesday 28 July</td>
<td>ICAS English</td>
<td>Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: Tuesday 11 August</td>
<td>ICAS Maths</td>
<td>Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

--- 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>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jellybeans Music fees</td>
<td>7 March – OVERDUE – please pay now</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSSA Summer</td>
<td>Past due – please expedite payment</td>
<td>3-6 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Contributions</td>
<td>Due by the end of Term 2</td>
<td>All families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td>Monday 18 May</td>
<td>All students and families</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

--- PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE ---

Dear Parents,

**Strategic Direction 1: Teachers as Lead Learners**

Professional learning experiences for staff have been many and varied since the commencement of the term. On Staff Development Day, we combined with Rydalmere PS in a workshop on Genius Hour and the benefits for students. K-2 teachers visited Hilltop Rd PS to look at their version of Genius Hour in the K-2 setting and all teachers have been afforded with the time and opportunity to undertake their own genius hour project.

We have two prac students from Macquarie University, both in their last year of their degree who are still continuing their placement. Next term Miss Elias and Miss Haynes will support students in their 2nd year, out on their first school based placement. What better place could there be to learn how to be an inspiring teacher, than here at EWPS?

Miss Haynes and Mrs Simic completed a one day course on classroom observations, a course which will prove valuable as we move deeper into our school action plans.

We are creating the future together
Additionally, the leadership team attended the Teacher Quality Institute in Brisbane last week. This was a two day workshop presented by Dylan Wiliam, a recognised world expert in formative assessment. Over the course of the two days, we were all excited and challenged (in a good way) by the message Dylan was delivering, which was essentially that all teachers need to know exactly what it is they want students to learn so they know what evidence to collect in order to continually improve the outcomes for all learners.

**Strategic Direction 2: Partnerships in Learning**

Our school community continue to be one of our greatest assets, as clearly shown by the many ways you support the school and the constant planning and preparing ahead. The Mothers’ Day stall and breakfast are examples of this. The two main driving forces behind this were Tina and Vanessa, and knowing these two lovely ladies, they will say “it was all because of the support I received from others”. The fact that we know if we take something on, that we will be supported by parents, staff and students makes this such an amazing place to be.

Thank you also to the wonderful parents who shopped, cooked and served the breakfast was a big hit with the students and it was great to see them arriving at school on time, and being able to put their best foot forward.

The election day barbeque, organised by Shannon O’Keefe was a wonderful showcase of our community spirit. The BBQ raised close to $600 which is an amazing effort, particularly when much larger schools reported profits of $200.

We are also a part of a research project with Macquarie Uni, through MacICT, called Future Pedagogies. In this project we are gathering data and evidence about our students’ involvement in student directed learning (Genius Hour) and then this research will be used by the university to inform their future education subjects and focus areas.

**Strategic Direction 3: Students as Leaders and Learners**

The Anzac Day service and studies in class around this important time in Australia’s history was a credit to the teachers. Miss Elias was able to organise a visiting Captain to speak at the assembly, offering insight into the experience of the ANZACs. I thought the school leaders spoke beautifully and conducted themselves in a most respectful manner. The learning was continued very early the next morning with many of our students representing the school at Timor Barracks. Thank you to all of those students and their families.

Approximately 50 students attended a Lego Robotics Workshop at MacICT, based on the campus of Macquarie University. The students were very excited to talk about the day, and the challenge of getting their robot to go all around the outside of the rectangle! Thank you to Mrs Hutchens, Mr Warner, Ms Marshall and to the team of parent volunteers for making sure the students all had a fantastic day.

Our Year Three and Five students sat their first NAPLAN test today. A big thanks to Mrs Simic and Mrs Hutchens for their preparation and organisation of the assessment week. It was encouraging to see the students putting forward their best effort in the first two days of testing.

We have some exciting data around our reading results, showing excellent progress in just one term. We have had a significant growth in the number of students who are reading above stage level in Year 1 and Year 2 with the implementation of the L3 Stage 1 program. Kindergarten students are continuing to benefit from the expertise Miss Elias developed in 2014. It is important to remember that developing a love of reading is our priority, so at home reading should be an enjoyable experience. Don’t forget that children of all ages benefit from being read to. There is nothing better than becoming ‘lost’ in the pages of a great story!

The World of Maths workshop on Monday was a success, with students participating in a range of hands-on mathematical problems to solve. These challenges tested visual perception, reasoning and persistence and it was a pleasure to observe the students engaged in this learning. Thank you to all of the parents who came along to assist (and perhaps learn a little too!).

The SRC and School Leaders will attend the GRIP leadership conference at Homebush with Miss Isaccs on 20 May. This day will be a formal opportunity for our school leaders to workshop with students from other schools and listen to speakers who are leaders in their field.

Kind regards,

Shannan Judge
Principal
Merit Certificates and other awards are presented to students each fortnight at the Thursday assembly. Congratulations to the following students who recently attained awards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Merit Certificates:</th>
<th>KE</th>
<th>Jacob R, Muhammad E.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-2D</td>
<td>Krishang T, Patrick H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-2H</td>
<td>Ibrahim R, Bianca C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2-3H</td>
<td>Kiana P, Rabie D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-5S</td>
<td>Mustafa R, Charlotte G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-6I</td>
<td>Jason C, Melanie C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bronze Striver: Hunter P, Elizabeth F, Adam K, Cherie H.
Gold Striver: Charlotte L, Lachlan C, Benjamin V.

Principal's Awards:
Lachlan C, Rabie D, Emma S, Moe D Leanne D.

Swimming Carnival
Cross-Country Carnival

Marsden High School – Year 7, 2016
In a short time, those students who have sought places at selective high schools (or high schools with a selective stream) will receive notification about their application. Some of those students will not be successful and their families will give consideration to alternatives.

Marsden High School has a gifted and talented class in Year 7, called the Pinnacle class. Placement is by way of application and interview. Details about the program are available on our website which is at: http://www.marsden-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/

The information can be found in the Curriculum and Activities/Academic opportunities/Learning extension section. An application form can be downloaded from the Forms and Download section.
Michelle

Much loved
Out shopping a lot
Taught me things
Her love is so strong
Early riser for my soccer games
Reads really well.

I love my mum from the tips of my toes,
And all the way to the tip of my nose.

My mum loves to walk my dog,
But she doesn’t like when the toilet gets clogged.

My mum is so special in every way,
I want to be just like my mother one day.

We sing in the room and it answers our calls,
With hilarious echoes, one big and one small.
UNIFORM SHOP OPEN NEXT MONDAY!
School photos are on Monday 18 May. To assist families who wish to purchase uniform items to ensure their children look their best on photo day, the Uniform Shop will be open next Monday from 8.30am – 9.00am. This is in addition to the usual Friday morning operating hours. If you can’t make it to the Uniform Shop on either Friday or Monday, you can send your order to school by Friday this week, clearly noting which item and size you wish to purchase, and enclosing the correct money. The Uniform Shop price list can be found on the school website under the P&C tab.

UPCOMING P&C DATES
Silver Savers
starts 18 May
Additional Uniform Shop Day
Monday 18 May
Bunnings Cake Stall
Sunday 7 June
Inter Relate
Tuesday 21 July

Mother’s Day Stall
What a wonderful experience for our students at the Mother’s Day Stall last week, choosing gifts for the special women in their lives. We hope you all enjoyed the surprises the children brought home for you!

This wouldn’t be possible without the dedication of Tina Pandoulis, who spends countless hours planning, shopping, and wrapping throughout the year. Thanks to the volunteers who gave of their time to assist with wrapping, and on the stall itself, and to the families and local businesses who made gift donations: Jean’s Hairdressers Ermington, Jewellery by Hand, Kellie, Jenny, Soula, Adam, Surin, Jay, Kendall, Shirley, Samantha, Alison, Sarah, Kathy and Ellen.

And thanks to the children of EWPS, our little shoppers, for their enthusiasm about gift giving.

Election Day BBQ
Enormous thanks go to Shannon O’Keefe for the time and organisation she put into the Election Day BBQ to raise much-needed funds for our school. What a wonderful effort and I thank the school community for getting behind Shannon and volunteering their time to make this fundraiser such a success. With thanks to Rachel for assisting with the preparations and handing over her wealth of knowledge from previous successful BBQs, and Shannon’s team of helpers including Scott, Allan, Wilem, Paul, Anne, Richard, Rachel, Soula, Leanne, Sharon, Sarah, Tamara, Jeni, Diane, Corey, Alison, Tina, Alanna and Surin. Thank you!

What a fun day we had and what a wonderful sense of community we showcased to the voters. We did our school proud, and it was re-confirmed, that yes, we do the best bacon and egg roll in the district!

Ayden Bottos of 2/3H sold the most Easter raffle tickets last term so won a special day out at Riverside Theatre. Here’s what his mum Naji had to say about their fun day:

“Ayden, Marcus & Sienna had the pleasure of going along to Riverside Theatre in the school holidays to watch “The listies make you LOL”. From beginning to end the kids were LOL’ing as the Listies say! They loved it, they included the audience, both the kids and the adults (including myself who was chosen to get up on stage) in their antics. The kids were mesmerised and were hanging off each word. It was just insanely stupid and hilarious all in one. From farting to dirty undies, to alien attacks and toilet paper guns and spew. It was rated 5 for Stupid and just insanely funny! Would recommend to anyone with a sense of humour!”

So glad you enjoyed your prize and thanks to Riverside Theatres Parramatta for supporting our fundraiser. A big thanks to all the families for donating items for the hampers and for buying raffle tickets.
SILVER SAVERS

Bring your silver coins and place them in the special SILVER SAVERS jar in your child’s classroom. At the end of the year, the class who are the best SILVER SAVERS (have the most money in their class jar), will win a fun class prize. SILVER SAVERS starts on Monday. Start bringing in your silver coins now!

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Thank you to all the mums, grandmothers, aunts, dads, siblings, students and EWPS staff who came to the EWPS Mother's Day Breakfast last week. The school hall was buzzing with over 100 people joining us for muffins, banana bread, fruit, yogurt parfaits, pastries and many more delicious treats.

The P&C were delighted to host this breakfast free of charge for all the amazing women in our school community who deserve to be celebrated on this special occasion.

An event of this size would not have been possible without the generous support of local businesses, who donated ALL of the catering: bakeries Bakels, Brumby’s West Ryde, The Bakery @ Ermington and Imperial Gluten Free Bakery, plus Eastwood Village Superfresh for supplying the freshest grapes, strawberries, mandarins, apples and bananas, and Coles West Ryde who gave us a gift card to purchase the tea, coffee, milo, juices and yogurt. Additional fruit is being used at the P&C hosted breakfasts for NAPLAN students this week, so nothing's going to waste! Let these businesses know we appreciate their generosity and support.

Each business approached were delighted to support this special morning - when they knew what their donation was going towards, their response was so positive. They all know how much mums do to support their kids and they wanted to be part of it...and when they knew it was for Ermington West, they didn’t hesitate to offer support as they’ve seen our kids out in public and commented on how well-mannered and respectful they always are!

The three lucky door prize recipients of the Jean's Hairdressing voucher and Aston Medispa facial and massage vouchers were Vanessa Julien, Kirsty Archer and Danie Bourke. Congratulations!

With thanks to these businesses for their generous prize donations.

BUNNINGS RYDALMERE CAKE STALL

Mark the date in your diary: Sunday 7 June

Bunnings Rydalmere is a great supporter of EWPS. With thanks to Bunnings Activity Organiser Barbara Britton, we have been offered the very popular long weekend date of Sunday 7 June to hold a fundraising cake stall.

The P&C needs volunteers to help co-ordinate the stall. email ewpspc@optusnet.com.au or speak to Vanessa Julien ASAP

Cake boxes and trays will be sent home in the week commencing 25 May for you to fill with delicious home-made goodies to sell at the cake stall.

Volunteers are also needed on the day to man the stall. We can't offer you Fast Ed this year, but it will be a great day meeting locals, showing off our wonderful school and of course, raising funds for our school.
say cheese
School Photo Day is Monday 18 May 2015

Have your child’s school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day

- Family envelopes are provided to the eldest child in each family

- Please enclose correct money as no change is given.

- Credit card payments can be made online (please follow instructions on envelope) or by calling our friendly MSP Office staff prior to the day. Your child will still need to take their envelope with them on the day.

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact us

  e  sydney@msp.com.au
  p  +61 2 9499 6555
  f  +61 2 9499 6585
  www.msp.com.au
Changes to the opportunity class placement process

Changes have been made to the process of opportunity class placement for entry in 2016. These will have implications for the primary school. They include the following:

- All applications must be made online. Paper applications are no longer printed.
- Late applications will not generally be accepted.
- Schools will receive application information booklets for distribution to parents.

Important dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27 April 2015</td>
<td>Application website opens. Parents apply online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27 April 2015</td>
<td>Application information booklets available in schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15 May 2015</td>
<td>Application website closes (Late applications will not generally be accepted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19 May 2015</td>
<td>Principals’ online processing site opens (government schools only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 June 2015</td>
<td>Principals’ online processing site closes (government schools only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 June 2015</td>
<td>Non-government principals complete principal’s page and return it to the Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8 July 2015</td>
<td>Test centre advice received by schools. Test authority letter received by parents by mail and email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22 July 2015</td>
<td>Opportunity Class Placement Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-October 2015</td>
<td>Parents advised of placement outcome information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 2 November 2015</td>
<td>Parents hand appeal in to school principals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9 November 2015</td>
<td>Appeals forwarded to the Unit with principals’ comments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:

*In this document ‘parent’ is defined under the Education Act 1990 as ‘a guardian or other person having custody or care of a child’.

^ In this document, ‘Unit’ refers to the High Performing Students Unit.
When kids ask “the” questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years’ experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skillful presenters.

The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games.

Session 1: Where did I come from?
1-hour session: years 3-6

$25 per family for one session
$30 per family for both sessions

Session 2: Preparing for puberty
1-hour session: years 5-6

Years 3-4 can attend at parent’s discretion

Date: Tuesday, 21st July 2015 from 6:00pm
Ermington West Public School

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night.
Keep a look out for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content.
Welcome to our latest edition of EWOSHC news! The children at the Centre will be/have been acknowledging National Sorry Day Mon 26th we will be celebrating sorry day with a sorry day mural which will be designed by our Year 6 girls.

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea we will be celebrating this year with a special afternoon tea: High tea.

We will also have a donation money box in the OSHC room.

Each term the Centre holds a meeting for the community. This meeting is advertised in the Centre Newsletter and parent noticeboard. The date for this term’s meeting is on Tuesday 16th June 6pm please join us dip, cheese and a chat night. These meetings gives parents and caregivers the opportunity to give feedback on how the service is going and also give educators the opportunity discuss future programming and centre events. If you would like to attend the meeting you will need to sign on the displayed sign on sheet, If no names are on the sheet the day before the scheduled meeting, it is cancelled.

OSHC staff /Managers will also be attending the P&C meeting this term on 9th June

Families can contact staff at the Centre by calling 0429 311 118 or emailing ewoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au. Centre Managers can be contacted directly by emailing headoffice@primaryoshcare.com.au.

Thanks for all of your support and encouragement - See you soon!

Kate, Alex, Jess, Carl, Suzanne and Maria