## Issue 10/15

### — DATES TO REMEMBER —

Please also check our school’s on-line calendar at: http://www.ermingtonw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Monday 13 July</td>
<td>Professional Development Day for all staff</td>
<td>STAFF ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: Tuesday 14 July</td>
<td>Students return to school</td>
<td>All students – K-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: Tuesday 14 July</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival  (please note early start)</td>
<td>All school – K-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Monday 27 July</td>
<td>Brewongle EEC Excursion</td>
<td>KE and 1/2D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Tuesday 28 July</td>
<td>ICAS English</td>
<td>Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: Wednesday 29 July</td>
<td>Brewongle EEC Excursion</td>
<td>1/2H and 2/3H</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: http://www.ermingtonw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jellybeans Music fees</td>
<td>Please finalise all payments for Terms 1 &amp; 2</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>Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>22 June - OVERDUE - please pay now</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewongle EEC Excursion</td>
<td>Monday 20 July</td>
<td>KE, 1/2D, 1/2H and 2/3H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

### Staff as Lead Learners

Ms Dixon has been successful in gaining a teaching appointment at Plattsburg Public School, in the Newcastle area, and will be commencing this from Term 3, 2015. This appointment is until the end of the 2015 school year. Friday 26 June 2015 will therefore be Miss Dixon’s last day at Ermington West PS.

I know I speak on behalf of the community, students and staff when I say that Ms Dixon will be greatly missed. The classroom programs, care for students and professional learning she has been involved in over the past 18 months has shown a dedicated teacher who always has the students’ best interests at heart. In addition, the work Ms Dixon has undertaken with our Indigenous community and Aboriginal education programs has been an asset to the school. We would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to Ms Dixon and wish her all the best of luck as she moves to be with her family.

Miss Klair Paley has been offered a temporary engagement on 1/2D until the end of the year. Miss Paley is currently at Carlingford West PS as a highly recommended teacher. I know the EWPS community will make Miss Paley feel most welcome.

### Partnerships in Learning

From the beginning of Term 3 our school newsletters will no longer be distributed each fortnight. Our school newsletter will be published in Weeks 5 and 10 of each term and will be a celebration of learning achievements and school stories.

We will continue to send notes home to parents and use the website to communicate upcoming events and reminders.

We are creating the future together
Also, we now have a new school app: Skoolbag and I encourage parents to download the Ermington West PS app to a smartphone as it is a great means of providing reminders to parents. There are details as to how to download the app later on in this newsletter.

We will trial the change in newsletter for a term and get your feedback. Most things need to be trialled and if we believe we need to go back to a two-week format, we will. If the feedback is positive, we’ll continue twice a term. This is why we gain feedback. I will also add that we don’t always reply to each piece of feedback, however be reassured it is read, carefully considered and filed. We look forward to sharing many successes via the newsletter next term.

Students as Leaders and Learners
The proposed overnight ‘camp’ to Canberra in term 4 has been cancelled due to the costs associated with the trip. Instead, we have booked a three day – two night camp to Teen Ranch. Teen Ranch is situated on the Nepean River overlooking the Camden Valley. The camp is booked for 10 – 12 November 2015. Full details will be made available in due course.

School reports will go home tomorrow, Thursday 25 June. The school reports are an indication of your child’s progress during Terms 1 and 2. I would like to point out to parents that the front page will allow you to better understand how the grades and effort marks are allocated. Please take some time to read this. If your child is in Year One, Year Three or Year Five, it is very likely that the teacher will allocate a ‘Working Toward’ grade, particularly in English and Mathematics. This should not be cause for concern, as these students are in the starting year of a new stage of learning.

If you are at all unsure, please make an appointment with your child’s teacher to discuss this further.

Kind regards,
Shannon Judge
Principal
TERM 1 and TERM 2 HIGHLIGHTS

Can you believe we’re half way through the school year already? What a jam-packed semester it has been for our school community. Here are the P&C highlights so far:

Our first event, the annual Tears and Cheers morning tea was a great opportunity to meet new families joining our school this year. The Family Games Afternoon saw adults and kids alike enjoying bingo and other fun games and winning lots of prizes! The Election Day BBQ saw a huge number of our community involved in not only raising funds for the school selling our famous bacon and egg rolls, but also showcasing the great spirit and enthusiasm we have at Ermington West. Our very successful Mother’s Day events, both the Mother’s Day Stall which raised a record-breaking $900 and the inaugural Mother’s Day Breakfast, which saw over 100 attendees enjoying a delicious breakfast buffet, were a highlight of the calendar. The P&C organised a very profitable Cake Stall at Bunnings and we were successful in obtaining a Sports Grant to the tune of $3,000 to put towards the K-6 gymnastics program in Term 3. Our Year 3 and Year 5 students were well-fed at three NAPLAN Breakfasts and the Easter Egg Raffle was a big hit thanks to generous donations of hamper items and terrific raffle ticket sales.

Work is underway delivering two new projects as part of the CBP Grants – new hall infrastructure and IT, and the new covered walkways and awnings. The P&C also contributed $10,000 to the school to support the introduction of the specialised Jellybeans Music program and we also introduced the Silver Savers fundraiser during Term 2 which will continue to the end of the year.

Parents, siblings and students enjoyed summertime Frozen Fridays and Sushi Day was popular with staff and students too. We’re looking forward to ending the term with our Winter Warmer Sausage Sizzle this Friday.

Phew! What an enormous list of achievements for 2015. My personal thanks to P&C Executive Shannon, Corey, Kirsty, and Soula for their support during my first 6 months as President. And of course, thanks to all our enthusiastic volunteers who ensure the success of every P&C event. Your tireless work for the school is very much noticed and appreciated and I thank you for generously giving your spare time to provide better opportunities for all families at Ermington West. What great role-models you are to your children and I feel privileged to work alongside you all.

Put your feet up, relax, and we’ll see you back in Term 3!

Vanessa Julien
President, Ermington West P&C
SILVER SAVERS FUNDRAISER

The Silver Savers fundraiser has now started. Special Silver Saver jars have been placed in every classroom. Please bring your donations of silver coins (5c, 10c, 20c and 50c) and place them in the special jar. 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. Start bringing in your silver coins now!

REMEMBER: INTERRELATE

The P&C have arranged for Interrelate, a specialist organisation with over 85 years' experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools, to present two informative sessions for families. These are a great opportunity to facilitate parent-child discussions.

Tuesday 21st July from 6.00pm

Session 1: Where did I come from?
1 hour session for Years 3-6 and their parents

Session 2: Preparing for puberty
1 hour session for Years 5-6 and their parents
Years 3-4 can attend at parent's discretion

Cost: $25 per family for one session or $30 per family for both sessions

If you would like to reserve your place, please send a note to the school indicating which session/s you would like to attend and enclose payment. If you want to find out more about these sessions, please email ewpsspc@optusnet.com.au

WINTER WARMER: END OF TERM SAUSAGE SIZZLE

As a special treat for the end of Term 2, the P&C is organising a Winter Warmer Sausage Sizzle at lunchtime on Friday 26th June.

Pre-orders are now closed. If you haven't returned your pre-order note and money, there will be some extra sausage sandwiches available on the day. Please send $1 per sausage sandwich required to school with your child on Friday. Please note all sausages are halal.

If you can assist serving the sausage sizzle to students (no cooking involved) please contact the P&C at ewpsspc@optusnet.com.au or post a message on our Parents of EWPS Facebook page

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

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>Damian C, Mia H.</th>
<th>2-3H</th>
<th>Noah E, Blake B.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-2D</td>
<td>Moustafa Z, Hannah S.</td>
<td>4-5S</td>
<td>Tevita S, Lupe T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-2H</td>
<td>Giselle D, Sharmaine K.</td>
<td>5-6I</td>
<td>Gemma S, Neda P.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bronze Striver:** Kiana P, Rabie D, Samara M, Date B, Cooper H, Moe D, Leandré P.

**Silver Striver:** Sarah R, Ibrahim R, Nathan C, Leandré P.

**Gold Striver:** Bilal R, Tre C, Jiya L, Elizabeth F.

**Sport Awards:** Alexandra G, Mustafa R, Carl N.

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**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**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.

**Single with Children**

*Are you a single parent?*

Each week Single with Children provides fun and exciting social activities for single parents and their children. (Many activities are subsidised or free)

It’s a great way to meet and get to know people in your area.

To find out more and get a free copy of our social calendar

Call 1300 300 496

or check out our web site: www.singlewithchildren.com.au