18th July, 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to another exciting, busy term! We hope that once again you enjoyed the holidays with your children and the relief of not having to be ready for school on time.

Several new students have joined our fantastic school this term, either permanently or for a short stay. We’d like to welcome them and their families and are confident that they will find Eastwood Public School a rewarding and informative place.

TERM 3 EVENTS

EXCURSION TO THE ROCKS, SYDNEY

To support this term’s Human Society and Its Environment unit, ‘The History of Australia’, the children will be participating in a guided tour of Sydney’s The Rocks area. There they will be dressing as characters from our past and learning about how the first Europeans settled in Australia.

Year 3 will be attending on Wednesday 3rd September and Year 4 on Thursday 4th September. An information and permission note will be sent home closer to the excursions.

OC TEST

Many of our Year 4 students will sit for the Opportunity Class test at Epping Boys’ High School on Wednesday 23rd July. We hope that they all manage to do their best in a stressful situation. Parents are reminded that traffic will be heavy and parking near the high school that morning will be difficult. Please allow plenty of time so that your child will arrive as relaxed as possible.

EDUCATION DAY

Our school’s Education Open Day will be on Tuesday, 29th July. Information about the day will be in the school newsletter.

Years 3 and 4 have been busy practicing their performances and are looking forward to entertaining you.

We hope to see as many of you as possible on the day – in the classrooms, for the performances, and for lunch with your children.
LIFE EDUCATION
The Life Education van will be visiting our school during Week 8 of this term. Our students will be discussing age appropriate health and welfare issues during interesting, thought-provoking lessons.

SPRING FAIR
The annual Spring Fair is our school’s major fund raising event. It is a fantastic day for all and a great opportunity for parents to meet each other – either on the day or when helping to organise the great variety of stalls and activities. Both parents and teachers join in the celebrations.

We hope that you can find the time to help in some way.

Our Mufti days and requests for stall items begin on Wednesday 6th August (Week 4) and continue until the week of the Fair. Information will be in the school Newsletter.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
The school sports and music photographs will be taken on Thursday, 14th August. Information regarding the organisation will be sent home closer to the day.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS
Most families in our stage have moved easily from hard (paper) copies of the Newsletter to access by internet, which saves the school office staff considerable time and the school a great deal of money.

Just a reminder that if you wish to have a hard (paper) copy of the Newsletter you will need to complete a request form, available from the office.

SCIENCE AND HSIE UNITS
HSIE: Both Year 3 and Year 4 will be continuing their learning about Australian history. This term we are focusing on life in England at the time of the First Fleet, its journey, the first British settlement and its impact on the aboriginal culture.

SCIENCE: Year 3 this term will be studying ‘Melting Moments’, learning about how solids, liquids and gases are related.

Year 4 will be investigating our world and the universe with their unit, ‘Space’.

BOOK WEEK
The theme for Book Week, held in Week 6 of this term is “Connect to Reading”. As part of the celebration all classes will be participating in a book parade which will be held on Tuesday 19th August. Stage 2 students will also be assisting their buddy classes to prepare for this parade, to which parents are invited. Information about this event will be in the school Newsletter.

HOUSEKEEPING
UNIFORM: Even though it is winter, the children still need to be wearing their school hats. Would you please check that your child’s uniform, particularly their hat and jacket, is still clearly labelled.

HEALTH
As part of the Staff Development Day early this week the staff were informed of the growing obesity of Australian children and related health problems. We were also reminded that keeping our bodies active helps us to develop our brain power.

Please assist us to encourage your children to lead active lives.

Thank you to those parents who ensure that their children:

• go to bed early enough to gain adequate sleep.
• eat a sensible breakfast and bring enough food for the day. Please discourage the eating of unhealthy or ‘junk’ food, particularly before school.
• drink enough water during the day, particularly with their evening meal.

EQUIPMENT: Please check that your student still has the required equipment as stated on the information sheet handed out at the beginning of the year. You can appreciate the learning time that’s wasted borrowing pencils, scissors or glue sticks, for example, from their classmates.

CONTACTING US
Please feel free to contact your class teacher if you have any concerns or queries. You can send us a note, complete a green form at the office or call the office to leave a message for us. We will reply to your request as soon as possible.

We’re all looking forward to another productive, busy and rewarding term.

Kindest regards,

Lyn Farrant                  Christine Dundas
Newsletter Editor            Relieving Assistant Principal

On behalf of the Stage 2 team