



School Merit Awards

The School Merit Award system is designed to provide individual students with positive recognition of their effort, achievement and progress during the current school year across a range of skills and activities. The intent of the system is to encourage each student to strive for her/his 'personal best' and not as a behaviour management system.



Outcomes

Students are recognised for effort, achievement and performance at Eastwood Public School.

Overview

Individual class system

Teachers develop and use reinforcement systems, which are suited to the needs of individual students and designed to maximise the unique qualities of each class. Teachers use a wide variety of reinforcers including:

- stickers
- individual and/or class charts
- class awards and rewards
- sharing achievement with other teachers and students
- sharing achievements with the school executive
- letters to parents

Principal's Merit Certificate for Excellence

At each K-6 assembly, one Principal's Certificate will be given by each class teachers to students in recognition of their effort, achievement or progress. This includes support staff, language, music and PE staff.

Sports Certificates

Sports Awards can be earned by students participating in PSSA competitions, special sporting activities and representing the school at sporting activities such as at gala days, knock-out competitions.

House Points

House points for Year 1 – 6 can still be given to students for recording in classrooms. House points will be collected each Friday. The weekly winning House will be announced at the following assembly. The House with the highest points score in Week 5 of Term 4, will receive the House Citizenship Trophy at the end of year Presentation Day assemblies.

Eastwood Woodies



Eastwood Woodies are awarded to students in recognition of their effort, achievement, behaviour or progress in the classroom, playground and school activities. They are awarded during the year but do not carry over into the following year. A Woodie can be given by any staff member. Woodies can be given in the areas of :-

- **Academic progress** – (green) including such things as English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE, work habits, high quality work
- **Attitude and application** – (yellow) can include such things as displaying self-discipline, working cooperatively, produces high quality work, being an attentive listener, consistently completing homework
- **Citizenship** – (blue) can include such things as being polite and respectful, demonstrating leadership and initiative, helping and encouraging others, being reliable and trustworthy, participation in school events, wearing school uniform with pride
- **Sportsmanship** – (purple) can include such things as having a go, sharing and taking turns, encouraging team mates, enthusiasm in sporting situations, displays skills
- **Creativity** – (orange) can include such things as thinking, questioning, design, problem solving, arts

Merit Certificates

There are three merit certificates students can attain in any one year.

- **Bronze Certificate**
Students who receive five Woodies with a minimum of two different areas achieve a Bronze Certificate. Students are presented the award in class by the class teacher and recognised in an assembly by having their names read out.
- **Silver Certificate**
After receiving a Bronze Certificate, students who have received eight Woodies in three different areas achieve a Silver Certificate. Students are presented the award at an assembly. Note: Woodies used to achieve a Bronze Certificate cannot be used to gain a Silver Certificate
- **Gold Certificate**
After receiving a Silver Certificate, students who receive fifteen Woodies in three different areas achieve a Gold Certificate. Students are presented the award at an assembly and have their names published in the school newsletter. Note: Woodies used to achieve a previous certificate cannot be used to gain a Gold Certificate.

Principal's Medal

Students who receive 2 Gold awards in Year K – 2 and 3 Gold awards Years 3 - 6, can receive a Principal's Medal at Presentation Day. To receive a Principal's Medal students must achieve:

- K-2: two Gold Awards
- Years 3 – 6: three Gold Awards



Students who have not been in attendance for the required period of time are also eligible but will need to apply through the class teacher.

Implementation Guidelines

Staff consistency is essential in implementing the policy. Staff members are to ensure that they:-

- are fully aware of, and consistently implement, the criteria as stated above
- award Woodies each week in line with the allocation
- maintain a record of individual awards presented
- award approximately 15 Woodies per week.

Staff members will be provided with a term's supply of Woodies.

Students are required to manage their own awards including Woodies. Lost Woodies cannot be replaced.

For a Bronze Certificate, students present their Woodies to the class teacher when they have enough. The class teacher marks the Woodies on the back with the letter **B** so they cannot be used again, and records the award and date.

Classroom teachers print the Bronze Award for the office to copy onto the appropriate coloured card. The award is presented to the student in class. The staff member in charge of assemblies, K-2 and Year 3-6, will have the names read out at an assembly to acknowledge the achievement. Names will not be read at K-6 assemblies.

For a Silver Certificate, students place the awards in an envelope with their full name and class on the front, and place it in the box in the school office. The office staff will record the award and prepare the certificate for presentation in the following assembly. Woodies will be returned to the classroom teacher.

For a Gold Certificate, students place the awards in an envelope with their full name and class on the front and place it in the box in the school office. The office staff will record the award, prepare the certificate for presentation in the following assembly and publish the student's name in the newsletter. Woodies will be returned to the classroom teacher.

For a Principal's Medal, office staff will notify the class teacher who will organise the medal as part of the Presentation Day organisation.

Certificates and awards will be accepted until Friday 1.00pm in Week 7 of Term 4. The final presentation of awards will take place the following week and at Presentation Day.

Sports Awards will be presented at Years 3 -6 assemblies.