16th June 2016

Dear Parents

School Review
It is still not too late to catch up with me for a chat about the school in any area. We are bringing together all the feedback and information we have gained so far into a report. You can still have your say by either discussing the school with me or by sending me an email – rochester.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au (please give it the subject “School Review”).

Forever Young Choir
Our combined choir will start our final assembly commencing at 1.30 on next Friday [24th of June]. This time slot is to accommodate the needs of the elderly part of the choir. This performance will run for about fifteen minutes but will be well worth coming to see. We will continue with the regular assembly after that. I expect the assembly to finish well before the 2.30 dismissal time, however parents who wish to take their children home at the end of the assembly are free to do so. [Please let your child’s teacher know.]

Breakfast Club
Next Term our “Brekky Club” will run on two days, our traditional Thursday will continue with Tuesday likely to be the new morning. The school has received funding to support the food part of the brekky club and we will have a new improved menu next term that will include porridge and baked beans. This will provide a warm and filling start to the day. “Brekky” club is open to anyone who wants to pop in for a bite to eat and this includes parents. We have a great family atmosphere so come in and share the fun. Wendy and Leesa would love some extra assistance; anyone with a half hour to spare on Tuesday mornings is encouraged to contact Leesa or Graeme to bring you onboard.

Public Speaking
I have been privileged to read some of the speeches our students from grade 3 to 6 have written for the Lions Public speaking competition. Each year the standard seems to grow higher. The depth that students now express in these is just brilliant. I look forward to hearing the speeches being brought to life next week. Public speaking is a skill that has continued to grow in importance and for our students to be able to perform to the standard that they do, will stand them in good stead for the future.

End of Term reports
Our teachers put a lot of time and effort into writing the student reports. The bulk of this is done on weekends and after school. When these reports come home at the end of term please read them carefully. The report is the teachers overall assessment of where your child is at and is based on a range of observations and testing. Please take up the offer of a parent teacher interview next term to discuss the report with their teacher.

Graeme
**Star of the Week**

Prep C  
Alantra Brown

Gr 1/2 Ellis  
Jack Shotton-Warley

Gr 1/2 W  
Lily Reid

Gr 3/4 I  
Angel Allen

Gr 3/4 M  
Miranda Crawford

Gr 5/6 Ras  
Bonnie Pertzel

Gr 5/6 Ros  
Ella Bird

**CURRICULUM NEWS**

Grade 5/6 Excursion – Port of Echuca

Last Wednesday our grade 5 & 6 students enjoyed their excursion to the Port of Echuca. The excursion was organized as part of their history unit. As well as a guided tour through the Port of Echuca Discovery Centre students enjoyed a paddle steamer trip then visited the Echuca Historical Society.
Reports.
Completed reports and some individual learning plans will be sent home on the last day of term, Friday June 24th. Teachers are also working with students on their Personal Learning goal.

Interviews.
An interview note will be sent home with your child next Thurs with the newsletter so that parents can select interview times with your child’s classroom teacher. This interview note is due back by Friday, (24th June...last day of the term). Please keep in mind that these are only 10 minute time slots. If you think you will require a longer interview then please see your class teacher to arrange a suitable time.

Assessment. Assessment is an ongoing process and Rochester Primary School teachers are constantly reflecting on your child’s learning and development and make weekly adjustments to their planning and lessons to teach them. Even though NAPLAN is done and dusted for the year keep in mind that it is only one test. All teachers use a range of assessment practices during and at the end of learning throughout the whole year to gather evidence. They also monitor your child’s own reflection of their own learning and plan accordingly.

Lions Junior Public Speaking Competition. Students in Grades 3 – 6 have been planning and writing speeches for this public speaking completion. Each class will have been participating in their own classroom competitions this week and then three will be selected from each class to participate in a school Grand Final. Classroom teachers will judge their class comp. Specials guests will judge the Grade 5 /6 and teachers will judge the Grade 3 /4 Finals. Winning students will then move on to the Rochester Lions Club competition in July. If successful, these students will move on to the Zone Public speaking competition. Grade 3/4 topic is ‘My secret life as a super hero’. Grade 5/6 topic is ‘A Day in my life as a a…..’

Literacy Support. During the first two terms Wendy, Ali and I have been working with different groups of students to support the Grade 1/2 Literacy Program. Key focuses have been on high frequency words and specific alphabetic and spelling focuses as planned by the teachers. Wendy and Ali have continued to assist students in the classroom by working with small groups as directed by the teachers. We have seen some wonderful progress of students as the semester has continued.

School Review. Our big review is this year so staff have been looking at our last 4 years of data to see how we are going, what to celebrate and what to consider in our future whole school planning. We continue to take time at staff meetings to analyse information.

Biggest morning tea. Staff held their own small morning tea to raise funds for the Cancer council. We raised $70. Discussion around the table showed that every single staff member had been touched by cancer in their family.

Continued professional learning. All staff completed CPR and anaphylaxis training. Mr Hodgens completed some principal sessions in Bendigo. Mrs Pascoe attended a ZART ART session in Echuca. Staff continue to participate in Peer Observations that have included topics such as circle time, working on individual spelling needs of students, understanding student behaviours, editing and revising writing and applying students word knowledge to their writing.

Extra Curricular activities over the past month have included: Freaky Friday food, 5/6 Soccer Tournament, Grandparents Day, Sausage sizzle, Adult Day care visits, ‘G,Day Asia’ cultural performance, regional cross country, Echuca netball tournament, Grade 1/ 2 Campaspe Run Elmore Excursion, Sports afternoon with Echuca South and Lockington and Grade 5 /6 Port of Echuca Excursion. Still to come this term is the Grade 3 /4 Golden Dragon Museum excursion (today), First Aid in schools program, Campaspe Football carnival and our choir concert. Teachers have organised all these as well as teaching students and writing reports as well! Thank you to our wonderful teachers on all of the extras you do for our school.

Library news. At this stage we are still culling the library books. The picture story books are nearing completion. Thanks to Jessie, who continues to mark these books as cancelled and to Kayla who has also spent hours deleting these from our library computer file. Staff have met in the library to look at and discuss how best to use this space as an innovative learning area. STAY TUNED.

Leanne Picone
Please Note: the Canteen is not able to supply students with forks or spoons for food other than is purchased from the Canteen. Please ensure that you supply your child with a plastic fork or spoon for any lunches they bring from home.

With the arrival of colder weather it should also be noted that we are unable to heat food for students due to OH&S reasons. Thanks.

**STUDENT BANKING**

Any bank books need to be left at the school office on a **Wednesday by 9.30 a.m.** Bank books will be returned on Thursday. Alternatively you can visit the Bank in person.

**Community Notices**

We are happy to support the local community by placing notices in our newsletter but these can only be included if we have the space. Notices to be in by Tuesday 3pm (preferably by email).

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**Uniform Shop**

*specials*

Short sleeve polo shirts available in sizes: Medium

Long sleeve t shirts available in sizes: 14, 16

Polar fleeces available in size: 10 & 14, small & medium

School bags $20.00

School hats $10.00

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**Canteen**

*The confirmed roster is attached to the newsletter*

Updated Menu also attached.

Friday 17th Tanya Coghill

**CLOSED FOR REST OF TERM**

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*specials*

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**Campaspe Regional Library**

**Autumn Holidays @ your Library**

*Rochester Library, 43-45 Mackay St, ROCHERSTER*

**Date:** Tuesday, 29 March 2016

**Time:**
- **Echuca Library:** 4.15pm, 6.00pm
- **Rochester Library:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Training Library:** 2.30pm, 4.00pm, 6.00pm

**Activities:**
- **Comedian Sean Murphy:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Innovative Family Show:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Hilarious Family Show:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Positive Rhyme Time:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Fun with Lego:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Fun with Craft:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Plane Time:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm
- **Sunshine:** 4.00pm, 6.00pm

**Additional Information:**
- **Age 5 plus:**
- **18 months to 3 years:**

**Bookings:**
- Essential at all sessions
- Children under 10 must have parental supervision

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**Rochester’s Great Sugarfree Bake Off!**

**Date:** Thursday the 14th of July

**Time:** 12:00pm on the 14th of July.

Must be labelled and in a container

**Judging commences at 1:00pm**

**Where:** REDHS Function Room

**PRIZES TO BE WON**

**Categories**

- Young Bakers
- Home Baking Legends
- Nana Masterclass

For terms and conditions visit [www.redhs.com.au](http://www.redhs.com.au)

Rules: No added sugar

**DIABETES AUSTRALIA**

**White, Brown, Caster and Raw**

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