**In This Edition:**
- Principal’s report - General News, Effective Educators, Kindergarten 2019, Temporary Classes, Staffing News, Parent Helpers Needed, School Facilities Upgrades
- Teacher’s news - PSSA Zone Trials, Library News
- P&C news - P&C General Meeting 2019, Kindy Dads Welcome Event (save the date), Uniform Shop, School Banking
- Classifieds
- Community User Groups & Contact EHPS

**Principal’s Report**
Welcome to the new school year. A special welcome to our new students and their families.

I have the privilege of being the Principal of our great school and, together with my staff, I look forward to working with you to ensure the best education for your child. Please ensure you read the newsletter each week so you are aware of programs, milestones, events, news and changes at our school.

Happy Chinese New year! Wishing all of our families good health and happiness.

**Effective Educators**
The teachers collaborated on day one and undertook professional learning in the mandatory areas of Code of Conduct, Health and Safety and Attendance. We also worked with Adrienne Bruce from the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) to develop our practice in the area of Visible Learning. This is a focus area for us as per our School Plan and we look forward to sharing our journey with you. For more information on Visible Learning please visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOR1lUjuR7c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOR1lUjuR7c)

**Newsletter articles due COB Friday**
Values for this term:
Term 1 Responsibility & Cooperation

---

**Epping Heights Public School**

128 KENT ST EPPING NSW 2121  02 9876 2791  eppinghts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  www.eppinghts-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Kindergarten students already have articulated clear ideas about what they want to learn about at school (early learning goals) and their expectations.
KINDERGARTEN 2019

Congratulations to all the Kindergarten students and their families for a smooth start to ‘big school’. The teachers and I were very impressed with how sensible and mature the children were. It is great to see them carrying their own bags, lining up and being so independent. You must be very proud! It was also lovely to see parents gather and chat afterwards. Thank you to all the existing parents who helped serve morning tea on the first day. We look forward to lots of happy smiling faces each day.

If any child, in any grade is having difficulty transitioning to school, please speak to their class teacher or a member of the executive team or myself.
TEMPORARY CLASSES
As you are aware students have begun learning in temporary classes. Once our numbers have settled and we know our allocation of staffing from the Department of Education, there may be some changes. If your child is changing classes, you will be informed. Thank you for your support in this process.

STAFFING NEWS
Our school is lucky to have wonderful, caring and dedicated staff. This year we welcome Miss Daisy Sullivan and Mrs Sarah Skennerton to our teaching team. They bring with them experience and passion.

Congratulations to our Senior Administrative Manager Mrs Wendy Morritt who has been successful in achieving a permanent position as an Analyst with the Finance sector of the Department of Education. Wendy has been a key person in our school for 8 years. Her knowledge of school processes, finance and DOE systems will be sorely missed. We wish her every success in her new role.

Mrs Anna Carter will relieve as Senior Administrative Manager until the outcome of a merit selection process.

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED IN OFFICE
If you are available to volunteer to help from time to time with some basic administrative tasks (such as bundling Read With Me books or counting notes & flyers etc) please contact Mrs Carter so that she can add you to her helpers list.

SCHOOL FACILITIES UPGRADES
During the holidays our school had some improvements. 4 classrooms and fasciae on some buildings were painted, our shade shelter over the Kinder classrooms was constructed, the staffroom got a new entry and door and the M2 wall was upgraded. These have helped make our school a brighter and more functional space for our students.

I look forward to speaking with you at the P & C, in the playground or at the gate.

Kind regards

MS MEGAN BRIDEKIRK
PRINCIPAL.
Crunch&Sip means vegetables, fruit and water only.

For more information on Crunch&Sip, download the parent brochure from the Crunch&Sip webpage:
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences
You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order
If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court
School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education’s Policy library

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education’s Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

© February 2015

NSW Department of Education and Communities
PSSA ZONE SPORT TRIALS

All Stage 3 students were given a note about the Zone PSSA Team Trials.

Throughout the year, the Beecroft Zone PSSA invites talented and highly skilled students to try out for Zone Teams in a variety of sports. Successful students then represent the Beecroft Zone PSSA at further trials/carnivals.

Trials will be held for the following sports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys Trials</th>
<th>Girls Trials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFL</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League</td>
<td>Netball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch Football</td>
<td>Touch Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Polo</td>
<td>Water Polo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If your child plays one or more of these sports at a top competitive level (Division 1 OR Representative Team) and is interested in attending these trials, please fill out the information slip given to students and return to Mrs Buwalda by Thursday 7th February 2019. If you require another note, please see Mrs Buwalda.

Please note that students will not automatically try out for sports if they hand their note in. Try outs for school PSSA teams will be held later in the term.

MRS BUWALDA

PSSA COORDINATOR

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to 2019. Thank you to all the families who have contributed to the library DGR. We have some exciting new books to start off the year and the Teacher’s Resource room is receiving some lovely new shelves. However, the library will be closed for lessons and at lunch time until installation is complete.

This is how it used to look... and this is how it looks now. Much nicer & easier to use!

Library borrowing will commence in Week 3 so please remember to bring a school library bag (available for purchase at the uniform shop) or a strong bag to put your books in when you borrow. Without a bag, you won’t be able to borrow.

Happy Reading Everyone!

MRS WILMOT
P&C GENERAL MEETING
The first P&C meeting for the year will be held on **Tuesday 12 February at 7 pm in the library.**
All members and new members are always welcome!

P&C MEMBERSHIP
P&C membership is a great way to:
- Find out what is happening at school
- Be involved in decisions that affect the school and your children
- Contribute to fun community and fundraising activities
- Show your children how much you care about their school and education
- Meet other cool parents!
Membership is only $1! You can be involved as much or as little as you like.
Join now on Qkr! or email **ehps.p.n.c@gmail.com.**

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR WANTED
The P&C is looking for a Community Relations Coordinator. This is a great opportunity to contribute to making our school fun and welcoming! The Community Relations Coordinator helps the school to welcome visitors, members of the community and newcomers by assisting with events such as ANZAC Day and Kindy Orientation. The Coordinator is supported by a pool of volunteers from the CUPPA CREW.
If you are interested or want to find out more, please email **ehps.p.n.c@gmail.com.**

NARELLE KING
P&C SECRETARY

KINDY DADS WELCOME FUNCTION - SAVE THE DATE
A great chance to meet other Dads with children who have just started at the school. Save the date, Wednesday 27 February from 6.00pm. Full details in next newsletter.

Remember to turn on Push Notifications in the Qkr app so you don’t miss relevant information
UNIFORM SHOP UPDATE

Welcome to 2019 everyone!
Uniform Shop will continue to open from 2.30 – 3.30pm on Wednesdays opposite the office. 
Alternately, try ordering your uniforms via the Qkr! App and we will deliver whatever you need to your child’s classroom. See info attached regarding how to use Qkr!
We are happy to exchange if you purchase the wrong size – please keep tags on the item.
All items currently in stock including all sizes in polo shirts.
If you have any questions please email eppingheights.uniformshop@gmail.com

NICOLE OTTEN
UNIFORM SHOP COORDINATOR

SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE

School Banking for 2019 will start this Friday 8th Feb at 8.30am near the canteen.
For those new to the school or school banking, we offer school banking with the Commonwealth Bank. You can get more info and open an account for your child online at https://www.commbank.com.au/personal/kids.html. Once you have the BSB and Account Number we can issue a deposit book and you can begin banking immediately.
Children earn tokens each time they bank at school and can choose rewards after accumulating 10 tokens. More info on this year’s rewards next week…
Finally, I will be handing over the coordinating of school banking to another parent, Sara Chohan, over the coming weeks so come down to banking and meet her!
We could use another couple of volunteers to help process deposits on Friday mornings too – if you can help, come and see us or email me on notten@bigpond.com

NICOLE OTTEN AND SARA CHOHAHAN
Introducing Qkr! (pronounced ‘quickr’) by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr you can:
- Order and pay for your child’s lunches, reducing the need to bring cash to school;
- Pay for a variety of school items;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.

Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

**Step 1** Download Qkr!
On your Android phone or iPhone, iPad users can download iPhone app.

**Step 2** Register
Select your Country of Residence as ‘Australia’ and follow the steps to register.

**Step 3** Find our school
Our school will appear in ‘Nearby Locations’. If you’re within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

**Step 4** Register your children
When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.
Add your children’s details in Student Profiles

Select ‘Add student profile’
Add each child’s details
Manage each child’s details in Student Profiles

Order meals
Select a menu from our canteen
Tap the green box to view your receipt or to cancel an order
Select a date for a child and order a meal
Tap ‘Repeat order’ to copy all paid orders from one week to the next
Tap to change the date you are ordering for
Tap to change the child you are ordering for
Tap ‘Checkout’ then confirm and pay

Making payments
Add up to 5 cards to your wallet

At checkout select which card to pay with.
Pay with any cards accepted by the school.
Once your payment is approved you can continue to the home page, or view your receipt.
ST ANDREWS NETBALL CLUB
building community through sport

2019 Winter Season – Players Required

We are still looking for players to join our:

- **Under 8’s – Boys & Girls turning 7 & 8**
- **Under 10’s – Boys & Girls turning 9 or 10**

Limited positions in other age groups

Games are played **SATURDAY MORNING**.

Playing for St Andrews Netball Club is the best way to meet new friends, develop new skills and to stay fit.

Please contact us ASAP if you are interested!


For further information please contact Vicki

[juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au)

---

DRAMA ENRICHMENT PROGRAM 2019

Established in 2003, this exciting after-school course is conducted by Halina Abramowicz (actress, director and drama tutor – State Academy of Theatrical Arts, Poland.)

Students who participate in the program improve their acting skills, work with scripted, published and self-devised plays, and take part in special assemblies and Drama Festivals.

Some of Halina’s students from Epping Heights Primary School were accepted to prestigious Performing Arts High Schools (Newtown and Northmead)

Venue: School Hall
Time: Monday 3.15 -4.15
Cost: $12.00 per hour payable by term

For more information about the tutor visit [www.halinaabramowicz.com.au](http://www.halinaabramowicz.com.au)

If you are interested, please contact Halina on 0422 542 166 or email halka_prima@hotmail.com

---

Experience Excellence at Cumberland High School’s

**2019 OPEN EVENING**

**MONDAY 18 FEBRUARY**

5:30PM – 8:00PM

Cumberland High School
183 Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford NSW 2118
(Entry via Dunmore Avenue)

Cumberland High School provides an extensive range of academic and vocational opportunities delivered by our professional, experienced and highly committed teachers.

Community User Groups at Epping Heights PS

Did you know there are many extracurricular activities offered by private businesses at our school? Please contact the groups direct if you are interested in attending any of these activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Contact person</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drama Enrichment Class</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3.15pm</td>
<td>Halina Abramowicz</td>
<td>0422 542 166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess Class (Syd Academy of Chess)</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3.10pm</td>
<td>Brett Tindall</td>
<td>9745 1170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guitar Lessons (VIP Music)</td>
<td>Tuesday Morning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Urszula Koh</td>
<td>9411 3122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyboard Lessons (VIP Music)</td>
<td>Tuesday Morning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Urszula Koh</td>
<td>9411 3122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandarin Class (Happy Chinese)</td>
<td>Wednesday – Friday</td>
<td>3.15pm 3.15pm</td>
<td>Nancy Zhou</td>
<td>0433 589 696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Class (Art Platform)</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>3.15pm</td>
<td>Fergus Tam</td>
<td>0412 168 198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karate Class (Australia’s Youth Self Defence)</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Matt Klein</td>
<td>9904 5667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peking Chinese Language Class</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Min Hua Li</td>
<td>0406 949 894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjabi Lessons</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Narian Singh</td>
<td>0405 217 446</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>