# Epping Heights

# Public School



### Confidence Resilience Creativity

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Wed - Fri	6/2 - 8/2	SRC Leadership Camp
Fri	8/2	Swimming Carnival Yrs 3-6 and Yr 2 8-year olds
Mon	11/2	Read With Me starts (please no back- dating of entries)
Tue	12/2	P&C Meeting in Library

# **NEWSLETTER** TERM 11 WEEK 2 | 5 February 2019

### 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.



Newsletter articles due COB Friday

Values for this term:

Term 1 Responsibility & Cooperation

### **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 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOR1lUjuR7c</u>



Kindergarten students already have articulated clear ideas about what they want to learn about at school (early learning goals) and their expectations.

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### **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 conatct 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.









# **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.



LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

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### 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 W ales 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. If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

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

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### 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:

Boys Trials			Girls Trials					
AFL	Rugby Union	Basketball	Soccer					
Basketball	Soccer	Cricket	Softball					
Cricket	Softball	Golf	Tennis					
Golf	Tennis	Hockey	Touch Football					
Hockey	Touch Football	Netball	Water Polo					
Rugby League	Water Polo							

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...







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**

# EPPING HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL parents & citizens association

128 Kent Street Epping NSW 2121 | ehps.p.n.c@gmail.com

### P&C GENERAL MEETING

The first P&C meeting for the year will be held on **<u>Tuesday 12 February at 7 pm in the library</u>**. 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 <u>ehps.p.n.c@gmail.com</u>.

### 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



# EPPING HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL parents & citizens association

128 Kent Street Epping NSW 2121 | ehps.p.n.c@gmail.com

### 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 <a href="mailto:eppingheights.uniformshop@gmail.com">eppingheights.uniformshop@gmail.com</a>

### 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 <u>https://www.commbank.com.au/personal/kids.</u> <u>html</u>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 <u>notten@bigpond.com</u>

### NICOLE OTTEN AND SARA CHOHAN

# EPPING HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

128 Kent Street Epping NSW 2121 | ehps.p.n.c@gmail.com





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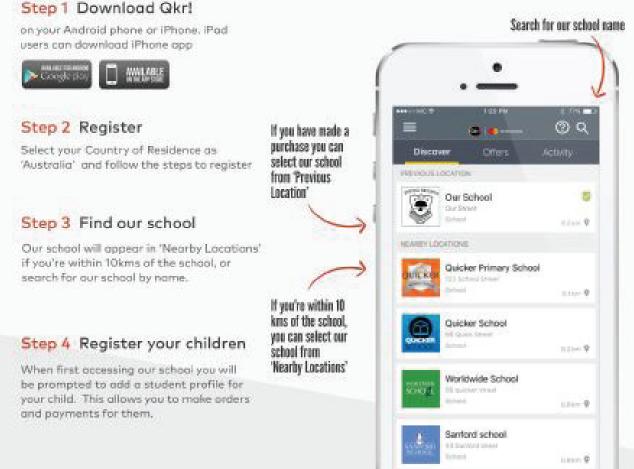
Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

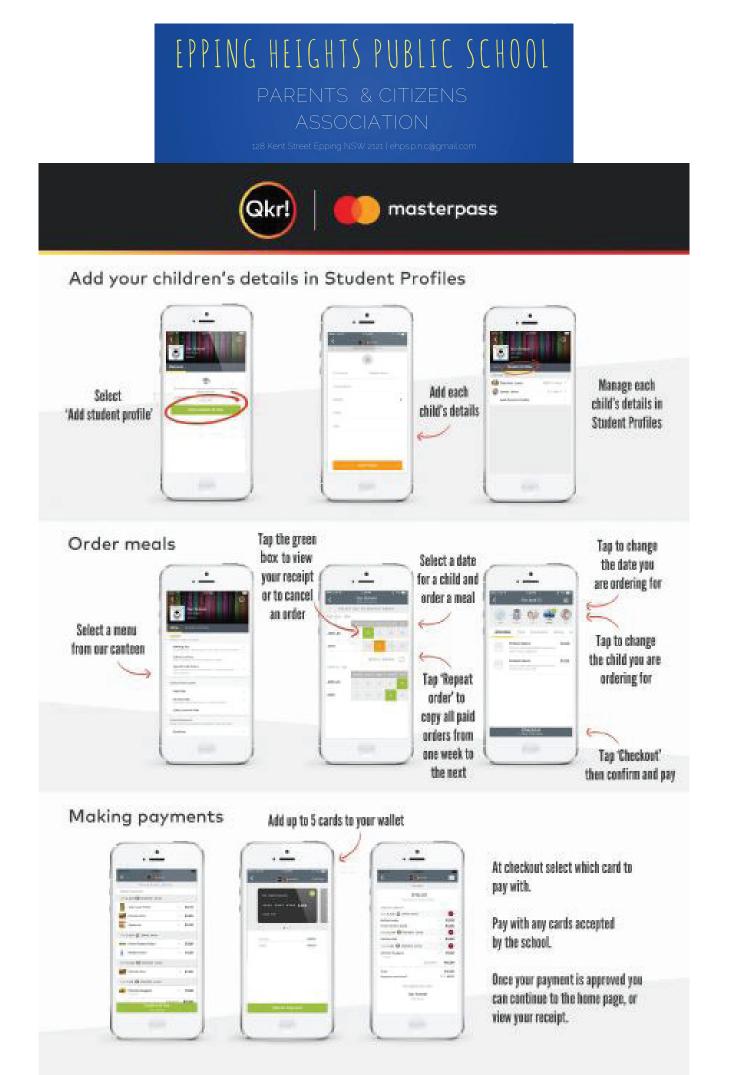
With Qkr you can:

- 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







### CLASSIFIEDS

Please note that as we have no means of checking the bona fides of advertisers, Epping Heights Public School will not accept responsibility for any advertisements.



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! www.standrewsnetball.com.au For further information please contact Vicki 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

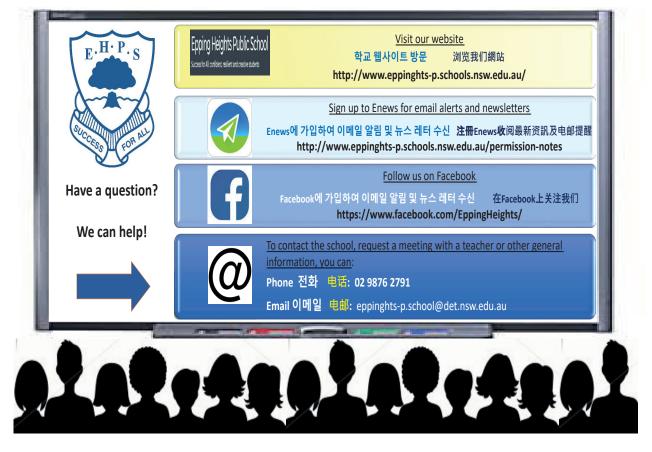
If you are interested, please contact Halina on 0422 542 166 or email halka\_prima@hotmail.com

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Further Enquiries P: 02 9871 7718 www.cumberland-h.schools.nsw.gov.au 🖪 Cumberland High School – Official



# Welcome to Epping Heights Public School!



### 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.

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