Dear Parents & Community

Term 3 slow down! This term is going very fast with a great deal of fantastic things happening at our school. Please be sure to check into our school Facebook site for regular updates out and about in our classrooms.

On Friday night Taryn Delle Baite was crowned Junior Ambassador of the 2016 Water Festival. It was indeed a proud moment for us as a school, Taryn’s family and friends and our P and C. Thank you to everyone who supported and congratulations Taryn and all other Junior Ambassadors who proudly represented their clubs and associations.

Recently the individual NAPLAN reports were sent to families. We had a range of outstanding results in Year 3 and 5. In summary the following items have been highlighted at our school by our Assistant Regional Director, Mrs Melissa Jackson:

- Mean Scale Score Improvement year on year in Year 3 Reading, Writing, Spelling
- Upper 2 Bands reflects year on year high results - Year 3 Grammar and Punctuation is a highlight!
- National Minimum Standard year on year particularly in Year 3 Reading and Writing and Year 5 Reading and Writing and Year 5 Grammar and Punctuation.

Congratulations East Ayr - there is lots to celebrate at your school.

NAPLAN is a point in time testing mechanism – our Levels of Achievement against the Australian Curriculum Standards is the day to day achievement and progress of student learning. It was exceptionally pleasing to hear that our data mirrors our NAPLAN results. We attribute this to the greatest preparation for NAPLAN being the day to day work of our students from Prep-6 under the instruction of our teachers! This is why attendance at school is very important and it has been excellent to see an improvement also in the student attendance and reasonable explanations for absences. Great
work East Ayr team, keep up the great work!

Coming soon is our annual major fundraiser – Family Dance Night. I know that everyone will get behind our P and C who are working behind the scenes to make this a successful fundraiser and a fun evening for students. This is a school event and I thank every staff member and student who are working hard on the entertainment component of our night. We look forward to your support.

Kind regards

Helen McCullough
Principal

**Prep Enrolments 2017**

We are now accepting 2017 enrolments into Prep for children born between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012. Please note that your student’s birth certificate must be sighted by school staff as part of the enrolment process and proof of residency in the school’s enrolment catchment must also be provided. Parents or legal guardians who wish to enrol their child at the school will need to demonstrate that the student’s principal place of residence is within the catchment area. Current proof of residency at the address indicated can be provided by way of one of each of the following:

- One primary source – a current lease agreement, or rates notice, or unconditional sale agreement, and
- One secondary source – a utility bill (e.g. electricity, gas) showing this same address and parent’s/legal guardian’s name


**Early Entry Into Prep**

It is possible for children born in July 2012 to be considered for early entry into Prep in 2017. The department is still finalizing the process for decision-making in relation to early entry into Prep. Decisions relating to applications for early entry into Prep are made on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the school for further information.

**Reading At Home**

**Sounding out is not always the best strategy!**

Very often, when beginning readers stumble upon a word that is unfamiliar, we hear the phrase ‘sound it out’. Although sound it out is probably one of the more popular strategies, it isn’t always the appropriate strategy to use.

First, it is important to ask the reader: What would sound right in that part of the sentence? What would make sense in that sentence? What does that word look like – can you see any sounds, smaller words, chunks?

You could then prompt the reader with some of these strategies. Encourage them to continue trying to work out the word, even if the first few strategies they try don’t work.

- **Syllabification** – break the word up into syllables (chunks)
- **Look for a smaller word inside** (im – port- ant)
- **Say the first sound, read on and re-read**
- **Stretch the word out into the sounds and piece it back together**
- **Look at the picture – does this give you a clue?**
- **Check the punctuation** – if it ends in a question mark, there is likely to be ‘who, what, why, when or how’ in the sentence
- **Try flipping the sound** – maybe this ‘ow’ is like the sound in ‘cow’ or is it like ‘slow’?

Keep trying until you work out the word. Once you have worked it out, go back and re-read the sentence with fluency!

**MEDICATION OF STUDENTS**

If your child requires staff to administer medication to your child at school, please contact the school office in the first instance to discuss your child’s requirements.

Please note, school staff will only administer medication that:

- **has been prescribed by a qualified health practitioner (e.g. doctor, dentist)**
- **is in its original container**
- **has an attached pharmacy label.**

Office staff will ask you to complete and sign the Administration of medication at school record sheet.

N.B. If your child requires more than one medication, you will need to complete a form for each medication. If you are unable to complete a form at the school, one is available for downloading from our website.

Before you provide the school with your child’s medication, check the expiry date to ensure it is in-date and there is enough for the agreed time period. It is also a good idea to take a note of the expiry date so that you can replace the medication before it expires.

Please note, school staff will not administer medication that you can buy over-the-counter at chemists and supermarkets (e.g. paracetamol, eye drops, cough syrup) unless it has been prescribed by your child's qualified health practitioner. For example, the school would administer paracetamol to a student only if it has been prescribed by their dentist to be taken for a short time after dental treatment.

School staff are bound by these regulations and we hope that all parents will acknowledge and cooperate with these rules.

Kayla Hawkins
(Master Teacher/Head of Curriculum)

Our reading targets are

- **Prep** – Level 8
- **Year 1** – Level 16
- **Year 2** – Level 20
- **Year 3** – Level 24
It is safer for all students if you can provide medication to the school in person (rather than send medication with the student). If you can’t provide the medication in person, contact the school to determine the easiest and safest approach for the school to receive the medication.

When your child’s medication is no longer required to be kept at school, please collect all unused medication. Thank you for your assisting the school in keeping our students safe and healthy.

**Family Dance – Friday 9th September**
Family Dance Night will open with hot food being available from 5:30pm for those who like to come along for dinner.

The dance program will commence at 7:00pm sharp. There will be four grand parades throughout the night and students will showcase their dances they have been practising. The night should finish at 9:15am.

Each year level will have a treat at a set time during the night. Year levels have been grouped for their dances. In between each year level group there will be a chance for everyone to join in one or all of the eight whole school dances. Students will sit with their class group and their teacher from 7:00pm – 9:15pm. A police officer will be here to assist with security and parents are reminded to bring chairs to watch the dances.

All students will receive a Family Dance Program next week.

**Burdekin Festival of Arts**
East Ayr’s singing and verse speaking choirs were very successful at the Burdekin Festival of Arts. Students enjoyed the experience and were wonderful role models for East Ayr.

Below are results for the various choirs:

**Singing Choirs**
- **Prep A**: Unison Choir  
  *Pretty Little Ditty*  
  1st Place
- **Prep B**: Novelty Choir  
  *George of the Jungle*

**Verse Speaking Choir**
- **Prep B**: Novelty Choir  
  *Dinnertime*  
  1st Place
- **Prep C**: Novelty Choir  
  *The Lifesaver*  
  3rd Place
- **Prep 1D**: Novelty Choir  
  *Teacher’s First Class*  
  1st Place
- **Year 2C**: Novelty Choir  
  *Too Much Monopoly*  
  3rd Place
- **Year 4A**: Unison Choir  
  *The Storm*  
  1st Place
- **Year 4B**: Novelty Choir  
  *Clothesblind*  
  2nd Place
- **Year 4C**: Novelty Choir  
  *I Learnt a Poem*  
  2nd Place
- **Year 5C**: Unison Choir  
  *The Troll*  
  3rd Place

Thank you to teachers for preparing their students. Congratulations and well done to all students.

**Burdekin Sports Representatives**
Last Sunday 28th and Monday 29th August, the North Queensland Cricket trials were held in Townsville. Shaun Evets was selected as a member of the Burdekin team that competed at this trial. Congratulations Shaun.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

PA: Mitchell Jones
PB: Mali Ardle
PC: Jorja Jerkic
P1D: Millicent Henderson
1A: Logan Mooney
1B: Chelsea Crooks
1C: Ella Gosper
2A: Alysha Watson
2B: Titus Doolah
2C: Dylan Marshall-Morrissey
3A: Scott Albiuz
3B: Charlie Conway
3C: Leylan Lampton
4A: Nikhil Duell
4B: Marcus Previtera
4C: Breanna McLean
5A: Breana Bozetto
5B: Erin Palmer
5C: Milla Arboit
6A: Alysha Watson
6B: Titus Doolah
6C: Dylan Marshall-Morrissey

CLASS AWARDS

PA: Emma Booth
PB: Sonny Jenkins
PC: Ruby Aguirre
P1D: Ezekiel Watego
1A: Bella-Rae Walker
1B: Georgia Ballinger
1C: Bella Lawry
2A: Paige Stenning
2B: Lacey Michielin
2C: Amelia Kratzmann
3A: Nell Evetts
3B: Lacey Raitell
3C: Jim Johnstone
4A: Wyatt Stenning
4B: Erin Palmer
4C: Milla Arboit
5A: CSA: Hannah Weaver
5B: Regan Kross
5C: Sophia Williams
6A: Jaya Mitchell
6B: Louisa Ghee
6C: Brenton Flynn

At School Before the Bell?

Please remember that all students are to remain under Block C until the first bell at 8:30am. While waiting under Block C all students are to be reading.

P&C News with Corryn Innes

Congratulations to the Rooster Winners
Logan Mooney & Charlie Conway

Congratulations to the Rooster Winners
Tamika Caltabiano & Kallan Moore

A huge congratulations to Taryn Delle Baite for being crowned as the 2016 Water Festival Junior Ambassador. I was lucky enough to be present at the crowning event and I was very proud to see Taryn as our school representative. She conducted herself very maturely and was a very gracious winner. I can’t wait to see you on your float.

The Father’s Day stall is going fantastic. There are going to be some very lucky dads on Sunday. The stall will be open every morning this week from 8.30am until all stock is sold out. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered their time.

Tomorrow afternoon there will be a tuckshop menu afternoon tea in the hall. Everyone is welcome to attend, children must be supervised by parents. Thank you to those people who have RSVP’d. It is not too late to RSVP, or just turn up after school. This is your opportunity to have a say on our tuckshop menu for next year. If you are unable to attend but would still like to make a suggestion please email us at eastayrpc@gmail.com.

With just over a week until Family Dance Night there is still quite a bit of organising to do. A letter was sent home yesterday asking for every family to help out by volunteering some time or donating some vegetables/sweets. Your assistance with this would be greatly appreciated, every contribution helps. Please fill the form and return it to the tuckshop ASAP. Food will be served from 5.30pm. There are some new additions to our Family Dance Night menu . . . watch this space.

This year we will be having a mini goose club on the Family Dance Night. One of our major prizes is 2 nights’ accommodation at Rose Bay Resort Bowen valued at $320, we have vouchers for Woolworths, Coles, BCF and JB HI-FI, Kalamia Hotel Dinner Voucher and more. If any families or businesses would like to contribute any prizes/donations to the gooseclub please contact me on 0429 304 291 (P&C phone) or email eastayrpc@gmail.com.

Thank you to those who have already returned the chocolate drive money.
All money must be returned by Friday 9th September.

Our next P&C meeting will be held Monday 12th September, 6.30pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome.

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SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

We are operating from the office staffroom each Thursday and not the library.

Rewards Orders
After banking this week, we will be ordering our final rewards for Term 3. Look out for your student number below to see if you are eligible to order a reward. Please fill out your rewards coupon that was distributed at the beginning of the year, OR, on a piece of paper; include your name, class, banking number as well as the reward item you want and we'll see that it is ordered for you. Thank you to those students who have already submitted a rewards order.

Available Rewards
Please note: Mud Splat Handballs and Flying Snake Tails are out of stock and cannot be ordered.

Reward items for Term 3 include:
- Backtrack Eraser Pen—New
- Jump and Skip Rope—New
- Dollarmites Money Box – 2014
- ET DVD – 2015
- Galaxy Glider - 2015
- Intergalactic Rocket - 2015
- Outerspace Savers Money Box – 2015
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Outback Pat Bag Tag

Spot Your Student Number?
The electronic records show the following student numbers are eligible to order rewards this week:

9 tokens (eligible to order a reward if they bank this week):
165 218 238 252 268 292 306

10 or more tokens:
149 211 222 247 251 257 271 280
303 307 319 148 186 223 241 243
313 329 333 140 221 273 286 302

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20 or more tokens (eligible to order 2 reward items):
187 248 259 87 235 207 138 2
134 249 246

Please note: I may have included younger sibling’s student numbers. To order rewards, a student must be currently enrolled at East Ayr.

Thank you for your continued support with school banking. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to leave us a note in your child’s bank book, or drop by the office staffroom at 9am on Thursdays.

Neva Neal
School Banking Coordinator

2017 Prep Interviews
Prep Interviews will be held in the last two weeks of this term and the first two weeks of Term 4. If you have not completed a Prep Interview Request Form for an interview please collect a form from the office and return as soon as possible.

Interview times will be sent out to parents this week. We ask that when you receive your interview time you notify the school, so we are aware that you have received our letter.

Water Festival Ambassador – Taryn Delle Baite

Hello, it’s Taryn and I have some brilliant news to tell you all. Over the weekend, I was crowned Queensland Country Credit Union Junior Ambassador WINNER at the Junior Crowning Evening. It was an awesome feeling when the winner from last year, Gracie tied up my shiny blue cape and placed my winner’s sash over my head, and then I received my glamorous silver crown. Let’s just say there were many tears of happiness, from me, Gracie, Mum and the rest of my table. But the best part was getting off the stage after the photos and seeing all of my family and friends. Congratulations to Kya Olsen as well, your speech was without a doubt one of the best! Thank you everyone for your support and thanks to my family and friends for coming to the ball. I was easily spotted in my blue dress and cape wandering around with one of my best friends, Eliza Worlein, the Junior Runner-Up. I was lucky enough to receive heaps of wonderful prizes including $500 for the School!

Then on Saturday night, I attended the Senior Crowning Evening. Eliza and I got formally introduced and gave our coordinator, Lisa Ziliotto her chocolates and flowers. Congratulations to the Senior Winners also. Thank you again everyone who has supported me. Make sure you look out for me at the Grand Parade and Mardi Gras this Saturday! To everyone in Year 5, I urge you to consider representing your organisation next year, I have had a fantastic time being involved in the Water Festival. I will see you on parade tomorrow!

Taryn ☺