Dear Parents & Community

Welcome back to the school year. Thank you for your support and hard work to get our school community off to a great start. It has been a pleasure to work with the East Ayr staff, meet many of our parents and see the smiles on the students faces. On a personal note, I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome I have received and the support I have been given to learn about my new school and to do my job well. I’m looking forward to achieving great heights in 2017.

Here are a few things that are happening at East Ayr State School:

**Quality Teaching & Learning**

Our teaching team have been doing an amazing job to understand the curriculum requirements and then meet their students at their point of need. Our Professional Learning at the beginning of the year really focussed on understanding what the year of study looks like and how it breaks down into a series of units of work. We have committed to delivering the required thinking of the curriculum through the use of text. Our teaching teams are currently preparing their Parent-Teacher Information nights. At these events they will share with you the texts that the students will be reading and what the thinking is that they will need to do doing while reading. This is exciting work and we look forward to bringing you further into the learning picture as the year progresses.

**Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to all participants of our Swimming Carnival. It was very well organised and run, the students had a great time and our supporters showed up in great numbers. The team spirit on displayed revealed the quality and commitment of our school community. Our 2017 winners were Drysdale! We now wish all our athletes who make up the East Ayr school team all the very best when
they participate in the Webber Shield.

Facebook
Thank you to everyone in our school community who follows our page on Facebook. It’s great to know that we reach so many people with important messages and celebrate our achievements and success. Social media is a great way to share what we do and to connect you to the classroom. Thank you for sharing our page with others and making sure our messages hit their intended audience. Before we publish any photos we do check our school database to ensure we have the appropriate permissions in place to share certain information. You can appropriate permissions in place to database to ensure we have the photos we do check our school audience. Before we publish any messages hit their intended great start to 2017!

Principal

P&C Meeting
Our first P&C meeting is on Monday the 13th of February, starting at 6:30pm in the Staffroom. It takes many hands and heads to keep a great school community heading in the right direction. If you have the time, we would love to have you on the team.

Have a great Week.

Regards

Chris Wicks
Principal

Reading At Home
It has been fantastic to visit the classrooms of our school and see so many happy, smiling faces! The students I have spoken to have all spoken about beginning their learning and exciting units of work. What a great start to 2017!

A recent study by Oxford University “Books beyond Bedtime” revealed that just 10 minutes of reading with a carer can make a big difference. This report can be found on the World Book Day website. The report revealed the top 6 strategies that parents and carers can engage in at home when reading with children.

1. Make the time – Just 10 minutes each day can support your child in their reading journey.
2. Choose different types of books – Find interesting stories, poems, informative texts, recipes (just to name a few).
3. Take turns to read – children reading aloud helps to develop their fluency and expression but it is also great to model the expression and ‘funny’ voices, letting them enjoy the story.
4. Talk about the book – ask lots of questions! Some sentence starters are below
   - What will happen when?...
   - Who will...
   - Why do you think ... did that?
   - How did?...
   - Why did the author ....?...
   - Feel free to share your own thinking with your reader. Statements beginning with ‘I think’, ‘I remember’ or ‘I know’ are a great way to show how you can find and connect to information from the text.
5. Pay attention to the language – don’t assume your young reader understands the words or phrases, even when they read them correctly. Check their understanding.
   - “What does the character/author mean when they say...?”
6. Just enjoy reading! Reading together is a great way to promote a love of reading and learning.

Keep an eye out for the Reading At Home section in our newsletter each fortnight. Each newsletter will feature a different focus on reading and ways to assist our readers to be successful at home and school.

Our reading targets are
Prep – Level 8
Year 1 – Level 16
Year 2 – Level 20
Year 3 – Level 24

I am looking forward to working with staff and students to continue the amazing work of East Ayr this year.

Hayley Miskin (Master Teacher/Head of Curriculum)

School Leaders Induction
Our 2017 school leaders will be presented with their badges at a full school parade on Wednesday 15 February. Our school leaders, sporting leaders and peer mediators will be introduced to our school community.

Year 3 – 6 Swimming Carnival
The annual year 3 – 6 swimming carnival was held yesterday.

Congratulations to all those students who attended the carnival and participated. All students were well behaved and participated in all events.

All houses showed excellent team spirit and support through cheering and war cries.

Students who won Age Champion will be presented with their trophies on parade on Thursday and the winning house will also be presented with the interhouse swimming shield.

Our swimming age champions were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Yrs</td>
<td>Tate Mann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Yrs</td>
<td>Kai Delle Baite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Yrs</td>
<td>Blake Jorgensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Yrs</td>
<td>Logan Flanagan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep – Level 8</td>
<td>Liyah Priddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 – Level 16</td>
<td>Melody Curro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 – Level 20</td>
<td>Shanay Arroita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 – Level 24</td>
<td>Julia Neal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to these students. Well done.

A big thank you to all the parents who helped as judges. Your assistance was greatly appreciated. Thank you to Miss Casswell for her hard work in putting the carnival together.

From our carnival yesterday a number of our students have been successful and gaining selection in the
East Ayr swimming team. This team will compete at the Webber Shield on Tuesday 7 February.

Webber Shield
From our carnival yesterday a number of our students have been successful in gaining selection in the East Ayr Swimming team. This team will compete at the Webber Shield on Tuesday 7 February.

9 Years
Emme Flanagan  Tate Mann
Hunter Oats  Jason Albizu
Addisyn Wiseman  Liyah Priddle

10 Years
Melody Curro  Sarah O'Shea
Scott Albizu  Angus McMullen
Kai Delle Baite  Ben Laidlow
Ruby Sitton  Kane Reid
Sky Olsen  Khyla Cursio

11 Years
Braith Dowson  Blake Jorgensen
Mia Kelly  Shanay Arroita
Tyla Cox  Charley Ruskin
Dustyn Priddle

12 Years
Kayla Byers  Summer Dries
Julia Neal  Kyle Drain
Claudia Pavone  Logan Flanagan

Congratulations to these students for their terrific effort.

These certificates will be presented on Thursday’s parades. Prep will not be attending parade for the first few weeks and these certificates will be presented to the students in their classroom.

Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
Our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students is designed to facilitate high expectations and high standards of behaviour so that the learning and teaching in our school can be effective and students can participate positively within our school community.

Our school community has identified the following school rules to teach and promote our high standards of responsible behaviour:

- We are Safe
- We are Respectful
- We are Responsible
- We are Learners

Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL) support is defined as a broad range of strategies for achieving positive social and learning outcomes while preventing problem behaviour. East Ayr’s Chook Slip rewards system celebrates our students’ achievements instantly, and is the main focus of our PBL approach. Students who earn Chook Slip’s receive instant recognition for displaying the school rules of Safe, Respect, Responsibility and Learner.

East Ayr Chook Slip Rewards System
Staff members hand Chook Slips out each day to students they observe following the school rules of Safe, Respect, Responsibility and Learner in classroom and non-classroom areas. The Chook Slips visually separate each of the four school values, and assists all our achievers to know which value they have displayed.

We are Learners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chook Slip</th>
<th>Reward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrific 10</td>
<td>Collector card plus sticker plus A4 card display holder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremendous 20</td>
<td>Collector card plus eraser with 4 rules displayed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thankful 30</td>
<td>Collector card plus plastic ruler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fantastic 40</td>
<td>Collector card plus iron badge – Blue Safe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabulous 50</td>
<td>Collector card plus iron badge – Red Respectful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super 70</td>
<td>Collector card plus iron badge – Yellow Responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nifty 90</td>
<td>Collector card plus iron badge – Green Learner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hello 100</td>
<td>Collector card plus Zooper Dooper Voucher plus Letter from Principal presented on parade by mascot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td>Collector card plus wrist band SAFE (Blue)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>Collector card plus wrist band RESPECTFUL (Red)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td>Collector card plus wrist band RESPONSIBLE (Yellow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Collector card plus wrist band LEARNER (Green)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225</td>
<td>Collectors card plus multi coloured wristband with 4 rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250</td>
<td>Collector card plus student choice of activity pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>275</td>
<td>Collector card plus student choice of activity pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>Collector card plus student choice of activity pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325</td>
<td>Collector card and 1 piece sticker - Blue Safe - TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350</td>
<td>Collector card and 1 piece sticker - Red Respectful - TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375</td>
<td>Collector card and 1 piece sticker - Yellow Responsible - TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>Collector card and 1 piece sticker - Green Learner - TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recognition Certificates
Every week each classroom teacher from Prep to Year 6 will award two certificates to students in their class.

Student of the Week Certificate will be given for behaviour. The
behaviour awards are lined up to the four school rules: At East Ayr State School we are Safe Respectful Responsible Learners. From these certificates, two certificates are randomly selected and these students will win a Red Rooster Award; one for the Prep to Year 2 and the other for Year 3 to Year 6. Michael and Judy Taylor are sponsoring these Red Rooster Achievement Awards and we thank them for their generous support.

Class Certificates will be given to acknowledge academic success or improvement.

P&C News with Corryn Innes

Hi Everyone, I hope you have all had a great start to 2017 and the children are all settling back into the school routine. On behalf of the East Ayr State School Parents & Citizens Association I would like to welcome Mr Chris Wicks and Mr Masina Taule’alo to our school. We look forward to working with you both. We also like to welcome new staff members and families to our school this year.

Our main objective of the P&C at East Ayr State School is to support our students and staff. We do this by providing some financial support raised through various fundraising ventures throughout the year. We also have the opportunity to offer input into and discuss some decisions made by our school administration at our regular monthly P&C meetings. Any parents or family members are able to join the P&C and everyone is welcome to attend meetings. Any information about fundraising events will be advertised in the school newsletter so please keep an eye out for updates. Last year the P&C raised over $19000 in fundraising efforts alone, not including tuckshop profits, for our school and students. We would love to raise even more this year and see some new projects started in our school.

Last week all families should have received a 2017 tuckshop menu. As outlined in the note there were a few changes, the main one being Thursday and Friday daily specials being swapped – Thursday is now spaghetti and pizza day and Friday is now a pastry day.

A reminder that our new school hats with adjustable toggle cord ($20) and chook shirts ($25) are available for purchase from the school tuckshop. We still have some of the bucket hats ($10) in stock available for purchase; they make for a great spare hat. A big thank you to Chantel Michielin at Kids Crossing for offering and selling our chook shirts and new hats over the school holidays, it was a huge help.

Our tuckshop is always looking for more volunteers to work and bake. If you are able to work on a regular roster or are unable to commit to a regular day each but may be able to work as a back-up every now and then contact Bronwyn in the tuckshop.

Good luck to the students selected to represent East Ayr at the Webber Shield next week.

Our next P&C meeting is Monday 13th February, 6.30pm in the staffroom. Have a good week.

Corryn

Parent Information Sessions
These sessions are provided for parents to find out what is happening in their child’s class throughout the year. These sessions start on Monday 6 February and will continue until Thursday 16 February. Teachers will discuss class/year level procedures, homework expectations, excursions/camps and curriculum contact.

A separate notes regarding the times and venue for these sessions was sent home yesterday.

Presentation to Mrs Scott
Last week, East Ayr State School’s Deputy Principal Linda Scott was presented with a 10 year service award from the Qld Association of State School Principals (QASSP). Bryan Dudley (Principal Ayr State School) acknowledged and thanked Linda for her tireless dedication and outstanding contribution to the Association. Congratulations and well done Linda.

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

School banking starts Thursday 9th February.
Welcome back to the new school year! We will continue to bank every Thursday of Term 1, up to and including the 30th March.

New Comers
If you wish to sign up for school banking there are three ways to get started:
1. Sign up Online – log in to netbank.com.au
2. In a Commonwealth Bank Branch – visit the local branch with identification for you and your child.
3. Over the phone – by calling 132221 and opening a Youthsaver account over the phone.

Important - Student ID Numbers
When your child signs up for school banking, they are assigned a Student ID Number the first time they bank with us. This number is important, as it allows us to quickly process the deposit for the correct student. If you do not know your child’s Student Banking ID number, please pop a note in the bank book and we will find out for you. It is important that their Student ID Number is written on the deposit slip every time they bank with us. Also - just a reminder...
that we can’t see balances or access your child’s account directly, we can only process deposits.

Information Pack
During the coming week, all Prep students will receive an information pack regarding school banking. If they wish to sign up, the easiest way is usually to visit the local branch. Once enrolments have settled, we will also be delivering an information pack to all new families at East Ayr as well as existing banking families. This pack from the Commonwealth Bank contains information about the new rewards on offer for 2017. When you receive this, please keep your reward coupon handy at home for when your child is redeeming a reward.

Electronic Records
10 deposits = 10 tokens = A Reward
The bank has advised us that we need to give out tokens each week. Sometimes we accidently miss tokens and the good news is that all tokens are counted electronically. This means that we are advised when your child has reached 10 tokens and can claim a reward. To let us know what reward to claim, you will need to send the redemption coupon in with the bank book and 10 tokens. All tokens remaining from the 2016 school year, carry over to 2017. An updated balance of how many tokens your child has will be published in the next newsletter. Reward items can be claimed in Week 7 of the Term.

Communication with Coordinators
The school banking coordinators operate on a roster system. This year your school banking coordinators are: Anne Moloney, Michelle Oats, Rosalie Kelly, Michelle Gosper, Corryn Innes, Natasha Becke, Donna Laidlow and Neva Neal. If you have a school banking question that needs to be answered, please pop a note in the bank book when your child banks and we will do our best to answer the question for you. If you feel like you need to speak with us directly, drop by the school staff room at 9am on Thursday mornings. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us. Finally, if you have some time on a Thursday each month, and would like to join our banking volunteers, please contact me as we are always looking for more people to help out.

Neva Neal
School Banking Coordinator

CHAPPY’S CHAT
With
Chappy John

Happy New Year!!!
It is great to see everyone again, and to chat about the holidays.
So School’s in, and we are lining up for a **Fantabulous** (is that a word?) 2017. Be happy, care for the new students in your class. Be good for your teachers. Have a **great year** learning lots and lots!

Chappy John

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.

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**Burdekin Junior Basketball**

**Game Times for 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 February</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Pullenvale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Pullenvale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Leitchtown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Leitchtown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Leitchtown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Fixtures Commence Wednesday, 8th February 2017**

**Total Fees**

- **$10** per player, $15 for C-Grade
- **$20** for Clancy Cup

**MINIMUM ENROLMENT 5 TEAMS**

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**The Phantom of the Opera**

**2017 BURDEKIN THEATRE**

**FEBRUARY 3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 & 12**

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**Do you have new & exciting ideas for youth in the Burdekin Shire?**

**Join us now...**

**BURDEKIN SHIRE YOUTH COUNCIL**

The Youth Council is a group of youth aged 12-25 years who represent youth in the Burdekin Shire.

Meetings: Held on a monthly basis, where members voice issues or concerns and work to organise projects and events for youth in the district. Nomination forms are available from your school office, the Council Chambers or at the Burdekin Library.