

BULLETIN



East Bentleigh
Primary School

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Term 2/ Week 4 : 19 May 2022

SCHOOL VISION: East Bentleigh Primary School provides a rich, inviting, child-focused environment ensuring that all students feel safe and stimulated. Our students are able to achieve their full academic, creative and social potential, equipped for the challenges of lifelong learning. Students develop into healthy and confident individuals, actively contributing to the world in which they live.

At East Bentleigh Primary School we are committed to child safety.

Hello everyone,

Farewell - Carol Diggerson

Next Wednesday will be a bittersweet day in the life of our school as a one of our much-loved ES staff members takes her first steps into the land of retirement. Carol's first interaction with our school was as a parent with her 2 youngest children attending our school; Sarah in the Steiner stream and Tom in the Mainstream. Carol began her ES career at EBPS in 2009, and over the years has supported many students to be the best they can be, working in classrooms across the school, attending excursions, camps, showcase dinners and many other school events over the years. We will miss Carol's warm and encouraging smile and her always delicious contributions to special events. On behalf of our whole community I wish Carol all the very best in her retirement. Go well Carol. I suspect that the Op shops in the SE suburbs are in for a blitz.



Advance Notice- Welcome Back- Mid Winter Festival and Lantern Walk

I am delighted to be able to advise that after a two-year absence we are planning to hold a Midwinter Festival (under COVIDsafe guidelines) in the final week of this term. This wonderful annual festival is held outside and as close to the winter solstice as possible ie the shortest day of the year and will be held on either Wednesday 22nd or Thursday 23rd June. We will confirm as soon as we can.

It is a simple festival during which the children from Grades P-3 all carry a simple lantern with a lighted candle to symbolise the returning of the light as the days grow longer and warmer once again. The children love walking around the grounds with their parents and classmates, singing songs together and then drinking a cup of soup. As I said it is a very simple festival but one which the children really enjoy.

All families of the Prep to 3 across the school are invited to attend. In previous years communal soups made both at school and from home were served to hungry children and parents after the walk. This year to comply with Covid Safe practices and physical distancing we are encouraging any families wishing to stay after the walk to BYO mugs and soups which could be shared 'picnic style' either on the oval or in the hall (weather dependent.) This is a delightful community event and it is always enjoyed by all who take part. Even if it is raining, most people still turn up rugged up in their winter coats, hats, gloves and sturdy shoes. I encourage our families to attend.



Election Day BBQ

Many thanks to all those willing volunteers who have responded so positively to Rachel's call out for volunteers. All the time slots have now been filled.



Reminder - Professional Practice Day

A reminder that this coming Monday - 23rd May is a professional practice day for our staff. Teachers will be working on assessment and data analysis. Students are not required to attend next Monday.

Rapid Antigen Test Update

From Monday 23 May 2022, it is recommended RATs are used by students and staff when symptomatic. RATs are also required to be used for 5 days if a student or staff member is a close contact of a confirmed case and they are attending or working at a school.

From Monday 23 May 2022, it will therefore no longer be recommended that non-symptomatic students or staff conduct RATs twice a week in mainstream schools and 5 days a week in specialist schools.

Students and staff must continue to notify the Department of Health and their school if they return a positive RAT result.

Free Webinar for EBPS families - *Healthy Families Webinar Series- Managing Anxiety & Other Big feelings for Tweens*

Our second in the 'Healthy Families' webinar series is just 2 weeks away.

Please see below for details: **Presenter:** Carley McGauran **Date:** Thursday 2 June **Time:** 7.30pm (60 min)

To register for the webinar: <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/124/5om8xily>

Until next time.....**Maria Shearn - Principal** 😊

East Bentleigh Primary School acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders both past and present.

