I would strongly recommend that everybody take a closer look at this, and more information can be found on our school website.

This week I would like to make special note of the commitment and dedication of our school office staff. As you would probably know, we are one of a select group of schools involved in the implementation of the new LMBR systems. These systems will be rolled out to all schools over the coming 12 months and the role we play in refining these as workable solutions is very important. Through a lot of hard work and dedication our office staff are managing to implement most of the solutions across the school, and where other schools are finding problems we are finding answers.

As this is the initial week of the Newsletter changes I am reiterating last weeks notice……We are going to implement a new newsletter distribution system beginning next week. While we understand that many of our friends and families enjoy receiving a paper copy of the school news each week, we are mindful of the cost as well as the environmental impact of distributing so many copies. Please complete the form below if you would like to continue receiving a paper copy, otherwise it will be available on the school website (http://www.maitland-e.p.schools.nsw.edu.au) or via our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/EastMaitlandPublicSchool).

Remember there will be NO canteen lunch order on this day.

If you will be leaving early with your child please have their name marked off with their class teacher. A quick note would be best if your child is going home with someone not noted on our blue cards as an emergency contact e.g Grandma or Great Aunt Mable who has come from Qld to attend Grandparents Day. Seating is limited therefore it is not a bad idea to bring a fold up chair to guarantee a seat.

Looking forward to seeing you here.

In the next little while we will be sending out information regarding our Voluntary Contribution. As it states in the title this is entirely voluntary, but the funds that we raise from this fee help us to provide important resources in your child’s classroom so we would be extremely grateful if all parents could consider paying this.

Congratulations to all the new Office Bearers for the EMPS P&C. Thank you for the commitment you have made to our school and students, and I look forward to working with you over the coming 12 months.

It was very pleasing to have the Maitland Mercury write a story on East Maitland Public last week. Basically it was promoting the use of the ‘Schools A-Z’ app that is available to download for free for smartphones. This is an application designed and written for parents to assist with understanding the sorts of concepts that children have to manage in the classroom each day.

Grandparents / Grandfriends Day
Don’t forget it’s Grandparents Day / Harmony Day this Friday 21st March. All are welcome to attend. Classes have been busily practising their items for our EMPS Concert and all are looking awesome. The BBQ is getting fired up for all those pre-ordered sausages. There will be a few extras for those who have forgotten to order, however to guarantee availability of a sausage get your orders in! Year 6 will be selling cold cans of drinks on the day for $2 as a fund raiser towards their Farewell at the end of the year.

I would like to receive a newsletter each week.
Name: ___________________________________
Child’s Name: _____________________________
Child’s Class: _____________________________

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**School News**

Well done to all students, you all represented the school with great pride.

Today was Cross Country. Notes will be going home soon for those who have qualified to the next level. Well done to all students participating and for trying their best.

In Next week’s newsletter there will be results for the school swimming carnival held at the start of this term so keep an eye out. A small presentation of ribbons and trophies will be held at next week’s whole school assembly, Thursday 27/3/14.

Never Give up and as the song says “Don’t stop believing” – Mr Swab

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**Year 7 2015**

Expression of Interest forms for year 7 2015 have been sent home, these need to be filled in and returned to school by **March 21st**.

**Stewart House**

Stewart House envelopes went home last week, this is a great organisation that helps children in public schools across NSW and the ACT. Please place a $2 coin or equivalent in the envelope and return to school by **Friday 9th May**. Not only does this assist Stewart House but you also go in the draw to win a $4000 holiday.

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**Sports Column**

There have been lots of sport happening the last few weeks.

On Friday some students attend the Maitland Zone trials for netball and soccer.

Amity Petersen, Samantha Taylor and Emelia Mann all participated in netball. The girls tried their hardest but were unlucky to make it to the next level.

Jake Collins, Will Stoneman, Sam Rutherford, Zane Estatheo and Josie Morley attended the soccer trials, these students also tried their best. Jake, Will, Zane and Josie were all selected in the Zone team and now try out for the hunter team which we be on the 4th of April.

On Monday Denver Ross, Henry Edwards and Randal Buck attended the AFL regional trials. Well done to all the boys and especially Denver who has made it into the Hunter Side.

We also wish Bailey Vidler-Adams good Luck at the Regional Rugby League trials this Friday.

On Thursday Josh Magann is trialling for the Maitland Zone Hockey Team. We wish Josh all the best and look forward to hearing the outcome.

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**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

Yes, our EGGciting Easter Guessing Competition is here again. Last year we were able to give away over 100 prizes to 100+ lucky ticket holders. To help us achieve this EGGstraordinary goal again, we are asking for donations of Easter eggs, soft toys and baskets. This will enable us to have as many prizes as possible this year. Donations should be left at the front office before **Monday 31st March**.

Tickets have been sent home, while we do not wish to offend anyone this is the most convenient method of distribution. If you do not wish to buy tickets please return to office unsold.

**TICKETS DUE BACK**

**Monday 31st March**

The Guessing Competition will be drawn **Thursday 3rd April**

Thankyou Fundraising Committee

Joy Edwards
STAFF PROFILE

My name is Julie Seymour. In 1980 I graduated from Newcastle Teachers’ College and spent the next eight years as a casual teacher at many local Maitland schools. During this time I was fortunate enough to be given many “blocks” in the Infants Department of EMPS (including when it was situated on a separate site in George Street).

In April 1988, I could not believe my luck when I was actually appointed as a permanent member of staff. (I was however a little daunted as my first class was to be the ‘big kids’ in Year 4 and I had been on Kinder or Year 1 for a long time.) I remember when I arrived here at the Primary Department (K-2 were still in George Street) one of the teachers told me that when someone is appointed here they never want to leave. Well that has certainly (and quite obviously) been the case with me. I have over the years, been privileged to not only work with, but also learn from so many highly dedicated, talented and enthusiastic teachers at all stages of their careers. The staff and of course the wonderful EMPS children are the two main reasons I never considered applying for a transfer. I really was spoilt by getting ‘the best school in the land’ as my first appointment. In the playground, I now find myself talking with parents who are former pupils. I am amazed by some of their memories but not by the fact that they are so happy that their own children are now EMPS students. During the years I have taught all grades from K to 6 and this year I am teaching the fantastic children of 3S.

I believe my role as a teacher is to provide each student with their best possible chance at success, not just in the classroom but also in the world outside: To find the strengths of each child and to build a confident person. They must see their potential.

My name is Ira Soldas and I am currently teaching a Year 1 class. I have been teaching at East Maitland Public School for over 18 years, mostly across k-2.

I am passionate about teaching and aim to provide my students a happy learning environment, where they can become confident and grow as successful learners.

I enjoy working with a fantastic team of teachers in a wonderful school here at EMPS.

Outside of school I enjoy travelling, discovering new places and experiencing different cultures and foods. I also enjoy cooking and outings with family and friends.

Visit the Wetlands in the Holidays

The Hunter Wetlands Centre at Shortland is offering fun activities for kids and families these holidays. Kids can learn bush skills, go on a bike safari, make bush perfume or join Tantrum Theatre drama workshops and participate in the creation and performance of ‘Reptilia’.

Booking essential - go to www.wetlands.org.au for dates, times and costs.

There’s plenty to do at the Wetlands - walking trails, playground, dip-netting, reptile talks, bike and canoe hire. Bring a picnic or enjoy a fresh and delicious lunch at the Spoonbill Cafe. Come along on Easter Saturday for a fun filled morning with craft, face painting, games, BBQ and a special treasure hunt. All entry $5, school holiday special - children 3-12 yrs
This Week’s EMPS Award Winners

KG
Kaleb Whitehead
Jenna Farrell

KL
Jarrod Nimmo
Lilly Bradley

KN
Cooper Bell
Emily Smythe

KR
Chloe Moore
Harry Farley

LA
Abbie Jenkins
Zander Newman

HI
Will Shaunessy
Cora Hodder

IL
Paige Tweddell
Zack Mulligan

2A
David Clapham
Dakota Woodward

2B
Zane Hardy
Emilee Miles

2N
Lily Skarin
Jacob Affleck

2NJ
Jack Williams
Catie Faulkner-Tranter

3S
Molly Williams
Oscar Stanbury
Milaki Donovan

3T
Ellis Heydon
Oscar Affleck
Letisha O’Brien

3/4P
Latisha Thomson
Marnie Redding
Sadie Hawke
Jade Griffin

4E
Paige Andonovski
Thomas Magann
Linken Malone

4W
Neave Sloan
Claudia Maughan
Callum Hawley

5S
Noah Duffy
Max Crowe
Ella Regter

5M
Ethan Montgomery
Jackson Owen
Zane Estatheo

6D
Jeremy Boardman
Riley Mitchell
Bec Davey

6T
Taylah Darcy
Luke Eveleigh
Jorja Dickson

SCJ
Locky Wilks
Jason Kuszelik

SCC
Tyson Johnson

Maitland Mutual Bank
The winner of the Mutual draw is:

Sarah Williams - 1L
Rhys Pickard-Ling - 2N

Canteen Roster

24/3
Lauren Mears
Phillipa Smythe

24/3
Megan Streeter
Julie Taylor

25/3
Josie Houring
Sue-Ann Carroll
Alison Newmann

26/3
Noelle Green
Joy Edwards
Jill Cridland

27/3
Sarah Davis
Tracey Van Toi
Meg Vile

Kylie Porter
Any problems please phone Jacki -
School 4933 7524 or Home 4932 7226

SICK BAY LINEN ROSTER

21/3
Katie Brown

28/3
Bronwyn Guy

UNIFORM SHOP
Thank you for your patience if you have been waiting on a new school hat.
The new hats are finally here!
The school’s EFTPOS system is no longer operational for Uniform Shop customers.
You will have to pay by cash or by cheque only.
Please make your cheque payable to: East Maitland Public School P&C Association

Roster
Week 8
20/03 Kerry McFerran, Melissa Farmer

Week 9
27/03 Kerry McFerran, Jodi Smith

Week 10
3/04 Kimberley Taylor, Noelle Green

Week 11
10/04 Kerry McFerran, Kylie Edwards
The AGM was held on Thursday 13th March 2014.

The New Executive for 2014
President – Angela Manson
Vice President – Joy Edwards
Secretary – Georgina Balding
Treasurer – TBC

Support Roles
Uniform Shop Coordinator – Kerry McFerran
Fundraising Coordinator – Jamie Hanna
Canteen Bookkeeper – Kris Redding

Thank you to all who attended.

Thank you to the Executive Members 2013 your contribution towards the school is greatly appreciated you have paved the way for the incoming Executive Members. I hope we can continue your great efforts.

Further discussions are to be had regarding the operation of the Uniform shop and the position descriptions for Bookkeeper and Treasurer.

The P&C currently has 16 Financial Members. Largely dominated by females. It would be great to have some male input. Please consider coming along to the next P&C Meeting.

Meetings have been changed to night time to try and cater for most people. Meetings will be held 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. Meetings are held at either the East Maitland Bowling Club or Golf Club. Membership is 50c for the year and can be paid at any general meeting.

Please note that any matters for discussion at a meeting should be received by the secretary 7 days prior to the meeting so that it can be advertised on the agenda. We welcome new items for discussion and the P&C provides an avenue for Parents/caregivers to communicate with the school community.

Please contact the P&C via email eastmaitlandpublicschoolpandc@gmail.com

Action Items currently underway
- Construction of Bridge to allow covered walk way between classrooms
- Installation of hand dryers in toilets
- Installation of new Soft Fall

- Pressure Cleaning of Cola area
- Removal of Trees
- Quotes for upgrade to school Siren and PA system
- Purchase of Uniforms for Sporting Teams
- Shirts for Band
- Discussion of Fundraising Calendar of Events for 2014

LAST CHANCE TO GET YOUR FAMILY PORTRAIT

A family photo session and enlargement for only $20. Saturday 22nd or Sunday 23rd March.
Money raised going to support P&C activities in your school.
It’s not too late. Bookings and $20 payment for Family Portraits are still being taken up until Thursday 20th March. Reserve your spot today by contacting Leighsa. Contact leighsa@micelle-leigh.com.au or phone 0421034805 for more details
$20 payment must be made to school office before photo sessions to confirm the booking otherwise the allocated time may be given to someone else.

Clarification regarding Mother’s Day Stall.

Mother’s Day stall will be held at the School on THURSDAY 8TH MAY 2014.
Each child has been given a pre-order form to return if they would like to participate in the stall. Requesting prepayment ensures there are quality items for each child and money is not handled at the same time as assisting the children to select their gift. Each child will come to the stall in class groups and choose their own gift from the stall.
Donations of items towards the stall are welcome – Please leave with your class teacher or at the office. The P&C are ordering a selection of items from the fundraising supplier however we welcome any items you would like to donate.

Pre-loved
The Uniform Shop is receiving a large number of pre loved items. As the Uniform shop is currently run by volunteers 1 day a week they do not have the time to sort through these items. If you could spare ½ an hour 1 or 2 days a week to assist with this it would be greatly appreciated. Please email eastmaitlandpublicschoolpandc@gmail.com or see Kerry in the Uniform Shop on Thursday morning.

Linen Roster – Sick Bay
Just another service the P&C assists with around your school. The linen in the sick bay needs washing once a week. The more volunteers we have the less everyone has to do. If you can assist with collecting linen and taking home to wash and return just once a term it would be greatly appreciated. Please email eastmaitlandpublicschoolpandc@gmail.com or contact Joy Edwards on 0422027745
Book Fair
This Friday from 9am!

Loads of books for sale:
Fiction books, non-fiction books,
picture books, puzzle books,
craft kits, stationary packs,
and loads of specials.

Guessing Competition
20c a guess, how many M&M's in the jar?

Free Bookmark with every purchase

Cash, cheque and EFTPOS available.