MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I have been fortunate enough to be able to attend all bar one of our K-6, K-2 & 3-6 assemblies this year. It is a great pleasure each week to hand out merit and other achievement awards to our hard-working students. As I have stated to the assemblies, it is particularly note-worthy that many of the awards are presented for things such as ‘participation’, ‘effort’, ‘improvement’ and ‘trying hard’. No student is expected to be ‘the best’, just to be doing his or her best. Congratulations to all students who are working on being the very best version of themselves that they can be, whether they win a weekly award or not.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers in the hall last Wednesday night meeting the teachers of their children. The teachers certainly gained much from the experience and we trust that meeting with us was also a valuable experience for you. Establishing and maintaining positive and open relationships with parents is of paramount importance in our combined efforts to facilitate the best possible outcomes for your children. It was also a terrific opportunity for me to meet some more of our school family members as well. Thank you to those who were able to attend.

Prize Winners

Congratulations to the students in the support unit, members of the garden club and Mrs Tomasevic on your entries in the Maitland Show Scarecrow Competition. It is wonderful to have been represented in this important community event. An added bonus was taking out first prize in the category ‘Years 3-6’! If you would like to see our scarecrows they are currently on display in the school office area.
Col Hatchman Drumming

Our drummers (57 in total) have now had three weeks with Col Hatchman and are thoroughly enjoying it! Well done students with the way you have welcomed Col into our school and displayed our school values. We have three groups running on a Wednesday: 12:05pm, 12:35pm and 1:00pm. If any parent has queries regarding accounts or payments please contact Col Hatchman directly: accounts@drumcorp.com.au Any other enquires please contact Mrs Hookway.

University English/Mathematics Competitions

The competitions are open to Years 2-6 only. Notes and money must be returned to school by Friday, 11 March 2016.

Photo Day

Wednesday, 9 March 2016 is photo day. Envelopes were handed out, if your child has not brought one home they need to come to the office to collect one.

A reminder
• NO sports uniform is to be worn on this day.
• We do not do family photographs.
• Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash and money orders only.
• Payments can be made online.
• Do not seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope, however, each child needs to have their own envelope on the day.

Canberra Excursion

Instalments can be made towards the Canberra excursion. The final payment is due Thursday, 24 March 2016.

Clean Up Australia

East Maitland Public School is participating in Clean Up Australia Day on Friday, 4 March. Can students please remember to bring their hats and a pair of gloves.

Save the Date

On Wednesday, 16 March (Week 8), we will be having a school disco. K-2 students 5:00-6:00pm and 3-6 students 6:15-7:30pm.
Entry is $4.00. There will be lollies, chocolate, chips and drinks available to buy. Prices will be 50c to $2.00. Make sure you bring your dancing shoes.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

East Maitland Public School students demonstrating our rules and values are acknowledged by the EMPS Positive Behaviour for Learning achievement system. Students are able to receive value slips, merit awards, principal awards and end-of-year awards. These awards are CARRIED OVER each year.

The EMPS values are:
• Respect
• Responsibility
• Learning
• Participation
• Co-operation

Nutrition Snippet

...to keep lunch foods fresh.

Food packed at home in the lunch box needs to stay fresh and safe to eat at school.
Meat, fish, poultry, eggs, noodles, rice, pasta, custard, yoghurt, cheese and milk need to be kept very cold to prevent food poisoning.
Pack lunches in a cooler bag with a cold brick.
Freeze items such as sandwiches, milk pudders, yoghurt, custard tubs, muffins, or fruit segments to pack on hot days.

For more information visit www.eatittobealit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobealit

Eat It To Beat It
If you are unable to come on your day please phone or msg Jacki - School 4933 7524 or mobile 0419143528

**Uniform Shop**

Please note the uniform shop will no longer be opening Monday afternoons. We will only be opening Thursday mornings 8:30am-9:00am or you may place an order with the office. HOWEVER, if we get more volunteers we may be able to open twice a week on a nominated Morning 8:30am-9:00am. If you are able to help please email us your details.

**Roster for this term is below. We need volunteers to fill our current gaps. If you can help please contact us via email or leave your details with the office. This role only takes 45 minutes between 8:25am and 9:10am on Thursdays.**

The uniform shop has no ETFPOS facilities so please bring cash.
Calling all sausage sandwich lovers!
Mark in your calendar Sunday, 3rd April and come and help host a BBQ at Masters. A note will be sent out shortly, if you are interested please indicate your availability. Remember friends, grandparents/carers are also welcome to help. These BBQs are fantastic fundraisers and the best part is the parents are not having to contribute money. This event will help cover the cost of the Healthy Life van visiting our school later in the term, which means the cost per child is only $5.00 instead of $10.00. So if you have 30 minutes or 3 hours to help we would really appreciate it.
Please keep an eye out for the note, or email us now.

Just a reminder

Our AGM will be held on 10th March 6:30pm location TBA.
During this meeting all members need to be financial ($1) for 2016 voting.
New members are MOST welcome.
Membership forms will be available at the meeting, or prior at the school office.

How can you help?
Begin by simply emailing us on eastmaitlandpublicschoolpandc@gmail.com, leaving your contact details with the lovely office ladies or popping into the next meeting. You don’t have to volunteer for roles, you can just turn up to some meetings and keep up to date with what’s happening in your school’s community, it’s up to you. We NEVER knock back new members.

Bookkeeper Position Available
Sadly our awesome current bookkeeper will not be involved with the school next year. We are in need of someone to take over and Kris has kindly offered to give as much help as needed to the new position holder for the remainder of the year.
The position covers the canteen, uniform shop and fundraising activities, and the person would require:

- Competency with MYOB or similar to complete entry of income and expenditure, bank reconciliations, payroll, BAS, monthly management reports and yearly payment summaries.
- Superannuation reporting procedures, preparation of workers’ compensation documentation and insurance renewals.
- The preparation of financial reports to present to monthly P&C meetings.

The operation of our wonderful P&C relies on this position for our day-to-day running, so if you are interested please apply in writing to Hayley Lindsay at eastmaitlandpublicschoolpandc@gmail.com by 1st March 2016. Any enquiries in regards to the duties may be directed to Kris Redding 0414 714 141 or the email above.

Other News
The upgrade of the outside area of the multi categorical unit is still underway. We are still looking for donations of good condition used or new outdoor toys like Tonka trucks, diggers and sandpit equipment. Anything you can donate would be greatly appreciated. See Mrs Coleman or the office.

Parking
Please be careful and considerate where you park your car. The city rangers are constantly checking and warning that the grassed section in the middle of the two roads is NOT a safe or legal parking area. Parking illegally compromises the safety of our kids. The cars parked there restrict the view of the children crossing the road.

PLEASE PARK IN THE APPROPRIATE PARKING AREAS. There are plenty of legal parking spots. Or make use of the safe drop off zone out the front of the school in the mornings.

eastmaitlandpublicschoolpandc@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/EastMaitlandPublicSchool

Please make sure you have the latest version to receive all the features.