



In the Eagle this week:

- **Data in Schools**
- **Japanese Teaching Assistant**
- **What is STEM?**
- **Music Equipment**
- **Sports News**
- **P&C News**

From the Principal

Schools are data rich entities. We collect data all the time. I wanted to communicate with you this week about two interesting data sources.

The first is the School Climate Survey 2017. Thirty five parents responded, of those nine percent of parents who answered the survey said that our school does not have enough emphasis on academic achievement. Yet the internal data we have says the opposite. So I agree with the recommendations from the school review last year that we need to tell you more often what we have achieved, so that you are more informed to make these decisions.

Last year, in a previous newsletter we explained to you about *effect* size. This is a mathematical formula that we use when you compare scores from a beginning (can be the beginning of a year) and at the end (can be end of semester or end of the year). It also is more statistically relevant when there are more than 30 students that it applies to. This applies to all of our year cohorts. If we use Middle Years Mental Computation as an example - the current year 5 students progressed 24 months in twelve months. Our current year 6 students, on average, progressed two and half years in twelve months. Another example is that our Kindergarten students - 86% met or exceeded the upper limit of ACT benchmark reading levels at the end of their year.

The Australian and ACT government expects that each year each child should make twelve months progress in twelve months. Logical. We have proven using other external credible research based and approved testing mechanisms, apart from NAPLAN, that our mainstream students are at national benchmark or above. This is not reflected in NAPLAN because that is not what NAPLAN measures.

It is easy to be swayed by media reporting of NAPLAN results and growth. But it needs to be remembered that all Evatt students are included in the public data. Not all Evatt students are able to make 12 months growth in 12 months and their data is included in the My School and NAPLAN data. External media sources do not include the uniqueness of schools like ours (this is an Australian wide issue) and the fact that ALL students are included in our data. We also celebrate the learning of our students with a diagnosed disability and we track their growth and celebrate their achievement, some of which exceeds our students without a disability. This is particularly true in Mathematics.

16 March 2018

Monday 19 March 2018

School banking

Tuesday 20 March 2018

Wednesday 21 March 2018

Harmony Day

Thursday 22 March 2018

Canteen Open

Breakfast Club: 8.30am – 9.00am

NAPLAN Readiness Test

Friday 23 March 2018

Canteen Open

Ride/Walk to School Day

*Don't forget to check
the Back Page*



We do focus on high expectations and high academic achievement. Do not be swayed by the media through My School of this report. Your children are achieving well and we have validated data to prove that. NAPLAN is only one source of data in one moment in time. The value of NAPLAN is that it gives schools another source of information about the things that we are teaching well and those that we need to improve on - that is valuable. This is the message we give to students all the time – there are always things that we can do better.

My second comment is about a conversation I had with a parent at the swimming carnival last week. She was telling me about her elder daughter in year 7 and how she has been promoted to extension groups in Japanese and Maths. This is not the first conversation I have had with a parent who has a child in the primary and secondary sector who has a similar story to tell. I have asked my secondary colleagues for an update on data to see how Evatt students fare when compared with students from other primary schools.

I am asking that you keep an open mind and focus on your child. If your child's teacher is telling you that they are achieving at benchmark and above then that is true. If they are saying that your child is not at nationally agreed benchmarks then you need to ask us "what are you doing about it?" My staff are then able to talk about the interventions we are putting in place to support and enhance learning.

Things are not always what they appear to be. Question and reflect.

Statistically, one source of data is not secure. At Evatt, we always triangulate the data which is why I am confident in saying; all Evatt students are making good progress.

Have a lovely weekend.

Susan Skinner



The graphic features a large blue circular logo on the left with the text 'NAPLAN ONLINE' and a hand cursor icon pointing at it. To the right, the text reads 'NAPLAN will be online from 15-25 May 2018.' Below this, a list of benefits for NAPLAN Online is provided. In the top right corner is the ACT Government logo. At the bottom, a message encourages participation and provides the website www.nap.edu.au.

NAPLAN will be online from 15-25 May 2018.

NAPLAN Online:

- Is more engaging and adjusts questions to meet your child's achievement level.
- delivers more precise literacy and numeracy achievement results to schools and parents more quickly.
- supports school improvement by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

Our school encourages all eligible students to participate in NAPLAN. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see how the test works and for more information.

Japanese News

An opportunity has become available for an Evatt School family to host our Japanese Teaching Assistant when she arrives next term. We require a family to host her for about 6 weeks from Week 1 to Week 6 in Term 2 (approximately 28 April to 9 June, exact dates are flexible). This year our assistant will be Juna who is a 22 year old female.

Families who host our Japanese assistant receive a weekly board payment to cover expenses. It's a great opportunity to encourage your child's (and your) knowledge of Japanese language and culture and even make a life-long family friend. Please consider supporting our Japanese Program by hosting Juna. If you would like more information or have any questions please contact Quayle Sensei.

leanne.quayle@ed.act.edu.au

Leanne Quayle, Japanese Teacher

What is STEM?

Evatt School staff are interested in finding out what parents think of STEM and what they know about how it is taught. Mrs Zimmer suggested that parents use the Evatt Eagle to share some of their experiences and understanding of this subject.

STEM stands for:

- Science,
- Technology,
- Engineering and
- Mathematics.

So what does that mean? As a biology graduate, I guess I have the inside track on understanding what divides these disciplines.

To me, Science is the process of investigation. It starts with an observation, "I see something." This turns into a question, "How does something happen?" This turns into experimentation, "Can I make something happen?" This results in evaluation, "Did something happen? Can I make it happen again? What can I change in my experiment to make it happen again?" Next is explanation, "Why did something happen?" Finally and most importantly is communication: If you've found out something that is interesting or unusual, tell someone! More often than not, someone has thought about your something and probably wondered the same thing that you have now discovered.

Technology is the application of scientific knowledge to make something better. The technology of rocketry made satellites possible which made communications more efficient which made mobile phones possible, and so on and so on...

Engineering is the physical application of technology. It's all those physical expressions of technological developments. To me it is not only the development of the construction crane, but the development of computer networks and fibre optic cables, as well as the 3D printer and the ceramics used in your coffee cup.

Finally, there is Maths. Maths is not only 'gymnastics for the mind', but it is the language of the universe. Numbers give reason to everything. My children in the Marine Biologists (Kinder) have yet to fully appreciate the value of numbers (money is yet to be comprehended – and yet they understand the concept of gravity and time. Moving on...). Their birthday is divided from Christmas and the Easter Show by time. Without maths this calculation would not be possible. As a scientist, maths gives validation to research. With the data produced from experimentation I can confidently talk to others and say, 'I know what happened with something. I know what is likely to happen with something. I know what I need to do with that something to make it happen again, or prevent it from happening again.'

That is a brief introduction to what STEM means to me. I look forward to reading what other parents know about STEM and how they encourage or facilitate learning in their own households. Ours is a strong school community with many talented individuals, so I hope to see many, many contributions. Thanks for reading.

Zac Ezzy

Evatt School Parent

Music Equipment

Please see the pictures below. These are musical instruments that are no longer used by the IMP year 5 and year 6 Band.

We have made them available to parents, for a small donation in payment. Please contact the school office if you are interested in any of these items.





Notes Due:

***PLEASE NOTE:** Paper notes are sent home on Wednesdays. Copies can be accessed at the following links*

BYOT Information Sheet

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/406821/letter_to_year_3_-_6_parents_re_BYOT.pdf

2018 – Voluntary Contributions and Stationery Contribution K-6

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/409060/2018_Vol_Cons_and_Stationery.pdf

Preschool – Voluntary Contributions and Arts and Craft Contribution

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/409061/2018_Vol_Cons_and_Craft_Supplies_-_preschool.pdf

2018 Japanese Host Families needed

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/409365/2018_Host_Families_Needed.pdf

Canteen News and Menu 2018

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/414175/Canteen_News_and_menu_term_1_2018.pdf

ICT Permission

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/416924/ICT_Permissions_note.pdf

SeeSaw

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/416925/Seesaw_permission.pdf

AquaSafe – Swim safety for Year 2

Due date: 27 March

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/414962/Permission_note_-_Aquasafe_2018.pdf

ICAS Testing - Year 206

Due date: 20 March

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/418179/ICAS_Testing_2018.pdf

Sports News

Swimming Carnival

Last Friday we had the Evatt School swimming carnival at Gungahlin Leisure Centre. We had an awesome day with lots of fun, boisterous cheering and encouragement. The younger children rotated through novelty events and the older children participated in the swimming carnival as well as novelty events. We would particularly like to thank the parents who volunteered their time to assist at the carnival, as without their generosity events like this would not be possible.

The children showed great house spirit. The final house results were Clancy 1st with 195 points, Copland 2nd with 169 points, Webb 3rd with 159 points and Dixon 4th with 153 points.

Congratulations to Ella, Jade, Dom, George, Regan, Evie, Myah, Alex, Emilia, Petra, Harry, Josh, Emma, Ingrid, Richard, Imogen, Dylan and Isaac who have been selected to represent Evatt School at the ACT School Sport Belconnen Region Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 27 March at the AIS.

We only had one item of lost property left over from the carnival. If your child has lost a black zip up rashie with colourful short sleeves please have them see me.

Sport Trials

No new trial dates have been released this week, but please continue to check the School Sport website (www.schoolsportact.asn.au) for up to date information.

Sports for Schools @ Coles

Coles Sports for Schools is back. When you shop at Coles, you'll receive Sports for Schools vouchers that we can exchange for sports gear. Please bring your vouchers to the school office/preschool and place them in the collection bin.



P&C News

P&C - Dates for your Diary

School Disco -	Friday 6th April
Mother's Day Stall -	Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th May
Trivia Nights -	adults only Friday 22nd June
Evatt Old Fashioned Fete -	Sunday 4 November 11am - 3pm
Homemade Treat Day -	Tuesday 10th April (week 10)

The P&C have a Facebook page so please join - Evatt School P&C. You can keep up to date with fundraising and events happening around the school.

Uniform

Girls and boys are encouraged to wear navy blue suitable clothing at all times. The only exception is special days and sports carnival days. More information can be found at:

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/384663/Dress_Standards_-_updated_policy.pdf

Shop for a school uniform from the comfort of your own home!

School uniforms are available for order through the P&C Uniform shop at any time. Please fill in an order form and return to the front office, or email to krystacordina@gmail.com. Payment options include cash or direct deposit into the P&C account. Once payment is made, uniforms will be delivered to your child's classroom.

Polo shirts	\$22
Long sleeved shirts	\$25
Hats	\$10

To purchase, please fill in order form and return to the front office or email to krystacordina@gmail.com

http://www.evattps.act.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/408381/Uniform_information_2017.pdf

Community News



Belnorth
Football Club
Registration Open
ENROL NOW
belnorth.com



**Stressed about back to school costs?
Make next year different.**

Saver Plus will match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

- laptops & tablets
- camp & excursions
- uniforms & shoes
- lessons & activities
- sports fees & gear
- books & supplies

Contact
Kathleen Watson
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator
Phone
0448 730 305
02 6283 7606
Email
kathleen.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au
Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Bery Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.ds.gov.au for more information.

Term 1 – 2018

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 Hockey Clinics	19 School Banking	20	21 Harmony Day	22 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am NAPLAN Readiness Test	23 Canteen Open Ride/Walk to School Day
8 Hockey Clinics	26 School Banking	27 Belconnen Zone Swimming Carnival	28	29 Canteen Closed Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am Assembly: 2.15pm – 1/2BT and 1/2AB AquaSafe – Year 2	30 Good Friday 
9 Hockey Clinics	April 2 Easter Monday	3 School Banking Constable Kenny – KP & GC AquaSafe – Year 2	4 P&C Meeting 6pm	5 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am	6 Canteen Open CEIS School Disco
10 Hockey Clinics	9 School Banking	10 Constable Kenny – Preschool Canteen: Homemade Treat Day Kinder Excursion - Tidbinbilla	11	12 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am Constable Kenny - Preschool	13 Canteen Open Assembly: 2.15pm – Kinder ANZAC Day Ceremony - MCSS

Term 2 – 2018

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Apr 30 School Banking	May 1	2	3 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am	4 Canteen Open Cross Country
2	7 School Banking ACT Swimming Carnival	8 Mother's Day Stall	9	10 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am Mother's Day Stall	11 Canteen Open Assembly: 2.15pm - ANTs
3	14 School Banking	15	16	17 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am	18 Canteen Open
4	21 School Banking	22	23	24 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am	25 Canteen Open Assembly: 2.15pm – Yr 3/4
5	28 School Banking	29 Preschool Excursion	30	31 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am Preschool Excursion Belconnen Zone X-country	1 June Canteen Open
6	4 School Banking	5	6	7 Canteen Open Breakfast Club 8.30am-9.00am	8 Canteen Open Assembly: 2.15pm – Yr 5/6

SCHOOL PAYMENT DETAILS:

EFTPOS: Visit the front office in person, ring the front office and pay over the phone (Mastercard/Visa only).

Direct Transfer: Evatt Primary School Management Account, BSB: 032777, Account number: 001244, Reference field: 'child/family name' & 'excursion/payment name'

