It is so good to see the students out and active. Last week I visited the students as they engaged in Open Water safety exercises in the Murray. I am sure that they learnt a lot about staying safe and being responsible in and around our river. They certainly looked like they were having lots of fun and learning many new skills.

School Picnic
It was lovely to meet some of our new families and catch up with other families at our school picnic last Thursday evening. This is always a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends whilst also establishing some new ones. I hope that those who did take the time to come along enjoyed the evening. We are always open to feedback regarding the picnic and any other events that we hold at 208. Feedback assists us in future planning or modifying events held at the school. Please feel free to either pop in and see me or drop your written suggestions into the office.

Meet n Greet Interviews
For the last three afternoons staff have been holding parent teacher student interviews. I certainly hope that many parents took the opportunity to share information about their child which will assist this year’s class teacher. Establishing a good home school relationship is always very important and often alleviates miscommunication. If you were unable to catch up with your child’s teacher during the last three afternoons, please make an appointment to see them.

Parking
It is always quite disturbing to hear reports of near misses and poor etiquette when dropping off or picking up students. As parents we are role models for our child and I plead with you to make responsible decisions when parking. Please make sure that you do not double or triple park. Park in the designated areas only and please do not stop in the middle of the road and call your child over to dodge in front of or behind cars. It is only a matter of time before someone is run over or worse, seriously injured.
Parking Continued.....

When reading this some parents must think I am a bit crazy, but unfortunately this is some of the behaviour that some of our parents are exhibiting. Do not forget the carpark in High Street is accessible. Parents can walk from here using the traffic lights and collect their children responsibly. Whilst most parents are responsible, it only takes one to make an accident happen. The Police and the Parking Inspector have been contacted and I believe they will be booking parents who are doing the wrong thing. Let’s keep our children safe.

YMCA After School Care

The School Council have been in negotiations with the YMCA After School Care Program to try and establish some common ground for the program to continue. There have been two items that have been discussed:

1. Setting up time
2. Cost of the hire of the gymnasium.

We have held two meetings with the YMCA and a letter from the YMCA went to School Council on Monday evening outlining their concerns. These concerns were discussed at great length. School Council agreed to agree with the YMCA regarding the hire of the gym, but the setting up time is a little trickier. As you are aware 208 is running at full capacity and is very space poor. The YMCA requires access to our gym at last 30 minutes prior to the commencement of their program for setting up activities. This is a very difficult request as it is our responsibility to ensure that our programs and educational commitments are of paramount importance for our students throughout the day. As the gym is fully booked with lessons it is not possible to allow access 30 minutes prior to the afterschool care program commencing for the setting up of equipment when we have PE classes running in the gym. School Council has asked the YMCA to consider alternatives so that we have a win, win situation. Some of the suggestions were; starting their program outside, either on playground equipment or utilise games that require little or no equipment which would then allow them to access the Gym when it is free of classes.

This would be at around 3.15pm. The YMCA has been granted access to the canteen from 2.50pm for food preparation. Most schools that run an after school program have a designated spare room which makes it a lot easier to accommodate an after school program. Echuca Primary School values the after school program and are aware that a number of families utilise this service. We are awaiting a response from the YMCA as they have indicated that if we do not allow access at least 30 minutes prior to the afterschool program they will be terminating the program here at the school. I will keep you posted as to the outcome. It is important that the parents who utilise this program are aware of the negotiations that are occurring.

Don’t be away on Census Day

Please mark the 28th February on your calendars. It is very important that all students are present at school on this day. If you are planning a family trip or extended holiday please don’t select this date. Twice a year schools have to submit census data about various things at the beginning of the year the date is 28th February which includes enrolment verification for 2017. From this information the Department of Education & Training determines the amount of funding we will receive for the year. This funding is then allocated to ensure the best educational opportunities are provided for your child. The budget covers curriculum, staffing, relief teachers, maintenance, assets, professional development, wellbeing, intervention etc. A draft budget went to School Council in December last year which provides an estimate of the running costs for the school for the following year. Once the enrolments have been confirmed by DET then funding is allocated to the school. The draft budget is then modified as per the amount of funding received and is then presented to School Council around April where the confirmed budget is presented for approval.

Lynne Flynn
Principal
Hello Everyone,

Another exciting week has come and gone and it has been terrific to see the students back into the swing of things at 208.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club kicked off this week with many students taking the opportunity to call into the Neighbourhood for a piece of toast (or two) and a chat. Thanks to the parents who have volunteered to assist in the mornings. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Autumn Gala Ball

With a little over a week to go the Parents & Friends are busily putting the finishing touches to arrangements for the Autumn Gala Ball. Don’t forget to call into the Office and purchase your tickets for what should be a great night. Tomorrow the Parents & Friends will be holding their meeting at Morrison’s Winery commencing at 10am. I know they would love to see some new faces joining them for morning tea and a chat.

First Aid in Schools and Plastic Pollution Solution

All students across the school will have the opportunity to participate in two exciting incursions next week. First Aid in Schools conducted by St Johns First Aid will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, providing the students with some vital skills in basic First Aid. Students will also have a visit from the Plastic Pollution Solution Team. The team will be sharing their environmental message with our 3-6 students on Monday and our Prep -2 students on Thursday. We look forward to welcoming our visitors next week and trust the students will gain some important messages from them.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Echuca Primary School will ensure high levels of learning for all students.

Parents & Friends

The voluntary Parents and Friends (P&F) Committee is a welcoming and fun social group. It is made up of parents of the school that gather together to discuss and suggest ideas.

It includes organising numerous fantastic events and we also promote parental volunteering within our school. Our next meeting is tomorrow at 10.00am at Morrison Riverview Winery & Restaurant, 2 Merool Road Moama.

All welcome, if you have any queries regarding the P&F please contact the office 5483 0700.

Hope to see you there!

Gala Ball Raffle

Tickets for the Gala Ball raffle are now available from the office. Thank you to Rebecca Russell, Morrisons Riverview Winery & Restaurant & Rich River Golf Club for the donation of these wonderful prizes.

Tickets are $2 each

1st Prize

![Image of 2 adults at Oaks on Market, Melbourne including parking and breakfast]

6 Bottles of Morrison Wines

2nd Prize

![Image of golf balls]

30 Golf balls & 1 Round of Golf at Rich River Golf Club

3rd & 4th Prize

![Image of Morrison Wines]

6 Bottles of Morrison Wines

Raffle tickets close at the end of the day March 3rd.
What’s Happening in Mathematics

It is great to see so many different approaches being used to teach Maths across our school. This year our whole school goal is to ‘use data more effectively to inform our teaching and learning in Mathematics’. As we all know, children learn differently and need to provided with these opportunities to ensure they are able to reach their full potential.

In the 5/6 classrooms last week, I witnessed children learning in a range of different ways. Students were making 3D shapes out of connector straws or with play-doh, and transforming pieces of paper into a 3D shape. Students were learning multiplication step by step with the classroom teachers, whilst another student was using computer coding to draw shapes and objects, like a snowman.

Some grade 3/4 students were working out the value of their name using MAB tens and ones blocks, and playing co-operative games to reinforce their place value understanding.

Everyday activities, such as counting, reading calendars and clocks make up an important aspect of the grade 1 and 2 classrooms, whilst our newest mathematicians in the Foundation rooms are already counting their days at school using icy pole sticks and other hands on materials.

All students are being logged onto the interactive ICT program Sumdog, which allows students to play at home and compete in classroom and nation-wide contests and assessments. This website can be accessed at home, as well as at school through www.sumdog.com

Also intervention and extension programs are being established in the grades 3-6 area to ensure we are supporting all students to reach their full potential.

Feel free to drop in and see what amazing things we are doing in Mathematics at 208.
Echuca Primary School will ensure high levels of learning for all students.

Respectful—Responsible—Resilient

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**Student of the Week**

**Junior School**

- **00A Tommy Teasdale-Dohnt**
  Tommy has this school thing nailed! He is a respectful student that looks out for all of us. Keep it up Tommy!

- **00B Mace Love**
  What amazing perseverance you have shown in writing the date on your work. It was great to see you so excited when you wrote it on your own. Well done Mace!

- **00C Mason Mann**
  Mason has displayed great courage and persistence with starting Prep. We are very proud of you Mason, keep up the fantastic work!

- **00D Jack Thompson**
  208, meet Jack! He is a champion in 00D. Jack loves to read and learn, and he doesn’t mind a chat either!

- **01A Makenzie Fayle**
  You are always respectful of your classmates and ready to learn. Your superstar writing shows how well you listen and try your best.

- **01B Makayla Ireland**
  Makayla has made a fantastic start at her new school. She is always ready to listen and learn and enjoys sharing her ideas.

- **01C Naomi Poole**
  Naomi is awesome! She is always respectful and comes to school everyday very eager to learn. Fantastic work Naomi!

- **01D Lexie Howard**
  What a wonderful start to Grade 1! Always respectful, a responsible learner and keeps trying her best. A pleasure to have in 1D!

- **02A Jem Waterson**
  What a champ you are Jem! Always trying your best and having a go at everything. You are a role model in our room.

- **02B Bodhi Teasdale-Dohnt**
  Wow this boy comes to school switched on and ready to learn EVERY day. He is a kind, friendly class member who is very responsible.

- **02D Evie Bennett**
  What a fantastic personal recount you have written and in amazing detail! Thank you for being such a respectful student both in and out of the classroom.

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**Student of the Week**

**Senior School**

- **34A Jude Phyland**
  Jude, what a fantastic week you have had. Mr. Thorn was blown away by your awesome Maths skills and how well you work with others. Great job!

- **34B Jorja Langley**
  How well you have settled into grade 34 B. Your respect for fellow students is outstanding! Keep up the fantastic reading!

- **34C Milla Teasdale**
  What a fantastic start to the year Milla. You have proven yourself to be an excellent role model and leader in our class. Keep it up!

- **34D Reese Baldock**
  It was fantastic to see you extend yourself in Maths this week by creating your own problems to solve when you had finished. Keep up the great initiative!

- **34E Tom Naujok**
  You have taken on all the new challenges of Grade 3 with energy and enthusiasm. I really appreciate your willingness to share your ideas with the class!

- **34F Jazz Hone**
  What a wonderful pieces of writing you have been doing this week Jazz! Keep up with the fantastic handwriting and positive attitude to school!

- **56A Sienna Agg**
  A fantastic start to Grade 6 Sienna. You display beautiful manners and you have an excellent attitude towards your learning. Well done!

- **56B James Cations**
  James what a fantastic start to the year you’ve had. Your efforts and concentration levels are brilliant.

- **56C Blake Bell**
  Well done Blake on a fantastic week! You always demonstrate the 3Rs in your behaviour and your work, and you are always willing to lend a hand.

- **56D Maia Roberts**
  Congratulation Maia on your efforts in and out of the classroom. Your confidence is growing each week and I like seeing you taking leadership opportunities.

- **56E Tahlia McMaster-Smith**
  What are we grateful for this week? Tahlia! She has a lovely presence in our classroom, displaying all the 3R’s and being a great role model.

- **56F Ann Nabu**
  What a preseason of learning you have had. All that hard work over Summer has paid off. Keep up the great work!
Junior Rising Sports Star: Mrs Cameron Vashti Stroobants 01C Congratulations on a great start to the term Vashti. A very responsible participant in team games. Well done.

Senior Rising Sports Star: Mr Campbell Jacob Ainslie 00A Behind Jacob’s quiet smile is a budding artist! Thanks for being such a wonderful member of the art room Jacob, I can’t wait to see what else you create this year.

Senior Science Wizz: Mr Trewhella Alexci Nicholas 56F & Bronte O'Toole 56E For demonstrating great pride and enthusiasm in the Science Room.

Arts Star: Mr Thompson Kallum Wickham 34B - Kallum used good movement and voice projection during group acting routines. Very effective!

Lily Vincent 00A
When it comes to making us all feel great…..Well this girl is a natural!
Nominated by Mr Hawthorn

Willow Delamare 00B
Being a responsible class member in keeping our room neat and tidy.
Nominated by Mrs Locke

Will Fisher 02D
For being a caring friend, helping to find a classmate’s hat.
Nominated By Mrs McIntosh

Jye Field 34C
For persisting with trying to solve a problem a number of ways by himself. Great resilience Jye!
Nominated by Miss Hubacek

Toby Coutts 56A
For being respectful and resilient at the swimming sports, in the yard and during team building activities.
Nominated by Miss Hogan

Respectful—Responsible—Resilient
What’s happening in PE!

The Prep -2 students are focussing on developing their Fundamental Motor Skills, specifically running, dodging, throwing and catching. They are participating in games concentrating on working cooperatively and following instructions.

The Grade 3-6s are focussing on further developing their team-work and cooperation with their peers. They are showing great enthusiasm towards a variety of new and exciting activities. This week students are starting to explore ways to maintain fitness and motivation.

Mrs Yana Cameron and Mr Zach Campbell

Arts News

We have hit the ground running over in the Arts building this year with lots of creative endeavours ahead.

The Preps are settling in with great enthusiasm, with many already showing what budding artists they are! We have been learning about colours and the different materials we can use to create visual artworks.

Grades 1/2 have started the year off by creating artworks using 'negative space'. The Grade 1’s used pencils and stencils to make a picture that wasn’t really there. While the Grade 2’s cut out a vase shape that looked like a face…or was it a face shape that looked like a vase?

Grade 3/4 have already started rehearsing sketch comedy routines which will be performed in front of our very own Green Screen Studio. Once they have all been filmed, each video will have a background and sound effects added to suit their sketch.

Grade 5/6 have started looking at the different ways music can be written and read. Last week students used a variety of melodic instruments to try and decode eight ‘mystery melodies’. Can you figure out what this one is?

C C F F F F F E F G

Lee Thompson & Eliza Hodgens
Arts Specialists

Echuca Primary School will ensure high levels of learning for all students.
What’s Happening in Grade 3/4

We cannot believe that it’s already nearing the end of week four. With our expectations now all in place, we can now continue getting stuck into our learning. In Maths, this term we are learning all about place value, chance, time, addition and subtraction. In Reading we are focussing on connections, questioning and predicting. In Writing we are creating narrative and persuasive pieces.

A HUGE thankyou to those who attended the 208 picnic, it was a fantastic opportunity to see so many faces outside of the classroom. Just a general reminder to all parents, could you please ensure that your child’s items are labelled when they are bringing them to school. This includes the many containers used to store fruit, biscuits etc. keep your eye out next Monday for our communication note.

Come to our Book Fair
Tuesday 7th of March
School Gymnasium
8.30 to 4.30pm

Book Fairs are a wonderful way to help inspire a love of reading in all children. The Fair will offer easy & convenient access to a large affordable selection of literature. The profits from the Fair will be used to increase resources in the Library, as well as in the classroom libraries.

Purchases for available stock can be made on the day of the Fair. If items sell out on the day then an order can be placed. Full payment for purchase and/or orders must be made on the day they are placed.

Parent Help

If you are able to volunteer sometime to assist on the day of the Fair, please contact our librarian, Val Mulcair at the school office.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Echuca Primary School will ensure high levels of learning for all students.

Grade 5/6 Open Water

Last Friday our Grade 5/6 students participated in an Open Water Learning Experience, provided by Life Saving Victoria. Students gained knowledge about keeping safe when in and around water, particularly open water environments. Practical strategies were delivered, such as identifying dangers and reading safety signs.

They learnt about the emergency response sequence (DRSABCD) and survival strategies such as wearing a life jacket, the HELP position and entering and exiting the water safely. Students also enjoyed learning about staying safe on body boards and they were able to practise different rescuing strategies. We were proud of the way our students participated in these valuable activities and it was a fun (and exhausting) way to finish our week.

Grade 5/6 Team

Echuca Primary School
Grade 2—Snap Fitness

The Grade 2 children were lucky enough to spend some time at Snap Fitness this week as part of our ‘Health’ Inquiry topic. We explored the gym and learnt about some of the equipment. We had gym trainers and manager Mick and Thomas talk to us about being fit and healthy and answer our questions. We would like to give a huge thanks to the parents that came with us to walk to and from the gym. Also a big thanks to Snap Fitness for having us visit.

Grade 2 Team

Administration

Payment Agreement for Student Charges

If you have not completed a Payment Agreement form please contact the office. Just a reminder for those families who have opted to pay charges via a payment plan:

1st Term Payment was due  Friday 10th February
2nd Term Payment is due  Friday 17th March

Families who have opted to make a one yearly payment, please note payment is due tomorrow 24th February.

Thank you to all the families who have made payments. If you are having difficulties meeting your payment arrangement or wish to discuss this matter further please contact the office 5483 0700.

CSEF Grant

If you have a Health Care Card & have not registered for the CSEF Grant, please see the office as soon as possible.

CSEF program will help to ensure that all eligible students are able to participate in school trips and sporting activities. A payment of $125 for eligible primary school students will be paid directly to the school.

Please find a CSEF form attached at the end of the Newsletter. If you have a Health Care Card & haven’t completed one of these forms, please complete & hand to the office with a copy of your card.

Community Board

Community information is placed on the community board inside the passage opposite the uniform shop. Information regarding local sporting clubs & local events are placed on the board regularly. Please ensure that you take the opportunity to check this out for upcoming community events.

Uniform Shop

All sizes of short sleeve polo's are now available in the uniform shop. We are still waiting on our library bags to be delivered, but we are hoping the will be available next week.
Echuca Primary School will ensure high levels of learning for all students.

**208 Autumn Gala Ball**

**FRIDAY 3RD MARCH 2017**

Enjoy a Great Night Out...

- **TIME:** 6.30pm until late.
- **LIVE BAND:** Three’s a Crowd.
- **TICKETS:** $50 available from the 208 office now. Canapes will be served throughout the night.
- **VENUE:** Morrisons Winery, 2 Merool Rd, Moama.
- **TRANSPORT:** Bus available at the end of the night, $5 per person (payable on the night).

**CANAPES • AUCTION • LIVE MUSIC**

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**Are you going to the 208 Ball?**
Mention this advertisement & receive 20% of your garment
*Valid until 3rd March.*

**Would you like a spray tan for the school Ball?**
I am a 208 mum and have a spray tan business
Tan from Tan
I am doing a $20 special for the ball.
Ring me for any enquiries
Tania Field Ph: 0417 923 287

**MORRISONS**
Riverside Winery & Restaurant
Echuca Primary School will ensure high levels of learning for all students.
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**What’s Happening at 208**

**Term 1**

**WK 1 Jan-Feb**

- 30th Jan-Feb: 1st Students Return
- 1st Students Return
- 2nd
- 3rd

**WK 2 Feb**

- 6th Feb: Prep Rest Day
- 25m Swim Moama, 12.30-3pm
- 7th
- 8th
- 9th
- 10th: HOUSE
- Swimming Sports
- Parent & Friends Meeting 9.30am
- Staff room

**WK 3 Feb**

- 13th Feb: Prep Rest Day
- 14th
- 15th
- 16th: 208 PICNIC on the Quadrangle
- 5.30-7pm
- 23rd
- 17th: LSV Open Water Safety

**WK 4 Feb - March**

- 20th Feb - March: Meet N Greet
- 3.30-5.00pm
- Grade 1-6
- 21st
- Meet N Greet
- 3.30-5.00pm
- Grade 1-6
- 22nd
- Prep Rest Day
- Meet N Greet
- 3.30-5.00pm
- Grade 1-6
- 23rd
- Prep Rest Day
- 1st
- Prep Rest Day
- First Aid
- Gr 3-6
- 2nd
- Plastic Pollution Solutions
- P-2
- 9.00-9.45am
- First Aid
- Gr P-Gr3/4E&F
- 24th
- Echuca District Swim Sports
- P&F Meeting
- 10am Morrisons

**WK 5 March**

- 27th March: Plastic Pollution Solutions
- Gr 3-6
- 9.30-11.00am
- 28th
- Meet N Greet
- 3.30-5.00pm
- Grade 1-6
- 1st
- Prep Rest Day
- First Aid
- Gr 3-6
- 2nd
- Plastic Pollution Solutions
- P-2
- 9.00-9.45am
- First Aid
- Gr P-Gr3/4E&F
- 3rd
- 208 GALA BALL

**WK 6 March**

- 6th March: Gr 162 Swimming
- 7th
- BOOK FAIR
- 8th
- Gr 162 Swimming
- 9th
- Gr 162 Swimming
- 10th
- Hockey VIC
- Clinics Gr 3/4
- Gr1&2 Swimming

**WK 7 March**

- 13th March: LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
- 14th
- Gr 162 Swimming
- 15th
- Gr 162 Swimming
- 16th
- Gr 162 Swimming
- 17th
- National Ride 2School Day
- Gr 162 Swimming

**WK 8 March**

- 20th March: School Council AGM
- 21st
- Gr 162 Swimming
- 22nd
- 23rd
- 24th

**WK 9 March**

- 27th March
- 28th
- 29th
- 30th
- 31st
- Last Day Term 1
- Term 2 Begins
- Tuesday April 18th