

EMPIRE VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal: Ms Bonita Avery

Ph: 6683 4298



★ Wednesday ★
3 Nov 2021
Term 4

www.empirevale-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

School Captains

Congratulations to our School Captains for Term 4, 2021.

We know that Oceah, Sophie and Taj will do their best in being good role models and leading our students for the remainder of this very interesting year!



Snakes Alive!!

Snakes have been sighted in the area.... Please be vigilant and help us to teach your children the safe way to behave if they spot a snake. (Back away slowly and let an adult know).



At school the students are encouraged not to try to retrieve balls that have gone into the bushes without an adult checking the area first. Billy has also assisted in pruning the undergrowth so that our gardens are less 'desirable' homes.

RESPONSES DUE

Book Fair attendance EOI

Due: Monday, Nov 8

Bike Week permission

Due: Wednesday, Nov 18

Assembly

Our first school assembly since the Stay at Home Orders and Level 3 restrictions for schools

Our assembly is scheduled to be held Thursday, Nov 11 at 11:30am. Visitors will be allowed onsite to attend the Assembly if you are double vaccinated.

Parents and carers are invited to attend but will be required to abide by all COVID 19 regulations.

- Service NSW *School Check-in* QR code sign-on.
- Show a staff member your green tick.
- Show a staff member your double vaccination status.
- Maintaining social distancing i.e. the seating will be spaced and can only be moved closer if it is for adults belonging to the same family.

Our term 4 assembly will be featuring class items from students in both classes.

Newsletter Attachments

Electronic Attachments

- 2022 School Transport info
- Bike Week Information and permission
- Book Fair poster
- COVID Updates

Physical Attachments

- Receipts for payments (where applicable)
- Bike Week Information and permission
- Book Fair poster
- COVID Updates

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Kinder Orientation

Next week our school will be abuzz with excitement as our 2022 Kindergarten students begin exploring our school as part of our Kindergarten Orientation program.

Our new recruits will be exploring what a day of school feels like through reading books, doing craft activities, playing maths games, investigating science concepts and building their fitness in physical education lessons.

We are super excited to see their wonderful 'give it a go' attitude and watching them join our older students to make new friends.

It will also be great to see our Year 5 Buddies step up and offer outstanding support to our little learners.

If you know someone who would be interested in participating in our Kindergarten Orientation program, please let them know that we be running more sessions.

Tuesday 9, 16 and 23 November 2021

and

Thursday 11, 18 and 25 November 2021.



Empire Vale Public School

Little School, Big Futures

NOW ENROLLING!!!

Empire Vale Public School
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Some special events that our new kindies will be involved in during the Orientation program include;

- Book Fair (Nov 9)
- Assembly (Nov 11)
- Sandology (Nov 16 – weather permitting)
- Bike Week (Nov 23 & 25)

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Book Fair



Our 2021 Book Fair is scheduled for Tuesday November 9!

As of November 8, fully vaccinated parents, carers and community are welcome on school sites.

Please come along!!

Dear Parents and Families:

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- *Set the example. Let children see you read.*
- *Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.*
- *Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.*

*The theme of our Scholastic Book Fair is **Reading OASIS**, where we hope you will find **a mirage of books!***

It's a fun reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair date: November 9, 2021 (Books will be on display from November 8)

Keep an eye out over the next week for a special Book Fair flier which will outline our 'COVID Friendly' plan for Book Fair if you are unable to join us on the day.

What you can do to prepare....

- ✓ *Plan your child's costume (yes... we will still have a costume parade 😊)*
- ✓ *Get ready for your child to bring home a 'wish list'*
- ✓ *Check our Book Fair note coming out next week – we will be exploring ways for you to view the books on offer.*

Green Innovations

This year the Green Innovation Finals are being held online.

Empire Vale Public School is once again a finalist in this prestigious award, with our Koala Minecraft project.

Our competition entry video will shortly be uploaded to the Empire Vale Public School Facebook Page and our school website.



Goodluck today to our senior class!!

Silk Art Workshop

Kim Toft will be conducting her annual silk art workshop with our Year 6 students in Term 4 (Nov 4, 10am).

Our students have completed outstanding artworks under the guidance of Kim in previous years, and we are very excited to offer this amazing art opportunity once again for our students.



2020 Year 6 Silk Artwork

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EVPS Bike Week 22-26 November

It's that time again!!! Dust off the kids' bikes and let's get them out there having fun, getting exercise and learning some real-life skills!!

Empire Vale Public School will be transformed into a huge roadway and skills track so that the students have the opportunity to learn bike and general road safety in a very practical manner.

The school will be signposted and roads marked. There will be give ways, pedestrian crossings, stop signs, even roundabouts and one-lane bridges.



Two skills tracks will be developed that include skills to practice balance, steering, scanning and braking as well as a possible tricks corner.

The students will have their bikes 'registered' on Monday morning and will be given a riders license for the week. Those who don't follow the road rules have points taken from them.



Other bike week activities include:

- RTA Computer Drivers Knowledge Test
- Science – gears, braking distances etc
- Possible visit from Police or bike shop
- Skills track

- Road rules and road safety
- Bike maintenance (including a 'road worthy' check of the bike prior to being allowed on the road).



Stay tuned for a possible upcoming Mountain Biking excursion to New Italy again this year!

School Travel Applications

Students who require a travel pass for 2022 can now apply online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation. Please refer to the information brochure included as an attachment to this newsletter.



Senior Class XMAS SHIRTS

The senior class are keen to do Christmas shirts with Trish again this year!!

Students will be working on them at school over the coming weeks.

If you would like your child to participate please send in a shirt by Wednesday 17 November, clearly marked with your child's name, thank you.

Up & Coming Events

October

Each Thursday
Kids in the Kitchen!

November

**Tuesday 9, 16, 23 &
Thursday 11, 18, 25 (9-1pm)**
Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday 3 November
Green Innovations finals
Venue: Zoom

Thursday 4 November
Silk Art (year 6)
Venue: Silk Art Gallery – Ballina

Friday 5, 12, 19 November
ARL Skills Clinic
Venue: EVPS

Tuesday 9
Sandology

Thursday 11 November
Assembly
Venue: EVPS

Friday 12, 19 November
Wellbeing / Self Care sessions (senior class)
Venue: EVPS

Monday 22 - Friday 12, 19 November
Wellbeing / Self Care sessions (senior class)
Venue: EVPS

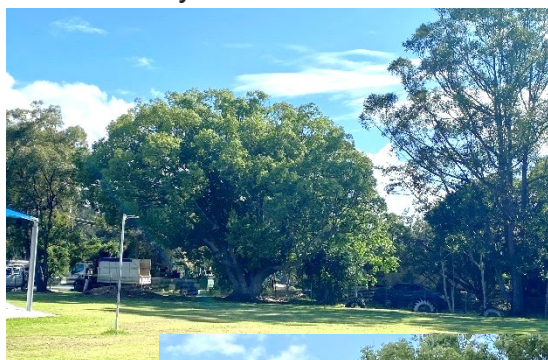
Other possible upcoming events and activities:
- New Italy Mountain Biking excursion
- Outdoor cinema at the school

The end of an era.. (for our tree 😊)

One of my first memories when I was appointed to Empire Vale (two decades ago), was to be told that I had to ban the students from climbing on the beautiful old Camphor Laural tree on the Northern boundary of the school. Apparently Alex Hughes (Jack and Harry's uncle) had fallen out of the tree at the end of year Christmas celebrations!

Department of Education safety regulations then kicked in and I was tasked with the widely unpopular move to ban the tree – not the most endearing first act from a new Principal!

Unfortunately the tree has been slowly rotting down the centre of its gigantic branches and has led to it being assessed as unsafe. Today it is undergoing the first stage in a “staged removal” of the tree. We hope the recent addition of 90 trees planted on our school site will one day provide homes for our birds and animals that are being impacted by the removal of the Camphor. The school grounds will certainly look different!



MOBILE LIBRARY

November 3rd, 2021



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COVID Guidelines - Update

Dear parents,

Please view the updated Department of Education guidelines for student and staff illness.....

- *Parents/carers must be reminded regularly that students must not come to school if they are unwell. Even with very mild symptoms.*
- *Students and staff absent or sent home due to flu-like symptoms need to be tested for COVID-19*
- *Schools must sight the negative COVID-19 test result prior to allowing students and staff to return to school*

Term 4;

- **Restricted easing from November 8**
 - Parents and carers who are double vaxed can attend school functions from Nov 8
 - Book Fair
 - Assemblies
 - Pick-up and drop off procedures remain the same.
 - Parents are still encouraged to remain distant from each other and the staff. Meetings with teachers are allowed.
 - External providers & other activities allowed under the Nov 8 guidelines;
 - Canteen / P&C meetings
 - Incursions – such as Sandology, ARL
 - Excursions not involving mixing with other cohorts
 - School-based sport
 - Singing in close confinement and music involving shared instruments (like recorder or other 'wind' instruments) are currently restricted
- Currently restricted for term 4
 - Excursions, overnight camps
 - Unvaccinated visitors remain restricted
 - Interschool sport for larger gatherings

What you can do to help.....

- Practise good hygiene and help your children to practise good hygiene.
- Inform the school immediately if you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Keep students at home if they are unwell.
- Practise 'Social Distancing'.



Please see the attachment with a more comprehensive guide from the Department of Education.