GRANDPARENTS’ DAY

“Surely, two of the most satisfying experiences in life must be those of being a grandchild or a grandparent”. - Donald A. Norberg

Again, Eblana opened its doors to these very special people. Over 300 grandparents and other significant people in the lives of our Eblana students enjoyed a morning of entertainment and learning with their grandchildren.

Our morning started with performances in our beautiful Creativity Centre. The Eblana Singers performed, Get Back Up Again from the movie Trolls written by Justin Paul & Benj Pasek arranged by Mac Huff, Banuwa, a traditional West African harvest song and, I Love A Piano by George Gershwin. We thank Ms Lidia Mancini for the wonderful work she does with our young Eblana voices. Then followed some lovely solo performances by Anika Cherney, Hudson Close, Matthew Shing, Aaron Britter, Jaxon Stephens, Sophie Shing, Patrick Reynolds and Viktor Kirsta, before our wonderful finale with our Wakakirri troupe performing the story, Giraffes Can’t Dance.

Grandparents then visited classrooms to see more learning in action before heading off to enjoy Morning Tea. The morning was indeed a very exciting one for both young and old and a great deal of enjoyment and love was felt by all generations involved.

The students and staff thank all those grandparents and special friends who could joined with us to celebrate their important role and we hope everyone had a thoroughly fantastic time enjoying their grandchildren’s school day and reminiscing about their own. Again, it was a delight to receive so many cheerful words of praise directed towards our School, its students and staff. What a wonderful gift such role modelling of appreciation is to your grandchildren!

WHAT’S ON

WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER
ELC 3YO L&H Classes Shoreham Excursion

THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER
ELC 4YO M&O Classes Shoreham Excursion

FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER
ELC 4YO B&CM Classes Shoreham Excursion

FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER
Foundation Melb Museum & IMAX Excursion

MONDAY 30 OCTOBER
Year 1 to Melbourne Zoological Gardens

FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER
Eblana Instrumental Concert

MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER
Mid-Term Break
STUDENT FREE DAY K-4

TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER
Melbourne Cup Holiday

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER
Year 3 departs - Shoreham Camp

WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER
Year 3 returns - Shoreham Camp
Year 4 departs - Shoreham Camp

FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER
Year 4 returns - Shoreham Camp

TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER
Wonderland Art Show
All welcome

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER
ELC and Foundation Orientation Day

MONDAY 27 NOVEMBER
ELC Interview Day/F-4 Report Writing
Day STUDENT FREE DAY K-4
ACHIEVERS OF THE WEEK

This week we highlight several children with words of praise including polite, positive, independent, enthusiastic, determined, disciplined, creative, fantastic, beautiful, responsible and considerate. It will be delightful to present Awards to the following students at a brief Assembly on Thursday 26 October:

Lawrence Walton and Alexander Cook (FH), Taylor Sweeny and Helen Chorianopoulos (FS), Ava Lucas and Harrison Lloyd (1L), Evyn Boettcher and Charlotte Ellix (1R), Sam Colliver and Levi Svec (2AW), Emily Murray and Baxter Chan (2SS), Kristof Buschkuhl and Henry Przychodzen (3E) Kate Clark and Christopher Coates (3L), Samuel Dumoff and Justin Yu (4H) and Aaron Britter and Piper Nicholson (4L).

This fortnight Mrs McLeod awarded the Music Award to Year 4L for singing Christmas Pageant songs tunefully and with enthusiasm.

Mrs Ross awarded the Library Award to Foundation H who demonstrated very good listening skills during our first look at how the nonfiction section of the Library is organised.

Mrs Watkins awarded the Art Award to Foundation H for great symmetry shown when creating fold over butterflies.

KINGSTON ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 6 October, Eblana students represented Mentone Grammar at the Kingston Division Athletics Carnival at Duncan McKinnon Athletic Centre in Murrumbeena.

After progressing from the District rounds where they placed first or second, our students faced some extremely challenging competition and were able to produce some pleasing results.

We make special mention of Angus Jackson whose first and third place results will see him run in the Southern Metropolitan Regional Championships to be held on 19 November, at Casey Fields Athletics Centre.

Well done to all Eblana students who competed to the best of their abilities on the day.

9/10 YEARS

Angus Jackson  1st in 100m
Angus Jackson  3rd in Hurdles
Ben Jackson  7th in 800m
Alice Fletcher  7th in 800m
Siobhan Phillips  10th in 1500m
Cooper Gallant  14th in Triple Jump
Cooper Gallant, Angus Jackson, Ben Jackson and Flynn Walker 14th in 4X100m Relay.

YEAR 3 VISIT SCIENCEWORKS

On 21 September, Year 3 students went to ScienceWorks.

At ScienceWorks we went into the Planetarium and viewed three items. Firstly there was the explanation about why the Earth experiences seasons, secondly the current night sky and the constellations you can find and finally footage of the final moments before Cassini crashed into Saturn.

The children also enjoyed playing games in the Sports section and investigating the past and future in the ‘Think Ahead’ section.

Thank you to Maria Orfanidis and Sarah Dwyer who helped us on the day. It was an enjoyable excursion and finalised our Science unit on Earth and Space.

WHAT DOES MY FRIEND LIKE TO DO?

CHINESE MANDARIN

Year 3 students have been developing four key skills through learning the story, Three Little Pigs, this year. They are able to confidently introduce the different characters from the story in Chinese and accurately respond to the questions showing their comprehension in both written and oral work.

This term, they have decided to write a paragraph to introduce their best friends in Pinyin with the familiar vocabulary and expressions learnt from the story. Now their posters are proudly presented and displayed in the corridor next to the Music room. Come to have a read and see if you can figure out what their friends like to do!
**WERRIBEE OPEN RANGE ZOO**

**Year 1 Excursion**

To support and enhance our Biological Science unit on Animals and Habitats, Year 1 students visited the Werribee Open Range Zoo on 16 October. On arriving we quickly made our way to the lions’ habitat, where we saw the five lion cubs born to parents Johari and Nilo only nine weeks ago. They had already grown so much and appeared happy to see the throng of visitors gathered at their home. On the way to see the cubs we passed the gorillas’ habitat and saw the magnificent Motaba, the respected elderly gentleman and once dominant male of the gorilla troop. We then passed the lively African wild dogs, hippopotamus, cheetahs, vervet monkeys and meerkats before morning snack and meeting our wildlife rangers, Michelle and Mel. They took us to explore and discover using our senses to an outdoor environment, where we used magnifying glasses to help us look for clues about which animals might live in this area. We discovered evidence through nests, scratchings, burrows, dreys (ringtail possum nests), feathers, bones, shed skins, scats (faeces) and sightings. We even sighted a wild tawny frogmouth owl. We also became involved in diggings, making animal shelters, finding good shelter for animals, caring for the environment, digging for insects and bones and watering plants, all the time discovering more and more about the animal world. After discovering many interesting facts we went into the nocturnal home of the bandicoots, a dark indoor environment where bandicoots and native hopping mice were very difficult to sight in the quiet of an artificial night.

On leaving the bandicoot exhibit, we further explored the park following the coloured totem poles and walking through jungled pathways then stopping to eat our lunch and rest before going on the Safari bus. Once having eaten lunch we boarded the Safari Bus to travel into the Savannah lands of the park. On board our Safari bus we saw the Mongolian wild horse, scimitar, the rarest deer in the world, addax, camels, bison from North America, hippopotamus, zebra, kudu, long horn cattle from African village communities, rhinoceros, eland, ostrich, wildebeest, water bucks, Cape Barron goose and giraffes roaming freely on open Savannah plains. At one stage a huge rhinoceros came up very, very close to the bus.

After our Safari bus journey we quickly walked through the Australian wildlife exhibit, getting up close to the emus and koalas and finally exploring the old shearing shed on the property.

We all left the Open Range Zoo feeling very tired but agreed it was a fantastic day and we all had greater knowledge of animals we met and their habitats.

We sincerely thank Mrs Amanda Kerr who joined us on our African Wildlife Safari, and Mr Kris Little and Mrs Jessica Richards for planning such a fun filled and educational experience.

**EBLANA INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM CONCERT**

On Friday 3 November students in the Years 2 and 3 Class Instrumental Program, along with the Eblana String Ensemble, Eblana Singers will present their second semester Instrumental Music program Concert in the Thorold Theatre in the Creativity Centre.

The Concert will also feature students who have been working on solo and small group items and promises to provide the audience with some excellent entertainment. Please book your tickets so that you can see the results of the children’s music making and learning in the Program during this semester. The Concert will begin at 9.30am and conclude at 10.30am. (Please note that this Concert has been diarised and is compulsory for all students involved in the Eblana Class Instrumental program)

**EBLANA ART SHOW – WONDERLAND**

Please keep the evening of Tuesday 21 November free to attend the Eblana Art Extravaganza, WONDERLAND, to be held in the Learning Garden and lower level of the Eblana F-4 Building. Artwork by all students from 3YO Kindergarten to Year 4 classes will be exhibited. The building and garden will be open from 5pm-7pm for you to wonder and enjoy this wonderful exhibition of our young artists’ creativity. Cool drinks will be available along with some nibbles to enjoy as you take in the artistic achievements of our youngest students.
EBLANA ORIENTATION DAY

On Friday 24 November Mentone Grammar is holding Orientation Sessions for all children attending Eblana’s 3YO and 4YO Kindergartens and Foundation classes in 2018.

It is important that all children enrolled next year attend to meet the teachers and receive important information relating to their 2018 School year.

Children currently in the Eblana Early Learning Centre and continuing on at Mentone Grammar in 2018 will be escorted to and from their Orientation Sessions by our current staff.

Children who are new to Mentone Grammar’s Early Learning Centre in 2018 will need to be accompanied by a parent throughout the morning.

Parents of children entering our Foundation classes may leave the School and use their time in other pursuits. Please return by 1pm when we will dismiss your children to go home with you.

New students and their parents will begin their Orientation Session in the Eblana Multipurpose Room (enter via Lucerne Street) where they will be welcomed by Mr John Nolan, Head of Eblana, who will then introduce you to your young guides and staff who will escort you to the classrooms to begin a session of fun and learning with your child’s 2018 classmates.

Note – Foundation students new to Mentone Grammar arrive at the Eblana Multipurpose Room with their parents at 10am, whereas ELC students new to Mentone Grammar arrive at the Multipurpose Room with parents at 10.20am. Please be prompt. This is a No School day for ELC students who are not returning to Mentone Grammar in 2018 and parents are reminded to make other care arrangements for this day.

Our 2018 Foundation students will participate in a Sausage Sizzle Lunch and we request that you return the signed permission form to Mrs Brigid Hicks in Eblana Reception no later than Wednesday 15 November for catering purposes.

ELC students will be provided with a fruit juice drink and some healthy food choices as a morning snack.

Eblana staff look forward to a wonderful morning of engaging your children in some of the extraordinary learning opportunities.

THE GIFT OF GIVING – EBLANA’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Each year at Christmas we choose to support an organisation which assists others less fortunate than ourselves. In recent years we have generously supported the Brotherhood of Saint Laurence, generously donating toys to bring joyful smiles to many children beyond our Community.

This year we are supporting the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and ask that all families in Eblana K-4 donate money for the ILF to purchase quality books to enrich the learning and reading skills of Indigenous children.

In Eblana we are passionate about books and celebrate them, their authors and their illustrators. We provide students with numerous opportunities to read and provide them access to thousands of books from which to gather knowledge and personal enjoyment. Books open up worlds of adventure to children, and being a skilled and fluent reader with access to quality literature, truly enriches children’s lives and learning.

This week all students received a letter with a brochure and envelope attached. In it you will read about the work undertaken by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and the significant gap that exists between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children. Help us close the gap by giving generously to this appeal, remembering that to purchase a quality children’s book you really need upwards of $20.00. Your donations can be by cash, cheque or credit card (filling in the tear off slip attached to the brochure). Place your donation in the envelope provided and we will ensure these are delivered to Peter Fitzgibbon, the Events & Fundraising Coordinator of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Our Eblana students will post their donation envelopes in our large Letterbox to Santa as they enter the Christmas Pageant on Friday 8 December.

Please put your envelope in a safe place where it cannot be lost or forgotten and have it ready for your child to bring to School on Friday 8 December. Alternatively, return it to your child’s classroom teacher immediately and we can lock your donation away safely until the day of our Christmas Pageants, when it will be returned to your child for mailing.

Once you have read the brochure, please display the poster of the happy faced Indigenous child hugging Mem Fox’s book ‘Where is the Green Sheep’ to remind your family of the importance of supporting this wonderful cause. Remember that education and the ability to read are perhaps the greatest gifts we can give to another.

We look forward to the Eblana Community’s ever generous support.

Due to the seating limitations in the new Thorold Theatre, this year we will be holding separate Foundation to Year 4 (9am-10.15am) and ELC (11am-12pm) Christmas Pageants. We look forward to seeing many parents in attendance enjoying this year’s colourful celebrations of the great year it has been in Eblana!
THE ART ROOM NEEDS YOUR HELP

Mrs Watkins would love any donations of glass jars to use in an upcoming art project. These can be of any size, provided they are made from glass. If you can help, please drop them off to the Art Room or Eblana Reception. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

SUPERVISION AFTER STUDENTS ARE DISMISSED

To assist us in providing the safest environment for all children I want to reiterate that once your child has been dismissed from class at the end of the day it is your responsibility to see that they are supervised and while on the School property, adhering to the School’s rules and values. If you or they stop to have conversation with others, the number one priority should be that of vigilant care and supervision of your child or children in your care.

Pick up after dismissal should be punctual, with children collected and supervised by the person responsible for picking them up after School. This includes children who are being collected from the Pick-Up Zone. Too often children are left waiting for lengthy periods of time and/or insufficiently supervised by the adult responsible for collecting them after School. This can and sometimes does result in inappropriate behaviours and unfortunate outcomes.

I thank you for managing this aspect of your children’s safety and personal development, and assisting them in respecting the expectations of the School, its values and socially appropriate behaviours.

I also ask that those using the Pick-Up Zone exercise calm and respectful patience to all. We know that the end of the School day is extremely busy, with traffic congestion at a peak. Aggressive manner does not alleviate, but rather it exacerbates the situation. To ease congestion in and around the Pick-Up Zone, may we suggest that families arrange with their children to walk a short distance from the School to be collected. The exercise can only be good and the congestion in Lucerne Street eased.

MENTONE GRAMMAR ART & DESIGN EXHIBITION 2017

Official Opening Wednesday 25 October, 6.30pm
All welcome, book online www.mentonegrammar.net