

20th February 2025



Issue 2

## Assistant Principals Report

Ben Ridge



It is fantastic that our students have been showing incredible engagement and enthusiasm both in the classroom and around the school. From actively participating in activities to collaborating with peers during projects, it's been wonderful to see such dedication. In the yard, students have been getting along exceptionally well, creating a positive and inclusive environment for all. It is important that students continue to wear hats in the yard, during outside sports time and on excursions. Hats are to be worn until 1<sup>st</sup> of May. As we all know "1<sup>st</sup> of May hats away, First of September hats to remember"

### Acting Principal

Paul will be on leave from 21/2/25 until 7/3/25, if you require any support please don't hesitate to contact me.

### Student Support Group meetings

Thanks to those who have already booked an SSG timeslot for tomorrow, if you have not can you please contact the classroom staff and book a time that will work for you. The SSG process is extremely important as it is an opportunity for the staff to get to know you and your child, set goals and discuss supports. We look forward to collaborating with you.

### Mental Health in Primary Schools

The school Wellbeing team have been completing training regarding the MHIPS program and the implementation within our school. At Echuca Twin River Specialist School Anne-Maree Prout is the Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader, she will be collaborating closely with the primary staff to review and develop support and programs regarding mental health. Shayna Davis is the Mental Health Practitioner; she works closely with the staff and students in the secondary area of the school. We are excited to have both Anne-Maree and Shayna working as part of the wellbeing team at ETRSS.



**DATES TO REMEMBER**

### FEBRUARY

- 21st SSG Meetings— Student Free
- 25th 3-6 Swimming sports
- 26th 7-9 & VL Swimming sports

### MARCH

- 4th Year 10 Immunisations
- 10th Labour Day— Public Holiday
- 20th School Council

### APRIL

- 4th End of Term 1— Dismissal at 2pm
- 22nd Term 2 starts

## Willow the Wellbeing Dog



### Con't Assistant Principal report:

#### **Koorie Support Group**

We are excited at ETRSS to have a Koorie Support Group Leader, Amy Coshan will be working closely with indigenous students and families, Amy will meet with some students and discuss what this will look like, within this group the students will review our current systems and practices and will work together on a range of projects. On occasions students will participate in these sessions rather than attend their class for that time.

#### **Swimming – Cohuna**

Next week students from 3-6 and 7-12 will be travelling to Cohuna to participate in a swimming carnival, the carnival will have both competitive swimming and novelty games. The 3-6 team will be swimming on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> and the 7-12 team will be Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of February. We have looked at the upcoming weather forecast and it is going to be warm on both days, please remember to pack a drink bottle and sunscreen, students are to wear a rashie or t-shirt when at the pool.



#### **Bus Travel**

Please remember to communicate with both the bus and the school if the plans for transport to and from school are changing, this is even for one off changes. It is important that we are aware so we can prepare staff and students for the changes and ensure that we transition the students accordingly.

# Office News

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$154 for primary school students
- \$256 for secondary school students

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure

## Conveyance Allowance Applications

### Eligibility

An application on behalf of a student may be submitted if the student is:

- a Victorian resident;
- school aged and enrolled three or more days per week at a school; and
- attends a specialist school

A student who meets the above requirements may be eligible if they:

- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from the school attended  
by private car from home to nearest bus stop or to school

If you reside 4.8km from your nearest bus stop & you think you may be eligible for Conveyance Allowance please contact Tracey or Jenni for an application form.

Application forms need to be in no later than 1st March 2025





### Acknowledgement of Country

Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School acknowledges the history, culture, diversity, and value of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and pays respect to their elders past and present, as well as acknowledging future generations.



## PBS Targeted Behaviour

We keep our hands and feet to ourselves



SunSmart<sup>®</sup>

Slap! on your **hat** and Slop! on **sunscreen**, when the UV is 3 or above.



Even on cool and cloudy days.

In Victoria, UV is 3 and above generally from mid-August to the end of April.

[sunsmart.com.au](http://sunsmart.com.au)

Use all five forms of sun protection



Slip



Slop



Slap



Seek



Slide



## Our Vision

To provide inclusive and engaging learning that empowers all students for life

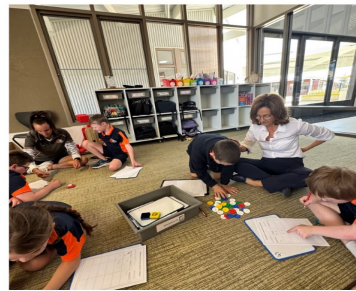


## Our Values

Be Respectful  
Be Inclusive  
Be Responsible



Students are enjoying the busy board that Amy's dad kindly made for us.



Room 6 working on place value in maths

# 2024 BUS STAFF

**Rushworth:**

**0418 322 861**

**Neil, Anne & Sharon**

**Cohuna:**

**0418 847 627**

**Alan & Jess**

**Elmore:**

**0427 685 124**

**Bill, Kevin, Jan,  
Sandra & Mirinda**

**Kyabram:**

**0448 981 278**

**Peter & Megan**



# CAREER EXPO

## Save the Date

**Tuesday 1st May**

**4:30—6:30pm**

**EchUCA Twin Rivers Specialist School Gym**

The aim of the expo is to provide students and their families/ caregivers with post school options, this will include:

- NDIS support services
- Day programs
- School Leaver Employment Services (SLES)
- Supported Employment
- Employment Services

**All year 7 to 12 students and families are welcome to attend**

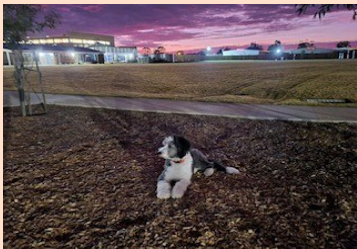
Please contact the school if you require further information

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## OUR SCHOOL

Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School provides education for children ages 5-18 years with intellectual and associated disabilities. It services the Campaspe and Murray Shire area.

The school prides itself on having an open and welcoming environment that encourages parent and community participation.



### Post Separation Services

**The Children's Contact Service** | **Supporting Parents After Separation**

It is a **free** independent service that aims to minimise a child's exposure to conflictual situations by assisting separated parents with contact arrangements.

**What you can expect from the service:** A safe, neutral and child focused environment for supervised visits or changeovers; Promotes positive interaction and strengthening of relationships between children and their parents/carers; Families are allocated a Family Support worker to support and guide them.

**Types of services:**

- ✓ Supervised visits
- ✓ Low vigilant visits
- ✓ Facilitated Changeovers

It is a **free** program that assists separated parents to:

- ✓ Navigate the challenges of their separation
- ✓ Understand how conflict affects a child's development
- ✓ Learn effective co-parenting communication strategies
- ✓ Self-care
- ✓ Manage contact arrangements and provide children with positive, consistent transitional experiences
- ✓ Referrals

The program consists of a 4-hour group session and two, short individual support sessions to explore needs specific to their situation. Offering in person and online platforms. Parents/Carers attend a separate session to their former partner/co-parent.

For more information please contact Berry Street, Post Separation Services  
 PHONE: 0358228100  
 EMAIL: [post@berrystreet.org.au](mailto:post@berrystreet.org.au)  
 SELF REFERRALS WELCOME

### MiniTillies

Come and try day!

For girls aged 4-11 who want to give soccer a try or be the next Matilda!

Supportive and fun environment for all!

**17th March 9:00 AM**

📍 JACK EDDY OVAL MOAMA

Any questions please contact  
 Kris Kershaw  
 MiniRoos Coordinator  
[mebrsatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mebrsatreasurer@gmail.com)  
 04 2727 8333

FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA | MINI ROOS

\*MiniRoos program will continue per usual as an open competition

### ECHUCA MOAMA HOCKEY CLUB

Calling all new and existing players

Our club is part of the Goulburn Valley Hockey League, playing games in Echuca and Shepparton

All skill levels  
 Men and women's  
 Juniors of all ages

Junior training 5pm  
 Senior training 6pm  
 Thursday's at Echuca College  
 20-50 Butcher Street, Echuca

Echuca Moama Hockey Club  
 EM\_hockeyclub  
[echucamoamahockey@gmail.com](mailto:echucamoamahockey@gmail.com)

### HOOK IN 2 HOCKEY

### ECHUCA MOAMA HOCKEY CLUB

Hockey Australia's official junior program allows kids to make friends and have fun!

- An introductory program that caters for all abilities
- Ideal for ages 5-10
- Learn essential physical literacy skills whilst playing games
- Optional Participant pack upon registration

Thursdays 4-5pm  
 Echuca College- Butcher Street,  
 Echuca

Echuca Moama Hockey Club  
[echucamoamahockey@gmail.com](mailto:echucamoamahockey@gmail.com)



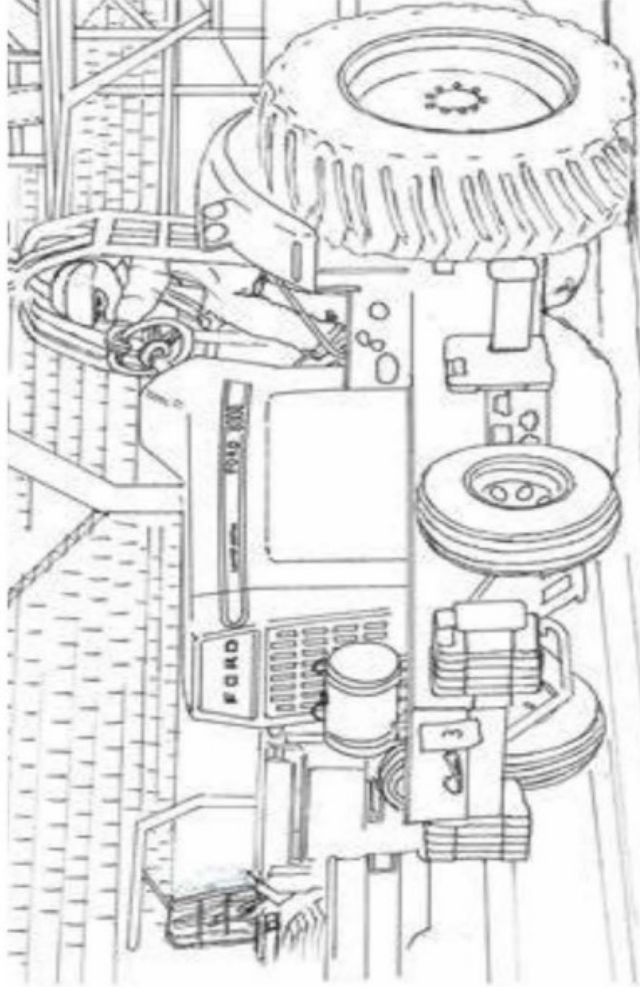
**Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School**  
 66 Wilkinson Drive  
 ECHUCA VIC 3564  
 Phone: (03) 5410 7700 press 1

[echuca.twin.rivers.ss@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:echuca.twin.rivers.ss@education.vic.gov.au)  
<https://www.echucass.vic.edu.au>

# ELMORE TRACTOR

# PULL

15TH  
MARCH  
2025



**McKEES**  
Garage and Engineering Pty Ltd

PRIZES FOR WINNERS: FAMILY PASSES AND CHILDREN'S PASSES!  
ENTRIES CLOSE 8TH MARCH 2025.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please post to:

Elmore Events Centre  
PO Box 27, Elmore VIC 3558

Or scan to:  
[info@elmorefielddays.com.au](mailto:info@elmorefielddays.com.au)

For any interested students/families, tickets can also be purchased via [https://www.123tix.com.au/events/40537/elmore-tractor-pull?fbclid=IwAR3MXf4eSv\\_ZxIBCdmMW3GPysBNibuk18tagzzQJFY0h2oNYgoi8BBK80wo](https://www.123tix.com.au/events/40537/elmore-tractor-pull?fbclid=IwAR3MXf4eSv_ZxIBCdmMW3GPysBNibuk18tagzzQJFY0h2oNYgoi8BBK80wo)