

4th May 2023



Issue 6

## Assistant Principals Report



### Anzac Day

It was great to participate in the Anzac Day march with the school captains. Well done to Claudia Simmonds, Luke Hendrick and Aaron Bramley. Our school leaders represented our school in a positive way. The leaders delivered a floral on behalf of our school community.



### NDIS Staff

At Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School, we have some NDIS practitioners visit the school to provide service to some of the students. Sarah McKee will work with all Allied Health staff to ensure that the service that is being provided is of little impact within the classroom. If an Allied Health Professional would like to visit the school it is important that they book an appointment through the office.

### Special Persons Stall

On Thursday 11th of May we will be holding the Special Persons stall. Students can bring \$5 to school to purchase items from the stall. A timetable will be sent to the classes for this day.

### Special Persons Day

We would like to invite you to attend our, Special Persons Day celebration. The day will begin with coffee, drinks and slices being provided, these will be available from the cafe. The classrooms will be open between 9am and 11am, you can visit the classrooms and work with your child.



### MAY

11TH—SPECIAL PERSON STALL

12TH—SPECIAL PERSON MORNING—9AM

17TH—SCHOOL COUNCIL

### JUNE

9TH—STUDENT FREE—WHOLE STAFF PART TRAINING

12TH—PUBLIC HOLIDAY—KING'S BIRTHDAY

21ST JUNE—SSG MEETINGS STUDENT FREE

23RD JUNE—LAST DAY OF TERM 2—DISMISSAL AT 2PM

### JULY

10TH - FIRST DAY OF TERM 3



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.



## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT CON'T

### Eco-Garden Program

Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School have received a grant from the Shire of Campaspe, the grant provided funds to purchase and install an automated irrigation system within the eco-garden. This has been an amazing addition to the program. The irrigation system will ensure that the garden is sustainable and that watering the plants can happen out of hours without relying on staff to do so. We look forward to creating links within the community to provide some of our wonderful produce.

### PART Training – Pupil free day

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of June all staff at ETRSS will be participating in a professional learning day. The learning will focus on creating a safe and inclusive learning environment. Staff will learn how to prepare the environment, review learning plans, understand student needs and will review current practices when dealing with an emergency. In addition to this staff will complete additional learning through the meeting schedule within Term 3.



Our second hand uniform supplies are getting very low. If you have any uniforms that your child has grown out off we would appreciate any uniform donations.



## Very busy in Room 6

## 2023 BUS STAFF

Rushworth:  
0418 322 861  
Peter – Ann/Sharon

Cohuna:  
0418 847 627  
Alan – Jess

Elmore:  
0427 685 124  
Kerry – Jan/  
Sandra

Kyabram:  
0448 981 278  
Cameron – Megan



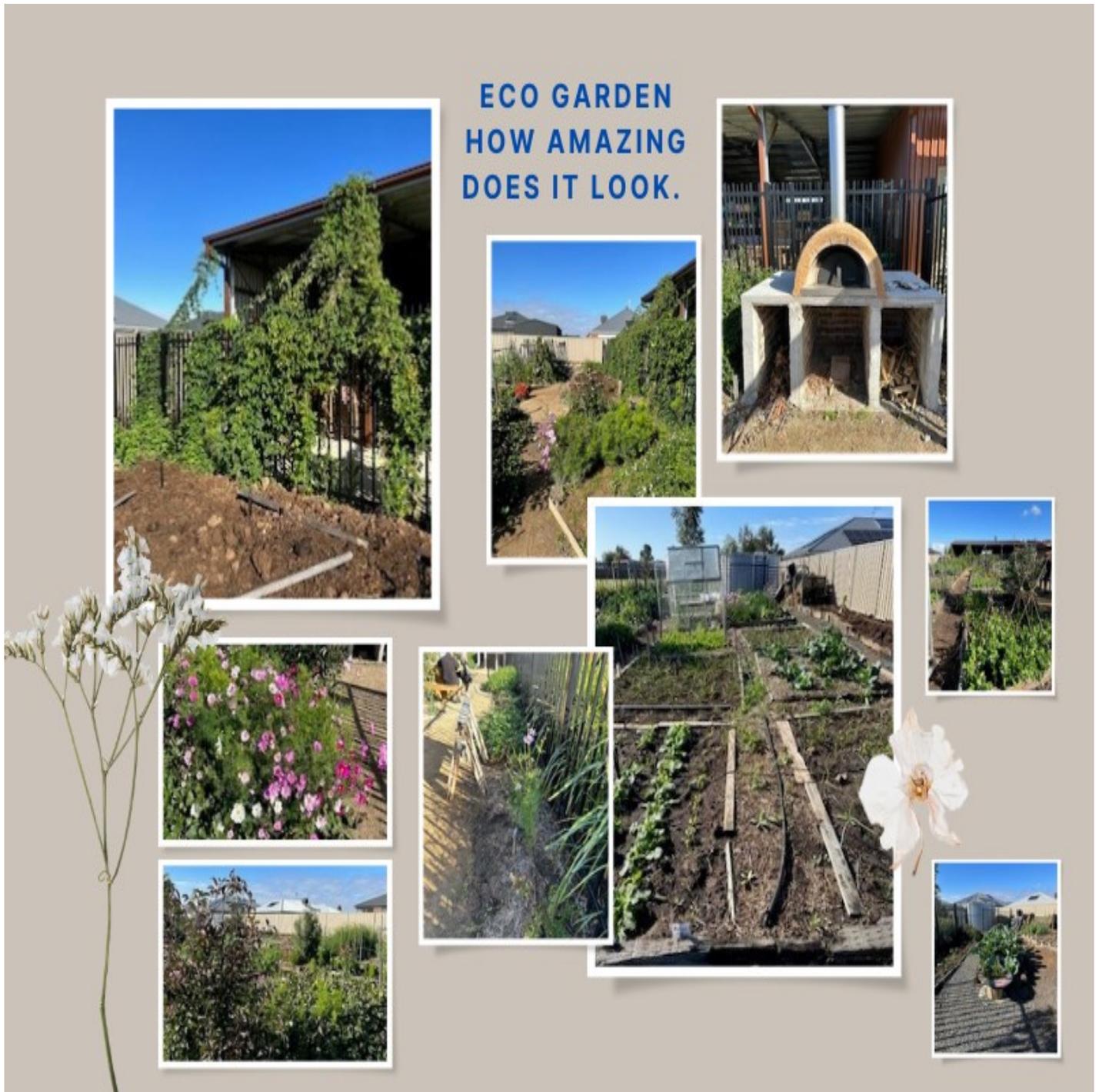
## COOKING IN

## F-2 POD



# Eco Garden

Students have been working so hard in the Eco Garden. Planting seedling, propagating seeds, harvesting and general garden maintenance. The garden is such a picture of beauty. Well done to all involved.



# Willow the Wellbeing Dog



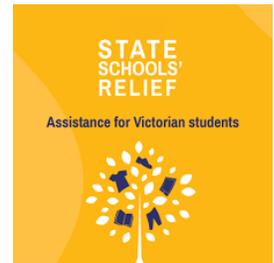
## RECYCLABILITY PROGRAM—7-9 STUDENTS

BELOW IS A STATEMENT OF THE AMAZING WORK OUR RECYCLABILITY STUDENTS ARE DOING.



## iPads for no-verbal students

Each year State School Relief give schools the opportunity to apply for iPad's for non-verbal students to help with communication at school. We were very lucky to receive 11 new iPads and covers. We are so grateful to States School Relief . This program is not funded by the government and relies **solely** on philanthropic funding, corporate sponsorships or grants.



## PARENT / CAREGIVER / GUARDIAN INFORMATION AND CONSENT LETTER

### 2023 Student Attitudes to School Survey

Dear Parent / Caregiver / Guardian,

This letter is to inform you about the 2023 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), that your child is invited to participate in.

#### About the survey

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of their school.

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education to assist schools to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

This year, the AtoSS will be conducted at your school from 11<sup>th</sup> May.

#### What are the benefits?

Young people enjoy having a say! This survey has been running for nearly 20 years and is invaluable in helping schools understand student views to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience. The survey responses also help the Department of Education understand how student's learning experiences can be improved.

#### What are the risks?

While we do not anticipate many risks of participation, some students may find some of the survey questions personal and sensitive in nature. Should you agree for your child to participate, they are still free to skip questions or to withdraw at any stage if the survey makes them upset or uncomfortable. A teacher will be present during the survey to support students.

The questions are selected from validated survey instruments used in Australia and around the world, are strength-based, and tailored for each year level group.

#### What will my child be asked to do?

Your child will be invited to complete the survey **online during class time** using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Please note:

- Student participation in the survey is voluntary and students may withdraw at any time.
- The survey will take around 20-45 minutes to complete.

#### How is my child's confidentiality protected?

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey from their teacher. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. Personally identifiable data will not be recorded in the survey response file to ensure the confidentiality of your child's responses is protected at all times.

### How will results be reported?

The survey results will be reported back to the school in aggregate form throughout the survey period. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified. Data suppression rules are used for schools with low student numbers per year level.

Your school may share the results of the survey with parents, in documents such as the School Annual Report.

#### Options for participation

Participation in this survey is **voluntary**. If you **do not** wish for your child to do the survey, please opt out via email to your school: [Echuca.twin.rivers.ss@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Echuca.twin.rivers.ss@education.vic.gov.au) Please do so before 11<sup>th</sup> May stating that you wish to opt out of your child's participation, along with their name and year level.

If your school does not receive a Refusal of Consent email from yourself before the survey commencement date mentioned within this letter, it means that you give your consent for your child to participate in the 2023 Attitudes to School Survey.

A copy of the survey that we are asking your child to complete is available from your child's school. Please contact the administration office if you would like to see the survey before making your decision about whether you would like your child to participate.

If you would like more information, please speak to your child's teacher, or contact the department at [school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

Department of Education, Victoria

## Our Vision

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



## Our Values

Be Respectful  
Be Inclusive  
Be Responsible



# Special Person's Day

Come and enjoy an open morning at the school and visit the classrooms

Friday 12th May 2023

9am-11am

Coffee & Slices  
provided from  
the Cafe

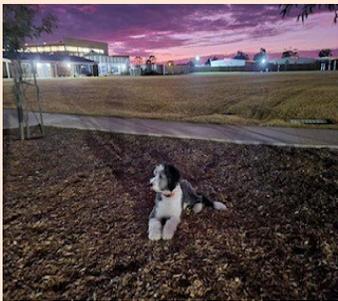
Special Person's Day Stall  
Thursday 11th May for the students to purchase a gift  
(\$5 maximum per child)

# 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.



## Carers, Community and Family Day

### International Day of Families

10am - 3pm, Monday 15 May 2023

Find out what services are available in your area for NDIS, aged care, family support and health. Helpful information for young families, elderly and carers to aging parents.

*Lots of fun things to do!*  
Face painting, craft activities, live music and a barbecue. Perfect for grandparents, parents and young families. Grab a coffee and join us for some family fun.

**Echuca Hopwood Gardens**  
Dickson Street, Echuca, 3564

**riac**  
your rights, your voice

Providers include:  
Bairdigo Health Promotions  
Simply Helping Echuca  
Villa Maria

Echuca Regional Health  
Interreach Echuca  
Uniting AgeWell Loddon Mallee South

## Kids Mini Mud Run

### Mother's Day Weekend

Funded by the Community Connection and Resilience Program

15 obstacle  
Ice bath, Foam, Mud crawl, Much more..

**May 13th 2023**  
**Echuca Rotary Park**  
Rose St, Echuca VIC  
10am-3pm

**TICKETS**  
\$5 per person  
4-16 year olds  
Pick your wave times that suit you...

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/kids-mini-mud-run-2023-tickets-608098628367>

Family waves starts 10am- last wave 2.30pm  
Coffee, BBQ, Market stalls available  
All Children 3-16 year olds, **MUST** be accompanied by a parent when running, make sure you bring mum, dad, nan, pop or your carer along with you.

Campaspe  
CROSSCOUNTRY  
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria  
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE WEEK

## SOFT SCULPTURE WORKSHOP

**FREE** 12-25 years

**NEW DATE!**  
SUNDAY 7TH MAY

with **Opisia Lawton**

Make your own Bird's Nest using hand weaving and sewing techniques. Together we will weave material and colour to create nest like soft sculptures. Inspired by the best weavers and hand (or beak) builders of the natural world - birds!

SUNDAY 7th MAY  
10am - 1pm  
The Foundry Arts Space  
13-17 Murray Esplanade, Echuca

THE FOUNDRY ARTS SPACE  
To book email: [thefoundry@emai.org.au](mailto:thefoundry@emai.org.au)

Campaspe  
Shire Council

## PLAYGROUP

**FREE**

9am - 10:30am  
Every 2nd Wednesday Morning  
66 Wilkinson Drive Echuca  
Starts Term 2  
26th of April 2023

Phone: 03 54 107 700

Anglicare Victoria  
Drinks & food provided by ETRSS Cafe

## Under 18 School Holiday Camp

Billabong Ranch Echuca

Monday 25th - Thursday 28th  
September 2023

Activities include horse riding, feeding the animals, mini golf, bouldering, pedal boats, beach volleyball, playground, low ropes course and more!

Visit [inclusion.ymca.org.au](http://inclusion.ymca.org.au)

FIND OUT MORE



**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>