Round Two

They had a great Easter break, polished off all the buns and are rarin’ to go! Welcome back to Term 2. It was fantastic to see our students arrive to school on Monday full of energy, enthusiasm and ready to get to work. This term is shaping up to be a busy one with many events both curricula and extra-curricula.
Lion King

As you already know we have purchased tickets for our students to see the stage production of The Lion King in Melbourne. The tickets are for Wednesday June 3rd for the 1pm performance. We will be travelling by bus to Bendigo and then boarding a train to travel into Melbourne. We hope to be able to visit the Melbourne Museum in the morning. I have applied for free train travel for our students and should know by next week if my application has been successful. In order for us to qualify for this grant we need to travel in off peak times which unfortunately means we need to board in Melbourne before 4pm or after 6pm. The 4pm deadline is too early for us to get from the theatre (the show finishes at 3.45pm) to Southern Cross. Therefore if we are successful with the grant we will go and have an early tea in the city.

As I don’t know about the train cost yet, I am unable to provide a final costing of this excursion until next week. (The school will partly subsidise this excursion for those families who are up to date with their 2015 fees and payments). I estimating the cost will be around $60 per child.

The good news is that we have spare tickets available for interested parents. Parents will be required to pay for their own train travel to/from Melbourne and for their ticket to the performance ($65 per ticket). If you think you would like to join us please let Lisa know. I promise to have an exact cost per student in next week’s newsletter and parents are most welcome to pay in instalments between next week and the excursion date.

Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge

Our students are invited to participate in this event. The aim of the challenge is to promote a love of reading. It is important to note that this is not a competition, but as the name suggests a challenge for each student to read more and read widely. You will find information attached to the newsletter and a permission form if you would like your child to participate. Whilst it is not compulsory, all students are strongly encouraged to take part. Listed books will be made available for each student based on their reading ability and students encouraged to read these books both at school and at home. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa.

NAPLAN

All Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Australian Schools are required to participate in NAPLAN Testing in May. This testing will take place on May 12, 13 and 14. Students will be tested in the areas of Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Writing and Numeracy. These tests are set and marked by ACARA (Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority). Parents of students who participate in NAPLAN will receive their student’s results later in Term 3. These tests provide parents and students with information about their achievement level compared to the National Standards. A useful link for more information is www.nap.edu.au Should you have any questions or concerns about NAPLAN please contact Lisa.

Birthday Girl

Happy Birthday to Matilda who celebrated her sixth birthday at the end of last term.
Echuca Regional Health Forum

Please find attached to this newsletter an invitation to attend a Community Forum in Torrumbarry. This is your chance help shape the future direction of health services in our region.

Pie Warmer

The pie warmer will be in operation from next Monday. Students are reminded that they may bring items to be heated, wrapped in foil and named. These will be placed in the pie warmer at recess so that they are heated through by lunch. A reminder that the pie warmer does not cook food, it just heats it. Suitable items are pies, pasties, sausage rolls, toasted sandwiches, mini pizzas and even last night’s leftovers. Foil containers with lids are perfect for pasta and roasts.

The school will be holding our Annual Pie Drive featuring delicious products from the Lockington Bakery. Order forms will be sent home with students next week. All funds raised from this drive will go towards subsidising our end of year camp.

Easter Hat Parade

On the last day of Term One we held an Easter Hat Parade. All students are to be commended on their efforts to create, or in Darby’s case, find a hat. There were beautiful bonnets, weird and wacky creations and most importantly lots of smiles and laughter. The students were very lucky to be visited by the Easter Bunny who hid treats in the surrounding bush area. Our Year Six Students did a marvellous job organising and running the activities. Thank you to the parents who were able to join us for our end of term activity.

Community and Fundraising Activity

On Thursday May 7 our student’s will be hosting a special morning tea at the Torrumbarry Hall. Our students will cater for this event and will be showcasing their culinary skills. Students will also be serving refreshments. Invitations for this event will be sent home soon. Parents, extended family, friends and community members are welcome. All funds raised will go towards subsidising our Lion King Excursion.

Secondary School Information Nights

Both Echuca College and St Joseph's College are holding information nights in the coming weeks. These nights are not restricted to families with students in Year Six, so even if you have a child/ren in lower year levels feel free to attend either or both school’s information evenings. Flyers for both evenings are attached to this newsletter. For the parents of students in Year Six, there are forms from the Department of Education and Training which need to be completed and returned to our school once you know which school your child is attending.
Special Visitors

On the last day of Term 1 we were rapt to be visited by Zack Levings who was a Year Six student at our school last year. Zack said that he is enjoying Echuca College and has made some great friends. Zack helped with the running of the Easter End of Term Activities.

On Monday we were delighted to have a visit from the very grown up Georgia Sieben who is now in Year 7 at Assumption College in Kilmore. Georgia joined in with classes and assisted the staff with jobs during the day. We had time to sit and ask Georgia some questions about Secondary School and her memories of Welton and this is what she said.

How is Secondary School?
Fun, the work is not too hard but not easy. We get lots of homework in every subject. There are a lot more books to carry.

What is Year 7 like?
It is strange, you go back to being a little kid. You are the baby of the school. The older kids say things like, “Oh look at her, she’s so cute”. Just like I used to say about the Preps.

What are your favourite subjects?
I like French and PE prac.

What is the best thing about Year 7, so far?
The Year Seven Camp.

What is different from Welton?
There a heaps of students. The teachers are very different- strict and don’t know us very well, they sometimes forget our names. We have to move rooms all of the time for different subjects.

What do you miss about Welton?
Knowing everyone so well- teachers and the kids. All of the fun we had on camps and excursions and all of the activities we did.

What is your favourite memory of your time at Welton?
I have lots. But I liked being the Girl Champion at the Athletics Sports. (Darby wanted her to say – seeing him everyday).

Look out in future newsletters for interviews with our other past Year 6 students.

ANZAC Day

As part of our Humanities Studies the students have been learning about the history of Australia at War and in particular the Gallipoli Landings. Students are creating an art work which will be displayed at the local ANZAC dawn service. The older students are studying a novel which gives personalised accounts of the Australian soldiers who went to battle in World War 1.

A reminder that there is no public holiday for Victoria as ANZAC Day this year falls on a Saturday. Students are required at school on the Friday before and the Monday following ANZAC Day.
The Annual Dawn Service will be held at the Torrumbarry Hall on Saturday commencing at 6.00 am. We want to feature all Welton students, but particularly the older ones, in this service and ask that families make a commitment to their child’s attendance by completing the attached form and returning it to school as soon as possible.

**Dawn Service**

at Torrumbarry Hall 6.00am

Presented by Welton PS students

Traditional Gunfire Breakfast provided by Torrumbarry Community Club at conclusion of service

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**Dates To Remember**

Saturday 25 April…………………………….ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Torrumbarry Hall 6.00 am
Tuesday 5 May ………………………………………………………………………………. Murrabit Cross Country
Tuesday 12 - Thursday 14 May ………………………………………………………………. NAPLAN Testing
Wednesday 3 June ………………………………………………………………………….. Lion King in Melbourne
Monday 8 June ……………………………………………………………………………… Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Friday 26 June ………………………………………………………………………………… End Term 2

FAMILY NAME: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

My child/ren ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….. will/will not be participating in the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Torrumbarry Hall on Saturday 25 April.

Signature ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………