



Elphinstone Primary School

www.elphinstoneps.vic.edu.au 26 Wright St, Elphinstone 03 5473 3285

CARE – RESILIENCE – CREATIVITY

Important Dates 2026:

July

Fri 24 100 Days of Prep

Mon 27 Division
Football/Netball

August

Mon 3 Assembly 3pm/
School Council 5pm

Thur 6 CSC Production
matinee preview

**Thur 6 (evening) - Fri 7
(morning)** Parent
Teacher Interviews
(students only required
Friday if they have an
interview)

Mon 10—Wed 12 3/4
Camp to Lady Northcote

Fri 21 9-10 am Teddy
Bear Picnic

Mon 31 Assembly 3pm/
School Council 5pm

September

**Fri 4 Curriculum Day—
school closed**

Thur 10 Chess
Tournament
Castlemaine Gaol TBC

Fri 11 Goldfields
Railway Excursion
(Castlemaine to
Maldon)

Mon 14—Fri 18 School
Swimming Program (5
Days)

Fri 18 End of Term 3

October

Mon 5 Term 4 begins

Sat 17 Trivia Night

Thur 22 School Photo
Day

November

NEWSLETTER No.11 23rd July 2026

Dear parents carers and the wider school community

We welcomed a group of Melbourne University Engineering students on the first day back to hold some STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) challenges for our students. The theme was 'Safe Structures' and the brief was to design and build a structure to withstand severe wind, rain and earthquakes. Our students were certainly up for the challenge and there were a few nervous moments as their buildings had to cope with a blow dryer, bucket of water and a vigorous shake! You see what they had to say - along with some photos of the activity on page 3.

We have emailed out a link to book a session for the parent teacher interviews, which will be held on Thursday after school on the 6th August, and the following Friday morning, 7th August. There will be no classes running on Friday, students are only required to be at their interview if they have one on that day. We plan to hold more interviews in 2027 and beyond, where detailed descriptions of student achievement that you see in mid and end of year reports will be phased out. These interviews will be a mix of student led, and parent only formats.

Our students have been invited to a preview of the Castlemaine Secondary performance 'A Wrinkle in Time' on Thursday 6th August. It will be a great experience and it will be great to see some past students performing. Details about booking are at the back of the newsletter.

We have booked the school photo day on Thursday 22nd October. There is an online booking process that will be shared closer to the date.



Josiah and Charlie had a few nervous moments in the 'Earthquake test' but their building survived! It went on to pass the wind tests, but they got a bit wet in the rain test!



Elphinstone Primary School - Like us on Facebook!

We care for and respect our school, and acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we learn and play, the Dja Dja Wurrung People.





OUR SCHOOL VALUES		
Care We show kindness and empathy when we care for ourselves, others and country.	Resilience When things are tricky, we bounce back from the challenges we face.	Creativity We are all unique, imaginative and can think outside the box.



ASSEMBLIES 2026

Term 3	Term 4
Week 4 3rd August Ren, Gilbert, Tommy Hosts: Billie, Elijah	Week 4 26th October Charlie, Rosie, Daphne, Marshall Hosts: Lucas, Lila
Week 8 31st August Sylvia, Eva, Zane Hosts: Greta, Ren	Week 8 23rd November Indie, Elise, Tyson Hosts: Brigid, Keziah/Billie
	Last Day 17th December Xavier Lucas Greta Billie

GEM CONVERSATION CARDS



What is something
you can do to make
someone smile?

We were fortunate to have a visit from Melbourne University Engineering students on Monday. The Engineers Without Borders (EWB) University of Melbourne Chapter is a student-run humanitarian engineering club that promotes STEM and sustainable development. They volunteer to run hands-on STEM workshops for primary and high school students across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria.

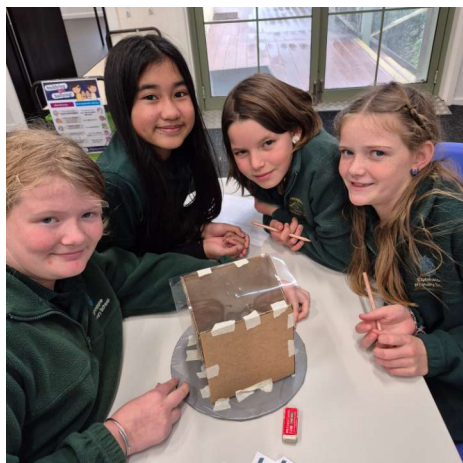


On Monday five Melbourne University Engineering students came into school to teach us about engineering. We were set the challenge of making a small house made out of resources they had. We had to make it survive three tests which were, extreme wind, earthquake and rain. We had a set budget of fifty dollars and there was a shop where we could buy our materials. We got 4 cardboard sheets, 2 plastic sheets, 3 blue-tack balls, masking tape and a popsicle stick. We survived all three of the tests. It was incredible. - Lucas, Gilbert, Ren and Elijah

Today we built a house to withstand disasters such as extreme storms, heavy winds and earthquakes. We used 4 pieces of cardboard, 40cm of masking tape, 2 plastic sheets and 6 popsicle sticks. We just came in under budget. We made the walls of the house with the cardboard secured with tape. Then, we added the sheets to form a roof and then we added the popsicle sticks to make the roof flat and to hold it up. We secured the plastic on top to waterproof the roof. We passed the wind test on low and high speeds. We barely survived the earthquake. Due to the damage from the earthquake the water test didn't go too well but we had heaps of fun doing it! -Josiah, Tommy, Marshall and Charlie

Engineers came to the school and taught us about how to build a house. The house had to be able to survive earthquakes, heavy rain and strong wind. In the challenge we had limited resources and money. We thought the hardest thing was definitely the budgeting and the funnest thing was probably constructing the building. Overall it was superfun and we learnt a lot! We loved it! -Brigid, Lucy, Lila and Keziah.

We got into groups and planned a house design that would be safe for natural disasters such as Cyclones, Severe Storms and Earthquakes. We were given a budget and we had to buy materials keeping to a limit. - Greta, Billie and Eva



Miss Davidson's Class

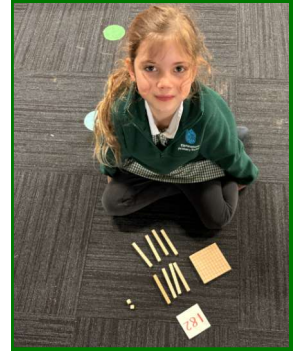
Writing

This week we have been focusing on writing recounts about our holidays. It was great to hear about all the amazing things that you all did.

Daphne wrote- On the holidays, I went to the Bubble Planet with Ivy, Aunty Gab, Mum and Sebby. After that, I got an Elsa torch and we had some lunch.

Maths

This week in maths we have been continuing to practice our place value and ordering numbers from smallest to largest. We did an activity where we all had a numbers and had to place ourselves in order. We have also practised making models of numbers with base 10 blocks.



Phonics

This week in phonics we have been learning new high-frequency words, and racing each other to find them on the word wall. We have also been reading our class novel called George's Marvelous Medicine. We only have one chapter left!



100 Days at school for the Preps is this Friday!!

Show and Tell

After the holidays we had lots of exciting things and experiences to share with the class. Thanks to Daph, Zoe and Eli for sending in photos of their holidays to share with the class. It is awesome to see us all become more confident when speaking in front of the class.



Mrs Rollinson's Class

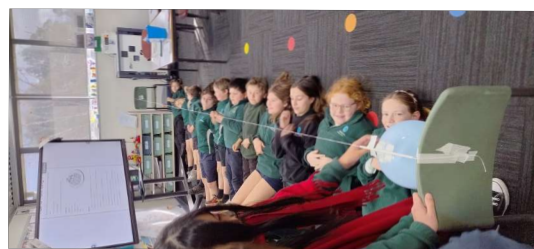


PBL - TERM #3 NEWS

We have named our cow 'Mooana'. We've created so many designs to choose from to paint her. We started to learn about the 5 food groups in the P-3 group and the 4-6 group have learnt that cows have 4 stomachs and how the milk is transferred from Paddock to the supermarket shelves. Next week we will make butter and milkshakes and decide the design to paint Mooana.

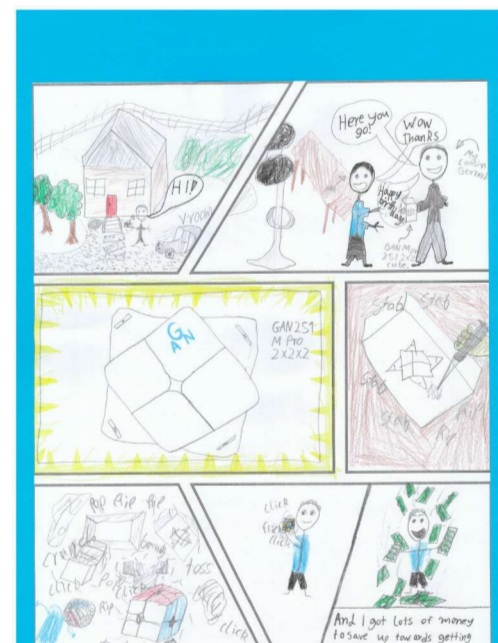
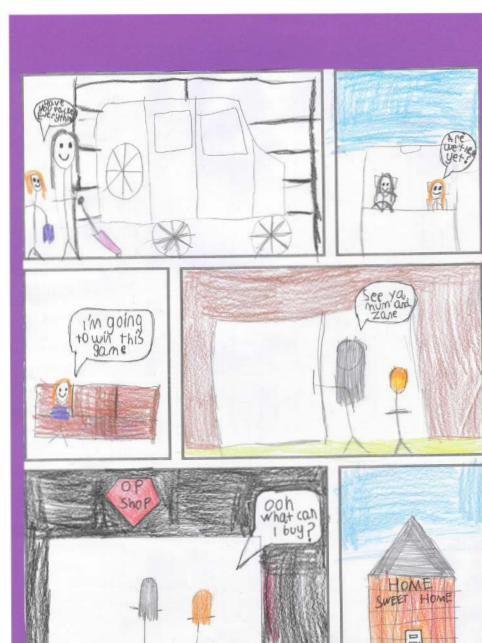
Maths

We had a special Maths Challenge day on Tuesday. Students were put into groups and tasked to complete 5 challenges. The challenges incorporated math concepts such as design, time management, directions, problem solving, counting and shape concepts. It was so much fun - I love it when students are learning and they don't realise it!

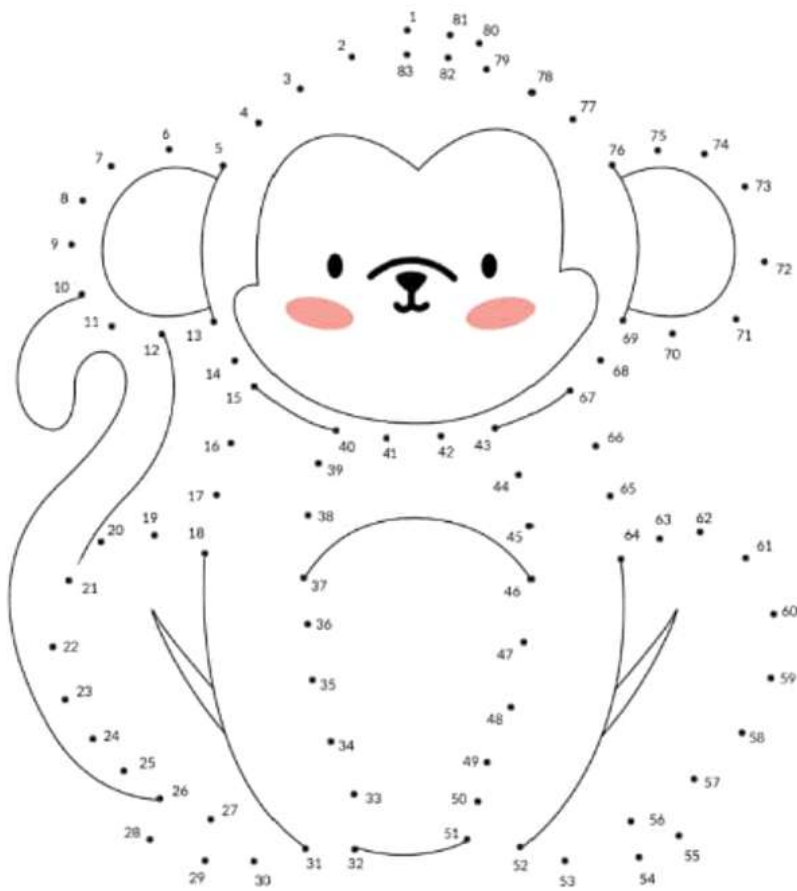


Writing

Students created comic recounts for their holidays and we have started our procedure text unit. On Tuesday we learnt the importance of visual diagrams when making our pirate hats and today we made a balloon rocket. Check out the videos on FB..



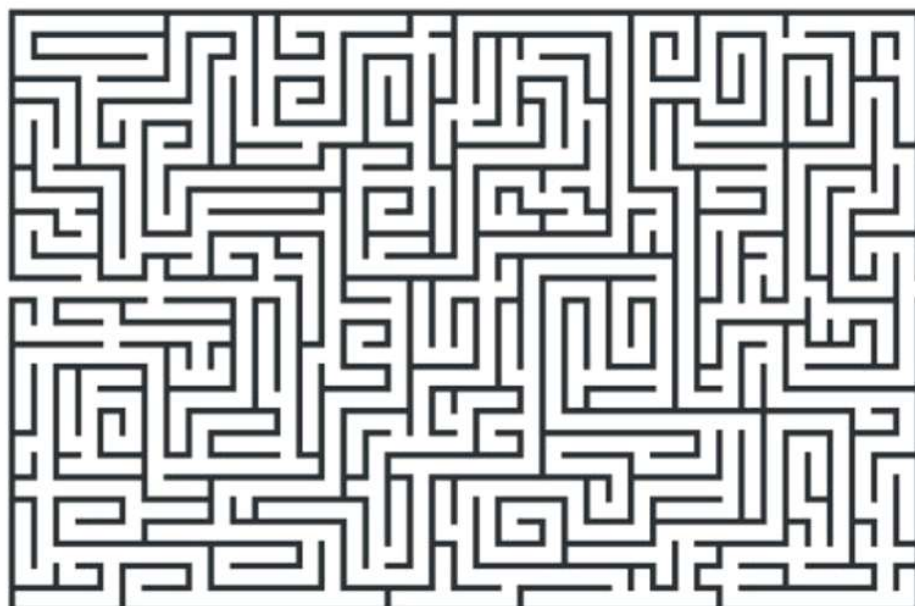
Puzzle Page - By Greta



Overall Ladder ElphinstonePS2026			
← Prev		Round 20	Next →
#	TIPSTER		PTS
1		Jacinta Deane	117
2		Rustyjos65	116
3		Mr Rolly	110
4		HShuff	107
5		Mrs Rolly	106
6		Coach Kye	105
7		NeonFlash_27	104
7		Riley71	104
9		Lucascrazy1420	103
10		Miss Leehane	102
11		Chazza 35	101
11		ElphoTurtle	101
13		Sarcee	99
13		Wild Westys	99
15		TacoMuncher	96

What has hands but
cannot clap?

A clock.



ISC

is hosting a...

Teddy Bear

Picnic



21st august
9am - 10am
siblings welcome

Notice for the Fridge!

Here is a list of optional Out of Uniform days we are participating in this year. There may be others that pop up but these are the usual ones.

Tues 29th July - Crazy Hair Day - Gold Coin donation for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

22nd - 28th August - Book Week Dress Up. Theme **Symphony of Stories** - Specific day to be announced closer to the date.

18th September - Casual Dress day last day of Term 3. Gold Coin donation for Elphinstone Fire Brigade.

Last day of School 2026 - Casual Dress day. Gold Coin donation for Elphinstone Fire Brigade.

News From The Art Room

We received this letter from Felicity Howard, the Volunteer Project Organiser of the Great Maldon Teddy Bear Adventure which was held to great success on 11th July.

“I am writing hand on heart to thank you and your wonderful students for the incredible magical unicorns that were featured in our Great Maldon Teddy Bear Adventure on Saturday. Your unicorns were a much-loved highlight and you will see from the picture were a stage hero piece (we built stands to display). From the moment children entered the hall, they were completely immersed in magic. This is largely due to the setting created by children for children and our fabulous art teachers.

Approx 400 children and their families attended the free event on Saturday and they travelled from far and wide across the state.

I cannot even begin to describe to you the joy in the room.

Every visitor was impressed by your beautiful unicorns.”

We are proud of the work of Elphinstone students and hope every parent who attended was impressed with the all of the hard work of students of ours and other local schools.



Elphinstone Primary School

TRIVIA NIGHT

**READY TO PLAY?
SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER**

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS

@ELPHINSTONE HALL

EXCITEMENT OVERLOAD!

At the end of last term Daphne had the idea to make a pond for the water overflowing from the water tank. Daphne and her peers worked hard making their pond. On the first day back at school it was EXCITEMENT OVERLOAD because the pond had filled up!!



 **Castlemaine Secondary College Theatre Company**
PROUDLY PRESENTS

A WRINKLE IN TIME

DRAMA ADAPTATION BY
MORGAN GOULD

FROM THE NOVEL BY
MADELEINE L'ENGLE

DIRECTOR/BACKSTAGE:
JO TSAKOUNAGOS, KAT VEARING
& NEON ROBERTSON

PRODUCER:
JACQUI TEAGUE



Thursday 6th August, 7.00pm
Friday 7th August, 7.00pm
Saturday 8th August, 12.30pm
Saturday 8th August, 7.00pm

Phoe Broadway Theatre, Castlemaine
BOOK NOW: trybooking.com/DMTSQ

A Wrinkle in Time (Gould -full-length) is produced by special arrangement with Stage Partners.
(www.yourstagepartners.com)

PARENT SUPPORT AND EDUCATION SESSIONS TERM 3, 2026

The Loddon Children's Health & Wellbeing Local offers free weekly education sessions that address mental health and wellbeing. The sessions are run by a mental health or allied health clinician at the Local.

Sessions are open to any parents or carers of children aged 0-11.

Why join in?

- Talk to Local staff about your child.
- Ask any practical questions you have about parenting now.
- Gain support for yourself as a parent.

Where: The Loddon Child and Health Wellbeing Local, 19 Helm St KANGAROO FLAT 3555. Enter via the green porch at the back of the site.

Dates and topics: Wednesdays (Face to face) please call us if you want to attend online to see if we can accommodate that.

WHEN	TIME	TOPIC
Jul 15	9.30am	ADHD What is it and How Can I Help?
Jul 22	9.30am	What Is Autism and How Can I Help?
Jul 29	9.30am	Parent Wellbeing
Aug 5	9.30am	Sensory processing and strategies
Aug 15	9.30am	Managing Big Feelings
Aug 19	9.30am	All about anger
Aug 26	9.30am	Anxiety in kids
Sep 2	9.30am	Family rules and consequences
Sep 9	9.30am	Sibling Rivalry
Sep 16	9.30am	Parent drop-in/fun day



If you have any Questions, please contact Annette Clemments on 1800 433 977 Book in via email icfhlocals@bchs.com.au. Please state your name, your child's name and the session(s) you wish to attend.

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Learn how to support young people experiencing a mental health problem.



Come along to Youth Mental Health First Aid training where you'll learn:

- The difference between normal adolescent development and a developing mental health problem
- How to have open conversations with young people
- Signs and symptoms of possible mental health problems
- Where to seek further help.

Over 2 face-to-face sessions, plus 5 hours of self-directed online learning you'll learn all this, meet other parents, receive take home resources and enjoy a delicious meal.

What: Blended Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

When: 5pm to 9pm | Monday 7 and 14 September 2026
(must attend both sessions)

Where: Civic Centre, Castlemaine

Cost: \$140 per person. Dinner provided.

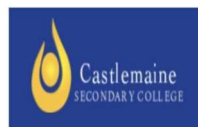
Book: Register by 26 August at
www.mountalexandershireyouth.com.au/training

Contact: Shannon Lacy | 5471 1700 | youth@mountalexander.vic.gov.au



2026 AUSCYCLING VIC SCHOOLS MTB SERIES - Round 6

With both Race or Novice category this event is suitable for all school-aged children, whether an experienced racer, social rider, or beginner wanting to have a fun day out with friends



Date: Saturday September 12th 2026

Venue: Castlemaine Secondary College

Cost: \$30

<https://entryboss.cc/races/31524>

Proudly presented by Castlemaine Rocky Riders and Castlemaine Secondary College



English Tutor

Local English Tutoring –

Helping Students Thrive

Hello, my name is Tallaya, and I am an experienced English tutor with a background in secondary teaching and a genuine passion for helping students succeed. I specialise in building confidence and improving reading, writing, and communication skills for students of all levels.

Each hour-long session is tailored to suit the student's individual learning needs. Whether its developing stronger essay-writing skills, preparing for VCE exams, or filling knowledge gaps, my aim is to make English engaging, accessible, and rewarding for all students wherever they are on their learning journey.

One on one and small group tutoring available here in Elphinstone.

For information regarding session times, fees or to book a trial session please contact

Tallaya Maher on one of the following,

taymaher@hotmail.com

0424790788

