



Elphinstone Primary School

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

CARE – RESILIENCE – CREATIVITY

Important Dates 2026:

October

Sat 17 Trivia Night

Mon 19 Tennis

Tournament

Thur 22 School Photo

Day

Mon 26 Assembly 3pm/

School Council 5pm

Thur 29 - Fri 30 School

Sleepover

November

Mon 16 Life Ed

Incursion

Mon 23 Assembly 3pm/

School Council 5pm

Wed 25—Fri 27 5/6

Urban Camp Melbourne

December

Tue 8 Statewide

Orientation Day - 2027

Preps and Year 7

students

Thur 10 End of Year

Concert (Evening)

Mon 14 Activity Week

(events excursions TBC)

Thur 17 End of school

year. Final Assembly

3.00pm

Fri 18 Pupil Free Day

2027

January

Wed 27 Teachers Start

Thur 28 Start Up Day

**VICTORIA'S CONTAINER
DEPOSIT SCHEME**



Funds
This Year

\$ 881.70

NEWSLETTER No.16 15th October 2026

Dear parents carers and the wider school community

It has been a very challenging few weeks as Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) undertook bushfire preparedness works with very little warning or consultation over the recent holiday period. As the main building is our designated 'Shelter in Place' (SIP) in case of an emergency, the VSBA guidelines require the removal of combustible materials within 10 metres of the SIP. There was no consideration for the type or height of vegetation, therefore the entire garden area within this distance was removed without an opportunity for us to re-locate trees and shrubs that were planted within the past 2 years. At the time of writing this, several trees that were earmarked for removal have had a stay of execution, pending on advice from bushfire planning experts. I would like to thank and acknowledge the school community for influencing the delay in works, particularly the courage and determination of Sarah West and Helen Officer. We hope their actions have protected what is left of our garden, particularly the Ash tree that is situated next to the old flagpole, a tree that will be valuable shade for years to come. I also want to thank and acknowledge the school community for the respect and courtesy that was given to me over the past few weeks, as I am compelled in my duty as a Victorian Government School principal to adhere to department regulations and authority.

On a much lighter note, we are holding our Trivia Night this Saturday and Trinity and Ethan have been working extremely hard behind the scenes to not only make the night a fun event, but to raise as much money as we can for the school. Even though it's last minute - if you know of any business that could donate any goods or services that could be raffled or auctioned on the night - let us know!

Lastly, we have finally settled a date for our School Sleepover, Thursday evening/night 29th October. Older students will have an opportunity to camp on the oval, and the classrooms will be converted to a dormitory for the night. All meals, including evening dinner, breakfast and lunch will be provided. Provisions will also be provided for students that do not sleepover, they can be collected and returned to school at any time pre-arranged with staff. We do encourage, if possible, for students to be collected from school after lunch on Friday - however this is not a requirement as school will officially conclude at the normal time of 3.30pm.



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.

Prep Transition Dates

We are planning our transition days for term 4, which will be 4 x sessions starting at 8.45am and conclude at 11.30am. This will encompass our 2 hour literacy block (9-11am) and include the 30 minute recess (11-11.30am). The fifth and final session will be the Statewide Transition Day on Tuesday the 8th of December where the students will attend a full day from 9am-3:30pm.

Dates for the Morning Transition 8.45 - 11.30am:

Tuesday November 10th
 Tuesday November 17th
 Tuesday November 24th
 Tuesday December 1st

Full day 9.00 - 3.30pm – Statewide Transition Day

Tuesday December 8th



ASSEMBLIES 2026

Term 4
Week 4 26th October Charlie, Rosie, Daphne, Marshall Hosts: Lucas, Lila
Week 8 23rd November Indie, Elise, Tyson Hosts: Brigid, Keziah/Billie
Last Day 17th December Xavier Lucas Greta Billie

GEM CONVERSATION CARDS



Spend a minute sitting and taking in your surroundings using your senses.

What can you see, hear, smell, touch and taste?



Hi I am Bridget, I am the mum of Elise who is in prep and Morgan who is 3 (but would very much like to be at the school too). We feel very attached to the school as we live very close and the girls loved playing on the playground on the weekends growing up. I work as a practice nursing team leader, and do quality improvement and risk management at a GP clinic in Castlemaine. My favourite part of my job is working with individuals with chronic health conditions to help them work out their goals and connect them with services. I also enjoy making book nooks, reading fiction and non fiction books and spending time with my partner Chris and our girls.

I joined school council because both Chris and I work a lot, and I sometimes felt behind on what was happening at school. I thought my contribution to the council could use my problem solving and creativity skills and would make me feel better for not being able to come to assembly (but it hasn't really, I still feel sad every time I can't go). My favourite council supported activity I have participated in was the pottery night. The hardest bit of school council is trying to hear everyone on the conference microphone, but I enjoy typing my ideas in the chat, and the one time I went in person.



Prep/1 Class Class

Show and Tell

It has been so great to hear about all the wonderful things everyone has done over the holidays. Thank you to everyone who shared their adventures and stories of what they got up to. We also got to see Zane's huge Ooshie collection, Elise and Indie's new fluffy toys and Tyson's moths and butterfly that he caught.



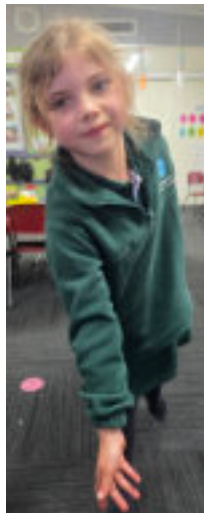
The Resilience Project

This week we have learnt about being an empathetic friend. We listened to and discussed the song 'You've Got a Friend in Me' and came up with poses to help us to remember how to be empathetic.

Sylvia said "We can offer them a helping hand."
Daphne said "We can give them a hug."

Thank you!

Thank you to all the staff, parents and students for welcoming me back. It's been tricky leaving my girls - as I'm sure all the parents understand - but the amazing community here has made my return much easier! Billie is 7 months old now and coping with my return to work much better than me!



Writing

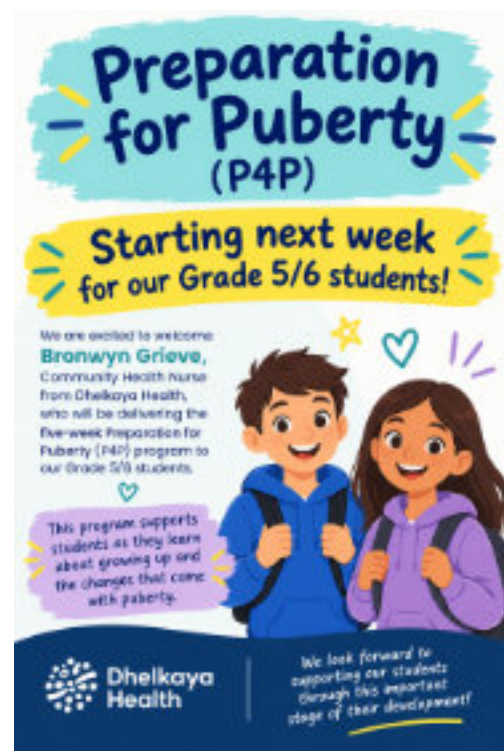
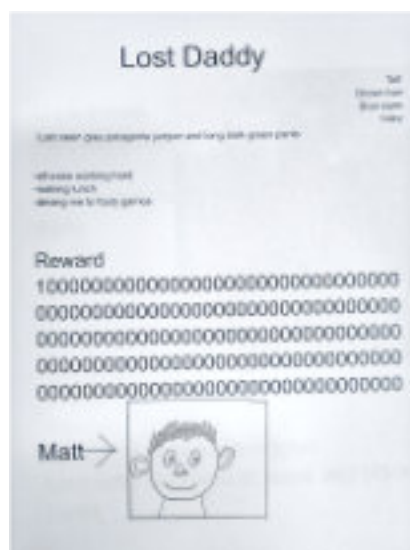
Last week in writing, we were focusing on sharing about our holidays. We also completed a funny writing task to go with our book for the week - Bamboozled.



Students have completed their verbal presentations of their holiday recounts. The use of cue cards made a huge improvement to the quality and depth of their retells. We just started our persuasive unit and our class text topic is: "Students and Teachers need a 4 day school week". There was a debate as to whether Teachers should have a 4 day week too. As they pointed out we chose the profession, and we love doing our job. However, if they want a 4 day week then parents will need that too so we let teachers stay!

We have been practicing our addition and subtraction strategies in Financial Maths the past 2 weeks. Students enjoyed planning and calculating meals from a menu and the cost of various clothes from a store. Students were challenged to calculate what everything costs and the change if using cash.

In Health, we have been learning about people and things we may take for granted. For one activity student created lost posters for a special person so they could highlight the amazing things they do that we may not show gratitude for even though we are very grateful.



Mooana is complete and the journal is ready for submission - hopefully, we'll win a prize. If not, it doesn't matter because we have our very own amoozing cow! Thank you to the parents who attended the unveiling, we hope you got some garlic bread - It was definitely a hit!



Puddles Play Dates

Me and puddles went to the bendigo mall
~~and went to~~ to go get some toys and
we got a really big tub of slime putty
stuff and we played with it on the way
home then we started cleaning my room.



Thank you for
having me Tilly.

I had lots of
fun!

Puzzle Page



WORD SEARCH

Find the words listed below. They can be hidden across, down, forwards, backwards or diagonally.

C	O	W	S	H	E	D	P	A	S	T	U	R	E
M	I	L	K	B	U	C	K	E	T	F	A	R	M
C	A	L	F	G	R	A	S	S	H	A	Y	D	R
F	A	R	M	E	R	M	O	O	S	E	D	A	I
B	E	L	L	S	T	A	L	L	P	O	L	U	R
P	A	S	T	U	R	E	D	A	I	R	Y	T	B
T	R	A	C	T	O	R	H	O	O	F	C	L	O
C	L	O	V	E	R	F	E	N	C	E	M	U	D
S	T	A	L	L	S	I	L	A	G	E	G	R	A
B	A	L	E	H	A	Y	F	O	K	M	I	L	K
B	O	W	S	U	N	D	A	Y	T	R	O	P	Y
C	H	A	F	F	H	E	R	D	S	A	N	D	S

cow
milk
calf
grass
hay
farmer

moose
bell
stall
pasture
dairy
tractor

hoof
clover
fence
mud
silage
bale

fork
shed
herd
sand
buckets
chaff

3 COW JOKES

1. Why did the cow win an award?

Because she was out-standing in her field!



2. What do you call a cow with no legs?

Ground beef!



3. Why do cows have hooves instead of feet?

Because they lactose!



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.

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



Tommy, Lucy and Greta are the first to achieve their individual 20 card goal!

Tommy chose free time for 15 minutes and Lucy chose double specialist class and Greta has chosen a treat at the shop on a warmer day to celebrate their acknowledgements.

The P-2 classroom achieved a puzzle piece and has reset their count, the 3-6 class are sitting on 70!

PARENT SUPPORT AND EDUCATION SESSIONS TERM 4, 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
Oct 7th	9.30am	ADHD What is it and How Can I Help?
Oct 14	9.30am	What Is Autism and How Can I Help?
Oct 21	9.30am	Parent Wellbeing
Oct 28		Bendigo Cup Closed
Nov 4th	9.30am	Managing Big Feelings
Nov 11	9.30am	Navigating transitions
Nov 18	9.30am	Anxiety in Kids
Nov 25	9.30am	Social skills and self esteem
Dec 2	9.30am	Sibling Rivalry
Dec 9th	9.30am	Family rules and consequences



Book in via email icfhlocals@bchs.com.au. Please state your name, your child's name and the session(s) you wish to attend.

SOMEONE I KNOW HAS ADHD

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com



WHAT IS ADHD?

ADHD is something some people are born with. It means their brain works in a different way. Their brain can feel very busy. This can make some everyday things harder.

PEOPLE WITH ADHD MIGHT:



Find it hard to sit still



Get distracted easily



Forget what they were doing



Talk a lot or interrupt



Do things quickly without thinking

They are not doing it on purpose. This is part of how ADHD affects them.

WHAT IS IT LIKE FOR THEM?

Imagine trying to watch five TV shows at once. That is what it can feel like in their mind. They might:



Feel restless or fidgety



Say or do things quickly



Get upset more easily



Find it hard to finish things



Feel tired from trying to keep up

They are fun, creative, and curious. They care, even if they do not always show it.

CAN I CATCH IT?



No. ADHD is not something you can catch. It is not like a cold or the flu.

HOW CAN I HELP?



- Be kind and understanding
- Be patient
- Do not tease or laugh
- Let them join in
- Talk to a trusted adult if you are unsure or worried

EVERYONE IS DIFFERENT

People with ADHD see and feel the world in their own way. We all have things that make us unique. Understanding each other helps us care for each other.



PEOPLE WITH ADHD HAVE MANY STRENGTHS

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com



People with ADHD are often:



Full of ideas



Curious



Energetic



Imaginative



Caring



Kind



Funny

They can:



Think in different ways



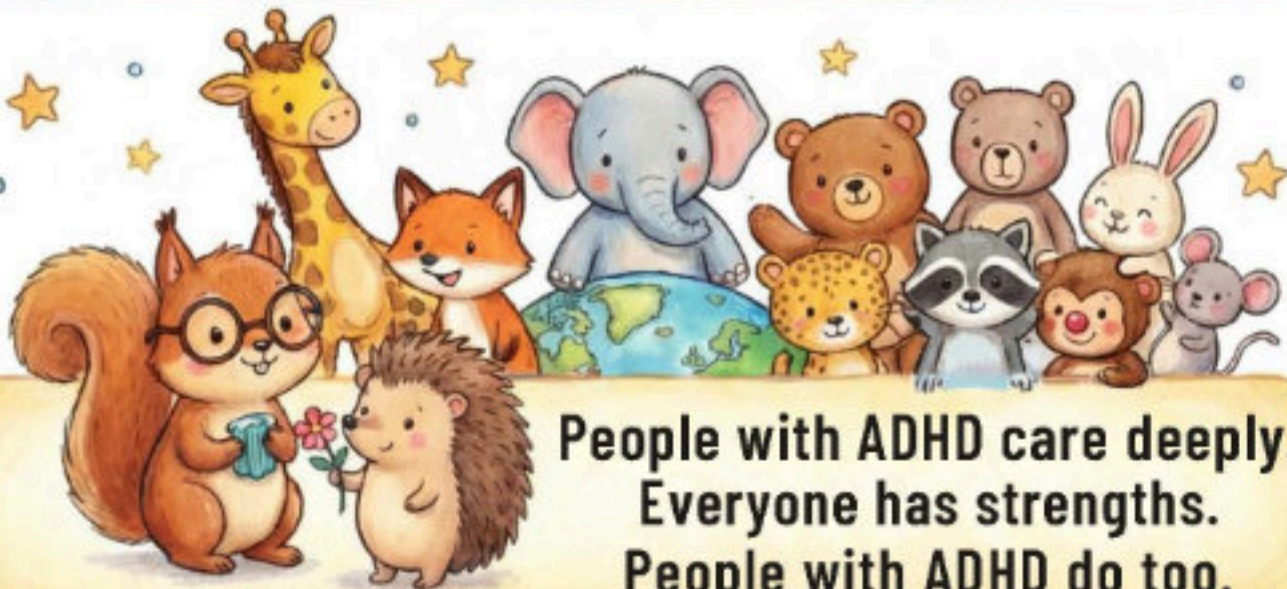
Notice things others miss



Be very focused on things they enjoy



Bring excitement and enthusiasm



People with ADHD care deeply.
Everyone has strengths.
People with ADHD do too.

Castlemaine Secondary College – Year 7

Transition Information

In the coming weeks, 2027 families will be sent book list information. We are in the process of confirming our classes and the staffing profile of our Junior School for 2027. We are looking forward to getting to know our new Year 7s.

A reminder of our upcoming Transition Dates:

Family Information Evening – Wednesday, December 2: 5:30 pm-6:30 pm in the Gym (Junior School Building)

Orientation Day – Tuesday 8 December, 9:00 am to 3:15 pm

Sue-Ellen Pape

Transition Coordinator



STONEMANS BOOKROOM

Saturday 10th of October 2026

- 1. Colouring competition:** Pick up a sheet in-store or download the link via our socials. Tag #LYBD2026 to enter the national prize plus we're giving a \$50 bookshop voucher for the best local entry. Winner announced 4pm Saturday, October 10. Enter now!
- 2. Story time and singalong:** Join our very own Lloyd at 11:00am and 1:00pm.
- 3. Your favorite book character:** Come dressed as your favorite book character and we'll give you a \$10 book voucher (a great way to reuse your Book Week costume).
- 4. Really experience Stonemans Bookroom:** In 50 words or less, tell us why you would love a bookseller experience at Stonemans. Three prizes to be won. Winners get to spend two hours in-store with staff and receive a \$100 gift voucher. Drop in, post or email your entry to info@stonemansbookroom.com.au. Make sure to include your phone number. Entries close October 9 at 5pm. Winners announced October 10 at 4pm. Enter now!

LOVE YOUR BOOK SHOP

10 OCTOBER 2026

#LYBD2026

LOVEYOURBOOKSHOP.ORG.AU

Be Amazed

#BEASCOUT

Join Scouts Today!

1st Castlemaine Pioneer Scout Group now welcoming new Joeys aged 5-8 years old.

For more information or to join

scoutsvictoria.com.au

gl.1stcastlemaine@scoutsvictoria.com.au



Elphinstone Primary School

TRIVIA NIGHT

**NOW TAKING
BOOKINGS**

★ **WHEN: SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER**

TIME: 6:30PM COST: \$15 PER HEAD

**WHERE: ELPHINSTONE HALL - OLIVERS LANE
BYO NIBBLES AND DRINKS**

Organise your group, then call Trinity on 0412 135 860 to book. There are no set table numbers, team sizes can be tailored to suit your group.

Various prizes, raffles and auction items throughout the night.

Elphinstone Playgroup

Music, Dance,
Craft, Painting,
Playdough, lots of
toys & books & fun
All Welcome

Starting 3rd
February
School Terms
9:15-11:15am

Cost: \$4.00
Bring a piece of
Fruit
Morning Tea for
Adults

Elphinstone
Recreation Hall
2 Olivers Lane
Elphinstone



'Drop-In' Family Support

Our monthly drop-in sessions offer a welcoming, relaxed space for carers and families with a child aged 0-11 years

Come along and have a chat about anything that's on your mind

- Concerned about your child's development?
- Challenges impacting on your child's wellbeing?
- Family stress or uncertainty?
- Navigating supports and services?
- Unsure what your child and family needs and where to begin?

Where: Dhelkaya Health, Castlemaine

When: 12 Aug | 9 Sep | 7 Oct | 4 Nov | 2 Dec

Time: 9:30am – 11:30am

Whether you have questions, concerns, or simply need someone to talk to, we're here to support you and your family





Parenting Programs

Bringing Up Great Kids

- For parents and carers of 0-12 year old children
- 6-week in-person program

Bringing Up Great Kids is designed to give you an opportunity to think about your parenting, your child and how to provide the experiences you want for them as they grow up. The program will help you understand more about your child's development and their behaviour. You'll also discover ways to take care of yourself and how to find support if you need it.



Circle of Security Parenting

- For parents and carers of 0-6 year old children
- 8-week in-person program

Circle of Security Parenting is based on decades of research about how secure parent-child relationships can be supported and strengthened. It's designed to help you support your child's ability to successfully manage emotions and enhance the development of their self-esteem. It's an opportunity to honour your innate wisdom and desire for your child to be secure.

