



# Elphinstone Primary School

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

## CARE – RESILIENCE – CREATIVITY

### Important Dates 2026:

#### April

**Mon 20** Term 2 Begins

#### May

**Fri 8** Tabloid Sports Day P/2

**Mon 11** School Assembly

**Mon 11** Assembly 3pm  
School Council 5pm

**Wed 13** Parent Coffee catch up 9-10am

**Fri 15** School based Cross Country

**Mon 18** Career Dress up Day

**Wed 20** Proposed Ulumbarra Theatre Excursion TBC

**Thur 21** 'Making Friends with Worry' Parent session 1-1.40pm

**Fri 22** Goldfields Division Cross Country at Wesley Hill

#### June

**Mon 1** School Assembly 3pm

**Fri 5** Curriculum Day—no classes

**Mon 8** King's Birthday Holiday

**Mon 15** School Council 5pm

**Fri 26** Pyjama Dress Up Day—Term 2 ends 2.30pm finish

#### July

**Mon 13** Term 3 begins

#### September

**Fri 4** Curriculum Day—school closed

**Fri 18** End of Term 3

### NEWSLETTER No.5 2nd April 2026

Dear parents carers and the wider school community

Where has this term gone!! What a busy 10 weeks we've had with both students and staff running on empty by the time this newsletter is published. Even this fortnight has been particularly busy, with after school commitments with the Castlemaine State Festival, The Resilience Project Parent night and the Working Bee last Friday. Include the Festival day excursion, Parent Picnic, AFL 9's and the last trip to the Gym in Bendigo, and you see why!

It was fantastic to see the turn out at our Working Bee last Friday evening, we achieved plenty and had some fun along the way. It has been a while since we've had one and gauging from the enthusiasm we will have a few more planned throughout the year. The front fence area is looking amazing, and we can't wait for it to be finished.


The Parent Picnic was a huge success, there was an incredible number of families and friends in attendance as the students showcased their cooking skills over the course of the term. Nicole has done an amazing job with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, it has added so much to our curriculum and the love of producing, preparing and cooking food is embedded in our students already.

The Castlemaine State Festival was right up there for the highlight of the year, the students were blown away with the Chinese acrobats. We enjoyed a front row view of the performance, there is plenty of pictures and writing in the following pages.

As you can see below, Harmony Day was well supported by our staff and students, and we dedicated the morning session to teach and learn about what the day means and why it is so important to embrace diversity and inclusion always.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Easter period and enjoy the family time!



 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		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Care</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">We show kindness and empathy when we care for ourselves, others and country.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resilience</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">When things are tricky, we bounce back from the challenges we face.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creativity</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">We are all unique, imaginative and can think outside the box.</p>

## Our 2026 Junior School Councillors



We have already had 2 meetings and organised a Hot Dog Day and made suggestions for the SWPBS whole school and classroom rewards.

Next term, we are having a 'Career's Day' as part of education week. Students are asked to come dressed as what they'd like to be when they grow up. It will be on Monday 18th May.



Thank you to all of the parents and carers that helped out at the working bee last Friday evening! Another great turn out of parents. We are so lucky to have so many involved and connected parents to our school!

## ASSEMBLIES 2026

Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
<p>Week 4 11th May</p> <p><b>Keziah, Elijah, Lila, Josiah</b></p> <p>Hosts: Lucas, Charlie</p>	<p>Week 4 3rd August</p> <p><b>Ren, Gilbert, Tommy</b></p> <p>Hosts: Billie, Elijah</p>	<p>Week 4 26th October</p> <p><b>Charlie, Rosie, Daphne, Marshall</b></p> <p>Hosts: Lucas, Lila</p>
<p>Week 7 1st June</p> <p><b>Zoe, Lucy, Eli</b></p> <p>Hosts: Gilbert, Josiah</p>	<p>Week 8 31st August</p> <p><b>Sylvia, Eva, Zane</b></p> <p>Hosts: Greta, Ren</p>	<p>Week 8 23rd November</p> <p><b>Indie, Elise, Tyson</b></p> <p>Hosts: Brigid, Keziah/Billie</p>
		<p>Last Day 17th December</p> <p><b>Xavier Lucas Greta Billie</b></p>





**CASTLEMAINE  
STATE  
FESTIVAL**

20—29  
MARCH  
2026

I liked the big paper fort that we saw on Monday, I also liked the acrobat but it was really loud. I didn't really like the butterfly making. I liked how the acrobat did cool tricks, I liked the mask changing. I liked it when the acrobat got the whip and started doing cool tricks. I liked the actions when we got a present. I liked looking inside the big paper fort. - Charlie



Yesterday was very insane when the acrobats climbed chairs to the roof and a gg handstand with 1 hand - Tommy



On Monday we went to the Castlemaine festival and the Chinese Acrobats. It was so much fun! My favourite part was the paper Mache domain! It was cool, we also made a butterfly kite! After that we went to the Chinese Acrobats. My favourite part of the Chinese Acrobats was where the man stacked up seven chairs on four glass bottles! - Keziah

On Monday we saw Chinese acrobats doing so many cool things, 1 of them stacked 6 or 7 chairs. My favourite thing was him changing faces. - Elijah



On Monday we saw Chinese Acrobats do so many cool things! One of the mans stacked (7) chairs on top of each other but that wasn't the only thing they did they also did mask changing it was so confusing before that we made butterfly kites.- Lucy



At the start of the week we saw Chinese Acrobats! They were so cool. One of the Acrobats got 6 or 7 chairs and put them on top of 4 glass bottles! He was called the king of Chinese acrobats. Before that we went to the Good Shed And did different activities such as, Making butterfly kites, Looking at art and Drama Games for the state festival. Overall I had an amazing time! So glad we got to go. Thank you to all the people who ran it. - Billie



On Monday most of the Elphinstone students went to the Castlemaine state festival student day. My favourite part of the festival was the Acrobats at the town hall. It was incredible watching the man climb 6 chairs while they were on glass bottles only. Watching the man do the flips and balancing on cylinders while rotating in a circle. - Lucas



# PARENT PICNIC



What a magnificent turn out for our family picnic last Friday! The food was delicious, the weather superb and we had a lot of parents, grandparents, carers and extended family turn up for the occasion. Nicole and the students have been preparing food all term for the big day, and there wasn't too much left over! Our Kitchen Garden Program goes from strength to strength and the students should be proud of what they were able to achieve. We look forward to planting our garlic and some winter crops, getting ready for next term in our kitchen garden classes.



## **CASTLEMAINE DISTRICT SPORTS GALA DAY**

We entered the AFL 9's Competition, along with Harcourt Primary School, last Thursday. The 'Harcinstone' team played well and the students had a great day. Thanks to Tallaya for looking helping out, and the parents who came and supported the team. The games and scores were as follows;

Game 1 Harcenstone 38 defeated Castlemaine South (1) 14

Game 2 Harcenstone 21 lost to Campbells Creek 49

Game 3 Harcenstone 32 lost to Newstead 40

Game 4 Harcenstone 29 lost to Castlemaine North (1) 42

Game 5 Harcenstone 40 defeated Maldon(2) 24

Game 6 Harcenstone 25 lost to Caslemaine North (3) 44



# Miss Davidson's Class

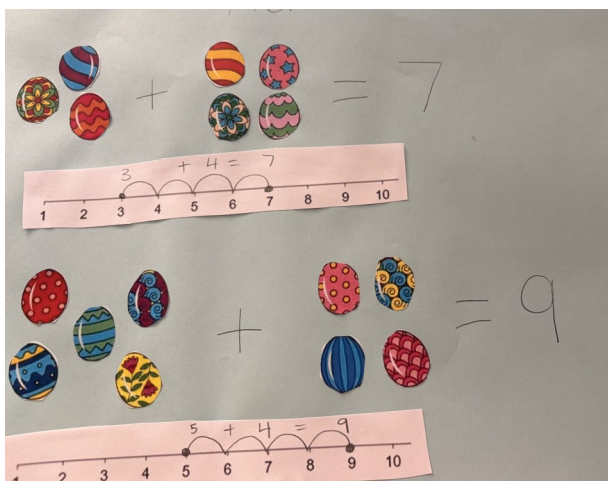
## Writing

This week in writing we are working on the end of our narratives. This includes introducing the solution and the hero of our story.



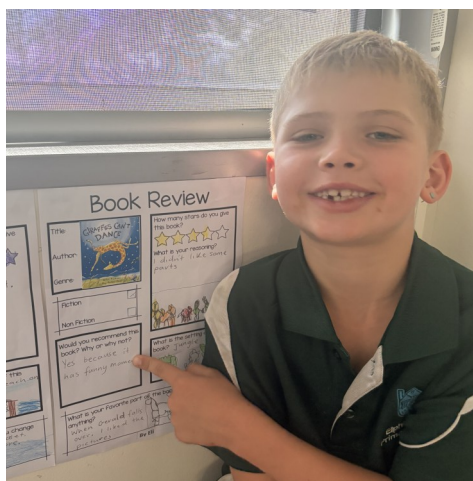
## Maths

In maths this week we have been learning about addition. We are learning how to add numbers together using different strategies. We did a fun easter addition activity and made them into posters.



## Reading

Each week we read a new picture story book as a class. This week we read the book 'Giraffe's cant dance'. Thank you to Eli who helped to complete our weekly book review and gave this book 4/5 stars.



## Easter Fun

For the past couple of weeks have having been working on some fun easter activities. Including paper chains and bunny pictures.



# Mrs Rollinson's Class



## PBL - P-3 Group

We had so much fun making our bee hotels. We may have gone off script a little bit but our aim was to be creative and we definitely were! I absolutely loved the team work and problem solving from everyone.



## PBL - 4-6 Group

Students were tasked with creating their own imaginary island with imaginary animals. They developed their environment, wrote rules for visiting the island and taught us all about their unique animals. We ended the term by creating a collage. There are some organisational and team work skills to continue to develop which will be focused on next term. Overall the Islands look fantastic and students should be proud of their efforts.



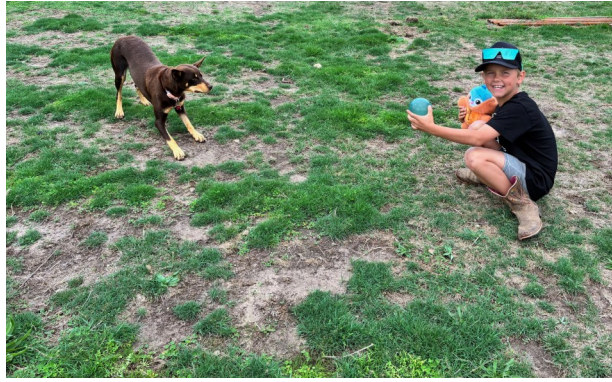
**Banana Island**  
**located under the sea!**



# Puddles Play Dates



On Friday Puddles and I were playing on the play ground and then I found him playing with Anna next Puddles played fetch with Bundy and Puddles had a good time at my house



On The weekend Puddles got to meet our new horse, Wally And then we went to Muckleford for a drive and I did cartwheels and handstands while Puddles watched. Puddles also got to have a ride on my pony cody. By Evan

On the weekend puddles and me went for a bike ride and solved Rubiks cubes together. Then puddles went sleepy mode. ~~By Evan~~ - Gil.



# Puzzle Page - By Greta

## Autumn Word Scramble

Unscramble the autumn words and join them to the pictures on the right. We've done the first one for you!

- shavter      harvest
- racon      \_\_\_\_\_
- low      \_\_\_\_\_
- plape      \_\_\_\_\_
- eark      \_\_\_\_\_
- quirlers      \_\_\_\_\_
- reet      \_\_\_\_\_
- minkpup      \_\_\_\_\_
- niwd      \_\_\_\_\_
- hohedegg      \_\_\_\_\_
- saleve      \_\_\_\_\_
- raccowers      \_\_\_\_\_

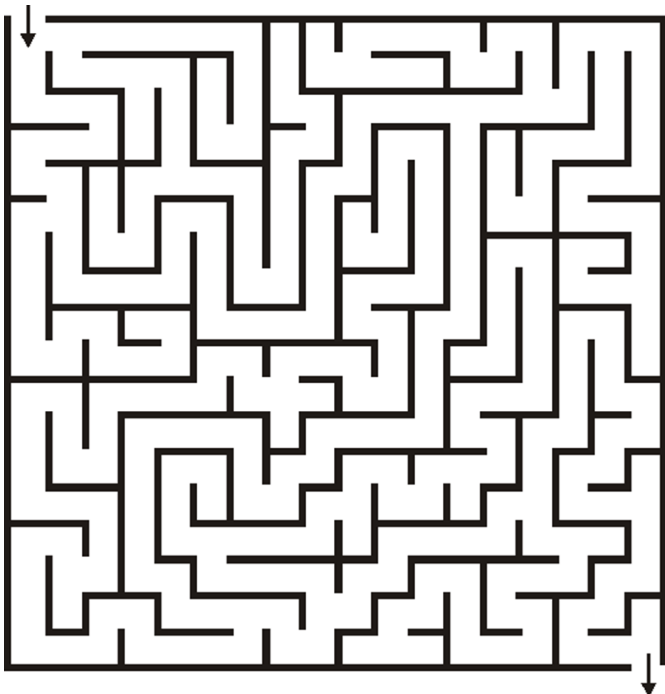


Overall Ladder  
ElphinstonePS2026

← Prev      Round 4      Next →

#	TIPSTER	PTS
1	Coach Kye	19
2	Rustyjos65	18
3	ElphoTurtle	17
3	HShuff	17
3	Lucascrazy1420	17
3	Wild Westys	17
7	Chazza 35	16
7	Jacinta Deane	16
7	Mrs Rolly	16
7	Sarcee	16
11	NeonFlash_27	15
11	Riley71	15
11	Runnalls Family	15
11	TacoMuncher	15
15	Mr Rolly	14
16	Miss Leehane	12

© www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy



**Why did the robber jump in the shower?**  
He wanted to make a clean getaway.

woman's day

# 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.

**2nd April** - Casual Dress day last day of term 1. Gold Coin donation for Elphinstone Fire Brigade.



**Fri 26th June** - Pyjama day last day of term 2.- Gold Coin donation for the Pyjama Foundation.



**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.





# UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

## WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism affects how people see the world and connect with others. Every autistic person is unique, with their own strengths and challenges. Also called Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), it varies by age and abilities.

## WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS?

- ✔ The first signs of autism may be delayed or different ways of talking and difficulty playing or interacting with others.
- ✔ Children might take longer to learn to talk or use words in a different way. They may also use less eye contact, pointing, and using gestures to communicate.
- ✔ Carers might see children repeat the same actions or movements during play or focus on unusual aspects of toys.
- ✔ A child can also start to show unusual sensitivity or lack of sensitivity to sounds, textures, pain or light.
- ✔ They may find it hard to make lasting friends, feel very anxious, and focus strongly on certain ideas or interests.
- ✔ Some children have challenges in primary school. They can express their needs well but may find it hard to share information or join conversations. They might also prefer to play on their own instead of with others.
- ✔ Autistic children often have special interests in certain things, like collecting sticks, trains, football stats, or learning about underwater animals. These interests are very important to them and bring a lot of joy.
- ✔ They might like their surroundings to stay the same, such as eating only certain textured foods or wearing the same clothes every day.
- ✔ They may find changes or transitions hard and overwhelming.



## WHEN TO SEE A DOCTOR?

- ✓ If you're worried about your child, talk to your GP and ask for a referral to a specialist, psychologist or paediatrician. Do not try to make a diagnosis yourself.
- ✓ Every child with Autism is different, and signs can vary a lot. That is why there isn't just one test to diagnose Autism.
- ✓ Treatment varies for each child and family and usually changes over time.

## AFTER A DIAGNOSIS OF AUTISM

- ✓ Counselling may help you to manage your own feelings about your child's diagnosis.
- ✓ Other parents who have children on the autism spectrum can be excellent sources of information.

## MORE SUPPORT SERVICES

- ✓ For more information and support, contact **Amaze** which has a list of **support groups in Victoria** on their website.
- ✓ **TherapyConnect** is a resource created by Amaze to help families of young autistic children understand the therapy and what to expect.



Evidence suggests that there is **NO** link between autism and childhood vaccines.



The Children's Health and Wellbeing Local is jointly funded by the Victorian Government and the Australian Government through the Head to Health Kids Initiative.

Scan the QR code to know more



GREAT DAY  
FOR ALL

# ANNUAL ELPHINSTONE GARAGE

EVERYONE  
WELCOME!



SUNDAY, APRIL 19th 2026

8:30am-2:00pm

Register your property or  
set up a stall at Sawpit Gully Reserve

\$10 Registration fee

BBQ and Coffee Van at  
Sawpit Gully!!



elphrechall@gmail.com  
or 0410 523 270

Organised by  
Elphinstone Facilities Committee

**Castlemaine Lawn Tennis Club**

ALL AGES  
ALL ABILITIES  
FUN GAMES  
TENNIS ACTIVITIES  
EASTER FUN

\$35  
PER PERSON

**EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC**  
**APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> 16<sup>TH</sup> 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**9AM-1PM 8:30 EARLY DROP OFF**  
Bring: Snacks, raquets (also provided)

More Information: [www.dropshottenniscoaching.com.au](http://www.dropshottenniscoaching.com.au) **BOOK ONLINE**  
PH: 0448 009960

**THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.**

## We're working with The Resilience Project


We're proud to be implementing TRP's evidence-based whole school wellbeing program. Students will engage in weekly lessons to understand and strengthen their practice of **Gratitude**, **Empathy**, **Mindfulness** and **Emotional Literacy**.

**Gratitude**



Gratitude involves recognising and expressing appreciation for the people, places and things in our lives. Practising gratitude allows us to pay attention to what we have, increasing feelings of happiness and leading to a more positive outlook on life.

**Empathy**



Empathy involves understanding others' feelings and perspectives and is practised through kindness, compassion and curiosity. Developing empathy fosters deeper connections, increases our likelihood of acting kindly, and helps us experience positive emotions.

**Mindfulness**




The practice of mindfulness is about an awareness of life as we are living it. It allows us to be responsive to our experiences rather than being reactive, and to live with greater balance, presence and connection.

**Emotional Literacy**



Emotional Literacy involves learning to identify and label our emotions, as well as developing emotional regulation skills. When we can accurately name our feelings and emotions, it reduces the impact of uncomfortable emotions and enhances the effect of positive ones.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RESILIENCE PROJECT, HEAD TO:

 @theresilienceproject... 
  The Resilience Project 
  The Resilience Project 
  [theresilienceproject.com.au](http://theresilienceproject.com.au)

## 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 it's 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](mailto:taymaher@hotmail.com)

0424790788

**Elphinstone Playgroup**

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

Starting 3<sup>rd</sup> 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



**K**  
KYNETON  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Kyneton High School is a community built on the values of Respect, Diversity, Sustainability and Excellence, and a strong commitment to learning."  
- Executive Principal Ana Rees*

**See our school in action!** Phone 5421 1100 or email [kyneton.hs@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kyneton.hs@education.vic.gov.au) to book a place on one of our upcoming **Prospective Family Information Sessions and Tours** in Terms 1 & 2.



**COME & TRY DAYS!**

CENTRAL VIC  
**Rangers**

CENTRAL VIC  
**RANGERS**  
BASEBALL CLUB

**ALL AGES WELCOME!**




Year 7 Transition

## Open Mornings

<https://www.trybooking.com/DKESGding>



## COLOURING OUTSIDE THE LINES

### PARENTING AND CARING FOR AUTISTIC KIDS

Presented by Ash Lance, Treehouse Paediatrics.

This workshop offers neuro-affirming strategies for parents and caregivers of autistic children, or those who suspect their child may be autistic. Together, we'll explore practical ways to support connection, regulation, understand sensory differences and foster positive self identity in a world that isn't always designed for neurodiversity.

This workshop is designed and facilitated by:

- Ashlee Lance, AuDHDer, parent of autistic children, Director of Treehouse Paediatrics.
- Elise Lidgett, Art Therapist, parent of neurodivergent children and deep advocate for parent and carer wellbeing.

**Castlemaine Library**

Thursday 12 March, 5.30-7pm

 [goldfieldslibraries.com](https://www.goldfieldslibraries.com)

*Book here*

Presented in partnership with  
Mount Alexander Shire Council  
& Dhelkaya Health.

