SMS Messaging About Student Absences

We are pleased to advise you that the School is implementing a mobile phone messaging system called messageyou™Schools to communicate student absences to parents/carer.

This new communication system uses SMS which has become a powerful messaging system that is increasingly being used by government and business around the world. Commencing 18/5/15, each morning of a school day, our computer systems will automatically send families a message similar to:

Elizabeth E PS records show Jennifer Smith is absent MON 12/7/15. Please reply SMS student name/absence reason/absence date

SMS is designed to advise families that according to school records, the student is absent and no reason has been provided to the School. If an absent reason has been provided, then parents will not receive an SMS. Once absence notification messages have been implemented, the use of messageyou™Schools will be extended to wider uses such as:

- Reminders re: Parent Teacher Nights, Sports days or other significant events
- Broken down or delayed School bus
- Reminders about pupil-free days and school closure days
- Reminders about early finishing times
Plus other uses we will discover once we start using the system

The advantages of sending text messages include:

Improved ability to reach families/school. At times, it can be difficult to reach families by traditional communications. Important voice messages left on answering machines at home, at work or on mobile phones may not be accessed. Email messages are hard to receive unless families have continuous access to a computer. Families can be at work, in meetings, travelling or simply cannot take your call. It can take a long time before families are informed to contact the school. Similarly it can be difficult for families to reach the correct staff member by personal phone call at times when the school phone lines are busy.

Faster communication – it takes a long time for school staff to individually make phone calls to each family. Using SMS we can get important messages to families faster. Using Messageyou, you can send a message to one or a group of people instantly.

Expense – Currently, it's very expensive, both from a monetary and time perspective for school staff to call families. It is also less expensive for families with timed mobile phone plans to send a text message, than phone the school.

Personalised Message. Text messages include the student name and details of the absence. This information can be personalised for different types of absence or home language.

Parent not wishing to be notified by SMS. Families desiring not to be contacted by SMS will need to make an appointment with Helen Tunney to discuss the implications and consequences.

Custodial Orders. Messageyou will not send messages when custodial orders apply for a student, unless specified otherwise.
**REMINDER TO PARENTS/CAREGIVERS OF YEAR 7 STUDENTS**

At the beginning of the week, packages were send home with your Year 7 child. Inside these packages is information regarding enrolling in High School in 2016.

Please ensure that the Application for Enrolment in Year 8 forms are completed and returned to Chris at the Front Office by no later than Friday, 22nd May

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ring either Chris (Front Office) or Lillian Murphy, (Deputy Principal) at the school.

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**New School Polo Tops**

I have ordered 2 of each size from 6 to 16 for families to purchase. The tops are $22.00 each, or $12.00 for the first top for each student. Please see Shona or Christine in the front office if you want to purchase one of these.

**Material and Service Charges**

Thank you to all families who have paid their accounts, are paying by instalments or have applied for school card. Unfortunately many families have not yet met the commitment to pay.

If you have not spoken to Shona to arrange payments, your accounts are due and payable now. Monies owed which are not paid to the school reduce the amount of equipment and materials that can be purchased to support the education of your children.

**Shona Willson**

Administration/Finance Officer.
You are invited to a

 Volunteers
 Morning Tea

Wednesday 6 May
At 9.00am in room 10

Come along and learn how to volunteer in your school!

If unable to attend, but still interested in volunteering please contact Lillian Murphy, Deputy Principal on 8255 2262
New Outside School Hours Care at Elizabeth East Primary School

Dear Families,

We are excited to be partnering with your school to deliver Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) from Monday 1st June, 2015.

We will partner with your school community to deliver a tailored before care, after care and vacation care program that is focused on bringing out the very best in kids. The program combines active games with structured and unstructured play, quiet time and a healthy snack. Every day is an adventure led by enthusiastic Camp Australia educators who are on a mission to make kids smile.

**Parent Information Session**

To help families understand how the program is structured, to meet our educators, and to find out how to make bookings and manage your account, a Parent Information Session will be held at the school.

**When:** Tuesday 19th May, 2015 at 3.15pm and 6.00pm
**Where:** Library

Parent registration support will be offered in the school computer room after the first information session until 4.30pm

We understand time is valuable to working parents and you may not be able to attend this information night. If this is the case, please visit [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au) and use the school finder to find out all you need to know about the program.

**Register and Book**

Through your school page on our website you can request an information pack, or register and book your children into the program.

If you have any further questions, you can call our friendly Customer Service Team from Monday to Friday (8.00am – 6.00pm AEST) or 1300 105 343.

We look forward to seeing you in OSHC soon!

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Cole
Camp Australia
Regional Coordinator

Manage your Bookings
Register for an account and manage your bookings at [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au) or call the Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343.
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. It is important to remember that NAPLAN tests are not pass/fail tests. NAPLAN tests provide very valuable information, but there are no consequences for individual students for poor or good performance. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress.

In 2015, NAPLAN tests will be held on 12-14 May.

Information specifically for parents and carers can be found in the 2015 NAPLAN information brochure for parents and carers that will also be sent home to families.

Schools will receive NAPLAN reports for their students from mid-August to mid-September, depending on their state or territory test administration authority. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. The same report format is used for every student in Australia.

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are already learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure that students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Excessive preparation is not useful and can lead to unnecessary anxiety. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you are encouraged to make a time to speak with their teacher.

NAPLAN test days should be treated as just another routine event on the school calendar. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

Parents or carers may withdraw their child from the tests to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. It is recommended that withdrawal be considered in consultation with your child’s teacher. A formal letter of withdrawal must be completed and signed by the Principal before the NAPLAN tests begin.

AUSDANCE UPDATE

The weekly lessons are progressing very well with Billie each Wednesday and Thursday. Each class is involved in movement and dance exercises that promote their confidence, creativity and risk taking. Billie is assigning a "Star of the Week" to each class in recognition that the student is displaying positive Habits of Mind during their lesson. It has been a lovely experience to see the students and teachers participating in the lessons.
## Term Planner Term 2 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4/5 9:00 – 9:50 Encounter Youth Rooms 13/15</td>
<td>5/5 9.00 Uniform Committee</td>
<td>6/5 2.30 Assembly Rooms 5&amp;18</td>
<td>7/5</td>
<td>8/5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4/5-31/7: AEDC data census</td>
<td>2.10 Canteen Committee</td>
<td>2.30 Assembly Rooms 5&amp;18 Draw of Mothers’ Day</td>
<td>2.10 Canteen Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4/5 NAPLAN</td>
<td>9.00 Fundraising Committee</td>
<td>5.00 Fundraising Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Living Safely with Pets</td>
<td>2.10 SRC</td>
<td>2.10 SRC</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.10 Garden Committee</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>11/5 3.30 Governing Council</td>
<td>12/5 NAPLAN</td>
<td>13/5 NAPLAN</td>
<td>14/5 NAPLAN</td>
<td>15/5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18/5 3.30 and 6.00 Camp Australia available in RC to assist families registering for OSHC</td>
<td>19/5 NAPLAN</td>
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<td>9.00 Finance Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20/5 9.00 OSHC Steering Committee</td>
<td>20/5 NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Newsletter</td>
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<td>21/5 9.00 OSHC Steering Committee</td>
<td>2.30 Assembly Rooms 16&amp;2</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>22/5 proposed garden working bee</td>
<td>23/5</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>25/5 3.30 Governing Council</td>
<td>26/5</td>
<td>27/5 2.10 SRC</td>
<td>28/5 Room 14 Come Out excursion</td>
<td>29/5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25/5 3.30 Governing Council</td>
<td>26/5</td>
<td>2.10 SRC</td>
<td></td>
<td>PUPIL-FREE DAY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28/5 Room 14 Come Out excursion</td>
<td>29/5</td>
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<td>Newsletter</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>3/6 2.30 Assembly Rooms 4&amp;5</td>
<td>4/6</td>
<td>5/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8/6 PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>9/6</td>
<td>10/6 2.10 SRC</td>
<td>11/6</td>
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<td>16/6 3.30 Governing Council</td>
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<td>19/6 CASUAL CLOTHES DAY</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>22/6 3.30 Governing Council</td>
<td>23/6</td>
<td>24/6 2.10 SRC, Coin Race Fundraiser</td>
<td>25/6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22/6 3.30 Governing Council</td>
<td>23/6</td>
<td>2.10 SRC</td>
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<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>29/6 3.30 Governing Council</td>
<td>30/6</td>
<td>17/2.30 Assembly Rooms 6&amp;23</td>
<td>2/7</td>
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<td></td>
<td>30/6</td>
<td>17/2.30 Assembly Rooms 6&amp;23</td>
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<td>3/7</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Prim Swimming all week</td>
<td>29/6</td>
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<td>17/2.30 Assembly Rooms 6&amp;23</td>
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<td>2.00 finish</td>
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### Other 2015 Dates
- Term 3: 20/7-25/9
- Term 4: 12/10-11/12

Public Holidays (* in school holidays)
- *5 October Labour Day

Show Week
- 4-13 September

Pupil-Free days
- 8 September
- 12 October

School Closure
- 7 September
Double the fun
Sunday 3rd May, 2015

SciWorld Sunday

Join the City of Playford for the 11th annual SciWorld Sunday – a free family fun day with science activities for the whole family.

- Brand new spectacular science shows
- Hands-on robotics
- Bugs and Slugs
- Huge inflatable stardomes
- Native animals
- 3D printing display
- Giant dinosaur puzzles and much more...

Event Details
SciWorld Sunday sponsor:

Playford Civic Centre / Grenville Community Connections Hub
10 Playford Boulevard, Elizabeth
Sunday 3rd May, 2015
10am - 4pm
For further information contact 8256 0333 or 8256 0377

Playford Health Expo sponsor:

Have a health check to go in the draw to win a Fitbit and other prizes

Playford Health Expo partner:

Have a health check to go in the draw to win a Fitbit and other prizes

SciWorld

Free
Science
+
Health

CITY OF Playford

Free
Birdwood Primary School proudly presents the 41st annual

**Farm Day**

**Sunday 18th May 2014**

10am - 4pm

Chalks campground, Mount Crawford Forest
(On the Birdwood to Williamstown road)

Join us for a day of country fun in the forest!

- Gourmet goodies - sweets and bakery treats - damper & billy tea - huge variety of hot foods - face painting - garden stall - creative crafts - prize wheel - giant cash raffle drawn on day - plenty of kids activities - Bric a Brac - Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden display - scarecrow competition -

For more info phone Birdwood Primary School 85685529 or visit www.birdwoodtas.sa.edu.au/farmday.html

**No ATM facilities are available on site**