Dear Parents

**Round Table Chats.**
As we continue to self evaluate how the school is tracking prior to the four year school review I am keen to gather feedback from parents or community members. If you have an interest in the school and an opinion or idea you wish to share please come and talk to me. I am happy to meet with small groups of up to four people. Please take the opportunity to have your say.

**FOS**
At the Friends of the School meeting we had a great discussion about school programs and some really good positive suggestions for where the school could look to develop in the future. This group is a great forum for sharing ideas in an informal setting. If you haven’t been to one of the meetings please think about it.

**Cross Country**
On Friday our school cross-country squad will be competing in Echuca. We hope they have a great run. We know that this squad will represent our school well.

**NAPLAN**
Next week our students will be sitting the National Testing program for students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. [NAPLAN] These tests are spread over three days and cover literacy and numeracy. Our school receives valuable information about our programs in these areas. Individual student results are a “snap shot” on the day and are not as reliable as the ongoing assessment that schools gather across each semester.

**Battery Round Up**
We are still collecting batteries as a fund raiser for the school. If you have any homeless car, truck or tractor batteries please contact the school for a pick up or drop them in.

**Early Arrivals.**
Students should not be at school prior to 8.40am [apart from the “early” bus]. There is no one to supervise students at this time as school staff are either preparing for the day or in team meetings. Students arriving early will be seated in the old assembly area until 8.40am.

**School Uniform.**
Now that the cooler weather has arrived students are wearing warmer clothing. Many students are out of uniform. Although we have had a delay in getting our logo finalised it is now complete and new uniforms can be ordered. We have stock of the older uniform going at discount prices in the uniform shop. This uniform will be still be acceptable until the end of 2017. All students need to be in uniform. [Please note. Denim in any form is not a part of the school uniform.]

**Brilliant Swim**
We love to celebrate our students success either at school or out. Poppy Read has just completed a massive swim program that included her swimming 3 kilometres plus an additional 200 metres in open water. This was after a long period of training [years] to reach this level. Poppy received an award in Melbourne last week for her efforts. Fantastic effort Poppy!

*Graeme*
Star of the Week
Prep C  Evie Coghill
Gr 1/2Ellis  Cale James
Gr 1/2W  Charles Frawley
Gr 3/4I  Sienna Varcoe
Gr 3/4M  Mackenzie Edwards
Gr 5/6 Ross  Shannon Hatcliffe
Gr 5/6 Ras  Hayley Ferrinda

CURRICULUM NEWS
Level 4 Area News
History update:
So far this semester Grade 5/6 students have been studying the unit- ‘Significant Events in Australian History’. The students main project last term was to produce a Story Board Poster, recounting significant episodes from a famous event that helped to shape Australia. For example, Ten Pound Poms. See some of the fantastic Posters below:

The Gold Rush
This term we will begin looking at the Gold Rush that took place in Australia from 1851. Students will then demonstrate what they have learnt by designing and making a diorama depicting a scene from the goldfields. Prior to this activity, we will be discussing the sorts of scenes that could be depicted and what items might be featured. Students will then be required to plan what they need for their diorama. Each student will need to provide the base for their model. This could be a cardboard box, or something flat like a piece of thick card or plywood. The diorama should be roughly the size of a shoe box. Other materials may be brought from home such as cardboard, plastic figures, pegs, etc. This is an in-class activity that will be carried out at school during Weeks 5 & 6. See some possible examples students could consider below:
Access all Areas Information Night
The feedback from this night has been extremely good. We take the opportunity to publish the following remarks from one of our families.

“What a great informative night Rochester Primary School’s “Access All Areas” was. Even though my eldest child is in grade 2 at the school already, I went along to refresh my memory and access information for my second child, who will be going into Prep next year. It was a very well put together presentation. I got what I had come for and was pleasantly surprised to have walked away with additional information, that I was previously unaware of, on the resources and support our school can provide for students and their families in terms of welfare.”

Canteen
Friday 13th - Freaky Friday
Snacks (limited). Available recess and lunchtime:
Fingers (cheese stick) $1.00
Slimy pond (grapes in green jelly) $1.00
Snakey Apple $1.00 (buy an apple & slink your own)

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<td>Tara Harris</td>
<td>Wednesday 18th</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Read</td>
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<td>Thursday 12th</td>
<td>Leesa Purdy</td>
<td>Tuesday 24th</td>
<td>Di Milgate</td>
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<td>Friday 13th</td>
<td>Tanya Coghill</td>
<td>Wednesday 25th</td>
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<td>Thursday 26th</td>
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<td>Ian McCleary</td>
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<td>Adie Foster</td>
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Don’t forget your sausage sizzle meal deal is due back by Tuesday 17th May. No other lunch orders will be filled on the sausage day (Friday 20th).

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
Thank you to Carli-Maree Honey for organizing classes on the day of our photographs. Although the weather was not kind to us (we needed the rain), Carli ensured the smooth running of the day.

FOUND 2 rings (one gold and one silver). Please contact the office with a description of the rings if you think they belong to you.

COMMUNITY NEWS
Student Banking
If you would like your child to participate in the banking program offered by the Bendigo Bank please read below. Any bank books need to be left at the school office on a Wednesday by 9.30am. Bank books will be returned on Thursday. Alternatively you can visit the Bank in person.

Catch the savings bug - Bendigo Student Banking
Whether it’s for the latest craze in computer games, for a new bike or just for a rainy day, we all know it’s never too early for our kids to start learning about budgeting and saving. That’s why at Bendigo Bank we’ve introduced our Student Banking Program and Bendigo PiggySaver Account – perfect for primary school aged savers. With no account keeping fees, no transaction or government fees and no deposit restrictions – plus a host of fun games and rewards for young account holders – a Bendigo PiggySaver Account makes saving easy.
Opening an account is simple. All you need is your child’s birth certificate and Medicare card. Drop into your nearest branch at Elmore - 5432 6706, Lockington - 5486 2304 or Rochester - 5484 3290.

Uniform Shop
Over the next two years we will be phasing in a new uniform so we are selling our older stock on hand at a reduced price. Please note that we only have short sleeve polo shirts in size 14 and adult small. The new polo shirts are available to purchase from Rochester Sportspower ($24.00). Sportspower will be providing the shirts on a temporary basis until our tendering process is finalized.
Cameron, Cody, Charlee & April – Anzac Service

Alantra in the Prep Garden

Willow, Charlize, Mercedes, Maddison, Jasmin, Mackenzie, Lily & Miranda

Sienna enjoying breakfast

Poppy, Haylee, Cody & Sam at sport