



March at a Glance

- **Wednesday 2 March**
IPSHA Swimming Carnival
- **Thursday 3 March**
Teddy Bear's Picnic
- **Sunday 6 March**
Yrs 3 & 4 Church Attendance
- **Wednesday 9 March**
Yr 4 Excursion
- **Monday 14 March**
Combined Swimming Carnival
- **Thursday 17 March**
K-6 Incursion
- **Monday 21 March**
- Harmony Day
- Anti-Bullying Day
- **Wednesday 23 March**
Yr 3 Excursion
- **Thursday 24 March**
- 25 March Performance
- **Friday 25 March**
- Greek Independence Day
- Catholic Good Friday
NO SCHOOL
- **Monday 28 March**
Catholic Easter Monday
NO SCHOOL
- **Wednesday 30 March**
- Yr 1 Excursion
- Yr 5 Excursion

April at a Glance

- **Sunday 3 April**
Greek Independence Day March
- **Monday 4 April**
Yr 2 Excursion
- **Tuesday 5 April**
Primary Athletics Carnival
- **Wednesday 6 April**
K-6 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Thursday 7 April**
Kindergarten Excursion
- **Friday 8 April**
- Term 1 Concludes
- Holy Communion
- Infants Easter Hat Parade
- **Tuesday 26 April**
Term 2 Commences
- **Thursday 28 April**
Orthodox Holy Thursday
NO SCHOOL
- **Friday 29 April**
Orthodox Good Friday
NO SCHOOL

Greek Independence Day March – Sunday 3 April

This year's Greek Independence Day March will be held on **Sunday 3 April**. It is expected that all students from **Years 2 to 6** attend and represent our School. There is a day off school on **Friday 25 March** to celebrate this double festivity, The Annunciation of Theotokos and Greek National Day. Everyone is expected to attend the march. Let's make this march our best one yet! More information will be provided on a separate flyer.

Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2017

If there are any existing families of our School who have children due to commence Kindergarten in 2017 please ensure that you complete the Kindergarten enrolment forms and lodge them with Ms Kiahidis as soon as possible.

Other Vacancies

St Euphemia College has some vacancies in some other grades as well. If you have any friends, neighbours or relatives interested in enrolling their children, please ask them to contact the Primary Secretary for an Enrolment Form or they can download it from our website. Interested parents wishing to tour the School, can contact the Primary Secretary for an appointment with the Director of the Primary School.

School Fees

Thank you to all the parents who are up to date with their fees. A friendly reminder to all parents that Term 1 fees should already have been paid. All families are urged to finalise their Term 1 fees as soon as possible.

School Uniform Opening Hours

Parents are advised to purchase school uniforms (eg blazers) prior to the upcoming School holidays in order to ensure that ordered items arrive before Term 2 commences. The Uniform Shop will not be open during the Easter School holidays. The School Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 2:00pm and 4:00pm.

Church Attendance

The next Church attendance is scheduled for **Sunday 6 March** for Years 3 and 4. Students must wear their summer school uniform and assemble in the foyer of the Church hall by 10:00am. Students attending Church with their siblings on another scheduled date must inform their class teacher.

School Uniform

It is expected that all students wear the correct school uniform. As a School community, we actively encourage our students to take pride in themselves and their School. As parents, you are made aware of our uniform requirements through information in the Student Diary, Rules and Regulations and in regular articles in the newsletter.

Student Banking

School Banking is continuing in 2016 with the Commonwealth Bank. The program teaches children about the importance of saving and money management. Students wishing to bank must bring their bank books to school and hand them to their class teacher on Thursday morning. Please go to the School Office for an account application form if you are interested in starting banking for your children. Happy saving!

Teddy Bear's Picnic

As part of our annual 'Buddy Program', Kindergarten and Year 6 students will be having their Annual Teddy Bear's Picnic in the School playground on **Thursday 3 March**. The Kindergarten and Year 6 students, as well as their teachers have been asked to bring their favourite teddy bear to school on this day. Year 6 students can also bring a picnic blanket for themselves and their buddy to sit on. The students will have the opportunity to enjoy each other's company while eating their recess, singing a selection of teddy bear songs and taking part in some games.

25 March Performance

On **Thursday 24 March**, we invite all parents and caregivers to attend a special performance to celebrate Greek Independence Day. Years 5 and 6 will be performing songs and poems in Greek. The Years 5 and 6 Greek dancing groups will also perform a variety of dances. The performance will commence at 2:00pm in the new School Hall. Parents are to enter the hall via the East Terrace entrance at 1.50pm. We hope you can join us.

Mathletics

Mathletics has proven to be an excellent mathematical tool to consolidate learning and understanding of mathematical concepts within our School. Students have received their personal logins and passwords to access Mathletics from home. The teachers have also been setting tasks for the students to complete at home. Please encourage your child to access Mathletics throughout the week. This program is **compulsory** at our School. All students need to pay \$27 by the end of the term, Friday 4 April. Please pay this amount to the class teacher by the due date to allow for 1 year unlimited access to the Mathletics website.

Anaphylaxis Alert

There has been a rise in students diagnosed with Anaphylaxis at our School. As a precaution and to ensure the safety of these students, all parents are reminded that we are a nut free school. Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a susceptible person is exposed to a specific allergen (such as food or an insect sting). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and can progress rapidly over a period of up to two hours. Anaphylaxis is potentially life threatening and always requires an emergency response.

It is very important that we safeguard these students so that nothing happens at school which can have an effect on their health. When packing your children's lunches please do not include the following foods: **peanut butter, nutella, muesli bars that contain nuts or anything else that has traces of nuts**. Please remind students that they are not to share food with their friends. Even the slightest contact with the sufferer's skin may be life threatening for some students.

Harmony Day—Monday 21 March

Harmony Day is managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It is a day of cultural respect and tolerance, widely celebrated across schools, childcare centres, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies. This year marks the 16th anniversary of Harmony Day. The continuing message of Harmony Day is 'Everyone Belongs' and 'Our Diversity is our Strength'. On **Monday 21 March** St Euphemia College will celebrate Harmony Day and our amazing diversity.

National Day of Action Against Bullying & Violence—Monday 21 March

St Euphemia College has once again registered in the campaign against Bullying in Schools. More than 1 400 schools across Australia participate in this annual event to strengthen the existing message that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

On **Monday 21 March** (in conjunction with Harmony Day), Year 6 students will hold a cake stall. Students across all grades will also participate in a variety of anti-bullying activities throughout the day to mark this event and Harmony Day. A Mufti Day will also take place on this day with a \$2 donation. The theme colour is orange to coincide with Harmony Day. If students have an orange top they are encouraged to wear it, otherwise any other clothing is appropriate.

Infants Easter Hat Parade

Parents and caregivers are invited to attend the Infants Easter Hat Parade scheduled for **Friday 8 April**. The Parade will begin at 11:30am in the new School Hall. Come along and see the students parade their hats and enjoy a morning filled with dances and songs. Parents are to enter through the East Terrace entrance at approximately 11:20am.

Parent/Teacher Interviews K-6 —Wednesday 6 April

Parent/Teacher interviews have been scheduled for **Wednesday 6 April** between 3:10pm and 7:00pm. Parents and caregivers will soon receive a note with further instructions.

Catholic Easter and Greek Orthodox Easter

Catholic Easter falls on **Sunday 27 March** during Term 1 this year. There will be NO school on the following Easter public holiday dates:

Good Friday 25 March and Easter Monday 28 March.

Greek Orthodox Easter falls on **Sunday 1 May** during Term 2 this year. There will be NO school on the following Greek Orthodox Easter dates:

Holy Thursday 28 April, Good Friday 29 April and Easter Monday 2 May.

End of Term 1/Beginning of Term 2

Holy Communion is scheduled for **Friday 8 April**. Please make all the necessary preparations for your child to receive Holy Communion on this day. Term 1 ends on **Friday 8 April**. Term 2 begins on **Tuesday 26 April**. The students will have a two week uniform transition period. As of Week 3, **Monday 9 May**, all students should be wearing their winter school uniform.

P and F News

Easter Raffle

The P and F will be holding an Easter Raffle with great prizes to be won. Raffle tickets will be distributed soon, so please help support our fundraising efforts by purchasing these tickets. A more detailed leaflet will follow.

P & F Committee for 2016

The P & F Committee for 2016 has been formed.
The Committee is as follows:

Mary Michael
Eva Hantes
Christina Denyer
Kathy Glavas
Ceasar
Antonia Koutsagianni
Christine Saitannis
Theodoros Totsis
Helen Melas
Con Alexopoulos
Maria Anastasiadis
Annette Perdikaris

Congratulations to all members and we look forward to a productive and eventful year.

Sports News

Sport Bus/Transport Levy

This term's sports bus levy of \$30 should have already been paid to the class teacher. If the payment has not been made, please ensure that it is paid as soon as possible.

PSSA Competition

Training for the PSSA Summer Competition has begun. Please note the training schedule.

Wednesdays – Junior Basketball 3:10pm in the School playground. Concludes at 4:15pm.

Thursdays – Senior Basketball 3:10pm in the School playground. Concludes at 4:15pm.

Thursdays – T-Ball, Softball and Cricket at Kearns Oval. Concludes at 4:00pm.

Parents may pick up their children at the park at 4:00pm. The bus will depart at 4:05pm and return to School at approximately 4:15pm.

A reminder to parents to please collect their children from the respective training sessions **promptly** and not to leave siblings unattended at School during training times. Please remind students that they are to have a bottle of water with them at training and that they must also have their hat.

IPSHA Swimming Carnival

The 2016 IPSHA Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 2 March** at the Homebush Aquatic Centre. The carnival will run between 8:00am–3:00pm. Students will be leaving school at 7:15am promptly and will arrive back at school between 3:30 and 4:00pm. Parents are welcome to come and cheer our students on.

Combined Greek Orthodox Swimming Carnival

This year the Combined Orthodox Schools Carnival will be held on **Monday 14 March** at Birrong Aquatic Centre. The carnival begins at 9:30am and will conclude by 2:30pm. The bus from school will be leaving at 8:00am and will return by 3:10pm. Parents are welcome to attend to help support our School.

Learn to Swim Program

Years 2, 3 and 5 have been involved in the Learn to Swim Program at Roselands Pools. The program has been a valuable experience for our students.

Primary Athletics Carnival—Tuesday 5 April

The Primary Athletics Carnival will be held at the Crest Athletics Track on **Tuesday 5 April**, McLean Street, Georges Hall. The students will be participating in a variety of events such as running, long jump, high jump and relays. All parents and caregivers are invited to attend and cheer on our athletes, however they are reminded that they **MUST** stay off the field at all times. Students may come to school dressed in their house colours however students are not allowed to use coloured zinc. Students must wear 30+ sunscreen on the day. The canteen at the Crest will be open and the P & F will be selling drinks, coffee and snacks. More information will be provided at a later stage. The cost for the transport by bus is \$8. Please pay the class teacher by Tuesday 29 March.

Infants Athletics Carnival—Tuesday 3 May

The Infants Athletics Carnival will be held on **Tuesday 3 May** at the Crest Athletics Track, McClean St, Bass Hill. We invite all parents to come along and cheer on our students on the day. Coffee, tea, drinks and a sausage sizzle will also be available on the day for parents and friends. Any parents who are able to help can contact Ms Michael, the School Bursar. More information will be provided at a later stage. The cost of \$15 is payable to the class teacher by Wednesday 27 April. This includes transport, a sausage sizzle and a drink.

Upcoming Excursions

Incursion (K– 6)—Brainstorm Productions (Being Brave)

On **Thursday 17 March**, Brainstorm Productions will once again be visiting our School with their latest production 'Being Brave'. Being Brave gives children strategies to deal with their emotions through good communication, persistence and positive self-talk, making them more resilient. This inspiring show uses song, dance and drama to give children strategies to bounce back after dealing with bullying, loss and change. The cost for all students (K—6) is \$8. Please pay this amount to the class teacher by Monday 7 March.

Kindergarten

On **Thursday 7 April**, Kindergarten will be attending an excursion to Royal Botanical Gardens as part of their Science topic 'Weather in our World'. The cost of the excursion is \$45. Please put the money in a sealed envelope with your child's name on the front and hand it to your child's class teacher by Friday 1 April. Students will need to bring their own packed recess, lunch and a water bottle. (No nut products) Students are to wear their summer sports uniform including their hat. Please note that in the event of wet weather, the excursion will be cancelled.

Year 1

On **Wednesday 30 March** Year 1 will be visiting the Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre. The students will take part in a variety of art activities. The cost of the excursion is \$35 and this is payable to the class teacher by Thursday 24 March. All students must come dressed in their sports uniform including their hat and ensure they have a packed recess and lunch.

Year 2

On **Monday 4 April**, Year 2 will be visiting the Royal Botanical Gardens. The students will take part in a variety of activities. The students are to wear their summer sports uniform including their hat. Students need to bring their own packed recess and lunch including a water bottle. Information regarding the cost of the excursion will be provided in the excursion note that will follow.

Year 3

On **Wednesday 23 March**, Year 3 will be visiting the Sydney Opera House in relation to their Science and Technology unit titled, 'Building and Structures'. Students will be leaving School at 8:40am and returning by 3:10pm. They are to wear their full summer school uniform including their hat and have a packed recess, lunch and water bottle. In the event of wet weather, the excursion will proceed as planned.

Year 4

On **Wednesday 9 March**, Year 4 will be visiting Wannabees Family Town Community School in relation to their HSIE unit 'Consumer Power'. All students are to wear their summer sports uniform and bring a packed recess and lunch. The cost of the excursion is \$35. Please pay this amount to the class teacher by Monday 7 March. In the event of wet weather the excursion will proceed as planned.

Year 5

On **Wednesday 30 March**, Year 5 will be visiting Nan Tien Temple as part of their HSIE unit on 'Japan'. The students are to arrive at School by 8:25am for an 8:30am sharp departure. The students are to wear their summer sports uniform including their hat and bring a packed recess and their water bottle. Lunch will be provided at the venue. The cost of the excursion is \$36 payable to the class teacher by Monday 21 March. In the event of wet weather the excursion will proceed as planned.

Last month

Parent/Teacher Information Session

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent/Teacher Information Sessions. The Information Sessions were held over three nights and at different times to help accommodate parents who had more than one child in the Primary School. I hope you found them very worthwhile and that they helped you understand the class routines and School expectations.

Swimming Carnival

Both teachers and students had a wonderful time at the annual swimming carnival last month. The swimmers participated enthusiastically in their events and the non swimmers had a great time doing a variety of novelty activities in the shallow pool. I congratulate the students, who participated with great enthusiasm in all the events and who were also very well behaved. Also, a big thank you to the teachers who worked tirelessly in preparing and supervising the event. Congratulations to Ms Vourtsanis who did a great job organising our swimming carnival and special thanks to the parents who assisted on the day.

Congratulations also to the following House Captains who did a great job leading their teams.

House Captains:

Apollo House Captains—Elena Kaldis

Athena House Captains—Leah Mihalopoulos & Alexander Saroussidis

Zeus House Captains—Rosie Gounaropoulos & Adam Flevaras

Aphrodite—Athanasia Emmanouilidis & Thomas Zamagias

The results on the day were as follows:

1st place—Zeus

2nd Place—Athena

3rd Place—Aphrodite

4th Place—Apollo

Well done to all the houses and especially to the winning house Zeus.

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Buddy System

Last month the Kindergarten/Year 6 Buddy System commenced for this year. This has proven to be a highly successful program each year. Kindergarten students were paired up with a Year 6 buddy. They met and participated in their introductory buddy activity. All students were very excited and are looking forward to the next buddy activity.



Term 1 so far has been busy and productive. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at all the upcoming functions.

Ms Xanthoudakis
Director of Junior School