Day for Daniel

EPS took part in the Day for Daniel, which is a National Day of Action to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm prevention. It is also a day to honour the memory of Daniel Morcombe.

The theme was to ‘Wear Red and Educate’ and that’s exactly what we did. Through different classroom activities teachers helped students to understand ‘Recognise, React and Report’ if they feel something is not right and to develop a network of safe adults and organisations.

It’s important that as a community we educate our children regarding their personal safety and empower them to:

- **Recognise** – Body Clues: Our bodies give us clues when we don’t feel safe such as hair stands on end, butterflies in your tummy, heart pounding, wobbly knees, sweaty palms and crying
- **React** – if you feel scared, confused, sad or upset you need to REACT. This could even mean breaking a rule, like smashing a window to escape a fire or screaming “No” to an adult. Run, scream, ring for help-your parents or police. Its ok to say no if you feel unsafe or unsure
- **Report** – This is a really important safety message. This means telling an adult in your life that cares about your safety when there is a problem. It’s adults who can keep you safe from harm and who can make a situation safe again for you.

Talk with your children about having a safety network of adults, which include both males and females, some, who live at home, people from outside from home and people from outside the family. You could suggest: Nana, Pop, Mum, Dad, Aunty, Teacher, Principal, Friend of Mum or Dad, Police, or Sports Coach. Make sure they know to ring 000 for police and knowing about the Kids Help Line is a good idea 1800 55 1800 and these can be part of their safety network.

Reference: www.danielmorcombe.com.au

Swimming Scheme

Everyday during weeks 3 & 4, 60 students travelled to Botany Aquatic Centre with Mrs Taylor, Ms Vella and Mr Schwartzman for swimming. They had to brave some very cold weather in the beginning but the sunshine warmed them up in the second week. All students showed improvement over the 2 weeks and have learned new skills that are essential for water safety.

Kindergarten Transition

There are 2 more weeks of our Kindergarten Transition program. We are providing quality workshops for parents run by our wonderful teachers; so far Ms Vella has presented L3 Language Literacy and Learning, Miss Hicks talked to parents about Count Me in Too and Ms Adams showed them a day in the life of Kindergarten student and we have more to come. In the next 2 weeks our office staff will meet with the parents, our uniform supplier PSW will be coming and Mrs Whyte will present Best Start and general getting ready for school information. If you know of any families with children who will turn 5 before July 31st 2015 let them know their child is eligible to start school in January 2015. They can come to the school to pick up or fill in enrolment forms.

Teacher Learning

We all learn here at EPS and as the principal I make it one of my priorities that our teachers have access to high quality professional learning. This is important because when teachers learn students learning outcomes improve. Focus on Reading is a research based professional learning course that all teachers are engaging in across K-6. Teachers are learning about the Super 6 Reading Comprehension Strategies – Predicting, Monitoring, Making Connections, Questioning, Visualising and Summarising. They have started to implement some strategies in their classrooms and will continue to do so into 2015.

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is a day of special significance to all Australians, commemorating the loss of Australian lives in all wars, conflicts and peace operations. Remembrance Day is on the 11th day of the 11th month and a minute’s silence is observed at the 11th hour. Next Tuesday 11th November we will be holding a special assembly to remember the sacrifice for those who have died for Australia. The poppy is a symbol of Remembrance Day, it symbolises hope for those who lost their lives would be remembered in future generations.
Our New School Website

Our new website is live! Here is this link: http://www.eastlakes-p.schools.nsw.edu.au have a look.

We are still constructing it with our school’s information and over the next few weeks there will be more on there. Thank you to Ms Vella who got the ball rolling 😊

World Teachers Day

World Teachers Day is celebrated internationally on the first Friday of October but here in Australia we celebrate it on the last day of October. I would like to acknowledge our teachers and thank them for making a difference educating and inspiring EPS students. I also want to acknowledge teachers’ efforts in an increasingly complex, technological and global society that we all live in. One of my favourite quotes about teaching is: “teaching is the one profession that creates all other professions.” It truly is an important and special job.

Thank you EPS teachers!

Anthia Tsantoulis
Principal

Congratulation to all our K-6 Students of the Week

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K/1CW

We work very hard in K/1CW but we still take time to have FUN! This week we made Scary Trees.

"My spooky tree is scary. It has a lot of twisting branches and it sits by itself. We scrunched up paper and put the scrunched paper in a paper bag and twisted the top of the tree into scary parts." Jake

"My tree is called Spooka. She is a scary tree. I made my tree by using a paper bag and ripped newspaper. I twisted the bag and cut the top but not off. Then I twisted the top of the tree into scary little branches." Malak

"The branches of my tree look like they are dead but they are only faking. One day a man got stuck in the tree and he turned into a goblin-octopus tree. When we made our tree, we put three or four scrunched paper balls into a light brown paper bag. Then we twisted the branches around. If you’re mum has a bigger paper bag, you can make a huge scary tree." Lucas

"My scary tree stands by itself. It leans over a bit to look scarier. Its branches look like arms that can pull your hair and scare you away. I twisted and twirled the branches to look like arms and I flattened the ends to look like hands. I crushed paper into a ball and put it in the bottom of the bag so my tree could stand up."

Angelo

"My scary tree has tentacles that catch people if they come too close to it. When my tree grabs them, it keeps them in his gold eye and when the people get smaller, they are trapped. He traps everyone except children because when children get scared they run away."

Tanjeeb

"My tree is scary. It would be a very good Hallow’een tree because it could give lollies to people and scare them."

Lara