



THE ELIMBAH STATE SCHOOL

NEWS

Term 4 – Week 1
Date: 7 October 2025

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Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to school for what will be a busy and fun filled final term of the year.

Term 4 is an exciting transition time at Elimbah SS as we continue the process of welcoming our 2026 Prep students via our 'Step into Prep' program and facilitate opportunities for our Year 6 students to experience secondary school life. For those families who have a child who will be prep age in 2026, I encourage you to pick up an enrolment form from the school office. Should your child be heading off to high school next year, now is the time to contact your chosen secondary school to ensure you and your child have the advantage of accessing all available transition processes.

One of the reasons Elimbah SS remains a school of choice in our community is due to our strong focus on high expectations including our children embracing our values we are safe, we are respectful and we are learners at all times.

Our families play an important role in supporting high standards and I encourage all of our parents and carers to support your children to:

Live our school values:

- ✓ Be safe
- ✓ Be respectful
- ✓ Be a learner

Just be kind:

- ✓ Say no to bullying
- ✓ Be an upstander

Be part of our school team:

- ✓ Wear our uniform proudly
- ✓ Come to school everyday
- ✓ Every minute counts

We are here to learn:

- ✓ Know your learning goals
- ✓ Know your next steps
- ✓ Know what success looks like

Uniform reminders

One of the ways in which we retain high standards is by ensuring all of our children wear our school uniform at all

times. Last term, we saw a number of non-uniform items begin to creep into the school and therefore I share the following reminders for all families regarding our uniform policy:

Socks – Neutral coloured plain socks

Shoes - Shoes should be predominantly neutral in colour (white, black or brown) and have only minimal other colours on them. Sandshoe style shoes or black leather school shoes are appropriate. All boots including Hightop boots or boots with heels are not acceptable.

Hair - Shaved / clipped patterns (tracks) in hair and mohawks are not appropriate for school. Coloured or dyed hair should be of natural colour. Hair styles should be neat and conservative.

Jewellery - Students may wear a watch and small sleeper or stud earrings. A medical bracelet or medical necklace is also acceptable. Make-up and fingernail polish are not permitted. Religious or cultural medallions on a small necklace/chain are acceptable if they are tucked inside the school shirt.

For further information please see the Student Dress Code attached.

Mobile phones and smart watches

All families are reminded that mobile phones of all types (including smart watches) require a mobile phone contract and are to be checked into the school office of a morning and collected of an afternoon. Mobile phone contracts are available from the school office.

2026 Class Consideration Forms

Parents and carers are invited to have input into 2026 class construction via our 2026 Class Considerations form. This form may be collected from the school office from Wednesday 8 October and forms are due back to the office by 31 October 2025. This is an opportunity for families to share information that may be helpful to create positive learning environments. Whilst staff will attempt to address family wishes it is not always possible to fulfil all requests. Please note that this is not an opportunity to share teacher preferences.

P&C Executive Team

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Madeline Schmidt and Jess Odgers for their efforts as our P&C Vice President and Secretary this year. Madeline will be stepping down from this role from the end of this term and



Jess from the 1 November. It has been a pleasure working closely with these ladies in this capacity. Our P&C is therefore seeking a President, Vice President and Secretary. If you are interested in undertaking any of these roles please reach out to our P&C via secretaryelimbahsspandc@gmail.com or by contacting the school directly via admin@elimbahss.eq.edu.au

Events Calendar

Please find attached the calendar of events for the first 5 weeks of term. You might like to print this and pop it on the fridge.

Kind regards
Shelley Butcher



Messages from the Deputy Principal

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a restful holiday break and is ready for our final term of 2025.

This year has been full of growth and learning, and we are so proud of the way our whole school community—students, staff, and families—continue to work together.

Behind the scenes, we've been busy strengthening our whole-school systems so that they are clear and consistent for everyone. Our **Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)** team plays a big role in this work. They meet every fortnight to look closely at our behaviour data, helping us to spot patterns and choose the next focus area. Recently, the team worked with staff to refresh our **Behaviour Expectations Matrix**, which sets out the behaviours we all agree to uphold across the school. This matrix helps guide our fortnightly behaviour focus lessons, so that students hear a consistent message no matter where they are or who they are with. These updates have been shared with our P&C and are available on our website in the **Student Code of Conduct**.

Of course, one of the most important parts of PBL is recognising and celebrating the great choices our students make every day. Our **'bus tickets'** are a fun way of

acknowledging **safe, respectful learners**. Students love saving up their tickets and then deciding how to spend them through **Elimbah Station**, an **Acknowledgement System** they co-create with their teachers. It's always wonderful to hear them proudly share what they've chosen—or what big reward they're saving towards!

The Elimbah Station

What is your destination?

20	- Drawing pass - Game with the class - Sit at the teachers desk
40	- Office chair - Wobble stool - Choose a song for the class
60	- iPad pass - Visit to prep - Eat with a teacher/DFIP
80	- Seat swaps - Sit beside a friend - Lunch in a different year level
100	- Game with a friend - Computer pass - Pen pass

Be Safe
Be a Learner
Be Respectful

We're so excited for the term ahead and grateful, as always, for the strong partnership we share with our families. Together, we are building a positive, supportive learning environment where every child can shine.

Transitions:

It's that exciting time of the year when our students begin preparing for their next chapter of learning.

Our Prep students will soon start their transition into Year 1 classrooms. During our **Step Into Prep** days, the Prep cohort will spend time with a Year 1 teacher, helping them become familiar with their new learning spaces and ensuring they feel confident and comfortable as they step into the next stage of their schooling journey. These days also provide wonderful opportunities for students to build relationships, develop independence, and see themselves as part of the "big school."

We are equally excited to welcome our incoming Pre-Prep students and their families to our **Step Into Prep** days. These sessions allow us to get to know our new families, introduce them to our teaching staff, and share valuable information that will support a smooth and positive start to school life.

Meanwhile, our Year 6 students are beginning their transition into high school. This is such an important milestone, and we continue to work alongside them to ensure they feel prepared, supported, and ready to embrace the opportunities that come with this next step in their educational journey.

Transitions are a special time in our school year—full of growth, excitement, and new possibilities. We look forward to supporting every student as they take these important steps forward.

Behaviour Expectations Matrix			
	We are Safe	We are Learners	We are Respectful
All Areas	Right place at the right time. We keep hands, feet and objects to ourselves. We move quietly around the school. We are responsible for our equipment and we use the library right.	Let teachers teach and learners learn. We are prepared to use learning. We are responsible for our learning. We follow classroom rules. We follow eating area guidelines. We use self-regulation strategies.	Every time, every task. We are polite and use equipment. We respect others' personal differences. We are responsible for our safety, others and our school. We respect through those who work with us.
Learning Areas	We use equipment correctly and safely. We are respectful.	We follow classroom rules and expectations. We learn from our mistakes and have a go.	We care for our learning space.
Play Areas	We can wait our turn. We don't swing when the end of line ball rings.	We listen when we are in a situation.	We share equipment. We use our words, not actions. We play fair and follow good sportsmanship.
Toilets	We are hygienic and clean hands. We use the toilet correctly.	We use the toilet at the appropriate time. We follow toilet guidelines.	We are polite and respect the privacy of others.
Before and after School	We follow phone and equipment policy. We line up to collect books. We walk to school safely. We follow road rules. We walk safely.	We follow before and after school routines. We report to the office when starting late.	We communicate respectfully with our community.

Student Leadership:

We have begun providing our Year 5 students with information about the application process for Student Leadership positions in 2026. Holding a leadership role at our school is both an honour and a responsibility, as we take student leadership seriously and view it as an important opportunity for students to develop confidence, responsibility, and a strong sense of community. I encourage families to check their emails for the information that was sent home at the end of Term 3.

Events Term 4: Save the dates!

Lots of important events happen in Term 4, please keep an eye on your emails and QParents for important information.

- **P – 2 – Swimming Block** – Week 10 - 8th – 11th December
- **Excellence Assembly** - Tuesday 9th December
- **Year 6 Graduation** - Thursday 11th December

Kind regards,

Jamie Kibblewhite
Deputy Principal

Curriculum Corner



Welcome to a new term of learning! We are excited to share with you the teaching and learning focus areas for English and Mathematics, along with ways you can support your child at home. When school and home work together, we create the strongest foundation for student success.

English Focus: Imaginative Texts

This term, students from Prep to Year 6 will be exploring imaginative (narrative) texts. They will be reading, viewing, and discussing a variety of stories, learning how authors create characters, settings, and events that capture our imagination. Students will then apply these skills to create their own written imaginative text, using creativity to craft beginning, middle, and end structures.

At home, you can support your child by:

- Reading picture books, novels, or short stories together and talking about favourite parts.
- Asking questions like “What do you think this character might do next?” or “How would you change the ending?”
- Encouraging your child to write their own stories, perhaps based on family adventures, pets, or even a made-up superhero.

Mathematics Focus: Number, Algebra and Probability

Across Prep to Year 6, students will be strengthening their understanding of Number and Algebra, building skills in recognising patterns, solving equations, and making connections between numbers and real-life situations.

In Years 3 to 6, students will also be introduced to Probability, exploring chance and likelihood. They will use language such as certain, likely, unlikely, and impossible to describe everyday events.

You might like to try these fun activities at home:

- Play card or board games that involve counting, adding, or strategy.
- Flip a coin or roll dice and discuss the chances of different outcomes.
- Spot patterns together in everyday life, like the arrangement of tiles or the sequence of numbers on letterboxes.

Supporting Learning in all areas, at Home – Lynn Sharratt’s 5 Questions

A helpful way to connect with your child’s learning is by asking these five simple questions:

1. What are you learning?
2. How are you doing?
3. How do you know?
4. How can you improve?
5. Where do you go for help?

Asking these questions regularly at the dinner table, in the car, or before bedtime encourages children to reflect on their learning and builds confidence in sharing their progress.

Comprehension Strategy Focus

Strong readers don’t just decode words—they make meaning from text. This term, each fortnight we will focus on a key comprehension strategy:

- Weeks 1–2: Self-Monitoring – noticing when something doesn’t make sense and rereading to clarify.
- Weeks 3–4: Questioning – asking “who, what, when, where, why, how” while reading.
- Weeks 5–6: Inferring – using clues in the text to “read between the lines.”
- Weeks 7–8: Summarising – identifying the most important ideas in a text.
- Weeks 9–10: Synthesising – combining ideas from different parts of the text (and even from different texts) to build new understanding.

Parents can support these strategies by reading alongside your child and gently modelling the process. For example, pause and say, “Hmm, that didn’t make

sense—I'll re-read it" (self-monitoring), or "Why do you think the character did that?" (questioning).

Science Word Puzzle: "I'm Thinking Of..."

This is like a guessing game, but with a science twist. Parents and children take turns being the "Scientist."

How to play:

1. The Scientist secretly chooses a science-related word (e.g., planet, magnet, seed, rain, skeleton, atom).
2. They give one clue at a time, starting broad and becoming more specific. For example:
 - o "I'm something you can find in the sky."
 - o "I shine during the day."
 - o "Plants need me to grow."
 (Answer: the Sun).
3. The other player guesses after each clue.
4. Swap roles and keep score, or just enjoy the back-and-forth.

Why it's great:

- Builds science vocabulary in a playful way.
- Encourages children to ask good yes/no or what if questions.
- Can be made easier for younger children (animal, water, tree) or trickier for older ones (gravity, evaporation, nucleus).

👉 For a twist: You can hide the written word on a sticky note and put it on their child's forehead—then the child asks yes/no questions to figure it out ("Am I living?" "Do I move?"). This version gets lots of giggles!

Parent Tips for Play

- Start with easier, everyday words if your child is new to the game.
- For older children, pick a harder, abstract word and see if they can "think like a scientist" to guess it.
- Encourage children to ask questions as they guess, like:
 - o "Am I living or non-living?"
 - o "Can you see me every day?"
 - o "Am I smaller than a hand?"

This way, the game becomes not just about vocabulary—but about practicing scientific thinking.

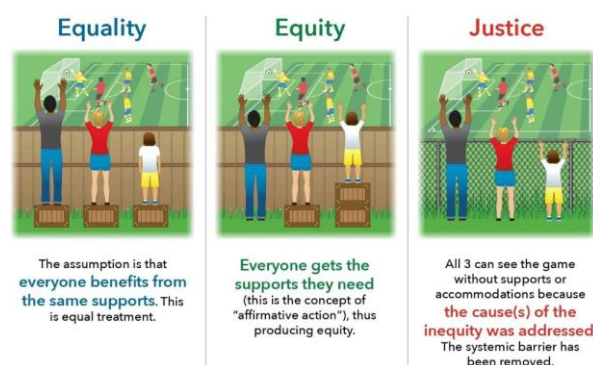
There's a ready-to-use word list attached to get you started.

Together, let's make this term a celebration of curiosity, creativity, and confidence in learning.

HoSES Huddle

Questionnaires and support letters

At Elimbah we are committed to building and fostering partnerships with families, NDIS providers and Child Health services to best support and wrap around our students. If you have questionnaires or reports required to be completed, please forward to your child's class teacher or myself sdavi370@eq.edu.au. Please allow a two-week turn around to ensure we have the opportunity to be collaborative in completing.



ESS Attendance BINGO is in full swing, and it has been great to celebrate a the end of the week with classes to spin the BINGO wheel. Teachers plan with their class the path they are aiming for at the beginning of the week, so please check-in with your children on a Monday afternoon so you are aware and can support them to achieve

BINGO

Every student here on Monday	All Bandy Bandy students present	95% attendance	Every student here on Friday	100% Attendance Day
No early departures	Everyone present in correct full uniform	Every student here on Tuesday	95% attendance	All Brolga students present
100% Attendance day	No early departures	FREE PASS	No late arrivals	Every student here on Tuesday
95% attendance	Every student here on Monday	All Banksia students present	Every student here on Wednesday	No early departures
Every student here on Wednesday	No late arrivals	Every student here on a Friday	Every student present in correct full uniform	No late arrivals

Some tips to support your child and their class in gaining BINGO

- **Arrive** at school on time
- **Refrain** from early collection as much as possible, we do understand appointments can impact this
- **Full uniform daily** – refer to Mrs Butcher's reminders

Save the Date

- **20th November - P&C Disco**
- **4th December - Christmas Concert**
- **9th December - Excellence Assembly**
- **11th December - Year 6 Graduation**
- **11th December – Year 6 Day Out & Clap Out**
- **8 – 11th December – P-2 Swimming Block**

Messages from the P&C

We've made it to Term 4 – the final stretch of the year! 🇦🇺 It's hard to believe how quickly 2025 has flown by, and we're so proud of what our school community has achieved together. This term is set to be just as exciting, with our final Disco, end-of-year celebrations plus planning already underway for 2026. 🧡💚

A massive thank you to every parent, carer, volunteer and staff member who has pitched in so far this year — your energy and support make all the difference. Let's finish the year on a high and celebrate another amazing year at Elimbah SS! 🚀

🟡 P&C Executive Roles – We Need Your Help

As many of you will have seen on our Facebook page, our P&C is without a **President** and **Secretary (As of mid term 4)**. These roles are essential — without them, the P&C cannot legally operate.

What does that mean?

Without a functioning Executive, key services and activities provided by the P&C — like the tuckshop, uniform shop, fundraising events, stalls, and support for school resources — may come to an end.

We know everyone is busy, but even one person putting their hand up can make the difference between closing and continuing. You will be fully supported — you won't be doing it alone.

If you've ever thought about helping or want to know what's involved, please reach out for a friendly chat at pandc@elimbahss.eq.edu.au. Your time and voice could keep our P&C going for our kids and school community. 🧡💚

💙 Father's Day Stall Wrap-Up

What an amazing Father's Day Stall! 🎁 Our students had a fantastic time choosing gifts for their dads, grandads, uncles and special father figures, and the smiles said it all. The P&C team organising the stall were very proud of the way the students engaged in the stall, they were all very kind and well mannered!

A huge thank you to our incredible shopping mentors (aka volunteers!) who helped run the stall — we couldn't have done it without your time, patience and good humour. 🙌 Your support meant every child had the chance to pick a thoughtful surprise to take home.

Thank you also to the families for supporting the stall and helping make it a success for our school community. We hope all the father figures were spoiled and felt the love on their special day! 🧡💚

What's happening Term 4?

Final Disco of 2025!

Lets jump into the end of the term on a dance high! We are thrilled to be hosting a disco on **Thursday 20th November**.

We are still looking for a Disco Coordinator, so if you are keen to help ensure this Disco goes ahead please get in touch with the P&C.

🕒 Times:

- **Junior Disco (Prep–Grade 2):** 5:00pm – 6:15pm
- **Senior Disco (Grades 3–6):** 6:30pm – 8:00pm
👉 Please ensure your child only attends the session for their year level.

Details:

- **Entry:** \$2 per child (adults free!) Cash only
- **Food & Drinks:** Hot food (\$3), snacks (\$1–\$2), drinks (\$2)

EFTPOS available at the tuckshop (food & drinks only)

(Note: EFTPOS is internet-dependent – we recommend bringing cash just in case!)

🚫 Please Note:

- No mobile phones allowed – Education QLD policy applies. Students can contact parents through staff if needed.
- No glow sticks permitted due to previous safety issues.

Help us bring the fun – and keep things running smoothly!

We need helpers for:

-  Coordinating the disco
-  Taking admissions
-  Running the Tuckshop
-  Supervising kids

✅ You can volunteer for the junior session, senior session, or both.

📄 All volunteers must complete the school's annual induction (see the office team).

💠 Non-parent volunteers will need a valid Blue Card.

Jump into it! 👉 [Sign up here](#)

We can't run events like this without you – thank you for your support!

2026 Events Calendar – It's Coming!

We promise we haven't forgotten you — the draft 2026 Community Events Calendar is in the works and coming your way ASAP! Think of us as elves with spreadsheets instead of toy workshops. Thanks for your patience — it'll be worth the wait! 😊

Tuckshop

Tuckshop Convenor Recruitment Update

💛 Applications have closed and we are knee deep in interviewing for our new Tuckshop Convenor. We're working through the process and will share an update with families as soon as we're able. ❤️

Join the Fun Behind the Counter!

Ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes of our busy little Tuckshop? Come find out — we'd love to have you on board! Volunteering in the Tuckshop is a fun, fast-paced way to connect with the school, meet other parents, and make a real impact on our students' day (nothing beats seeing their smiling faces at snack time!).

Whether you're a seasoned sandwich maker or totally new to the tuckshop scene — we've got a spot for you. No experience needed, just:

- ✅ Enclosed shoes
- ✅ A completed annual volunteer induction (see the office team to complete)
- 💠 A Blue Card (for non-parent volunteers)

 Choose a shift that suits you: 👉 [Sign up here](#)

💖 Questions or want to know more? Contact Miss Tamara at elimbahtuckshop@gmail.com

Come for the sandwich making, stay for the smiles!



Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open:

🕒 **Tuesdays | 8:00am – 11:00am**

For orders or questions, please contact Miss Bec at elimbahuniformshop@gmail.com.

Please note: Orders cannot be processed outside shop hours or during Tuckshop time.

Come Along to Our Next P&C Meeting!

Everyone is welcome at our next **P&C General Meeting!** It's a great chance to hear what's happening across the school, share your ideas, and get involved in planning future events and projects. ***We will be presenting the 2026 P&C Calendar plans!*** Whether you just want to listen in or have something to contribute — we'd love to see you there! 💬💛

 21st October | 🕒 6:30pm | 📍 School staff room.

No pressure, no commitment — just a great way to connect with our amazing school community.