



ELIZABETH EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Aboriginal Newsletter - February

Welcome to Elizabeth East Primary Schools first Aboriginal Newsletter.

CIRCUS GIG

Through the generosity of Relationships Australia our 8 to 12 Year old students have been participating in CIRCUS GIG. This is a program aimed at not only building their confidence and self esteem while learning Circus tricks but incorporates Aboriginal cultural elements through the teaching of Kurna language. The looks on the children's faces says it all. They will be performing for us later in the year to show off their new skills. The staff were recently treated to a 1 hour Kurna Language workshop with Jack Buckskin. He gave us this link <https://50words.online/> to the 50 words project. You can click through and select many Australian Indigenous languages including Kurna to hear and see 50 words from the language.



Harmony Day

Elizabeth East Primary School will be celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 26th March with a day at Fremont Park. All students are invited to share in a range of activities and a BBQ. The theme this year is Everyone Belongs. Orange is the official Harmony Day Colour so we encourage students to wear something orange.

Aboriginal Learner Achievement

High expectations, wellbeing and academic success of our Aboriginal students has always been a priority here at Elizabeth East Primary School and for the Department for Education. Recently we have examined how we actually record and act on data for our Aboriginal students and have come up with some new strategies to collect and act upon what the data is telling us. We already use Individual Learning Plans which you as parents and students have input. The plans can be referred to when meeting with teachers to highlight what parents should know about your child's progress and how to help their development at home. Our attendance and general wellbeing rates are fairly good for our Aboriginal students but there is always room for improvement. Elio Auciello (Aboriginal Education Teacher), Noel Wright (Aboriginal Community Education Officer) and all staff monitor our Aboriginal students and work together to provide any support we can. Phil Bloffwitch is our Wellbeing Coordinator and regularly supplies contacts for a wide range of support services which are available. Should you ever feel the need please contact staff and we will be only to glad to assist.

Access to Aboriginal Programs

There are a range of Support Programs within the Department for Education targeting Aboriginal learners. Some of these include: Hearing, Sight and Health Checks, CIRCUS GIG, STEM Aboriginal Congress and Aboriginal Cultural Celebrations. When these come to our attention we ensure that families and staff are informed. We have been utilising the Aboriginal Program Assistance Scheme (APAS) and Enter for Success. The APAS program provides funding for one on one or small group tutoring for Aboriginal students who have not met their appropriate educational standard for their age and year level. Liz Hamilton is working with these students this year. Enter for Success allows all Yr6 and 7 Aboriginal students the opportunity to enrol at any Secondary school even if it is out of zone. This is especially attractive if your child wishes to undertake a particular educational pathway which may not be offered at your local Secondary school. Parents of Aboriginal younger children also have the opportunity to enrol their children at Kindergarten or preschool at the age of 3.

Matthew Delany Principal and Elio Auciello Aboriginal Education Teacher