FOR YOUR DIARY
Week 4
Monday, 23 February
- 08:30 Uniform Store Open
- 15:15 Primary Parent-Teacher Interviews (PIP)
Tuesday, 24 February
- 15:15 Primary Parent-Teacher Interviews (PIP)
Wednesday, 25 February
- 09:00 All School Swimming Carnival (PIP)
- 14:30 Uniform Store Open
- 18:00 Secondary Parents Curriculum Meeting
Thursday, 26 February
- 09:30 PreKinder Excursion
- 09:00 Parent Prayer Group
Friday, 27 February
- 14:20 All School Assembly (Y10 host)
Saturday, 28 February
- 09:00 WORKING BEE - PIP

Week 5
Monday, 2 March
- 08:30 Uniform Store Open
Wednesday, 4 March
- 07:00 Year 6 Camp departure
- 14:30 Uniform Store Open
Thursday, 5 March
- 09:30 PreKinder excursion
- 09:00 Parent Prayer Group
- Year 6 Camp ongoing
Friday, 6 March
- 14:20 Primary Assembly (Yr4 hosting)
- 18:00 Year 6 Camp returns

PRINCIPAL MATTERS
All Aboard - Food & Chocolate Festival!
Hi and welcome to Week 4 of the 2015 academic year. Your child should be well acquainted with their class routine and homework expectations by now and hopefully you were able to learn about any special class news by visiting the class for the Parent Information sessions.

The Parent Information Night also introduced our major fundraiser and community event for the year, which is coming up at the end of March – the Food & Chocolate Festival on Saturday 28 March, 2-5pm. It is going to be spectacular. The Festival will be held completely within the super-decorated Primary courtyard to keep everything together, and you will be able to purchase items directly from a variety of stalls—from preloved toys to an awesome curry!

The thing is that we need each parent to make a contribution to ensure the success of this huge event. All profits from this annual event will help pay towards the Year 10 Mission Trip to Nepal so the Year 10 parents are carrying the main load; they are already signing up to look after the setting up and packing down of the Festival – thank you, Year 10 parents! All other parents note: your child will reap the benefits of a successful Festival when they are in Year 10!

What we need other parents to do is sign up to their class stall, either to help on the day or to donate items for sale.

‘Many hands make light work’

This promises to be a great community event. Some of the great things planned include chocolate basket raffles, amazing activities for younger children, and special performances.

Any questions? Please contact Wendy Walker on 0422017077 or events@emmaus.act.edu.au

Thank you in anticipation of you playing your part! PM

ALL SCHOOL NEWS
Whole School Swimming Carnival
WEDNESDAY 25 February
We are looking forward to a great carnival! Please take note of the following important reminders:

- All students are to be dropped off at the pool by 8.55am.
- Students may arrive from 8.30am but must be marked off by a teacher at the entry to the pool and sit in year groups until 9am. There will be a teacher at the carpark and pool entry to meet the students.
- Students arriving to school by bus will be escorted to the pool at 8.45am
- Students who have nominated to swim in the 200IM are required to report to Mrs Northey at 8.45am for a prompt race start of 9am.
- The Carnival will conclude at 2.45pm, after which students may be taken home by parents, or return to Emmaus under teacher supervision for normal afternoon/home time arrangements. All children will be marked off on their class rolls, upon leaving the pool.
- Students in Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2 will need to be escorted to the wading pool where they will find their teacher and have their name marked off. These students also have the option of being picked up from the pool at 10.30am after their carnival. Please ensure you see the class teacher and sign out your child before leaving. All students remaining will walk back to school for the remainder of the day.
- In case of inclement weather a decision will be made at 8am and an SMS will be sent out to families.

Parent helpers: By now you will have been informed of your role for the day. If not please contact Nikkie Harper or Helena Northey.

Working Bee
Saturday 28 February
9pm - 1pm
The list of duties at our Working Bees is always varied, from cleaning & gardening, to general maintenance. Most equipment needed will be supplied, however, if you have an area of specialty, please feel free to bring along your own tools. Working Bees are a great way to complete several hours of PIP, meet and work alongside staff and other families from the school, and help keep our school looking great! We hope to see you here!
Term 1 All-School Parent Meeting
Wednesday 11 March @ 6.30pm

'How to read School Reports’ & 'Parenting Teens’
We look forward to discussing these and other topics together at our upcoming All-School Parent Meeting to be held in the Gymnasium, followed by sectional meetings for Primary & Secondary. Join other parents and staff as we work together in the education of our kids. If you have any agenda items, please send by Monday 9 March to emmaus@emmaus.act.edu.au

Meet a Staff Member
This week we meet one of Secondary Year 9 Homeroom teachers, Mrs Kelly Gierke, who is excitedly counting down to a very special arrival in April! Here’s a few fun facts:
Place of birth: Toowoomba
Last book read: What to expect when you are expecting.
Worst fashion moment: I still love scrunchies!
Favourite Bible verse: Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” Matthew 22:37
Best day of life: Every day with my husband (possibly until the baby arrives)
Nickname: Gierkenator
Dream job: Mum
Best thing about Emmaus: The staff are amazing, funny, loving, kind and passionate.

Death Cap Mushrooms Warning
Families are reminded that Death Cap mushrooms are one of the world’s deadliest mushrooms and can be found across the Canberra region, usually in late summer and autumn. Parents and teachers are asked to remind children not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms. Please refer to info sheet on Downloads.

PRIMARY NEWS
Primary Parent Teacher Interviews
Monday 23 & Tuesday 24 February
Note correct dates! Parents have the opportunity to meet with your child’s class teacher and touch base on how you can work together to best serve your child this year. Bookings are made on-line through the website, using your family code and login which was emailed to you this week. Bookings will open on Saturday 14 February and close on Saturday 21 February.
PPIP opportunity: Can you help provide some snacks for the teachers for afternoon tea? We would like sandwiches/wraps, fruit platter, vegie platter, cakes/slices and gluten free items please. Please email the Office to indicate what item of food you can provide, and on which day. emmaus@emmaus.act.edu.au

After School Chess Club
Still room to join!
Chess Club is held every Tuesday afternoon from 3:10 – 4:00pm in the Year 4 classroom (upstairs). Only $3.50 per week! Please see Mr Miller for a note or see the downloads page on the School website.

SECONDARY NEWS

Secondary Curriculum Parents’ Discussion Meeting
Wed 25 February @ 6-7pm, in Yr 10 Room
John Jenkins will speak about the vision and rationale behind the new curriculum and timetable in Secondary School as well as what is planned for next term. This meeting is for all interested parents. There will be an opportunity at this meeting to ask questions and to provide opinions. Register your attendance by emailing John Jenkins.

Secondary School Uniform
Students are looking smart in the newly introduced Secondary School uniform! Information was sent home recently regarding the introduction of the new Secondary School uniform. We trust that parents and students alike have found the note helpful in clarifying some of the questions that have been raised. If you did not receive the note, please be sure to contact the Office for a copy, or see the Downloads page of the School website.

Yr 10 Chocolate and a Chat
On Monday 9 February, the Year 10 girls and their mums (and one brave dad) joined Mrs Gillis and Mrs Banfield for dessert at Max Brenner in Belconnen. We shared laughter, chocolate in many forms and began planning for their last year at high school. We are looking forward to hosting the Food and Chocolate Festival at Emmaus on Saturday, 28 March! Keep the date free and be sure to be part of this major School & community event!

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Struggling to help your child effectively with their spelling homework?
Dyslexia Speld Act is running a workshop that equips parents with the knowledge and skills to teach spelling on Tuesday March 31st from 6-7.30. For more information visit http://www.trybooking.com/GYMJ.