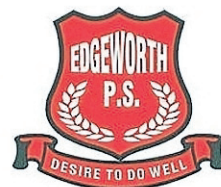


Primary entry #41: Edgeworth Public School

**EDGEWORTH ENTERTAINER**Edgeworth Public School is turning 125.
Picture: Abbey Bramley

Gearing up for a 125th anniversary

By **ELLA HARRISON-VIRAG, ABBEY BRAMLEY, LIAM MISTELBAUER, SUMMER GAINNS, GUINEVERE LEEMAN and BRENTON BYE**

EDGEWORTH Public School, founded in 1891, is gearing up for its 125th birthday celebrations in 2016. Preparations are already underway for the anniversary.

Elizabeth Mitchell, teacher librarian at Edgeworth Public School, is the lead organiser of the event. "We're going to have a birthday party for the students, visiting principals from the past and a little something for everyone," she said.

The P&C, School Council, teachers and the 125th Birthday Steering Committee will organise the events.

There will be a school open day on Saturday, May 14, 2016, where the teachers will be unveiling a new garden, with other festivities including a Devonshire tea, student performances and tours around the school. There will also be memorabilia in the library and students will be able to enjoy an olden day lesson. In the evening there will be a formal dinner for up to 300 people at Club Macquarie, Argenton, to continue the celebrations and journey through history.

Jennifer Parke, current principal, is looking forward to learning the history of the school. "The students will get a deep knowledge and understanding of the history of the school and the people who contributed to what the school is today," she said.

A cafe with a kind soul

By **BAILEY RAE, LULANI HERIVEL, DANIEL COVERDALE, ZAHID SHAFIE and ASHWINBABU JAISANKAR**

SOUL Cafe, Newcastle, is a non-government funded local community organisation that opened in 2003 to address local community needs. The cafe started by serving breakfast as a need for this was identified in the community, and it has grown from there to now being a well-recognised facility providing many free services.

Some of the services that Soul Cafe provides include healthy meals, doctors, mental health nurses, housing, haircuts, Centrelink and volunteer opportunities.

Each year, Soul Cafe provides approximately 41,600 meals to the homeless and disadvantaged community.

Karen Soper, Soul Cafe manager, explains that their desire is to serve more than just a meal or meet a need, but to lift a group of people that are less fortunate. "We are passionate about our food and just as passionate about people."

The food they serve is generously donated by community-minded wholesalers and businesses and prepared by their head chef. Soul Cafe serves 130 people on average per day for lunch. "Anyone qualifies for the service. We accept all

Soul Café manager, Karen Soper with the head chef and the meal of the day.
Picture: Ashwinbabu Jaisankar

people without judgement," said Karen.

Soul Cafe relies heavily on their volunteers that give up their time to give back to the community.

Alyce Young is one of the 100 volunteers who gives up her time to volunteer at Soul Cafe on a regular basis. Alyce started volunteering at the end of 2010. "My mum knew a lady who was involved in Soul Cafe and she told me about it one night

and I thought I could do that. I am very lucky to have always had a place to sleep and food to eat," said Alyce.

Volunteering helps Alyce remember that she is a part of a community and makes her feel part of something bigger than herself. "I feel that it is my responsibility to give back to other people who may not have always been as lucky as I have been."

Alyce volunteers at Soul Cafe on Saturday mornings as she works full-time during the week as a psychologist. "I think it is important because a lot of the time people think that what they have materially is due to hard work but a lot of the time what you have is due to luck," said Alyce.

Soul Cafe is a generous business making a difference in the local community every day.

Emily Jones, training at Coughlan's Swim Centre, Warners Bay.
Picture: Tyler Neilsen

Swimming into the School Games

By **RACHAEL FILEWOOD, ETHAN WHOLOHAN, DREW MARTIN, TAHLIA POTTS and TYLER NEILSEN**

EMILY Jones, a 12-year-old girl from Edgeworth, has qualified to compete in the 2015 Pacific School Games for swimming.

The Pacific School Games is an international sporting event for students aged between 10-19 years and will be held in Adelaide from November 21-29.

Emily will be competing in the 200-metre individual medley, 50-metre butterfly, 4x50-metre freestyle relay, 4x50-metre medley relay and 4x100-metre freestyle relay.

"To qualify for the Pacific School Games, I had to come at least third or fourth in my events at the NSW All Schools Swimming Carnival," Emily said.

Emily trains at Coughlan's Swim Centre, Warners Bay, throughout the week for six hours. "I also sometimes train on Saturdays. My training involves me having to practice all of my strokes and different lengths throughout my sessions."

She has support from her hard working coaches, Ben Fricker and Adam Beisler, and her supportive parents.



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