Dear Parents and Carers,

District Cross Country

The Cootamundra District Cross Country Championships were conducted by EA Southee on Monday. Our outstanding runners who qualified for the Riverina event to be held in Gundagai on Thursday, 11th June were Lachlan Webb, 1st 12/13 boys, Samantha Graham 2nd 11yrs girls, Niall Lambert 4th 8/9 boys. The overall championship was taken out by Cootamundra Public School with Wallendbeen runners earning their school the handicap trophy.

GRIP Leadership

36 of our Year 5 and Year 6 students travelled to Wagga to be a part of the 2015 Grip Leadership Conference. Grip Leadership was launched in 2013 to provide a fresh approach to leadership development. Students were provided with practical ways to become involved as a school leader and to make the most of leadership opportunities. This year’s theme was “Stand Up”. Students were instructed that the greatest display of leadership is when a person stands up for something.

- Stand up when there is an opportunity
- Stands up for what is right
- Stands up for others
- Stands up for yourself.

The EAS Cross Country Team.

Zita McLeod, Principal  
www.easouthee-p.schools.nsw.edu.au  
Phone: 02 6942 1166

Coming Events for Term 1

May
- Thurs, 28th Boys Riverina Touch Trials

June
- Mon, 1st Whole school assembly 2pm in Hall
- Tues, 2nd Year 5/6 to Canberra
- Wed, 3rd 2016 Kindergarten Information Evening
- Mon, 15th P&C Meeting 6.30pm in Staff Room

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Comments from students:
It taught me how to be a better leader and it was also fun, full of stuff to learn and a great experience. I learnt so much about how to be a better leader and at the same time I had the best time of my life. And if you ever have a chance to go you definitely should go. Iliana Holmes.

The Conference was a great opportunity to learn about leadership and will definitely benefit me as a leader and house captain. Matt Roberts.

Ms Toni MacDonald, Director Public Schools NSW
Ms Toni MacDonald, Director Public Schools NSW, visited our school on Monday and saw the amount of organisation needed to successfully run the District Cross Country. Ms MacDonald reviewed the learning, well-being and financial programs of our school and discussions also covered the Annual School Report and the School Plan. We are progressing very well with our plan and both documents are on the school website for everyone to read. Ms MacDonald commented favourably on our students’ achievements across a range of areas and enjoyed meeting staff and students.

Dillon Waples, Georgia O’Mara and Reagan Duncan were lucky to get close to the performers and their costumes from the Ballet performance yesterday.

The Australian Ballet
The Australian Ballet has today conducted workshops for our students in dance and movement. The students have been praised for their enthusiasm, positive involvement and willingness to participate and experiment with dance routines. The performance was very well received and the high levels of fitness and the expertise of the dancers was understood by everyone. Our students watched the dancers perform a range of dance styles with an amazing sense of interest. Students were shown beautifully made costumes from “Snugglepot and Cuddlespie” and dancers showed how masks can be so effective in setting the scene for a dance routine. The dancers are enjoying working with students from country schools and were very impressed with our school facilities and students.

Dillon Waples, Georgia O’Mara and Reagan Duncan were

National Simultaneous Storytime.
National Simultaneous Storytime is an annual campaign that aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. Now in its 15th successful year it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy using an Australian children's book that explores age appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Grades K to 6 and the pre-school Early Learning Years. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and
illustrator is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. This year the chosen book was “the Brothers Quibble” by Aaron Blabey. IS enjoyed listening to Mrs Smart read “the Brothers Quibble”. The story is about a big brother who gets a new little brother and can’t handle sharing his mum and dad. It shows how the little brother wins him over and by the end of the story they become good friends. The children then discussed the book and were able to write a recount of the story.

Mastering spelling
Are you checking your child’s weekly spelling homework? Try talking to your child about how you spell, and what you do when you don’t know how to spell a word. Here’s some advice about how to help your child master spelling. Find out more: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/getting-your-child-used-to-writing

REEC Visit
Last week 3H, 3L and 5R visited the Riverina Environmental Education Centre. The day consisted of activities designed to give the students an understanding of traditional indigenous life. The children participated in a variety of activities associated with living with the land. Students looked at the collection of woven baskets, bags and containers. They were also involved in making an item of jewellery out of weavable material. The children also had the opportunity to construct a shelter out of bush materials available on site.

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Professional Development for staff
All teaching staff will be involved in professional learning about the Professional Development Framework being introduced this year. This is a joint agreement between NSW Department of Education and The NSW Teachers Federation, which will guide and support all teachers in their ongoing professional learning and development. Southee teachers are always learning about quality programs and research which will support the students and school in their ongoing learning. Teachers will complete this training on Thursday, 28 May, 2015 from 3.30 pm until 7.00 pm. If parents need to speak urgently with a teacher at this time please phone the school.

EA Southee netball team last week defeated CPS in the PSSA Netball Knockout. Thank you to our ex-Southee student umpires, Melissa Kelleher and Brittany Ormond.

Supporting our University Students
Aimee Skinner was welcomed into EA Southee from Charles Sturt University (Wagga Campus). She has confidently stepped into Years 4/5R, 3/4W and 2/3L. Miss Skinner has brought some fantastic new ideas for our students to engage with and extend their lifelong learning. She has introduced classes topresi.com which is a multimedia literacy focus outlining the new national English syllabus. Miss Skinner has positively involved herself with extra-curricular activities and will endeavour to become a superb teacher for our future generations.

Is your child making friends at school?
Kids who get on at school tend to be more engaged in learning. Here are some ideas on how to help your child with social skills:

Athletics Carnival
Congratulations to all competitors at the Athletics Carnival. In a lot of events we had a number of heats and Mrs Glover commented that we had so many more students involved in all track and field events this year. The weather was perfect and the grounds were well prepared by Cootamundra Shire staff and we thank them for their continued support. Some field events are still to be finalised and we will complete those when the ground is drier. Thank you to Mrs Glover for organising the carnival and all staff and family members who helped on the day.

For more photos check this out!
“Come & See”
Information Night

EA Southey Public School
Poole St, Cootamundra
Wednesday, 3rd June, 2015 @ 6.30pm
in the Kindergarten Room.

EA Southey Public School provides a diverse range of opportunities to develop and maximise the potential that lies within each and every student.

Prospective parents for 2016 are invited to an information evening where we will showcase our programs, policies and our resources. EA Southey Public School can provide your child with a great start and ‘great beginnings tend to lead to great endings.’

For further information please contact
6942 1166