Today I would like to recognize the unique disposition of Aboriginal people. Before white people came, it was the tradition of Aboriginals that when strangers came into their particular country to hunt or to gather, or to just pass through on their way to other places, that the host Aboriginals would go out to welcome them. When they met, there would be the formalities of greeting. Part of the ceremony of welcome would be the men sitting around and talking men’s business whilst the host women would take the visiting women and children to a women’s site to talk women’s business.

When this was completed, the two groups would join again and the men would hunt for kangaroo, goannas or bush turkey - and the women would prepare an area for eating and would gather firewood and berries, fruit, nuts and lily roots for a meal.

Then the ceremonies or the corroborees would commence—and the dancing, the singing around the fire could well go on, not only all night, but sometimes for many nights in a row. Each ceremony or corroboree with a message—each with its own story—men, women and children taking part, whilst during the day, the visiting tribe would be taken and shown the sites of significance and be told the stories of the spirit of the land they would be passing.

In this way, the hosts believed that by the end of formalities, when the strangers were ready to move on - they would not be considered strangers but friends who now had the spirit of the country in their hearts—just like the people who lived there.

They believed that once the spirit of the land was in their hearts, then those people would never damage the land - they would love it and care for it like those whose home country it was..."

I would like to show my respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, of elders past and present, on which our event took place today.

My hope is that today you have taken away the spirit of friendship and kinship, of our school community and grow it in your hearts so that one day, when you are ready, we will be one.

Many thanks to those who have contributed to a successful event and joined with us to celebrate NAIDOC.

Kind Regards
Teena Elliott
Tuckshop proved a roaring success. Many thanks to our Treasurer, Tanya Campbell, for the delicious, homebaked quiches and to Peta Staples for her help with the preparation and handing out of food. Be sure to get your order in for next week!

A 125th Anniversary meeting was held last Tuesday. The celebrations will begin on Friday night with a Trivia night at the Community Hall, breakfast from 8am on Saturday morning at the school, followed by the opening of the time capsule. There will be markets and a jumping castle here also. On Saturday evening there will be a touch footy match and a disco!

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SORT THROUGH SOME PHOTOS. PLEASE COME UP AND HELP US—ANY TIME!

ORAL STORIES

The P & C needs YOU! Join now!
Congratulations to the following students for upholding the four pillars of the Eidsvold way — being respectful, being a learner, being responsible and being safe!

Prep/Year 1 — Heyokah Hansen

Years 4/5/6 — Leonardo Commollatti

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>Whole school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>96.4</td>
<td>97.5</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>92.8</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>97.4</td>
<td>88.8</td>
<td>94.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>88.2</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>90.9</td>
<td>92.8</td>
<td>89.1</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>97.3</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>88.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>68.8</td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>91.3</td>
<td>91.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EIDSVOLD STATE SCHOOL
NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS