ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station)

Wow! …… what an evening we all enjoyed last Friday. With just on 300 children and families gathered in the Hall, the thrill of chatting to Astronaut Jeff Williams as he flew over Eastern Australia in the ISS was felt by everyone. Of course, the lucky eleven children selected to ask the questions had front row seats. However, I’m sure everyone in the Hall thoroughly enjoyed the experience and will remember it for a long time. This was certainly a great example of bringing learning to life and connecting the children with ‘real life’ Science.
We were overwhelmed by the community and media interest too and very appreciative of the reporting of this special event in TV, radio and print media. It has continued this week on Tuesday when I was interviewed by ABC International for a program that will be translated into Chinese and broadcast into Asia.

Congratulations to the eleven children selected for this honour, and the great way they prepared, conducted themselves and represented Essex Heights PS. Thanks also to all the staff and families who came along and supported the event last Friday. A massive thank you to the guys from ARISS (pictured) who freely gave their time, equipment and expertise for about four hours on Friday. Quite simply, this would not have been possible without them. Of course, I also acknowledge that it would not have been possible without the vision, passion and commitment of Jenny Austin. This was her project from the start and I thank and congratulate her (assisted by Ina Kuehlich) for what she has achieved for the children and Essex Heights community.

Finally, (and he’ll probably never know this) our thanks to Jeff Williams. I thought his answers were informative, interesting and pitched at just the right level for the children. He ensured a great evening that made all the planning worthwhile. Yet again ..... well done Essex Heights!

North East Victoria Region (NEVR) Musical Concert – Hamer Hall

This annual showcase of the musical talent in the NEVR schools took place on Tuesday night. We had 37 students participating in the Primary Choir (200 members), supported by Music Teacher Tanya Dolence. This was a great concert of primary and secondary students and the talent on display was amazing. Our students loved being part of such a professional event, and having the opportunity to perform ‘on stage’ at one of Melbourne’s premier venues. Congratulations to the children who performed and well done on your hard work in rehearsals. Thanks to the parents who supported this and came along to enjoy the show. A big thank you to Tanya
Dolence who entered Essex Heights, worked with the children in rehearsal and supervised rehearsals and performance. Thanks also to Con Papanicolaou for his support on the day.

**Class Visit – 1J**

On Tuesday I enjoyed the chance to visit Jessica Chan and the children of 1J. This was during a writing session and the children were learning about labelling. Jess began by sharing the ‘learning intention’ with the class and making links to past lessons. She also shared some examples of the use of labels in a diagram from an instructional text. I was ‘thrilled’ when Jess invited me to stand at the front of the room and have the children attach labels to me! Needless to say, the Yr 1’s found this hysterical 😄

The children then worked in groups to make their own drawing of a person and correctly label body parts and clothing. I liked the way the session finished with the children walking around the room checking out each other’s charts, therefore reinforcing the learning.

Thanks to Jess for her great work in building these literacy skills in the Yr 1 children, and her contribution as a member of the Yr 1 Team.

**District Cross Country**

Our team of nearly 50 Yr 4-6 children competed on Tuesday in the District Cross Country at Norton’s Park. The children competed in 2km & 3km races in pretty typical Cross Country condition given recent rain. I would like to congratulate the children who made our team and for the efforts they have put into training and preparation.

Ben Wooster was also impressed to see the way they competed and supported each other during each race. It was a real team event and they certainly represented Essex Heights with great ‘team spirit’. My thanks to Ben for his work to train and prepare the team.

Thanks also to the great group of parents who turned out to support the team. It was really encouraging for the children. We are very proud of all the children for their hard work and the way they competed, gave their best and represented Essex Heights PS.
Individual congratulations to Cameron H who placed in the top 10 in his race and therefore will progress to the Division Final back at Norton’s Park.

**Pupil Free Day**

A reminder to parents that next Monday is a School Council approved Pupil Free Day, and no children are required at school.

The teaching staff will use the day for report writing, assessment discussion and moderation of results. The Education Support Staff will have a day focussed on personal health and wellbeing.

Should you require child care during the day, please contact Paul Davis and the Before and After School Care program.

See you around the school,

Andrew

**Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge 2016**

Once again students from across Victoria have a chance to take part in the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge in 2016. The students of Essex Heights have been participating in this since it began and we see it as a means of promoting the importance of reading among students in our school. This year the Victorian Government is encouraging families and parents to be more involved with supporting children’s reading, in and beyond school. Before the end of term your child will bring home a permission form for the 2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Successful Challengers receive a Certificate in Term 4. For your child to be awarded the certificate, you will need to sign the permission form. There is no charge for the certificate. Student’s names will also be published in an edition of the Sunday Age if you give permission.

Let’s keep up the Essex Heights tradition of being ambassadors for the Reading Challenge in 2016. Attached to the newsletter is a letter from the Premier, Daniel Andrew’s promoting not only the Premier’s Reading Challenge but also the benefits of instilling a love of reading in your child.

Please return the permission form to your class teacher as soon as possible so that your child can get started on their personal challenge.
Science Rocks at E.H.P.S.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the students who interviewed the astronaut, Jeff Williams, on Friday night. The students were amazing and a real credit to our school community.

Jenny Austin
ARISS Coordinator

ARISS Students’ Reflections

Ava
It was really nerve wracking and exciting on the evening. I brought my lucky toy in my pocket to give me some luck. When the radio connection started and there was fizzing and buzzing, I thought ‘OH NO!’ but then it came clear and I heard voices over the radio. I thought the whole experience was really fabulous. I would like to do it again.

Marcus
It was really, really fun and I was a bit nervous as well as excited. I looked at the crowd and I felt quite happy because everyone was supporting me. When I asked my question and the astronaut answered, I felt... I can’t exactly describe it, but it is a bit like opening 100 presents at Christmas!

Thomas
I was excited when I was asking the questions. I felt happy that I was chosen to interview the astronaut. I was so nervous because I was afraid we would lose contact and I might miss out. It was special because you don’t usually get to speak to an astronaut.

Orlando
I have always wanted to go into space. I like astronomy and the rings of Saturn. The astronaut interview was amazing.

Jake
It was quite interesting and very involved when we spoke to the astronaut. It is not like speaking on the phone because that person isn’t pelting around our planet at 7.5 kms per second! I felt pretty nervous but when I started my questions I wasn’t actually scared! It was a special experience....definitely.
Robots, Drones and Droids
Science Talent Search is for everybody: for those planning a career in one of the sciences or technological disciplines, for those interested in scientific hobbies, or for those concerned enough to present a point of view about science through the medium of poster, essay, video, photography, games or computer programs.

STS has three broad aims:
1. To stimulate an ongoing interest in the study of sciences by:
   • encouraging independent self-motivated project work amongst students of science;
   • giving students the opportunity to communicate their achievements to a wider audience;
   • according recognition of effort and achievement in a scientific enterprise.
2. To promote the direct involvement of the students in the processes of science and its communication.
3. To give the public at large an opportunity to see the quality of work being achieved in science, by both primary and post primary students.

So whether it’s your first time or you’ve been doing this for years, now is the time to register for the 2016 Science Talent Search. Kids read through the guide below with an adult to choose your favourite category.


See Ms Steward in V5 by the 27th of May for your registration.
Costs apply. Individual $8.00 per entry (inc GST)
Group (maximum 2 students) $15.00 per entry (inc GST)
Sayembara Lisan: State-wide annual Indonesian Oral Competition

Congratulations once again to all the students who participated in this year’s competition.

A special congratulations to the following students who have gone through to the Finals!

Prep-2 Division: William T, Aiden D, Nandita C, Jane L, Sienna B

Years 3 and 4 Division: Isabelle D, Bhuvi D, Malavika C, Alma Z, Ava H

Years 5 and 6 Division: Rebecca L, Caitlyn D, Ruby H, Kiska A, Chika Y

Date: Saturday June 11th (students will have an allocated time on this day)

Venue: Sidney Myer Asia Centre
       761 Swanston St Parkville (corner Swanston St and Monash Rd)

We are very proud of everyone’s efforts! Hebat Sekali!

Alex Douros (Bu Douros)
douros.alexandra.k@edumail.vic.gov.au
Hi all

Wow, we made it to $10,000 for the Fun Run! Well done to everyone, to Pauline and Ben Wooster and all the parent helpers – but particularly to the children for all their great fundraising. I’m looking forward to hearing when we get to celebrate with our special guests, Mr Crossett and Mr Wooster!

Only 9 sleeps until the Trivia Night – Saturday 4 June at 7pm. It will be a great night, with something for everyone to enjoy. Make sure you book soon at trybooking.com/LJSP. If you’ve got a table together, that’s great – but if not, we can find you some other lovely Essex Heights people to play with. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me at jordy55@gmail.com.

Cheerio

Andrea J

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Dear Parents,

The program will run a Curriculum Day Program on the 30/5/16.
We will be going to Knox Cinema to see "The Angry Birds Movie."
There are limited spaces available.
Enrolment forms can be picked up from Before and After Care during program hours.
Also this week we have dance & drama on Tuesday, Flight on Thursday, Pancakes at Before care on Tuesday, cooking at before care on Thursday morning and hopefully some sunshine so we can go outside.

Thank you

Paul Davis
If you are unable to help please ensure that you advise Maria as soon as possible.

DON'T FORGET –
Please report to Front Office to sign the Visitor’s Book and get a Visitor’s Label
BEFORE proceeding to the Canteen. Any queries phone Maria on 0409 934 573

HEALTH CENTRE

From the Health Centre:
Please be aware there has been a few cases of chicken pox diagnosed across the school.
For signs and symptoms of this, please refer to the Better health link and see your Doctor if concerned.


Your child should not return to school if diagnosed with this until all blisters are dried, so as to not spread the infection to others.

Julie Zuk
First Aid Officer
Please collect the bins from driveway behind art room. Check the gate and if the gate is locked please use alternate gate. Please space the bins out for the driver. The bins need to go out Sunday night as collection times vary on the Monday morning. Alternately they cannot go out on Sat as we may receive a fine or worse still the bins may fall over!! Please see Marita Steward V7 after adding your name to the roster. The roster is kept at the Front Office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>FAMILY</th>
<th>SPECIAL NOTES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>21/2</td>
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<td>Term 1</td>
<td>6/3</td>
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<td>Term Holiday</td>
<td>Thomas family</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
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<td>1/5</td>
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<td>26/6</td>
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<td>Term Holiday Sun 10th July</td>
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<td>Hedi Ziv</td>
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<td>18/9</td>
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# ESSEX HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL CALENDAR

## MAY 2016

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<td>2&lt;sup&gt;ND&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Dance Concert</td>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;RD&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Dance Concert</td>
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<td>Mother's Day Breakfast</td>
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<td>School Fun Run School Council</td>
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<td>23&lt;sup&gt;RD&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Book Fair Keyboard Concert 6.30pm Piano Concert 7.30pm - Hall</td>
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<td>24&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Book Fair District Cross Country</td>
<td>25&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Book Fair PFA meeting 7.30pm Staffroom</td>
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<td>30&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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## JUNE 2016

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<td>6&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Yr. 5 Sovereign Hill Camp</td>
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<td>Yr. 5 Sovereign Hill Camp</td>
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<td>Yr. 5 Sovereign Hill Camp</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Public Holiday</td>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>15&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Guitar Concert 7pm Banksia Collaborative Space</td>
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<td>20&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Woodwind &amp; Brass Concert 7pm Hall</td>
<td>21&lt;sup&gt;ST&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>22&lt;sup&gt;ND&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Strings Concert 7pm St Luke’s</td>
<td>23&lt;sup&gt;RD&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>24&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2, 2.30pm Finish</td>
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An Essex Heights Primary School Event

Trivia Night 2016

Prizes  Fun!
Games  Silent auction Dancing

Saturday 4 June at 7pm
in the Essex Heights PS hall

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

$15 per adult | Tables of 8-10 people
Book at trybooking.com/LJSP

Get a table together, or we can find you some friends
BYO drinks and nibbles | Tea and coffee provided
Bring some gold coins for games on the night 😊

No children allowed sorry
New Saturday morning classes
9am – 10:15am or 10:30 – 11:45am
Ashwood Hall
21a Electra Ave Ashwood

Expert tuition by experienced, registered primary teacher
Improve your child’s confidence
Catch up and extension work
Small groups and fun learning activities
Problem solving, number facts & times tables

Covering all areas of the Victorian mathematics curriculum

Catering for all ability levels

For bookings and further information contact:
Domenic De Leo 0439 803 430
primaryskillstutoring@gmail.com
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