### CALENDAR DATES

#### Term 1, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th March</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY – Students do not attend school on this day</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th March</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY – Students do not attend school on this day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Students do not attend school this day</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th – 13th March</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp – Forest Lodge</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th March</td>
<td>PFA Annual General Meeting – 7.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>New School Council – 1st meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th &amp; 26th March</td>
<td>School Photo Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th March</td>
<td>PFA Welcome Event – 6.00 – 8.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>Grandparents &amp; Special Friends Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>Last day Term 1 – 2.30 p.m. finish</td>
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</tbody>
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#### Term 2, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13th April</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th May</td>
<td>Dance Concert – Ashburton Primary School Hall – Students A - L group</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th May</td>
<td>Dance Concert – Ashburton Primary School Hall – Students M – Z group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd June</td>
<td>I.C.A.S. – Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd June</td>
<td>Melbourne Symphony Orchestra – Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

**Pink Stumps Day**

Last Thursday we conducted our annual “Pink Stumps Day” grudge match between the Staff and a team of Yr 6 children. This is a fun event and both teams were supported by the rest of the school who came out to watch. Having said that, there was a clear bias in the crowd support with the Yr 6 Team certainly being the favourites! Not sure why?

Following a hard fought match, the Staff was victorious this year for the second year in a row. I would like to acknowledge the great way both teams competed .......... and the massive variation of skill level in the staff team! 😊

Thanks to; Anita Dix for her passion and enthusiasm in organising this event; the staff and children for supporting the event by dressing in pink; the PFA for supplying apples and icy-poles for the whole school and everyone who donated as we raised over $800 for the McGrath Foundation which is a mighty effort

A great day all round!
Essex Heights Dance Program – ‘Splash of Colour’

The ‘Splash of Colour’ Dance Program and Concert began this week with all children having the first of their eight sessions with our Dance Teacher, Georgia Lombard. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children, which we have not offered before, and we look forward to the Concert in May when we can see the results of their sessions.

A reminder to parents who have not yet paid their $20 Incursion charge, for the tuition, to do so as soon as possible.

A Prep group getting into ‘Blue Suede Shoes’

Instrumental Music Provision

Our Instrumental Music provision is highly valued within our school community and is very much part of the culture of our school. It is a program that is widely acknowledged to be exceptional at the primary level.

Shortly, Family Statements will be sent out to all families involved with this service. In order that we can continue to provide this program at minimal cost it is crucial that these accounts are paid in advance and I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Currently our Instrumental Music program is supported by the following personnel:

- Alyssa Kennedy (Co-Ord): Violin, Viola, Cello & String Ensembles
- Chris Dunn: Clarinet & Saxophone
- Maurice Duband: Piano & Keyboard
- Sarah Green: Flute & Beginner Band
- Sasha Hartdobler: Piano & Keyboard
- Peter King: Guitar & Guitar Ensembles
- Ken McDonald: Trumpet, Trombone & Concert Band
- Mary Macmillan: Double Bass
- Bryn Weightman: Percussion / Drum Kit, Marimba & Ukulele

Clean Up Australia Day

Last Friday we enthusiastically joined in the local ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ by cleaning our own school grounds. Most classes participated and we were very pleased with how little rubbish we were able to collect. This proves that we are doing a great job each day in keeping our school clean and tidy.

In conjunction with this event, many children also entered a colouring and poster competition and all the entries are on display in the Hall. At Monday’s Assembly we announced the winners and presented them with a small lunch/snack box.

Thanks to all the children and teachers for supporting this worthwhile environmental initiative. Particular thanks to teachers, Marita Steward & Glynn Campbell, and the Sustainability Captains for their role in organising the day.

Every Day Counts

We all want our students to enjoy a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school!

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind. So if your family needs assistance in this regard, please contact the Office and we will arrange for someone to talk to.
**Yr 6 Camp – Forest Lodge**

Our Yr 6 children and teachers will venture off on Tuesday morning to Forest Lodge camp, out of Yarram in South Gippsland. It is a four day outdoor adventure style camp that offers a range of experiences and activities for the children to enjoy. These types of camps are wonderful as they offer opportunities that are not possible in a normal school setting, as well as building the children’s independence and social skills.

I am travelling down to the camp on Tuesday afternoon to stay overnight and for Wednesday’s activities so will include some stories in next week’s Contact.

**Internet Safety for Your Children**

I would like to draw your attention to the ‘Cybersmart – Parents Guide to Online Safety’ booklet that children in Yrs 3-6 will bring home this week. This booklet is produced by the Australian Communications and Media Authority and provides simple explanations and tips for parents around some of the key cyber safety issues for children. Whilst teachers deliver the cyber safety message at school, it is critical that parents are informed and proactive in their monitoring and education at home as well. This is an important area for us to work in partnership.

Please take the time to read this excellent little publication and follow the links if you need more information.

Thanks to teacher Andrew Russell for arranging this resource. He can also be contacted for further advice or assistance.

See you around the school,

Andrew Crossett
Principal

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**PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS**

Friday 20th March is the Family Welcome event running from 6.00 – 8.00 p.m. The PFA are very excited to host this event as it is a perfect way to meet new families, sit back and relax with a sausage sizzle and drinks or BYO. We are very lucky this year as we will be entertained by a band with former Essex Heights students, DYNAMIC previously known as UNIT TWO. Hopefully the weather will be kind!!! HELP is required in cooking the BBQ and serving. Please email the PFA at ehpspfa@gmail.com if you are able to help.

It’s that time of year again when leading up to Easter, the PFA will be selling YUMMY hot cross buns as a fundraiser. Watch out for Notices coming home soon.

The annual general meeting for the PFA will be on the 18th March at 7:30pm in the staffroom, I welcome you to come and see how much fun it is to be a part of the PFA and to hear your ideas.

Enjoy your long weekend

Betty Ciorciari

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**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

School Photographs will be taken on the 20th and 26th March, and envelopes for class and / or Family photos have been sent home today. It is requested that you make payment online and details for this will be sent home shortly. Special group photos will also be taken on these days and all the photos are a great memento of their time at Primary School.

Please return the envelopes to school prior to the 20th March. A class timetable for the taking of the photos will be prepared soon.
Our Classroom
Thank-you to all the families who have bought/donated some beautiful items to the Indonesian room. Every little addition adds to the beautiful learning space for the children. In addition to these, the students have completed an impressive display about their collective learning of Indonesian.

Thank-you to Kiska A. (Yr 4) & family for these fans and dolls following their recent trip to Indonesia.

Thank-you to Akira and Zian A. (Yr 1) & family for our new book and wayang golek (wooden puppet)

Thank-you to Kiska A. (Yr 4) & family for these fans and dolls following their recent trip to Indonesia.

Thank-you to Akira and Zian A. (Yr 1) & family for our new book and wayang golek (wooden puppet)

We love learning Indonesian together!

Whole school display

Tanggal Penting: Important Dates/Events

**February 28th – March 25th**
*From Lontar to Canvas – Traditional and Contemporary Indonesian Art Exhibition*
The Highway Gallery
14 The Highway, Mt Waverley (Free Entry)

**Sunday April 19th**
*Indonesia Street Festival*
Queen Victoria Market
513 Elizabeth St
Melbourne,
Details: www.visitvictoria.com/regions/Melbourne/Events/Multicultural/Indonesia-Street-Festival

**Friday May 8th**
*Sayembara Lisan – Statewide Indonesian Language Competition (open to all children in Years Prep-6) – details to follow*

*Please look out in next week’s newsletter for information regarding our parent Indonesian language lessons which will commence in term 2.*

Terima kasih
Alex ‘Bu’ Douros
Splash of Colour

Prep-6 Dance Concert

Tuesday May 19th and Wednesday May 20th

A request for help please

We are looking for a parent volunteer and/or small committee who would be available to assist with the purchasing of some materials (including cutting) and the possibility of some light sewing. If you would be available to assist please leave your name and contact details at the office by no later than Thursday March 12th.

Thank-you
Alex Douros 😊
(on behalf of Georgia Lombard – Dance Teacher)

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 (in the Stadium).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>6th March</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday – Students do not attend school</td>
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<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>11.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Public Holiday – Students do not attend school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>10.15 a.m.</td>
<td>Jacinta Savage, Deanne McKay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>13th March</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Katy Smith, Xiave Yu,</td>
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REMINDER

Thursday 5th March and Friday 6th March are Pupil Free Days and students do not attend school on these days. Contact Before & After School Care Program to enquire about vacancies.

Also Monday 9th March is a Public Holiday and the school is not open on this day. Students return to school on Tuesday 10th March.
YEAR 3 GUINEA PIGS
Great excitement Cutiepie and Snuggles have had 3 babies!

Guinea pigs
Guinea pig, also called the cavy is a species of rodent animals. Despite their name, these animals are not in the pig family and not from Guinea. The lifespan for a guinea pig is about 4-5 years on average. There are more than ten breeds of guinea pigs around the world.

My favourite breeds are American, American crested, Teddy and Dutch. We have 9 guinea pigs in our school. Cutiepie and Snuggles are the Grade 3 guinea pigs. Cutiepie had her babies on 19/2/15. The babies were so cute and adorable. There are 2 black and creamy ones and 1 black one.

Baby guinea pigs like to eat: carrot, celery, strawberries, parsley and more. Remember, adult guinea pigs eat the same food too. Baby guinea pigs like it more when people are quiet, so please don’t yell.

Did you know a female guinea pig is called a sow and a male is called a boar. In the olden days, scientists discovered that there was a giant guinea pig and it was enormous. It weighed 700 kilograms! Scientists nicknamed it Guinea-zilla!!

If you are taking the guinea pigs home on the weekend, please give them lots of love and care. Thank you for respecting the guinea pigs.

By Harpita 3AW

GUINEA PIGS!
Do you know about the guinea pigs? They had babies! They had three beautiful, cute, ADORABLE babies! Some of them are bigger, some are fluffier but all of them are so ADORABLE!

Thank you for reading my information about the guinea pigs.

By Ariana 3AW
# ESSEX HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Calendar

### MARCH 2015

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2ND</td>
<td>3RD</td>
<td>4TH</td>
<td>5TH PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
<td>6TH PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<td>Parent Teacher Discussions</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Discussions</td>
<td>Book covering in Violet</td>
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<td>9TH</td>
<td>10TH</td>
<td>11TH</td>
<td>12TH Year 6 Camp</td>
<td>13TH Year 6 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
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<td>16TH</td>
<td>17TH</td>
<td>18TH PFA - AGM</td>
<td>19TH School Council - New</td>
<td>20TH School Photo Day PFA Welcome Event</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23RD</td>
<td>24TH</td>
<td>25TH School Photo Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25TH</td>
<td>26TH</td>
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<td>Grandparents &amp; Special Friends Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>27TH</td>
<td>28TH</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1 finishes 2.30 p.m.</td>
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### APRIL 2015

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13TH Term 2 begins</td>
<td>14TH</td>
<td>15TH</td>
<td>16TH</td>
<td>17TH</td>
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<td>20TH</td>
<td>21ST</td>
<td>22ND Year 6 Camp</td>
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### MAY 2015

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>7th PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>9th</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>13th Year 6 Camp</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>19th Dance Concert A-L</td>
<td>20th Dance Concert M-Z</td>
<td>21st</td>
<td>22nd</td>
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Ashwood Wolves Basketball Club Needs YOU!

We are looking to bolster our U10 girls and U12 boys teams (ages as at 31/12/2014) for the upcoming Winter 2015 season, commencing Term 2. Players of all abilities welcome 😊

For further information:

U10 Girls - Julie Caune, 0433 310 634, caune@bigpond.com
U12 Boys – Sharyn Francis, 0438 524 147, ccsftran@bigpond.net.au

St Luke’s Twilight FIESTA
Saturday 14th March 2015
3pm 'til 8pm.
94-96 ESSEX RD, MT WAPERLEY
Market Stalls Live Music
Jumping Castle White Elephant
Gourmet Food Animal Farm
Plants Books

Kinder Open Day
Sat 21st March
10am-12pm
Positions available in our funded 4yo program

Ashwood Children’s Centre
8 Yooralla St, Ashwood

Weaving a moody interpretation of Indonesian Batik

Museum of Indonesian Arts

FROM LONTAR TO CANVAS -

Painting the World

The exhibition is to be opened by the Hon. David Vornanen, who appointed current General of the Republic of Indonesia for Victoria and Tasmania.

Course performed by the talented girls from the Ashwood 4yo colour group.

Light refreshments, by Dama's.

"Lontar" - traditional batik art techniques of Indonesia. Featuring many regional "Lontar" artists from Munduruk, East Indonesia.

Over 20 artists working to create a unique exhibition of Indonesian Batik, on loan from Indonesia.

School groups and special interest groups most welcome - please contact Casino 9250 5060

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
1936-2015

A Very Special Occasion
Saturday 14 March 2015, 2.30 pm

A unique opportunity to hear Bobby Maksimow, recently retired Senior Curator of Asian Art at the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Maksimow will offer an analysis of selected pieces of traditional garments from India and Indonesia.

All welcome – an event not to be missed!
SOUTH OAKLEIGH COLLEGE
Accelerated Program

At South Oakleigh College we are committed to providing a learning environment where students can excel. We recognise that students have individual needs in order to achieve both academically and socially. Individual learning programs are designed to meet the needs of all our students.

Important Dates for Year 6 Students

Open Night and Information Night for the Accelerated Program:
School Theatre at South Oakleigh College
Wednesday 22 April, 2015
7:00 pm

Final date to submit the Accelerated Program application:
Wednesday 29 April, 2015

Selection Test:
Saturday 2 May, 2015
9 am - 12 noon

Scholarship Closing Date:
Friday 29 May, 2015

SOUTH OAKLEIGH COLLEGE
OPEN NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL 2015 AT 7PM

Our opportunities for students include:

- Accelerated classes from Years 7-12
- Science Enrichment Programs including:
  International Physics Master Class,
  ‘Scientist in Residence Program’, access
to the University of Melbourne and
Monash University SEAMS program
- Weekly Homework Club
- Writer in Residence - author of
  ‘Chasing the Valley’
- SOC TV Studio Fortnightly Broadcast Panel
- Vibrant Performing Arts program:
  Instrumental Music options, Ensembles,
  Production, Talent Night, Theatre Nights
- Small class sizes for support in Literacy
  and Numeracy
- Wide range of extra curricular
  activities including Sport, Debating
  and Peer Support.