## CALENDAR DATES

| Term 1, 2015 | 10th – 13th March | Year 6 Camp – Forest Lodge |
| | 13th March | Walk, Ride or Skate 2 School Day |
| | 18th March | PFA Annual General Meeting – 7.30 p.m. |
| | 19th March | New School Council – 1st meeting |
| | 20th & 26th March | School Photo Days |
| | 20th March | PFA Welcome Event – 6.00 – 8.00 p.m. |
| | 23rd March | Easter Raffle Drawn at Assembly |
| | 27th March | Grandparents & Special Friends Day |
| | 27th March | Hot Cross Buns distribution |
| | 27th March | Last day Term 1 – 2.30 p.m. finish |
| Term 2, 2015 | 13th April | Term 2 commences |
| | 29th, 30th April – 1 May | Year 5 Sovereign Hill Camp |
| | 15th May | Indonesian Classes for Parents start (3.00- 3.30 p.m.) |
| | 19th May | Dance Concert – Ashburton Primary School Hall – Students A - L group |
| | 20th May | Dance Concert – Ashburton Primary School Hall – Students M – Z group |
| | 3rd June | I.C.A.S. – Science |
| | 3rd June | Melbourne Symphony Orchestra – Year 4 |
| | 4th June | Melbourne Symphony Orchestra – Year 2 |
| | 5th June | PUPIL FREE DAY – Students do not attend school |
| | 26th June | Last day Term 2 – 2.30 p.m. finish |
| Term 3, 2015 | 13th July | Term 3 commences |
| | 18th September | Last day Term 3 – 2.30 p.m. finish |
| Term 4, 2015 | 5th October | Term 4 commences |
| | 18th December | Last day Term 4 – 1.30 p.m. finish |

## PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

**Year 6 Camp – Forest Lodge**

As mentioned in last week’s Contact, on Tuesday of this week the Yr 6 children and teachers travelled to Forest Lodge Farm in South Gippsland for their four day camp. I travelled to the camp on Tuesday afternoon and remained for Wednesday, joining in the activities with the children.

I particularly enjoyed:

- Helping with the archery where after some practice shots, the children were able to hit the balloons fairly regularly.
- Assisting the children to get their harness on for the ‘Giant Swing’. However, at the end I was ‘pressured’ into having a go myself! Conquering my fear of heights, and with a large and enthusiastic audience to urge me on, I managed to complete the journey (with only a little screaming 😊)
• Joining in cooking delicious damper over the open fire

• Canoeing, where the main aim seemed to be to splash the Principal!

• The lovely food that someone else prepares and serves to you. A good system!!

I also really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know the children outside of the school context and to mix with them in a more casual environment.

My thanks to Anita Dix for all her work in organization of the Camp and to the Yr 6 Teachers Renae Simpson, Kelvin Tang for their assistance and leadership. Also joining them are Ina Kuehlich, Glynn Campbell, Tanya Dolence and Leanne Hare.

**Class Visit 1W**

Last week on Wednesday I spent an hour with the children in 1W. I thoroughly enjoyed my time supporting the learning during their Literacy session. The children had just returned from an hour in the Art Room, so we began with some ‘circle time’ activities and games before the children were instructed about their Reading Group tasks.

As is typical in these sessions, the teachers have the children working in 3-4 groups with the learning tasks selected to suit the needs of each group. I joined a group reading the book “The Pencil”. The children enjoyed predicting and reading the text, taking turns around the circle and discussing various events that took place. We then played some games reinforcing the language patterns modelled in the text before the children attempted, themselves, to make up their own version of the story. With four adults in the room, including teacher Carolyn Wilson, Caitlyn (pre-service training teacher), a parent volunteer and myself, there was terrific input for all the groups.

Thanks to Carolyn for her great work in building the literacy skills of these Yr 1 children, and for her leadership across the Level as the Yr 1/2 Coordinator.

**PFA Welcome Picnic**

A reminder to families about the PFA Welcome Picnic coming up on the 20th. The PFA would love to see as many families as possible join in for a pleasant evening in the school courtyard, especially new families to the school.

There will be live music provided by a band comprising some past Essex Heights students as well as a sausage sizzle for those who would like the night off from cooking.

Look forward to seeing you there!
10 Ways to Promote Good Mental Health & Wellbeing in Kids
We subscribe to a parenting resource provided through ‘Parenting Ideas’ by Michael Grose. From time to time through Contact I will include resources that may be of interest to families.

I found this list recently and include it a good guide or checklist for families.

10 Ways to Promote Good Mental Health & Wellbeing in Kids
1. Model good mental health
2. Make sure they get enough sleep
3. Encourage kids to exercise
4. Give them creative outlets
5. Provide a space of their own
6. Talk about their troubles
7. Help them to relax
8. Have two routines – weekday & weekend
9. Foster volunteering and helpfulness
10. Bring fun and playfulness into their lives

See you around the school,
Andrew
Principal

PARENTS & FRIENDS ‘NEWS’
It’s raining ‘Easter’. Notices have gone home for yummy HOT CROSS BUNS, EASTER RAFFLE. What a better way to enjoy the best treats and raise money for your school. Please return your forms and money by the due dates.

Our Family Welcome Event will be on Friday 20th March, come and enjoy a night of fun, with live music, sausage sizzle, and hopefully great weather.

A reminder on Tuesday afternoons at 2:30 in the stadium parents are welcomed to come and bring their crafting skills for some card making for our carnival in November. Please feel free to bring new ideas and scissors.

March 18th is the Annual General Meeting for the PFA, we encourage you to come and see for yourself what the PFA is about. We also welcome new ideas.

Enjoy your weekend
Betty Ciorciari

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE (B.A.S.C.)
The Holiday Program is now out and can be collected from B.A.S.C. in the Hall.

Paul Davis
RIDE 2SCHOOL DAY 2015

This Friday, March 13th is Walk, Ride or Skate to School Day and we encourage all students to do this on the day and every other day that is possible.

Please remember to wear a helmet and walk your bike or scooter once in the school grounds.

The Junior School Council will come around with stickers after 9.00 a.m.

The Junior School Council

FROM THE HEALTH CENTRE

Just a reminder that all medication administered at school should be dispensed through the Health centre so that it is entered on the Student Medication Dispensing Log. Class teachers should not be asked to dispense medication. Parents can download an Authority to sign for this from the school website or we have copies at the Health Centre or at the front desk.

Please deliver medication in its original packaging in the morning to Gael or Jan at the front desk with a signed Medication Authority Form to dispense, name of medication, frequency and dose. If it is just a short term medication, i.e. an Antibiotic, it is acceptable for the parent to sign without the Doctor’s signature, but if it is ongoing, please have a Doctor sign the Authority as well.

The exception of this is Ventolin and cough lollies/throat soothers.

Thank-you, Julie Zuk
First Aid Officer

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Arthur Reid Photographers will be coming to our school on Friday March 20th and Thursday March 26th to take individual and class photos. Unfortunately, whilst this is split over two weeks, it is beyond our control. We will let classes know which day their photo will be taken on.

By now each child should have received a named envelope with details of the photo selections available. After deciding what photo selection you would like, the envelope must be returned on or before the photo day.

It is strongly recommended to make payment online: it offers security for you and accountability for the company.

If paying by cheque or cash, payment must be included in the envelope. Special photos such as family or school groups (e.g. Choir) require a separate envelope. If you need another, there are envelopes available at the office. On the day of the photo shoot your child will receive a slip with your individual key code on it.

School photos are an important opportunity to capture memories for you and your child to look back on for years to come. Even a class photo speaks volumes, showing friends at school and teachers.

Berita Bahasa Indonesia!

Sayembara Lisan: State-wide annual Indonesian Oral Competition

The Sayembara Lisan is an annual state-wide Indonesian Oral Competition for students in Prep-Year 11.

It is a wonderful opportunity for students to use their language in an environment other than the classroom and of course to have fun!

Students receive all competition questions and material which they are required to learn prior to the day. Practices are in Indonesian class time. However, children are also encouraged to practise at home.
Please note families are required to make private travel arrangements to the venue on the day.

Date: Friday May 8th (during school hours)

Students who wish to participate in the competition will bring home a notice with further details during the week beginning March 16th.

We look forward to the students’ involvement. Last year we had 1st place state winners in Years 5&6 and it is exciting to now offer it to students in other year levels.

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). I visited the exhibition over the weekend which was a lovely mix of traditional and modern work.

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)

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 Friday March 13th.

Thank-you
Alex Douros 😊
(on behalf of Georgia Lombard – Dance Teacher)
INDONESIAN (BEGINNER) CLASSES FOR PARENTS

Classes for parents (grandparents/special friends) will be on offer again during Term 2 (Fridays 3.00-3.30 pm) beginning Friday May 15th for 4 weeks.

If you are interested, please return the Slip in this Newsletter to the office by Friday April 24th (2nd week of Term 2). These sessions will include some introductory language to assist parents in communicating with their very clever kids! Intermediate classes will also be on offer for any interested parents.

1. CANTEEN

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).

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<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>13th March</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Katy Smith, Xiave Yu</td>
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<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>16th March</td>
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<td>Sharon Leong, Stefanie Wendler-Canning</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>18th March</td>
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<td>Gayanthri Samaraweera, Ting Lu</td>
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Indonesian Language Classes Term 2

Name: ____________________  Parent/friend/relative of (student) ____________

Class: ____________

Yes! I wish to participate in the Indonesian Language classes.

I would be interested in ....... (please specify)

☐ Beginners lessons  ☐ Intermediate lessons

Signature: ____________________
### MARCH 2015

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Kinder Open Day

Sat 21st March
10am-12pm

Positions available in our funded 4yo program

Surprise entertainment for children

Ashwood Children’s Centre
8 Yooralla St, Ashwood

St Luke's Twilight FIESTA

Saturday
14th March 2015
3pm 'til 8pm.

94-96 ESSEX RD,
MT WAVERLEY

Market Stalls
Jumping Castle
Gourmet Food
Plants

Live Music
White Elephant
Animal Farm
Books

ASHBURTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRAND FAIR

Visit the Ashburton Primary School Grand Fair on Sunday 22nd March 10am - 4pm

A great Family day out - with over 20 stalls, fun rides and lots of activities.

A huge 2nd hand goods stall with toys, clothing, books and lots more.

Check out our fantastic Silent Auction, great food and drinks, music,
free entertainment and lots of other activities to keep the children entertained!

UNLIMITED ride wristbands (includes souvenir photo) can be purchased through

Contact 9885 3559 or
www.ashburtonps.vic.edu.au/grand-fair

Hi, I’m Bruce!
Come and meet me on
Sunday 22nd March 2015
between 10am - 4pm

PRODUCTS & SERVICES ADVERTISED IN ‘CONTACT’ ARE PLACED ON A PAID BASIS AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY BEING PROMOTED BY ESSEX HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL