ACTING PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Andrew Crossett

This week we have received some sad news in regard to Andrew. He has posted a letter to the school community on Compass under the ‘My News’ section. As you will see, Andrew has asked for you to share this news with your children.

People respond to situations such as this in different ways. As a parent if your child has been affected by this news you can support them by allowing them to talk and encouraging them to maintain contact with their friends. Your child may be emotional and uncertain about how to deal with the news.

It is important to maintain as many routines as possible with particular attention to healthy eating, sleeping and exercise. If you have any concerns about your children please do not hesitate to contact me, Carolyn Wilson or Alex Douros through the office. We will have some counsellors at the school tomorrow and early next week. Support is also available through community agencies such as Monash Link and helplines such as Parent Line and Kids Help Line.

CALENDAR DATES

Term 4 2016
Thurs 8th December  New Students Yrs 1 – 6 Orientation 9.15am
Thurs 8th December  Grounds Committee 4.30pm
Fri 9th December  Prep to Yr 2 Mini Olympics Carnival 11.30am – 1.30pm
Thurs 15th December  Parent Helpers Morning Tea 11am – Hall
Fri 16th December  Year 6 Graduation Lunch 12.30pm
Fri 16th December  Year 6 Graduation Ceremony 7pm
Mon 19th December  Farewell Family Picnic 6pm – 8pm
Tue 20th December  Last day of Term 4 – early dismissal at 1.30pm

Term 1 2017
Mon 30th January  Term 1 commences – State-wide student free day – NO STUDENTS
Tues 31st January  EHPS Curriculum Day – NO STUDENTS
Wed 1st February  Years 1 to 6 school start
Thurs 2nd February  Prep school start
School Staffing 2017

I would like to draw your attention to the staffing list for 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher/s</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Natalie Zaibak (0.8) – Coordinator Verity Bright (0.2)</td>
<td>E1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Melanie Boyle</td>
<td>E2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Shona Misso</td>
<td>E5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Kristi Lloyd</td>
<td>E6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Alex Douros – Coordinator</td>
<td>E4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Victoria Gilbert-Moressi</td>
<td>E3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Courtnee Johnston</td>
<td>E7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Con Papanicolaou</td>
<td>V5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Kirsten Lightfoot (0.8) – Team Leader Verity Bright (0.2)</td>
<td>V1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Nikki Olsen</td>
<td>V7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Nicole Morton</td>
<td>V2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Lauren Davies</td>
<td>V6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Jean Elliott (0.6) – Anita Dix (0.4) – Team Leader</td>
<td>B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Chris Cavill</td>
<td>V4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Glynn Campbell</td>
<td>V3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Andrew Russell</td>
<td>P1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Maria Capsalis (0.8) – Coordinator Annegret Talman (0.2)</td>
<td>P2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Alexandra O’Connor</td>
<td>P3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Brianna Golsworth</td>
<td>P4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Janet McGinn – Coordinator</td>
<td>B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Maria Savva</td>
<td>B2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Marita Steward</td>
<td>B6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Lauren Braithwaite</td>
<td>B3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Kelvin Tang</td>
<td>B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Carolyn Wilson</td>
<td>Art Rm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phys Ed</td>
<td>Ben Wooster</td>
<td>Stadium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Tanya Dolence</td>
<td>Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language-Indonesian</td>
<td>Sarah Trebilcock</td>
<td>Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSD</td>
<td>Kathy Halliday (0.8) PSD Room</td>
<td>Support Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lit Support/ESL</td>
<td>Lena Papadatos (0.4)</td>
<td>Support Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lit Support/ESL/Art</td>
<td>Anne Wootton (0.6)</td>
<td>Support Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lit Support/ESL</td>
<td>Helen Broderick (0.4)</td>
<td>Support Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lit Support/ESL</td>
<td>Annegret Talman (0.2)</td>
<td>Support Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teach and Learn Coach</td>
<td>Linda Fisher (0.4)</td>
<td>Violet Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Ina Kuehlich</td>
<td>AP Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Joan Scott (0.8)</td>
<td>AP Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

You will note that Lisa Altin is not on the list. We congratulate Lisa on her appointment to Keilor Primary School, which will make her morning commute much easier! Jenny Austin and Margaret Fitzpatrick will be taking leave for 2017, and Felicity O’Flynn will be on maternity leave. Thanks to Lisa Poulter, who has worked this term in the Art Room, providing wonderful artistic opportunities for our students.
Retirement

After many years at Essex Heights, Sonja Ludvik is looking forward to her retirement. We wish her all the best and thank her for her contribution to the school and to the education and wellbeing of many students who have been in her classrooms.
We are very pleased to welcome to our staff team Shona Misso, Victoria Gilbert-Moressi, Courtnee Johnston, Lauren Davies and Jean Elliott. We also welcome back Anita Dix.

School Events

Yesterday the 2017 Prep group attended for their Orientation Day, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Year 5 students were a great support to the Prep teachers and were also excellent welcomees!

Today we welcomed students who will be starting at EHPS in 2017 in Years 1 to 6 for their orientation. It was great to see happy faces at the end of the day.

Tanya Dolence, Alyssa Kennedy and Carolyn Wilson accompanied our talented musicians to Elizabeth Gardens, where they performed for a delighted audience.

Our Prep to Year 2 children are looking forward to the Mini Olympics tomorrow – thanks to Ben Wooster for all the organisation that has gone into this much awaited event.

Contact distribution

We are aware that you have been receiving many notifications when Contact is published, and apologise for any inconvenience. The issue is being investigated and will hopefully be resolved soon.

Regards,
Joan Scott
Acting Principal

MUSIC NEWS

The Victorian State Schools Spectacular is an annual event and includes a cast of 3000 Victorian government school students, working towards a common goal in a collaborative, competition-free environment. Its dual aim is to provide an invaluable performing arts opportunity to students and to showcase the enormous talent that exists in our schools. This all comes together in a three hour show that celebrates a diversity of performance mediums, including choir, dance, vocal, drama, and orchestra.

The 2016 VSS Spectacular was performed on Saturday 10th September at Hisense Arena. Lynn N and Daniel (son of Mrs Yeaman from the front office) performed as members of the Victorian State Schools Choir, and current students Jeremy C (percussion), Felicia L (violin) and Seneth K (violin) performed in the orchestra. Former EHPS students also performed – Mitch H (saxophone in orchestra), Jeremy L (violin in orchestra), India M (principal vocalist) and Nicky H (Victorian State Schools Choir).
If you missed the highlights broadcast of this year’s Spectacular last Saturday night, it is available for the next 20 days on Plus7 catchup at https://au.tv.yahoo.com/plus7/victorian-schools-spectacular/

Auditions for the 2017 Spectacular are now open. Felicia L from Year 6 has recently participated in a Herald Sun photo shoot promoting next year’s Spectacular with musicians who have already signed up. Go to http://www.cvent.com/events/-vsss17/event-summary-e1a5ebf9b81c4a03b8fca2ebfcf6cd4f.aspx for audition information.

2017 Music: Count Us In National Songwriting Competition

The 2017 National Songwriting Competition will open soon. Students will have the opportunity to enter the competition and win the chance to help write the 2017 Program Song. We are looking for entries that celebrate music in the lives of young people - with melodies and lyrics that appeal to Australian students. Encourage your children to start thinking about their entries, now.

FROM THE HEALTH CENTRE

It is a busy time of year for all but could I please remind you that if your child is unwell in the morning or overnight, please do not send them to school so as to allow time for your child to recover and prevent spread to the wider school community.

Thank you,
Julie Zuk
First Aid Officer

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

SUMMER WATERING – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Hello families,
As the hot summer holidays are fast approaching, we are looking for volunteer families to help water our school’s lovely gardens over the break. The commitment would be an hour or so, two to three times over one week only. This means we need five or six families – each taking one week of the holidays. Hoses and water tanks supplied! Let us know your availability for the dates below by contacting kristen.m.steer@gmail.com, first in best dressed!

Week commencing:
25th December
1st January
8th January
15th January
24th January

Many thanks,
Kristen Steer & the EHPS Grounds Committee
JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The JSC are asking students to donate their 2016 pencils, textas and pencil cases to the students in Timor Leste. If parents are happy for their child to leave their items at school, they can let their teacher know. The Junior School Councillors will collect these items in the last week of school.

Also a reminder for any donations of safety goggles, gloves and power tools for the community of Same in Timor Leste. The blue tub is in Mrs Scott’s office where donations can be placed.

Thank you,
The Junior School Council

SCHOOL BANKING

- The last day for School Banking this year will be Monday 19th December
- Next year, School Banking will move to Tuesday, with the first banking day being Tuesday 7th February 2017
- Our school has so far received a commission of $2,480 (from January to September)
- Prizes – the last order was placed on 5th December and will be delivered before the end of the year

Joining School Banking

There are a number of ways you can participate in School Banking:

- If you already have a Youthsaver/ Dollarmite account, bring it along every Tuesday in 2017
- Existing CBA customers can go online via Netbank and open an account
- New customers can visit any CBA branch (Hamilton Place, Mt Waverley, is the nearest branch)

Alternatively you can register your interest at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. You will receive a prompt early next year with all the information you need to open your account.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you and Merry Christmas to all the bankers, parents, teachers who supported the banking program in many ways, and most of all, the volunteers who have given their time every Monday to make the program possible. We look forward to another exciting year in 2017.

Stef and the Banking Team
BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Dear Parents,

Please ensure that accounts are brought up to date. All accounts will need to be cleared **by this Friday, 9th December 2016**, at the latest.

The program will be updating family enrolment forms. If you have been enrolled in the program for two years you will be required to complete a new enrolment form with your current information. This is vital for the program to operate efficiently and effectively.

Enrol now for the **January Vacation Care Program** which will operate from the 16th January 2017 until children resume school for 2017. All enrolment forms need to be delivered to Paul Davis **during program hours**. We cannot accept enrolments over the phone and please do not leave forms at the front office. Please ensure that you enrol early as spaces are limited.

Thank You,
Paul Davis
(Phone 9807 2615 or 0417 941 986)

FROM THE SUSTAINABILITY TEAM

*It’s the growing season and that means weeds!!*

The vegie patch needs ongoing weeding and general maintenance, so if you have a green thumb or can lend a hand watering, please contact Caroline Thomas on 0411 453 945.

**Donations** of clean 1L and 2L ice cream (or similar sized yoghurt) containers are still appreciated. Please place containers in the purple tub located in V5.

Regards,
Marita Steward and the Sustainability Captains
Hi all,

Remember to put the Farewell Family Picnic for Mr Crossett on Monday 19th December (6pm–8pm) into your diary (your child should have brought home a notice by now). The picnic will go ahead as long as Andrew’s health allows him to attend (please see the communication on Compass earlier today). We are all hoping for a relaxing couple of hours on the Heights with him.

Last week, School Council approved the spending of PFA funds on the following items:
- $25,000 on upgrading playground areas
- $3,000 for Prep/1/2 headphones
- $3,000 for air-conditioning in the Art Room
- $1,000 for an electronic scoreboard for the Stadium
- $1,500 for Year 2 big books
- $3,000 for classroom sports equipment
- $1,000 for softball pants

Thanks and well done to all those who helped with fundraising this year. It is so rewarding to see our efforts benefiting the kids.

Hope to see you at the Parent Helpers’ Morning Tea next week.

Have a good week,

Andrea J
EHPS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prep 2017 Orientation Day 9.30am</td>
<td>Incoming Yrs 1-6 Orientation 9.15am Grounds Committee 4.30pm</td>
<td>Prep-Yr 2 Mini Olympics Carnival 11.30am</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parent Helpers Morning Tea 11am</td>
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<td>Yr 6 Graduation Lunch 12.30pm Yr 6 Graduation Ceremony 7pm</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farewell Family Picnic 6pm</td>
<td>End of Term 4 – 1.30pm dismissal</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>CHRISTMAS DAY</td>
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2017 School Year

Term 1: Monday 30th January to Friday 31st March
  Teachers & Staff commence/State wide student free day –
  NO STUDENTS: Monday 30th January
  EHPS Curriculum Day – NO STUDENTS: Tuesday 31st January
  Years 1 to 6 Students start: Wednesday 1st February
  Prep Students start: Thursday 2nd February (staggered start, finishing at 1pm)

Term 2: Tuesday 18th April to Friday 30th June

Term 3: Monday 17th July to Friday 22nd September

Term 4: Monday 9th October to Friday 22nd December
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Products & services advertised in Contact are placed on a paid basis and are not necessarily being promoted by Essex Heights Primary School.

Joey Scouts - Prep Students

Joey Scouts is the youngest section of the Scouting Movement, targeting girls and boys aged 6 to 7.

Local groups currently have some vacancies for Prep students interested in trying Scouting. Contact one of the leaders below now to arrange a three week trial:

2nd West Waverley Joey Scouts
24 Salsbury Rd, Ashwood
Monday 7pm – 8pm
Contact Chris at chrisomesori@gmail.com

1st West Waverley Joey Scouts
(also accepting 5 year olds)
Fairway Ave, Mount Waverley
Tuesday 5:45pm – 6:45pm
Contact Sarah at 1sweswaverleyjoeyn@gmail.com

Waverley Valley Joey Scouts
Valley Reserve, 2 Willis St, Mount Waverley
Wednesday 6pm – 7pm
Contact Jane at ev.groupleader@gmail.com

Adult volunteers also welcome!
Looking for an activity for girls from Prep to Year 2 in 2017?
This is your chance to try something new and cool and Bennettswood Girl Guides wants YOU!

We meet on Saturday morning 10.15am to 11.30am at Bennettswood Guide Hall in Station St (near Highbury Rd). Our older girls meet on Tuesdays from 6pm to 8pm.

Girl Guides provides a non-formal education program that is a dynamic, flexible and values-based training in life skills, decision-making and leadership. It’s a great chance to make some new friends too! Come give it a try!

We would also welcome adults (female) who are interested in working with girls through our Guiding Program. “Empowering girls and young women grow into confident, self respecting, responsible community members”.

For more information, please contact Elizabeth Adnams on 0407 542 680 or email eadnams@baxtercourt.id.au
UNIFORM ITEMS AVAILABLE

- 2 pairs of grey school shorts (size 12)
- a pair of grey long pants
- woollen jumper with school logo
- A pair of black school shoes (size 7 1/2)
- A pair of Nike sneakers (size 7)
- MWSC school bag

All these items are used but are clean and in good condition.

Please contact the EHPS front office if you are interested.