Carnival Success – What an Outstanding Effort Essex Heights!

What an amazing day it was last Saturday! The inaugural ‘Essex Heights Carnival’ was a resounding success by all measures. We enjoyed a day of perfect weather (eventually), there was a great carnival atmosphere, all the children and families had a wonderful time, the wider local community turned up ……. and we raised a significant amount for our school improvement plans. With some further accounting still required, it seems that the money raised will be close to $35,000 which is an outstanding result! Discussions will now take place with staff, at PFA and School Council regarding the priority projects for these funds, and that will be communicated to the community as soon as possible.

An event such as this takes a great deal of effort by many people and I would like to thank and acknowledge:

- The hard working Carnival Committee for their meticulous planning and preparation over the past 12 months – Betty Ciorciari, Nicola Sounas, Martha Kotsifas & Andrea Fyfe. Sonja Mattingley also provided strong assistance to the Committee.

- Our PFA President Andrea Jordan who took the responsibilities for promotion, strongly supported by Carmela Lucas.

- Our supportive School Council, especially Grounds Committee Convenor Darren Mattingley who managed much of the setup and clean-up.

- The sponsors (listed in this Contact and on the front fence) for their financial support, much appreciated.
The Essex Heights Staff for supporting this event in its planning, and their participation on the day. Special mention to the Office Staff who greatly assisted the Committee with admin support in the lead up, and counted all the cash taken on the day ….. a great effort! Special thanks to the brave crew of teachers who submitted themselves to the “Dunking Machine”. It was cold! 😄

Thanks to all the Parent Reps and Stall Coordinators who did such a fantastic job in planning, setting up, staffing and cleaning up the various Stalls. In particular I’d like to commend Sharon Leong, Kathryn Barton and Catriona Corben who spent many, many hours making the goods sold on the ‘Handmade Stall’, which were beautiful.

Thank you to all the families who donated goods, time, bought tickets, food, drinks etc on the day. It seems like nearly every family was there for some part of the day.

Of course ……… thanks to the Essex Heights children for coming along and having fun!! Although, I’m still a little cranky at Patrick (Yr 5) for ‘dunking’ me the first time 😊

We have received very positive comments from past Essex Heights families who visited on the day, and the broader community who all thought it was an outstanding event. Whilst the purpose for the Carnival was primarily fundraising, it also served as an Essex Heights community celebration and I enjoyed seeing so many happy children and families enjoying a fantastic day.

Well done to all at Essex Heights PS!

Indonesian Delegation

Yesterday we were visited by a group of 15 Indonesian Principals and Teachers who are currently in Victoria as guest of the Department of Education and Training (DET). I received a request to host this visit with the following lines; “Essex Heights Primary School has been identified by the regional office as a good school to visit and to showcase, with one of the reasons being your excellent Indonesian language program”. This is a lovely endorsement of what Alex Douros has been able to achieve in just two years and we are proud of this wider recognition. The delegates heard about the features of Essex Heights PS, toured the school and visited the Indonesian classroom. They also had a chance to meet some students and share some of their work. We finished with a performance of our Indonesian Dance group who were amazing again.
These types of opportunities are invaluable for a school, recognising our outstanding programs but also building relationships and inter-cultural understandings. I was so proud of the way the children welcomed and interacted confidently with the visitors. Bagus sekali 😊

Prep 2016 – Parent Information Night

It was great to meet the parents of the 2016 Preps at our Parent Information Night last week. The Prep team for 2016, teaching the four Prep classes, were introduced to the parents and they are; Natalie Zaibak (0.8) Coordinator, grade sharing with Pam Rowler (0.2), Melanie Boyle, Kristi Lloyd and Lisa Carne. You will note that we are welcoming Pam Rowler back to one day teaching in the classroom. We are very pleased to have Pam’s considerable experience again in the classroom and she will continue for another day in our Literacy Intervention Program, supporting children in building those important foundation skills.

During the evening, the Prep Team presented information to parents about what to expect as their children begin their school life here at Essex Heights. Prep is an exciting year and I was particularly pleased to be able to welcome many first time families who are joining our school community.

Oxfam Concert at Box Hill Town Hall

On Wednesday night our Guitar Ensemble and Chamber Choir performed at the Box Hill Town Hall for the annual Oxfam Schools Concert. This was a great opportunity to join other schools in a musical evening and support the charity work of Oxfam. Well done to the children and thanks to our guitar teacher Peter King for his preparation of his students. Thanks also to Tanya Dolence for entering us in this event and her great work with the choirs throughout the year, and to Jessica Chan for accompanying the choir. Thanks also to the parents who supported the evening as members of the audience.
Class Visit 1F

Last week I enjoyed a visit with Margaret Fitzpatrick and the children from 1F during a Literacy session. Initially the children were working in independent groups on a reading activity. Some were using ICT, others with Margaret and some with parent (& grandparent) volunteers. I worked with one of these small groups completing and discussing a reflection on their recently completed book. The children then joined Margaret for a discussion of recent spelling strategies then completed a range of ‘differentiated’ activities. That is, the children were able to choose an appropriate activity based on their understanding of the concepts and words involved.

Thanks to Marg for her great work in developing the literacy skills of these children, and their ability to work independently and self-manage time and tasks. Thanks also for her shared experience and effective contribution to the Yr 1 Team.

Student Leadership – 2016

We are currently carrying out a selection process for the student leadership group for 2016. The Yr 5 children have the opportunity to nominate for a variety of positions, submit a written application and, if shortlisted, present a speech before a selection panel made up of staff and current school leaders. These student leadership positions are highly respected at Essex Heights by staff and students. The leaders are relied upon to set a strong example for all children and to represent our school in a range of official duties. I look forward to announcing the leadership team for 2016 in the coming weeks, and to working with these leaders next year.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea – Thursday, December 10th – 11:00am

The partnership between parents and staff is a very positive aspect of the Essex Heights community. There are so many ways in which parents support their children and our programs through their willingness to give of their time. This includes classroom helpers, excursions, sport teams, choirs and music performances, canteen roster etc. As is traditional, the staff would like the opportunity to say thank you to all the parents who have assisted them throughout the year. Therefore we invite you to join us for morning tea on Thursday, December 10th at 11am in the Hall. Hope to see you all there!

See you around the school,
Andrew
Hi everyone

What a wonderful Carnival. I’m so proud to be a part of this community. We raised an amazing $35,000. Please join us at the final PFA meeting for 2015 on Tuesday at 7:30pm in the staffroom. We’ll put together a plan to spend the Carnival profit and other funds raised this year. (Our proposal then goes to School Council for discussion and approval.) We’ll also have some Christmas drinks and nibbles to celebrate a successful 2015!

Here’s a message for you all …

A huge thank you and congratulations to the parents for the amazing work they did on Saturday for the Carnival. We are so proud and overwhelmed by the help and support that was given.

Thank you to the parent reps for the amazing job they did in coordinating their stalls. We are a fantastic school supported by a fantastic community.

Also a big thank you to all the teachers and office staff for their support and dedication to this event. We could not have done this without you.

Essex Heights has not had a fete in the last 15 or more years and to do this and succeed is a real credit to all of us.

Of course there is always one person who has the last say, Mr Crossett. Thank you for your support and dedication to our school.

Over all, WE DID IT.
Thank you
The Carnival Team

I think we can all give ourselves a restful weekend!

Cheers, Andrea J
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<td>Jenny May, Sonia Mattingley, Rosy Tang, Sheena Devadass</td>
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<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
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**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.*

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**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Dear Parents,

Can you please ensure that your accounts are paid in full immediately? If you require care for the rest of the year can you please pay in advance. Pre-paid care that is not used will be credited to your account.

This week at aftercare we will be making colour cut paper Xmas trees, decorating corrugated Xmas shapes, making white Christmas slice, making and decorating a Snowman and watching The Polar Express.

The programs Christmas Party will be on the 10/12/15 which is the second last Thursday before the end of the year. If you are attending the party can you please leave your name on the sheet in the hall.

On the 3rd of December Before Care will be doing a special Pancake breakfast. It is going to be delicious.

The January Vacation Care Program will be out on the 3/12/15. The movies booked for the Vacation Care may change. This will be due to availability.

Thank you
Paul Davis
## NOVEMBER 2015

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- **2nd**: 3rd PUBLIC HOLIDAY
  - Children do not attend
- **9th**: 10th
- **16th**: 17th
  - Prep 2016 Parent Info Evening
- **23rd**: 24th
  - Prep Farm Excursion

## DECEMBER 2015

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- **1ST**: Year 5 Media Roadshow
- **2ND**: Prep ‘16 Orientation Day
- **3RD**: Prep Farm Excursion
- **4TH**: Elizabeth Gardens Choir Xmas Performance
- **7TH**: Year 6 Graduation
- **14TH**: Year 6 Big Day Out
- **15TH**: LAST DAY TERM 4
  - 11.30 P.M. FINISH
MINKY’S WATER SAFETY FUN DAY
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2015 11.30AM – 3PM
MONASH AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTRE 626 Waverley Rd, Glen Waverley VIC 3150
DJ [INFLATABLES] BODYBOARDING | BOAT RIDES | STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING | SPECIAL SPORITING HERO APPEARANCES | FORMAL PRESENTATIONS | MASCOT & FURY FRIENDS | UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY | FACE PAINTING, BALLOONS & CLOWNS | AQUATIC COMPETITIONS | JUMPING CASTLES | DUNING MACHINES | TRAMPOLINES | GROUP EXERCISE CLASSES | BBQ | AQUATIC ORGANISATIONS | LIFE SAVERS | FOR KIDS TRIATHLON RACES. CPR AND WATER SAFETY PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS. AND FREE SWIMMING LESSONS FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES. PLEASE RESERVE YOUR CHILD’S SPOT ON 9271 3800

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

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

MINKY’S WATER SAFETY FUN DAY
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THE PANCAKE PARLOUR
BUY ONE SHORT STACK (Two buttermilk pancakes with your choice of cream, ice-cream or whipped butter and topped with maple-flavoured syrup) AND RECEIVE A SECOND SHORT STACK FREE.

For restaurant locations www.pancakeparlour.com.au

GLENDAL PRIMARY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO A PARENT FORUM
Are your children Cybersafe?

Would you let your children play on a freeway? Yet, they are on the Cyber Freeway right now! It’s fun, fast and full of unknown hazards. And you thought they were just playing in their bedroom.

Delivered by professional speakers on the topic of Cybersafety and Cyberbullying.

You will be presented with engaging and powerful information in a way that will bring to life possible online dangers and responsibilities which are a part of your child’s digital world.

Strategies of protection will empower you, reducing online risks and developing positive online behaviours. You will be amazed how simple this can be.

WHEN: Thursday Dec 3, 2015
WHERE: Glendale Primary School Main Hall
55 Nottingham Street Glen Waverley, 3150
Time: 7.00 – 9.00pm
Please note: We request that parents do not bring children to this event.

RSVP to reserve a seat:
glendale.p馅@edumail.vic.gov.au

BRETT LEE POUCHER: Head of Child Protection. Kids in the know felt the need to offer a free screening to the parents in the Glendale community. The program is aimed at educating parents on the importance of keeping their children safe online.

OSCAR YILDIZ: Osborne Park, WA. Steve is a passionate advocate for the safety of children online. He is a proud father and believes it is his responsibility to protect our children from the dangers of the online world. Oscar recently conducted a group of roadshow to educate parents and children about cyber safety. His experience touring Italy 2018 has been a real eye-opener for him. Oscar believes that it is our responsibility to equip our children with the knowledge to navigate the digital world safely.

WHERE: Glendale Primary School Main Hall
55 Nottingham Street, Glen Waverley, 3150
Time: 7.00 – 9.00pm

Please note: We request that parents do not bring children to this event.

RSVP to reserve a seat:
glendale.p馅@edumail.vic.gov.au
After School Dance classes will continue to be offered in 2016 for students in Prep to Year 4 at Essex Heights Primary. Classes take place in the Stadium by Georgia Lombard from Creative Dance and Drama. Prep/Year 1 will be on Tuesdays and Year 2-4 will be on Wednesdays. Class begins at 3.40pm and finishes at 4.25pm.

The Term 1, 2016 Dance program commences on the following dates:

Prep/1 6 sessions $60 Tuesday 16th February

Year 2-4 6 sessions $60 Wednesday 17th February

The program provides children with the opportunity to:

- Learn basic warm up routines
- Learn a choreographed dance routine
- Create their own movements
- Perform the dance for a small audience at the end of the term

If you would like your child to participate please obtain a registration form from the school office or visit creativedanceanddrama.com and request an After School Dance form via the contact page.

Georgia Lombard
Creative Dance and Drama
0402 024 891
THE CHRISTIAN SRI TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Warmly Extend An Invitation To
Parents, Family and Friends to their

ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS EVENT

To be held on
Tuesday 8\textsuperscript{th} December 2015
11.30 to 12.10pm

In The School Assembly Hall

Celebrating Christmas
In Song, Drama and Music
Thanks to our Carnival sponsors: