PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

State Schools’ Spectacular 2014
Late last Term, students in Years 5 and 6 performed as part of the Essex Heights contribution to the massed choir in this year’s State Schools’ Spectacular at Hisense Arena.

Highlights of this wonderful event will be broadcast by Channel 7 this coming Sunday, October 19th at 3:00pm. I can highly recommend it as a fine example of the performing arts talent in Victorian Government schools, as well as trying to “spot the Essex Heights kids”

Traffic and Parking Reminders
I would again appeal to parents to support the safety of students by remembering to:

- Obey all parking restriction signs, especially the Drop Off Zone
- Avoid conducting U-Turns in front of the school
- Ensure all children cross at the designated School Crossing only
- Take extra care if you are using the Council Car Park as the volume of traffic and children there requires extra vigilance
- Try and not stop to drop off children in areas that either hold up other parents, or cause children to make dangerous road crossings.

ICAS Maths Results
This week we received the results from the ICAS Maths Competitions. These National competitions saw a number of children test their skills and knowledge in the area of Maths. I would like to congratulate all the children who participated and in particular highlight those listed below for their outstanding achievement in receiving special recognition.

A terrific endorsement once again of the high quality teachers and students we have here at Essex Heights PS. Thanks to Carolyn Walker for her work in facilitating these competitions for the children.
### MATHS RESULTS

#### YEAR 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDIT – top 20%</th>
<th>DISTINCTION – top 10%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kiska A.</td>
<td>Jack F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake A.</td>
<td>TESSICA G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neve A</td>
<td>Benjamin L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy C</td>
<td>Evelyn S</td>
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<td>Daniel C.</td>
<td>Ellen T.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audrey L.</td>
<td>Kathryn X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew P</td>
<td>Frederick Z</td>
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#### YEAR 4

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jarrah B.</td>
<td>Orlando C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela C.</td>
<td>Charlotte P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Syn C</td>
<td>Anjali S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah C</td>
<td>Cathi S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corey M</td>
<td>Sophie X</td>
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<td>Marvin O</td>
<td>Alex Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan T</td>
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<td>Daniel V</td>
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<td>Visith Wijeweera</td>
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#### YEAR 5

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<th>HIGH DISTINCTION– top 1%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andre A.</td>
<td>Rex A</td>
<td>Quynh D.</td>
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<td>Aaliyah M.A.</td>
<td>Jeremy L</td>
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<td>Minji C</td>
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<td>Minseo C</td>
<td>Ling Jin L</td>
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<td>Zoe G</td>
<td>Kieren L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saanya K</td>
<td>Lillian L</td>
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<td>Anna L</td>
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<td>Edwin N</td>
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<td>Leo Y</td>
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<td>Joshua Y</td>
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#### YEAR 6

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<td>Ida K.</td>
<td>Wei Wei C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryan L</td>
<td>Tony C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel L</td>
<td>Phoenix H</td>
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<td>Tej K</td>
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<td>Sean N</td>
<td>Viktoria M</td>
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<td>Veronika P</td>
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<td>Aaron Z</td>
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<td>Rachael Z</td>
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**Student Planning and Placement for 2015 (repeated from last week)**

Teaching staff are now beginning discussions regarding the placement of children in grades for 2015. This is a complex task as there are many factors to take into account to try and get the best mix for all students to learn to their utmost. When developing class lists, teachers ensure that each class has an equitable spread of boys and girls with a range of academic abilities. Student compatibility and behaviour is also taken into account and students are placed with some friends with whom they work well. This process takes many hours of consideration and planning with the main objective being to place students so that their learning potential is maximised.

I would ask that if you have matters that are of interest to the educational wellbeing of your child, please complete the form that is available on the Essex Heights website and return to me by Friday 17th of October. This of course is not a case of parents selecting teachers for their children, but rather an opportunity for me to gain an insight into the matters you see as important to the educational wellbeing of your child, and to consider this carefully in the allocation of students to classes. This information will be handled by me in a confidential manner at all times. Please contact me if you have any further queries in this area.
**Reading for Fun is Important**
In my files I have article from The Age last year which begins;

*Children who read for pleasure are likely to perform significantly better in the classroom than their peers who rarely read, according to a recent report by the University of London’s Institute of Education.*

In the article the journalist, Brooke Lumsden, points out that reading for pleasure not only builds vocabulary and spelling but can also have a positive impact on Maths.

“‘It may seem surprising that reading for pleasure would help to improve children’s maths scores, but it is likely that strong reading ability will enable children to absorb and understand new information and affect their attainment in all subjects,” Dr Sullivan said in the institute’s report.

This research underlines the role good reading habits play in children’s development, and I think this final observation is a reminder of the crucial role parents play in partnership with schools in this.

*Encouragement is crucial, however, particularly for reluctant readers.* Ms Neilson says reading aloud from a variety of authors and genres, and offering children a range of reading materials including magazines and graphic novels, is critical in helping to meet their reading interests.

*She explains that to support children in finding the success and positive self-esteem that reading can set them up for, we need to live what we teach.*

“‘As parents, teachers and the whole community, we have a job to demonstrate to young people that reading has value for them personally. Lectures and speeches about that won’t do it for them, but modelling slow reading of great books and articles will.”

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**Hats – Terms 1 & 4**
Consistent with our SunSmart School Policy we expect our students to wear a hat in Terms 1 & 4 to protect against UV and the sun. This is a reasonable position and I would ask that you assist us in this area. Whilst caps might be popular, they usually give little protection, particularly for the ears.

I would urge you to assist us to protect your children by purchasing an approved Essex Heights Hat from our uniform shop, PSW in Mt Waverley.

See you around the school,

Andrew Crossett

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**PARENTS & FRIENDS ‘NEWS’**
Recently there have been many donations of uniforms so Jen and Raema have organised to hold a 2nd hand uniform stall on the 29th October from 3.00 -3:45p.m. in the stadium foyer (limited new uniforms available).

Help is required so if you are available, please come to the stadium at 2:30 p.m. after signing in at the Office.

As a fundraiser this term, we are conducting a lamington drive. Forms should have come home with your child during the week. Please return any orders with the correct money to your child’s classroom by Monday 20th October.

Feel free to ask your friends and neighbours if they would like to order too. Delivery will be on Friday 24th October. Spare forms are available at the office, or email the PFA for a printed form to emailed to you.

Enjoy your weekend

Betty Ciorciari
The PFA would like to acknowledge and thank Kevin Heinz GROW for their continuing support. They supply us with all the lovely plants for the Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Stalls.

On Saturday 18th October between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm they will be holding their Spring Plant Sale, a major fundraising event, selling and showcasing the fabulous plants and products that their participants produce throughout the year. 39 Wetherby Road, Doncaster. www.kevinheinzegrow.org.au

Enjoy your weekend,
Betty Ciorciari

FROM THE HEALTH CENTRE
Please be aware that Chicken pox is still around. There are a few children over various year levels that we have been notified that are currently away with it.

**Signs and symptoms**
- a mild fever;
- feeling tired and irritable;
- itching;
- rash.

The rash usually first appears on the chest, back or face. It then can move to other areas of the body including inside the mouth. At first, the rash looks like small pimples. These later become blisters full of fluid.

**How is it spread?**
Chickenpox is highly contagious, which means it is very easy to catch. It can be spread by either having direct contact with the person who has chickenpox, from coughed fluids from their chest or by touching the liquid from the blisters. Children with chickenpox are infectious from one to two days before the rash first appears until the last blisters have dried up. Just be on the lookout…..

**Key points to remember**
- Chickenpox is very easy to catch.
- Antibiotics will not cure chickenpox.
- Treatment is usually for the symptoms, such as rash, not the infection.
- The rash usually starts between 10 to 21 days after the first exposure to chickenpox.
- Chickenpox is infectious for one to two days before the rash starts until the last blister has dried.

Please refer to RCH website / Kids Health Info, Chickenpox - Varicella for more information.

Julie Zuk
First Aid Officer

**Berita Bahasa Indonesia!**
It has been wonderful to share my recent visit to Bali with the children over the past couple of weeks. It was a last minute decision to go in the second week of the holidays but one that I’m glad I made! It had been over 10 years since I’d last been and the changes were quite noticeable. The beautiful traditions and customs are still around but interwoven with some very modern surroundings.

I went with an almost empty suitcase and was able to bring back some wonderful new cultural items for our Indonesian room. It has been lovely to see the children’s excitement and interest in our new additions. They are also very excited about our class set of dance/traditional dress sarongs and headpieces to be used (which can be seen in the photo below).

It is also very exciting to hear about the number of families who have been or are planning to go to Indonesia, in particular Bali, throughout this year. What an amazing opportunity for students to put their language learning into practice!
**Bahasa Indonesia – ‘Ikut Kami - Come and Join in’!**

Just a reminder that our ‘open sessions’ are on next week (week beginning October 21st). Parents/grandparents/special friends are invited to join us in the Indonesian Room (stadium) for an Indonesian lesson (primarily a craft making focus) during your child’s scheduled class for that week. Prep sessions will be twenty minutes and Years 1-6 sessions will be forty minutes. Please remember to sign in at the office.

We look forward to you visiting us
Alex ‘Bu’ Douros 😊

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**NATIONAL BANDANA DAY**

Essex Heights are once again taking part in National Bandana Day on Friday 31st October. This day involves us purchasing and wearing bandanas to help raise awareness and to support those young people living with cancer.

Bandanas will be on sale for $4 and pens for $3 in B3 at lunch time from the JSC in the lead up to this. We thank you in advance for your support.

Maria Capsalis, Renae Simpson and the Junior School Council

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**ACMI**

**YEAR 3 SCREEN IT FILMS**

The Year 3's have worked very hard to complete films for the ACMI Screen It competition. These films will be shown at School Assembly on the following dates:

- *Stop! Why are You Doing This?* 3AW Monday 20th October
- *Crazy Hair Day* 3CW Monday 27th October
- *School Days* 3L Monday 10th November
- *Upstander not a Bystander* 17th November

Jenny Austin (3CW)

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**WALKBIKE OR SCOOTER TO SCHOOL**

Thank you to all the students for your brilliant effort during the year in participating so well in active travel to school over the past 12 months.

The ‘Hands Up’ Survey has been important for keeping active travel at the forefront of students’ and parents’ minds. Please remember that October is Walk to School month. We encourage all students to walk, ride or scoot to school and record their results on their class chart.

Thank you to the PFA and the Junior School Council for their support in instigating and running this program.

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**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE (B.A.S.C.)**

Next week we have a big week planned. On Monday and Tuesday we will be making Star Wars puppets, Thursday we will be cooking Italian pasties and don’t forget Active Aftercare on Wednesday and Friday.

Halloween will soon be upon us and we have a big week of events planned culminating in The Aftercare Halloween Party on Thursday the 30/10/14. Please pre book this day to help with catering. Could children attending aftercare please bring a hat as we have officially entered our sun protection season.

Thank you
Paul Davis
MUSIC COUNT US IN
Don’t forget Music Count Us In which will be held on Thursday 30th October. There are more than 500,000 students who will participate nationwide as they unite to sing the same song at the same time, right across Australia.

To find out more about the song go to www.musiccountusin.org.au

Showcase 2014
7.00 pm - 31st October 7.00 p.m.
Robert Blackwood Hall.

Tickets available from TODAY!!!

Please go to the Essex Heights website www.essexheightsps.vic.edu.au or phone the ticketing office at Robert Blackwood Hall on (03) 9905 1111

All students are busily rehearsing for this year’s Showcase, which is fast approaching. Performances on the night will include;

Prep Choir
Year 1 Choir
Year 2 Choir
Year 3 & 4 Choir
Chorale
Chamber Choir
Year 3-6 Choir (all year 3 - 6 students involved)

Combined Strings
Combined Concert Band
Guitar Ensemble
Percussion Ensemble
Ukulele Ensemble
Marimba Ensembles

Please be sure to get your tickets early to guarantee you get the best seats in the house. Grandparents, cousins, neighbours and friends all welcome.
Welcome back to term 4 and how exciting it is to have a competition (please see other newsletter insert) running again. Good luck to all bankers!!!

Commission our school received from the Commonwealth Bank for last term: $510

Commonwealth Bank has also launched a “Search for Australia’s Smart School Savers” competition which runs in addition to the regular banking competition.

Parents can visit www.commbank.com.au/smartschoolsavers<http://www.commbank.com.au/smartschoolsavers> and have their child tell us in 50 words or less what they are saving for and how they plan to achieve it. The competition is open to children aged between 5 to 12 years of age.

There are some great prizes up for grabs - including a national prize of $1,000 and iPads for six regional winners.

**Children who are currently eligible to order a school banking prize:**
Some children have ordered last week and not yet received their prize as the bank takes a week or two to send orders back to us.
Please order soon as the bank takes up to two weeks to deliver!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
<th>Name 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ellie H</td>
<td>Derek L</td>
<td>Gianfranco V</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick Z</td>
<td>Aleks G</td>
<td>Nina G</td>
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<td>Margaret Z</td>
<td>Megan C</td>
<td>Ava H</td>
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<td>Audrey L</td>
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**Available for redemption are:**
- Blue Wallet – 2013 item
- Handball
- Knuckles game – 2013 item
- Projector Cup
- Scented Pencils
- Shark Keyring
- Swimming Bag
- Dollarmites Money Box
- Headphones – 2013 item
- Pat Moneybox – 2013 item
- Pru Moneybox – 2013 item
- Sea Streamers
- Spen Moneybox – 2013 item

Please let us know what you would like and return your silver tokens if we haven’t swapped them for gold already. If we have swapped them please keep your gold tokens and just send in a slip with your order.

Any questions please email Stef on sscanning@gmail.com
Rewarding regular savings with precious prizes.

The Dollarmites have uncovered the ancient Clam of Fortune. Inside they found these amazing prizes that you could win a share of:

- 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
- 150 x Slip ’N Slide Double Wave Riders

Here’s how to win

Every deposit you make with School Banking will automatically create one entry for you into the competition. So the more you save, the more chances you have to win (up to a maximum of 6 entries). Competition runs: 20 October – 30 November 2014.

To find out more, visit commmbank.com.au/deepseasavers

Things to know before you Cash:
**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Visitors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>17th October</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Robyn Perkin, Polly Chiu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20th October</td>
<td>11.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Linda Sincock, Betty Ciorciari</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>22nd October</td>
<td>10.15 a.m.</td>
<td>Lia Anaduta, Jade Ding</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>24th October</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Helen Giakoumatos, Malinda Zhu, Maggie Ni</td>
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15th November, 2015

**An Essex Heights Primary School event**

**Prizes** | **Games** | **Fun!**

**Trivia Night 2014**

Organise a babysitter now and leave the kids at home

- Tickets are $15
- Tables of 8-10 people
- Get a table together, or we can find you some friends
- BYO drinks and nibbles | Tea and coffee provided
- Bring some gold coins with you for other games on the night

**TICKETS ON SALE SOON**
Prep Transition 3

Thursday 13th November, 2014
11.45 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

Literacy – Book your child in for fun with Literacy in the Prep rooms. This session will be run by the Prep Teachers. Bring your child to the School Hall to find out which classroom your child will visit today. Children should bring a named, filled water bottle.

Parent Session – Meet School community representatives, PFA and School Council.

Parent Information Evening - Prep 2015

Tuesday 18th November, 2014
7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.

For parents of children ENROLLED for Essex Heights Primary School who will be commencing Prep in 2015. This will be an opportunity for the 2015 Prep team to inform parents about:

• Start of year procedures
• What your child needs to bring to school
• A typical Prep day.

Child care available.
Please R.S.V.P. by 14th November, 2014

Orientation Day

Thursday 4th December, 2014
9.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Children are to bring playlunch and lunch today as well as a drink and hat. Session will include playtime with Year 5 buddies. Children can be dropped off ready for a 9.30 a.m. start and parents will then collect them at 1.00 p.m. An opportunity for last minute shopping!

Bookings are requested for ALL sessions.

To register your attendance, please ring the school Office on 9807 4944 or email the school essex.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Find out what free Children’s Week activities (18-26 October) are happening across the state at www.education.vic.gov.au/childrensweek#childrensweekvic
### OCTOBER 2014

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<td>Prep 2015 Trans 2</td>
<td>Media roadshow</td>
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<td>Yr 1 – Exc Healesv.</td>
<td>PFA meeting</td>
<td>Maths Talent Quest</td>
<td>Ceremony</td>
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<td>Music Count Us In</td>
<td>National Bandana Day</td>
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### NOVEMBER 2014

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### DECEMBER 2014

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Ashwood Secondary College cordially invites you to join us in celebrating our

Arts Exhibition and Community Opening

Stage 1 of the College Building Futures Program

on

Tuesday 21 October 2014
6.00pm-7.30pm

Collaborative Learning Centre
(enter via the northern car-park)

Student guided tours of all new facilities will be available
For catering purposes we ask that you RSVP to the General Office no later than 4.00pm Wednesday 15 October 2014
Parents Victoria Online Conference
October 2014 & May 2015

First four days: 6am Monday 27 October 2014 to 11pm Thursday 30 October (Australian Eastern Standard time)

Register (for no cost) at: http://www.straighttothepoint.co/pv/register/

PARENTS of primary and secondary students, in all Australian States, Territories and countries, in government, Catholic and independent schools, are warmly invited to take part in the Parents Victoria two-part online conference, which will be held over four days in October 2014 and a further four days during Education Week in May 2015 (there will be no need to re-register for the second section).

No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser (speakers are an advantage but are optional). The online discussions will be very easy to join in; online resources will be provided, and guidelines about how to participate will be available. *You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part. Join in for all of the eight days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments. The conference is open 24/7 and is moderated between 6am to 11pm. Posts outside 6am to 11pm may not appear on the website until the following day.

Topics
The four one-day topics are Homework, Access, Reporting and BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). The ongoing topic of Funding, an additional topic, will run for the entire four days. There will also be an opportunity for participants to raise other issues.

DAY 1: Monday 27 October: Homework - how much and when? Hosted by: Victoria Hall, DEECD & Leanne McCurdy, Parents Victoria

DAY 2: Tuesday 28 October: Access. How and why is it important to you for your child to have access to high quality state school education in your local community? Hosted by Christine Hall, Our Children Our Schools & Elaine Crowle, Parents Victoria

DAY 3: Wednesday 29 October: Reporting. What do you really want to know about your child's progress at school? When and how would you prefer to receive this information? Hosted by Kathryn Patford, DEECD & Nicole Sweeney, Parents Victoria

DAY 4: Thursday 30 October: BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). BYOD is a fast-growing trend in our schools; how is this working for your family? Hosted by Peter Maggs, DEECD & Sharron Healy, Parents Victoria

FOUR-DAY ONGOING TOPIC: 27-30 October inclusive: Funding. What should the government pay for? What, when and how should assistance be provided for disadvantaged students?

How to register
Register and confirm your participation (for no cost) at: http://www.straighttothepoint.co/pv/register/

Once your registration has been saved, you will receive an email when the conference starts (at 6am on Monday 27 October) letting you know the exact website address of the online conference.

Format of the online conference
The first section of the online conference will feature four ‘live’ daily online discussions, each of them hosted, for several hours each day, by a member of Parents Victoria or expert commentators from a number of different associations. Each day will focus on a different topic that is currently of concern to parents. There will also be one continuous online discussion that will last all week.

We look forward to meeting all of you online soon, to discuss these important issues. The more of you join in, the more successful this e-vent will be.

For further details please contact Parents Victoria at office@parentsvictoria.asn.au or visit our website www.parentsvictoria.asn.au
YOUR CHILDREN ARE AMAZING ALREADY. WE JUST HELP THEM PROVE IT.

From Prep to Year 10, NumberWorks’nWords after-school tuition brings out the best in Aussie students by:
- tailoring lessons according to each individual's needs
- setting achievable goals and monitoring their progress
- developing our own programmes using only qualified Maths and English experts

Maths & English
FREE ASSESSMENT
BOOK NOW!

Balwyn 9888 4396
Glen Waverley 9574 9964
numberworksnswords.com

COMING AND PLAY CRICKET!

Ashwood Cricket Club invites boys and girls aged 5 to 14 to come and play cricket.

Three different formats cater for kids of all ages and abilities

T20 Blast is for kids aged 7-10. With small teams, everyone is involved, developing skills, staying fit and having fun.

Milo In2Cricket Starts
Friday October 17th, 5-6pm
Essex Heights Reserve
Outlook Rd Mt. Waverley

In2Cricket is a great, fun introduction to cricket for ages 5 to 8

Traditional hard ball cricket with teams in U10, U12 and U14 levels

Contact: Jim Curnow
0418 608 319
curnowjim@gmail.com

Heroes! and Princesses
Family Fun Festival
Sunday 16th November
Only $5 per family, $3.50 per adult, $1 child

Hosted by the Rotary Clubs of Montmorency

Sponsors:

CRICKET VICTORIA