

CALENDAR

December

Wed 4-Sun 15 ... *Ever Higher* Art Exhibition
 Fri 13 Canteen closes for 2019
 Fri 13 Chamber Choir - Carols in the Village
 Mon 16 Yr 5/6 class party
 Mon 16 Gallery Pack Up
 Tue 17 JSC Christmas Party
 Tue 17 Year 6 Graduation celebration
 Wed 18 Prep Celebration
 Wed 18 Parent Helpers & Volunteers Morning Tea
 Wed 18 Yr 2 Kris Kringle & Picnic
 Thu 19 Yr 6 Big Day Out
 Fri 20 Term 4 ends - 1.30pm dismissal

January 2020

Tue 28 Term 1 commences - student-free day
 Wed 29 EHPS student-free day
 Thu 30 Year 1 to 6 students commence
 Thu 30-Wed 5 ... Prep SEA interviews

February 2020

Mon 3 Swimming Team Trials
 Thu 6 Prep students commence (9am to 1.30pm)

*Students do not attend school on public holidays
or student-free days.*

School Assembly

Monday at 2.40pm in the Stadium.
 Final Assembly at 1.15pm on Friday 20th December.
All welcome.

School Banking - every Tuesday



School Hats - every day in Terms 1 & 4.

2019 Term Dates

Term 4: 7 October to 20 December

2020 Term Dates

Term 1: 28 January* to 27 March

Term 2: 14 April to 26 June

Term 3: 13 July to 18 September

Term 4: 5 October to 18 December

* 28 January is a state wide student free day.

EHPS student-free days: 28 January, 29 January, and 2 further dates to be advised



COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

<https://essexheightsps-vic.compass.education>

Essex Heights Primary School
 22-30 Essex Road
 Mount Waverley VIC 3149
 Telephone: (03) 9807 4944
essex.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.essexheightsps.vic.edu.au
 Principal: Mr George Perini
 Office Hours: 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday
 during school terms.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear EHPS Community,

As you are aware the staff have spent many hours discussing the composition of classes for next year. The children's preferred learning partners have been considered and other relevant parent information has been taken into account. Class groups have been trialed several times and observations of behaviour, cooperation and happiness have all been taken into account.

As I have stated many times, parent input will be considered, however, I cannot guarantee that parent wishes will be agreed to because it is only **one** part of a complex picture.

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It's your last chance to visit the Ever Higher Art Exhibition this weekend - tonight (Friday) during Carols in the Village, and Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 3pm at The Track Gallery, 47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley (next to the Mount Waverley Library).

Term 4 and 2019 School Year ends next Friday, 20th December.

Students dismissed at 1.30pm.

After School Care is available





December

| | | |
|------|-------|---|
| 15th | ..... | Aaron T Conor S |
| 16th | ..... | Alexander S |
| 17th | ..... | Ariel S Aiden D |
| 18th | ..... | Lauren N Wil A Phileas L David T |
| 19th | ..... | Charlie H |
| 20th | ..... | Kira D Alex L Kyla W |

Information sent home:

Follow up with your classroom teacher about any items on this list

Year/Group Notice/Activity

| | | |
|--------|-------|--|
| Year 5 | ..... | Year 6 Camp 2020 Expression of Interest - return by 18th December Year 6 2020 Bomber Jacket - return by 18th December |
| Year 6 | ..... | Electronics Day |

This week's information on Compass:

Year/Group Compass News Feed

| | | |
|--------------|-------|---|
| Prep | ..... | Helpers' Morning Tea |
| Year 4 | ..... | Track Gallery Exhibition - Permissions and Payment |
| Year 6 | ..... | GRADUATION URGENT!!!! Graduation Information |
| Whole School | ..... | Volunteers Needed for Gallery Pack Up - Monday 9am-12.30 JSC Christmas Party/Thank You Amazing EHPS Community URGENT - Volunteer for Gallery Saturday 14th December 11-1pm Last Day for lunch orders from Canteen URGENT - Volunteer for Gallery Saturday 14th December 1-3pm |

Compass Events:

| Year/Group | Notice/Activity and Payment & Consent Due Date |
|-------------------------|---|
| Year 6 | Big Day Out - pay \$29 and consent by 16th December Class of 2019 Graduation Lunch - pay \$25 and consent by 15th December |
| Selected Students | 2020 EHPS Swimming Team Trials - consent only by 18th December |

Assembly: Monday & Friday

At Assembly on Monday, 16th December:

- People's Choice art announcement
- Busking finalists presentation
- School Banking winners
- Student of the Week & mega Baik Sekali awards

Note: Items listed above are correct at time of publication, but may be subject to change.

Assembly starts at 2.40pm in the Stadium. All welcome.

At our **final Assembly** for this year on the last day of term, Friday 20th December, we will gather at 12.30pm to farewell the graduating class of 2019, before dismissal of students at 1.30pm.

Leaving EHPS?

It is essential that we know if any students are not returning next year, as we are finalising our planning for the 2020 school year. If your child is not returning to EHPS in 2020, please advise the following information to Jo in the Office early next week:

1. Date of last day at EHPS
2. Name of the school that they are enrolled at
3. Commencement date at new school
4. The reason for leaving EHPS
5. New contact details, if any are changing (eg address, phone number, email)

Principal's Report



Also, the school **will not** entertain requests for particular teachers. All teachers at Essex Heights are highly trained professionals who have the expertise to deliver a comprehensive curriculum in line with all state guidelines so as to meet the needs of the children. Our aim is to create well balanced classes that will ensure that the children's education will be enhanced through positive relationships and a good working environment.

The transition to new classes needs to be a positive and enjoyable experience for the children. Parents can support their children in this process by modelling a positive mindset and by remaining flexible and open in their views

For children to be resilient they need to be shown that sometimes change is inevitable and that it can be a good thing. New friends and a new teacher can bring new opportunities. As adults we need to model this for the students so that they learn how to cope with change. Also speculative discussions in the school yard are not a good example of this role modelling.

The children will be involved in 'walk up' next week. Even though these classes are close to the final configurations for 2020, there may still be changes following the sessions. I encourage you all to have positive discussions with the children about their new class and the friends that they have or the new friends that they will make next year.

I am sure that with an open and positive mindset, the children will be happy with their 2020 classes and that they will have an enjoyable and productive year.

Year Level Teachers 2020

I am pleased to announce the teachers for each year level for next year:

| YEAR LEVEL/SPECIALIST | TEACHERS (Year Level Coordinator in bold) |
|-----------------------|---|
| Prep | Kirsten Lightfoot / Nicole Morton, Lauren Davies, Shona Misso, Natalie Zaibak / Verity Bright |
| Year 1 | Victoria Gilbert , Cassie Dillon, Carolyn Wilson / Ben Wooster, Nikki Olsen / Felicity O'Flynn |
| Year 2 | Renee Dare , Melanie Boyle, Lena Papadatos / Helen Broderick, Kelvin Tang |
| Year 3 | Kristi Lloyd , Margaret Fitzpatrick, Paula Hammond / Lisa Burns |
| Year 4 | Alexandra O'Connor , Andrew Russell, Marita Steward |
| Year 5 | Moira Lennon , Magdalene Lim, Emma Ung |
| Year 6 | Maria Capsalis / Nicole Morton, Chris Cavill, Con Papanicolaou |
| Art /ArtSEL | Aubrey Hudson and Nikki Olsen (ArtSEL) |
| Health & PE | Elisha Cotterell |
| Indonesian | Sarah Edwards |
| Music | Tanya Dolence / Jessica Wynne |
| PSD | Kathy Halliday |
| Literacy Support | Yogi Patel, Jean Elliott, Kathy Halliday |
| Literacy Specialist | Emma Ung |
| Numeracy Specialist | Kelvin Tang |
| Assistant Principals | Ina Kuehlich, Carolyn Wilson / Ben Wooster |

Please note that all staff with some special responsibility receive some time release during the week to allow them to complete their roles.

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Principal's Report

Staff Update

There are a few changes in the staffing for 2020. Anita Dix will return only for a few days at the start of the year because of the marvellous news that she will be having her second child in February. Matthew Appleby has taken up a position at Laburnum PS, and we not only thank him for the work he has done in Year 5/6 this year but wish him well in his career and his time at his new school. We hope that Matthew will have fond memories of his time at Essex Heights PS. Also, Linda Fisher, Annegret Talman and Anne Wootton will all continue to be on leave for parts of the year. A few of our amazing ES staff - Jenny Sellick, Leanne Hare and Janine Collins - will also be on leave for parts of next year. On behalf of our whole community we thank them all for their wonderful contribution to the children and the Essex Heights community.

Next year Tanya Dolence has accepted a temporary, part time mentoring and leadership position in the Arts at Chatham PS. This is an amazing opportunity for Tanya and a very important step in her career. Tanya has undertaken a smaller but similar music mentor role this year at Mount Waverley North PS. We have been very fortunate to confirm that Jessica Wynne will be able to take a portion of the music classes in the first half of next year. Jessica has worked in the program throughout this year, she knows the program, she has worked very effectively with the students and she knows the school very well. She has enthusiastically taken up this opportunity to move to a recognised music program. We welcome Jessica and hope that she will enjoy her time at Essex Heights.

George Perini
Principal



Next week marks the end of primary school for our 107 Year 6 students.

Graduation celebrations are on Tuesday, 17th December, with a lunch shared with staff, and in the evening the graduation ceremony shared with family, followed by a disco for the students.

On Thursday 19th December they will go on their Big Day Out to GESAC (Glen Eira Sports & Aquatic Centre).

Students will commence in Year 7 in 2020 at the following schools: Ashwood High School, Ashwood School, Avila College, Balwyn High School, Camberwell Grammar School, Camberwell High School, Canterbury Girls' Secondary College, Emmaus College, Huntingtower, Kilvington Grammar School, Korowa Anglican Girls' School, Melbourne Girls Grammar, Mount Waverley Secondary College, Oxley Christian College, Presbyterian Ladies' College, Rowville Secondary College, Salesian College Chadstone, St Joseph's College, Templestowe College, The Knox School, Tintern Grammar, Vermont Secondary College, Wangaratta High School, and Wesley College.

Have a wonderful final week at EHPS Year 6s!

Ever Higher Art Exhibition closes on Sunday

The *Ever Higher* Art Exhibition is open at **The Track Gallery, 47 Miller Crescent in Mount Waverley (next to the Mount Waverley Library) until Sunday, 15th December**, from 11am to 3pm. Don't miss out on visiting and seeing the wonderful work of our students.

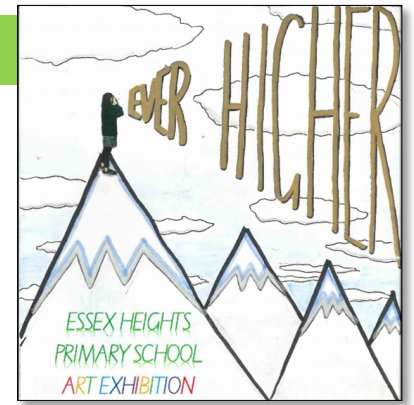
Class Art

For those of you lucky enough to be the highest bidder for our fabulous class artworks, the final day for bidding will be on Sunday (15th December), the final day of the exhibition. Payment and collection of the artworks will be on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December – good luck bidding!

All proceeds from the sale of the class artwork go to help fund the exhibition, so we appreciate your support.

Gallery Pack Up

We are packing up The Track Gallery on Monday, 16th December, from 9am to 12.30pm. If you are able to come and help that would be fantastic. There is no need for you to reply, just come along.



Parent Helpers & Volunteers Morning Tea



We are so fortunate to have such a large number of volunteers at Essex Heights,
and we greatly appreciate all of you.

We would like to acknowledge the ongoing support that is given at the

Parent Helpers & Volunteers Morning Tea
to be held on Wednesday 18th December
from 11am to 11.45am in the Hall.

The teachers are looking forward to this opportunity to show their appreciation of all the efforts put in by our volunteer parents and community members.

A delicious morning tea is planned, so please keep the morning free.



Family Financial Statements

Family financial statements were issued this week by email to families with outstanding charges on their school account; please check your Junk folder if you can't find it in your Inbox. All outstanding charges are payable now:

- Compass Pay or BPay are the preferred methods of payment.
- At the Office:
 - Credit card/Eftpos (Visa/MasterCard; minimum transaction of \$20)
 - Cheque payable to Essex Heights Primary School, or
 - Cash (correct amount as we don't hold any cash in the Office).

Instrumental Music: Charges are not payable via Compass. Refer to your family statement sent by email.

Payment by BPay preferred; otherwise at the Office. All charges are OVERDUE and are payable now.

Please note: this is an additional program outside the school's curriculum and therefore prompt payment of fees is essential in order to maintain the financial management of the program and our commitment to the Instrumental Teachers.

Lost Property



Thanks to Erica, Fiona and Niki for helping clear the lost property boxes this week and returning lost items to the classrooms. This has been possible because items were named.

Please check the lost property boxes if your child has lost any items at school. Unclaimed, unnamed, items may be sold at the next secondhand uniform stall.

Has your child lost a pair of glasses? If so, please see Jo in the Office.

Take a copy of your child's reports

Semester 2 reports will be published on Compass next week. It is timely to remind parents/guardians to take a copy of your child's reports off Compass to an external source. This is especially relevant for children who are leaving EHPS at the end of this year. Please copy your child's reports before their last day at EHPS, as your access to the Parent Portal closes when they leave EHPS.

Munch & Crunch Canteen



Last Day of Canteen for 2019

As advised in last week's *Contact* and on Compass this week, **TODAY, Friday 13th December**, was the last day for lunch orders from the Canteen.

See you in 2020!

Maria Vlahos
Canteen Manager

Year 6 2020 Bomber Jackets

Year 5 students will receive information next week about the opportunity as Year 6 students in 2020 to have a unique printed bomber jacket that they can wear with pride to stand out as the graduating cohort.

Students have participated in the process of choosing the design and the next stage of the ordering process is ready to begin.

Completed reply slips must be returned by next Wednesday, 18th December.

Garden Watering over holidays

If you're able to help out at any point over the Summer holiday break with watering our school gardens, please let Gael or Jo in the Office know of your availability.



Graduation Celebration - Help Needed

The Year 6 Graduation Day is almost upon us and we really need some help from the wider Year 6 community to ensure the events run smoothly. The events we need support at are:

- ★ Graduation Lunch - serving food to the children; and
- ★ Disco - monitoring the door (some Dad's would be great), ensuring they are having fun by encouraging the children to dance and signing them out at the end.

Parent Helpers



If you have a Working With Children Check and you would like to be involved on the day or evening, please sign up using the link provided on Compass.

We are looking forward to an amazing celebration and the more hands on deck the easier it will be.

*Thanks in advance,
Year 6 Graduation Committee*

End of Year Celebrations

JSC Christmas Party

To celebrate the excellent achievements of the Junior School Council (JSC) representatives this year, there will be a JSC representative Christmas party in the Art Room on **Tuesday** (17th December) at recess. All JSC reps have chosen to bring celebratory food to enhance their experience.

Congratulations to all the JSC representatives, and thank you to the wonderful EHPS community who have contributed so much to so many wonderful causes.



Year 2 Kris Kringle & Picnic

Year 2s will have a Kris Kringle in their own classrooms and a picnic altogether on the Council Oval on **Wednesday** (18th December). Event details, including a notice, were sent via Compass last week.

Years 5/6

As discussed with students, the Year 5/6A class party will be on **Monday** (16th December) from 11.30am to 1pm on the Verge.

Year 6 Electronics Day



Next Wednesday, 18th December, Year 6 students will have an 'Electronics Day'. Please refer to the notice sent home regarding this day, and return the permission slip if your child will be bringing their own electronic device to school.



Year 6 Big Day Out

Year 6 students are going to GESAC (Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre) in East Bentleigh, next Thursday, 19th December, as part of their end of year celebrations. GESAC is a Council run and owned pool. We have access to water slides, a splash zone and an inflatable obstacle course in the 25m pool. The cost for this day is \$29, which includes transportation for the day and the entry fee to the pool. The buses will depart from the front of the school at 9.30am and return at 1.30pm for an afternoon of entertainment. All students are required to wear full school uniform appropriate for sporting activities, including their school hat. They will also need to bring their packed lunch, snacks and their water bottle in a small backpack. Students are to bring appropriate swimwear, a towel and thongs. Students will have access to the Kiosk at GESAC; food purchases however will only be limited to snacks because lunch is to be eaten back at school. Additional spending is optional and if students wish, they may bring a maximum of \$10.

Event information is published on Compass, payment of \$29 and consent is due by Monday 16th December.



Health & PE

2020 Swimming Team Trials

Trials for the 2020 Essex Heights School Swimming Team will be held on **Monday 3rd February 2020 at Monash Aquatic & Recreation Centre (MARC) from 9am to 1pm**. Students turning 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 years old in 2020 (born in 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 or 2007), who meet the following criteria, are invited to nominate to attend the Swimming Trials.

To nominate, your child must be a current or recent participant in an organised swimming program at the following levels or equivalent:

- Monash Aquatic: Milky Seal, Bronze, Silver or Gold
- Tateswim: Any junior squad
- Just Swimming: Seal level or higher
- Huntingtower Swimming Club: Green level or squad
- Ashburton Pool: Shark level or squad, OR
- Can swim any of the four major strokes in under 64 seconds over 50m distance.

Please only opt-in to this event if your child meets the above criteria.

If your child meets this criteria and wishes to attend this event, please opt-in by typing your full name into the consent bar of this event in Compass. You must also email cotterell.elisha.j@edumail.vic.gov.au by Wednesday 18th December with the following details:

1. Child's name
2. Birth date
3. 2020 year level
4. Swimming club
5. Swimming level or 50m times.

If selected to attend the trials, you will receive a Compass notification with further details about the trials. Students will travel from school by chartered bus. There is no cost to attend the trials. The times recorded at the trials will be used to select the 2020 Essex Heights Swimming Team. This team will compete at the Mulgrave District Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 26th February.

If you have any questions, please email Elisha Cotterell or phone the school on 9807 4944.

Elisha Cotterell

Music



Carols in the Village

Chamber Choir has been invited to perform at the 2019 Carols in the Village tonight, Friday 13th December. This is a fabulous opportunity for community singing as well as to showcase our wonderful choir to the Mount Waverley community. A large number of groups will be performing on the night. The show will begin at 6.30pm and our performance should be completed by 7.45pm. Parents are welcome to stay afterwards to enjoy more community carol singing. Take the opportunity to pop into The Track Gallery nearby before or after the concert to see your child's work at the EHPS *Ever Higher* Art Exhibition.

2020 MCUI Songwriting Competition

The 2020 MCUI Songwriting Competition is now open!

Music: Count Us In is inviting students to submit their original songs for the National Songwriting Competition.

Finalists will be selected to take part in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, to write the song that will be sung by hundreds of thousands of young Australians as part of Music: Count Us In 2020.

All students with a passion for songwriting are encouraged to apply. Applications close February 19th 2020.

To find out more - [CLICK HERE](#).



Dance Classes



Lunchtime Dance

Please note that there won't be a Lunchtime Dance class in Term 1 next year.

After School Dance

After School Dance concluded on Tuesday with the end of term performance.

After School Dance will run on Tuesday afternoons next year. However at this stage there are no vacancies.

Georgia Lombard
Creative Dance and Drama

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs



1st Bennettswood Joey Scouts are grateful for the great support already received. Please help us to help other people by collecting **Bread Tags and Plastic Bottle Tops** - leave donations in the boxes in the School Office reception. More information about where the tops and tags go can be found at www.breadtagsforwheelchairs.co.za and envision.org.au. Thank you!

BREADTAGS
for wheelchairs

Erica Baddeley
Assistant Joey Scout Leader
1st Bennettswood Joey Scouts





T & G PHOTOGRAPHY

Family Portrait Fundraiser

We hope those who participated in the Portrait Fundraiser are happy with their photographs. If you haven't collected your photographs from the School Office, please contact the PFA via email (ehpspfa@gmail.com) to organise collection.

Final 2019 PFA Meeting

Thanks to all those who attended our final meeting for the year on Wednesday evening. Special thanks to those parents whose children are leaving Essex Heights this year and for their contribution and support that have provided. In particular we thank Jen and Jan and wish them all the best for the future.



Entertainment Membership - Christmas promotion

Christmas All Wrapped Up

The Gift of Entertainment is available for the first time ever.

Looking for a gift idea? Entertainment Memberships has a new promotion for Christmas - Gift Memberships. [CLICK HERE](#) to purchase.



What makes this the perfect present?



12 months starts from day of activation



20% of every sale supports a good cause



Delivered instantly to your inbox



Something for everyone with thousands of savings

► BUY NOW

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