

CALENDAR

January

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
Fri 31 Yrs 5&6 Summer Inter-School Sport starts

February

Mon 3 Swimming Team Trials
Thu 6 Prep students commence (finish at 1.30pm)
Fri 7-Fri 14 Preps - 8.50am to 2.30pm
Mon 17 Preps fulltime - 8.50am to 3.30pm
Fri 28 Welcome Event

March

Mon 9 Labour Day public holiday
Fri 27 Grandparents & Special Friends Day
Fri 27 Term 1 ends - 2.30pm dismissal

April

Tue 14 Term 2 starts

June

Mon 8 Queen's Birthday public holiday
Fri 26 Term 2 ends - 2.30pm dismissal

July

Mon 13 Term 3 starts

September

Fri 18 Term 3 ends - 2.30pm dismissal

October

Mon 5 Term 4 starts
Fri 30 Showcase

November

Tue 3 Melbourne Cup public holiday

December

Fri 18 Term 4 ends - 1.30pm dismissal

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

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. The Office will close
today, Friday 20th December, and will reopen
on Tuesday 28th January 2020.



SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Dear Essex Heights Community,

On behalf of our School Council members, I'd like to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday; Merry Christmas; Peace; Joy; and blessings of the season. It's been another busy year at EHPS, and a special thank you goes out to everyone who has volunteered their time this year or contributed to our School community in some way. Your efforts are what keeps our community and our School a thriving, positive place for our children to learn and grow.



Over the holidays I'm sure our family will be reflecting on the end of our ten year association with the school, and like other proud families of the Graduating Class of 2019, remembering all the fabulous teachers and support staff who've made primary school feel like home for us.

I hope you find time to relax, recharge and spend time with loved ones over the break.

*Take care,
Kristen Steer*

*EHPS School Council President
(for just a little while longer!)*

**Term 4 and the 2019 school
year ends TODAY,**

Friday 20th December.

Students dismissed at 1.30pm.

Years 1 to 6 Students commence

Thursday 30th January.





December 2019

21st Olivia R
Ashlyn W
Livia W
Ben G
Jasper Z
Jayda M
Oliver H
22nd Alvin H
Noah N
Bryan K
Hudson B
23rd Adheesha K
Michael G
Olivia S
24th Aaron L
Isabelle N
25th Romesh G
Claire C
26th Anita W
Marcus R
27th Jonathan Z
Jessica P
28th Ellie Q
Leonie D
Hina M
29th Kaiden T
Lara W
30th Jamie R
31st Luca L
Caitlin C
Jiaxuan C
Erin M

January 2020

2nd Ryan W
3rd Marcus O
Joyce X
4th Sam T
Allison S
Mackenzie L
Darcy K
5th Eric H
Edward P
Tai N
6th Sevin A
Leo D
Janice Q
7th Jill X
8th Stefan V
9th Kaptan M
Pranav C
11th Laith B
Maddy T
Seunggwon H
12th Allen Y
14th Joshua M
Ummehani V
15th Daniel S
16th Emily M
17th Haris P
Harmony B
18th India K
19th Ruby S
Maya P
Amy H
Krisha K
Grace H

January 2020

20th Ruby M
Lillie K
Mason G
Rafa S
21st Eleni A
22nd Zara S
Huzaifa A
23rd Timothy Q
Max P
Oliver S
24th Fiona Z
25th Arnav P
Aiden S
Zoe S
26th Celeste V
27th Nao L
Ruby L
Candy Y
28th Victoria Z
29th Siyana R
Georgia K
Celine L
30th Jamie L
Hayden W
Mahta A
Terry B
Alexandra K
Ethan N
31st Sophia M

Showcase DVD & USB Orders

The Showcase DVD and USB orders were received and distributed this week.



Holiday Garden Watering

If you're able to help out at any time over the Summer holidays with watering our school gardens, please email your name and phone number to the school email with your availability.



Principal's Report



Dear EHPS Community,

Farewell to 2019

As we come to the end of another year it is very timely to think of the many successes in and outside of the classroom. Academically our children have continued to succeed in numerous ways. NAPLAN results were excellent, Science Talent Search, Multimedia film awards and Indonesian. In sport we have had a very successful year having excellent results in Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country and many inter school sporting events e.g. State Final Boys Softball. Special days such as Grandparents & Special Friends Day, Book Week, camps as well as interesting educational excursions like the Singapore International Choral Festival, and incursions have made sure that positive learning experiences occurred outside of formal lesson time. The focus on children reaching their personal goals has always been a priority.

I would like to thank our School Councillors, led by Kristen Steer, who contribute to the governance of the school and its strategic direction. Thanks also to the PFA, led by Fiona Nicholson Stocker and the PFA committee for organising amazing school events e.g. Mother's and Father's Day Breakfasts and Stalls for our community, as well as supporting so many others for students e.g. Fun Run. A huge thanks to our wonderful school volunteers because without your help we would be much the poorer.

And finally I would like to thank our dedicated and hardworking staff (Teachers, Admin, PSD staff, OSHC staff and Instrumental music staff) who have contributed to the growth of children in so many ways and to the success of Essex Heights PS in 2019. Their professionalism and the high level of care shown to all of our students are all highly valued and acknowledged by our community.



Year 6 Graduation

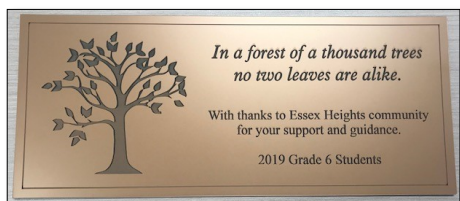
This week our Year 6 students celebrated the end of their primary education at Essex Heights. Tuesday was a truly marvellous day. The amazing Graduation Committee did a spectacular job in organising all aspects of the day. The luncheon and the setup of the Hall was wonderful, and the evening celebration was touching and inspiring. Our Year 6 students were once again the highlight of the show. As they leave Essex Heights for the last time today we wish them every success in the future and implore them to always have Essex Heights PS close to their hearts. Finally a huge thank you to the staff and all of the parents who helped to make this day so special for the Graduating Class of 2019.

Good Luck and Best wishes to you all!!



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Principal's Report



This year the Class of 2019 has donated a mature tree to be planted near the Memorial Garden. The tree will be planted in Autumn so that it can establish itself before the summer of 2020. This tree will be a focal point at the front of the school and will provide a gathering place for students. The school community thanks the Year 6 families for this generous gift which will be a long-lasting memory of this great cohort.

A visit from Santa

On Wednesday afternoon our Prep classes had an extraordinary visit from Santa. We were all so surprised that he took the time to deliver individual letters to every Prep student. A few of the children actually 'saw him' oh so briefly at the front of the school. Ina found the parcel of letters out the front!! They were so cold they must have come from the North Pole!! The children were so lucky and happy to have Santa reply to the letters they had sent earlier in the year!!! How special!!



Celebrations

This week there have been many celebrations in the various classes. Some have had class parties, others picnics, whilst Year 6 students had a special electronics day, as well as their Big Day Out. Whatever the activity the children have had lots of fun celebrating a great year with their class teachers. The Christmas spirit was certainly in the air.

Walk Up Day

Wednesday's 'Walk Up' for the children went very well. Please make sure that you spend some time talking to your children about the positive things that happened on the day, e.g. What did you like the most about your new class? or What were the three best things about walk up?

It is worth remembering that this week's walk up is only one part of a long transition process which begins in November. The children have had many opportunities to work with different students and teachers. The staff have worked through parent requests and created the best possible and balanced combination of children in each class. We believe that these combinations will give each child the best opportunity to thrive.

Due to continued new enrolments, class lists are not finalised at this stage but the classes were a very strong indication of your child's class for next year.

At the beginning of the year, class list will be distributed via the class representatives if parents agree to have their name and details published on a distribution list.

2020 will again be a wonderful new beginning for every child, filled with opportunities to grow and thrive within the Essex Heights Community.

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. 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.

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Principal's Report

Updated Year Level Teachers 2020



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	Moiria 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

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish all families a safe and Merry Christmas as well as a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you all well rested at the start of 2020.

George Perini
Principal



Semester 2 Reports

Semester 2 reports were published on Compass this week. It is timely to remind parents/guardians to copy their child's reports off Compass to an external source. This is especially relevant for child 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.

2020 School Year

Start of School Year

- Tuesday 28th January - Term 1 commences; compulsory statewide student-free day in all Victorian government schools.
- Wednesday 29th January - EHPS student-free day; first of three student-free days in 2020 school year.
- Thursday 30th January - Years 1 to 6 students commence (8.50am to 3.30pm).
- Thursday 30th January to Wednesday 5th February - Prep School Entry Assessment (SEA) - one hour interview with the Prep student between the student and the teacher; parents/guardians do not stay (date and time will be advised). Uniform is not required. Students are to bring a water bottle to their SEA interview.
- Thursday 6th February - Prep students commence; Prep students will have a staggered start between 9am and 10am (specific time will be advised), and finish at 1.30pm.
- Friday 7th to Friday 14th February - Prep students attend school from 8.50am to 2.30pm.
- From Monday 17th February - Prep students begin attending school full time from 8.50am to 3.30pm.

School Terms

Term 1: Tuesday 28th January* to Friday 27th March

Term 2: Tuesday 14th April to Friday 26th June

Term 3: Monday 13th July to Friday 18th September

Term 4: Monday 5th October to Friday 18th December

* 28th January is a compulsory student-free day in all Victorian government schools.

Student-free Days in 2020: Tuesday 28th January, Wednesday 29th January, plus two additional days to be advised when ratified by School Council. BASC provide care from 7am to 6pm.

Public Holidays in 2020 during school terms - no students at school:

Monday 9th March Labour Day

Monday 8th June Queen's Birthday

Tuesday 3rd November Melbourne Cup Day

Students not returning in 2020

If your circumstances change over the Summer holidays and your child will not be returning to EHPS next year, please advise the following information to Jo in the Office by email to our school email - essex.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au:

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)

Students on holidays at the start of Term 1

If your child will be absent at the beginning of Term 1 in 2020 please ensure that you enter the appropriate absence note on Compass for the day/days that they are absent. Please also email their teacher (via the link on Compass, or school email if needed) to advise your child's absence at the start of the year.



2020 MCUI Songwriting Competition

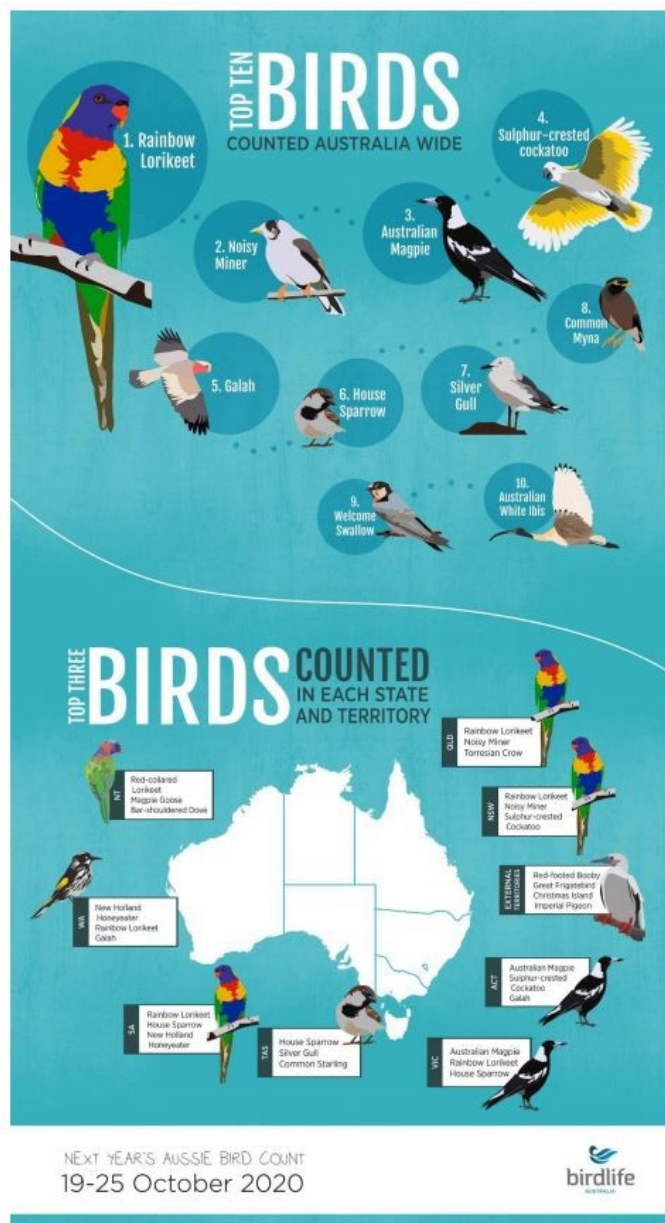
The 2020 MCUI Songwriting Competition is now open! Music: Count Us In is inviting students to submit their original songs for the National Songwriting Competition.

All students with a passion for songwriting are encouraged to apply. Applications close February 19th 2020. To find out more - [CLICK HERE](#).



Aussie Backyard Birdcount 2019 Results

If you took part in the Aussie Backyard Birdcount in October we hope you had fun! Here are the results for this year ...



Before & After School Care

New Price Structure

The Before and After School Care Program will be introducing a new price structure from 13th January 2020.

With the rising costs that are associated with running the program and ensuring we are in accord with all government regulations, it is necessary to introduce a moderate increase to the program's fees. The program strives to ensure that the highest quality care is provided at all times for every child.

The new prices for 2020 are as follows (per session, per child):

- Before Care - \$18
- After Care - \$23
- Vacation Care - \$60

The program prices have remained stagnant for the past four years in spite of increased running costs directly associated with the programs operations. As much as we would like to retain our current rates, a price rise is unavoidable.

We value your patronage but more importantly your support. We hope to continue our strong relationship with families in the Essex Heights Primary School Community now and into the future.

January Vacation Care

The January Vacation Care Program is out now.

Please keep the following in mind if you wish to access the January Vacation Care Program:

1. The program operates between 7.00am and 6.00pm
2. If your child / children is collected after 6.00pm, you will be charged late fees, which are charged at \$1.00 per minute, per child. (This also applies to Aftercare).
3. If you want to cancel your booking for the January Vacation Care Program, it must be done before 6.00pm on the 20th December 2019. Any cancellations after this time will incur full charges unless accompanied by a doctor's certificate.
4. We are unable to accept Vacation Care enrolments over the phone or via email.
5. Please ensure that you inform the program if a third party is collecting your child. You will need to provide the program with the third parties name, address and phone number. They will need to present a photo identification to staff on collection of your child/children. We are unable to allow children to leave the program by themselves or with a person that is not endorsed by the parents/legal guardian.
6. After two months of not using the program your Child Care Support (CCS) funding will automatically cease. You will need to contact me to reinstate your funding. Once this is done you will need to go to your myGov account and confirm that you are the legal guardian of your child/children. Once these steps are completed, your CCS funding will be reinstated.
7. Booked Vacation Care or Curriculum Day enrolments are not transferrable to other families.

Thank You

I would finally like to thank the following people whose support for the program is always unwavering and encouraging. They are Mr Perini, Ms Kuehlich, Ms Wilson, Mr Wooster, Mrs McCann, Mrs George, the Essex Heights staff, the Essex Heights Primary School Council, the Essex Heights OSHC Committee and staff and all the family's that have supported the program over the journey.

You are a wonderful, caring and nurturing community - thank you for everything.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Thank you,
Paul Davis
Coordinator



Parents & Friends News



The PFA wishes to thank everyone for their support throughout 2019. We wish all the families who are not returning to Essex Heights PS next year all the very best for the future.

For those returning in 2020, we look forward to engaging once again to ensure that our children have the best possible year ahead. The first function will be our **Welcome Event** to be held on **Friday 28th February**.

Safe and happy holidays,

Fiona Nicholson Stocker

(Mum of Allison 3F)

ehpspfa@gmail.com

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**. Collect over the holidays, and bring them in next year and leave in the boxes in the School Office reception next year. 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



50% DISCOUNT



kids' discount

Your school is affiliated with Cabrini Emergency Department. Your child has access to this exclusive offer.

Open 24/7, 365 days a year | Specialist paediatric care
Be seen quickly; Live estimated wait time at

www.cabrini.com.au

The 50% discount offer applies to the attendance fee only, and does not apply to any further out of pocket expenses such as hospital admission, X-rays and pathology.



Alan, Ada and Eva Selwyn Emergency Department



To our EHPS Community ...
Have a wonderful Christmas, and a safe and restful Summer holidays.



To the students and families that are leaving EHPS this year, all the best
for the future.



To those families who will become part of the EHPS community in 2020 -
welcome, and we look forward to getting to know you.



We look forward to the 2020 School Year ...

January Vacation Care Program - 13th to 24th January (bookings essential;
contact Paul Davis on 9807 2615).

Office opens on Tuesday 28th January (Student-free day. Curriculum Day
program - bookings essential; contact Paul Davis on 9807 2615).

EHPS student-free day on Wednesday 29th January (Curriculum Day program - bookings
essential; contact Paul Davis on 9807 2615).

Years 1 to 6 students commence - Thursday 30th January.

Prep SEA Interviews - Thursday 30th January to Wednesday 5th February.

Preps start - Thursday 6th February.