

CALENDAR

February

Mon 3-Wed 5 ... Prep SEA interviews
 Mon 3 Swimming Team Trials
 Thu 6 Preps commence (finish at 1.30pm)
 Fri 7-Fri 14 Preps (8.50am to 2.30pm)
 Fri 7 Yrs 5&6 Summer Inter-School Sport starts
 Mon 10&Tue 11 Parent Teacher Discussions
 Wed 12 PFA Meeting
 Fri 14 Secondhand Uniform Stall
 Mon 17 Preps - 8.50am to 3.30pm
 Wed 26 District Swimming
 Fri 28 School Clean Up 2020
 Fri 28 Welcome BBQ

March

Thu 5 EHPS Student-free Day
 Mon 9 Labour Day public holiday
 Wed 11 PFA Annual General Meeting
 Fri 27 Term 1 ends - 2.30pm dismissal

April

Tue 14 Term 2 starts
 Wed 22-Fri 24 ... Year 5 Camp

June

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

July

Mon 13 Term 3 starts
 Fri 31 EHPS Student-free Day (TBC)

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

Whole School Assembly

Every Monday at 2.40pm in Stadium. *All welcome*

School Banking - every Tuesday.



School Hats - every day in Terms 1 & 4.

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, 5 March and
probably 31 July*



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.

**WELCOME
BACK
to
School**

Principal's Report



Dear parents and members of the Essex Heights community,

Welcome back to the new school year! I believe that it will provide many great opportunities for children and families to join together in a wide range of learning and fun experiences. As I walked around the school yesterday I was so pleased to see the children settled, happy and working so well. They were sharing so many great stories about their holidays, trips overseas and interstate, their many adventures as well as all the other things they had done since leaving school in December.

It has certainly been an eventful holiday period. It seems that families have been able to travel and holiday within Australia, despite the terrible bushfires and lingering smoke haze. The outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus has also complicated matters at the start of the year. Thank you to all families that have communicated with me and I am pleased that we finally reached a position that everyone understood and was able to follow the appropriate health advice. All the latest information is available on the school website:

<https://www.essexheightsps.vic.edu.au/>

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January

30th Matilda Y

February

2nd Ollie P
Eddie F
Ava B

3rd Rico V
Xavier B
Luigi S

4th Leah J
Nandita C

5th Chelsea L
Lachlan W

6th Daniel Y
Agastya A
Cayle B
Alishba A

7th Jonathan K

Information sent home:

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

Year/Group

Notice/Activity

Whole school (each family) Canteen menu & roster volunteer roster

Whole school (all students) Kelly Sports - Term 1

Lion Bushido Karate

This week's information on Compass:

Year/Group

Compass News Feed

Prep Prep 2020 - preparation for starting school

Year 4 Welcome to Year 4 2020

Years 1 to 6 Welcome back Years 1 to 6!

Whole School Novel Coronavirus (7 notifications)

Welcome to the 2020 school year at EHPS

Compass Events:

Year/Group

Notice/Activity and Payment & Consent Due Date

Selected Students 2020 EHPS Swimming Team Trials

Victorian State Schools Spectacular - consent only by 10th February



Assembly: Monday 3rd February

At Assembly on Monday:

- Softball 2019 presentation
- Essex Heights Netball Club
- January Birthdays

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.

School Banking

School banking commences next Tuesday, 4th February. Students should bring their deposit book to school and hand it to their classroom teacher at the start of the day.



Parent Teacher Discussions

Parent Teacher Discussions will be on **Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th February**. Interviews are booked on Compass (not open yet). Details will be advised on Compass soon.

Principal's Report



In the two weeks before returning to school it was fantastic to see so many children accessing the Outside School Hours Care vacation program. The children were having so much fun with their activities and excursions. A big thanks to Paul Davis and his staff for once again running an outstanding holiday experience for our children.



This year we welcome Jessica Wynne to the great team at Essex Heights; Jessica will be working three days in the music program while Tanya Dolence is mentoring and developing performing arts programs at Chatham PS. We are so fortunate to have such a high calibre staff member joining our school. We wish Jessica well in her time with us,

and look forward to her contribution to the children and EHPS. I am also delighted to welcome back a few well-known faces: Lisa Burns and Paula Hammond in Year 3, Cassie Dillon in Year 1, Magdalene Lim in Year 5, Yogi Patel in ESL and Literacy Support, and Jean Elliot in ArtSEL and Learning Support. They are all well respected and experienced teachers and the children will benefit from their energy and expertise.

A number of new children and their families have also joined our community this year. We hope that their time with us will be enjoyable, productive and worthwhile. If you see new faces in the school yard please make sure that we live up to the Essex Heights value of 'Friendliness' and make them feel welcome and part of our great community.

Staff have started the year with their classes by focusing on our 'School Wide Positive Behaviour Support' program in order to develop a positive working environment in each classroom and throughout the school. This also incorporates the Starting Up, Starting Out program that covers many important aspects of starting the year in a constructive and positive manner.

Parent – School Partnership

An effective partnership with families is a very important ingredient to enable all children to reach their highest potential. In order to be successful at school, our children need support from both home and school.

I encourage all families to support the school and assist your child's learning by ensuring that he / she:

- ★ Attends school every day and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning.
- ★ Completes all homework activities given by teachers .
- ★ Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills.
- ★ Shares school experiences, 'what went well today', with you so that you are aware of the many good things in their school life.

Our primary methods of communicating with you are Compass and our weekly school newsletter, *Contact*. Please read the *Contact* newsletter each week. Our Compass portal is an excellent communication tool between school and home and can be used to send an email to a teacher, add attendance notes or approve lateness or absence. Please make sure your Compass access is working, and you regularly log into the Compass portal. Please respond where needed by due dates to information and for events/activities. If you need any assistance please check the Welcome to Compass information booklet and user guides on our website, or speak to the staff at the Office.



If you email a staff member, please be mindful that an email received late in the day will not necessarily be answered immediately. Please allow 24 hours for a response. Also, I suggest that it is not appropriate to email staff late in the evening and expect a response or resolution the next morning. Your support and understanding would be greatly appreciated regarding this matter.

Hats

In accordance with our Sun Smart Policy, I would like to remind all families that the children are required to wear hats throughout Term 1. These should be in the school uniform bottle green, legionnaire style, or wide brimmed for maximum sun protection. I would ask parents to ensure that children are bringing the appropriate headwear to school each day. On hot days we also suggest that students seek shade and drink plenty of water.



... continued on page 4

Principal's Report

School Times, Late or Absent?

At this time of the school year it is timely to remind all families that children are expected to be in class by 8.50am. This will allow for brief chats or small organisational matters to be completed so that all classes are able to mark the roll and start their learning promptly at 9am. Good communication between school and home is so important, therefore if an in depth discussion with the classroom teacher is needed then please arrange a suitable time with them.

If your child will be absent on any particular day, please enter an absence note on Compass or contact the school by 9am to report the absence verbally or in writing.

Please note that students arriving at school at or after 9am must be signed-in at the Office by a parent or guardian.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in these matters.

School Gardens



Over the holidays a committed group of families ensured that the school gardens were watered and generally looked after the grounds. We are so grateful to have such generous and thoughtful members of our Essex Heights community.



Student Illness and Accidents

At this time early in the school year it is a good idea to remind parents about the necessity to keep us up to date with phone numbers and emergency contact details. If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, it is necessary on occasions to contact parents and we are often frustrated by out of date information that delays this process. Please make sure you notify the Office of any changes to yours or details for your Emergency Contacts. Obviously in extreme cases we may also deem it necessary to call an Ambulance before consulting parents and you need to be aware of this. Please also keep the Office informed of any change in medical issues faced by your children as this helps us to make the best choices for their welfare.

Parents and guardians should also be aware that they are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any Ambulance transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund. The Department of Education and Training (DET) does not hold accident insurance for school students.

Is other Insurance available? Yes.

There are commercial providers of insurance for students and they can be found online or through your Insurance Broker.

Students, Parents & Staff Personal Property

On a similar topic, students, staff and visitors often bring personal property to school. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the Department of Education and Training (DET) does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) mobile phone ban also comes into effect this year. Mobile phones are not to be used at school. Any device brought to school must be handed into the School Office or classroom teacher before school starts and can be collected at the end of the day.

Please refer to the Mobile Phone policy on the EHPS website: <https://www.essexheightsps.vic.edu.au/>

On a final note please refer to the Privacy Statement attached later in the newsletter for information related to data collection.

George Perini
Principal



During the ordinary course of your child's attendance at our school, school staff will collect your child's personal and health information when necessary to educate your child, or to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing or health in the school context. Such information will also be collected when required to fulfil a legal obligation, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. If that information is not collected, the school may be unable to provide optimal education or support to your child, or fulfil those legal obligations.

For example, health information may be collected through the school nurse, primary welfare officer or wellbeing staff member. If your child is referred to a specific health service at school, such as a Student Support Services officer, the required consent will be obtained. Our school also collects information provided by parents and carers through the School Entrance Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) and the Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Transition Form.

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to effectively collect and manage information about your child for teaching and learning purposes, parent communication and engagement; student administration; and school management purposes. When our school uses these online tools, we take steps to ensure that your child's information is secure. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

School staff will only share your child's personal or health information with other staff who need to know to enable the school to educate or support your child, or fulfil a legal obligation.

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, personal and health information about that student will be transferred to that next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of our students and assists that next school to provide optimal education and support to students.

In some limited circumstances, information may be disclosed outside of the school (and outside of the Department of Education and Training). The school will seek your consent for such disclosures unless the disclosure is allowed or mandated by law.

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child, see our school's privacy policy: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, Student Support Service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners and all other staff at our school. This includes employees, agents and service providers (contractors) of the Department, whether paid or unpaid.

Sustainability



This year's event will be held on **Friday 28th February**. More details to come ...

Marita Steward

Health & PE

Swimming Team Trials

Trials for the 2020 Essex Heights School Swimming Team will be held on Monday 3rd February at Monash Aquatic & Recreation Centre (MARC) from 9am to 1pm.

All students who emailed details and opted in to participate will be attending. Students will travel from school to MARC by chartered bus. There is no cost to attend the trials.

On Monday, students should bring a bag with towel, underwear, goggles, swim hat, summer hat, thongs/slides, healthy snack and water bottle. A second towel may also be brought so students can stay warm and dry between swims. Students are encouraged to wear their bathers underneath their school uniform, and arrive at school by 8.50am and go to their classroom to drop off their school bag and have their attendance marked by their class teacher. Students will then meet Mrs Cotterell and Mrs Ziskov outside the Stadium. The bus will depart from Outlook Road at 9am sharp.

Families are welcome to meet at the 50m outdoor pool at MARC, Waverley Road, Glen Waverley. You should not be charged entry to attend and assist at this school event.

Times will be recorded for every swimmer. All students will be encouraged to participate in the trials for Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Butterfly will be optional. The times recorded at the trials will be used to select the 2020 Essex Heights Swimming Team that will compete at the Mulgrave District Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 26th February.

This is a great experience for students, and all are encouraged to enjoy the event, try their best and cheer each other on.

Information has also been sent via Compass. If you have any questions, please contact Elisha Cotterell (email cotterell.elisha.j@edumail.vic.gov.au).



Music



2020 MCUI Songwriting Competition

Happy 2020! There are still three weeks to go until the closing date of Music: Count Us In's National Songwriting Competition for 2020. All school students with a passion for songwriting are encouraged to enter.

In 2015 one of our Year 5 students, Lynn Ng, won this competition and last year it was won by a Year 10 student, Roan Nair, who is a past Essex Heights student.

Finalists from this competition will be selected to take part in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, to write the Music: Count Us In (MCUI) song for 2020 in collaboration with MCUI Ambassador John Foreman OAM and our 2020 Mentor (to be announced very soon).

We're inviting school students of any age to submit their own original songs that celebrate the lives of young Australians with melodies and lyrics that are fun, uplifting and easy to learn.

Please encourage any young songwriters you know to enter.

Entries for the MCUI Songwriting Competition close at 5pm on Wednesday 19th February.

For more information on the MCUI Songwriting Competition, head to our website - [CLICK HERE](#).

If you have any questions, please email ruth@musicaustralia.org.au.



Ruth Mulvey
Program Manager

Outside School Hours Care

Program Input

The program invites families to have input into the OSHC program. If you have any ideas or suggestions in relation to activities please let one of the program educators know.

In the next couple of weeks the program will be developing its Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). The QIP reflects the programs ability to reflect the National Quality Frameworks. If you have any suggestions or ideas that may enhance the programs quality, pass them on to any of the program educators and we will endeavour to implement these ideas into the programs operations.

We particularly want to tap into our families from different cultural backgrounds and examine their wonderful and interesting culture.

Hats & Sunscreen

Could parents please remember to provide their children with hats and sunscreen. We are unable to take children outside without sun protection if the UV rating is higher than 3.

Preps at OSHC

This week we also welcome the Preps to Essex Heights Primary School. If Preps are attending Before School Care, we will drop them at their class. If they are attending After School Care we will pick them up from their class. We will also have educators managing their progress and needs.

In relation to the early finishes (2.30pm from 7th to 14th February) we will be operating a Prep Care program. This will be charged separately from Before and After School Care and will not be covered by Child Care Subsidy (CCS).

Activities this week

Activities planned for this week will be Support Cards and messages for fire fighters and communities affected by the bushfires.

If you have any questions, please send them to davis.paul.d@edumail.com.au.vic.gov.au, or phone OSHC on 9807 2615 or 0417 941 986.

*Thank you,
Paul Davis
Coordinator*

Munch & Crunch Canteen

Canteen Opening

The Canteen will open on Monday 3rd February.

Lunch orders are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. Students are to hand their lunch order, including payment, to their classroom teacher or put it in the designated tub at the start of the day.

The 2020 menu and request for Canteen volunteers has been sent home to each family this week. The Canteen can't operate without parent volunteers, so if you can assist, please complete the form and return as soon as possible so the roster can be completed.

The roster for the coming week will be published in *Contact*. If you are unable to do your rostered duty, please ring me on 0409 934 573.

*Maria Vlahos
Canteen Manager*





The PFA welcomes everyone to Essex Heights Primary School for 2020!

Upcoming Events

The forthcoming PFA events include:

- ★ **PFA General Meeting** - Wednesday 12th February
- ★ **Secondhand Uniform Stall** – Friday 14th February
- ★ **Welcome BBQ** – Friday 28th February
- ★ **PFA Annual General Meeting (AGM)** - Wednesday 11th March



Secondhand Uniform Stall

A Secondhand Uniform Stall is held in the Stadium each term. Donations should be bagged and marked 'donations', and can be left either at the Office or in a Lost Property Box at any time. Donated items should have names removed, be clean and in good condition. No old logo items please.

The next Secondhand Uniform Stall will be held on **Friday 14th February** from **3pm to 3.45pm** in the Stadium. Helpers are required from 2.00pm.



Facebook

Please join the EHPS Community Facebook group to keep connected to our school community.

I look forward to welcoming parents and friends to the above events

Fiona Nicholson Stocker
(Mum of Allison, 40)
ehpspfa@gmail.com

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs



1st Bennettswood Joey Scouts are continuing to collect **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



50% DISCOUNT



kids' discount

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Cabrini
EMERGENCY

Alan, Ada and Eva Selwyn Emergency Department

Kelly Sports



Kelly Sports is Australia's number one provider of sports coaching for primary school students, helping provide children the capability and confidence to develop a life long love of sports. The Sensational Summer Sports program for Term 1 offers basketball, cricket, soccer, and ultimate frisbee. The seven week program for Prep to Year 6 students starts on Monday 3rd February, and will run weekly until Monday 23rd March (last week of term), from 3.40pm to 4.40pm; no session on the public holiday on Monday 9th March. Registered students meet Kelly Sports coaches on the basketball courts. The program costs \$98 for 7 sessions. An information flyer has been provided for every student; follow up with your child's teacher if you have not received it. Register by returning the form to Kelly Sports, or register online at www.kellysports.com.au.

Dance Classes



Lunchtime Dance

There won't be any Lunchtime Dance classes in Term 1

After School Dance

After School Dance for registered Prep to Year 2 students will run weekly on Tuesdays in Term 1, from Tuesday 11th February to Tuesday 24th March.

Children will be involved in dance warm ups, dance creation activities and learn a choreographed dance. In the last session students will perform their routine for family and friends giving them a sense of achievement.

The lessons run for 45 minutes from 3.40pm to 4.25pm, take place in the Stadium, and are taught by Georgia Lombard from Creative Dance and Drama.

Georgia Lombard
Creative Dance and Drama

Chess



Chess classes will commence on Wednesday 12th February. The Term 1 program is for seven lessons, from 3.40pm to 4.30pm, run by tutors from Chess Ideas. Students meet in the Violet Collaborative space. The cost is \$15 per lesson or \$105 for the term, payable by the third week of term.

Registration forms are available in the Office reception; complete and return with payment to Chess Ideas, or register online - [CLICK HERE](#). If you have any queries, please contact Chess Ideas by phone on 9532 8370.



Andrew Russell

Community Noticeboard

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



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Thursdays:
Essex Heights Primary School
 Essex Road, Mount Waverley

Juniors, 7 to 13 years, 6:30pm to 7:45pm
 Teenagers & Adults, 6:30pm to 8:15pm

LION BUSHIDO KARATE ACADEMY

www.lionbushido.com

LBKA Centers:

Forest Hill – Wantirna – Rowville – Glen Waverley – Mount Waverley
Dandenong – Doncaster East – Cranbourne
Fountain Gate – Narre Warren South – Patterson Lakes

For Bookings Phone 9887 4098



Tennis Open Day

MCC Glen Iris Valley and Vida Tennis would like to invite you to try tennis with us at our **FREE** Tennis Open Day.

Sunday 9th Feb 11am - 2pm



Kids Hot Shots Lessons
Intro Lesson for all
Juniors from 4 years old & Adults

Club Membership Specials
Jumping Castle for kids
Sausage Sizzle

If you can't make the 9th, then try a **FREE** intro lesson on Sunday the 2nd Feb. 2.00pm to 2.45pm or 3.00pm to 3.45pm or 4.00pm to 4.45pm.
Contact Angelo to book your place 0407 477 798 angelo@vidatennis.com.au
www.vidatennis.com.au www.mccglenirisvalley.org.au

