

## CALENDAR

### November

Mon 30 ..... Yr 6 Graduation Meeting

### December

Tue 1 & 8 ..... Prep 2021 Orientation Days

Tue 1 ..... Year 2 Farmer's Market Day

Tue 1 ..... PFA Meeting

Tue 8 ..... Yrs 1 to 6 2021 Orientation Day

Fri 11 ..... Yr 6 Electronics Day

Fri 11 ..... Canteen closes

Tue 15 ..... Yr 6 Graduation

Wed 16 ..... Yr 6 Electronics Day

Thu 17 ..... Yr 6 Big Day In

Fri 18 ..... Term 4 ends - 1.30pm dismissal

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

### Whole School Assembly

Every Monday at 2.40pm in Stadium. CANCELLED  
Fortnightly online assembly created by Year 6s.

### School Banking - every Tuesday.

SCHOOL BANKING POSTPONED

### School Tours

Thursdays & Fridays at 9.30am. Bookings essential.  
SCHOOL TOURS CANCELLED; VIRTUAL TOUR ON WEBSITE



**School Hats** - every day in Terms 1 & 4.

### 2020 Term Dates

Term 4: 5 October to 18 December

Statewide student-free days: 28 January\*, 14 April, 25 May & 13 to 17 July.

EHPS student-free days: 29 January & 5 March

### 2021 Term Dates

Term 1: 27 January\* to 1 April

Term 2: 19 April to 25 June

Term 3: 12 July to 17 September

Term 4: 4 October to 17 December

\* 27 January is a state wide student free day.

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



### PARENT PORTAL ON COMPASS

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

Essex Heights Primary School  
22-30 Essex Road  
Mount Waverley VIC 3149  
Telephone: (03) 9807 4944  
[essex.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:essex.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
[www.essexheightsps.vic.edu.au](http://www.essexheightsps.vic.edu.au)  
Principal: Mr George Perini  
Office Hours: 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday  
during school terms. School currently closed to visitors; please contact us by phone or email.

## Principal's Report



How quickly this term is going. The children are really enjoying their time at school and the staff are working very hard to ensure a smooth transition into 2021 for each child.

Last Sunday the Premier confirmed that we are on the right path for recovery, and as a result the Department of Education and Training has eased some of the previous restrictions that have been in place for the past months.

The advice is still clear:

- The school must continue to implement strategies to reduce congregation of adults around the school and to reduce congestion.
- Parents may enter the school grounds, but we must ensure physical distancing between adults and face masks must be worn.
- Good hygiene practices still apply.
- Food cannot be shared.
- Students must stay home if they are unwell.
- Some visitors may enter the school grounds but must strictly comply with the gathering limits and physical distancing.
- All adults entering the school grounds for more than 15 minutes must register their visit in the Office and clearly state their name, contact details, purpose, time of attendance, and any area of the school they have attended.

The list above is a small sample of the key advice offered. The leadership has considered this advice carefully as well as its implications for students and families given there are only three weeks to go until the end of the school year.

... continued on page 3



Year 6 Zoom with the PM and Gladys Liu MP on Monday



## November

28th ..... Dejan R  
 29th ..... Finn H  
 30th ..... Dylan H  
               Naisha G  
               Kabir S  
               Christopher K

## December

1st ..... Neil S  
               Sophie N  
               Bianca G  
               Partha P  
 2nd ..... Maggie H  
               Alexia V  
               Elaine P  
 3rd ..... Michael B  
 4th ..... Tanisha R  
               Tanush R  
               Nathaniel M  
               Carmel K  
               Donnie R  
               Errol S

## Information sent home:

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

### Year/Group

### Notice/Activity

Selected Students ..... Outstanding Library book reminder

## This week's information on Compass:

Notifications sent this week that were about events/information that have passed may not be listed.

### Year/Group

### Compass News Feed

Year 1 ..... Weekly Newsletter  
 Year 5 ..... Year 5 Weekly Update (November 27)  
 Year 6 ..... Year 6 Graduation Meeting  
                   Catching On Early 2020  
 Whole School ..... Managing the mother load  
                           January Vacation Care 2021  
                           Safe Bike Riding

## Library



**PLEASE  
RETURN  
YOUR  
LIBRARY  
BOOKS**

## Return Library Books - URGENT!

Our annual stocktake is getting underway. Thanks to those students who have returned Library books.

However, we still have LOTS of books loaned out, and we need them back urgently to complete the stocktake. A reminder has been sent home with all students who still have a Library book on loan. **Please return them early next week** to the plastic tub located outside the Library door during school hours (remind your children to make sure the lid is put back on the tub securely!).

**Gael Munro**

## parenting\*ideas

*"Schools are at their dynamic best when teachers and parents work hand-in-hand together"* **Michael Grose**

We have a school membership with Parenting Ideas, one of Australia's most trusted sources of parenting education and support, providing our school community with excellent resources, including *Insights* articles, and webinar attendance at no cost (a saving of \$37).

The following *Insights* article was distributed via Compass, and is also accessible on our school website:

- Managing the mother load

For further information, and to access the articles and webinar information above, please [CLICK HERE](#).

## Principal's Report

Since returning to school the students have developed familiar and clear procedures around many school activities. We want to maintain this consistency and NOT introduce more changes in an already turbulent year. Therefore, we are continuing the following arrangements for the remainder of the year:

- We will continue the same drop off and pick up procedures that have been so successful this term:
  - Staggered start and finish times will stay the same.
  - Entry and exit gates will stay the same.
- Staff will still be at gates to welcome children and provide a positive validation every day.
- Children will continue to build their independence by making their own way to class.
- At the end of the day, staff will again escort their class to the same gates and pick up zones.
- Parents, while physically distancing, will collect their children at the pickup zones.
- Parents wishing to discuss a matter with a teacher should still send an email, use Compass, or phone the school and make an appropriate time to meet.
- If you have organised a meeting with a teacher before or after school, you must ensure that you are wearing a face mask, and if you are staying more than 15 minutes you must have signed in at the Office.
- If parents have an **urgent but brief message** for the classroom teacher, we encourage you to leave the message at the Office or with the teacher at the gate.
- If it is **absolutely essential** to pass on the message in person, at the classroom door, we request that you **do not enter the classroom**. Different protocols apply, e.g. masks, physical distancing etc. which complicates matters if you enter.
  - Please be aware though that **learning cannot be disrupted**, therefore:
    - ◆ Prep and Year 1 parents providing an **urgent message**, must see the teacher at 8.30am because learning starts for all children at 8.45am.
    - ◆ Years 2 to 6 parents providing an **urgent message** must see the teacher between 8.30am and 8.45am, as learning starts at 9am.
  - If the learning session has begun, you will need to make an alternate time to see the teacher or leave a message at the School Office.
- As food cannot be shared, we ask that parents **do not send** in any food (including lollies e.g. Xmas Candy Canes). If parents would like to send in a special end of year class treat, please email the teacher, as a class book, game or puzzle would be greatly appreciated.

Throughout the COVID -19 pandemic we have always had the wellbeing of the children at the centre of our decisions. These modified procedures maintain consistency for children, continue to build their independence, and provide uninterrupted learning time for each class.

Our community has been so supportive and united throughout this pandemic and I know that the next three weeks will again show how well we can work together for the benefit of the children.

### A Visit from the Prime Minister

On Monday, our Year 6 students had the unique opportunity to spend 30 minutes talking with the Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon Scott Morrison MP. This online visit was organised through the office of the Federal Member for Chisholm, Gladys Liu. Our school captains welcomed Mr Morrison and he then asked the Year 6 class questions about remote learning. He also answered many of the student's questions. I was very proud of our whole Year 6 cohort because they were respectful, engaged and perfectly behaved. They were all true ambassadors for our school. I would like to thank the Year 6 staff for working with the children to put the whole event together within a very short timeline. A more detailed report can be seen later in the newsletter.

Enjoy your weekend.

**George Perini**  
Principal



## Immunisation Status

Thank you to those families who have responded to our recent email advising that their child's immunisation was not up to date. If you have received an email, a copy of your child's [Australian Immunisation Register \(AIR\) immunisation history statement](#) was due today. If you still have to reply, obtain a copy of your child's immunisation history statement to email to the school from:

- Your myGov account
  - Click on Medicare under "Your services".
  - Click on View Statement under Immunisation History in Services.
  - Select the immunisation history statement you want to review from the drop down menu.
  - Click on the View history statement (PDF) button, and send a copy of this document to the school email.
- the Express Plus Medicare mobile app;
- by requesting a statement to be sent in the mail from Australian Immunisation Register by calling 1800 653 809; or
- at your local Medicare or Centrelink office.

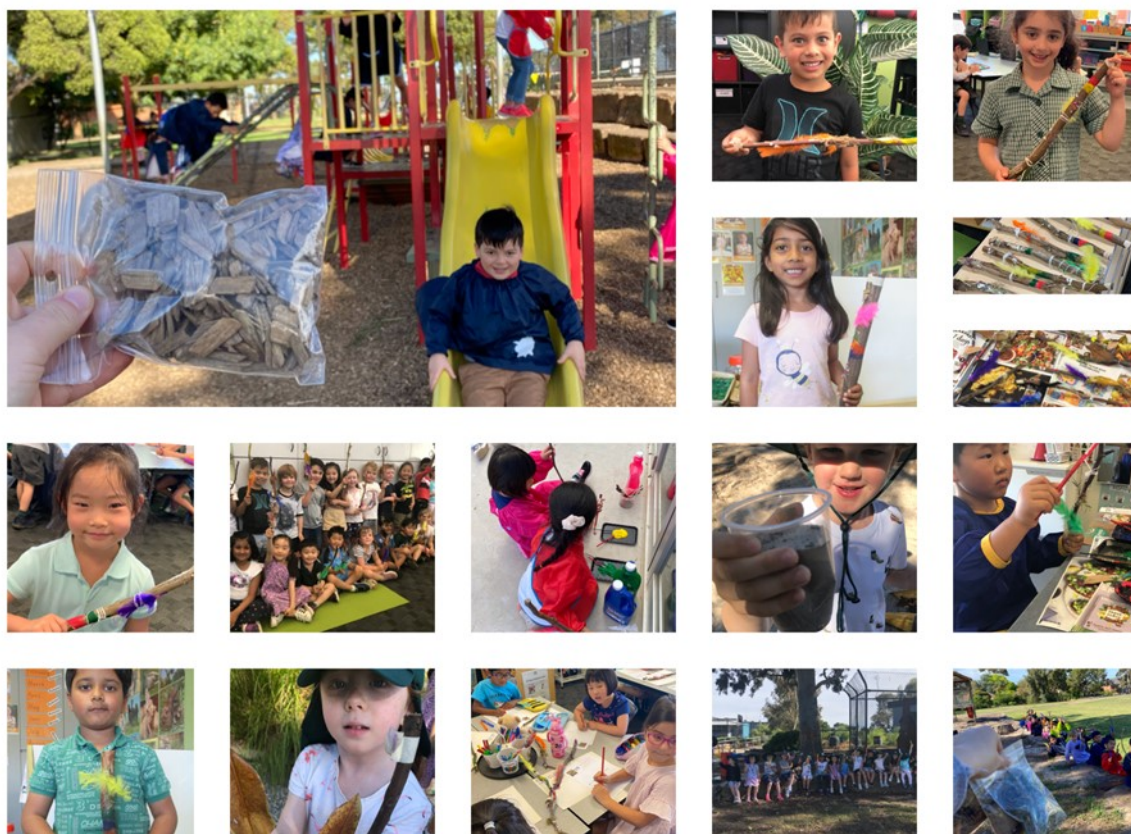
If your child's statement identifies that they have not had all the required vaccinations, please contact the [City of Monash Council Immunisation Service](#) or your GP to have these missing vaccinations as soon as possible. Provide the updated AIR immunisation history statement by email to the school as soon as possible so your child's record is up to date.

## Prep Journey Sticks Activity

On Thursday 19th November, Prep celebrated NAIDOC Week by creating their own Journey Stick. A Journey Stick is how Indigenous Peoples captured where they went so that they could follow the same route again.

At each place that we went on our journey around the school we collected something to attach to our Journey Stick to remind us of where we went and the order we visited them.

All of the Preps were very proud of their Journey Sticks and couldn't wait to share their journey with their families.



Photos: Nicole Morton



## Year 2 Activities

### Amazing Australian Indigenous Cultural Activity



**Always Was,  
Always Will Be.**  
**8-15 NOV 2020**



As part of the Essex Heights building community through art and to promote NAIDOC 2020, we were extremely fortunate to have local Indigenous artist Simone Thompson visit our school on Wednesday 18th November.

Simone is a Melbourne based self-taught artist and descendant of Victoria's Ulupna and Moira Clans of the Yorta-Yorta Tribe, and the Yarra-Yarra Clan of the Wurundjeri.

Simone held a one hour session with each Year 2 class in the Art Room. The learning intention of the sessions was to provide the students with the opportunity to gain priceless knowledge of local indigenous culture and art.



Some of the important things our Year 2s learnt included:

- ★ Understanding some of the spectacular history and cultural practices of the longest surviving culture in the world.
- ★ Gaining knowledge of dream time stories through art.
- ★ Learning some of the symbols used by different Indigenous nations to communicate with each other.
- ★ Discovering the importance of totems and some of the totems used by different indigenous nations.
- ★ Many more amazing nuanced facets of the Australian Indigenous culture and art.

It is intended that this session will stimulate the Year 2 students to develop an indigenous inspired design. Over the following art sessions with Mr Hudson, the Year 2 students will transfer their designs in the school grounds using outdoor paint.

**Aubrey Hudson**

**What:** Year 2 Farmer's Market Day

**Where:** Essex Heights Primary School

**When:** Tuesday 1st December (all day)

**Wear:** Children may wear casual clothes

**Cost:** Free



## Year 6 Zoom with the Prime Minister

What a unique experience the Year 6s were privileged to experience last Monday, 23rd November!

Mr Perini was contacted by the office of local MP for Chisholm, Gladys Liu, regarding an online interview for the Year 6s with Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

The students excitedly wrote a series of questions to ask the Prime Minister. It was also mentioned to us that the Prime Minister would also ask the students questions about Remote and Flexible Learning and their experiences in this extraordinary year. The students asked questions such as what inspired the Prime Minister, how he balances work and family life, what a typical day looks like. All the students spoke politely, respectfully and with confidence and poise. All the Year 6 cohort are a credit to Essex Heights. We were delighted to receive congratulations from the Gladys Liu who commended the school on their behaviour and performance on the day.



Last year the school was granted \$20,000 dollars from the office of Gladys Liu. This is a grant towards the construction of a Mathematics Garden at the back of the school, near the Sensory and Meditation garden, where students can learn mathematical concepts in a fun and engaging 'hands on' manner. This will include shop and café panels, as well as a Prime Number tree, bullseye hand ball panel, and many more interesting features to help students with their mathematics. In 2019, selected Year 5 students were chosen to be part of an enrichment program and were extensively involved in the planning, measuring, working beside an engineer, and construction of 2D and 3D models. These were used to apply for the grant. The Prime Minister was very interested in this project and has told us that he would be interested in visiting the school if his busy schedule permitted. Two of our students Ron and Jaslene who were involved in the enrichment program last year, discussed the project with the Prime Minister and answered questions.

Wouldn't that be wonderful if Prime Minister Scott Morrison came to visit Essex Heights! Of course we would invite all the present Year 6s to come if this were to eventuate next year.

Everyone had a memorable experience that I am sure will be discussed for years to come.

***Maria Capsalis, Con Papanicolaou, Chris Cavill, Nicole Morton & Jenny Austin***

P.S. Many thanks to Brendan our technical expert who assisted us ably with the Streamyard technology.



Photos: Con Papanicolaou & Chris Cavill





## Buddy Morning

On Tuesday 24th November, the Year 6 students had a lovely morning catching up with their buddies in Year 1. Over the past week, the Year 6s made an origami box or an origami tulip in which they were going to place a sweet treat for their buddy. These boxes were hidden in the front garden of the school and each Year 1 buddy had a list of directions which led to where the box was located.

The very excited Year 1 and 6 students were seen running around the front of the school. The Year 1 students were so delighted when they eventually found their boxes, complete with a bag of lollies. It made the Year 6s so happy to see the smiles on their buddies' faces!

Next week, the Year 6s will give their buddies a picture story book which they have lovingly been writing and illustrating over the past few weeks. The Year 6 students will ask their buddy to read the book to them and then each person will ask questions about the book. It will undoubtedly be another fun buddy session.



Photos: Chris Cavill

## Health & PE



Congratulations to the EHPS students who joined with school students across our state to participate in the School Sport Victoria Virtual Track and Field (Athletics) during Remote Learning this year. Essex Heights students participated in modified jumping and throwing events as well as various distance running events.

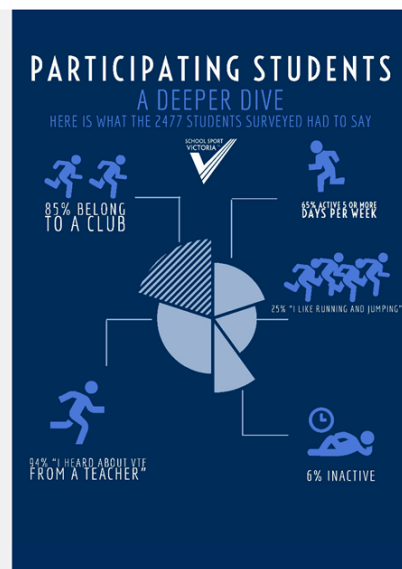
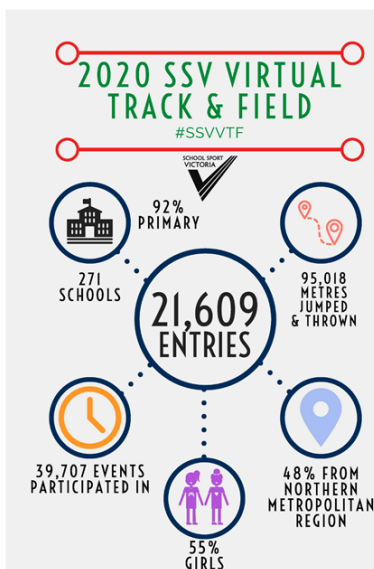
The School Sport Victoria Virtual Track and Field (VTF) event comprehensively exceeded SSV's expectations of 4,500 entries with a truly remarkable 21,609 entries which included more than 39,707 events being completed.

We thank School Sport Victoria for offering these programs and Little Athletics for providing valuable teaching resources. If you are interested in participating in Little Athletics, more details can be found at <https://littleathletics.com.au>.



Please email Elisha Cotterell or your child's classroom teacher for other ideas and local sporting contacts if you would like support in encouraging your child back into community sports.

**Elisha Cotterell**



Some of the notable fun facts of the SSV Virtual Track & Field event



### PFA Meeting

Please come to our final PFA meeting of the year **next Tuesday, 1st December, at 7:30pm** at Café 57, Pinewood Shopping Centre, Centreway, Mount Waverley. **RSVP** for booking purposes to [ehpspfa@gmail.com](mailto:ehpspfa@gmail.com) by Monday (30th November). Please join the Committee next Tuesday – all welcome!

**Fiona Nicholson Stocker**  
PFA President & Mum of Allison, 40

## Munch & Crunch Canteen



The Canteen will **close on Friday 11th December**.

As previously advised, sausage rolls are currently available every day, but the following items are not available to order:

- ★ Baked Potato
- ★ Rainbow Rice
- ★ Chicken Burgers

**Maria Vlahos**  
Canteen Manager

## Outside School Hours Care

### January Vacation Care

The January Vacation Care Program will operate on weekdays from Monday 11th to Friday 22nd January 2021, prior to the start of the new school year. The enrolment form has been provided on Compass this week. Please complete and email your requested days of care back to me. Do not send your forms to the Office or classroom teacher.

### Before and After School Care

Bookings are not required for Before or After Care. Families who are currently enrolled in the program are able to use the Before and After School Care Program when care is required.

### Accounts

Accounts will go out this week, and families will be contacted over the next fortnight in relation to payments.

### Program Enrolment in 2021

The program will need families to complete new enrolment forms for 2021. Forms will be given to your children to take home to be completed and returned before the end of the year.

If you have any questions, please send them to [Paul.Davis@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Paul.Davis@education.vic.gov.au), or phone OSHC on 9807 2615 or 0417 941 986.

**Paul Davis**  
Coordinator



## 2020 Spectacular Broadcast

Channel 7 Melbourne is proudly supporting the 2020 Victorian State Schools Spectacular. A special broadcast with behind-the-scenes highlights will air on **Saturday 5th December at 7pm** on Seven in Victoria. It will also be livestreamed on the 7plus app and 7plus website, [www.7plus.com.au](http://www.7plus.com.au), and will be available for catch-up viewing on the 7plus app and website for 30 days from the broadcast date.

Mark your diary now and let all your friends and family know to tune in!!

## Community Noticeboard

*Products & services advertised in Contact are placed on a paid basis and are not necessarily being promoted by Essex Heights Primary School. In responding to any advertisement, you accept full responsibility for the consequences of goods or services received.*



## Come & Try Woolworths Cricket Blast

Friday 11  
December  
5:30PM

Essex Heights  
Reserve



Junior Blasters  
(ages 5-7)  
&  
Master Blasters  
(ages 7-10)

Free sausage sizzle afterwards



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We're here for your kids, if they need support they can...



Call us for FREE  
1800 55 1800



Email us



WebChat with us

Parents! For more information and resources,  
please check out our Kids Helpline parents section

[kidshelpline.com.au/parents](https://kidshelpline.com.au/parents)

# 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](https://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

[www.cabrini.com.au/EDdiscount](https://www.cabrini.com.au/EDdiscount)