

CALENDAR

April

Sat 25 ANZAC Day
Wed 29 PFA Meeting

June

Mon 8 Queen's Birthday public holiday
Fri 26 Term 2 ends

July

Mon 13 Term 3 starts

August

Wed 5&Thu 6 ... School Photos
Wed 19 'Space Trip' Dance Show (Group 1)
Thu 20 'Space Trip' Dance Show (Group 2)
Mon 31-Fri 4 Yrs 4 & 5 Swimming

September

Fri 18 Term 3 ends

October

Mon 5 Term 4 starts
Fri 23 Showcase

November

Tue 3 Melbourne Cup public holiday
Wed 4-Fri 6 Yr 5 Camp

*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 ASSEMBLIES CANCELLED

School Banking - every Tuesday.

SCHOOL BANKING POSTPONED

School Tours

~~Thursdays & Fridays at 9.30am. Bookings essential.~~
SCHOOL TOURS CANCELLED. VIRTUAL 360 TOUR ON WEBSITE

Prep 2021 Enrolment

Lodge by Friday 29th May 2020.
NO VISITORS AT EHPS; CONTACT OFFICE RE LODGEMENT

2020 Term Dates

Term 1: 28 January* to 23 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, 14 April and
probably 31 July



COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

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

Essex Heights Primary School

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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 3.30pm Monday to Friday

during Term 2. The Office is closed to visitors;
please contact by phone or email.

Principal's Report



Dear Parents, Guardians, and members of the Essex Heights Community,

ANZAC Day

Tomorrow, Saturday 25th April, is ANZAC Day when we pause and reflect on the service and sacrifice of all those who have served and are currently serving.

ANZAC Day 2020 will not look like the ANZAC Day that so many of us are used to participating in, including our commemoration at school. Dawn Services will be held around the country, wreaths will be laid, the last post will be played, a minute of silence in memory of the fallen will be observed, but the service community and the public will be asked to stay at home.

The RSL are inviting the community to participate by accessing a live broadcast of a dawn service on Saturday morning. The Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne are hosting a [livestream](#) on Facebook from about 5.50am. Alternatively, the [ABC](#) will broadcast the National Memorial Service from the Australian War Memorial on ABCTV, iView, Radio and online from 5.30am. The Last Post and a minute of silence will occur at around 6am. As the Last Post is played, you are invited to walk outside, stand in your yard, driveway, or on your balcony and observe a minute of silence in respect of our veterans. This action is being called **Light Up The Dawn**.

There is more information on our school website, including some resources you might like to share with your children:

- Factsheet
- Colouring sheet
- Make a poppy instructions
- Recipes
- ANZAC Ted - "A great book to read with your children" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3nRwDiyRH0>

Together, let us show our ANZAC spirit.

"Lest We Forget"

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April

19th Lilian A
Ethan L
20th Yul L
Keira H
April M
21st Grace C
Kayla W
24th Ilya W
25th Ava S
Tomason F
Emma C
Daniel M
27th Katrina H
29th Valerie N
Esmond T

May

2nd Timothy F
3rd Passindu S
Robin K
4th Oliver B

May

5th Luna H
6th Ryan N
7th Cooper D
Eva H
8th Iris Z
Hayden L
10th Bridie O
Reiya L
11th Michelle C
12th Parineeti P
Kirk A
13th Audrey C
14th Ethan L
Michael M
15th Jacqueline L
Giorgio G
16th Lana B
17th Dante M
18th Jayden T
19th Pari M
Asmi V
Anastasia S

May

20th Patrick S
Karl S
21st Jayan C
Brian N
Zach P
Myra K
Raquel M
Oliver S
22nd Gaguli W

parenting * ideas

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

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

The following *Insights* article has been distributed via Compass:

- Successful close quarter living

Webinar - *Future-proofing your child*

This century is characterised by disruptive change that is turning our world upside down. Jobs aren't just changing, whole industries are ceasing to exist. The scripts for success are being rewritten on a daily basis in our families, at work and in life. In this webinar Nikki Bush teaches parents what to expect and how to support their kids to thrive in a future world of work.

This webinar was held on Wednesday 18th March, but you have access at no cost until 18th June. Details, including registration instructions and your code to access the webinar at no cost, has been sent to you via Compass.

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

Principal's Report

Term 2 Remote Learning

Term 2 has taken off with a buzz of excitement, innovation and hard work. After two weeks of remote learning, I hope that you and the children have adjusted to the new face of learning this term. I want to thank you all for your effort in ensuring that the children are accessing the work that the teachers have prepared. We are keenly aware that there has been a lot of learning required on your part to enable the children to access Zoom, SeeSaw, etc.

Our aim is to have every child continue learning, and for you and them to be happy and well. It is timely to remember that whilst the learning is important, the health and well-being of every child and their family is just as important. If there are frustrations with technology, confusion or difficulty understanding what is required to be completed, your child cannot complete tasks, please do not feel that you are alone in this new environment. Seek assistance if required. The children may also be adjusting to the new normal for 'being at school'. They will be missing friends and the many interactions e.g. play, that they used to have in Term 1. Teachers/school staff will be catching up with students and making sure that they are happy and well.

Here are some websites with resources you might find useful:

- ★ Student Wellbeing Hub: <https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/>
- ★ Australian Parenting Website: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning>
- ★ Department of Education's Learning from Home information for parents: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/learning/Pages/home-learning.aspx>

ICT Information

Laptops and iPads are being distributed to families that require them this week. If you still require a device, then please complete the form provided on Compass and email it to me with an outline of why your family needs the device.

Onsite Attendance

As I have communicated via Compass, some families for 'exceptional circumstances' need to send their child to school. It is very important to reiterate again that the Government has made it very clear that any students that can learn from home MUST learn at home. Please remember that *coming to school will be a very different experience, if your child is deemed eligible*. They will be doing exactly the same work as children working from home. They be with unfamiliar teachers and fellow students. *Social distancing will be enforced* so children will have to sit apart in any classroom and also play alone at recess and lunchtime. You will need to apply for consideration for your child to attend school in the next week by completing the form provided on Compass each week and return it by 3.30pm on Thursday.

Ramadan

Today marks the start of the holy month of Ramadan for our Muslim community. This is considered as the holiest season in the Islamic year and commemorates the time when the Qu`ran (the Islamic holy book) is said to have been revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

I would like to wish all of our Muslim families a blessed Ramadan and please remember all of our Essex Heights Community in your prayers.

"Ramadan Mubarak".



Best wishes to you all and always keep safe and stay well.

George Perini
Principal



Year 6 Camp Reflection

Unforgettable Moments in Forest Lodge Farm

By Ron X, 6M

On a cold Autumn day, the Year Six cohort were about to depart towards Forest Lodge Farm for a camp of four days and three nights. Some of us gave off an excited aura. Others were nervous about sleeping in another place. I felt a bit paranoid that I would have hay fever daily, even knowing that I had my medication whenever I needed it. But at the same time, I did feel a little bit excited because I would have a change of scenery.



At the time we arrived, the staff members immediately rushed to prepare us for our activities. After the brief period of becoming ready, the teachers split us into small activity groups. Bu Sarah was in charge of our group. Unfortunately, the first and foremost activity for our hapless group was the Mud Run.

The Mud Run is actually an obstacle course. The difference is that if you fall off, you fall into the atrocious mud. The rope walking activity required us to walk inside the mud. The rope was touching the base of the mud pool, so you might as well plop into the mud and walk through it nimbly instead of being slow and steady.

At the end of the course, our group had a mud fight. As I tried to pick up mud from the bottom of the mud pool, a cold shiver travelled down my spine. The mud at the bottom of the pool was slimy, sticky and cold. As I held it, I could feel more mud going under my nails. However, I stayed calm and effortlessly flicked the mud onto Bu Sarah, who was occupied with throwing mud at other people. The mud landed on her face. When we screamed and shrieked, trying to swim away from Bu Sarah's attack, I felt it wasn't so unpleasant in the end.

To lift up our spirit from the dirty Mud Run, my group's next activity was archery. I had never done archery in my entire life, so I was interested in whether I could pop any balloons at all. At first, I thought "No way, I'm terrible at athletic activities so of course I would fail". I proved myself wrong. I ended up popping the most balloons in my group! I even received a certificate for my achievement. What a glorious moment! And, how thoughtful Bu Sarah was!

A useful tip for getting an accurate shot is to pull the arrow as far back as you can, so when you let go of the arrow, it will go extremely fast and keep enough momentum to hit the balloon. If you are unsuccessful popping the balloon, then you should at least have your arrows nicely tucked up together. I wish I could have another session of archery as it was my favorite activity.

Another fascinating activity was bush cooking. Our group cooked some damper (dough on a stick) and toffee apples (sugar combined with apple on a stick). The sticks were indiscriminately picked up from the ground. I was a little concerned about whether that was unhygienic, but we would put the stick over the fire once the food was on it, so all the microbes were most likely burned to death.

By the name of the activity, I first thought the food would be unappetizing. I was proved wrong again when I sunk my teeth into the food. It was as delectable as mum's cooking. For such a simple recipe, the damper was nice and crispy, while the toffee apples were sweet and juicy. You could not even feel the sugar as it had melted onto the apple. To let the damper and toffee apples cook faster, I put them inside the fire top, not on top of, literally inside it! I noticed that if you don't place the food into the fire, the cooking speed is as slow as a turtle crawling on land.

Despite the immense amount of smoke blowing into my face, bush cooking was one of my favorite activities. The scenery was comforting, the food was luscious, and most importantly, I had two toffee apples!

On the freezing first evening, all of the year sixes went out for a night walk. On the way to our destination, the teachers allowed us to pick up sticks from the ground and use them as hiking sticks. Very frequently, I picked up a stick and threw it away for an even longer one. I found it amusing walking with a stick.

When we arrived at the destination, Mr. Cavill told us a 'true' (I'm not sure whether it was true) story about a boy called John Barker. Apparently, the boy loved camping. One night, he went to gather some firewood, but as an unfortunate result, he became missing. After the story, he also told us to turn off our torches for one minute of silence. A few seconds later, Mr. Cavill did something really frightening. As loud as a wolf howling, he screamed with all his energy, scaring most of us tremendously that some of us even screamed back at him.

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Year 6 Camp Reflection

Luckily, I wasn't one of those people. I was bewildered. Mr. Cavill's change of mood was extremely dramatic; I could not even comprehend how astonishing it was and how he could do that. That was the most unforgettable moment of the camp.

There are other unforgettable moments: the breathtaking view from the flying fox, challenging low ropes course, the triumphant moment when we were building our hut. All of these activities were my first experiences and required a lot of collaboration. Despite the first thought of uncertainty and nervousness, I found they all turned out to be incredibly entertaining.

Overall, the camp surprisingly exceeded my expectations. The meals were scrumptious, the activities were very engaging, and most importantly, the teachers and the staff members went out of their way to make sure we had the best experiences we could. I think next year's year sixes will also encounter the emotion of being enthralled, given how entertaining the camp was. I will never forget the adventures of the camp and the phenomenal experience in the outback. As for my hay fever, I completely forgot about it during all the fascinating activities.

Science

Science Talent Search

It's that time of year again. Dust off your Bunsen burners and put on your thinking caps.

This year's Science Talent Search theme is **"Deep Blue: Innovations for the future of our oceans"**. This fantastic theme gives great scope for creative and critical thinking.



Throughout Australia the States and Territories provide Primary and Secondary school students the opportunity to enter a Science focussed competition. The Science Teachers Assoc of Victoria (STAV) co-ordinates a State wide competition.

The multiple categories aim to stimulate students in the following ways:

- ★ Encourage independent self-motivated project work amongst students of science;
- ★ Provide opportunities to communicate their achievements to a wider audience;
- ★ Provide opportunities for recognition of effort and achievement in a scientific enterprise;
- ★ Promote involvement in processes of science and its communication;
- ★ Display primary and post primary student's work to the public.

Please visit <http://www.sciencevictoria.com.au/sts/> for more information.

Entry fees apply:

- Individual - \$8.00 per entry (inc GST)
- Group (max 2 students) - \$15.00 (inc GST)
- Class Project - \$30.00 per entry (inc GST)

Final registration is Wednesday 20th May. Payment is to made with registration.

Please direct all enquiries to Ms Marita Steward by email (steward.marita.a@edumail.vic.gov.au).

Earth Day

On Wednesday 22nd April, it was Earth Day all around the world, and Prep M learnt all about it in their morning 'Zoom' session with Miss Misso. It was wonderful to hear the children share with each other some of the ways they already care for their planet, such as picking up rubbish, turning off the lights, and leaving water out for animals that visit their garden. We then watched the short film of 'A Whale's Tale' together through Zoom, which made us think about how important it is to protect our oceans and the animals who live there. Here are some of the wonderful 'Earth Day' posters that the children created at home.



by Lily



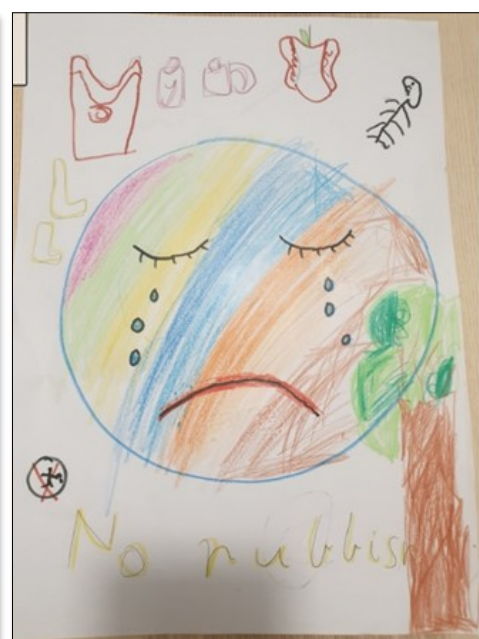
by Cooper



by Gianna



by Grace



by Liam

Year 6 2020 to Year 7 2021

Families of our Year 6 students have received information about the process of placement in Year 7 in 2021 via Compass. All families must return the application form to Mr Papanicolaou **by Friday 29th May** (please note the change of date).

School Photos

The School
Photographer

Our school photos have been rescheduled to Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th August.

School Charges

Family statements have been sent by email to those families with outstanding school charges. Due to the current restrictions, the office is closed to all visitors, so we request that until further notice all payments for school related charges are made via BPay (details on your family statement) or Compass Pay.

If you need a copy of your statement or are experiencing financial hardship please contact me on the email address below to make alternate arrangements. Office hours are 8.30am to 3.30pm Monday to Friday during Term 2.

Barb McCann

Business Manager

mccann.barbara.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Parents & Friends News



Welcome Back

Welcome back everyone to a new and different type of term. We hope you are all settling more or less into a routine.

Next PFA Meeting

Our first PFA meeting for Term 2 will be held next Wednesday, 29th April, at 5pm. All parents and friends are welcome. Obviously, our usual fundraising efforts will be out of kilter for this term, but nevertheless there are many ways in which we can keep connected and support each other. So please come and contribute any ideas.

Please click on the link below just prior to 5pm next Wednesday to attend the PFA Meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2841760750?pwd=bjN2UWxBNG1jT3hwamowdGFJa1Jadz09>

Meeting ID: 284 176 0750

Password: ehpsfa

Fiona Nicholson Stocker

(Mum of Allison, 40)

ehpsfa@gmail.com

