

# Exford Primary School Teams Newsletter



## 2023 Term 1 at Exford PS!

At the start of each term, our teaching teams prepare an outline of the term ahead, so that our families have insights into their child's classroom work to come.

As always, please contact your child's teacher to discuss your child's learning and for any queries or issues you may have.

### Term 1 Key Dates:

- Tuesday 31 January – 2023 School year starts for Years 1-6 students
- Tuesday 31 January - Friday 3 February – Prep Assessment Interviews
- Friday 3 February
  - Year 1-6 NEW children are presented at our Sharing Assembly on Friday morning – they will share their official 'Starting School at EPS' certificate!
- Monday 6 February – Year Prep students begin (10.00 am – 2.30 pm)
- Tuesday 7 February – Year Prep students begin full time (8.50 am – 3.30 pm)
- Friday 10 February – Our Year Prep children will be presented at our Sharing Assembly - they will share their official 'Starting School at EPS' certificate!
- Tuesday 28 February – MPSSA Swimming Carnival
- Wednesday 1 March – 'Meet the Teacher' Interviews
- Thursday 2 March – 'Meet the Teacher' Interviews
- Thursday 10 March – MPSSA Summer Lightning Cup (Year 5 – 6 students)
- **Monday 13 March – Labour Day Public Holiday**
- Wednesday 15 March – NAPLAN testing begins for Year 3 and Year 5 students
- Friday 31 March – School Photos
- Thursday 6 April
  - Easter Bonnet Parade – 9 am Assembly (children design and create their Easter Bonnets as part of their Homework tasks in the previous weeks)
  - End of Term 1 (2.30 pm dismissal)

Enjoy the read!

Ms Campo and Mr Wilson



# PREP

newsletter

Term One 2023

## Meet the Prep Team

Ms Hannah Smyth  
Prep Smyth & PLT Leader

Ms Christina Akamatis  
Prep Akamatis

Ms Jaclyn Littlewood  
Learning Specialist

### Note Folders:

Each student will be given a clear plastic pocket 'note folder'. The note folder will come home when there are notes for parents. The note folder is to be returned to school the following day.

### Share Time:

This term, the Prep classes will commence 'Share Time' to support the development of their oral language and build confidence in speaking in front of others. Each week there will be a different theme.

The rosters for each class will be posted to Seesaw early in the term for your reference.

### Take Home Reading & Homework:

Students will take home 3 books every Friday to read for the week. Homework will be sent home Wednesdays and is to be returned each Monday. Your child's teacher will notify you via Seesaw when Take Home Reading and Homework commence.

### Munch & Crunch:

All students are encouraged to bring some fruit or vegetables in their lunchbox to eat during Munch & Crunch each morning at 10 am.



### Specialist Days:

Each week the Preps will participate in specialist subjects, which are Art, French, PE, and Science. Your classroom teacher will notify you via Seesaw for the days these happen.



### Library:

Our classes will have a session in the Library each week where students can borrow a book for the week.



## Reading:

In Reading, students will learn about the concepts of print. This will include where to begin reading and which way to track print on the page. They will investigate the difference between a letter, a word, and a sentence.

Students will begin to establish reading strategies, such as one-to-one tracking with their finger, using picture clues, and recognising some high-frequency words within the text.

We will also focus on *predicting* what will happen in the texts we read, in order to support their comprehension of the text.



## Writing:

In Writing, students will learn all about the alphabet. This will include how to write lowercase and uppercase letters and begin experimenting with the initial sound of a word.

Students will make connections between the spoken word (what is said) and writing - e.g. what I say can be represented with words on the page. They will develop an understanding of the relationship between letters and sounds.

They will learn the 'Think, Say, Sketch, Write' process when learning how to write *recounts* about past experiences.



## Speaking and Listening:

Speaking and Listening in Term 1 will include an explicit focus on the following:

- Identify rhyme and syllables in spoken words
- Identifying sounds in spoken words
- Listening to, remembering, and following simple instructions and classroom routines
- Sequencing ideas by retelling a story they know (using picture clues)



# Maths:

## *Number and Algebra*

Students will use a range of manipulatives (hands-on materials) to support the development of their counting and recognition. They will model, read, write and draw numbers to 10.

Students will also investigate and create patterns. They will sort and classify familiar objects and explain their reasoning. They will copy, continue and create patterns with objects and drawings.

## *Measurement and Geometry*

Students will learn about Time with a focus on the days of the Week and identify events on specific days (e.g. I have swimming lessons on Friday).



## PBL:

In PBL this term, students will learn about cultures in their immediate world.

Students will focus on their immediate family, home, school, and friends. This includes cultural practices relevant to their lived experiences, such as choice of food, clothing or housing, cultural celebrations and language.

## Wellbeing:

The Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships learning uses a range of collaborative learning strategies, which in themselves, provide opportunities to develop social skills. The activities also explicitly engage with the key content areas of:

- Emotional literacy
- Decision making
- Problem-solving
- Positive self-regard
- Stress management
- Positive coping
- Help-seeking and peer support

## Seesaw:

Keep an eye out on Seesaw, as your child's teacher will regularly post photos and samples of work to showcase and celebrate achievements of the students.

Please contact your child's teacher or the office staff if you do not have access to Seesaw.



**Seesaw**



# Year 1-2 Overview Term 1 2023

## **Meet the Year 1-2 Team**

### **Teachers**

Ms Jaclyn Littlewood	- Learning Specialist
Mrs Karen Ambrose	1-2A
Mrs Simone Roe	1-2R
Mrs Lisa Romanski	1-2L
Ms Rebeka Talevski	1-2T

### **Education Support Staff**

Ms Bernice Hudson	1-2A
Mrs Kim Scalzo	1-2A
Mrs Lisa Van Gemert	1-2T

## **Writing & Reading**

Our Writing in Term 1 will focus on Personal Recounts, Narratives, Information Reports and Poetry. The students will write to understand the structure of texts and the features of writing. Students will also practise their handwriting with a focus on the formation and size of their letters.

In Reading, we will focus on the reading comprehension strategies of Making Connections and Predicting to build our literal and inferred understanding of texts. Students will have a wide range of books to read from our classroom library.

We will develop our knowledge of vowel digraphs and blends to build our Word Solving skills. We will also focus on the students learning the Magic 100, Magic 200 and Magic 300 words. These high frequency words will support the students reading and writing. All students will have words to learn at home each week, along with their nightly reading.

## **Maths**

The students will learn all about numbers, with a focus on Counting, Number Patterns and Place Value. They will investigate number sequences and skip counting. They will learn to recognise, model, read, write and order numbers to at least 100 (Year 1) and to 1000 (Year 2).

In Measurement, they will learn about calendars, days of the week, months of the year and the seasons. In Geometry, they will learn all about the features of 2D shapes

## **PBL**

All the students will gain knowledge and skills by working to investigate 'How to be a Member of the Exford Community'. They will focus on the school values of Respect, Kindness and Personal Best and how to show them every day.

Students will discuss the 'Gotcha' rewards program and how they can earn Gotchas both in the classroom and the playground by showing their Personal Best, Respect and Kindness.

**Ballarat Wildlife Park Excursion  
for Year 1-2  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.**



# Year 1-2 Overview

Term 1 2023

Page 2

## Take Home Reading

Take Home Reading will commence on Monday 6 February. All Year 1-2 students are expected to read **every night** with an adult, building up to 15 minutes per night.



We ask all students to have their reading diaries **signed** by their parents and returned to school **every day** so they can be checked off by the teacher.

## Library

All students will have the opportunity to visit the Library to borrow a book to read at home. They require a Library bag for their weekly Library lesson. These can be purchased from the office.



## Munch & Crunch

All students are encouraged to bring some fruit or vegetables in their lunchbox to eat during Munch & Crunch time each morning at 10am.



## Homework

Homework will commence on Wednesday 15 February. Tasks will be posted on your child's Seesaw Journal Page every Wednesday and will comprise of either a Reading, Writing or Maths activity.

Students should complete the task in their Homework book and return their Homework book by the following Monday.



Parents are asked to sign the Homework Overview sheet in the Homework Book each week to indicate they have seen their child's completed homework.

## Reading Eggs

All Year 1-2 students will have access to Reading Eggs/ Reading Eggspress for the year. The program will be used in class and can be accessed at home to develop Reading skills. Passwords will be posted on Seesaw.



## Seesaw

Your child's teacher will regularly post photos and samples of work to showcase and celebrate their achievements.



*We look forward to a great Term 1 with lots of learning to be done.  
From Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Roe, Mrs Romanski & Ms Talevski*

Year 3-4 Team

# newsletter



Welcome  
Back!

TERM 1, 2023

Meet our 2023 Team!

Year 3-4 Micallef	Year 3-4 Monagle	Year 3-4 Jones
Mrs Alyssa Micallef (PLT Leader & Teacher) Mrs Joanne Comer (ES) Mrs Susanne Greenstade (ES)	Ms Kellie Monagle (Teacher) Mrs Nicole Clare (ES) Mrs Rachel MacLeod (ES)	Ms Rhiannon Jones (Teacher) Mrs Sharyn Farrah (ES) Ms Kathryn Killeen (ES)
Mr Nathan Jenner (Learning Specialist)		

## START UP LEARNING

During Weeks 1-3, students will be participating in our Start Up Units of Learning, in **Reading, Writing, Maths** and **Wellbeing**. These units involve setting up routines and expectations in our classrooms.

## NIGHTLY READING & HOMEWORK

Students use their diary to record their nightly reading and key events. It is required to come to school **on a daily basis**. It is an excellent tool to help students take responsibility for their learning. Take Home Reading will commence in **Week 3**. Homework will consist of Literacy and Numeracy tasks, rotating throughout the term. It will be handed out weekly on **Wednesday** and due back on **Monday**. Homework will begin in **Week 4**.

## THE HUMANITIES

Each term, students will be exploring and learning about a different area of The Humanities. There are 3 key topics which we will unpack and delve into: **Civics and Citizenship, History and Geography**. In Term One, we will be exploring the history of Indigenous Australians before Europeans settled in Australia.

## OTHER INFORMATION

NAPLAN for Year 3 students is during Week 8 of Term 1. They will be working on becoming familiar with test settings and format of the test. There will be more information to come.

You will hear more from us through **Seesaw**

## READING

In **Reading** this term, we will be learning to strengthen our use of comprehension strategies, explicitly focusing on **analysing texts, making connections** and **inferring**. Students will also be focusing on their understanding of **Question Answer Relationship (QAR)**. This involves identifying types of questions and how to locate answers.

## WRITING

In **Writing** students will be exploring how important their **word choice, ideas** and **text structure** is when writing **Narratives** and **Persuasive** texts.

Students will complete a **spelling** test early this term which will identify learning foci for Semester 1.

## MATHS

In **Maths**, we will be completing 3 units this term:

- Probability**
  - Describing possible everyday events and the chances of them occurring
- Place Value**
  - Investigating & using the properties: odd and even numbers
  - Recognising, representing and ordering numbers to at least tens of thousands
- Symmetry & 3D Shapes**
  - Identifying symmetry in the environment & describing key features of 3D shapes



# Year 5-6 Team

## TERM 1 NEWSLETTER



*Mrs Higgins*

CLASSROOM TEACHER

Mrs Kim Scalzo (ES)  
Ms Seemab Javed (ES)



*Mr Mounsey*

YEAR 5-6 PLT LEADER

Ms Michelle Cassar (ES)  
Ms Jagdeep Kaur (ES)  
Ms Kathryn Killeen (ES)



*Mr Jenner*

3-6 LEARNING SPECIALIST



*Mrs Fyfe*

CLASSROOM TEACHER

Mrs Loren Ward (ES)  
Ms Hayley Rundell (ES)  
Ms Kathryn Killeen (ES)

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TERM 1

What a year 2023 is bound to be. A whole new experience for all of our wonderful students, first time in senior primary school and the FINAL year for our wonderful Year 6 students. It is also with great delight that Mr Jenner and I (Mr Mounsey) welcome the AMAZING Ms Higgins and Ms Fyfe into 5-6 land and we hope they find it as rewarding as we know it to be! Term 1 is set to busy and exciting! With students commencing Tuesday 31 Jan, we begin the year with our start-up program, focusing on establishing positive routines and habits which will set our year up for success. In this time we will begin the process of selecting our 2023 School Captains (Year 6 students). We will also begin our search for various School Ambassadors (Year 5 and 6 students); students will be given more information regarding these opportunities. Also in Term 1, our Year 6 students can expect delivery of their Year 6 commemorative garment (an exciting Exford tradition). With hopefully nice weather in Term 1, a reminder that students must bring and wear their Exford school hat for recess, lunch, PE and our MPSSA Interschool Sports. Term 1 will see Tennis, Cricket and Volleyball become part of our sporting prowess, with students encouraged to try their hand at something new and represent our school!







## LITERACY

This Term, students will be looking at the behaviours and strategies that help us to become good readers and writers. We will continue to grow and develop a love of reading and passion for books!

In **Reading** this term, we will be learning to strengthen our use of comprehension strategies, explicitly focusing on **summarising**, as well as **critiquing** and **analysing** texts. Students will also identify how texts can be conveyed from various viewpoints, as well as identifying and answering different types of questions in our **Question Answer Relationship (QAR)** unit.

In **Writing**, we will explore how various devices, craft choices and text structures enhance our writing. Students will specifically focus on **narratives**, **persuasives** (expositions), as well as a range of **poetry** and poetic devices.

## NUMERACY

In Maths we will be learning about:

### Number and Algebra:

Place Value and Whole Numbers, students will develop their foundational knowledge of numbers, including understanding factors and multiples of numbers and how these can be used to solve mathematical problems.

Addition and Subtraction, Students will build on their existing understandings to develop more efficient strategies for addition and subtraction.

### Measurement and Geometry:

Time, students will further establish their ability to tell the time and use am and pm notation. Students will also begin comparing and converting between 12 and 24 hour time systems, as well as view and interpret timetables and calculate elapsed time.





## WELLBEING

During Term 1, students in Year 5-6 will be taking a close look into their wellbeing and mindfulness using a range of different programs.

Mindfulness can benefit student wellbeing and engagement with learning by improving students' ability to regulate emotions, improving attention and improving memory, reasoning, planning, goal setting and self regulation: all of which is essential when focusing and learning new information.

## P.B.L / HUMANITIES

In **P.B.L/ Humanities** this year, students will explore the four areas of the Humanities curriculum; History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, as well as Economics and Business.

In Term 1, students will be investigating Maritime History, specific to the Shipwreck Coast and The Loch Ard. Students will also develop an understanding of Indigenous Australian History and Culture, specifically relating to the Wathaurong and Gunditjmara peoples.



## HOMWORK

Take Home Reading will start Monday 6 February and Homework will begin Wednesday 13 February. It will be handed out on Wednesday and due on Monday. Please provide your child's teacher with a note if there is any reason why your child has not completed their Homework.

Weekly Homework will consist of alternating tasks relating to the learning concepts covered in the classroom. The focus of Homework tasks will rotate between Reading, Writing, Maths and Project Based Learning.

**Reading & Student Diaries:** Students use their student diary to record their nightly reading and key events. It is required that the diary comes to school on a daily basis. This is an excellent tool to help students take responsibility for their learning and to begin to develop their organisational skills.



**Term 1,  
2023**

# Art



Welcome back to a new school year! This year, Art will be taught by Miss Mastrop.

I look forward to getting to know each of the students better, I know we will have a fantastic year in the Art Room!

## **Prep:**

Prep students will be creating a range of different art works by cutting, drawing, tracing, gluing and painting. We will also learn about patterns and how to create them! Preps will have the chance to explore line, shape, colour and texture as elements of Art.



## **Year 3-4:**

Year 3-4 students will develop on their knowledge of line and colour during Art this term. We will draw inspiration from artists, such as Peter Diem and Jasper Jones, to create our own amazing pieces of art!



## **Year 1-2:**

Year 1-2 students will develop on their knowledge of shape, texture and colour throughout Term 1. Using the text 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' as a mentor text and inspiration, students will create a range of artwork using painting and drawing. We will also begin to use the colour wheel to create patterns within our art works.



## **Year 5-6:**

Students in Year 5-6 will broaden their knowledge of colour schemes and how different colours create contrast against each other. We will also draw inspiration from Australian artists to create digital collages. Towards the end of the term, students will begin to create a series of Pop art images.



# French

## Bonjour Term 1



'Bonne Année 2023 Exford!' (Happy New Year 2023 Exford!)

The Term One focus in our French language studies introduces / develops students' understanding of ordinal number, body parts, singing, where French is spoken in the world and using questions to engage with others in spoken French (such as 'Qui est-ce?' (who is it?)).



*In Term 1, our French classes will focus on:*

**Year Preps** Term 1, we are learning greetings with songs, such as 'Bonjour, Bonjour!' by Alain le lait and other French greetings songs for children, mimicking French sounds, discovering the French words for their favourite pets, toys and food.

**Year 1-2** will progress by acting in a simple French play, and describing themselves and their feelings.

- We will play games, using the identified vocabulary – such as, my hair colour, how old I am and more.
- **Y1:** Comment sont tes cheveux? (What is your hair like?) **Y2:** J'ai les yeux noir. (black.)

**Year 3-4** will explore days of the week, month and seasons in the French language to interact and play.

- We will ask and answer questions, such as :
  - Quel jour sommes-nous? (What day is it?)
  - C'est le mercredi 1er Février 2023. (It is Tuesday 1 February 2023.)

**Year 5-6** will improve the use of their spoken French language in daily routine in plays, interactive games, such as role-playing and ordering in a restaurant and we will learn adjectives and useful vocabulary for this purpose.

- Example:
  - Est-ce que je peux avoir un jus d'orange? (May I have an orange juice, please?)
  - Oui, je vous/te l'apporte. (Yes, I will bring it for you.)

*We speak, sing, converse using our French sentences and activities:*

*Our vocabulary and topics:*

1. Order or buy food.
2. Visit, travels: What to do in France.
3. Food: la salade niçoise (recipe posted to Seesaw) Délicieux! (Delicious!)
4. To do/research what do you know about France/French.
5. Culture: Eat well, a French essential!
6. Easy everyday Q and A.

*Bienvenue aux classes de français 2023! (Welcome to french classes 2023!)*





## **Physical Education in Term 1 2023!**

### **Year Prep:**

In Term 1, our Year Prep students will begin their Physical Education journey at school by learning how to stay within a play space, how to play safely, how to follow rules and instruction. The students will also be introduced to a range of fun activities and games where they can apply basic locomotor skills, such as running, jumping and leaping.

### **Year 1-2:**

The Year 1-2 students will begin the year by re-establishing the expectations and rules in Physical Education by playing a wide range of co-operative activities and games. Students will then progress on to their locomotor skills unit where they will continue to focus on how to run, jump, leap and dodge using the correct technique and in a safe manner.

### **Year 3-4:**

The Year 3-4 students will begin their year off by being re-introduced to the behaviours and expectations that are expected in Physical Education. Once the students have re-established their routine, they will move on to their locomotor skills unit with a focus on jumping, leaping and dodging skills.

### **Year 5-6:**

Our Year 5-6 students will begin the year off by setting their expectations and goals for Physical Education in 2023, along with establishing a routine for their Physical Education lessons. Students will then move on to the 2023 Golf unit, where the students will apply a range of different ways to strike a golf ball towards a target.





# Science at Exford PS in Term 1 2023

## **Prep:**

The Year Preps will begin Science in 2023 by learning about the weather in our world. They will observe and describe the characteristics of weather and seasonal patterns, exploring the similarities and differences between the different weather patterns in each season. Students will also begin to learn how to describe weather using language, such as hot, cold, gentle and strong.

## **Year 1-2:**

Science begins with our topic, 'Changes all around' for our Year 1-2 students. We will be discussing how change is all around us and how some changes are easy to notice and other changes are so miniscule we barely notice. Students will explore the natural and man-made changes around us and how they impact on our lives.

## **Year 3-4:**

The Year 3-4 Students will begin to learn about the Earth's rotation on its axis and how it causes regular changes, including the occurrence of day and night. Students will also begin to explore the different sizes of the Sun, Moon and Earth and their effect on how they cause day and night as the Earth spins.

## **Year 5-6:**

The Year 5-6 Students will start the year off by learning about our solar system and the range of amazing things that occur within it. Students will explore the place of each of the planets within our solar system, as well as the Sun, moon and various stars. Students will investigate and create models of how each planet and the sun move in relation to one another.

