

# Exford Primary School Teams Newsletter



## 2024 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:

- Monday 29 January – 2024 Term 1 begins for all staff - Pupil Free Day No 1 for students
- Tuesday 30 January – Pupil Free Day No 2 for Students
- Wednesday 31 January – 2024 School year starts for Years 1-6 students
- Wednesday 31 January – Monday 5 February – 2024 Prep Assessment appointments
- Tuesday 6 February – 2024 Preps begin - 10 am – 2.30 pm
- Wednesday 7 February – 2024 preps - 8.50 am – 2.30 pm
- Thursday 8 February – 2024 Preps begin full time attendance at school – 8.50 am – 3.30 pm
- Friday 9 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!
- Friday 16 February – Our Year Prep children will be presented at our Sharing Assembly - they will share their official 'Starting School at EPS' certificate!
- Tuesday 20 February – 1.30 – 4.40 pm Day 2 of 'Meet the Teacher – Parent Teacher interviews (appointments can be made through XUNO).
- Wednesday 21 February – 5.30 – 7 pm – School Council Meeting (for elected members)
- Thursday 22 February – 1.30 – 4.40 pm Day 1 of 'Meet the Teacher – Parent Teacher interviews (appointments can be made through XUNO).
- Wednesday 28 February – 2.30 – 3 pm – Waddurung Welcome to Country and Smoking – for the start of construction for our Gymnasium
- Thursday 7 March – School Photos
- Friday 8 March – Year 1-2 Melbourne Zoo excursion
- **Monday 11 March – Labour Day Public Holiday**
- Wednesday 13 March – NAPLAN testing begins for Year 3 and Year 5 students
- Thursday 28 March
  - 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



Term 1, 2024

# Prep Term 1 Overview



## Meet the Prep Team.

Ms Zaffie Mastrop  
Prep Mastrop &  
PLT Leader



Ms Christina Akamatis  
Prep Akamatis



Ms Meg Gleeson  
Prep Gleeson



Ms Rachel Cooper  
Education Support



Ms Jaclyn Littlewood  
Learning Specialist



## Munch and Crunch

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



## Note Folders

Each student will receive a clear document wallet which will act as a 'note folder'. It will be sent home when there are notes for parents. Please ensure this is returned back to school as quickly as possible.

### Take Home Reading and Homework.

Students will take home one new book every day. We encourage parents to read take home books and their child's magic words with them every night. In your child's reading diary, please record the title of the book that they have read.

Homework will be sent home every Wednesday and is to be returned every Monday. Your child's teacher will notify parents via Seesaw once Take Home Reading and Homework commence.

### Library



Our classes will have one session per week in the Library, where students are able to borrow books.

On Library days, please ensure their Library bags are brought to school as children will not be able to borrow books without them. Please ensure all library books are returned to school.

### Specialist Days

Each week the Preps will participate in Specialist subjects which are Art, French, PE and Science.

Your child's teacher will share this information via Seesaw.

### Seesaw and XUNO

We encourage parents to regularly keep an eye out for messages and information that will be posted through Seesaw and Xuno.

We will use Seesaw to post photos and regularly showcase work completed during class.

Please contact the school office if you are unable to access Seesaw and/or Xuno.



## Reading

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

Students will begin to establish reading strategies, such as one-to-one tracking, using picture clues and recognising high frequency words.

Prep students will be introduced to phonemic awareness, focusing on letter and sound recognition, and language awareness.

We will also focus on predicting what may happen in texts, in order for students to comprehend the texts they read.

## Writing

In Writing students will learn all about the alphabet. We will explore how to write lowercase and uppercase letters and we will begin to experiment with initials sounds of words.

Students will make connections between spoken words (what is said) and writing. For example, what I say can be expressed through words on a page.

Preps will also learn about the 'Think, Say, Sketch, Write' process when learning how to writing procedural texts.

## Speaking and Listening

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

- Identify rhyme (e.g. words which sound the same, such as book and look) and syllables (e.g. by clapping word parts - e.g. Elephant -el-e-phant) in spoken words.
- Identify sounds in spoken words.
- Listening to, remembering and following simple instructions and regular classroom routines.
- Sequencing ideas when telling a story.

# Year 1-2 Overview Term 1 2024

## Meet the Year 1-2 Team:

### Teachers

Ms Jaclyn Littlewood - Learning Specialist  
Mrs Karen Ambrose 1-2A  
Mrs Rebeka Blasis 1-2B  
Ms Rhiannon Jones 1-2J  
Mrs Simone Roe 1-2R

### Education Support Staff

Ms Michelle Gerring  
Mrs Susanne Greenslade  
Ms Kathryn Killeen

## Writing & Reading

Our Writing in Term 1 will focus on personal recounts, narratives and information reports. 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.

## 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.

## 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.

**Melbourne Zoo Excursion  
for Year 1-2  
Friday 8 March, 2024.**

# Year 1 - 2 Overview

## Term 1 2024

### Page 2

#### Take Home Reading

Take Home Reading will commence on Monday 5 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.

#### Homework

Homework will commence on Wednesday 14 February. Tasks will be pasted in your child's homework book 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.

#### 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.



#### Seesaw

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



#### 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.



#### Munch and Crunch

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



*We look forward to a great Term 1 with lots of learning to be done.*

*From Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Blasis,  
Ms Jones and Mrs Roe.*

# TERM 1 NEWSLETTER

# YEAR 3-4

## MEET THE YEAR 3-4 TEAM



Mr Jenner

YEAR 3-6 LEARNING SPECIALIST



Mr Mounsey

YEAR 3-4 PLT LEADER &  
CLASSROOM TEACHER  
Ms Michelle Gerring (ES)  
Ms Seemab Javed (ES)  
Ms Kathryn Killeen (ES)



Mrs Fyfe

CLASSROOM TEACHER  
Ms Hayley Rundell (ES)



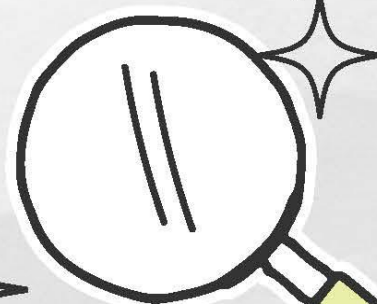
Mrs Romanski

CLASSROOM TEACHER  
Mrs Joanne Comer (ES)  
Ms Bernice Hudson (ES)



Mrs Monagle

CLASSROOM TEACHER  
Mrs Sharyn Farrar (ES)  
Ms Seemab Javed (ES)



# 1

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TERM 1



Welcome to Term 1! Having settled into our new classrooms and adjusting to our new play spaces, our Year 3-4 students are excited for a fun filled 9 week term. Although one of the shortest terms this year, Term 1 is busy! School photos will be held on Thursday 7 March and NAPLAN for our Year 3 students will begin after the Labour Day long weekend. With much to do and so little time, we hope to make this term filled with laughs and smiles. If you ever have any questions, concerns or worries, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher via Seesaw, XUNO or email.

## 2 LITERACY

This term, students will be looking at the behaviours and strategies that help us to strengthen and deepen our reading and writing skills. We will continue to grow and develop a love of reading and passion for books!



In Reading, we will be learning to strengthen our use of comprehension strategies, explicitly focusing on inferring, as well as critiquing and analysing. Students will also learn to identify and answer 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 explore the genres of narratives and persuasives (expositions).

## 3 NUMERACY

In Maths, we will be learning about:

### Number and Algebra

Place Value: Students will recognise, represent and order numbers to at least tens of thousands, as well as partition numbers to tens of thousands to solve addition and subtraction problems. Students will learn to recognise that the place value system can be extended to tenths and hundredths.

### Measurement and Geometry

Time: Students will learn to tell time to the minute and how to convert between units of time. Students will also use 'am' and 'pm' notation to solve simple time problems.

### Statistics and Probability

Chance: Students will conduct chance experiments, identifying and describing possible outcomes. Students will also describe and order events according to the chance of them occurring.



## 4 WELLBEING

During Term 1, students in Year 3-4 will be taking a close look at their wellbeing, following the Respectful Relationships program. Students in Year 3-4 will be focusing on problem-solving and help-seeking.





## 5 HUMANITIES

In Humanities this year, students will explore three areas of the Humanities curriculum: History, Geography, and Civics and Citizenship.

In Term 1, students will learn about Australian History, with a specific focus on the events and the effects of European settlement. They will explore the First Fleet, learning about causes and reasons for the journey, and the experiences and perspectives of those who travelled to and arrived in Australia.



## 6 HOMEWORK & NIGHTLY READING

Nightly Reading will begin on Monday 5 February. Homework will begin on Wednesday 14 February. Homework will be handed out on Wednesdays and is due back the following 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, and Maths.

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

WELCOME TO 2024!



Year 5-6 Team

# newsletter



Welcome  
Back!

TERM 1, 2024

Meet our 2024 Team!

Year 5-6 Micallef	Year 5-6 Higgins	Year 5-6 Odgers
Mrs Alyssa Micallef (Teacher) Mrs Kim Scatzo (ES) Mrs Loren Ward (ES)	Ms Melissa Higgins (PLT Leader and Teacher) Mrs Nicole Clare (ES) Ms Montana Schembri (ES) Ms Lisa Van Gemert (ES) Ms Kathryn Killeen (ES)	Ms Madeline Odgers (Teacher) Mrs Jagdeep Kaur (ES) Ms Hayley Rundell (ES)
Mr Nathan Jenner (Learning Specialist)		

## START UP LEARNING

During Weeks 1-2, 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 are expected to use their diary to record their nightly reading. 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 2**. 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 3**.

## THE HUMANITIES

Each term, students will be exploring and learning about a different area of The Humanities. There are three 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 Australian colonies, including how and why they changed, as well as focusing on historically significant individuals in these colonies.

## OTHER INFORMATION

NAPLAN for Year 5 students begins during Week 6 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.

## READING

In **Reading** this term, we will be learning to strengthen our use of comprehension strategies, explicitly focusing **summarising, critiquing and analysing**. Students will be studying the text 'Boy Overboard', by Morris Gleitzman, which delves into themes about identity, immigration, family and discrimination.

## WRITING

In **Writing** students will be exploring the seven traits of Writing with an aim to focus on their **organisation, voice and conventions**.

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

## MATHS

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

- Place Value**
  - Recognise, represent and order numbers to at least hundreds of thousands
  - Value of digits in decimal places
- Measurement and Geometry**
  - Choose appropriate units of measurement for length, area, volume, capacity and mass.
- Additive Thinking**
  - Addition and Subtraction using numbers involving decimals

You will hear more from us through

# ART ROOM NEWS

## TERM 1

In Term 1, we will spend time settling into our new space and engaging in Visual Arts projects across the school. Students will create self-portraits to display through our new hallways!

Year 5-6 students will focus on construction and learn about construction artist Chris Gilmour.

Year Prep students will spend Term 1 being introduced to the elements of Art! They include colour, line, shape, pattern and texture.

Year 3-4 students will create landscapes, learn about Australian Artist, Jeremy Western and have fun learning beading techniques.

Year 1-2 students will explore oil resist artwork and learn techniques to create 3D artwork. We will learn about ceramic artists.

### Did you know?

Art used to be an Olympic event! Thanks to Baron Pierre de Coubertin, between 1912 and 1948 medals were given out for sporting-inspired masterpieces of architecture, music, painting, sculpture and literature.

# ART ROOM NEWS TERM 1



Keep an eye on Seesaw for updates of the work we create.

I always welcome donations from your craft cupboard clean outs at home!

Ms Watt

# Physical Education at EPS in Term 1

## Year Prep

To begin Term 1 at Exford, the Year Prep students will start the year with learning the expectations and routine in P.E. Students will play a range of different games that involve listening to instructions, staying within the game boundaries, safe play, and appropriate use of the Physical Education equipment. The Year Prep students will also be developing their locomotor skills, such as running, jumping, hopping, and leaping.

## Year 1-2

The Year 1-2 students will be beginning the year with re-engaging with the expectations and routines in Physical Education lessons, students will also develop their ability to solve movement challenges while participating in small groups with others in a positive manner. To finish off Term 1, the Year 1-2 students will be continuing to build on their locomotor skills such as running, jumping, hopping, and leaping.

## Year 3-4

In Year 3-4, the students will begin Term 1 by co-operating with their peers to solve movement challenges that involve multiple different fundamental movement skills. Students will continue to develop their locomotor skills while also having a focus on target games that have a specific focus on throwing with the correct technique towards a target.

## Year 5-6

To begin Term 1, the Year 5-6 students will be building on their ability to work positively in a team with a focus on encouraging each other. Students will also be re-engaging in games and activities that involve a wide range of fundamental movement skills. To finish off Term 1, the students will be learning the skills of Volleyball with a focus on applying the skills using the correct technique, teamwork and devising strategies to score.

# French



## *Coucou !*

'Bienvenue dans notre nouvelle classe !' (Welcome in our new French classroom!)

We can see how French has become part of Exford Primary School over the years.

Term 1 will cover topics, such as ordinal numbers, parts of the body, singing, discovering the global presence of French, its cultural impact worldwide, questioning and various activities students will engage in with, among other subjects.

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

**Year Prep** – In Term 1, we are learning greetings with songs like 'Bonjour, bonjour!' By Alain le lait, mimicking French sounds, discovering their favourite pets, toys and food.

**Year 1-2** will progress by acting in a simple French play and describe location and different sounds in French language.

- We will play games, using the identified vocabulary: O=O, eau, é, è and more.
- **Y1: C'est l'été.** (It is summer.) **Y2: C'est chaud.** (It is hot.)

**Year 3-4** will explore rhymes, write imaginative texts and explore 'Kim's Game' and 'Chinese Whispers' in French language.

- We will ask and answer questions, such as:
  - **AmsTramGram,**
  - **Où est Titou ?** (Where is Titou?)

**Year 5-6** will improve the use of the language in daily routine in plays, exchanging with their sister-school JBB Couizo and we will cover adaptive topics for this purpose.

- Example:
  - **Est-ce que tu portes un uniforme à l'école ?** (Do you wear a uniform at school?)
  - **Non, en France on ne porte pas d'uniforme.** (No, we do not wear uniform at school in France.)

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

### *Our vocabulary and topics:*

1. Visit, travels: Marseille.
2. Culture: uniform, canteen weekly menu.
3. Food: la galette des rois (recipe posted to Seesaw) Miam miam! (Yum!)
4. Easy everyday **Q** and **A** to exchange with friends and family.

*Bienvenue aux classes de français 2024 ! (Welcome to French classes 2024!)*



Toulouse

## SCIENCE NEWSLETTER 2024 TERM 1

### Prep

This term, the Prep students will be diving into the science inquiry unit, 'Changes All Around Us!' They will be introduced to the key concepts, Change and Function, as they have fun working in teams, getting outdoors, noticing and wondering about all the changes that occur in the sky and our landscapes and how these changes affect our everyday lives.

The Science inquiry focus questions will be:

- ★ *How do we use science in our lives?*
- ★ *How are changes in weather affecting our daily lives?*
- ★ *How are our actions changing our climate?*



### Year 1-2

This term, the Year 1-2 students will be inquiring into the Science inquiry unit, 'Changes All Around Us!' They will build on their previous year's knowledge and understanding of the concepts, Form, Change and Function, as they focus their inquiries around the possible reasons as to why there are changes in our skies and landscapes and how our actions can help our climate improve around the world.

The Science inquiry focus questions will be:

- ★ *How do we use science in our lives?*
- ★ *How are changes in weather affecting our daily lives?*
- ★ *Why do the changes in our skies & landscapes occur?*
- ★ *How are our actions changing our climate?*

### Year 3-4

This term, the Year 3-4 students will be inquiring into the science inquiry unit, 'Changes All Around Us!' They will explore the key concepts, Change, Pattern and Function, as they work in collaborative teams to identify the changes and patterns that occur over time as a result of natural processes and human activities. By applying their science inquiry skills, they will observe, record, monitor, question and analyse different types of soil and rocks, and how different landscapes can erode through natural weathering processes and human activities. The knowledge and understanding they gain from this inquiry, will offer them insight into how science can be used to influence our actions and make better decisions for our planet.

The Science inquiry focus questions will be:

- ★ *How can Science be used to influence our actions & make better decisions for our planet?*
- ★ *What has caused our Earth's surface to change over time?*



### Year 5-6

This term, the Year 5-6 students will be inquiring into the science inquiry unit, 'Changes All Around Us!' They will explore the key concepts, Change, Function, Causation, as they work in collaborative teams to determine the causes and effects of extreme weather conditions and the impact it has on our Earth's environment. The students will inquire into our Earth's geology and weather and the causes and effects of earthquakes. They will practise posing questions, collecting and recording data and communicate their findings and opinions in front of their peers. The knowledge and understanding they gain from this inquiry, will offer them insight into how Science can be used to inform personal decisions that directly affect our planet.

The Science inquiry focus questions will be:

- ★ *How do we use Science to inform our decisions & solve problems in our lives?*
- ★ *How do changes in our Earth's geology & weather affect Earth's surface?*
- ★ *What are the causes and effects of earthquakes?*