



# Exford Primary School

Where Children Count!  
[www.exfordps.vic.edu.au](http://www.exfordps.vic.edu.au)



*At Exford, these qualities are really important:*

**Respect**      **Kindness**      **Personal Best**

... and it's up to all of us to show them every day in every thing we say and every thing we do!

**Principal: Ms Lisa Campo**      **Phone: 9743 5025**  
[exford.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:exford.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**NEWSLETTER 2017 No.16** (Term 4, 2017)  
**Thursday 26 October 2017**

You are represented on School Council by:

**Parents:** Adele (Olivia & Alexander), Amanda (Caitlyn, Ava & Hayley), Belinda (Nicholas and Kade), Jacki (Claire), Jenny (Aimee), Katy (Adele & Hamish), Sarah (Lily & Oscar), Sharon (Charlie & Archie) and Susan (Jessica).

**EPS Community:** Graham

**Staff:** Ms Campo, Mrs Farrugia, Mr King and Mr Parker

**Follow this link to Exford's YouTube Channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRQsi70kypo0V70FJsBcOF3w>

## Ms Campo's News...

### **Thank you!**

Thank you to all our kids who donned their silliest socks and their loudest outfits for the two charities we supported in the first fortnight of this term. We raised:

- \$461.60 for Silly Sock Day which supports Ronald McDonald House
- \$456.75 for Tarralye through our annual 'Loud Shirt' Day activities.

### **Canteen CLOSED on Thursday 2 Nov**

Please be aware that our Canteen will not be operating on Thursday 2 November - so there will be no lunch nor counter sales available.

### **Boys' toilets renovation**

Mr Bowden is motoring along with the renovation to our boys' toilets block (next to Prep rooms), the approval process for this began late Term 2! We anticipate that the works should be completed by the end of 2-3 weeks, all going to plan. We will turn our attention to sprucing up the other toilet buildings in their turn. We are doing an additional clean of the boys' toilets at before lunch time every day, given only one boys' toilet building is open.



### **'No Hat, No Play'!**

As recommended by SunSmart Australia, children are required to wear their school hat from September to April...so...'No Hat, No Play'!



Cut out & stick me to the fridge!



### **Dates to Remember:**

*Please add them to your calendar!*

## **2017 Dates**

### **Term 4 Dates**

**Friday 27 October**

World Teacher's Day

**Tuesday 31 October**

School Nursing Program - Preps

**Wednesday 1 November**

Red Food Day No 1 at the Canteen

**Thursday 2 November**

Canteen CLOSED today

**Monday 6 November**

School is operating as usual

**Tuesday 7 November**

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

**Thursday 9 November**

Prep Camp Activity

**Monday 13 - Friday 17 November**

Book Fair No 2 at EPS

**Tuesday 14 November**

2018 Prep Transition Day No 1

**Wednesday 15 November**

4:30 pm - final 2018 Open Afternoon

6:30 pm - School Council Mtg

**Saturday 18 November**

Djeriwarrah Festival

**Tuesday 21 November**

2018 Prep Transition Day No 2

**Thursday 23 November**

Year 1 Camp Activity

**Friday 1 December**

Australian Playhouse Performance

**Wednesday 6 December**

2017 Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

**Wednesday 13 December**

Red Food Day No 2 at the Canteen

**Thursday 14 December**

2017 Parent Helpers Morning Tea

## Planning for next year

At this stage of the year, schools begin their next year's planning in earnest. We base our planning on the number of enrolled students and communicate with the Department about the facilities we believe we will need. Schools' funding is based on many complex formulas, but is mainly based on the number of students enrolled at Census (end of February 2018).

Therefore, if your child/ren will not be at Exford next year, would you please contact Ms Campo at the school ASAP or through the Principal link on FlexiBuzz.

## School structure for 2018

As you would have seen from the Flexi Buzz post I sent out over the weekend, we have discussed our planned school structure at our School Council meeting last week. When planning, we always need to look at a variety of options to select the one which best suits the needs of the students in the year level. Whilst single year levels are always our preference, sometimes it is not the best option. For example:

- our Year 2 (2018) cohort was 2/3 boys and we have gone with Year 1-2 composites to provide better gender balance - for both 2017 and 2018.
- Our Year 3 and 4 (2018) cohorts are both 62/63 students and we can afford to have 5 classes - which ever way you split, two of the classes would begin with 30+ students - which is no-one's preferred model.
- We are yet to determine whether we will have year 5-6 composites or straight year levels, we are still considering the best option for the students.

## Class Lists

Now that we have the school structure determined (with Plan B always in the wings!), we have turned our attention to developing our 2018 class groups. Class groups are finalised before I match our staff to their 2018 roles.

As always, we take great time to develop balanced class groups, which take many factors into account - including the children's educational, interpersonal and social needs. Parents are always welcome to contact me in writing to share their thoughts about their child's educational needs with me - you can use FlexiBuzz to send me an email, as a starting point.

## Staffing for 2018

We interviewed applicants for our two Leading Teacher vacancies for 2018 and have selected Mrs Natalie Talbot and Mr Nathan Jenner (Exford) and they are both very excited about the prospect of their new leadership roles, as are we.

We have advertised the Auslan vacancy at our school and will finalise the selection process by mid November. We will now need to advertise a teacher vacancy to fill Mr Jenner's vacant teacher position.

## 2018 Term Dates

Here are the term dates for 2018.

### Term 1 (9 weeks)

- Year 1-6 students begin on Tuesday 30 January 2018
- Prep students begin on Monday 5 February and attend 5 days per week (late start on Day 1) - see note below
- Term 1 ends on Thursday 29 March 2018

### Term 2 (11 weeks)

- Staff only begin on Monday 16 April 2018
- All students begin on Tuesday 17 April 2018
- Term 2 ends on Friday 29 June 2018

### Term 3 (10 weeks)

- Staff only begin on Monday 16 July 2018
- All students begin on Tuesday 17 July 2018
- Term 3 ends on Friday 21 September 2018

### Term 4 (11 weeks)

- All staff and students begin on Monday 8 October 2018
- Term 4 ends on Friday 21 December 2018

Over the past few years, Preps have not attended on Wednesdays during the month of February, and have attended by appointment to complete their entry assessment tasks with their teachers to provide their teachers with information about their learning needs in order to better tailor their teaching and learning.

We have decided to have these four days at the start of the year so that all children's learning assessment is completed by the time the children start school. **Our 2018 Prep children will start on Monday 5 February** - starting at 10 am so that all their families can come and be part of this special day. (Our car park doesn't cope otherwise!)

## Pupil Free Days

School Council has approved our selection of Pupil Free days for 2018. As always, we try to place these days adjacent to school holidays or to a Public Holiday to make child care easier for our families.

### The days are as follows:

Term 1 - Monday 29 January 2018

Term 1 - Tuesday 13 March 2018 (day after Labour Day Public Holiday)

Term 2 - Monday 16 April 2018 (Day 1 of Term 2 for staff)

Term 3 - Monday 16 July 2018 (Day 1 of Term 3 for staff)

## Gotcha prizes!

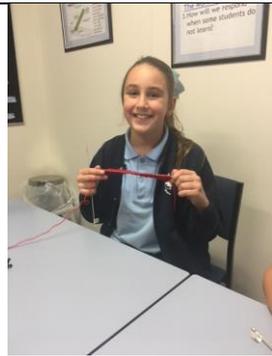
Thomas from Prep C spent some of his Gotcha awards on having lunch with Ms Campo and the teachers in the staff room. (Ty from Year 3 L is joining me tomorrow!)



## Would you like to join in the Exford 5000 Poppies Club?

Our Exford goal is to make at least 100 poppies to send to the Australian War Memorial for Remembrance Day 2018.

<https://5000poppies.wordpress.com/>



More photos to come!

## ICAS TESTING

We would like to recognise the efforts of the following students that have participated in the ICAS assessments throughout the last few months:

Amy O	Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Caleb R	Mathematics
Elle D	Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Isabel O	Spelling, English
Jared D	English, Mathematics
Jaron D	English, Mathematics
Jarrod R	Writing, Mathematics
Lucy D	Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Liam B	Mathematics
Liam C	Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Michael H	Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Oliver B	Spelling, Mathematics
Raima	Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Ryan H	Writing
Stella B	Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English, Mathematics
Tamasha	Digital Technologies, Science, English, Mathematics
Tasman	Writing
Trisha	Mathematics

These students have all participated in skills-based, independent assessments in their chosen subjects.

Each student has received a detailed report about their performance and have been presented with their certificates in front of the whole school at Assembly.

*Congratulations to these students who have participated and we applaud their individual efforts!*

## Shout-outs to our kids



Our Gardening Club in action



Tara - with her medal

## Attendance ... Every Day Counts

### Did you know that:

If your child has missed 5 days or less this school year.

This will support your child to achieve their best at school - academically and personally.

If your child has missed more than 10 days this school year.

The amount of time your child is missing will impact on their learning and their friendships.

If your child has missed more than 15 days this school year.

Your child is missing so much time from school that it will be extremely difficult for them to keep up with their learning, their friendships and to feel connected to school.

A reminder that all holiday absences (3+ days) require an Absence Learning Plan, developed with your child's teacher and signed by the Principal or Assistant Principal to cover your child's absence.

## Fundraising News



Our 2017 target is...

\$18,000 ~ \$25,000.

Our Tally so far... **\$13,461.57!!**

*Our Fundraising efforts work hand in hand with our ICT budget to provide our kids with iPads, laptops and other technologies.*

## Volunteering

A reminder that parents / family members must have provided the school with their Working With Children Check. This is a Department of Education and an Exford PS requirement.

## Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas and Year 6 Graduation Concert will be held on Wednesday 20 December. This is our major and final event for the year and we need lots of helpers.

Can you help in any of these ways?

- Source / provide donation of goods to go into our selection of prizes for the Christmas Raffle
- Help with the BBQs - cooking, serving, shopping
- Costume / stage props making (see your child's class teacher)

## Fundraising Shopping Tour

Thank you to the 25 parents booked for the Shopping Tour on Saturday 14 October - we hope you have a fabulous day and we thank you for supporting our school in this way.

## Happy Birthdays!!

To our students who celebrated their birthdays from 12 - 26 October



Rylan D, Eva B, Jessie-Lee, Ruby McF, Logan H, Arya, Ryan Ch, Mack M, Imani, Liam M, Alex L, Jack S, Jayden F, Lucas C and Caiden



Happy Birthday to you!!  
Happy Birthday to you,  
Happy Birthday dear kids,  
Happy Birthday to you!

We love celebrating birthdays at school, making a fuss over the child who is celebrating and birthday cup-cakes are always welcome! We also love for birthday children to visit us in the Office for a sticker and birthday song and a photo of this is posted into Seesaw.



*Having birthdays at school is a very special event and if your child is absent on their birthday, they miss out on all the fuss made over them.*

## Changing Bodies - Puberty Education program

Thanks to the parents of the Year 5-6 children who attended the Parent Information evening for the Changing Bodies - Puberty Education program last night. The program begins next week and runs for four weeks for each of our Year 5-6 classes.

*Hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!*

Please see the pages from:

- Mrs Gashi's page from Year 1/2 G
- Ms Kappler's PE page

☺ Ms Campo

# 2018 Djerriwarrh Festival ... coming soon!

Exford PS takes part in the annual Djerriwarrh Festival Street Parade. This year, the theme for Djerriwarrh Festival is 'Belonging' and the Parade will be held on Saturday 18 November at 11 am. We would like all children to meet beforehand between 10:15 -10:30 am so that we can organise everyone and make sure we are ready to go.

Our school entry into the Street Parade will be demonstrating this theme through jigsaw pieces - We are all different but we all come together to make something wonderful.

If your child is interested in walking with their school, Mrs Quayle will be printing tee shirts as part of our costume. Bring in a clean, named, plain white tee shirt and your child can choose a puzzle piece design and help screen print their tee shirt.

T Shirts must be at school by Friday 3 November and we will begin printing them on Monday 6 November and they will be kept at school until the Parade.

Parents and siblings are welcome to have a tee shirt printed by Mrs Quayle as well.

If your child would like to join in but you do not want a tee shirt printed, there will be a limited number of alternative costumes for children to wear - just let the Office know in advance so that we know how many we will need.

Parents and younger siblings are welcome to walk in the Parade with us. Children need to be signed in with us on the day and must be collected at the end of the Parade by their families.

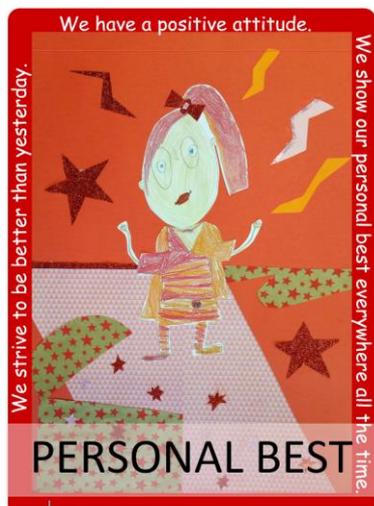
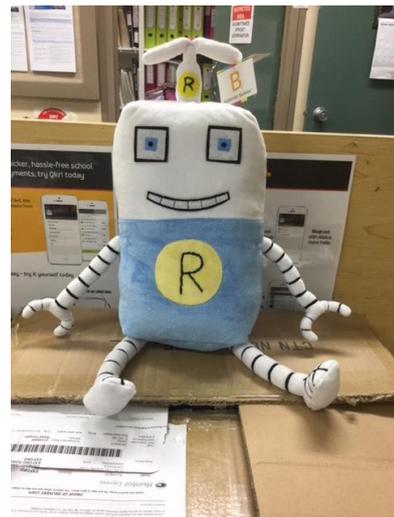
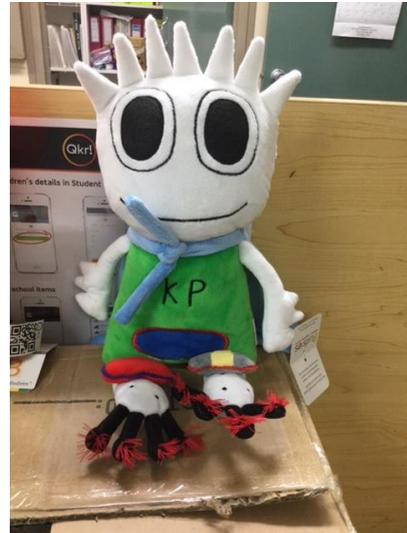
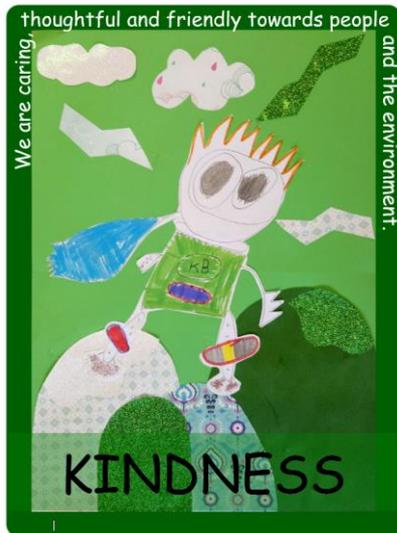
We'd love to see you - looking forward to seeing lots of Exford puzzle pieces in the Parade!

Mrs Quayle & Ms Littlewood.

(Here are some photos from last year's Djerriwarrh Festivals – can you guess the theme?!)



Our Budsies have arrived ...can you see the resemblance to our new student-designed 'Super Hero' posters for our school values?



# Mindfulness with Ms Pengelly

This is an exciting opportunity to develop a platform for the Year 4, 5 and 6 girls, who participate in the program, a space to reflect on and own some of the friendship issues they have.

The sessions will incorporate structured discussions, short meditations which develop mindfulness, self-calming strategies, connecting to others in a positive way and navigating pathways to solutions in a constructive and positive way when it just doesn't all work!

**But what is mindfulness....?**

**Mindfulness is simply... *noticing what is happening right now.***

**Mindfulness is taking notice of how your body feels and also noticing what your mind is doing.**

As humans we tend to be reactive. For example, when someone says something we don't like to hear, we react. Sometimes we say something that we would like to take back the moment after we blurt it out. Or we are knocked down by a heavy emotion and it can take days to bounce back, sometimes even weeks.

This is an exciting opportunity to develop a platform for the girls who participate in the program a space to reflect on and own some of the friendship issues they have.

Mindfulness helps us create space between a strong emotion and our actions. We learn to deal with positive and negative experiences more calmly and by making better decisions.

When we pay attention to our thoughts and feelings, we can respond in a more clever way, without hurting our own feelings or the feelings of others.

As we create more emotional balance, we are less easily knocked down by our emotions, but in moments when we *are* knocked down, we bounce back faster.

**We must strive to be the best versions of ourselves every day.**



**The students in Year 1/2 G have been reading James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl, and here are some comments about their thoughts.**

My favourite part is when the creatures were complaining about how hungry they were even though they were standing on top of their food the whole time! - Serena

The part I like the most is when the creatures made the Giant Peach roll and squashed Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker. - Jaron

My favourite part of the book, is when the Earthworm thought it was going to be eaten by the seagulls - Chloe

I really like James in the book as he is such a smart and helpful character. - Toby



# James AND THE GIANT PEACH

BY ROALD DAHL

I have really enjoyed this book as it has so many characters and its funny! - Violet

What I think is fantastic, is definitely the part when the Centipede sings his ridiculous song in between eating the Giant Peach. - Adele

The thing I like most is that James comes up with crazy ideas, like putting string around a seagull's neck and using the Earthworm as bait to get them closer so he can tie a knot around the peach's stem in order to lift it up. - Tharul

I really like the book because I enjoy the amazing creatures and that everything is so magical. - Max

# PE NEWS!

## Regional Athletics

Huge congratulations to both Cayden R and Madelynn for competing at the recent Western Metropolitan Regional Final for Athletics. It is a great achievement to make it this far.

## Walk to School

Walk to school is almost over with just one-week left, we will be having a celebration breakfast for those interested and details will come shortly. We have been busy collecting data to record those who are walking/scooting to the bus stops and those who are being active before school! Keep up the good work and stay active for your chance to win one of the major prizes, there is plenty of spot prizes still to be given away over the next week!!

## 3/4 Interschool Sport

The Year 3 and 4 students are currently showing their stuff at the Basketball trials to form a boys and girls team to compete at the MPSSA Interschool Sport in November. This is a great experience for our Year 4s to be introduced to Interschool Sport in preparation for next year and for our Year 3s to experience competing against other schools.

## How is PE going so far this term?

**Our Preps** are kicking goals with our Soccer unit. They are improving every week with dribbling and kicking. We are about to move onto passing and some Soccer minor games before moving into their 'Bounce' unit.

**Our Year 1/2s** are getting into the swing of things with their 'Teamwork' unit, some of the games they are creating are incredibly imaginative. They are learning how to share ideas and use positive talk to ensure that they do not hurt each other's feelings when creating these games.

**Our Year 3s** are winding down for Aero dance and are creating some very creative dances, they are now working on timing with their group and the music.

**Our Year 4s** are exploring learning skills through game sense and are now moving into the skills of Tennis. They are focusing on the strategies behind the game as they develop the skills required to play.

**Our Year 5 and 6s** are finishing of a stellar SEPEP unit where they have really come together in order to run their own tournaments, with the rounds now running smoothly and with very little help.

In addition, all classes are also exploring various Health topics, such as 'Bones' and 'Body Image'.

Alanna Kappler

Physical Education



# Silly Sock Day - for Ronald McDonald House Appeal

