



Exford Primary School

Where Children Count!
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

NEWSLETTER No.2 (Term 1, 2020) Thursday 6 February 2020

You are represented on School Council by:

Parents: Amanda (Caitlyn, Ava & Hayley), Belinda (Nicholas and Kade), Emma (Ella & Maddie), Jackie (Claire), Michael (Eamonn), Sarah (Lily & Oscar), Sharon (Charlie & Archie) and Susan (Jessica).

Community Representatives: Graham

Staff: Ms Campo, Mrs Farrugia, Mr Jenner, Mrs Talbot and Mr Wilson (visitor)

Follow this link to Exford's YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRQsi70kyo0V7OFJsBcOF3w>

Reminders! These payments are due for all students:

- Student Book Packs (through the payment portal)
- Gymnastics Program - **starts Tuesday 4 Feb** - please return your child's permission form and payment by Friday 31 January
- Prep - 2 children only - Reading Eggs subscription
- Year Prep - 4 children only - Athletics subscription

Ms Campo's News...

Preps start - Wednesday 5 February 2020

Our Preps began yesterday and we were all so pleased with how settled they were and so ready to start school. Thanks to our all our families for their work over the holidays to help prepare the children for their first day. Thank you to our Prep teachers for all of their efforts to be ready for the children's first day. We feel very proud of all our little ones!

Have you booked your 'Meet & Greet' Interviews?

We invite all our families to come to our 'Meet & Greet' Parent Teacher interviews on Tuesday 11 and Thursday 13 February (Mr Parker will do Wednesday afternoon instead of Tuesday). We will begin at 3:45 pm and will have time slots on both afternoons. Students can attend these meetings, or if you would prefer, it can be just parents and teachers having a conversation.

Please book your 10 minute time slot by using the booking code at

www.schoolinterviews.com.au - **qyevt**

Cut out & stick me to the fridge!



Dates to Remember:

Please add them to your calendar!

2020 Dates

Term 1

Tuesday 4 - Wednesday 5 February

Gymnastics program begins For Year Prep - 2 students

Thursday 6 & Friday 7 February

Year Prep students - 8:50 am into classrooms
(8:50 am - 2:30 pm)

Friday 7 February

3:10 pm Assembly - Year 1-6 New EPS Kids will receive their 'Welcome to Exford' certificates

From Monday 10 February

Year Prep students begin full days
(8:50 am - 3:30 pm)

Tuesday 11 & Thursday 13 February

'Meet & Greet' Parent Teacher Interviews - 3:45 pm onwards
We would love all our families to come and meet with the teachers

Friday 14 February

3:10 pm Assembly - Our Prep children will receive their 'Welcome to Exford' certificates

Wednesday 19 February

6:30 pm School Council Meeting (final meeting of 2019 SC cycle)

Friday 21 February

9 am - PAHQ Music Recital - all welcome!

Monday 2 - Friday 6 March

Year 5-6 Tasmania Camp

Monday 11 March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Friday 27 March

End of Term 1
2 pm - Assembly & Easter Raffle Draw

2:30 pm - Dismissal
(Eynesbury Buses arriving from 2:30 pm)

Arriving at school

As we have communicated, children are free to arrive at school from 8:40 am - **earlier only** if they are with their parents / carers who must remain with them. Last week, we had many children arrive at 8:30 am (which was our arrival time last year, due to the buses).

Please note that our teaching staff, including Mr Wilson and I, **have not started work at 8:30 am**. We may be here getting ready for the school day, but we are here on our time, we have not officially commenced our work day. We happily commence our responsibility for looking after students at 8:40 am.

FlexiBuzz and the Bus

Please ensure you send us a FlexiBuzz on the day of your child's absence or non-use of the bus. You can cancel a period of time in one notification or have permanent days of non-use.

In our first week of school, the buses were held up every day due to parents not informing us that they have collected their children already. I cannot let the buses leave until **every child on the list** is accounted for. This is unfair for the other kids, parents waiting at bus stops and also for staff doing the buses as they have meetings to attend and preparation to do before they leave for the day - not to mention waiting in the extreme heat for longer than necessary.

Repeated un-explained absences from the bus will result in your child **losing their bus place**.

Please choose the Eynesbury field in FlexiBuzz, as we will post bus information only to this field from this week onwards.

Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter Raffle (Fundraiser)

On Friday 27 March, the last day of Term 1, we will hold our annual Easter Bonnet Parade where the children bring their Easter Bonnet (which they've created as part of their Homework) and we share them at a special Friday morning Assembly - inviting all our families to come and join in.

During March, we ask our families to donate Easter goodies for us to make up into Easter Raffle Hampers and we will send home raffle tickets for you to sell to family and friends. The Raffle will be drawn at the final Term 1 Assembly on Friday 27 March at 2:10 pm.

All Fundraising dollars are channelled into our ICT budget, partly paying for the iPad leases which provide 10-15 iPads per classrooms, Apple TV set ups and other technology items for the classrooms.

Please send along your Easter goodie donations!



New buildings at Exford

Our new toilet building is now completed, we are just waiting for the delivery of sanitary products for it - it takes different sizes of toilet rolls to our other toilets.



We are hoping to have confirmation of the delivery date of the new Mod 5 classroom building by Friday 14 Feb - it will mean that there will be fencing from the Art room end of the school to the Library. We are asking for a Saturday installation of the Mod 5 building to minimise the impact on the school program - fingers crossed!

CCTV

Moving with the times - the Department is upgrading our security by adding CCTV cameras to monitor our general school grounds and the Office area. (Wouldn't it have been good if we'd had it in time to catch the fence thieves (Christmas 2018) in the act?!). The CCTV installation begins next Monday.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that students are not to bring mobile phones (including Smart watches) to school. Parents can communicate with Ms Campo regarding bringing a phone to school for a particular afterschool activity, but the phone must remain in the school Office during the day. We sent out the Exford PS Mobile Phone Policy via FlexiBuzz and it is also on our website.

Uniform

Our School Uniform Policy is available on the website for you to see, including photos of permitted uniform wear. I have also added the Uniform photo page to the newsletter for you.

These items are **not** part of our uniform -

- **navy** windcheaters
- Windcheater zip-up jackets (with or without hoods)
- School dresses other than the EPS school dress
- Skirts of any kind (except the skirt part of the Winter pinafore) - only skorts can be worn
- Any polar fleece items.

Staff will ask students about non-uniform items on the first day (because wet washing happens!), but will issue out-of-uniform notes after that, or refer the non-uniform wearing issue to me so that we can arrange a parent meeting.

Some uniform items are only available through the EPS uniform shop:

- Exford PS school dress
- Exford PS school hat
- Exford PS bomber jacket
- Exford PS Library bag

The Exford PS uniform is a very attractive uniform with many options and we ask our families to ensure that the children are wearing our uniform with pride.

Contacting staff

We have a range of ways for parents to communicate with staff - you can:

- Phone the school
- Make an appointment to meet before / after school
- Arrange for a call-back
- Send a message through Seesaw
- Send a message through FlexiBuzz (Contact tab)

Staff will do their best to get back to you on the same day, but depending on their day (they may have lunch time duties), it may also be the next day.

Sun Smart

We encourage our students to bring a supply of sunscreen to school to apply under supervision (we are not able to supply nor apply it for them).

This sign is on each classroom door as a reminder to students and staff to ensure everyone applies sunscreen and puts on their hat.



Our Sun Smart Policy is available on our website.

2020 Swimming Carnival

We will have swimming trials for our 2020 Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 11 February from 4 - 5:30 pm at Melton Waves. The MPSSA Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 25 February. Mr Young and Mr Wilson will be attending the Swimming Trials with our children - families are responsible for bringing the children to Melton Waves and remaining with them throughout.

Parent Helpers - Working With Children's Checks

All Classroom Helpers require a Working With Children Check (volunteer status) when helping in Exford classrooms. We also ask you to complete a confidentiality agreement and a Child Safe Code of Conduct form.

2020 School Council

After our February School Council meeting (February 19), a number of parent and staff vacancies will become available. I will include more information with the next newsletter.

Term 1 Activities - Tuesday 28 Jan - Friday 27 March

- Thursday 6 February - Year 1-2 Hockey Clinics
- Friday 7 February
 - Year 3-4 Hockey Clinics
 - Year 1-6 NEW children are presented at our Sharing Assembly on Friday afternoon (3:10 pm) - they will share their official 'Starting School at EPS' certificate!
- Tuesday 11 February
 - 3:45 pm - 'Meet and Greet' Parent Teacher Interviews
 - 4 pm - Swimming Trials
- Thursday 13 February
 - 3:45 pm - 'Meet and Greet' Parent Teacher Interviews
- Friday 14 February - our Year Prep children will be presented at our Sharing Assembly - they will share their official 'Starting School at EPS' certificate!
- Monday 17 February - Teeth on Wheels Visit to EPS
- Friday 21 February
 - 9 am - Performing Arts HQ will present their annual music recital, introducing the instruments they teach
 - MPSSA Summer Interschool Sports Round 1 (Year 5-6 kids)
- Friday 28 February - MPSSA Summer Interschool Sports Round 2 (Year 5-6 kids)
- Monday 2 - Friday 6 March - Year 5-6 Tasmania Camp
- Monday 11 March - Labour Day Public Holiday
- Friday 13 March - MPSSA Summer Interschool Sports Lightning Cup (Year 5-6 kids)
- Tuesday 24 March - School Photo Day
- Friday 27 March
 - Easter Bonnet Parade - 9 am Assembly (children design and create their Easter Bonnets as part of their Homework tasks in the previous weeks)
 - Final Assembly at 2 pm (Easter Raffle drawn)

Attendance ... Every moment of every day counts

Did you know that:

When children regularly arrive late, they miss out on so much:

- They miss on the lovely morning meet and greet that connects children to their classmates, staff and classroom environment and is an important part of children feeling that they belong
- We schedule literacy and numeracy for our morning lessons - so regular lateness means that children are missing critical learning
- The opportunity to prepare for the school day (including changing their Take Home book for reading that night)

Please help your child to arrive on time for school every day.

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 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 2020 target is...

\$18,000 - \$25,000.

Our Tally so far...

\$0.00

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

We will hold a range of fun fundraising activities throughout the year, some are traditional parts of our fundraising approach and these happen each year.

- Term 1 - Easter Raffle
- TBC - 'A-thon' activity
- Term 4 - End of year Raffle and Christmas Concert BBQ

If you are interested in helping out with the Fundraising activities at our school, please contact Ms Campo through the FlexiBuzz 'Contact the Principal' link.

Exford Readathon

Our Student Leaders have planned our 'Athon' fundraising activity for this year

- and it's going to be a Readathon. **Stay tuned!**



Happy Birthdays!!



To our students who celebrated their birthdays from 1-19 February 2020

Isabella G, Ollie McF, Emily W, Ciara, Layla, Nixon, Kaelan, Hasali, Anna W, Thomas B, Emma B, Kian, Archie H, Omari, Cailin, Slater, Blake H, Ayann, Prynce, Aysha B, Jasper C, Lucas, Seth P, Millie B, Sloan, Lakotah and Madi E



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.

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.

Hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!

☺ Ms Campo

Bus Monitors

I met with the Year 6 students who were interested in volunteering to be Bus Monitors this year. Thank you to these students who are keen to take on this student leadership role.

Bus 1 - Jade, Maddy H, Summer L, Hayden, Maurice, Emma, Leo, Andrew, Riley S and Charley

Bus 2 - Charlotte F, Niki, Sophie, Chanelle and Oscar

Bus 3 - Alex C, Ciara, Madi, Natasha, Olivia M and Logan

Bus 4 - Tara, Ella, JV, Jared and Bailey

Bus Monitor role includes:

- Collecting Prep children from their classrooms or from the playground (who don't have siblings at school) to bring them to the bus in the afternoons and taking them to their classrooms in the mornings
- Supporting (under Ms Campo's / Mr Wilson's guidance) the other children waiting for the bus, getting on the bus and putting their seat belts on
- Need to help the children to line up politely
- Checking that the little ones have got their bags (and don't bring leaves, sticks and bugs (etc) on the bus!)
- Remain at the bus stop with little children who haven't been picked up yet
- Bus Monitors take last available seats - so they have full view of all the children
- Tell our bus drivers, Steve (Bus 1), Steve (Bus 2) or Steve B (Bus 3) and Keith (Bus 4), Ms Campo and / or Mr Wilson about any issues
- Use the PA system to call missing children or ask our Office staff to call the missing children's parents

These are the qualities they believe all Bus Monitors should demonstrate at all times

- Fair to everyone - same expectations for everyone (and for yourself too)
- Part of being a leader means looking after everyone else
- Always be polite, use your manners but also be firm
- Be prompt to the front of the school in the afternoon to help Ms Campo and / or Mr Wilson and the children
- Bus Monitors are role models - setting the Exford examples - that means being aware of the other children and acting as a role model at the same time
- Bus Monitors have influence through expecting everyone to meet the school standards (Respect, Kindness and Personal Best)
- Bus monitors' personal behaviour needs to be of a high standard always
- Same bus rules apply to the Bus Monitors

These are the Exford PS Bus rules and we have been discussing with all the children who use the bus each afternoon this week:

Safety

- Everyone needs to wear their seat belt **at all times** while on the bus (bags off)
- Everyone needs to remain seated until the bus stops - no changing seats or moving about the bus
- Everyone needs to keep basket / soccer balls in their laps - we don't throw things on the bus
- Prep and Year 1 children get on the bus first at the Eynesbury bus stops
- We don't play ball games or 'muck around' at the front of the school / and at the bus stops in Eynesbury while waiting for the bus and we don't play on the road
- We don't shout on the bus - e.g. Yelling out to the bus driver or to other children

Behaviour

- Everyone needs to behave like a great Exford kid - chat quietly to their seat buddy
- Everyone needs to be considerate of others on the bus and to Steve and Brian as our bus-drivers
- No eating, drinking on the bus - or squirting drink bottles
- We don't save seats, or block others from sitting next to us
- Our Bus Monitors need to speak politely to students and the students must respect what the Bus Monitors ask them to do

Student consequences - 2 strikes = a phone call home and 3 strikes means students are not permitted to use the bus for a period of time

Parents - please use FlexiBuzz or make a phone call if your child is not going to be on the bus. The buses cannot leave until all children are accounted for - hunting up missing children (who turn out to have been already collected or absent) takes time which then delays the bus departures. Parents who continue to not advise us of their children not being on the bus may lose their bus place, as per the Public Transport Victoria guidelines.

2020 First Week photos!

Happy kids, Gotcha winners and Gymnastics in action!





Child Safety Update:

Child safety is a high priority at EPS and we have zero tolerance for child abuse. With this in mind, we have processes in place to ensure the safety of our students with all adults they interact with through the course of their schooling. This includes processes for volunteers, recruitment and visitors.

Volunteers are an important part of our school community and we encourage our parents and carers to volunteer their time to participate in a variety of activities. All volunteers and visitors will be required to provide a current Working with Children Check and complete a volunteer induction. If you would like to volunteer and need some more information about Child Safety, you can view the Child Safety Policy and Volunteers policy on the EPS website. <http://www.exfordps.vic.edu.au/about-our-school/policies>

eSAFETY The Office of the eSafety Commissioner is committed to empowering all Australians to have safer, more positive experiences online. <https://esafety.gov.au/> is an Australian Government approved website in helping and educating parents/carers in how to keep children safe online. It provides resources and advice in dealing with the big issues in online safety, such as cyberbullying, time spent online, gaming and unwanted contact.

The following link will take you directly to the Parent/Carer section where there are more information sheets, like the one above, available for you to read <https://esafety.gov.au/parents>

eSafetyparents

Does your preschool child have access to connected devices?

81% of parents say their preschool child uses the internet.
37% think their child spends too much time online.¹

Being online at this age can offer your child opportunities to learn through exploration, play and social interaction. But there may also be some risks if your child uses connected devices without supervision or for extended periods of time.



This might include coming across harmful content, contact with strangers or missing out on physical activity.

Here are our tips for a safe and balanced online experience for your preschool child:

Set ground rules

-  **Establish clear rules and be consistent**
Be clear on things like when and where devices can be used and when they need to be switched off. A good time to switch off is during family dinner time and when your child is alone in a room.
-  **Use a timer**
Limit the amount of time your child spends online to ensure a good balance with physical activity. It can be easy to lose track of time, so setting a timer can help.
-  **Resist any push back**
Getting your child off a device can be hard and it can be tempting to give in to their demands. Sticking to the rules at this age will help instil good online habits for your child now and in the future.

¹Survey of 3,520 Australian parents of children aged 2-17

 |  esafety.gov.au/parents

2020 - Exford PS's Lunch Time Clubs for our Kids - from Monday 17 Feb 2020

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1:30 - 2 pm (First half of lunch time)	GOTCHA Stall (every 3 rd week) Mrs Micallef	Prep - 2 Story Club with Mrs Talbot 	Yr 3-6 Story Club with Mrs Talbot 	 Yr 3-6 Writing Club With Mrs Talbot	Prep - 2 Story Club with Mrs Micallef 
	PE Club with Mr Young 		PE Club with Mr Young 	Art Room with Mrs Quayle 	
	 Art Room with Mrs Quayle	 Coding Club with Mr Mounsey		 Coding Club with Mr Mounsey	 Mindfulness Club with Ms Gashi
All lunch time		 Knitting Club & Lessons (Year 2- 6 Kids) Conference Room with Ms Campo, Anita & Anne	 Knitting Club (Year 2 - 6 Kids) Conference Room with Ms Campo	 Knitting Club & Lessons (Year 2- 6 Kids) Conference Room with Ms Campo, Anita & Anne	
2 - 2:30 pm	 Lego Club With Mr Jenner in his classroom	 Diggers Club with Mr Major	 Mindfulness Club with Ms Gashi	 Diggers Club with Mr Major	 Lego Club With Mr Jenner in his classroom
	 Gallery - Board Games Club With Ms Littlewood BYO & school games	 Chants and music games with Ms Talevski in the Gallery	 Gallery - Board Games Club With Ms Littlewood BYO & school games	 Gallery - Board Games Club With Ms Talevski BYO & school games	 Gallery - Board Games Club With Mr Malone BYO & school games
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY

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