



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 2018 No.22 (Term 4, 2018) Thursday 20 December 2018

You are represented on School Council by:

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

Community Representatives: Graham

Staff: Ms Campo, Mrs Farrugia, Mr Jenner, Mrs Talbot, Mr Wilson (non-voting member) and Mrs Bennett (minute-taker and non-voting member)

Follow this link to Exford's YouTube Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRQsi70kyo0V7OFJsBcOF3w>

Ms Campo's News...

End of the 2018 school year

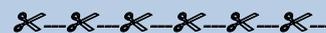
Thank you to all our students, staff and families for another great year at Exford PS. Wishing all our community a very Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday season! See you all in the New Year!

Christmas and Year 6 Graduation Concert

We were so thrilled that most of our families were able to come and be part of our lovely end of year concert last night, where we celebrated the year and our graduating Year 6 children. Thank you to our staff who worked with the children to prepare them, to the parents who helped with costumes and to our kids for putting on such a great show!



Cut out & stick me to the fridge!



Dates to Remember:

Please add them to your calendar!

2018 Dates

Thursday 20 December

Semester 2 Reports sent home

Friday 21 December

Last day of 2018 school year!

1 pm - Assembly

1:30 pm - Dismissal

2019 Dates

Tuesday 29 January

School begins for staff only

Wednesday 30 January

School begins for Year 1-6 students
Book Packs delivered to classrooms
(students whose Book Packs have been paid for.)

Monday 4 February

10 am - 2:30 pm - our Preps begin!!

Tuesday 5 February

9 am - 2:30 pm - Day 2 for our Preps

Wednesday 6 February

No school for Preps today (final day for Prep assessments)

From Thursday 7 February

9 am - 3:30 pm - our Preps begin full school days, 5 days a week

Friday 8 February

Our Preps are presented at Assembly

Friday 8 March

PUPIL FREE DAY No 2 - Staff only today

Monday 11 March

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Friday 5 April

Last day of Term 1 - 2:30 pm dismissal!

Christmas Concert continued

Thank you to our Fundraising Team for their work on making the night such a success. Thank you to Jacki, our School Council President, for her co-ordination of the event and in encouraging other parents to join in.

Thank you to the parents and families who:

- Helped at the BBQ
- Sold raffle tickets
- Donated raffle prizes
- Prepared the raffle prizes
- Made costumes
- Helped with the clean-up

At last night's event, we raised \$5350 from the BBQ and from the Raffle - making this year's Fundraising total - \$18, 909.

There is one thing about our event last night that I must raise - unfortunately, we had some families who not only brought and consumed alcohol on our school property, but they left the bottles behind for someone else to clean up. **Alcohol cannot be brought to school events**, as is clearly indicated in our information flier to our families.

2019 Eynesbury Bus

Progress report - I have been told by the Student Transport Unit earlier in the week that whilst our application is with Public Transport Victoria, they don't anticipate a decision for the start of the school year. I spoke with the School Bus Manager today and he said that a decision re funding will be made in Term 1 and if successful, it then goes to the procurement stage.

Given this new information, we will **continue** to support our school bus service with the two buses, each doing a **double** bus run so that the children can still get to school.

I will continue putting pressure on PTV to have the four buses allocated and will inform families over the holidays / during Term 1 when and if we get the four bus allocation granted. We will **not** provide indefinite support for running double bus runs - once we have a decision from PTV, it will either be 4 buses, or only 2 buses doing single runs.

For Term 1 2019, children will remain on the buses to which they are allocated this year (e.g. Bus 1, 2, 3 or 4) **however**, the afternoon buses will operate in reverse order from this year. What are now Bus 2 and Bus 4 services will leave school **first** in the afternoons.

We will send out bus letters tomorrow confirming timetables and bus details.

Other Bus routes

I will look at our student address data to see if there are sufficient students living in the wider Exford area and who are in the enrolment neighbourhood but live beyond 4.8 km from school, on whose behalf we may also be able to apply for a bus service. The last time I evaluated this data earlier this year, we were not eligible to apply (insufficient student numbers as Strathtulloh doesn't qualify).

Farewell to ...

We say farewell to Ms Graham, Mrs Elliott, Mrs Pelly and Mrs Donnelly, who won't continue at Exford next year. Mrs Elliott is seeking a school closer to home, Mrs Pelly has a position at Bacchus Marsh Grammar and Mrs Donnelly has a position at Coburn PS.

Ms Pengelly, as you know from an earlier newsletter, is taking 12 months leave to pursue her studies in student wellbeing and counselling.

We wish them all every success and happiness in their new roles and thank them all for their efforts on behalf of our students.

Staff Selection

We have selected Ms Abbey Watt for our Year 5-6 classroom. We have appointed Ms Emily Leonard for our Year 3-4 classroom - she is appointed on a six week contract and we will advertise this position at the start of the year.

Student information

Have you changed your address or phone number this year? If you have, could you make sure that you have given us this information so that our student details are all correct, please.

You can email that information directly to Mrs Kelly on kelly.kerrie.n@edumail.vic.gov.au or use the Contact the Office tab in FlexiBuzz.

2019 Book Packs

Students will receive their Book Pack in class once it has been paid for.

This includes the 2019 Gymnastics program (payment needs to be complete before the program begins).

Mrs Bennett will open QKR for these payments in mid January (she will send a FlexiBuzz to let parents know) and it will close on Monday 28 January so that all payments are 'rolled over' that evening so Mrs Bennett can have an accurate list for the staff to use to collect the Book Packs. She will then re-open QKR on Tuesday 29 January for the remainder of the week.

Students who haven't yet had their Book Packs purchased will receive a book and writing implement.

Parent Payment Plans are always available, please see Ms Bennett if this is needed.

Attendance ... Every Day Counts

A reminder that family holidays should be taken during school holidays wherever possible and **not during term time**. When children miss out on learning due to prolonged absence (e.g. a holiday in school time), it is very difficult to catch them up - they often miss entire units of class work.

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.

Student Absences

A reminder that we need parents to use FlexiBuzz **on the day** of their child's absence and for you to use the Eynesbury Bus tab if they will not use the bus and / or be absent. Parents only have their own children to make a notification about, versus our office staff needing to make a phone call to every family whose child is absent.

The Absence / Eynesbury Bus tabs in FlexiBuzz send an email to the student's teacher, to Mrs Kelly (our attendance officer), to Ms Killeen (bus) and to me.

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.

Fundraising News

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



Our 2018 target is...

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

Our Tally for 2018 ...

\$18,909

Fundraising in Term 4

Christmas Raffle Hampers

As we move into Term 4, our Fundraising attention turns to our Christmas Raffle, which is our biggest Fundraising effort in the school year. If you are able to assist with sourcing raffle prizes, please contact the school on mcdonald.jacki.j@edumail.vic.gov.au or on killeen.kathryn.k@edumail.vic.gov.au

Happy Birthdays!!



To our students who celebrated their birthdays - 20 - 31 December 2018

Caitlyn V, Cayden, Rby D, Sienna P, Annika H, Riley C, Mason, Sophie P and Sophie B.



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 for 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.

Hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!

Please see the photo pages from our Christmas Concert.

☺ Ms Campo

2018 Christmas and Year 6 Graduation Concert



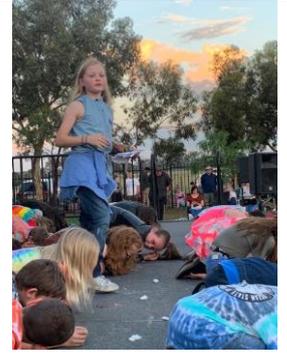
Year 3 Melissa Gates Award winner - Sophie S

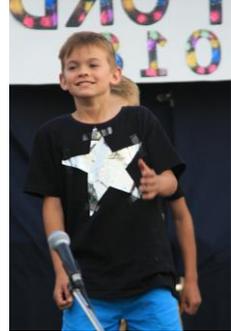
Year 4 Exford Award winner - Nikola U

Year 5 Ngaire Rees Award winner - Oliver E

Year 6 Exford Excellence Award winner - Stella B







Djerriwarrh Health Service - Short Story Competition

Well done to Raisa (Year 2) and to Raima (Year 5) for their entries in the Djerriwarrh Health Services Short Story Competition. Congratulations to Raima for placing second in the Year 5/6 division. Here are the girls' short stories.

The best thing about being me

Being me is the best, because who I am.

I love being me because I'm Australian and Bangladeshi too. I love my culture, dresses, music and knowing two languages is the best being me.

At school I help others if they have no one to play, I pick up rubbish from playground, always runs fast to the teacher if anyone got hurt.

I am happy everyday, I like to say hello to my neighbours, I got friends in my street and love to play with cat, what's why being me is the best.

By Raisa Year 2.

A Fair World for Everyone

Dear Reader,
This is the story of Amina, Tristan and Izzabella, all fictional characters with different disadvantages, however I strongly believe that it is common in our society and deserves a fair world.

Amina

"I see land Mama, land", it was dawn, the sun was just rising. We had been at sea for months with little food and warmth. "wake up, we found land!" my mother cried.

We were rowing our little old boat together with our last strength. Suddenly realised, it was cracking just few minutes away from the shore. Collapsed with our all belonging.....I still recall the sound of splashing, the gasps for breath were deafening.

I woke up, felt warm sand between toes, the sun shone just above my mum, "look, we survived, we are alive". No idea where we arrived, our hope stood us up, I walked into the horizon holding mum's hands.

It was my memory of first day in this beautiful country, Australia. After meeting a lots of people finally we got a home, a backyard to play, guess what, now I am a proud Australian like you.

Tristan

"Ok everyone, we have a new person today," the teacher's eyes rolled toward me. "This is Tristan, I want everyone show your kindness". I looked around the room, it was so colourful and bright.

My behavior was different to others from day 1, someone said, "I am weird, not normal like them". This is not new to me, a word called Autism is my life long friend, some nice to me, others find me strange. This makes me nervous.

My teacher knows what happened, said "lets go together, she introduced me with Amina and Izzabella, allowed me to talk to them and explained a little about me, who were a little shy, but nice. We are friend since then, support me everywhere everyday.

Izzabella

"Can I play, I want to play with you".

"No way, girls can't play basketball, you play with dolls." I ran, crying, and sat alone. "They don't take me to play", I said, "I can't play because I am a girl". "I like play dolls, I also love play with them too" I screamed. "Of course you can play basketball like them" mum said with love.

"Let's talk to them", we followed the backyard noises, "you should include Izzabella, she wants to play and have fun as like you!" said mum in strong voice.

They were not happy but can't denied too. The game was on, me and Mark vs Pablo and Lucas, guess what, we won! "You're pretty good, better than me, next time you're on my team" Lucas claimed. Since, I am strong, support myself to be treated equally.

My opinion:

Sorry for all the unpleasant stories, in our society children are facing mistreatment everyday due to their gender, race and abilities.

We all know discrimination is real, but if we respect each other, we will able to establish fair world for everyone.

By Raima Year 5

OSH Club News

Before School / After School Care Program



Program Update

We wanted to share our recent achievement, we have been given the OSH Club Junior Adventures Service of the Year Excellent Award!

Thank you to our families and children who support our OSH Club.

Thank you to Bec and Sharyn who do a FABULOUS job in caring for our OSH Club Kids mornings, afternoons and during the holidays!



HOLIDAY PROGRAM UPDATE: The OSH Club Holiday program has now been locked in for the January holidays. Starting on the 7th of Jan 2019. Bookings should open in the next few weeks, all parents who already have an enrolment with us should receive an email in the coming weeks.

If you do not have a current enrolment or have never used OSH please head to www.oshclub.com.au to complete an enrolment. For assistance please drop in to see us or contact our head office on 1300 395 735

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0419 207 638

Co-ordinator: Rebecca Educator: Sharyn OSH Club Head Office: 03 8564-9000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Co-ordinator direct at the program.