

# Exford Primary School

Newsletter No 1 - Term 1, 2024

Monday 29 January 2024



[www.exfordps.vic.edu.au](http://www.exfordps.vic.edu.au)

Ms Campo's News....

## Welcome to the 2024 school year!

January has nearly passed us by and the start of the 2024 school year is nearly here. We hope that all our families have had a lovely holiday season and have celebrated with family and friends.

Here's hoping that 2024 is a great year for us all. We wish all our 2023 Year 6 kids and those children moving to new areas and schools all the best.

*To our children beginning or returning to Exford for 2024, we will see you all very soon!*

**2024 School Dates** - We provided this information through our newsletter and our 2024 Prep and new student Transition sessions last year – here it is again for your information.

### 2024 Term 1 dates – Monday 29 January - Thursday 28 March (9 week term)

Assemblies are held on Mondays and Fridays at 8:50 am on the oval – families always welcome to join us.

Week 1	Monday 29 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2024 Term 1 begins for all staff</li><li>School Office open for business</li><li>Pupil Free Day No 1 for students</li></ul>
	Tuesday 30 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pupil Free Day No 2 for students</li><li>Student Book Packs delivered – for orders placed by Wednesday 20 December 2023</li></ul>
	Wednesday 31 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:50 am – Welcome Assembly on the oval – teachers will have signs so the classes can line up in their order (see lining-up order below).</li><li>Year 1-6 students begin (4 day week this week)</li><li>Day 1 of 2024 Prep assessments - Prep children attend only by appointment</li></ul>
	Thursday 1 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Day 2 of 2024 Prep assessments - Prep children attend only by appointment</li></ul>
	Friday 2 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:50 am Assembly - Friday</li><li><b>FINAL</b> day to order 2024 Book Packs online</li><li>Day 3 of 2024 Prep assessments - Prep children attend only by appointment</li></ul>
Week 2	Monday 5 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Day 4 of 2024 Prep assessments - Prep children attend only by appointment</li></ul>
	Tuesday 6 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2024 Preps begin – 10 am – 2:30 pm<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Families are welcome to come from 9:30 am for a play and to take family photos in the school grounds)</li><li>We will open the side gate at 9:30 am for you.</li></ul></li></ul>
	Wednesday 7 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2024 Preps – 8:50 am – 2:30 pm</li></ul>
	Thursday 8 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2024 Preps begin full time attendance at school – 8:50 am – 3:30 pm</li></ul>
	Friday 9 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:50 am Assembly on the oval - Friday - 2024 new students presented to our community - presented with their Exford certificate</li></ul>
Week 3	Monday 12 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remaining Student Book Packs delivered – for orders placed by Friday 2 February 2024</li></ul>
	Thursday 15 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9:10 am - School Council Finance Meeting</li></ul>
	Friday 16 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:50 am Assembly - 2024 Preps presented to our community - presented with their Exford certificate</li></ul>
Week 4	Tuesday 20 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1:30 – 4:40 pm – Day 1 of Meet the Teacher – Parent Teacher interviews (you will be sent an invitation to make an appointment with your child's teacher)</li></ul>
	Wednesday 21 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5:30 – 7 pm - School Council Meeting (for elected members)</li></ul>
	Thursday 22 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1:30 – 4:40 pm – Day 2 of Meet the Teacher – Parent Teacher interviews (you will be sent an invitation to make an appointment with your child's teacher)</li></ul>
Week 5	Wednesday 28 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2:30 – 3 pm – Waddurung Welcome to Country and Smoking - for the start of construction for our Gymnasium</li></ul>

Week 6	Thursday 7 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Photos Day</li> </ul>
	Friday 8 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 1-2 Melbourne Zoo excursion</li> </ul>
Week 7	<b>Monday 11 March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Labour Day Public Holiday – no school today</b></li> </ul>
	Wed 13 – Mon 27 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2024 NAPLAN period for our Year 3 and 5 students</li> </ul>
	Thursday 14 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:10 am - School Council Finance Meeting</li> </ul>
Week 8	Monday 18 – Friday 22 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term 2 Planning Week – each teaching team will have all their specialist subjects on the one day to release the teachers to plan together for the next term (this will happen each term) – this will occur throughout this week</li> </ul>
	Wednesday 20 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 – 7:30 pm - School Council Meeting (for elected members) – Annual Reporting Meeting</li> </ul>
Week 9	Thursday 28 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:50 am Assembly on the oval – Easter Bonnet Parade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All families are welcome to join us and little brothers and sisters can join in, too!</li> </ul> </li> <li>Last day of Term 1 2024 – <b>2:30 pm Dismissal</b></li> </ul>
Term 1 School Holidays - Friday 29 March – Friday 12 April		
Term 2 - Week 1	Monday 15 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:50 am Assembly on the oval</li> </ul>
Term 2 - Week 2	<b>Thursday 25 April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></li> <li>Families are welcome to join us at the Melton ANZAC Day Parade and Ceremony</li> <li>Our four School / Vice School Captains present the wreath at the Cenotaph during the ceremony</li> </ul>
Term 2 – Week 8	<b>Friday 7 June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2024 Professional Practice Day – staff only</b></li> </ul>
Term 2 – Week 9	<b>Monday 10 June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></li> </ul>
Term 2 - Week 11	Friday 28 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Last day of Term 2</li> <li>2:10 pm – Assembly</li> <li>2:30 pm Dismissal</li> </ul>
Term 2 School Holidays - Monday 1 July – Friday 12 July		
Term 3 – Week 1	Monday 15 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term 3 begins</li> </ul>

*At Exford these qualities are really important:  
and it's up to all of us to show them every day in everything  
we say and everything we do!*



**RESPECT**



**KINDNESS**



**PERSONAL BEST**

# Changes to how things will work at Exford!

## Our school grounds

As you will have seen from the photos I have been posting to the children's Seesaw journals, things have changed a fair bit from the end of 2023!

It all looked very messy, with the removal of the 3 x Mod 5 classroom buildings, the toilet building and the old Disabled Toilet building and the demolition of the old Admin building, the Assembly area, the old toilet building, Canteen and old Store room.

The site has now been almost completely cleared and is fenced off for the duration of the construction of our new Gymnasium. This area is **strictly out of bounds** for all students, staff and our community. As the Construction team establish the site, their sheds will move into this fenced off area part and we will reclaim all of the side car park. For Term 1, the sheds will remain where they are, but the fence has been relocated closer to the back end of the side car park and our dumper bins have been moved backwards as well.

It will be great to see the construction of our new Gymnasium begin!

## Speed Zones

You may already be aware, but the speed zones around our school have now been formally changed and the signs are now all in place. From before the Exford Hill (coming from Rockbank), the speed zone changes to **60 kph** and that is in place well beyond our school; the 60 kph zone also extends into Weir Views / Melton South. During school times, the speed zone outside our school is **40 kpm**.

Melton Police will be enforcing the new speed zones.



From the start of the 2024 school year, we ask that students and parents enter the school through the **NEW** vehicle entry gates, which are next to the new Senior Learning Building (SLB).



## Assemblies

As our old Assembly area is no longer available, we will hold our Assemblies on the oval out the front of the new Senior Learning Building. In Sun Smart months (2024 January – April and 2024 September – December), we will have our Assemblies at 8:50 am on Mondays and Fridays and our families are always welcome to join us.

Our new Year 1-6 students will receive their 'Welcome to Exford' certificate on Friday 9 February and our new Preps will receive theirs on Friday 16 February.

		Senior Learning Building		
		Classes line up outside the SLB (in front of the new Art and Music Room)		
LINING UP ORDER	ASSEMBLY	Centre aisle	Prep Akamatis	Yr 3-4 Fyfe
			Prep Gleeson	Yr 3-4 Monagle
			Prep Mastrop	Yr 3-4 Mounsey
			Yr 1-2 Ambrose	Yr 3-4 Romanski
			Yr 1-2 Blasis	Yr 5-6 Higgins
			Yr 1-2 Jones	Yr 5-6 Micallef
			Yr 1-2 Roe	Yr 5-6 Odgers

## OSH Club students

- Our OSH Club program begins on Wednesday 31 February.
- **Mornings** – children and their families arrive through **front entry gate** and parents need to walk their child / children to the new OSH Club room in the SLB and **sign them in**. Students **must not** be sent to OSH Club on their own.
  - Please note that the new side car park vehicle gates will not be opened until 8:50 am
- **Afternoons** – parents enter through the **new vehicle gates** from the side car park to collect and sign out their child / children from the new OSH Club room in the SLB.

## Start of the school day - student arrivals

- At 8:50 am each morning, a member of staff (usually Mr Wilson or me) will open the new vehicle gates from the side car park.
- Families are welcome to come into the school with their children.
- We ask that little ones (Prep – Year 2 children) are walked into the school by a family member to ensure their safety.
- We will line up in our Assembly order each morning with their class group and teacher before moving into the classroom.
- We ask that families enter by this gate from 8:50 am, rather than through the front office entrance, please.

### End of the school day - student departures

- At 3:25 pm each afternoon, a member of staff (usually Mr Wilson) will open the new vehicle gates on the oval from the side car park for our families to enter the school grounds.
- At 3:28 pm each afternoon, our staff will bring the children out to the oval for their families to collect them.
- We ask that little ones (Prep – Year 2 children) are collected by a family member to ensure their safety.

Please note that afternoon supervision finishes at 3:40 pm, and Mr Wilson will bring any children not yet collected through the school grounds to the Office. Teaching staff have after school commitments most afternoons, so we ask that families are prompt in collecting their children so that staff are not late to their meetings.

### BUS ZONE

We have moved the Bus zone to the area at the front of the school where the Disabled parks were in 2023. The staff member (usually me, or Mr Wilson, Ms Littlewood or Mr Jenner) will be waiting for the buses on arrival in the mornings and bring the children inside the school via the front gate. In the afternoons, the children will wait outside the office area and will be taken out to the buses by the staff member on duty.

We have placed posters over the Disabled signs and along the fence lines to indicate the Bus zone and this is a **strictly no parking area** between 8:40 – 9 am and between 3:20 - 3:50 pm. Please note that this will change later in the year due to construction of the Gymnasium and we will advise when the changes are confirmed.



### RESERVED PARKING

We have a **RESERVED** parking area out the front of the new Administration building. The parking areas are marked and are reserved for:

- Staff who arrive early / leave late, who bring in heavy loads daily / several times a week (OHS reasons)
- Two Visitor parks – for official school visitors and three Disability parks



### VISITOR PARKS

The two Visitor parks are for official visitors to the school, not for parents. Parents arriving at other times can park in the Bus zone after 9 am and before 3:20 pm.



### DISABLED PARKS –

We have moved the three Disabled Parks into the Reserved car park area for the 2024 school year, due to the impact of construction. These parks are only for children / adult with Disability park permits. Please note we also have two designated Disability transport spaces at the front gate for two students.



### PLAY SPACES

Our play spaces also look a little different than they did last year.



We will have half the oval for play.



The fenced area will have a compacted surface for ball games.



This area will have some passive play equipment installed.



This area (behind the SLB) will be available only at recess and lunch times and will be fenced off during class times.



## 2024 Prep children

From Wednesday 31 January – Monday 5 February, the 2024 Prep children will come to school for an hour for us to complete their assessment tasks, so our teachers have a clear understanding of their pre-literacy and numeracy learning needs in order to inform their class program. Please check your Xuno calendar to see your child's appointment time – parents are welcome to have a cup of tea in the Staff room while they wait.

Our Prep children will start school on Tuesday 6 February at 10 am. We welcome families to come from 9:30 am in order to take photos with family members in the school grounds (including our special Mosaic Wall, located on the side of the Admin building.) We will open the gate at 9:30 am for families to come into the school.

We will move into the classrooms from 10 am and families can join us in the classroom to help settle the children. Once they are settled, we ask families to reassure their little ones that they will be back after lunch to collect them and to leave the classroom (after one last hug!) The Prep children will finish at 2:30 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday and we will bring them to the oval and open the gates for families.

From Thursday 8 February, the Prep children will attend 8:50 am – 3:30 pm, along with all the other children.

## 2024 – Reminders

### 2024 Book Packs

- 2024 Book Packs ordered by Wednesday 20 December will be delivered on Tuesday 30 January
- 2024 Book Packs ordered by **Friday 2 February** will be delivered mid February
  - We will provide the children with a work book until their Book Pack arrives
- Families who have sourced their own Book Pack supplies, would you send them all with your child on Wednesday 31 January (for Year 1-6 children) or Tuesday 6 February (for Prep children)

### A reminder that we won't have a Canteen in 2024.

- Children need to bring their fruit break (for Munch and Crunch at 10 am), a healthy morning tea and a healthy lunch.
- All children need to bring their named water bottle every day. We ask that our families think about healthy food options for the children, best for young brains and bodies!
- If your child has forgotten their food, we will call you and ask you to bring food supplies for them.

### Sun Smart

- All children need to wear the Exford PS broad-brimmed sunhat (only available at school) when outside at recess, lunch, PE lessons etc from September to April each year.
- As we say, '**No Hat means No Play!**' (in the sun).



## The start of the 2024 school year will be here before you know it!

Our staff and classrooms are getting ready for the children's return; they are working together to prepare the classrooms and our new learning spaces so that they are looking inviting for the children to begin the 2024 school year.

We are looking forward to seeing our children begin and return to school. To our children moving on to secondary school and new schools (for children who have moved) – GOOD LUCK!

Ms Campo 😊