PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Grandparents & Special Friends Day

It was wonderful to see the large number of Grandparents & Special Friends who came to school yesterday to visit the children. The weather was fantastic and we certainly extended a warm welcome with the Assembly in the Stadium attended by a large number of people.

Thanks to Lisa Carne and the children who performed at the Assembly and showcased some of the amazing musical talent we have here at Essex Heights. The picnic was also a great success as we were able to spread out across the playground and enjoy perfect picnic weather.

The children get a real buzz out of showing their visitors around the school, the work they are doing in the classrooms, and we as a school appreciate their interest and support of our programs.

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**PFA Welcome Picnic**
Last Friday the PFA organised our first ‘community event’ for the year with a Welcome Family Picnic on Friday night. On a perfect night for a picnic it was great to meet many of our new families joining Essex Heights PS. Those who were there enjoyed the chance to meet and chat with other families and to listen to some excellent music played by ‘CRINQUIL CUT’ a band made up of past Essex Heights students. The Library and Courtyard provide an ideal venue for an event such as this and will certainly be featured in many more events in the future.

Thanks to the PFA for organising this event, arranging the music, the BBQ and drinks sales and the publicity. Thanks also to the families who supported the event and came along on the night.

**Car Park and Traffic Safety**
I would like to thank parents for their recent cooperation with regard to the Staff Car Park and ‘2 Minute Drop Off Zone’. This has certainly ensured a safer environment for the children.

I would also like to ask that parents take care if they are using the Council Car Park between the school and the Council Oval. Whilst this is not on school property, it is being used by parents as a drop off zone and this causes concern. It means that we again have the situation of children and cars sharing the same space which is far from ideal. Whilst I cannot make rules outside of the school property, I would ask parents to exercise great care if using this Council Car Park. Ideally, it would be better to avoid this area to reduce the congestion and the chance of an unfortunate accident.

**2.30pm Finish Next Week, and Term 2 Return on Monday April 15th**
A reminder to all parents and students that we will be finishing at 2.30pm next Thursday as the last day of Term 1.

**Vietnam Trip**
I will be taking some leave next week and travelling to Vietnam for three weeks. I plan to meet my eldest son (who has been travelling in Cambodia) in Ho Chi Minh City before travelling north through Vietnam. I am looking forward to this experience as it is my first visit to South-East Asia.

Enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday and I look forward to everyone returning refreshed after the break.

See you in Term 2,
Andrew Crossett
Principal

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**PARENTS & FRIENDS ‘NEWS’**
Last Friday night we had our Welcome picnic, it was great to see families enjoying a nice night in front of a great band. Thank you to the band CRINQUIL CUT for an amazing job, and to Tim, Linda, Caroline, Nicola, George and Tony for all their hard work to make sure the night ran smoothly.

Please have your Easter raffles in this week as the raffle will be drawn on Monday at assembly.

Enjoy your weekend
Betty Ciocciari

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**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**
We have had a very successful start to our weekly lessons in CRE, Buddhist, Jewish and Greek R.E. Please note that those children doing Hindu R.E. will now be having their lesson on a Wednesday at 11.30 at school instead of after school, starting 27th March.

Lois Banihashemi
R.E. Co-ordinator
BASC
There are limited spaces for the April Vacation Care Program. If you require care for the April Vacation Care please enrol promptly.

The program is looking to update its current menu. There will be information forms in the hall on Monday. If you have any suggestions please pass them on to the program.

Look forward to an Easter and Footy build up next week at Before and After Care. Wow, it’s going to be huge.

Thank You
Paul Davis, Co-Ordinator (9807 2615)

IT’S ‘EARN & LEARN’ TIME AGAIN

We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn Program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn points when you shop at Woolworths between Monday 8th April and Sunday 9th June. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.

For every $10.00 spent at Woolworths, you will receive a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. Pop them onto a Woolworths Point Sheet and, once this is completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woolies with the school name on it. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn Program and we would like to get lots of new gear! Products in the range include resources for mathematics, English, science, art and crafts through to sports gear, library supplies and more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask the school.

FRIDAY 22nd March 10.00 a.m. Stefanie Wendler-Canning, Bee Bee The, Jan or Mark Mattrow
MONDAY 24th March 10.00 a.m. Tara Hickcox
WEDNESDAY 26th March 10.30 a.m. Katrina Kelly, Dimple Kaul

PRINTED LUNCH BAGS 50 bags = $3.00 10 bags = $0.60
Please contact Maggie on 9807 1815 if you have any queries or are unable to attend
PrimeSCI! School Holiday Program

PrimeSCI! an innovation in science education, designed to bring the community and scientists together to enrich understanding of science and technology.

SCIENCE KITCHEN RULES!

Attention young scientists! It’s time for eggstraordinary eggsperiments and to learn about science in the kitchen! From the science of breadmaking, to the physics of your microwave. Learn about your digestive system, or the diet of dinosaurs!

The PrimeSCI! Holiday Program will be hosted by KIOSC (Knox Innovation Opportunity and Sustainability Centre) Building WK Swinburne University of Technology (Wantirna Campus) 369 Stud Road Wantirna South VIC 3152

Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program Year 7 2014

The Box Hill High School Year 7 SEAL Application link is currently open on our website. www.boxhillhs.vic.edu.au

To commence the selection process, parents of 2013 Year 6 applicants are asked to apply now. Places in the SEAL Program are for gifted students, currently residing in Victoria, who qualify for a government funded education, regardless of the location of their residential address.

For further information about the SEAL Program and Box Hill High School, we extend an invitation to our 2013 Open Afternoon 2.30 – 4.30 pm Tuesday 23 April.

OPEN DAY & NIGHT

Wednesday April 24 2013

Mount Waverley Secondary College

School Tours and Displays
Day Tours: Book online
Night Tours, Displays and Information Sessions:
Junior Campus open from 4.00pm - 7.45pm
Everybody welcome!

www.mwsc.vic.edu.au
9887 9290
When was your child's last eye Exam?

Millennium Optical
Bulk Billed Eye Testing
PH 9803 3995
59 Blackburn Rd, Mount Waverley
Mon – Fri 10 am -5pm
Sat 12pm-4pm

Waverley Gymnastics Centre
GLEN WAVERLEY CAMPUS

WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO LEARN HANDSTANDS, CARTWHEELS & SOMERSAULTS?? HERE’S THEIR CHANCE!
Gymnastics is not only a fantastic and fun sport in its own right; it also gives an exceptional base level of coordination, skill and confidence that assists children to achieve in all their other sports and life skills!
Waverley’s Glen Waverley campus at Wesley College is an outstanding venue, with exceptional fully qualified coaches, offering fun and challenging gymnastics classes for primary school-aged children of all abilities! We also run daytime classes at our Mt Waverley venue for pre-school aged children.
Times: Monday & Tuesday afternoons, & Saturdays.
Address: 620 High Street Road, Glen Waverley
(Melways Ref. 62 A12)

LIMITED TERM 1 POSITIONS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!!
For more information, or to book a trial class, please call 9887-9611, or visit www.waverley.gymnastics.org.au.