PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Softball – Essex Heights PS – State Champions for 2013

Congratulations to the Boys Softball team who played in the State Championships last Thursday. They won their first three games and therefore qualified for the State Final playoff against Kingswood PS from Dingley. In this final game their teamwork and discipline was outstanding and they ended up winning quite easily, thereby becoming the State Champions for 2013.

We are very proud of their efforts this year and celebrate with them this marvellous achievement. They reached this high level of competition through their individual skills, but more so due to diligent training and excellent teamwork for which they are to be commended. I would like to thank Ben Wooster for his efforts over recent years to develop our Softball teams, and for the positive culture he has built that has culminated in this deserved reward. Thanks also to the band of loyal parents who have worked with, and supported the boys throughout this journey.

CALENDAR DATES

TERM 4
4th December  Christmas Church Service
5th December  Orientation Session - Prep 2014
5th December  Hot Dog Day
10th December  Orientation Day for Year 6 at Year 7 school
10th December  Orientation Day for new students Yrs 1 – 6 at EHPS
12th December  Parent Helpers Morning Tea – 11.00 a.m.
13th December  Last Canteen Day for 2013
18th December  Year 6 Big Day Out
20th December  Last day of Term 4 – 1.30 p.m. finish

2014
28th / 29th January  Staff return to school
30th January  Students in Yrs 1 – 6 commence school
31st January  Students in Prep commence school

Particular thanks to Stuart Box who filmed and edited a DVD of the Final and presented one to each of the boys, a great souvenir!

Well done to everyone - an outstanding result!
**Student Leadership – 2014**
We are currently carrying out a selection process for the student leadership group for 2014. The Yr 5 children have the opportunity to nominate for a variety of positions, submit a written application and, if shortlisted, present a speech before a selection panel.

These student leadership positions are highly respected at Essex Heights by staff and students. The leaders are relied upon to set a strong example for all children and to represent our school in a range of official duties. I look forward to announcing the leadership team for 2014 in the coming weeks, and to working with these leaders next year.

**Parent Helpers Morning Tea – Thursday, December 12th – 11:00am**
The partnership between parents and staff is a very positive aspect of the Essex Heights community. There are so many ways in which parents support their children and our programs through their willingness to give of their time. This includes classroom helpers, excursions, sport teams, choirs and music performances, canteen roster etc.

As is tradition, the staff would like the opportunity to say thank you to all the parents who have assisted them throughout the year. Therefore we invite you to join us for morning tea on Thursday, December 12th at 11am in the Hall. Hope to see you all there!

See you around the school,
Andrew Crossett

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**INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM**
We would appreciate if all outstanding music accounts could be settled by the end of next week (6th December). Thank you.

**PARENTS & FRIENDS ‘NEWS’**

**Hot Dog Day** - 5th December, 2013
The hot dog day order forms went home last Friday. I am extremely sorry for the errors that I made in the dates. Hot dog day is on Thursday 5th December and we would greatly appreciate all the order forms along with the money to be returned by next Monday the 2nd December. Assistance is needed on this day from 11.00 am onwards. If you are available to help please email the PFA (ehpspfa@gmail.com).

Maria Skouteris

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**CANTEEN**

Please note the last day for ordering Canteen lunches for 2013 is **Friday 13th December.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>29th November</th>
<th>10.00 a.m.</th>
<th>Felicity Bolitho, Linda Cornell, Leigh Sherpa, Penny Fleming</th>
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<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>2nd December</td>
<td>10.45 a.m.</td>
<td>Louise Power, Jen Hill</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>4th December</td>
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<td>Lauren Beechey, Hengchuan Cai</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>29th November</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Stefanie Wendler-Canning, Suttwee Yap</td>
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Can you please ensure your accounts are up to date by the end of the month. The January Vacation Care Program is now out and enrolments are being taken.

Please remember, if your child is attending aftercare then they need to be provided with a hat.

Thank You, Paul Davis, Co-Ordinator

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**LOOKING FOR HOMES FOR GUINEA PIGS**

Parents and children,

Just a reminder to all our families that we are looking for homes for our guinea pigs for the weekend. They are very low maintenance and delightful to cuddle. The guinea pigs are in pairs, in a cage and feed on grass, celery tops, spinach, carrots, apples and tomatoes. If you would like to have them for a stay at your home for the weekend, please let any of the Year One/Two teachers know and we will make arrangements. Further, we are looking for long stay visits over the Christmas school holidays and would love some families to ‘adopt’ our guinea pigs during this time.

Whilst we understand this is a big commitment in terms of time, nurturing and caring for our guinea pigs is a rewarding and enriching experience. Please let us know if you can help.

Many thanks,
The Level One and Two Teachers

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**Thanks for all the offers of assistance with book covering!**

Thank you for all the offers of assistance with covering books, we have had a great response. All the books that we had processed have now been covered. Thank you to everyone who helped.

We are now waiting for the next BIG shipment of books. The publisher has promised that the books will be here early this week. Once these have been processed we will be sending out more books. So please don’t think that we have forgotten you, more books will be coming your way!

When you send the books back to school could you please ensure that your child’s name or your name, plus the grade are written on the plastic bags.

Once again, thank you for all of your help. I know that the children will be very excited when they see the new books in their Take Home Reading boxes so from them, another great big thank you!

Judy McKay & all class teachers and the children.
**After School Dance**

*After School Dance* classes will be offered on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** for students in Prep to Year 4 in 2014. Classes will take place in the **Stadium**. Prep/Year 1 will be on Mondays and Year 2-4 will be on Wednesdays.

Classes will begin at **3.40 pm** and finishes at **4.25 pm**.

The Term 1, 2014 Dance program commences the week of **Monday 10th February** and concludes the week of **Monday 17th March**.

- Prep / 1 $50
- Year 2 - 4 $60

(No class on Monday 10th March)

Children will be participate in a variety of warm up routines, create their own movements through activities and learn a choreographed dance to be performed at the end of the last session for family and friends.

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**Lunchtime Dance**

Lunchtime Dance will continue to run in 2014 for students in Years 1-4. The cost is $35 for the 6 week program with each lesson running for 30 minutes.

The classes take place at lunchtime on Wednesdays in the hall and begin **Wednesday 12th February** and conclude **Wednesday 19th March**.

The dance routine will be performed at the end of the program for family and friends giving the children a sense of achievement.

There are currently places available in these classes. If you would like your child to participate please obtain a registration form from the school office or visit creativedanceanddrama.com and request your desired form via the contact page.

*Georgia Lombard*

*Creative Dance and Drama*
5 minute survey for your chance to win an iPad!

On behalf of the Ride2School program, we would like to invite you, as a parent of Essex Heights Primary School, to participate in their travel to school survey.

Your responses will help us better understand the concerns of parents of school aged children across Victoria. We are keen to hear from all parents, whether your children are driven, walk, or cycle to school.

For your chance to win an iPad, simply complete the following 5 minute survey by 24 December 2013:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R2Sparent

The winner will be notified by email and announced on the Ride2School website in January 2014. For more information about our Ride2School program please visit our website or send me an email.

MonashLink Community Health Service Limited
Clayton Community Centre, Rear, Level 1, 9-15 Cooke Street
Clayton 3168
Ph: 1300 552 509

CHILD ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM
MonashLink Oral Health Service offers dental examinations and treatment to all:
Primary School Children - (Prep- Yr 6)

Dental care includes: emergency treatment, regular check-ups, dental sealants, fillings and other complex treatments. For dependents of concession card holders (Pension and Health Care Card), the service is FREE. For non card holders a FLAT FEE applies per child as follows: $31.00 for a general course of treatment.

To enrol your child in the program, please call us on 1300 552 509 or email us at Monashlink@monashlink.org.au, and we will offer you the first available appointment with our Dental Therapist. On the completion of dental care, your child will be placed on our recall system. When your child is due for a new check up, a reminder letter will be sent to your home address. Please be sure to let us know if your address or contact details change at any time.

If you or any member of your family are the holder or listed on a Pensioner Concession Card or a Health Care Card, you will be eligible for dental treatment at MonashLink.

If you do not hold a concession Card, MonashLink have a Private Dental Service “Monash Smiles” and a Specialist Orthodontist for all your family dental needs. This service is available week days and Saturday mornings. Hicaps available. For all enquiries please contact us on 1300 552 509

Maintaining your oral health is essential for your child’s general health and well being. Our Dental Therapists recommends that you help your child with the following oral hygiene habits until they are 12 years:

- **Brush twice daily (morning & before sleeping)**
- **Brush for 3 minutes**
- **Always use a soft bristled toothbrush**
- **Change your toothbrush every 3 months**
- **Always floss between all teeth**
- **Have regular drinks of water after eating**
- **Always use a fluoride toothpaste**
## DECEMBER

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<td>Christmas Church Service</td>
<td>Orientation Day for 2014 Preps</td>
<td>Hot Dog Day</td>
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| 9<sup>th</sup> | 10<sup>th</sup> | 11<sup>th</sup> | 12<sup>th</sup> | 13<sup>th</sup> | 14<sup>th</sup> |
| | Orientation Day – Yr 6 at Sec. Scls. | | Parent Helper’s Morning Tea | Year 6 Graduation | |

| 16<sup>th</sup> | 17<sup>th</sup> | 18<sup>th</sup> | 19<sup>th</sup> | 20<sup>th</sup> | 21<sup>st</sup> |
| | | Year 6 Big Day Out | | Last day of School 1.30 p.m. finish | |

## JANUARY 2014

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- **27<sup>th</sup>**: Staff return
- **28<sup>th</sup>**: Staff Day only
- **29<sup>th</sup>**: Yrs 1 – 6 commence
- **31<sup>st</sup>**: Prep commencement 9.00 – 1.00 p.m.
Is your daughter attending Mt Waverley Secondary College next year?

Save almost $400 on uniform costs!!

I have the complete girls Mt Waverley Secondary College uniforms, including Summer, Winter & Sports uniforms, wool jumper, jacket, school bag, hat etc – 11 items in total.

Girls Size 12 & 14 all in great condition and barely worn. Perfect for Year 7.

Cost over $500 new, selling $120 ONO for the lot.

Contact Raewyn 0450 977 192

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Christmas Treasures Gift Market and Art Café
‘For the Gift of Art’
Wednesday 4th to Friday 20th December 2013

At:
The Highway Gallery
14 The Highway
Mount Waverley
(off Stephensons Rd near Barry Plant Real Estate)

Get into the spirit of Christmas with us ...

- Give the gift of decorative, functional, wearable and visual art at affordable prices
- Create your own Christmas bauble and have a cuppa with friends
- Donate to the ‘Connections Uniting Care Christmas Food and Gift Appeal’

P: 9807 7261
E: highway@waverleyarts.com.au
W: highwaygallery.com.au

-- Proudly operated by volunteers from the Waverley Arts Society since 2010 --
Keeping Art in the Community

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Eastern Lions Soccer Club
Open Day
Sunday 15th December 2013
11.00am-2.30pm

Come on down and visit the Eastern Lions Soccer Club in Burwood for a fun filled day and see what a great club we offer to potential junior players in our community

- Jumping castle
- Free BBQ
- Small sided soccer games
- Penalty shootout
- Sponsor stalls
- Free wine & cheese tasting (Get Wines Direct)

Bring the family and kids and enjoy a great day out, meet some of the players, coaches and the President as well, and maybe you can be a part of our family in 2014!!!

Call for further information:
Norm Willcocks 0416 036 346
Graeme O’Neill 0438 258 388
Mariana Wicket 0401 246 923

Eastern Lions Soccer Club
Gardiners Creek Reserve, Sixth Avenue, Burwood. (Melways 60 J8).
www.easternlions.com.au