PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Farewell to 2013

We are at the end of a very successful year for Essex Heights PS. There have been many highlights across the year in terms of major events, but the main focus continues to be the learning that takes place every day in the classrooms. The daily educational opportunities for every child remain our goal, and form the foundation for our success.

I’d like to thank all our School Councillors who contribute positively to the governance of the school and support our drive for continuing high standards of education, under the leadership of President Trevor Sharrock. Thanks also to the Parents & Friends Association who have organised many terrific school events for students and the community, whilst also raising valuable funds for the school, and to the leadership of President Betty Ciorciari.

To all those who support us, the staff and students wish to thank you for all your contributions throughout this year which have “added value” to our school. Research shows that children who see their parents up and around the school helping out in some way feel more connected to their school and in many circumstances perform better in their studies. With your assistance, our school continues to be an extremely busy and dynamic learning environment.

I’d like to sincerely thank the dedicated and hard working staff who have contributed to the success of Essex Heights Primary School in 2013. Your professionalism, diligence and the high level of care shown to all of our students are all highly valued.

Our school continues to thrive; achievement results build, Literacy and Numeracy levels are very strong, sporting prowess is apparent and the performing arts and music feature strongly. Staff, parents and students all contribute to our strong positive culture. In fact, the unprecedented enrolment interest throughout 2013 and into 2014 is testament to the high regard Essex Heights PS is held in the broader community.

Student Placement for 2014

The placement of students has been an enormous task taking hours of review and reflection. All students were informed of their placement for 2014 today as they visited their new teachers. Wherever possible we have endeavoured to place each student with at least one friend they have nominated. Sometimes of course there are other considerations, however on balance we are endeavouring to do what we believe to be in the best interests of all students.

I thank my staff for the enormous time spent on this task given a myriad of other competing demands including moving classrooms in some cases, graduation, transition, celebrations, student reports and organisation of supplies and materials for 2014.
Graduation – Year 6

Last Friday we had an amazing night for our Year 6 Graduation. It was a memorable evening and I congratulate the efforts of our Parent Committee led by Michelle Fitzpatrick, Verena Morrison and Lili Chen for their hard work and organisation. Others who played a significant role include Shannon Wyett on the magazine and Minh Do for the audio-visual presentation. A big thank you also to our Yr 6 teachers in Anita Kuchta & Kelvin Tang for all their work with the students in preparation for the evening too. We were all very proud of our Year 6 students and the superb manner in which they conducted themselves. Congratulations!

Student Leadership Positions - 2014

The Yr 5 children have recently nominated and been interviewed for our Student Leadership positions for 2014. I would like to thank all the children who were willing to make themselves available for these important positions in our school. Congratulations to the children who have been selected for these roles. A full list can be found in this week’s Contact and we will acknowledge them at the final Assembly on Friday.

Educational Contributions - 2014

At this stage we have not distributed information for 2014 about Educational Contributions. School Council has decided not to make any increases to these fees for 2014 so they will remain at the same level for 2013. Charges for 2014 will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contribution Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Contribution of</td>
<td>$300 per student (including $10 for Mathletics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds Maintenance of</td>
<td>$30 per family</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICT Support of</td>
<td>$30 per family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution to School Nurse of</td>
<td>$30 per family</td>
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These funds are critical to the support of our educational provision at Essex Heights. More information will be provided during the first week of February 2014.

Holiday Security

Over the last few years we have seen an increase in the level of after hours community use of our school grounds. In most instances, the members of the community who use our school do so with regard to the values we place on our grounds and facilities. Occasionally this does not happen. In the past I have been delighted to find that our neighbours have contacted 000 and /or the Department of Emergency Management on 9589 6266. If you are in and around the school over the vacation please continue this practice. It strengthens our community and makes it safer for all our students and their families.

Holiday Program – 2014

Our School Council has reviewed and endorsed the program for the 13th – 29th January inclusive.

The children will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities and I thank Paul Davis for his enthusiasm and organisation in making this program available. Those attending will have the opportunity for both days held at the school and days to other venues as advertised in the Holiday Program. If you rely on this service I would encourage you to enrol promptly, as such program are increasingly sought and there are strict limits on total enrolment numbers.

Reminder - School Finish – 1.30pm – Friday 20th December

Please be aware that consistent with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and the direction of our School Council, school will finish on Friday 20th December at 1.30 pm. We will of course have After School Care commencing from this time.

As is traditional, we will have a final assembly at 12:45pm. This will be conducted in the school hall. We warmly welcome our parents and community members to attend to join this celebration.

School will resume for our students in Year 1 – 6 on Thursday 30th January 2014. Our Prep students will commence on Friday 31st January.

See you in 2014,
Andrew Crossett
# STUDENT LEADERSHIP ROLES FOR 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains</th>
<th>Music Captains</th>
<th>Library Captains</th>
<th>Art Captains</th>
<th>Environment Captains</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Veronika P</td>
<td>Ayesha S.</td>
<td>Ellen A.</td>
<td>Cindy S.</td>
<td>Wei Wei C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heshan P.</td>
<td>Rian M.</td>
<td>Jonathan G.</td>
<td>Margaret Z.</td>
<td>Anastasia K</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Brian L.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>School Vice Captains</th>
<th>Music Vice Captains</th>
<th>Library Vice Captains</th>
<th>Art Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcus A.</td>
<td>Alexandra D.</td>
<td>Lina V.</td>
<td>Reese C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith W.</td>
<td>Thomas H.</td>
<td>Ethan C.</td>
<td>Chantel D.</td>
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<tr>
<th>BOYD House Captains</th>
<th>DRYSDALE House Captains</th>
<th>LINDSAY House Captains</th>
<th>NOLAN House Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex N.</td>
<td>Declan V.</td>
<td>James M.</td>
<td>Emma K.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam P.</td>
<td>Riley T.</td>
<td>Peter A.</td>
<td>Zoe K.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Captains</td>
<td>Drysdale Vice Captains</td>
<td>Lindsay Vice Captains</td>
<td>Nolan Vice Captains</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oscar B.</td>
<td>Joanna B.</td>
<td>Jamie G.</td>
<td>Aaron Z.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean N.</td>
<td>Wendy M.</td>
<td>Greg P.</td>
<td>Paige B.</td>
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**Congratulations!**

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**PARENTS & FRIENDS ‘NEWS’**

Another year has come and gone and the PFA have achieved so much. Thank you to all the members and parents who have helped and given their time to all events. Thanks also to all the staff and to Mr Crossett for their support of the PFA.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to another event full year.

Enjoy your holidays

Betty Ciocciari
Thank you to all the families that have supported the Essex Heights Primary School Before and After School Care Program this year. It is an absolute privilege to be part of this stellar community. The program is able to flourish and is boosted by your continual reassurance. All the staff are extremely thankful for your friendly assurance and support.

I would like to thank Mr Andrew Crossett for his sustained endorsement and encouragement for the program and all the staff. I would also like to thank: Mrs Scott, Ms Kuehlich, Mrs McCann, Mrs Sounas, Mrs Skouteris, Mrs Ciociari, Mr Morrison and The Essex Heights School Council. These people are vital for the programs buoyancy and ensuring that it provides quality care. I sincerely thank everyone for their unwavering support for the Essex Heights BASC program this year.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Paul Davis, Co-Ordinator

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**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 **3.40pm** and finishes at **4.25pm**.

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

- Prep/1 $50 (No class on Monday 10th March)
- Year 2-4 $60

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
## DECEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christmas Church Service</td>
<td>Orientation Day for 2014 Preps</td>
<td>Hot Dog Day</td>
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<td>9th</td>
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<td>20th</td>
<td>21st</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Big Day Out</td>
<td></td>
<td>Last day of School 1.30 p.m. finish</td>
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## JANUARY 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>28th</td>
<td>29th</td>
<td>30th</td>
<td>31st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff day only</td>
<td>Staff day only</td>
<td>Yrs 1 – 6 students start school</td>
<td>Preps start school</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Australia’s No.1 Coaching College

James An Coaching College
Primary & Secondary/ VCE/ Scholarship/ Selective Specialist

From Yr 1 to Yr 12 Classes are available on Saturday and Weekday afternoons

$50 Discount *conditions apply

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Online Registration open

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http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/waverleyblues

For more information about the Blues visit our website
http://www.waverleyblues.com.au

Registration Night
Wednesday 5th February: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Mt Waverley Reserve, Fleet St, Mt Waverley 61F12

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New Players Most Welcome
Enquiries - Jenny 0409 213 044 or Cathy 0419 365 060
Family Discounts Apply

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