
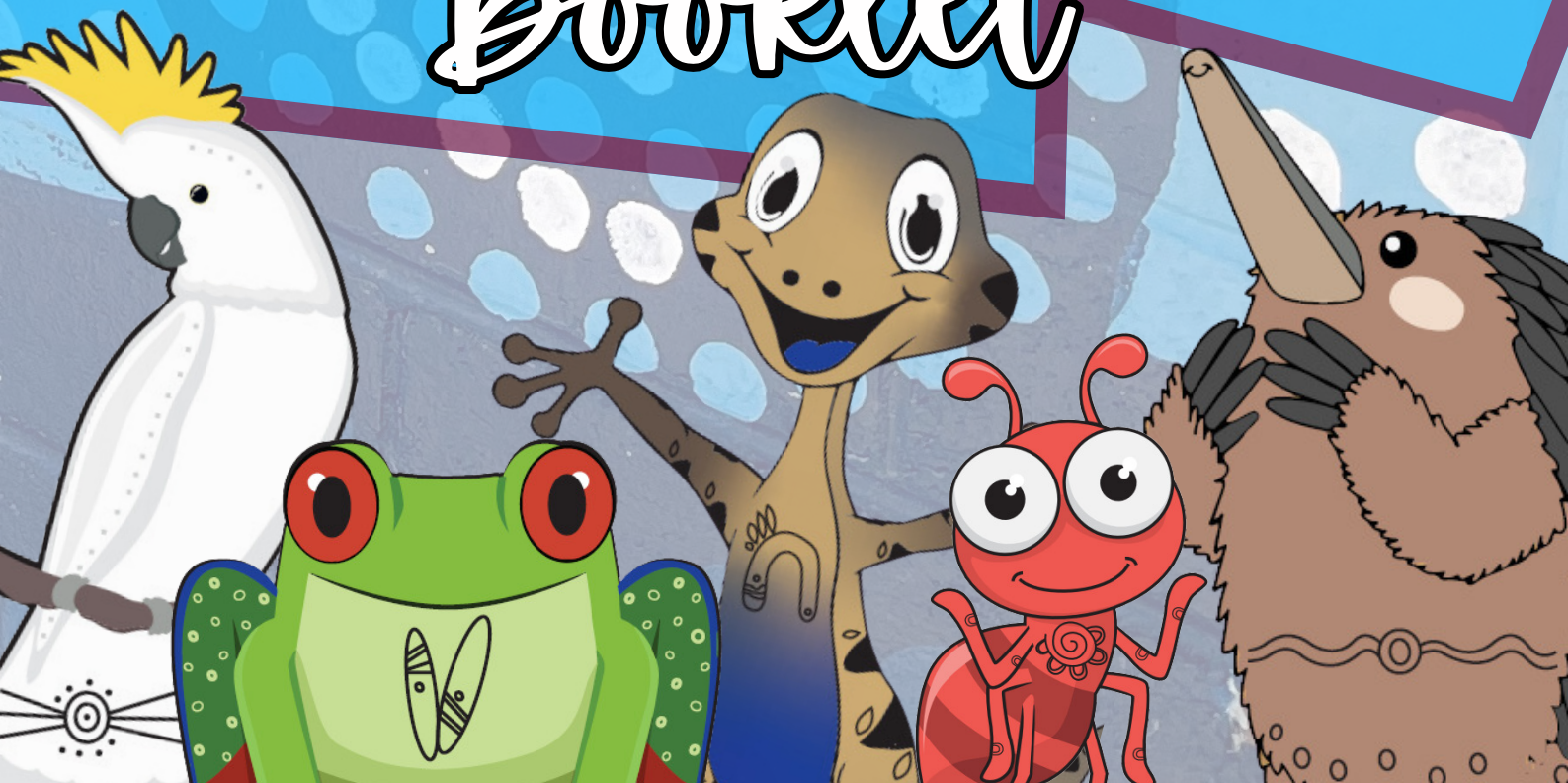


Lucas Road East Hills NSW 2213
Phone: 9773 8468
easthills-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.easthills-p.schools.nsw.edu.au



2024 SCHOOL INFORMATION Booklet



Welcome

This information booklet gives parents and carers general information and details about our class routines and teaching program. If you need to speak to the classroom teacher about your child, please contact your child's teacher on Seesaw to arrange a time for us to call you back or phone the office to make an appointment.

School Vision

Students are at the core of all we do at East Hills Public School. As we strive for excellence, we are committed to evidence informed teaching and learning. Students will effectively communicate, engage and build authentic connections with themselves and the wider community. We will model for students and empower our community, to live philanthropically.

Learner dispositions are reflected in every aspect of school life. The five dispositions of curiosity, grit, ownership, collaboration and reflection are explicitly taught and embedded in our school learning culture. Students are able to articulate what they are learning in each lesson and how they can be successful. Students utilise feedback to develop individual goals and determine their next steps. Inclusive and individual learning programs are developed to maximise student learning outcomes.

As a staff we have high expectations of ourselves, the students, and the community. A culture of high expectations in learning and behaviour is conducive to a positive learning environment where all students are motivated to deliver their best and continually improve so as to reach their full potential.

Student wellbeing is enhanced at our school by drawing on the expertise, contribution and support of the community. Authentic belonging and community engagement maximise how our students connect, succeed and thrive.

Strategic Improvement Plan

All NSW Department of Education schools develop a strategic improvement plan. The strategic improvement planning process helps schools identify and talk about what's going well and what they can do even better. The process also helps our schools work closely with their communities to set and prioritise goals aimed at improving their students learning, growth and well-being. East Hills Public School has the following three strategic directions.

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment

The school is working to maximise student learning outcomes for every student in reading and numeracy as the strong foundations for academic success.

Strategic Direction 2: Learning culture of high expectations

To build a culture of high expectations where the needs of all students are supported through; effective curriculum differentiation, purposeful feedback, and the provision of learning challenge

Strategic Direction 3: Wellbeing and belonging

To ensure that all of our students are able to; connect, succeed, thrive, and learn. A planned approach to developing whole school wellbeing processes that support high levels of belonging, attendance and engagement for students, staff and the wider school community.



OWN

LEARNER dispositions



Curiosity



A **CURIOS** learner is inquisitive and takes an active interest exploring new things. They have a strong desire to build knowledge and make meaning from what they are learning, applying this knowledge to different situations.

Ownership

A learner who has **OWNERSHIP** understands that they are responsible for their own learning, personal growth and success. They have self-motivation and a strong belief that success in learning is within their control.

Reflective

A **REFLECTIVE** learner thinks about their learning with honesty, gratitude and an open-mind.



They set goals as they strive for continual improvement.

grit

A **GRITTY** learner sets meaningful learning goals and pursues them with passion.

They persevere with courage and determination until they finish what they started, even when they experience challenges and set backs.

collaborative

A **COLLABORATIVE** learner works together in pairs or groups to complete a task, generate ideas, solve a problem or achieve a goal. Effective collaboration involves position social interaction, the sharing of ideas and the active contribution of all group members. Collaboration divides the task and multiplies the success.





K/1 Llamas



K-2 Cria Alpacas



2-4 Hembra Alpacas



2/3 Dromedary Camels

Classes

This year all classes are named after camelids. The United Nations declared **2024** the International Year of Camelids (IYC 2024). The Year will highlight how camelids are key to the livelihoods of millions of households in hostile environments across over 90 countries, particularly Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

2024 Staff

Principal:

- Donna Casey

Deputy Principal:

- Daniel Hall

Assistant Principals:

- Emily Edwards (ES1 and S1)
- Sue Allen (S2 and S3)
- Joel Redman (Support Unit)
- Susanna Brikha (Curriculum and Instruction)
- Emily Litchfield (Curriculum and Instruction)

Class teachers:

- Lauren Byrne (Mon-Thur) and Francine Frouxiou (Fri) (K/1Llamas)
- Joel Redman & Francine Frouxiou (Thurs) (K-2 Cria Alpacas)
- Emily Edwards & Margot Ruppas (Wed) (2/3 Dromedary)

Office Staff

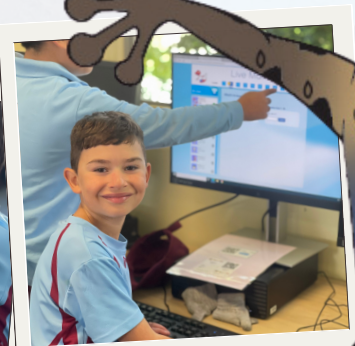
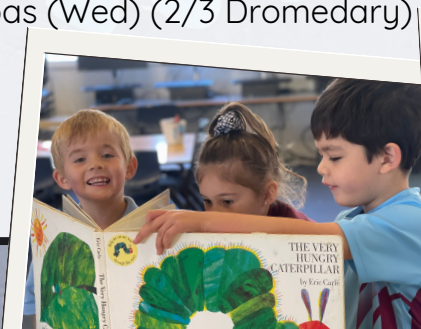
- Angie Clarkson
- Jo Lowe
- Michelle Marshall

Student Learning Support Officers

- Michelle
- Stella
- Margaret
- Sylvana
- Ben
- Fidah

Support Teachers:

- Margot Ruppas
- Renee Roberts
- Daniel Hall





2-4 Hembre Alpacas



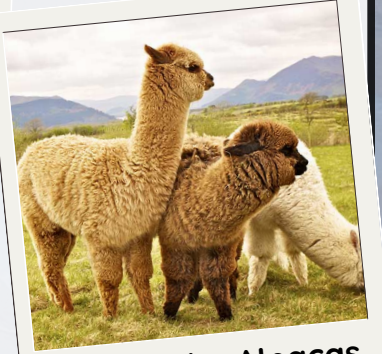
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4/5 Vicuna



5/6 Guancao.



4-6 Macho Alpacas

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Class teachers:

- Carolina Fernandez & Abbie Millar (2-4 Hembre Alpacas)
- Hyun Ha (3/4 Wild Bactrian)
- Sue Allen (4/5 Vicuna)
- Gareth Gardner (5/6 Guanaco)
- Shamilla Lal (4-6 Macho Alpaca)

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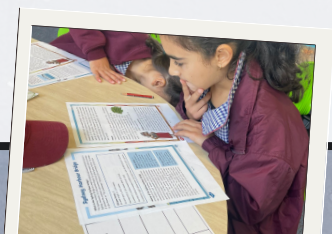
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Bell Times

Morning bell rings at 8:55am. It is important that students are punctual, so they do not miss learning time. If your child is late, they will need a note from the office before coming to class. This is to be given to the class teacher. Students go straight to class at 8:55am and formal lessons begin promptly at 9am. Students who arrive to class after 9am are required to go to the office for a late note.

If you need to collect your child early, you will need to go to the office and sign him/her out. The afternoon bell rings at 3:00pm.

Attendance is vital for student success. If your child is absent, we require a note detailing dates and a reason for their absence on the first day they return to school.

School Uniform

Thank you to the school and MUE for gifting a sport shirt to each student. This was a once off gift and sport shirts will need to be purchased in the future. The uniform is to be worn every day - full school uniform including black shoes on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and sport uniform on Wednesday and Friday. School hats must be worn every day. Uniforms can be purchased at MUE, 34 Anderson Avenue, Panania.

Communication

Blue notes folders have been issued to every student. This folder must come to school every day. Important notes and documentation will be sent home in these folders. If your child loses it, you will need to replace it. Notes and other important information can be found on the Audri app.

Any money should come to school in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name, class, amount and payment details. Please remind your child to take this to the office before school.

SeeSaw app

Please connect with your child's digital portfolio and class teacher on SeeSaw. This allows you to share their learning at school with home. Seesaw also bridges the gap between home and school while celebrating student learning. All staff have agreed to respond to parents on the Seesaw application within 48 hours during the working week between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm from Monday - Friday during the school term. SeeSaw notifications will be muted after these hours.

Audri

Please register for notifications via the Audri Application, available in the play or apple store. This is the platform we use to send home school notifications, notes and newsletters. It's the best way to keep up to date with what's happening when!



East Hills Eats:

East Hills Eats is our school eatery initiative to promote happy, healthy and engaged students.

Breakfast is provided every morning before school (8.30-8.50am). Healthy foods items are available every Tuesday and Thursday during all three play breaks to supplement what children bring to school with them.

- Play Break 1 - Fresh fruit
- Play Break 2 - Lunch meal
- Play Break 3 - Veggie snacks / afternoon tea

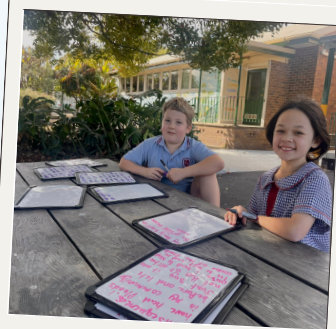
If you choose for your child to not participate in this service, please notify the office in writing.

Play Breaks:

East Hills Public School implements a three break structure into the school day. The break times allow students to have three 20 minute play breaks where they eat and engage in various play activities.

Incorporating shorter breaks into the school day can has a positive impact on student academic performance and the overall wellbeing of students. During all three breaks our dedicated staff are running engagement activities, ensuring our playground is an inclusive environment for everyone!

- Play Break 1 - 10.20 - 10.40am
- Play Break 2 - 12.00 - 12.20pm
- Play Break - 3 1.40 - 2.00pm



Teacher Meetings

Our dedicated team of educators actively participate in professional learning sessions, administrative duties, and collaborative team meetings throughout the week to stay abreast of the latest research and ensure effective school systems are in place. These engagements guarantee that our teachers are continuously enhancing their skills and knowledge to provide the best possible education for our students. Please note that on Tuesday mornings and afternoons, as well as Wednesday afternoons, our teachers are fully committed to their own learning and development, so scheduling appointments during these times will not be possible.

Teachers will be available for the remainder of the week. Please contact your teacher via Seesaw to organise meeting times.



Behaviour at East Hills

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is an evidence-based whole school process to improve learning outcomes for all students. PBL establishes strong school-wide universal systems that promote early intervention, and the teaching and acknowledging of social-emotional skills. Please see the following NSW DoE Behaviour Code information sheet for students and carers and our school based flow chart for managing behaviour.

Champion Time

Champion time is a school initiative where students select a 'Champion' to interact and eat with during play break 3 eating time.

Students are provided with an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations with their champion and are building authentic connections with staff across the school - ensuring that every child has a champion onsite!

Students are more likely to be more engaged and motivated in their learning when they feel a sense of belonging and connectedness.

Other programs

Throughout the week, your child will attend a variety of other classes or programs that the school has on offer.

- **Creative and Performing Arts** - Monday or Tuesday

All classroom teachers receive release from face to face teaching duties to have time to collaborate with colleagues and plan learning. During one of these sessions, students will go to a creative and performing arts class.

- **Library** - Mondays / Tuesdays

In addition to the creative arts classes, students will visit the library with our school librarian once a week. During this time they will engage in History or Geography lessons while borrowing from our fully resourced school library.

- **Zing Active** - Wednesdays

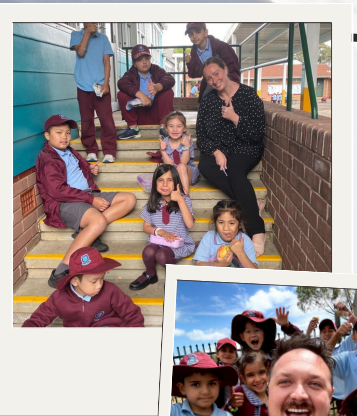
As a part of the Physical Education Health and Personal Development key learning area all classes engage in Zing Active. During this time, class teachers and an external provider run physical education lessons.

- **Special religious education (SRE)** - Tuesdays 2pm

SRE is education in the beliefs and practices of an approved religious persuasion. Under the Education Act 1990, section 32, government schools allow time for special religious education. It is delivered by authorised representatives of approved religious groups to students who have nominated that religion. At East Hills PS, SRE runs on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00pm-2:30pm.

- **Assembly**

Assemblies run on a Thursday afternoon from 2pm. K-2 Assemblies are held in odd weeks and 3-6 in even weeks. In Week 10 of each term we hold a K-6 whole school assembly.



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- **Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) & School Sport** - Fridays

On Friday's 3-6 students have the opportunity to represent our school in PSSA. Students who don't wish to or don't make a PSSA team will engage in sporting activities at school.

Labelling

Please label all your child's belongings. This includes hats, jumpers, drink bottles and containers, and other resources they use including pencil cases and library bags. This makes returning lost items to the correct owner easier.

Home Reading = RED program (Read Every Day)

Regular home reading is recommended, with students encouraged to borrow challenging books from the library and return them weekly. Red folders are provided to all students. Our RED (Read Every Day) program promotes a love of reading. Each child receives a red folder with a book, a reading log, and parental tips. The book is chosen by the teacher, usually at the child's reading level. At school, they read a higher level with teacher support. The reading log tracks progress and contributes to class rewards. 20 minutes of reading daily is suggested. To further encourage students to read, a class tree is set up in the classroom to represent the class' reading growth as a whole. When students demonstrate on their reading log consistent reading, they receive a leaf that becomes a part of the tree to help it flourish, as they do in their reading. Students are also encouraged to reflect on their reading and reward themselves with Brag Tags, which are linked to our learner dispositions.

Mastery Learning

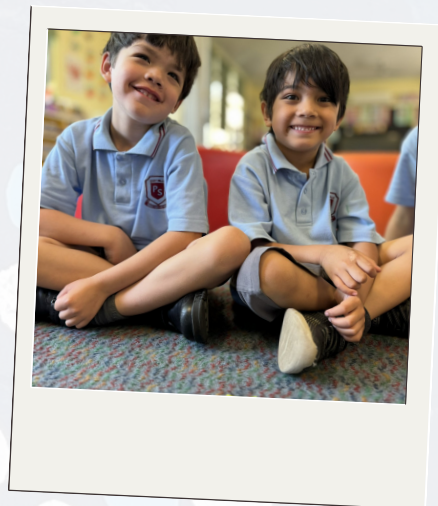
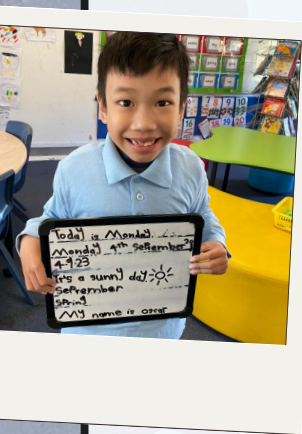
There is no formalised homework, however all students have been allocated Mathematics and Reading Eggs accounts. The expectation is that all students read every night and complete these online activities. Readers can be borrowed from the library or classroom teacher. Some students may also bring home PowerPack activities, which must be completed and returned to their teacher.

Learning a skill to mastery requires practice! Think about learning to walk, tying shoes or even learning to drive - practice makes perfect! We encourage all students to practice their skills that they've learnt at school at home.



New Syllabus

This year marks the introduction of an innovative new syllabus for English and Mathematics across K-6 students, promising an exciting shift in educational practices. With a focus on enhancing critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity, the English curriculum integrates literature exploration with writing skills, fostering a deeper appreciation for language and communication. Simultaneously, the Mathematics syllabus emphasises real-world applications, promoting numerical fluency alongside conceptual understanding. Designed to align with modern educational standards, this curriculum overhaul aims to equip students with the essential skills needed for success in an increasingly complex world. As it is implemented for the first time this year, educators and students alike anticipate the transformative impact it will have on learning outcomes and educational experiences.



Each year, the students at East Hills Public School will be taught subjects from syllabuses developed by the NSW Education Standards Authority. NSW syllabuses provide an outline of the requirements for teaching and learning in various subjects for stages of students' learning. They also contain the outcomes and content which are intended to be inclusive of the learning needs of all students, including:

- Aboriginal students
- students with disability
- high potential and gifted education
- students learning English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D).

Our teaching and learning programs are designed with the needs of your child at the core. Programs are adapted to cater for the needs of each student in the class. Our teachers use a range of high-quality resources to deliver the teaching and learning. The planned curriculum for this year can be accessed via the NSW DoE website and resource hub.

At East Hills PS, we value the important role our parents and carers have in the educational journey of our students. Please contact the school should you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's specific learning needs.

Mathematics - K-6



With the implementation of new syllabus documents, our teachers are adapting a new pedagogical approach to teaching mathematics. The new syllabus and our pedagogical approach;

- take a 'connectionist' approach that reflects the 'big ideas' of mathematics in the early years of school;
- highlight and reinforce the role of working mathematically and student reasoning; and
- include rich mathematical tasks, resources and opportunities for assessment and differentiation.

For further information and to support your child's math development at home scan the QR codes below.



Numeracy- Helping your child develop their numeracy skills



Everyday Maths Hub

Mathematics K-2

Working mathematically through communicating reasoning, understanding and fluency, and problem solving

Number and algebra	Representing whole numbers	Combining and separating quantities	Finding groups	
	Measurement and space	Geometric measure	2D spatial structure	3D spatial structure
Statistics and probability	Data	Chance		

Mathematics 3-6

Working mathematically through communicating reasoning, understanding and fluency, and problem solving

Number and algebra	Stage 2	Representing numbers using place value	Additive relations	Multiplicative relations	Partitioned fractions
	Stage 3	Represents numbers	Additive relations	Multiplicative relations	Representing quantity fractions
Measurement and space	Stages 2 and 3	Geometric measure	2D spatial structure	3D spatial structure	Non-spatial measure
Statistics and probability	Stages 2 and 3		Data	Chance	

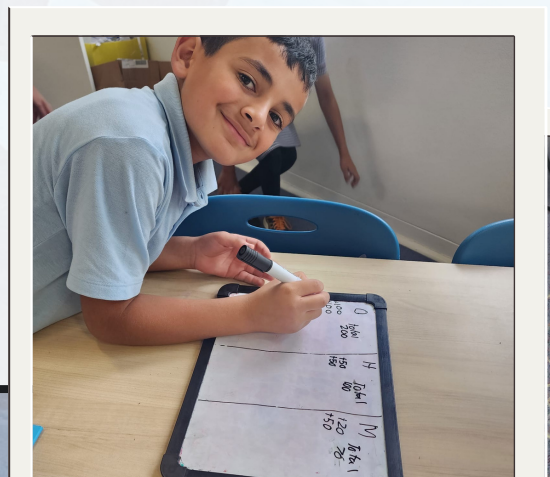
At East Hills Public School, teachers utilise the Department of Education's units of work for mathematics. Teachers make modifications and adaptations to meet the needs of their classes. You can view these units of work by scanning the QR codes.



K-2 Units of Work



3-6 Units of Work



English K-6

The NSW English K-10 syllabus recognises the critical importance of ensuring students develop the foundational basics in English and literacy (reading, writing, oral language) in their first years at school. The syllabus provides clear learning expectations in a streamlined structure.

- There are pedagogical changes including a focus on foundational skills and conceptual understandings of English - however these are not new to EHPS!
- There are clear expectations for teaching reading, including phonics, oral language and fluency.
- The syllabus focuses on students learning to create written texts through planning, creating and revising.

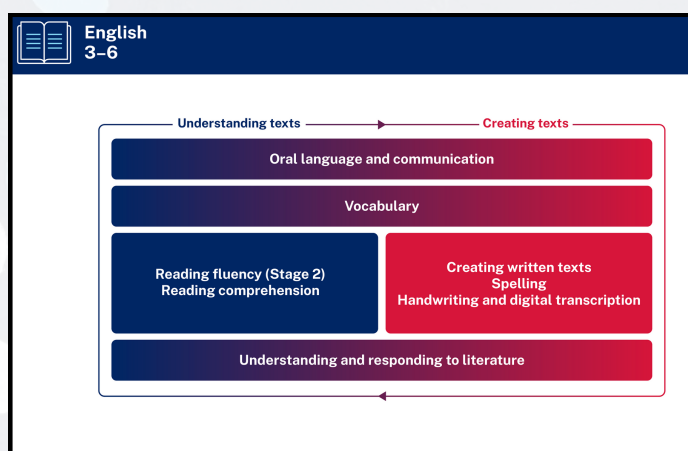
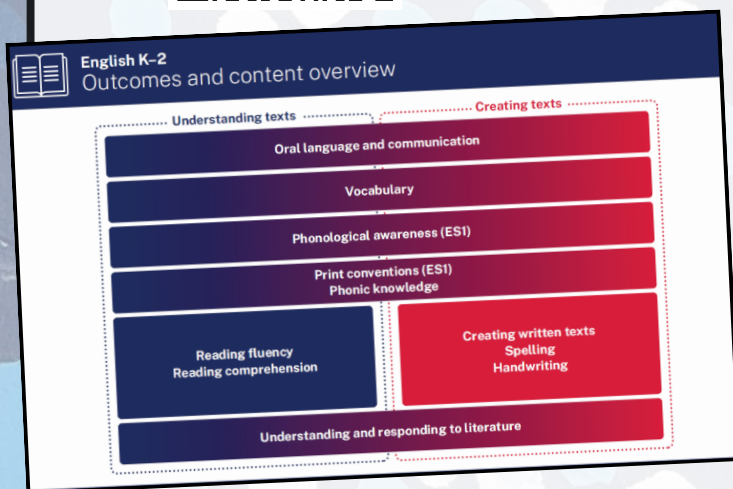
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K-2 Units of Work



3-6 Units of Work



Spelling Mastery

Across Years 1-6 students at EHPS participate in Spelling Mastery. Spelling Mastery is a Direct Instruction program that explicitly teaching spelling. Students are placed in a level that is within their zone of proximal development and work is tailored to their needs. Spelling Mastery runs 4 days a week, where students are supported in smaller groups and may go to other classes or learning spaces to participate in the program.



Science and Technology

At East Hills Public School, classroom teachers deliver science and technology lessons to students. Students explore scientific and technological concepts and gain knowledge and understanding of the world. Students develop skills in conducting scientific investigations and designing and producing solutions through learning about the Living World, Material World, Physical World, Earth and Space, and Digital Technologies.

Creative Arts

Study in the Creative Arts provides students with the fundamental skills, creative expertise and critical thinking capabilities for the future world of work. Creative Arts students experience and develop the skills required to create and test ideas, generate creative works with confidence, shape inquiry and evaluate and reflect on what they do. Study in the creative arts prepares students to be significant producers and informed consumers of culture. At East Hills Public School, a creative arts teacher delivers lessons to students.

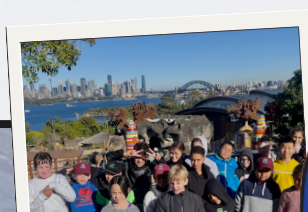
Human Society & Its Environment.

Human society and its environment (H.S.I.E) is made up of **history** and **geography** units of work. These key learning area's are the study of how humans interact with the world, how society operates and how it is changing. Through the study of history and geography, students develop the skills to prepare them to actively and responsibly participate as informed citizens in the contemporary world. At East Hills Public School, History and Geography are integrated into library lessons.



Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Students develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes needed to take action to protect and enhance their own and others' health, safety and wellbeing in varied and changing contexts. Physical education is fundamental to the acquisition of movement skills and concepts to enable students to participate in a range of physical activities – confidently, competently and creatively. At East Hills Public School, classroom teachers deliver personal development and health lessons, and physical education lessons are supplemented by Zing Active. The sporting aspect is covered K-6 school sport as well as students participating in Primary School sporting Associat



Inclusive Education



Our school prides itself on fostering an inclusive environment where students of all abilities are welcomed and supported. Central to our commitment is our dedicated support unit designed specifically for students with autism, consisting of three integrated classes. These classes not only provide tailored assistance and resources but also promote integration within the wider school community. By embracing diversity and implementing inclusive practices, we ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. At our school, we believe that diversity enriches the educational experience for all, fostering empathy, understanding, and a sense of belonging among students and staff alike.

Learning & Support

At our school, we are committed to supporting every student, regardless of their learning needs, throughout all classes. Our dedicated support staff work tirelessly to provide individualised assistance, whether through small group tuition sessions or one-on-one support, ensuring that every student receives the attention they require to succeed. Additionally, we collaborate closely with external agencies that families engage with to ensure our goals are united. Our comprehensive school counselling services are available to address social, emotional, or academic concerns of all students, providing both assistance to the teachers and families with how to best support student. We encourage parents to actively engage with their child's education by reaching out to their classroom teacher if they have any concerns about their child's learning or development. Through this collaborative approach, we strive to create an inclusive and nurturing environment where all students can thrive.

Smiling Minds

At East Hills Public School all classes engage in mindfulness three times per week. The benefits of engaging in mindfulness for students are:

- increased mental wellbeing
- greater concentration, focus and mindfulness
- improved academic performance Clear strategies for emotional regulation
- better relationships
- improved perseverance
- greater connection and engagement to school
- greater happiness and optimism
- calm during times of worry



Incursions and Excursions

Students may have the opportunity to participate in excursions and incursions during 2024, which relate to different areas of the curriculum. These excursions and events add value to students learning and participation is encouraged for all.

Term 1

Healthy Harold - 20/2-22/2/24
Kindi Farm - 26/2/24

Term 3

Stage 3 Camp: 16-17/9/24

Term 4

Stage 2 Camp: 23-25/10/24

More events and opportunities will arise over the school year.

Parent involvement

The more involved you are in your child's learning, the greater success they will have in school. Thank you for ensuring you are connected to our seesaw app, Audri app and Facebook. We look forward to working with you to ensure your children succeed.

As a school community, we value the relationship we have with our parents and carers. Together we will be better able to support the learning journey of our students. We welcome opportunities to partner with you and to discuss your child's learning throughout the year and encourage you to contact your child's teacher/s if you wish to discuss their progress and learning goals.

There are many ways that East Hills Public School communicates and partners with our school community, including:

- parent/teacher interviews, face-to-face or online
- three-way learning conferences
- online platforms, such as Seesaw
- review meetings.

To answer questions or to discuss your child's learning, please contact the school:

D. Casey
Principal

D. Hall
Deputy Principal

Si. Brika E. Litchfield
S. Allen J. Redman, E. Edwards
Assistant Principals

