

Wednesday July 14th 2021



Strathewen Primary School

Dates:

Thursday July 15th- No Pre-Prep this week- we'll be back ready to go next week

Monday July 19th- Wednesday July 21st- CFA Anglesea Camp- grades 5 and 6

Friday July 30th- Grade 3-4 Basketball Hooptime Day at Diamond Valley Stadium, Greensborough

Friday Aug. 27th- Grade 5-6 Basketball Hooptime Day at Diamond Valley Stadium, Greensborough

Wednesday September 1st - District Athletics trials for keen grade 3-6 students

Monday September 13th- Friday September 17th- Grade 3-6 Camp



Welcome back for the new term. We all have our fingers crossed for a solid term onsite, without any pandemic related disruptions. I'm very happy to advise that after many plan changes and potential disappointments, Diane managed to make the trip over to New Zealand to meet her baby grandson for the first time. Di's first grandchild was born in San Francisco late last year. His parents decided to make the move back to our side of the world, spending some time in NZ on the way, but despite being so close at last, repeated restrictions had prevented Di's travel over to see the crew. We couldn't be happier for Di who is enjoying time with her family as she takes a week of long service leave. The junior classroom has Kylee as their teacher for most of this week, with Maree stepping in to teach them tomorrow.



No doubt you've seen the social media post about the wonderful Community Pantry, set up at the entrance to our school. Thanks to the Food Collective and Diamond Valley Community Support, we have a fully stocked pantry onsite. The pantry is secure, weather and vermin proof and holds a great stock of pantry items, ready for use. In these difficult times, with changed employment conditions and additional financial strains, many individuals and families are finding it difficult to keep up with household costs, so our pantry is here to help. Take what you need and if you're in a position to add something to the shelves, feel free. Perhaps you know someone within the community who could do with a helping hand? Please let them know that our pantry is

up and running. It was restocked yesterday and will regularly be checked and topped up as required. The Community Pantry is set up for anyone in need and we aim to serve the wider local community. You may have noticed or heard that our bike storage shed, opposite the CFA, was broken into over the weekend. The door was noticed to be flapping in the breeze on Sunday afternoon when our gardener was onsite. Other than the locked door being forced ajar and bent a little, nothing of value was in the shed for our unwanted visitors and nothing appears to have been taken. The matter has been reported to the local police. If we have some dodgy characters around, it might be worth keeping things locked and safe at your place and we appreciate all those who keep an eye out when passing the school on their travels. Thank you to our gardener Renate who managed to spend time tidying up our school entrance, weeding, pruning and having everything ready for the return to school this week. Kylee has also been here during the break... we noticed a nice bed of strawberry plants enjoying the rain. If you haven't already seen the fantastic pathway work completed by Anthony Brady, be sure to pop in and check it out. Anthony has completed a wonderful art installation, creating poppies on our concrete path next to our French-Australian war memorial garden. We're fortunate to have such talent in our community. The photo doesn't do the work justice- come in and have a look.

Jane



Thank you to Stringybark Community Nursery

Wonderful news! Last week we were advised by the team at the Stringybark Community Nursery, in St Andrews, that they would like to donate \$1000 to our school to help with funding an environmental project of our choice. In speaking with Kylee, we feel that this money would be a great way to fund our Bush Tucker Garden space. They have also offered us some additional plants for our gardens and grounds. We would like to thank all of the volunteers involved in the Stringybark Community Nursery for their very generous support.

ABOUT THE STRINGYBARK COMMUNITY NURSERY

Stringybark Community Nursery was established following the 2009 bushfires with funding from the foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal (FRRR). It was intended at first to help fire-affected landowners in St Andrews, Christmas Hills, Strathewen & Arthurs Creek source free plants that were of local provenance for revegetating gardens and bushland. Over the first three years we distributed around 3,000 plants. Currently we are open on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.30pm, although other times can be arranged. Tube stock now costs \$1 per tube.

The nursery is situated behind the Community Centre in St Andrews (The Old School), next to the multi-purpose room of St Andrews Primary School.

School Uniform orders

Donna will be placing an order for school uniforms shortly. Please let us know if you need an order form and drop it back into the office no later than Friday 23rd July. Just a reminder that in line with school policy, school uniform is compulsory for the majority of our excursions and outings.



*This week we received our first box of fruit!
Thanks to the Diamond Valley Food Share Fruit Box Project, we had a great box of apples delivered yesterday for our students to snack on as needed.*

behind the scenes...

- over the holiday break we had our intensive end of term clean here at school, with all carpets steam cleaned ready for our return
- our pest controller, Geoff, paid us a visit last week to keep up with our six monthly maintenance
- as part of our annual site preparedness for the upcoming bushfire season, we had our arborist visit to review tree management, tree safety and fuel loading
- Renate has been busy in the garden, tidying and pruning and Kylee has been busy in our food production gardens
- Anthony has completed his beautiful pathway poppies
- Mel has supplied us with classroom kitchen scales and a War on Waste trophy to support our ongoing work
- Deb has been managing our chooks during the break and thanks to Lisal we have identified all of our cream coloured 'chooks' as roosters. These roosters are looking for an alternate lifestyle, not here at school, so if you know anyone interested in a rooster or 8, please let us know.
- the grade 5-6 students worked with the Nillumbik Shire team yesterday, sharing their thoughts on bushfire preparedness and community messaging. The crew will feature in an upcoming Shire magazine.
- Today we had Felicity with us, filling in for Chan as our STEM teacher



In classrooms this term, we're focusing on our school values and what they mean. We've been looking at 'kindness' and the importance of being a good friend. Thanks to a lovely donation of 'Better Buddies' bears, we'll be recognising students for their actions in helping to create a friendly and caring school environment.



Our bear presentation recognises the following: friendliness, care, respect, responsibility, valuing difference and including others. Today our Better Buddies Kindness bear is awarded to Matilda. Not only was Matilda's wonderful kindness to her friends noticed this week, but so was the gentle kindness she showed to the many little creatures she discovered in our school garden. Congratulations Matilda.

The Strathewen Star Students
this week are... Eli C, Logan M, Shylo and Sarah

ALL-STAR STUDENTS!



WELCOME BACK FOR TERM 3

As always, we're putting the call out for families to send along a box or two of tissues and a toilet paper contribution for the term. We're one of very few schools not charging our families any fees each year and your support in this small way continues to make this possible. Please drop contributions at the office

Thank you



Junior School Council



Honey Fundraiser

Thanks to the wonderful support of Arthurs Creek Bees and Birds, (Lisal) we have the opportunity for a very special JSC fundraiser. We are taking orders for 1kg buckets of beautiful, local honey. We've made our own label, with Molly's design taking out the top spot in our vote count, and we're currently accepting orders.

1kg buckets of honey will be available at their regular sale price of \$20 each (the great part is that JSC will make \$5 profit on each one!)

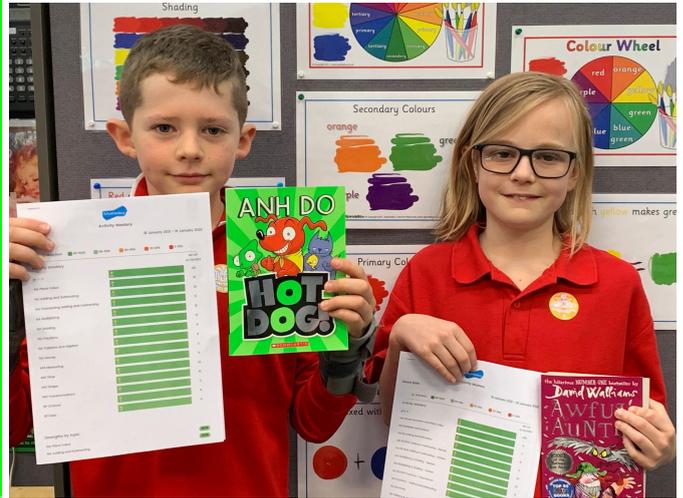
See if your neighbours want to order a bucket. Check with Nan and Pop.

Time to get selling and send along your order form and money to school. We'll be delivering soon.

Don't miss out on your bucket of lovely local honey ...



Mathletics Champions!
Congratulations to Logan and Mason for their amazing effort in completing their assigned Mathletics levels. They collected a full score of gold bars and tackled additional quests, finishing up with outstanding end of semester results. They each selected a book as their prize. What a terrific effort!



Attendance Awards Semester 1- 2021

Congratulations to this team of students, who were presented with their prize bags at the end of last term.

*All managed to keep up a terrific prize winning attendance rate for semester 1.
Well done.*



Continuing with our SPS War on Waste



Term 3 has hit and the War on Waste Challenge begins. Every second Friday we will tally up the weight of packaging in our lunchboxes and the class with the least amount of waste will be awarded our little trophy to sit proudly in their classroom.

We know this may take a bit of adjusting so we will continue to post recipe ideas, tips and tricks to help us collectively cut down waste.

Grade 3-6 Camp- UPDATE

As most families are aware, we ran into some difficulties with our camp booking for the middle of term and we had to go back to the drawing board. I am happy to advise that the crisis has been averted and we are looking forward to heading off to Phillip Island for the last week of this term. Phillip Island has long been one of the venues for our four year camp rotation and had we not missed out on camping last year, this would have been our scheduled trip for 2021. Our itinerary is being finalised and will be presented to School Council for approval as soon as possible. In the senior room, we've had a few sneak peaks online at some of the experiences we're looking forward to. Keep an eye out for further updates and information.

Jane

Strathewen-Arthurs Creek Bushfire Education Partnership



Yesterday in our CFA program we kept working on our story boards and organised our ideas a bit more. We met with the people from Nillumbik Shire and wrote down our important bushfire season messages to be included in the next Shire magazine. They wanted to know all about our program. We had a photo shoot too. Jimmy has started working on film techniques with Molly, Giselle and Christian. We're looking forward to our CFA camp next week.

Sarah

Camp Reminders for next week- Grade 5 and 6

We will leave from school at around 3.45pm on Monday and make our way down to The Lodge at Anglesea. Students will need to have all required luggage and gear here at school, ready to go, including sleeping bags, pillows, toiletries, towel, PJs etc. Please check your packing list. All medication will need to be handed to Jane in the morning to be signed off by a parent in our dosage/administration booklet (asthma puffers (blue/grey) can stay in day packs for use as needed in accordance with asthma management plans. Please do not send along phones or devices as these are not permitted on camp. We will be back at school for the end of day pick up on Wednesday.

Please make sure that you pack a warm coat, beanie etc for our early morning beach walks. CFA navy blue tops and red school jumpers will be required for both Tuesday and Wednesday.

Strathewen Landcare Community Dinner

Date: Friday July 30th

Time: 6PM for a 6.30 dinner

Fully catered at no cost thanks to the support of the SBRT. (Strathewen Bushfire Relief Trust). All Strathewen community members are welcome to attend.

BYO: Drinks

Entertainment: Following popular request Wildlife Xposure will provide a combined presentation to both adults and children featuring live Australian Native animals.

Due to Covid we must cap numbers attending to 70 and QR check in protocols must be observed.

We really look forward to getting together as a community once again. Keep your fingers crossed that our situation in Victoria remains healthy.

Bookings are essential. Get in early to avoid disappointment

Ring/text Carol: 0400 308 048 - Include numbers with a breakdown of adults and children and also any dietary requirements.

Or email: enquiries@strathewenlandcare.org.au

TERM 3—2021 PROGRAM REGISTRATION!

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN—not just basketball players!
4 Age Groups (5-7, 7-9, 10-12) and Teen Night on
Mondays!

6 Week Program
Starts SOON!
Sunday/Monday
July 25th/ 26th !

Register NOW!

****Only \$10.00
to register!**

- Program is on
Sundays and
Mondays

KRCBA, INC.

**Registration NEVER
closes! To register or
for more information:**

0403 290 871
brian@brianrolph.com



The KRCBA is pleased to announce our up-coming basketball program for Term 3, 2021.

This program has been a resounding success and is designed to provide a safe and fun positive learning experience. EVERY child has a chance to shine, with professional leaders, music, mascot, cheerleading and more!

STRATHEWEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Community Pantry

TAKE WHAT YOU NEED ... SHARE WHAT YOU CAN

A community pantry is a service that provides food directly to locals experiencing food insecurity. Some community pantries rely purely on local donations, ours is restocked thanks to the support of local agencies. Community pantries operate on a trust system and encourage donors to give what they can, and recipients to take only as much as they need.

At SPS we are proud to provide this service to our local and wider community.



Bushfire Resilience Inc. (BRI) is a local community organisation whose aim is to provide bushfire information to households based on science, experience and best practice. This will enable households to acquire knowledge, and by being better informed, empower them to make better decisions in preparing for, and responding to the threat of bushfire.

BRI's primary target audience is the Nillumbik community, however we also want to engage with surrounding at-risk communities.

bushfireresilience.org.au

bushfireresilience.org.au/promo provides information you can choose to use

Webinar 1 21 July 7.30pm

Reduce your house and property risk

Justin Leonard from the CSIRO will provide practical knowledge and strategies to assist in preparing your home to reduce the risk of damage from bushfire.

Webinar 2 4 August 7.30pm

Get water ready: tanks, pumps and sprinklers

What tools and systems do you need in place to help prepare your house for bushfire? Hear from industry expert Justin Leonard from the CSIRO about best practice to prepare your home for the upcoming bushfire season.

Webinar 3 19 August 7.30pm

Your physical and emotional preparation

An expert panel including Dr Rob Gordon will provide vital information on how to look after yourself, family and friends in the event of bushfire.

Webinar 4 1 September 7.30pm

Triggers to take action

Hear from Dr Kevin Tolhurst and an expert panel what you should consider when developing your bushfire plan and knowing when to take action on high-risk fire days.

Webinar 5 15 September 7.30pm

Your sheltering options

Dr Raphael Blanchi from the CSIRO and an expert panel will explain why the best-laid plans sometimes do not work out. What are your survival options if this happens to you?