

Wednesday August 18th 2021



## Strathewen Primary School

### Dates:

**Thursday August 19th- Grade P-3- Forest Science Explorers- online 2pm (see link in newsletter)**

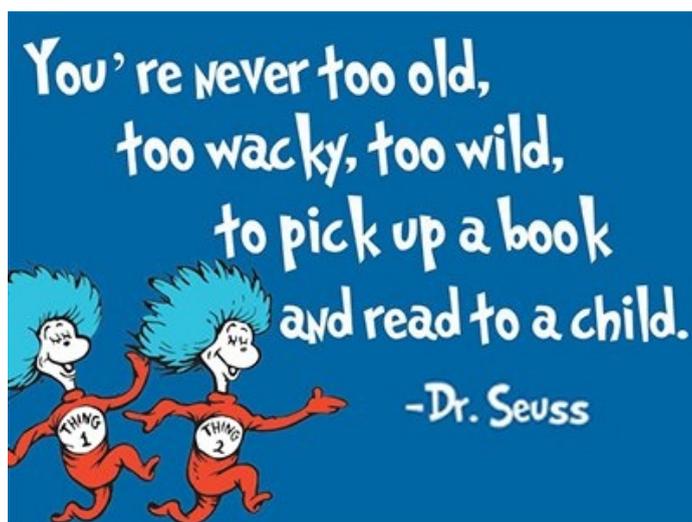
**Monday pm August 23rd- Wednesday pm August 25th- CFA Anglesea Camp grade 5-6- **cancelled****

**Tuesday 24th August- Book Week Dress Up Day- For class Webex meetings- come as your favourite character**

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

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

**Monday September 13th- Friday September 17th- Grade 3-6 Camp- Phillip Island**



Did you know that next week is Book Week? Our Remote Learning packs will focus on some aspects of the theme for this year's event, which is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. We're having a Book Week dress up day for class Webex meetings on Tuesday, which should be fun. I'll have to get my thinking cap on and come up with a favourite character for my costume.

Unfortunately, we're managing an extended lockdown, through until September 2nd at this stage, with the return to school hopefully going ahead on Friday September 3rd. We're back to compulsory work permits for all people required to carry out their employment outside the home, our playgrounds and parks are closed (including school playgrounds) and the 9pm curfew is in place. We can do this!

These are challenging times for us all, but we're doing our best to remain positive and to model that positivity to our students. Thank you to families, parents and carers for encouraging daily participation in class Webex meetings. These meetings are simply a way to keep our classrooms connected and to check in on one another. Unless advised of illness or an expected student absence, we are required to make contact with every family/student on every school day, to monitor student engagement in school learning programs and to check on student well being. Once contact is made, the attendance roll is completed accordingly. Non engagement is recorded as non attendance at school and this may need to be followed up at a regional level.

Unfortunately we're in the position of seeing many special events and activities postponed for now or cancelled due to the current lockdown situation. Our much anticipated Anglesea CFA Leadership Camp for Grade 5 and 6, which was scheduled for next week, has been cancelled. Our initial booking date and plans had to be rejigged due to an earlier lockdown and now we're in the same position with our second round of planning. Looking ahead at the calendar, we were just not able to reschedule for a third time. Lisal is working on rolling our booking over to an earlier date in 2022 for next year's group. Hopefully our world will look a little different then. We are very disappointed for our CFA juniors, as the planned program was fantastic. Lisal, Jamie and I had put a great deal of time and effort into getting things organised, so we're all feeling a bit flat, but as happens quite often lately I'm reminding myself that our circumstances here are far better than what's happening for many of our friends around the globe and 'it is what it is'. We'll chat further about the CFA program in our Webex meetings, but if your grade 5-6 person needs to have a chat with me about our cancelled Anglesea adventure, feel free to give me a call.

I will be taking a couple of days of leave from Friday this week as my husband is having major surgery and duty calls. Diane will be leading the team in my absence.

Take care

Jane

### Remote Learning in action... keep the great photos coming



# What do you know about our R.A.P working group?

A [Reconciliation Action Plan \(RAP\)](#) is a formal statement of commitment to reconciliation. Our school has formed a Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group. We plan to work together to develop a plan for SPS. Through this work we aim to promote reconciliation in education, while focussing on strengthening relationships, respect and opportunities in the classroom, around the school and with the local community. We'll keep the community updated as we move forward. If you have any questions about our working group, please contact Kate Fawcett.

## behind the scenes...

- Maree has completed her NAPLAN online training session this week. NAPLAN coordinators (Jane and Maree) certainly have plenty of work ahead of them with the move to online testing in 2022.
- We have had some huge boxes delivered to the school, containing our new outdoor chess set. The current chess pieces are around 10 years old and starting to crack and crumble, so we've invested in a new set, which will be ready to go out once we have students back on site.
- Our new concrete fairy garden stools are in production and will be ready for us to collect soon.
- On Monday afternoon, Jane took part in an online training course relating to school finances and Donna's training module will follow shortly.
- Kate and Rachel have a contactless Father's Day 'stall' process sorted and the choice of gifts looks fantastic. Check out the attachment with today's newsletter email for information about the ordering process. Orders are due in on Friday August 20th- that's this week.
- Today's newsletter email has attachments included for our parents of students in grades 3-6 - camp permission/parent consent forms, camp packing list, camp itinerary and camp medical forms are all attached. Please complete the forms and return to school as soon as possible- either scanned and emailed or dropped off at the door without contact if you're passing



## Camp Update- Phillip Island 2021

At this stage, we're planning on our week long camp going ahead. If we're back on site on September 3rd and the metropolitan lockdown is lifted, then we'll be set to head off for the last week of term 3. Our camp venue at The Island Accommodation, sees us with our own entry to the camp building, our own bathrooms, dining areas, bedrooms etc, on our own level of the building, with no shared facilities, which is inline with health recommendations. Of course, if the lockdown for metropolitan Melbourne is extended, we will not be heading away on camp this year. We're continuing to run with our planning, cross our fingers and remain positive.

The camp permission form for all grade 3-6 students, along with the medical forms, packing list and the camp week itinerary are attached. The risk assessment has been completed, a visit to the island to check out all movement detailed in our program has been conducted and we are set. The itinerary is terrific and we're packing loads of great activities into our five days away.

With School Council agreeing to subsidise camp for all students attending, the total cost per student for camp week is \$550. As suggested last semester, quite a few families have been making payments towards camp costs throughout the year, which is great. The school is required to make the full payment of camp costs prior to our departure and as a result, families are asked to ensure that accounts are finalised before September 13<sup>th</sup>. If your household is experiencing financial hardship, please take some time to discuss this with Jane or Donna so that we can establish a payment plan.



## Aussie of the Month

### Purpose

*Recognising and celebrating active citizenship that demonstrates inclusive Australian values in our primary schools*

### Values

**Fair go**- not just in how we apply ourselves but also providing opportunity for all

**Mateship**- generosity of spirit and compassion for those in need

**Respect**- of self, others, of our community and the environment

**Inclusion**- celebrating difference and the rights and freedoms we are all entitled to

At SPS we have registered to participate in the Aussie of the Month program, a primary civics and citizenship recognition program, which is delivered under the auspices of the Australia Day Council's National Network. The focus is to encourage and recognise students for their contribution to their community through a demonstration of Australian values as outlined in the Values for Australian Schooling and Curriculum framework. These are values outside of academic application, instead they're about active contribution to school, community and peer groups.

Each month, students will be nominated and one student will be selected for recognition with an award certificate and badge. We're hoping to invite special visitors along to present the award each month.

## **Grade P-3 Forest Science Explorers virtual classroom experience- tomorrow- Thursday 19th August, 2pm**

**Grades prep, 1 ,2 and 3**

*This is a reminder of your booking into the 'Forest Science Explorers' virtual classroom on **Thursday 19th August 2pm***

*Forester Clinton, George the Farmer and our teacher are looking forward to meeting our class.*

### **Connecting to the Virtual Classroom**

*Please click the link below to join the webinar:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88355563450>

*This will direct you to the webinar attendee registration form.*

*If you're new to using Zoom please follow the step by step instructions here:*

<https://www.keteacher.com/support/virtual-classroom>



*Our wonderful Parent's Club volunteers have Father's Day covered despite the lockdown situation.*

*Attached to this email you'll find an order form and information on how to take part in our contactless process to have Father's day gift giving organised. Orders are due back on Friday- this week, so it's a quick turnaround, but essential to allow for ordering, deliver and packaging.*

# ISSUE 6 ONLINE NOW



**Book Club is open and home delivery is available!**  
**[scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**

**Our bookclub is running a little differently during lockdown. Use the above link to access bookclub online to browse catalogues and place orders.**

*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.

Having a tight week?

Know of anyone who might need some assistance?

That's what our pantry is here for.

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.

Be sure to spread the word.



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](http://bushfireresilience.org.au)

[bushfireresilience.org.au/promo](http://bushfireresilience.org.au/promo) provides information you can choose to use

**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?