Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday April 6th 2022

Dates to Remember:

Thursday 7th April- Drumming workshops once again, rehearsing performance items -
-Family Night at the Strathewen Hall- Drumming Performance and BBQ 5-7pm
Friday 8th April- Come as a Block of Colour Day- JSC Dress Up event- gold coin donation
- final day of term 1- 2.30 dismissal
Sunday April 24th- Anzac Service at the Shrine for participating grade 6 students
Monday April 25th- Anzac Day- public holiday
Tuesday April 26th- First Day of term 2
Mon. May 2nd- Grade 5-6 depart 3.45pm for Anglesea Leadership Camp -Bushfire Education program
Wed. May 4th- Grade 5-6 return 3.30pm from Anglesea Leadership Camp- Bushfire Education program
Tuesday May 10th- Thursday May 12th- NAPLAN testing grade 3 and 5

We've almost made it to the end of first term and despite the challenges we've faced in managing the impact of a global pandemic, we've been able to enjoy many great learning experiences. Our drumming workshops, which are in full swing, have proven hugely popular with students. Working with Dave and Daniel, students have explored relaxation techniques, mindfulness and of course, the fabulous opportunity to explore group drumming. Drumming is known to have a positive impact on mental health, assisting in the management of anxiety, fatigue and behavioural issues. Our students had a great time on the djembe and bongo drums and we really look forward to sharing a bit of drumming with our parents, grandparents, family and friends at the Strathewen Hall tomorrow evening, from 5pm until 7pm. Dave has organised a bit of a BBQ tea for all, so if you're free, we'd love to see you.

As we head towards the last day of term, we are managing a steady trickle of confirmed covid cases within our student and parent group. We're in the middle of the largest impact we've seen at school. Thank you to our families who have kept up the regular Rapid Antigen Testing routine at home- your efforts are helping to limit the spread of infection. We have many people within our community who care for others at risk or have vulnerable people in their homes and we really need to continue our vigilance to reduce risk.

Just a reminder that our before and after school care program operates daily for families needing to access child care for an early drop off before 8.45am or late pick up after 3.45pm. We again, encourage all families to make sure that their children are registered with OSHC to allow for emergency use. Any children arriving at school prior to 8.45am must be booked into before school care with Brooke, as drop off prior to this time is not possible. At the end of the school day, any students not picked up by 3.45pm, will be sent down to

join the OSHC program. Our first Big Childcare OSHC School Holiday Program is planned to kick off next week and we have quite a few young people booked in. Being a much needed service in short supply in the local and wider local community, we have families from neighbouring schools registering to access the program, which is great. If work commitments affect your school holiday child care options, be sure to have a chat to Brooke.

Thankyou to our school families, for supporting their young people as we settled into term one and got back into the swing of things this year. Your support of school operation and covid management throughout the first term is greatly appreciated. It hasn't always been easy, but it has been wonderful to enjoy a whole term onsite without a hint of remote learning. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing staff team, Di, Maree, Deb, Donna, Rod and Chan, for their great work throughout the term, going above and beyond what's required and striving to provide the best possible learning environment for 'our kids'. We have a great team.

Wishing you all a safe and happy term break and a Happy Easter. Hopefully we'll all be covid free and ready to go for the start of term 2 on Tuesday April 26th.

Take care

Jane

SCHOOL HOLIDAY- GRADE 6 LEADERSHIP EVENT

Grade 6- Friends of the 15th Brigade Anzac service and event

Sunday April 24th

Our very special French-Australian Commemorative Anzac service takes place the day before Anzac Day each year. This year the service falls on the final weekend of the school holidays, on Sunday April 24th. Our grade 6 students are invited to attend this service once again in 2022. A permission form containing information about the day has been sent home today. As the service will take place during school holidays, we will need to have confirmation of those who plan to attend, so that contact can be made during the break, as the date nears. Jane and Diane will be giving up their day to head to the Shrine with our student leaders. We have requested that each student joining the group complete a RAT on the morning of the 24th, as we will be in the company of some very elderly guests. We will meet in Hurstbridge, lay our first wreath at the local war memorial, travel to the city by train, have lunch on the go and then walk to the Shrine for the service. Our school shares a very special relationship with Villers-Bretonneux and through this connection, we are invited along to join the Friends of the 15th Brigade at an Anzac service commemorating the battles fought in France and Australia's role in supporting the people of Villers-Bretonneux. Our grade 6 leaders will lay a wreath during the service at the 60th Battalion Tree at the Shrine. Being holidays and a long weekend, we hope we have some student leaders happy to give up their day to represent SPS and attend this special event.

Outstanding Booklist Payments for 2022

Last year all school families were contacted regarding how we would proceed with organising student booklist supplies for the coming year. All families agreed to have the school purchase student booklist requirements for 2022 and to pay this once the school year began.

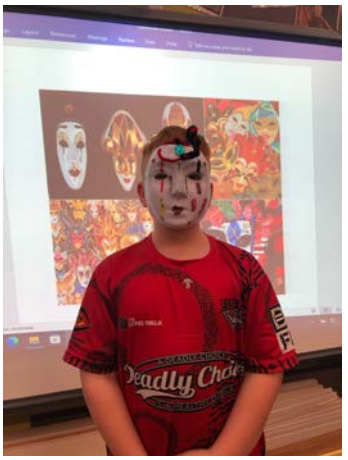
As first term comes to an end we are following up on this, reminding families that payment for each child's booklist is required. If you're unsure of whether your payment has been made, please check with Deb or Donna at the office.

School Uniform Orders

Please see Deb at the office if you're needing to place any orders for school uniform items. We'll have an order going in soon.

ITALIAN CARNEVALE DAY

A wonderful day was enjoyed by all- mask making, Italian quizzes, Tombola, music, pizza making and eating, gelato and a movie!



Colour Dress Up Day

This Friday, April 8th

We've planned a special dress up day for the end of the week.

Dress up in a favourite colour- try for a Block Of Colour

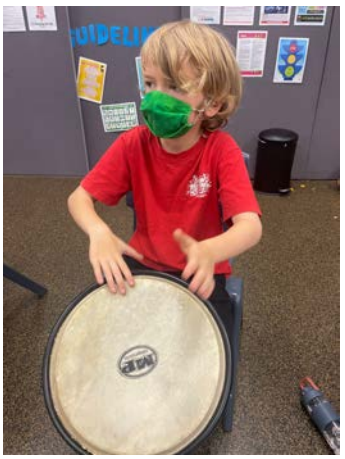
Junior School Council fun day to finish off the term

Gold coin donation to our fundraising efforts

FULL-ON THEATRE

DRUMMING WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCE

We had our first workshops at school yesterday and we'll be back into our drumming again tomorrow morning. Don't forget, we've got a mini performance and a BBQ at the Strathewen Hall tomorrow from 5pm until 7pm. We hope to see you there.



Easter Raffle… drawn tomorrow morning

The prize packages are being put together for our annual Easter Raffle

We have some fantastic donations being dropped off at the office and last minute donations are still welcome.

If you're a winner tomorrow- you'll be hearing from us!

Don't forget to send your sold tickets and $ back to school tomorrow morning.

Grade 6 School Jumpers- Class of 2022

Once again this year we are offering our grade 6 students the opportunity to have their red school jumpers or jackets embroidered with the names of their 2022 classmates.
Students will have many opportunities to wear these special jumpers throughout their grade 6 year, as all school excursions and leadership events require school uniform.
If you would like to take up this offer, please send along a suitable current jumper (or you may choose to order a new one) and Deb will send these off to be embroidered.
The cost of the class of 2022 embroidery is $26 per jumper.
Order forms have been sent home today.

TORQUAY- DAY IN THE SURF

Our star students this week are Yvie, Matilda, Arthur and Mary. Congratulations to you all.

Yvie- for her excellent work as part of the online High Ability Program in Writing

Matilda- for her fantastic determination, effort and enthusiasm in the surf at Torquay

Arthur- for his outstanding surfing effort at Torquay- he really rode those waves

Mary- for her great leadership role in grade 6, making speeches and refereeing sports games!

This week we had Patrick from Yarra Valley Water in to teach us about water. He chatted to us about four major ways we can save water – By understanding the water cycle, sticking to 5 minute showers, using a full load when washing and turning the tap off when brushing our teeth. We had a lot of fun and learned a lot! Look out for the little water watchers that might end up on your tap at home to help remind you to save water.

This week's Rubbish Free Lunch-
War on Waste Challenge…

And to finish off our first term, the trophy returned this week to the 4-6 class.
This week the senior grade took out top spot with 104g of landfill waste collected from lunchboxes, while the P-3 class recorded 184g of landfill rubbish.
Thank you to all of our families who have helped us with our 'war on waste' project this term!

We're rattling the fundraising tin here for the Royal Children's Hospital appeal at SPS.

If you have some spare change, feel free to send it along and add to our annual fundraising efforts.