Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday October 5th, 2022

Dates to Remember:

Thursday October 6th - Foggy Mountain songwriting workshop with Carter and Carter

Sunday October 9th- School Working Bee- 9am-11am

Thursday October 13th- Jane commences long service leave

Monday October 17th- Grade 5-6- 'Puberty and Respectful Relationships' whole day program

Thursday October 27th- Prep Transition session- Pre-Prep 9-11, followed by classroom time to 1.15pm

Tuesday November 1st- Cup Day public holiday

Thursday November 3rd- No Pre-Prep session this week

- ***Big Sister Program- Transition Workshops- grade 5-6/Parent session***

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th November- Whittlesea Show days

Thursday Nov. 10th- Prep Transition session- Pre-Prep 9-11, followed by classroom time to 1.15pm

Friday November 11th- COLOUR RUN event spectacular

Monday afternoon- Nov 14th- Thursday Nov. 17th- Grade 5-6 CFA Leadership Camp Part 2- Anglesea

Thursday Nov. 17th- Prep Transition session- Pre-Prep 9-11, followed by classroom time to 1.15pm

Thursday Nov. 24th- Prep Transition session- Pre-Prep 9-11, followed by classroom time to 1.15pm

Wednesday November 30th- afternoon stage set up at the Strathewen Hall- adult helpers needed!

Thursday December 1st- Whole school (& pre-preps) concert rehearsal at the Strathewen Hall

Friday December 2nd- P-6 concert rehearsal at the hall, early dismissal/pick up 2.30pm

- ***Whole school Christmas Concert- evening- students arrive at the hall at 6.30pm for 7pm concert***

Tuesday December 13th- Grade 6 orientation day to secondary school- Year 7 transition

Thursday December 15th- P-6 Christmas excursion event

Monday December 19th- final day for students for 2022

Tuesday December 20th- pupil free day- end of year pack up

Welcome back for the final term of 2022. We hope our students enjoyed their break. With quite a few families heading off to explore interesting places, we've enjoyed hearing about holiday adventures. We're straight back into our regular programs this week, with concert rehearsals commencing, CFA sessions up and running, Whittlesea Show entries being finished off and great work happening all around. We have a few major events coming up.

On Sunday, we have a Working Bee taking place, which will be the first one in a couple of years. We'd love to have each family represented for the quick burst of working bee action, from 9am to 11am. The plan is that our school carpark will be empty by 11.30am, allowing everyone to get on with enjoying their Sunday. Diane has taken care of the OHS side of things, which will require everyone to formally sign in to

register their attendance and she will begin the morning with a brief safety run down. We're hoping to address some general grounds maintenance with weeding, pruning, raking etc. See the 'jobs list' later in the newsletter. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear and bring along your gloves, a hat, secateurs, spades, shears, outdoor brooms, rakes etc. If the weather isn't suitable, we'll put out the call to postpone the morning session.

Also coming up we have the Grade 5-6 Transition session day and parent evening workshop with Kritz from the Big Sister Experience. The transition from primary school to secondary school is always an exciting time, but it can present some challenges. Having experienced significant change and navigated so much disruption over the last couple of years due to the pandemic, supporting our current cohort of senior students as they prepare to make this move either this year or next is important. The students will spend the day working with Kritz and then the evening session is for the parents and carers of our grade 5 and 6 students to come along for a workshop of their own. Please mark the date on your calendar.

Jane

Parent's Club Spring Raffle
The annual Spring Raffle is planned and we're looking for donations.
Thanks to those who have already added a contribution to the collection box!
If you have a business contact or suggestions for sources of donated goods, we'd love to hear from you.
This raffle is always a terrific fundraiser for our school.

Transition Workshop for Parents of Grade 5 and 6 students
Thursday November 3rd from 6-7pm

On Thursday November 3rd, our senior students (5 & 6) will work with visiting presenter Kritz throughout the day and in the evening, we're running a parent session to explore the year 6-7 transition process. This will be our final parent session in the series we've offered this year.
How can you best support your child/ren as they navigate the change from SPS to the secondary school setting?
This is a great opportunity for parents, grandparents and carers to come along for an informative evening. Secondary schools are reporting the noticeable social and interpersonal impact of our covid disruptions on incoming students, so how can we support them all. Working with Kritz will provide an opportunity to hear from an expert in the field.

Prep Transition for incoming 2023 Preps
Oct. 27th, Nov 10th, 17th and 24th

This is always an exciting time for our prospective preps. On these dates our incoming 2023 students will enjoy their usual Pre-Prep session with Mrs Galvin from 9-11am. They'll have morning tea with the crew, then buddy up with a friend to head out for recess time. At 11.30, they'll head inside for a 'school morning' in their new classroom. This is an important step in preparation for the school year and we'll work on familiarisation with the school day, explore class routines and provide the opportunity to get to know class mates. Bringing along morning snacks and a lunchbox, our pre-preps can join the student group for lunch before heading home at 1.15pm. If you have any questions about the transition program, please see Diane.

Strathewen- Arthurs Creek
Bushfire Education Partnership

Our camp permission forms for the 'Costa Ricardo' immersive leadership experience have been sent home today. Just a reminder that all students will need to bring along a 'head lamp' torch for use in the workshop sessions.

In yesterday's session with Lisal and Jane, students reviewed the camp budget and discussed how things were looking financially. Plans were made around how the program will go this time at Anglesea and there's a lot of excitement about the workshops. We have a couple of students organised to bring along their swags or a blow up mattress and some plan to bring along a supply of special dietary requirements.

We looked at the proposed end of year Christmas presentation event for the community and began working through all the topics the students plan to cover. The final movie scripts have been completed, ready to send through to Jimmy.

There's still so much great stuff happening in term 4. Keep an eye out for the confirmed date for our community information presentation night.

Have you seen Anthony Brady's latest work on our beautiful sunflower and poppy wall? Anthony spent some time at school late last term, adding some extra colour and detail to his wonderful concrete artwork.

November 5th and 6th 2022

After two years of disruption, we're happy to say that the Whittlesea Show is back on the calendar for November, 2022. The theme this year is 'Celebration'.

Proposed Working Bee Tasks

Clearing gravel run off into carpark
Clearing gravel run off below fairy garden
Forking over soft fall mulch in playground areas
Top trimming spiked foliage on lomandras along pathways
General pruning to ensure clear pathways
Sandpit raking
Cubbyland tidy
Chicken coop clean out
Topping up garden beds- compost/soil

BEHIND THE SCENES

- We had our air conditioning technician out this week to sort out a problem with the admin system… and once again a pesky rat was involved and had tripped the power. All seems to be well again now.
- Over the holiday period we had our arborist visit to review the grounds ahead of our bushfire season preparation work.
- We also had Chris Miller in to clean our spouts and gutters ahead of the fire season, which was great.
- Darren Bradshaw has been osnite reviewing the compliance requirements for our bushfire pump house.
- Trent Cauchi has been handling the servicing of our diesel fire pumps once again
- Our electrician has been in to tackle a few jobs and look at the outside lighting set up, which has been problematic.
- Today we have an engineer out to review the proposed drainage rectification works
- Mel Brady has been in, providing individual theatrical coaching sessions for students, as we work on mastering lines for our end of year concert
- Belinda has been coming in to join the senior art sessions as students work on their Show shoe construction
- We've had margie in this week, hearing junior students reading in the classroom

Parent's Club

We're holding the School Fun Run's Crazy Colour Day as a major fundraising event this year!

We are really hoping to raise $15,000.00 which will pay for ***two Interactive Whiteboards and laptop computers****.*

Forms have been sent home and we have almost everyone registered, after signing up for a Student Profile Page at schoolfunrun.com.au. You'll be able to access online fundraising and can win a $20,000 Ultimate Family Package!

Students who raise $10 or more will receive a reward, and the more money you raise the better the reward, and the more you help the school!

We're looking for all students to participate and we're organising a great day for our community, so we'd love everyone to come down to support the kids. We'll be holding the Colour Fun Run at the Strathewen Sports Ground.

If you have any questions about the Crazy Colour Day please contact the School Fun Run Office on 1800 FUN RUN.

Thanks for supporting the school and we hope to see you at the event!

Now is the time to create your online profile for your children for the School Fun Run if you haven't done so already

Here is what to do:

Step 1 👉 Use this link: *https://app.schoolfundraising.com.au/users/sign_up*

Step 2 👉 Complete the registration and select Strathewen Primary School as your school

Step 3 👉 Share your unique link with family & friends to receive donations and earn awesome prizes!

Step 4 👉 Participate in the Colour Day and have a fantastic time!

Step 5 👉 Receive your awesome prizes for your fundraising efforts!

Our school hens are enjoying the spring sunshine and are back to laying well. We have fresh eggs for sale at $5 per dozen. All funds go towards JSC projects.

ALL-STAR STUDENTS!

Our Star Students for this week are Sarah, Oliver, Logan H and Marley

Sarah- for her fantastic effort supporting junior students as they add the finishing touches to their Whittlesea Show artwork

Oliver- for his wonderful effort mastering and delivering his lines for the concert. We're loving his theatrical contribution

Logan H- for his enthusiastic delivery and performance during concert rehearsals. Great to see such an effort.

Marley- for confidently taking on her role in our production rehearsals and delivering her lines with expression. Acting is definitely Marley's thing!

Navigating Screen Time and Gaming Addiction in young people

Join Steven Dupon, Executive Director of the Institute of Games to learn how to optimize online opportunities for young people while minimizing online risks.

This session will cover:

- Strategies for balancing screen time in the home
- The gamblification of video games
- The future technologies: The Metaverse and Web 3.0
- Careers in the gaming industry

Key Details:

Date: Wednesday 19 October
Time: 7-8.30pm
Location: Online
Cost: Free!

Registrations are essential. Head to https://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Explore/Events-and-festivals/Events-calendar/Navigating-Screen-Time-and-Gaming-Addiction to book your place.

This session is suitable for parents, carers and grandparents of young people aged 10-25

Term 4 call out…
Family contributions of toilet paper and tissues to start off the new term are greatly appreciated. If you're able to pick up some extra bits with your shopping, please drop off at the office.
Many thanks

We collect used postage stamps at SPS. We bundle up our packages of stamps and send them off to the Women of the University group at Government House. This amazing team of volunteers package up the stamps and sell them to collectors to raise funds for children and young people in need. We have been recipients of their incredible support over the years and this is one way for us to give back. Simply save any stamps you get and send them along to the office.

COVID update

This week a box of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATS) has been sent home with each student. Fortunately we haven't returned to any current cases within our school group, which is great. Families are encouraged to continue using RATs when children are unwell or symptomatic and to keep children home when they are sick, rather than sharing anything that is going around. It has been great to see students who have a mild head cold or cough, opting to wear a mask when indoors. With the milder weather, we're enjoying the chance to have doors and windows open and of course, our air filtration units are in operation in all shared spaces.
Fingers crossed we can remain covid clear in future weeks.