Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 1st November 2023

Thursday November 2nd- Prep Transition for students enrolled for prep in 2024 - 11.30-1pm session 2

- **Jane attending Regional Principal Forum in Epping (Felicity teaching in the 4-6 room)**

Friday November 3rd- Foggy Mountain singing rehearsal with Carter and Carter 2pm
Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th November- Whittlesea Show weekend
Tuesday November 7th- Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
Thursday November 9th- Prep Transition for students enrolled for prep in 2024 - 11.30-1pm session 3
Sunday November 12th- School Working Bee 9am-11am (proposed date to add to your calendar)
Thursday November 16th- Prep Transition for students enrolled for prep in 2024 - 11.30-1pm session 4
November 17-19- Foggy Mountain Art and Music Festival- Kinglake
Thursday November 23rd- Prep Transition for students enrolled for prep in 2024 - 11.30-1pm session 5
Sunday November 19th- Foggy Mountain Combined Schools Community Concert
Thursday November 30th- full day concert rehearsal at the Strathewen Hall
Friday December 1st- SPS End of year concert at the Strathewen Hall
Tuesday December 5th- SPS 'Garden Party' celebrating special women in our world- as part of the Nillumbik Shire's 16 Days of Activism Grant program
Tuesday December 12th- Year 7's for 2024 have their transition day
Thursday December 14th- Whole School Christmas Excursion event! Movie, Lunch, Shopping
Friday December 15th- Christmas Raffle prizes drawn- Parent's Club end of year fundraiser
Tuesday December 19th- last day of school for students 2023

Congratulations to Arizona, who today headed off to take part in the State Championships in Track and Field, competing in the high jump event. This is a huge achievement and we're all incredibly proud of her effort in qualifying.

Yesterday was certainly a day full of spooky fun at S.P.S. It seems everyone loves a bit of Halloween action. We had everyone dressed up and it was a spooky program up and running for all. Diane made us creepy cupcakes, we might have had a cauldron of treats to share and the 4-6 bunch cooked up a batch of 'severed finger' biscuits!

We had a slight change of plans this week with no DASH program for the 4-6 group as Cass, our leader, was unable to attend. We'll be going ahead with our usual session on Monday morning next week. As always, we plan for a regular school day the day before Cup Day.

Included in today's newsletter is some important information for parents from the website of the eSafety Commissioner. There have been reports in recent days of inappropriate and violent content relating to the conflict in Gaza popping up in children's online games and apps. Parents and schools play an important role in helping children to develop digital intelligence- the social, emotional and practical skills needed to successfully navigate the digital world. It's never too early to have a conversation with your child about staying safe online and the importance of telling a trusted adult in the event of exposure to inappropriate content.

Tickets have been put together for our end of year Parent's Club Christmas Raffle. Thanks to the generous support of a long-time benefactor and friend of our school, we already have a huge hamper prize prepared, as well as four beautiful gourmet produce boxes. Deb has set up a donation box for family contributions, so that we can put together additional prizes. Tickets are $2 each and each family will receive a book of tickets to sell. Additional ticket books will be available at the office if your selling goes well. It looks like

being a fantastic raffle and we appreciate everyone's support for our end of year fundraiser.

It's time for the Whittlesea Show this weekend, so here's hoping for good weather. Our students have entered some wonderful pieces of artwork and writing, so keep an eye out for SPS work if you're attending the Show. Maree has arranged to pick up our student exhibits on Monday morning, once the education pavilion has been packed up, so she'll be in later on Monday.

Jane

Leadership Day 2- 2023

Last Thursday we had a great day at Panton Hill presenting our school leadership projects. There were about 130 kids from our small schools' group and the student leaders from each school shared what they've been doing during the year. It was interesting to see what other JSC's have been up to.

We went out onto the oval for some team building activities. We were put into teams with people we'll be going to high school with. We were building marshmallow and spaghetti towers, completing the turning the tarpaulin and the tangled rope challenge.

After pizzas for lunch we met our guest speaker, Jess Fitzgerald from the Western Bulldogs AFLW team. She talked about her career as a footballer and the importance of being a good leader.

It was a 10/10 day.

Elly and Zoe

BEHIND THE SCENES

- We had some gardening work completed over the weekend, a bit of weeding, mowing and tidying up
- Our arborists began their end of year maintenance work and they'll be back later on to complete some further work
- The annual test and tag electrical checking was completed yesterday

Our Halloween Dress Up day was fun. Everyone joined in and brought along their gold coin donation to support our fundraising. Mrs Phillips made Halloween themed cupcakes and we did Halloween class work in both rooms. There were killer clowns, magicians, witches, pumpkins and lots of other creepy characters. Even Ms Hayward, who was dressed up as a friendly unicorn, was pretty creepy, dancing along the pathway. We had lots of treats and lots of fun. It's one of our favourite days.

Chase and Logan H

The Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Program Program background

• The Royal Commission into Family Violence identified the critical role that schools and early childhood education have in creating a culture of respect to change the story of family violence for future generations.
• In 2016, respectful relationships education became a core component of the Victorian Curriculum from foundation to year 12, and is being taught in all government and Catholic schools and many independent schools.
• Everyone in our community deserves to be respected, valued and treated equally.
• Respectful Relationships is about embedding a culture of respect and equality across our entire community

Spring has brought with it plenty of weeds, so last week the 4-6 group headed out to make a start on a tidy-up around the vegetable garden. The chickens enjoyed a big feast of juicy, green weeds.

Parent's Club Christmas Raffle

We're putting the call out for donations to add to our Christmas Hampers as we prepare for our end of year fundraising raffle..
We'd love families to add some festive treats or suitable items to our collection. Deb is managing the collection box at the office and she'd love to see you.
Thank you all

A bit of Grade 3 Independent/Shared Reading this week

Our star students this week are Jude, Ellie, Fred and Arizona. Congratulations on your terrific effort.

Jude- for his fantastic enthusiasm, great singing and dance moves during concert rehearsals!

Ellie- for her terrific acting efforts during rehearsals and for working so hard on mastering her lines.

Fred- for his great focus and effort in Maths, cracking codes and solving problems and then happily assisting others with their work.

Arizona- for her wonderful sporting effort in reaching the State finals in high jump. Well done!

Digital technologies and coding require understanding patterns and data. So that's exactly what we did today. The Seniors looked at data on Pokemon and the Bureau of Meteorology and the Juniors had a crack at programming each other and Beebots to do patterns and investigate "rules" in coding. Such as "If you encounter a chair, walk left" It was lovely to see the range of cool patterns and programming we came up with!

Chan

Working Bee in term 4

Save the date- Sunday November 12th- 9am-11am

Come along and lend a helping hand

With our grounds work complete, we are able to get stuck into a team effort tidying up our gardens

We hope to prune, weed, whipper snip, pick up, rake and generally tidy our school grounds

We would love to have as many hands on deck as possible to lighten the load and tick loads of jobs off the list.

- Spreading fresh sand in the sandpit
- Spreading/raking soft fall mulch in the playground areas
- Weeding terraced garden wall area, vegetable garden, rotunda area and beyond
- Blowing sports court area
- Cleaning out outdoor lizard enclosure
- Painting railings on new Cubbyland porch
- Making a start on sanding/painting outdoor wooden tables
- Add two final edging boards to lower playground mulch area
- Memorial garden tidy up and prune

Staying safe online

Inappropriate online content and our children:

- Many young people are exposed to content that they are not ready for developmentally.
- If the content is illegal or needs to have restricted access for people who are 18 or older, you can report it to eSafety.
- The eSafety Guide includes information on features of apps that increase exposure to inappropriate content.
- eSafety Education has resources to help teachers explore this issue with their students.
- All students need to be taught specific technical, personal and social skills to help them minimise their exposure to inappropriate content.

Facts and stats

Inappropriate content may be an image, video or written words that can be upsetting, disturbing or offensive. Young people may encounter inappropriate content accidentally or deliberately. It is normal to be curious, but young people may be faced with concepts they are not ready for developmentally.

Inappropriate content may include:

- sexually explicit material
- false or misleading information
- violence
- extremism or terrorism
- hateful or offensive material.

The exposure of young people to inappropriate content is difficult to measure because many instances go unreported. A child may come across inappropriate content and not tell anyone due to embarrassment, confusion or fear. Given this, the percentage of young people encountering inappropriate or hateful content online could be higher than stated.

According to eSafety research

A high proportion of **young people aged 12 to 17** in Australia have encountered **inappropriate or hateful content online**

57% have seen real violence that was disturbing
33% have seen images or videos promoting terrorism
50% Nearly half of children between the ages of **9 to 16 experience regular exposure to sexual images**(1)

How to report and block- Reporting to eSafety

Australian residents can make a complaint to eSafety about illegal and restricted online content. This includes child sexual abuse material and abhorrent violent material showing terrorist acts, murder, attempted murder, rape, kidnapping or torture.

The eSafety Guide includes information to help teachers and students choose safer apps and to report and block inappropriate content.

WHITTLESEA
SHOW

SAVE
THE
DATE
WHITTLESEA
SHOW
SAT 4TH & SUN 5TH
NOVEMBER 2023
FAMILY FUN, ENTERTAINMENT & ATTRACTIONS
WWW.WHITTLESEASHOW.ORG.AU

Foggy Mountain
EST 2014
MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER 17 - 19
3 DAYS OF COUNTRY | FOLK | BLUEGRASS
ART DEMOS | WORKSHOPS
BEARD COMPETITION
BUSH DANCE

HURSTBRIDGE
HURRICANES
MINI
HURRICANES
Intro to basketball for ages 5 - 9
FRIDAY, NOV
17TH & 24TH
5PM - 6PM
@ HURSTBRIDGE BASKETBALL
STADIUM
$20 FOR TWO SESSIONS
WWW.HURSTBRIDGEHURRICANES.COM/
PROGRAMS

WWW.BLUELIGHT.ORG.AU
Blue Light
Stay Spooky
DIAMOND CREEK
HALLOWEEN
Blue Light Disco
$8
7 - 9.30 PM | 8 TO 13 YEAR OLDS
DIAMOND CREEK
COMMUNITY CENTRE
28 MAIN HURSTBRIDGE RD, DIAMOND CREEK
CONTACT: SNR SERGEANT WAYNE SPENCE 9438 8300
PLEASE ENSURE CHILD HAS AN EMERGENCY NUMBER ON THEM
NOV
3RD
7PM
DIAMOND CREEK BLUE LIGHT DISCO
DIAMONDCREEKBLUELIGHT