Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 13th March 2024

Wednesday March 13th- NAPLAN testing begins for grades 3 and 5 - Writing assessment day
Thursday March 14th- Breakfast Club with Zach (running on a Thursday this week)

- **NAPLAN Reading assessment day**
- **No Pre-Prep this week due to NAPLAN supervision throughout the morning**

Friday March 15th- Grade P-3- Kids Helpline online workshop 'Friendship'

- **Rod joining us for Italian and Music**

Monday March 18th- NAPLAN- Language Conventions assessment day

Monday March 18th- Sunday March 24th- Harmony Week

Tuesday March 19th- Egg Drop Event and Family Picnic Evening at school
Wednesday March 20th- NAPLAN- Numeracy assessment
Thursday March 28th- Last day of term 1- dismissal 2.30pm
Friday 29th March- Good Friday public holiday and the beginning of the term 1 break
Monday 15th April- First day of term 2
Wednesday 24th April- Grade 6 Shrine excursion to attend the Friends of the 15th Brigade - French-Australia ANZAC service
Wednesday 1st May- Grade 5-6 Leadership Day- Panton Hill Hall- full day event

We acknowledge the traditional Owners of the land on which we stand and pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging.
We honour and respect the histories, cultures, knowledge and perspectives of First Nations peoples
We value the guidance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as we support and create opportunities for the future custodians- the children
Let us always remember that First Nation children played, danced, sang and learned on this place they called home

It's a short week between newsletters this time around, given the Labour Day holiday and our curriculum day. NAPLAN testing began today, with all students in grade 3 and 5 completing their writing assessment tasks. We have some very keen writers in our classrooms, but it can be a challenge to sit and write a complete piece of work, with five minutes of planning, thirty minutes of writing and a final five minutes of editing inside the strictly managed timeframe. Tomorrow, we have students completing their Reading assessments. Great effort everyone. Well done to Maree, who has navigated the tech side of things and taken the trouble shooting in her stride.

Just a reminder that we have our fortnightly Breakfast Club happening tomorrow morning and not on Friday this week. Our pancake breakfasts have been a great success to date, so we hope to see lots of our friends on deck at 8am tomorrow to enjoy Zach's culinary skills. In addition to running our Breakfast Club, Zach has been leading a range of lunchtime activity alternatives for students, including Chess Challenges and Loom Band workshops. Matilda stepped up to lead the Loom Band Club yesterday, sharing her skills and helping others with their creations. If you know of anyone who is wanting to part with a backgammon set, we'd love to hear from you. Zach is keen to teach our students another board game to enjoy during breaks.

Jane

BEHIND THE SCENES

- Our beautiful felted 1917 mural, completed by students, has been framed. Thanks to Doug McKinnon for his woodworking skills. The mural looks fantastic.
- Our grant application for Sporting Schools funding for a whole school basketball program in term 2 has been submitted
- Jane completed part 2 of online Disability Inclusion training yesterday morning

Next week, we've got some great things planned for Harmony Week, which runs from Monday March 18th to Sunday March 24th.

Did you know?

- ❖ Nearly half (49 per cent) of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was.
- ❖ We identify with over 300 ancestries.
- ❖ Since 1945, more than 7.5 million people have migrated to Australia.
- ❖ 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia.
- ❖ Apart from English, the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Arabic, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Italian, Greek, Tagalog/Filipino, Hindi, Spanish and Punjabi.
- ❖ More than 70 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia.

- ➔ We'll be throwing our support behind the 'lids for kids' charity and helping to keep loads of plastic bottle lids from landfill
- ➔ We'll be watching videos to hear from a number of Australian Local Heroes, who have been recognised with Australian of the Year awards for their amazing contributions to their communities
- ➔ We'll be cooking up some tasty treats
- ➔ We'll be enjoying some interesting stories and whole school learning activities as we explore the concept of Harmony

Did you know that through working with The Song Room this semester, our students are:

- participating in fun and interactive weekly lessons with Mr Dan, the Song Man
- acquiring knowledge and new skills through curriculum- aligned arts learning experiences
- learning creative skills in music
- working towards a mid-year performance which will build connections between the school and home
- improving communication and collaboration skills through participation in shared arts experiences
- developing their motivation, confidence, resilience and sense of belonging

This week in the senior room we… worked on beats and rhythm, revisited reading music, looked at chords and chord progression and we even sang three part harmonies
This week in the junior room we… continued our songwriting work (our great song about Wally!), worked on rhythm and beat and enjoyed the Croc Wise song from the Northern Territory

Brin- for her fantastic participation in The Song Room sessions with Dan

Wesley- for working hard in class and his great listening skills this week. Good job!

Kayden- for his great engagement and consistent effort in the Art room. Well done.

Matilda- for demonstrating excellent leadership skills. Fantastic effort!

HELPING WITH MATHS AT HOME

Be a role model and foster a home environment that values mathematics

Negative attitudes that we express in front of our children are likely to catch on. Make sure you keep positive around the subject and encourage your child to see it as a fun activity, even if you don't necessarily see it that way yourself. Say things such as, "I liked working with numbers," as opposed to, "I was never any good at mathematics."

Encouraging them to use their own language to describe mathematical situations can also be a great way for them to learn without even being aware.

RESILIENCE RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

The Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Program will focus on 8 key areas, these are Emotional Literacy, Personal Strengths, Positive Coping, Problem Solving, Stress Management, Help Seeking, Gender and Identity and Positive Gender Relationships.

Positive gender relationships: Through age-appropriate lessons, exploring this topic teaches students to build positive gender relationships and to understand the importance of acceptance of difference and diversity. Learning activities within this topic focus on building an understanding of the effects of gender-based violence and focus on the standards associated with respectful relationships. Students develop the skills needed to solve problems, set boundaries within relationships and play an active role in the prevention of gender-based violence. They develop peer support and help-seeking skills that can be applied in response to situations involving challenging situations involving family, peers, community or online relationships and gender-based violence.

Family Picnic and Egg Drop Event Next Tuesday!

Students are encouraged to put their STEM skills to use as they work to create their Egg Drop Contraption

When: Tuesday March 19th- 5.00pm- 7.00pm

Where: Here at school!

What do you need:

1. An Easter Bonnet for the parade (if you're joining in and we'd love to have a good crowd!)
2. An 'Egg Drop Contraption'- made at home to safely transport a fresh hen's egg from the upstairs balcony to the concrete pathway below
3. Bring along your Family Picnic for dinner- whatever you choose and a picnic rug
4. Bring along drinks for your family
5. Come along and have fun with your friends and neighbours

We had a lovely surprise today when April Harrison brought in two little characters she is currently caring for.
These lovely little brush tailed possums have been rescued. They are still being fed milk, but they enjoy some fruit as well.
April is completing her wildlife carer training and she'll have these little boys for a while yet. They were very busy and playful.

Breakfast Club tomorrow- Thursday March 14th
We're running with a Thursday Breakfast Club this fortnight, as Zach is attending a training seminar on Friday. We hope to see you here at 8 tomorrow morning.

PARENTS' CLUB

Parent's Club Fundraiser

Picture Products orders and payment are due back at school on Monday March 18th

For your picture products, collect drawing paper from Deb.
Prices:
Plates $30, Clock $35, Mugs $25 and Calendar $22

All Easter Raffle Donations gratefully accepted- there's a box in the school foyer
Tickets have been sent home this week
The raffle will be drawn on Thursday March 28th
Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts once again

Did you know that our Parents' Club is required to complete a fundraising calendar of events for approval by School Council at the beginning of each school year?

This year's planner has a range of fundraising opportunities timetabled for the terms ahead.

Term 1- Picture Plates fundraiser, the annual Easter raffle and a Bulb Drive
Term 2- Mitre 10 BBQ, Fundraysia Eco Fundraiser, Mother's Day Stall, Cadbury boxes
Term 3- Sockables, Father's Day Stall, Springtime Raffle
Term 4- School Colour Run, Christmas Raffle

Would you like to be involved in our Parents' Club fundraising projects? Volunteers are always welcome to take on the coordination of fundraising activities.
Keep an eye out for details of an upcoming Parents' Club meeting, we'd love to have your assistance in supporting our work here at SPS.

Reading is everywhere

You can find teachable moments at home.

Some ways you can include reading and language in your everyday activities with children are:

- playing games such as 'I spy…something beginning with d'
- asking your child to read out simple recipes when you cook together
- doing word puzzles or crosswords together
- reading everyday materials like letterbox leaflets, brochures, labels, magazines and street signs together
- playing board games together, read the rules or the board
- asking your child to retell information you've read to them
- providing plastic letters, crayons, pencils, pens and writing paper

Sharing stories orally and using new vocabulary helps children to build their confidence with language.
One way they can do this is by reading with friends and family over the phone, or through video chat.

HALL BALL

Strathewen Community Hall
Fundraising Initiative
Be in it to win it!
Every Saturday night
First draw 30th March 2024

RULES:

- FIRST Tattslotto number drawn out is the winner
- $200 to the winner each week
- 2 mega draws = $500 to winner (Dec 22nd & July 21st)
- Random allocation of numbers 1 to 45 – This is your number for 52 weeks
- Please register your interest or any questions to Brad Byrne 0428 490 207
- $10 per week for 52 weeks
- All players receive HALL BALL stubby holder
- Get in quick – First in best dressed

PAYMENTS:

Set up weekly transaction to

BSB: 633000

ACC:138564992

or pay in full before March 30th

MUST BE PAID UP TO WIN

goodfriday appeal
THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

For more info and to donate

When: Friday 29th March
Where: Eltham Leisure Centre
Time:9am-12pm
Entry Cost:$10 Adults
$5 Kids

- Face Painting
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Aquatic Activities
- Raffle Prizes
- Family Zumba
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Free Hot Cross Buns
- Fitness Challenges
- Family Zumba
- Childcare- Bookings Essential
- Les Mills Masterclass
- And much more!!

www.goodfridayappeal.com.au

Blue Light

PROUDLY RUN BY LOCAL POLICE & VOLUNTEERS

DIAMOND CREEK BLUE LIGHT DISCO

15TH MARCH 2024

7-9.30PM | 8 to 13 YEAR OLDS | $8 ENTRY

Diamond Creek Community Centre
28 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek

Contact: Snr Sergeant Wayne Spence 9438 8300
Please ensure children have an emergency number on them.

Diamond Creek Blue Light Disco
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Diamond Creek Rotary Club

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