Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday 22nd May- Sugarloaf District Cross Country Trials- Yarrambat

- **Diane commences a week of long service leave**

Friday 24th May- interschool sport at St Andrews vs Wattle Glen

- **Grade 4,5,6 Attitudes to School Survey commences**

27th May- 3rd June- NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK-

Tuesday 28th May- Staff First Aid- training from 4pm at Doreen PS- prompt 3.30pm pick up required

Thursday 30th May- Division Cross Country event for qualifiers- Bundoora Park

- **JSC Dress Up Day- Favourite Sports Dress Up- gold coin event**
- **Diane returns from leave**

Monday 10th June- King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 11th June- Grade 5-6 Anglesea Camp- final day for payment to school

Monday June 17th- Thursday June 20th- Grade 5-6 Bushfire Education Leadership Camp- Anglesea

Friday 28th June- last day of term 2

Monday 15th July- Beechworth Camp- final day for payment to school

Monday July 22nd- Friday July 26th- Grade 3-6 Camp to Beechworth

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

National Reconciliation Week (NRW), May 27- June 3 2024, is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Now More Than Ever #NRW2024

Congratulations to all of the cross country competitors who headed out to Yarrambat Park this morning to take to the track. We had a great little team and it was terrific to hear the cheers as our runners crossed the line. We now have Brock heading off to the Division finals next week, after placing 3rd in his age group and Siana is an emergency in the 11 year old girls' group after finishing in 10th place. Well done all. It was

a pleasure to see such great team work, enthusiasm and effort. Thank you to the drivers and support parents and grandparents who joined us for a morning in the sunshine.

In classrooms, we're currently completing a range of assessment tasks, as we collect formal data ahead of end of semester report writing. As always, if you have any concerns or questions around how your child/children are progressing with their learning, be sure to arrange a chat with teaching staff. Mid-year reports will be sent home during the last week of term.

Just a reminder that all staff will be heading to Doreen PS on Tuesday immediately after school, to complete a second night of first aid training. Our session begins at 4pm, so we're hoping that everyone can arrange a 3.30pm pick up of students at the end of the day.

Jane

Did you know that updating school policy documents is a continual process here at Strathewen Primary? Copies of our policies are available on the school website: www.strathewenps.vic.edu.au We also make hard copies available at the office on request. Recently updated documents include our school's Visitors in Schools, Respect for School Staff and Volunteers Policies, our Child Safety Code of Conduct and our Respectful Relationships Statement of Commitment

Safety online

In Australia, this past week has seen both the SA and NSW state governments making moves to ban young people from having accounts on social media platforms, such as Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) and Tik Tok.

There is a lot of discussion around the loss of a play based childhood, its replacement with a phone based childhood and the toll this is taking on the development of children.

Studies have shown increased depression, anxiety, loneliness and less social cohesion since young people had immediate access to internet phone use. SA is looking at the possibility of banning social media use to those under the age of 14 and requiring parental consent for children aged 14 -15.

Your children will probably be quite interested in this unfolding story. If you're wondering about discussing this further with your children at home, there is a BTN (Behind the News) episode titled 'Social Media Ban for Kids' available on youtube, which is a good conversation starter.

What a performance!

We enjoyed watching a clip of Fred performing at the Melbourne Town Hall with the National Boys Choir, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and choir last weekend. Congratulations Fred. What a wonderful experience and what a performance!

Breakfast Club
This week
Friday the 24th of May from 8am
See you here at S.P.S.

Brindabella- for her wonderful story writing this week! What great work!

Ellie- for her excellent class work and for being a great support to others. Well done!

Louie- for happily taking on the role of 'tech guru' and stepping up in the senior room.Great stuff….

Siana- for her great support of a friend and her terrific run at cross country today. Well done!

Writing fun in the senior classroom…

With our narrative writing projects, we've been giving feedback to our classmates, having a conversation and using a checklist. We've been telling our partners about the good, the bad and the ugly of their stories- checking punctuation, paragraphing, whether a story makes sense and reads well.

The story prompt was about hearing music playing in the cleaner's cupboard and we wrote different mystery narratives. Ms Hayward has a rule about limiting the gory bits in our stories, but we sneak a bit in.

Giving feedback can help writers understand what their narrative writing needs and what they do well.

Louie and Kayden

Beechworth Camp Reminders

We're still waiting on the return of some completed parent consent and medical forms for the grade 3-6 Beechworth Camp

Please check with Deb if you've lost your forms.

Full payment for camp is required by Monday July 15th

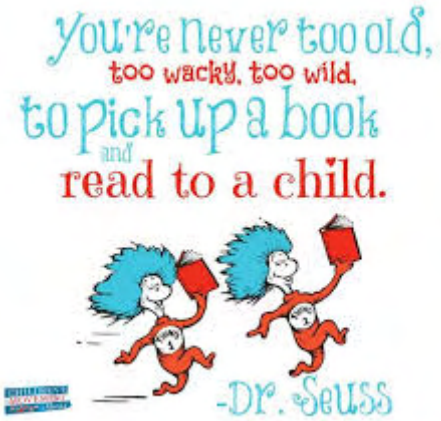
Sporty Kids Dress Up Day

Dress up as your favourite sports person or a player from your favourite sport
Thursday May 30th
Bring along a gold coin to be part of the fun

Our cross country training crew hit the local roads with Mark again on Monday

BEHIND THE SCENES

- The fort area at the top of the hillside slide has been updated in line with safety recommendations. Thanks to Darren Bradshaw and Darren McKinnon.
- Further playground safety work has been carried out, including mulch retaining, chain length changes on the lower playground, replacement of screws and the clamping of S hooks on the spider web play equipment
- The electrician will be in this week to sort out a few minor switchboard issues
- Our shutter repair tech was in at the end of last week, once again attending to some operational issues
- The cleaning supervisor from Tradeflex carried out his regular inspection this week
- We had our school council meeting yesterday afternoon and approved a range of updated school policies, which will now be loaded onto the website
- The purchase of 6 new student laptop computers was approved by school council, as was the purchase of a portable Gaga pit, adding an additional games option for students during breaks.
- Thanks to Mark for leading another cross country training run with our group on Monday (and thanks to Deb for following the crew)
- Tomorrow morning we have our annual height safety inspection taking place, so don't be surprised if we have some early visitors with us before school.



Interschool Sport this week is a 'home game' at St Andrews and we're playing against the Wattle Glen-Christmas Hills combined team

Last Week we played at Arthurs Creek. I think we won by a fair bit, but we didn't actually get told the scores and that was fine. I think I played pretty well. I was tackling and I did a few good kicks. Eli, from St Andrews, kicked a lot of our goals and Louie and Kayden also scored. It was a pretty good game. Hopefully this week, I can get back to playing netball at St Andrews.

Jacob

On Friday, we played T-ball/rounders at the oval in Arthurs Creek. We had heaps of extra players, because there was no netball team for our team to play. We just mixed everyone up and made two sides. My side won by two home runs. I got a home run and I was pretty happy about that. Everyone enjoyed a fun game. This week we're playing against Wattle Glen/Christmas Hills.

Siana

S·T·E·M

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS

Food and fibre in relation to aboriginal technology was our focus this week. We investigated how aboriginal people around Australia developed different tools according to the needs of their land. In the junior grades we made our own tools, either replicas of Aboriginal tools or tools that helped serve our own use of the land. In the senior grades we explored where different tools came from in Australia and in Grade 3/4 this involved thinking about what features of the landscape the aboriginal people might have used to inspire their tool production. In Grade 5/6 we learned about the people that designed those tools and compared them to other aboriginal tools around the world.

Chan

THE FRIENDSHIP BENCH

An original DASH project planned by Siana, Marley and Harriet

Last year, we worked with Cass for the DASH program and came up with project ideas. Our idea won the community vote and this year we have completed our Friendship Bench project. Our big pots arrived last week and this week we planted them out with succulents, which should be ok without much water and should look good.
This space is somewhere that kids can go if they're feeling a bit lonely, a bit worried or need a bit of support. When anyone sees someone sitting on the Friendship Bench, other kids have the responsibility to wander over to check and see if they're ok or if they'd like to join them in a game. It's a way that we can look out for each other. We're going to invite Cass back for a little opening ceremony soon.
Marley and Harriet

.

Maths at Home

Plan dinner or a party

Whether you're planning a party or just getting ready for a family dinner, there are plenty of math concepts involved. Have your child help set the table and count out the plates, napkins, and silverware. For a party, have your child help with the shopping. You know you're going to have to do some math since all of those plates, balloons, and party favors are packaged in different quantities!

Ask your child: *How many plates, napkins, and forks do you need for dinner?*
If you're inviting 10 guests to a party, and the plates come 8 to a pack, how many packs are you going to need? How many are going to be left over?
If you're not planning a party in the near future, get creative. Why not host a tea party for your child's favorite stuffed animals?

RESILIENCE RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Safety

The Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationship learning program addresses safety issues that students may encounter in their daily lives, including those in the home. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills to make safe decisions and behave in ways that protect their own safety and that of others, including strategies for dealing with unsafe or uncomfortable situations, managing personal safety and safety in relationships.