Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 26th June 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday 28th June- last day of term 2- 2.30pm dismissal

- **POSTPONED until next term - Interschool Sport at Wattle Glen- new date to be advised**

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

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

Monday July 29th- Our day recognising Schools Tree Day/National Tree Day- school-based activities

Tuesday July 30th- Hooptime tournament- grade 5-6

Tuesday August 20th- Bushfire Education Partnership- first aid training day for grade 4-6

Thursday September 5th- Sugarloaf District Athletics Event at Willinda Park, Greensborough

(Strathewen Parents' Club operating the BBQ and sales at the track)

Monday September 9th- Back up day 'bad weather' for Sugarloaf District Athletics Event at Willinda Park

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

CHILD SAFE: *Strathewen Primary School is a child safe organisation which welcomes all children, young people and their families. We are committed to providing environments where our students are safe and feel safe, where their participation is valued, their views respected, and their voices are heard. Our child safe policies, strategies and practices are inclusive of the needs of all children and students. We have no tolerance for child abuse and take proactive steps to identify and manage any risks of harm to students in our environments. Child safety is a shared responsibility.*

We've had a busy week or so to finish off the term. The senior students took off for the three night leadership camp to Anglesea and embraced some fantastic learning opportunities last week. We all returned exhausted, but it was an incredible experience for them all. Huge thanks must go to Lisal, who seems to endlessly volunteer her time and does such an amazing job in sourcing funding support and arranging so much of the program. We are so grateful to have Lisal in our school family. Thank you to our local Arthurs Creek-Strathewen CFA brigade for valuing what we do and providing their continued support and assistance. Jamie McKenzie, of Red Flag Leadership and Anglesea CFA, who is a long time friend of our school and an incredible advocate for involving young people in emergency planning and preparedness, also volunteered his time and provided the incredible program for our kids at no cost. Dr Briony Towers, also a long time friend of our school and supporter of our Bushfire Education Partnership, joined us as a volunteer in a support role. Disaster Resilience Education is Briony's area of expertise and it was wonderful to have her with us. Past pupil and previous program participant, Scarlett Harrison, also joined us in a support role and did a great job (she also makes a pretty good caramel slice!). We had others assisting us on our adventures in many different ways, ensuring the best possible learning opportunities for our students.

This camp program was funded through several sources. School parents contributed to the cost with a subsidised payment, our JSC have been selling Arthurs Creek Honey tubs and the Arthurs Creek-Strathewen CFA Brigade provided additional assistance. To deliver our program, we have been fortunate over the years to have sourced a variety of grants and we've had ongoing support from the Strathewen Bushfire Relief Trust.

Fire Line Leadership Training is recognised all around the world as an exceptional leadership development course, covering team building, leadership styles, communication, managing stress, decision making under pressure and so much more. It is a program run for adult unit supervisors and those working in the fire management space. With a program which is only slightly modified, Strathewen kids were the first school students to undertake the training two years ago and this time around, as we joined with twelve selected student leaders from Anglesea PS, we were only the second student group to embark on the course. It is incredible to see our young people take the learning on board and moving outside their comfort zone to take part in some amazing learning experiences. Our days (and nights) were full, with workshops, missions, team building exercises and some real adventures. The ten Strathewen students threw themselves into the program and it was fantastic to see them grow. They were amazing!

Our Song Room session with Dan yesterday saw everyone working on their items for the showcase performance planned for early next term, which we're all looking forward to. As soon as we've locked in an after-school date for the show, we'll let you know. Mrs Galvin is getting our camp booklet finalised, as we prepare for our week of adventures in Beechworth, students are finishing off work projects and staff are finalising report writing.

Our planned round of interschool sport for this Friday has been postponed until next term due to staffing issues at participating schools. Many schools have struggled with a range of bugs doing the rounds, including RSV and COVID and it is extremely difficult for many to find replacement teachers. We now have a final sports round to look forward to in term 3.

We had some surprise news on Friday morning at Breakfast Club, when Zach let us know that he had been offered a full time position at his other school and would be finishing up with us immediately. We've been fortunate to have Zach with us this semester, supporting well-being across the school. He was employed as our well-being officer through Your Dream, when we were successful in securing grant funding, which will run for a period of three years. With a young family to consider, a secure ongoing position is a great opportunity

for Zach and although we'll miss him here at SPS and appreciate the work he has done with us, we wish him all the very best in his extended role. I will be working with the team at Your Dream over the next two weeks, as we explore suitable candidates and go through the interview process to engage a new well-being officer.

It looks like we're about to get into some mushroom action here at SPS. After applying for selection, our school was chosen to be part of the Mushrooms in Schools program through the Australian Mushroom Growers Association. We'll soon be learning all about mushrooms and growing our own!

Thanks to both our great community, our wonderful staff team and our fabulous students for another terrific term here at SPS. Enjoy the chance to skip the school routine for a week or two and we'll see you back on July 15th. Take care.

Jane

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.

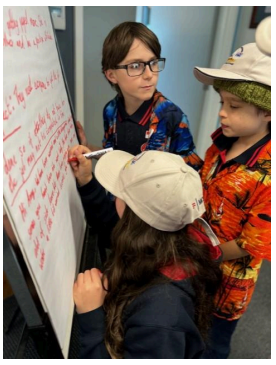
Full payment for camp is required by Monday July 15th

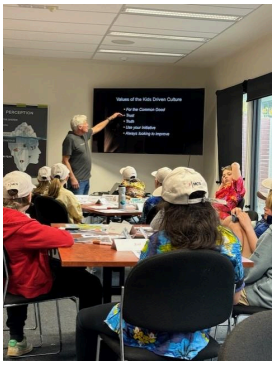
Problem Solving

It is important to help students learn a range of problem-solving skills through applied learning tasks so they are able to cope with the challenges they will face in the future. Problem-solving is identified by the World Health Organisation as a key skill for health. To be able to solve problems, children need to be able to think critically and evaluate the consequences of various actions.

Through our Respectful Relationships sessions, we highlight the fact that problems often arise, but usually there is a way to solve them. When we can't solve the problems by ourselves, we can ask others to help us. When we see that other people have a problem, we can try to help.

CFA **Strathewen-Arthurs Creek Bushfire Education Partnership** CFA





Siana

It was really interesting to learn about how we think and make decisions when we're under pressure or when things go wrong.

In one of the missions, I did OK and took on a job where I could really help. I know a bit about giving medical help, but now I know not to do CPR on someone if they're unconscious and breathing!

Harriet

I like how we learned about stress and how we do things differently when we're stressed. It's hard to make good decisions when you're 'under the waterline'. If you keep topping up your stress bucket with more stress, it can overflow, so you need to release it a bit but doing something you enjoy, getting yourself back into a good space. It was a 10 out of 10 experience.

Marley

Camp was a great opportunity. I learnt a lot, from map reading to providing first aid, to problem solving. The two missions were probably my favourite and I think we did pretty well. We had to work as a team to get things done. It was great meeting Toast, Juanita, Carlos and Bob. It was fun, but we worked hard. I was so tired when we got home.

Logan

Costa Ricardo was a very interesting place. There was lots of danger. I found the missions fun and thought we did really well. Jamie was a great teacher and pretty funny. It was also good meeting all the Anglesea kids. Staying at the house was awesome. Thanks Lisal.

Fred

My favourite thing about camp was the Thursday morning mission, but I felt sorry for 'Toast'. I was happy explaining about Sun Tzu to the other campers. I had lots of fun. The Tuesday night mission was interesting. It was good meeting Juanita and Carlos. I had fun with the other kids from Anglesea Primary, we even had a dance off between me and an Anglesea girl and I kind of crushed it! I can't really say any more, but over all it was great. If you get the chance to go to Costa Ricardo, definitely go for it. But just so you know… what happens in Costa Ricardo stays in Costa Ricardo.

Kayden

It was very exciting for me to be in a new place that I didn't know much about- Costa Ricardo. It was a huge experience. The places where we worked were great. The CFA building and Costa Ricardo provided plenty of challenges. We saved 'The Toast' and our mission was successful. I learnt a lot about natural disasters and ways to cope with feeling and emotions. Also, I learnt about the Johari window and my blind spots.

Ava

Fire Line Leadership camp was amazing. I got to make new friends. I got to learn how to calm down and de-stress, learnt lots of cool exercises and how to work with a team. We met great characters and they made it fun. We did well with Bob. Toast did well too. The food was perfect, the house was great. We were so lucky to go and be learning all this stuff.

Sage

I know now that when I'm under the waterline and emotional, I can't make great decisions because I'm stressed. I can do things to release stress, like box breathing and getting outside and active and doing something I enjoy. I learnt quickly how to use a radio to communicate in an emergency, updating everyone every chance I had. The whole thing was a 10 out of 10.

Quinn

The learning about coping strategies was interesting and that people do different things when they're stressed, especially in an emergency. I learnt that you need to be able to work as a team to get things done properly. It's not just about doing the job- good relationships are important. I thought I was good at doing the packs with Louie and Harriet in the second mission. It was a 10 out of 10 camp and the food was 10 out of 10 too.

Louie

I found the Fire Line Leadership training camp very interesting and exciting. My highlights were the Tuesday night activity in the bush and the Thursday morning activity- but I can't say too much. What happens in Costa Ricardo stays in Costa Ricardo. The leadership education was very useful and challenging. We learnt how to deal with people who aren't doing their job in a team and how to get the best out of them.

Parent Survey

The information regarding our school-based parent survey has been sent home.
Completing the survey will only take a few minutes and we'd love your feedback.
If you need any further information, please see Jane

Tomorrow it's a JSC
Jam Donut and Hot Chocolate Day
$2.50

Aida- for her terrific effort working on reading her Magic Words

Ellie- for an amazing semester of work and her terrific work ethic

Ava- for a top effort working on her short film planning and preparation

Siana- for a top effort in Bushfire Ed., working with her partner on their short film

Behind the scenes...

- the new rope bridge (replacing the timber one) has been fitted to the lower level playground
- on Monday we had a scheduled Departmental inspection of our school exits and walkways
- thanks to Fred and his family for the donation of footballs and a bag of books for our class libraries
- thanks to our technician Andrew, who has managed to source three apple computers and a desk top computer for SPS from a large school that was doing an upgrade. We'll put them to good use in our classrooms
- the Parents' Club boxes of $1 chocolates have arrived and will be sent home on Friday
- the Student Attitude to School Surveys have now been completed

PARENTS' CLUB

Our chocolate selling drive is about to begin.

Boxes of Cadbury chocolates for $1 each will be provided to each family on Friday.

This is a great fundraiser for our school. Individual chocolate bars are well priced, easy to sell and great to take along to work so that you can avoid temptation at home.

If you don't want a box, please let us know at the office.

We'll be asking for money from sales or unsold chocolates to be sent along to school by Friday July 19th.

Coming up on Thursday September 5th, SPS Parents' Club have the task of running the BBQ at the Sugarloaf District Athletics Day at Willinda Park in Greensborough. This was a great fundraiser for us last year. Early next term, we hope to have a quick after school meeting to plan and prepare for the BBQ. Everyone is welcome to come along when we meet and we'd love volunteers to help out on the day.

Grade 1 doing work on capacity this week

Matilda and Jack very happily introducing everyone to Norwegian Skilllingsboller (cinnamon bun pastries- thanks to Nina!

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.

Maths at Home

Adding and Subtracting

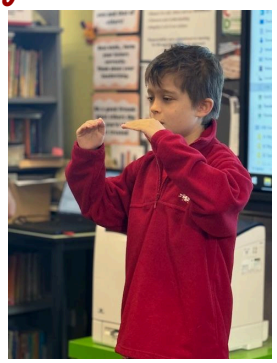
Young children need to develop an understanding and a sense of addition and subtraction. This includes combining two or more objects and removing and separating objects.

Words to use:

- combines with, joins, makes
- less than, more than
- all together
- take away
- how many more

Remember, we still have delicious Arthurs Creek Honey for sale at the office. It's $25 a bucket, with $5 from each bucket sold going towards covering additional costs for our recent Grade 5-6 Anglesea CFA leadership camp

A little bit of Song Room action with Dan this week



STAPS
OSHC HOLIDAY PROGRAM

July Holidays 2024

Tues 2nd, Thurs 4th, Tues 9th, Thurs 11th July

To Book In ...
Email: st.andrews.ps@education.vic.gov.au
or message the OSHC mobile on: 0427 245 921

STAPS OSHC Vacation Care is available to all STAPS students and is also available to students from other schools.
ALL students MUST have completed a 2024 STAPS OSHC enrolment form, and supplied any relevant medical plans

Please note that STAPS OSHC has a maximum number of 15 bookings for each day.

WEEK 1:
Tuesday 2nd July and Thursday 4th July
WEEK 2:
Tuesday 9th July and Thursday 11th July

WEDNESDAYS 3rd and 10th July: *Please note we will take expressions of interest to offer OSHC Vacation Care on these days, and it may operate if sufficient numbers are booked and staff can be confirmed.*

Costs: Flat rate of $65 per student per day applies
(Child Care subsidies apply to eligible families if registered for this prior to the school holidays - please speak to Michelle on Mon/Tues prior to the holidays to confirm if you have any questions).

Times: Available from **8:30 am to 5:30 pm**.
Children can attend for the whole day or part of the day, but please note that the flat fee applies.

Activities: The day will include outside games, relaxing "downtime activities" (possibly including watching a movie), and **Special Activities (as listed above)**

Food: **BYO LUNCH** *(unless indicated above)*, with Fruit, and Snacks offered on the day

OSHC Educators: Tracey, supported by other staff as required