Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 28th August 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday August 28th- Diane anaphylaxis trainer update 2.30-3.30pm

- **Diane online professional development- Characteristics of High Ability Students 3.45-4.45pm**

Thursday August 29th- Father's Day Stall- Parents' Club

Friday August 30th- Session 3 Ten Pin Bowling- P-6

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

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

Additional volunteers to help out with the BBQ needed- please check the roster at the office

Friday September 6th- Session 4 Ten Pin Bowling- P-6

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

Thursday September 19th- Fish and Chip special JSC lunch and movie day (forms still to be sent home)

Wednesday October 30th - Leadership Day 2 for grades 5-6 at Kangaroo Ground PS

Friday November 8th- The much anticipated SPS- 'Colour Run' event

Thursday December 5th- Whole day concert rehearsal at the Strathewen Hall- 9.00am-3.30pm

Friday December 6th- Final rehearsal at the hall- 9.00am-2.30pm

- **End of year concert at the Strathewen Hall- 6.30pm for a 7pm start**

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

Hopefully everyone is keeping safe in this wild weather.

Wishing all of our dads, grandpas and the many special men in our school community, a very happy Father's Day on Sunday. Our Parent's Club will be running their Father's Day stall tomorrow morning and everyone is welcome to come along and have a browse, including our pre-prep crew.

Jane

Seeking Camp Feedback

So far, only two families have shared their thoughts around the length of school camps for our grade 3-6 students. One, two, three or four nights, we're reviewing our planning for 2025 onwards.
We'd love your feedback.
The cost of camp for families is always a major consideration when we're planning our week-long camp for grades 3-6 students and we work hard to keep costs as reasonable as possible. Costs for visiting attractions have gone up and accommodation and catering costs have certainly increased. Bus costs and have become significantly more prohibitive for our small group, hence the hire/drive option for us this year, which worked really well.
An increasing number of primary schools no longer offer an overnight camping program, but we have always strongly believed in the value of camps and the amazing opportunities they provide and we've continued to offer the week-long option.
As we have to plan well in advance to secure camp bookings at venues which cater for small schools, we're currently exploring camp options for 2025. With the cost of camp being of concern, we'd love to hear from you. Reducing the time away on camp from 4 nights to 2 nights would have the most impact on camp affordability. Please be sure to let us know your thoughts and preferences around the possibility of reducing the 5 day/4 night camp program to a 2 night option. Feel free to chat to Jane, Diane, Maree or Deb.

Sugarloaf District Athletics Trials

Willinda Park, Beatrix St,
Greensborough
Thursday September 5th
Strathewen PS is running the sausage sizzle as a fundraiser for the day- more volunteers needed

We have all students in grades 3-6 participating in the District Athletics Day, coming up on September 5th. Event selections were entered a week or so ago and we're looking forward to a great day of competition. Attached with today's newsletter is a copy of the School Sport Victoria codes of conduct for school sporting events, which applies to everyone in attendance. The planning is underway for our school's BBQ fundraiser at the athletics day. It would be fantastic if we could encourage a few more volunteers to sign up to help out with cooking sausages, serving, handling money etc. There is a volunteer roster at the office.

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.*

Internet Safety tips for Parents and Carers

- Susan McLean, Cyber Safety Solutions

- Social Networking Profiles SHOULD BE SET TO PRIVATE
- Use all the security settings available to make the site as safe as possible
- Friends on social networking sites should always be people that your child knows in real life. This is one way to reduce possible risks. Anyone can be anyone online.
- Learn the lingo so that you can decipher some of the content if required
- Teach children that information on the internet is not always reliable
- Very close supervision for young children is recommended

Did you know that updating school policy documents is a continual process here at Strathewen Primary?
Recent policies we have reviewed, updated or written include:
the Student Wellbeing, Inclusion and Engagement Policy, Communicating with Staff Policy, Aboriginal Learning, Well being and Safety Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy and our Child Safe standards Risk Register
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.

Topic 6: Help Seeking

Learning activities in this topic area are designed to help students discuss the importance of seeking help and providing peer support when dealing with problems that are too big to solve alone. This helps to normalise and destigmatize help-seeking behaviour. Scenario-based activities help students identify situations in which help should be sought, identify trusted sources of help, and practice seeking help from peers and adults.
Some problems are too big to solve alone.
It's ok to ask for help.

We explore different situations where we look at:

- *when to seek help*
- *who we can trust to ask for help.*

We practise seeking help from peers and adults

MUSHROOMS IN SCHOOLS

This week we harvested more mushrooms and made a delicious mushroom pizza with Robin, our substitute teacher, and Deb from the office. The mushroom pizzas were really tasty. I remember the day when we started growing the mushrooms and we got the mushroom growing kit and when we first saw little white specks popping up from the ground. When we were at camp, I remember that we had to trust the little kids to spray them for us but luckily Mrs Phillips did it. Now they're really big! As Aiki said, we have been making pizzas with them and they were so delicious.

Report by Aiki and Nash - grade 4

Behind the scenes…

- Diane has been working on her anaphylaxis trainer course, so that she can lead our upcoming staff update onsite
- On Friday, Murrindindi Wildlife rescuers were able to catch our resident wallaby, 'Wally' and take him away to be assessed
- The six monthly Aug 2024 routine servicing as part of our emergency planning planning was completed this week
- Five students completed the Prime Minister's Spelling Bee online this week
- In addition to the desktop computers added to the senior classroom, we are in the process of purchasing additional student laptops for classroom use. We're keeping our technician Andrew busy with the setting up of new hardware.

Last Friday we watched a webinar with the author of 'My Place'. We did this as a part of book week and Nadia Wheatley was talking about her work. 'My Place' is a book and TV show. We have been watching the TV show for quite a while now and we've just started reading the book. 'My Place' is about these different kids that are born in different times and they're talking about their life. Nadia in her webinar was specifically talking about a character from her book called Sophia. Sophia is 10 years old and her family comes from Greece. The webinar lasted for about an hour and we were allowed to ask questions near the end. The TV show we watched is quite different to the book. It was interesting to see the author of 'My Place' talking about her work.

Report by Harriet and Logan - grade 6

Bowerbird Blues

We read the book Bowerbird Blues by Aura Parker. Then we studied the Satin Bowerbird and how it makes its bower to attract a mate. The bower is a nest on the ground and it collects blue objects to put in his bower – like bottle tops, straws, buttons, cotton, pegs etc We made 'bowers' and then had a scavenger hunt to find all the blue things like the Satin Bowerbird collects.

PARENTS' CLUB

URGENT CALL OUT FOR A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ATHS DAY BBQ- particularly for the afternoon

We're still hoping to recruit some additional helpers on the Parents' Club Sausage Sizzle at the Athletics Day on September 5th. If you can lend a hand, even for an hour or two, we'd love you to add your name to our volunteer's roster at the office.

Please send money from sales or unsold chocolates back to school.

Don't forget, we have our Father's Day Stall tomorrow

I AM MINDFUL

On Wednesday Stephanie came to our school to run a 'I am mindful' session with the four to sixes. We began the session by starting with our squishy skill. We had to put our legs up and tense all of our muscles then squeeze the squishy for about 10 seconds then release. We then had to play something Stephanie had planned for us. It was called the Card Game. We all were put into groups of 3-4 and looked for cards that were part of what Stephanie said. A scenario could have been where you were bullied at the sports court and you had to pick a card to deal with that problem. We concluded the session by Stephanie discussing if we were going to use the tools that we were given at home.

Report by Louie and Kayden - grade 5

Congratulations to Matilda who completed her TIME booklet in class this week.
Well done Matilda.

Alana- for her fabulous and consistent nightly reading effort	Ellie- for her great work in class and for her terrific home reading effort	Harriet- for her attention to detail in art and her consistently high standard of work presentation	Marley- for readily stepping up and assisting others in the classroom

Maths at Home

Number plate games

You can hardly look out of a moving car window without seeing a number — whether it's on a road sign, an advertisement hoarding or, most reliably, a passing car's number plate. The canny driver with restless passengers can use these as a sort of random number generator for several possible games.

Odd or even

"Odd or even" is good both for practicing recognition of numbers and for counting. The game is to predict whether the passengers will spot more even numbers or odd numbers on number plates before a time of your choosing — and then test that hypothesis!

One player counts the odd number plates; the other the even. As a car goes by, someone — either one of the players or a neutral — should call out the number on its plate; the player who just 'scored' then calls out their new total.

Odd or even can be played to a time limit or until someone reaches a given score, depending on what the players prefer!

Times Tables Practice

If times tables is an area you're keen to work on, use number plates for practice. When a car passes, call out the digits on the number plate; the players race to multiply.

If the number on a passing number plate is 3-5-2, the first person to work out 3 X 5 X 2 and say '30' gets a point; set a winning target depending on how long the journey is and how busy the roads are.

For younger (or tired) children, you can try adding, rather than multiplying the numbers.