Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 6th November 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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

Monday November 11th- BREAKFAST CLUB PROGRAM FROM 8:15AM

- **Visiting educator- Sexual Health and Relationship Program Grade 5-6- full day**

Tuesday November 12th- School Council meeting

Thursday November 14th- Pre-prep 9-11am, but no extension session today

Monday November 18th- Diane attending professional learning day on decodable reading texts

Tuesday November 19th- I am Mindful program- grade 4-6- 10am- 12.30pm

Monday November 25th- special CFA workshop- morning visit- whole school

Tuesday November 26th- 16 Days of Activism- SPS Celebration of Wonderful Women event

Tuesday December 3rd- School Council meeting

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**

Tuesday December 10th- Year 7 orientation day

Thursday December 12th- end of year Christmas excursion- whole school

Tuesday December 17th- Grade 6 Big Night Out with staff celebration

Thursday December 19th- final school day for students for 2024

Friday December 20th- pupil free day

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

DON'T FORGET YOUR WHITE T-SHIRT FOR FRIDAY'S COLOUR RUN!

It's almost here!
The Colour Run Fundraiser is coming up on Friday.

All participants will need to have a white t-shirt on, ready to take to the track!

Have you registered your child? It promises to be a great event once again.
We have Kylie booked for some fabulous water sports action to warm things up.
There will be a sausage sizzle lunch provided and the opportunity to purchase fairy floss ($4) and a soft serve ice cream cone ($3)!
Our local CFA crew will be joining us for some water fun.
Everyone is welcome to come along.
We'll be seeking volunteers to take up positions around the track!

$3

$4

free sausage sizzle

The plan for the day on Friday:
9-11am- classroom time, followed by recess
11-30-12:30- classroom time
12:30- Early break for lunch- sausage sizzle and special options to buy
1:30- Sports fun with Kylie
2:30- The fun run begins
3:30- It's the end of the day!

The importance of a whole-school approach

Research investigating school-based wellbeing promotion programs highlights the importance of positioning classroom interventions within a whole-school approach when addressing positive student behaviour, resilience and mental health, bullying prevention and RRE. A whole-school approach includes a focus on school policies, practices and partnerships with communities and agencies, as well provision of classroom-based curriculum. It is difficult to effect change in student attitudes or behaviour without use of a classroom intervention within a broader school approach. Stronger outcomes are evident when classroom-focused programs are combined with cross-curricular integration, a focus on classroom and school climate and active engagement of parents and carers, service providers and the local community. Clear messaging which promotes gender equality and identifies the unacceptability of harassment and perpetration of gender-based violence has been found to reduce rates of sexual harassment in schools. Further, students are more likely to report homophobic harassment of peers to their teachers in schools where students have positive relationships with their teachers. Inclusive and supportive teacher-student relationships play a pivotal role in shaping the school environment for gender-diverse students.

Our first Breakfast Club morning will take place on Monday, November 11th.
Our second Breakfast Club morning will be held on Wednesday November 13th.

On Breakfast Club mornings, the front door will open for students at 8:15am.

We'll be meeting and eating in the upstairs project space and sitting around the tables there.

Healthy breakfast options will be provided. These include a variety of cereals and milk (full cream milk will be on offer, please send along alternate milk options from home for your child if required) and we will also have some sliced fruit, toast and spreads (butter, vegemite & honey) on the go. On Wednesday we will add a 'hot breakfast option' of baked beans or spaghetti on toast.

We'll be sitting down to eat from 8:15am, with breakfast concluding at 8:45am, ahead of the dining room tidy up before classes begin at 9:00.

At this stage we will aim for Monday and Wednesday as our Breakfast Club days, but please a keen an eye on the weekly newsletter in case of any changes due to other events taking place.

We've been fortunate to have a great supply of fresh produce delivered this week to share as well, so fruit platters of sliced oranges, pears and baby carrots have been happily enjoyed by everyone.

Student Book Lists for 2025

On the last day of term 3, an information pack was sent home to all families regarding student book lists for 2025. The information pack included the itemised list of student requirements for each year level.

All families were asked to let Deb know their purchasing preference for book lists- either confirming that they were happy for the school to complete the purchase of all items, with families making the associated payment to the school (as has been done in the past) or that they would prefer the option of sourcing and paying for all listed items required by their child/ren for the classroom next year themselves, ensuring that students are set up and ready to go for the first school day in 2025.

At this stage we have only had four families let us know their preferred option (all have opted for continuing with the school managing to source items in a cost effective manner and packaging up booklist items for each child and the family paying the school for this).

With minimal responses received, we are exploring the option, used in many schools, of contacting a school supplies company to put together our booklists, dealing directly with families. This involves the school providing the booklist to a company, who then complete all the sourcing and collation work significantly increasing the cost per student for our families. We would prefer not to add to household costs if possible.

Please let us know by Friday what the preferred option is for your child's booklist for next year and we can proceed accordingly.

Thank you

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

Being late for school has a negative impact on your child's learning.
Being just ten minutes late each day adds up.
As well as missing out on warm up activities in daily maths sessions, being late for class often means important instructions are missed and the class is interrupted.
Children need to arrive on time, ready to settle into their school work.
Arriving 5 minutes before a 9am start allows your child to interact with their classmates and teacher and get themselves ready for the day.

Parents' Club Christmas Raffle

We're calling for contributions for our much anticipated end of year Christmas Raffle.
Deb has a box set up in the school entrance.
We'd love some bits and pieces to add to our hampers.
Tickets will be sent home soon.
Thank you for your support.

Come along and join us!

Please come along to our special whole day event, as we share in some amazing stories and activities. As part of the annual 16 days of Activism event, we have been fortunate to receive grant funding from the Nillumbik Shire for a very special day to be held at SPS on Tuesday Tuesday November 26th..

We will be celebrating some of the

WONDERFUL WOMEN IN OUR WORLD!

Students will be meeting fabulous guests throughout the day, as we focus on intergenerational storytelling from some wonderful women. It will be a day event, but you're welcome to come along for an hour or two, or the day. Our guests will be provided with a light lunch and morning and afternoon tea. We'll also be treated to a little bit of music, thanks to Rod and our students. We'd love to see you here at SPS on the 26th.

What is the 16 Days of Activism?

We all deserve to be safe, equal and respected. More than 1 in 3 women have experienced men's violence. Safety for women is not a given in any community – and neither is respect. It doesn't have to be this way. During the 16 Days of Activism, communities around the world join the call to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls.

Some great Halloween art work and writing is on display at the moment.
Have you popped in to have a look?

We were fortunate to enjoy a wonderful footy clinic today with Alex from the Kinglake Football Club. She ran a great program and recognised two keen students with drink bottle awards for their top effort!
It was a great morning of action for all.

Behind the scenes…

- We've seen a sneak peek… thanks to Fern and Chris who are doing an amazing job on our stage backdrop
- Thanks to Deb, who led a great group activity on Monday afternoon, creating family frames with the senior students.
- Our gutter cleaning ahead of the fire season has been arranged for the 19th of November.
- Lunches and our movie are booked for the whole school Christmas excursion on December 12th. It should be a fabulous day
- Jane attended a small schools' Respectful Relationships Education webex meeting on Monday afternoon
- On Friday, we were visited by the Departmental reviewer of our school's policies, procedures and programs in relation to the Child Safe Standards, as part of the upcoming School Review process in term 1, 2025
- We have applied for Sporting Schools Funding for term 1 and hope to be running a coach delivered soccer program once our whole school swimming program is complete

Maths at Home

Addition and Subtraction

If children carry out addition and subtraction tasks with concrete material, their ability on paper will be greatly enhanced. Again, there are many opportunities in the kitchen to practise this. Remember to ask a variety of questions to extend their thinking.

- Count how many biscuits are on the tray, add one more - how many now?
- We have 10 strawberries, if I eat one how many are left?
- We need to use 2 bananas, how many does that leave in the bowl?
- We have filled 6 muffin cups. How many muffin cups do we still need to fill? How many does that make?
- How many biscuits have gone?
- We have added 2 different fruits to our fruit salad, how many more do we need to add to make 4?

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.*

This week we have four Start Students recognised for their enthusiasm, effort and skill at today's AFL footy clinic with visiting coach Alex.
Well done team!

A bit of board game action in the 4-6 room last week, as we unpacked our new game, 'First Fleet- Will you survive?'

Child safety and wellbeing at Strathewen Primary School: information for families and the school community

Strathewen Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework includes policies, codes and procedures that explain how we support and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and protect them from harm. These documents are available on our website: http://strathewenps.vic.edu.au/

We are also committed to continuous improvement of our child safety framework. We are currently reviewing our child safety policies and practices to ensure they are up-to-date and effective.

Our students and families are important partners in this process. We welcome your feedback or ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Jane Hayward, our school principal on 9714 8278.

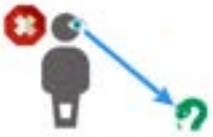
Things to Remember About Snakebites

Don't walk in long grass - if you do, always watch your step

Check your shoes if left outside

Wear long pants and covered shoes if walking in bushland, long grass, remote areas or gardening

Block off any entry points into the house (snakes like cold bathroom tiles to cool down)



If you sight a snake, steer clear and stand still to avoid aggravating the reptile

Do not try to handle or kill a snake if you are not a professional

St John

Lift the Lid Day in Kinglake on the 17th November - a full day for the family and friends.

Lift the Lid Walk starts at 9.30am with Up to 5.8km walk & talk, with kids activities along the walk.
Free BBQ Lunch

Guest Speaker "The Unbreakable Farmer"
Warren Davies is not just any average Farmer. There is more to this farmer than meets the eye. His eventful life has tested his Resilience, Persistence and Determination. All having a massive impact on his young family, relationships and finances.

Free BBQ lunch for all walkers - vegetarian & vegan send us a message.

Live Music, free face painting, Best in Show, kids activities, Kid's Beard Competition, Bikes & Cars at Kinglake Ranges Show N Shine to continue the day!

Guest speaker, local man, Mitch Tripney from BYO Chair Podcast, talking on the topic of mental health and injury.
Mitch is a paraplegic after a motorbike accident
Rotary Club Kinglake Ranges