Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday 12th March 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday 12th March- NAPLAN begins for years 3 and 5 (NAPLAN window until 24th March)

- **Senior students- author workshop whole day writing event**

Thursday 13th March- Prep- CFA workshop -am

- **no Pre-Prep this week due to NAPLAN (Reading assessment - grade 3 and 5)**

Friday 14th March- The Song Room with Dan

- **NAPLAN (Language Conventions assessment - grade 3 and 5)**

Monday 17th March- HARMONY WEEK begins

- **Soccer workshops Session 4- P-6**

Tuesday 18th March- Super Science and Arts workshop day at Diamond Valley College- grade 3- 6
The Day begins at DVC at 9.30am (pick up time 2.15-2.30pm)

Wednesday 19th March- Harmony Day- JSC- Dress up in ORANGE day

- **NAPLAN (Maths assessment - grade 3 and 5)**
- **Parent Teacher mid-term catch ups- 4-6pm**

Thursday 20th March- Parent Teacher mid-term catch ups- 4-6pm

- **Jaffle Hot Lunch Day- lunch provided**

Friday 21st March- The Song Room with Dan (returning to Tuesdays after today)

Tuesday 25th March- School Council meeting- election of office bearers and reporting to community meeting

Wednesday 26th March- Cardytoons- a morning of cartooning workshops with Brett Cardwell

Friday 28th March- Red Cross 'Pillowcase Project' session- 10-11am- whole school

Tuesday 1st April- Family Easter Egg Drop event- evening picnic and Easter sports

Friday 4th April- Last day of term 1- 2.30 dismissal

Monday 21st April- Easter Monday Public Holiday

Tuesday 22nd April- First day of term 2

Thursday 24th April- Grade 6 excursion to the French-Australia service at the Shrine

Friday 25th April- ANZAC Day public holiday

We've had a short school week, but we've managed to fit plenty into it. We kicked off with our high ability science workshop on Thursday, titled 'Insectivores' and it was a bit of an adventure in the 3-6 room. On Friday, we enjoyed plenty of music, with both Dan and his Song Room on the go and Rod joining us for his usual sessions. We've kicked off this week with day one of the NAPLAN assessments, with grades 3 and 5 completing their Writing tasks. In the senior room, we were also fortunate to be involved in a full day of great learning today, working with an author/illustrator via Zoom.

Yesterday's professional learning for staff across our small schools' network, saw Business Managers get together with an outside expert to work on the on line maintenance system we're all required to use, while all other staff worked on the 'explicit teaching' aspect of the new Victorian Teaching and Learning Model.

Coming up on Friday March 28th, we have a special whole school event with the team from the Red Cross, Pillowcase Project. Ten years ago, we were one of the first schools to take part in this project, which involves planning what to pack and take in an emergency. We worked with the project a second time a couple of years ago and in recognition of all the work that's been done over the last decade, we've been invited to take part in a session again this year.

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

- Topic 1: Emotional literacy
- Topic 2: Personal strengths
- Topic 3: Positive coping
- Topic 4: Problem-solving
- Topic 5: Stress management
- Topic 6: Help-seeking
- Topic 7: Gender and identity
- Topic 8: Positive gender relationships

Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program

Emotional Literacy- Research shows that students who participate in rigorously designed and well-taught Social and Emotional Learning programs demonstrate improved mental and social health, have improved relationships with peers, are less likely to engage in risky and disruptive behaviour, show improved academic outcomes and have improved capacity for help-seeking. Participation in Social and Emotional Learning programs also reduces rates of bullying among students from marginalised groups. Building a large vocabulary for emotions helps to increase emotional literacy, promote self-awareness and encourage empathy for others.

Term 1- Parent-Teacher Chats

Coming up on Wednesday March 19th and Thursday March 20th- 4pm-6pm

There will be a booking form at the office from Monday March 3rd, allowing parents to book in a suitable time to have a chat with teachers about how the year has begun for their child/children

As always, if you have any concerns or just want to touch base for a chat, don't wait. Parents are encouraged to speak to teachers throughout the term. We're always here!

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.

Margaret- for confidently joining in class discussions and activities

Heli- for listening carefully to instructions and doing her best in class

Arthur- for his enthusiasm and effort during our writing sessions last week.

Louie- for his terrific effort assisting everyone with his tech support!

Insectivores

On Thursday we learnt about bugs and we ate them too!
In our STEAM session with Dr Shasta, who is a scientist, we looked at edible bugs and critters from around the world and how people have been eating them for hundreds of years. We looked at food shortages being a problem and how insects are a good source of protein and fat. We got to eat cricket corn chips, made in Australia using farmed crickets that have been dried out and turned into cricket flour. The corn chips tasted like normal corn chips, but they had better levels of nutrition and more iron than spinach.
Marley

School Council

We'd love you to join us?

Have you considered becoming a member of our School Council?
We have casual vacancies and we'd love to hear from you.

Please see Jane or Deb for more information or to grab a nomination form.

Author Workshop with Grade 3-6

In today's workshop, we worked with Renee Treml, who has written and illustrated heaps of graphic novels and childrens' books. She taught us about the art of drawing comics and telling stories through illustrations. We worked on cartoon frames with a partner and we got to draw different animals using the same formula. We learnt about facial expressions and how to draw them. We moved onto learning about developing stories and the pictures to go with them.

Kayden and Van

Did you know that our Junior School Council collects and returns cans and bottles through the 10c Cash for Containers program?
Deb regularly returns our bags/boxes of collected cans and bottles and we've already raised $24 this year.
If you're not collecting and returning your own eligible containers, we'd love to have them.
JSC funds go towards chosen student leadership projects each year and also support the educational sponsorship of Cinta and Mang Adi in Bali.

Behind the Scenes

- We've had some recent glitches with our diesel fire services pump, kicking in at random times and running for no apparent reason. Thanks to our neighbour Jess, for her quick texts outside hours to let us know that the pump is in action and thanks to Darren Bradshaw for dropping everything and heading to school to shut things down and investigate. After two situations over the weekend, our service provider was onsite this morning and confirmed Darren's diagnosis. We now have some urgent sensor work pending.
- Our plumbing contractors completed their regular inspection this week and have identified a problem with our septic pump, which is also being seen to.

Family Picnic and Egg Drop Event

Coming up on Tuesday April 1st

Have you started to work on an egg contraption at your place?

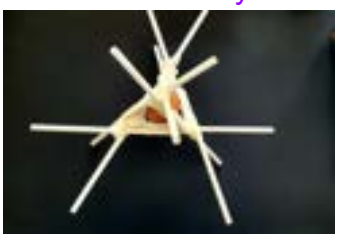
Students are encouraged to put their STEM skills to use as they work to create their own Egg Drop Contraption, to safely deliver a fresh egg from the upstairs balcony to the pathway below.

When: Tuesday April 1st 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 begin with the hat parade just after 5pm and move onto some 'Easter Sports', including the 'egg and spoon races and the 'egg toss'. Everyone enjoys their family picnic and we host the much anticipated 'Egg Drop', with a very keen audience watching closely. The night finishes up with the 'Great Egg Hunt'.

Mark the date on your family calendar!



JSC

Our Super Sundae Day raised $51.80 for our JSC. The sundaes were a big hit!

On Wednesday, March 19th, JSC is holding a dress up day to celebrate Harmony Week.
Bring along a gold coin, wear something orange and join in the fun.

JSC Mothers Day Raffle tickets being sent home Friday – 1st Prize 60 minute massage, 2nd Prize 30 minute massage

Making our Area Robots in the junior classroom

Interactive Open Afternoon

Thursday 27 March 2025

Auditorium, Diamond Valley College
Information sessions at 4:00, 4:45 and 5:30pm

Join us to explore the endless opportunities awaiting your child in 2026!

Bookings essential, please scan the QR code to book a session

Semester 1 School Tours

*Tours are open to students and families considering secondary school commencing **2026**. Bookings essential.*

DIAMOND VALLEY COLLEGE

RESPECT | EXCELLENCE | RESPONSIBILITY

165-179 Main Hurstbridge Rd, Diamond Creek VIC 3089
www.dvalcoll.vic.edu.au

Eltham High School

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 2nd April, 2025

5.30pm
- **Student led tours**
- **Interactive student activities**
- **Catering by our VET Hospitality students**
- **Engage with teachers from key learning areas**

7.00pm
- **Information session**
- **Enrolment processes**
- **Hear from our principal, Vincent Sicari**

FURTHER INFORMATION
www.elthamhs.vic.gov.au

BOOKINGS REQUIRED

www.trybooking.com/CZADK

Withers Way, Eltham | eltham.hs@education.vic.gov.au
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