Strathewen Primary School

5 School Ridge Road, Strathewen 3099
Telephone 9714 8278
Fax 9714 8200
Email : strathewen.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Wednesday February 10th 2021

Dates to Remember:

Swimming Program- whole school- bus pick up at 9.30am
Tuesday February 16, Thursday February 18,
Tuesday February 23, Wednesday February 24-(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY TO WED. DUE TO Gr 5-6 EVENT)
Tuesday March 2, Thursday March 4

Tuesday February 16th- School Council meeting
Monday February 22nd- District Swimming Trials (for strong swimmers) at Diamond Creek Pool (parent transport and supervision for competitors)
Thursday February 25th- Grade 5-6 Small Schools' Leadership Day at Panton Hill Hall
Friday February 26th- finishing off and setting up our 'Thank You CFA' messages for Red Balloon Day on Sunday
Friday March 5th- Curriculum Day- Pupil Free Day- Small Schools Combined Day
Monday March 8th- Labour Day Public Holiday
Monday March 15th- School Review
Wednesday March 24th- School Review

We're set for our swimming program to commence next week and we're looking forward to working with our skilled instructors and really building skill levels. Over the years, we've found that we see significant improvement in individual ability through running our three week intensive swimming program. Swimming days tend to see our students looking for an extra snack or two, so it might be a good idea to pack some additional nibbles.
We've had some challenges this week with our school website doing strange things and disappearing briefly. Our technician, Ben, has been working on things for us, but it might be time for an upgrade.
Our Junior School Council election took place on Monday and we welcome Molly to the elected role of President for Semester 1. All students in grade 5 and 6 are part of our school leadership team and they all have a role to play on JSC. Keep an eye out for the group's plans for this year.
School Council
We have our first school council meeting for 2021 coming up next Tuesday afternoon. This is the final meeting of the current council. After almost a year of remote meetings, we are able to meet onsite, in person at present- with masks on. If councillors would prefer to continue meeting via Webex for convenience, safety etc at this time, please let me know and we can continue with online meetings for now. (please text my mobile with your preference)
Our School Council election process for 2021 has commenced today. The notice of election and call for nominations has opened today and will close next Wednesday. We have plenty of nomination forms available. We have the following council members whose term is up and they are able to renominate: Belinda Adams, Bianca, Diane and Margie.
The following members are elected for the term concluding in March 2022: Kate, Mel Brady, Kylee, Rachel and Darren.

If you're interested in becoming a member of our council, please pop in and grab a nomination form- we'd love to have you join us. For more information about being a member of the School Council and what this involves, please check out the information later in this newsletter.
Jane

Privacy Policy Reminder

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website and attached to this newsletter. For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents, available at the office.

SWIMMING

Swimming will commence on Tuesday February 16th for all grades. We will travel by bus to the Eltham Leisure Centre, with a 9.30am pick up, and we'll be back to school before lunchtime. Please note that we have had to amend the timetable, due to the Grade 5-6 Leadership Day. In Week 2, we will be swimming on Tuesday and Wednesday, rather than Tuesday and Thursday. We'll have a quick snack before we head off on the bus each day. Students are asked to wear their bathers under their school uniform on swimming days to minimise changing time when we arrive at the pool. Permission forms for our program have been sent home today. If you have any questions about our upcoming program, please feel free to chat with a member of staff.

DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIALS

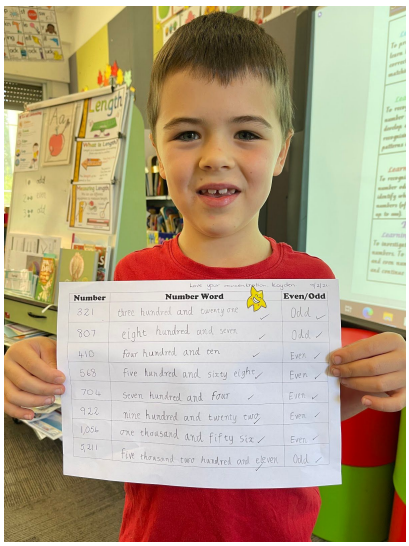
Coming up on Monday February 22nd, we have the District Swimming Trials event at the Diamond Creek Pool. This morning of competition is only open to students in grade 3 to 6 who are able to confidently swim 50 metres in their preferred stroke. There is no coaching and students are required to be capable in the pool. Time trial heats are held for each stroke and the fastest students qualify to go on to the next level of competition.
The cost per competing student is $5, with the event starting at 9am for warm ups and finishing at around 12.30pm. Parents will be required to transport and supervise their own children at this event, as we will not have a staff member attending. Students who have nominated themselves have been provided with a permission form and we have a few interested students who are going to test themselves with the distance at swimming next week to make sure they're ready for competition.

First week back in S.T.E.M. was all about information! Well the scientific term for information – Data. Check out what we did on the new and updated S.T.E.M. blog:
https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/sugarloafstemblog/home

Kind regards,
Chan

In classrooms this term, we're focusing on our school values and what they mean. We've been looking at 'kindness' and the importance of being a good friend. Thanks to a lovely donation of 'Better Buddies' bears, we'll be recognising students for their actions in helping to create a friendly and caring school environment.

Our bear presentation recognises the following: friendliness, care, respect, responsibility, valuing difference and including others. Congratulations to Elly, our Better Buddies bear recipient this week. Elly has demonstrated kindness and understanding and been a great support for our younger students, offering reassurance and assistance. Well done Elly.



some school action this week

Leadership Day Event– for grades 5 and 6

Our first Leadership Day for 2021 is set to take place on Thursday February 25th (hence the need to change our swimming program slightly).
Students in grades 5 and 6, from around 10 small schools, will meet at the Panton Hill Hall for a 9.30 start, as we work on various aspects of leadership. Students will engage in a range of workshops throughout the morning, enjoy a pizza lunch and then meet our wonderful guest speaker in the afternoon. It's always a great day. Permission forms have been sent home today.

Charcoal drawing class

with Lisa Nolan on Sunday 28 February at 10am - 1am at the Strathewen Hall.
All material provided by Strathewen Trust.
RSVP Barbara Joyce 0435027780 to confirm a place. Reminder- charcoal is messy so bring a smock or shirt.

TERM 1—2021 PROGRAM REGISTRATION!

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN—not just basketball players!
4 Age Groups (5-7, 7-9, 10-12) and Teen Night on Mondays!)

Page Title

6 Week Program Starts SOON!
Sunday/Monday
Feb. 14th/ 15th

Register NOW!

****Only $10.00 to register!**

- Program is on Sundays and Mondays

KRCBA, INC.
$5 Game Fes
Registration NEVER closes! To register or for more information:
0403 290 871
brian@brianrolph.com

KRCBA "4 KIDS"

The KRCBA is pleased to announce our upcoming basketball program for Term 21, 2021.

This program has been a resounding success and is designed to provide a safe and fun positive learning experience. EVERY child has a chance to shine, with professional leaders, music, mascot, cheerleading and more!

Start of 2021
Tissues and Toilet Paper

As you know, ours is one of very few schools not charging any annual school fees for families. All items invoiced to parents are for direct purchases, such as the exact cost of book lists, excursions etc.
To help keep costs down and assist with funding, we ask families to send along a packet of toilet paper and a box of tissues at the start of each term, if they are able.
Please drop any contributions off at the office. Thank you to those families who have already sent along their supplies.

- Renate has been in again this week, continuing with garden maintenance work
- We have had the submersible pump in the basement removed for servicing
- Margie Baxter has been with us helping with P-3 reading again this week and she brought with her a wonderful collection of donated books, many will top up our home reading boxes. Thanks Margie.
- Thanks to Mel Brady, who has been here at school helping students to work on their Red Balloon Day banners.
- Kylee, Rachel and April kicked off with the first student gardening groups last week. It was great to see the seed collecting and fun going on out in the garden.
- Lisal and Jane met this morning to finalise plans for the Strathewen Arthurs Creek Bushfire Education Partnership for 2021. Our Grade 5-6 students certainly have a lot to look forward to!
- Thanks to Trent, who has been in today, servicing our diesel pumps and doing a bit of troubleshooting with one of them.
- Donna has picked up the window tint which will be applied to the staffroom courtyard windows to reduce heat and glare.
- Jane has been working with NESST colleagues as we finalise plans for our upcoming curriculum day and our student leadership day.
- We've also had our electrician in assisting, with some shutter issues and he'll be working with our shutter technician in the coming weeks to streamline the servicing needed.

The Strathewen Star Students this week are... Molly, Noah, Hunter and Ellie

Molly- for her consistent work effort across all subject areas

Noah- for his wonderful attitude to learning and his consistent effort

Hunter- for being such a good helper, setting up the room in the morning

Ellie- for her wonderful Prep work and great reading

School Council…

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. School councils are legal entities that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school. School councils have key responsibilities:

Finance- overseeing the development and expenditure of the school's annual budget and ensuring proper records are kept of the school's financial operation.

Strategic planning- participating in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan.

Policy development and review- developing, reviewing and updating selected policies that reflect the school's values and support the school's broad direction outlined in its strategic plan.

Community engagement- informing itself of community views and stimulating community interest in the school.

Charcoal drawing class

with Lisa Nolan on Sunday 28 February at 10am - 1am at the Strathewen Hall.
All material provided by Strathewen Trust.
RSVP Barbara Joyce 0435027780 to confirm a place. Reminder- charcoal is messy so bring a smock or shirt.

CSEF

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like:

- **school camps or trips**
- **swimming and school-organised sport programs**
- **outdoor education programs**
- **excursions and incursions.**

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. A Special Consideration category also exists. Schools can receive applications from families over term one and two.

Families can list more than one student in the one application form if they are attending the same school.

Applications can be entered from 18 January 2021. See the attached flyer accompanying this newsletter email for more information.