Strathewen Primary School

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

Wednesday March 17th 2021

Dates to Remember:

Monday March 22nd- Nillumbik Shire workshop with students- Health and Wellbeing survey with young people

The day will finish with a '3.30pm rotunda chat' with any parents wishing to share their ideas with council

Tuesday March 23rd- STEM (MARC Van) Management meeting- Jane 4pm

Wednesday March 24th- School Review- final day

Tuesday March 30th- School Council meeting

Wednesday March 31st- SPS Family Easter Picnic and Egg Drop Event- 5.30pm-7.30pm at school

Thursday April 1st- end of term 1- 2.30 dismissal

Friday April 2nd- Good Friday- school holiday period commences

Monday April 19th- First day of Term 2

This week has been a busy one. On Monday we had all students taking part in the Pillowcase Project workshop with the visiting team from the Red Cross. It has been quite a few years since we last took part in the project, so it was great for our students to hear about the importance of planning for an emergency situation and putting some thought into what would be important for you to pack and take with you in an evacuation situation. Students spoke about favourite toys, medication, a change of clothes, pet supplies, water, a first aid kit etc. We'll all keep working on our pillowcases here at school and send them home when they're finished.

The first day of the School Review process took place on Monday, with our panel spending the day onsite. The grade 4-6 students engaged in a Q and A session with the team and shared their thoughts about being a student here at SPS. Our second review day will take place next Wednesday, after which we work on the development of our School Strategic Plan, setting our focus, goals and targets for the next few years.

You might have noticed that Diane is away for the remainder of this week. Diane's son is being married tomorrow, having had to postpone his wedding which was planned for November last year. Di has taken leave and will be busy for the next couple of days, returning to us on Monday, after all of the excitement.

Jane

Just a reminder to all that we need to keep our first car space, nearest the building, available for disabled parking access.

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. Our Better Buddies Kindness bear is awarded to Harriet, who continually demonstrates kindness to others. Harriet always lends and hand and is ready to step in and help ensure that her classmates have a great day.

PARENTS' CLUB

EASTER RAFFLE- CALL FOR DONATIONS

Have you dropped off your contribution for our Easter hampers? Thanks to everyone who has already managed to donate. We're hoping to put some great Easter baskets together in the next week, to have them on display.
Last year wasn't a great one for our Parents' Club on the fundraising front, so here's hoping we can build on that in 2021. We're planning to hold our annual Easter Raffle event this term. It would be great if families and friends could send along a contribution for our raffle hampers. Remember, donations don't have to be chocolate and Easter goodies, we could put together a gardening basket or a gourmet hamper. All contributions will be put to good use for our baskets. (If you have a spare basket or two you're not using, we would be happy to take them off your hands) Please drop off donations at the office and we'll get sorted with our raffle tickets soon.
We're also hoping to run our Family Easter Night and Egg Drop event again this year, on Wednesday March 31st. Instead of the usual BBQ and shared buffet, this year we're planning a Bring Your Own Picnic event. Each family will be able to bring along their choice of picnic dinner and drinks for their crew. We'll still be running the favourite events- the Egg Drop, the Easter Bonnet Parade, the Egg Sports and of course, the Egg Hunt. Pop the date in your diary.
Thank you

The Strathewen Star Students this week are... Quinn, Sage, Eli Egan, Sarah

Quinn- for his kind help and support of others in our P-3 classroom

Sage- for his super classroom organisation and help with class mates

Eli Egan- for his terrific story writing effort and his fantastic sense of humour in class

Sarah- for her consistent work effort in the senior classroom

Payments to school- just a reminder to parents that our Commonwealth Bank account is no longer active and all payments to the school need to be made to the Bendigo Bank Account- BSB 633 000 Account No: 1659 375 90
Under new regulations, all school student banking programs have now ceased, so this is no longer an option at school.

Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal

Here at SPS, we always rattle the tin and collect for the RCH appeal at this time of year. Donna has a tin set up in the office, just waiting for your contribution.
So many of our school families, past and present, have been assisted by the teams at the RCH at some stage and we like the idea of giving back a little.
Feel free to drop in and add to the tin. Every little contribution makes a difference.

The Red Cross Pillowcase Project

On Monday, all students headed down to the multipurpose room to take part in the Pillowcase Project session with the Red Cross team.
Our decorated pillows are a work in progress and we'll add photos of some finished projects to next week's newsletter.

Strathewen Hall- Arts and Crafts Group

The Arts and Craft Group plan to meet again at the Strathewen Hall on a regular basis and, to make it easier for those of us who lead busy lives, we will be alternating the weekdays.
For the next couple of months, the Art and Craft room will be open from 10 am to 12 noon on:
Friday 5th March
Wednesday 10th March
Friday 19th March
Wednesday 24th March
CLOSED on Good Friday 2nd April
Wednesday 7th April
Friday 16th April
Wednesday 21st April
Friday 30th April

We have yet to decide on specific projects, but please feel free to come along with some knitting or anything else you might like to do, and let us know of any ideas you may have. Our cupboards are well stocked with materials waiting to be put to use!
Everyone welcome (for craft or just a chat and a cuppa!)
Looking forward to seeing some new faces in 2021.
Kathy Brown
On behalf of the Arts and Craft Group

Junior School Council

Our JSC meeting was put on hold for Monday, so we're going to catch up later in the week. We'll be talking about our next fundraising event, our plans for this year's 'bathtub project' and our work in The Village. We still have some $2 ice creams for sale, if anyone is interested. We'll have more information for you next week.
Oliver and Mason

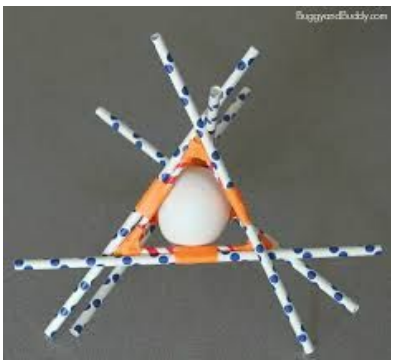
Family Picnic and Egg Drop Event

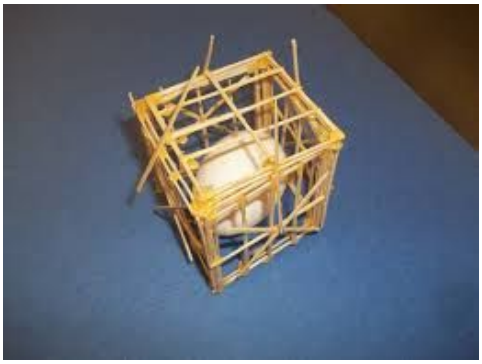
Students are encouraged to put their STEM skills to use as they work to create their Egg Drop Contraption

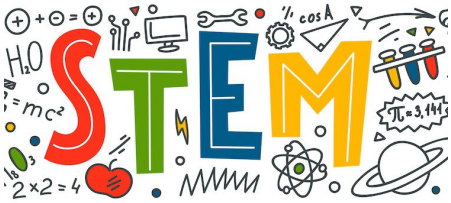
When: Wednesday March 31st 5.30pm- 7.30pm Where: Here at school!

What do you need:

1. An Easter Bonnet for the parade (if you're joining in!)
2. An 'Egg Drop Contraption'- made at home to safely transport a fresh hen's egg to the ground
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







The Sun's energy is a amazing thing! We looked at how much of it falls onto the earth and how we can harness it into usable forms. The younger students had a look at how the sun's energy can warm different materials and thought about why different materials might heat up at different speeds. The older students had a go at using solar energy kits and creating functional solar powered machines. Some of them were grand creations including ferris wheels, cars, motorbikes and tight rope walkers. While the sun wasn't out in full force, we still managed to get them to work quite well!

BEHIND the SCENES

- *Our gardener, Renate, has been here again this week, tidying and mulching some of our native garden beds. It's always great to look and see what she's been working on.*
- *We've had Margie and Nancye in the P-3 classroom this week, hearing reading and knitting*
- *This week we have welcomed Deb Bradshaw to the team, as she works in a support role in the 4-6 classroom*
- *Our new photocopier was set up yesterday and after a brief tuition session with the technician, we're up and running*

Knitting with Nancye was on again today, with some of our junior class members making the most of their time with Nancye to work on their projects.
How lucky we are to have Nancye join us (when she's not off travelling and having adventures!)

The Pillowcase Project 2021