



Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday March 16th 2022

Dates to Remember:

Wednesday 16th March- 'Discovering Wadawurrung' whole school workshop session with Parks Vic
- Volleyball coaching session P-6

Thursday 17th March- Grade 5-6 Leadership Day 1

NOW BEING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY BANK STADIUM IN DIAMOND CREEK

Friday 18th March- The World's Greatest Shave- special event at SPS- lunchtime event!

Monday 21st March- AFL coaching sessions P-6

Tuesday 22nd March- NAPLAN system readiness testing session- checking our access grade 3 and 5
- Afternoon 'powerpoint and popcorn' afternoon in the 4-6 classroom

Thursday 24th March- AFL coaching sessions P-6

Monday 28th March- AFL coaching sessions P-6

Tuesday 29th March- Grade 5-6 CFA Convoy excursion- forest adventure/workshop Masons Falls
- Family Egg Drop Night and Picnic Event- tentative date 5.30- 7.30pm

Wednesday 30th March- STEM session Yarra Valley Water Incursion

Thursday 31st March- SPS DAY IN THE SURF at TORQUAY- whole school event 8am-6pm

Friday 1st April- Whole school Italian Carnivale Day- a great day is planned, more details to follow

Tuesday 5th April- Drumming workshops for 4-6 and P-3 with Mind Beatz

- SCHOOL COUNCIL meeting-reporting meeting & election of office bearers

Thursday 7th April- Drumming workshops once again, rehearsing performance items

- Family Night at the Strathewen Hall- Drumming Performance and BBQ 5-7pm

Friday 8th April- final day of term 1- 2.30 dismissal

**WORLD'S
GREATEST
SHAVE™**

*Here at school
this Friday from 12:30pm
Come along if you're free and cheer on our
champions:
Mason, Eli, Oliver, Oscar and Chase,
as they lose their locks for a great cause*

This Friday we have a special lunchtime event happening, with our five senior students taking part in the World's Greatest Shave. Mason, Eli, Oliver, Oscar and Chase will be losing their luscious locks at around 12.30pm on Friday, when our visiting hairdresser takes to the stage and does her thing. These students have done an amazing job, raising funds to support this important cause. Many of us have been touched by blood cancer in some way, with a local little person known to many of our families currently undergoing treatment. We're very proud of our fabulous five, who have enthusiastically taken on the fundraising challenge and promoted the awareness of blood cancer. We'll be taking photos and putting together a report for local media. You might not recognise some of our classmates on Friday afternoon.

Like all schools, we're continuing to manage COVID interruptions, with close family contacts and multiple confirmed cases within our student group and families. For the first time to date, I've been advised this

afternoon that we have staffing impacted. Unfortunately our return to 'normal' isn't a reality at this stage and we've still got a long way to go. Mask wearing, sanitising, distancing where possible and room ventilation are all contributing to our safety measures and we're doing the best we can to minimise risk and reduce spread. Thanks once again to all those who continue with their twice weekly Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT), further supporting our steps to keep our classrooms staffed and operating as 'normal'. I complete my RATs on Sunday and Wednesday mornings and have the process down to a fine art! 'RATTING' isn't my favourite thing to do, but I feel confident knowing that when I head into the classroom, I've done all that I can to ensure the safety of those around me. Thanks also to parents and carers for keeping children at home when they're symptomatic, negative test result or not.

Today both grades were able to join the 'Discovering Wadawurrung' online incursions. After some technical glitches last week, we were happy to be able to reschedule the sessions and participate today.
Jane

Leadership Day for grades 5 & 6- tomorrow

Our first Leadership Day for students in Grade 5 and 6 is happening tomorrow. We're gathering at the Community Bank Stadium in Diamond Creek (next to Diamond Valley College) and meeting there ready to start the day at 9.30am. We'll run our usual rotations of leadership workshops in the morning and enjoy our guest speaker session in the afternoon. As stipulated in the permission form, school uniform is required for this event. Hats, drink bottles and snacks are essential. The \$5 payment for a pizza lunch is required before the day. If your child would prefer to pack their lunch from home, that's fine too. Remember, morning school traffic on our local roads can be a bit wild. Thanks to our volunteer drivers for helping out with transport.

Behind the Scenes:

- *We're loving our new book hanging racks, made for us by Doug (Deb's dad). The extra library storage for multi-copy book sets is fantastic.*
- *Our new soccer balls have arrived, so the soccer crew will be happy. We're still waiting for our volleyballs and our portable volleyball nets.*
- *Jane has been in meetings this week with School Focused Youth Services regarding well being supports for students- we have our fingers crossed for some application success and hopefully there'll be some updates soon*
- *Staff completed their Level 2 First Aid training last night- including asthma and anaphylaxis management*
- *Thank you to Margie Baxter who has made a generous donation to our school to fund the purchase of a portable defibrillator for use when offsite. We're looking to pre-order our unit, which will be available later this year.*

TORQUAY- DAY IN THE SURF

Just a reminder that a Safe Surfing Declaration form has been sent home and this needs to be filled out with student name/s, one form per family, acknowledging the fact that as guardians you have read the Safe Surfing Declaration. Please read, complete and return as soon as possible so that the paperwork with the Torquay Surf Academy can be finalised. Our Day in the Surf is fast approaching.

Strathewen- Arthurs Creek Bushfire Education Partnership

Yesterday, grade 5 and 6 enjoyed their introduction to the program with Lisal. New CFA shirts were given out to our grade 5 group and everyone received their new drink bottle. We're looking forward to our first field trip, coming up on Tuesday March 29th. We'll all be travelling on fire trucks, up to the Kinglake National Park, where we'll meet with Ranger Tony for our first session. Following this, students will work with our team of experts, exploring the tools we use, identifying tree and bark types, measuring fuel loads and moisture levels and extending their mapping skills. We'll be joined by a team of brigade volunteers as our drivers and session leaders. This is a great day for everyone. We've also been discussing our Anglesea camp, which is coming up early next term.



SHAVING EVENT- here at SPS on Friday March 18th
A lunchtime big shave event- here at school 12.30pm

We have five senior students who have nominated themselves for the World's Greatest Shave this year. They are seeking sponsors from far and wide in their attempt to raise money for The Leukaemia Foundation to fund research, specialist support and make a change for people with blood cancer. It seems that we all know someone, young or older, who is currently dealing with a diagnosis of leukaemia, so this fundraising effort is quite personal for our team.

Mason, Eli, Oliver, Oscar and Chase are seeking sponsors and making plans for the great shaving event. All sponsorship support is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to Mel Brady, who has secured the support of local hairdresser, Julie Reeves, who is happy to come along and get the shaving happening. We're hoping for a nice day and the stage area will be set, with our keen audience out on the grass area. Come and join in the fun.



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: Tuesday March 29th- 5.30pm- 7.30pm

Where: Here at school!

What do you need:

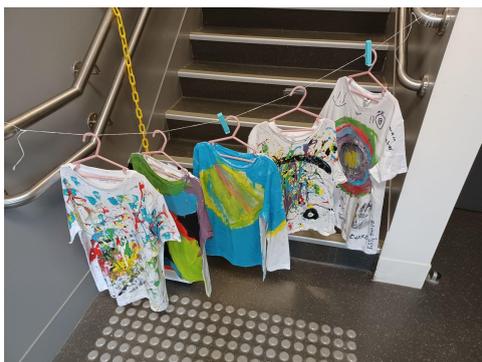
1. An Easter Bonnet for the parade (if you're joining in!)
2. An 'Egg Drop Contraption'- made at home to safely transport a fresh hen's egg from the upstairs balcony to the concrete pathway below
3. Bring along your Family Picnic for dinner- whatever you choose and a picnic rug
4. Bring along drinks for your family
5. Come along and have fun with your friends and neighbours



big OSHC CHILDCARE

Just a reminder to make sure that parents have registered their children with our OSHC program so that in a last minute situation, before or after school care is accessible.

The Curriculum Day, 'Wet'n'Wild Colour Day' was a great success, with loads of fun activities enjoyed by the students who attended.



PARENTS' CLUB

We're collecting items for our annual Easter Raffle

The annual Easter Raffle is planned again for this term. Our parent volunteers will be putting together hampers of interesting bits and pieces for our raffle prizes. We'd love it if families in a position to do so could pick up a little something extra with the weekly shopping to donate to our hampers. Easter bits and treats are always great, but we welcome all sorts of contributions- anything you think a prize winner would be happy to find in their basket. Donations can be dropped off at the office. Raffle tickets will be sent home soon.

ALL-STAR STUDENTS!

Our star students this week are Chase, Logan H., Nash and Kayden



RANDOM ACTS OF
KINDNESS



Chase- for the great effort he put into producing his powerpoint presentation, taking feedback on board and working hard

Logan H- for his effort producing a wonderful Wobbegong powerpoint presentation

Nash- for his eagerness and wonderful effort with his Maths work

Kayden- for his great interest and effort during our volleyball coaching sessions



RUBBISH FREE LUNCH CHALLENGE

It's up and running. We're collecting all lunchbox rubbish that can't be composted, worm farmed, fed to the chickens or recycled and we're weighing it at the end of the week. Each classroom has their own collection bin. We're working towards building awareness around what goes into landfill and how we can reduce the rubbish we produce.

Last week was a short week and the results were...

Grade P-3 amassed a total of 107g of landfill waste and

Grade 4-6 collected a total of 95g of rubbish.

The winner of the War on Waste Lunchbox Challenge trophy for week 1 is the senior grade, with a winning margin of 12 grams!

The collection is underway for this week.

Our First Bushfire Education Partnership Session for 2022

Planning out what's to come!



Applications Now Open for Place Shapers 2022!



The Place Shapers 2022 program is designed to support community members from rural Nillumbik who have creative ideas for activating a public place or space that people love and feel connected to.

Participants will learn how to work with Council to deliver placemaking projects that focus on community connection, resilience or preparedness – helping our rural communities respond to and recover from bushfires and other emergencies.

If this sounds like you, [apply now!](#)

If this sounds like someone you know, encourage them to apply!

The program will explore:

- Placemaking in Nillumbik
- Project visioning
- Process for co-designing projects with community and Council
- Planning for project action
- Grant writing opportunities

For all the program details go to nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Place-Shapers or call our Communities First Project Officer on 9433 3160 to discuss your idea.