



Strathewen Primary School

Wednesday July 13th, 2022

Dates to Remember:

Sunday July 17th- Spirit of CFA Awards ceremony- Ballarat- 2-4:30pm

Wednesday July 20th- weekly Canine Comprehension sessions begin for grade 5 and 6

Thursday July 21st- JSC Crazy Hair Day- gold coin donation fundraiser

Monday July 25th- Big Sister Parent Event- 6-7pm- all adults welcome- here at school

'The Keys to Nurturing Resilient, Independent Young People'

Friday July 29th- Hooptime Basketball Tournament Day- Grades 3 & 4

Monday August 1st- Friday August 5th- Phillip Island Camp- grades 3-6

Monday August 8th- School Dental visit onsite

Thursday August 11th- first day of school swimming program P-6- Eltham Leisure Centre

Friday August 12th- second day of school swimming program P-6- Eltham Leisure Centre

Monday August 22nd- SCHOOL PHOTOS

Friday August 26th- Hooptime Basketball Tournament Day- Grades 5 & 6

Thursday September 1st- Sugarloaf District Athletics Day trials at Willinda Park- keen 3-6 athletes

Tuesday September 6th- Indian Classical Dance workshops- Regional Arts Vic

Thursday September 8th- Division Athletics Competition for qualifying competitors

Friday September 9th- Kids teaching Kids event at Edendale Farm- our senior students presenting



Welcome back for the start of semester 2. We're hoping for some smooth sailing this term, but the pandemic is certainly still in full swing, with a high level of winter case numbers anticipated. With so many of our families managing COVID positives over the break, it's still with us. Each student was sent home with a new box of Rapid Antigen Tests yesterday to kick off the term. Thank you to our parents and carers who continue to test their children when they're unwell. We're doing the best we can at this end, with air purifiers in use, air flow and masks and sanitiser available. Staff continue to wear masks the majority of the time when indoors. Of course, being the winter months, we have other viruses and bugs on the go.

On Sunday, Lisal and I will be joined by some grade 6 representatives at the Mercure Convention Centre in Ballarat for the Spirit of CFA Awards. Our Strathewen-Arthurs Creek Bushfire Education Partnership has been nominated for an award by one of the CFA experts who previously spent some time with us, teaching our students how to collect the information required in determining the Fire Danger Rating for our district. Each Thursday our students would use tools to collect the information, record it and submit it to the CFA during the fire season. He was so impressed with our group and our program, that a nomination followed and we've been shortlisted for an award. As is often the case, children do not usually attend this event, but given that our program is all about student work and involvement, Lisal was onto it and negotiated 6 places for children to join us. The awards ceremony begins at 2pm and concludes at 4:30pm in Ballarat, so with travel time it will be quite a long day. Thank you to the parents/grandparents who have offered to transport their children and extras, as Lisal will be travelling to Ballarat from Anglesea and I'll be coming down from

my farm near the border. With the interest outweighing the places, we ended up needing to pull names from a hat to fill the last 3 places and Chan stepped in to help out. Harvey, Oliver, Emily will be travelling with their adult, with Yvie, Mason and Sarah needing transport. This group will be representing SPS at this event. We look forward to reporting back about our Ballarat adventure.

Coming up next week we begin our Canine Comprehension program for grades 5 and 6. This program has been made available to our school through the support of School Focused Youth Services, meaning there is no cost to the school or to families. Canine Comprehension specifically aims to support years 5 and 6 following the disruption to social connectedness, well-being, confidence and engagement over the last two years. The aim is to strongly support our students as we prepare them for the transition to secondary school life in the near future. We'll certainly keep you updated on how our sessions are going. If parent consent forms have not yet been completed and returned, we need these back as soon as possible to ensure that all in our senior group are able to participate in the program.

As you are no doubt aware, Rod is on long service leave and at this stage we have not been able to fill his position, teaching Italian and Music one day per week. There is a serious teacher shortage at the moment, but as my students know, I'm working on finding the right replacement.

Jane



Our Canine Comprehension well-being support program has been booked in and we're really excited to have our grade 5 and 6 students taking part in these sessions beginning next Wednesday. The grade 5 and 6 groups will work separately, with each group participating in a 40 minute session weekly over 8 weeks. School program consent forms and medical consent forms have been sent home for all grade 5 and 6 students. Please send back completed forms as soon as possible to ensure student participation.

Junior School Council



J.S.C.
Crazy Hair Day
Here at S.P.S.
On Thursday July 21st
Bring along a gold coin
donation and join in the
fun

Calling for the return of all Interschool Sport Football Jumpers

Just reminding all of our grade 3-6 footballers to return their footy jumpers as soon as possible (washed and clean) so that we can get them back to St Andrews PS now that the competition is over



performance



Thankfully the weather was kind to us and we were able to enjoy an outdoor performance on the last day of term. Our choir, with Rod leading on guitar, presented a lovely mini-concert to share some of their songs. It was a great way for Rod to farewell us before heading off on long service leave to finish off the term and to finish off the term. Rod's presentation of the kākāpō was a highlight. He has now been named 'Rod' and sits proudly in the 3-6 room.



Grade 3-6 Phillip Island Camp

ONLY 18 DAYS TO GO!

Our camp is coming up - the information, itinerary and permission forms have been sent home. If your forms are still sitting on the bench, please send them back in as soon as possible. The full payment for each student is required prior to departure. The total cost of our camp is \$583 per student. This comes in at \$116.60 per day covering all transport, accommodation, meals and activities.



J.S.C. HONEY DRIVE 2022



**KEEP THOSE HONEY ORDERS COMING IN
NEW ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE IF YOU NEED ONE**

There is still honey available, so if you're able to grab some more orders, we'll get them sorted. Every bucket of honey sold brings in another \$5 to assist our fundraising effort to send the grade 5-6 bunch off to take part in an immersive leadership learning experience at Anglesea in term 4. We're attempting to fundraise and access grant funding of approximately \$5000, so every honey tub sold takes us one step closer to our target.

1kg buckets of delicious Arthurs Creek Honey- \$20

If you need another order form, let us know.

Outstanding Booklist Payments for 2022

We still have a handful of families needing to finalise payment for their student booklists for 2022. In term 4 last year, all families agreed to opt in to having the school proceed with the purchase of student supplies for 2022 (work books for various subjects, stationery items, reading diary etc) and agreeing to cover this through a follow up payment to the school. Deb will be making contact with families to remind them of this outstanding payment. If you don't hear from us, your payment has already been made. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please have a chat to Jane and we can arrange a payment plan.



Thanks to Brooke, our OSHC School Holiday program was a great success during these school holidays with students not only from SPS, but from the wider community coming along for the sessions. It looks like we'll be right to go with the special excursion program during our next term break, so keep an eye out for information during term.

BEHIND THE SCENES

**Once again, thanks to the Darren Bradshaw for coming in to school on Monday evening to reset our diesel fire pump system, oh and happy birthday Mr B*

**Over the holiday period, work began on the repairs of our non-functional fire safety shutters. The technician was able to repair one shutter and he's waiting on parts to repair the rest.*

**Today we had a team onsite fitting fire safe screens around the school. These are required on the glass window panels on our 'smoke doors' and in various other places around the school. They're also fitting new seals onto the base of our smoke doors.*

**At the end of last term we discovered that our rooftop solar system was not functioning and with some follow up, it turns out that the system was tagged and shut down following a VSBA inspection and we hadn't been advised of this. Our system, installed in 2013, met all previous requirements, but given changes over the years, it was no longer compliant. A significant amount of time was spent navigating the next steps over the holidays and we'll keep you posted as we know what's going on from here.*

** Our new heating and cooling system in the project space is up and running and now our system in the server room has failed and needs replacing, which will take place shortly.*

** Thanks to Eli, Sarah, Chase and Oscar who worked to assemble and fill our new outdoor chess pieces today. Chess is on again in the courtyard!*

** The collection of new board games has been unpacked in the senior room, ready for wet day programs.*

ALL-STAR STUDENTS!

Our Star Students this week are Brock, Sage, Esmay and Oscar

Brock- for keeping up his nightly reading and for his fantastic reading effort this week

Sage- for his fabulous effort and determination when working on his English Skills challenge

Esmay- for her wonderful work and enthusiasm in our CFA session this week, as we plan for our animation project

Oscar - for happily giving everything a go and for his terrific maths effort this week



Taking Initiative



RANDOM ACTS OF
KINDNESS



Student Leadership



team
work



that extra
little thing



Awesome
Effort!

A request from Mrs Galvin in the Art Room...

We're working on 3D construction this term in our Art sessions. If you have any sturdy small boxes, like toothpaste boxes, you could send along, we'd be most grateful. We're also looking for any unwanted wooden clothes pegs if you have some you don't need.

Thank you