



## Strathewen Primary School

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### Wednesday February 17th 2021

#### Dates to Remember:

**Swimming Program- whole school- bus pick up at 9.30am**

Tuesday- to be re-scheduled due to lockdown, Thursday February 18- to be confirmed- come ready to swim, 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

**Monday February 22nd- District Swimming Trials (for strong swimmers) at Diamond Creek Pool (parent transport and supervision for competitors- see following information on limits to adults attending)**

**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**

Well the lockdown took us by surprise on Friday, leaving us no time to have work packs prepared for the end of the day. Fortunately our students are into a great routine and all knew that they had their nightly home reading, spelling word revision, times tables home books, Mathletics, CODE and Readwriter to go on with for Monday. Our mini-home learning packs were fast tracked and packed, ready for pick up on Monday afternoon, to see us through to the end of lockdown. Our kids are a pretty wonderful bunch, making the best of a disappointing situation and getting on with things. It's great seeing their faces and having a catch up during our Webex chats. Thank you to our parents, extended family members and carers for supporting our students once again. Thank you also to our wonderful staff team. What a terrific team effort it has been. Let's hope that this short, sharp lockdown will be effective, the numbers will be looking good and we'll be back onsite tomorrow. We're waiting for the announcement and an idea of any additional restrictions we might have to manage.

**Our School Council election process for 2021 is underway**, with the notice of election and call for nominations closing today 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.

We hope to see everyone back at school for 'business as usual' on Thursday. Let's cross our fingers for a return to normality.

Jane



## SWIMMING

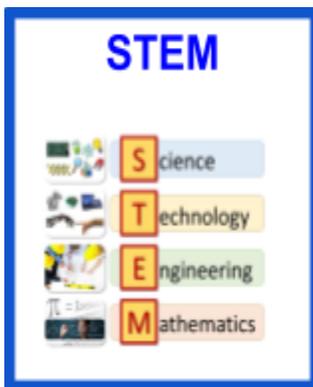
Update... well, our first day of whole school swimming had to be postponed due to the current lockdown and we're unsure about tomorrow's plans. If the lockdown ends and restrictions are lifted, we should be right to go ahead. At this stage, please assume that swimming will begin tomorrow and send students along to school with all their necessary gear.

## DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIALS

Coming up on Monday February 22nd, and all being well, we have the District Swimming Trials event at the Diamond Creek Pool.

**We have been emailed a list of very clear instructions relating to who is able to attend to accompany swimmers. It is recommended that groups of students from small schools car pool, with one adult only attending. If you are transporting your own child, only one adult is able to enter the pool to supervise. All adults must be wearing a mask. There will be adult supervision only, not adult spectators. Changerooms will be strictly monitored to ensure that numbers are well managed.**

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.



This week we got out the pipes and jumped around for the sake of data. Check out what we did on the blog: <https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/sugarloafstemblog/weekly-summaries>

Kind regards,  
Chan

## *Leadership Day Event- for grades 5 and 6 (still on the agenda at this time)*

*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 Pantom 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.*



*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. We look forward to being on site once again next week to allow for our 'kindness' bear presentations to continue.*

## *some school action this week*





## Remote Learning Action



### 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

### 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.

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 Fees  
Registration NEVER  
closes! To register or  
for more information:**

0403 290 871

[brian@brianrolph.com](mailto:brian@brianrolph.com)



**"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!

## BEHIND The SCENES

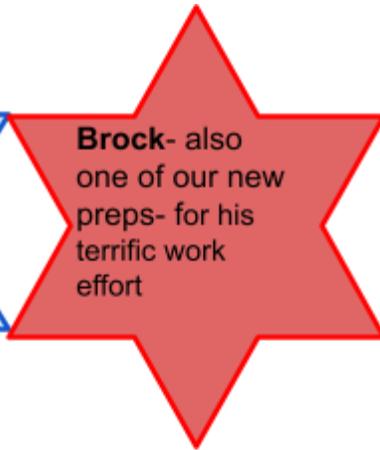
- *Lisal and Sue, our wonderful local CEA brigade volunteers, were out with us again on Thursday, for a further FDR data collection workshop. Christian and Harvey are now skilled up and will collecting data on Thursdays to send through to the CEA.*
- *Mrs Galvin has the second Red Balloon Day banner ready to go. This one is for the senior students to complete ahead of February 28th, when we publicly acknowledge and thank our local CEA brigades and our wonderful volunteers.*
- *A great bunch of SPS art work photographs and published student writing has now been sent off to Jetsetter magazine, ready to feature in the next edition of the online magazine we enjoy.*
- *It was a bit exciting on Thursday, when Trent fired up the rooftop sprinkler system for a trial run. Lots of fun to experience during a warm lunchtime. Our diesel sprinkler pumps are serviced and good to go, thanks to Trent.*
- *Our basement submersible pumps have been serviced and repaired by Dean and we should be ready for future heavy rain.*
- *Our grade 6 leaders have been given the opportunity to put in orders for their embroidered school jumpers*
- *Our first School Council meeting for 2021 was held via Webex yesterday afternoon.*

**The Strathewen Star Students  
this week are...** Eli, Brock, Christian and Logan H

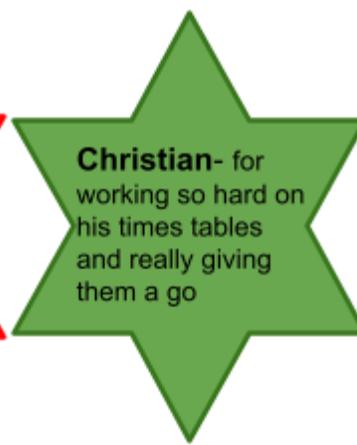
**ALL-STAR  
STUDENTS!**



**Eli-** one of our new preps- for coming into class and settling in really well



**Brock-** also one of our new preps- for his terrific work effort



**Christian-** for working so hard on his times tables and really giving them a go



**Logan H-** for his great work and taking his time to work carefully

## 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.

## 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.



# garden time

Gardening with Kylee continued last week. The group spent time collecting worm wee for feeding up our gardens, collected seeds from spring onions, hollyhocks, kale, daikon, rocket and lettuce. Calendula petals were collected for making balm. The medicine garden was mulched, aloe vera was transplanted and rocket, kale and silver beet were planted out.

## PARENTS' CLUB

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.

Thank you

**Stay positive, keep learning**  
5 tips for children and families learning and living through social distancing

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**STICK TO A ROUTINE**

Keep getting up and going to bed at set times. This is ENORMOUSLY important for your mental and physical health.

Plan your days with time for **work** and **play**. This will help you to stay **positive**, calm and productive.
- 

**MAKE TIME TO BE CREATIVE**

Paint. Write. Bake. Play. Dance. Make.

Take time to **discover** new talents, or nurture old ones.

Find out what things the adults in your home can do and learn from them, or use the internet to discover and learn new skills. The **possibilities** are endless!
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**LIMIT SCREENTIME**

Tablets and computers are going to play a huge part in your learning, but don't let yourself become a **screen zombie!**

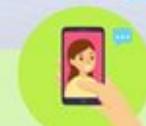
Be mindful of how you use screens and try to take lots of breaks.

Here are some tips:

  1. No screens an hour before bed.
  2. See if your device has a focus mode or other way to shut off addictive apps.
  3. Do as many things in the real world, as you do in the virtual!
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**GO OUTSIDE, STAY ACTIVE**

Spending time in the **sunlight** is essential for wellbeing. Make time **everyday** to be outside. If you have a garden, use it. If you don't, take walks with your family wherever you can safely.

Staying **active** is also really important. **Getting moving**, little and often, will help you keep fit, boost your mood and build your strength.
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**TALK, SHARE, BE GRATEFUL**

The next few months will be challenging, and it's normal to have some worried feelings.

**Talk** to family and friends. **Share** how you feel and if you are able to, listen to others too.

If you have relatives or neighbours that are isolated, arrange with a grown up to call and check in. **Stay in touch** with friends and family via post, telephone or email. **Be grateful** for each other. Now more than ever.