



## Strathewen Primary School

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**Wednesday March 24th 2021**

### Dates to Remember:

**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**

The end of term one is approaching, which means we have our much anticipated Egg Drop event planned for next Wednesday evening. Just a reminder that the fun kicks off at 5.30, with Mrs Galvin leading the Easter Bonnet Parade on the sports court- everyone is welcome to create or get their hands on an Easter themed hat and join in. We'll then move on to the 'egg sports', before the Egg Drop begins. Hopefully students have been bringing their designs and ideas to life and creating their 'egg safe' contraption for the drop. Families are asked to bring along all they need for a picnic dinner here at school- rug, chairs, dinner, snacks, drinks... as we will not be running with the usual BBQ and bring a plate spread this year. We're hoping for fine weather as we make the most of the last few days of evening light before daylight savings comes to an end. We'll be finished up at 7.30pm after the egg hunt. This is a great opportunity to come along and catch up old friends, meet families new and old and enjoy a school social event. We hope to see you all here.

Last week, past pupil Scarlett Harrison (now in Year 8) and I took part in an online Zoom presentation for Museum Victoria's lecture series, Fire- Past, Present, Future. We were involved in a Q and A session with oral historian and museum curator, Dr Peg Fraser. Huge thanks to Scarlett, who joined me as the voice of the future, sharing her thoughts on our Strathewen-Arthurs Creek Bushfire Education Partnership, managing the fire season, our responsibility for the land and lots more. What a great ambassador for our program, our school and our community she was. Presenting to an unseen live audience online is a challenge and Scarlett took it in her stride. After all was cancelled in 2020, as term two approaches, we are again looking to commence our CFA education sessions with grades 5 and 6. There is so much great learning to look forward to. Last week, I received a message from Dr Briony Towers, letting us know that our short film, 'A Walk Through Strathewen's Fire History' will be presented at an upcoming conference in Amsterdam, as an example of best practice in fire education. Surprisingly, wildfire has been identified as a serious emerging threat in the Netherlands, due to climate change, and scientists are being proactive in their preparation and the education of children is a consideration from the outset. Our program has now been presented in many different countries around the world, which is a huge credit to Lisal and our local CFA volunteers, and to all the wonderful volunteers and experts who give up their time and support what we do.

Today has been the second and final day of our School Review process. Thank you to Rachel, our School Council President, who has organised her life around being here for both days. Our students have taken the process in their stride and seem to have quite enjoyed sharing their thoughts on life at S.P.S. with the review panel. From this point, our next step is the development of our future focus and the School Strategic Plan.

Jane



*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 Emily Baxter, who is always keen to step up and support younger students and her classmates when they're having a challenging moment. Thanks Emily- kindness is wonderful!*

## PARENTS' CLUB

### EASTER RAFFLE- how are your ticket sales going?

Thanks to Rachel and her assistants, Sarah and Giselle, we have some fantastic hampers loaded and ready for the prizewinners next week. It's not too late to add your contributions!

We can provide additional books of tickets for families if your tickets have been sold. Take a look at the wonderful Easter hampers on display in the hallway.

We're also planning 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 need 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.

Thank you

#### An update from the office...

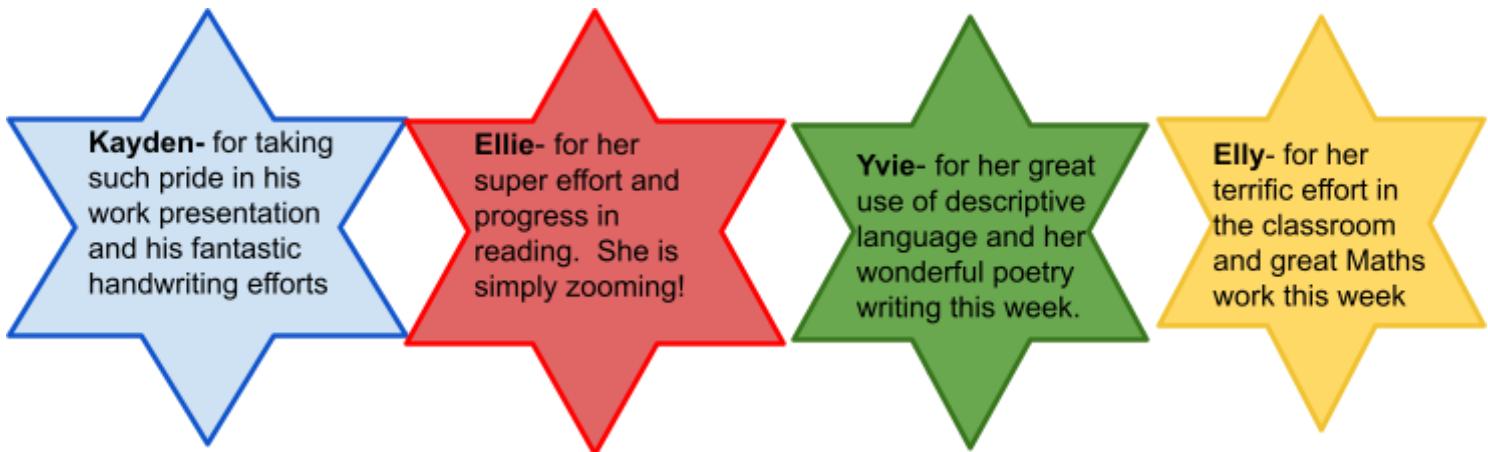
**Payments to school/ current invoices-** just a reminder to parents that our Commonwealth Bank account is no longer active and all payments to the school need to be made to:

**Bendigo Bank Account- BSB 633 000 Account No: 1659 375 90**

Current accounts were sent home to families last week. Here at SPS, we don't charge school fees as we strive to keep the costs to an absolute minimum for all of our families. School families are only ever invoiced for direct costs, such as booklists, swimming bus, camps, excursions etc. We do not make a profit on any of these charges, they are direct 'in and out' expenses, so the school pays for items such as booklists and parents are invoiced. At present, we have a significant amount of payments outstanding and it would be great if families could clear accounts or set up a payment plan with the school. Thinking ahead to camp costs for grades 3-6 later in the year, now would be a great time to start making regular payments, so that the lump sum due in August is more manageable. Please see Jane or Donna for further information.

**The Strathewen Star Students  
this week are... Kayden, Ellie, Yvie and Elly**

# ALL-STAR STUDENTS!

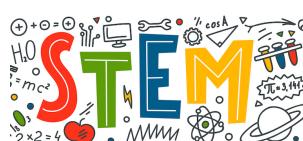


## Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal

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.



Ever wondered how much radiation we have in school? Well we found out last week!

Check out what we did on the blog: <https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/sugarloafstemblog/weekly-summaries>

# **Nillumbik Shire- visit to S.P.S.**

**Our visitors worked with students asking:**

- what they would like see provided in our local area**
- what they needed to live healthy, safe and happy lives**
- why should adults listen to kids?**



Students were asked to write and draw their ideas about what makes our community great, what they'd like to see here and what they need to live happily. They then decorated fabric bunting flags to share their ideas.

## 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:

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March

CLOSED on Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> 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



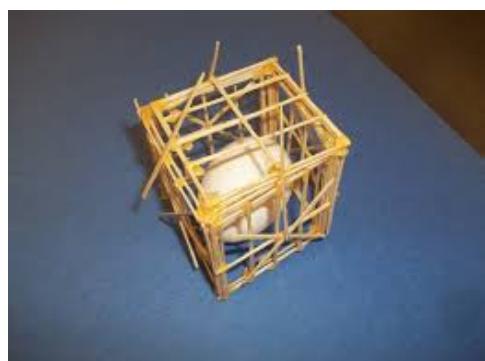
## Family Picnic and Egg Drop Event

**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





# Junior School Council

*We still have some \$2 ice creams available for sale on Friday this week.*

*We made over \$40 profit from our last fundraiser day.*



- We're continuing work on decorating our pillowcases from the Red Cross 'Pillowcase Project' last week and these will be sent home for the end of term
- All students are taking part in an Easter colouring competition thanks to our local branch of the Bendigo Bank. Entries will be collected on Friday.
- Students took part in classroom workshops on Monday afternoon, with the wellbeing team from Nillumbik Shire, to look at what is important to them as the young people living and/or learning in the shire.
- Yesterday we had our electrician and our shutter technician meet on site to discuss plans for upgrading our fire safe shutter system. Now ten years old and having been problematic from day one, we are needing to reconfigure the system and seek support to make this happen.
- This week Jane attended the MARC/STEM van management meeting for this term
- The inspection of our school fire equipment was carried out yesterday by the CFA



**Relaxation Session  
Grade 4-6  
Guided Meditation**



Queensland Fruit Fly. Photo: Deb Yarrow



Queensland Fruit Fly, damaged tomato. Photo: Rob Bob's Backyard



Queensland Fruit Fly larvae in apple. Photo: Bron Koll



# KEEP THE YARRA VALLEY FRUIT FLY FREE

## PREVENTION WHAT CAN I DO?

### MAKE MY COMMUNITY AWARE

Teach others in the community about the importance of garden hygiene, prevention & reporting

### REDUCE THE RISKS ON MY LAND & PUBLIC LAND

Remove unmanaged host plants

Prune all host plants to a height you can easily net & harvest

Prevent infested fruit entering your property & the Yarra Valley

Continually pick & remove all ripe fruit to prevent QFF being attracted to your crop

Monitor regularly with traps and inspect all fruit—check for larvae

Report any suspect damage

### Contacts

Regional Coordinator 0490 381 999

Agriculture Victoria 136186

Neighbours, Agronomists

Nurseries, Garden Clubs & Fruit Growers

## Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF)

What do I do if I suspect Queensland fruit fly?



QFF damaged fruit

Notify the Yarra Valley coordinator. Use bait, traps and netting.

Pick all infested fruit, BOIL or FREEZE fruit to kill all the larvae.

Dispose of treated fruit in a sealed bag into the rubbish bin.

-DO NOT COMPOST-



STOP THE LIFECYCLE. Trap adult fruit flies.  
PREVENT THE NEXT GENERATION.

Prevent any movement of infested fruit.



PROTECT OUR FRUIT FLY FREE  
YARRA VALLEY

Keep infested fruit out



## FRUIT FLY INFORMATION NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 31.03.21 ~ 7 pm @ ELLIMATTA (94 W'sea- K'lake Rd)