

# Spotswood Primary School

## Newsletter



Term 4 Week 6 • Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022

"Where everybody is somebody"



### Message from the Principal

Dear families,

This week we had the delight of meeting our preps for next year! This is a big day in the life of our newest students and we were so proud of how well they did! They will be back again over the next two Wednesdays to visit.

### 2023 Classes

As a smaller school, our class structure may vary slightly each year to suit the enrolments we have to ensure we have balanced classes across the school. Next year our class structure will be:

- 2 x Prep/1 classes
- 3 x 1/2 classes
- 4 x 3/4 classes
- 3 x 5/6 classes

As we head into the second half of Term 4, we are starting to plan next year's class groups. A number of factors are considered during this process and staff give considerable time to this process over several meetings factoring in the needs of *all* students. Our aim is to develop classes with a balance of social, academic and behavioural considerations so that each class is an optimal learning environment.

Students will also be involved in this process, each year we ask students to nominate 4 other students that are good learning partners for them. These may not always be their best 'play time' friends. We talk about how sometimes our best friends can distract us from our learning! As classes are developed, students will be placed with at least one of their nominated learning partners. We also talk about the new class being an opportunity to meet and learn with new friends.

Parents are advised that if you have any specific considerations regarding your child's social or learning needs that we may not be aware of to let me know in writing and every effort will be made to consider this as part of our process. This information will need to be received at the school email [spotswood.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:spotswood.ps@education.vic.gov.au) by Friday November 18th.

We ask families to understand that **this is not a request process**, it is an information sharing process and that there are many variables to consider in the development of classes. Please also be aware that requests for specific teachers are not possible. Staffing allocations for next year are currently being finalised. Students will have a 'Step Up Session' with their 2023 class and teacher later this term on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Classes are finalised at this point and changes will not be possible.

### Election Day

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November our school will again be available to the community as a polling place. We know families have recently shown great support with our Art Show, however we do have the opportunity to provide a sausage sizzle or a cake stall. Or both! If you would be willing to coordinate one of these please be in touch with Sharon and she can help explain what is involved. If we do get coordinators, Sharon will set up the online volunteer roster and we will seek our community's help.

...continued on next page

## FETE 2023???

Speaking of the Art Show, we have had a number of people ask if there will be a Fete next year. The answer is that we hope so, but that will depend on you! At our School Council meeting this week we endorsed the idea of planning this event, as long as we can get a committee of volunteers willing to take it on. We are planning a meeting on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7:30pm in the staffroom to get things underway. There will be some parents who were on the previous Fete Committee in attendance from last time to support us with our planning.

We are looking for a team who can:

- coordinate food / drink stalls
- help find sponsors
- coordinate the logistics of the event
- organise marketing and communicating
- plan for entertainment

If you think you can help, or even just want to come and find out more about it, please join us! If you can't make it that night but are keen to be involved, please let Sharon know and we can keep you in the loop!



We are delighted to be one of six schools across Melbourne's inner west to be taking part in Breathe Melbourne. This an exciting citizen science project run by Deakin University in partnership with the Victorian Government and Dyson.

Breathe Melbourne aims to empower our students to be young scientists and global citizens while using cutting-edge technology. Two lucky classes will have the opportunity to become our school's scientists and measure the air quality on their way to and from school using a backpack in Term 1 2023. This is a twin-study to the Breathe London backpack study that can be seen [here](#).

Another lucky class will learn all about car idling and how to advocate for a cleaner and greener planet.

All parents/guardians, across all year levels, will be asked to complete an anonymous 10-minute survey in the coming weeks. Your participation is important to help the Breathe Melbourne team and government partners learn about attitudes to air quality and asthma care.

Keep an eye out for the brief anonymous survey that we will share with all of our families via email. We will keep you up to date on all Breathe Melbourne activities over the coming months.



## Pupil Free Day

Families are reminded that we have a pupil free day on **Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> of November**. On this day staff will be working on end of year assessment reports. OSHClub will be available for families who require care on this day. This is our last pupil free day for 2022.

Jackie Green  
Principal

## Curriculum Update – Term 4 Week 7

		Continuous reporting
<b>Prep</b>		
Reading	WALT begin to read in phrased blocks WALT Sustain momentum through an entire short text	
Writing	WALT write a recount WALT write a persuasive text WALT write about our learning experiences in prep	
Spelling	Revision Week fork, thumb, wheel, queen	
Maths	<b>Number &amp; Algebra</b> Addition and subtraction Counting	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Topic 6 - Help Seeking How to ask for help	
<b>Grade 1 / 2</b>		
Reading	<b><u>Rosie Revere Engineer</u></b> <b>INFERRING</b> *infer ideas about familiar content eg: friends, family <b>SOLVING WORDS</b> *read many words with affixes (prefixes and suffixes) *recognise that words such as I, We and Me may signal the narrator of the text	
Writing	Generating ideas using mentor texts as inspiration	
Spelling	ss as in dress	
Maths	<b><u>Location &amp; Transformation</u></b> Investigate the effect of one-step slides and flips with and without digital technologies	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	n/a	
<b>Grade 3 / 4</b>		
Reading	Mentor Text: The Moon's Cyclical Phases Scanning for key information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is key information?</li> <li>• How do we 'scan' while reading?</li> </ul> Literature Circles - practising reading skills, carrying out tasks responses and engaging in group discussions. First Chapter Fridays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exposing new texts</li> <li>• Thinking Tracks reflection</li> </ul>	

Writing	Skills Focus: Grammar and Punctuation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revising capitals and full stops.</li> <li>Question marks and exclamation marks.</li> <li>Differences between apostrophes of contraction and possessive. apostrophes.</li> <li>Using commas to separate clauses.</li> <li>Spelling in context.</li> </ul>	
Spelling	<b>Pattern: Plurals ending in f or fe</b>	
Maths	Topic: Fractions and Decimals Revising our understanding of common fractions. Investigating equivalent fractions. Exploring the relationships between fractions and decimals. Counting and ordering fractions and decimals.	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	RRRR Topic 4: Problem Solving: This week we will be looking at the different ways we can attack a problem, using a 'Round-About and Swings' senario where there are different 'roads' to take when you arrive at a 'problem round-about'. The students will be asked to think of where these 'roads' head and their outcomes before making the best choice possible.	
<b>Grade 5 / 6</b>		
Reading	<b>Mentor Text: The Lorax</b>  <b>Focus:</b> infer symbolic meaning in a text and connect symbols to the ideas or emotions that they represent	
Writing	<b>Genre: Procedural</b> <b>Focus:</b> Writing own procedural text	
Spelling	<b>'A' as in zebra</b>	
Maths	<b>Statistics and Probability: Chance</b>  List outcomes of chance experiments involving equally likely outcomes and represent probabilities of those outcomes using fractions  Describe probabilities using fractions, decimals and percentages	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	<b>Peer support: Setting boundaries, communicating standards</b>  Students identify strategies people can use to assert standards and boundaries or to help-see if they witness sexual harassment occurring among their peers	



Emma Vasilevski  
Assistant Principal

## What's Happening in Our Classrooms

### Prep (Week 5) – Fire Education

This week the Preps had our second session with the Newport Fire Brigade. In this session the Preps learnt that if your clothes catch on fire you should 'Stop, Drop, Cover and Roll'. We also got to learn about and have a close look at the fire truck. We saw a lot of different equipment on the fire truck including lots and lots of hoses! Then to finish off the session each student had a go at holding the hose. The water was really powerful and we had to hold on tight! Thanks to the Newport Fire Brigade for sharing such important skills with our Prep students.

Melanie Voigt  
Prep V Classroom Teacher



Abby



Harvey



### Prep (Week 6) – Procedural Writing

Last week the preps learnt how to write a procedural text. We had a very fun week - we made fairy bread and popcorn... and then we got to eat it!

After we made fairy bread and popcorn we then wrote about how to make them. We even learnt how to draw a flower and how to sneak your pet into school and then wrote about how to do it. We had so much fun!

Bridget Sherrin  
Prep S Classroom Teacher

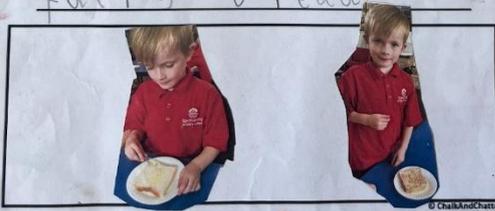
# Fairy Bread

## You will need:

- bread
- knife
- sprinkles
- butter

## Steps:

1. You need to get your bread.
2. Then you put the butter.
3. ~~After~~ Then you put the sprinkles on.
4. Then you cut the fairy bread.



# Fairy Bread

## You will need:

- knife
- sprinkles
- butter
- bread

## Steps:

1. Put your bread on a plate.
2. Spread ~~put~~ the butter on the bread.
3. Dip the bread into the sprinkles.
4. Cut the bread.



# Fairy Bread

## You will need:

- ~~knife~~
- sprinkles
- bread
- butter

## Steps:

1. Put the fairy bread on a plate.
2. Spread the butter on the bread.
3. Dip the bread in the sprinkles.
4. Cut the bread.



# Fairy Bread

## You will need:

- bread
- sprinkles
- ~~knife~~
- butter

## Steps:

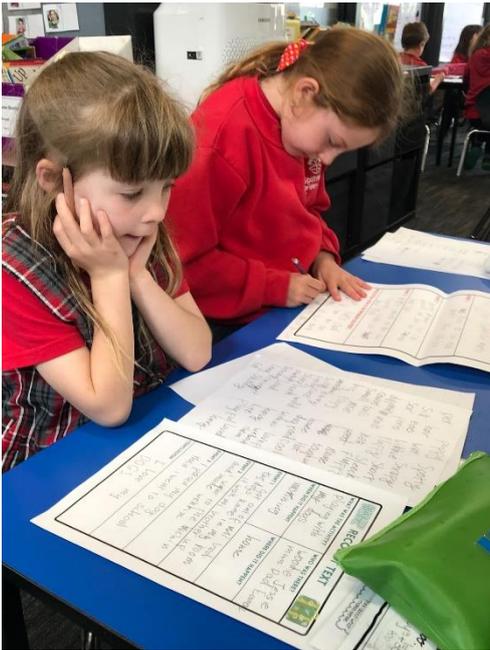
1. Put the ~~bread~~ bread on a plate.
2. Spread the butter on the bread.
3. Dip the bread in the sprinkles.
4. Cut the bread.



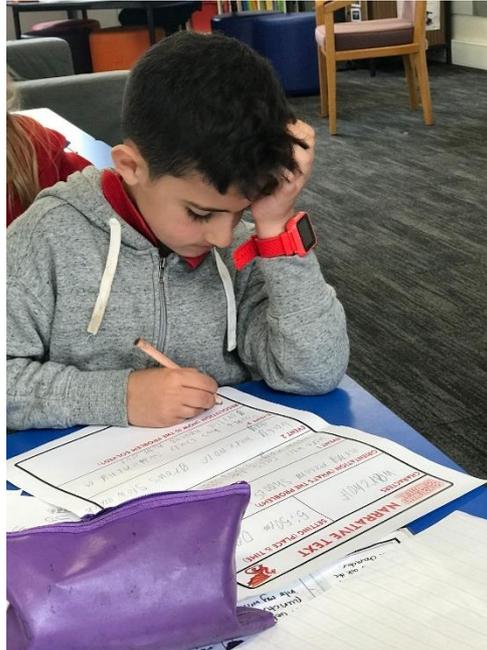
## Years 1 & 2 (Week 5) – Writing

In Writing this week, the Grade 1/2 students have been tasked with being creative under test-like conditions. After a successful practise run on Monday (inspired by the topic *Breakfast*), students were challenged to write a “Two-Session Text” based on the topic *Animals*. For this activity, students undertook the first four phases of the Writing Cycle (generating ideas, planning, composing and refining) over the course of about two hours. Whereas our writing sessions are usually genre-specific but relatively untimed, this activity permitted students a choice of genre, but applied strict timings. Activities such as this add to the breadth and depth of work samples available for assessment and reporting, while also giving students a taste of NAPLAN-like conditions they will encounter in Year 3.

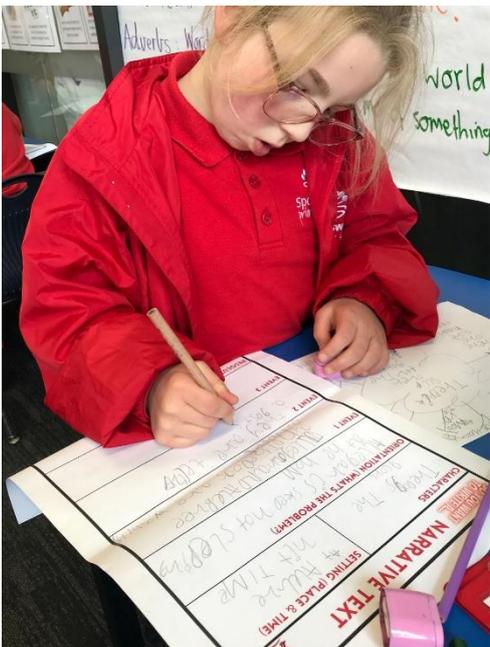
Simon Pollard  
1/2P Classroom Teacher



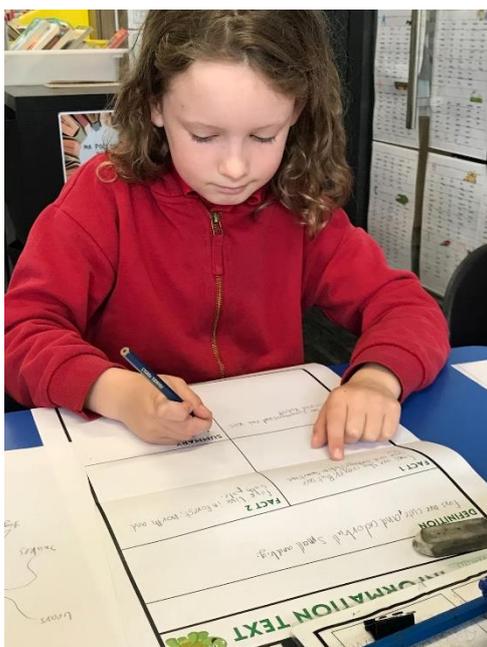
Cora and Victoria



Abdul



Aubree



Scarlet

## Years 1 & 2 (Week 6) – Inquiry: Dance Stream

We have begun exploring the five elements of movement within the Dance stream of Inquiry. Today we explored Time - rhythm, tempo and timings. We are building on our knowledge of Space and Body by moving our bodies through the space around us, at different levels. We are enjoying responding to various styles of music. In this lesson, we particularly focussed on the tempo, emotion, associated images and types of movement we felt related to the music. We were surprised at how our movements instinctively changed as the tempo and style of the music changed. We are loving our Dance lessons!

Rebecca Howard  
1/2H Classroom Teacher



## Years 3 & 4 (Week 5) – Inquiry

This week the Grade 3/4 students walked down to Scienceworks to participate in the program 'The Earth, Moon, Sun.' This was an informative session which assisted in consolidating the knowledge the students have already learnt about the relationship between the Earth, Moon and Sun. It also delved into areas yet to be studied, giving the students a basis for their future learning. Some students were also involved in the demonstrations which added to the enjoyment of the session. We also managed a five minute play on one of the wonderful playgrounds. Thanks to the wonderful parent helpers and Emma Vasilevski who were able to volunteer their time to accompany us to Scienceworks!

Tracey Kelly  
3/4K Classroom Teacher



### Years 3 & 4 (Week 6) – Swimming Program

This week the Year 3/4s have been participating in a daily swimming program at Sunshine Swim Centre. They have thoroughly enjoyed practising and building on their swimming skills and water confidence in small groups. It has been wonderful to see students listening carefully and taking on feedback from their swim teacher to try new things. This program has enabled the students to show responsibility when getting changed independently as well as have a blast in the water with their friends!

Sally Vaughan  
3/4V Classroom Teacher





### Years 5 & 6 (Week 5) – Hobsons Bay Junior School Council

The Hobsons Bay Junior Council is an interactive program that aims to familiarise students with the responsibilities and functions of local government, and the range of community services offered at a local level. The meetings provide young people of Hobsons Bay with the opportunity to raise issues of interest or concern in a formal council setting. Last week the School Captains attended their first meeting in the Council chamber where they raised a very important issue for our school community. Please read below to discover what they are passionate about.

*On Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the Spotswood School Captains were invited to the Junior School Council meeting at the Altona Civic Centre to represent our school along with 9 other schools who had representatives present as well. We met with the Mayor, Peter Hemphill and other representatives from the Hobsons Bay Council and Youth Services and discussed upcoming events at our school. Each school posed an issue or a question. Other schools raised issues such as the lack of sports centres, stolen bikes, the need for additional play areas for 10-16 year olds and potholes in roads. Esther, our speaker, raised the issue in regard to the shopping and living complex currently being built on the corner of McLister and Melbourne Road. We asked the mayor, what is the council proposing to do to ensure the safety of our school and the community? Will there be additional on street parking provided, will there be a zebra crossing or a supervised crossing guard? The mayor couldn't answer the question at the time, but said he would get back to us. We were also informed about the current issue of snakes around the Hobsons Bay area and how to stay safe around them. All the Captains did a wonderful job.*

*Written by Liana Taufu, Gilbert Wright, Esther Linguey and Oliver Gale*

Gabrielle Mullins  
6M Classroom Teacher and Learning Specialist

Gilbert Wright, Esther Linguey, Liana Taufu  
and Oliver Gale with the Mayor Peter Hemphill





Esther Linguey, our School Captain, was our key speaker.

### Years 5 & 6 (Week 6) – Excursion to Highpoint

On Thursday the Year 5 and 6 students visited Highpoint Shopping Centre as an information gathering session related to this term's Entrepreneur Unit of Inquiry. In small groups they took notes about types of products being advertised, target audiences, logos and signage, taglines, advertising techniques, as well as the deliberate layout of stores. This excursion encouraged the students to critically view shops within the complex, and a lot of valuable intel was documented. This intel will be implemented in our summative task towards the end of term - more exciting details to come!

Aaron Turner  
6T Classroom Teacher





### Specialist (Week 5) – Music

World Music has been the focus for learning in Music this term. Students have been learning about music from Africa and Greece. The African song “*Funga Alafia*” has been a focus song that students have learnt to sing and play on percussion instruments. Students have also learnt the dance steps to the “*Zorba*”. They had lots of fun dancing in a circle and saying “Opa!”.

Here are students dancing the Zorba and creating their own body percussion movements to a Greek tsifteteli song.

Michelle Papafotiou  
Music Teacher



Prep S



1/2 H



Mika & Halle

## Specialist (Week 6) – P.E.

With the Football (Soccer) World Cup only 11 days away, *Football Fever* has taken over our Grade 3/4s. We have been learning the skills of dribbling, passing and shooting in lots of fun and exciting ways, including our hybrid game 'Soctapus'. We have played some small sided games on the basketball court for the last couple of weeks and next week we will be heading out to the oval to play a full pitched game.

Go the Socceros!

Chris Lamb  
P.E. Teacher



## Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who will receive an award at assembly tomorrow:



- Prep S**.....Billy Oliver - for completing an amazing writing piece about Pig the Pug, using capital letters, finger spaces and great spelling choices. Well done, Billy!
- Prep V**.....Nate Picone - continuing to work hard on his letter formations and writing. You are making fantastic progress Nate, keep it up!
- 1 / 2 C**.....Olivia Rotteveel - always challenging herself to put her best effort in learning tasks and sharing her thoughtful contributions during class discussions.
- 1 / 2 H**.....Molly Mawson - for contributing to our Dance lessons with movement ideas linked to the tempo of the music.
- 1 / 2 J** .....Tom Sinclair - by putting in fantastic effort and having a wonderful attitude towards his learning, especially during our Inquiry groups and Writing!
- 1 / 2 P** .....Ethan Hitch - for being brave and sharing insightful ideas during our Respectful Relationships discussions around positive gender relations.
- 3 / 4 B**.....Sophie Clark – for consistently putting in your best effort to all learning tasks. The quality of your work is absolutely fantastic! Well done!
- 3 / 4 K**.....Alex Ivelja - for writing an extremely detailed explanation text on how waves are formed. Alex researched, drafted and produced her piece independently. Wonderful work Alex!
- 3 / 4 M** .....Liam Hartigan - for your fantastic attitude towards swimming this week. You helped us stay on track by being organised and ready each day, and supported your peers to do the same. Well done!
- 3 / 4 V**.....Marwa Abdo - for demonstrating water confidence by trying new swimming skills and using a floating device independently.
- 5 U** .....Marli Weldhagen - for working cooperatively with your group to develop your logo and slogan for your business. Well done!
- 6 M**.....Evie Bischa - for demonstrating creativity, focus and attention to detail when creating a logo for your ice cream company.
- 6 T**.....Max Ilett - by showing great perseverance throughout assessment tasks, and extending himself as much as possible. Well done Max.



**To:**

Rinka, Kingston, Ava S, Thomas L

## Dates To Remember:

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November..... Year 3/4 Swimming

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November ..... Prep to Year 2 Swimming starts today (Tuesday to Friday this week)

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November..... Prep 2023 Transition Session 2 (9.15am – 10.45am)

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November..... Prep to Year 2 Swimming continues (Tuesday to Friday this week)

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November..... Prep 2023 Transition Session 3 (9.15am – 10.45am)

Fete 2023 Planning Meeting (7.30pm)

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November ..... Pupil Free Day (OSHClub available)