

# Spotswood Primary School

## Newsletter



Term 4 Week 7 • Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

"Where everybody is somebody"



### Message from the Principal

Dear families,

### Wet Days!

I find myself talking a lot about the weather lately, as many of us do when we start up a conversation. But at the moment it really is a fascinating topic. We have certainly had the full range of experiences lately, it even hailed at school this week! The main challenges this weather presents for us is keeping curious students out of the puddles and managing wet day recess and lunch break.

When it is raining heavily during recess or lunch breaks, students will stay in their classrooms and we have many activities on hand for them to engage with such as board games, cards, drawing, reading etc. Teachers are on duty to supervise recess and lunch duty, just as they are in the yard. It does require a greater time commitment from teachers and I thank our wonderful staff who take on this extra duty with a smile.

### Parent Payments

Over the coming few days Sharon will be emailing all families individually with a current invoice detailing payments that are yet to be made for this year. We have included any upcoming events or excursions for the remainder of the year in these invoices. We ask families to support us by finalising these payments over the coming weeks. Your support ensures we are able to continue to offer our planned programs and support for our students.

### Election Day BBQ & Cake Stall

Spotswood Primary School will be proudly selling democracy sausages (and cakes) at our upcoming Election Day on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you Al Oldfield & Nadia Albert for coordinating this stall. On the back page of the newsletter you will find more information about how you can support us by volunteering to help on the day or providing some cakes for our cake stall. Thank you to all who are able to help.

### Some Dates To Remember

<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Pupil Free Day at Spotty (OSHClub available for bookings if required)
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Last day of Term (1:30pm finish)
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	First day of school 2023 (Preps 9:00am – 12:30pm)

### Lost Property

We would like to encourage you to check all your uniform items when you do the next wash and make sure that they are named. Is the name still clear enough to read? Has your child brought home someone else's uniform? With all classes participating in swimming over this month our lost property basket seems to be filling up with jackets, hats, shirts etc and most items are not named making it hard for us to return them to their homes.

...continued on next page

## Fete Kick Off Meeting Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – 7:30pm

Since we mentioned holding a Fete meeting, I think word has spread around! Students have been talking about it and we are keen to get our planning underway! Please come along if you are willing to help, 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! Our kids are excited, now we just need to plan it!

(The Fete will be held in October 2023, date to be finalised, however planning needs to start now).



## Hats

Please make sure your child has a hat at school every day. Even though we have been having some uncharacteristic weather for this time of year, the UV index is still high and we want to ensure that our students are safe out in the sun.

## Breathe Melbourne

As you may recall reading in last week's newsletter, we are one of six schools in the Inner West taking part in the Breathe Melbourne Citizen Science project led by Deakin University. **As part of the project, Breathe Melbourne wants to hear from you!**

Next week we will be sending an email to all families with a link to a voluntary and anonymous survey which will contribute to the project. We encourage you to be a part of this process and helping our school to take part in this exciting project.



## Classes 2023

As we spend time over the next few weeks finalising classes, students will spend some time in mixed activity groups as we work through the process. Classes will not be finalised until after our process and students will spend time in their new grade with their next year's teacher on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at Step up Day.

We acknowledge that this time can bring both excitement and anxiety for students and parents and we want to reassure our families that this is a process we take very seriously and spend a lot of time on. We are endeavouring to make the best possible placements for ALL of our students so that we have balanced classes in 2023.

## Mini Mart

This term the 5 / 6 students have been working through an Inquiry action cycle called 'Entrepreneurs'. The main subject focus has been:

### ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

- Resource Allocation and Making Choices- needs and wants
- Consumer and Financial Literacy- consumer choice and advertising strategies
- Enterprising Behaviours and Capabilities- set up enterprising behaviours, set up business like situations
- The Business Environment- reasons businesses exist, for profit and not for profit organisations

To make this learning as authentic as possible, the students have been developing businesses - from market analysis, product design and creation all the way through to advertising and jingles.

These businesses have included a bookmark company, Jewellery and smoothies just to name a few.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December during the day we will be holding a Mini Mart - where the businesses will open up to the students in a fete style (but on a much smaller scale 😊) event. All classes will be invited to attend the Mini Mart and buy from our young entrepreneurs.

Some more details about goods available and costs will be available shortly!

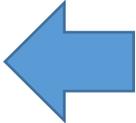
Watch this space & Save the Date!



Jackie Green  
Principal

## Curriculum Update – Term 4 Week 8

		Continuous reporting
<b>Prep</b>		
Reading	WALT to share our opinions about a text WALT to share our opinion about the illustrations	
Writing	WALT write a recount WALT write a persuasive text WALT write about our learning experiences in prep (portfolios)	
Spelling	Where can I see a swan? What do they look like?	
Maths	<b>Measurement &amp; Geometry</b> Location and Transformation	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	n/a - swimming	
<b>Grade 1 / 2</b>		
Reading	<b><u>Rosie Revere Engineer</u></b> <b>VOCABULARY - dictionaries</b> *expand the meaning of a word by connecting it to other words *derive the meaning of a new words from context *use detailed illustrations to understand new vocabulary	

Writing	<b>Recounts on Swimming</b>	
Spelling	oy as in toy	
Maths	<b>Location &amp; Transformation</b> Identify and describe half and quarter turns (VCMMG124) + <b>general all measurement</b>	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	n/a - swimming	
<b>Grade 3 / 4</b>		
Reading	Understand the meaning of technical words Creating a glossary 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>• Writing effective dialogue.</li> <li>• Balancing dialogue and description.</li> <li>• Correctly punctuating dialogue in our writing.</li> </ul>	
Spelling	<b>Plurals ending in o</b>	
Maths	Topic: Fractions and Decimals Ordering decimals Whole class	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	<b>R.R.R.R Topic 4: Problem Solving</b> This week the students will be participating in activities that assist them in learning to develop an understanding that different problems can require different types of problem-solving strategies. They will also identify a range of strategies to use to solve problems.	
<b>Grade 5 / 6</b>		
Reading	<b>Focus: Lyrics and jingles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysing structure (rhyming and rhythm)</li> <li>• Links to poetry</li> </ul> BTN- listening and note taking	
Writing	<b>Genre: Poetry (jingles)</b> <b>Focus:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a poem/jingle to sell your product</li> <li>• Structure and features of lyrics and poems</li> <li>• Using iPads to create supporting music</li> </ul>	
Spelling	<b>BOB Words</b>	
Maths	<b>Statistics and Probability: Chance</b> Recognise that probabilities range from 0 to 1 Conduct chance experiments with both small and large numbers of trials using appropriate digital technologies	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	<b>Help seeking in response to gender-based violence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students practice assertive help-seeking skills with reference to situations involving peer-based sexual harassment</li> </ul>	



Emma Vasilevski  
Assistant Principal

## What's Happening in Our Classrooms

### Prep – Addition and Subtraction

In Prep our students have been revising our skills in addition and subtraction. The students have been using a range of tools to support their learning such as counters, unifix, number lines and tens frames. We have been revisiting our friends of 10 and also exploring their links to subtraction facts. Below you will see some of our fun work creating pots of gold coins and gold chains to create addition facts. Fabulous work Preps!

Mel Voigt  
Prep V Classroom Teacher



Georgia



Chloe



Caleb



Myles

### Years 1 & 2 – Swimming Program

This week, the Grade 1/2s (along with Preps) started their swimming program at Bayfit. There was much anticipation in the lead up to swimming and lots of excited children travelling to the pool. The students worked in small groups in the pool and are learning very important water and safety skills. We look forward to the rest of the swimming program, which runs in Week 8 as well.

Ruby Cridland  
1/2C Classroom Teacher



### **Years 3 & 4 – Explanation Writing**

This term, the 3/4s have been working on our skills in explanation writing. We have focused on the structure and language features of explanation texts. Students unpacked the purpose of an explanation text and looked closely at the role of the introduction, description and conclusion. Students experimented with language features, such as time connective words, adjectives and verbs to enhance their writing and included diagrams and flow charts to their final piece to capture the reader's attention. We followed the writing cycle to plan, draft, edit and produce their own explanation text.

Emily Matheson  
3/4M Classroom Teacher

## How do flowers grow?

Flowers are a fascinating piece of nature. They have an amazing scent. They provide pollen for bees. Flowers have petals all around the disk stroment. It has a long stem. Flowers need a lot of rain, water and sunlight.



Flowers start as a little seed then they get buried into moist soil that helps the seed get roots and then watered. Eventually the roots grow longer and bigger then shoot out from under ground then grow longer until the stem has grown into a flower. To help the flower grow to have healthy petals and stem fertilizer is used to pour into the soil to keep really healthy! The fertilizer is used to help the flowers grow stronger because the flower can't fully grow by itself. When the flower has had enough fertilizer it has more strength to bloom its flower then it's fully bloomed!

Once the flower has died the seeds from the ovary fall on to the ground they get buried by the wind. Then watered by the rain or watering can. Then the life cycle of the flowers start again!

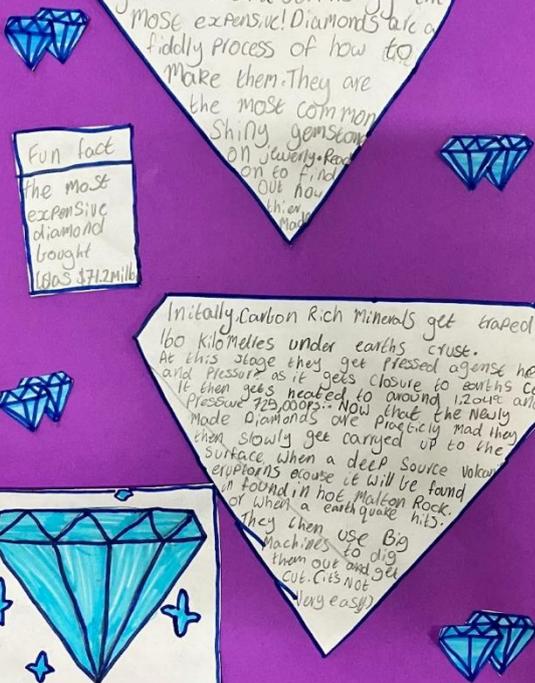


## How Are Diamonds Formed?

Diamond is 1 out of 200 gemstones and surprisingly the most expensive! Diamonds are a fiddly process of how to make them. They are the most common shiny gemstone on jewelry. Rare on to find out how they are made.

**Fun fact**  
The most expensive diamond brought was \$71.2 million.

Initially, carbon rich minerals get trapped 100 kilometres under earth's crust. At this stage they get pressed against heat and pressure as it gets closer to earth's center. It then gets heated to around 1200°C and pressure 72,000 atm. Now that the newly made diamonds are practically made they then slowly get carried up to the surface. When a deep source volcano erupts because it will be found in hot magma rock. Or what an earthquake hits. They then use big machines to dig them out and get cut. Cut. Cut. Not easy!

## Why Are Some Animals Albino?

By Sophie

You've probably never heard of seen an albino animal and just to let you know they're adorable! Animals with albinism generally have a pink/white appearance with pink/blue eyes. Even people can be albino. Read on to learn how albinism occurs in an unlucky few animals.

A true albino animal is only a true albino animal when both parents carry albino genes.

A leucistic animal isn't truly albino, they lose pigment, but they can still produce and they have normal black eyes.

Melanin is made when 2 cells merge together and react making the pigment in our hair, eyes and skin, but if one of the cells doesn't react, no melanin is made, making an animal albino.

An albino animal has a pink/white appearance because of an extreme lack of melanin at all of melanin, the pigment that gives colour to our hair, eyes and skin.

From Giraffes To Hummingbirds

Anyone can be albino

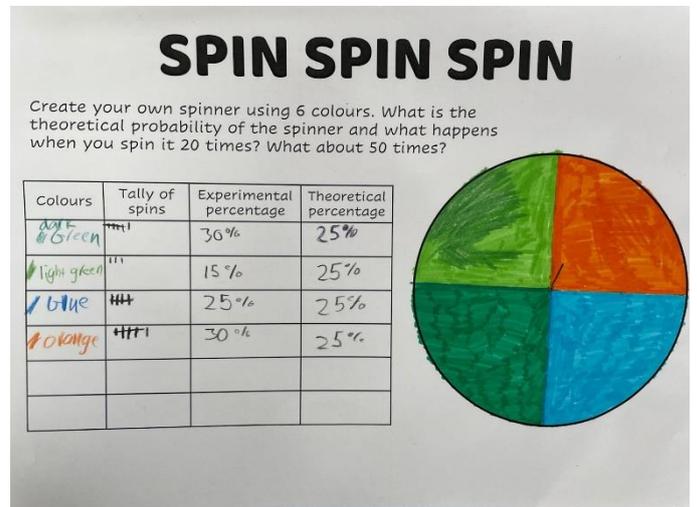
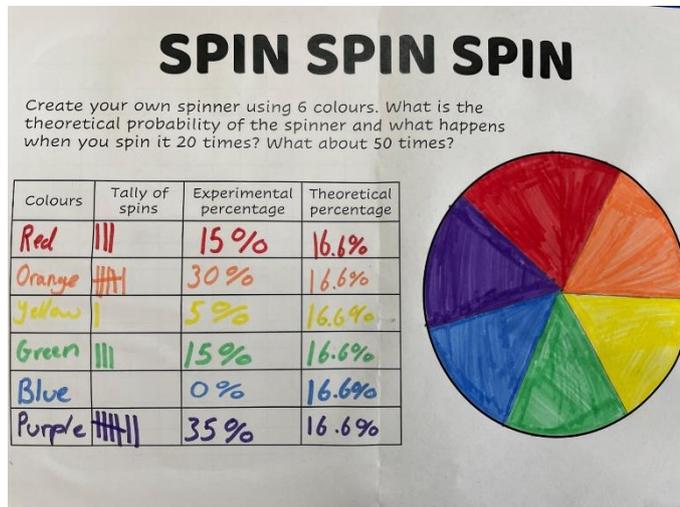
To end this text, seeing an albino animal could be a once-in-a-lifetime experience, given that they are extremely rare, but if you want a photo, turn the flash off because, if not born blind, the lack of colour in the animal's eyes makes it sensitive to light.




## Years 5 & 6 – Chance Time!

The Grade 5/6 students have started learning about a new maths unit this week, looking at everything about probability and chance. This week we have been investigating the ways we can use decimals, percentages and fractions to represent chance outcomes and also building our use of chance language when discussing the probability of potential outcomes. We have had fun playing lots of chance games, such as Rock-Paper-Scissors, Heads or Tails and 4 Corners to build our understanding.

Sally Uldrikis  
5U Classroom Teacher



## Remembrance Day

Last week the Year 6 school captains and leaders attended the Remembrance Day service at the Spotswood/Kingsville RSL. Originally known as Armistice Day, Remembrance Day commemorates the signing of the peace agreement that ended World War I at 11am on 11 November 1918. It is a time to remember and honour the memory of those who served, are currently serving, and those we have lost to the cause. *Lest We Forget*.

Gabrielle Mullins  
6M Classroom Teacher and Learning Specialist



## Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received an award at assembly today:



- Prep S**.....Hendrix Carne - for recalling all of his quick addition facts including his doubles!  
Keep up the great work, Hendrix!
- Prep V**.....Luke Lima - making some great connections between our 'friends of 10' facts and subtraction. Great work Luke!
- 1 / 2 C**.....George Hurley - for showing great enthusiasm for the swimming program and making good choices, well done George.
- 1 / 2 H**.....Miles Ritchie - for having a positive attitude towards swimming and showing super independence skills.
- 1 / 2 J** .....Jack Lesich - for being a caring and supportive friend when supporting his peers in swimming. Well done!
- 1 / 2 P** .....Lorelei Doxey - for having a growth mindset and overcoming some initial worries in the swimming pool.
- 3 / 4 B**.....Angus Ward- for flying through some fantastic books this term. Your dedication and enthusiasm towards reading is admirable. Keep up the great work Angus!
- 3 / 4 K**.....Georgia Tucker - for consistently applying enormous effort to all aspects of her learning and offering assistance to others when they need it. Thanks for being such a wonderful member of our class Georgia!
- 3 / 4 M** .....Mia Abu Bakar - for your fantastic attitude towards Writing this week. You have engaged so well with our punctuation lessons and applied this learning to your narrative. Well done!
- 3 / 4 V**.....Winter Hall – for enthusiastically challenging yourself to work collaboratively and independently with solving equivalent fractions in Maths this week
- 5 U** .....Anja Sajnovic - for always supporting your peers during lessons and offering help and advice if they ask. What a star!
- 6 M** .....Angelo Akec - for demonstrating incredible focus, commitment and determination during reading. Congratulations!
- 6 T**.....Patrick Creaney - for listening to, and actioning, feedback and suggestions in a positive and mature manner. Well done, it has been fantastic to see.



**To:**

Lasika, James, Leroy, Connor, Halle H, Grayson, Alice, Liam B, Amali M

## Dates To Remember:

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)

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Election Day BBQ & Cake Stall fundraiser

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November ..... Pupil Free Day (OSHClub available)  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November ..... Finance Sub-Committee meeting (5.30pm)  
School Council meeting (6.15pm)  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December ..... Prep Portfolio Sharing Celebration (3pm)  
Year 1 Night of Fun  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December ..... Prep Butterfly House Excursion  
Mini Mart  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December ..... Step Up Day  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December ..... Prep Puppets by Design Incursion  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December ..... Year 6 Graduation  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December ..... Year 6 Big Day Out  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December ..... Last Day of Term 4 (1.30pm finish)

## **Election Day Fundraiser**

Thank you to families who have volunteered to help at our Election Day BBQ and Cake Stall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

If you are free and would like to volunteer, please click on the following link [volunteersignup.org/XWRBW](https://volunteersignup.org/XWRBW)

### **Cakes, Biscuits, Slices Wanted**

We would love donations of cakes, biscuits, slices etc for our Election Day Cake Stall. If you are able to make some delicious treats and drop them into school that would be great. Items that don't need refrigerating can be dropped off on Friday 25<sup>th</sup>. All other donations can be brought up to the school from 8.30am on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your support.

