Spotswood Primary School Newsletter



Term 1 Week 6 • Friday 3rd March 2023

"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

This week Mrs Vasilevski and I had the pleasure of joining our Year 6 classes and their teachers to hear speeches from many of our Year 6 students who put their hand up to try out for our School Captain and House Captain positions.

So even knowing not all candidates can be successful, we are so proud of our leaders in Year 6

who had the courage to stand up in front of their teachers and peers and talk about how they would like to contribute to our school community. We are confident that our school community will be well looked after this year by our senior students!

We are very proud to announce and congratulate our Captains.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS	Andi Chisholm & Griffin Leevers
SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS	Jasper Spiers & Rose Harrold-Bear
RED HOUSE CAPTAINS	Zoe Catania & Marli Weldhagen
BLUE HOUSE CAPTAINS	Jem Murphy & Fox Wityk
GREEN HOUSE CAPTAINS	Abhijot Mandhan & Kyal O'Bree
GOLD HOUSE CAPTAINS	Spencer Tout & Anja Sajnovic

Breathe Melbourne Project

Families may remember completing a survey at the end of last year about our community's thoughts on air quality in Western Melbourne. Later this term, some of our Year 5/6 students will be taking part in a study where they will wear specially kitted out backpacks to and from school to measure the air quality on their commute.

On Tuesday 7th March we will be having a media event here at school to launch the project, you may see our school on the morning news programs such as ABC breakfast and Sunrise!

During the morning various media will be invited to interview partners in the project from Deakin University, Dyson and other organisations and myself. Students in 5/6M may be involved in this event and permission has been sought from their families.

This is a very exciting opportunity for our school and we look forward to it! Please be assured that only students who have signed permission forms will be filmed or included in the media event, no other students will be involved.

School Council

Nominations for School Council have closed however we do still have 2 parent positions open. We have extended the nomination period until 4:00pm on Wednesday 8th March. If you would like to know more about School Council, please don't hesitate to contact me or we can arrange for a current School Council member to talk to you if you have any questions. Nomination forms are available from the office.

Principal Conference

Next week on Thursday and Friday Mrs Vasilevski and I will be attending the Hobsons Bay Principal Conference. Whilst we are away Mr Lamb and Ms Mullins will be available for any urgent questions or concerns.

Toilet Upgrade

We are still in the planning process of our toilet upgrade which we received a grant for at the end of 2021. These things move very slowly! Unfortunately due to the steep rises in building costs over this time, we are having to make changes to the scope of the project, however we are confident that we will soon see this project commence.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Jackie Green

Principal

Curriculum Update – Term 1 Week 6	

Continuous reporting

		reporting
Prep - 2		
Reading	Predicting Searching for and Using Information Solving words Maintaining fluency	
Writing	Memoir - A Book of Memories	
Spelling	Prep - This tap is on and that tap is off. 1 / 2 – u as in bus	
Maths	Length	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Emotional Literacy: Mirror Mirror on the wall, how are you feeling overall? SWPBS - Learning Spaces	
Grade 3 / 4		
Reading	 NAPLAN preparation demonstrate the ability to skim and scan while reading silently to search for information quickly infer complex relationships between and among characters by noticing evidence in how they respond to each other infer the causes for character traits and for problems that the character experiences understand the author's purpose for writing the text 	
Writing	Persuasive	
Spelling	tt as in letter	
Maths	 Number & Algebra: Addition & Subtraction Recognise and explain the connection between addition and subtraction Apply place value to partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to at least tens of thousands to assist calculations and solve problems 	
SWPB/	School Values:	
Respectful Relationships	create a display	
Grade 5 / 6		
Reading	Class novel- Holes by Louis Sachar Plot & prediction Summarising Theme & connection Character & inference NAPLAN practice – Question & Response • 'Right There' and 'Think and Search' questions • How to identify the type of question • Where to look for the answer • search for information in a strategic way	

	Behind The News	
	-listening and note taking	
	We are learning to view current events in visual texts.	
Writing	6+1 Writing Traits	
	ideas- topic choice	
	organisation- beginning, middle and end	
	<u>voice</u> - tone, author message	
	word choice- rich language	
	sentence fluency-structure and flow	
	conventions- spelling paragraphing, grammar usage	
	presentation	
Spelling	ʻor' as in doctor	
Maths	Number and Algebra: Subtraction	
	-Solving Subtraction word problems involving whole numbers.	
	-Selecting and applying appropriate mental and written strategies	
	-Explaining how an answer was obtained for a subtraction problem and justifying	
SWPB /	Respectful Relationships: Emotional Literacy	
Respectful	What do emotions look like?	
Relationships	Learning Intention	
Relationships	-demonstrate our understanding of emotions through a focus on the way in which they are	
	embodied	
	- understand how people interpret the emotional responses of others through observation of body language	

Curriculum Update – Term 1 Week 7

		Continuous reporting
Prep - 2		reporting
Reading	Analysing Searching for and Using Information Solving words Maintaining fluency	
Writing	Memoir - A Book of Memories	
Spelling	Revision Week all sounds/ letters and common words	
Maths	Length	
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Emotional Literacy: What do emotions sound like?	
Grade 3 / 4		
Reading	 NAPLAN preparation derive the meaning of a new word from the context of a sentence, a paragraph or the whole text understanding how synonyms can help understand new vocabulary ask and answer questions related to the test before, during and after reading (think and search questions) 	
Writing	 Persuasive Writing individual persuasive texts. Forming an opinion Supporting your opinion with facts and examples. Using persuasive devices. 	
Spelling	gg as in egg	
Maths	 Measurement & Geometry: Length Measure, order and compare objects using familiar metric units of length, area, mass and capacity Use scaled instruments to measure and compare lengths 	

SWPB/	The Emotions Echo game	
Respectful	Students develop their vocabulary to identify and describe	
Relationships	their emotions	
Relationships	 Students identify the ways in which emotions are shown 	
	in body language	
Grade 5 / 6		
Reading	Class novel- Holes by Louis Sachar	
	Style, language & analysis	
	Character, visualisation & prediction	
	Summarising & questioning	
	Behind The News	
	-listening and note taking	`
	We are learning to view current events in visual texts.	
	Literature Circles- rotation 2	
Writing	Persuasive texts deep-dive	
_	*understand that argument and persuasive texts can be written in various forms, editorial,	
	letter to the editor, speech, essay	
	*understand that speech is a formal text written to be delivered orally with the intent of	
	persuading an audience to believe or do something	
	*write well-crafted sentences that express the writer's convictions	
	*write a logical, thoughtful ending	
Spelling	Gender Specific Nouns	
Maths	Number and Algebra: Subtraction	
	-Solving Subtraction word problems involving whole numbers.	
	-Selecting and applying appropriate mental and written strategies	
	-Explaining how an answer was obtained for a subtraction problem and justifying	
SWPB/	Respectful Relationships:	
Respectful	Emotional Literacy	
Relationships	Recognising positive, negative and mixed emotions	
	Learning Intention	
	-review vocabulary that is used to describe positive and negative emotions	
	-identify triggering events or situations that lead to particular emotional responses	
	-investigate the notion of mixed emotions or emotional complexity	

NAPLAN Years 3 & 5

The NAPLAN testing period has been moved from its usual Term 2 schedule to Term 1 this year. As it is coming up in the next few weeks (and you will begin to see readiness sessions popping up in our Curriculum Newsletter) I thought that it might be timely for some information.

NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals and can be used to improve student achievement and schoolwide planning.

At Spotswood we like all students to participate in the NAPLAN Online tests. Catch up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. If your child is going to be absent on a day when there is a NAPLAN test, please just let your classroom teacher know.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents/carers in consultation with me, Jackie or your classroom teacher. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a student withdrawal form which we will organise for you.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia. The report will be sent by post to the address that we have on file.

Practice questions are available online <u>here</u>. Parents are encouraged to visit this website to acquaint themselves with the types of questions involved. The style of questioning is interactive, and the students have a lot of access to assistance when doing the tests. For the Numeracy test, you will notice at the top right hand of the screen that there are various tools that the students have access to. They also have the option of having the questions read to them where appropriate, using the audio symbol.

We will spend some time over the next few weeks getting the students familiar with the NAPLAN platform and anything else that they can expect to encounter during this period.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out. We hope to make this time as relaxed as possible for all our year 3 and 5 students.



Emma Vasilevski Assistant Principal

What's Happening In Our Classrooms

Prep/1 Classes – Independent Reading (Week 5)

In Prep/1 this week the students have been working on their independent reading skills. For the prep students this has been learning about the expectations of independent reading time. We find our own space, we read from our 'just right' reading boxes, our eyes are looking at our book, we do 'magic reading' and we point to the words with our 'reading sticks'. For our grade 1's we have been selecting reading goals to improve our reading strategies. These may include things such as finding small words in bigger words, breaking words into chunks or rereading if something doesn't make sense. The grade 1's are also continuing to improve their reading stamina.



Harvey

Zoe

Jess

Mel Voigt Prep/1V Classroom Teacher

Prep/1 Classes – Maths – Length (Week 6)

This week in Maths the Prep/1's have been exploring our skills in understanding what length is and a variety of ways that we can measure length. This week we have focussed on informal methods to measure such as using unifix blocks, icy pole sticks and even our own shoes! The Preps and 1's have explored language such as longer, shorter and end-to-end as well as putting objects in order from shortest to longest. Great measuring Preps and Grade 1's!



Tommy

Eli

Remy

Argyle & Rayyan

Mel Voigt Prep/1V Classroom Teacher

1/2 Classes – Numeracy Unit (Week 5)

This week in 1/2 the students have started their Numeracy unit for addition. The students have enjoyed using different strategies and concrete materials to help them with problem solving. It has been great seeing the students enjoy the hands-on activities and they have found it very engaging!



Harvey and Ned

Miles

Georgia

Ruby Cridland 1/2C Classroom Teacher

1/2 Classes – School Wide Positive Behaviour (Week 6)

1/2B have spent some time this week revisiting the SWPB matrix. We have discussed all of the important things to remember about being a good friend, a focused learner and a safe member in our 'Learning Spaces'. Students in 1/2B did a fabulous job at drawing pictures of Osamu Owl, Sora Snail and Michi Meerkat and writing a sentence from our Matrix. We love how colourful our SWPB wall looks!





Tianne Ball 1/2B Classroom Teacher

3/4 Classes – School Wide Positive Behaviour (Week 5)

The Year 3/4s have been revisiting our School Wide Positive Behaviour matrix about eLearning at school. Students have been making classroom agreements about how to use technology safely at school and in the classroom. Knowledgeable discussions suggested responsible ways in which they should handle technological devices and how to manage online apps and websites safely.

ipad safty in 3/411: Hannuh K 3/41 I only use apps you ment to use. 2. Don't be rough with the ipads. 3. plug the ipad in when it needs charging

In 3/141/ we agree to not share our passwork or personle enormation. We don't click on ads that POP up on same or vidãos. Willow.

Annalise V m 3/4 V, will ... ·Use the iPads sensibly ·Not share passwords and advesses exc ·Not engage in cyber bulling . Not talk to strangers . Tell a teacher if you catch someone searching or Looking/watching things they shouldn't be. · DON'T CLICK ON RANDOM LINKS · Don't buy stuff online? · DOR'T mess with passwords

Olivia 21/2/23 In 314 V we will use i-pads with care and saftey. We will not apps that are not learning realated. and will not go wandering around on the internet.

h 3/4 V we will use lipads with care and safing We don't change prooples profiles on epic reading or esertial research, we don't click on random websites since the limitif let a scarm.





Sally Vaughan 3/4V Classroom Teacher

3/4 Classes – Persuasive Texts (Week 6)

The 3/4s have begun learning about persuasive texts in our writing and we are loving being able to argue in class! We have started this unit looking at the features of persuasive texts and how to form an opinion by agreeing or disagreeing with the topic. We have built on reasons and tried to include evidence and examples. We are looking forward to being even more convincing with our arguing soon!

Sally Trembath 3/4T Classroom Teacher



5/6 Classes – Leadership Incursion (Week 5)

The Grade 5/6s had the opportunity to explore themes of leadership, challenge and growth mindset during a terrific day with motivational speaker Lorin Nicholson this week. Lorin is an award-winning musician, record-breaking cyclist, published author and health professional who was able to discuss his achievements against the backdrop of having just 6% vision. Students were able to relate Lorin's entertaining stories to their own growth mindset challenges, while also learning about what life is like for people with low vision. We will use this incursion to, initially, inspire applications for leadership positions, but also as a touchstone for discussions around challenge and opportunity throughout the year.

Simon Pollard 5/6P Classroom Teacher



Miss Mullins certainly found the activities "uplifting"!



Harris leads Harry through the obstacle course challenge



Isabelle attempts to thread beads while wearing 'blind' glasses



Halle and Ruby react to one of Lorin's inspirational stories

5/6 Classes – Literature Circles (Week 6)

This week we started our first rotation for literature circles. In literature circles, small groups of students gather together to discuss a piece of literature in depth. The discussion is guided by students' response to what they have read during the week. If you were to visit our classrooms, you may hear talk about events and characters in the book, vocabulary that resonated with the reader, or personal experiences related to the story. Literature circles provide a way for students to engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Collaboration is at the heart of this approach. Students reshape and add to their understanding as they construct meaning alongside other readers. Finally, literature circles guide students to deeper understanding of what they read through structured discussion and extended written and artistic responses.

Gabrielle Mullins 5/6M Classroom Teacher and Learning Specialist





Specialist – Wellbeing (Week 5)

We have been thinking about our goals/dreams for this year and our fears attached to them. There were some lovely discussions around things we would like to accomplish, and the work needed to get there. Students wrote down some goals they had for 'at school' and some for 'outside of school'. Some key words to breaking the fear attached to these goals were; practise, determination, not giving up, working hard, being safe, and pushing through. Prep to Year 2 students used their Wellbeing Journals to record one of their goals, and yes, the Preps learnt what a 'goal' is! Although it took some degree of explanation that we were not talking about scores in sport. Year 3 to 6 students created a poster where their goals were written in leaf drawings and their fears in worm drawings. They did a brilliant job thinking about their goals and I think they'll work hard to reach them!







Olivia G

Olivia V

Penny



5/6M

Cindy Asp Wellbeing Teacher





At Spotty we have been very excited to introduce the teaching of Auslan to all our students this term. By now you may have heard your child talking about their Auslan learning or if you are lucky, they may have even taught you a few signs!

What is Auslan?

Auslan is <u>Au</u>stralian <u>Sign Language</u>, the native language of the Australian Deaf community, and is a visual-spatial, natural language with its own grammar and vocabulary.

Auslan has linguistic elements, such as hand shapes (including orientation, location and movement), non-manual features (including eye gaze, facial expressions, arm, head and body postures) and fingerspelling.

Auslan also has its own grammar, which is different from English. Auslan grammar is composed of precise hand shapes, facial expressions and body movements that convey concrete and abstract information.



What will my child be learning in their Auslan classes?

Students from Prep to Year 6 will engage in developmentally appropriate activities grounded in the Auslan Victorian Curriculum. There are two strands to learning Auslan, communicating and understanding. As we are in an introductory phase of Auslan all students at Spotswood Primary School will be taught and assessed on the Prep to Year 2 Achievement Standard. In our lessons students will have the opportunity to practise and meaningfully use Auslan, whilst gaining an understanding of deaf culture and protocols. The Auslan program will teach students how to communicate using sign language through games, songs, role play, stories, and digital technology.

What are the benefits of learning Auslan?

Sign language can:

- enhance children's educational and personal development
- increase memory retention and motion processing
- stimulate brain development and mental flexibility
- increase enjoyment in communicating for both hearing and deaf children.

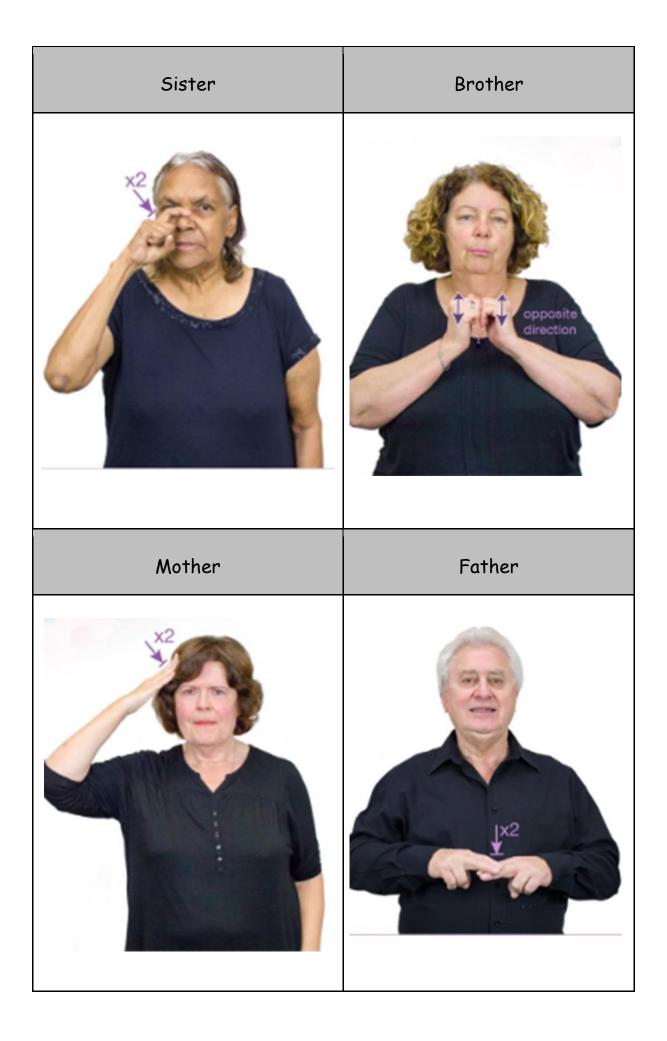
How can I support my child with their Auslan Learning?

Parent enthusiasm for Auslan is important as it helps to foster a love of learning in your child. You can support your child by asking them to teach you one or two signs from their weekly lesson, point out the use of Auslan interpreters on tv programmes such as ABC News on Sunday evenings at 5pm, or watch Emma Memma and Elvin Melvin sign to songs in Auslan on YouTube.



Spotswood Community Event

We will be hosting a Deaf Awareness session later in the year which will provide parents with the opportunity to learn more about the Deaf community and the use of Auslan. More information will be provided next term regarding the date and time. We hope you will be able to join us!



This week we have been learning the signs for people in our immediate family. We learnt to sign who was in our family and used our number signs to describe how many of each type of relative we have. Here are the signs above to revisit with your child.

Pamela O'Sullivan Auslan Teacher

Year 5/6 Inter School Sport Reports

Volleyball

Last week, we played Altona North Primary School and we had many good games against them. The first game we won 21/3 and the second match we won 21/10 and the third we won 21/13. Overall, our team demonstrated really good passing and teamwork and we all helped out with our win. Some of the standout serves were from both Spencer and Abhijot, along with Will and Marli. Next week, we are aiming to work on passing the ball around, winning and having a fun time.

By Spencer and Abhijot

Tennis

We played against Altona North Primary School; they were very friendly and welcoming. It was a close series of games for both the mixed and girls' teams, the scores being Mixed (7-5 win) and Girls (5-2 loss). Everyone played very well and should be proud of themselves, and in general it was very fun, despite Altona North not having quite enough girls. We hope our next experience will be just as great as this one was.

By Rose and Annabelle

Softball

On Friday the softball team did not have an opposition to play, so we stayed back at school to practise. We played a mini game of softball, and we played a catching game to get used to the gloves. Mr. Turner was hitting balls to us, and we practised our catching and fielding to make sure the runner was not able to get home. It was good, and most of us are excited to play another team next week.

By Wilco

Student Awards (Week 5)

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

- **Prep/1S**......Sofia Sarantis her great effort with reading in the classroom and joining in with class discussions.
- Prep/1V......Penny Forrest hearing and writing some beginning sounds and for always doing her very best. Well done!
- **1/2B**.....Ryan Wityk for working hard during our addition lessons and challenging yourself with some tricky questions. Well done Ryan!
- **1/2C**.....Miles Ritchie for putting in his best effort in writing into his memoir about a special celebration. Great work Miles!
- **1/2J**Angus Creaney for demonstrating a growth mindset and approaching numeracy learning tasks with super focus and determination.
- **3/4K**......Hagir Dere for being a kind and patient member of our class who works well with others. Thank you for encouraging others as well as applying amazing effort to your work!
- 3/4MXavier Mom for demonstrating a fantastic work ethic and putting your best effort into your narrative writing. Well done!

- 3/4T.....Finn Thompson for creating an amazing list of words to use other than 'said'. I can't wait to see them used in your writing!
- 3/4V.....Marlow Heselton for displaying a fantastic work ethic by getting started straight away and applying effort to all of your learning tasks.
- 5/6MZoe Smith for continuing to demonstrate a love of learning and a willingness to challenge yourself and take risks to improve. Amazing effort, Zoe!
- 5/6P.....Jem Murphy for asking thought-provoking questions during Monday's Climb Your Own Mountain incursion.
- **5/6T**.....Jasper Spiers for always showing kindness and support towards your peers, and actively encouraging everyone's learning. Sensational stuff Jasper.
- Wellbeing. ..Olivia Grundy 3/4K for her time and effort spent on her 'Goals' and 'Fears' activity. Excellent work, Olivia!

Student Awards (Week 6)

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

- Prep/1S......Luke McGraw being a great sport during games and cheering and supporting his classmates. Well done, Luke.
- Prep/1V......Will Rotteveel being an enthusiastic class member who always tries his very best. Awesome work Will!
- **1/2B**....Jack Panayi using his weekly spelling words to write a fascinating story with a range of punctuation. Well done!
- **1/2C**.....Zeppelin Madden writing a fantastic special memoir. So proud of your determination, well done Zeppelin.
- **1/2J**Lasika Chandrasekera by being super engaged in our Inquiry unit and for being an inquisitive learner when finding out about her family history from her grandmother
- 3/4K.....Liam Hartigan for his positive attitude towards Maths and ability to apply his knowledge to challenging tasks, persisting when the solutions are not straight forward. Great stuff Liam!
- 3/4MTabitha Wright for coming to school each day with a positive attitude to learning, and a willingness to challenge yourself and take risks to improve. Fantastic effort!
- **3/4T**.....Ayden Barclay for neatly setting out your work in your maths book and working well independently. Keep up the great work!
- 3/4V.....Sebastian Nedinis for his powerful impromptu debate speech about why it is possible that aliens do exist. Impressive Seb!
- 5/6MJack Spiteri for working diligently to develop and nurture your growth mindset and for being a reflective learner. Well done!
- 5/6P.....Austin Azzopardi for proving that a positive attitude towards Maths can lead to terrific results.
- 5/6TOrlando Garrett for showing exceptional perseverance towards his Maths tasks, and enthusiastically enjoying his progress. Fantastic stuff Orlando!
- LOTE......Emma Ward for using Auslan to answer questions about her family. You are always so enthusiastic about your Auslan learning. Keep up the good work.



To:

Olivia R, Rihaan, Georgia S, Rosie, Abby

Dates To Remember:

Tuesday 7th March	Breathe Project Launch
Wednesday 8th March	Hobsons Bay Council Junior Council meeting
Friday 10 th March	Year 5/6 Summer Sport Competition Round 3 (Home vs Altona College/Bayside College)
	Assembly (3.15pm)
Monday 13th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 14 th March	Hobsons Bay Division Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 15th March	NAPLAN (Writing)
	Prep 2023 Parent Information Night (7pm-8pm)
Friday 17 th March	NAPLAN (Conventions of Language)
	Year 5/6 Summer Sport Competition Round 4 (BYE)
	Assembly (3.15pm)
Monday 20th March	NAPLAN (Reading)
Tuesday 21 st March	School Council meeting (6.15pm)
Wednesday 22 nd March	NAPLAN (Numeracy)
Friday 24 th March	Year 5/6 Summer Sport Competition Round 5 (Home vs St Marys Primary School Altona)
	Assembly (3.15pm)
Monday 27 th March	Young Leaders Day
Wednesday 29th March	Year 5/6 Camp to The Summit
Thursday 30 th March	Year 5/6 Camp to The Summit
Friday 31 st March	Year 5/6 Camp to The Summit
Thursday 6th April	Last Day of Term 1 (2.30pm finish)
Monday 24 th April	First Day of Term 2
Tuesday 25th April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Thursday 18 th May	School Photo Day

Year 3/4 Camp: 21st August – 23rd August (Lady Northcote)