

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 6 • Friday 10th November 2023



"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

Prep Transition

This week we met our 2024 preps! We had a busy day here on Wednesday with our 3 classes of prep enjoying their first visit here with us. It was lovely to put some faces to the names and we managed to fit in a playground visit, an activity and a story in our morning. It was also lovely to welcome some new families to our Spotswood community. Our 2024 preps will join us again for the next two Wednesdays and our buddy connections will be made at the start of next year.

School Crossing

Thank you to the parents who have shared their concerns with me about the new intersection and the short sequence of light changes. We have been out over the past two mornings taking some videos of how long it is between light changes and the time it takes students to cross the road. I have been in contact with Hobsons Bay Council who provide the crossing supervision, and also with Department of Transport (Vic Roads) who are responsible for the Melbourne Road intersection. I have requested an urgent review of the set up to ensure that our safety concerns are being addressed. In the interim, Hobsons Bay Council are arranging an additional supervisor.

2024 Planning

Families are reminded 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 by Friday November 17th.

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 2024 class and teacher later this term on December 12th. Classes are finalised at this point and changes will not be possible.

School Review of the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan

All schools undertake a review process every four years, reflecting on our Strategic Plan to inform our direction and priorities for the next four years. Throughout Term 4, and in Term 1 next year, there will be a number of opportunities for students, staff and families to participate in the pre-review self- evaluation process. This may include discussion forums, survey feedback opportunities, an open afternoon / evening to engage students and families in the process. We will also be guided through this process by an independent reviewer in the new year.

We would love to get some feedback from our community and invite you to respond to a brief survey at the following link: <https://forms.gle/i1pXzYFca5hhUPgr9>

Thank you for your support!

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Toilet Upgrade

I am beyond excited to share with you today that our toilet upgrade project will commence in the next week, with the plan being to have it completed before the start of the new school year. After a 2 year wait for this project, it is hard to believe that it will start and finish so quickly! I have included some pictures to show you where the works will be taking place, and where our temporary toilets will be located.



The temporary toilets will be 'container toilets'. We will have two containers, one for students and one for staff. Here are some photos to show what they will look like. We will share these with the students next week and talk about the changes so they are prepared for the rest of term. We will still have access to the disabled toilet during the renovation, from the basketball court side.



Jackie Green
Principal

Curriculum Update – Term 4 Week 7

P – 2	
Reading	Poetry
Writing	Poetry Use 5 senses to write poems about their 'special places'. Writing Cycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commas to separate clauses in sentences
Spelling	Prep - Some of us have been looking at a big truck wheel! 1 / 2 - kn as in knee
Maths	Multiplication consolidation
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	SWPBS – Safety How do we keep each other safe at school?
Grade 3 / 4	
Reading	Mentor Text: Explanation Texts Gravity is a mystery Reading Skill: Text features of Explanation Texts Literature Circles - practising reading skills, carrying out tasks responses and engaging in group discussions.
Writing	Genre Focus: Explanation to work with inquiry (explain the process of machine) 2 writing cycle lessons- Monday/Tues 3 genre focus lessons
Spelling	u making two sounds, "y" and "oo"
Maths	Topic: Chance Describe possible everyday events and order their chances of occurring Identify everyday events where one cannot happen if the other happens Identify events where the chance of one will not be affected by the occurrence of the other
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	SWPB: Positive behaviours in the classroom
Grade 5 / 6	
Reading	PAT Testing- Reading Class Novel - 47 Degrees Chapters 13 (A Prayer, 13 pp), 14 (Unprecedented Loss of Lives, 5pp) Book Club: Discussion 5 Vocabulary and Mood Behind The News -listening and note taking Students will engage with digital media content (BTN) to make meaning of the world, as well as discuss and explain their thoughts and opinions
Writing	Writing Cycle focus: Genre modelled: Hybrid 6+1 craft trait: Publishing 6+1 convention: Punctuation
Spelling	n/a
Maths	PAT Testing- Numeracy Number and Algebra: Whole Number - Identify and describe properties of prime, composite, square and triangular numbers

SWPB / Respectful Relationships	<p>RR- Problem Solving</p> <p><u>Problem Solving Panel</u></p> <p>Students describe commonly occurring problem situations</p> <p>Students develop advice for how to deal with these situations</p>
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School Policies

Thanks to everyone who was able to read and provide feedback on the school policies featured in the last newsletter. Here is the link to our draft Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy:

[DRAFT-Child-Safety-Responding-and-Reporting-Obligations-policy.pdf \(spotswoodps.vic.edu.au\)](https://spotswoodps.vic.edu.au/DRAFT-Child-Safety-Responding-and-Reporting-Obligations-policy.pdf)

If you have any feedback on this policy, can you please email it to emma.vasilevski@education.vic.gov.au or feel free to come in and see me. As the policies are updated and ratified, we will be posting them on our school website.

We have also updated the following policies which are available on our website:

- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Administration of Medication Policy



Emma Vasilevski
Assistant Principal

What's Happening In Our Classrooms

Prep/1 Classes – Maths

This week in maths we have been using positional language with maps. We have explored maps and how they work as well as the way maps help us to use or move around different locations. We have practised giving and following directions on maps with our peers and we even designed our own treasure maps!



Rayyan & Triya



Will & Lachie



Pippa & Frances

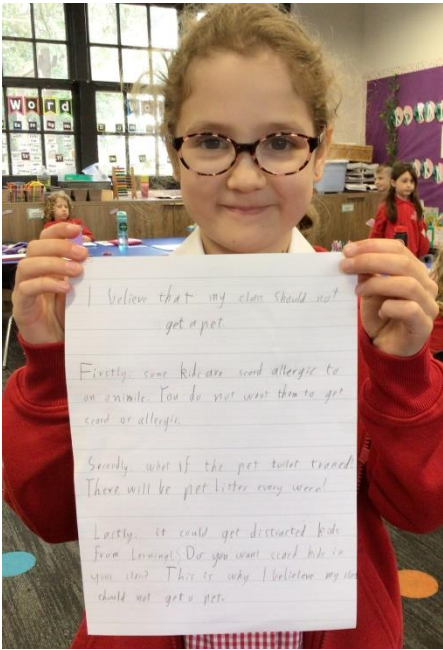


Freddie & Eli

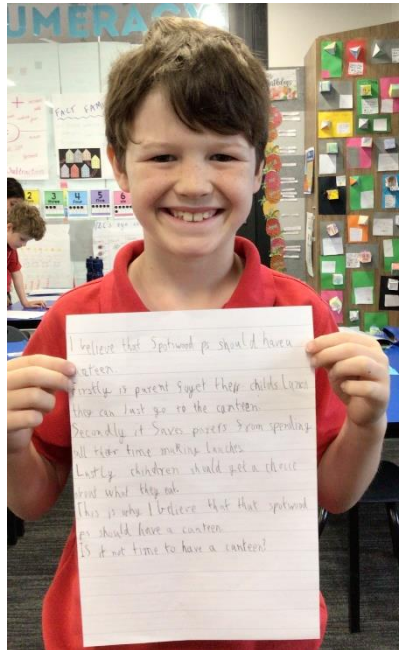
Melanie Voigt
Prep/1V Classroom Teacher

Year 1/2 Classes – Writing

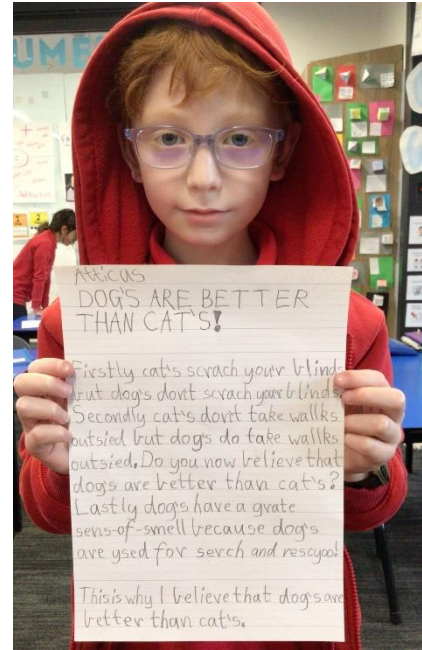
This week in writing, students independently wrote a persuasive writing piece. Students chose from a range of topics and developed their writing in line with the writing cycle. There were very convincing arguments and students worked hard to ensure they included important elements of persuasive language. The students seemed to enjoy trying to convince their reader with some creative ideas.



Margot



Bodhi



Atticus

Ruby Cridland
1/2C Classroom Teacher

Year 3/4 Classes - Inquiry

May the Force Be With You, Inquiry unit about forces. This week we have been exploring buoyancy. Our first lesson this week focused on testing out the buoyancy of different materials in preparation for the second session which involved creating a pirate ship or something similar from a variety of materials. Creating the pirate ships was a great success, though some might not look like pirate ships they sure did float and sail like one. We tested buoyancy by adding treasure (weights), some boats were able to hold over 600 grams of treasure.





James McKimmie
3/4T Classroom Teacher

Year 5/6 Classes – Buddy Program

Wednesday the 8th was an exciting day at Spotswood Primary, particularly for our older students. The Prep children of 2024 commenced their Prep Transition, and the school was abuzz with excited-but-also-a-little-bit-nervous children. The Buddy Program is such a rewarding initiative for both ends of the school, with our Year 5s and 6s helping ease the new students in – providing them with guidance, support, and friendship. As always, the new buddies spend some time preparing an All-About-Me sheet for their prospective buddies – sharing their likes and some interesting facts about themselves. Wednesday’s writing lesson focussed on this activity.



Aaron Turner
5/6T Classroom Teacher

Specialist – Music

In Music the Prep and Year 1 students have been learning to read, clap, and play four beat rhythmic patterns using percussion instruments. Students have learnt to read and play a quarter note (taa), quarter note rest (zaa) and eighth note (ti-ti).

Here are Prep 1/V & Prep 1/S reading and clapping rhythmic patterns:



Prep/1V



Prep/1S

Michelle Papafotiou
Music Teacher

Student Awards



Congratulations to the following students who received a Student Award at assembly today:

P/1S	Django Bryceson - for his amazing persuasive piece of writing and using rhetorical questions. Well done, Django!
P/1V	Madeline Johnson-Smith - actively listening and consistently contributing thoughtful ideas and responses. Great work Madeline!
1/2B	Grayson Williams - for writing a detailed persuasive piece and using different techniques to convince your audience. Well done!
1/2C	Margot Quinn- for writing a very persuasive and convincing writing piece. Well done Margot!
1/2J	Angus Bedford - for putting 100% effort into all of his learning tasks and always setting his work out neatly. Keep up the great effort Angus!
3/4K	Arabella Devlin - for displaying hard work during numeracy and gaining an understanding of money concepts.
3/4M	Tabitha Wright - for continuously challenging yourself to improve your writing by uplevelling your vocabulary and experimenting with new ideas. Well done!
3/4T	Finn Thompson - for working hard to begin drafting a captivating narrative and using the VCOP pyramids to level up your writing.
3/4V	Olivia Rotteveel – for continuously displaying fabulous role modelling by listening attentively, contributing to class discussions as well as applying great effort to build on your learning achievements.
5/6M	Tilly Saitta - for being a caring and respectful friend and superb listener. Your friendship skills are supporting others to make connections. Well done!
5/6P	Harris Dauti - for engaging enthusiastically in Book Club discussions, and always responding to blog prompts with thoughtful answers.
5/6T	Orlando Garrett - for consistently treating everyone with kindness and politeness, and showing genuine care for his classmates. Good on you Orlando.

Auslan	Halle Hitch (5/6M) - for always giving 100% in her Auslan lessons and trying hard to make connections to previous learning. Well done!
Music	Remi McWhinney (1/2B) - for accompanying his class on the acoustic guitar with the song "Here Comes The Sun". Remi played clear sounding chords to the beat. Keep up the great playing Remi!



To:
Kingston

Dates To Remember:

- Wednesday 15th November Prep 2024 Transition Session 2 (9.15am – 10.45am)
- Friday 17th November Prep Breakfast
 - Assembly (3.15pm)
- Monday 20th November 5/6P Excursion to Scienceworks
- Wednesday 22nd November..... Prep 2024 Transition Session 3 (9.15am – 10.45am)
 - 3/4M & 3/4K Excursion to Scienceworks
- Friday 24th November Assembly (3.15pm)
- Monday 27th November 1/2B Scienceworks Excursion
- Friday 1st December Pop Star Day
 - Assembly (3.15pm)
- Thursday 7th December Prep Celebration (3pm)
- Friday 8th December Assembly (3.15pm)
- Tuesday 12th December Year 7 Orientation Day (Government High Schools)
 - Step Up Day – 2024 Grades
 - Whole School Dance Program
 - School Council meeting (6.15pm)
- Wednesday 13th December Whole School Dance Program
- Thursday 14th December Whole School Dance Program
 - Year 6 Graduation
- Friday 15th December Year 5/6 Incursion
 - Whole School Dance Program
 - Assembly (3.15pm)
- Monday 18th December Year 6 Big Day Out
 - Whole School Dance Program
 - Tinsel Party
- Wednesday 20th December Last Day of Term 4 (1.30pm finish)
 - Assembly (1.10pm)

**DRESS UP LIKE A POP
STAR!**

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER
1ST 2023**

POP STAR DAY

**CHOIR
PERFORMANCE
AT ASSEMBLY**

**PLEASE BRING A GOLD
COIN DONATION FOR
THE SPOTSWOOD
MUSIC PROGRAM**