

# Spotswood Primary School

## Newsletter

Term 4 Week 8 • Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023



"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

### Prep Transition

This week we held our final Prep transition session and it went very smoothly! In this final session our new preps were able to meet their teacher for next year in their final class grouping. Next year we have 55 preps joining us and there will be 3 prep classes:

**Prep V** – Miss Voigt

**Prep S** – Miss Sherrin

**Prep T** – Mr Turner

Mr Turner is excited to join the prep team and our newest students are excited to join us next year. We look forward to them being a part of our school community.

### 2024 Classes

We are currently putting together classes across the rest of the school and during this process students will spend some time in mixed activity groups. Classes will not be finalised until Step Up Day where students will have a session with their 2024 class and teacher on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

We acknowledge that this time can bring a mixture of excitement and uncertainty for students and families and we want to reassure you that this is a complex 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 classes have a balance of social and academic profiles.

Students were able to nominate 5 learning partners that they work well with and we ensure that everyone will have at least one of these partners in their class next year. Moving into new class groups also provides the opportunity to explore new friendships and learning partnerships.

### Scienceworks Excursions

Some of the classes who won excursions to Scienceworks as part of the Hobsons Bay Sewer project have enjoyed their visits this week with 1/2B attending this coming Monday. Last night we received an email from another school who was in attendance at the same time wanting to pass on some feedback about our staff and students after some positive interactions throughout the day. What a lovely email to receive as a principal, it is great to hear that our school is being represented in this way when out on adventures. Well done everyone!

### School Review – Strategic Plan

Over the rest of this term and in Term 1 next year we will be developing our new Strategic Plan which will guide and underpin our work for the next 4 years. This is an important and exciting time for our school, and we would love to have your input into the process. We have had a small number of responses to our parent survey so far and invite you to contribute your ideas at: <https://forms.gle/i1pXzYFca5hhUPgr9>

...continued on next page

## Toilets

It has been a busy week with our toilet project with demolition well underway in the old toilets. Things are tracking well for the anticipated completion date which will enable us to use the new toilets from the start of 2024. Today our builder has made some adjustments to the external doors of the temporary toilets making them a little easier to open. They were a little heavy for some of our smaller students!

## 2024 Dates

To assist families with planning for next year, please be advised of the following dates

<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Teachers return to school
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Pupil Free Day – teachers planning and professional learning
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	Years 1-6 return to school
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	Prep students commence school

It will be a busy ride between now and the end of this year with only a few weeks left in the Term. Families are reminded that Term 4 will conclude on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 1:30pm.

Jackie Green  
Principal

## Curriculum Update – Term 4 Week 9

P – 2	
Reading	Mentor Poem: Gruffalo’s Child Poetry: Looking at rhyming words . Questioning for comprehension
Writing	Poetry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rhyming poems</li> </ul> Writing Cycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Word choice</li> <li>Verbs</li> </ul>
Spelling	Revision Week
Maths	Division (consolidation)
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	SWPBS – Kindness - What is kindness? Why is it important?
Grade 3 / 4	
Reading	Mentor Text: Gravity is a mystery  Reading Skill: Analysing information texts - Thinking Routine  Literature Circles - practising reading skills, carrying out task responses and engaging in group discussions.
Writing	Genre Focus: Explanation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to create a diagram for an explanation text.</li> <li>Revising and editing explanation texts using CUPS and ARMS.</li> <li>Writing Cycle.</li> </ul>
Spelling	Prefixes pro- and anti-
Maths	Topic: Fractions and Decimals consolidation 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	SWPB: How to be a “bucket filler”
<b>Grade 5 / 6</b>	
Reading	Class Novel - 47 Degrees Chapter 18 (No Privacy, 9pp) & Chapter 19 (A Kind Thing, 13pp).  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  Book Club: Discussion 7 Summarising and Conflict
Writing	Hybrid Writing Focus: Composing a hybrid
Spelling	Focus: digraph /ou/ as in ‘house’
Maths	Measurement and Geometry: Length & Distance  -Recognising the equivalence of measurements -1.25 m and 125 cm -Identifying and using the correct operations when converting units between mm, cm, m, km, g, kg, tonne etc.  -Converting between common metric units of length
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	RR- Problem Solving <u>Reflecting on everyday practice- going further</u>  Apply the ‘daisy problem-solving technique’ to analyse the problem encountered by a character in the novel or movie.  Ask: Where did they face a moment of choice?  What were some of the options they could have considered?  What choice did the character make at that moment?  Where might a different choice have led to a different outcome or ending to the story?

### Another week another policy (or two!)

Thanks to everyone who was able to read and provide feedback on the school policies featured in the last newsletter. Below you will find links to our draft Visitors policy and draft Student Wellbeing and Engagement policy. If you have any feedback on these policies, can you please email it to [emma.vasilevski@education.vic.gov.au](mailto: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.

[DRAFT-Visitors-Policy.pdf \(spotswoodps.vic.edu.au\)](#)

[DRAFT-Student-Wellbeing-and-Engagement-Policy.pdf \(spotswoodps.vic.edu.au\)](#)



Emma Vasilevski  
Assistant Principal



### Year 3/4 Classes – Excursion to Scienceworks

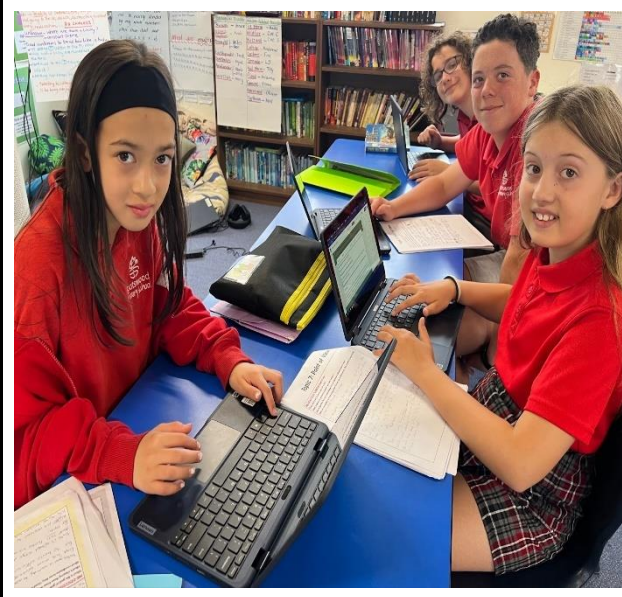
This week 3/4M and 3/4K went to Scienceworks. They had lots of fun exploring the lightning room and planetarium, learning all about Robots, Coding and the Solar System.



Amelia Fuller  
3/4K Classroom Teacher

### Year 5/6 Classes – Reading Blogs

This term, the cohort has been enormously busy connecting with literature and documenting their thinking via individual Blogs. We believe blogging is an effective way to create content and connect with an audience, along with being a valuable tool to share knowledge, expertise, and opinions with others. The weekly blogs have supported the students in honing their writing skills, offered an opportunity to listen to the perspective of others and work towards organising ideas and perspectives. This week, the Blogs focussed on understanding the point of view of the text. The students are looking forward to sharing their blogs with their families at the end of this term.



Gabe Mullins  
5/6M Classroom Teacher and Learning Specialist

### Specialist – Auslan LOTE

Students have been learning numbers 10-20 and using them in different contexts. They have been using their new number knowledge when requesting objects in different role play scenarios such as a Deaf led toy shop and a Deaf led lolly shop. Students have been working hard to use Auslan grammar when requesting objects, remembering that that the subject/topic goes first.

Here are some photos of students requesting lollies from their role play shop.





**Upcoming Deaf Event *This Weekend* (*open to everyone*)**



**Date: Saturday 25th November**

**Time: 10am - 4pm**

**Address: Sunshine College (West Campus), 25a Lachlan Road, Sunshine West**

They will have stalls, performers, face painting, petting zoo, food trucks, a fire truck and much more on the day.

# PLUS a Deaf Community Market featuring hobbyists and microbusinesses

Cards  
Candles  
Books

Artworks  
Textiles  
and more



We hope some of our families will be able to support this wonderful event. 𐝵 𐝵 𐝵

Pamela O'Sullivan  
Auslan LOTE Teacher



## Student Awards



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

P/1S	Luke McGraw - for showing all he knows about addition and recalling his additional number facts. Well done, Luke!
P/1V	Frances Smith - being really engaged in her learning and putting in her best effort across all areas. Amazing work Frances!
1/2B	Charli Welsh – for using a range of adjectives when writing an incredible shape poem about Butterflies. You are a poet in the making! Well done Charli!
1/2C	Atticus Butler - by always staying focused on doing his best work and producing an amazing shape poem. Great work Atticus!
1/2J	Lennox Coxon - for demonstrating a positive attitude towards his learning and staying on track with all of his tasks. Way to go Lennox!
3/4K	William Howard- using his initiative and always making sure he has all learning tools required to begin his learning. Well done Will.
3/4M	Aubree Bennett - for being a kind and helpful friend to everyone in the class and going out of your way to look after your classmates. Well done!
3/4T	Jet Diolosa - for being an organised and thoughtful learner, your contributions to our class learning environment create a positive and calm classroom.
3/4V	Sebastian Nedinis – for extending his skills in narrative writing by including interesting figurative language and a strong authorial voice.
5/6M	Zoe Smith - for always supporting your peers and using your patience and words of encouragement to assist with all learning in our classroom.
5/6P	Jem Murphy - for asking excellent questions and showing attentive listening during our Scienceworks excursion.
5/6T	Seth Miller - for always persisting and putting effort into ensuring he produces his best work at all times. Fantastic stuff Seth!



To:

Arielle, Zoe B, Harvey C, Ruby M, Seth, Austin, Triya

## Dates To Remember:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November ..... 1/2B Scienceworks Excursion

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December ..... Pop Star Day

Assembly (3.15pm)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December ..... Prep Celebration (3pm)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December ..... Assembly (3.15pm)

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December ..... Year 7 Orientation Day (Government High Schools)

Step Up Day – 2024 Grades

Whole School Dance Program

School Council meeting (6.15pm)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December ..... Whole School Dance Program

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December ..... Whole School Dance Program  
Year 6 Graduation

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December ..... Year 5/6 Incursion  
Whole School Dance Program  
Assembly (3.15pm)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December ..... Year 6 Big Day Out  
Whole School Dance Program  
Tinsel Party (5.30pm – 7.30pm)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December ..... Last Day of Term 4 (1.30pm finish)  
Assembly (1.10pm)

**Next Friday –  
1<sup>st</sup> December!!**

**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**