

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 1 • Friday 2nd February 2024



"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

As we start the new school year at Spotswood I'd like to say a very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined the Spotswood community this year. What an exciting first few days it has been!

WELCOME PREPS

We are delighted to welcome 55 new preps to our school in 2024. They have had a very successful first few days settling into school and are already becoming comfortable exploring the yard and getting to know us all.

NEW TOILETS

Oh my goodness, our new toilets are amazing. They are so clean, fresh and well designed and we are grateful to the builders for pushing hard on the timeline through January so that we have them for the start of the year.

The toilet cubicles are now floor to ceiling, there are soap dispensers at each sink and hand dryers installed. All the walls are tiled and the installation of a new vinyl floor will make cleaning a much easier task.

Students were all shown a video tour of the toilet and teachers talked with students about the importance of using these facilities respectfully and sensibly so that they are a safe place for everyone. We would encourage families to reinforce this conversation at home.



CALENDAR

We have included a copy of our Term 1 calendar in the newsletter today, it includes all the events we know about this term so far. More information about events will be provided as appropriate, however we know families find it helpful to have an overview of what is happening this term. Please understand that sometimes dates may need to change, or additional events may be added.

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WELCOME PICNIC

We invite our families to come to a Welcome Picnic on Tuesday 13th February between 4:30pm and 6:30pm here at school. We will be providing a sausage sizzle for everyone or you are very welcome to bring along your own picnic. We will send home an invitation for you to RSVP to next week to help us with catering estimates. This is the same night as our Parent/Teacher 'Get to Know You' meetings and we hope you can come!

PARENT TEACHER 'GET TO KNOW YOU' MEETINGS

At the beginning of the year we like to hold our 'Get to Know You' meetings as an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and share any information that may be important for the teachers to know. These meetings are 10 minutes in duration and will be held in the classrooms (or could be a phone call if you are unable to be here in person).

These meetings will be on Tuesday 13th February between 2:30pm – 7:00pm. Bookings will open on our Compass portal on Tuesday 6th February. If you need any help accessing Compass, please contact the office and we can assist you.

MORNING ROUTINE

The first bell that rings in the morning will be our 8:45am bell. This is to signal that the school buildings and classrooms are now open for students to enter, hang up their bags and either settle into the classroom or head out for a quick play before the music at 8:57am and the start of class bell at 9:00am.

Families are reminded that the yard is not supervised until 8:45am and that Kelly Club is available for families who need to drop their children at school before then.

LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DISMISSALS

LATE Teachers mark their rolls straight after the 9:00am bell and then begin their instruction times. Any student not in class at 9:00am will be marked as an 'unexplained absence'. Our roll system will send an SMS notification at 10:00am to parents for any unexplained absences.

If your child is arriving after the 9:00am bell, please remember to collect a late pass from the office so we can add their arrival to the roll and avoid you receiving a message.

LEAVING EARLY If you need to pick your child up before the end of the day, please come to the office and sign them out on our Compass system. This will ensure our roll is accurate and records all student movements.

NEW PLAYGROUND

During the January holidays, Stage 2 of our playground was installed. This was made possible by our amazing community who supported our fundraising efforts last year to raise the money we needed for this to happen. It has been such a sight to see children crawling and climbing all over the new equipment this week. There are a few photos in the newsletter of some of our Kelly Club students enjoying the first play during the school holidays.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our school class and individual photos are scheduled to be taken on Thursday 8th February. Later in the year the photographers will return to take sibling and other group photos, however this early session will enable us to update Compass with all of our new students at the start of the year.

Families are able to order their child's individual photos and class photos via Compass now.

LUNCH ORDERS

We have a new provider for our lunch orders this year, KingWill Catering. Lunch orders will be available on Mondays each week starting from Monday 12th February. Please look for an email with an introduction to our new provider and all the information you will need to set up for ordering.

Families are reminded that lunch orders are delivered at 1:30pm so you will still need to provide fruit break and a snack.

TREES

We are so fortunate to have a large number of beautiful and mature trees in our school yard. Every year we undertake a tree audit to identify any potential risks or safety concerns with branches and to ensure our trees are healthy. Many of our trees were trimmed during the school holidays and they will continue to be monitored each year.

NEW STEPS

The steps leading into the 1/2 (and 5/6E) building were quite worn and showing some rotting damage. A brand new set of stairs was installed during the break and they are much sturdier and nicer to look at.

SWIMMING TRIALS

This week Mr Lamb visiting the Year 3 to 6 classes and handed out information about our Swimming Trials to students who can confidently swim 50 metres without stopping and who wish to try out for the District Swimming Team.

Due to the Woolworths Spotswood Grand Opening next Friday morning, the days for the Boys and Girls swimming trials have been swapped.

The Girls trials will be held on Wednesday 7th February and the Boys trials will be held on Friday 9th February.

Our choir will be performing at the Woolworths Opening on Friday from 8am. If your child is in the choir, please provide permission for them to attend via Compass.

Jackie Green
Principal



To:

Hendrix, Remi M, Jory, Olive, Madeleine U, Hallie S, Lorelei, Laurence





Term 1 2024	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 January / February	29 Pupil Free Day	30 Pupil Free Day	31 Students in Years 1 to 6 return	1 Preps start (9am-12.30pm today)	2 Assembly (3.20pm)
	2	5	6	7 Swimming Trials (Girls)	8 School Photo Day	9 Choir performing at Woolworths Spotswood Grand Opening (8am) Swimming Trials (Boys) Assembly (3.15pm)
	3	12 Year 3/4 Incursion 'Democracy and Me' Lunch Orders start	13 Year 3/4 Incursion 'Democracy and Me' Get To Know You Parent/Teacher Meetings (2.30pm-7pm) Parents Welcome BBQ (4.30pm-6.30pm)	14	15 District Swimming Carnival	16 Young Leaders Day Assembly (3.15pm)
	4	19	20	21	22	23 Year 5/6 Summer Sport Round 1 (vs Altona North PS) Home Assembly (3.15pm)
	5 March	26	27 Finance meeting (5.30pm) School Council meeting (6.15pm)	28	29	1 Year 5/6 Summer Sport Round 2 (vs St Martins) Home Assembly (3.15pm)
	6	4 Preps start full time	5	6 Hobsons Bay Division Swimming Carnival Prep 2024 Information Night (7pm)	7	8 Year 5/6 Summer Sport Round 3 (vs Altona College) Away Assembly (3.15pm)
	7	11 Labour Day Public Holiday	12	13	14	15 Year 5/6 Summer Sport Round 4 (vs Bayside) Away Assembly (3.15pm)
	8	18	19	20	21	22 Year 5/6 Summer Sport Round 5 (vs St Mary's Altona) Away Assembly (3.15pm)
	9	25	26 School Council meeting (6.15pm)	27	28 Last Day of Term 1 (2.30pm dismissal)	29 Good Friday Public Holiday

Camps:

Year 3/4 Camp 21-23 August (Phillip Island)

Year 5/6 Camp 15-17 April (Camp Jungai)