

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 • Friday 9th February 2024



"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

School Photos

Yesterday we had our class and individual photos taken at school with MSP Photography. It was their first time visiting our school and they will return later in the year to take sibling and other group photos, School Captains etc.

As the photographers were leaving, they popped into my office to share what a special experience their day here at Spotswood Primary was. Rachel the photographer was so impressed by our students. She said they were so friendly and well behaved and she just loved watching the way everyone interacted. She also commented on the kind and positive energy staff had with their classes.

Wow! What lovely feedback to hear as a Principal!

Well done everyone, it's nice to be reminded why I love to come to work every day.

School photos will be available to families later in the term.



Swimming Trials

This week we had a great turn out to meet Mr Lamb at the pool for our swimming trials. Next week our swimming team will compete at the District Swimming event at the Victoria University Pool in Footscray. Families of students who are in the team will receive more information via Compass later today.

Lunch Orders

Our new lunch order partner, KingWill Catering, will be commencing their service on Monday 12th February. As the food is prepared fresh daily, orders will close at 8:00am on Monday so if you are planning a lunch order, make sure to get your order in before then. Information about how to sign up for KingWill Catering was sent home in an email last week.

When having a lunch order please don't forget to send along a snack for morning tea as the lunches don't arrive until 1:30pm.

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Choir Performance & Art Work

This morning our choir performed at the grand opening of Woolworths Spotswood across the road. We also presented Dom the Assistant Store Manager with some art works from our students as a welcome gift.

It was nice to be invited to this event and be present for a Welcome to Country from one of the Bunurong elders before our choir sang two songs to a very receptive audience.



Parent Teacher – Get To Know You Meetings

Tuesday 13th February

Thank you to all the families who have responded to our invitation to come along next week to our Get To Know You meetings. There has been a great response and teachers really value this opportunity to meet with you and find out a bit more about your children as we start the new year together. If you have not had a chance to book yet, you can still book in via Compass.

Welcome Picnic / BBQ 4:30pm – 6:30pm

We invite you to come along to our Welcome Picnic / BBQ on the same night and join us for a sausage sizzle, or bring along your own food if you prefer. Please feel free to bring along some picnic chairs and rugs so you can settle in and enjoy the night with us. To assist us planning for our catering, please follow the link below to let us know how many sausages we need to buy. There is also an opportunity to let us know of any dietary needs so that we can cater for them too. Please complete this information by 5pm on Monday.

<https://forms.gle/dE6J2dwmvPgZ2zzJ9>

If you are planning to bring your own food, you do not need to RSVP.

Medications At School

We are happy to support students who may need to take medication at school, this may be on a daily basis or due to a temporary medical condition. Families need to fill in a 'Medication Authority Form' and leave the medication at the office and we will store it safely throughout the day. Our First Aid room is equipped with a fridge so we can refrigerate medication if required.

Jackie Green
Principal

Curriculum Update – Term 1 Week 3

Prep	
Reading	WALT : get our mouths ready for reading, match one to one as we read
Writing	Special Prep Book Handwriting SMART Spelling Introduce Recount
Spelling	That ant had a hat. a, n and t as in ant
Maths	100 Days of School Number & Algebra Whole Number
SWPB* / Respectful Relationships	Emotional Literacy: Emotions Echo Game SWPBS - The Mascots. What is the Matrix?
Grade 1 / 2	
Reading	F&P first 20 days (3 weeks) Selected highlights, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing Epic Reading • Reading goals • Reading group guidelines • Buddy reading guidelines
Writing	Holiday Recounts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the writing cycle. Memoir <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Memoir • Writing in first person.
Spelling	y as in fly
Maths	Number & Place Value Recognise, model, read, write and order numbers to at least 100. Locate these numbers on a number line (VCMNA087) Develop confidence with number sequences to and from 100 by ones from any starting point. Skip count by twos, fives and tens starting from zero Investigate number sequences, initially those increasing and decreasing by twos, threes, fives and ten from any starting point, then moving to other sequences
SWPB* / Respectful Relationships	SWPB Toilets
Grade 3 / 4	
Reading	Reading Skills: Questioning, predicting, summarising. Identify the main idea. Mentor text: What can a citizen do.
Writing	Genre focus: Narrative - Working through the writing process during the week Generating Ideas Planning Drafting Edit and revise
Spelling	er as in fern
Maths	Topic: Number and Algebra Apply place value to partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to at least tens of thousands to assist calculations and solve problems (VCMNA153)
SWPB* / Respectful Relationships	SWPB: Learning Spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • classrooms • art room • wellbeing room

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • music room • PE
Grade 5 / 6	
Reading	Class novel- The Happiest Refugee NAPLAN- pre assessment Behind The News -listening and note taking We are learning to view current events in visual texts. Literature Circles- rotation 1
Writing	Writing Cycle Continue composing, refining and producing our Narratives. Speech writing- Participate in formal presentations for leadership positions. Apply for a leadership position in the school. Deliver a presentation, selecting and sequencing appropriate content elements for defined audiences and purposes
Spelling	'c' as in cat
Maths	Number and Algebra: Addition -Solving addition word problems involving whole numbers -Selecting and applying appropriate mental and written strategies -Explaining how an answer was obtained for an addition problem and justifying
SWPB* / Respectful Relationships	SWPB I can understand that different people bring a range of ideas and strengths. Strengths will continue to be examined through multiple intelligences and the survey.

* SWPB – School Wide Positive Behaviour

Term 1 Program Of Inquiry Units

P – 2

Knowing Ourselves – then and now

Students will be able to identify objects and local places from the past and describe how they have changed.

3 / 4

Knowing Why Things Are – making yourself heard

Societies create systems for citizens to live by.

5 / 6

Knowing Ourselves – Leadership

Dynamic leadership can influence the actions of individuals and a society.

Knowing Our World – Global Village

Australia is connected to countries in the Asia region, in terms of trade, migration, tourism, foreign aid, education, defence and/or cultural influences.

Continuous Reporting

At Spotswood Primary School, we use a Continuous Reporting Schedule across all subject areas to make sure families are getting timely and purposeful feedback on their child's learning progress.

What is Continuous Reporting?

As the name suggests, this type of reporting is continuous, which means that families are given meaningful feedback in real time and receive assessment results regularly throughout the Semester, rather than just twice per year at the end of each Semester.

Feedback may come in different forms. It may be formative, meaning that it was a test / work sample done prior to a unit of work to establish the student's current level of understanding, providing the teacher with direction on where to take them next. It may be summative, meaning that the results are from the end of a unit of work and reflect the student's achievement during to unit.

Not only does it allow students to constantly reflect on their progress and make improvements as they go, but parents are also more involved in their child's educational journey as they receive frequent updates of their progress.

So, a continuous report is one that is built throughout the Semester, and provides students and parents with an ongoing overview of how they're progressing.

What are the benefits of Continuous Reporting?

- The following are some of the major benefits associated with continuous reporting:
- Increases quantity, quality and consistency of feedback available to families
 - Supports families to more effectively track, reflect and improve their learning, assisting them to develop their ability to become independent learners
 - Supports teachers, students, parents and caregivers to take effective and immediate action to support student learning
 - Supports parents to develop a greater awareness of, and engagement with, their child's learning progress and achievements
 - Facilitates more meaningful and effective communication between students, parents, caregivers and teachers
 - Increases transparency and accountability for the student, teacher, parent and caregivers in relation to academic progress

How will we deliver the information?

Just like our current reporting cycle, all feedback will be released via Compass. You will receive a notification when there is a piece there for you to view. They will be available via the Learning Tasks Tab and are better accessed via your desktop computer rather than a mobile phone.

Will I still receive an end of Semester report?

Yes! As the comments and feedback on student performance will come throughout the Semester, end of Semester Reports will only include;

- Progression Point of achievement against the curriculum for the Semester
- General comment and indication of effort and behaviour

At Spotswood Continuous Reporting

Is...	Is not...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A way to keep up to date with your child's progress on a more regular basis • An opportunity to discuss with your child what they are doing at school and how they are going • Strengthening the partnership between school and home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An opportunity to have a Parent teacher interviews every time a piece of feedback / assessment is released. Teachers will contact you if they have a particular concern at any time during the Semester. Parent teacher interviews will still be available at the beginning of the year and at the last week of the Semester

So, what will this look like?

The teachers will use a variety of ways to give you feedback on how your child is going. Initially this will be only on mathematical concepts, however it will be expanded over the next few terms. Feedback will consist of one, or a combination of the below.

A Comment – the teacher may provide a personalised comment of the work completed by the student. It may provide you with information around what they have achieved as well as areas for future learning.

Achievement Dot Point – the teacher may issue a dot point based entirely around the students benchmark achievement on the task. This is based around the 5 point scale grading from Well above Standard, Above Standard, At Standard, Below Standard and Well Below Standard.

Personal Growth Dot Point – this dot point will indicate the growth in student's achievement from the beginning of a unit to the end of the unit. Eg: There might be a time where your child receives a 'Below Standard' dot point, yet a 'High Personal Growth' dot point to accompany it. This would indicate that the student may not have reached the Curriculum Benchmark Standard, yet they have made great progress in their personal achievement over the unit. Growth will be reported as High, Standard and Low.

Effort Dot Point – this dot point indicates the student's attitude and the amount of effort that they have put into this particular task. It will be reported as Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, Needs Attention.



Emma Vasilevski
Assistant Principal

What's Happening In Our Classrooms

Prep - Starting School

We are so proud of how confidently our Preps have started the school year! They are hanging up their bags and coming into the classroom with a smile on their faces. They are having a go at lots of new things and trying their best. This week the Preps have also met their Grade 5/6 buddies for the first time. The Grade 5/6 buddies have done a great job showing the Preps where everything is and making sure the Preps feel safe in the yard. Welcome to Spotty Preps! We are so proud of you!



Prep T



Prep S



Prep V

Melanie Voigt
Prep V Teacher

Year 1/2 - Transitioning to Grade 1/2

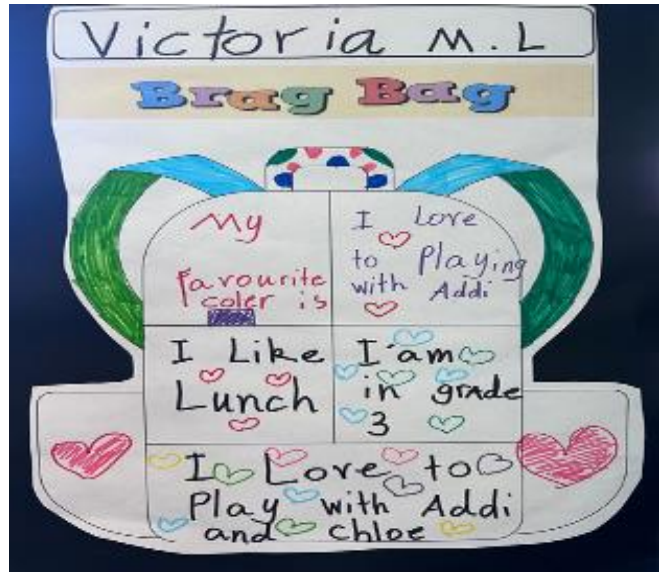
As grade 1/2 students transitioned back to school last week, they embarked on an exciting journey of re-establishing classroom expectations, rules and norms. With enthusiasm and anticipation, they eagerly jumped back into learning, embracing the challenges and opportunities that Grade 1/2 have to offer. Making new friends and getting to know their new teacher and peers became a central focus, fostering a sense of camaraderie and belonging within the classroom and wider school community. Through engaging activities and collaborative discussions, students navigated the transition with resilience and positivity, laying the foundation for a fulfilling and enriching academic year ahead.



Maddison Knight
1/2K Teacher

Year 3/4 - Getting to know each other

The Year 3/4s have enjoyed getting to know their new class friends and set up fresh classroom routines and agreements. The Brag Bags gave students an opportunity to share special interests and favourite things with their grade. New classroom routines and agreements were made by re-visiting our School Wide Positive Behaviour Matrix of Learning, Community and Safety. All students contributed ideas to form these agreements. We also talked about the importance of kindness and filling everyone's bucket.



Sally Vaughan
3/4V Teacher

Year 5/6 - Essential Agreements

We have commenced the year by revisiting the School Wide Positive Behaviour Matrix and have created an Essential Agreement for each of our classrooms. Essential agreements are shared norms and agreed upon goals for the smooth running of our learning environments. The creation of these agreements is a collaborative action, and aims to set the tone for teamwork, mutual respect and a commitment to ensuring everyone can achieve their best. This sense of empowerment encourages us to embrace 2024 and ensure learning is positive, engaging and importantly, fun!

These are the Essential Agreements created by each of the 5/6 classes. We look forward to sharing our learning spaces with you.

In 5/6M this year, we agree that we will...

- Treat everyone with respect and kindness
 - Be responsible at all times
- Try new things all of the time and take risks
- Encourage others to put in their best effort
 - Be caring and always help others
 - Give others space and alone time
- Be resilient, enthusiastic, sensible, and work hard
- Keep our workspaces, classroom and property neat and organised
- Follow instructions and listen carefully to get all opinions and ideas
 - Use positive language and be positive about our day
 - Ask for help when necessary
 - Manage our time effectively
 - Hand in our best work

HAVE FUN AND ENJOY OUR YEAR!

Handwritten names around the poster: Orlas, Finn, Archer, Zoey, Esme, Milli, Liam, Seth, Sid, Tyler, Zoe.S, Seb.N, Winter, Millie, Evan, Mrs. Mullins, Elke, Olivia, Clara, Ayden, Marins, Wilco, Phineas.

Essential Agreement

In 5/6E we are **respectful**.

- We listen to each other and are open to having our minds changed
- We have respect for everyone and listen to what they need.

In 5/6E we are **kind**.

- We look after each other to ensure we all feel safe and calm
- We will offer help to anyone who needs it
- We allow ourselves to laugh when someone makes a joke
- We never laugh at someone else's expense.

In 5/6E we are **dedicated**.

- We focus on our work and try to ignore distractions
- We always put in our best effort
- We are responsible and look after our learning materials.

In 5/6E we are **communicators**.

- We make decisions that will best suit everyone e.g., noise level, classroom temperature, music, etc.

*Handwritten names: Liam/the goat, Jack, Amelia, Ruby, Neil, William, Andrew, Sophie, Olivia, @gia, Marlow, Clem, Tabie, Tabber, Harry, Ava, Winter, *MILES*, Ben, Spencer.*

Essential Agreement 5/6 O

1. We are kind and take care of everyone.
2. We are critical thinkers who try to solve problems ourselves first.
3. We listen and look when others are speaking.
4. We ask permission to leave the room.
5. We are responsible and take care of ourselves and our materials.
6. We include everyone.
7. No Talking while ANYBODY else is talking
8. using the appropriate language in class and in the school yard.
9. Be kind to others and use an inside voice.
10. Treat other people how you want to be treated.
11. Don't take supplies from your peers.
12. No touching things you do not own
13. We enter and exit the room in an orderly manner.
14. Be polite to others
15. Keep the room tidy and take shoes off before you enter

Handwritten signatures: MB, El, Jayde, Men, Jgg, Emeraude H. Green, DG, GL (office), Harry.

Gabrielle Mullins
5/6M Teacher and Learning Specialist

Specialist – PE

We have been very lucky to start our PE year with some hockey clinics delivered by a couple of stars from the Footscray Hockey Club. Grade 1-4 students have been introduced to some basic skills of hockey such as dribbling, stopping and drag passing the ball to a partner.

The Footscray Hockey Club are running free come and try evenings (details below) throughout February and early March for anyone interested.



Chris Lamb
PE Teacher



COME & TRY HOCKEY



Who: 4 -12 year olds NEW to the game of hockey
Where: Footscray Hockey Club, Fogarty Ave Yarraville
(Down by the Westgate Freeway)
Time: U6 & U8 5.15 – 6.00
U10 & U12 6.00 – 6.45
Dates: Wednesday 21 & 28 Feb & 6 Mar
Cost: FREE ! Just turn up!

Equipment: Hockey sticks and shin guards are available to borrow by new players. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early to have a hockey stick fitted



Fun **Friendly** **Inclusive** **Engaging**

Come and Try enquiries please contact:
Nicole 0424 132 715 come-and-try@footscrayhockey.com.au
www.footscrayhockey.com.au Facebook: @footscrayhockey

Student Awards:



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

- Prep S** Marlow Tucker - for being a great inclusive friend in PS and asking other students if they want to play. Well done, Marlow!
- Prep T** Billy Bedford - for having a wonderful start to Prep, displaying great active-listening on the mat and focus at his desk. Well done Billy!
- Prep V** Bodhi Slatkin - showing resilience and for being super responsible and helpful at school. What a fabulous start to Prep Bodhi!
- 1/2B** Caleb Miller - showing fantastic listening on the carpet and making sensible choices at your table. Well done!
- 1/2K** Alexander Westhorpe - for having a wonderful transition to Spotswood Primary. We love having you a part of 1/2K!
- 1/2P** Arielle Mather - for having a dedicated and no-nonsense approach to maximising her learning time.
- 3/4C** Daniel Harris - for continuously being organised and ready to learn. What a great start to the year!
- 3/4K** Ben Maher - for having a wonderful start to the year and being a helpful and kind member of Grade 3/4K. Thank you Ben!
- 3/4M** Luke Thomas - for starting the school year with a positive attitude and being eager to participate in class activities.
- 3/4V** Kingston La - for being the first one on the floor ready to learn, showing active listening and taking pride in his work. Champion!
- 5/6E** Ruby Miller - for your fantastic start to Grade 6 this year. You have demonstrated exemplary organisation, dedication and responsibility and are a role model for your peers. Well done!
- 5/6M** Orla Lynch - for living out the Spotty values by being a supportive and organised class member. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to creating a wonderful learning space for us to thrive in.
- 5/6O** Grace Clark - for going above and beyond in our 'rocket writing' and using author's craft techniques to create beautiful imagery. Well done Grace!
- PE** Luke McGraw - for helping demonstrate his excellent hockey skills during our hockey clinics this week.



To:

William T, Nate C, Andrew

Dates To Remember:

- Monday 12th February Year 3/4 Incursion 'Democracy & Me'
- Tuesday 13th February Year 3/4 Incursion 'Democracy & Me'
- 'Get To Know You' Parent/Teacher meetings
- Parents Welcome Picnic / BBQ (4.30pm – 6.30pm)
- Thursday 15th February District Swimming Carnival

Friday 16th February Young Leaders Day

Assembly (3.15pm)

Camps:

Year 3/4 Camp 21st – 23rd August (Phillip Island)

Year 5/6 Camp 15th – 17th April (Camp Jungai)