

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter



Term 2 Week 1 • Friday 19th April 2024

"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

I hope you were able to enjoy some rest time over the school holidays. I spent a few days in Bright and was surrounded by so many beautiful trees changing colour with the start of Autumn. Driving in to school this morning through the rain was a reminder that the seasons have definitely changed.

Despite this change in the weather, I would like to remind families of the guidelines that inform our SunSmart Policy. Hats are to be worn from the 1st September through until the 30th April.

Historically I think many families recall a Term 1 & Term 4 approach to wearing hats, however the 'hat season' creeps into Term 2 and starts again towards the end of Term 3. Please make sure your child has their hat at school for the next few weeks.

Year 5/6 Camp

What a way to start the term! I was able to pop up and visit our Year 5/6 students at Camp Jungai earlier in the week and shared the delightful experience of watching a mob of kangaroos gathering on the camp lawn at dusk. The setting for this camp was breathtakingly beautiful and the first thing I noticed when I arrived on Tuesday afternoon was the peaceful and calm feeling around the place and how relaxed students seemed. One student I spoke to gave it a 10½ out of 10!

I would like to take this moment to thank the staff who attended camp for taking on this additional commitment and providing our students with the opportunity to build some lovely memories of their time on camp. Next week's newsletter will include a recap of the activities and lots of photos. Many of our camp activities explored indigenous culture through nature and art activities. Families may be interested in the Boollam Boollam Willum Cultural and Biodiversity Festival on next weekend in Hobsons Bay. We have included a flyer in the newsletter with more information.

ANZAC Day

I'm sure you will all be aware that next Thursday is ANZAC Day and there will be no school that day. On Wednesday 24th our School and House Captains will be selling ANZAC badges and items to support our local RSL. Once we receive the items, we will email families with a list of what is available and prices if you would like your child to purchase anything.

Our assembly next Friday will include an acknowledgement of ANZAC Day and will start a little earlier at 3:00pm.

Staffing Update

As families will be aware, Mrs Vasilevski is in an Acting Principal role at Kingsville PS this term. Following our internal recruitment process, we have now backfilled her position. I am pleased to share that Mr Justin Canny will be our Acting Assistant Principal for Term 2. Ms Fuller, who has already been providing Mr Canny's leadership release time in 3/4C, will pick up the additional days in the class for Term 2.

...continued on next page

Year 6- 7 Transition

This week students in Year 6 brought home their Year 7 2025 transition packs which outlines the key process and timelines for applying for Year 7 placement in the government school system. Last year we held a 'Friday Forum' offering families the opportunity to come and talk through the process and ask any questions that may be on your mind. We will offer this opportunity again to families of Year 6 students on Friday 26th April at 2:30pm in the Wellbeing Room. Please RSVP to spotswood.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Families of students in Year 5 are also welcome to come along if you would like to know how the process will work for you next year.

Hoodie Up Day – or Wear Yellow or Blue! – Friday 26th April

April is Autism Awareness month and at Spotswood Primary School we will support this with our annual 'Hoodie up Day' on Friday 26th April.

Students are encouraged to wear a hoodie to support Autism Awareness. Or if you don't have a hoodie, other options are to wear yellow or blue!

Why hoodies? Some Autistic people experience sensory sensitivities and can become overloaded by stimuli in their environment; wearing their hoodie up means they can block out bright lights and busy environments which can help them feel more calm and less overwhelmed. By putting our hoodies up, we're demonstrating support and inclusion for Autistic people, and celebrating the diversity autism brings to our world.

The colour **blue** is associated with a calm feeling and a feeling of acceptance in an otherwise loud and busy world for people on the spectrum. **Yellow** is a colour that promotes happiness, success and celebration. This is the colour associated with Yellow Ladybugs, an organisation committed to shine a positive light for autistic girls.

Jackie Green
Principal

Victorian State Schools Spectacular & Choir Rehearsals

29 of our students are participating in this year's Victorian State Schools Spectacular.

During Term 2 rehearsals will be scheduled for the following days for those students involved.

Victorian State Schools Spectacular rehearsals will be held on Monday lunchtime.

School Choir rehearsals will be held on Thursday lunchtime.

Michelle Papafotiou
Music Teacher



Boollam Boollam Willum

CULTURAL AND BIODIVERSITY FESTIVAL

Come along to connect with Traditional Owner culture and gain insights into the natural environment of Hobsons Bay

Kid-
friendly
event

April 12 & April 27 2024

9.30am-1pm

Truganina Park
Andrew Park Drive, Altona 3018
(directional signage from carpark)

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Smoking ceremony & didgeridoo performance (Yidiki) - 10am | Nature walks with Bunurong Elder, Uncle Shane and Ranger, Andrew Webster | Basket weaving workshop | Aboriginal art & culture workshop | Native plant propagation workshop and giveaway | Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre and Blue Carbon Lab leading citizen science opportunities | Chance to win a free cat enclosure valued at over \$750 | Free BBQ | Native animal face painting & The Connies



Register on
the day to go
into the draw!



Student Awards:

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



Prep S Liam Denis - for always trying his best and learning so many of his letters and sounds.
Well done, Liam!

Prep T Ned Dyer - for concentrating very hard on his Addition work in Maths, including successfully using the symbols. Great job Ned.

Prep V Eleanor Lee - being a responsible class member who helps with packing up and keeping our classroom organised. Well done!

1/2B Jess Oldfield - for his eagerness to contribute to class discussions and for his diligence in completing tasks.

1/2K Campbell Barker - for being a wonderful classmate, you are always kind and considerate of others.
Thank you for always checking in on your classmates!

1/2P Badger Styles - for his great contributions to the class and understanding of the difference between facts and opinions. Well done Badger.

3/4C Archer Wolrath - being a collaborative and cooperative member of the school, especially in the sandpit!
Well done, thank you for building our community.

3/4K Odin Miller - for consistently applying enormous effort to all of his school work and for contributing interesting information to our class discussions. Thank you Odin!

3/4M Molly Mawson - for being a respectful member of the class and demonstrating the school values whilst a CRT is present. You are a true role model. Well done Molly!

3/4V Tahli Johnston – for being a risk taker when volunteering to read to the whole class and when responding to question prompts during our lessons.

5/6E Marlow Heselton - for your amazing attitude on 5/6 Camp this week. You demonstrated great initiative, cooperation and teamwork skills. Well done!

5/6M Millie Boothroyd - for demonstrating a growth mindset and involving yourself in all activities during our 5/6 camp. Your resilience and confidence was fabulous to witness.

5/6O Owen McGraw - for being an amazing participant during our cultural evening and showing great teamwork, respect and interest in all our camp activities. Well done, Owen!



To:

Finn Thompson, Tom Spiteri, Halle B, Aubree, Khushi, Bodhi A

Dates To Remember:

Friday 19th April..... Assembly (3:15pm)

Tuesday 23rd April..... School Council meeting (6.15pm)

Wednesday 24th April..... ANZAC Day badges for sale by School Captains & House Captains

Thursday 25th April..... ANZAC Day (Public Holiday)

Friday 26th April..... Hoodie Up Day for Autism
Friday Forum: Year 6/7 Transition (2:30pm in the Wellbeing Room)
Assembly (3:00pm)

Saturday 27th April Slow Food Market (9am – 1pm)

Wednesday 1st May Code Camp after school program commences

Friday 3rd May..... Altona District Cross Country Championships
Assembly (3:15pm)