

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter



Term 2 Week 2 • Friday 26th April 2024

"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

I was a bit confused driving in this morning, it felt a bit like a Monday after yesterday's public holiday for ANZAC Day. This week we sold ANZAC Day badges and other items to raise funds for the RSL. We will finish the week with our special ANZAC Day commemoration at assembly today led by our student leaders.



Slow Food Market

The Slow Food Market will be back tomorrow with a busy roster of stalls attending. The school receives a portion of the gold coin donations made at the entry to the market and we are dedicating this fundraising towards purchasing new outdoor furniture for the yard and our community to use both during the day, when waiting for pick up and as an additional area for students to eat at.

School Council

This week we held our first meeting of our new School Council and elected our 2024/25 office bearers. School Council meets twice a term and includes parent and staff representatives. Our School Council office bearers are:

President	Marisa Magee
Vice President	Nadia Albert
Treasurer	Titan Sigle

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Pupil Free Days 2024

Schools are able to schedule 4 Curriculum Days and 1 Professional Practice Day each year, totalling 5 Pupil Free Days. We had 2 Pupil Free Days at the start of the year before students returned to school, leaving 3 more for this year. School Council have approved the following dates for the remainder of our pupil free days for 2024 with one to take place each term. We have confirmed with Kelly Club that a day care program will be available for families who require support on these days.

Pupil Free days are an important opportunity for staff to come together as a group for professional learning, to undertake assessment and reporting duties and to improve our practice. We will be utilising our days to embed the work of our new Strategic Plan which will be finalised in the coming weeks.

We have chosen to have our next day on a Thursday as this is the day all of our staff, including part time staff, are in attendance and therefore will have the opportunity to participate.

Term 2	Thursday 30 th May	Strategic Plan Learning Goal focus
Term 3	Monday 2 nd September	Strategic Plan Wellbeing Goal focus
Term 4	Monday 18 th November	Assessment and Reporting

Hoodie Up Day

There were lots of students joining in as we celebrated Hoodie Up Day today by wearing hoodies, yellow or blue clothes, three of the ways autism is represented.

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.

Thank you everyone for supporting Hoodie Up Day!

Jackie **Green**
Principal

Garden Update

We now have a small team of volunteers keen to start their work in the kitchen garden. Thank you to the parents who have reached out to Brooke (Liam's Mum) so far to say you can help.

The mini Working Bees in the kitchen garden will start on Thursday 2nd May and will run every Thursday and Friday after school.



If you would like to do some weeding, pruning, general tidying up and caring for our fruit trees and kitchen garden, please contact Brooke on 0411 387 299 or come along after school on the 2nd.

Please bring your gardening gloves as well!

Change of Rehearsal Day for Victorian State Schools Spectacular & School Choir

We have changed the rehearsal days for the State Schools Spectacular and School Choir.

From next week (29th April) School Choir rehearsal will be held on Monday lunchtime and State Schools Spectacular rehearsals will be held on Thursday lunchtime.

Michelle Papafotiou
Music Teacher

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

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

April 12 & April 27 2024

9.30am-1pm

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

Kid-friendly event

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!

HOBSONS BAY LANGUAGE LINE 9932 1212

Council acknowledges the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of these municipal lands and waterways, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

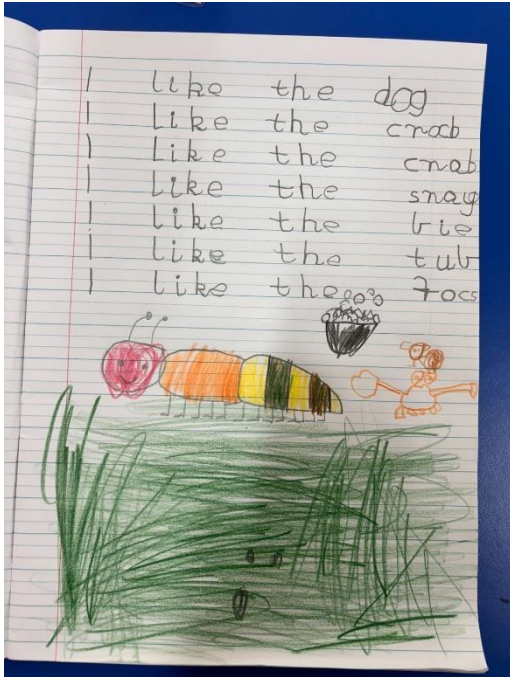
Scan for more information and event schedule

What's Happening In Our Classrooms

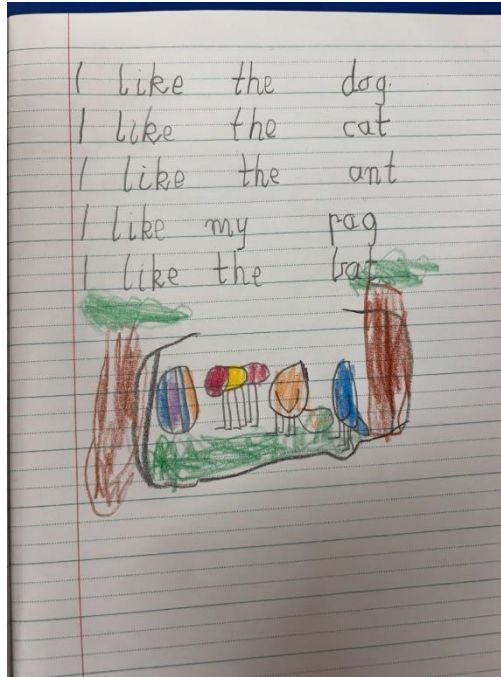
Prep - Poem Writing

This week, the preps have been working hard on creating their first ever poem! Students learnt about the structure of an 'I like' poem and learnt that every sentence starts on a new line. We used smart spelling words, along with cvc (consonant, vowel, consonant) words to practise stretching out the word and listening for the sounds to write. They all did such a wonderful job, and should be so proud!

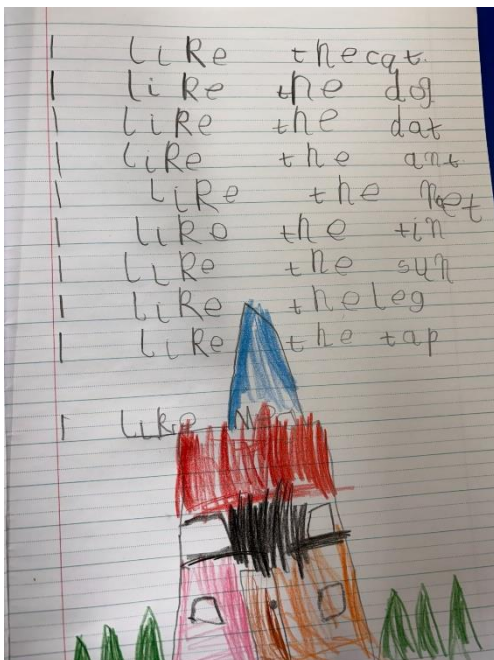
Jasper



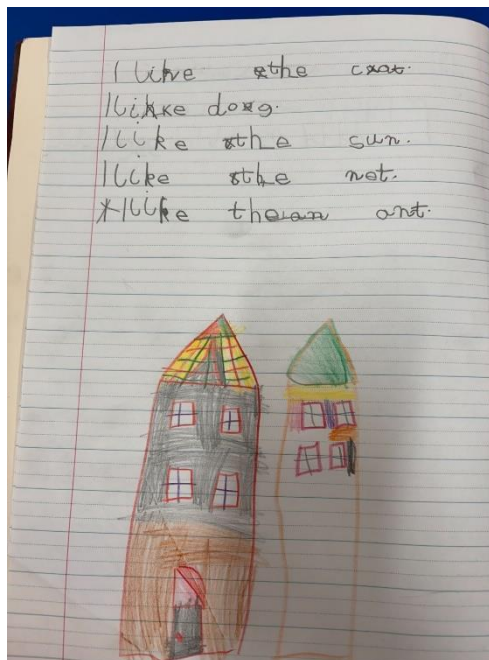
Mihailo



Muhammad

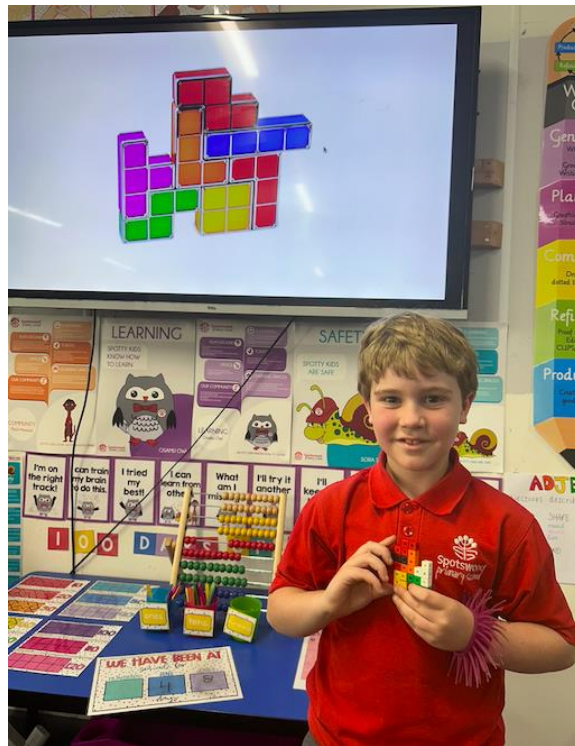


Marlow



Year 1/2 - Volume and Capacity

Over the past two weeks the students in 1/2 have been learning about Volume and Capacity. During our capacity lessons, students used water to estimate, measure and compare the capacity of different containers and report their findings. Throughout our work on volume students built their own 3D shapes and calculated the volume of these shapes.



Tianne Ball
1/2B Classroom Teacher

Year 3/4 – Anzac Day Activity

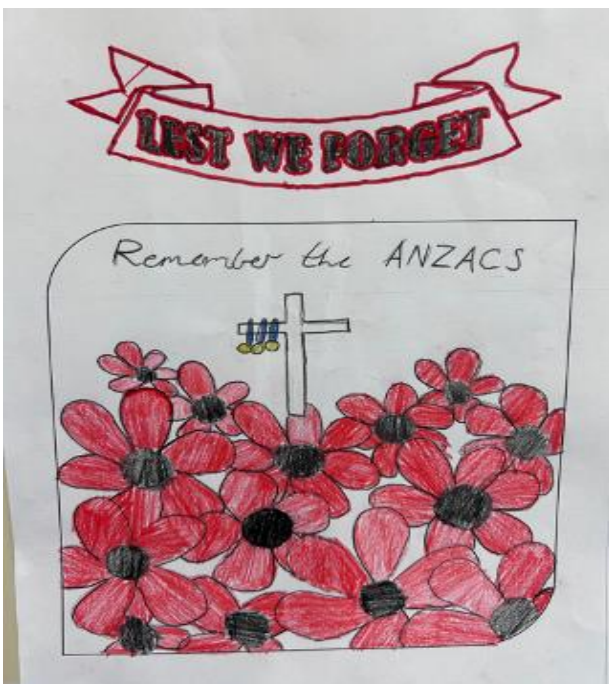
This week the 3/4 students discussed the importance of commemorating Anzac Day. We watched videos and discussed events that took place on the Gallipoli Peninsula at Anzac Cove. Students shared their knowledge about symbols that they associate with Anzac Day before spending time to create their own symbol designs to represent what Anzac Day means to them. They were quite proud of their beautiful designs!



Mason



Remi



Olivia R



Jack

Sally Vaughan
3/4V Classroom Teacher

Year 5/6 – Camp Jungai

Situated in the stunningly beautiful Victorian High Country, surrounded by trees, animals, golden sunsets, and the flowing Rubicon River, the Year 5/6 cohort enjoyed a fabulous three days of adventure and exploration with their peers and teachers at Camp Jungai. Known for its quality programs and Indigenous Cultural experiences, the students were immersed in a cultural program developed with specialist input from “Aunty Winnie” of the Taungurung people. The highlight for many was the painting and throwing of boomerangs along with the rich cultural heritage and artefacts, storytelling and cultural evening. Aunty was very impressed by the creativity of our students and will be using their work to inspire others in the future. Our students have definitely left camp motivated to continue learning about our shared history. Here is a personal reflection from Orla Lynch 5/6M and photos from our recent experience.

Camp Jungai was a fun experience. One of the highlights was everyone went out of their comfort zones and tried activities such as boomerang throwing, possum pull which is a giant swing, indigenous games with Aunty Winnie who is an Aboriginal elder, canoeing, low ropes course and a nature walk where we learned how to survive in the wilderness. A popular activity was the nature art session, where we made artwork out of natural resources, such as charcoal from the campfire, sticks, leaves and rocks. The accommodation was surprisingly clean, warm and comfortable. Each cabin had approximately 9 people. My favourite activity was the 4 Indigenous games called Kangaroo and Kai. Overall, the three day camp was really enjoyable and I definitely didn't want to leave. By Orla





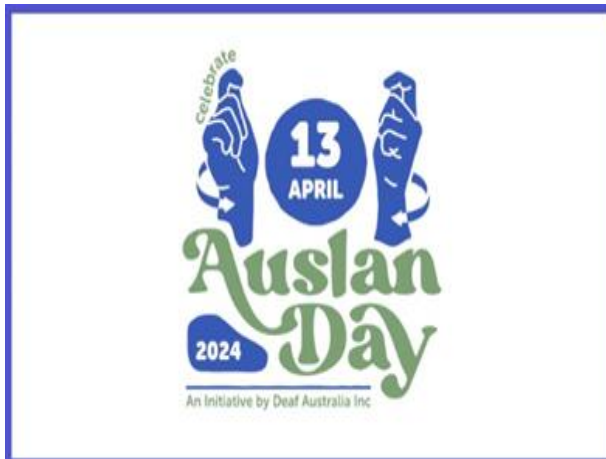
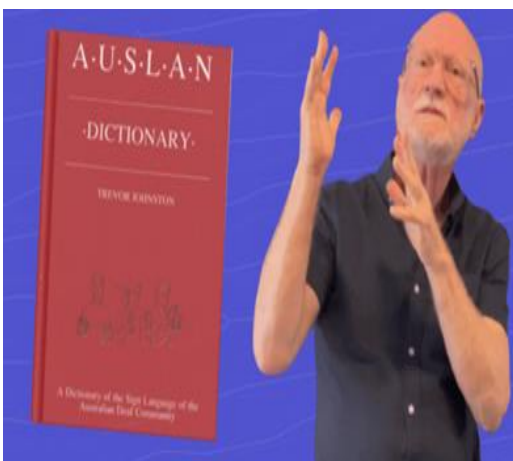
Gabrielle Mullins
5/6M Classroom Teacher and Learning Specialist

Specialist - Auslan

Spotty Auslan Day

What is Auslan Day?

Auslan Day celebrates the rich history, culture, community and language of the Australian Deaf community by honouring the date of first publication of the Auslan dictionary in April 1989 .



At the end of last term we celebrated Auslan Day at Spotty Primary. This year our dress up themes to raise money for Deaf Children Australia were based around Auslan signs that our students are currently learning.

Deaf Children Australia.

In **Prep** students are learning animal signs and they were invited to wear a t-shirt/jumper with an animal on it to celebrate the fact that Auslan is a visual language.



Can you guess what animal sign the Preps are signing?



Here are some Prep T students proudly showing off their Auslan stickers and badges from our Auslan Day stall. These wonderful items were designed and made by Deaf business Auslanity.

Thank you for being a Deaf ally and raising money for Deaf Children Australia Preps!

In **Grade 1-6** students dressed up as a Spotty teacher of their choice. Our students thought very carefully about what their teacher looks like and dresses like, as the Deaf community go into detail when describing a person due to being so visual e.g how they wear their hair, shape of their glasses etc. Here are some highlights from the day.



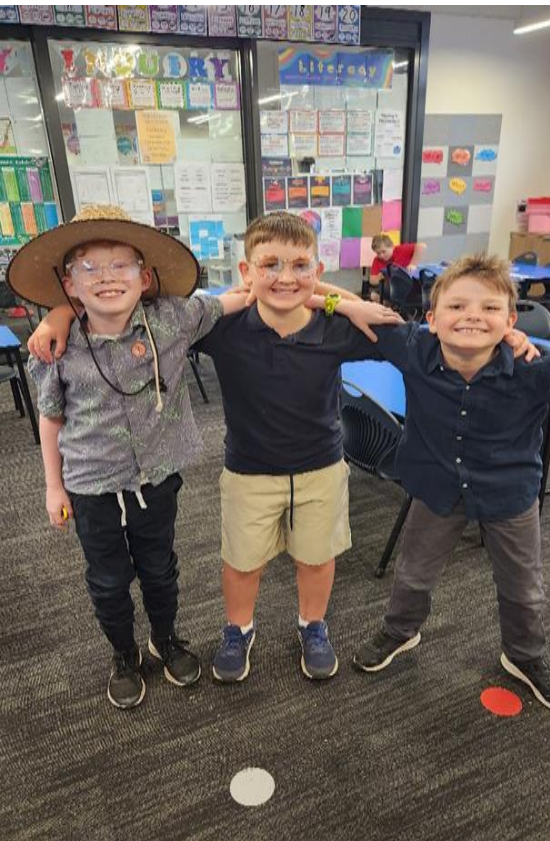
Mr Turners



Ms Asps



Ms Mullins



Mr McKimmies



Mr Pollards



Mr Lambs



Ms Balls

Our teachers also decided to celebrate Auslan Day by dressing up as students. There were lots of smiles and laughter and fingerspelling happening throughout the day as our Spotty community swapped roles for the day!



Date to remember!

We will be holding another stall to sell the remaining Auslan badges and stickers on **Friday 3rd May**. Badges are \$3.50 and stickers are \$3.00. \$1.00 from every item bought will be donated to Deaf Children Australia. We would love to raise as much money as possible for Deaf Children Australia who delivers a range of resources, programs, and events dedicated to supporting families with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children.

Student Awards:

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



Prep S Leonardo Smith Morales - for his amazing hard work when learning to master his dotted thirds! Well done, Leonardo!

Prep T Billy Robinson - for showing great effort and determination when writing his 'I like' poem. Great job Billy!

Prep V Ruby La - coming into our classroom with confidence in the mornings and for sharing lots of ideas during our classroom discussions. Awesome!

1/2B Pippa Boothroyd - focusing hard to write some amazing opinion sentences. Well done Pippa!

1/2K Georgia Willis - for being an incredible role model in 1/2K. Thank you for always being a positive leader for your peers and trying your best at everything you do

1/2P Otis Ross - for showing terrific concentration and commitment to learning this week.

3/4C Max Harvey - for demonstrating a strong understanding of how an autobiography is structured including the use of chronological order and using important words to engage the reader.

3/4K Summer Rust - for always coming to school with a positive attitude to all facets of school life. Thank you for your thoughtful contributions to our class discussions and working with all of your peers so cooperatively!

3/4M Juin Khye Ooi - for working hard to learn your timetables and sharing your knowledge of multiplication with your peers this week.

3/4V Olivia Grundy – for initiating the improvement of the succulent garden with her Inquiry group and continuing to care for the garden during her playtimes.

5/6E Spencer Riley-Chan - for your fantastic level of effort and focus completing your data representation and interpretation project this week. Well done Spencer!

5/6M Phineas Soussan - for continuing to involve your peers in all activities. You are recognised for your remarkable contribution to team dynamics and support of others. Congratulations!

5/6O Ben Slade - for his responsible approach to tracking classroom laptops, ensuring they are charged and locked up safely. Wonderful job Ben!

Auslan Odin Miller - for demonstrating Growth Mindset in Auslan classes. It has been great to see a shift in your thinking and how this has helped you to improve your Auslan skills. Keep it up!



To:

Oliver U, Una, Joshua B, Emme, Billy B

Dates To Remember:

- Saturday 27th April Slow Food Market (9am – 1pm)
- Wednesday 1st May Code Camp after school program commences (3.45pm – 5pm)
- Friday 3rd May Altona District Cross Country Championships
Auslan Day badges & stickers for sale
Assembly (3:15pm)
- Tuesday 7th May Year 3/4 State Library excursion (3/4M & 3/4K)
- Wednesday 8th May Code Camp (3.45pm – 5pm)
- Thursday 9th May Year 3/4 State Library excursion (3/4V & 3/4C)
- Friday 10th May Year 7 application forms due back to school
Winter Sport Round 1 (Away vs Altona North PS)
Assembly (3.15pm)
- Tuesday 14th May Finance meeting (5.30pm)
School Council meeting (6.15pm)
- Wednesday 15th May Code Camp (3.45pm – 5pm)
- Friday 17th May Winter Sport Round 2 (Away vs St Martins PS, Laverton)
Assembly (3.15pm)