

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter

Term 2 Week 3 • Friday 3rd May 2024



"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

Prep 2025

It is hard to believe that we are already starting to think about enrolments for prep next year, but the timeline comes around so quickly! I have had the delight of showing some families around the school as they have come along for a tour of Spotswood Primary School. I always feel a great sense of pride walking through our classrooms and seeing our staff and students engaged in their learning. The school has a lovely calm and friendly energy that is often commented on by our visitors and each tour is a reminder to me of how lucky I am to lead this lovely community.

Slow Food Market

I didn't make it along to last weekend's market, but feedback was that there were a wonderful range of stalls on site. The contrast from last month in the photos was amazing as our oval is now a lush green site again!

Slow Food Melbourne donate a portion of the gate takings to our school and so far after 2 markets the partnership has raised \$1183.10. We have agreed to utilise this money to purchase some new outdoor tables and seating around the school which will benefit our community. Some of our old seats have been here a very long time and are ready for an upgrade!

Building Fund

Thank you to all the families who contributed to our Building Fund in 2023. The money we raised last year from our community in this process has enabled us to install new spilt systems in our prep classrooms and Auslan room. The old wall furnace gas heaters and roof mounted evaporative cooling systems are very old and these new systems will be much more efficient and effective. The timing has worked very well with the cooler mornings this week!

Illness

Yesterday staff had the opportunity to have a flu vaccine here at school, it is a good reminder to all of us that we are headed into the time of year where we see more colds, flu and COVID cases. We will continue to support good hygiene practices with hand sanitiser and reminders about hand washing. Please support everyone in our community and do not send your child to school if they are unwell.

Year 6/7 Applications

It was great to speak to some of our families last week at our Friday Forum about the Year 7 application process and timeline. Families of students in Year 6 are reminded that Year 7 application forms are due back to Spotswood Primary School by next Friday 10th May.

We know that some of our students will be heading to private, catholic or independent schools and this application form is for government schools. We still require a form back from every student so that we know which schools students are attending in 2025.

Mother's Day

Next week students will have the opportunity to create a gift for Mother's Day for mum or another special person in their life. Families are asked to pay \$7 for their child's gift using the Compass parent portal or app. This amount will cover the costs of this activity. We always enjoy the love and effort we see students putting into their creations!

Jackie Green
Principal

Curriculum Update – Term 2 Week 4

Prep	
Reading	WALT: make sure the word sounds right * make text to self connections * blend the sounds in CVC words
Writing	WALT: Writing Recounts and Poetry
Spelling	This week's sentence: 'we can play with my dog.' Letters / sounds: d, o and g as in dog
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 Days of School • Whole number
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Personal Strengths: Being kind and being Brave
Grade 1 / 2	
Reading	Mentor Text: The Day The Crayons Came Home
Writing	WALT: Conventions & Craft - use capital letters at the beginning of familiar proper nouns - use pronouns Persuasive: - Compose a shared persuasive piece with a partner
Spelling	Spelling Focus prefix 'un' As in <u>un</u> prepared
Maths	Fractions & Decimals: WALT: Recognising Halves Share an object by dividing it into two equal parts
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Help Seeking: The Life Raft Game
Grade 3 / 4	
Reading	Mentor Text: Little People Big Dreams. Focus: Summarizing and note-taking
Writing	WALT: Demonstrate understanding of grammar and punctuation Using Time connectives and sentence structure while composing autobiographies.
Spelling	/c/ the sound "s" as in city
Maths	Area and Perimeter
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Help-seeking Positive relationships
Grade 5 / 6	
Reading	Class novel- <i>Fish in a Tree</i> by Lynda Mullaly Hunt Literature Circles- Rotation 2 Mentor Texts- Articles- Replenish and Connect *identify familiar and new content and ideas gained while reading a text *integrate new information and ideas to consciously create new understandings Behind The News We are learning to view current events in visual texts. (listening and note taking)
Writing	Genre: Information text Focus: To explain or give facts and information about a topic
Spelling	Prefix 'mis' as in <u>mis</u> understood
Maths	Division Select and use efficient mental and written strategies to divide whole numbers of up to four digits by a one-digit divisor, including where there is a remainder
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Respecting Celebrations



Hello Spotswood Community!

For some of you, this might be the first you have heard from me. This year I joined Spotswood Primary School and have spent Term 1 teaching 3/4C. I have really enjoyed my first term here, getting to know the teachers and the students. I have now been fortunate enough to be acting in Ms V's role (big shoes to fill!) for Term 2. I am enjoying being able to work with all the Spotswood staff and getting to know the students across the school. You might see me in the yard, or teaching a class, please come and say hello!

Justin Canny
Acting Assistant Principal

Request for Parent Volunteers in the Spotty Library

The Spotty Library is seeking some new parent volunteers, who can help us with maintaining our collection of beautiful books and keeping the library an engaging place for our students to develop a love of reading. Our current volunteers have been doing a fantastic job, but unfortunately need to move on at the end of the year. Therefore, we're looking for some fresh faces who would be willing to help with jobs like:

- Tidying the bookshelves and displays
- Returning books in the library system
- Re-shelving books
- Cataloguing
- Weeding out old / unwanted / damaged books and removing them from the library system

If you are able and willing to help out, please contact Emily Matheson by email at emily.matheson3@education.vic.gov.au

Thank you!

Book Fair – 21st to 24th May

Our annual Book Fair will be held from Tuesday 21st May until Friday 24th May.

To enable the Fair to operate every morning and afternoon for the 4 days, we will need volunteers to take payments.

If you can volunteer from 8.30am to 9.10am or 3.20pm to 4pm, please sign up using the following link <https://volunteersignup.org/FX8EF>

We also need a team of 3 people to set up the Book Fair on Monday 20th May between 2.30pm and 3.30pm. If you can help with this, please use the link above to sign up.

Money raised at the Book Fair will go towards books for all classrooms.

Thank you everyone!

Garden Update

We now have a team of volunteers who have started working in the kitchen garden.

The mini Working Bees started yesterday 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 from next Thursday.

Please bring your gardening gloves as well!

Did You Know...Donations to our Building Fund are Tax Deductible!

With 30th June and tax time fast approaching, it's a good time to make your annual donation to our school's Building Fund. Thank you to families who have already made their donation this year.

In 2024 our Building Fund donations will go directly towards upgrading our school's outdoor furniture so all donations will be very gratefully received.

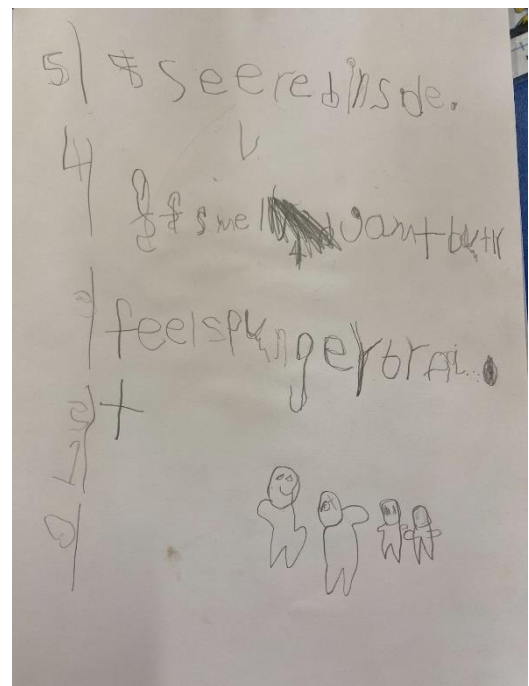
Donations can be made via the Compass app or at the school office and are tax deductible.

Thank you.

What's Happening In Our Classrooms

Prep - Writing

This week in Writing, the Preps are focusing on poetry, and we have had some attempts at writing some poems of our own. For Wednesday's lesson we made jam sandwiches, with each child having a go at spreading jam on the sandwich. Then we discussed what we saw, felt, smelled, and tasted. After discussing and brainstorming our ideas, the students had a go at writing a senses poem about their experience. It was a delicious and inspiring lesson!



Aaron Turner
Prep T Classroom Teacher

Year 1/2 – Inquiry Excursion (Local Walk)

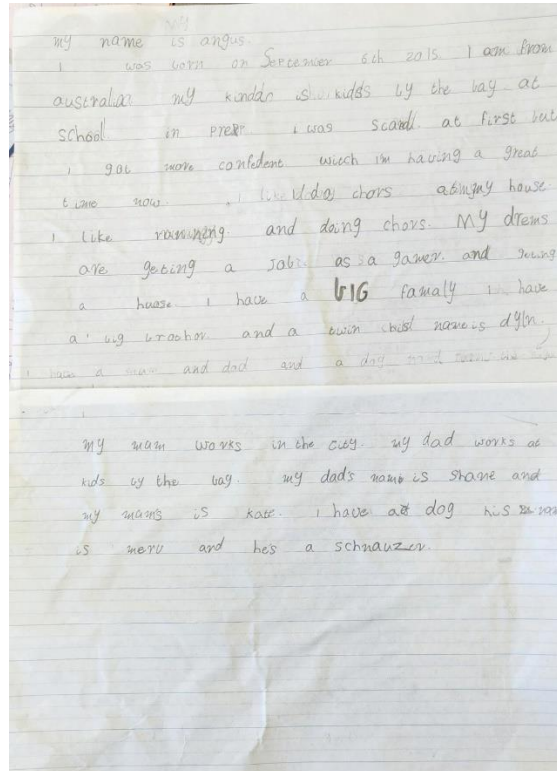
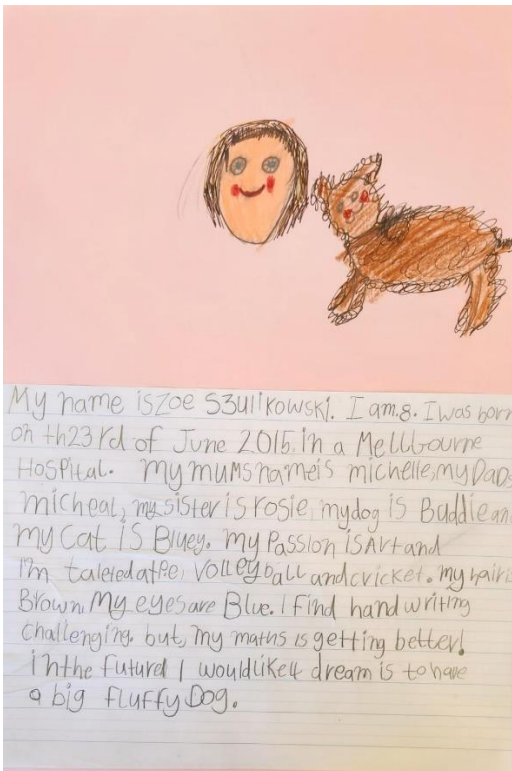
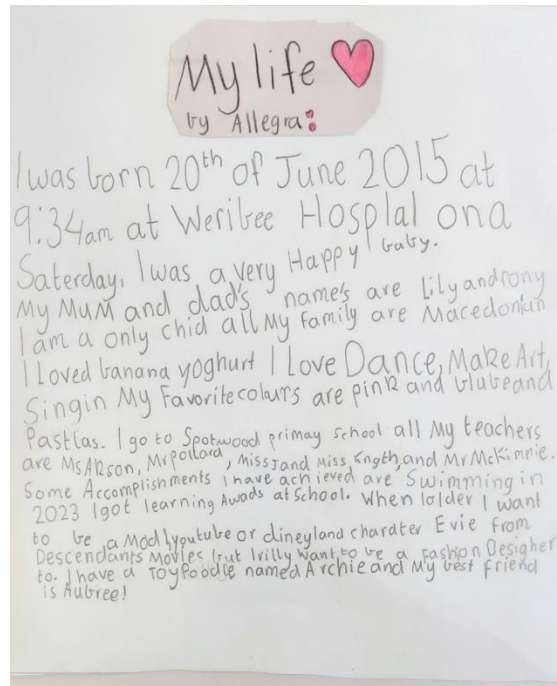
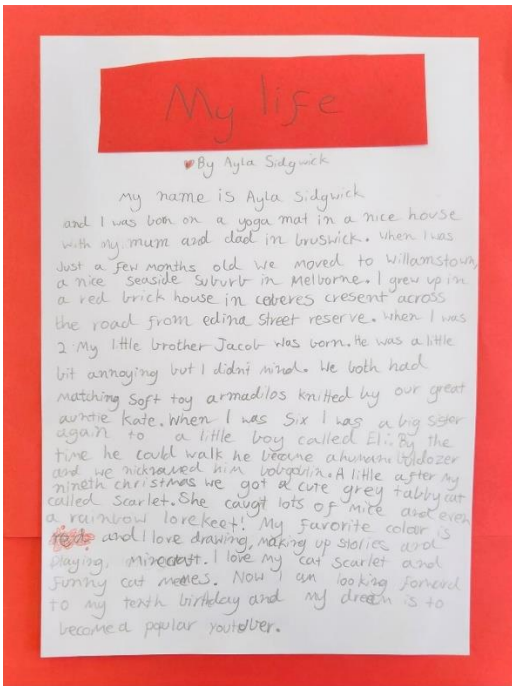
This week the Grade 1/2s embarked on an exciting Inquiry local walk as part of our Inquiry unit 'Knowing Why Things Are'. Throughout this unit, our young learners have been developing a deep understanding of what health is and how we can be healthy. This week we have been looking at passive and active activities aimed at keeping both our brains and bodies fit and healthy. Armed with clipboards and pencils, our students eagerly recorded a diverse array of activities they could engage in to promote an active lifestyle. From tennis, football and running to yoga and walking, their enthusiasm was shown as they brainstormed ways to stay active while immersing themselves in the wonders of our local environment.



Maddison Knight
1/2K Classroom Teacher

Year 3/4 – Writing

This past week students have been writing autobiographies. We have all shared funny stories about what we did as babies and our current interests, family traditions and future dreams. Students used the writing cycle process to construct their autobiographies. The steps are generating, planning, composing, refining and producing. Writing about ourselves and the things that make us all unique was enjoyable for students.



James McKimmie
3/4M Classroom Teacher

Year 5/6 – Inquiry

This week in Grade 5/6 we have been preparing for a class speech about personal wellbeing habits to kick start our unit of inquiry. It has been amazing to hear how our students currently keep healthy habits and we are excited to see how we can build on these habits throughout the term. Well done everyone!



Frankie



Flynn



Rubi

Nicola O'Shea
5/6O Classroom Teacher

Specialist – Visual Art

Preps have sculpted fish using clay and a cardboard template. They primed their fish sculpture with white paint before adding warm colours to brighten them up! Next step is to add patterns which they'll do using paint pens. To finish off, students will add fins with a surprise material. We can't wait to share them with you at our Art Show in October!



India Prep V



Adam Prep V

Cindy Asp
Visual Art Teacher

District Cross Country

Our team of 28 runners were greeted with a beautiful morning for running at the JK Grant reserve this morning, no wind, overcast but cool conditions, perfect for a 2km or 3km run.

All of our students did a fantastic job completing the course and supporting their schoolmates during all races.

We had 16 students qualify through to the Division event which will be held down at Presidents Park in Wyndham Vale on the 28th of May, which is a fantastic achievement.

Congratulations to all who competed in this morning's event.

Chris Lamb





Student Awards:

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



- Prep S** Amaya Jones - for being a kind and inclusive friend in and outside the classroom and always trying her best. Well done, Amaya!
- Prep T** Phillipa Cattach - for being a wonderfully thoughtful classmate and asking other students to play when they are uncertain. Great attitude Phillipa!
- Prep V** Madeleine Ung - for applying herself to all tasks and being a kind friend.
- 1/2B** Sofia Sarantis - for being so focused when working at your table and for showing fantastic initiative in our classroom! Thank you Sofia!
- 1/2K** Tommy Johnson - for making an incredible effort to change and express his voice to match dialogue and punctuation during reading. Wonderful work Tommy!
- 1/2P** Abby Napier - always setting an outstanding example of hard work and responsibility in the classroom.
- 3/4C** Fred Bryceson - for his understanding of the process of summarising and producing an wonderful summary about Jellyfish. Well done Fred.
- 3/4K** Jack Panayi - for always being willing to assist your friends when they need help in our class, and for working cooperatively with a partner to find out information about our Inquiry topic.
- 3/4M** Angus Creaney - for his fantastic effort in writing his autobiography this week. Using teacher feedback to make your writing very good.
- 3/4V** Remi McWhinney – for applying high level writing skills to when composing an engaging Autobiography with a strong Author voice. Go Remi!
- 5/6E** Tobie Leung - for demonstrating dedication to learning and a growth mindset this week, by carefully reviewing your working out in Maths. Fantastic effort Tobie!
- 5/6M** Tilly Saitta - for your continued perseverance and diligence with all activities. Your commitment and dedication is impressive!
- 5/6O** Mabel Harrold-Bear - for always showing kindness to your peers and supporting members of 5/6O both in learning time and outside the classroom. Your bright smile is a welcome sight. Thank you Mabel!
- Art** Isabelle Gillott - for being a kind and thoughtful friend in Art by helping out another class member to complete the next step in their project while they were absent. Thank you for your kindness and hard work, Isabelle!



To:

Morgan, Maddie B, Mallory, Neil S, Charli, Mabel H-B

Dates To Remember:

- 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)

Tuesday 21st May Book Fair open before and after school today

Wednesday 22nd May Book Fair open before and after school today
State Schools Spectacular Mass Choir Rehearsal #1
National Simultaneous Storytime
Code Camp (3.45pm – 5pm)

Thursday 23rd May Book Fair open before and after school today

Friday 24th May Book Fair open before and after school today
Winter Sport Round 3 (Home vs Altona College)
Assembly (3.15pm)

Saturday 25th May Slow Food Market (9am – 1pm)

Tuesday 28th May Hobsons Bay Division Cross Country championships
Prep 2025 Information Night (7pm)

Wednesday 29th May Code Camp (3.45pm – 5pm)

Thursday 30th May Pupil Free Day

Friday 31st May Winter Sport Round 4 (Home vs Bayside College)
Assembly (3.15pm)