

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 11 • Monday 16th December 2024



"Where everybody is somebody"

Dear families,

This Week..

Tuesday 17th	In-School Dance Workshop (Prep-6) Tinsel Party (5:30pm-7:30pm) Dance performances will commence at 6:00pm End of Year Student Reports published on Compass (by 12pm)
Wednesday 18th	Year 6 Big Day Out (Adventure Park (9:00am – 4:00pm))
Friday 20th	Last Day of Term 4 Assembly: 1:00pm Dismissal: 1:30pm



Moving around the classrooms this week I can feel the end of year approaching as classrooms start to pack things away, students are getting tired and chat about the upcoming holidays is creeping into conversations.

Last Day Arrangements – Friday 20th December 2024

Families are reminded that school will finish at **1:30pm** on Friday this week with a special assembly to farewell our Year 6 students at 1:00pm. Students will not need to bring lunch on the last day of school, only play lunch for the recess break.

2025

Tuesday 28th January Statewide Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 29th January Pupil Free Day at Spotswood PS
Thursday 30th January Year 1 to 6 students commence
Friday 31st January Prep students commence (9:00am-12:30pm)

Tinsel Party – new date – Tuesday 17th December

We have been keeping a very close eye on the weather and due to the heat conditions today, we will now hold our Tinsel Party on Tuesday 17th December.

Our Tinsel Party is a very casual and informal event and provides an opportunity for families to share some time together celebrating the end of the year before we head off on school holidays.

Where: Basketball court area
Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Bring: Picnic/takeaway dinner / snacks / drinks Seating – tables/chairs, rug
Dress: Casual, optional touch of festive tinsel!

At 6:00pm students will perform the dance routines that they have been learning last week with Dean from Dance Curriculum.

...continued over page

End of Year Reports

Reports will be available on Compass from 12:00pm tomorrow . I would like to acknowledge the additional time that staff have contributed to writing reports at this busy time of year.

Slow Food Market - Monday 23rd December – 3:00pm – 7:00pm

The Slow Food Market will be holding a Christmas Twilight Market next week on Monday evening, a great chance to get some supplies for the festive season!

Smile Squad

The Smile Squad Dental Van will return to Spotswood tomorrow for a few days to provide checkups for the students who haven't been seen yet. The sessions will be held throughout the school day in the library.

2024 - 2025

As we wrap up this year and start to look ahead to the new year, I have enjoyed reflecting on the big year we have had at Spotswood Primary School this year. A highlight for me was definitely the Art Show, what a spectacular event that was. Seeing our student work displayed so artistically and with such effort was a very special event and I would like to again acknowledge the passion Ms Asp brings to this exhibition. Our School Review in Term 1 was a time of great pride for me as we received such affirming feedback about our school and the work that we are doing to continually improve student learning and wellbeing.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank our families for their support this year and wish you all a safe and restful break until we return next year.

Jackie Green
Principal

Year 6 Graduation

We held a lovely graduation ceremony on Thursday night here at school where we celebrated the end of the primary school journey with our 35 Year 6 students before they move on to various secondary schools next year. With great pride, families listened to each student present a speech reflecting on their time here and their thoughts about the journey ahead. The values of our school community were a recurring theme in our graduate's speeches and hearing our students reflect on their time with such pride for our school was very special.

Our graduating class of 2024 are:

Andrew Van Maanen
Benjamin Slade
Finlay Scholtes
Frankie Hogan
Harris Dauti
Jack Spiteri
Mallory Mackie

Angus Ward
Clara Eckardt
Finn Taylor
Grace Clark
Harry Maher
Jayden World
Marius Gruttner

Ava Holder
Esme Suckling
Flynn Devlin
Halle Hitch
Isabelle Gillott
Laurence Moll
Matilda Saitta



Miles Doxey
Phineas Soussan
Sonny Burdeu
Tyler Sigle
Winter Santoro

Neil Kang
Ruby Miller
Sophie Clark
Wilco Lowndes
Zoe Smith

Orla Lynch
Seth Miller
Tobie Leung
Winter Hall

We presented our annual awards at graduation and we congratulate the following award recipients:

2024 Sports Award	Zoe Smith
2024 Art Award	Ruby Miller
2024 Music Award	Ava Holder
2024 Auslan Award	Frankie Hogan
2024 English Award	Sophie Clark
2024 Mathematics Award	Phineas Soussan
2024 Overall Academic Award	Halle Hitch
2024 Spotswood Values Award	Angus Ward

Graduation is also a time for farewell and we thanked 18 families who will be leaving us and acknowledged their contribution to the school community over the years.

Our Year 6 students will enjoy their 'Big Day Out' at Adventure Park on Wednesday this week

Curriculum Update

Over the past few weeks, all year levels have been very busy in literacy, numeracy and inquiry, working through consolidation and assessments. It was great to see a showcase of all year levels inquiry projects shared with the school community.

During weeks 10 and 11, 2025 teaching teams have spent a day each planning and preparing for the start of 2025. These days have been exciting for teams to have protected time to get ahead with 2025 plans.

It has been a absolute pleasure this year working with all the teachers and students and understanding the way everything here at Spotty works. We are very excited at all the curriculum changes that have happened in Victoria, and we are all very keen to further explore this and what it looks like in our classrooms and for all the students here!

I trust everyone will have a restful break and come back rejuvenated in 2025.

Justin Canny
Assistant Principal



What's Happening In Our Classrooms

Prep – Writing and Prep Celebration

Our Prep students were busy preparing their portfolios for the Prep Celebration. They have been reflecting on their learning journey throughout the year, selecting work they are proud of, pieces that taught them something new, and tasks that show how much they've improved. The Preps are excited to share their achievements with their families and are feeling incredibly proud of everything they've learned this year!



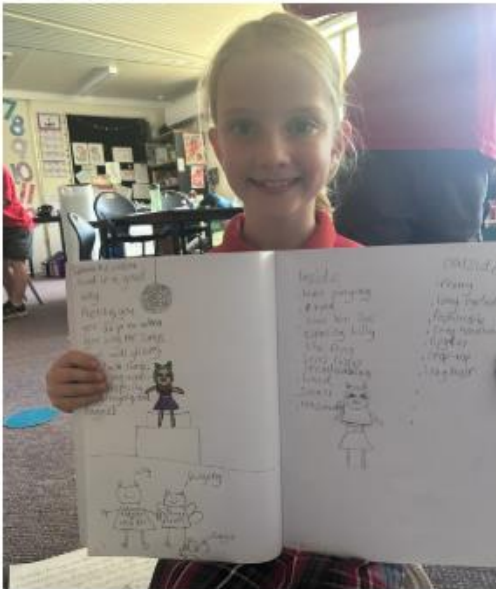
We were delighted to see so many Prep families join us at school to celebrate our Preps. Students performed 'You've Got a Friend in Me' and our 'Spotswood Song' before then sharing the amazing learning they've done this year with their portfolio presentations. It was lovely to see our proud students showing off all of their hard work throughout the year. Thank you to families for your support throughout the year. We are so proud of our amazing Prep students!



Year 1/2 – Writing and Basket Weaving

In Year 1/2, students have been busy exploring the components of narratives. They have designed their own characters and settings, focusing on inside and outside traits to bring their characters to life, and using their five senses to create settings that match their characters. When deciding on a problem for their narratives, students have been carefully considering the question, “*How can this problem be solved?*” Next week, we’ll bring all these elements together as students follow the writing cycle to craft their very own narrative stories.

As the culmination to our Unit of Inquiry, *Material World*, students challenged their thinking about how materials can be used to make paper baskets. While we often think about paper as a two-dimensional material, this task asked students to twist and bend the paper in order to create something with three dimensions. The task certainly required patience and a growth mindset, but the finished results were worth the effort!



Year 3/4 - Innovations: Knowing how things work

The students in Grade 3/4 have been busily working on their final project related to our topic. The children created mock ups of their innovations and inventions, toiling away with enormous enthusiasm! We enjoyed welcoming families to see the amazing ideas the students have thought of to help make life easier for us all!

Clockwise from the left: Rose and Finn; Daya, Tom and 3/4K hard at work; Summer and Alice, and Emma and Jack.



On Monday, the Year 3/4s were bursting with excitement when sharing their innovative designs with the wider school community and parents. During our unit of Inquiry, students explored the design process by investigating, asking, imagining, planning, creating, testing and improving. All innovations were required to solve a human need. Some incredible ideas were aimed to help disadvantaged members of the community, people living with disabilities and making jobs safer. Students shared their plans and blueprints alongside an explanation text to support their design and a poster which aimed to persuade a specific target audience to purchase their product. We are so proud of the creativity and effort put into these 'new' and 'Shark Tank' worthy ideas.



Year 5/6 – Mini Mart

This week, the 5/6 students wrapped up their entrepreneurship project with the much-anticipated Mini-Mart on Thursday. It was a busy and rewarding week as students prepared, organised, and collaborated across multiple subjects, often spending their recess and lunch breaks to ensure everything was ready. The event featured 20 creative stalls and was a fantastic success, thanks to the support of families and the school community who came along. On a hot and sunny day, students had a fulfilling experience presenting their hard work and showcasing their learning. It was a wonderful way to finish this term's Inquiry focus!



Specialist - PE

With not long now until the Australian Open our budding tennis stars have been hitting the court to practise their serves, volleys and smashes. We play a modified version of tennis called 'Hot Shots', where we use smaller rackets and decompressed balls to help us to learn how to hit shots with control and precision on a much smaller court. The students have shown great improvement in their skills over the 4 weeks of our unit.



Music - Victorian State Schools Spectacular 2024

The 2024 Victorian State Schools Spectacular was performed twice on Saturday 14 September at John Cain Arena. The Seven Network is proudly supporting the 2024 Victorian State Schools Spectacular. The special broadcast with behind-the-scenes highlights aired in Melbourne on **Saturday, December 14 at 7.00pm, on Channel 7 and 7plus**. A group of 27 students from Spotswood Primary School were part of the Mass Choir. We hope you saw some familiar faces!

Student Awards:

Congratulations to the following students who received a Student Award at assembly on 6th and 13th December:



Prep S Asli Rashid - for being an enthusiastic learner and always trying her very best. Well done, Asli!

Amaya Jones - for having a 'can do' attitude towards all learning tasks with her positive attitude. Well done, Amaya!

Prep T Phillipa Cattach - for embracing writing tasks and trying her hardest to use accurate spelling and wonderfully descriptive words. Well done Phillipa.

Lucinda Saitta - for always setting a wonderful example with her beautiful listening skills and inclusive play. You're a superstar Lucinda!

Prep V Finley Alcorn - for asking questions and contributing to our classroom discussions with great ideas. Amazing Finley!

Tristan McLaughlin - for building on his learning stamina when working on writing tasks. You're a superstar!

1/2B Frances Smith – For your hard work and determination in spelling your Oxford words. You have made outstanding progress. Well done!

Jess Oldfield – for an outstanding year in 1/2B, you consistently demonstrated excellent behaviour and dedication to all of your work. Well done!

1/2K Argyle Phillips - for demonstrating outstanding effort in practising her Oxford words and challenging herself by completing extra practice. Wonderful effort Argyle!

Bodhi Anderson - for taking pride in his work and consistently displaying a strong commitment to putting forth his best effort in every task.

1/2P Percy Finlay - consistently setting a terrific standard of work ethic and behaviour, throughout the year, in his role as class captain

Abby Napier - consistently setting an exemplary standard of work ethic and behaviour, throughout the year, in her role as class captain

3/4C Kaija Schokman- For demonstrating exceptional knowledge of the design process and creating an outstanding slogan and logo for her inquiry project

William Hesketh - for his excellent grasp of short division. Will has consistently applied his knowledge with confidence and accuracy.

3/4K Jack Panayi - for persisting with his Inquiry project mock up and thinking of ways to improve it. Jack, you also listened carefully to advice and refined your work as needed. Well done!

Lucas Goustis - for using a positive approach to all of his learning this year. Thank you Lucas for always putting in your best effort!

3/4M Scarlett Lynch - for sharing your skills with confidence during our multiplication and division maths lessons this week.

Angus Creaney - for being flexible when learning in groups and checking to make sure the group is on task.

3/4V Kit Burdeu - for the details you included when describing how your Ball Beeper invention works in your explanation text. Keep up the great writing Kit!

Bram Phillips - for always displaying a growth mindset towards his learning by always taking on challenges in all areas of the curriculum.

5/6E Neil Kang – for your effort and contributions in Maths this week. You’ve shown an excellent ability to read an analogue clock and solve time-related problems with accuracy. Keep up the fantastic work!

Ruby Miller - you have continued to work hard in these final days of primary school. You are respectful and are a dedicated worker. Well done!

5/6M..... Zoe Yasmine - for her kindness, positivity, and support for her peers during our Inquiry group project, while always maintaining a clean learning environment. Amazing week, Zoe!

Wilco Lowndes - for his attentiveness, respect towards peers and teachers, and being a role model of exemplary behaviour. Well done Wilco!

5/6O..... Flynn Devlin - being an enthusiastic learner, kind friend and creative thinker. You approach your learning with dedication and 5/6O is lucky to have you

Jayden World - you have approached the end of primary school with resilience. You continue to do your best in class and should be very proud.

Music Harry Gale- for being persistent when learning to play a challenging melodic phrase on the marimba during band rehearsal. Well done, Harry!

PE..... Zoe Smith - for always having a fantastic attitude when attending PE classes. You’ve set a fine example for our whole school over the years.



To:

Kaija, Finn Taylor, Syila, Fatouma, Lulu, Max H, Tahli, Ayden B, Esme S, Otis R,
Candice, Edison, Gus, Abdul, Mika

[During the school holidays: Victoria, Chloe L, Milli S, Wilco, Flynn R, Campbell, Victor,
Xavier, Elsie, Eleanor, Orla, Tristan, Georgia T, Kit, Seb N, Milly R, Aiden F, Hugo, Molly,
Daya, Louisa, Madeline J, Hunter, Brooke, Angus W, Argyle, Joshua S, Annabel, William Hesketh,
Nora, Eli, Luke T, Max P, Freddie J]