

Spotswood Primary School

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6 • Friday 7th March 2025



"Where everybody is somebody"



Dear families,

Class Captains 2025

This week our classes have undertaken the process of electing Class Captains. Many students spoke about their commitment to being a leader in our school and then all had the opportunity to participate in the class vote. It is with great pride that we acknowledge the following students as our 2025 Junior School Council group:

Prep B	Sophie Lima & Bobi Tasic
Prep S	Ari Calbert & Agnes McNally
1/2V	Otis Ross & Mala Nagesh-Hobbs
1/2M	Francis Hughes & Penny Forrest
1/2W	Luke McGraw & Ruby La
1/2K	Lottie Harvey & Evan Bastian
3/4V	Daniel Harris & Annabel Hesketh
3/4K	Scarlett Lynch & Daniel Slade
3/4H	Victoria Menuci Leutz & Myles Chan
3/4O	Hendrix Carne & Gus Turner
5/6P	Evan Johnson-Smith & Mabel Harrold-Bear
5/6M	Olivia Welsh & Olivia Grundy
5/6T	Lennox Tout & Eve Sliwczynski

Young Leaders Day

On Monday I was privileged to accompany our School Captains to the Young Leaders Day conference where we were very inspired by the stories of Thomas Duncan-Watt (author and screenwriter), Catherine Laga'aia (actress), Emma McKeon (Australia's most successful Olympian) and Majak Daw (AFL player, author and mental health advocate).

It was a day to hear about the many ways leadership can be shown and reflect on what leadership means to each of us personally. I was proud to accompany our student leaders who are committed to continue making Spotswood PS an amazing place to learn and grow.

Ramadan

Many of our families are currently observing Ramadan, an important period of time in the Islamic calendar. One of our students explained it is a cleansing time for peace and kindness and helping others in need. During Ramadan from 28th February – 30th March, adults (and some older children) fast between dawn and sunset. Ramadan concludes with Eid, a 'festival of breaking the fast' and is a joyous time for families to mark the end of Ramadan.



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NAPLAN

NAPLAN - The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy is a series of assessments that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. For more information: <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>

Our NAPLAN assessments will take place on the following mornings:

Spotswood Primary School - 2025 NAPLAN timetable		
	Year 3	Year 5
Wednesday March 12	Writing 9.10am	Writing 9.10am
Thursday March 13	Reading 9.10am	Reading 9.10am
Friday March 14	Conventions of Language 9.10am	Interschool Sport
Monday March 17	Numeracy 9.10am	Conventions of Language 9.10am
Tuesday March 18		Numeracy 9.10am

Prep Information Night

On Tuesday night we had a great turnout to our annual prep information night with our 2025 prep families. Now that our preps have settled into a routine it was an opportunity to share more details about what a day in the life of preps looks like!

We shared some insights into the prep learning experience of literacy and numeracy and provided more information about the other curriculum areas. We shared some information about how families can help at home.

I hope families have a restful weekend with an extra day for doing something you enjoy. I plan to spend some time on the couch with a book I have been trying to finish for weeks!

Jackie Green
Principal

Curriculum Update – Term 1 Week 7 & 8

Prep	
Reading	WALT predict what will happen in a story WALT recognise common words WALT sound out unknown words WALT notice if a word looks/sounds right (self correcting)
Writing	WALT retell our weekend WALT make sentences
Spelling	Revision Week all sounds/ letters and common words as covered in the previous 4 weeks The sun was up, but it was not hot. s, u and n as in sun
Maths	WALT represent, continue and create simple repeating patterns.
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Zones of Regulation: Green Zone & Yellow Zone
Grade 1 / 2	
Reading	WALT: adjust to read parts in a readers theatre script or play WALT: read parts of a script with expression WALT: recognise and read expressively a variety of dialogue WALT: make text to self, text to text and text to world connection.
Writing	WALT write a Personal Narrative – A special celebration and A special Me. WALT focus on our handwriting and letter formation.
Spelling	y as in pony dge as in bridge
Maths	WALT Add and subtract numbers within 20, using physical and virtual materials, part-part-whole knowledge to 10 and a variety of calculation strategies. WALT: Recognise, compare and classify shapes, referencing the number of sides and using spatial terms such as ‘opposite’, ‘parallel’, ‘curved’ and ‘straight’
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	RR: Emotional Literacy WALT Acts of Friendship WALT Sharing Stories About Acts of Kindness
Grade 3 / 4	
Reading	WALT understand how an author uses language to portray characters and setting. WALT identify vocabulary specific to a range of text types.
Writing	WALT Create texts by developing storylines, characters and settings, and using language features from literary texts they have encountered and from their own experiences WALT Re-read and edit texts for meaning by adding, deleting or moving words or word groups to improve content and structure.
Spelling	wr as in wrist que / k as in antique/kitten
Maths	<u>Number: Addition</u> WALT partition, rearrange and regroup two- and three-digit numbers in different ways to assist in adding numbers together. WALT apply additive strategies to model and solve problems involving two- and three-digit numbers
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	Emotional Literacy WAL about the language we use to describe our emotions
Grade 5 / 6	
Reading	Mentor Text: The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind WALT use knowledge of a range of academic disciplines to monitor understandings of conceptual ideas that cross-disciplines WALT use disciplinary knowledge to infer the important information in a text
Writing	WALT use content words typical of disciplinary language eg; tier 3 words WALT choose words with the audience in mind
Spelling	WAL about gender specific nouns WAL about the Digraph /ei/ as in receipt
Maths	<u>Statistics: Data</u> WALT - acquire, validate and represent data to address a question of interest or purpose. Discuss and report on data distributions in terms of highest frequency (mode) and shape, in the context of the data.

	WALT - interpret line graphs representing change over time.
SWPB / Respectful Relationships	WAL about good sportsperson-ship through interschool sports



Justin Canny
Assistant Principal

WALT = We Are Learning To
SWPB = School Wide Positive Behaviour

Photo Day

Families will be able to order school photos from next Tuesday, 11th March, via the Compass Parent Portal. There are no paper forms to complete. Our Photo Day is Monday 31st March.

What's Happening In Our Classrooms

Prep - Shape

This week in Prep, we are exploring shapes! Students have been investigating both familiar and some new 2D shapes by identifying their curved and straight sides, as well as counting their corners and edges. In the photos below, you'll see an activity where Preps used their fine motor skills to fold, cut, and create shapes using kinder squares. During this activity, we discussed an important concept: no matter how many times we turn or move a shape, it remains the same shape!



Sally Trembath
Prep B Classroom Teacher

Year 1/2 – Mathematics - Addition

This week, our Grade 1/2 students have been busy strengthening their addition facts using a range of hands-on resources. They explored number lines to help them solve addition problems efficiently. By jumping forward along the number line, students were able to visualise how numbers grow and develop confidence in their mental maths strategies. Using number lines is just one of the many ways we are building strong number sense in the classroom. Throughout the term, students will continue to engage with different tools such as ten frames, counters, and fact families to deepen their understanding of addition and beyond!



Year 3/4 – Mathematics - Addition and Place Value

This term in Mathematics, the students in Grade 3/4 have focused on Whole Number, Place Value, and Number Concepts. During this unit of study, students explored the value of digits within numbers and deepened their understanding of how numbers are constructed and deconstructed.

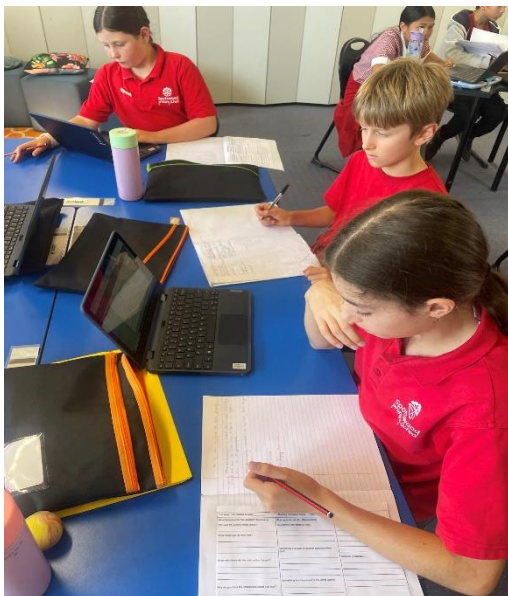
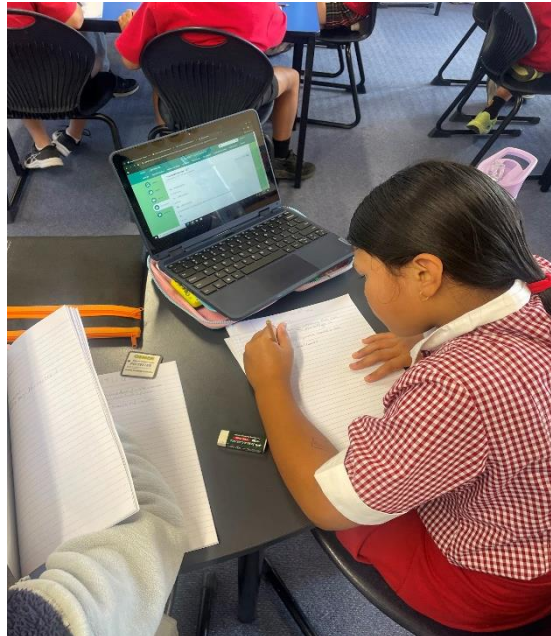
A highlight of this learning was when students were asked to collaborate in teams to create MAB structures to represent large numbers. They then had to partition or 'split' their numbers into thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones to determine the total number of MAB blocks used. Students will deepen their understanding of place value as we move into addition with partitioning. Well done, 3/4's!



Nicola O'Shea
3/4O Classroom Teacher

Year 5/6 – English - Vocabulary

This term, our 5/6 students have been diving into the inspiring true story *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* as part of our English studies. Through this mentor text, we have been exploring specialised vocabulary related to engineering, science, and sustainability. To deepen students' understanding of these tricky technical terms such as 'electromagnet' and 'alternating current', we have been creating our own glossaries, defining key terms and practising using them in context. By exploring new vocabulary, we hope to strengthen our understanding of the text and build an appreciation for the power of language.



Emily Matheson
5/6M Classroom Teacher

Specialist – Music

It has been wonderful to see lots of students from Year 3-6 join the Spotty Choir this year. Students have been busy rehearsing the song “Look Up Child” which features vocal solos and students singing different parts at the same time. The Spotty Choir are also rehearsing another song that they will perform for Harmony Day at assembly. I’m very excited for this year’s Spotty Choir and the many wonderful performances we will have this year.

Here are some photos of The Spotty Choir rehearsing:



Michelle Papafotiou
Music Teacher

HARMONY DAY MARCH 21ST 2025

HARMONY DAY POSTER COMPETITION

Theme: **Harmony – We All Have A Role To Play**

Entries Close: **April 12 2025**

Specifications: **A3 drawing, painting or mixed media work**

If your child is interested in entering the competition, please visit this website for more information <https://movingforwardtogether.org.au/poster-competition/>



Division Swimming Championships

A team of 9 swimmers made the trek down to the Werribee Outdoor Pool yesterday to take part in the Hobsons Bay Division Swimming Championships. All swimmers tried their best in all of the events, many swimming personal best times which is a great result.

Congratulations to all swimmers who took part.

Hockey

Following the hockey clinics run at school earlier this term, some students have expressed interest in joining a hockey club. Here is some information about the Come & Try Session at the Footscray Hockey Club next week.



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 26 Feb, 5 Mar & 12 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**

Chris Lamb
PE Teacher

Student Awards:



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

- Prep B** Lola Sliwczynski – for going above and beyond to support your friends in the classroom. What a superstar example you're setting!
- Prep S** Ari Calbert - for his great listening on the floor and contributing to class discussions. Well done, Ari!
- 1/2K** Evan Bastian - for his active listening and consistent ability to enhance our class discussions with insightful contributions, continue setting a positive example for us all!
- 1/2M** Finley Alcorn - for giving his best and having a great attitude during maths this week.
- 1/2V** Henry Eykman - having a positive 'I can do it' attitude about his learning and for trying his best. Awesome Henry!
- 1/2W** Ruby La - for already gaining so much confidence in the classroom and engaging in class discussions. Keep it up!
- 3/4H** Lucas Goustis - for your impressive application of alliteration, rhetorical questions, and repetition leading you to create a powerful and engaging persuasive text.
- 3/4K** Miles Ritchie - for being such a positive and friendly member of our class who willingly works kindly with everyone in 3/4K. Thanks so much Miles!
- 3/4O** Django Bryceson- for exemplifying a growth mindset in maths this week. You showed persistence and were not afraid to make mistakes. Great work!
- 3/4V** Morris Robinson - for being an active listener during all lessons and participating regularly in our class discussions. Thanks for sharing your great ideas Morris!
- 5/6M** Georgia Tucker - for your fantastic engagement in our class discussions. You consistently participate, listening to and valuing others' ideas. Thank you, Georgia!
- 5/6P** Emme Green - for being inquisitive and thoughtful during our investigations into electrical circuits.
- 5/6T** Rubi Nugegoda - for listening intently to our class mentor text and making detailed and meaningful connections in her Reading Journal. Well done Rubi.
- Art** Hazel Sherrin - for her excellent listening and fabulous enthusiasm when drawing 'hearts'. Keep smiling and bringing in that wonderful energy!!

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

- Prep B** Reuben Quinn - for working so hard on your 'ap' rhyming words. You have such a great attitude towards all learning tasks. Well done!
- Prep S** Sanna Johnson - showing hard work and determination in being able to sound out unknown words. Well done, Sanna!
- 1/2K** George Green - for taking risks with his learning. Well done for always putting your hand up and having a go! You're a star!
- 1/2M** Billy Bedford - by upholding all of the Spotty Values and being a positive role model for our class.
- 1/2V** Joshua Studley - making smart and sensible choices and for showing determination towards his learning. You are a champion!
- 1/2W** Stella Volpe - for producing an amazing writing piece about her special place, Disneyland. Keep up the great work!
- 3/4H** Myles Chan - for an imaginative beginning to your narrative using a picture prompt. Your creativity and unique perspective drew readers in and set the stage for an exciting story.
- 3/4K** Scarlett Lynch - for having such a positive growth mindset and constantly choosing to challenge yourself in all areas of your work. Spectacular effort Scarlett!
- 3/4O** Jess Oldfield - for showing an amazing effort in writing this year. You have an incredible ability to write descriptive, meaningful and cohesive stories. You should be so proud!

- 3/4V** Jack Lesich - for your ongoing commitment to your job as ICT monitor. We appreciate your efforts!
- 5/6M**..... Luke Thomas - for consistently challenging yourself and giving your best effort. Your determination and positive attitude are inspiring. Keep up the great work!
- 5/6P** James Townsend - for volunteering to take responsibility for ensuring the computers are plugged in and stored securely.
- 5/6T** Jack Power - for showing wonderful engagement during class discussions, and willingly sharing his great ideas with his peers. Thank you Jack!
- Music** Rose Elmore - for your enthusiasm and passion for singing! You always come to choir rehearsal focused and ready to learn. Keep up the beautiful singing!



To:

Finley A, Olivia R, Rihaan, Alex W, Georgia S, Abby, India, Otis F

Dates To Remember:

- Monday 10th March Labour Day Public Holiday
- Tuesday 11th March School Photo orders open on Compass
- Wednesday 12th March NAPLAN – Writing (Years 3 & 5)
- Thursday 13th March NAPLAN – Reading and Conventions of Language (Years 3 & 5)
- Friday 14th March Year 5/6 Interschool Sport (Round 4) – vs Bayside College
Assembly (3.15pm)
- Monday 17th March NAPLAN – Numeracy (Years 3 & 5)
- Tuesday 18th March School Council meeting (6.15pm)
- Friday 21st March Year 5/6 Interschool Sport (Round 5) – vs St Mary’s PS Altona
Harmony Day / World Down Syndrome Day
Assembly (3.15pm)
- Saturday 22nd March Slow Food Market (9am – 1pm)
- Wednesday 26th March Year 5/6 Camp at The Summit
- Thursday 27th March Year 5/6 Camp at The Summit
- Friday 28th March Year 5/6 Camp at The Summit
- Monday 31st March Photo Day
- Friday 4th April Last Day of Term 1 (2.30pm dismissal)