

Strathaird Primary School News

30/07/2025

Edition 11



Strathaird



Primary School

School Values

Respect

Honesty

Responsibility

Compassion

Contact Us:

20 Sherwood Road
Narre Warren South, 3805

PO Box 4124
Narre Warren South, 3805

9705 3800

Strathaird.ps@education.vic.gov.au
www.strathairdps.vic.edu.au

Principal Page

100 DAYS OF SCHOOL

Today our Preps have been celebrating the highly anticipated event, **100 DAYS OF SCHOOL**. Not only is it a fun filled day of celebration, it is an opportunity to reflect on the learning growth, achievements and milestones of each and every one of our Preps. Our Preps have been amazing and changed so much over the first semester.

Students have dressed up in bright colors to celebrate this exciting day and have been participating in fun, engaging activities including learning about 100.

A big thank you to our fantastic Prep Teachers, Rebecca Hardie, Natalie Ellen, Suzanne Gilder, Tayla Mathewson, Catherine Bird and Chloe Mills for not only all the effort they have put in to make today so special but for the effort they put in every single day to maximize students learning and wellbeing outcomes.

Congratulations to our delightful Preps on all their wonderful achievements during their first 100 days of school.





At the front of our school near the Basketball Court gate we have a Pick-Up and Drop-Off only zone, where this sign is displayed.

This means that parents can only use that area for picking up their child or dropping them off. Cars should only be there for a maximum of 2 minutes before school and from 3.15 p.m.

PARENTS MUST NOT PARK OR LEAVE THEIR CAR IN THIS ZONE

This is a Council sign and is enforced by the Council.

The Council were out last week booking people who were not parked correctly in the streets around our school, including in this zone.

PLEASE, for the good of our School Community AND so you don't get fined, we need all parents to adhere to the road rules, including the rules for the Pick-Up and Drop-Off zone.

ANNUAL REPORT MEETING

Parents are invited to the Annual Report Meeting where the Principal will present the 2024 School Annual Report.

Date: Tuesday 12 August 2025 Time: 6.00 – 6.30 p.m.

Where: School Staff Room

For catering arrangements, please notify the Office by Tuesday 5 August if you will be attending the Annual Report Meeting.

If you are unable to attend, the School Annual Report will be available for viewing on the School Website following this meeting.

**DO YOU HAVE A CHILD STARTING PREP AT STRATHAIRD
PRIMARY SCHOOL IN 2026**

Offers of places for Prep 2026 have commenced this week.

If your child is not enrolled and you would like to enrol at our school, it is important that you make contact with our School Office as soon as possible.

2026 Prep Enrolment

The background of the entire page is a vibrant blue. It is decorated with several stylized, multi-colored rainbows in various sizes and orientations. The rainbows feature bands of yellow, orange, red, pink, and light blue. Some rainbows have white, hand-drawn style outlines or patterns. They are positioned around the central text and at the bottom corners, creating a cheerful and inviting border.

DO YOU HAVE A
CHILD STARTING PREP
AT STRATHAIRD
PRIMARY IN 2026

We are offering our 2026 Prep places in week
1 next term (From 25th July)

if you have not enrolled and would
like be enrol at our School, Please
contact the office asap.

Would you like a tour?
Do you have any questions?
Do you have any concerns?

Please contact Sharon McMahon at the
office on 9705 3800 or email
enrolments@strathairdps.vic.gov.au

Term 3 2025

JULY

AUGUST

SEPT

28th	29th	30th	31st	1st August
Offer Prep Place		Divisional Winter Sports Prep 100 days of School		JNR Assembly
4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Gr 5 Living Culture Incursion Forms due	\$ Due Gr 2 Puppetry	\$ due Gr 1 Author Incursion Gr 5 Living Culture Incursion	Gr 2 Fairytale Puppet Show Incursion	SNR Assembly Gr 1 Nicky Johnston Author Incursion
11th	12th	13th	14th	15th
\$ Due Gr 5 Botanical Gardens Excursion Prep Woodworker Incursion	School Council Meeting 6.30pm Gr 5 Body Investigations Incursion Prep Woodworker Incursion	Prep Woodworker Incursion	Prep Woodworker Incursion \$ due District Athletics	JNR Assembly Prep Woodworker Incursion \$ due District Athletics
18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd
Gr 5 Botanical Gardens Excursion		District Athletics	Daffodil Day Gold coin Donation	SNR Assembly
25th	26th	27th	28th	29th
Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B	Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B	Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B	Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B	JNR Assembly
1st September	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B Fathers Day Stalls	Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B Fathers Day Stalls	Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B	Swimming for grade 1 and 2A & 2B	SNR Assembly

Bookfair

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS



**ResourceSmart
Schools**

We're part of the Schools Water Efficiency Program



Did you know our school is a proud member of the Schools Water Efficiency Program (SWEP)?

SWEP is a voluntary program open to all Victorian schools and supported by the Victorian State Government. We're part of the program thanks to financial support from South East Water.

Throughout 2023-24, active SWEP schools in South East Water's service area saved 114.2 million litres of water and approximately \$610,000 off their water bills.

Since SWEP started in 2012, schools in our service area have saved 2.12 billion litres of water and an estimated \$9 million.

Fun Facts About SWEP



We're saving money and water through leak detection

A device called a data logger is attached to our school's water meter, allowing us to track how much water is being used each day. It means we can detect potential leaks, saving both water and money off our school's water bill.



We're building an understanding of our school's water use

We have access to water use data for our school through an online portal. By reviewing data with students, facility managers and teachers, we are developing a better understanding of water use within our school and providing students with a valuable opportunity to learn about water conservation and the environment.



We can access exclusive educational resources

As a member of the program, we get access to a tailored curriculum program, allowing us to use our school's water data when teaching mathematics and science. It also provides our students with important water saving messages and activities.



Want to know more? Visit
southeastwater.com.au/swep

**South East
Water**



Daffodil Day

**Thursday
21st August
Wear Yellow
Bring a Gold Coin**



Junior School Council

Cancer Council
Daffodil Day

Book Fair



**AN INVITATION
TO OUR BOOK FAIR!**

Where: Strathaird Primary School

School Library


Date: 18th August - 22nd August

Time: 8.15 - 8.30am and 3.15 - 4pm



Don't miss out!

Every purchase
supports our school!



www.lamontbooks.com.au

Book Fair



Seeking Volunteers

We are **seeking volunteers** from parents and carers within our school community to support our Kitchen Garden Program on **Mondays** and **Thursdays**. Your child does not need to be participating in the program this term for you to volunteer. We welcome volunteers with knowledge and experience in **cooking** or **gardening** as well as those wanting to have an active role within their child's school community.

Applicants must have a current **working with children check** or be happy to apply for one which the school office can guide you through. This process is free



to register your
interest please fill
out this form:



Grade 5

Grade 5 Camp Urban City Camp – Parkville



In the second last week of Term 2 (**Monday 23rd June – Wednesday 25th June**) , 60 enthusiastic Grade 5 students embarked on an unforgettable three day adventure to **Urban City Camp** in Parkville. As part of their Inquiry Unit, *"What are the different perspectives of Australian history between 1800 and 1900?"*, students explored the city using public transport and visited several significant cultural and historical sites. These included the **Shrine of Remembrance** , the **Heritage National Trust** at Federation Square, the **Old Melbourne Gaol** , the **Melbourne Immigration Museum** , and even a special visit to the **Melbourne Zoo** . Throughout the camp, it was wonderful to see students demonstrating respectful behaviour, particularly when travelling on trams, proudly representing our school in the wider community.

The students were supported and supervised by Ms Elzink, Mrs Haskett, Mrs McCann, Mr Fleming, Miss Mathewson, Mrs Gilfeeder, Mr Valavanis and Mrs Hakim. This enriching camp experience would not have been possible without their dedication, guidance, and care throughout the three days.



CHESS

TOURNAMENT

WHO CAN ENTER
GRADE 3 TO 6
STUDENTS

WHEN
STARTS
5TH AUGUST

Speak to your
teacher if you
wish to enter.

Participants Must know
how to play chess.



Reading at Home with Young Readers

Reading



It is a school expectation that all students read and record this every night at home. Nightly home reading increases and practises their skills that are taught in class. These books are usually easier than what your child will be reading in class with their teacher and there are important reasons for this.

Class teachers match students to appropriate levelled texts for classroom instruction. These texts are selected carefully in order to provide ample challenge for students but also where support can be offered for new skills and strategies to be gained. Reading at home has a different, but also important purpose. Please read

below to find out why your child is bringing 'easy' books home.

Why Easy Reading?

- Readers are able to hear themselves read in a phrased and fluent manner, *"reading like we're talking"*, when there are only a few or no challenging words or grammatical constructions. Reading fluently is a requirement for comprehension. **Comprehension (getting the meaning) is what reading is all about, the reason we read.**
- Reading is a complex and dynamic problem-solving process using a variety of strategies. Development of any skill requires repeated practice. The skills and strategies the reader has in place will act as the foundation on which new learning can be built.
- Easy books and books previously read, allow the reader to improve the speed and quality of the processing. Each time the reader has to stop to decode a word, the flow of language is lost and the meaning of the story is often suspended.
- Readers are able to reinforce knowledge of high frequency words which are repeated in many different books. **Studies show that children need to be presented with a word several times, in a number of contexts, in order to have real control of that word.**
- A familiar book is not a memorised book. It is a book that still challenges a reader to do some reading work, engaging with print and picking up new information. The practice of re-reading familiar books encourages confidence and fluency, and provides practice in bringing reading behaviours together.
- Children who enjoy reading want to read more! Children who read everyday gain significant benefit over children who do not. Exposure to new words, concepts and topics improves performance in many areas of learning. Your support with this is crucial, particularly in the early years of schooling.
- With any book, at any level, you can focus on comprehension.

Occasionally, stop, and have your child predict what will happen next.

Once or twice, as you read the book, stop and check for understanding, ask "who" and "what."

Having your child retell the story in their own words is a difficult, but necessary skill. The more practice they get, the easier it becomes.

Talk, talk, and talk about the books. Participate in this reading journey with your child; the pay-offs will last a lifetime!

Remember our primary goal is for your child to enjoy reading!

If you have any questions about the books your child is bringing home, please make a time to speak to your child's teacher.

David Inturrisi
(Leading Teacher - Curriculum)



SPECIAL ORDER PHOTOGRAPHS

Each photo is only **\$15**

\$15



ORDER ONLINE: www.leadingimage.com.au

SHOOTKEY: XHZB9PGP



Back Row: Sarah Sneddon, Lynda Sherlock, Kim Ann Giles, Isaac Lekame, Michele Copeland, Leah Coppell, Tracy Laughlin
Front Row: Tyniah Lyons, Fawzia Raza, Susan Adams, Macay'a White, Rebecca Camberl, Nana Ghulam, Teena Winkler

Left to Right: Zainab Odeh, Alina Alzada, Kannon Corrigan, Ashwarrh Sivakumara

Back Row: Vinod Moti, Ajay Kish, Mubow Kishaw, Kony Gargun, Rob Minnermark, Joe Kungu, Jovanell Gendek, Zorab Odin, Jacki Rany, Aaron Winkler

Second Row: Lucile Williams, Felicia A. Good, Bonnie Taylor, Jay Beers, Geoffrey Henselshunter, Ryan Bratt, Ede Tay, Ray Swice, Mike Foster

Second Row: Larry Warren, Karan Khat, Aash Swast, Karama Faria, April Singh, Prakashini Gillman, Campbell Graham, Peyton Wynn, Ari

Front Row: Tashan Khan, Vishu Pothu, Jeeva Jay, Jay Singh, Sana Gurbani, Jovanell Gendek, Jani Tello, Tashia Anandak, Anand Kaur

Left to Right: Parasto Kheili, Sahar Saeidi, Renee Van Styn, Hena Sakdi, Elizabeth McDonald

Left to right: Harper Neal-Wilson, Mohammad Rezaie, Elnni Malikaratchi, Eddie Yap

Left to Right: Samir Haidari, Matilda McKenzie, Sara Anulanandam, Declan Silva

Left to Right: Tahira Murray, Mohammad Hameed

Back Row: Mameel Sandhu, Sara Anandaram, Pharis Gunan, Mohammad Rasid, Jina Akzade, Ryan Perring
Second Row: Eddie Yap, Kharin Cempang, Tanika Murray, Zanele Cabot, Nafisa Mohamed, Hayat Honey, Virgh Grove
Front Row: Decian Silva, Selvi Kellogg, Ethna Mallikaratchi, Aiyana Bragiano, Ashwini Sivasankar

Left to Right: Phenix Gunnar, Marnett Sanchez, Ryan Pien's
Absent: Carla Cardenas

Yellow House Captains

Grade 6 Zooper Dooper Sales

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

\$1.00 Each

OUTSIDE ADMIN AT RECESS

Money raised goes
towards Graduation
2025



ZOOOPER
DOOPER

Sentral for Parents App

The **Sentral for Parents** app allows families to:

- view academic reports
- explain past and upcoming student absences
- view calendar events
- book parent/teacher interviews
- receive sick bay notifications
- view school newsletters

as well as receive real-time notifications and messages from the school



Instructions for accessing the Sentral for Parent App

1. **Download** the 'Sentral for Parents' app. Depending on your device, visit either the Apple App Store, or the Google Play Store.
2. **Search** for Strathaird Primary School. Tap Next.
3. **Sign in** using your Sentral username (your registered email address) and password (that you created when Registering). Tap Log In.
4. You are now ready to start using the app.

If you have never registered on Sentral:

1. Click register here to register a new account. It will ask you to create a user name and password. Enter your email address as your username and create your own password. You will receive a verification email which **MUST** be verified in order to continue.
2. Once verified, log back into the app and use the access key provided by the school to link to your child's details. *The access key will be created for you once your child is attending.*

For a quick overview on how to access the Parent Portal, please watch this short video.

<https://vimeo.com/sentraleducation/review/431752138/968dcb15a8>

If you have questions about using the app, or need some extra help then please browse the list of FAQs at

<https://info.sentral.com.au/new-app-getting-started> or contact us for assistance.



Important Parent Resources

PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community.

Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.



It's everyone's responsibility.

Adults at school must listen and respond to concerns about child abuse.

If you suspect abuse of any child or young person, you have a responsibility to report it, even if you are not sure.

Further information & resources
www.education.vic.gov.au/protect



Top 5 online safety tips for kids

1

Set up your device to protect your information.

2

Explore safely & tell an adult if you see anything online that makes you feel yuck.

3

Limit who can contact you when you're playing games.

4

Stop all contact with anyone online who asks you to do anything you don't want to do. Report and block them.

5

Ask for help if anything online is bothering you.



Attendance

Please ensure your children are at school on time. Students should be at their class by 8.50am ready to begin class by 9am.

If your child is absent, please notify the school through the Parent Portal on Sentral or call the admin on 9705 3800.

Every Minute Counts

5 minutes	• 3 days lost
10 minutes	• 6.5 days lost
15 minutes	• 10 days lost
20 minutes	• 13 days lost
30 minutes	• 19 days lost



In a school Year

How to report cyberbullying material

1

Report the cyberbullying material to the social media service



2

Collect evidence
copy URLs or take screenshots of the material



If the content is not removed within 48 hours apply steps 3 and 4

3

Report it
esafety.gov.au/report



4

Block the person and talk to someone you trust



If you are in immediate danger, call 000 (triple zero)
If you need to talk to someone, visit kidshelpline.com.au or call them on 1800 55 1800, 24 hours a day 7 days a week

Make good choices



Why do you like it?



Use devices near a grown-up



Time's up



Make good choices

Help children to think about the content they watch and how to manage their time on screens.

Message 1: Why do you like it?

Choosing to say kind things when connecting online is a life-long skill that can help prevent cyberbullying later on. The screen image can be a stimulus to discuss the types of things you should do when video calling, like saying hello with a smile.

Message 2: Use devices near a grown-up

Children need to be aware that digital technologies should be used with a grown-up nearby and in a shared space. Children should get used to the idea, from an early age, that devices should not be used in bedrooms.

Message 3: Time's up.

It is important to discuss with children how they will know when it's time to turn devices off and how they will transition to another activity.

Key questions when discussing this poster could include:

- What do you like to play on devices? What makes you like it?
- Where are these people using devices? Where are you allowed to use them?
- Have you ever been told you have been playing on a device for too long? How do you feel when that happens? What do you usually do?

Be safe



Play with the games and apps that are yours



Only talk with people you know



Some things should be kept private



Be safe

Help children understand personal information and how it can be protected.

Message 1: Play with the games and apps that are yours.

Devices should be set up so children know which content is for them and that other games, programs or apps may not be suitable for them. The screen image shows the folder where the little girl can find the games and apps just for her use.

Message 2: Only talk with people you know.

This picture reminds children that they should only video call when a grown-up is helping them, and only speak to people they know.

Message 3 - Some things should be kept private.

In this picture the boys are creating an avatar with their Grandad. Avatars can be a practical way of showing children how they can keep their real name and identity private by creating a character to represent themselves in games.

Key questions when discussing this poster could include:

- Do you play on your Mum or Dad's phone, tablet or computer? Do you have a special place for your games and apps? How do you know what is yours?
- Do you talk on the computer to your friends and family? Who helps you?
- Why do you think the boy in the last picture looks confused? If you were going to create an avatar for yourself what would it look like? Why?

Be kind



Say kind things



Take turns



Ask before you take a photo



Be kind

Teach children to be kind and respectful in digital contexts.

Message 1: Say kind things

Choosing to say kind things when connecting online is a life-long skill that can help prevent cyberbullying later on. The screen image can be a stimulus to discuss the types of things you should do when video calling, like saying hello with a smile.

Message 2: Take turns

Taking turns is a good way of managing time on screens and building self-regulation skills. The child in the background of this picture is sad because they have been left out of the game.

Message 3: Ask before you take a photo.

The little boy in is taking a photo of himself with his family. The screen image depicts another time when he is asking his family if they would like to be in the photo.

Key questions when discussing this poster could include:

- Have you ever called your family or friends on a computer or tablet like the people in the first photo? What do you think they are saying? How do you know?
- Why do you think the boy in the middle photo looks sad? What could they do to stop him feeling sad?
- Do you always ask someone if it is OK to take their photo before you take it? Why?

Ask for help



Tell a grown-up



Check before you tap



You won't get in trouble



Ask for help

Teach children to ask a trusted grown-up for help with any issue using digital technologies.

Message 1: Tell a grown-up.

It is really important for children to know that if something makes them feel worried, scared or sad when they are using a device they should tell a grown-up.

Message 2: Check before you tap.

Before children use a device, they should ask a grown-up. The picture shows the little boy asking if he can play a new video he has not seen before.

Message 3: You won't get in trouble.

When children are playing with digital technology often things happen that they didn't expect. It can be the same for grown-ups too! Children need to know that if something unexpected happens, they should tell a grown-up. They should be assured that the grown-up will know it was important for the child to share the problem even if it happened because they made a mistake.

Key questions when discussing this poster could include:

- Have you ever seen something that made you feel worried, scared or sad when you were playing on a tablet? Who would you tell? What do you think they would say?
- Who do you ask before you play, watch or tap on something new on a device?

Our Vision Statement and Mission

VISION STATEMENT AND MISSION

To empower students to strive for personal achievement, embrace challenges and develop the skills and values that enable them to become lifelong learners and engaged responsible citizens in an ever changing global society.



Honesty

We are truthful in what we say and do, people can rely on us and trust us .



Strathaird



Primary School

Responsibility

We make good choices and are accountable for our actions .



**School
Values
PROGRAM**



Respect

We value people's worth and qualities and treat them in a polite and friendly manner.



Compassion

We care about others, we treat them with kindness and we help people when they are in need .