

Strathaird Primary School News

07/2/2024

Edition 1



Strathaird



Primary School

School Values

Respect

Honesty

Responsibility

Compassion

Contact Us:

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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

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to the new school year, we hope you enjoyed a relaxing holiday break. It has been great to welcome back our Years 1-6 students on Tuesday last week and our new Prep students on Monday of this week. It is always a pleasure to see our students coming into school smiling and looking happy and excited. We are very much looking forward to a happy, learning filled year. We extend a warm welcome to students and families new to Strathaird, we hope you will be very happy being part of our wonderful school community. 😊



NAPLAN 2023 RESULTS

In December the NAPLAN results for 2023 were published. The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) publishes the best performing schools throughout Australia, taking into account socio-educational advantage, to give a more accurate picture of student performance. ACARA looked at which schools have continually achieved high NAPLAN results from 2021 to 2023, compared to others of similar backgrounds.

We are particularly excited to welcome adorable triplets – Aurora, Ellexia and Sophia - to our school this year. In the 19 years the school has been open, we have never had triplets.



Strathaird Primary School was ranked number 11 in Victoria, after being ranked number 12 in 2022. To be in the top 20 in Victoria is amazing. These results show that we make a very significant difference to students learning. This is a wonderful achievement and it doesn't happen by accident. It is due to the efforts of : our teachers, support staff and school leadership who work so hard each and every day to obtain the best outcomes we can for all of our students; our students who do their best to come to school each and every day ready to do well, to learn, to achieve and to grow; and parents who want the best for their children and do everything they can to support their learning and wellbeing every day.

These results are not just due to the lead up to NAPLAN testing; every day, every week, every year is important and has a cumulative effect on student achievement.

The whole school community should feel so proud. :)

Principal Page

STAFFING

This year we are delighted to welcome new and returning staff. Our new staff members are: Tayla Mathewson (Prep); Simone Romero (Year 2); Jade Heaton (Year 3); Barb Dewsnap (Integration Aide). We are also delighted to welcome back Shanna Wyman from Family Leave. We are very excited about what each of these Staff members will bring to our Strathaird team.

COMMUNITY READING PARENT TRAINING

Would you like to assist with Reading in your child's classroom?

If you would like to help with Reading in your child's classroom from 8.50 – 9.05 a.m. we would really love to see you. To do that, you must complete the *Community Reading Parent Training*. If you completed the training last year, you don't need to do it again this year.

The program will be held on Wednesday 14 February (Session 1) and Friday 16 February (Session 2) in the BER Building from 9.10 to 10.00 a.m. Parents only need to attend one of these sessions. Information has been sent out on Sentral with a link to book in. Please remember to come and sign in at the Office first.

PARENT –TEACHER INTERVIEWS

We are looking forward to Parent-Teacher Interviews next week. Parents are strongly encouraged to book an interview time with their child's teacher for **Tuesday 13 February between 3:30pm. and 7:30pm, or Wednesday 14 February between 3:30 and 5:00pm.**

Parents need to book Interviews using Sentral. If you need help booking Interviews, please contact the School Office.

Interviews at this time of the year give parents an opportunity to inform teachers of any relevant background information which may be of assistance in developing class programs for your child. Background information may include your child's strengths and qualities, areas of concern, learning needs, homework expectations and how parents can assist learning.

PANCAKE DAY

The school will be holding a special Pancake Day on Monday 4th March. This is a free event. This special treat for our students has been organised by the School with the help of some parent volunteers. Students will have a choice of a plain pancake, or lemon and sugar, jam or maple syrup topping.

Watch out for the Free Pancake Day Information coming home soon.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2024

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

This year there are **four Parent Member vacancies (2 year terms)** on School Council.

- “ The election process will commence with a call for nominations from **Monday 12th Feb.** Nomination forms can be obtained from the School Office.
- “ Nominations close and are due to the School Office by **4:00pm on Monday 19th Feb.**
- “ The list of candidates will be posted outside the School Office on **Wednesday 21st Feb.**
- “ If there are more nominations than vacant positions, a ballot process will take place. Ballot Papers will be distributed to all families on **Monday 26th February.**
- “ All Ballot Papers must be received by the closing of the Ballot at **4:00pm Monday 5th March.**
- “ Counting Ballot and Declaring Poll will take place on **Tuesday 6th March.**
- “ The first meeting of the newly appointed School Council will be held on **Tuesday 19th March.**

TERM 1 2024 - DATES TO REMEMBER

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
F e b r u a r y	5th	6th	7th	8th Grip Leadership Forms due - selected Students Prep and new Student photos (for school use)	9th JNR Assembly
	12th Grip Leadership Excursion Student Leaders	13th PT Interviews 3.30pm - 7.30pm	14th PT Interviews 3.30pm - 5.00pm Bookclub Due Community Reading Training 9.10am	15th Gr 6 Camp Forms Due	16th SNR Assembly Community Reading Training 9.10am
	19th School Council nominations close 4pm	20th 2nd Hand Uniform Stall Gr 6 Camp Info Night 5pm	21st	22nd	23rd JNR Assembly
	26th	27th School Council Meeting 6.30pm	28th	29th	1st March District Swimming SNR Assembly
M A R C H	4th Pancake Day	5th Grade 6 Camp	6th Grade 6 Camp	7th Grade 6 Camp	8th No assembly
	11th Labour Day Public Holiday	12th	13th Naplan Gr 3 & 5	14th Naplan Gr 3 & 5	15th Naplan Gr 3 & 5 SNR Assembly
	18th Naplan Gr 3 & 5	19th School Council @ 6.30pm	20th Naplan Gr 3 & 5	21st Naplan Gr 3 & 5	22nd Naplan Gr 3 & 5 JNR Assembly

Sport



School Leadership

We would like to introduce our School Captains, School Vice-Captains, House Captains and House Vice Captains and congratulate them on their appointment as our student leaders for 2024. They will have a busy year in their leadership roles completing many tasks such as setting up for assembly presentations, hosting whole school assemblies, assisting at some school sports events as well as being supportive and positive role models for their fellow students.



School Captains:

Captain: Travis Chim, Yalda Haidari
Vice: Ali Haidari, Charlize Ung,



House Captains:

Freeman (Red)

Captains: Dean Karim, Hosna Qalandari
Vice: Hamayon Mahdawi, Isla Douglas



Thorpe (Blue)

Captains: Sahas Herath, Emily O'Brien
Vice: Kane Fenton, Sabrina Lau



Fraser (Yellow)

Captains: Liam Sutherland, Stephanie McDonald
Vice: Jake Salvatierra, Jasmine Noonan



Bradman (Green)

Captains: Alex Valavanis, Isla Bosch
Vice: Aban Qambari, Isabella Ispoglou



Sport



Welcome back to 2024. This year Mrs Gilligan continues on as the Junior (Prep-2) Physical Education teacher with Mr Wood the Senior (3-6) Physical Education Teacher.

Please make sure children have drink bottles on their PE lesson and sports days. It is really important children stay hydrated especially in the warmer months. Children will be asked to bring a drink bottle to PE classes so that they can drink when needed which also limits distractions to the lesson as the drink bottle is easily accessible.

It helps us also if jumpers are named so that if they are left in the gym they can be easily returned to their owner.



INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING TEAM

Our District interschool swimming competition is scheduled on March 1st. Mr Wood has spoken to children in Grades 3-6 about the requirements needed to compete at this competition. Children who swim at a high level or squad and felt confident with swimming competitively, can come and receive a form in which we require parents or swim teachers to time them swimming 50 metres in the required stroke. If this form can be completed by February 12th and returned to Mr Wood he will then organise events and teams for the children. This is a competition against other schools so children need to be:

- Able to show correct swimming technique in either Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke or Butterfly
- Swim 50 metres confidently
- Be confident in deep water
- Have a fast swimming speed

**** if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask Mr Wood or Mrs Gilligan or often the child's swim teacher can give you advice on your child's suitability.**

Wellbeing Page



Being Dad Group

6-week interactive group for fathers with children aged 0-17. The group will help explore:

- Parenting
- Children's development
- Healthy relationships
- Managing a work/life balance
- Cyber safety
- Supports and activities available to you and your children

For fathers/carers in Southern Melbourne and Bayside Peninsula

Cost: Free

2024 Dates :

Term 1

From 07/02/24 to 13/03/24. Time: 5:30PM - 7.30PM

Term 2

From 01/05/24 to 05/06/24. Time: 5:30PM - 7.30PM

Term 3

From 31/07/24 to 04/09/24. Time: 10:30AM - 12.30PM

Term 4

From 16/10/24 to 20/11/24. Time: 5:30PM - 7:30PM

Venue:

Uniting office: 55 Webb Street, Narre Warren VIC 3805

Light refreshment will be served

Get in touch:

Father's Engagement Focus Team
03 5990 8400
Bookings essential

Uniting

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS



Core



Energy



Biodiversity



Water



Waste

ResourceSmart
Schools



RUBBISH FREE LUNCHES



Welcome to Sustainability in 2024!

A reminder to all families that we are a rubbish free lunch school. We ask all families to pack rubbish free lunches. This can be best achieved by packing lots of nude food like fruit and vegetables and home cooked using containers and bento boxes to avoid the use of cling wrap and plastic packaging..



CHANGES TO OUR WASTE SYSTEMS

This year we continue to ask children to take any rubbish they bring to school with them. We will also be sending home any juice or milk drink boxes that children bring to school. You can collect these and take them to the Container Deposit Scheme and get 10 cents per drink package. We will be putting in place a central location for collecting canteen drink bottles for recycling in the council blue bins but students can also take these home to recycle for 10 cents.



10C



introducing... The Container Deposit Scheme

The Victorian Government has put in a new strategy to reward people financially for recycling and to reduce littering of recyclable items. Each bottle or container earns 10 cents. Accepted items include drink boxes (straw and straw holder remove), plastic, metal and glass drink containers. Our nearest centre for this recycling system is in the Casey Central Car park at the Coles end. There is also one at Berwick Springs Hotel in the car park off Greaves Road.

What **can** I return?

Most aluminium, glass, plastic and liquid paperboard (carton) drink containers between 150mL and 3 litres are eligible. You can keep the lids on, we recycle them too.



Check for the 10c mark

Look for the 10c mark on the drink container label. It is often located near the barcode.



2024 CSEF Applications

Do you have a healthcare card?

Have you applied for the 2024 instalment?



- Each eligible child will receive \$150 credit to be used towards Camps, Sports and Excursions.
- Any unused credit will roll over to the following year or follow the child to the next school/secondary school.
- The card holder needs to complete an application form at the office and a photocopy of the card will need to be taken or emailed to the school strathaird.ps@education.vic.gov.au
- Child only cards are not eligible for CSEF.
- To apply for Term 1 your card needs to be valid on 29/1/2024
- If you have a Prep child OR you are new to our school, you will need to complete a brand new application at our school listing all students in the family.
- Families who applied in 2023 and have no changes to their circumstances do not need to reapply

Uniforms

A REMINDER TO:

Please make sure that ALL your children's belongings (clothes, lunch boxes, drink bottles, stationery, etc.) are CLEARLY LABELLED with your child's name.

Labelled property can be easily returned to its owner.

لطفاً مطمئن شوید که تمام وسایل فرزندان شما (لباس،
جعبه ناهار، بطری
نوشیدنی، لوازم التحریر و غیره) به وضوح با نام فرزند شما
برچسب گذاری
شده باشد.
اموال دارای برچسب را می توان به راحتی به صاحب آن
بازگرداند.

Thank You



Reading at home with young Readers

Reading at Home with Young Readers

Reading



Most classrooms have commenced take-home reading by now and 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)



Library / Child Safety

Library News

The library will be open for children to borrow before school and after school.

Before school
8:30am-8:50am
After school
3:15pm-3:30pm



Child safety and wellbeing at Strathaird Primary School information for families and the school community

The Victorian Government has announced new Child Safe Standards to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Strathaird Primary school has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on the school website on: www.strathairdps.vic.edu.au

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact

Julie Kennedy
Strathaird Primary School Principal



save the date

22nd July 2024

Grade 3 - 6 students
will be performing in
Strathaird Primary
School's Production:

The Remote of Destiny



Bunjil PLace

Stay tuned for more details here
in the newsletter, on Sentral
and around the school.

From the Admin

Are your details up to date?

Have you changed your home address, mobile numbers or work details?

Do you have a new parent email address?

Do you need to change your emergency contact details?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please email the school office strathaird.ps@education.vic.gov.au and we will update the information on file.

School Bags and school hats for sale at the office

We have a limited number of school bags available for sale at the office.

School bags are \$40 each and are navy blue with a 3 colour printed school logo on them.

We have two different sized navy slouch hats for sale at the office. Hats are \$9 and have an adjustable toggle at the back.

To purchase, please visit the office with cash or EFTPos OR on the QKR App. Order on the QKR App before 5pm for collection the next business day.

**Please note that any hats purchased after 5pm will take 2 business days to be ready for collection from the office.*



2024 Student Stationery

Information about the 2024 Student Stationery was sent home with students last year. Copies of each year level's information can be found on our school website:

<https://www.strathairdps.vic.edu.au/parent-information/payment-notifications/>

Thank you to all of the families who have made contributions towards our 2024 Curriculum Consumables. Contributions can be made any time throughout the year and we appreciate your support with this.

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 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?

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?

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



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 .