Strathaird Primary School News

22/07/2026

Edition 11

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.

Strathaird

EST' 2005

Primary School

School Values

Honesty Respect Responsibility Compassion

Contact Us:

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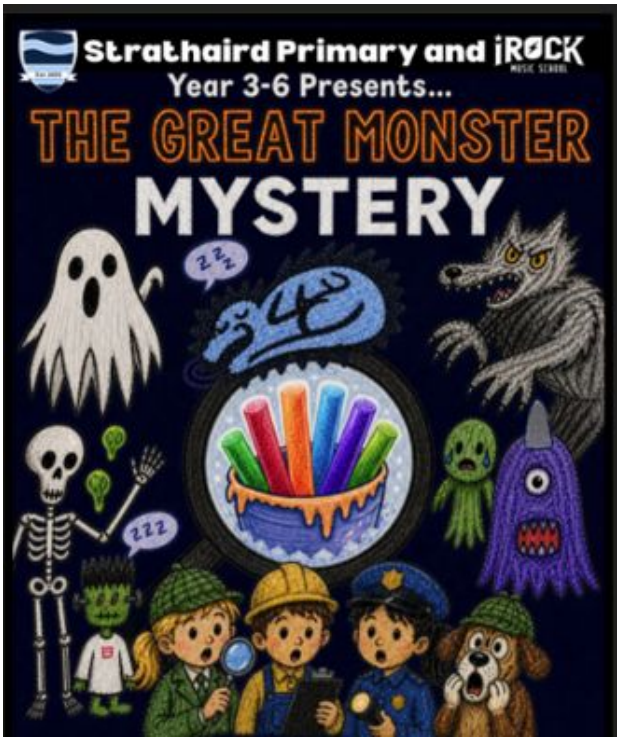
Principal Page

SCHOOL PRODUCTION – THE GREAT MONSTER MYSTERY Monday 3rd August, Bunjil Place



Our School Production is almost here and we are very excited.

Please be aware of the following:

- All Years 3-6 students need to be at Bunjil Place at 4.30 p.m. on the night of the performance.
- The performance commences at 6.00 p.m.
- Tickets are still on sale, click on the link in flyer in this newsletter.
- All students in Years 3-6 will be attending a special rehearsal at Bunjil Place on the day of the production, even if they are unable to attend the actual nighttime performance.
- If your child is not going to be at the nighttime performance, please email the school to let us know.
- Parents will have the opportunity to purchase a Production DVD at a later date.

Drop off and pick up arrangements:

- **Drop off** (at 4.30 p.m.) – Students will need to be dropped off in the loading dock area at 4.30 p.m. Staff will be there to take your child to the studio.

Pick up – After the Production, **please do not go to the loading dock**. Please go to Studio Door 2, off the foyer, where a staff member will direct you to a large room – the STUDIO – and you will be able to collect your child/children from this room. Parents with a Year 3 child will go through to the STUDIO first and take their child and any siblings. Then parents of Year 4s will go through, followed by Year 5s and Year 6s.

100 DAYS OF SCHOOL FOR OUR PREPS

Next week, Thursday 30th July, we will be celebrating the milestone 100 days of school for our wonderful Prep students. To jazz things up, Prep Teachers are inviting their students to dress up in their **brightest** clothes. Students will be taking part in a range of activities, learning all about 100

AusAlert

You will probably be aware, next Monday, 27 July, at 2.00 p.m. a **Critical AusAlert test** will be sent to every mobile device in Australia. Devices will vibrate and play a siren-like warning sound for about 10 seconds. An AusAlert message will appear on device screens and it will clearly say it is a test.

National test | ausalert

Principal Page

Sick Bay Compass notification

We are updating some of our Compass processes, this includes the parent notification from sick bay.

If your child goes to sick bay, (this does not include for regular medication) you will receive a push notification which says:

Strathaird PS courtesy notice: _____ has attended sick bay today.
If you require more detail, please contact the Office.

If your child requires/may require further treatment or further observation, you will also receive a phone call from the sick bay.

This message will be Pushed or SMS to your phone.

To get a 'pushed' message to your phone screen, you need to turn on Compass Push Notifications and may need to turn on Compass notifications in your phone settings. Please see below.

📱 COMPASS TIP FOR PARENTS

Never Miss an Important School Update!

🔔 **Turn on Compass Push Notifications**

Stay up to date with school news, attendance messages, Sickbay attendance, events and important alerts by enabling push notifications in the Compass App.

1. 📲 Open the **Compass School Manager** app.
2. 👤 Tap **More** (☰) in the bottom-right corner.
3. ⚙️ Select **Settings**.
4. 🔔 Tap **Notifications**.
5. ✅ Turn **Push Notifications ON**.
6. 📱 If prompted, allow notifications in your phone's **Settings**.

💡 **Tip:** Make sure notifications are also enabled for the Compass app in your iPhone or Android device settings.

If you need help with this, please visit our school office.

School Council Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 11th August at 6.00 p.m.
Staff Room. All welcome.
2025 Annual Report is also displayed on the School Website.

Term 3 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
JULY	**20th**	**21st** Gr 5 Aquatics	**22nd**	**23rd**	**24th** JNR Assembly
	27th	**28th** Gr 4 Aquatics Bookclub Due	**29th**	**30th** Gr 1 Nicky Johnston Incursion 100 Days of Prep	**31st** Whole School Production Rehearsal No Assembly
	3rd School Production	**4th**	**5th** District Athletics	**6th**	**7th** SNR Assembly
AUGUST	**10th** Gr 5 Mad about Science Incursion	**11th** 2nd Hand uniform Stall Gr 5 Mad about Science School Council meeting 6.30pm	**12th**	**13th**	**14th** JNR Assembly
	17th	**18th**	**19th**	**20th**	**21st** Daffodil Day SNR Assembly
	24th	**25th**	**26th** Swimming Grade 1, 2A, 2B and 2C Book week	**27th**	**28th** Character Parade JNR Assembly
SEPT	**31st** Fathers Day Stalls	**1st** Fathers Day Stalls	**2nd** Swimming Grade 1, 2A, 2B and 2C	**3rd** Gr 6 Market stalls	**4th** Gr 6 Lightning Prem SNR Assembly

Student of the Week

Week 1

Prep A	Sediq	Trying really hard and following instructions. Well done Sediq!
Prep B	Sana	For giving detailed answers during class discussions and always listening. Well done!
Prep C	Adam	For listening carefully and following classroom expectations. Well done!
Prep D	Mackenzie	For representing the number 13 in many different ways. Well done!
Prep E	Ava	For always trying her best and being such a positive influence on our class.
Prep F	Aleksey	For being kind and caring to others in the classroom!
1A	Hannah	For being a collaborator during our shared writing on procedures this week.
1B	Tabish	For being a communicator and sharing his ideas during group work! Great work!
1D	Zainab	For excellent effort during Phonics sessions! Keep up the great work :)
2A	Aurora	For her excellent contributions during Reading discussions
2B	Jason	for always contributing in class discussions!
2C	Ryder	for his focus during Guided Reading
2D	Kage	For working hard in phonics. Well done!
2E	Jayon	For being a good collaborator!
3A	Nargis	For being an exceptionally helpful member of the class!
3B	Anum	For an outstanding start at Strathaird Primary!
3C	Amelia	For her contributions during class discussions this week. You superstar!
3D	Mehreen	For putting in a fantastic effort into her writing pre-test. Keep it up!
4A	Yasin	For a positive attitude towards his learning
4B	Umrah	For showing resilience towards your learning
4C	Delda	For working hard to give your best efforts! Well done!
4D	Shahd	For being a caring, kind and supportive classmate
4E	Rory	For his hard work in Literacy lessons this week!
5A	Sharun	For respectfully contributing to class discussions
5B	Lucille	Being helpful and welcoming during my first week.
5D	Chloe	For showing dedication in Numeracy and always having a go.
5E	Ayaan	For showing dedication towards your learning and always trying your best.
6A	Colin	For growing in confidence when sharing ideas and contributing to discussions.
6B	Azariah	For persevering with a difficult Numeracy task.
6C	Lennon	For always being engaged and ready to contribute in our class discussions.
6D	Taha	For making an outstanding start to Term 3!

School Values Awards

Congratulations to the following Students

Week 10

Prep A	Lucas
Prep B	Arham
Prep C	Aubrey
Prep D	Melisa
Prep E	Lucas
Prep F	Sophia
1A	Aria
1B	Navid
1D	Luka
2A	Sophia
2B	Elias
2C	Atena
2D	Tate
2E	Rayol
3B	Shahar Naz
3C	Parker
3D	Mahdi
4A	Daniel
4B	Skye
4C	Kaytan
4D	Liam
4E	Huma
5A	Mohammadi
5B	Trey-Lyons
5D	Hosam
5E	Radin
6A	Sana
6B	Sarah
6C	Zaine
6D	Yahya

Honesty

Respect

Compassion

Responsibility

Wellbeing Page

Nature is fuel for the soul

Dr Justin Coulson
June 22, 2026

0 Comments

Children are spending up to 90% of their lives indoors. The Royal Children's Hospital National Child Health Poll of 2,036 parents found that most Australian preschoolers (55%) don't play outdoors every day. Data on adolescents is hard to come by, but international surveys all suggest the same thing: time outdoors for our kids is plummeting.

According to the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), the main reasons children spend more time indoors are:

- a lack of suitable outdoor spaces
- parental concerns about safety, traffic and crime
- children spending more time on electronic devices
- study being prioritised over play (e.g. spending time learning spelling or maths rather than playing – whether at home or at preschool).

There are few things more valuable for your child's wellbeing, however, than getting them outside, touching grass. The research on kids and nature is substantial.
A 2023 overview pulled together 36 systematic reviews on the topic. One review looked at six "schoolyard greening" projects – basically, making school outdoor spaces more natural – and found real improvements in students' physical activity and social and emotional health. Another systematic review focused specifically on nature exposure and emotional and behavioural outcomes. Every randomised controlled trial in the review – all five of them – pointed in the same direction. More nature, higher wellbeing, less stress.

If my brief overview with links to incredibly useful studies has convinced you that outdoor time matters, even as we approach the cold of winter, the question becomes "how do I get the kids outside"?

The critical element will be *relationships*. Kids want to be where people they love are hanging out. If you're inside holding a hot cup of cocoa, they'll want to be there. But if you're brave enough to rug up and step outside (or if their friends are doing something outdoors), the battle is all but won.

Wellbeing Page

Here are ten ideas for getting our kids (and ourselves) outside.

This will, of course, depend on what is accessible near you.

1. Go for a walk or hike. Simple, free, and underrated. For younger kids, turn it into a scavenger hunt — make a quick bingo card with things like birds, flowers, pinecones, or different coloured letterboxes. For older kids, just being side-by-side on a walk can open up conversations that would never happen face-to-face at the kitchen table. Some of my best chats with my kids have happened while we were both staring at the footpath ahead of us.

2. Get moving. Dig the bikes out of the garage. Dust off the scooters. If you're feeling brave, find the skateboard. Getting moving outdoors — even just around the block — often turns out to be more fun than anyone expected. Fair warning though: if you haven't been on a skateboard since 1987, take it steady. They disappear from underneath you faster than you remember. Ask me how I know.

3. Find a park or open space. State parks, national parks, city parks, local reserves — parks are genuinely one of Australia's great underused resources. Hikes, waterfalls, skate parks, caves, green space, abseiling... yes, and also leeches, mozzies, and the occasional spiderweb to the face. That's what makes it memorable. The greener the space, the better — for the kids, obviously. Not for you. You're fine.

4. Water play. Beach, river, creek, backyard sprinkler, or just a bucket and a hose. Kids and water are a combination that never really fails. And yes, it might be getting cooler — but have you noticed that children are apparently immune to cold water? They'll be in it regardless. Let them.

5. Go rock pooling. With some of the most accessible coastline in the world, Australians are criminally underusing rock pools. All you need is low tide, a pair of old shoes, and a curious kid. The combination of water, wildlife, and the hunt — what's under that rock? what's in that crack? — keeps kids absorbed for far longer than you'd expect. It's also a surprisingly good workout for adults who spend the whole time crouched down going "ooh, look at this one."

6. Have an outdoor picnic. Grab a blanket and take a meal outside. It doesn't need to be fancy — a pizza from down the road counts. There's a headland near our home on the Sunshine Coast where families gather at sunset, eat whatever they've brought, and let the kids roam. It happens every single week and it never gets old. Something about eating outside just makes everything taste better and everyone feel calmer.

7. Get outside after dark. Camp in the backyard. Head to a campground for a couple of nights where you can light a real fire and actually see the stars. Go stargazing on the trampoline. Or simply take the kids and the dog for a walk after dinner. We call it the "digestion walk" at our place — and some of the best conversations happen on those quiet evening loops around the neighbourhood when everyone has eaten and nobody has anywhere to be.

8. Outdoor art. This one lands particularly well with kids up to around age 12. Chalk on the driveway or footpath is always a hit — you end up with an entire neighbourhood canvas. Paintbrushes and spray bottles work brilliantly too, either with water on concrete or paint on paper pinned to the fence. Get the shoes off, get the aprons on, and accept that something is going to get stained.

9. Grow something. A vegie patch, a pot of herbs on the balcony, or even just a seed in a cup on the windowsill. Gardening is one of the most well-researched nature-based wellbeing activities we have, and for Australian kids with any outdoor space at all, it's enormously accessible. There's something quietly powerful about a child who plants something, tends to it, watches it grow, and then eats it. It teaches patience and care in a way that very little else does.

10. Follow your child's lead. Ask your kids what they want to do — as long as it's outside. Sports, flying kites, building sandcastles, climbing trees, digging holes for absolutely no reason, throwing a frisbee, setting up a cake stall on the corner of the street. There are as many ways to be outside as there are kids who need to be there. Sometimes the best thing you can do is open the back door and see what unfolds.

Grade 2

INQUIRY IMMERSION IN GRADE 2

At the end of Week 1 the Grade 2s took part in an inquiry immersion experience.

Each classroom contained a different storytelling experience for students.

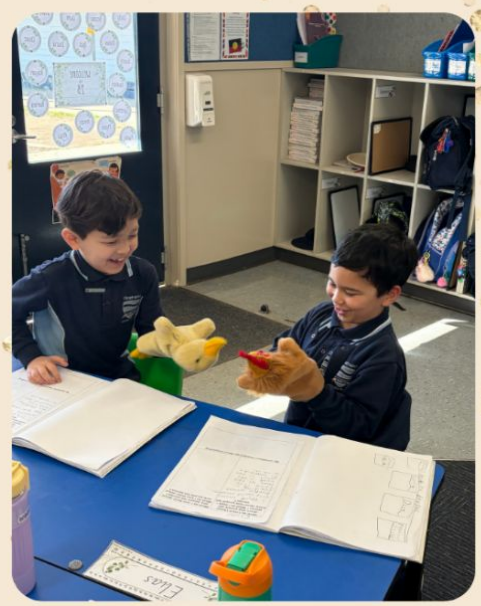
Students were immersed with written stories such as big books, picture books, cartoons and graphic novels.

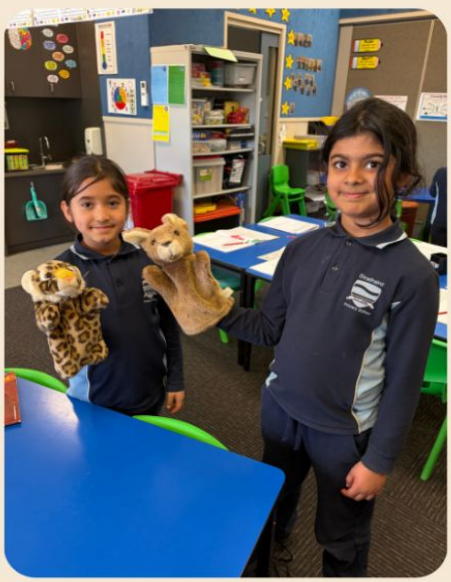
Grade 2

Storytelling through puppetry allowed students to explore shadow, hand and stick puppets.

Students listened to Indigenous dreamtime stories using ipads. They investigated readers theatre, by watching a theatre peformance on the screen and reading scripts.

Claymation allowed students to bring their ideas to life by creating characters and objects using clay. Stopmotion film such as Wallace and Gromit were viewed to spark ideas.





2026 Production

2nd Hand Uniform

Compass

You can download the Compass App on iOS and Android devices, simply search for Compass School Manager in the store.

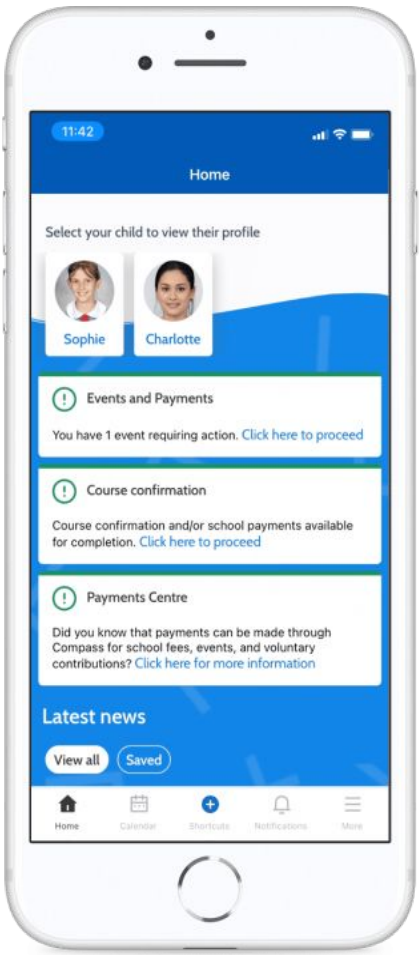
Using the app you can:

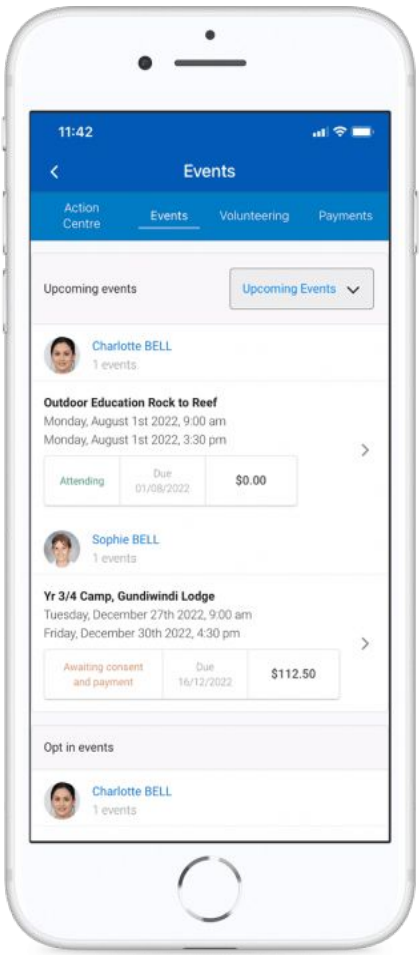
- View the school news feed
- Receive messages from the school
- View your child's timetable and the school calendar
- View Learning Tasks
- Book parent-teacher conferences
- Add Attendance Notes
- View academic reports
- Event, Consent and Payments

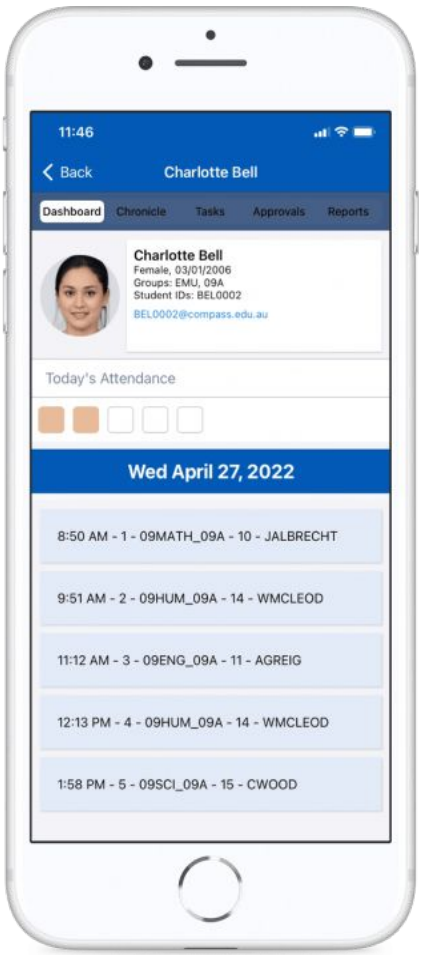
Learn how to use Compass through the following links

Parent Compass App - YouTube

A guide for parents & families | Compass Education AU







SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

ResourceSmart Schools

National Tree Day

Sunday 26 July 2026
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

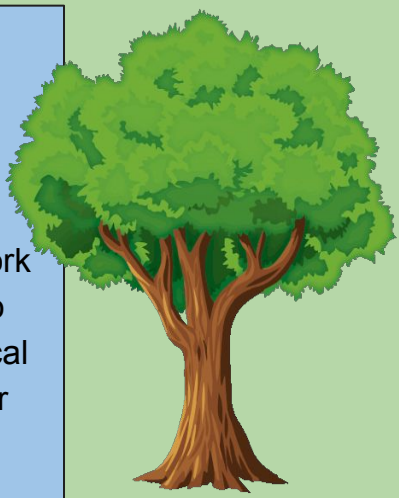
A fun, family friendly, tree planting event.

Join City of Casey in planting 5000 plants this National Tree Day to help restore habitat.

Bring along your waterbottles, gloves, dress for the weather. Closed toe shoes are mandatory

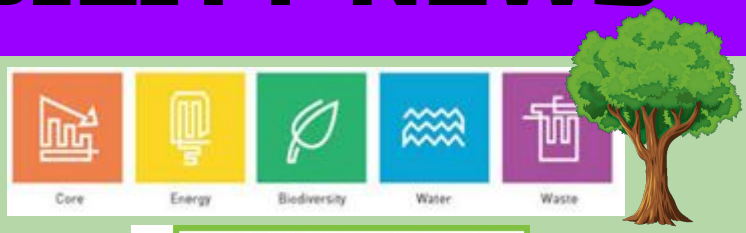
Planting will take place in Cranbourne West and the Casey community is invited to join in the fun.

This year's planting will add to work done in previous years, helping to create an important habitat for local wildlife as part of a nature corridor eventually linking to Brooklyn Greens Reserve.



Registration is essential to secure your spot for this community event. You can sign up through the City of Casey Tree Planting Event on Eventbrite. Attendees should bring their own gardening gloves and a water bottle, and must wear closed-toe shoes.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS



ResourceSmart Schools

We are excited to announce that **Grade 5** is officially participating in the 2026 Casey School Battery Blitz!

This year, a record-breaking 52 teams across Casey are competing to see who can collect the most household batteries for recycling, and the top-collecting winning teams will be rewarded with a pizza party!

Why are we doing this?

Batteries are a highly problematic waste item when thrown into regular bins. They contain hazardous materials and are increasingly responsible for causing dangerous fires in collection trucks and waste facilities. By recycling them through this competition, we are keeping our community safe and keeping toxic waste out of landfill.

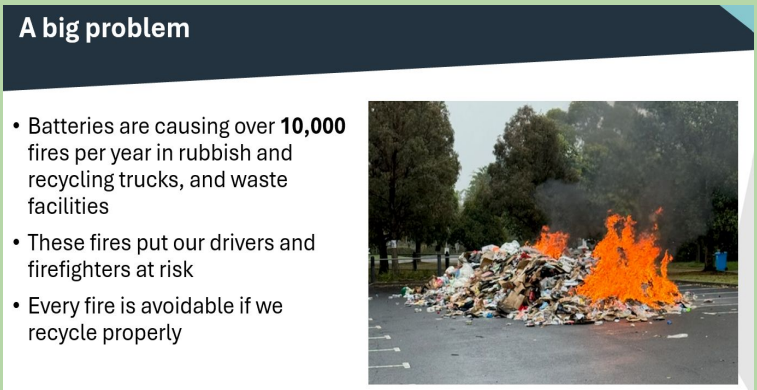
How you can help us win:

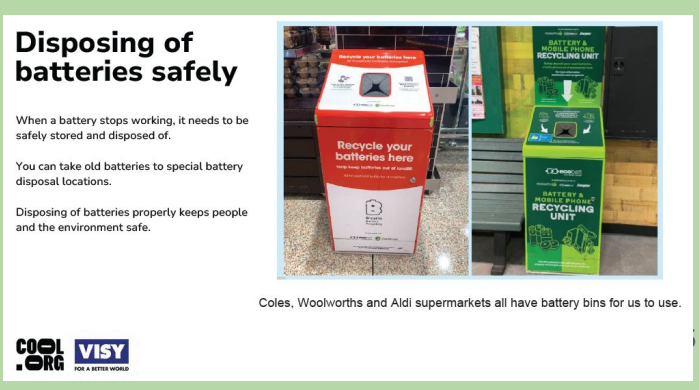
We need your used household batteries! We are collecting:

- AA and AAA batteries
- C and D batteries
- Button/coin cell batteries

If you have or know a child in Grade 5 please send your batteries to school with them in a **sealed container or zip-lock bag** to be dropped in **buckets located in any of the Grade 5 classrooms.**

The competition runs until **Friday 4 September**, so please start saving them up at home and bringing them in.





Road Safety

Parents/Carers - Choose safe crossings

Families - always choose to use safe crossings.

Teaching your children to look for safe places to cross the road.

When pedestrians cross in other areas, this causes danger to drivers and also to the pedestrian.

Role Model

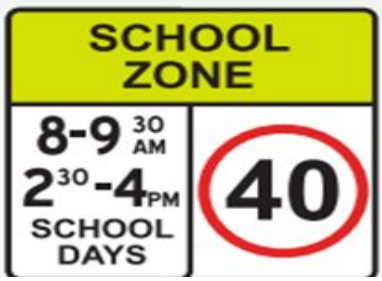
When you show your children safe pedestrian behaviour, they will copy you.

Teach your children the 4 safety words when crossing the road - ***Stop Look Listen and Think***

Hold hands with your children...

Holding hands with young children is such a simple way to keep children safe.

As Drivers - follow the signs around your school precinct

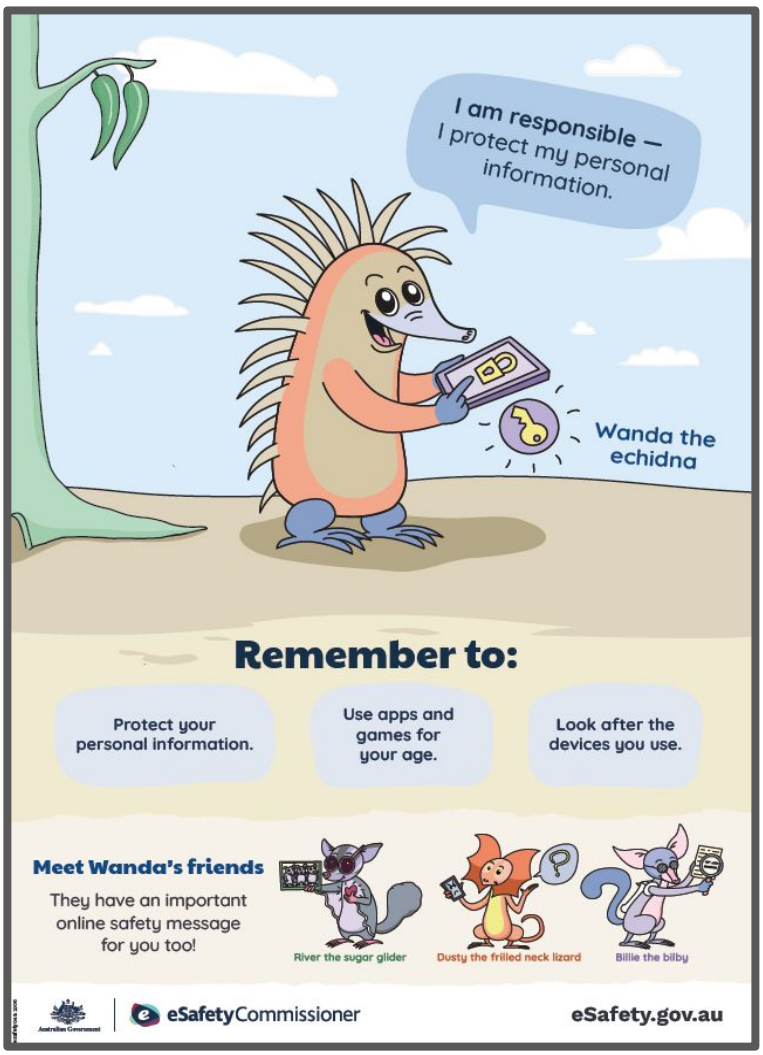


Remember to:

- Listen to your body clues.
- Close the screen if something doesn't feel right.
- Ask a trusted adult for help.

Meet Dusty's friends

They have an important online safety message for you too!

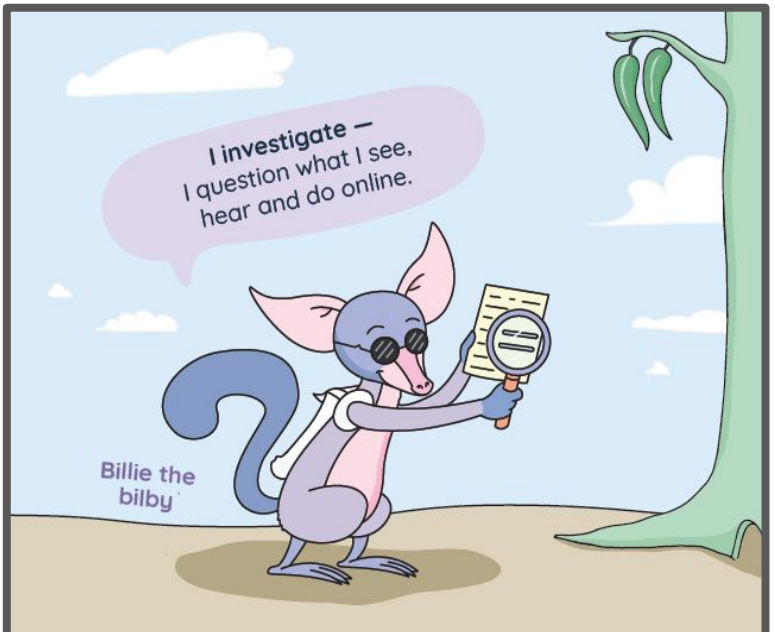


Remember to:

- Protect your personal information.
- Use apps and games for your age.
- Look after the devices you use.

Meet Wanda's friends

They have an important online safety message for you too!



Remember to:

- Make good choices when you're online.
- Be curious and ask questions.
- Know when time's up online.

Meet Billie's friends

They have an important online safety message for you too!

Remember to:

- Always show respect online.
- Take turns and share when playing online.
- Ask others before taking or sharing their photo or video.

Meet River's friends

They have an important online safety message for you too!

Important Parent Resources

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 Compass or call the admin on 9705 3800.

Strathaird Primary School

EST' 2005

School Values PROGRAM

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

Responsibility
We make good choices and are accountable for our actions .

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 .