



STRATHMERTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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SUPPORT EACH OTHER



TRY YOUR BEST



ACT SAFELY



RESPECT

**Newsletter No.6
March 11th 2021**

2021 Dates to Remember

- ⇒ **Tuesday 23rd March**
Prep/1 games tea night
- ⇒ **Wednesday 24th March**
Annual General Meeting of School Council
- ⇒ **Friday 26th March**
Athletic Sports at Nathalia
- ⇒ **Thursday 1st April**
Easter hat parade 9.15am
Quest Healthy Bodies & Minds
Fun Sports day
School finishes at 2.30pm
- ⇒ **Monday April 19th**
First day term

Breakfast Club every Friday Morning at 8.30am.
Great Job ladies and helpers

Lunch orders at Bakery - Tuesday & Thursday

Join girl guides



For girls
ages
5 to 17

Make friends
Have fun
Learn new skills
Leadership
Community work

Local Contact:

Meetings are held on **Tuesdays** during school terms from **4:15pm to 6:00pm** at the **Strathmerton Guide Hall, Patrick St, Strathmerton.**
New girls wishing to join Strathmerton Girl Guides can **phone Tanji on 5874 5483** for further information.

Girl Guides Victoria Head Office:

Suite 812, 401 Docklands Drive, Docklands, Vic, 3008
Ph: 8606 3500 or 1800 girl guides
E: guides@guidesvic.org.au
W: www.guidesvic.org.au



To enable girls and young women to grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members.

BUS REMINDER

It is important that parents let the school know when their child is not travelling home by bus. This is a Duty of Care situation.



Junior badminton

Junior Badminton commences Friday the 5th march 2021. Primary school children aged 9 years and upwards starts at 3.30pm to 4.45pm
Secondary school age children start at 4.45pm to 6pm. Please wear sports shoes. Club racquets are available to use.
Cost: \$15 for insurance and \$4 per session.
Contact Heather with any queries on 0427 745 307

Icy Poles

Icy poles will be on sale each Friday for the rest of the term.
\$1 each

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

Thanks to all those parents/carers who took the opportunity to participate in a Parent/Teacher interview last week, either in person or by phone. I think we had around 85% of parents/carers attend an interview, which is a positive indication of your support for your child/ren's education.

NEW TEACHER

As you are aware, Mr Tim Arnel will finish up as a teacher of the 4/5 class at the end of term. We have now completed the selection process for appointing a new teacher to commence in that class from the beginning of Term Two. The new teacher is Ms Sarah Arklay, who will be coming up from Bannockburn P-12 (near Geelong), where she has been teaching for a number of years. She is very excited to join our staff, as her family will be settling in our district in the near future.

QUEST THEME

This term, our Quest theme is '**Healthy Bodies and Healthy Minds**' and the students have been learning about the importance of nutrition and exercise as well as having a positive outlook, to improve their self-esteem and general well-being. To celebrate all the work the children have done, at the end of the term, we intend to have our 'Quest Expo' on **Thursday, 1st April**. We will start the day with our annual **Easter Hat Parade** (commencing at 9:15), followed by the opportunity for parents to view the students' work on this theme, and concluding with our own **House Athletics Sports**, with lots of traditional and novelty sporting events, for all students to participate in. Put this date in your diary, because we'd love to see all our parents come along to be a part of this fun conclusion to our study of 'Healthy Bodies and Healthy Minds'.

SCHOOL REVIEW

On Monday of next week, the School Review will be completed, with what is called the Final Panel Day. On that day the panel will reflect on what they have observed during classroom visits, as well as analysing the school's performance over the past four years. At the conclusion of this evaluation, the panel will set the direction for the next Strategic Plan (2021-2025). It has been a very interesting process, and I look forward to seeing the final report.

PRIMARY MATHS AND SCIENCE SPECIALISTS INITIATIVE (PMSS)

Another exciting development for Strathmerton Primary is our acceptance into the Primary Maths and Science Specialists initiative. This initiative enables a specialist teacher to implement a whole-school approach to Maths across the school, incorporating what is considered 'best practice', to lift the level of student engagement and performance. Mr Trevor Mills will be the PMSS specialist and has already begun his extensive training, so that he can in turn, teach the staff.

DISTRICT ATHS SPORTS.

After last year missing the District Aths Sports, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we're pleased to announce that they will be held again this year at the Nathalia Showgrounds on Friday, 26th March. We ask that parents transport their children to and from the sports if they can, but for those parents/carers who can't, because of other commitments, we will run a bus from school to Nathalia and back on the day. Further details regarding booking a spot on the bus, if needed, will be announced shortly.

Geoff Weppner

Principal.

EASTER HAT PARADE – Thursday April 1ST at 9:15am

It is that time of year again. For our new families to the school, every year we have an Easter hat parade. Children will be able to bring to school decorations to put on their school made hat or share with their classmates. Children will have time during the last week of term, after lunch, to create their Easter themed hats.

If you would like to create a hat at home with your child that is also fine as there will be two judging categories on the day.

Children who have a school made hat will be judged together, while children who have a homemade hat will be judged together.

Children can enter both sections and every child in the school will have a school made hat to parade in.

The parade will take place at 9:15am on Thursday 1ST April 2021.

Parents and family members are welcome to come along and see their child parade around with the other children of the school.

The Strathmerton Kindergarten children have been invited and will also take part in the parade.

- **Easter Raffle**

To assist the SRC, we are asking families to bring in items for the Easter

Raffle which will be drawn on the day of the parade. Items that you can donate include Easter eggs or other Easter themed items. These donations can be given to your child's classroom teacher, preferably before the Tuesday of the last week of term. The SRC students will organise raffle tickets to be sent home with the eldest child of each family. We encourage you to sell these to family members, friends, or yourselves to be in the running to win prizes on the last day of term. Tickets are \$1 each. We very much appreciate your support.

Raffle tickets will be sent home next week.



FROM THE PRIMARY MATHS SCIENCE SPECIALIST

5 practical ideas to help your children with mathematics

1. (For younger children) Count steps when you go up or down them. Ask your child to set the table, working out how many knives, forks, cups, chopsticks, etc are needed. Talk about longer and shorter, lighter and heavier. Identify shapes in the environment.
2. When you have a calculation to do, ask your child, "How would you work this out?" (67 per cent of all calculations adults do are in the home, so there are many opportunities for this.)
3. Talk to children about today's date, find upcoming birthdays on the calendar, and ask them questions about how long till bedtime and how long until their birthday, and encourage them to read both analogue and digital clocks.
4. In the supermarket: when in line at the deli, ask how many more people until it's your turn. Ask them to collect the 2L milk carton or the 1kg bag of rice. Encourage them to work out which has the better value out of the large and small packets of laundry detergent.
5. Use a height measurer marked in centimetres for children to keep track of their height, and encourage them to measure things at home, like spacing seedlings when planting in the garden and weighing ingredients during cooking.

Mr Mills.

