

From the Principal's Desk

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM

On Wednesday evening the School Council's Annual General Meeting was held. At this meeting Joanne Paton and Simon Borg were confirmed as new members of school council. Also, new office bearers were elected and the 2020 Annual Report delivered. The 2021 School Council membership is: Lisa Bramich, Greg Brooks, Simon Borg, Jacinta Ciccone, Kyley Lee-Madgwick, Kerry Edgar and Michelle Carmody (as parent representatives) and Geoff Weppner, Trevor Mills and Joanne Paton (as DET representatives). I look forward to working productively with this great team during 2021.

DISTRICT SCHOOL SPORTS

It's still not too late to book a seat for your child/ren on the bus travelling to the District Sports in Nathalia on Friday, if you are unable to take your children yourself. Just fill in the booking form on the new School Stream app.

EXCITING EXCURSION

Our whole school will travel over to Bendigo on Thursday, 29th April (second week of term) to visit the Discovery Science and Technology Centre as a 'front loading' activity to kickstart our new Quest Theme about the earth. They will experience some amazing activities, such as visiting the planetarium, participating in a science workshop and experimenting with the many interactive activities. More information is included on the permission note attached to the back of this newsletter, or found on the School Stream app.

ATTENDANCE

We began positively with all students attending school nearly every day. However, over the past couple of weeks, there have been a few students who have missed school for a number of days, with no apparent reason. The Department of Education's Attendance Policy states that even <u>five days absence a year</u> can have a negative effect on a student's progress. I'm asking that all parents support us by ensuring their children are at school every day, barring illness. If your child has to be away because of illness or for an important appointment, please let us know, with either a phone call, or by using the School Stream app. Attendance for every student is recorded on an attendance program that the Department has access to. They contact us with a 'please explain' when they see a high number of unexplained absences, and that data is recorded as a negative result for the school. *It's NOT OK to be away!*

HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF BEHAVIOUR

This year we have 'raised the bar' on what we consider to be acceptable behaviour, particularly in the playground. Behaviours that we are 'cracking down on' are swearing and rude, belittling insults, not playing in a friendly and sociable manner, and defiance towards staff. Consequences for these poor behaviours range from a counselling session, to detention, to even a suspension. The majority of our students are well-mannered and play happily with their peers, but we want to eliminate the inappropriate behaviours of those few students involved, to make Strathy Primary a great place to be for everyone.

Geoff Weppner

Principal.



STRATHY STARS





Degan Ryan, Belle Shayne, Jazmin Argus, Macy Carter & Rylee McFarland



Darci Carmody, Ivy Henderson, Maya Henderson & Kael Carmody



Sophie Hughes, Blake Giddings, Eliza Bourchier & Dayne Kirkpatrick



Amy Payne and Kiara Wilson are our barrel winners this week.

NATHALIA INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS MENU 2021

SNACKS:

Caramel Slice	\$3.00
Hedgehog	\$3.00
ZOOPER DOOPER	.50c
POPCORN	.50c

MENU:

Pies		\$4.00
Sausage rolls		\$3.00
Hot Dogs		\$4.00
Dim Sims		\$1.00 each
Dim Sims	3 for	\$2.00
Chicken/Ham salad	rolls	\$4.00
Salad Rolls		\$4.00

DRINKS:

Tea/Coffee	\$2.00
Water	\$2.00
Choc/Strawberry Milk 200ml	\$2.00

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.

<u>Easter Raffle</u>

To assist the SRC, we are asking families <u>to bring in items for the Easter</u>

<u>Raffle</u> 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.





Strathmerton Primary

EXCURSION TO BENDIGO

Discovery Science and Technology Centre

Dear Parents,

Our new Quest theme for Term Two is all about our world, with the junior students focusing on *Weather in My World*, whilst the seniors focus on *Earth and Space*. As a 'front-loading' activity to build the students' interest and engagement in the topic, we have planned an excursion to the *Discovery Science and Technology Centre* in Bendigo, on *Thursday, 29th April* (second week of Term Two).

This will be a 'whole-school' excursion, with two buses booked to transport all of us to Bendigo and back. We will need to leave from school at 8:00am that morning and will return at approximately 5:00pm. This means that the school buses won't operate that day, with parents/carers required to bring their children to school by 7:45am, and be ready to pick them up again at 5:00pm.

Whilst at the Discovery Centre, all the students will have the opportunity to visit the planetarium, take part in a hands-on science workshop, and explore the many other exciting interactive exhibits. It's going to a fun day for everyone.

The cost for the excursion (bus and entry) will kept at \$20 per child, with the school subsidising the overall total by almost 50%, to ensure every child can afford to go. Students will be required to bring snacks, lunch and a water bottle to keep them fed and hydrated for the day, and will also be expected to wear full school uniform.

We would expect that *every student* will attend and ask that parents/carers complete the permission form below and return it with the \$20.

Geoff Weppner.

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Strathmerton Primary <u>EXCURSION TO BENDIGO</u>

I give permission for my child/ren to attend the excursion to the Discovery Science and Technology Centre in Bendigo, on Thursday, 29th April.

I authorize the teacher in charge to consent, where it is impractical to communicate with me, to the child receiving such medical, surgical and/or ambulance treatment as may be necessary.

Signed (Parent/Carer)