



# STRATHMERTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ph: 58745295 Fax: 58745537

Email: [Strathmerton.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Strathmerton.ps@education.vic.gov.au)



**SUPPORT EACH  
OTHER**



**TRY YOUR  
BEST**



**ACT  
SAFELY**



**RESPECT**

**Newsletter No.19  
June 23rd, 2022**

### **2022 Dates to Remember**

- **Wednesday June 22nd & Thursday June 23rd** Parent teacher interviews 3.30pm to 7pm
- **Friday June 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Assembly – 9:50-10:15 am  
Quest Expo – 10:15–11:00 am  
Well-being activities 11:30–1:30 pm  
Lunch (snag in bread) 1:30-2:15 pm  
Last day of term finish 2:30pm.
- **Monday July 11<sup>th</sup>**  
First day term 3
- **Monday July 11<sup>th</sup> – Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Grade 5/6 camp to Sovereign Hill
- **Friday July 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Skateboarding session
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**  
African Drumming
- **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July**  
Lightning Premiership at Yarrawonga

Lightning Premiership

This is being held in Yarrawonga this year a list of times will be sent home early next term.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance at school is an extremely important indicator of student performance. The Department of Education and Training suggests that even as few as 5 or 6 days absence in a school year can have an adverse effect on a student's progress. The Department monitors the absence rate of students across the State and will contact schools to discuss their attendance strategies, where that rate is unsatisfactory. Strathmerton Primary has always had a high level of attendance, however it's disappointing to note that we have a large number of 'unexplained absences' at the moment, where the child is not at school and we haven't been informed why. We know that currently there is a great deal of 'flu-like' illness in the area, but in most cases the parents/carers have either let us know through the Schoolstream app, or phoned the school. When we haven't seen a student for a number of days and haven't been able to make contact, we become quite concerned. There is no excuse for a student to be absent from school without explanation. If your child is absent from school, please let us know, as every 'unexplained absence' is recorded against their name.

**'It's not OK to be away.'**

## From the Principal's Desk

I know everyone – staff, students and families – is looking forward to the holiday break. However, we can all look back at this term and reflect on the fact that we have had nine weeks of uninterrupted teaching and learning and be pleased with the progress most students have made. It has been a very positive and productive term.

**Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June** Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will be conducted between 3:30 and 6:30 pm. (Other interview times are also available during the day on certain days during that week. Please refer to the booking timetable that was sent home).

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> June** will be a special day to close the end of term and we invite parents/carers/family to join us.

- Whole-school Assembly from 9:50 to 10:15 am
- Quest Expo from 10:15 am to 11:00 am (parents/carers/family invited to visit the classrooms)
- Recess 11:00 -11:30 am – have morning tea with the kids.
- Well-being activities from 11:30 to 1:30 pm. The students will rotate through a series of fun activities designed to foster social interaction and cooperation.
- Sausage Sizzle BBQ lunch 1:30-2:15 pm (free of charge)
- Students dismissed for holidays at 2:30 pm.

## AFRICAN DRUMMING

During Term Three our Quest theme will have a Geography focus and to 'kickstart' the student's interest in the countries and cultures of the world, we have booked an **African Drumming** incursion for **Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July**. Each class will have an hour's workshop, hearing more about the music and dance of West Africa, as well as learning how to play their own drum (djembe). It will be a fun and informative introduction to our term's theme, and I hope every student is able to participate. The information and consent form are posted on our Facebook and Schoolstream sites.

## SCHOOL CAMPS

The Year 5-6 students are off on camp to Sovereign Hill in the first week back in Term Three. What a great way to start a new term!

Then, at the commencement of Term Four we have a camp for almost our whole school up in Tallangatta, which is completely free of charge, as part of the Department's 'Positive Start' initiative. The Positive Start initiative is in response to the difficulties schools and families faced through the worst of the COVID pandemic, by providing additional camps and activities to rebuild student health and wellbeing. **Just a reminder that free school camps are still available for parents/carers to take advantage of for their children during the vacation periods. Search 'Positive Start' to see what is available.**

Later in the term 4 the Year 3-4's have their camp.

## SCHOOL REBUILD/REFURBISHMENT

The school building project finally went out to tender this week, with potential tenderers coming to visit the site during the holidays to have a look at the scope of the project before quoting.

Geoff Weppner.