

'Where everybody is somebody'

Term 2 Week 4 • Friday 6th May 2016

Dear Families,

Working Bee

I was delighted last weekend to welcome so many families along to our working bee which was held over two sessions, Friday afternoon and Sunday morning. We were able to get many plants into the ground and mulched areas around the school. Thank you to Rachel Lopes for coordinating our activities and to all those who came along to help.

We would love to encourage some parents to volunteer half an hour after drop off or before pick up to help make sure these plants get a great head start. If you are able to assist with some watering of the plants, please let us know at the office and we can show you where the hoses are!



New Rebound Wall



Also well underway this week is the installation of a new rebound wall in the playground. This has been made possible with the funds raised at our Twilight Carnival and was a specific request from our students. It is still to be painted and finished off but I'm sure it will get a lot of use once ready to go!

NAPLAN

Next week, all Year 3 & 5 students will sit four tests as part of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Please note the following dates and times for this testing schedule.
Tuesday 10th May – Language Conventions – before recess
Tuesday 10th May – Writing – before lunch
Wednesday 11th May – Reading – before recess
Thursday 12th May – Numeracy – before recess

An information sheet for parents with more details about NAPLAN has been distributed to all students in Years 3 & 5. If you have any further questions about NAPLAN, don't hesitate to make contact with the school.

To Do Notes / Forms / Reminders

- Download Qkr by Mastercard
- Download Skoolbag (search for Spotswood Primary School)
- Return permission note and \$30 for Werribee Zoo excursion (Grade 5/6R)
- Pay Term 2 Books & Resources Levy (\$62.50)

PUPIL FREE DAY - MONDAY 23rd May

A reminder to families that last week at School Council, our 3rd pupil free day was approved. This will be a day dedicated to professional learning for staff and we are looking forward to working with a curriculum consultant. The current focus of the Department of Education is promoting 'The Education State' and we are going to look at the newly released Victorian Curriculum Framework. Part of the day will also be allocated to spending time preparing for mid-year reports.

OSHClub will be running a full day care program on this day and bookings will be available online.

2017 Prep Information

This week we held our Parent Information Night for prospective families. It was great to see so many people attending and interested in finding out about our school! If you know of anyone who may have missed the night, please encourage them to contact us and make a booking to come and have a tour of the school.

Mother's Day Stall

Our annual Mother's Day stall was held today and students were able to purchase something special to take home for their mums. Thank you to the mums who helped wrap over the past few weeks and those who were here this morning to help serve all the shoppers! Wishing all of our mums a Happy Mothers Day!



Trivia Night - Friday 3rd June

Coming up soon is our annual Trivia Night, one of our biggest fundraisers and social events for parents each year. It is a really fun night a great opportunity for parents to get to know each other. It is held in the senior school building from 7pm and the theme this year is the "Noughties" (2000s). We encourage as many of you as possible to come along (over 18s only), so organise your team of 8 and book a table.

Silent Auction

We are also looking for donations from families or family businesses or any contacts you may have for donations for the silent auction. So, if you have a business or have contacts for a business that would like to donate goods or services, please bring them into the office.

Cross Country

Today our cross country team competed in the District Cross Country at Footscray Park. When Mrs Richards and Mr Smith returned to school, they both commented on how proud they were of our students' effort and sportsmanship down at the park today.

Well done to our students for their great results in the team events!

9/10 year old boys team came 1st overall.
 11 year old girls team came 3rd overall
 11 year old boys team came 3rd overall
 12 year old girls came 3rd overall

Congratulation also to the winners of individual ribbons!

Dash came 1st (9/10 year old boys)
 Luka T-B 2nd (11 year old boys)
 Well done boys!

The following students have qualified to go through to the Division Cross Country which will be held on Thursday May 26th at Presidents Park in Werribee.

Dash, Luka T-B, Luka J, Thomas T, William A, Angelo D, Aimee, Sam M, Zoë E and Natasha F.

(Further details will be sent when available.)



● Spotty Calendar ●

Thursday 12th May
 Badminton Program Week 3 (Grades 3-6)

Monday 16th May
 Excursion to Werribee Zoo (Grade 5/6R)

Thursday 19th May
 Badminton Program Week 4 (Grades 3-6)

Monday 23rd May
 Pupil Free Day (no children at school)

Monday 30th May
 Open Morning for prospective families (9am-11am)

Thursday 2nd June
 Excursion to Melbourne Zoo (Grades 1/2)

Friday 3rd June
 Trivia Night *

Thursday 23rd June
 Movie Night *

Friday 24th June
 Last Day of Term 2 (2.30pm dismissal)

** more details to follow*

✂.....✂.....✂.....

We are going digital!
 Return the following slip to school if you would still like to receive a hard copy of the weekly newsletter.

Family Name:

Name of Children:

We would still like a hard copy of the newsletter on Friday

Communication at Spotswood Primary School

We are always trying to improve our communication between school and home and we now have a few different ways to help busy parents keep up with notes and events happening here.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Newsletter</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Newsletter</p> <p>The first point of call is our newsletter which, as you know, is produced weekly. At the moment a hard copy of the newsletter is sent home to all families. It is also available to view on our website and is sent via the Skoolbag App at approximately 4pm on a Friday.</p> <p>If you would like to receive the newsletter as an email you can subscribe on our website at www.spotswoodps.vic.edu.au and click on 'Contact Us'. You will then receive an email once the newsletter is available to view on our website.</p> <p>From Friday 20th May the newsletter will mainly be available electronically. This will assist us to reduce printing costs at the school. If you would still like to receive a hard copy of your newsletter please complete the slip on the next page and return it to school by the 19th of May.</p> | <p>Skoolbag App</p>  <p>We currently have 298 subscribers to our Skoolbag App and this is a great way to keep in touch with activities and events at our school. Once you download the App via the App Store (or Android equivalent) – search for 'Spotswood Primary School' you will receive the newsletter each Friday as well as important reminders about upcoming events or deadlines for notes due back at school. You can also advise us of your child's absence via Skoolbag as well as any change of address or contact number for emergency contacts.</p> |
| <p>Qkr</p>  <p>On Wednesday of this week we launched our new App – Qkr. Qkr is a financial App designed to assist families to pay for their child's school fees and excursions costs quickly and easily at home or work and any time of the day (or night!).</p> <p>Congratulations to the Robbins family who were the first to download and use our new Qkr App. Jennifer, Johnny and Lizzie Robbins said the App was "easy to use, helpful and handy. It took the worry out of paying for excursions and also helps Miss Sharon in the office".</p> <p>The Thornton family used the App on Thursday and said "Qkr will be good to help parents where the notes don't make it home".</p> <p>Since we launched the App on Wednesday 17 families have downloaded Qkr. We encourage all families to download Qkr as all excursions and other school payments will be added to Qkr as excursions etc are planned.</p> <p>The App can be downloaded from the App Store (or android equivalent) – look for 'Qkr by Mastercard' - and follow the instructions on the sheet sent home with your child on Wednesday.</p> <p>For assistance or to provide feedback please email Sharon at spotswood.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au</p> | <p>Website</p>  <p>Our school website can be found at www.spotswoodps.vic.edu.au.</p> <p>Although we largely use our app for communication now, an archive of information can be found on our website.</p> <p>If you would like to receive the newsletter as an email you can subscribe on our website at www.spotswoodps.vic.edu.au and click on 'Contact Us'. You will then receive an email once the newsletter is available to view on our website.</p> |
| | <p>Blue notes folder</p>  <p>On Wednesday, notes are sent home with students in a blue notes pocket. They can be returned to teachers via the notes pocket on any day.</p> |

Our School's use of Social Media

The school does not have an official Facebook page. All school information is communicated via our App, website, Qkr and newsletter.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Instagram</p>  <p>Communications to families about what is happening in the Art Room is done via the Art Room's Instagram account. If you are interested in a glimpse into our Art Room you can follow along at spotswood.art and see some of the things happening.</p> | <p>Twitter</p>  <p>We also have a school Twitter account @spottypstweets for families to view our tweets. Children are not identified or named on our social media accounts.</p> |
|--|--|

Parents are always welcome to call us on 9391 1323 or contact us via email at spotswood.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au – even though a lot of our communication is now done electronically, it is always nice to see your faces and speak with you on the phone!

Spotty Footy Tipping Competition 2016



Leaderboard after Round 6:

| Rank | Tipper | Total score (margin*) |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1 st | excelsior | 42 (145) |
| 2 nd | Red Birds | 40 (143) |
| 3 rd | GoDogsGo | 40 (166) |
| 4 th | Kenhardie | 39 (127) |
| 5 th | TomS | 39 (127) |
| 6 th | Jeanius | 38 (91) |

* For the first match of each round, you must predict the winning margin. Your margin gets added up throughout the season and is used to separate tipplers who have the same score.

It is amazing looking at the spread of scores on the tipping ladder already. Round 7 starts tonight at the MCG with the Tigers taking on the Hawks. Good luck with your tipping. Thanks, Lisa Catania (mum of Wes in 3/4H).

Happy Birthday!!

Celebrating birthdays this week:

Elijah Layla N

Liila Manon



eSmart Corner

What's that App?

What is Club Penguin? What does it mean when one of my students says they played Minecraft most of the weekend? What's the age restriction on opening a Facebook account? If you like me have asked yourself or someone else these questions then the following resource is for you.

The *Games, Apps and Social Networking* page of the eSafety Commissioner's website has information about some of the major social networking apps, search engines, messaging and communication programs, as well as some popular web based interactive games such as 'Clash of Clans'. As well as an overview of each product, the page offers advice on how to set up security features, how to report offensive or abusive material, advice for parents and links to the program or games own help sites.

It doesn't cover all of the apps, sites or games that children will come across, but it is valuable resource for anyone interested in knowing more about some of these widely used programs.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/games-apps-and-social-networking>

OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program



Before & After School Care

Program Update

Hello everyone

Next week's theme is Responsible pet owner week as requested by Kei and Harper, I also thought it would fit in very well with our visit from the Lost Dog's home and the Children's suggestion to hold a cupcake store to help raise funds for the Lost Dogs Home.

THURSDAY - Visit from some furry friends LOST DOGS HOME

FRIDAY - LOST DOGS HOME Bake Sale!

Next Week's Activities

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Before Care Activities | Responsible pet owner posters | Cat ears | Bird feeders | Honey joys – cooking and Paper tube animals | Frog in a pond |
| After Care Activities | Dog & Cat box construction and Pirates and ships game | Rainbow biscuits & Cupcake - Cooking and ship to shore game | Chocolate brownies - Cooking and Shipwrecked game | LOST DOGS HOME VISIT! | Lost Dogs Home cupcake store and Dress up party |

Parent Information

Oshclub's Food and Blanket Appeal for the Lost Dogs Home



Oshclub is collecting food and bedding on behalf of The Lost Dogs' Home! They rely on the donations from caring members of the public to keep the 31,000 cats and dogs they care for each year warm and with full bellies. While they are of course grateful for any donation they receive, below is a guide on the most useful items you can donate to the Home.

-Dog, cat, puppy and kitten food -Dry and tinned food; however, we are always short on food specifically for puppies and kittens. -Blankets, towels and bedding Keeping our animals warm and cozy, especially over winter, is extremely important to us. - Dog treats (to help with training) - Cat toys - Dog toys (eg. Kong toys) - Kitty litter - Dog leads (preferably not chain leads) -Nice, thick blankets and bedding do wonders in improving the comfort of cats and dogs during their time at the Home.

*Please note that they cannot accept doonas, duvets or pillows, as these are very difficult to clean and maintain for reuse.