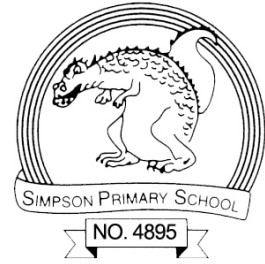


DRAGON TALE

Principal: Melissa Berry
T: 5594 3298 M: 0458 943 298
Email: simpson.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.simpsonps.vic.gov.au



SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

M Berry, D Capizzi, S Costin, B Davies, D Smith, K McVilly,
O Perrett, P Vines, M Cunnington, W Hollick

*Simpson Primary School
Enriching learning through
opportunity*

SCHOOL MISSION

Provide high quality education in a positive, supportive environment, enabling all students to achieve their potential.

**Thursday 21st August 2025
Term 3 Week 5**

School Wide Positive Behaviours - SWPBS

Co-operation Accepting Respectful Excellence

Term 3 focuses:

Co-operation

Show great teamwork when working in teams.
Seek help from the teacher.

Accepting

Fair and trustworthy.
Able to share, care and help others.

Respectful

Use respectful language – Bus.
Listen and participate.

Excellence

Complete all homework.
Using my learning strengths to help others.
Be kind to myself.



100 Days of Prep Celebrations



Book Week Celebrations







Week 6	25th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Breakfast Club Bookfair Closes	26th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)	27th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Art	28th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Parent-Teacher Interviews	29th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) 3/4 Hoop Time Rookies
Week 7	1st Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Breakfast Club	2nd Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)	3rd Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Library	4th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)	5th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)
Week 8	8th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Breakfast Club	9th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)	10th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6) Art	11th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)	12th Chloe Janes – PST (Yr5/6)
Week 9	15th Breakfast Club Wellbeing Week	16th	17th Library	18th	19th Last Day of Term for Students – 2.15pm finish
School holidays					
Term 4 Week 1	6th	7th	8th Art	9th	10th Swimming 12 - 3pm

Principal News

NAPLAN Results

Congratulations to our Year 3 and 5 students on their NAPLAN achievements, with reports sent home recently. The results reflect the students' hard work and the dedication of our teachers in supporting their learning journey. With many highlights, there are always opportunities for further work. Instructional changes, improvement initiatives and a heavy focus on teacher expertise will be key components of our improvement plans in the coming years.

Simpson Primary School NAPLAN 2025 SNAPSHOT

100% of students at Simpson Primary School participated in NAPLAN 2025

**Excellent
Year 3 & Year 5
Achievement**
Students in Year 3 & Year 5
outperformed the state
average in ALL categories.

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Numeracy	Grammar & Punctuation
Year 3	83%	100%	67%	83%	67%
State	69%	79%	63%	66%	57%
Year 5	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
State	74%	72%	68%	69%	64%

Outstanding Results in Reading, Writing and Numeracy

Students at Simpson Primary School
excelled in Reading, Writing and Numeracy,
achieving results well above those of similar
schools in both Year 3 and Year 5.

	Reading	Writing	Numeracy
Year 3	83%	100%	83%
Similar Schools	58%	73%	60%
Year 5	100%	100%	100%
Similar Schools	68%	61%	64%

Outstanding Year 5 Growth

Our Year 5 students showed remarkable progress from their Year 3 NAPLAN results, with 100% achieving high growth in Writing and Spelling, compared to the state average of 74%.



Parent Teacher Student Conferences

Next week, we look forward to welcoming families for our Parent–Teacher Conferences. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to celebrate your child's achievements, discuss their progress, and plan the next steps in their learning journey.

We greatly appreciate your partnership – your insights about your child's strengths, interests, and needs help us provide the best possible support at school. A special thank you to our teachers for the time and preparation that ensures each meeting is meaningful and informative. Together, we are building strong connections that help every student thrive.

If you are unable to attend your scheduled meeting, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a time to discuss their progress. We want all families to be actively involved in their child's learning and school life.

Book Week

On Tuesday, the school came alive with colour, creativity, and a love of reading as students, staff, 2026 prep students, and younger siblings joined our parade dressed as their favourite book characters. It was a wonderful celebration of imagination and storytelling.

The 2025 theme, *'Book an Adventure'*, encourages children to dream and explore the world through their imaginations. This year also marks a milestone for Book Week, celebrating 80 years of the CBCA inspiring young minds to journey through the countless worlds that books offer. It is always memorable to see students as princesses, action figures, pre-teen characters, and to watch staff take the opportunity to transform themselves as well!

Swimming Lessons

Next term, swimming lessons will resume with a new format, running over **two consecutive weeks**. Lessons will again take place at Blue Water in Colac, and further details will be sent home shortly. If your child has a pool membership, please let us know the membership number. The pool will use their information from 2024 to assist in grouping the students for 2025.

Wellbeing Week – Week 8

In Week 8, we will celebrate **Wellbeing Week**, a special time to focus on our SWPBS practices and overall wellbeing as a school community. Further information will be shared soon, highlighting activities and opportunities for students to engage positively leading into Term 4.

Prep News

It's Been a Busy and Exciting Few Weeks!

We've had a wonderful few weeks full of engaging learning experiences and special events across the school!

One highlight was the excursion to COPACC, where students enjoyed a fantastic performance of ***The Velveteen Rabbit***. This outing provided a great opportunity to compare the original children's book with its theatrical adaptation—sparking some rich discussions about storytelling in different forms.

Book Week celebrations were another major highlight. The creativity on display was amazing, with a wide variety of costumes and stories bringing characters to life throughout the school. Thank you to all the families who supported this fun and meaningful event!

Our basketball program has also kicked off, giving students the chance to develop their skills, teamwork, and confidence on the court. It's been fantastic to see so much enthusiasm and energy!

In literacy, we've been diving into narrative structure and sentence building through the much-loved book *Wombat Stew*. Students are enthusiastically identifying—and even acting out—nouns (naming words), verbs (doing words), and adjectives (describing words), making learning both fun and memorable.

After celebrating 100 Days of School in numeracy, we've shifted our focus to multiplication. Students are learning to group even numbers and ensure a "fair share" when dividing items. Using number charts, we've also been practising skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s.

Finally, we're looking forward to welcoming families to our Parent Teacher Interviews next Thursday. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your child's progress and growth so far this year.

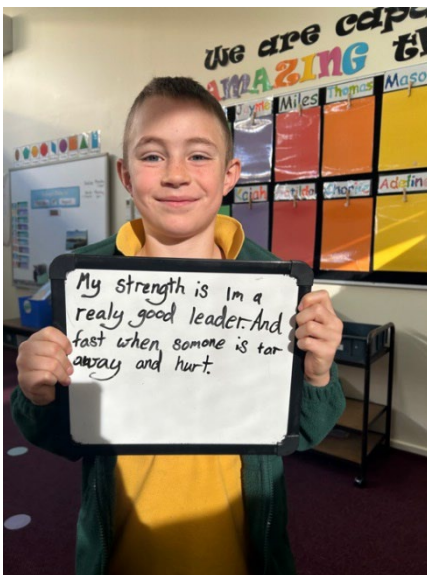
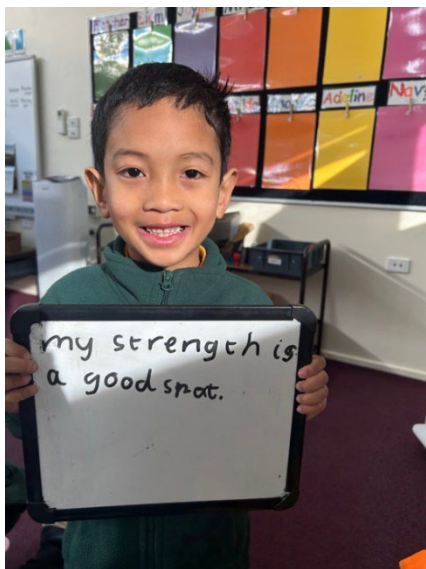
Mrs Jones & Mrs Berry

1/2 News

Year 1/2 Newsletter

Dear Families,

Each morning, before school begins, our class now takes part in a short activity that focuses on **gratitude, exercise, wellbeing, and personal strengths**. A highlight for students this week was sharing their own strengths and reflecting on how these can make others feel. This has been a wonderful way to start the day while also working on building our **empathy skills**.



Sounds Write

- **Grade 1** students have been exploring the **/u/** sound, like in *truck*, *tough*, and *love*. They have been practising blending and segmenting words with this sound to strengthen their reading and spelling skills.
- **Grade 2** students have been focusing on the **/v/** sound, applying it in more challenging **polysyllabic words**. They are becoming more confident in breaking down longer words into manageable parts.

English

In English, we have been working with the text *Ella and the Ocean*. Students explored how characters felt during a drought and made wonderful connections to their own experiences of the drought we are currently facing. It has been fantastic to see them empathise with the characters and use those insights to reflect on real-life situations.

Mathematics

In Maths, we have moved on to multiplication. Students begin each mathematics session refining and practising their skip counting skills, in particular counting by 2's, 5's and 10's. Some students are able to count from an unusual number and continue the pattern. Students have been learning strategies such as

checking if groups are equal/the same and using **repeated addition** to solve multiplication scenarios. This has helped them see the strong link between addition and multiplication.

Reminders

- Please ensure your child has a **drink bottle filled with water** each day.
- Don't forget to **name all jumpers** so they can be easily returned if misplaced.

At times, your child may not bring home a decodable reader. This is due to limited number of decodables for that particular sound, I do rotate them **fortnightly**, so each child has a fair turn. Thank you for your understanding and support.

I am so proud of the effort and persistence all students are showing across their learning.

Warm regards,
Miss Cunnington

3/4News

Year 3/4

Literacy

In Literacy, we have just finished our class text 'The Velveteen Rabbit' which the students thoroughly enjoyed! We were very lucky to travel to COPAAC in Colac to see the stage show of the Velveteen Rabbit last week. It was interesting to critically discuss the differences between the book and the stage show and see a different interpretation of the storyline played live. Late last week we also watched the 2009 version of the movie and did another compare and contrast activity.

Next, we are reading the text 'Leo and Ralph'. This will start next week.

Book Week 2025



Numeracy

Our current focus in Numeracy is multiplication. We have also been looking at the inverse of multiplication (division) and how it relates to multiplication. Students have been working hard learning their times tables. If parents can help with some extra practise at home, that would be greatly appreciated!

Congratulations to Thomas Vines who became the first member of our class to be inducted into the 90 Seconds Club! Thomas answered 40 times tables questions correctly in less than 90 seconds, becoming only the second year 4 student to be welcomed into the club in the last 13 years! Great effort Thomas!

Basketball Clinics

Simpson Primary school have been lucky enough to secure a series of basketball clinics over the next 3 weeks. The clinics will be run by Arcaim Lallemand, a Big V Seahawks import/development coach. This is great timing ahead of the year 3/4 Hoop-Time Rookies Day in Camperdown on the 29th August.



Hoop-Time Rookies Basketball

Coming up on the 29th of August is 3/4 Hoop-time Rookies Basketball. This is a one-day round robin style tournament for beginner basketballers. Simpson will be entering two 3/4 teams to compete against some other local primary schools.

5/6 News

This week marks the halfway point in the term! The time is absolutely flying by! We have had a busy few weeks in the classroom and around the school, with plenty of rich learning opportunities and external activities.

In Literacy we have recently finished our text unit on *The Velveteen Rabbit*, which was engaging, and fantastic to then attend the production of *The Velveteen Rabbit* at COPACC as a whole school. Students were very attentive to the comparisons of detail between the text and the production, proving their level of understanding of the text and the story's theme. This week we began our new text unit on *Us Mob Walawurru* by David Spillman and Lisa Wilyuka which is an historical fiction novel that tells the story of Ruby, a young Luritja girl growing up in Central Australia during the 1960's. The novel explores themes of cultural identity, family, education and the impact of historical events on Aboriginal communities. It highlights the importance of language, connection to country, and the challenges faced by Aboriginal people during a period of significant social change. The writing component of this unit will further enhance the students' skills in writing paragraphs and expanding sentence structure, extending their vocabulary to produce rich, engaging pieces of writing.

In Mathematics, we are in the middle of our multiplication unit. So far, we have focused on prime & composite numbers, square and triangular numbers, and are currently working on applying varied strategies to aid with solving multiplication equations such as split strategy, associative property of multiplication and using factors to simplify multiplication. To assist your child, encourage them to be practicing their times tables at home to really embed their times tables knowledge.

On Friday 15th August, our class participated in Hoop Time Rookies in Camperdown where they competed against other schools in 4 games of basketball. I am so proud of all our students who attended as they all partook in each of the 4 games in a positive, respectful manner, giving it 100% effort. They all displayed brilliant sportsmanship and should all be incredibly proud of themselves. We walked away with 2 wins. A huge thankyou to Bek Vogels who was our coach for the day, and April Crole who scored for us and cheered the students on.



We are very lucky to have Arcaim Lallemand – BigV Seahawks import/development coach working with our school over weeks 5, 6 & 7 in some Basketball Clinics. Students had their first clinic on Tuesday of this week, and all seemed to enjoy the experience! We are very lucky, that even as a little school, we have opportunities such as these for our students to learn from.



As you would be aware, Parent Teacher Interviews are next Thursday, 28th August. Bookings are open for you to make a time that suits you best via Compass. I look forward to seeing you all. If you are unable to book via Compass, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Next week we welcome back Chloe Janes to our school who is a 3rd Year Student Teacher from Deakin. Chloe will be in our 5/6 classroom for 3 weeks. Chloe was at our school earlier in the year, so all the students are already very familiar with her. Please make her feel welcome during her time at Simpson Primary School.

Thank you as always for your support. If you have any concerns at all, please reach out to me.

Cheers, Jannique Hanegraaf

Science, PE & Auslan News



Science Week

A huge thank you to our brilliant young scientists who took on the challenge of creating secret messages using codes made from natural symbols. **Henry & Charlie, Ted & Liv, Matila M, Harry A, Evie & Jayme.** Your creativity has been amazing, and your coded messages are now in the hands of your fellow scientists for decoding—good luck, everyone!

Science

It's been a hands-on term in science as we explore the fascinating world of plants and animals. From discovering their basic needs and life cycles to investigating how they adapt to different environments. Some students are even designing their own imaginative animals with special adaptations—and bringing them to life with clay models. We can't wait to see their creations take shape!

P.E.

Basketball has taken centre stage in P.E. this term! We kicked off our three-week basketball clinic with a special coach Arcaim Lallemand – BigV Seahawks import/development coach, from the Warrnambool Seahawks. Our first session was a slam dunk—students had a fantastic time, sharpened their skills, and showed great teamwork. We're excited to see their confidence and coordination grow over the next few weeks.

Auslan Adventures

Our Auslan learners continue to impress as they expand their signing vocabulary. This term, we've learned to communicate about numbers, greetings, restaurants, school objects, and elements of nature. With each session, signing is becoming more fluent and second nature—well done, everyone!

🍰 Happy Birthday 🍰

August: Miles 23rd, Thomas V 25th, Peyton 28th, Tom R 29th, Adeline & Harvey B 31st

September: Kalab 1st, Emily B 6th, Ayla 12th, Ted 14th, Asher & Josh V 23rd, Matilda B 26th, Archie 27th, Matilda M 28th



Notes & Annual Reminders

Policies:

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice (see school website).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy – see school website, describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

The Child Safety Standards policies can also be found on the school's website.

Bus Notes:

Please send in a note, email simpson.ps@education.com.au, text the school mobile on 0458 943 298 or ring the front office on 5594 3298 by 10am with any daily, weekly, or termly bus changes.

Parent/Visitor Sign In:

All parents or visitors who are coming into the school for more than 10 minutes are required to sign in. You will need to sign in and out of the visitor register at the office. This allows us to account for you in the event of an emergency.

Uniform:

We ask that you ensure your child is in uniform each day to continue the high standards we set for ourselves. Hats are to be worn until the end of Term 1, and again in Term 4, so please ensure your child has a broad brimmed hat (named) available every day. Those students without a hat must remain under cover, for the duration of recess and lunchtime. If your child requires a new hat, they can be purchased through the front office. Uniform orders can also be purchased from the office.

Named Clothing:

Parents are asked to check that clothing is clearly named. **If you have second-hand clothes, please check that the name has been changed.** If clothes are correctly named, we have some hope of returning items to the correct owners. All lost property of students will be stored at the front office where there are currently quite a few items. Please check to see if you are missing any items so they can be returned.

Communication:

If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please contact the office for an appointment or alternatively send your teacher an email. Please note: Staff are often busy in the mornings prior to instruction time, preparing for the day ahead. Staff also have meeting commitments after school on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 3.30pm onwards and therefore it is not always possible to meet after school on these days. If you have an urgent concern about your child regarding any start of year questions or concerns, please make contact through the office.

Daily Routine:

School commences at 8.55am and ends at 3.15pm. Students should not arrive at school before 8.45am. Students should leave promptly at 3.15pm at the end of the day. At 8:53am, the music is played; this signifies to the students that they should move into their classroom and prepare themselves for the daily learning. Recess: 10.55am – 11.25am. Lunch: 1.25pm – 1.35pm (supervised eating) and 1:35pm – 2.15pm (lunch play). 3:15pm is the end of the school day. Staff members are on duty until buses leave and town students collected.

Late Arrivals:

Students arriving after 8:55am should report to the office. Office staff will record their attendance as a late arrival and students will then go to class. Parents will be contacted by the principal if lateness is becoming a problem.

Early Departure:

If you wish to collect your child from school before dismissal time, they must be signed out at the office. This ensures all students can be accounted for in the case of an emergency. To assist, please phone the office prior to collecting your child so they can be ready for collection.

Breakfast Club:

Breakfast Club are on Mondays from 8.45am If you would like to help with Breakfast Club, please contact the office.

Lunch Orders:

Lunch orders are available every day from the Settlement Supermarket and are collected first thing in the morning.

Community News



DRAMAFEST
SouthWest

Big Dreams Start in Small Towns!

September
Sunday 7th
KILLARA CENTRE
210 Manifold St
CAMPERDOWN

BOOK NOW
using QR code

LIMITED SPOTS

events.humanitix.com/dramafest

Drama Club (Prep-Grade2) 10 - 11am \$5 per student
A playful, supportive class full of theatre games, storytelling, character play, scene building, and dress-ups—designed to build confidence and creativity.

Drama Lab (Grade3-6) 11.15am - 12.15pm \$5 per student
A dynamic, hands-on workshop exploring theatre games, improvisation, character work, and scene creation. A space for kids to explore, collaborate, and perform.

Acting Studio (High School) 12.30 - 2pm \$5 per student
Stagecraft and skills in improvisation, voice, body, character development, monologues & scenes, intro to text analysis

The DRAMAFEST SOUTHWEST series is supported by the Victorian Government.
Drug, alcohol, smoking and vape free.
Safe and secure.

AMPLIFY CORANGAMITE SCHOOLS



Let's Celebrate

You are invited to

CORANGAMITE SCHOOLS

KOKODA TREK

CELEBRATION NIGHT

AUG • 23 • 6:30PM

Theatre Royal, Camperdown

RSVP Wednesday 20th August - Darcy 0477 772 512