

DRAGON TALES

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SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

M Berry, D Capizzi, S Costin, D Smith, K McVilly,
O Perrett, P Vines, C Whiting, W Hollick

SCHOOL MISSION

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

Thursday June 25th Term 2 Week 10

School Holidays					
TERM 3 Week 1	13th Library	14th	15th	16th	17th Additional Library Day
Week 2 Newsletter	20th Art	21st	22nd Breakfast Club	23rd	24th Assembly – 2.45pm - Yr 4/5/6
Week 3	27th Library	28th School Council @ 6.30pm	29th Breakfast Club	30th	31st

Principal News

Beanies for Our Preps

A big thank you to former Simpson Primary School student and local business owner Sam Mason from Highridge Contracting for donating beanies to our Prep students. With the colder weather setting in, the beanies will help keep our youngest students warm while they are outside learning and playing. We really appreciate Sam's support of our school.

Trivia Night

A huge thank you to our Parents Club for all the work they have put into organising this year's Trivia Night. We know a lot of time goes into planning an event like this and we are grateful for their efforts. We are looking forward to a great night and seeing which team takes home the bragging rights for 2026! There are also some fantastic auction items up for grabs, thanks to the generosity of local businesses and community members who have donated prizes.

Winter Illnesses and possible class merges

Term 2 is ending, and the weather is quite cold as we enter winter fully. With it comes the usual increase in coughs, colds and other illnesses affecting both students and staff. Like many schools, we are finding it increasingly difficult to source relief teachers when staff are away.

If we are unable to secure a replacement teacher, classes may occasionally need to be combined. This is always a last resort, and students will continue to be engaged in meaningful learning activities, including reading, research, writing and creative tasks.

We ask families to support us by keeping children at home when they are unwell. This helps reduce the spread of illness and keeps our school community as healthy as possible.

Staffing Update

We are pleased to welcome Liv Graham to the Simpson Primary School team. Liv joined us two weeks ago as an Education Support staff member and has already settled in well.

Liv will be working closely with students and staff across the school, providing additional support in classrooms and helping to ensure all students can access and engage in their learning. We are excited to have Liv as part of our team and look forward to the positive contribution she will make to our school community.

Attendance and Punctuality

Student attendance and late arrivals continue to be an area of focus for our school. Every minute of learning counts and arriving on time helps students settle into the day, connect with their classmates, and engage in learning from the start.

To support improved attendance and punctuality, we will be introducing a new support process in Term 3 as part of our School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support approach. Students who regularly arrive late will be partnered with a member of our Wellbeing Team and take part in a daily Check-In, Check-Out process.

When students arrive at school, they will spend a few minutes checking in with their mentor to ensure they are settled, organised and ready for learning. At the end of the day, they will complete a short check-out to reflect on their day and set goals for the following morning.

This approach is used successfully in many schools and helps students build positive routines, strengthen connections with trusted adults and develop greater accountability. We are hopeful that this additional support will lead to improved attendance, fewer late arrivals and stronger engagement in learning.

Excursions and School Events

We've noticed an increase in students choosing not to attend excursions, sporting events and other school activities, as well as more Compass events not being responded to by the due date.

These activities are an important part of school life and give students opportunities to learn new skills, try different experiences, represent the school and build friendships. They also encourage students to step outside their comfort zone, build resilience, develop independence and gain confidence in new situations. These experiences are often some of the highlights of the school year.

We understand that family life can be busy, and that permission forms and Compass notifications can sometimes be overlooked. However, when responses are not completed on time, staff need to spend time following up families. This can make organising transport, supervision and event planning more difficult.

As a small school, we work hard to provide a wide range of opportunities for our students throughout the year. However, this has also led to discussions about whether we are offering too many events and activities. While we want to continue providing these experiences, we also need to ensure they are well supported and valued by our school community, while maintaining quality learning time in the classroom.

We encourage families to support their children to take part in these opportunities wherever possible, even if they may feel a little nervous at first. Often, the experiences students are most unsure about become the ones they enjoy and learn from the most.

We ask families to please respond to Compass events by the due date whenever possible. This helps us plan effectively and continue providing these valuable opportunities for our students.

Looking Ahead to 2027

Although it feels early, we have started planning for our 2027 class structures. Student enrolment numbers play an important role in decisions around staffing, budgets and class organisation. If your family is planning to leave Simpson Primary School at the end of this year, please let Melissa know as soon as possible to assist with our planning.

We are also excited to welcome one new student and two returning students to the school in Term 3.

Have a great break and we will see you in Term 3 on Monday 13th July.

Important Dates

2027 Enrolments

It is hard to believe that I am mentioning 2027 enrolments. Information will be sent home at the start of Term 2.

Enrolment due dates are as follows:

2027 Year 7 - returned to the school by Friday 8th May.

2027 Prep – returned to the school by Friday 31st July.

Pupil Free Days 2026:

- Wed 5th August – LLC Literacy Conference (Deakin)

Staff Professional Practice Day 2026:

- Friday 27th November – Assessment & Reporting focus

Swimming 2026:

- Week 5 – Monday 2nd & Wednesday 4th Nov @ 1 – 2pm
- Week 7 – Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th Nov @ 1 – 2pm
- Week 8 – Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th Nov @ 1 – 2pm
- Week 9 – Thurs 3rd & Fri 4th Dec @ 1 – 2pm

Prep/1 News

What a busy and exciting term we have had in Grade Prep/One

In Literacy, students enjoyed reading *Migaloo the White Whale* and learning about the incredible migration journey of humpback whales. Through our discussions, we explored how being different is what makes each of us special and unique. Students practised using the conjunction "**and**" in their writing and created informative whale fact pieces to share their learning. We even measured the length of Migaloo in the classroom using different items, including ourselves! To celebrate the end of term, students also enjoyed making a special whale craft.

In Numeracy, we focused on developing subtraction skills using the strategies of **count all** and **count back**. We had lots of fun singing *Ten in the Bed* to support our understanding of subtraction concepts. Students also explored **ordinal numbers** through the stories *Room on the Broom* and *Who Sank the Boat?*, identifying positions such as first, second and third. To finish the term, everyone enjoyed participating in our exciting **Plastic Cup Olympics**, which provided opportunities to practise teamwork, problem-solving and counting skills.

We are also beginning to count down the days until our **100 Days of School Celebration** on **31st July**, which will be a wonderful milestone to celebrate together next term.

We wish all our families a safe, happy and restful holiday break. Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We look forward to seeing everyone back next term, refreshed and ready to learn!

Kind Regards, Robyn Anderson



2/3 News

Grade 2/3 Newsletter

It is crazy to believe that term 2 is done and dusted! The term has been filled with learning, growth and many achievements. Students have shown a strong commitment to their learning and should be proud of the effort they have put into their work. It has been a pleasure to watch their confidence, and skills continue to develop throughout the term. I am extremely proud of the progress they have made and the positive attitude they have shown towards their learning. It has been a wonderful term, and the students have certainly earned a well-deserved break.

Assessment and testing have now been completed, and student reports are finalised. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's report, please feel free to contact me.

In Mathematics, we have been focusing on subtraction strategies and developing flexible ways to solve problems. Students have been exploring fact families, such as:

$$8 + 7 = 15 \quad 15 - 8 = 7$$

$$7 + 8 = 15 \quad 15 - 7 = 8$$

We have also been practising a range of subtraction strategies, including:

Jump Back Strategy

$$54 - 12$$

Jump back 10 to 44, then jump back 2 more to 42.

Jump the Difference Strategy

- $42 - 38$
- Jump from 38 to 40 (+2), then from 40 to 42 (+2).
- Total difference = 4.

Vertical Algorithm

$$\begin{array}{r} 54 \\ - 18 \\ \hline 36 \end{array}$$

Students have been learning when and how to use each strategy efficiently.

In Literacy, we recently completed our novel study of *The Fabulous Friend Machine*, where students explored themes, character development and author's purpose. We are now finishing a short text

study of *Fox* by Margret Wild, which has provided rich opportunities for discussion, comprehension and written responses.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. I wish all students and families a safe, restful and enjoyable holiday break. Everyone is definitely ready for a chance to recharge!

Stay warm, stay safe, and I look forward to seeing everyone next term.

Cheers, Jannique Hanegraaf

4/5/6 News

Well, who can believe we have made it to the halfway point of the school year! As they say, *'time flies when you're having fun'*! I hope the holidays don't go super-fast though!

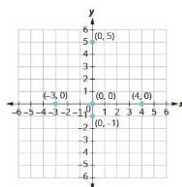
Here is what has been happening over the last few weeks in the 4/5/6 classroom.



Literacy



This semester, students completed their study of *Tom Appleby, Convict Boy*, exploring the historical context of early colonial Australia while developing their comprehension, vocabulary and analytical thinking skills. Through class discussions and written responses, students examined themes, character development and the challenges faced by convicts in the early years of settlement. Next semester, students will begin Word Origins Level 2, where they will deepen their understanding of how prefixes, suffixes and word roots contribute to vocabulary growth and spelling success. We will also commence our study of *Black Cockatoo*, an engaging novel that explores themes of identity, culture, friendship and reconciliation, providing rich opportunities for literacy learning and meaningful discussion.



Maths



In Maths, students developed their understanding of subtraction by applying a range of efficient mental and written strategies to solve increasingly complex problems. In the strand of Shape, students explored the properties of two- and three-dimensional objects, identifying, classifying and comparing shapes based on their features. They also investigated angles, symmetry and geometric reasoning to strengthen their spatial awareness and problem-solving skills.

Integrated Studies

Thanks to all the parents, carers, families and community members for all your support this term! I wish everyone an enjoyable and restful holiday break, and I look forward to seeing everyone back for Semester 2.

Kind regards Wes Hollick

Science & Auslan News

Science & Auslan – End of Term



Thank you for a wonderful term of learning, discovery, and experimentation in Science. Students have enthusiastically participated in investigations, asked thoughtful questions, and developed their scientific skills through a range of hands-on activities.

In Auslan, students have continued to develop their signing skills and confidence. I am very proud of their participation and enthusiasm throughout the term. The students will be performing *The Holiday Song* at Assembly on Friday, providing an opportunity to share their learning with the wider school community. Their effort, teamwork, and positive attitude have been wonderful to see, and I look forward to celebrating their achievements.

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the term. We wish all families a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable holiday break and look forward to more exciting learning next term.

Ms Marr-Vogels

JSC

We would like to thank Terang Brandt for donating over \$150 worth of sandpit toys. They have already been put to good use. The old sandpit toys had defiantly seen better days. We also have more sandpit toys coming next term that we have purchased from Brandt. We look forward to using them next term.



Next term we will also have PJ Day, Genes for Jeans Day as well as footy colours day next term. Don't forget to mark those dates into your diary!



Thanks, Henry and Isaac JSC Representatives

Parents Club



🎂 Happy Birthday 🎂

June: 22nd Carter M, **July:** 17th Harvey K, 19th Lexie, 22nd Jules, 29th Hallie



Notes & Annual Reminders

Working With Children Check – Parent & Community Volunteers:

As part of requirements for schools, all parents, carers and community members who volunteer at Simpson Primary School—including helping in classrooms, supporting Breakfast Club, attending excursions, or assisting with BBQs and events—must hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC) or VIT registration.

To ensure we meet these requirements, we ask all volunteers to provide the school with a copy of their WWCC or VIT registration before participating in any 2026 activities.

If you need to apply for or renew your WWCC, you can do so online using Working with Children Check Victoria – Apply or Update: <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

Thank you for your support in keeping our school safe and welcoming for all students.

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).

Annual privacy reminder for our school community

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](#). Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy [Photographing-filming-recording-students-policy- february-2024.pdf](#) 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. For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#).

The Child Safety Standards policies can also be found on the school's website. [Simpson Primary School](#)

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 Monday and Tuesday 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 is on Wednesdays 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.

ROLLER DISCO 2026



FREE BBQ
LOADS OF PRIZES
& GIVEAWAYS!

FREE
FREE
FREE

CAMPERDOWN STADIUM
1 FULLER STREET

5+
MINIMUM AGE

FRI 26 JUNE
6PM - 8PM

SKATES & SAFETY GEAR PROVIDED

CORANGAMITE SHIRE
CAMPERDOWN STADIUM

www.mamboollerderby@gmail.com

BOOGIE BOUNCE

CAMPERDOWN STADIUM

JUNE 27 1pm ALL AGES
28 5pm ALL AGES
30 6pm 50+ **7pm** ALL AGES

WEAR A TOUCH OF PINK
FREE

CORANGAMITE SHIRE
Boogie Bounce

Spaces limited. For bookings and more information please email camperdown.stadium@corangamite.vic.gov.au

POOL YOUR KNOWLEDGE & SUPPORT THE
Rodney Grove Heated Pool Fundraiser

Raffles
BYO Nibbles. Drinks @ bar prices

FUN TRIVIA AFTERNOON

\$10 pp
Includes prizes and afternoon tea.

Bookings Essential:
Text or call: 0409535914

SINK OR SWIM!
SUN 12TH JULY
2PM - 4PM
@ COBDEN BOWLS CLUB
RIX AVE.

TIMBOON SPORTING CENTRE
open week program

CORANGAMITE SHIRE

Check out all the Timboon Sporting Centre has to offer with these open week activities!

SUNDAY 21 JUNE

- 10 AM - 12 PM MIXED BASKETBALL CLINIC U13S WITH BOBBY CUNNINGHAM
- 10 AM - 11 AM CORVA PILATES BEGINNERS WITH EMILIA
- 11 AM - 12 PM CORVA PILATES INTERMEDIATE WITH EMILIA
- 12.30 - 1.30 PM TIMBOON NETBALL BOYS CLINIC
- 1.30 - 3.30 PM JUNIOR SKILLS CLINIC

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE

- 2.30 - 3.30 PM 60 PLUS STRONG EXERCISE CLASS WITH RIS

MONDAY 29 JUNE

- 3 - 4 PM BOOGIE BOUNCE - KIDS
- 4.15 - 5.15 PM BOOGIE BOUNCE - OPEN ALL AGES

FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
0476 214 205 OR 5598 3445
timboon.stadium@corangamite.vic.gov.au

Visit Timboon Sporting Centre on Facebook for updates.

