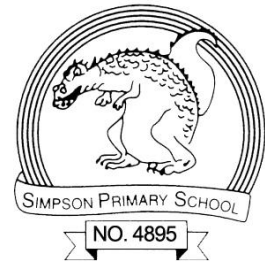


DRAGON TALES

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, A Neave, D Costin, J McVilly, L Mahoney,
M McInnes, R Vogels

*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 18th April 2024
Term 2 Week 1**

School Wide Positive Behaviours - SWPBS

Co-operation Accepting Respectful Excellence

Week 1 Focus

Co-operation
I will allow others to learn.

Week 2 Focus

Respectful
I will represent your school with pride.

Week 3 Focus

Accepting
I am going to follow expectations set by parents (sleep, homework, screen time.)

Week 4 Focus

Excellence
I will show teamwork and give encouragement.

Week 5 Focus

Respectful
I will show respect for people's personal space, privacy and property.

Week 6 Focus

Accepting
I am willing to take on challenges in my work and play.



Simpson Primary School Calendar Term 2 2024

Term 2	15th Breakfast Club	16th	17th	18th Music – Mrs McKenzie	19th Library	
	22nd Breakfast Club Cross Country – 12.30pm Foodbank ‘Food Fight’ – 1.45pm	23rd School Council Meeting 6.30pm	24th	25th ANZAC Day P/H	26th Art	
	29th Breakfast Club Bookclub Orders Due	30th	1st May	2nd School Photos Music – Mrs McKenzie ASSEMBLY – 2.45pm	3rd Library Simpson PS Open Day 10.15am	
	6th Breakfast Club	7th	8th	9th Music – Mrs McKenzie	10th Art District Cross Country @ Noorat	

Principal

Melissa Berry

Staff Professional Learning / Student Free Day

On Wednesday 19th June all staff will be attending Literacy professional learning on ‘Deepening Literacy Approaches with Emina McLean’ at the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership in Geelong. No classes will run on this day.

Report Writing Day - Friday 7th June

Friday 7th June is Report Writing Day for staff. **This is a Student Free Day.**

These written semester reports allow you to monitor how your child is progressing in their classroom and in specialist classrooms. This is our way of providing feedback to you on these very important areas and we encourage you to discuss these scores with your child/ren.

2025/2026 Prep Open Morning

We will be welcoming all our prospective 2025/2026 Prep families on Friday 3rd May. It will be wonderful meeting them and showing them through our amazing school.

2025 Enrolments

It is hard to believe that I am mentioning 2025 enrolments. Enrolment due dates are as follows:

2025 Year 7 - returned to the school by Friday 10th May.

2025 Prep – returned to the school by Friday 26th July.

Terms 2 & 3 - Winter

As the weather is slowly turning into the cold and wet winter season, I encourage everyone to take care of yourselves and your families' health. Many students, staff and family members are experiencing symptoms of the cold and flu bug, so I urge you all to rug up, eat and drink the healthy options and if you are not well, see a doctor.

Students are encouraged to bring slippers to wear inside during the colder terms. On cooler days students will be outside during recess and lunch, so a warm jacket would also be beneficial.

With this, COVID is still amongst us in the area and we at Simpson PS continue to practice COVID safe measures. Please ensure you also continue to take safe measures for yourself and our school. Rapid Antigen Tests are still available from the school, if you require.

Sounds-Write

Our school implements the Sounds-Write program as part of a Structured Literacy Program. Sounds-Write involves 30 minute daily explicit teaching and practice in phonological awareness and phonic knowledge skills and understandings.

Sounds-Write is effective in teaching pupils to read, spell and write, because it starts from what all children know from a very early age - the sounds of their own language. From there, it takes them in carefully sequenced, incremental steps and teaches them how each of the 44 or so sounds in the English language can be spelt. The words used in the teaching process and the conceptual knowledge of how the alphabet code works are introduced from simple to complex, in accordance with the fundamental principles of psychological learning theory.

Sounds-Write provides opportunities for practising skills on a daily basis until pupils achieve the automaticity required for fluent reading and spelling. Below is a link explaining 'What is Sounds-Write', 'What decodable readers?' and 'How you can support your child using decodable readers'.

[Support for using Sounds-Write decodables - Sounds-Write](#)

Prep/1 News

Welcome back for another jam-packed term. We look forward to all the incursions that are happening this term as well as our first sports day next week. The grade has settled in well and already back into routine which allows us to use every minute as a learning minute.

Unfortunately, we won't be completing PMP this term due to no parent helpers last term. It is difficult to run multiple activities when each activity needs a supervisor to help run the activity. Hopefully we will be able to run PMP again at the end of the year as it helps develop a child's perceptions and understandings of themselves and their world through movement and motor experiences.

Readers

Please remember to read once a day with your child. Students must bring their reader bag every day. This term students will be given a spelling list to practice for two weeks which will be stuck in their readers logbook. The spelling list comes directly from the sounds they are learning over the two weeks. Any

important notes or worksheets to help support your student at home will also be in your child's reader bag.

Sight words

Just a reminder that this term we are focusing on sight words. Your child was given the sight words at parent teacher interviews. Please remember that we would love for your student to take ownership of their learning and let me know when they are ready for a test on their words to see if they can move onto the next set of words. We have already had one student come to me this week asking to be tested!

This week we have been lucky enough to have Mia McVilly from Mercy Regional College in our class for work experience. Mia has fitted in very well, helping students when needed and taking small groups. The prep/one students have absolutely loved Mia and would welcome her back any day. We wish Mia all the best in the future.



Like always, my door is open for parents to discuss any concerns or answer questions you may have. You can always email, ring or organised a time to chat at school. I am available on Tuesday from 11.30am till 1.25pm or Thursday from 10.00am till 11.00am.

PARENT HELPERS

Prep/1 would love some parent helpers to help out in class. If you have a spare few minutes and are available any time from 10am onwards we would love to have you in class to hear us read and help us complete tasks!

Just please be aware that Tab will need a copy of your Working with Children Check on file at the front office before you can come and help us out.
All parent helpers must sign in at the office.

Thanks, Mrs Lucas

2/3 News

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a wonderful, restful school holidays and managed a nice break to spend some time together with friends and family; I trust you all ate way too much chocolate at Easter, I know my family certainly did!

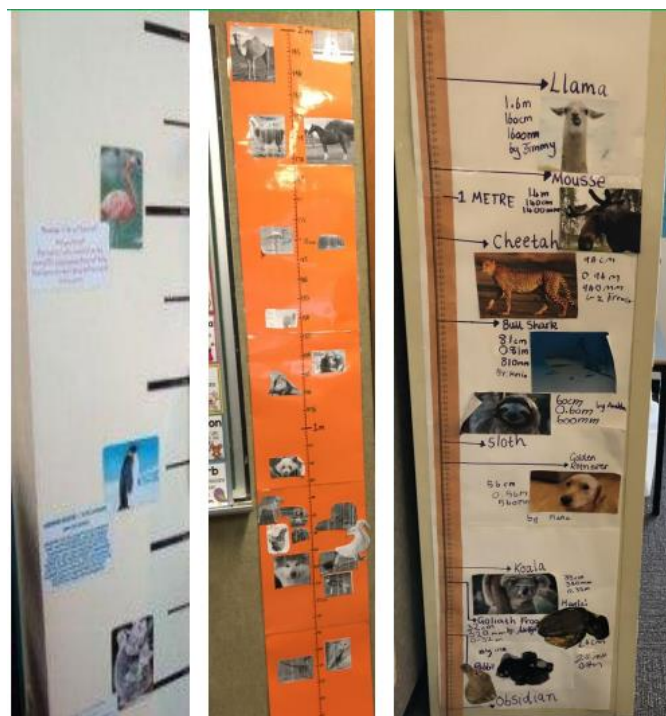
All students have returned very enthusiastically and eager to learn which we have embraced and hit the ground running.

In Writing, students have written a Holiday Recount, using a *Show, Don't Tell* writing strategy where they are required to use descriptive language to help paint a picture in their audience's mind – like all good authors do. This is quite an abstract strategy for some students, but they have all taken the task on with gusto, eager to share with their fellow classmates when complete.

We will be moving onto Procedural Texts in week two, so I encourage you to ask your child about their writing sessions at school.

In Reading, our focus is *reading accuracy*. Looking at each word in the sentence accurately and reading it precisely. It is very important for students reading fluency and comprehension, that they reread when they stop to decode a word or read a word incorrectly. Students need to go back to the beginning of the sentence and reread with the correction for their reading to be fluent. I do encourage you to practise this with your child at home.

In Maths, we have been focusing on Length. Students have enjoyed estimating the length of varying animals of the world and placing them on a class measurement chart. Students next, were required to use an iPad to research this particular animal and find their actual height (or height range) and adjust the placement of the animal on the chart.



Students have enjoyed the hands-on process of learning about length, estimating and measuring a variety of different objects around our classroom, including their friends and their teachers!

We are all looking forward to Cross Country and Food Fight on Monday 22nd April. Please ensure you are familiar with the details of these events via accessing Compass. I know the students are all looking forward to being able to 'slime' their friends and potentially teachers too...

Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home and sign their reading activity into their student diary which I try to check multiple times a week. I also encourage all students to access Essential Assessment/My Numeracy and Reading Eggs at home. I will be sending 'Magic Words' home with all students (for those who have not already received theirs) within the next week or two.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me.

Cheers,

Jannique Hanegraaf

4/5/6 News

In **Maths** we have begun the term focusing on 'shape', in particular polygons, 2D shapes, prisms, pyramids and their nets.

The students have enjoyed learning some new and interesting shapes.

Question for parents: How many sides does a 50c coin have? What is this shape called?

After shape and for much of the term we are going to be focusing on **Units of Measurement**.

This is a vast topic and involves understanding and calculating units such as:

Volume, capacity, area, perimeter, mass, and length. There may very well be instances where real life examples of these come up around the house and could be taken advantage of as a teaching moment!

In **Reading** our focus is on the reading strategy, 'Understanding Word Meaning in Context'. Doing this effectively allows us the better understand the text we are reading and hopefully expanding our spoken and written vocabulary.

In **Writing** we are writing 'Information Reports'. This will enhance the student's skills in researching and gathering quality and true information, organising this information into appropriate categories and presenting it in an eye catching and effective way.

In **HASS** we have an exciting and engaging topic in 'Australia' with a focus on the significant events and people that have shaped the nation we are today. This topic will be easily integrated into our writing genre.

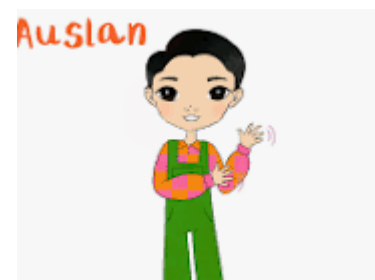
Thank you Wes Hollick

Science & PE News

Welcome back to Term 2 😊

Please find my updated Timetable, as always if you would like to come & help for a session or 2 please let me know. Thank you Naomi Marr-Vogels

	P.E.	Science	Auslan
Tuesday	Grade 4/5/6 9.55am	Grade Prep/1 11.25am	
Wednesday	Grade Prep/1 9.55am	Grade 4/5/6 11.25am	
Thursday	Grade 2/3 9.55am	Grade 2/3 11.25am	
Friday Library Week			Grade 2/3 9.55am
			Grade P/1 11.25am
			Grade 4/5/6 12.25pm
Friday Art Week			Grade 2/3 9.55am
			Grade 4/5/6 11.25am
			Grade P/1 12.25pm



Smile Squad Dental Van

Smile Squad is coming to this school

Dear Simpson Primary School families,

The Smile Squad team from Dental Health Services Victoria (DHSV) are coming to our school soon.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

How to access free dental care

We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Please complete and submit the consent form by **Friday the 21st June 2024**.

Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

Smile Squad dental packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

Standard strength toothpaste

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

The DHSV Smile Squad look forward to seeing you soon.

April – Marc 4th, Hunter 9th, Jack 16th, Evie 18th, Liam 28th
May – Ollie 27th, Archer 31st



Notes & Annual Reminders

School Photo Day 2nd May

MSP Photography envelopes are on their way & should arrive Monday, the envelopes will be sent home with your child/children as soon as they arrive.

Printed Newsletter

Please contact Tabatha if you require a printed copy of the newsletter.

CSEF Funding:

Families who hold health care cards are eligible for CSEF support funding each year. Please check in at school to make sure your family is eligible for this funding support in 2024. This process needs to be done by 28th June. Please see the information later in the newsletter.

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 with any daily, weekly, or termly bus changes. Bus change notes can also be found attached to this newsletter.

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.

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 very busy in the mornings prior to instruction time, preparing for the day ahead. Staff also have meeting commitments after school on Monday 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.

Scholastic Book club:

Issue 3 Orders Due Monday 29th April. These can be paid either with cash or ordered and paid for online using the Scholastic Loop Online. Visit <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx> or download the app.

Music Lessons

Music lessons with Eileen McKenzie are available on Thursdays. If you wish your child/children to learn an instrument or if you are wanting to re-enrol, please contact Eileen. Lessons taught are Piano/Keyboard, Vocal and Guitar. Phone or text 0400 486 948 for any enquiries.

Community News



Woolworths net set go
COME & PLAY!
Netball Australia's
Official Introductory Program

Woolworths NetSetGO Centre:
Simpson FNC

Session Day & Time:
Starts Sunday 21st April @ 1030

Location:
Simpson Rec Reserve

Contact:
Rachel Perrett 0447752510

Further Information:
Ages 5-11

Woolworths NetSetGO

SIMPSON PRIMARY SCHOOL WELCOMES

2025/2026 FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS

We invite you to join us to see our school in action & meet our welcoming staff.

School Tour & Information Session:

Friday 3rd May @10.15am

Alternative tour times can be arranged by contacting the office.

Principal - Melissa Berry

5594 3298

www.simpsonps.vic.edu.au

simpson.ps@education.vic.gov.au

