

DRAGON TALES

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SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

M Berry, D Capizzi, S Costin, D Smith, K McVilly,
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SCHOOL MISSION

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

Thursday May 7th Term 2 Week 3

Week 3	4th Library Responsible Pet Program	5th District Cross Country – Noorat Camperdown College Information Night	6th Breakfast Club	7th	8th Assembly – 2.45pm - Yr 4/5/6
Week 4	11th Art	12th	13th Breakfast Club	14th	15th
Week 5	18th Library	19 th	20 th Breakfast Club	21 st Cobden Tech Come & Try – Indo & Food – Yr 5/6	22 nd Assembly – 2.45pm - Yr 4/5/6
Week 6	25th Art	26th School Council @ 6.30pm	27th Breakfast Club	28th	29th Year 5/6 Tri Sports

Principal News

2027/2028 Prep Open Morning

We will be welcoming all our prospective 2027/2028 Prep families on Friday 8th May. It will be wonderful meeting them and showing them through our amazing school.

Staff Professional Learning / Student Free Day

On Friday 1st May all staff will be attending **Next Steps in Responsive Teaching PL at Deakin University**. No classes will run on this day.

Report Writing Day - Friday 5th June

Friday 5th 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.

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.

Staying Connected – Who to Contact

We value open and clear communication and want to ensure you know who to reach out to when needed. You can contact us through Compass, email, phone, or by arranging a time to meet in person.

- Teachers – Your first point of contact for anything related to classwork, learning, wellbeing and excursions.
- Student Wellbeing (Emily) – For wellbeing or sensitive matters.
- Principal – For more serious or sensitive matters, please reach out to me directly.
- School Council Members – If you'd like to discuss broader school matters, a School Council member can help guide you. The council focuses on strategic planning and policies.
- Office Staff – For admin-related questions (Compass, finance, general inquiries), Tabatha is available to assist.

We're proud to be part of our local community and appreciate the strong connections we share. To ensure we all maintain a healthy balance, we kindly ask that school-related conversations take place during school hours or at school events. This helps us stay focused on supporting our students and families.

I hope Easter Bunny is able to find you all with some yummy goodies and to those travelling over the holidays, stay safe.

Pupil Free Days 2026:

- Friday 5th June – Report Writing Day
- 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 start to Term 2!

For Literacy, our focus has been on the texts *ANZAC Ted* and *Sad, the Dog*. Both books have encouraged students to think about the emotions of the character's experience. We have been using clues in the illustrations to identify feelings and how these change throughout the story.

Our Prep students have been learning the sounds and names of the letters k, e, r, and u. They have also been revising the other letters covered so far this term. All students have brought home their 'Magic Words' to learn—Preps are expected to read them, while Grade Ones are expected to both read and spell them. A letter was sent home with lots of ideas to make learning these essential words fun.

Thank you to all families for reading regularly with their children. Congratulations to Sophie, Rome, Isabella, Harvey, Brooklyn, and Hallie for reaching 25 nights of reading. A big congratulations to our first students to reach 50 nights of reading—Archie and Evaliah.

In Numeracy, we have been exploring place value, focusing on numbers 1–10 for Prep students and numbers beyond 100 for Grade Ones. We have been learning to use our 'Superhero Eyes' to subitise and recognise numbers quickly without counting. We are now moving into addition.

You can support your child at home by playing card games such as Uno, where you add the values of two cards together. To extend this, you can create a two-digit number and add a single digit, encouraging your child to count on from the larger number. It would also be beneficial for students to play board games to practise counting and turn-taking skills.

Prep/One has had a big couple of weeks, proudly attending the ANZAC service with a wreath made in the classroom and bringing big smiles to school photo day. Students also showed their creativity by making monsters during their Art session—they did an amazing job and were very proud of their creations. We also enjoyed a visit from Responsible Pet Ownership.

Happy Mother's Day to all our mums—we hope you have a lovely day on Sunday.

Kind Regards,
Robyn Anderson



2/3 News

Welcome everyone to term 2! We are only in week 3, yet it has been flat out from day 1.

Literacy

In Literacy, our focus has been on the texts *Lest We Forget* and *The Lorax*.

The text *Lest We Forget* had students understand historical events comparing similarities and differences between past and present events and making connections to their own experiences. Students also learnt how to write compound sentences using coordinating conjunctions 'and & but'.

The text *The Lorax* is a narrative based text unit which commenced for students at the end of week 2. This unit will focus on responding to a narrative picture book and writing sentences using varying conjunctions such as '*and, but, or, so, because, although*' etc. This text is a fun narrative (which Dr. Suess book isn't fun?!) that has some rich themes that encourage the students to think deeply about caring for our environment, speaking up for what is right, responsibility and good choices and hope & renewal.

We continue with our Word Origins spelling program, and all students have gained great confidence in the process/daily routine of the structure of our lessons. It is fantastic to see some students apply their Word Origins learning into their day to day, e.g., when they recognise a word from Word Origins in other areas of learning and can explain the meaning of the word in that context.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, our focus so far has been *Time* where we spent two weeks learning about the features of analogue and digital clocks and telling o'clock, half past and the quarter times on both types of clocks. All students were engaged in our unit of time, and it was encouraging to see how committed each and every one of them was to their learning. As always, learning the o'clock and half past times were the easiest for students to learn and apply with the quarter to and quarter past times being more challenging. I encourage families to support their child at home by having an analogue clock present in their homes for children to continue their journey of learning to tell the time on an analogue clock.

We have just embarked on a 3 week unit on *Addition* this week.

ANZAC Day Service

Our whole school was a part of the community ANZAC Day Service at Jaycee Park at the beginning of the term. As a class, we made a wreath that two of our students laid during the service under the half-mast flag. Our Simpson students always take such immense pride when active participants in community events which reflects the supportive community spirit Simpson and the wider community hold. As a school, we appreciate the effort those community members/volunteers put into these events.



Classroom Visits/Teacher Conferences

I encourage all parents/guardians to take the time to read the Compass post regarding my available times if you require to meet with me or chat to me about any concerns you may have regarding your child. I welcome all parents to talk to me at any time and do promote this. However, as you know, our days at school are very busy and I am not always available to chat as I am teaching.

I will always welcome any parents to visit our classroom but please reach out to myself beforehand to limit interruptions and distractions to the children's learning. If you need to drop anything off to your child or pass on a message while class is taking place, please see Tab or Mel at the front office and they will pass it on.

Thank you for all your support and hope you stay warm as the weather is beginning to remind us that winter is closing in on us.

Happy Mother's Day to all of our mum's/special person!

Cheers,

Jannique Hanegraaf

4/5/6 News

Literacy and Numeracy

We have begun our class text for the Term, and the students are already enthralled with the story of **Tom Appleby Convict Boy**. So far, we have been reading about the horrid life and atrocious work conditions for child chimney sweeps of London in the 1700's.



In Numeracy we have finished off our topic of area and perimeter and using statistics and data to calculate the mean, mode, median and range of a data set. Our topic currently is addition and subtraction.

Congratulations!



A massive congratulations to **Jordan Beecher, Lexie Campbell, Matilda Merrett-McKellar and Gabe Capizzi** who all became members of the 90 Seconds Club!

ANZAC Day Memorial Service

Well done to Matilda Merrett McKeller, Ted Mahoney, Thomas Vines, Landon Robertson, Gabe Capizzi and Jack Vogels for their public speaking efforts at the ANZAC Day Memorial Service at Jaycee Park. Also, thanks to Jordan Beecher who was responsible for raising the Australian flag.



District Cross Country



Congratulations to all the students from 4/5/6 that represented Simpson Primary so admirably at the District Cross Country event in Noorat.

Results were as follows:

Landon Robertson 9th, Levi Davies 9th, Carter McVilly 14th, Chase Chesson 32nd, Ted Mahoney 24th, Matilda Merrett-McKellar 20th, Isaac Ferrari 28th, Jules Caballero 29th.



Happy Mother's Day to all the Mum's and special people out there for this weekend
I hope you are spoilt and enjoy the weekend with your loved ones.

Science & Auslan News

Busy, Busy, Busy!

Science Update



Our scientists have been very busy continuing their learning about the materials and substances around them. We have explored concepts such as physical and chemical changes, as well as reversible and irreversible changes. Across the different year levels, students have investigated how substances change state between solids, liquids, and gases, and how the environment around them can affect their behaviour. We have also discovered that some solids can behave like liquids, and some liquids can behave like solids, proving what a strange and fascinating world we live in!

Auslan

In Auslan, students have been learning about Deaf culture and the history of the Deaf community in Australia. We have explored why Auslan has both a northern and southern dialect, learnt signs related to the amusement park, and are currently learning a new song.

P.E News

Well done to the following students on making it to the next level and competed on Tuesday at Noorat.

Miles	Jordan	Evie
Liam	Chase	Jules
Thomas R	Landon	Levi
Asher	Thomas V	Carter
Miguel	Isaac	Gabe
Kaiah	Ted	Matilda

Each student gave a fantastic effort on the day, with some achieving personal bests. Beyond their running, our students were wonderful representatives of our school. They demonstrated excellent manners,

showed respect to fellow competitors, and supported one another throughout the event. We are so proud of the way you represented our school and gave your best!

A special shout out to Kaiah who finished 3rd in her age group and Miles who finished 4th. That is an amazing effort but unfortunately they don't go through to the next stage only 10 year olds and up go on. Well done also to Levi and Landon who missed out by one to go through to the next stage. They finished 9th in their age group. Great effort.

29th May Grade 5/6 Tri Sports

Simpson P.S will be entering a soccer team for the day. The day is all about trying a new sport and since majority of the grade 5/6 cohort are already playing netball or football we have decided to try soccer. We will be practising and refining our soccer technique throughout the term.

Term 2 Overview

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Prep/1	Skipping		Under arm throwing		Kicking, dribbling and trapping SOCCER			Catching and chess pass NETBALL		
2/3 4/5/6	Cross country training and Positive play, rules expectations and minor games.		Soccer- kicking, dribbling, trapping and rules of soccer			Netball- chess pass, shoulder pass, catching, netball rules			AFL- handballing and kicking targets	

JSC

We would just like to say a big thank you to everyone that supported the JSC Easter Raffle in term 1. We raised \$470 which has gone towards our basketball tops which arrived on the first day of term 2! We think they look great and well done to Henry and Isaac who helped design them.



JSC are also holding a crazy hair day on the 22nd of May. See flyer below with all details attached. We are raising money for sandpit toy tractors as the ones in the sandpit have seen better days.



Our next fundraiser after crazy hair day will be held in term 3 on the 24th of July, which is National Pyjama Day then followed by Gene for Jeans Day.



Thanks, Henry and Isaac
JSC Representatives

Parents Club



Wellbeing News

Last term we looked at all the different emotions and feelings we may feel throughout the day. Emotions can sometimes feel like a mystery, but when students understand why they feel a certain way they are better able to manage challenges and make positive choices. Below are some of the emotions we have discussed in class and what zone they relate to.



Over the past two weeks students learnt how they can care for themselves when they find themselves in a certain zone. At school our goal might be to be a good leader, work with people who are different to us, finish a learning task, or speak at assembly or in public. To make sure our feelings don't get in our way of reaching our goals, we can use Zone Tools to care for our feelings and stay on track.

Ask yourself, does this zone help me reach my goal?

NO – take action and do something to care for it.

YES- keep using tools to maintain my zone.

REST AREA

Ways I can care for MY ZONE

- take a break
- have a desk rest
- listen to music
- move my body
- hug myself, ask for a hug, or hug a stuffed animal
- do animal walks (crab, frog etc.)
- have a walk in the fresh air
- change the task

STOP

Ways I can care for MY ZONE

- take deep breaths
- run or move my body
- take a break
- find a quiet place to sit
- have a cold drink
- remove my jumper
- remove my shoes & socks
- push myself firmly into the corner of the room
- ask for help
- think about the size of problem & the size of my reaction
- count

SLOW

Ways I can care for MY ZONE

- get a drink
- do lazy 8 breathing
- mindful colouring
- count to 10
- use 5 finger breathing
- 5 senses
- use a fidget toy
- journal my thoughts
- write a gratitude letter
- think a happy memory
- listen to music
- say positive, nice things to myself
- do some jumping jacks
- wall pushups

GO

Ways I can care for MY ZONE

- expected behaviour
- move my body
- listen to music
- brain break
- talk to a friend
- listen
- learn
- fruit break
- have a drink
- stretch

The next fortnight, students have been learning about stress and how it shows up in the body. We all experience stress, especially when routines change or something unexpected happens. Stress can trigger the fight-flight-freeze response, which is the brain's way of protecting us from danger. For some children, even everyday situations like a test, speaking in front of others, or a noisy room can feel overwhelming.

This response helps keep us safe or motivates us to act but it can also feel uncomfortable. Children might notice a racing heart, tummy aches, sweaty hands, or the urge to avoid something.

How you can support this at home:

Talk with your child about times they've felt stress and what it felt like in their body. Practising calming strategies together, like deep breathing or quiet time can help them feel more in control when big feelings show up.

Thanks, Maddison Lucas

🍰 Happy Birthday 🍰

May: 18th Easton **June:** 5th Charlie, 13th Isabella, 19th Gabe, 22nd Carter M, 27th Brooklyn



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.



Curdies Family Fun Day

Come for the fun – leave inspired to care for the Curdies!

Keynote presentation:
Professor John Sherwood

Q&A with the Curdies River Coordinating Committee

Educational talks & hands on experiences & demonstrations

FREE Family activities:

- Canoeing
- Guided walks
- Arts & crafts

Saturday 16 May,
10.00 am–2.00 pm
Peterborough Hall

REGISTER HERE



WINTER FASHION PARADE

FEATURING VINTAGE GNOTUK **\$30PP**

Tickets Include:
Entry
Nibbles
Drinks at bar prices

Fri 8th May at 6:30pm

Camperdown College Hall
1 Wilson Street

Tickets on sale from:
Vintage Gnotuk or Tracey Baker

A fundraiser for Bookaar Cricket Club