DRAGON TALES

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SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

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

SCHOOL MISSION

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



Simpson Primary School Enriching learning through opportunity

Thursday 18th September 2025 Term 3 Week 9

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.













Term 3 CALENDAR					
School holidays					
Week 1	6 ^{th October}	7 th	8th	9 th	10 th
Term 4			Art		Swimming 12 - 3pm
Week 2	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th
	Breakfast Club Swimming 12 - 3pm	Swimming 12 - 3pm	Library	Swimming 12 - 3pm	Swimming 12 - 3pm
Week 3	20 th Breakfast Club	21 th	22nd	23 rd	24 th
	Swimming 12 - 3pm	Swimming 12 - 3pm		Swimming 12 - 3pm	
Week 4	27 th Breakfast Club	28th Empty classroom Kinder students @ 11.30am School Council 6.30pm	29 th PUPIL FREE DAY Teacher PD Day	30 th	31st Assembly – 2.45pm JSC Halloween Community Disco
Week 5	3 rd Breakfast Club	4 th Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	5 th Art	6 th	7th

Principal News

School Hats Reminder

As part of our SunSmart policy, school hats are required from 1st September until the end of the year. Students must wear hats whenever they are outside. Please ensure your child has a school hat each day. If your child needs a new hat, they are available for purchase from the school office.

Disability Inclusion

Our school is excited to introduce Disability Inclusion, a new approach to help us improve support for students with disability and build a more inclusive school for all our students. Inclusive schools have better outcomes in learning, engagement and wellbeing for all students.

Disability Inclusion will help our school better understand what our students need to hep them learn, through:

- A new funding model with more investment
- A new strength based process called the Disability Inclusion Profile to help identify the students' needs and required adjustments
- More training and coaching for staff about the best ways to support student learning.

A new funding model with more investment

The new funding model provides additional investment that our school can use to suport many students including those with autism, learning difficulties and more.

This additional investment will provide more support for students with disability, including students who haven't been eligible for individual funding trough the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) in the past.

Our school can use this funding of a rang eof activities including:

- more training and professional development for tecahers and school staff
- getting expert advice about disability
- hiring teachers r other staff to help plan and deliver chnages for students
- equipment and resources to support student learning

The Disability Inclusion Profile

The Disability Inclusion Profile will help us find out more about your child's strengths and needs. It will inform personalised funding allocations, help us plan student learning and any changes a student may need to better learn.

The new Disability Inclusion Profile process will replace the Educational Needs Questionnaire used as part of the current PSD.

As we transition over the next three years, families of students who are part of the PSD will be asked to attend a meeting to complete a Disability Inclusion Profile. People who know your child will be involved in the meeting, along with an independent trained facilitator who will help our school and families complete the profile. The profile will also be available to a broad group of students with high needs.

We will identify students who are currently not part of the PSD, who may benefit from a Disability Inclusion Profile. If we consider that your child's education will benefit from having a profile, we will contact you.

More training and professional development for tecahers and school staff

Disability Inclusion will givemore tecahers and support staff a better undertsanding of disability and how to respond. This could include access to:

- more professionals in schools who are experts in disability
- coaching
- professional learning
- evidence-based guidance and resources
- scholarships

More information

Visit Disability Inclusion: a new approach for students with disability | vic.gov.au

If you would like to talk about your child's needs at school, please contact Melissa Berry – Principal or Emily Bentley – Disability Inclusion Leader.

As we reach the end of Term 3, I want to wholeheartedly thank everyone for the incredible energy, dedication, and care you've brought to our school. This term has been filled with learning, growth, and so many wonderful opportunities for our students. It's been truly uplifting to see our school community supporting one another and working together to create such a positive and nurturing environment.

I hope all our families enjoy the upcoming break — a wonderful chance to rest, recharge, and make special memories together. We can't wait to welcome everyone back in Term 4 for what promises to be a vibrant, fun-filled, and exciting end to the school year!

Melissa Berry

Prep News

Classroom News – Term 3 Highlights

Numeracy

We've just wrapped up our unit on **Mass**, where students learned to "heft" — using their hands to compare the weight of different objects. They practiced using everyday language like **"heavy"** and **"light"** to describe what they discovered.

We've now moved on to exploring **Friends of 10** – pairs of numbers that add together to make 10. This is a great foundation for building mental maths skills!

Literacy

In Literacy, we've been enjoying the book "Banjo and Ruby Red", a delightful story that has helped us explore verbs and how they bring characters to life. Students have had fun identifying the action words and thinking about what the characters are doing.

To finish off the 'sounds write' program this term, the students have been learning about the 'sh' sound and have discovered that two letters can work together to make one sound. They've been highly engaged and entertained, especially enjoying the daily routine of gesturing the 'sh' sound with their fingers each morning. It's been a fun and interactive way to reinforce their learning!

Wellbeing Week

Wellbeing Week was a huge success! Students took part in a range of activities including meditation (thank you, Sadie!), learning about healthy sleep routines, and more.

A standout moment was definitely the No-Bake Sale – the students loved being shopkeepers just as much as they enjoyed the tasty treats! Thank you to our wonderful parent community for your support and for helping the children dress up each day. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.







What's Coming Up

We'll finish Term 3 with a fun Footy Colours Dress-Up Day and an Egg and Bacon Breakfast on Friday morning.



Looking ahead, Term 4 will begin with our Swimming Program, so please remember to organise bathers, towel, and goggles over the holidays.

Mrs Jones & Mrs Berry

1/2 News

The Grade 1 and 2 students have had such a fun and busy Term 3, filled with exciting activities, creative dress-ups, and even some tasty no-bake cooking in the classroom!

One of the highlights was "My Hero Day", where students dressed up as someone they admire. It was heartwarming to see so many students proudly choose their dads as their heroes, which felt especially fitting with Father's Day just around the corner. Students spoke beautifully about why they look up to their heroes, sharing thoughtful reasons that showed just how special these role models are in their lives.









In the lead-up to Father's Day, students worked hard to create their very own "Tool Box of Love" - filled with all the reasons why they love and appreciate their dads. The effort and pride they put into these gifts was clear, and we hope all our dads enjoyed opening them as much as the students enjoyed making them!



Later in the term, our chefs put on their aprons for a no-bake cooking session. With lots of laughing and sticky fingers, they decorated **funny face biscuits** using icing and lollies, as well as helped prepare **frog in the pond jelly cups**. The students were enthusiastic, helpful, and very responsible in the "kitchen." Many have already requested we make more jelly frogs again soon!





In the classroom, students have also been working hard on their learning. Although some were a little unsure at first, they have grown to enjoy our **fractions unit**. They have been learning to identify and represent wholes, halves, quarters, and eighths, using hands-on activities to make maths both fun and meaningful.





Have a great holiday, relax, reset and enjoy time with loved ones. Miss Cunnington $\ensuremath{\text{@}}$

Year 3/4

Well, who can believe that we have come to the end of Term 3 already! Time flies when you're having fun! Term 3 has been pleasingly productive, with minimal interruptions which has been amazing for the students learning and progress. Next term will be equally busy with extra-curricular activities such as our swimming program. I wish all students, families and community members a happy and safe break and a chance to recharge, ready for the home stretch to the end of the school year.

Literacy

In Literacy we are coming to the end of our current class text 'Leo and Ralph'. It was an enjoyable story that evoked a lot of discussion amongst the class.

In spelling we have been learning about suffixes which are a letter or group of letters added to the end of a base word to convey a certain meaning. The suffixes we have been focussing on lately have been, 'ure' and 'ive'. We have been learning specific spelling rules to accompany these suffixes.

In writing we have been writing narratives. We have all written and published a narrative that relates to our class text. The students have enjoyed learning and adding new writing techniques and applying pre-learned techniques with more accuracy and effect.

Well Being Week

Well Being Week was a great 'circuit breaker' and directed the focus on learning on the students physical, mental and emotional well being. Students enjoyed completing activities related to the topics of nutrition, sleep and movement as well as some enjoyable mindfulness activities such as meditation.

The week included numerous fun dress up days such as PJ day, favourite colour and a splash of yellow for RU OK Day.

The week concluded with our 'No Bake Sale'. The year 3/4's made Rum Balls and thorougly enjoyed sharing these among the others classes while enjoying delicious treats from the other classes.



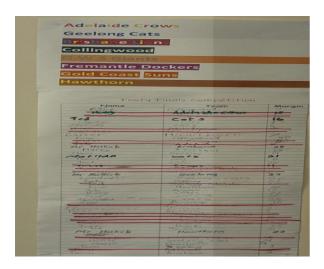
Numeracy

Our last two topics to finish up the term have been fractions and mass. These topics portray an obvious link to real life application making learning feel relevant and applicable to everyday situations. The students showed great progress throughout both topics and are well placed for when these topics arise again in the future.

Congratulations to Jack Vogels who became the second member of our class to be inducted into the 90 Seconds Club! Jack answered a mixture of 40 times tables questions correctly in less than 90 seconds, becoming only the third year 4 student to be welcomed into the club in its 13-year history! Great effort Jack! Many other students are progressing very quickly in their speed and accuracy when recalling times table facts. Keep up the great work!

Footy Finals Competition

In the 3/4 classroom we are running a footy finals competition. Before the first finals game the student had 3 guesses to pick the team that will win the granfinal and the margin of victory. Some students have lost one or more of their guesses so far and some still have all 3 left! Everyone still has at least one guess still alive so it is anyones game! We wont know who the winner is until we get back to school after the holidays!



5/6 News

As Term 3 draws to a close, we reflect on a term filled with learning, growth, and memorable moments in the Grade 5/6 classroom.

A Special Thank You to Chloe Janes, we were fortunate to have Chloe Janes join us as a student teacher during Weeks 6–8. Chloe, a third-year education student, brought enthusiasm and fresh energy to our classroom. The students thoroughly enjoyed learning from her and appreciated her thoughtful approach to teaching. We thank Chloe for her contributions and wish her every success in her future career—she'll be a wonderful asset to any school!

In Literacy, we've been diving into *Us Mob Walawurru*, exploring themes of culture, history, and identity. We're now wrapping up the unit by writing factual recounts focused on the 1967 Referendum. Students have been examining life before, during, and after this pivotal moment in history for First Nations Australians, developing both their writing skills and historical understanding.

In Maths, we have been focusing on units of measurement—converting between centimetres, litres, and more and have just completed this unit. Students made excellent progress with their conversion skills and enjoyed all tasks they were to complete; they rose to the challenge! We've now shifted our focus to angles, exploring how to identify, measure, and classify them. Students have shown great curiosity and engagement throughout these topics and have begun the unit with a wealth of knowledge that they will apply over the course of the unit.

I wish all families a safe and happy two-week break. I encourage everyone to take time to rest and recharge, as Term 4 promises to be a busy and exciting one! Highlights will include our swimming program, engaging learning experiences, assessment and testing for report writing, and of course, wrapping up the school year.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for a fantastic Term 4!

Cheers, Jannique Hanegraaf

Science, PE & Auslan News







Science - Our scientists have been busy exploring the fascinating world of plants and animals—learning about how they grow and change throughout their life spans and discovering how these stages can vary greatly between species. We studied how plants and animals adapt to their environments, including their food sources, weather conditions, and predators.

Some of our favourite activities included inventing new animals with imaginative adaptations, learning all about queen bees, and getting to know our local ravens. If you want a good laugh, ask the Grade ½ class to make a raven sound—they're hilarious!

It has been a busy term full of fun, hard work, and lots of learning.

P.E. - Wow, what an incredibly action-packed and exciting term it has been! Our focus has been on basketball, sportsmanship, and all the fundamental movements essential to the game. We were so fortunate to have Arcaim visit us from the Warrnambool Seahawks to lead a special program. The students learned so much from him, showing off their skills and really embracing the opportunity to grow and improve. He was even able to show us some trick shots, and the students were so excited by his impressive half-court goal! Arcaim also enjoyed learning about Simpson Primary School, appreciating our beautiful views, unique wildlife, and even our roads (lol). He was amazed by the resilience of our students and how quickly they adapt to the ever-changing weather.

In the last few weeks, we've been concentrating on schoolyard games like 4 Square and Paddle Battle, exploring the skills and tactics involved, while continuing to emphasize the importance of sportsmanship throughout.

Auslan Adventures - Every week, our Auslan students are improving more and more. We are now exploring the structure of Auslan, which is quite different from everyday English. We're progressing towards having conversations and using Auslan across different subjects. I'm so proud of how the students have taken on the language.

In the last two weeks, we've focused on holiday-related words and phrases—a perfect way to wrap up this newsletter article.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday, and I look forward to seeing everyone next term! Ms Marr-Vogels

A Happy Birthday

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







