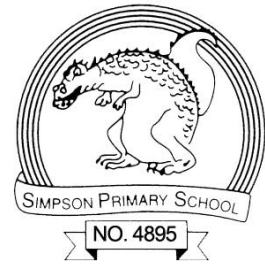


# DRAGON TALES

Principal: Melissa Berry  
T: 5594 3298 M: 0458 943 298  
Email: [simpson.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:simpson.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
Website: [www.simpsonps.vic.gov.au](http://www.simpsonps.vic.gov.au)



**SCHOOL COUNCILLORS**  
M Berry, A Neave, D Costin, J McVilly, L Mahoney,  
M McInnes, R Vogels, S Quarrell

*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 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
**Term 4 Week 1**

The school values underpin a little school with a big heart:

At Simpson we C.A.R.E. -

**Consideration**- We show consideration towards each other.

**Aspirational**- We aspire to be the best version of ourselves possible.

**Respect**- We respect ourselves, others and property.

**Engage**- We engage to do our best at all times.

We are  
**CONSIDERATE**



We are  
**ASPIRATIONAL**



We are  
**RESPECTFUL**



We are  
**ENGAGED**

## C.A.R.E. Awards



# Simpson Primary School Calendar August/September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Term 4 Begins Curriculum Day No Students	<b>3</b> Breakfast Club	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Mrs McKenzie Music  NEWSLETTER	<b>6</b>  <b>Art</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Swimming	<b>10</b> Breakfast Club	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Assembly 10.30  Mrs McKenzie Music	<b>13</b> Library	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Swimming	<b>17</b> Breakfast Club  Finance Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Mrs McKenzie Music	<b>20</b>  <b>Art</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Swimming	<b>24</b> Breakfast Club  School Council 7pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Assembly 10.30  Mrs McKenzie Music	<b>27</b> Library	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Swimming	<b>31</b> Breakfast Club	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	<b>2</b> Mrs McKenzie Music  NEWSLETTER	<b>3</b> <b>Art</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Swimming	<b>7</b> Melbourne Cup Day Holiday	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Assembly 10.30 Mrs McKenzie Music	<b>10</b> Library	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Swimming	<b>14</b> Breakfast Club	<b>15</b> Yr 5/6 Camp	<b>16</b> Yr 5/6 Camp Mrs McKenzie Music	<b>17</b> <b>Art</b> Yr 5/6 Camp	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Swimming	<b>21</b> Breakfast Club	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Assembly 10.30 Mrs McKenzie Music	<b>24</b> Library	<b>25</b>

### Swimming

Swimming commences on this coming Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October. I ask that all students bring a towel, goggles, spare knickers/jocks/sock (yep socks) in a small backpack or bag that is separate from their school bag. This ensures that the wet swimming gear is separate to things in their school bag. Please name your child's school clothes, towel and goggles for swimming. It is amazing how many items get misplaced during the changing process.

Due to wet swimming gear being in school bags, we ask that 'Reader Bags' not be sent in on Mondays until swimming has finished. Please send readers in on Tuesdays.

There are **NO LUNCH ORDERS available on a Monday** during the swimming period. Students will eat their lunch at recess and then take their snack to eat after their lesson.

### Attendance Monitoring

The attendance of students in the Wimmera South West (WSW) Area, in a bid to reduce the incidents of Chronic absenteeism in our region, is a focus for all schools as part of DET'S wellbeing and engagement strategy. I strongly urge all families to make every effort this term to ensure their child/ren are 'AT SCHOOL, EVERY DAY, ON TIME, READY FOR LEARNING'. I know every parent wants the best opportunities for their children and the way to achieve this is to attend school daily. Let us make a real effort to 'drive' down our absenteeism data at Simpson this term and make the most of every learning opportunity presented. Please make contact with Tabatha or myself if you have any attendance concerns regarding your children.

Thank you to those parents who are adding attendance notes to Compass. SMS attendance notifications go out daily at 9.30am to families of absent students. If you get one of these notifications, please follow the link to add an absent note or contact the school and we can add one for you.

Alternatively, absence notes can be sent to the school via text message as this may be easier and we can add it on Compass. The school mobile number is: 0458 943 298.

**1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but.....**

He/ She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child can perform is ...
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1.5 years</u>	 Your Child's performance is equal to finishing in grade 11
1 day per week	40 Days per year	8 weeks per year	Over <u>2.5 years</u>	 Your Child's performance is equal to finishing in grade 10
2 days per week	80 Days per year	16 weeks per year	Over <u>5 years</u>	 Your Child's performance is equal to finishing in grade 7
3 days per week	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly <u>8 years</u>	 Your Child's performance is equal to finishing in grade 4

**Everyday Counts!!**

## **Final Assembly / Year 6 Graduation**

Our Final Assembly / Year 6 Graduation will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

The Final Assembly @ 11:30am with the Year 6 Graduation – after the Assembly finishes. More information will come closer to the date.

The Year 6 Graduation will run the same as last year. The awards will be given out during the Final Assembly, and Year 6 students and their parents will head inside for a short video and presentation.

## **Signing Out**

If you need to sign your child out of school early, all parents/guardians must come into the Office area and sign your child out of the school. This is a legal requirement. Thank you in advance for your support with this procedure.

## **Parent Payments**

A reminder to all families that if you have outstanding 2023 contributions, we would appreciate it if payment can be finalised as soon as possible. If you are unsure whether you have outstanding contributions, please contact our office staff.

## **School Hats**

From September 1st, all students are required to wear a school hat that protects their face, neck, and ears whenever they are outdoors during September - April and the UV index levels reach 3 and above. Could all hats please come back with students in Term 4. Hats are available from the office for purchase for \$17.50 Please ensure hats are clearly labelled with your child's name.

## **2024 Prep Transition dates/activities**

### **Term 4**

- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October - **4yo Kinder kids – ½ prep class & activity @ 12.30pm**
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November - **4yo Kinder kids – ½ prep class & activity @ 12.30pm**
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November - **4yo Kinder kids – P.E lesson - @10.30am**
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December - **STATEWIDE TRANSITION DAY 4yo Kinder kids – in prep class with 2024 teacher.** Time TBC

## **Prep/1 News**

Hi Everyone,

Well, here we are already starting our final term for 2023. All students in Prep/One look well rested after the holidays and ready for an action-packed Term 4.

This term students in Prep/One will be exploring Past, Present and Local History as part of our Integrated Unit. We will be exploring our local area by walking to various historical sites in Simpson during the term. In Literacy "Water Safety", informative writing, will be our focus during the next few weeks. Students will be identifying ways to be safe when swimming in a pool and at the beach. These facts will be used to create an Informative Poster about Water Safety.

In Numeracy we are focusing on Statistics and Probability. Students will be completing various activities to develop an understanding of 'will happen', 'won't happen' or 'might happen, relate terms to everyday



events, sequence events from won't happen to will happen, predict outcomes for everyday events such as chances of rain today and use different experiences to show how events are likely or unlikely to occur. Finally, our Teddy Bears have been very busy travelling to different homes and doing many different things. Students have really enjoyed sharing their journey with each other. Thank you for your support printing pictures in the Teddy Journals.

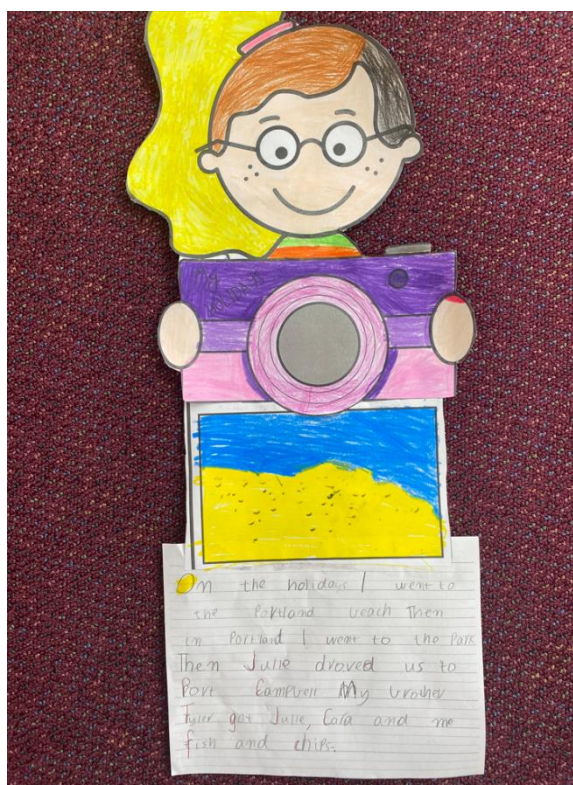
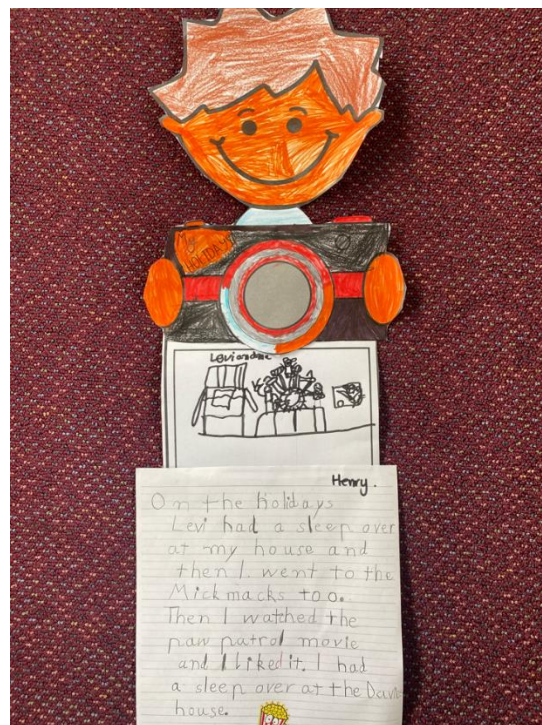
Please keep encouraging your child with their reading and MAGIC WORDS each night. Every little bit helps in our classroom. (remember to record students reading in the diary/or get your child to write the book they read).

As I always say, if you have any questions/concerns please email me.

Remember my door is always open!

Cheers

Judi Parkhouse



## 1/2/3 News

Hello and welcome back to the last term of the year! I keep looking at our calendar for the term and it keeps getting busier, but it is going to be a great end to the year to celebrate all our successes as learners. I look forward to next Monday when we start our swimming lessons. Can't wait to see the progress made over the weeks and the smiles on their faces.

This term, I will be providing students with a new spelling list on a weekly or fortnightly basis, depending on the focus spelling lesson taught in class. You can find your child's specific spelling list in their diary. In the event that your child did not bring their diary to school on Tuesday, their word list were placed in their lunchbox. We encourage students to practice these words at home to help reinforce the focus sound and improve their spelling skills. Your support in working with your child on their spelling is highly appreciated.

Homework will start next week. Just a reminder the homework will go home on a Wednesday and be returned the following Wednesday. Homework this term will be directly related to maths and at the point of need for your child to become more fluent.

All students have been taking home 3 books of their choice and a decodable in their reader covers to read each day. It is essential that you take the time to listen to your child read each morning or night and make a notation in their diary. Reader covers must be returned to school on a daily basis. This allows any important notes to go in their reader to be taken home. At the start of each term the students also put in important events into their diary so it's a friendly reminder of what is coming up and the students are aware as well.

This term we once again warmly invite any parents who would like to come and assist in the classroom. We have loved having some parents come in on Tuesday and Wednesdays to listen to us read. Even a brief five minutes of daily reading can make a significant difference in a student's progress. Therefore, if you have 20 minutes or the hour to spare at some point in the week, I would really appreciate your help. Please just make sure your Working with Children's check is current and that Tabatha has it on file in the office. I have attached the specialist timetable to ensure that your help is available when it suits both you and the grade.

### Term 4 specialist timetable

Science	Thursday 11.25am
Library	Friday 11.25am Fortnightly
Art	Friday 9.55am Fortnightly
P.E	Tuesday 9.55am

Here is an overview of what will be taught throughout the term.

Writing	Sounds Write	Maths	Integrated Unit	Respectful Relationship
Holiday recount	/er/	<b>Fractions</b> Halves, quarters and eights	<b>Terrific Timelines</b> Order significant events from their past to present.	<b>Movement</b>
Advertisements	/v/	<b>Fractions</b> More, less, equivalent to ½		Families Over Time
	/oo/ As in moon	<b>Fractions</b> Equivalent fractions	<b>Recognising Emotions</b>	
Poetry- senses	/j/	<b>Chance</b> Formal probability language Probability games		



Poetry- diamante	<b>/g/</b>	<b>Shape</b> Features of 2D & 3D shapes	Family Roles	<b>Managing Emotions</b>
Poetry- Australian poetry		<b>Shape</b> Draw and construct 3D shapes, nets	<b>Assessment</b> Families Over Time	
Letter Writing	<b>/f/</b>	<b>Mass, capacity and volume</b> Informal units	Daily Life Past & Present	
Letter Writing to Santa		<b>Mass, capacity and volume</b> Formal units	Stories from the Past	<b>Building Optimism</b>
Recount of the year		<b>Time</b> Analogue time	Toys in the Past & Present	
	<b>/m/</b>	<b>Angles</b> Comparing angles	First Nations Peoples Toys	<b>My strengths</b>
			Communication Past & Present	
	<b>/or/</b>			

If you have any questions regarding this term or need clarification on anything, please don't hesitate to call or come in to see me. My door is always open and I thank those people who have been coming in throughout the year and asking for clarification or concerns. Communication is key. Thanks Maddi.

## 4/5/6 News

Term 4!!! Can you believe it?! I guess time really does fly when you're having fun 😊 in 12 weeks time, we'll be saying Merry Christmas and happy Summer holidays!

I truly hope you all made the most of the Spring school holidays; the beautiful weather it ended up delivering and you enjoyed some family time! I know I did!

As always, we're hitting the ground running to make the most of the students being recharged to continue their learning journey, and as always, they have ALL responded from day 1 with enthusiasm and drive!

### Reading & Writing

In Reading we are using the beginning of a new term to realign ourselves with enhancing our reading skills. Reminding ourselves of fluency!! Reading the words on the page smoothly, with expression and taking note of the punctuation on the page. Don't forget to add in some emotion so our reading isn't 'flat'. Your child knows this skill and the language of this skill well. I encourage you to embrace this and have them practise this skill at home with you. Allow your child to 'show off' for a moment. Ask your child about what they are reading, get them to read aloud to you (while you are cooking dinner is the perfect opportunity). Reading aloud is a skill that we often forget to nurture once our children get to the independent level of reading, but this does not mean that you should not hear them read. The most common comment I've heard from my class this week is that "I can read it in my head well, but when I read it aloud, it doesn't sound as good". This is a shared role. They would be so proud to read to you at home.

In Writing the students have been focusing on retelling the events of their Holidays... the good, bad, exciting, ugly & boring! Tell it all! But engage your reader! Writing a Holiday Recount by the time students reach grades 4/5/6 becomes routine. But I am encouraging them to create a journey out of their holidays. Even if they stayed home for the entirety of the holidays, that's fine! Create a story out of that. A good story doesn't always need to be full of the most 'exciting events'... it just needs to be written well. I look forward to reading their final pieces.

### Numeracy

Fractions & Decimals. For the first few weeks of the term this will be our focus! This was welcomed with delight but as we're launching into the unit, students are realising that they are very capable of recognising and comprehending fractions. I ask and encourage you to assist your child at home. If you're cooking or

measuring out feed on the farm, ask your child to help you with the measurements. It is the 'every day' exposures that help the students learn and make mathematical practises relatable.

### **Homework**

As you would have been aware, for Term 3 I did not set homework – there was no point when the general and expected home reading was happening. So, for Term 4, our homework focus will remain the same. Read each weeknight and make a short summary (one sentence is enough) of what you've read, along with an Essential Assessment task (5 – 10 minutes is fine) – if nothing is set, complete Sunset Maths or Jet Pack Algebra. Each task and their reading are to be recorded in their student diary. I am very excited to continue helping your child with their learning. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jannique 😊

jannique.hanegraaf@education.vic.gov.au

## **Science & PE News**

Term 4 science is so much fun! Actually, every term in science is fun. Well, that's what I believe anyway. So, let's get back to my completely unbiased overview of science for the rest of this year. Term 4 is all about the biological sciences. Our Simpson Scientists will be learning all about living and past living things. Our studies will range from dinosaurs and other prehistoric plants and animals right up to the plants and animals that inhabit our world today. We will be exploring extreme climates and the way living things adapt in order to survive.



### **Physical Education News**

Who's up for a hit of tennis? We are! This term will start off with a focus on tennis. We have new racquets, nets, tennis balls and temporary line equipment. How much fun? I can't wait to see how our skills develop.

Thank you Ms Marr-Vogels



## Notes & Annual Reminders

Happy Birthday to the following students – Kaiah 4<sup>th</sup>, Isaac 5<sup>th</sup>, Levi 19<sup>th</sup>



### BUS NOTES FOR TERM 4 --NEW NOTES REQUIRED

Could all bus notes/changes & early pickups, please be submitted using one the following ways:

- Emailed to the school email: [simpson.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:simpson.ps@education.vic.gov.au)
- Send an SMS through to the school mobile: 0458 943 298
- Send a written note in with your child/ren.

Please ensure any changes are made before 10.30am.

We have a few items in our lost property, parents/children are asked to check to see if you may be missing any items. Parents are asked to check that clothing is **clearly named**. If you have 2nd 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. Thank you.

### MARC Van – Library:

Primary students **MUST** use a library bag when borrowing, this helps to protect and preserve our library books.

## Community News



**CREATE A COWICATURE**  
any medium, any style as long as it's a cow.



Let your imagination run riot with all things cow

Cash prize for top 3 entries



Heytesbury Agricultural Society 2024 Show Saturday March 2nd March 2024

Enquiries to Sue on 0427352588

Entries to the Homecraft Pavilion by 10.30am Show Day

**Food Vendors Wanted**

  
**SOUTH WEST  
BRICK CLUB**  
 is 10 YEARS OLD !!!

In the last decade, thousands of children and their families along with elders and those of all abilities have enjoyed the experience only a Brick Club can give

You are cordially invited to help celebrate this on

Saturday 28th October 2023  
 10.30 am - 12.00MD Brick Time  
 12.30pm Presentations and CAKE time  
 St Pauls Hall, Church St, Camperdown  
 Games Guest Speakers Prizes Giveaways  
 And BRICKS GALORE!

RSVP to Louise 0458 750351 by  
 Monday 23rd October 2023  
 with attendance numbers  
 Thanks



  
**WARRNAMBOOL  
SHOWDOWN**  
 MUSIC QUEST FOR THE EMERGING BEST

FINALISTS TO PERFORM LIVE AT THE SHOWDOWN. THE WINNER WILL PERFORM AT THE WARRNAMBOOL SHOW AND RODEO. AND RECEIVE MUSIC MENTORING AND RECORDING OPPORTUNITIES.



**HOW TO ENTER?**  
Submit a 3-minute video using the QR code, open to all ages, both originals and covers are accepted.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**  
 ENTRIES OPEN: 1st September  
 ENTRIES CLOSE: 9th October  
 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED: 16th October  
 SHOWDOWN: 27th October



**wdea works**  
 TRAINING

# First Aid Training

Individuals & groups




**Timboon**

**Undertake your First Aid course through WDEA Works Training (RTO TOID 20701)**

HLTAID009, HLTAID011 & HLTAID012

**Courses available:**

- ☒ CPR (HLTAID009)
- ☒ Provide First Aid (HLTAID011)
- ☒ Provide First Aid in an Education and Care (HLTAID012)

**WDEA Works Training offers**

- ☒ Competitive prices
- ☒ Group discounts
- ☒ We can attend on-site for corporate and group training

**When:**  
25th November 2023  
10.00am - 1.00pm  
(CPR finishes at 11:30am)

**Where:**  
Timboon Golf Club  
29 Egan Street  
Timboon 3268

Scan the QR code below to enrol now!



**wdea works** TRAINING  (03) 5564 7401 [wdeaworks.org.au/training/first-aid](http://wdeaworks.org.au/training/first-aid)