

Issue No 15

21 October 2020

Smithton Primary School

RESPECT * ENCOURAGE * ASPIRE * LEARN



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION learners first

Prep/1 Ryan

In Prep/One Ryan we have been given an amazing opportunity to help Mr Marthick in the school garden. We have planted potatoes, radishes and broad beans. This began many discussions in our classroom as we wonder how do potatoes grow?









During inquiry time we have planted potatoes in glass jars and water.

We wondered why one of our potatoes grew really well with many roots and the water of another turned green and was a bit smelly. Hollie wondered if the reason was because there was more room around the potato in the jar on the right more air could circulate, allowing the roots to grow!



Although it now seems like the last lot of school holidays was months ago, I wish to say to everyone a huge "welcome back." We have hit the ground running in Term 4 with plenty of things already happening in what is known as the busiest term of the year (Term 4). This week we have already seen a fantastic start to Early Childhood Swimming, with all students participating so that they can learn this vital skill of swimming.

Next Tuesday (October 27th) at 9am, we are having our annual **Book Parade** and we encourage all students to come dressed up as a character out of a book. This is a great way, as a whole school community, to celebrate reading, authors, illustrators and books in general.

Next week our Upper Primary classes will be undertaking Marine & Safety Training which is another amazing opportunity for our students to learn something vital, particularly living in Circular Head where we are surrounded by beaches.

This Thursday (22nd) we have a **Parents & Friends** Meeting at 7pm in the Staff Room at school. Please know that this group is an open group, that all are welcome and that they are always keen to see new people who want to get involved in Smithton Primary School.

Next Friday (30th of October) is a **student free day** which will allow teachers in all of the cluster schools the opportunity to come together at Smithton High School to meet and focus on becoming more consistent in the way we teach across our schools.

We have noticed a few things creeping in to our school over the past week or so that we are also wish to address starting next week in regards to **uniform**. The things that we are particularly focusing on at school starting next week are:

- We want to stop the wearing of non-school colours (t—shirts and long sleeves) underneath their school uniform. These either need to be green, white or black.
- We want to stop the wearing of non-school colour tights and long socks as well as black tights that have colourful (or white) writing over them.
- We want all students who are outside to be wearing a school hat.

I thought I might get through a newsletter without mentioning COVID19, but not yet! I just wanted to remind everyone that we still have restrictions and guidelines that we need to follow as a school. These will have an impact on the way we do end of year activities and assemblies. For instance, at our end of year assembly, there is a restriction on the number of people who can attend and hence we have decided, like other schools, to split our assembly into two with an Early Childhood Assembly and an Upper Primary Assembly ran on the same day with a gap in between. More details will come out soon in a letter about these assemblies and also about how COVID19 will impact other end of year activities.

Finally, I wish to make a staffing announcement for 2021.



Mrs Libby Grey will be transferring to Redpa Primary School in 2021. After 17 years here at SPS, it is fair to say the Libby has been a key member of the SPS staff in such a variety of roles over that period of time. She has travelled the road from Redpa to Smithton countless times over this period and her dedication, loyalty, work ethic, team approach, positive attitude and dedication to educating children has been outstanding. Libby will be massively missed from this SPS TEAM and we wish her all the best as she mentally, emotionally and physically prepares herself to leave Smithton Primary School

and commence her role in 2021 at Redpa Primary School. We wish Libby all the best over the next 6 months especially with this transfer occurring.

In other staffing news, Mrs Melissa Coombe (from Redpa PS) will be transferring to us in 2021. Melissa is currently pregnant and will be taking Maternity Leave in 2021, but I wanted everyone to know that this is occurring officially and that regardless of the leave, she is still an important member of our TEAM. Melissa has many years of experience working in various roles in Early Childhood in Circular Head and her passion, local knowledge and team approach will be an asset to SPS and will also allow her to fit right in with the culture that we are all working together to develop in this place. So welcome to the team in 2021 Melissa.



Thanks everyone for contributing to making Term 4 start so well, let's continue to work together as a TEAM to finish off a fantastic 2020 year.

Thank you!
Mr Josh Smith
Principal

We have new calves at the school and they will be with us for Term 4. Students will get a chance to visit them and even feed them milk at some stage in the year. The calf with a white head is a boy and the calf that is dark brown is a girl. They should have names very soon!!





Smithton Primary School Association

ELECTION

The Smithton Primary School Association has the following vacancies:

2 Parent Representatives 2 Staff Representatives

Nominations close Friday 13th November 2020

Nomination forms and further information please contact the school office.

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Association will be held on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 5:00pm at Smithton Primary School

Returning Officer:

Meredith Gracie PO Box 262, Smithton TAS 7330

Email: smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au

The fence is down and everyone is loving the oval!

While it is dry, you are allowed on there!





SCHOOL IS COOL every day counts

Book Week Dress-Up Parade

Tuesday 27th October at 9am

CURIOUS CREATURES, WILD MINDS

Come dressed as your favourite book character or wear a hat



Prep Grey in the pool

Everyone has really enjoyed their time learning new skills in the pool, a big thank you to the Swim Instructors.





As it is Term 4, every student needs to wear a school hat. Not just any old hat, it needs to be a school one (the one on Mr Smith's head there)!

Students who do not have a hat will be asked to sit in our undercover areas.





Dates To Remember	
OCTOBER	
Every Monday	Mother Goose online
Every Tuesday	Pre-Kinder- for children turning five in 2021, 9:00am to 10:30am Student Banking Day
Every Thursday	Pre-Kinder - for children turning five in 2021
Every Friday	Launchpad
Monday 19th to Friday 23rd	Early Childhood Swimming, Kinder to Grade 2
Thursday 22nd	Parents & Friends meeting - 7pm
Tuesday 27th	Book Parade -9:00am in the Assembly Hall
Friday 30th	Student Free Day
NOVEMBER	
Every Monday	Mother Goose online - Last session is on the 30th November
Every Tuesday	Pre-Kinder- for children turning five in 2021, 9:00am to 10:30am Student Banking Day
Every Thursday	Pre-Kinder - for children turning five in 2021
Every Friday	Launchpad
Monday 2nd	Public Holiday
Monday 9th	Lil Fi performance for Mother Goose -9.15am in the Assembly Hall
Wednesday 18th	School Association AGM - 5pm in the staffroom
DECEMBER	
Tuesday 1st Last Tuesday session for the year	Pre-Kinder- for children turning five in 2021, 9:00am to 10:30am Student Banking Day
Thursday 3rd Last Thursday session for the year	Pre-Kinder - for children turning five in 2021
Friday 4th	Launch into Learning Celebration
Monday 30th November To Friday 11th December	Learn to Swim -Years 3 to 6
Tuesday 15th	End of Year Assembly - Details to be advised
Thursday 17th	Last day for students

Parents and Friends

The P&F have had some very productive meetings of late. I would encourage anyone who is interested in being involved to come along to our next meeting at 7pm on the 22nd of October.

Another way you can support the P&F is to purchase a ticket in our Thermomix raffle. Tickets can be purchased from the school office (correct cash only), contact any member of the P&F or Facebook message Rhiannon Powell who can arrange for a contactless purchase of the ticket.







CONTACT DETAILS

27-43 Grant Street, Smithton, Tasmania 7330

Phone 03 6452 1955

Email _smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au

Web smithtonprimary.education.tas.edu.au