



Issue No 18

1st December 2021

# Smithton Primary School

RESPECT ❖ ENCOURAGE ❖ ASPIRE ❖ LEARN

DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION  
*learners first*



## What's happening in 1/2 J?

We were lucky enough to have a special guest visit our Science lesson in Week 5. Kristy is a science communicator and film maker (a young version of David Attenborough). She spoke with the students about how important it is to look after our marine life and environment.

The students asked a variety of questions about what she does.

What a wonderful experience having Kristy in our class! We wish her all the very best for her future in film making and science endeavours. Kirsty is the first Australian to be accepted into a specialised film school in the UK.





As I write today's date, I simply cannot believe that it is the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. But that is exactly what it is. How fast has this year gone? But it's not over yet!

### Prep/I Grey Excursion

Last Friday, Prep/I Grey headed out to Grumpy Goat Farm to visit the animals out there. This was an exciting opportunity for the students to come up close to a variety of animals including goats, pigs, rats and guinea pigs. For some students this was a great challenge for them to be outside of their comfort zone and for others this was a very calming experience.

### Work Experience Students

Over Term 4 we have had three Work Experience students at our school and we wish to thank Miah (CHCS), Jamahlea (SHS) and Lachlan (SHS) for coming to Smithton Primary for a week. All three of you were very capable, friendly and helpful.

### Reporting

As you would be aware, staff have been busy writing reports which will be made available and sent home for parents/carers on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of December. For many students this will be a real celebration of the learning that has occurred. For others, there may be some pieces of feedback that can be applied in 2022 to help improve the learning outcomes. At the same time, you will receive confirmation of the class teacher that your child will have for the following year. On Monday 13<sup>th</sup>, students will have an opportunity to do a small transition/orientation into their 2022 classroom where they will see the room and the other students who are in their classroom for 2022. As I always say, please come and see myself if you have any questions or suggestions about this process

### Staffing announcements for 2022

I am pleased to announce that we will have the following teaching staff returning in 2022:

Mrs Gausden, Mrs Goodwin, Mrs Grey, Miss Hine, Miss Irvine, Ms Johnston, Miss Latimer, Miss Nichols (coming back for three days per week in 2022), Miss Ryan and Mr Tuxworth. Also returning are Michelle Ewington - Advanced Skills Teacher and Mr Smith - Principal



### We welcome new staff to the school:

5/6 – Mr Joseph Carlon (coming from the mainland, Mr Carlon has approximately 10 years working in the Upper Primary area in his previous schools)

Launching into Learning / Pre-Kinder – Mrs Melissa Coombe (has come to us from Redpa and CHCS with close to 10 years of experience in Early Childhood)

Literacy and Numeracy Quality Teaching Coach – Mrs Despina King (Mrs King has a wealth of experience working at SHS, CHCS and prior to that in South Africa)

### And say goodbye:

We wish Mr Walter, Miss Jordan and Miss Koehler all the best in their pursuits for 2022 and thank them for their contribution to our school. You will be missed.

WE WILL MISS YOU





As always, we aim to be professional and transparent with our communication to our school community and as such, if you have any questions or matters to discuss, please make a time to see myself about this. As we head into the last couple of weeks of the year, I hope everyone has a positive time and does not become too overwhelmed with the busy nature that this time of the year brings. Remember to be kind to yourself.

Thanks,

*Josh Smith*

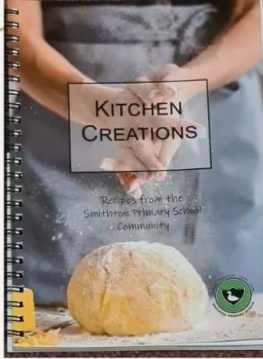
Principal

Thank You!  
THANK YOU!



A big thank you to the P&F for all their hard work this year fund-raising for our school.

The Twilight Market was a huge success and the cookbooks are amazing!! You can still get a copy from the businesses below. They will make great Christmas presents!!



**Now available to purchase**  
You can purchase from:

The school office  
Providore 24 Stanley  
Detention River Roadhouse  
Jenskis Restaurant & Cafe  
Blue Hills Honey  
Treena's Garden Supplies

**\$25**

## **2021 CHRISTMAS PARADE** THE GRINCH!!

You are invited to join us as part of the Smithton Primary Parade entry.

All students, parents and staff are welcome to join the Christmas parade as part of the walking group...

- Students need to be in FULL school uniform with a Santa hat!
- Parents in neat casual clothing with a Santa hat!

We will assemble at Gibson Street (near Jules Takeaway) at 6:45pm on Friday 10th of December.

Students need to be collected by parents from Gibson Street at the conclusion of the parade.

We hope to see as many students and parents as possible to walk the parade.

**Merry Christmas!**





# 2/3 Goodwin



In 2/3 Goodwin we are privileged to have Story Dog, Pokey and Tracy Brooks come to school every Tuesday to listen to our students read. This is a valuable time for students that struggle to engage with reading. Pokey listens to them read without judgement or correction and helps them develop a love of reading. As a class we thought it was important to highlight and raise some money to support this amazing initiative so that other schools can benefit. Thanks to Mrs Best, Mrs Jaeger and Shannon we cooked and iced 133 cupcakes to sell at the SPS Market last Friday. I am proud to say that we raised \$254.20 to help support Story Dogs.





# Kinder Bilby Buddies

On Wednesday 24th November with the support of our big buddies 5/6 Jordan, Kinder Bilby celebrated their 100 Days of learning! We celebrated by reflecting on our learning so far, making '100' glasses and wrist bands, and by doing lots of counting.



## Department of Education Student Assistance Scheme (STAS) 2022

The Student Assistance Scheme (STAS) provides financial assistance to eligible families. All families holding a current Centrelink Health Care Card, Centrelink Low Income Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card are eligible for Student Assistance. The broadening of the scheme means that more Tasmanian families are eligible for assistance with school levies.

Those parents who currently receive STAS will not need to provide any additional information and will not need to reapply.

For those new parents who feel they may be eligible please contact Meredith at the office.



# Post Office Excursion

On Wednesday November 3, Kinder Bilby and Kinder Koala went on an excursion to the Smithton Post Office. We departed by bus at 9:30 and got dropped off across the road. We walked together to the lights and crossed safely. Once we arrived at the post office we were greeted by Gina. Gina welcomed us and showed us the letter box.

Next, we sent off the post cards we had prepared at school. We wrote post cards to friends and family, drew pictures, and wrote their addresses. Each child stepped up and posted their card through the slot before we went on our tour. We also posted our letters to Mr Smith.

Gina took us around the back of the shop and into the sorting centre. We saw a truck being loaded with parcels and then we walked through the centre. We saw how they sort letters and parcels, where contractors pick up parcels for people who live out of town, where the post boxes are, and the containers where they put the mail for people in the smaller towns around Smithton. At the end we saw the motorbike that the postie uses for delivering letters around town.

After learning about how Australia Post works, we walked over to the West Esplanade park for a play. After a play we got picked up by the bus and headed back to school. While on our excursion we showed that we are connected with and contribute to the world and that we are confident and involved learners. We also learnt about how to be effective communicators by sending post cards and letters.



# Dates To Remember

## DECEMBER

<b>Thursday 2nd</b> - 9:00am to 10:30am <i>Last day for the year today</i>	Pre-Kinder - for children starting Kinder in 2022
<b>Friday 3rd</b> - 9:00am to 10:30am <i>Last day for the year today</i>	Launchpad – Birth to 5 years
<b>Thursday 2nd to Friday 3rd</b>	Year 6 Trip
<b>Wednesday 8th</b>	Kinder Celebration of Learning Last student banking day
<b>Tuesday 14th</b> - 10:00am start	Whole School Assembly in the SPS Gym
<b>Wednesday 15th</b>	Picnic to Marrawah (Kinder to Year 5) Year 6 Day Trip
<b>Thursday 16th</b>	Students Last Day

## TERM 1 - 2022

## FEBRUARY

<b>Wednesday 9th</b>	First day back for students
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## Smithton Primary School Association ELECTION

The Smithton Primary School Association has the following vacancies:

**3 Parent Representatives**  
**1 Staff Representative**

Nominations close **TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

Nomination forms and further information please contact the school office.

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Association will be held on **Wednesday 8<sup>TH</sup> December 2021 at 5:00pm** at Smithton Primary School

Returning Officer:

Meredith Gracie  
PO Box 262, Smithton TAS 7330  
Ph: 64521955  
Email: meredith.gracie@education.tas.gov.au



## DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS

As the end of the year is getting closer could you please check if your child has any library books at home and return them to the school library.

*Thank you*





**Christmas is at our place this year!**


**Sunday 19 December from 6 pm to 8:30 pm**  
**at Dreambuilders Church, 31 Brittons Road**

An evening of free fun and games, food and entertainment.  
 Christmas Carols live from 7 pm.

This is an outdoor event - dress warm and byo chair + blanket.  
 Numbers may be limited so come early to avoid disappointment.  
 A smoke free + alcohol free community event hosted by  
 Dreambuilders Church Smithton.



 dreambuilders




# CAROLS AT HIGHFIELD

COVID RESTRICTIONS APPLY  
 Pre carols entertainment | Coffee van on site  
 BYO picnics, chairs and rugs  
 Bad weather plan - Stanley Town Hall (restricted numbers)

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 5 | GATES OPEN 6.30PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
 ANNETTE ON 0448442744



INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

## Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



**Serving Regional Australia**

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

**SMITHTON**

Nelson Street car park, Nelson Street

Tuesday, 14 December 2021 9 am to 4 pm

Wednesday, 15 December 2021 9 am to 4 pm

For more information, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice)



  **Services Australia**

[servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice)

## School Banking is closing

Sadly, the CommBank School Banking program will not be returning to schools in 2022.

**Smithton Primary's last banking day will be**  
**Wednesday 8th December.**

You can continue to make deposits into your child's Youthsaver Account through online transfer or at any CommBank branch.

If you need further information regarding your child's bank account, please phone 132 221, or visit your local CommBank Branch.

## CONTACT DETAILS

27-43 Grant Street, Smithton, Tasmania 7330

Phone: 03 6452 1955

Email: [smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au)

Web: [smithtonprimary.education.tas.edu.au](https://smithtonprimary.education.tas.edu.au)

