



# Smithton Primary School

RESPECT ❖ ENCOURAGE ❖ ASPIRE ❖ LEARN

Issue 19 – 20th December 2023



*Year 6*  
*2023*



Dear families,

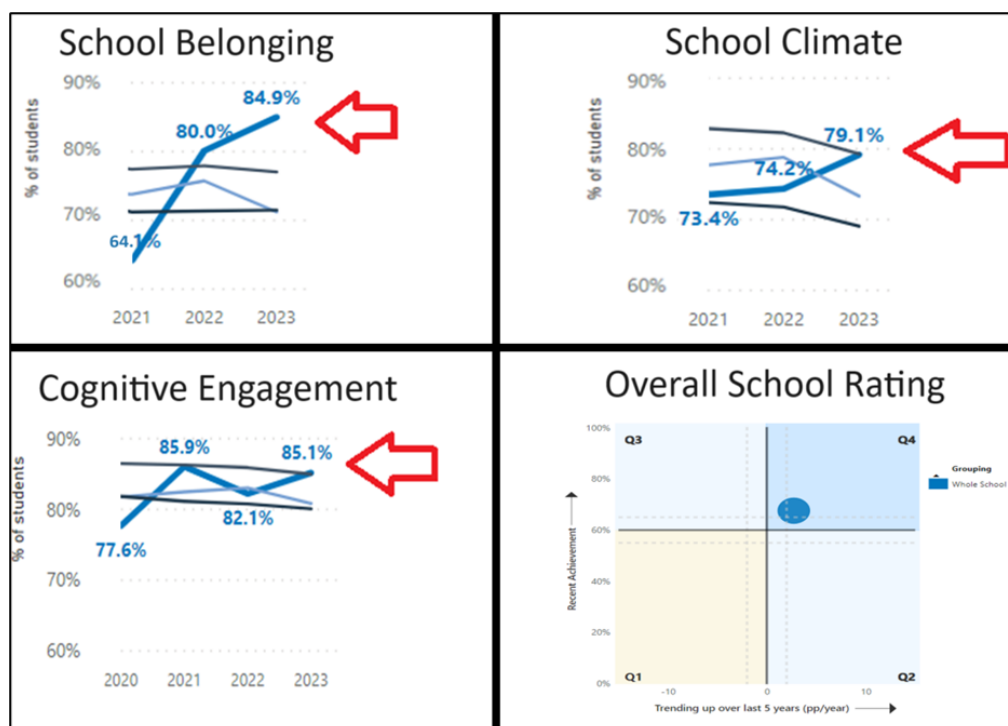
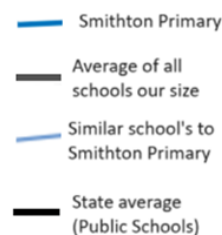
What a year it has been! So much growth in so many areas of the school for 2023. We have seen huge growth in our enrolment numbers as well as in our academic data, our parent satisfaction survey, our staff satisfaction survey and also in our student wellbeing and engagement survey. As Principal of the school, I am super excited to see this growth and I acknowledge that this is the work of the whole team. What I mean by team, is that is everyone. Remember my corny little acronym (TEAM – Together Everyone Achieves More), well we have proven that it is true. Families, staff and students have all worked together to see improvements. I want to now show you some data to highlight some things. Below are four graphs and I want to explain them.

**School Belonging** (Feeling positively connected to the school) has increased significantly and we are well above other schools.

**School Climate** (the overall tone of the school) has also increased and we are now caught up to the average for schools our size where only two years ago we were well behind.

**Cognitive Engagement** (persistence of students in the classroom) has also risen.


**Overall School Rating** (averaging all of our school data) shows that we are in Q4 which means we have had recent achievement and that is on a 5-year trend. Our school has been in Q1 for many years and so it is great to see that we are now out of that area and in the area that all schools strive to be in.



From my point of view, whilst this data is fantastic, we cannot slow down. We need to continue to improve, because the focus is always on the students and their learning. It is all about them. And what we know about our students is that they are real people with real lives to live... they are not just numbers on a page. They are amazing and so much potential. Our job is to continue to improve as a school so that these students get the best possible chance of living the best life they can have. And while sometimes it might seem that we focus only on academic achievement, it is really important that families know that we focus on making our students better all-round people by instilling in them qualities of respect, courage, responsibility, being a good friend, helping others and so many other things.

I really do hope you have had a great year and I wish you a merry Christmas. I hope you get the chance to spend your Christmas time with loved ones and I look forward to coming back in 2024 to work with you and your family.

Thanks,

 **Josh Smith**  
Principal



Wishing our families and school community a safe and relaxing Christmas holiday break

From the staff at Smithton Primary School





## SEA FM School of the Year!!

Thank you again to everyone who voted for us. The books we purchased with our prize money has arrived and the kids have been so excited to read them!!





# AWARD WINNERS

## Year 6 Awards

Award	Recipient
Minister for Education – Respectful Student Award	Holly Marthick
Smithton Primary “Be Real” Award – Demonstrating School Values	Olivia Moll
Smithton Primary “Be Real” Award – Demonstrating School Values	Mason Poke
Braddon Liberal Team – (Peer Nominated)	Westen Whiteman
Anita Dow Award – (Peer Nominated)	Olivia Moll
Ruth Forrest MLC – Commitment to Learning	Westen Whiteman
Anne Urquhart – “Growth Award”	Milly Grainger
Shane Broad – Science Award	Ethan Bailey
Gavin Pearce – Leadership Award	Lucas Furphy
Bergman Family Award	Zoe Moll
Merle Reid “Wise Owl” Reading Award	Elizabeth Evenhuis
Adopt-A-Cop Award	Mattea Brooks
Smithton Club Bursary	Indee Billett
Smithton High School Bursary	Brock Saunders
SPS Parents & Friends Bursary	Jhett House
SPS ‘Growth’ Award	Dominic Popowski
SPS Music Award - aptitude and excellence	Westen Whiteman
SPS Music Award - dedication and achievement	Olivia Moll

## Class Awards for students following our school values of

*Respect ♦ Encourage ♦ Aspire ♦ Learn*

Class	Recipient
Kinder Bilby	Rose Pyke
Kinder Bilby	Brax Nicholls
Kinder Koala	Frankie Coates
Kinder Koala	Ned Hall
Prep Ryan	Maci Thomas
Prep Ryan	Jack Randall
1-2 Goodwin	Ava Jacobs
1-2 Goodwin	Corbin Rennison
1-2 Jackson	Mila Jaeger
1-2 Jackson	Charlie Coates
1-2 Irvine	Layla McCormack
1-2 Irvine	Bailey Smith

Class	Recipient
3-4 Gausden	Frankie Nicholls
3-4 Gausden	Carter Blake
3-4 Johnston	Caitlyn Hume
3-4 Johnston	Kaiden Williams
3-4 Underwood	Xanthia Blake
3-4 Underwood	Jack Bradbury
5-6 Nichols	Natalia Rutter
5-6 Nichols	Cash Randall
5-6 Jordan/Ryan	Ashton Evans
5-6 Jordan/Ryan	Riley Blake
5-6 Squire	Myah Ollington
5-6 Squire	Lincoln Whiteman

Congratulations to everyone on a successful year!!



LET'S  
CELEBRATE  
YOU

# Kindergarten graduation

YOUR  
SPECIAL  
DAY



Last week in Kinder we had two very special Kinder Graduations, celebrating the wonderful year each student has had and how much they have grown over the year. We sang a beautiful song about our first year at school. Students were presented with a graduation certificate and had photos taken with their families. It was amazing to have so many families attended the graduation. What a fantastic way to finish off our school year.





LET'S  
CELEBRATE  
YOU

# kindergarten graduation

YOUR  
\* SPECIAL \*  
DAY





# End of Year Assembly





# End of Year Assembly





# Christmas

## PARADE





# Dates To Remember

## December

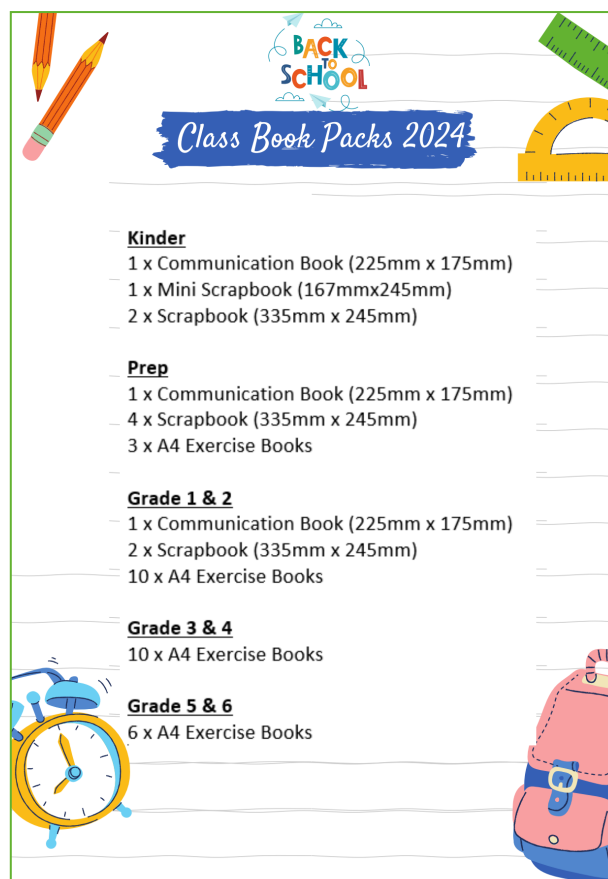
Thursday 21st	Last Day for Students

## January 2024

Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th	Kinder Levy payment, uniform sales and book pack collection
Tuesday 30th	Prep - Year 6: Levy payment, uniform sales and book pack collection

## February 2024

Thursday 8th	First day back for students
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## 2024 School Term Dates

Term 1	Thursday 8th February to Friday 12th April
Term 2	Monday 29th April to Friday 5th July
Term 3	Monday 22nd July to Friday 27th September
Term 4	Monday 14th October to Thursday 19th December

## Student Free Days

Friday 7th June
Friday 1st November

## CONTACT DETAILS

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 Phone 03 6452 1955  
 Email [smithton.primary@decyp.tas.gov.au](mailto:smithton.primary@decyp.tas.gov.au)  
 Web [www.decyp.tas.gov.au](http://www.decyp.tas.gov.au)





# School Holiday Fun!!



Come along for some kids movie fun!

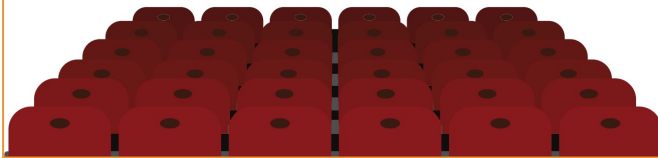
Stanley Town Hall

**Tuesday 6 February**

**1.30pm**

\$10 entry (includes movie and a choc top)

Follow our Facebook page for more details and other events  
<https://www.facebook.com/StanleyTownHall>



## Smithton Library



### Rock your World with Creativity!



**Monday 8 January**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Ages 4+

With a simple rock as your canvas, the possibilities are limitless. Kids can paint animals, flowers, inspirational quotes, or anything their imagination desires.

### Origami Boats for Kids - Sail into Creativity



**Thursday 11 January**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Ages 8+

Origami fosters creativity, patience, and fine motor skills, all while providing a sense of accomplishment. After crafting their boats, kids can embark on imaginative journeys across the water.

### 3D Garden Collage and Seed Paper



**Monday 15 January**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Ages 4+

Garden collage art is a fantastic and creative activity for kids to create unique and personalized artwork. Seed paper making is not only an excellent eco-conscious choice but also a fantastic creative outlet.

12 North West School Holiday Program - 2023-24 Summer

## Smithton Library



### Sunhats for Summer



**Thursday 18 January**

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Ages 2-5

The session starts with a story then embark on a journey to craft your very own stylish hats using colorful paper and other simple materials.

### Rice Map Adventure's



**Monday 22 January**

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Ages 8+

Rice map craft is not only a creative way for kids to learn about geography but also a visually appealing project that can be displayed proudly.

### Sunshine and Stories Celebration



**Wednesday 24 January**

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

All Ages

The library is a place where generations come together. In addition to the enchanting world of stories, we're proud to partner with various community services and activities to make this event truly special.

Don't miss this opportunity to get to know your library better and to explore the wonderful world of books, technology, and culture it has to offer. Everyone is welcome, so bring your family and friends!

North West School Holiday Program - 2023-24 Summer 13

**Design a Library Card Competition**  
**"Dreaming of Summer"**

Feeling creative?

If you are aged 4-18, then your design could be on library cards across Lutruwita/Tasmania in 2024.

**Start designing and enter now!**

Scan the QR code for more details.  
[libraries.tas.gov.au/schoolholidays](https://libraries.tas.gov.au/schoolholidays)

# Asthma Ready for School



Summer holidays are an important time for kids with asthma

During all the festivities, please don't forget to keep up your child's asthma management and continue to use their asthma medication as prescribed. Good asthma management over the holidays means less time off school when kids return in the new year, and less time off work for you.

To make sure your child stays as healthy as possible over the break and into 2024, you can take the following steps:

- Check your child's medication to make sure they're still in date.
- Keep using your child's preventer medication as directed over the summer holidays, even if they're feeling well.
- If you're leaving the house or going on holiday, make sure you pack your child's asthma medication(s) and a spacer.
- Book an Asthma Review with your doctor to get an updated written Asthma Action Plan during the holidays- you'll need this for Term 1 2023. Book in early as doctors can have limited appointments over the Christmas period.
- Use Asthma Australia's School's Checklist for parents and carers: [https://asthma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/AA\\_BTS2022\\_Asthma-Checklist\\_digital.pdf](https://asthma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/AA_BTS2022_Asthma-Checklist_digital.pdf)

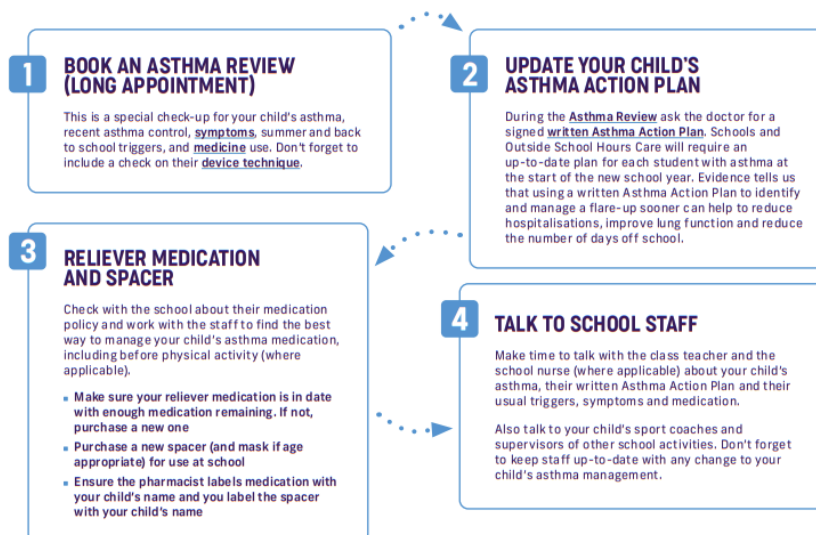
## For the start of school please arrange:

- ⇒ An updated written Asthma Action Plan from your child's doctor
- ⇒ A named spacer and reliever puffer
- ⇒ A planned talk with your child's teacher and school administrators about their asthma

## BACK TO SCHOOL... IS YOUR CHILD ASTHMA READY?

Every year there is a rise in asthma flare-ups when children return to school after the summer holidays. This results in an increase in Emergency Department visits, hospitalisations and days off school.

### MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS ASTHMA READY BY FOLLOWING THESE STEPS:



Any changes to asthma management throughout the school year, requires an updated written Asthma Action Plan to be completed by your doctor and provided to the school.

#### If a child -

- has symptoms during the day more than 2 days per week
  - has to stop activities such as playing or exercise because they get asthma symptoms
  - wakes up with asthma during the night or early morning
  - needs reliever more than 2 days per week (not including prior to exercise)
- then take your child to their doctor as this indicates signs of worsening asthma.

For more information call **1800 ASTHMA** (1800 278 462) to speak with an Asthma Educator or visit [asthma.org.au/back-to-school](https://asthma.org.au/back-to-school)

