



Smithton Primary School

RESPECT ❖ ENCOURAGE ❖ ASPIRE ❖ LEARN

Issue 1 - 14th February 2024



To the families of Smithton Primary,

What a great start back we've had at SPS in 2024. I hope that everyone has had a really good break. We could tell on the first day back last Thursday that students were keen to get back into routine, see their friends and get on with learning. It's fair to say by the looks on parents faces, that they were just as (if not more) keen to get back into school routine again. We have had a couple of new teachers come to our school over the break and I give them a warm welcome. Firstly to Miss Tracey Fletcher who will be working full time on one of our three 5/6 classes. Secondly to Miss Danielle Wilson who will be working full time on one of our three 3/4 classes.

We have five new students also in our school who enrolled over the summer break (not including our kinder students). So we welcome the following:

1/2 Goodwin - Ariana
2 Coombe/Charles – Alexander
3/4 Gausden – Dean
3/4 Gausden – Dyson
3/4 Wilson – Levi



We also have some events to look forward to this term that I wish to highlight:

20th Feb – Year 3-6 Athletics Carnival

After last year's feedback, we have decided to split our Athletics Carnivals into two days. Upper Primary (3-6) on next Tuesday and Early Childhood (K-2) later on in the term. The reason for the split is mostly so that our youngest students can be involved in more races and also the 3-6 carnival needs to happen asap in the year so students can be selected to represent the school at the Circular Head Athletics Carnival on the 26th of Feb. This year the Upper Primary carnival will be held at the Little Athletics track from 9:30am – 2pm. More information will be released to allow families to come along on the day to cheer on their children.

22nd Feb - Welcome Back BBQ

We will be having a Welcome Back BBQ for our school family on the 22nd of Feb from 5pm – 7pm. This will also be the "grand opening" of our new playground. We're hoping for good weather, but if not, we will have an alternative arrangement. For families from K-2 there will be an opportunity for you to come earlier to attend an information session about our decodable readers and approach to reading. I strongly recommend you do this as this will give you the keys to supporting your child to improve in their reading.

26th Feb – Circular Head Athletics Carnival

For those who are selected, students in Years 3-6 will be competing against students from the four other schools in our cluster (Forest, Stanley, Edith Creek and Redpa). Students who are successful at this event will then be selected to represent the whole of the cluster at the North West Primary Schools Athletics Carnival held in Penguin. Parents and family members are welcome to come along and enjoy the day; this will also be held at the Little Athletics track.

6th March – 3/4 NW Athletics held in Penguin.

7th March – 5/6 NW Athletics held in Penguin.

29th March – 2nd April Easter Break

I just wanted to highlight that this happens in an odd place in the term so that when we come back to school on the 3rd of April, we really only have 8 days of school left before we have our Term 1 school holiday.

Assembly

We will release the date of our first Assembly in the next Newsletter. Our Assemblies are a fantastic way for our families to come together to celebrate learning that has been happening in class and throughout the school. You are always welcome to our Assemblies. And on that note, I want all of our families to know that your input is valuable to us. We know that you know your children so well and any piece of input or feedback is always valued. If you want to make a time to meet with any of our teachers or myself, please make contact with the office and we can arrange that.

As always, I want to say thank you for choosing Smithton Primary School for your child's education. After a very successful 2023, our staff are very motivated to continue to build on that and push forwards, especially in the area of Literacy and Numeracy learning. I feel very privileged to be in the position of leading this school and I continue to thank you all for the ongoing support you continue to show me. Let's work together to make 2024 a fantastic year.

Thanks,



Josh Smith
Principal



Welcome back! Let's make every day count.

Here we go, another exciting school year ahead! We hope you enjoyed your holidays.

By showing up to school every day, your child will have the best opportunity at a bright future. It gives them every chance to be around friends, learn new things, and find interests.

Good attendance habits can sometimes be hard to stick. But creating a solid routine, from the start of Term 1, can set your child up for success for the year ahead.

If you're looking for tips on how to create better attendance habits, visit the [Anything can happen website](#).

Please always talk to us if you're having trouble getting your child to school. We're here to help.

Ask for help if you need it

There is so much strength in admitting you need help. If your child is completely disengaged with school, and not attending at all, your school can help – reach out.

HELP

Want to learn more?

Visit www.anything.tas.gov.au

DECYP



ALL VOLUNTEERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS on DECYP Sites

Safeguarding Training

All volunteers and external service providers must complete a 15 minute Safeguarding Training Module before working with any children or young people this year. Volunteers and service providers can access the new Safeguarding Training Module at <https://decyp-safeguarding.mygo1.com/signup/email>

When you sign in at the office for your first visit to Smithton Primary or an on-line session with our students you will be asked to show that you have completed the Mandatory Reporting Training, this can be a photo of the completion certificate on your phone. You will only have to show this once each year as we will keep a register at the office.

Working with Vulnerable People Card

With RWVP's it is now a requirement by DECYP that RWVP registration status is checked

EVERYTIME you visit the school, so please ensure you have your card on you for presentation at the office.

Thank you for your understanding as we all work together to keep our students safe.

Please contact the school office if you require any additional information.

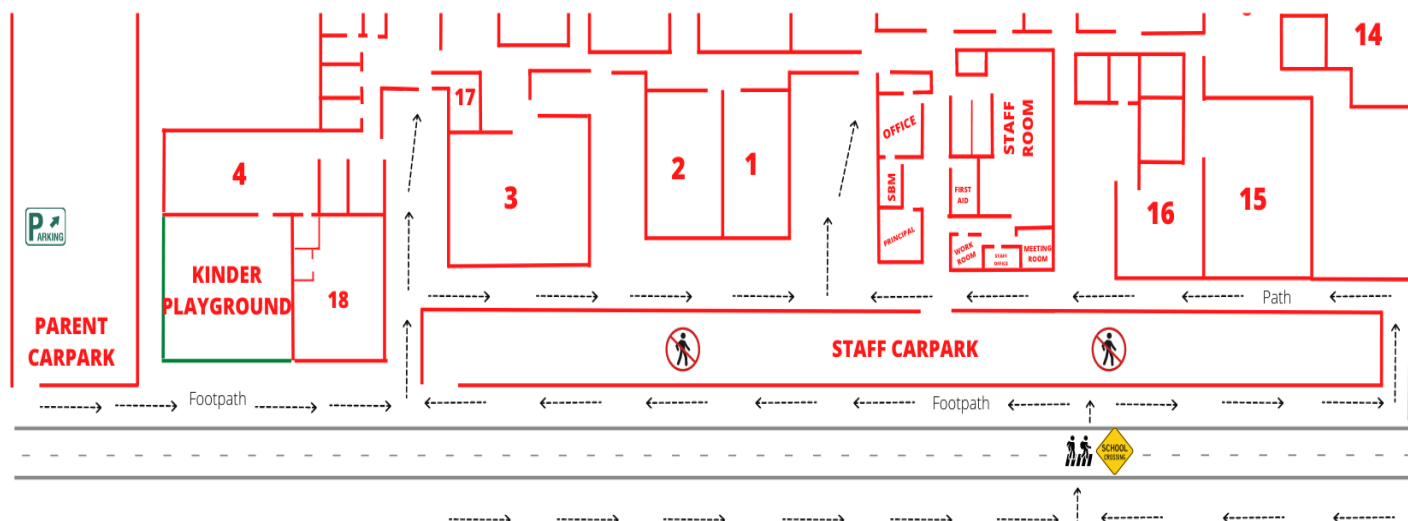


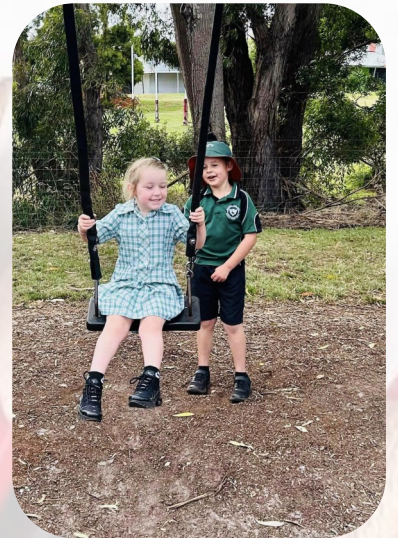
Student drop off and pick up Keeping everyone safe!!

Parents please use the Parent Carpark to drop off and collect students before and after school. Please **do not** use the Staff Carpark.

We also require students and parents to enter the school following the arrows in the diagram below. Students and parents are **not to** walk through the staff carpark area.

When we all practice proper school parking safety, it makes it easier to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your co-operation.







School Crossing



Children and adults accompanying children must use the school crossing when coming to and from school. As Grant Street is busy with cars and buses at drop off and pick up times it is important adults' model road safety to ensure children are safe.

TIPS:



Road safety is a shared responsibility. Keep children safe by following the road rules, particularly in school environments.

HATS ON FOR TERM 1

We are a SUNSMART school which means No Hats No Play during Term 1 and 4. Students are required to wear hats whenever they are outside. Sun hats are to be worn during recess, lunch and other outdoor activities. Students may still wear their beanies to and from school.

Replacement hats are available at the office for \$12

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club is available to families who wish to participate.

There is one catalogue offering the best in age-appropriate reading choices (3+, 6+, 8+, 10+ and 12+).

Please return the form if you would like to participate in Book Club.

Forms are sent home with the eldest in the family.



PARTICIPATION IN BOOK CLUB 2024

Name: _____

Class: _____ (eldest in family)

Reminder to Parents - Students with Asthma

Parents/Guardians of students who are diagnosed with any form of Asthma are required to provide an updated Asthma Action Plan at the start of every year.

Student Medications

If a student requires medication whilst at school, please discuss with your child's teacher and school administration staff to ensure that school staff are clearly advised on how to administer the medication.

Written permission (Education Department Medication Form) must be provided for any non-prescribed (e.g. Panadol) or prescribed medication to be taken by your child. Medication must be given to the school in its original packaging. The form for prescribed medication must be signed by the doctor or chemist who administers the prescription.

Education Department Medication Forms are available at the school office.

Student Absences

If your child is away from school for any reason it is important that you contact the school to provide a reason. Information is recorded electronically by the Department for Education to monitor absences. Parents may be required to provide a medical certificate for students who are absent with illnesses for 5 or more days in a calendar year.

- Ring the school office on 6452 1955 on the day your child is away
- Reply to absence text
- Send a written note to the school office
- Email the school on smithton.primary@decyp.tas.gov.au on the day your child is away

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

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

Drink Bottles

Please remember to bring a drink bottle to school

Kids Need Water

Water is essential to life and kids need plenty of water in order to feel good, focus, concentrate and think. Water will also give your children the necessary energy and brainpower to help them learn easier and better.



Community Connections health and wellbeing roadshow

What activities make you feel good?
Have you had a check-up lately? Do you eat well?
Would you like to try a new sport/ join a club?

Come and chat to us about what's available or what you would like to see in your community

FREE health checks, meals & kids activities available on the night

5.30pm to 7.30pm on the following dates:

February

28th - Marrawah Inn, Marrawah

March

4th - Edith Creek Primary School

6th - Smithton, Circular Head Community and Rec Centre

12th - Irishtown Community Centre

15th - Forest, Blackberry Inn

18th - Mawbanna Hall

20th - Rocky Cape Hall

25th - Stanley Recreation Ground

**\$100
voucher to be
won at each
location**

Can't make it? Do our online survey or contact Jodie
jsaville@circularhead.tas.gov.au / 64524803



This project was funded by the Healthy Tasmania Fund through the Tasmanian Government

Dates To Remember - 2024

February

Friday 23rd - 9:00am to 10:30am	Launching into Learning - Launchpad with Jayde Grey (<i>Birth - 5 Years</i>)
Tuesday 20th - 9:30am to 2pm	Years 3 to 6 SPS Athletics Carnival - Little Athletics Ground
Thursday 22nd - 5pm to 7pm	Welcome back BBQ
Monday 26th February	CHSSSA Athletics Carnival

March

Every Friday - 9:00am to 10:30am	Launching into Learning - Launchpad with Jayde Grey (<i>Birth - 5 Years</i>)
Wednesday 6th	NWPSSA Carnival - Year 3/4
Thursday 7th	NWPSSA Carnival - Year 5/6
Monday 11th	Public Holiday - <i>Eight Hours Day</i>
Friday 29th March to Tuesday 2nd April	Easter Public Holidays

April

Wednesday 3rd	Students back to school after Easter Break
Friday 12th	Last day of Term 1 for students
Thursday 25th	Public Holiday - ANZAC Day
Monday 29th	Start of Term 2 for students

EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...



When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year

Share your world
Become a Foster Carer

Tassie Kids Need Foster Carers

Foster carers are ordinary, everyday people, just like you. Make an extraordinary difference in the lives of vulnerable children and become a foster carer today!

To find out more scan the QR code or call our team on 0472 869 969



LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS
lwb.org.au

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

27 - 43 Grant Street, Smithton, TAS, 7330

Phone 03 6452 1955

Email smithton.primary@decyp.tas.gov.au

Web www.decyp.tas.gov.au

