



Smithton Primary School

RESPECT ❖ ENCOURAGE ❖ ASPIRE ❖ LEARN

Issue 3 - 13th March 2024

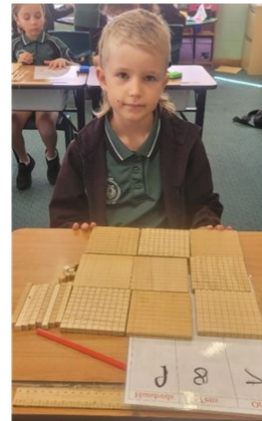
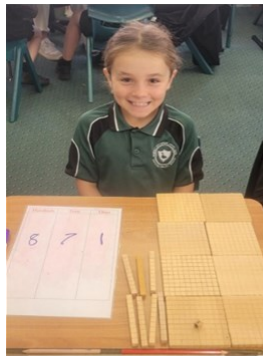
Maths in 3/4 Underwood

After a calm and positive start to the year, 3/4 Underwood dived straight into learning about numbers.

We have learnt that our digits 0-9 make all sorts of numbers and that the more digits in a number the greater the value.

In 3/4 Underwood, we have been exploring ways that we can represent numbers such as, writing the number in words, modelling the number with MAB blocks and on an abacus as well as expanding the number to represent the value of each digit in the number.

We can't wait to learn, play and explore more with numbers this term!



Term 1 at



Dear Families,

NAPLAN

With NAPLAN starting this week, I think there is no better time for us to think about its purpose and learn more about it. NAPLAN stands for “National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy” and occurs every year in Australian schools for students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This is the 17th year that NAPLAN has been occurring in Australia. The assessments are based on the Australian Curriculum and the results of NAPLAN provide schools with long term planning so that the Literacy and Numeracy programs in the schools continue to improve. While it is an indication of where each individual student is at, it is important to note that tests are not always the best way to assess student learning. As a school we look for

trends in year levels or in aspects of the results that give us feedback on areas that we have strength in and areas that we need to improve. Despite that, the important message for our students and their families is it is only useful for our school if students give their best efforts. This then gives us accurate information. After our first day of NAPLAN today, it is clear that students really are putting their best efforts in. NAPLAN is definitely not something to stress or worry about and we as a school certainly do not apply any pressure to the students other than to encourage them to do their best.



PHONE CALLS

As you would be expecting, the teachers of your children will be making an effort to contact you over the coming weeks. The purpose of this contact is to check in with you to see if you have any queries or want to know more about how your child has settled into their new classroom. It is also a good chance to hear about your child's learning progress and to discuss Learning Plan's if needed. We aim to be very approachable, so please, if there is anything you want to know more about; these phone calls are the perfect way to do this at this time of the year.



ATTENDANCE

One thing that we are working hard on this year is increasing our attendance rates as a school. We believe that the best way to do this is to continue to have engaging learning opportunities in the classroom each day as well as continuing to develop a positive culture in the school that brings about a sense of pride and belonging. Of course, there are good reasons not to attend (illness, appointment etc.), but we really want to eliminate any unnecessary missed days, late days or early leaving. All this time adds up. Our big goal is to have every child at school more than 90% of the time, the research shows that this is the point that attendance rates really have a huge influence on learning. We currently have 45 students in our school who are below 90% and so we really want to work with families to increase this. If there is anything we can do as a school to improve your child's attendance, please let us know.



CONGRATULATIONS

We really want to congratulate all the students from Smithton Primary who represented the CHSSA in Penguin last week. Out of the whole team we had some outstanding performances that mean the following students are invited to the Twilight Carnival in Penguin this Thursday where they will be running in the Final:

Miah – Year 5, 1500m

Shayla – Year 6, 100m

Dakota – Year 3, 75m

Layla – Year 3, 75m

We are very proud of the four of you and regardless of what happens on Thursday, this is an amazing experience and you can be very proud of your efforts.

End of Term 1

It seems a little ridiculous to be already talking about the end of Term 1, but there really are only 19 days remaining (Easter kind of takes up a fair chunk of Week 9). Some dates to remember are:

- 21st March is **Harmony Day**. Come dressed in orange.
- 9th April is **Early Childhood Athletics**. 9:30 – 10:30am on the school oval. All welcome. Come dressed in your team colours.
- 11th April is **End of Term Assembly**. 9:10 – 10:00am in the Assembly Hall.

Have a fantastic end to your week and thank you for your ongoing support!



Josh Smith
Principal





New absence message system at SPS



EdSmart is a new communications tool being introduced in 2024

At first, EdSmart will be used to help you report if your child is absent. You will be sent an SMS or email notification with a link to a secure online version of an absentee response form. These links can be accessed on your phone, tablet or computer.

DECYP are aiming to have all Tasmanian Government Schools using the EdSmart system by the end of Term 1.



Are you able to donate something to our Easter Raffle?

The P&F are fundraising and would like your help for any donations to our raffle.

It could be Easter art/craft, non-perishables or chocolate!

Items can be left at the school office.

Thank you!!



Kinder Grey

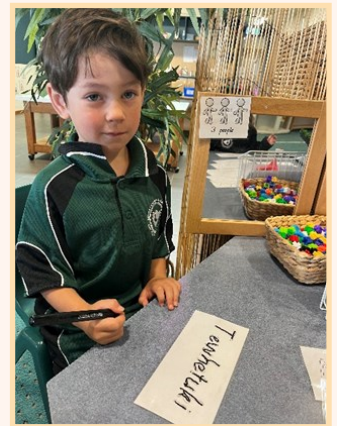


In Kinder Grey we have had a busy start to the school year!!

Our year has started with lots of paint, playdough, sand, name writing, role play, bike riding, Lego, tower building and patterns.

Kinder students have been learning to take turns and sharing things at school, all while making new friends. Kinders have been practising their gluing and scissor skills. We have begun to write our names.

Music with Mr Billing has been lots of fun, especially the part where we played the ukulele.



DECYP



PLAY DOUGH

NWPSSA Athletic Carnival

A brilliant effort from our students who attended the carnival in Penguin last week. The CHSSSA team, consisting of 48 students from Circular Head did amazingly well finishing 3rd in Division 1. Lincoln Whiteman placed 3rd in Year 6 Shotput. Well done team!!

Congratulations to the following students who will be running again at the Twilight Final on Thursday, 14th March in Penguin:

Miah Cure - 1500m

Shayla Hammond - Placed 1st, Yr 6, 100m

Dakota Hammond - Placed 1st, Yr 3, 75m

Layla McCormack - Placed 2nd, Yr 3, 75m



Do you love a good icy pole?



Year 6 are selling Zooper Doopers again at school!

For \$1 you can purchase a Zooper Dooper on Fridays at lunchtime!

We will be selling them for the remainder of Term 1 2024. The money raised will go towards purchasing Year 6 shirts.

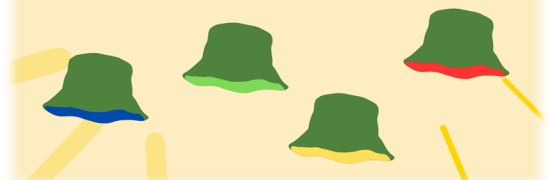


Sun Hats

are to be worn during recess, lunch and other outdoor activities.

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. If students do not have their hat they will be asked to stay in the undercover areas.

Hats are available at the office for \$12 each



Dates To Remember - 2024

March

Every Friday - 9:00am to 10:30am during school terms	Launching into Learning - Launchpad with Jayde Grey (<i>Birth - 5 Years</i>)
Thursday 21st	Harmony Day - <i>students can come dressed in Orange</i>
Friday 29th March to Tuesday 2nd April	Easter Public Holidays

April

Every Friday - 9:00am to 10:30am during school terms	Launching into Learning - Launchpad with Jayde Grey (<i>Birth - 5 Years</i>)
Wednesday 3rd	Students back to school after Easter Break
Tuesday 9th - 9:30am to 10:30am	Early Childhood Athletics at SPS
Thursday 11th - 9:10am to 10:00am	End of Term Assembly
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...	and therefore, from Kinder to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 11/2 years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 21/2 years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

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

