



# Smithton Primary School

RESPECT ❖ ENCOURAGE ❖ ASPIRE ❖ LEARN

Issue 4 - 26th March 2025

## Prep Jackson

Prep Jackson have been looking at measurement using informal measuring tools. We drew around our partners and measured using blocks. We only had 2 blocks each so we had to keep moving them along and making marks on the ground to count at the end. Most of us were around 10 blocks tall.



## Message from the Principal

I am thrilled to share more exciting learning events that have occurred in our school over the last few weeks. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Early Childhood Athletics Carnival last Tuesday! We had a fantastic turn out, and the students absolutely loved having such a supportive group cheering them on from the sidelines.

Mrs Goodwin, Mrs Charles and Miss Bannister did a fabulous job supporting our Year 1 and 2 students to attend a Harmony Day event at St Peter Chanel. We sang a celebration song together, joined in a range of team building activities with Year 1 and 2 students from St Peter Chanel and enjoyed a Zooper Dooper before returning to school.

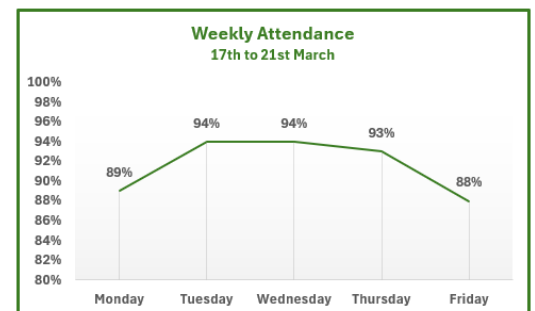
Year 6 students had their camp from Wednesday to Friday last week and spent time in Launceston and Hagley completing team building games, learning about educational history and connecting as a year group. We are exceptionally proud of the students and staff who went on the trip, proudly representing our school everywhere they went. Members of the public from all venues commented on the fantastic behaviour of our students, and said they'd be welcome back at any time! Thanks to Ms Johnston, Miss Fletcher, Lachie and Brayden for arranging and attending the year 6 camp. Keep an eye out in next fortnight's newsletter to learn all about their trip.

## School Priorities

### Wellbeing/Attendance

The department's strategic plan clearly outlines our commitment to students being Known, Safe, Well and Learning. Our staff work hard every day to make sure this is happening in our school, working together to focus on Student Wellbeing, Attendance, Engagement and Safeguarding.

You may have noticed the new weekly Facebook posts on Friday afternoons this year, sharing what's coming up for the week ahead. Starting last week, we have included a graphic that shows our weekly attendance rates. Teachers have been looking at trends in this data to find ways to support students' engagement in learning and we thought families might be interested seeing what happens across the week too. Over the coming weeks, teachers will explore this data, along with other information connected to their class and individual students, to find ways to lift our students' connection to learning and school. If you have any insights or suggestions around ways we can improve student attendance and learning outcomes we welcome you to make contact with me, or Louise Owen, to share your thoughts.



### Reading

Our student learning in Reading creates so much excitement around the school, as we celebrate the huge amount of growth we've seen across the school in recent years. Our learning programs, including the explicit teaching of phonics and word recognition, are consistent across the school, and our students are moving ahead in leaps and bounds because of the quality teaching and resources that are being used.

This year we are adding to our strategies to improve Fluency. Teachers have started participating in Professional Learning, and will now start exploring strategies in the classrooms and measuring their impact on student learning outcomes. I can't wait to share all the wonderful teaching and learning with you as we embark on this journey!

*Lindsey*

Lindsey Blake | Principal





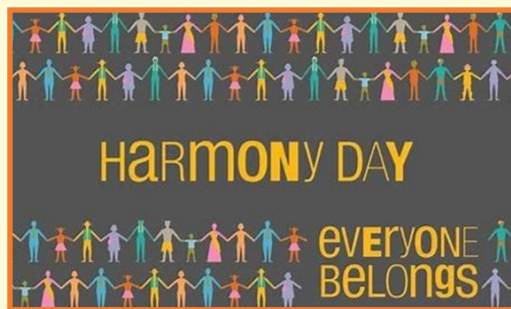


## Year 1 & 2 Excursion to St Peter Chanel

Year 1/2 students were invited to St Peter Chanel last Friday to celebrate Harmony Day. We were welcomed by SPC Year 1/2 students and reminded that we are all part of our community and how lucky we are to be able to meet together and play games, get to know each other and sing songs.

It was very special to watch all students show team work, fairness and a competitive spirit during the activities and extra special to watch the reconnection of friends and making new relationships that will flourish into the future.

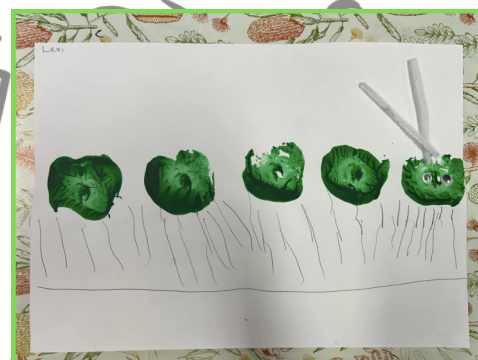
Thank you SPC, Kylie Monson and CHAC representatives Camilla and Brock for the afternoon and we look forward to welcoming you to SPS on International Day of Friendship in July.





# WHAT'S happening around our school

## Early Childhood Athletics





## 2025 Student Leadership Council

Congratulations to Summer, Hunter, Abbie, Lochie, Noah, Jack, Chase, Hollie and Maci on being elected as this year's representatives for the Student Leadership Council.



## Term 1 Class Captains





## 1-2 Goodwin - Tasmania Reads

Tasmania Reads is an annual week-long celebration of reading and stories. Through the course of the week, Smithton Library will be running some exciting events.

One of these events is a Reading Relay in which local schools have recorded verses from the poem, 'The Man from Ironbark', by Banjo Patterson.

We are very proud of the 1-2 Goodwin class who are featured in this video. If you would like to see them in action, please pop by the Smithton Library. They will be displaying the Reading Relay video, on the big screen, until the end of next week.

## 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 of 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
- Send a written note to the school office
- Email the school on [smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au) on the day your child is away

**IMPORTANT:** If you happen to forget to notify the school regarding your child/childrens absence and you receive a text from the school please reply to the text as to why your child/children are absent.



Be Safe



Be a Friend

Be **REAL**

Respect  
Encourage  
Aspire  
Learn



Be a Learner



A fun learning experience making the transition to  
Kinder easier for your child

## LAUNCHING INTO LEARNING

SMITHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

### PRE KINDER

Starting first Friday in Term 2!

For children starting  
Kindergarten in 2026

**Entry and sign in via the school office.**

Please bring a hat, snack and a drink of water for your child.  
Parents are to remain on site during the session.  
Kinder enrolment packs are available at the office.

For any queries please contact the school office or the  
'Early Years @ Smithton Primary School' Facebook page.



### PRE KINDER

WITH  
HAYLEY SHARMAN

EVERY FRIDAY - **STARTING 2ND MAY (TERM 2)**  
11:30AM TO 12:30PM



Come along to join in with lots of fun, games,  
activities, songs and stories

## LAUNCHING INTO LEARNING

SMITHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Term 1 LiL Sessions

(for children Birth to 5 Years)

**THURSDAYS - 9:00AM TO 10:00 AM**

**MOVING & GROOVING**

with Mrs Melissa Coombe

includes music, instruments, and gross motor skills - balancing, jumping etc

**FRIDAYS - 9:00AM TO 10:30 AM**

**LAUNCH PAD**

with Mrs Hayley Sharman



**Entry and sign in via the school office.**

Please bring a hat, snack and a drink of water for your child.

For any queries please contact the school office or the  
'Early Years @ Smithton Primary School' Facebook page.







**READ EVERY DAY!  
READ MORE IN MAY!**

May is the month for readers.  
Bring your family together and  
join us in the **NATIONAL FAMILY  
READING MONTH** Challenge.





Register between 1 March  
and 31 March to **WIN ONE  
OF 50 FREE BOOK PACKS**  
worth \$150!

Take the 31-Day Challenge:  
**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://scholastic.com.au/nfrm>

## 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





## EASTER RAFFLE

**TICKETS \$2 EACH OR 3 FOR \$5**  
**AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE**  
**VARIOUS PRIZES TO BE WON!**  
**DRAWN 9TH APRIL**

ANY DONATIONS TOWARDS OUR RAFFLE  
 WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND CAN  
 BE DROPPED OFF AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE



## Bluey and Friends



# Riverbend April Day camp

**April 23-25 \* 9.00am-4.00pm each day**

Riverbend's annual day camp for children in grades 1-3 is on again.

**COST: \$35 A DAY OR \$90 FOR 3 DAYS**

To book your spot go to  
[www.riverbend.org.au](http://www.riverbend.org.au)



**Grades 1-3**



## Smithton Primary School Association AGM

**Will be held 3rd April at 5:00pm in the staffroom**

The School Association welcomes new parent representatives to nominate and become an integral committee member and valued voice of the school community.

If you would like to become a representative, please complete a nomination form available from the school office.

*Nominations close Wednesday 26th March 2025.*

## Dates To Remember - 2025

### March

Every Friday - 9:00am to 10:30am <i>During school terms</i>	Launching into Learning Launchpad with Mrs Hayley Sharman ( <i>Birth - 5 Years</i> )
Every Thursday - 9:00am to 10:00am <i>During school terms</i>	Launching into Learning Moving & Grooving with Mrs Melissa Coombe ( <i>Birth - 5 Years</i> )

### April

Every Friday - 9:00am to 10:30am <i>During school terms</i>	Launching into Learning Launchpad with Mrs Hayley Sharman ( <i>Birth - 5 Years</i> )
Every Thursday - 9:00am to 10:00am <i>During school terms</i>	Launching into Learning Moving & Grooving with Mrs Melissa Coombe ( <i>Birth - 5 Years</i> )
Thursday 3rd - 5:00pm	School Association AGM - <i>school staffroom</i>
Wednesday 9th - 9:10am	School Assembly
Friday 11th	Year 3 to 6 Cross Country at SPS <b><i>Last day of Term</i></b>
Monday 28th	<b><i>Start of Term 2</i></b>

### May

Every Friday - 9:00am to 10:30am <i>During school terms</i>	Launching into Learning Launchpad with Mrs Hayley Sharman ( <i>Birth - 5 Years</i> )
Every Thursday - 9:00am to 10:00am <i>During school terms</i>	Launching into Learning Moving & Grooving with Mrs Melissa Coombe ( <i>Birth - 5 Years</i> )
Wednesday 14th May	CHSSSA Cross Country - <i>tba</i>

### 2025 School Term Dates

Term 1	Thursday 6th February to Friday 11th April
Term 2	Monday 28th April to Friday 4th July
Term 3	Monday 21st July to Friday 26th September
Term 4	Monday 13th October to Thursday 18th December

### Student Free Days

Friday 6th June
Friday 31st October

### CONTACT DETAILS

27 - 43 Grant Street, Smithton, TAS, 7330

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)

