

St. Albans East Primary School School Newsletter

Excellence in education



VISION

"We are committed to providing a **safe, inclusive and engaging** learning environment that nurtures **personal and academic excellence** as community-minded **life long learners**."



Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Spring is in the air, although it still feels like Winter. I am sure we are all looking forward to some warmer weather. As we approach the end of term 3, can I thank our parents, students and staff for all your work in supporting our students and the school. It gives me great pleasure to showcase in the newsletter all the great learning and opportunities students are involved in.

RUOK Day

Thursday 14th September is RUOK? Day, a day when we are reminded to ask, "Are you ok?" and remember that every day of the year we can support people who may be struggling with life's ups and downs. This year the key message is, 'Are they really ok?' At SAEPS, we know that regular, meaningful conversations can make a difference. You don't have to be an expert to ask how someone is going - just a good friend and a good listener. This year, the RUOK? initiative continues to shine a light on the times we should be asking our friends and loved ones this important question. RUOK? is a national charity dedicated to inspiring all of us to have those regular, meaningful conversations to support someone who may be struggling. You can learn more about the signs and how to ask RUOK? at www.ruok.org.au

FLYING HOUSE SPIRIT DAY

Wednesday 13 September

To celebrate the end of term we are hosting a Flying House Spirit Day where students dress in their house colours and fly kites as a whole school. Students have been busy assembling and decoration their kites in preparation for the day.

PREP ENROLMENTS 2024

Prep enrolments for 2024 have already commenced. If you have a child who will be coming to our school for the first time in 2024, please complete an enrolment form, (available from the office), at your earliest convenience. The Pre-prep program for 2024 students will commence start of term 4 through to until the end of the year.

Mr Paul Busuttil

PRINCIPAL

Important Dates

Date	Event	Grade
13 Sept	House Spirit Day	Whole School
14 Sept	R U OK Day	Whole School
15 Sept	Last Day Term 3 -1:30 finish	Whole School
2 Oct	Start of term 4	Whole School
7 Nov	Melbourne Cup Holiday	Whole School
15 Nov	Report Writing Day	Whole School
18 Dec	Last Day Term 4	Whole School

Last Day of Term 3 -Friday 15th September

Prep – Grade 6 (1:30pm finish)

Newsletter 09, September, 2023

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HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

BUILD THE HABIT OF GOOD ATTENDANCE EARLY SCHOOL SUCCESS GOES HAND IN HAND WITH GOOD ATTENDANCE!

Did you know?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, tertiary education and at work

What you can do

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots
- Introduce your child to teachers and classmates before school starts to help transition
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick
- Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counsellors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour, or another parent
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session

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Planning for 2024

We are currently starting our planning for 2024. If you are not returning in 2024, can you please let the office know or by filling in the transfer notice below.

If you are returning in 2024 and need to communicate any educational needs for your child next year, please put in writing, addressed to the Principal and marked confidential. Your information or request should centre around your child's learning and social needs.

2024 TRANSFER INFORMATION

Please fill out and return to the office if your child/ren are NOT returning to St Albans East Primary school next year.

Students Name:	Room:	Last Day attending St Albans East PS:	Name of New School:

Celebrating our Learning

Celebrating Book Week

Last week we celebrated the 'gift' and enjoyment of reading through Book Week. This year's Book Week theme was 'Read, Grow and Inspire.' Students and teachers celebrated the week by reading and completing activities related to the 2023 Short listed books of the Children's Book Council of Australia. All students visited the Scholastic Book Fair and made a 'Wish list' of books they wanted to buy for home reading. We also had a Whole School Dress-Up Day on Wednesday the 23rd of August, and encouraged all our students and staff to come dressed as a book character. It was a wonderful week of celebrations for our students!

On Wednesday the 23rd of August, we had Book Week Day! The whole school got to dress up as their favourite book character. We had a parade with all the 1/2 teachers and students. We all cheered and clapped for each class as they walked up and down the hallway. I saw students dressed up as Little Red Riding Hood, Where's Wally and more. The Grade 1/2 teachers dressed up as the seven dwarves. I had a fantastic day!

Written by Sophia Huynh, Year 2 Student



Prep Team



This term our Prep students have been learning about community helpers and personal safety. They have learned about who can help us? And how we can keep ourselves safe and healthy?

During Weeks 5 and 6 the Prep's were very excited to have the Fire Brigade visit them at school. During the first visit they learned all about fire safety, what to do if there is a fire in the home and what fire fighters do in the community. On their second visit the Prep's were able to see a fire truck up close and even had a turn at squirting the fire hose!



Royal Flying Doctor Service



On the 25th of August, we had the Royal Flying Doctor Service visit our school. Students had the opportunity to learn about how an air medical service can help those in need when there is an emergency.

We were able to experiment using the fly deck, stethoscope, headphones and dress up as a pilot.



During Weeks 9 the Prep's were very excited to visit the Brimbank Bicycle Education Centre. During their visit they learned about different road signs, what they mean, and how to use the roads safely. They were shown how to fit their helmets correctly and practiced using balance bikes, training wheel bikes and pedal bikes as learn how to ride their bikes safely.



Grade 1/2

Waste Free Lunch (Sustainability)

Students in year 1/2 have been learning about sustainability and waste this term for their inquiry unit. As part of this unit, the whole school participated in a 'Waste Free Lunch' on Wednesday the 30th of August. All students across the school were encouraged to participate in this initiative to promote sustainability and the reduction of waste across our whole school community. Moving forward, we are hoping to have 'Waste Free Wednesdays' for the remainder of the year to reduce our footprint on the environment, as well as encouraging students at SAEPS to become Waste Warriors!



Lots of fun at Legoland!



On Friday the 8th of September the Grade 1/2s went on an excursion to Legoland. Students have been learning about design and technology in Inquiry this Term. Students were given the opportunity to use their imagination and plan a narrative story. Then the students created their narrative story out of Lego. They enjoyed planning and creating with their friends. After that the Grade 1/2 students were able to enjoy other activities Legoland has to offer. They watched a 4D movie, went on some fun rides and built things out of Lego. The Grade 1/2 students had an amazing time at Legoland!

Grade 3 - 4

Poetry Share

Year 3-6 students have been learning to write poetry this term. In order to celebrate the creative writing that has been produced, the year 3/4 students and 5/6 students have buddied up to engage in a 'Poetry Share' forum. Students were prepared with effective public speaking and listening skills, such as using appropriate voice, volume, pace and eye contact. This forum was an opportunity to provide our students with a real audience for their writing. The leadership team were invited to join these forums and enjoy the quality writing produced by our students. We enjoyed joining and listening to the poems shared by our year 3-6 students.



3/4 Excursion to the Royal Botanic Gardens!

Last week, the Grade 3/4's went on an excursion to the Botanic Gardens. We enjoyed it very much and had lots of fun, the excursion was really enjoyable and we did a lot of walking exercise. We saw lots of trees, plants, and bushes including the oldest tree in the Royal Botanic Garden.



The bus drive was about 20-30 minutes, and when we got there we were split into 2 groups and went exploring the garden with our group.

Some of the activities we did were planting, that all students took home and can continue the progress of their plant growing.



Another activity we did was working in the garden. We could get a job mixing around the dirt or collecting snails, worms and slugs, raking leaves of the ground, watering the garden, weeding (taking weed of the garden/garden floor) and more.

The weather on the day was wild, it was dripping with rain and then suddenly turned sunny after.



We discovered that there is more plants than we know, and to be sustainable. We also learned how to take care of our beautiful, precious plants and gardens.

All of us were very tired after the excursion, with a few students falling asleep on the ride back to school.

We all felt super grateful and happy that we were able to go on such an amazing and exciting journey.



On behalf of the Grade 3/4s by Trinity and Alazar.



READ, GROW, INSPIRE!

What a wonderful time we had celebrating **Children's Book Week**! Students engaged in fun reading activities, a fabulous dress-up day and the exciting book fair. We read the shortlisted Book Week books and showed off our costumes in a parade. It was so lovely to see our students' excitement for books and we appreciate the effort that went into making their costumes look amazing!



Grade 5/ 6 Team

Sovereign Hill Excursion written by Theresa Yang (Rm 19 5/6D)

On the 31st of August the grade 5/6s went to Sovereign Hill. Sovereign Hill is based on the gold rush in 1851. We got on the bus around 8:50am to 9am and then we started our journey.

My group explored a little bit before going to their first activity. We explored the streets and the butcher where they sold mutton (old sheep meat). We learned that mutton was from old sheep. The reason they sold mutton was because there were many sheep in the area.

After visiting the butcher it was time for our first activity. The Mine Tour. When the instructor came we were told that because the area was set in the 1800s we had to address females by 'ma'am' or 'madam' and the males 'sir'. After greeting the instructor which we addressed as ma'am she told us that the tour duration was 12 minutes exactly. After that the doors opened and the tour begun. There was a staircase leading underground. We all waited patiently for everyone to go down. The mine was a corridor of stone, dirt and gravel (at least it appeared to be). The corridor was narrow most of the time and then opened up to wider spaces every now and then. There was a time where a loud noise startled everyone causing everyone to scream. This also happened when the lights turned out for a moment. After a few minutes of going through the narrow corridor we reached a wider part of the tour. A hologram turned on. The hologram showed how the biggest nugget in Australia was found. When that was over another hallway lit up with lights indicating that we had to go down that way. The hallway led to another wide room and it showcased the final bit of the hologram.

After the tour we were supposed to go to the Education Centre soon but we had a little bit of time left to explore. During that time we spoke to someone who owned a horse about horses and then we went to a woman selling beverages with her baby. She put on quite a show when a commissioner found out she was selling alcohol. It was all an act of course but the commissioner pulled the 'baby' she was cradling in her arms to reveal that it was only a barrel wrapped in some sort of fabric.

When we got to the Education Centre we were welcomed by a woman who wore an outfit from the upper-class. We sat on benches with a group and we listened to her talk about life back when the gold rush was happening. She also told us about the artefacts they found from those times. She gave each bench group an artefact and every group was instructed to talk about the item and think about what it was and what it was used for. When



time was up to discuss about the item one person from each group went up to the front to talk about their item and what they thought it was. After that we were told about the copperplate handwriting. Some people were given a piece of paper that had the uppercase and lowercase letters in copperplate. The paper also had the numbers. We were told to try writing our name in that handwriting style. Some others got a board and something to write with and we also tried writing our name on that board.

After visiting the Education Centre Mrs Rozen's group went to eat lunch. We went back to the picnic tables and we ate for a bit you until everyone was done. When students were finished they were given the option to play at the playground that was nearby.

We finished lunch eating time and we went to visit the streets. For the students who brought money they got the chance to go into the shops to buy a few things. There were many shops and items on display. There was a bank, a lolly shop, a bakery and many more! In my opinion, the most popular shop was the lolly shop.

When we were done browsing the items in the shop we decided to go gold panning. We panned for gold in a river. We used a pan, shovel and a cradle. The shovel was used to scoop up rocks and water and put them into the pan. To pan for gold we needed to wash off the rocks with water and then look through the rocks for gold. The cradle was loaded with water and rocks with the shovel and then someone had to rock the cradle from side to side and wait. There wasn't anyone that found gold in my group.

We still had a bit more time before going back to school so we went back to the streets again. When time was up we met with another group before going to the meeting place to return. We got back into the bus and after another 1 hour and 20 minutes we finally arrived back at school.

I'm sure, after a long and exhausting day we all enjoyed our time at Sovereign Hill.

