



STRATHMERTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ph: 58745295 Fax: 58745537

Email: Strathmerton.ps@education.vic.gov.au



**SUPPORT EACH
OTHER**



**TRY YOUR
BEST**



**ACT
SAFELY**



RESPECT

**Newsletter No.5
March 27th, 2025**

SPS's Vision: To prepare young people to be active, engaged and responsible citizens of the local and global community.

2025 Dates to Remember

- **Fri 28th Mar**
Crazy Hair and Out of Uniform Day
- **Mon 31st Mar**
Pupil free Day
- **Wed 2nd Apr**
School Council 7pm
- **Thu 3rd Apr**
Easter Hat Parade 9.10am
- **Fri 4th Apr**
Last day of Term 1 2.30pm
Dismissal. Whole School Wellbeing Day.
- **Tue 22nd Apr**
First day of Term 2.
- **Fri 25th Apr**
ANZAC Day Public Holiday



LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders will be on Tuesday and Fridays..

DISTRICT ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

NATHALIA RECREATION RES.



**9TH
MAY
9.45AM-2PM**



Strathmerton Vacation Care.



We are currently seeking Expressions of Interest for the demand for a Vacation Care program at Strathmerton Primary School. Please follow the link below or scan the QR code, to register your interest today!

<https://forms.office.com/r/FG9eURK0Aq>

Contact us
1800 183 103

Learn more
earlylearning@vt.uniting.org

Uniting

Easter Hat Parade

Thursday April 3rd 2025

**Front Court
Quest Expo in Classrooms
Following the Parade and
Raffle**

**Parade starts at
9.15am onwards**



From the Principal's Desk

School Review

This year, SPS needs to undertake a School Review. The School Review focuses on the last four years of learning and wellbeing at our school and will pave the way for a new Strategic Plan. Our School Review will occur in week 2 and 3 next term. It will include a panel of people – a Review, the Senior Education Improvement Leader from Region (Department of Education), two Principals from other schools, our School Council President, and myself. Panel members will come and discuss the school's progress, visit classrooms and speak with parents, students and staff about our school.

The parent forum/discussion group will be hosted between 3-3.30pm on Tuesday 29th April in the new library. It's a great opportunity to provide further feedback and context to the review panel regarding the following areas:

- Engagement opportunities
- Communication processes and approachability
- Parent/community voice and partnership.

All parents/carers are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

NAPLAN

Last week, our Year 3 and 5 students successfully completed their NAPLAN testing in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy. Results from these tests will be released later in Term 2. As a school, we regularly use NAPLAN data when making decisions around how to best target the learning needs of our students. This includes targeting individual students who may be behind in their learning, supporting individual students who may require extension work, to monitor student growth between Year 3 and Year 5, compare our student outcomes against students across state and country, and to ensure our curriculum programs meet the needs of all our students.

Crazy Hair Day

Reminder tomorrow is Crazy Hair Day. Students can come to school with a crazy hair style and free dress. We ask that students bring a gold coin donation, with money collected going towards the Leukemia Foundation.

Pupil Free Day

Mathematics anxiety and declining attitudes towards maths negatively impacts student learning and limits their potential. At SPS, we are trying to create an inclusive and positive mathematics environment to support students that are feeling overwhelmed with mathematics. On Monday, all teaching and education support staff will attend a mathematics professional learning session with the staff at Numurkah PS. This day will help upskill and build staff's capacities on how to best teach our students mathematics at school. Parents can support our efforts in improving student outcomes through the power of talking positively about mathematics at home. Please see the flyer attached at the end of the newsletter on 'How Should We Talk About Maths?' for tips when speaking to your child/ren about mathematics.

Easter Hat Parade, Open Morning and Pancakes

Next Thursday, we will be holding our annual Easter Hat Parade with the Kinder students. After the parade we will have an open morning, allowing families and friends to visit the classrooms and look at the student work. Uniting, our outside hours care, will also be making and selling pancakes for \$1 each and opening the multi-purpose room showcasing their after-school care program.

SRC Easter Raffle

A major fundraiser for our Student Representative Council is the Easter Egg Raffle. We are asking families for Easter Egg donations that we can raffle off at our Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 3rd April. Raffle tickets have been sent home. Please bring raffle tickets and money back to school by Wednesday.

Athletics Carnival

The annual Athletics Carnival with Nathalia, Katunga and Whunghu PS will be held next term on Friday 9th May. With the back up day being the following Friday. Students will need to be there by 9.45am to assemble prior to the first events. We ask that parents transport their child/ren to and from the sports if they can. For those parents/carers who can't attend, we have organised a bus to deliver students to and from the sports. The bus will leave school at 9:00am and return by 2:30pm. Please let Leanne know if you wish your child/ren to travel on the bus. Normal before and after school bus runs will occur on Friday for students that require it. More information about the day will be released early next term.

School Council Elections

I am pleased to announce that we received 4 nominations to fill our 4 vacancies for School Council in 2025, therefore an election will not be required. Parent Representative Nominees were:

- Lisa Bramich (2 year tenure)
- Michelle Carmody (2 year tenure)
- Simon Borg (2 year tenure)
- Kerry Edgar (2 year tenure)

Congratulations to each of those parents and thank you for nominating for School Council.

Message from Mrs Mead about her Teaching Excellence Program (TEP)

Over the term, I have been fortunate to participate in the first Discipline Days of the Teaching Excellence Program, held in Melbourne. The focus has been on developing oral language and how we can better teach our students to become confident speakers and thoughtful listeners.

On Tuesday, my cohort of one hundred and fifty like-minded teachers from across Victoria, all passionate about education and learning, experienced an inspiring day exploring the value of quality literature and storytelling. We examined how language learned through stories helps build a child's connection to themselves and their world. We also discussed the important role of play in learning and worked on strategies to incorporate purposeful play into our crowded and, at times, overwhelming curriculum.

At moments, my own inner six-year-old came out to play. I can't express how much fun it was to join in playing Vets in the 'home corner' with the other big kids! This experience provided yet more ideas and inspiration for classroom planning. I am now eagerly looking forward to Term Two and the opportunity to put my new understanding and skills into practice.

Jo Paton

Living In The Past Day F/1 & 1/2/3



Strathmerton Primary School Calendar 2025

Term 1

Friday 28 th March	Crazy Hair and Free Dress Day
Monday 31 st March	Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 2 nd April	School Council
Thursday 3 rd April	Easter Hat Parade Pancake morning and Open Classrooms Meals on Wheels
Friday 4 th April	Last Day Term 1 2.30pm Dismissal Wellbeing Day

Term 2

Monday 21 st April	Easter Monday
Tuesday 22 nd April	First Day Term 2
Friday 25 th April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Monday 28 th April	School Review Day 1
Tuesday 29 th April	School Review Day 2: Fieldwork Day
Monday 5 th May	School Review Day 3: Final Panel Day Grade 5/6 Camp
Tuesday 6 th May	Grade 5/6 Camp
Wednesday 7 th May	Grade 5/6 Camp
Tuesday 13 th May	School Photos
Monday 9 th June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th June	Whole School Swimming
Tuesday 1 st & Wednesday 2 nd July	Parent Teacher Interviews PM
Friday 4 th July	Last Day Term 2. 2.30pm Dismissal

Term 3

Monday 21 st July	First Day Term 3
Monday 25 th August	Pupil Free Day
Friday 19 th September	Last Day Term 3 2.30pm Dismissal

Term 4

Monday 6 th October	First Day Term 4
Monday 3 rd November	Pupil Free Day. Report Writing Day.
Tuesday 4 th November	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
Friday 19 th December	END OF YEAR 1.30pm Dismissal

Why maths?

We need maths to...

Describe

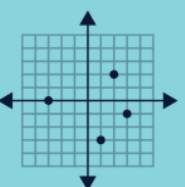


Measure



Show relationships

$$a^2 - b^2 \quad (a-b)(a+b)$$



Hypothesise and predict



Make decisions



Solve problems



We discuss our world using maths



So, how should we talk about maths?



How should we talk about maths?



There are a lot of myths that influence the way we talk about maths. For example:

- Myth 1: You're either "good" or "bad" at maths.
- Myth 2: You're either a "maths" person or a "language" person.
- Myth 3: If you don't know the answer right away, you're not good at maths.

These myths can encourage people to think about maths in a very rigid way. These myths are dangerous because they stop people from putting effort in to improve.

Persisting with maths in secondary school can help ensure your child has more career options in the future.

Positive maths attitudes help children persist with maths. We can help shape children's attitudes towards maths by talking about maths in a positive way in the home. Below are some tips to help; they may be things you are already doing:

- Encourage your child to keep trying in maths, even when they make mistakes. Making mistakes is a normal part of learning.
- Think about how we forgive mistakes in other areas: how can we treat maths mistakes in a similar way?
- Tell your child they have done a good job when they put effort into their maths learning.

- If your child asks for help while doing a maths problem but you don't know how to find the answer, tell them that! Discuss with your child who you could ask for help to find the answer. It is important that your child sees examples of people asking for help in maths and that not knowing the answer straight away is OK.



Do you react to making a mistake in maths the same way that you do when you play sport or when you are doing something creative? Are you more likely to try again after making a mistake when playing sport or doing something creative? If so, why is maths different?

You don't need to know the answer to maths problems to be able to have a positive impact on your child's maths learning!

NUMURKAH SECONDARY COLLEGE

Transition program
dates for
Year 7 students
commencing 2026



*Keep an eye out on the NSC
facebook page for updates
and more information closer
to events.*



**WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL NSC
DISCOVERY NIGHT 6:00PM-7:00 PM**



THURS. 14TH AUGUST: NSC TASTER DAY



SEPT./OCT. PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS



5TH-7TH OCT. EXTRA TASTER SESSIONS



**13TH-17TH OCT. YEAR 7 MEETINGS AT
NUMURKAH SECONDARY COLLEGE**



**TUESDAY 9TH DECEMBER STATEWIDE
TRANSITION DAY**



03 5862 1088



Numurkah.sc@education.vic.gov.au



104 Tocumwal Road, Numurkah VIC 3638



NUMURKAH SECONDARY COLLEGE

*Inspiring aspiration and
lifelong learning.*

**2026 YEAR 7
DISCOVERY NIGHT
WEDNESDAY THE 30TH APRIL**

Information session commencing at
6.00pm with tours following.



Please register your interest by ringing the College on 03 5862 1088.
Walk ins welcome.



RESPECT, EXCELLENCE, ASPIRATION AND PRIDE

Uniting

OSHC NEWSLETTER



Strathmerton Outside School Hours

From the Service Leader

This month there has been a lot of discussion about the upcoming football/ netball seasons with different clubs around the area. Good luck to everyone this season I know the children here will be practicing the skills in our program. With the season starting on the last week of Term 1- 5th of April. I hope everyone has an awesome holiday break, be safe and we will see you when we all return.

Please note there is a few important dates coming up. Pupil free days and Public Holidays that the OSHC service will be closed for. We are also celebrating Pancake Day raising funds for Uniting. This will help Uniting Vic.Tas continue its essential work in local communities, delivering vital programs that make a real difference. We hope to see you there. We are also opening up the service, we would love everyone to come in has a look around and see what Strathmerton Outside School Hours care has to offer.

Focused Activities

This month we have focus on 3 Natural Disasters combining each one with a science experiment. Such as bushfires we learnt it can easily be relight with a floating amber using a candle we were able to reenact this. During the experiment we learnt the importance of putting out your camp fires.

We also created our own earthquake to create a Tsunamis and landslide. With the last disaster we looked in to being Hurricanes and Tornadoes did you know Hurricanes need warm, wet air to form. We recreated this with a tealight candle, water and a glass. Do you know where to hide in your house if there was ever a Tornado headed for you. We did the, The safest place in the home is the interior part of a basement. If there is no basement, go to an inside room, without windows, on the lowest floor. This could be a center hallway, bathroom, or closet.

The children have been fascinated and really involved with these experiments while getting some hand on experiences with the science experiments.



Happenings

At our service we have celebrated different cultures and celebrations. This month we learnt about clean up Australia day, St Patrick's day (celebrating Irish culture music, and the color green), touching on Islamic/ Muslim -Ramadan, Purple day (awareness around Epilepsy).

Games have been popular this month such as the AFL Football and St Patrick board game as well as Go Fish.

We did a few creative experiences this month. Salt Art and making Oreo Penguins.



Do you need after school care? You may be eligible for after school care for as little as \$5 a day (dependent on your CCS). You may need to make an appointment or schedule a meeting; we can support you with care for your family whilst you get things done.

T 1800 183 103

unitingvictas.org.au/el



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- 🚩 Opening day/Pancake Day 3rd April- Come and visit the Strathly OSHC service and take a look around.
- 🚩 26th / 28th March- Centre closed
- 🚩 31st March-Pupil free day (OSHC service closed)
- 🚩 4th April-last day of term
- 🚩 22nd -1st day of term
- 🚩 25th April-Anzac Day Centre closed
- 🚩 19th-20th May-Centre Closed staff professional development training
- 🚩 9th June-Centre Closed Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- 🚩 4th July-Last day of term.

CONTACTS:

Strathmerton Outside School hours Program: 0403174992

Email: strathmerton.els@vt.uniting.org

Address: 43-51 Findlay St, Strathmerton Vic 3641

Bookings: 1800 183 103



Come and explore your opportunities

Visit us on Sunday, 18th May 2025
between 11.00am and 12.00pm
or come along to our

OPEN DAY

Wednesday, 21st May 2025

Book via the QR Code

INFORMATION EVENINGS:

St Mary of the Angels, NATHALIA
Monday, 5th May - 7.30pm

St Joseph's Primary School, NUMURKAH
Monday, 12th May - 7.30pm

St Joseph's Primary School, COBRAM
Wednesday, 7th May - 7.30pm

Tocumwal Golf Club, TOCUMWAL
Wednesday, 14th May - 7.30pm

For an enrolment pack, or an Open Day session booking:
Ph: 03 5866 2222 or visit www.smota.vic.edu.au



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[smota_nathalia](https://www.instagram.com/smota_nathalia)

