

STAPS NEWSLETTER

We've had a busy few weeks here at STAPS with students out and about, adventuring and exploring, staff continuing to build for a successful year, and so many opportunities we've enjoyed, with our school community,

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us at Friday night's **Community Twilight Games**. It was so lovely to see so many people from within and beyond the school community, gathering to enjoy some yummy food, fun games, a little bit of healthy competition and plenty of socialising. A big thanks to the volunteers who ran the BBQ, made and sold sweet treats, and helped with the pack up and tidy. Thanks to Maddie and Jason from the CFA who came along to take part in the traditional tug-of-war! Of course, a big thanks to our School Council President who had an absolute ball running, joining in and derailing the games! We loved listening to your constant commentary Bob!



growing
**Caring,
Courageous
and
Responsible
Learners!**



While the newsletter is full of lovely stories of what's been happening and what's coming up at STAPS, one highlight was the **Senior Class Immersion Day at Diamond Valley College**. DVC kindly ran a day for all of our students to enjoy a day in the love of a high school student. It started off with a chemical science lesson in the labs, where students donned lab coats and explored a rainbow of chemical reactions. After that they headed to the Art Rooms to create some fantastic art. The highlights of the day seemed to be the array of treats found at the school canteen at lunch and the Food Tech class at the end of the day where seniors all created rumless rum balls to take home to share with their families.



Contact Us
Caledonia Street
St Andrews VIC 3761

Phone: 03 9710 1255
Email: st.andrews.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.standrewsps.vic.edu.au

DIARY DATES TERM 1



Public Holiday	Mon 27th January
Curriculum Day	Tues 28th January
First Day School (Years 1-6)	Wed 29th January
First Day Foundations	Thurs 30th January
Parent-Teacher Conferences	Wed 12th and Thurs 13th February
Seniors to Diamond Valley College	Thu 20th February
School Council	Wed 19th February 4 pm
Whole School Excursion to CERES	Thu 27th February
Twilight Sports	Fri 28th February
School Photos	Wed 5th March
Seniors Information Night	Wed 5th March 6:00 pm
Pancake Day	Fri 7th March
Labour Day Holiday	Mon 10th March <i>No School</i>
Curriculum Day	Tues 11th March <i>No School</i>
Juniors Information Night	Thurs 13th March 6:00 pm
NAPLAN Period (Years 3 & 5)	Beginning Wed 12th March
School Council	Wed 19th March
Somers Camp (Years 5&6)	Tues 18th - Wed 26th March
Wadamubuk Mini Festival	Sat 29th March
Cultural Fair & Learning Celebration	Wed 2nd April
Last Day Term 1	Fri 4th April early finish - 2:25 pm

TERM 2

Term 2 begins Tues 22nd April

ANZAC Day Holiday Fri 25th April

Curriculum Day (No school) Fri 5th June - OSHC available

King's Birthday Holiday Mon 9th June

Last day Term Fri 4th Jul 2:25 pm dismissal

TERM 3

Curriculum Day (No school) Monday 21st July

Term 3 begins for STAPS Tues 22nd July

Last day Term 3 Fri 19th September 2:25 dismissal

TERM 4

Term 4 for STAPS starts Mon 6th October

Seniors Camp Mon 20th to Wed 22nd October

Melbourne Cup Day Holiday Tues 4th November

Curriculum Day (No school) Wed 5th November - OSHC available

Last day Term 4 Fri 19th December 1:25 dismissal

New

Dates

Assemblies

Fortnightly

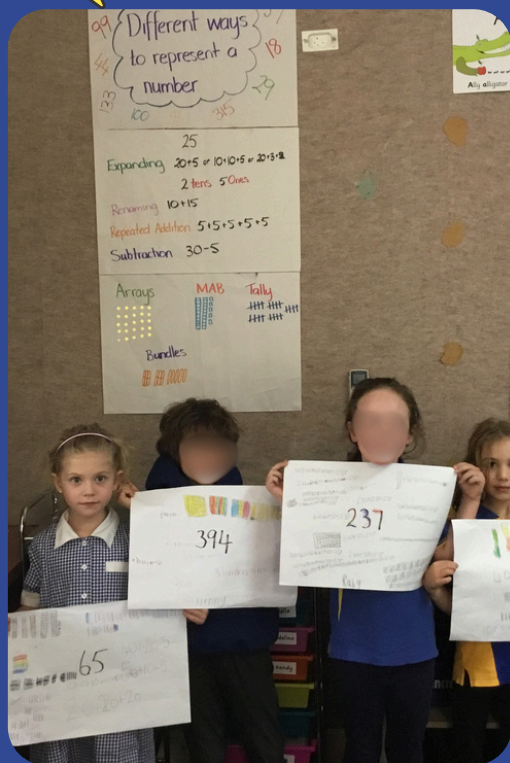
Friday at 3pm

7th and 21st March &
April 4th



GOOD NEWS!

Junior Learning Community



The last couple of weeks have been very productive in the Junior area as the students continue to learn different sounds and explore numbers using different methods. The Foundation students have been learning to represent a single digit in multiple ways for example, 4 can be 2 and 2, 1 and 3, 0 and 4. They have also explored numbers that are greater than, less than. Other students are consolidating their understanding of hundreds, tens, and ones for example 127 can be 1 hundred, 2 tens, 7 ones or $100+20+7$ or 12 tens and 7 ones.

It is pleasing to see happy faces of a morning and friendships develop during class time and out in the playground. We continue to support them through our well-being program and unpacking the STAPS values. It was wonderful meeting and chatting with you all at the Meet and Greet night and I appreciate you making the effort for the meeting as I am aware of how busy everyone is.

We enjoyed a wonderful but tiring day on our Excursion to CERES. We learnt so much about aboriginal culture and were able to participate in different activities.

From the Junior Team

Whole School... CERES Excursion



On Thursday 27th February, we all jumped on a big bus together to visit CERES Community Environment Park in Brunswick. We met with educators Hannah and Subik before splitting in to two groups and enjoying three different activities throughout the visit. This learning all tying in with our Term One Inquiry topic -Culture - including Indigenous Culture.

We experienced 'bush tucker', tasting Salt Bush, Lemon Myrtle, Warrigal Greens and River Mint, with a mix of opinions as to their tastiness. We tried our hand at ochre painting with special permission from Wurundjeri elder Uncle Bill Nicholson, using our fingers as the paintbrush and our arms as the canvas! We also got to dress up and act out the Gunai Kurnai dreaming story of Jiddelek the frog.

It was the Foundation students' first excursion and they were all so very excited! They all handled it so well, but were very tired on the ride home. We are very proud of how STAPS presented themselves on the day and a great day was had by all!

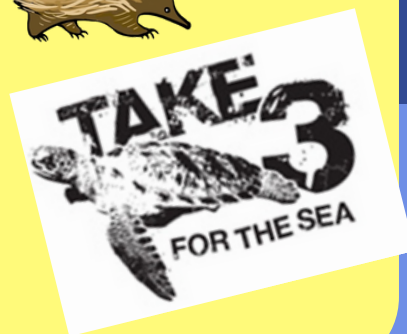
TAKE 3 FOR THE SEA

Sustainability
CORNER

Plastic pollution is devastating oceans, killing wildlife, changing our climate and threatening the health of our planet. It is a global problem and it can be easy to think that we, as individuals, can't do anything to solve it. But you can and it's simple!

Take 3 pieces of rubbish with you when you leave the beach, waterway or...anywhere, and you have made a difference.

<https://www.take3.org/take-action/>



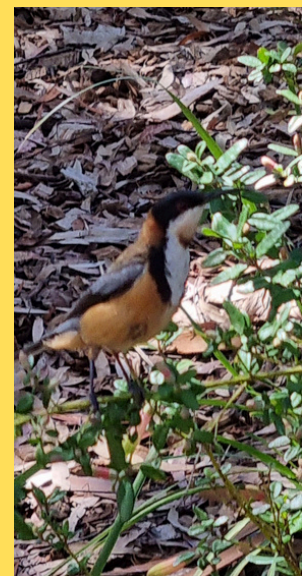
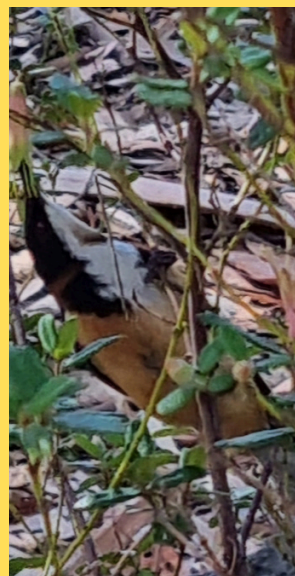
WILDLIFE WONDERS

At STAPS our staff, students and families are always on the lookout for our local wildlife and any interesting behaviours or different species we might observe in the yard. We'd like to share some of these in our newsletter.

Last week we spotted what we think is a Blue Flower Wasp busily digging in the sand outside of the sandpit out the back.

We also got a close-up photo of a very tiny Garden Skink who was rescued from the outdoor sink.

This week, we have observed a beautiful Eastern Spinebill feeding on the nectar of a Correa shrub in our front garden.



If you would like to submit any photos/observations from the school or local area to include in our next newsletter, please forward to carissa.kinder@education.vic.edu.au



**ATTENTION
PLEASE!**

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Families of students attending a government or non-government school in rural/regional Victoria may be eligible for financial assistance to help them meet the cost of transporting children to and from school.

The financial assistance – known as a **conveyance allowance** – is a contribution towards transport costs and is not intended to cover the full cost of transporting children to and from school. Types of transport modes include public transport, private car and private bus.

To be eligible for a conveyance allowance, students must be of school age and:

- **reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from home to school and;**
- **live in rural and regional Victoria and attend their nearest government school/campus**

The conveyance allowance is paid by the Department of Education to families via the school.

If you think your child may qualify for a conveyance allowance, please contact the school to discuss eligibility, and for further information on the application process and payment amounts.

More information is also available at:

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/conveyance-allowance/policy>

Chat to Carlyne or Hayley if you think you are eligible for the Conveyance Allowance...



PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

ACT NOW

Expression of Interest wanted!

We are looking for local photographers both amateur and professional, of all ages who would like to display their works during the Mini Fest. (Don't have a fancy camera, that's ok you can use your phone!)

The theme is "**Local what does it mean to you**"

The art show will be held in the Wadambuk St Andrews Community Centre as part of the Wadambuk Minifest Saturday 29th March 2025 Time: 1pm – 5pm

The exhibition will remain on display in the centre for 6 weeks following the festival.

Entry is \$10.00 /piece for those over 18yo.

No fees or commissions are taken on any works sold.

If you need further information and are interested, please email us an image of your photo at standrewscommunitycentre@gmail.com

Maximum of 2 works per person.

(The committee does not guarantee that all submissions will be selected for display).

Expression of Interest closes: 14th March 2025

Email: standrewscommunitycentre@gmail.com





Important Information

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Educator: Tracey Jones

Hours of Operation: Tuesday – Friday
7:00 – 8:45 am 3:30 – 6:00pm



FOR OSHC BOOKINGS & INFORMATION

call or text 0427 245 921 or 9710 1255

Senior Information Night

Wednesday March 5th 6pm

We are requesting that one parent from each household and each senior student attend our **Senior Information Night** this coming Wednesday, March 5th, at 6pm in the Library. We will be running a session covering:

- Classroom expectations and learning
- Preparing for High School
- Digital Technology Use
- Student Leadership
- Student Behaviour and Wellbeing
- Sporting and Extracurricular activities

**ATTENTION
PLEASE!**



Ritchies Community Benefit Program

Follow the prompts when you sign up for free to nominate St Andrews Primary School VIC as your favourite recipient.

Register here:

<https://loyalty.ritchies.com.au/#/register>

Or download the Ritchies app to your phone here:

<https://loyalty.ritchies.com.au/share/index.html>



Not only are you helping your club, school or charity, you'll also get extra benefits.

BENEFITS:



Supporting clubs, schools and charities made easy



Special offers and savings exclusive to members



Digital Ritchies Card with an easy-to-use app

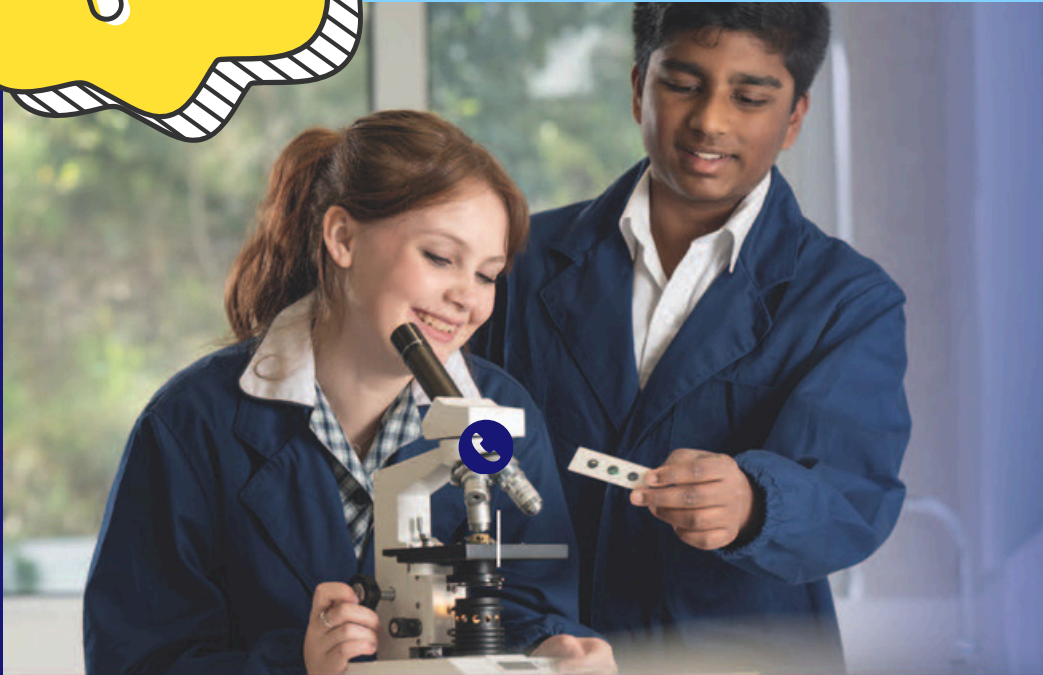


Free to join – start saving instantly





Community News



Interactive Open Afternoon

Thursday 27 March 2025

Auditorium, Diamond Valley College
Information sessions at 4:00, 4:45 and 5:30pm

*Join us to explore the endless opportunities
awaiting your child in 2026!*

Bookings
essential,
please scan
the QR code
to book a
session



Semester 1 School Tours

*Tours are open to students and
families considering secondary school
commencing **2026**. Bookings essential.*



RESPECT | EXCELLENCE | RESPONSIBILITY

165-179 Main Hurstbridge Rd, Diamond Creek VIC 3089

www.dvallcoll.vic.edu.au

**DIAMOND
VALLEY
COLLEGE**



Parent Support Seminars

Term 1 2025

Helping your anxious child

In this practical parenting seminar you will learn helpful ways of responding to and supporting your child with anxiety.

🕒 9.45am-11.45am

📅 Thursday 6 March 2025

📍 healthAbility Box Hill, 43
Carrington Road Box Hill Vic 3128

Bookings essential.
Scan QR code to book



Bringing out the best in your child's behaviour

Learn positive parenting strategies to get less of the behaviour you don't want and more of the behaviour you do want.

🕒 9.45am-11.45am

📅 Tuesday 11 March 2025

📍 healthAbility Eltham, 917 Main
Road Eltham Vic 3095

Bookings essential.
Scan QR code to book



Keeping your cool with your kids

Learn strategies for keeping calm and positive when your child's behaviour becomes challenging.

🕒 9.45am-11.45am

📅 Tuesday 18 March 2025

📍 healthAbility Eltham, 917 Main
Road Eltham Vic 3095

Bookings essential.
Scan QR code to book



Ways to reduce family conflict

In this practical parenting seminar, learn practical tips and strategies to manage family conflict.

🕒 9.45am-11.45am

📅 Thursday 27 March 2025

📍 healthAbility Box Hill, 43 Carrington
Road Box Hill Vic 3128

Bookings essential.
Scan QR code to book



For more information

Please contact Family Support Worker Joan Lauricella at
joan.lauricella@healthability.org.au

Box Hill: 43 Carrington Road, Box Hill VIC 3128

Eltham: 917 Main Road, Eltham VIC 3095

Phone: (03) 9430 9100 | **Email:** contact@healthability.org.au

Website: healthability.org.au





**FIRST
CLASS
FREE**

TUESDAYS

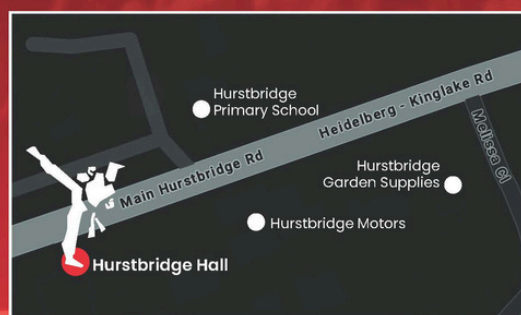
4:30-5:30PM 5-7YRS
5:30-6:30PM 8-10YRS
6:30-7:30PM 11-13YRS
7:30-8:30PM SENIORS

**FITNESS
SELF DEFENCE
CONFIDENCE
SELF ESTEEM**

Hurstbridge Hall, 975 Heidelberg Kinglake Rd, Hurstbridge

TAEKWONDO

**FITNESS
SELF DEFENCE
CONFIDENCE
SELF ESTEEM**



CONTACT JAY 0491 201 331

E schembristaekwondo@bigpond.com.au

**Hurstbridge Hall
975 Heidelberg Kinglake Rd
Hurstbridge**



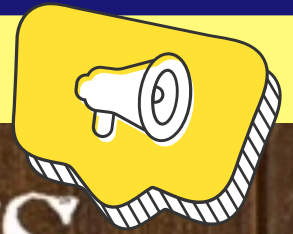
NATIVE PLANT & BOOK SALE

12th April 10am - 3pm

**Eltham Community & Reception
Centre
801 Main Road, Eltham**



**Organised by Australian Plants Society Yarra Yarra Group
Inc. No. A0039676Y**



ST ANDREWS BARN DANCE

FUNDRAISING FOR THE LOCAL ST ANDREWS CFA

Saddle up, put your boots on, and join
us for some dancing

- * SATURDAY 15TH OF MARCH
- * 7PM ONWARDS
- * ST ANDREWS HALL - 5 PROCTOR ST, ST ANDREWS 3761
- * \$10 PER PERSON - ALL FUNDS GO TO THE LOCAL FIRE BRIGADE

MUST BRING A PLATE TO SHARE FOR SUPPER

This event is organised and run by Miss
Australia Tahlia Edmonds.

I am continuing to proudly support and
advocate for natural disasters. This dance
will raise funds for the local Fire Brigade
who work hard to keep the community safe.
We are all thankful for their volunteers and
their dedication to save lives.

RSVP TO TAHLIA ON - FACEBOOK OR
0483804770



St Andrews Community Centre

WADAMBUK MINIFEST



Saturday

March 29th 2025

1pm – 5pm

**Wadambuk St Andrews Community Centre
10th Birthday Celebration**

FREE LIVE MUSIC & KIDS ENTERTAINMENT

Black Cat Bone

Steve & Lilly, Heartwood trio, Em Chandler

PHOTOGRAPHIC ART SHOW

MENS SHED OPEN

DEVONSHIRE TEA, BBQ & CAKE STALL

VINTAGE CAR SHOW

Proudly supported by

