



Diary

Wed 16th Oct

Year 1 Melbourne Museum and IMAX Excursion

Fri 18th Oct

Ajani Donation Day

Mon 21st Oct – Tues 22nd Oct

Year 3 Camp Weekaway

Mon 21st Oct – Fri 1st Nov

Year 5 and 6 Swimming Program

Mon 28th Oct – Wed 30th Oct

Year 4 Camp CYC The Island

Fri 1st Nov

Prep Zoo Excursion

Mon 4th Nov

Curriculum Day (No School)

Tues 5th Nov

Melbourne Cup Day
(Public Holiday)

Ready to Approve and/or Pay on XUNO

Year 1 Museum and IMAX

Year 4 Camp CYC The Island

Year 5 Camp Rumbug

Year 5 and 6 Swimming Program

Year 6 Camp Howqua

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Serpell Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 15th October 2024

From the Principal

THE ADVENTURE OF GOING TO CAMP

For students in Years 3 to 6, this term is an exciting opportunity to explore learning beyond the classroom through school camp. Camp provides outdoor education in the study of the Australian environment, builds social relationships, enhances physical skill development, encourages adventure and facilitates growth in independence. At the Year 6 graduation, students often share that their best memories of primary school are the camps. All camps are housed in secure accommodation with attached bathroom facilities, dining and indoor recreation spaces. Staffing is based on a 1:10 ratio.

The Year 3 camp is a two-day event to be held next week at Camp Weekaway, located in Benloch, north of Lansfield and just 90 minutes from school by coach. This student experience features the challenges of negotiating a giant maze, riding the flying fox (zip line), archery, team building games and observing the local echidnas and kangaroos. Year 4 will then travel to Phillip Island the following week for a beautiful environmental studies camp including a visit to the world-famous Penguin Parade and rambles along the beach. Year 5 will travel in week five to Camp Rumbug, a challenging three-day camp in South Gippsland. The activities will include hiking, orienteering, low ropes, archery, rafting, giant swing, flying fox and more. Year 6 are the last camp in week 9 and their experience at Camp Howqua is full on adventure. Horse riding, raft building, tower climbing, survivor challenge, flying fox, bush walking and a water slide. I wish to thank the staff who are willing to give their personal time to the school camps, in order to provide the children with rich experiences and lifelong skills and memories.



PARENT SOCIAL MEDIA RESPECT

At primary school level we are very experienced at dealing with small children and their interactions at play. Things happen. Balls fly through the air and bounce on someone running past, children tumble off the play equipment without anyone pushing them, someone decides to play with someone else. Most of it is spontaneous and without any ill intention at all. Little kids think and do very odd things at times. Luckily, we have CCTV, so that we can review events with the students and establish what has happened in a conflicting story situation. If your child comes home with a story that is concerning, please tell the teacher or the principal class if you are very worried and we will attend to it. It is not respectful to attack parents of another child online and most of the time there will be more or less to the story than is evident.

WILMA CULTON PSM

SCHOOL SAVING BONUS (SSB)

The SSB is a one-off \$400 support package for all Victorian school-aged students enrolled in 2025. Families will receive an email from the Department of Education in the next few weeks, you will then be able to access the SSB Portal and select how you wish to disperse the funds. These funds can **ONLY** be redeemed for school uniforms and excursions in 2025 (excursion levy, camps and swimming).

We ask that you check your personal information on XUNO to ensure that your email addresses are correct. The Department of Education will be corresponding with Adult A on your records.

We will be updating you with information as it comes to hand, so please keep an eye on XUNO News and the School Newsletter.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are excited to announce that our school uniform supplies will be moving off-site to Spartan School World at Ringwood as of 18th November 2024.

The change over will occur between between Friday 8th November and Sunday 17th November. During this time, there will be no purchases processed.

As of **Monday 18th November** all school uniforms will be available at the Spartan School World shop, Unit 12/100 New Street, Ringwood and online at www.spartanschoolworld.com.au

This change will allow parents to continue ordering online, but you can now choose home delivery (fee) or delivery to the school to be sent home with your child. You can also order 'click and collect' from the Ringwood store, or go in person to the Ringwood store to try on uniforms and purchase.

Remember: The Serpell Uniform will only be stocked in the Ringwood store, you can not purchase from other Spartan School World stores.

If you currently have a credit note for previously returned purchases to be redeemed, this must be redeemed at the school office prior to Friday 8th November. We will not be able to redeem credit notes after this time. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

SMART DEVICES

There has been a lot of media coverage recently about proposed social media restrictions for children below a certain age. Perhaps it serves as a timely reminder that the Victorian Department of Education currently bans all mobile phones and smart devices from use whilst on school grounds. This applies to smart watches too. Students must switch off and securely store their smart phones and smart watches once they are on school grounds, and are welcome to switch them back on and use them once they leave.

By keeping smart phones and smart watches securely stored (perhaps in their bags) during the day, students are then free to interact with each other face-to-face, without the distractions and social pressures these devices can instigate. Posters explaining the policy have already been placed on display in classrooms to remind students of what to do.

Thank you to all students, staff, and families for continuing to support the implementation of this policy at Serpell.

Further information

Emergencies: In the event of an emergency, or if you need to immediately contact your child, families can contact the school office who will pass on a message as required.

School mobile phone policy: A copy of our school's mobile phone policy, which implements the government's mobile policy in line with our local context, is available on the school website: <https://serpellps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Mobile-Phones-Student-Use-Policy-2023.pdf>

Parent support: *The Mobile Phones in Schools* webpage provides links to resources for families to help them balance their children's time using mobile phones. <https://www.vic.gov.au/mobile-phones-schools> If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out for any further clarification Lachlan.zubevich@education.vic.gov.au

Mr Zubevich, Learning Specialist (STEM)

SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH

Results from this year's Science Talent Search Competition have finally been released, and 2024 has proven to be Serpell's best year yet. Of the 31 students entered into the competition, one third have achieved a major bursary, with another third awarded a minor bursary. All students are to be congratulated on the high standard of their projects!

Major Bursary Winners

Harriet Jung	The Last Dance of the Fireflies: Illuminating the Path to Species Survival	Picture Storybook
Heidi Jung	Paving the Schoolyard: How the children saved the species in their schoolyard	Picture Storybook
Adele Ma	The Little Penguin's Quest: Saving the Krill for the Ocean Creatures	Picture Storybook
Ashley Teh	Analysing the Impact of Climate Change on Species Survival and Strategies to Mitigate its Effects	Poster
Maxwell Lorchirachonkul	Tensegrity	Working Model
Sama Hammard	Indigenous Practices and Species Survival	Poster
Caeley Teh	Tracking species with eDNA	Poster
Megan Jiang	Tracking species with eDNA	Poster
Amelia Vohra	Cutting-edge technologies adding species survival beyond mere sustainability efforts	Poster
Michaiah Jing	Cutting-edge technologies adding species survival beyond mere sustainability efforts	Poster

Minor Bursary Winners

Benjamin YUAN	The Little Penguin's Quest: Saving the Krill for the Ocean Creatures	Picture Storybook
Miranda Yim	We're going on a thylacine hunt using eDNA	Poster
Sierra Tanuwidjaja	eDNA	Video
Athena Wong	The Little Penguin's Quest: Saving the Krill for the Ocean Creatures	Picture Storybook
Danyal Malik	Paving the Schoolyard: How the children saved the species in their schoolyard	Picture Storybook
Rene Chiu	The Unseen Heroes: The Secret Lives of Urban Wildlife	Picture Storybook
Jagen Mahendran	Cutting-edge technologies adding species survival beyond mere sustainability efforts	Poster
Aaron Tsoi	Penguins	Picture Storybook
Amanda PANG	Chemistry	Video
Kavish Thakur	Cutting-edge technologies adding species survival beyond mere sustainability efforts	Poster

Distinctions

Everest Song	Blue Cold Fire	Video
Athena Guo	Tracking species with eDNA	Poster
Matteo Tsoi	The Unseen Heroes: The Secret Lives of Urban Wildlife	Picture Storybook
Lucas Yu	Tracking species with eDNA	Poster

Wyatt Li	Cutting-edge technologies adding species survival beyond mere sustainability efforts	Poster
Jenny Wu	Climate Change	Poster

Merit

Chloe Lee	Whispers of the sea: a Penguin's Mission for Krill	Picture Storybook
Joshua Genziuk	The Little Penguin's Quest: Saving the Krill for the Ocean Creatures	Picture Storybook
Avanish Shiralkar	Water Purifier	Working Model
Ava Paule	Fireflies	Picture Storybook

Acknowledgement

Issac Luo	Acid Rain	Video
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Certificates and Bursary Gifts will be handed out during an Awards Assembly towards the end of the year. Congratulations to all the students at Serpell for their outstanding engagement with Science, and the parents and teachers who support them!

Mr Zubevich, Learning Specialist (STEM)

SPORTS, CLUBS, GROUPS AND LEADER PHOTOS

Recently the photographs for the Serpell sports, clubs, groups, and student leaders were taken. They will be on display opposite the health centre in the coming weeks but are available to order online now!

Pricing and Details:

Each photograph is \$12.

Enjoy a 10% discount if you ordered school photos this year.

Photos will be mailed directly to your home.

You can place orders until the end of the 2024 school year.

How to Order:

Visit: www.leadingimage.com.au

Access Key: Use your child's original access key (the same one used for school photo orders).

If you have forgotten your code, please email kristele.kluke@education.vic.gov.au with the following details:

Child's Preferred Name:

Child's Surname:

Child's 2024 Class:

Kristele Kluke, Assistant Principal

DONATION DAY FOR LIVING AND LEARNING @ AJANI

The Social Action Representatives have organized a Donation Day on Friday, October 18th, to support Living and Learning @ Ajani, a local centre providing food and care items for those in need.

Here is the list of suggested donations by year level:

- **Prep & Year 1:** Pasta, rice, and dry noodles
- **Year 2:** Sweet and dry biscuits
- **Year 3:** Tea, coffee, and long-life milk
- **Year 4 & 5:** Canned food and jars
- **Year 6:** Kitchen essentials



Please bring your donations on Friday, October 18th. Your contributions will make a significant difference in our community.

Thank you,
Mrs. Sutcliffe and the Social Action Team

SUNSMART POLICY

The lovely Spring sunshine has arrived and it's great to see many children wearing their hats outside. It's time for everyone to be wearing their hats everyday at school and applying sunscreen in the mornings. Please remind your child to place their hat in their school bag and leave it at school for the term. Also, if parents or grandparents are assisting with school activities, including excursions, could they also wear a hat outside. Let's enjoy the sun safely.

Mara Rawlings

2024 AEROBICS NATIONALS

The road to Aeroschools Nationals began way back in February when approximately 100 students from Years 3-6 tried out for the 2024 Aerobics squad. 20 girls were selected to compete at the Victorian Aeroschools Championships in August. This event hosted 23 schools and featured 356 routines! The four Serpell teams did extremely well in each of their divisions and eventually two teams were chosen to represent Serpell at the National Clubs Carnival on the Gold Coast. The teams, consisting of Alexia, Angela, Beatrice, Caeley, Chloe Y, Chloe G, Grace, Isabel and Zoe, showed incredible dedication and commitment in the months before Nationals, meeting for training between three and five times every week.

The competition was held on the Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th of October at the Gold Coast Sports and Leisure Centre. The C Multiple competed on Thursday afternoon (huge thanks to Isabel for filling in when Grace was unfortunately unable to join us in QLD) and achieved a brilliant result of fourth in Australia (after also coming fourth out of 31 teams at Vic Champs!). On Friday morning, our B Team competed in a highly skilled division and finished with the third top score, however due to some tied scores were awarded fifth place. What an incredible achievement for this group of students and many thanks to the parents and families for their support on the Gold Coast!



TEMPLESTOWE DISTRICT VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

What an awesome day we had last Thursday competing in the TDPSSA volleyball competition. Our girls' team competed in the morning, winning all four games without dropping a set. Our girls were very strong servers, with many successive points achieved without a mistake. The girls will now represent the Templestowe District against Doncaster PS (Manningham Division final) – Thursday 17th October at Serpell, 9.30 am. Well done girls on your fantastic achievement!

The boys' team competed in the afternoon. Some powerful overarm serves led us to not drop a set in the first 3 games, even though nerves were rife. Our final game against Warrandyte was LOUD!! Serpell lost the first set but bounced back to a 13-2 lead. They had to win the second set to take it to a third. Do not ask what happened. Only the boys will know..... Somehow they went down in the second set 18-16. Such is sport – there is always a

winning team and always a losing team. Our boys had to be content with the red flag. Well done to all the players. I was very proud of your efforts and with your commitment to training throughout the year!



Lola Hughes (Coach)

MANNINGHAM DIVISION ATHLETICS

Last Thursday, 16 students competed in the Manningham Division Athletics finals held at the Burwood track. The competition at this level ramps up when compared to the district carnival, with many children also involved in Little Aths. Serpell had some great results. Out of our 16 participants, 6 have progressed to the Eastern Metropolitan Regional finals, to be held on Thursday 24th Oct at the Doncaster Athletics Track. Well done to Ashton Woodstock (discus/shotput); Ethan Ma (100m/200m); Lachlan Li (800m); Jagen Mahendran & Valerie Zachos (triple jump); Sam Zhang (discus); Kerrie Wang (1500m); and Jayden Wong, Oscar Liu, Harisshaan Srishanmugathan and Marcus Liu (circular relay) – for their fantastic efforts. Progressing to the EMR finals are Terrance Diao (1500m); Marcus Liu (hurdles) and the U11 circular relay team – Adrian Malekshahi, Ryan Liu, Jeremy Harianto and Nyle Baig. Good luck at the next level boys!

Lola Hughes & Kris Sais

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Welcome back to Term 4. Hope everyone's had a great first week. We have two special events scheduled for this term.
 School Disco - 29th Nov
 Teacher's Lunch – TBC
 Please check back on our column for more updates in the coming weeks.

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic BOOK CLUB Issue 7 is out now! ORDER CLOSING DATE: Monday 25 October 2024 Keep your reading rolling in term 4 with great book selections and take advantage of free book offers for spend over \$20. Thank you for supporting our school.



Bulleen Templestowe Basketball Club Junior Community League (Spring 2024)

Results : 07/10-11/10

TEAM	SCORE	OPPONENT
Serpell Skyrocket (5/6 Boys)	43 14	Temp Valley Tigers
Serpell Sparrows (5/6 Girls)		BYE
Serpell Storm (5/6 Girls)	3 27	Mariners Thunder
Serpell Supreme (3/4 Boys)	47 16	Ivanhoe Grammar Craters
Serpell Savages (3/4 Boys)	8 26	Tempy Park Tigers
Serpell Spiders (3/4 Boys)		BYE
Serpell Scorpions (1/2 Boys)		BYE
Serpell Sixers (1/2 Boys)	22 11	Mariners Rebound Warriors
Serpell Sevens (1/2 Boys)	19 6	THPS Monsters
Serpell Seekers (1/2 Boys)	30 6	Donvale Raptors
Serpell Sliders (1/2 Boys)	23 6	Donvale Warriors
Serpell Superpower (1/2 Boys)	2 20	Temp Valley Golden Phoenix
Serpell Sunfires (1/2 Girls)	6 2	Donvale Legends
Serpell Sparkles (1/2 Girls)	0 13	Mariners Glitter Dragons
Serpell Stars (3/4 Girls)	50 0	Doncaster Gardens Girls 3/4 Blue
Serpell Supershooter (3/4 Girls)	16 2	Ivanhoe Grammar Solar Flares
Serpell Snipers (3/4 Girls)	6 12	Donvale Stars

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Nora Wang (3AB) competed at the Yarra Plenty Waves Swim Meet and placed first in both the Girls 8Y 25SC meter butterfly and backstroke. Well done!



AFTERSCHOOL CARE



Guiding children's growth

Newsletter

Date: 14/10 – 18/10



A Message from your Coordinator

Dear Serpell Primary School Families,
 Welcome to Term 4! We had a fantastic Rocketeers holiday program, which included a trip to the Yarra Valley Chocolaterie & Ice Creamery, a fun sports incursion, and plenty of other interactive activities.

We have an exciting program prepared for Term 4. Each Thursday we will be having a Level up Incursion that will focus on athletics such as strength training, mind strengthening, resilience training and agility training. We are looking forward to engaging in the program plus many more activities. It is going to be so much fun!

Your children need to be registered to attend our service. Please book on the Camp Australia Website.

-Farnaz & Team

Activities Coming Up

- Felt Animal masks
- Jungle Sensory
- Swan Handprint Art

What's on the Menu?

- Pasta
- Sandwiches
- Noodles



To register and book, visit www.campastralia.com.au





SOCIAL ACTION!

HELP US REFILL THE AJANI FOOD PANTRY

Prep and Year 1 Pasta, rice and dry noodles		Year 2 Sweet and dry biscuits	
Year 3 Tea, coffee and long life milk	 	Year 4 and 5 Canned food and jars	 
 LIVING & LEARNING @ AJANI	Year 6 Kitchen essentials	 	

Friday October 18th

Give Your Child the Gift of Music
Learn a Musical Instrument
here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, flute, clarinet, here at Serpell Primary School.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-to-one lessons of up to 30 minutes give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Enrolments are now being accepted for limited places.

Interested parents should call Samantha during office hours on 9818 2333 or via email: samantha@creativemusic.com.au



 **Creative Music**
www.creativemusic.com.au