



NEWSLETTER

November 25th 2020 - Week 8 Term 4

Whole School Dates to Remember

Wednesday November 25—Optimism session at 7.30pm with Lauren Short at the Tambo Campus

Thursday December 17—Last day of School and Celebration Night.

Tambo Campus Dates to Remember

December 7-11 Year 7 School for Student Leadership Camp

Flagstaff Campus Dates to Remember

Tuesday December 1—Year 5/6 Mini Golf excursion

Principal's Message

As we rush towards the end of the year and we see a change with some of our operations due to changes with the COVID safe regulations, we can enjoy some things returning to as they have been in more normal times. So one of the simple changes is that masks are great, but if you are outdoors and can social distance then there is no need to wear them. However, that does not change the rules around wearing masks inside and looking after yourself so you can protect those that you love and care about.

The Celebration Night we thought may be in jeopardy is now more likely to happen this year than not. If we can have events of up to 150 people for funerals and weddings we may be a chance of having a Celebration Night. At this stage we are planning on tweaking our event to recognise the work and achievements of students in a complex year, but the event will have some changes to help us be COVID safe as that is what the DET is needing us to do. Clearly being a part of a system we do need to operate within the guidelines that the Minister has set.

So we will have an event in two very distinct halves this year, where we will have the Flagstaff event then the Tambo event, with no overlap between them. The normal process of catering we will not be doing this year. The reason for this is to try and limit the numbers of people gathering at the one time. The fact that we would be outdoors for this still does not allow us to have unlimited numbers of people in the space. This compromise is better than the event not going ahead. The two events will be shorter in duration given the reality of the year we have had, with the less content to acknowledge, and the shorter preparation time to get students ready for a performance on the big stage.

The data that the state has been recording at this present point in time does suggest that some of this thinking is not necessary. However the experts do keep reminding us about being complacent, and again we must follow the direction that our Department provides.

We know that we have a very short time left but it will be busy for all. As we race towards the end it is important that we all keep working together to have a great end to the year. For some it will also include some preparation and planning for the next stage of the learning journey in a new campus or classroom. That is part of the joy that school offers.

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As we move towards the end of the year one of the jobs that we are working on is the school magazine. We are aware that we have had such a different year this will be reflected in our publication. It is a bit like the Celebration Night. It will have elements of what we normally do but they will be tweaked to reflect a very different year of schooling.

Finally, please do not forget the invitation for the session with Lauren Short at 7.30pm today, at the Tambo campus. Lauren will further elaborate on her thinking around optimism and the importance it plays in everyone's mindset.



Robert Boucher

Head lice

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

It has come to my attention that some students in the school may have head lice and I seek your cooperation in checking your child's hair this week.

Head lice do not transmit infectious diseases – they are transmitted by having head to head contact with someone who has head lice. You may be reassured to know that head lice are commonly found in places other than at Swifts Creek P-12 School. Head lice are common in school-aged children and are the most adaptable of creatures. They have survived living solely on humans for 10,000 years!!!!

What can you do?

I seek your cooperation in checking your child's hair and in those instances where head lice or eggs are found, treating your child's hair. Please visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au and search for "head lice (nits)" for advice on finding, treating and preventing head lice.

If head lice or eggs are found on your child's hair you need to inform:

- the school and advise when the treatment has started, via the attached *Action Taken Form*.
- parents or carers of your child's friends so they too have the opportunity to detect and treat their children if necessary.

When can my child return to school?

Health regulations requires that where a child has head lice, that child should not return to school until the day after appropriate treatment has started. Please note, this refers only to those children who have live head lice and does not refer to head lice eggs. More information about exclusion requirements can be found by searching for "school exclusion table" at www.health.vic.gov.au.

Swifts Creek P-12 School is aware that head lice can be a sensitive issue and is committed to maintaining your confidentiality.

Robert Boucher

Tote Bags - Textiles

The students have been working on creating their own tote bags in Textiles this semester. It's been a challenging process with the semester being what it's been but the girls have all worked really hard and the results speak volumes about their dedication and perseverance. These beautiful silk stencil designs have been created by Lara and Lily T. Well done girls on an amazing effort!



Some exciting news.

It looks like the pool may be opening this weekend.

As of Monday all students should bring their bathers to school. You need to wear a rashie and bring a towel and goggles if you have them. If you are unwell or unable to swim please bring a note from home.

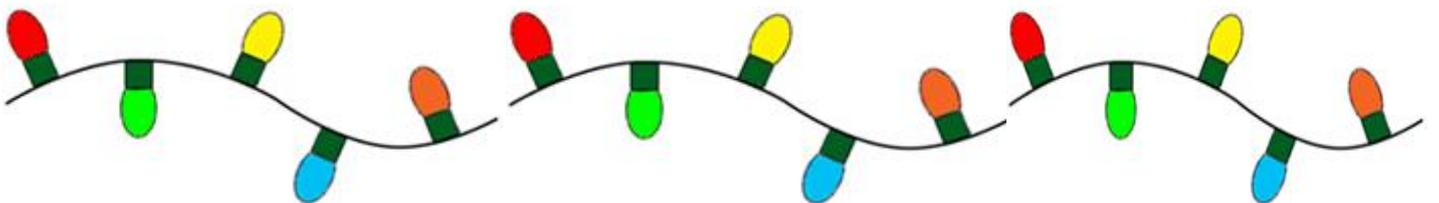
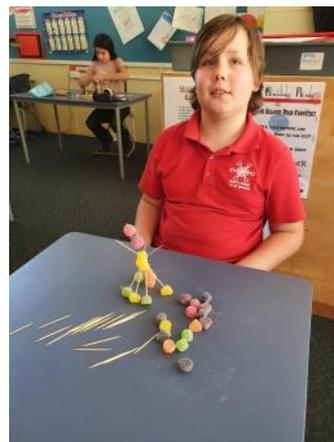
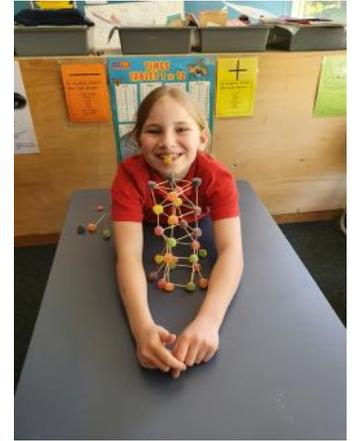
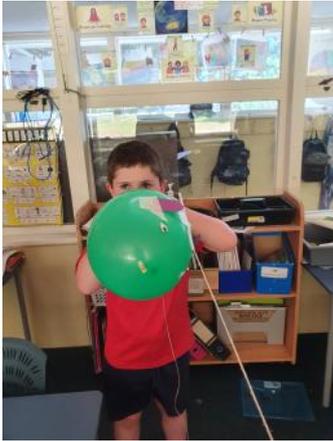
Kylie Krause

PE Teacher/Sports Coordinator



Creative Thinking

It was beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Creative Thinking last week. The students were asked to make a 'Rudolf Rocket' from a balloon and a straw and were challenged to see who could make the fastest one. They were also challenged with making the tallest Christmas tree from toothpicks and gum drops!! Some of them were quite creative in how they approached each challenge!



Last week on Friday the Preps and Grade Ones celebrated finally being AT school for 101 days this year.

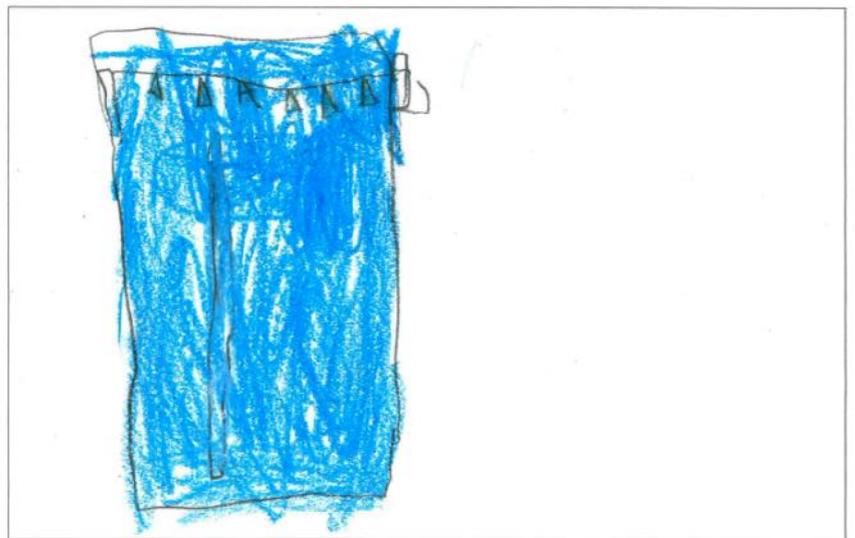
101 Days at School!



The best thing about my 101 days at school is seeing my friends



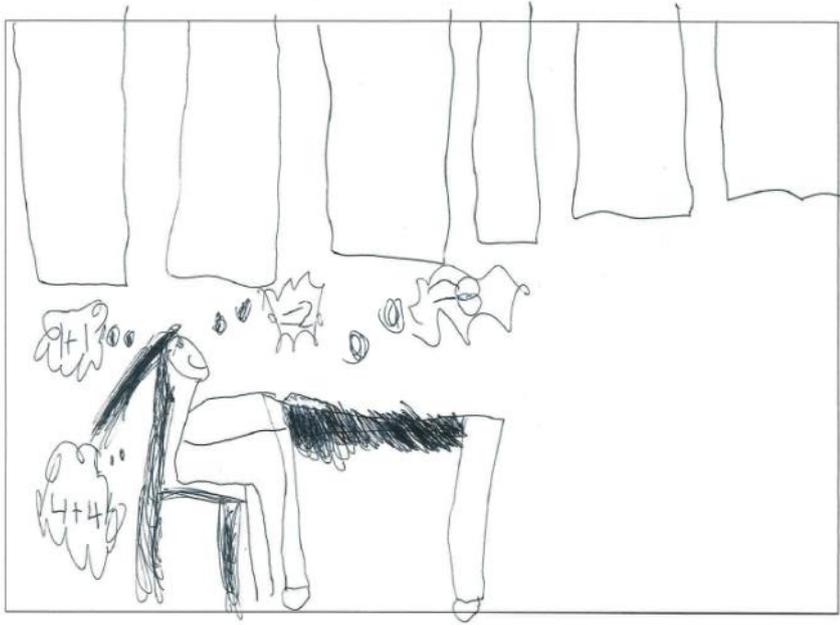
101 Days at School!



The best thing about my 101 days at school is the pool
because I like swimming.



101 Days at School!



The best thing about my 101 days at school is maThs.



101 Days at School!



The best thing about my 101 days at school is going to the pool.



Year 12 Last Day

Our Year 12 students celebrated their last ever official day at school on Friday November 6th.

While some things had to be different this year, we tried to give them some of the traditional rites of passage of this important milestone.

Sadly gone was the traditional Big Breakfast held with the whole school. Instead we were able to farewell them with a much smaller Long Lunch, with just the finishing students and a small number of staff.

Afterwards the students got to participate in the customary hand prints and wall signing, leaving their mark on the school for posterity.

Some students were of course returning for final exams, some still had some work to finish off, and for some this was their last day as a school student. For all this was their last chance to be together as a group at school. Whatever their pathways may hold, we wish them all the best for their futures.

John O'Neill
Later Years Coordinator



Swifts Creek P-12 School says NO to violence against women and children

This week the United Nations and Respect Victoria are promoting a community focus on reducing gender-based violence, which causes severe harm to children and families. Students at all year levels learn about the causes of gender-based violence and the importance of reducing it. Students in some classes were also able to support the current campaign by decorating the campaign symbol (a hand) in the orange theme of the campaign – “Hands Up To Change The Story”. These fantastic posters are on display around the school.

Gippsland Lakes Complete Health have given us some t-shirts with this slogan, an image of a decorated hand, and on the back the words “East Gippsland Says No! To Violence.” We will distribute these T-shirts to students who participated in the design activity. If you do not want your child to receive one of these shirts, please just let us know.

