

SHPS Community Newsletter



Edition 6 - Week 9 Term 3, 2025

Respect Responsibility
Learning

Education Week

This week we celebrated Education Week. A huge thank-you to everyone who attended our afternoon sessions and to our amazing staff for organising wonderful and engaging experiences for our students.

Sensory Garden Official Opening

On Tuesday this week, we celebrated the official opening of our Sensory Garden. It was a wonderful event, attended by Department officials, a State Member of Parliament, some members of our school council and student representatives, including our school captains and vice captains.



Sun Smart

It's time to get dust off your school hats as the weather changes and the UV increases. Remember that hats must be worn during outdoor activities in Term 4.

Wishing you all a restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school, refreshed and ready to learn on Monday 6th October.



We acknowledge and pay respect to the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet, learn and play, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Child Safety at SHPS



Child safety and wellbeing at Sunshine Harvester Primary School, information for families and the school community.

Sunshine Harvester Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework explains how we support and maintain child safety and wellbeing at Sunshine Harvester Primary School. It includes our:

- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy

[Sunshine Harvester Primary School Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy \(2024\)](#)

- Child Safety Reporting and Responding Obligations Procedures

[Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures](#)

- Child Safety Code of Conduct, which outlines acceptable and unacceptable behaviours for all staff and volunteers at our school.

[Child Safety Code of Conduct 2024](#)

Our students and families are important partners in providing a child safe environment. These regular newsletter reminders are one of the ways we ensure our school community is aware of:

- our commitment to child safety, and
- how to provide feedback or raise child safety concerns.

If you have any concerns about child safety at any time, please contact Alison Farr on 9311 1234. Any child safety complaints or concerns are treated seriously. For more information about our school's complaints process, see our Complaints Policy.

[Complaints Policy](#)

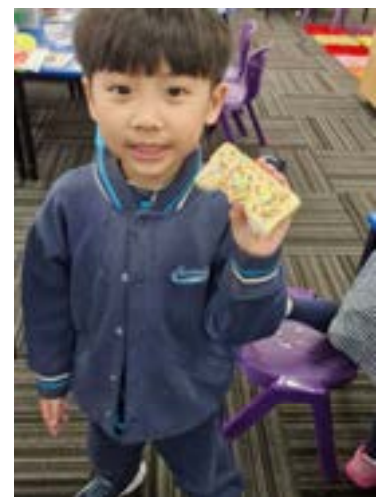
We also welcome your ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing. If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Alison Farr on 9311 1234 or at

sunshine.harvester.ps@education.vic.gov.au.



In the Foundation Pod

We have been continuing our learning about positional language, data collection, recount writing and reading strategies. We had a lot of fun making some fairy bread and counting cars!



In the Year 1 Pod

This term the Year Ones learnt about Lifecycles and Minibeasts. We had the Marvellous Minibeasts incursion and students had a chance to hold and feed butterflies, dig for minibeasts and insects, touch caterpillars and explore the skins of minibeasts by looking through a microscope!





In the Year 2 Pod

This term, our Year Twos have been diving into the important inquiry topic of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. As part of our learning, we've been thinking critically about how our choices impact the environment and how we can take action to care for our planet.

To deepen our understanding, we've been exploring two powerful forms of writing: persuasive texts and poetry.

In our persuasive writing, students have been learning how to express their opinions clearly and convincingly. To strengthen their persuasive writing, students have been using the Burger Template to structure their arguments clearly, with a strong introduction, juicy supporting reasons, and a satisfying conclusion.

They've also been spicing up their writing with a range of persuasive techniques, including Simile Sausage, Authoritative Avocado, Eggplant Exaggeration, Rhetorical Relish, Egg Emotive Language, Fried Chicken Repetition, and Slurpee Statistics — each one adding flavour and impact to their messages about helping our planet!



Here is an example from Caden Santos.



The Life of a Polar Bear

The polar bear is having a happy life.

Uh oh!

It is starting to feel warm.

Oh no!

The ice is melting.

The polar bear sinks, never to be seen again.

SPLAT!

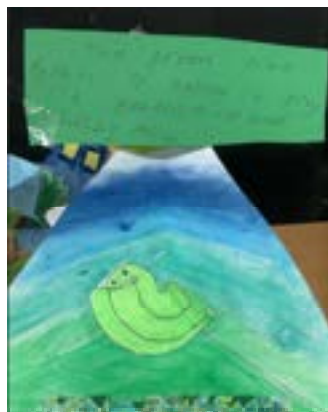
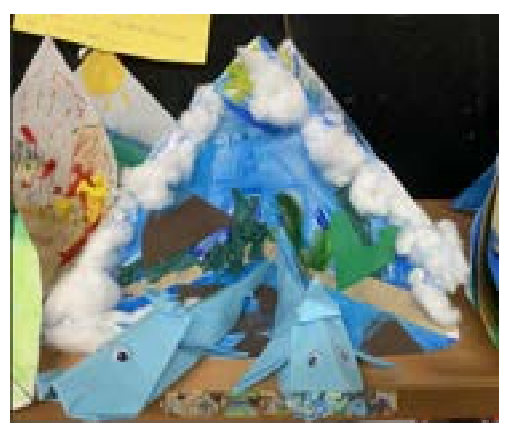
He sinks to the bottom.

And finally, an iceberg falls on his white tummy.



In the Year 3 Pod

We have been busy writing information reports about the Australian animals we researched earlier this term. To accompany our information reports, we have made trioramas. Each triorama segment shows a 3-D representation of topics such as the habitat, diet and appearance of our animals. We have enjoyed using our creativity, imagination, and crafting skills to showcase our research on this project!



In the Year 4 Pod

This term we have been exploring mass and capacity. Students have had the opportunity to use a variety of instruments to explore the mass of classroom objects and the capacity of different containers, utilising our sandpit and water play area.



In The Year 5 Pod

Many of our Year Five students were lucky enough to go to camp at Camp Weekaway in Benloch during week 7. The camp was amazing and students got to experience the great outdoors with activities such as canoeing, hut building, a flying fox, an initiative course, archery and bush laser tag!

There was also a night bush walk to spot some wildlife and a Minecraft movie night on the second evening. It was such a great experience for the students, and we saw many step out of their comfort zone and build their confidence to try new activities!



Students who stayed at school enjoyed a school camp program. They put up tents, made pizzas and honey joys, and watched a movie. The non campers finished their week off by enjoying a sausage sizzle bbq.

As we approach the conclusion of Term 3, we would like to congratulate all Year Five students for a great term. Wishing all students and families a safe and happy holiday and we are looking forward to seeing you in Term 4.

In the Year 6 Pod

The Year Six students recently enjoyed an exciting adventure at Weekaway Camp. The three-day, two-night experience gave students the opportunity to connect with nature and participate in a wide range of engaging outdoor activities. Highlights included the flying fox, hut building, archery, canoeing, a night walk, and many more memorable challenges.

It was a wonderful experience for our Year Six students, creating lasting memories from their final year in primary school.





ARTS

Mini Architects at Work

Our Year Three students have been busy designing and building animal hotels as part of their mini architects project on threatened species. Using recycled materials, they combined their creativity with problem solving to create imaginative shelters for Australian wildlife. The project developed their construction skills, encouraged teamwork, innovation, and sustainability - showing how everyday items can be transformed into something unique and exciting.



Ms Kim

STEM



In Year Three, we have been researching and designing nesting boxes for some different native Australian animals. Many old trees are being cut down for human purposes, but it is these old trees that are home to many animals. Our solution... Nesting boxes!

In Year Five, we have been learning all about light! We have learnt new vocabulary like 'reflection', 'refraction' and 'transparent'. Did you know that light travels more than 300,000 km per second! That's more than 7 times around the world in just one second!



In Year Six, we have been learning about electrical circuits. We have been creating simple series and parallel circuits using wires, batteries, globes, LEDs, switches, buzzers and motors.

Health & PE

Health & PE Highlights:

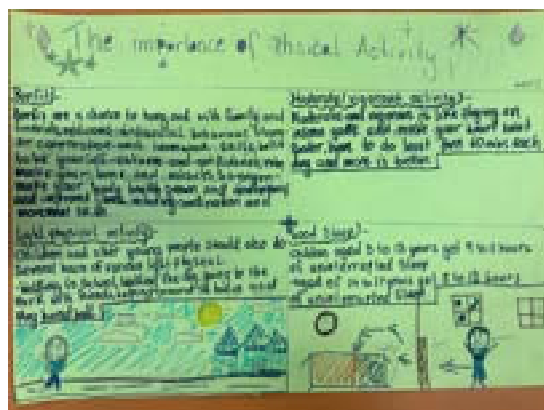
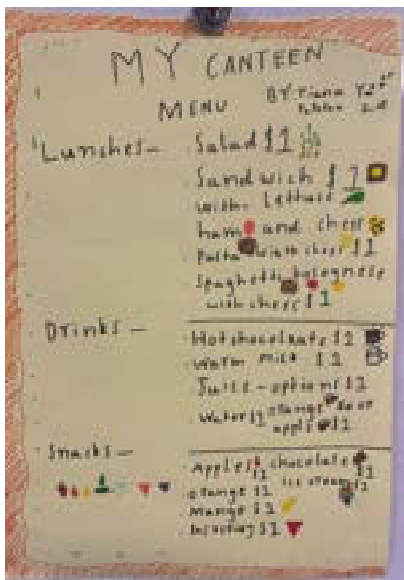
- SHPS Athletics Day
- Regional Athletics Day- Newport
- Division Athletics Finals- Keilor Park
- Education Week- Health and PE Day



Health - Term 3

In Health, Foundation, Year One and Year Two students have been exploring the importance of **healthy eating**. They have enjoyed sorting foods into 'always' and 'sometimes' categories, learning to recognise which choices fuel our bodies best. Students have also investigated the different **food groups** and explained how each helps us grow strong and stay healthy. To put their learning into action, they **designed their own healthy school canteen menus** – full of delicious and nutritious ideas!

In Years Three to Six, students have been investigating how **health messages** influence our choices and overall wellbeing. They have analysed information and messages from the media, considering how these can shape decision-making, before creating their own projects to showcase their understanding. Students also explored the importance of regular **physical activity**, learning about the recommendation of **60 minutes of moderate to vigorous exercise each day**. To put this into practice, they designed their own personalised **weekly fitness programs**, applying their knowledge in a practical and engaging way.

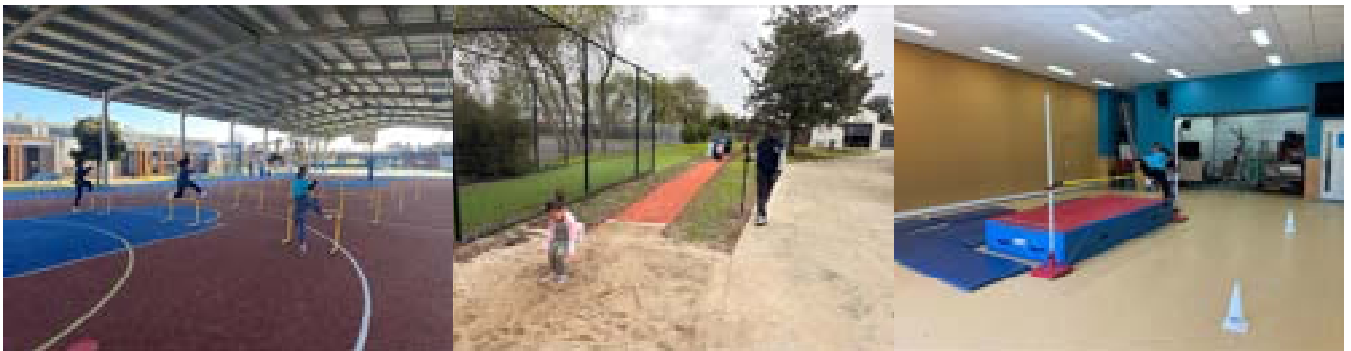


Health & PE

PE - Term 3

In PE this term, Foundation – Year Two students have been busy building their **athletics skills**, taking part in sprinting, relays, hurdles, shot put, and discus. Alongside these events, they have been strengthening their **fundamental movement skills** through a range of fun games, including favourites like **skittle ball**. It's been wonderful to see students challenging themselves, staying active, and enjoying the variety of activities.

Years Three to Six students have been building their **athletics skills**, taking part in sprinting, relay, hurdles, long jump, high jump, shot put, and discus. Alongside this, they have been developing their **Futsal skills**, putting their learning into action through exciting **round-robin tournaments**. It has been fantastic to see students showing great energy, teamwork, and enthusiasm across such a wide variety of sports.



Junior School Council

Every year the JSC buys one major item for the school that will last for many years, and be our legacy. This year it is the Gaga Ball Pit. We have chosen the people who will build it, and we are organising the details now. It will probably be built during term 4 this year.

The 2023 JSC had to wait to see their legacy item in the school. It was a drinking fountain with indigenous art on it. We decided to put it in the sensory garden, but had to wait for the garden to be built. It has finally happened. We invited all 2023 JSC members still at the school, to join the 2025 JSC in the Sensory Garden, for a celebration.



Wellbeing

We have been busy in the Green Room, developing our positive mindsets and building our problem solving skills. We have been making and trying new things and discussing what we can do when things go wrong. Here are some pictures of our activities from this term:

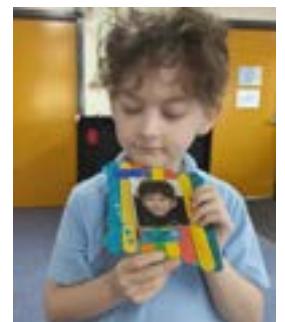
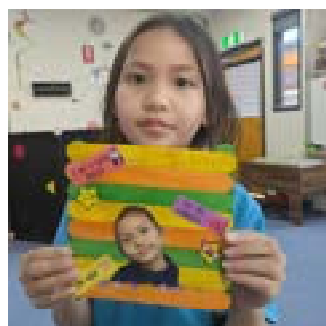
1. Lego is fantastic for developing our problem solving skills and creativity



2. Our slime was fun....and very messy



3. Showing off our positive affirmation frames



Events

Literacy Week - Week 5

Our school celebrated 'Literacy Week' in many fabulous ways. The theme was 'Book An Adventure'. Our favourite books were 'The Truck Cat' and 'How to Move a Zoo'.



Our annual 'Literacy Dress Up Day' was enjoyed by all. Most of our students and teachers took the opportunity to dress up and there were some outstanding costumes, including Mr Ian's which he created himself!



Our school gates had been decorated with colourful book themed posters! The students also participated in an incursion from Perform Education around the theme, Treasure Hunt.



Events

Father's Day – Week 7

The annual Father's Day stall was held on the 1st and 2nd of September and was very successful. A huge thank you goes to Ms Marianne, Ms Jenny and their team of volunteers.

Year 5-6 Camp – Week 7

Seventy-six of our Year 5/6 students attended the 'WEEKAWAY' Camp, from Wednesday to Friday 5th September. The flying fox, laser tag and canoeing were three of students' favourite activities. The feedback from staff and students was that everyone had a great time!

Thank you to Mr Jim and Mr Matthew for all the organisation as well as to all of the staff who attended.

The 'Camp at School' program also ran during this time and was organised and co-ordinated by Ms Tina and Mr Tom. The Year 5/6 students who participated in this loved putting up the tents and the sausage sizzle – they experienced lots of camp experiences - but at school!



R U OK Day - Week 8

'R U Ok Day' was acknowledged on 11th September. Our students all participated in an age-appropriate 'R U OK' curriculum lesson.

It has been a really busy term and we have been enjoying all the fun of Education week to finish off this term. More details and photos will follow in the next newsletter.

