

SHPS Community Newsletter



Edition 3 - Week 4 Term 2, 2026

Respect Responsibility
Learning

Mid-year reports

From this week, teachers are busy conducting mid-year assessments as part of the assessment and reporting process. Mid-year reports will be posted via the Parent Portal at the end of term. There may be some changes to reports this semester due to the ongoing statewide industrial action. We will provide further information closer to the end of term if changes are necessary.

School Photos

Just a reminder that school photos will occur next Monday 18th May. Please ensure students are dressed in full school uniform on this day. All photo purchasing will be done online via the Arthur Reed website. Unique login information will be provided to all students on photo day.

Junior Playground Upgrade

Our junior playground sandpit has had a long overdue revamp with new edging and lots of lovely fresh new sand added. The surrounding area has also been levelled with grass seeds planted. We look forward to the area looking refreshed once the lawn sprouts.

Safe parking at drop off and pick up times

A reminder to parents that Rec West offers great parking and is only a short walk from the school. The crossing on Duke Street is manned by Council Traffic Control, so it is a safe crossing. This is a great and safe way for you to drop off children avoiding any chance of fines and helps to ease congestion on Hertford Road. Using the designated crossing and parking points also sets a great example to our students about the importance of road safety.



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





Crossing the road

“I use the school crossing safely” is a whole school expectation for **RESPONSIBILITY** on our school-wide matrix.



STOP



LOOK



LISTEN



THINK



1. *Walk* to the crossing and wait at the thick, white line.
2. *Wait* for the Crossing Guard to sound their whistle before you cross.
3. *Walk* across the road in the lane marked by white lines.



If there is no Crossing Guard, remember to **STOP, LOOK, LISTEN** and **THINK**.





I arrive and leave school on time



is a whole school expectation for **LEARNING** on our school-wide matrix.

At the beginning of the day, school gates close at 9:00 am. Students will need to sign in through the office if they are late.

At the end of the day, the school gates are locked at 3:45 pm.

Please remember that after school, the expectation is that we **leave** the school grounds promptly.

If needed, please remember we have a before and after school program run by Camp Australia.

In the Foundation Pod

This term, our learning focus is 'farms and farm animals have special features and purposes that are important to us.' We are exploring this through our reading and writing. In numeracy, we are exploring patterns, shapes and numbers to 20 and beyond. Our class goal is 'I can put my hand up and wait to share'. We look forward to celebrating lots of learning!



In the Year 1 Pod

In Week 2, the Year One students enjoyed an exciting and memorable excursion to Werribee Open Range Zoo as part of our Term 2 inquiry topic, *Land Animals*. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of animals and their habitats through real-life experiences and hands-on learning.

Throughout the day, the students were full of enthusiasm as they explored the zoo and observed a wide variety of amazing animals up close. Some of the highlights included seeing towering giraffes, magnificent rhinos, playful kangaroos and enormous elephants. The students loved learning interesting facts about the animals, their environments and how zoos help protect endangered species around the world.

One of the biggest highlights of the day was riding on the Safari Bus. Students were thrilled to travel through the open-range savannah and see animals roaming freely in large grassland habitats, just like they would in the wild. The excitement and wonder on the students' faces made this experience truly unforgettable!



In the Year 2 Pod

This term, the Year 2 students have been learning about sea animals and their habitats. As part of their inquiry unit, they went on an excursion to Sea Life Aquarium, where many were visiting for the very first time. Students discovered a wide range of sea creatures, including pufferfish, clownfish, stingrays, sharks, and crabs. The crowd favourites were the saltwater crocodile, jellyfish, and penguins.

As students explored the different exhibits in the aquarium, they also had the opportunity to watch a 3D movie about penguins, examine a variety of shells, and even touch starfish.

We look forward to continuing our learning about sea creatures and beginning our own research.



In the Year 3 Pod

In Week 3, our students took part in the wonderful Australian Ballet Steamdance workshop, inspired by the Indigenous story of Balar Diburr.

Balar Diburr tells the story of the balar diburr (bernie bean), a tiny native seed from the rainforest lands of Kubirri (Mossman, North Queensland). Along its journey through land and water, and with the help of wise animals, Balar learns to be brave, grow stronger, and discover its purpose and place in the world. The story celebrates First Nations culture, storytelling, perseverance, and courage.

The students did a fantastic job all week practising their dancing, movement, and performance skills. They showed great enthusiasm, teamwork, and confidence, and their final performance was absolutely amazing. We are so proud of all the students for their hard work and the joy they brought to the workshop!



Savannah from 3A's experience: "I really enjoyed it when Troy did a backflip."

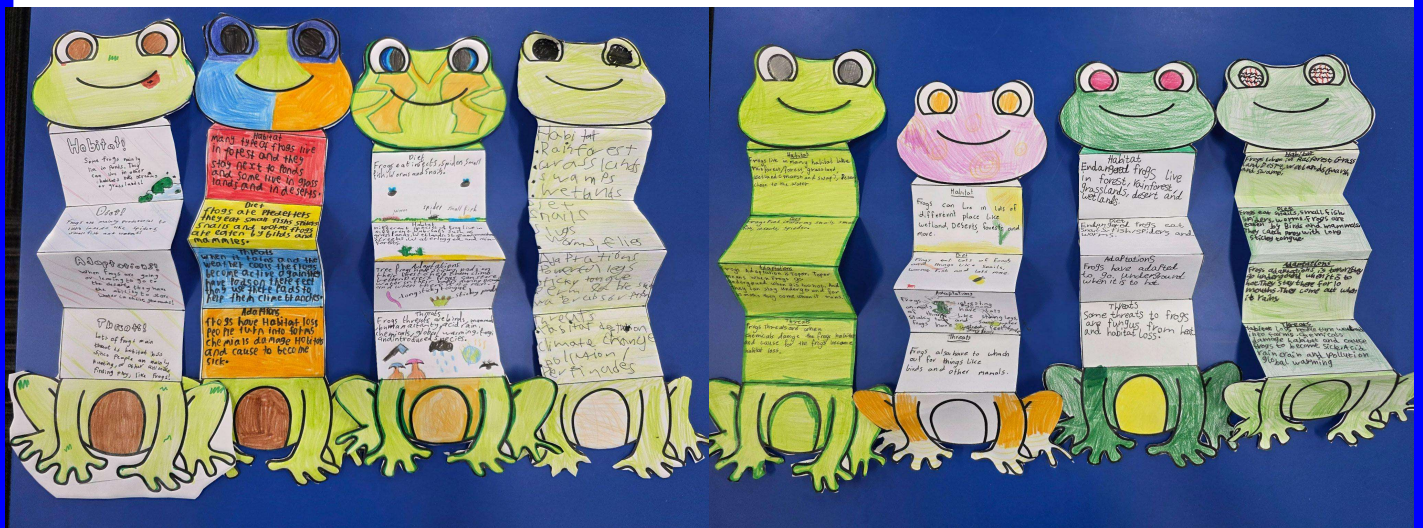
George from 3A's experience: "It was fun to perform in front of the whole school."

Anna from 3B's experience: "At first I was shy and didn't want to participate but as I kept practising I started to really enjoy it."



In the Year 4 Pod

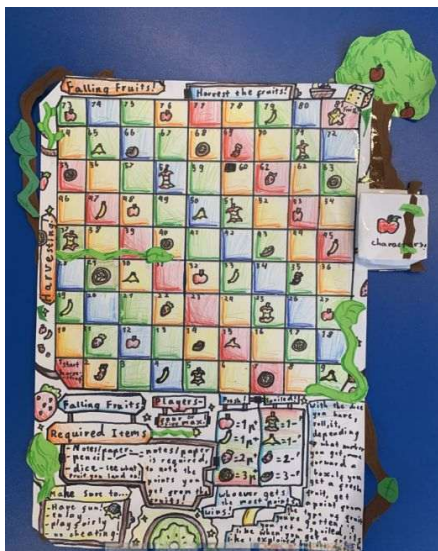
Throughout this term, the Year 4 Pod has been exploring endangered animals and their habitats. Students have found this topic incredibly engaging, gaining deep insights into the many reasons animals face endangerment and how they adapt to their environments to survive. Below is a gallery of endangered frogs that the students researched to better understand their specific habitats, adaptations, diets, and the threats they face.



In The Year 5 Pod

Our Inquiry topic this term is 'The Colonisation of Australia'. We have been learning about what life was like for Aboriginal people before British settlement, and will also explore colonisation and its impacts, the Victorian Gold Rush and what life was like for the different communities who migrated to Australia at this time. In week 5 we will visit Sovereign Hill to learn even more about this topic.

In Numeracy, students have collaborated with one another to create their own board games to consolidate their knowledge of the four operations - addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. Students had a lot of fun working together! Here are some images of their fantastic board games below.



In The Year 6 Pod

What a fantastic start to the term it has been! One of the biggest highlights so far has been the arrival of our Grade 6 jackets. Our students look fantastic wearing their stylish and thoughtfully designed jackets, and they wear them with great pride.



We've also hit the ground running with preparations for Term 2 sport. Students have been actively training and building their skills in AFL football, Tee Ball, Newcombe, and Netball. It's been wonderful to see their teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship already shining through during practice sessions.

In Numeracy, students have been diving into the world of percentage discounts, developing real-life skills that connect directly to everyday situations. Meanwhile in Writing, we've been focusing on crafting detailed and engaging explanation texts, with a particular emphasis on the human body systems. Students have been exploring how different systems function and work together, producing some impressive and informative pieces of writing.

With so much already underway, it's shaping up to be a very busy and productive term.

Art



Our Year 3 and 4 students proudly participated in *Balar Diburr*, the Australian Ballet Education & Outreach Program. Throughout the week, students worked alongside professional artists to explore movement, First Nations storytelling and performance through dance. They created and rehearsed their own dance sequences, building confidence, creativity and teamwork skills while learning how performance can communicate stories, ideas and emotions.

The program concluded with a special performance for families and our school community, where students showcased their learning. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, focus and collaboration throughout the performance.

Balar Diburr provided students with a meaningful opportunity to engage with First Nations perspectives through the performing arts, and we are incredibly proud of their effort and commitment.

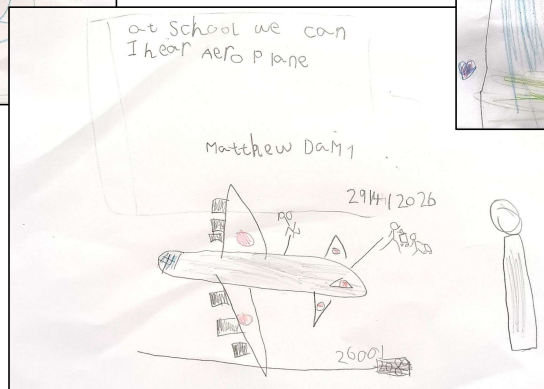
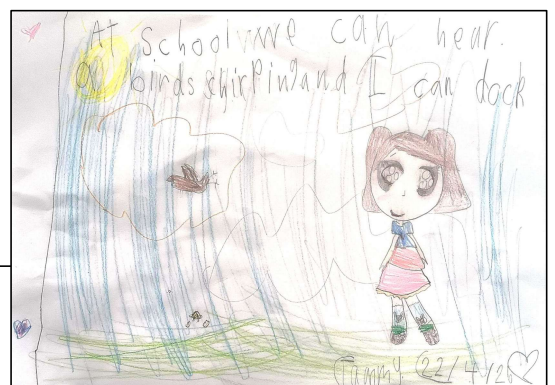
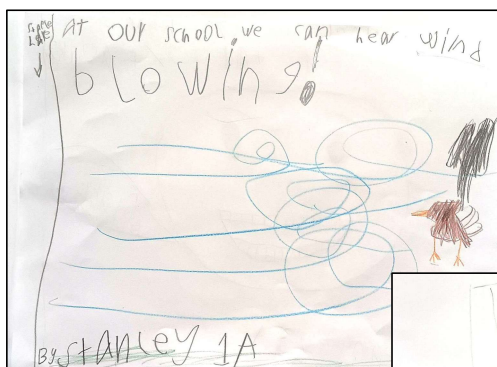
Congratulations Year 3 and 4 students!

STEM



In STEM this term, the Year Ones are learning about light and sound. We will be doing some hands-on experiments to learn about how our bodies sense light and sound, and how light and sound can be produced and transmitted.

Last week we closed our eyes and did some mindful listening. Each student then created a page for a class book titled 'Sounds we Hear at School'.



In Term 2, the Year 5s are learning about textiles - specifically, how wool is transformed from a sheep's fleece into yarn and then into fabric which can be made into clothing and other items. They are in the process of making a weaving loom out of cardboard and will then weave a piece of fabric to their own design.



Junior School Council

Our biggest job every year is running the ANZAC Day commemoration ceremony, and everyone has said that we did a fantastic job. Before the event, we had to write speeches about what ANZAC Day means to our lives and our school community. We then had to run the ceremony, complete with the appropriate music.

We would like to thank all the grades, and before and after school care, for making beautiful wreaths, Ubah and Yasin in year 4 for lowering and raising the flags, and our school community for being a respectful audience throughout the ceremony.

Before ANZAC Day, we sold ANZAC Day badges. We don't know how much money was in the tin, but it felt really heavy by the end.

The JSC are collecting 10c bottles and cans this year and we would love donations. Put them into your grade's basket, and bigger donations can come through the office.



Wellbeing



Hi everyone,

There's something powerful about coming to the 'Green Room' where you can be involved in fun activities and make new friendships. In Year One this term, we have been building our connections by playing with someone new. We have done lots of fun things like making superhero masks, playing charades and building amazing things out of Magnetics along with other fun things!

Here are some photos of our Magnetics inventions: we made pizza, a rocket, a playground, a dinosaur and a robot.



In Year Three, we have been developing our skills at solving issues when they arise within our friendship circle. We talked about the things that we can try when things are not going well and how to control our emotions when we have big feelings.



Events

After a great first term of events, we're busy working on more events for us all to enjoy in term 2.

Miss Vivien, Miss Bao, Miss Britney and Miss Sylvia took over the Mothers' Day Stall this year. They did a fantastic job, providing a great range of items, from \$2 to \$25. They were also beautifully wrapped and packaged.

ESP (non-teaching staff) Day is on Saturday the 16th of May, but we will celebrate on Monday the 18th of May. We're still keeping it a secret exactly what we will be doing, but we look forward to acknowledging the very important role they play in the school.

National Simultaneous Storytime is on the 27th of May this year. We always look forward to enjoying a new Australian book with everyone else in the school, and many other schools around Australia.

National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week are also coming up later this term. Miss Kim has taken charge this year, and is planning some meaningful activities.

