

10th Anniversary
2014 2024

ISSUE 10 | AUGUST 2024

OSS NEWS

OFFICER SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

<https://officerss.vic.edu.au>

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES PATHWAYS PROGRAM VISITS

'ACADEMY OF INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT'



WELCOME TO CLASS 506



PLC4 ENJOY FILMING THE SCHOOL SHOW!

Reading is

Magic

 **Officer
Specialist School**
Dare to Dream

Literacy Week!

Book Week Celebration

AUGUST 17-23



August 21st

Spelling Bee Competition!



August 23rd

Costume Parade

OSS NEWS

Officer Specialist School Newsletter

Message From The Principal

Hello everyone.

Hello everyone,

What a wintery start we have had to the term!!

Our students love to be outside as you all know, so please make sure you send in coats/wet weather gear so they can still have time in the playgrounds. A spare set of clothes for the younger students is also important.

Chatting to our secondary students at recess and lunch, there are lots of very chilly people! We don't mind what coat/jacket they wear for outside over their uniforms, as long as they are warm. School uniform is required for windcheaters and tops, but any kind of coat or jacket is fine.

Student reports were finalised last week, and families can access these through Compass. The report will give you a snapshot of your child's learning, and celebrate the progress they are making this year and the range of programs and activities they have engaged in.

SSGs

The Department of Education requires an SSG to be held each term to focus on the Individual Education Plan for each student and the adjustments we make to support their learning. We understand that many of our families are time-poor, so we provide a range of options for the SSGs. Your contribution as parents and carers is very important as we work in partnership between home and school.

BOOK WEEK

Book week is August 17th -23rd and we have lots of fun activities happening around the school. On Friday 23rd August we have our dress up day....start planning those costumes!!! There are lots of enthusiastic staff planning outfits too so it will be a fun day!

Continued Page 3.....

Contact Information.

Street Address.

3 Parker Street,
Officer, Vic. 3809



Phone:

03 5943 2800



eMail:

officer.ss@education.vic.gov.au



Webpage:

www.officerss.vic.edu.au

OSS News is the official Newsletter of Officer Specialist School.

It is copyright protected and may not be reproduced in any way.

All content is put together by the amazing staff at Officer Specialist School. The Newsletter is designed and edited by Michael McCoy for Officer Specialist School.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Officer Specialist School acknowledges the traditional owners of the land throughout Australia.

We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to the elders past, present and future.

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

You will have noticed that our building projects are progressing. The relocatable admin annex at the front of the school is open. We are arranging for it to be painted to blend in with our school color and then we will work on creating a garden around the building and our flag poles. Our students will contribute ideas through the Student Representative Council (SRC) and some of our senior students will be able to take on work as a project.

Visitors to the school will still come to the main admin reception as usual.

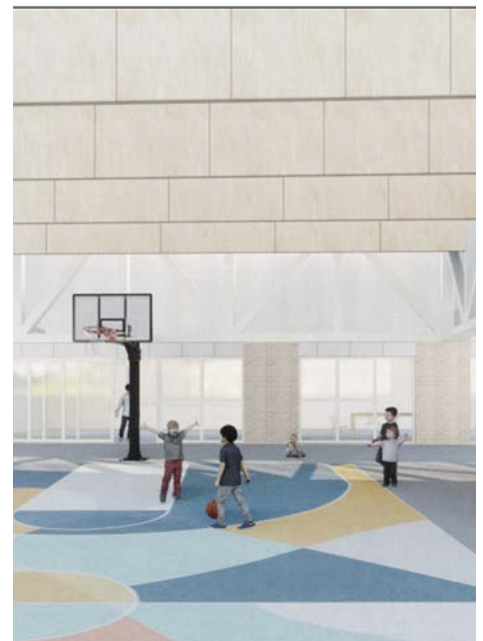
The Community Space, created by roofing over the basketball court has created much excitement as the students observe the progress. I have included a couple of pictures of an artist's impression of how it will look so that you have a better idea. The classroom spaces at the rear of the school have the foundations complete.

We are told the completion date for the the whole project is the end of 2024 so fingers crossed!!

Thanks everyone,

Helene Rowe

Principal
Officer Specialist School



BELEZA ONLINE SALE

15% OFF

BELEZA BRANDED PRODUCTS ONLY

3RD - 10TH OF AUGUST
beleza.com.au/online-store

ONLINE ONLY EXCLUSIVE FROM 03/08/2024 TO 10/08/2024 11:59PM AEST
DISCOUNT OFF RRP | NO FURTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY | IN STOCK ITEMS ONLY

Beleza Pakenham Store
7/99 Bald Hill Rd
Pakenham, VIC 3810
(03) 5941 4989
Monday – Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am to 1:00pm

<https://beleza.com.au/>

CONSTRUCTION!

OUR NEW BUILDS SCHOOL SO FAR!



BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Reading is

Magic

 Officer
Specialist School
Dare to Dream

DRESS UP DAY

Friday August 23rd

*"You can find MAGIC wherever you look.
Sit back and relax all you need is a book".*

DR. SEUSS

Come to school dressed as your favourite character or book based on the chosen theme.

There will be parades from
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the bus bay area.

Parents are welcome to join the parade. Please check Compass for the schedules of parades when the date is closer or email your classroom teacher.

We can't wait to see your costumes!

CLASSROOM

Snapshots



Welcome To Class 206

Teacher:
Stephanie Casey

In 2.06 we acknowledged NAIDOC week by reading a dreamtime called 'How the Birds Got Their Colours' written by Mary Albert, we pay our respects to the Bardi people living in Broome, Western Australia. Throughout the week the class created some birds inspired by the dreamtime story. The students participated in a sensory activity mixing up foam and watching it change from white into a variety of different colors red, blue, green, and yellow. The students explored a variety of different colored feathers.

On Friday we celebrated as a whole building with some Aboriginal symbol-inspired activities.



CLASSROOM

Snapshot

Welcome To Class 302

Classroom Teacher
Denise Van Der Nest



We had a great start to term 3. Students got right back into the routine and has been very engaged in different activities. Adrian is keeping to his morning routine structure by completing his personal binder. Darshwin and Maira are enjoying some time in the activity room. Shalom is showing off his cooking skills, while Connor won the tallest tower competition.



CLASSROOM

Snapshot



Welcome To Class 506

Teacher:
Marian Mikhel

Welcome everyone to term 3! It's hard to believe that we are already halfway through the year. We hope that you all enjoyed a safe, happy, and restful break over the holidays. We have many exciting events planned for term 3, so it will be another busy one.

Last week, the school celebrated NAIDOC Week. Students have learned many different aspects of Indigenous culture, participated in various activities, and engaged in discussions that promoted understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' contributions to society.



CLASSROOM

Snapshot

506 Continued!



Students listened to many stories about the cultural traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The book 'Respect' was a highlight, introducing students to important elements of Indigenous culture. Students gained a deeper understanding of the concept of respect, especially in the context of speaking and sharing stories. They also learned about the Yarning Circle and the Yarning Stick and their significance in Aboriginal culture. Another highlight activity was making damper, a traditional bread well known in Indigenous culture. Students in 5.05 and 5.06 enjoyed the hands-on experience of preparing and baking the bread and learning about its historical significance. They also had the opportunity to paint leaves in Aboriginal patterns and colors to signify the special celebration of NAIDOC Week. Through this activity, they were able to work together, discuss, and exchange ideas about the importance of choosing colors and the meanings behind different patterns. Students were very proud of their painted leaves, which beautifully represented their understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal art and culture.

In reading, students have been identifying and revising reading strategies that they can use before, during, and after reading. They will continue to develop their reading comprehension strategies, such as finding the main idea, making connections, interpreting information and making inferences. In writing, students will continue to focus on writing recounts and delivering oral retells in class. Each week, they are encouraged to expand on their writing by including as much detail as they can and ensuring they have the correct punctuation such as capital letters and full stops. Students will also continue to explore letters and the sounds they make (phonics) and letter formations. They will continue to blend letter sounds to make words when reading and writing. This term, students will continue to build on their existing mathematical knowledge and skills. They will continue investigations in place value and counting patterns through games and activities to consolidate addition and subtraction. Students will investigate chance, statistics and probability, including collecting and interpreting data.

CLASSROOM

Snapshots



Written By
Adam Marchant
Secondary Leader

PLC 7 – The School Show

These photos show a group of students from classes 4.04, 4.07 and 4.08 filming an episode of The School Show in the recording studio. The group loved seeing themselves on camera and commenting on the wonderful video segments highlighting learning and events from across the school. In addition to having lots of fun, the students practised a range of important skills, including looking at the camera, taking turns, and communicating with verbal words, visuals and gestures. Lights, Camera, Action!





Spelling Bee Competition

**AUGUST
21**

LAMP SPELLING BEE – ALL STUDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE (FOCUS IS ON MOTOR PLANNING)

- 1-2 HIT WORDS ON THE LAMP WORDS FOR LIFE
- 1-4 HIT WORDS ON THE LAMP WORDS FOR LIFE

WORDS SPELLING BEE (SPELL, WRITE & SCORE) – ALL STUDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE (ONCE CONTESTANTS ARE FINALISED, ADJUSTMENTS CAN BE MADE)

- SPELLING BEE – *Little Learners Love Literacy (LLLL)*
- SPELLING BEE – *Magic Words*
- SPELLING BEE – *Fountas and Pinnell (Benchmark Assessment)*

Winners for the Spelling Bee Competition will receive medals during the awarding ceremony at the end of the term assembly celebration.

Parents are invited to come and award the winning medals.

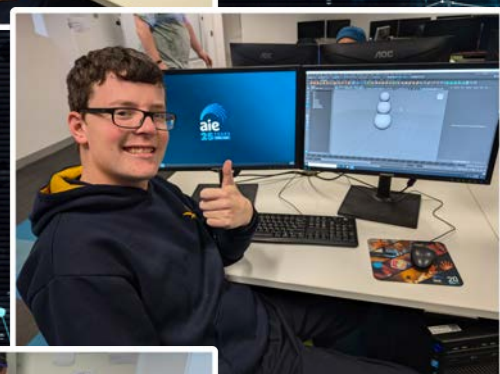
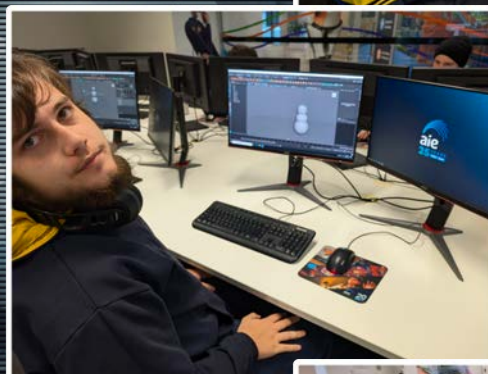
Spelling Bee will be held at the gym and the competition schedules will be released closer to the date.

If you have any questions, please contact the English Team.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES PATHWAYS PROGRAM

This week, the students in the Digital Technologies Pathways Program went on an excursion to visit the AIE in Melbourne. The AIE stands for the Academy of Interactive Entertainment where you can do further education courses in video game and film artwork, programming and visual effects. The students completed a workshop in using a program called 'Maya' to create 3D models and textures. The group had lots of fun and are exploring further course opportunities at the AIE.



OTHER THERAPY CORNER

WHAT IS



At Officer Specialist School, we organise for Orthokids to visit us each term to support our students. Orthokids are specialists in children's orthotics, and they can assist with many conditions, such as Cerebral Palsy and Scoliosis. Orthokids can make and adjust braces, splints, Ankle-Foot Orthotics (AFOs), and many other orthotics depending on a child's needs.

What can Orthokids help with?

- Flat feet
- Spasticity (tightness)
- Toe walking
- Maintaining range of movement in joints



If you have any questions or would like to get in touch with Orthokids, you can contact them at info@orthokids.com.au or 03 9836 4480. They have locations in Surrey Hills and Frankston if you would like to visit them for an appointment in between school clinics.



The School Canteen

The school canteen will begin serving this year on 14th March and will be open every Thursday after that.

All orders are through the Flexischools app.

If you are new to OSS, simply download the Flexischools app from the [Apple](#) or [Google](#) stores and follow the prompts to create an account. Once setup, click “Order Food” to see the online catalogues available, place your order and pay. Orders can be placed at any time, up until our specified cut-off time (as shown in the App). At OSS, this is 8am each Thursday.

HOW TO REGISTER



WITH *flexischools*

- 1 Download the Flexischools app and select “[Register](#)”.
- 2 Type in your email and submit to create an account.
- 3 Go to your inbox and click the link to verify your email (remember to check your junk).
- 4 Follow the registration process, creating a password and adding your personal details.
- 5 Add your student under “[Profile](#)” and start ordering online!



Download Flexischools app



Become a Berry Street foster carer

Partner with us and support a local child on their journey.

Childhood is a journey, but not every child starts in the same place.

In our local community there are many children and young people who need a safe place to live.

As a Berry Street foster carer, you'll be a part of a team that is committed to supporting children who are unable to live with their family.

And by providing them with a safe and nurturing home – you'll be there for them at a crucial moment in their life.



**BERRY
STREET**



Tuning in to Kids™

A six-session parenting program for parents or carers of children aged 2-10 years. Tuning in to Kids is underpinned by a five-step emotional coaching tool.

Tuning in to Kids will help children understand and identify their emotions and learn more effective ways to express their emotions.

Tuning in to Kids aims to:

- Help parents and carers to gain knowledge on emotional intelligence.
- Support parents to emotionally coach their child by tuning in to their child's emotions.
- Provide parents with the tools to help their child learn to manage their emotions and solve problems.
- Explore ways parents can teach their child to manage with conflict in their life.

Cost
Free

Date
Every Thursday between
1st Aug – 5th Sep 2024

Time
10am until 12:30pm

Venue
Cranbourne Library
65 Berwick-Cranbourne Rd,
Cranbourne VIC 3977

Light refreshments will be served

Bookings Essential
Please complete the following
online registration form:



<https://forms.office.com/r/vp8f0phf15>

General enquiries can contact:
03 5990 8400 or
groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au

Uniting

Volunteer with us to create meaningful connections with people with a disability and their families!



Volunteering is FUN and feels GREAT!

Extended Families has been connecting volunteers with people with a disability for over 45 years!

As a Volunteer, you will have a meaningful impact on the lives of people with disabilities and their families by supporting with 1:1 community participation activities. You will create positive change in the community, enhance your skillset and build industry experience.

Extended Families thrives on the diversity of our communities, embracing and supporting people of all abilities, identities and cultures. We offer specialised multicultural services and we actively respect and celebrate the rich heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures to create an inclusive environment for all.

Contact us today via the details below, or scan the QR to express your interest!

Contact: Samantha-Jane Potter
Volunteers & social Groups Coordinator
E: samantha@extendedfamilies.org.au
M: 0406 229 071
www.extendedfamilies.org.au





Parenting and Mental Health

A six-session parenting program for parents or carers of children aged 0-18 years.

The group promotes respectful, caring, and nurturing relationships between parents and their children, whilst supporting parents experiencing mental health difficulties.

Our Parenting and Mental Health program is facilitated in partnership with FaPMI (Families where a Parent has a Mental Illness) and input from a Consumer Consultant from the Mental Health program at Monash Health.

The program aims to:

- Provide a supportive learning environment for parents to develop new skills
- Learn more about brain development and how this influences a child's thoughts, feelings, and behaviours.
- Provide information, support and ideas to help parents remain calm when challenging behaviours present
- Explore ways of increasing self-care and wellbeing.

Cost
Free

Date
Every Tuesday between
30th July – 3rd September 2024

Time
10am until 12:30pm

Venue
Outlook Community Centre
24 Toomuc Valley Rd,
Pakenham VIC 3810

Light refreshments will be served

Bookings Essential
Please complete the following online registration form:



<https://forms.office.com/r/ywePu18qpF>

General enquiries can contact:
03 5990 8400 or
groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au



The Victorian FaPMI Program
Families where a Parent has a Mental Illness

MonashHealth

Uniting

Extended Families

Join In!

Join In our dynamic social groups tailored for **disabled** children, young people, and their families in South/Southeastern Melbourne.

Supported by HACC funding, our inclusive programs support participants living in Cardinia, Casey, City of Greater Dandenong, Glen Eira, Bayside, Kingston, and Frankston areas.

During school holidays, Join in :

Our Family Fun Day: Experience exciting activities while building capacity and life skills for disabled children and their whole families.

Plus, enjoy a dedicated **Parents/Carer's Mini Retreat** to recharge and relax.

Our School Age Events: Engage in FUN activities focusing on capacity building and life skill development for school-aged disabled children with their carer's or parents.

Monthly, Join in:

Our Explorer Youth Club: Embark on inspirational activities aimed at enhancing independence, social and life skills for young adults aged 16-26.

Come Join in! for enriching experiences and the opportunity to build lasting friendships!

We are a diverse organization committed to supporting individuals from a wide range of multicultural backgrounds. We foster an atmosphere of inclusivity and acceptance for all abilities, identities and cultures and we actively respect Aboriginal culture.



Contact: Samantha-Jane Potter M: 0406 229 071

E: samantha@extendedfamilies.org.au

(English speaking)

or Mai Tinh Nguyen: M:047 724 0563

E: mai-tinh.nguyen@extendedfamilies.org.au

(Vietnamese & English speaking)

Or scan our QR code:



Parents and Carers

Want to be more involved in your child's school experience?



Compass

Parent and teacher communication plays a significant role in a child's learning experience.

The Compass app enables parents to engage closely with school to see how their child is performing and feeling, book their next teacher conference, pay fees easily, and get ready for the next excursion.

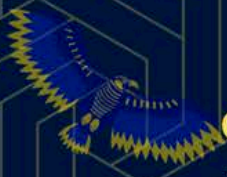
The Compass app gives busy parents access to everything they need to know.

Any queries after downloading the app, please contact the school directly



www.compass.education





OFFICER SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SHARING OUR SCHOOL WITH OUR COMMUNITY

<https://officerss.vic.edu.au>

RECENT ISSUES!



SCAN QR CODE TO READ ALL RECENT ISSUES

10th
Anniversary
2014 - 2024