

10th Anniversary
2014 2024

ISSUE 5 | M A Y 2024

OSS NEWS

OFFICER SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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



ALPINE 100 - BIKE ED CAMP 2024



**FROM FLYING FOX TO ZIPLINES!
CAMP MANYUNG**



SSSSA CROSS COUNTRY DAY

OSS NEWS

Officer Specialist School Newsletter

Message From The Principal

Hi everyone and welcome back to term 2!

There was a happy buzz across the school as students caught up with their teachers and friends and discovered a few changes as we prepared for our new build to start. The term has started with a Secondary camp to Manyung Camp in Mt Eliza. The students had three days of adventure by the beach and came back on Friday tired but happy. Thank you to the staff who made this camp happen....these are wonderful experiences for our students and the staff go above and beyond to make them a success.

Teachers are currently finalising the Individual Education Plans IEPs for each student and these will be emailed home at the end of this week. The IEPs have been changed in line with new Education Department guidelines with individual goals that we will work towards while teaching across the curriculum.

Don't forget to connect with your child's learning by checking in on Seesaw. If you are having any issues accessing Seesaw, please let us know and we will support you.

Over the term, we have planned some fun days. Our fun days aim to engage the students and enable them to have some fun while they are learning. We will remind you of the days in the weekly Principal Updates but I have included some dates here so you are aware.

- **Friday May 24th: Primary Photo Day**
- **Thursday May 30th: Secondary Photo Day**
- **Friday May 31st: Twinning Day- dress up as someone you admire!! (could be a teacher, sportsperson, hero....)**
- **Thursday June 13th: Harmony Day: Wear orange!! (We postponed Harmony Day earlier in the year)**

Regards

Helene Rowe

Principal
Officer Specialist School



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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.

Community Connection *Mornings*



This year we have included Community Connections Mornings at Officer Specialist School.

We will be welcoming our parents and carers from our school community to join us for a morning tea and a chat.

We may have a topic people have requested or information to share. But most importantly it is an opportunity to meet other parents, carers, and our school team.

Topics that have been requested include:

- What does a day at school look like?
- Supporting Positive Behaviour.
- Using Communication Supports.
- Issues with food.

Our Leaders will join us as we fill you in on plans for 2024.

You can also share your ideas for topics you want to know more about

After you drop off the students, drop in for a cuppa.

9:00-10:30AM
MONDAY MAY 6TH

Stay the whole session or just a visit!

➔ Calendar Of Events - Term 2

 www.officerss.vic.edu.au

Here's a quick Snapshot at some of the key dates to remember for 2024. Dates are correct at the time of printing.
But dates can change due to varying circumstances. We will inform the school community of any changes.

May

- **6th** - Community Connection Morning tea 9.00-10.30am
- **24th** - Primary Photo Day
- **30th** - Secondary Photo Day
- **29th** - SSG' Secondary
- **30th** - SSG's Primary
- **31st** - Twinning Day- dress up as someone you admire!! (could be a teacher, sportsperson, hero....)



SCHOOL PHOTO DAYS

Primary Photo Day
May 24th
Secondary Photo Day
May 30th

June

- **6th** - Community Connection Morning tea 9.00-10.30am
- **10th** - Kings Birthday
- **13th** - Harmony Day (Celebrating Cultural Diversity)
- **26th** - 100 Days of School
- **28th** - Celebration Assembly 1.30pm finish
- **28th** - End of Term



TWINNING DAY

Friday May 31st: Dress up as someone you admire!! (could be a teacher, sportsperson, hero)

HARMONY DAY

THURSDAY JUNE 13TH

Wear orange!! (We postponed Harmony Day earlier in the year)



10th Anniversary

2014 - 2024



Original School Logo 2014 - 2021

BUILDING THE DREAM

It has been 10 years since we opened our doors to our school community, and what an amazing community we have grown in to.

Celebrating our 10th anniversary we have a lot planned for later in the year. While we wait we will explore, over the coming issues, some of the history of our school and how much we have grown short amount of time.

Part 1 - *Building The Dream* we look at some of the original photos from the construction of our school.



Original Aerial Photo of OSS taken in 2013

10th Anniversary

2014 - 2024

BUILDING THE DREAM



Court Yard Leading Off Bus Bay



Main Entrance on Parker Street



Senior Kitchen



Our Gym



Common Room



400's Classroom Looking Out To Where The Highschool Will Be.



Senior Basketball Court Leading To Gym

CLASSROOM

Snapshots



Welcome To Class PLC 4

Denise Jenkins,
PLC 4 Leader
Classrooms
5.03, 5.04, 5.05, and 5.06



PLC 4 (5.03, 5.04, 5.05, and 5.06) have been working hard this term! We are happy to have Richard back in 5.05, as he was away at the end of Term 1 for the birthday of his son, Dean. Congratulations! We would like to thank Conor Cassidy, who stepped into 5.05 while Richard was on paternity leave and ran the room seamlessly!

Last term, the students were focused on a quality text called, Walk of the Whales. Our PLC incorporated our English and Maths lessons into this story, as well as our Science lessons! In this story, the whales come onto the land, as the oceans are filled with rubbish and are no longer suitable homes for the whales. Not only did we learn about whales and the environment, but we worked on persuasive writing (Should we let the whales stay on the land? Why or why not?), learned about prehistoric creatures (Peregocetus: a four-legged whale), and thought about the feelings of others and how our actions can impact them.

We ended our unit with an excursion to the local Fish and Chip shop, Central Fish and Chips on Siding Avenue. The whales love to eat fish, and had to find fish on the land to eat! Each class had to show they were excursion-ready, by being safe at school, walking as a group, and being respectful. Wow, did our students do a fantastic job! The staff at Central Fish and Chips were amazing, and our students definitely enjoyed their food.

Term 2 finds us being SCIENTISTS! I wonder what a scientist does... I wonder what we will learn about... Our book this term is called, SNAP! I expect there will be some great activities and experiments coming this term, so be on the lookout!

Denise Jenkins,
PLC 4 Leader



CLASSROOM

Snapshot

PLC 4's Photos Continued!



CLASSROOM

Snapshot



Welcome To Class 302

Teacher: Celani Trajano

"We are Scientists!" This Term 2, our class is learning to become "scientists" as they learn and grow their understanding of the science in our world. They are beginning to explore, make predictions, keenly observe, and expound on their experiences. They are also beginning to express their "wonderings" as we model and encourage think-aloud using the phrase "I wonder..." They are sharing and explaining what they have experienced through their senses using sentence stems such as "I see, I hear, It feels, I smell, and I taste" by means of their preferred communication methods (e.g. speech, LAMP device, visuals). Our class can't wait to do more exciting and fun-filled Science experiments!



CLASSROOM

Snapshot



Welcome To Class 701

Classroom Teacher
Ruth Clements

What an Awesome group of Legends learn in 7.01.

We have been busy growing together as a learning community, strengthening our skills in OSS values, how we work and learn together. As part of our Community contributions, we have been a part of Kobby's birthday and helped at Cross Country We regularly learn with 2 other classes as we strengthen our skills in working in teams with people we might not know so well.



This term, we are learning to be Scientists and to ask all sorts of questions, and to think about our world and how it works, as well as conduct experiments. We have some new class pets (stick Insects) to watch grow and develop. Please enjoy reading about our Learning adventures



CLASSROOM

Snapshot

Welcome To Class 4-01

Classroom Teacher
Glynis Vorgrig



Room 4.01 has seven wonderful students. During the first two weeks of Term 2, we have focused on transitioning to specialist rooms, the book 'Snap!', Autumn, ANZAC Day, and our 'Friendship Garden'. 'The book, 'Snap!', is about a frog and has allowed us to look closely at the life of a frog, descriptive words, such as, 'drip' and 'drop', experiments, and the environment. The students showed great interest when they experimented to see the cause and effects of water 'drip' and Autumn leaves 'drop'. Students loved playing the guiro to make frog sounds for the 'Gulump' frog song.

To encourage frog life, the students have started creating a 'Friendship Garden' outside our classroom, in the courtyard. The students are doing extremely well, by putting on gloves, weeding, planting, watering, and sweeping.

To commemorate ANZAC Day, the students, created ANZAC Day posters, and together, in our set-up, outdoor classroom, they made yummy ANZAC biscuits.



THERAPY CORNER

LAMP Words for Life on sale!



At Officer Specialist School, many of our students use a program called LAMP Words for Life (WFL) throughout the school day to support their communication. LAMP WFL is an Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) system that supports language development and allows individuals to communicate by selecting symbols to produce voice output.

LAMP stands for Language Acquisition through Motor Planning. On LAMP WFL, the symbols always remain in the same place, which makes it easier to develop language!

LAMP will be on sale for 50% off through the iTunes store from April 24 to May 7, 2024.

If you have any questions about purchasing LAMP Words for Life please feel free to contact the Speech Pathologists at OSS.

WHAT IS ORTHOKIDS

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.





Secondary Department
**ALPINE 100 -
BIKE ED CAMP 2024**



From Monday 25th to Thursday 28th of March, a group of 5 students from secondary and four of OSS staff had the opportunity to experience the Alpine 100 Bike Ed Camp. It took a lot of organising and heaps of training to prepare for the 100km ride but what an amazing experience and challenge for all involved. On Monday, we left the school in two buses and drove nearly four hours to Ardern's Caravan Park in Myrtleford, a beautiful country town not far from Bright.

When we arrived, we unpacked our stuff into the cabins and prepared for our first dinner and activities night at the Myrtleford Football/Netball Club. The students and staff absolutely loved participating in the football and netball activities, and enjoyed the BBQ that was put on by the club. A bonus was that we also received our Alpine 100 ride T-shirts, a hit with the students and even our staff (once we got the sizes right lol).

Day 2 of the camp, saw us leave for Beechworth Station at 8.15am, ready for our briefing and first ride to begin at 9am. The first days 47km ride was fun, beautiful, challenging and emotional for some with some grueling hills towards the end but we all did it and felt proud of ourselves. Our snack and lunch stops allowed us to rest and fuel our bodies and socialise with other specialist schools that were on the camp. Dinner that night was at the Savoy Club, where we were provided a great meal and time to again socialise with other schools.





Day 3 of the camp saw us start our long 52km ride at Harrierville, along the Murray to Mountain Rail Trail, through the beautiful sights of Bright, Porepunkah and then finally back to Ardern's Caravan Park in Myrtleford. A massive achievement of completing just over 100kms of riding over two days for both our students and staff, a challenge that we will never forget. We finished the camp off with another lovely meal at the Savoy Club where we did our medal presentations and awarding one student with the Woolcock Award. This award went to one student from each school based on their training preparation, teamwork, tenacity, participation, encouragement and service. This medal for OSS was awarded to Bella Allchin.



Congratulations to all our students and staff that attended the camp and for your amazing commitment and perseverance. A camp that I am sure we will never forget!



SSSSA CROSS COUNTRY DAY!



By: Belynda Drew

On Friday the 26th of April, 29 primary and secondary students participated in the SSSSA Cross Country Day, held at Ruffey Lake Park in Doncaster. Students experienced a pretty tough, hilly, and windy course but they pushed through and put in 100% effort into their various distances. The day was a huge success with students pushing through the course, with a number of students also making the podium to place in the top 3. Congratulations to everyone that participated and to the staff for their support and encouragement on the day. We look forward to hearing how many students have qualified for the SSV State Cross Country Championships later in July.



FROM FLYING FOX TO ZIPLINES! CAMP MANYUNG

Camp Manyung is a coastal adventure camp located on the Mornington Peninsula and only one hour from Melbourne.

Fifteen students from room 4.07 and room 4.08 headed off to Camp Manyung in Mt Eliza for the first week back after the holidays. They were supported by a number of staff who ventured off to camp with them. Our first stop on our lovely drive was to a park in Frankston, due to the poor weather we were unable to get out and explore the equipment. The journey to Camp Manyung continued and the students had fun singing along to the radio.

Once all participants arrived at camp the students moved their bags into their allocated rooms and begun to setup their beds. The activities later in the day included the tree ropes course and the zipline. Students who had a go at these activities had a ball. Dinner was 'Butter Chicken' with a side of rice followed by chocolate mousse for dessert. The first night, students chose to watch a movie instead of a campfire as they were all a little tired.

THE ZIP LINE



CAMP MANYUNG

PHOTO ALBUM



THE
BIG
SWING

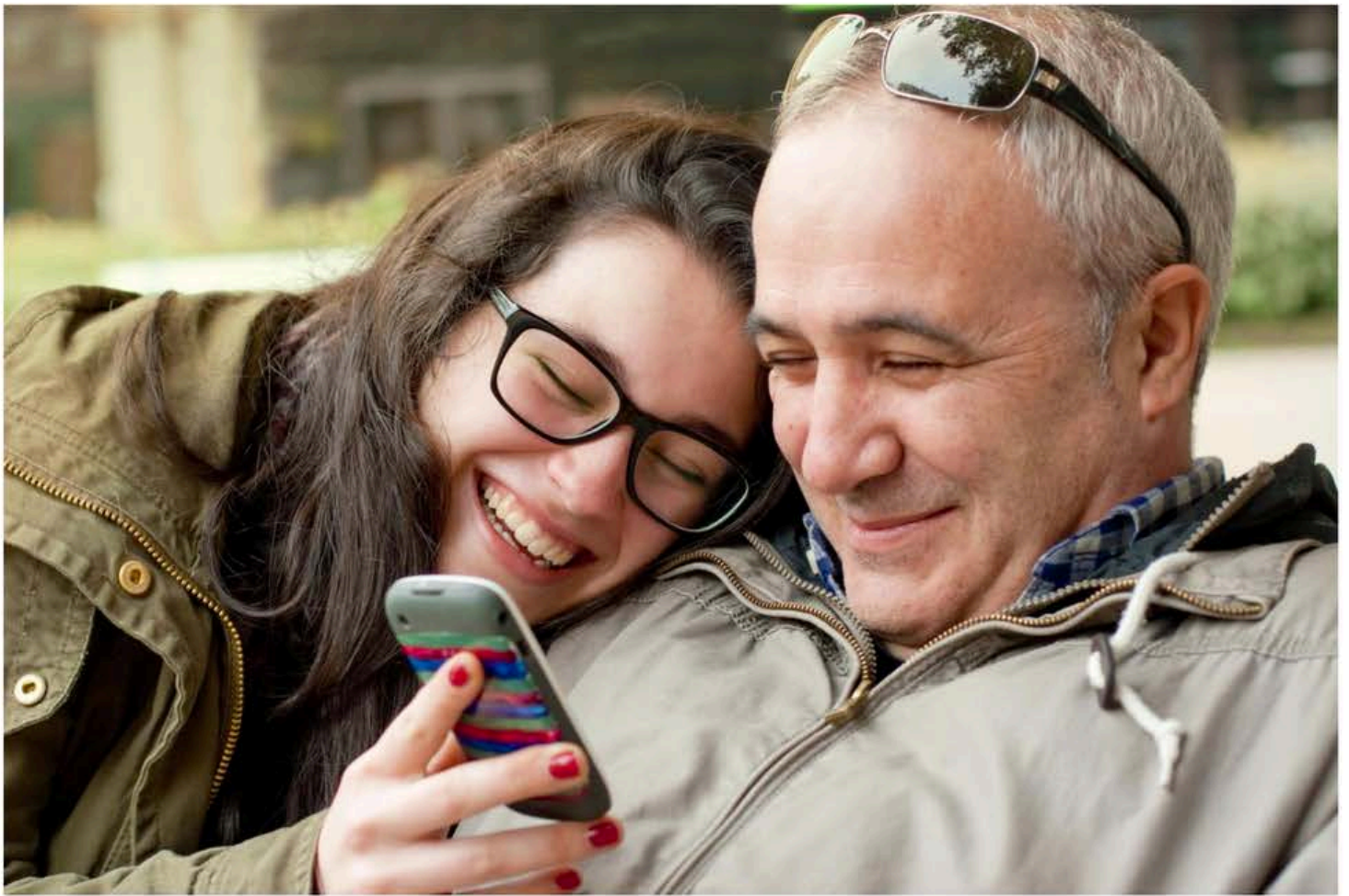


The second day of camp was to be a very busy day for all. Students had the opportunity to participate in all four of the available activities. These included, the flying fox, giant swing, games on the oval like soccer and snakes and ladders, assisted bush cooking with the students helping to make damper and cooking it. The events were rounded off by cooking marshmallows in the fire. The students enjoyed the activities, had dinner, then relaxed with a movie after an exhausting day. All the students headed to bed earlier than the night before.

On last day at camp, the students packed their belongings and loaded the buses in preparation for the trip back to school to be reunited with their parents and loved ones whom they had missed while being away. All students had a wonderful trip and enjoyed their time on camp. Tired after all the fun activities they completed at camp and probably slept very well Friday night.

Hope you enjoy our photos!
Mel





Tuning in to Teens™

A six-session parenting program for parents or carers of adolescents aged 10 to 18 years.

Tuning in to Teens helps guide parents through a five stage emotional coaching program. This program offers parents an alternative parenting style to help improve communication and emotional awareness.

Throughout the program we will cover a range of topics, including:

- Improving conversations with your teen
- Helping prevent behavioural challenges through emotional coaching
- Managing adolescent emotions, worries and anxieties
- Encouraging emotional intelligence to help deal with conflict and improve relationships

Cost
Free

Date
Every Thursday
2nd May to 13th June
***No group 16th May**

Time
10am until 12:30pm

Light refreshments will be served

Venue
Uniting
53-55 Webb Street
Narre Warren VIC 3805

Get in touch

Bookings Essential

Please call the Group Workers on **03 5990 8400** to register or email: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au

Uniting

Join Us for Sing&Grow!



Sing&Grow
AUSTRALIA

part of the
play matters
family

What happens at Sing&Grow?

Sing&Grow provides Music Therapy services in the community for families with children aged from birth to 5 years. Groups usually meet for an hour, once a week, for 8 weeks.

During sessions, a Music Therapist will lead you in singing, dancing and playing instruments with your child. We use familiar and original songs to help you and your child have fun playing together and learn new ways to support child development.

Group Information

When: 10am -11.30am
**Light refreshments will be served*

Where: **Cranbourne Library:**
65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road,
Cranbourne 3977

Dates: **Wednesdays:**
1st May – 26th June 2024
**No group 22nd May*

To register contact:

***Registrations essential**

Email: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

Phone: 5990 8400

In partnership with:

Uniting



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

