



**Sherbourne  
Primary**

Outlook Crescent,  
Briar Hill Victoria 3088

[www.sherbps.vic.edu.au](http://www.sherbps.vic.edu.au)

Telephone: 9434 7142  
Acting Principal – Linda Ratcliffe

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thursday 9 March	- Space Dome Incursion – Grades 3-6
Friday 10 March	- Assembly - 3.00pm
Monday 13 March	- Labour Day Public Holiday – <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Wednesday 15 March	- NAPLAN Begins Grades 3 & 5
Wednesday 15 March	- Open STEM Family Evening – current families and our local kindergartens are invited to participate.
Friday 24 March	- Assembly - 3.00pm
Friday 24 March	- <b>WORKING BEE</b> 3.30- 5.30pm
Monday 27 March	- NAPLAN Concludes Grades 3&5
Wednesday 29 March	- <b>Student Led Progress Meetings – STUDENT FREE DAY.</b>
Thursday 6 April	- LAST DAY TERM 1 – Assembly at 2:15pm/ 2.30 dismissal
Monday 24 April	- STUDENT FREE DAY
Tuesday 25 April	- <b>ANZAC DAY – NO SCHOOL</b>



# 2023

It's that time of year where we call for nominations from our parent and carer community to join School Council. The SPS School Council is a group of active and passionate individuals who are dedicated to improving the outcomes for our students and our school.

Joining the SPS School Council or one of our sub-committees is a great opportunity for our families to gain an insight into the governance structure under which our school operates and be actively involved in our school community. With regards to the minimum time commitment, School Council members are required to attend eight School Council meetings per year, along with eight one-hour sub-committee meetings per year.

Joining School Council involves a nomination and, if the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, an election process. For further information on the election process, including how you might nominate yourself or someone else, please refer to **School Council Elections – Information for Families** which also includes the timeline for this process.

## School Council Elections – Information for Parents

### What is a School Council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

### Who is on the School Council?

For most Primary School Councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

**A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

**An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests, or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

**A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on School Councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a School Council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

### Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### Code of conduct for School Councillors

School Councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

**act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty.

**act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds.

**act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest.

**use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available.

**exercise due care, diligence, and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school.

**use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage.

**act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions.

**comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law.

**demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

### Indemnity for School Council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, School Councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others because of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

## How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the School Council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the school council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

## What do you need to do to stand for election?

The Principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same electorate that you are eligible for (e.g., a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate)

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the Principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.

Generally, if there are more nominations than vacancies a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

## Remember

Consider standing for election to School Council.

Ask the principal for instructions if you are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.

Contact the Principal if you are unsure about what is required at any stage of the election process.

## FORM 2: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

(Formerly Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nomination)

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of  
SHERBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nomination forms are available at the school as of **Monday 27 February 2023**.

The ballot will close at **4.00 pm on Friday 10 March 2023**.

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2023 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2024	1 x one year 3 x two years Total of 4 positions
School employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2023 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2024	1 x one year 1 x two years Total of 2 positions

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

**Linda Ratcliffe – Acting Principal.**

Unfortunately, electronic nominations are not permitted. To self-nominate, or to nominate another community member, please pick up a nomination form from the front office. Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact me via email: [linda.ratcliffe@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:linda.ratcliffe@education.vic.gov.au)



### Privacy Collection Notice

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [School's Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to read our school's collection notice, found on our website.

We ask parents to also review the [guidance we provide](#) on how we use [365Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

### Student Arrival

There have been an increasing number of students arriving at school quite early each morning. Please be advised that staff supervision begins at 8:40am and children are not supervised in the yard before this time. We ask that parents and carers ensure students are not left unsupervised before official supervision begins.

### District Swimming Carnival

15 students proudly represented SPS at this swimming event last Monday. They joined students from the schools in our district ... Briar Hill, Holy Trinity Lower Plenty, Monty, Monty South, and St Francis Xavier. Our students represented the school with pride and more importantly gave it their best, encouraged each other, and enjoyed the opportunity of participating. Thank you to the parents who came along and to Donna and Laura for their expert supervision on the day.

### Whole School Assemblies

At today's assembly the following students were presented with their badges. Congratulations on being elected to this important role at our school, also!

#### Our Environment Captains

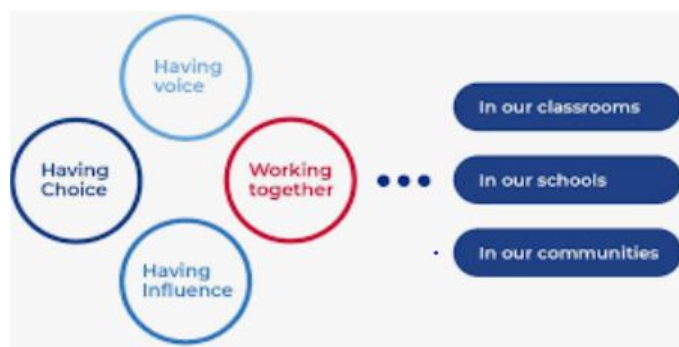
Gemma  
Lucas  
Scarlett

#### Our Wellbeing Captains

Liam  
Zane

#### Our Digital Learning Technologies Captains

Alyssa  
Banjo  
Isabella





## A Gentle Reminder from Our Amazing Crossing Supervisor

Hi, my name is Vicki Johnson; I am your school crossing supervisor, I would like to go over a few of the crossing rules with you.

**Children should NEVER be dropped off anywhere within the yellow lined school crossing area during crossing control times (8:10am to 9:10am and 3:30pm to 4:00pm school days only) NOR should any car STOP or PARK within the yellow lined area during these times.**

### ALL THESE ACTS CAN & DO INCUR LOCAL COUNCIL FINES

**No children or their parents should cross the road outside the correct crossing area.**

Children and parents must always wait behind the yellow line until they hear the 2 whistles from the crossing supervisor in attendance.

A single whistle is used, only in an emergency.

Children are never allowed to cross the road whilst riding bikes etc. And should only walk, **NEVER RUN.**

There is no better way to teach children good road etiquette than to always follow the rules ourselves. This should instil a good road sense, for not only the school crossing, but in all other situations for everyday use in their lives.

These are simple rules to protect “YOUR” children.

“STOP, LOOK, LISTEN & THINK

HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE DAY – Vicki

## Prep-2 Road Safety Incursion

On Monday 13 February, the Prep-2 students had a very special visit. Vicki, from the Fernside Avenue crossing, and Mary, from the lights on Sherbourne Rd. They visited our classes to talk about road safety.

The students learned where to stand while waiting for the crossing supervisor's whistle to blow, how to walk across safely, and what different blows of the whistle mean. Then we headed out to Vicki's crossing and practised walking across. Thank you very much to Vicki and Mary for taking the time to teach us these very important lessons!



### Pre – School Tours for 2024

If you are aware of any families who will have a child start in Prep next year, please let them know that they can book in for a tour by calling the school. There are several tours organised for this throughout this term, see attached flyer. Keep a LOOK OUT for several notice boards going up around the community advertising our school tours. Once again thank you to the wonderful Parents and Friends team that have contacted the Banyule Council and Jellis Craig for this to happen.



### Sherbourne's Parents and Friends Sub-Committee

Welcome back to all our returning students, staff and parents and a big welcome to our new preps and their families. Last year we had a new Parents and Friends group running the fundraising events that were held raising \$10,000 for the school. Thank you to everyone that supported and helped us through last year. School Council President Sally George (Miles Grade 3), and sub- committee members Jade Cruse (Ari Grade 1), Caitlin Smith-Saville (Harriet Grade 1, Elliot Grade 4) and Lisa Fleming (Adeline Grade 1, Miles Grade 2) are returning this year with events such as the Easter Raffle, Mothers/Father's Day Stalls, Pie Drive and some new exciting ideas for later in the year. If you would like to get involved, please feel free to approach us whether it be joining the sub-committee and helping behind the scenes or helping here and there with different events we would love to welcome you. We will be putting a call out soon for volunteers to help with the Easter Raffle. Our email is [spsparentsandfriends@gmail.com](mailto:spsparentsandfriends@gmail.com)

P&F

### Twilight Working Bee – Friday 24 March 3.30-5.30pm

Please keep the date free to join us for the school's first Working Bee of the year and remember to bring your gardening tools. **Tasks include pruning, sweeping, weeding and more.**

Our working bees help keep down maintenance costs for our very extensive school grounds and are a great opportunity to come together as a school community.



Take care everyone and remember to ...

*Sprinkle Joy!!!*

Linda Ratcliffe,  
Acting Principal.



# DISTRICT SWIMMING



**Bianca and Caleb**

Caleb and I both participated in freestyle. We both gave it our best shot and we were proud of ourselves that we made it to district. Caleb's favourite part was the relay where his team came 6th. I also loved the relay because I got to compete with my friends and our team came 4th. It was very loud at Watermarc and we cheered on all of the schools as well as Sherbourne. As sports captains we were very proud of all that we achieved and the great sportsmanship demonstrated by everyone.



**Annie**

I was in backstroke and it was great fun. When I was walking to where we started I was really nervous and I also felt the same when I hopped into the pool. I was really proud that I came fifth in my race, but didn't like how cold it was when I got out.



**Bella**

Gosh we were all so nervous even though most of us were only doing one race. YIKES! In the relay was Bianca, Scarlett, Olive and of course the fantastic me. We had such a fun day yelling and cheering for everyone and I almost lost my voice. It was such a fun day!



**Elijah**

When I got out of the bus I got a sick feeling in my stomach. I felt very nervous when my first event was called, but when I started the race the water felt very refreshing. I came 4th in freestyle in the first race and after that I didn't feel too nervous to do backstroke or the freestyle relay. I came 4th in the other two events.



**Mila**

At first I was terrified but I got into the water and it was really refreshing. I tried my best and ended up coming 7th in freestyle. I was very proud of myself in the backstroke because I came 7th. Everything was fun. We had a great day.



**Liam**

We tried our best but I think we lost overall with points because we were a small group and didn't have enough people to enter every event. The pool was freezing but it was great to see everyone doing something wonderful.



**Scarlett**

I was so nervous because it was my first time ever going to district for anything. I did the relay with Olive, Bianca and Bella. It was fun but I swam so hard that I almost had an asthma attack.



**Lorenzo**

I was in the freestyle relay. I was nervous the entire time I was waiting but when I actually did it I had so much fun. Sherbourne may have come last with our points on the day but we all tried so hard. Holy Trinity came first overall.





**Jethro**

I competed in freestyle and I came 6th. It was very fun! I had a lot of lolly snacks to give me energy for my race. I was also in the relay race, we came 4th and I was really proud of us all.



**Olive**

I was swimming in the relay which was the last of the races for the day. We all cheered on everyone else and Bella almost lost her voice. When we swam, I was the last person in the race and we came 4th.



**Elliot**

I competed in backstroke and it was great fun. I was really nervous at first but when I finished my race I felt proud that I had come 5th.



**Dean**

Even though Dean was feeling really tired on the morning of his freestyle relay race, he was so fast in the water and helped his team finish 4th.



**Lucas**

When I was asked to jump in and do backstroke I denied it at first but then I decided to do it. I got up there and it was so nerve racking but I tried my best and ended up coming 5th out of seven. I was glad I did it. I also had fun competing in the relay too.



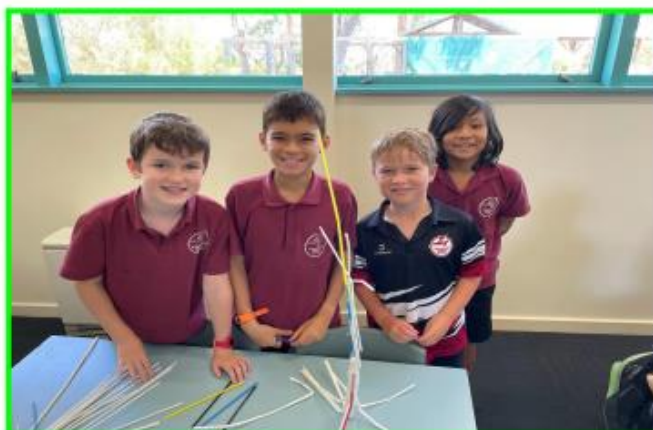
# SHERBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## OPEN EVENING

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 15th**

**4pm - 5:30pm**

*We invite you to come along with your families to join in some fun, hands-on STEM activities on our Open Evening. Children will get the opportunity to share their learning with new families, who will be coming to look at our wonderful school.*





# THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

Through our work with The Resilience Project  
we have been learning about **GRATITUDE!!!!**



What is GRATITUDE?

A feeling of deep appreciation

Being thankful

Showing appreciation for kindness

Showing kindness in return

It is about love, joy, thankfulness, appreciation, pleasure and happiness

It is about giving thanks



Hugh Van Cuylenberg is the founder of The Resilience Project and learnt all about GRATITUDE on a trip to India. While working in a very disadvantaged school he was fortunate enough to meet a gorgeous little boy called Stanzin.

Stanzin saw beauty in everything and often had 'DIS' moments (he couldn't say THIS) where he would point out to Hugh all the things he was grateful for in his life even though, compared to many of us, he had very little. He thought he was the luckiest boy in the world!!!!

We have been trying to recognise where we have 'DIS' moments in our own lives.





Newsletter

# Program spotlight



**Your  
OSHC.**



Your OSHC by Camp Australia provides enriching experiences for children during term – before school, after school and on pupil free days. At Your OSHC we give children a supportive space to continue their development, build confidence and socialise with their friends.

## What's coming up at Your OSHC this week:

**27/02/2023**

Paper Chains

**28/02/2023**

Cartoon Painting – Paint your favourite

**1/03/2023**

Rain Sticks

**2/03/2023**

Box Craft – Make a Robot

**3/03/2023**

Wooden Dinosaurs – Decorate your own dinosaur



### Stop by and say hi!

Please feel free to visit the program with your children to meet the team and see what happens in our great program each school day.



### Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.



### Register for Your OSHC

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

[Visit our blog](#)

[Register now](#)

Register free and book now at [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

by  **Camp  
Australia**



Guardian Montmorency enrolling now

Come down for a tour to meet our amazing team and see all the enriching experiences we do every day!! We have positions available from Nursery to Kindergarten.

Give us a call on 9435-1399 or go onto [Guardian.com.au](http://Guardian.com.au) to make an online tour booking.