

# SCOOP

ISSUE 12 - NOVEMBER 2025



## IMPORTANT DATES:

### WEEK 6

- 10 Nov - School Review Day 1
- 11 Nov - Yr 3/4 HoopTime Final
- 12 Nov - Foundation Wildlife Visit
- 13 Nov - School Review Day 2
- 14 Nov - Marvellous Maths

### WEEK 7

- 17 Nov - School Review Day 3
- 19 Nov - Yr 5 Bike Education  
2026 Foundation  
Parent Info Night
- 20 Nov - Yr 5 Bike Education  
- 2026 Foundation  
Transition #1
- 21 Nov - Yr 5 Bike Education  
- Community Reading

## LEADERSHIP REPORT

by Jason Vandy



**Celebrating the life of Mr. Gary Smith:** Mr. Gary Smith was a unique, kind, and dedicated educator whose journey at Strathmore Primary School began in July 2011. Over the past 14 years, Gary taught more than 300 students, attended over 1,000 hours of after-school meetings, completed over 3,000 hours of yard duty, and volunteered at more than 200 school events. He approached every task with care, kindness, commitment, compassion, and an enduring love of education.

Gary was known for always sharing his thoughtful opinions and his deep affection for Strathmore Primary School. Beyond the classroom, he was a committed member of the Essendon Dousta Stars Football Club, a passionate supporter of the Melbourne Demons, and an avid golfer who spent his weekends at the Northern Golf Club.

Most importantly, Gary was our colleague, our friend, and the dedicated teacher of the Year 1/2C students at SPS. His presence, humour, and unwavering care enriched the lives of everyone around him.

A celebration of Gary William Smith's life will be held at Buckley Park Bowling Club (111 Cooper Street, Essendon) on Friday, 14 November 2025, commencing at 11:00 AM.

Donations in Gary's memory may be made to either Fight MND or the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

Details for his service can be found here: [Celebrating Mr. Gary William Smith](#)  
Thank you Gary, we all miss you deeply.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November arrangements** - as you can appreciate, many staff will be attending Gary's service this Friday, and as such will not be at school. Please know that Strathmore PS will remain opened and arrangements have been made for replacement teachers to take classes on Friday. We thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

**Strathmore PS School Review** - We are pleased to welcome Brian Collins (Lead Reviewer), Corey Jewell (SEIL), Jason Smallwood (Principal), and Nathan Gage (Principal), who will join Brendan Flaim (School Council President) and our principal class team as part of our School Review. Together, they will celebrate our achievements, provide valuable feedback, and help shape the direction of our next four-year Strategic Plan.

The review will take place at Strathmore Primary School on Monday 10<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>, and Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

**Parent Helpers required** - Mia has sent out a request for any volunteers who might be able to support the Colour Fun Run on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November. If you're able to assist on the day please let Mia know on 0413 922 673 or email [parents club on spsparentsclub@gmail.com](mailto:spsparentsclub@gmail.com)



# SPECIALIST SHOWCASE

A huge congratulations to all our students for their incredible performances at this year's Specialist Showcase! From the creative displays to the captivating performances, it was wonderful to see so much talent, enthusiasm, and hard work on display.

A big thank you to our school community for coming along to support the students, your encouragement and applause made the showcase even more special.

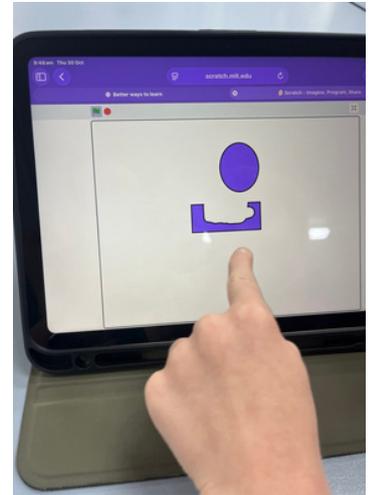
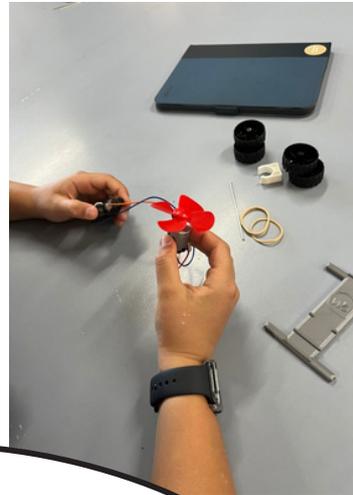
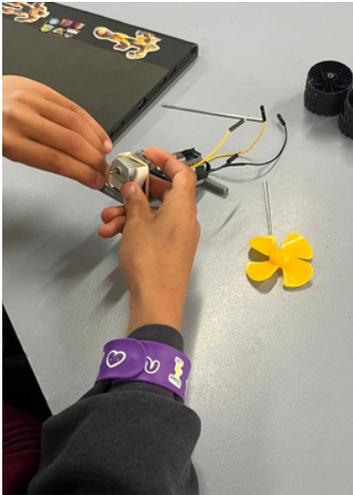
Well done to all the families who successfully bid on their class canvases! The funds raised will go directly back into our specialist program to support our students creativity.

Finally, a massive shout out to our amazing specialist teachers for putting together such a fantastic event. Your dedication and creativity truly made the Showcase one to remember!



# CODING IN 3/4

The Year 3/4 students are currently participating in a coding unit in Inquiry. In the Inquiry unit, students have been learning how to use block code to program their Spheros. To further develop their understanding of coding, all of the students participated in a direct experience provided by Western Bace STEM Squad. They used their prior knowledge and new skills to block code to create a game on the program Scratch. They then built electric cars and raced them against each other. Thank you to Mark Corrie and his team at Western Bace for sharing their knowledge and skills with our students. Please have a look at the photos and student comments from the direct experience.



I had fun coding. We created a game and then we made an electric car.

*Xanthe*

We learnt how to code and we made a game. We made an electric car which we raced in the end. Georgi won the race.

*Senul*

I really enjoyed doing coding on website called Scratch and I think it would be an amazing experience for those who have not tried it yet.

*Ryon*

It was one of the best things I've done at school this year. We got to create a video game on Scratch to catch a ball in a basket.

*Finn*

When I was coding the game, I was really excited to see what coding blocks we were going to use and how the game was going to work.

*Issac*

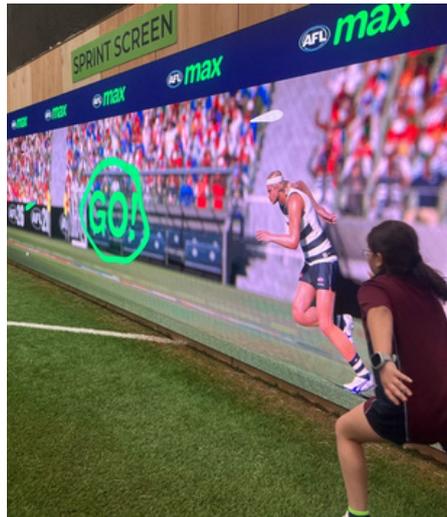
I really like how we got to use block coding to make a game. It was like online basketball.

*Genevieve*

# AFL MAX EXCURSION



Our Year 3-6 students travelled to the brand new AFL Max centre in Tullamarine for an afternoon of fun footy themed activities and drills. The facility has an indoor footy field, inflatables, bouldering walls, interactive games, toddler activities and skill challenges that kept everyone entertained for hours; even the teachers!



# CHAMPIONING SPS VALUES

Each week we recognise students who display our School Values of Character, Inspiration, Connection and Endeavour.



## WEEK 4

### ART / Whole School

**MUSIC** / For demonstrating all four school values in **ITALIAN** - our Specialist Showcase, you were so inspiring and made your teachers so proud. Bravi a tutti!

### PE - Adam H

For demonstrating the school value of inspiration through his excellent participation during this week's sport session. Well done!

### FA- Sara

For demonstrating the school value of endeavour on her return to school this week.

### FB - Rumaisa and Adam E

Both demonstrated the school values of '**Inspiration**' and '**Connection**' when performing in the Specialist Showcase and for their effort in all their artwork. Well done, Rumaisa and Adam!

### 1/2A - Sienna F

For an awesome start to term 4. Your attitude and effort in all aspects of school life (especially writing) is amazing. You make me smile. Well done!

### 1/2B - Nia W

For demonstrating the school values of character and endeavour by always doing your best and contributing to classroom discussions with a confident voice.

### 1/2C - Melis A

For demonstrating 'Inspiration' through your positive choices and efforts to ensure you show your best self in class this week. Well done and keep it up Melis.

### 3/4B - Isaac O

For displaying the school values of 'Inspiration' and 'Connection' during the STEM Squad direct experience. Well done for participating enthusiastically and connecting with your previous coding knowledge when using Scratch to create your game. Keep up the great work.

### 3/4A - Sahar T

For displaying the school value of inspiration when writing your story about Rupunzel. It was great to see how your story writing has improved and how much better you have become at recording the correct spelling of words. Well Done!

### 3/4B - George K

For displaying the school values of 'Inspiration' and 'Connection' during the STEM Squad Incursion. Well done for listening attentively, connecting with your prior coding knowledge when using Scratch and helping those around you. Keep up the terrific work, you superstar!

### 3/4C- Olivier M

For displaying the school values of 'Character' and 'Endeavour' during the STEM Squad Incursion. Well done for listening attentively and enthusiastically building the robotic car and coding. Keep up the tremendous work Oliver!

### 5/6A - Stella I

For demonstrating the school values of character and inspiration. You lead by example and your ability to advocate for your self and others is commendable. Well done Stella!

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## WEEK 4 CONT.

### 5/6B - Grace P

For demonstrating the school value of inspiration. Your attitude and effort across all areas of learning has been exceptional. You are truly inspiring to all your classmates. Keep up the fabulous work Grace!

### 5/6B - Lenny B

For demonstrating the school value of character by choosing to stay behind and help clean up the BER at lunchtime without being asked. Well done, Lenny!

### 5/6C - Natalie L

For showing kindness, empathy, and integrity in all interactions. You consistently include others, build positive relationships, and lead by example through your respect and compassion. Your ability to connect with others and uphold strong character makes our school community a better place.

### 5/6C- Oscar T

For demonstrating the school value of character by showing high-level leadership when volunteering to show guests around the specialist showcase during lunchtime. Well done, Oscar! Mr M

### 5/6D - Greta S

For demonstrating the school values of character and inspiration by going above and beyond to keep the 5/6 learning spaces clean. Also for showing persistence in maths groups, bringing a positive attitude into the classroom each day, and demonstrating leadership. Well done, Greta, keep up the wonderful year!