



**SOUTH PADBURY
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Pursuit of Knowledge and Friendship

24 February 2022 Edition #2

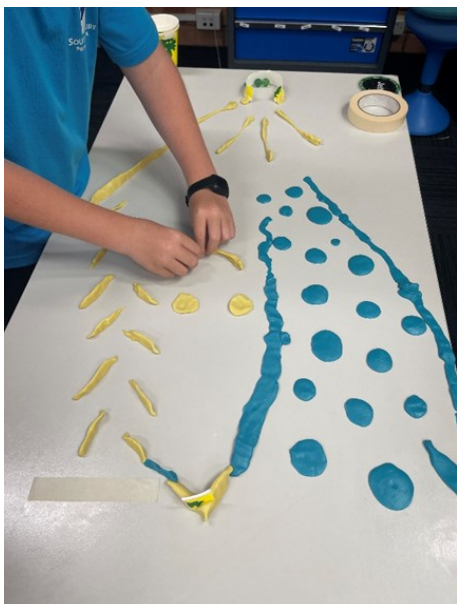
Kookaburra Chronicles

Stem Challenges in Year 4

The Year Fours have been hard at work this fortnight putting their STEM brains to the test. Students have worked in teams of 4 to create a marble run using playdough, paper cups and masking tape. Working collaboratively, they have built and designed a racecourse for two marbles, tried a multi-level course, solved problems, reflected and tested their engineering skills.



Check
out some
of their
awesome
designs





Dear Families

Welcome to our first official newsletter for the year. We have had much to celebrate so far this term.

Our amazing Tiny Forest Project has been selected by UNESCO Green Citizens to be included on their global campaign platform. UNESCO GREEN CITIZENS is a global campaign to enhance local initiatives and highlight local environmental citizen-led projects on a global scale. <http://www.unescogreencitizens.org> We will let you know when our project has been added.

The school applied last year to the Department of Education for inclusion in the first round of the Schools Clean Energy Technology Fund, and our submission was successful. We will be having rooftop solar panels installed to reduce our school's carbon emissions and energy costs and will keep you posted on the process once it begins.

Finally, our K/PP Nature Playground has been completed ahead of schedule. The K/PP staff will spend the next few weeks exploring the space with the students, who will be learning how to safely navigate its different features and experiment in the new environment through play. The fence will remain in place while this occurs to protect the growing lawn and the equipment in the playground. Eventually all classes will be invited to spend time in the space, and we look forward to hopefully creating another amazing nature playground outside the Year 2 classes in 2023.

By now you should realise that the school has a focus this year on reading and promoting our new Initiative 'Find 15'. This is based on current reading research which says that '15 minutes seems to be the "magic number" at which students start seeing substantial positive gains in reading achievement; students who read just over half an hour to an hour per day see the greatest gains of all.' We ask families to ensure students read for 15 mins each school day and record their reading in their individual reading log, which also has lots of helpful information for parents. For students too young to read, parents are asked to read to their children for 15 mins and also practice letter sounds and names, or sight words using games or flashcards. Once COVID operational guidelines allow, we will be creating a parent reading support book club and training parents how to effectively listen to student reading and enhance student understanding through questioning techniques. The school is also looking to repeat our very successful 'Boost' early literacy parent program with Dyslexia Speld Foundation WA (DSF) sometime this year.

Thank you once again to the school community for a very smooth start to the year. And a special mention to 'Dadbury' who have helped make the beginning of the year a positive one for some of our students needing the basics to attend school. Community support is always appreciated and our students are feeling the calm and resilient manner in which the current climate is being dealt with by South Padbury families.

Happy Parenting!

Contact Information:

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www.southpadburyprimaryschool.wa.edu.au

Police Communications: 131 444

Education Security: 9264 4771 or 9264

Dates to put in your diary....

Monday 28 February	P&C AGM
Monday 7 March	Public Holiday

Public Holiday

Week 6 - Monday 7 April

Labor Day Long Weekend

Messages To Students & Delayed For Pick-up

Please be aware that most classrooms do not have a phone and we cannot always guarantee getting messages to students, particularly in the afternoon. Teachers may not be able to check emails.

Please have a conversation with your child/ren to have a plan in place in the event that you are delayed or unable to collect them at the end of the day. Children can always come to the office if no-one comes to collect them as expected.

This is even more important now with early close on a Wednesday, please advise children if at anytime no-one has arrived for pick-up to come to the office, where we can contact parents.

Updating of QKR Profiles

If you already have QKR please update your child/ren's profile to ensure the correct TA and year group is reflected for your child.

Contacting the School

Phone Number

South Padbury P.S.

6206 2250



Student Absences

Please text your child, class and reason for absence on

0438 259 071

Please advise the school if your child is absent awaiting a PCR result or a family member has tested positive.