

Specialist Newsletter

Term 4
2017

'Inspire and challenge every student to be active, eco-conscious, musical, multi-lingual and artistic.'



Mandarin:

Laoshi Ms Ye



再见 Term 4! 再见 2017! My most proud achievement in teaching Chinese Mandarin this year has been witnessing the huge progress students from Foundation to Year 4 made in handwriting. As we all know, writing is always challenging in any additional language learning and Chinese is especially so. I remember when our students first started character writing, it took them a while to get used to the character structure by tracing. Now, our students are moving towards independent handwriting at their own pace.

Apart from handwriting, students have been introduced to the expressions of time and daily routines to provide them with more opportunities to use Chinese in their everyday lives. Using singing as an effective teaching and learning tool, Foundation students learnt 2 new songs 'Two Tigers' and 'I like to move it move it'. Year 1/2 students proudly presented their 'Health Hero' song at the end of the year school concert and Year 3/4 students learnt the classic Christmas song 'I Wish You a Merry Christmas'. Students in Year 3 and 4 also made and tasted Chinese fortune cookies in class! Well done to all students for another fantastic year of Mandarin learning. 老师 wishes all of you a very happy Christmas and New Year.

See you in 2018!

Performing Arts:

Mrs Murch



Wow, what an exciting term and year it has been in Performing Arts!

Term 4 kicked off with an impressive performance from the junior and senior choirs at the 'Voices of the Choirs' competition held at Wallarano Primary School. Both choirs performed beautifully and demonstrated great discipline and dedication on the day.

Another exiting event this term was Athol Road's Got Talent! Many talented students at ARPS were very brave to perform in the heats and finals. Congratulations to all those who performed and well done to Alphonse and Albert (Foundation) and Cooper (Year 3) who took out the top prizes. What fantastic talented students there are at Athol Road!

All students have been busy this term preparing for the school concert, 'Heroes', to be held on Friday 15th December at 7pm. The performance highlights different types of heroes from different walks of life including J.K Rowling, Cadel Evans, Hercules, Mulan, Bill Gates, Sally ride and David Attenborough. I am very proud of all the brave, expressive student performers there are at Athol Road Primary School. I can't wait to see all the 'heroes' come to life!

Well done on a fantastic year everyone.

Visual Arts: Mrs Santavas



Congratulations everyone for a wonderful, fulfilling, exciting term in the Art room this year and succeeding in producing your very own unique style of art pieces. The artwork completed by the students during Visual Arts sessions portrays exemplary techniques, creativity and dedication undertaken by the students. The artwork was inspired by the inquiry units undertaken in the classroom at each level, as well as being based on stand-alone units linked to Victorian Curriculum guidelines. Congratulations to all the students on their amazing achievements. Onward and Upward!

Well done to:

- Year 6 for portraying and designing their own Picasso pillows
- Year 5 for transforming recycling magazine papers into bowls
- Year 3&4 designing cool cats by researching the artist Laurel Burch
- Year 1&2 using masking tape resist dinosaur skeleton art
- Foundation students using water paints to represent their mini beasts.

Fantastic Year, 2017!!!!

Environmental Science: Mr Hunter



What a fantastic end to Term 4 and the year with some amazing activities completed by all year levels.

Foundation, Year 1 and 2 students created some really yummy food from damper over the campfire to fruit skewers and salad sticks. Students built their understanding around where the ingredients they consumed came from in nature.

Year 3 and 4 students broadened their understanding of different ecosystems where they finished off by creating amazing models of an ecosystem of their choice. All models were colourful and well detailed which helped demonstrate what they had learnt.

Year 5 and 6 students designed a new Athol Road Primary School where they had to make the school fully sustainable for energy, water, food and shelter. Students designed some amazing schools with new and innovative ideas to generate energy and feed the students and staff each day.



Mr Rus

Do you have a back yard that needs tidying? Ask your Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students how to play 'Not in my Back Yard; it may help. Although, in hindsight, it's probably not the best way to clean up your backyard! This semester students prepared for the house athletics by practising a long list of games and skills such as 'Not in my Back Yard,' throwing, running, jumping, skipping, leaping and kicking. The event itself was thrilling and all the children tried their hardest.

In the end Yellow Tigers won!

Year 3 and 4 students concentrated on forehand striking skills which included cricket, baseball, hockey and tennis. They also ran a series of 200m time trials and it was very satisfying to see most of them improve. Ask them what animal they run like and what they would like to be next year.

Does your child ride a bike? If not, why not? This semester, Year 5 and 6 got on bikes in the Bike Ed. unit and may be able to tell you the benefits of riding. The focus was on advanced skills such as tight cornering, emergency stopping and scanning in order to prepare them for riding in the community. There were a few minor accidents and a few near misses; better in the school ground than on the road! I hope to see more students riding bikes to school in future.

It will be sad to see the Year 6 students move on although I wish them every success in the future. They too (with the Year 5s) ran 200m time trials and had some very impressive results. If only they could stay on for one more year to run for the school! Oh well, it's now up to the year 5s to carry the baton. It's been a very good year in PE and I look forward to next year!