

VISION STATEMENT

Create a vibrant learning community where lives are transformed and individuals inspired to achieve beyond what they ever believed possible

ATHOL ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

19th February 2020

NEWSletter

BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ARPS!

SPECIAL INFORMATION AND CALENDAR EVENTS

2020 Term Dates (students)

Term 1: 31/01 – 27/03

Term 2: 14/04 – 26/06

Term 3: 13/07 – 18/09

Term 4: 05/10 – 18/12

Foundation students do NOT attend school on Wednesdays in FEBRUARY!

Term 1 PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Monday, 9th March

No school for students!

CASUAL DRESS DAYS

Last Friday of each month

Students choosing to participate in casual dress days are required to bring

a gold coin donation – proceeds to the Royal Children's Hospital Appeal

2020 Swimming Program

will run one day a week until the end of term.

Monday for Years 1 – 4

Commenced Feb 10th

Wednesday for Years 5-6

Commenced Feb 12th

Students need to wear a swim cap to swimming lessons!

ARPS swim caps: \$5.00



From the Principal's Desktop

The 2020 school year has started very smoothly with teachers and students collaboratively setting up expectations around behaviour and learning in all learning spaces.

The swimming program has now commenced which reduces the workload significantly in the office allowing staff to refocus on the other important tasks that need to be completed. You will see that Mrs Beveridge is back in the office as we continue to advertise the full-time office position in the hope of finding someone with experience in the Department of Education administration and financial computer programs. Mrs Beveridge does an excellent job and we are very fortunate to have her at ARPS.

Our new natural playground will be opened to students in Term 2 when the weather is cooler and the plants have had more time to get established. Finding a name has been more challenging than expected as many of the entries contained very similar words around nature and sustainability. So it has been decided to include some of these common words in our name which means there is not one winner but a combination of the sentiments contained in many entries. The name for our newest play space is:

ARPS NATURE'S WAY

Active Rustic Play Setting

Greg, our grounds maintenance man will now prepare the name to be displayed at the entrance to the space while student leadership will work on planning the opening ceremony including who will be given the honour of officially opening this new space.

Getting to Know You
Parent/Teacher Chats
Wednesday, 26th February
3.30pm – 6.30pm

Notices have come home for you to identify a time on this day to meet your child's teachers and have a conversation where your child is the focus. This meeting is not too early in the year for this but it is an opportunity for you and the teacher to share important information that will support your child's learning in 2020. Please make the time and effort to have this important chat!

In 2020 ARPS has been selected to work with Regional office and the Department of Education on several important projects. One is working with 120 other schools on a prioritisation project focussed on students who completed Year 3 NAPLAN in 2018. Ms Keach will be working with twenty Year 5 students for 10 hours a week on this specific project centred around Literacy. If your child is in this particular group of students it is imperative that your child attends school every day to maximise the time and effort that is being put in on this specific DET project. Another project involves working with a regional consultant on to develop student 'metacognition' across Years 3 – 6. Mr Holden, one of our Learning Specialists will be leading this project. ARPS has earned a reputation as an 'excellent' school due to the hard work of staff – well deserved!

A school where 'Every minute matters'

SUN SMART - 'NO HAT NO PLAY'

ARPS is a Sun Smart School and enforces a strict 'No Hat No Play' at recess and lunch breaks from mid-August to the end of April. Sun safety is a shared responsibility between staff, parents and students. Student hats must be navy blue and have a broad brim around the whole hat in line with Sun Smart guidelines and school uniform policy. If your child does not have a hat they are available for purchase from the school office for \$15.00.

SWIMMING: FEATURING YEAR 1/2 SWIMMING

Swimming commenced on the week beginning Monday, 10th February with 280 students heading to the 'Time To Swim' pool in Noble Park. It is a small pool which offers a very good swimming program for our students. Feedback from students and teachers has been very positive. I went down to the pool during the Year 3/4 swimming sessions and it brought back many memories as my two children both learned to swim at that pool many years ago under the guidance of the then owner, Mr Neighbour. Location is a huge benefit as the travel time to and from the pool is significantly reduced.



Anna
Drake
Stella



Stella, Laura



Linda



Branda, Alexa, Amelia, Avelyn, Bao



Vincent



Jordan
Ella
Hayley



Jordan, Jason

SWIMMING DATES

4 more swimming dates left for each group after this week

Foundation - Year 4: Monday
24th Feb & 2nd, 16th, 23rd March

Year 5 – 6: Wednesday
26th Feb & 4th, 11th, 15th March

Parents are welcome to attend:
Cnr of Bloomfield and Isaac Roads
in Noble Park

SWIMMING FEEDBACK

I liked the small, personal nature of the pool. It allowed not only small class sizes, but also the ability for swimming teachers to easily observe both their own and others' classes in order to make quick but effective decisions on any changes to students' groupings based on levels. I also felt that the teachers kept the classes moving well, allowing each student to have a turn efficiently and make the most of the lesson time for swimming. In the group I was with I also found them to be quick to identify, calm and encourage any students who were concerned about getting in the water.

The program was well organized, the re-grouping of students into the correct groups occurred very quickly, staff seemed friendly and managed the students well and students were in the water at all times, not sitting out on the edge. The only drawback was the size of the change rooms which makes it difficult to know which group unclaimed items come from.

Swimming lessons were amazing! All students were in the pool at all times, instructors were interacting with them and all of them had an absolute ball. If students were in the incorrect ability group they were moved very promptly to ensure they didn't waste any time. Definitely the best lessons I've seen though!

SCHOOL CANTEEN NEWS

If you haven't already, please get your Flexischools Online set up within the FlexiBuzz app. With Flexischools online you can conveniently order a school canteen lunch with minimum fuss! School office staff are happy to help you set this up on your personal device if you need assistance.

This year THE GOLDENT TICKET is back!!

Students who order a canteen lunch go into the weekly draw for the Golden Ticket. Every Friday, a Golden Ticket is awarded to one lucky student who has had a lunch order that week. The Golden Ticket is a \$5 voucher towards a school canteen lunch order.



WHO WILL BE OUR FIRST LUCKY WINNER FOR 2020 THIS FRIDAY?

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

ARPS FAMILY BBQ & MINI FETE

Friday, 13th March: 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Watch out for the flyer on Flexibuzz!

INVITATION TO ASSEMBLY

FRIDAY, 21st FEBRUARY at 2.45pm

Parents are invited to attend assembly on Friday, 21st February at 2.45pm under the basketball canopy at the front of the school.

Student Leader badges and our very first 'Aussie of the Month' awards will be presented to a student in Foundation – Year 2 and a student in Year 3 – 6.

Who will be the inaugural winners of our February 'Aussie of the Month' awards?



CONGRATULATIONS Mr Holden is a DADDY!



Baby, Hank Francis Holden, arrived on Thursday, 13th February at 3:44am, son to Lara and Andrew. All healthy, weighing in at 8.5 pounds.



CONGRATULATIONS Mrs Coleman is a MUMMY!



Baby, Sadie Jeanne Coleman, arrived ahead of schedule on Wednesday, 12th February, daughter to Ashlee and Dylan. Mummy and baby are doing well.

CASUAL DRESS DAY: Friday, 28th February

Students who choose not to wear uniform on this day are required to donate a GOLD COIN to the Royal Children's Hospital Appeal