

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

18th March 2020

NEWSletter

BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ARPS!

SPECIAL INFORMATION AND CALENDAR EVENTS

2020 Term Dates (students)

Term 1: 31/01 – 27/03

**Term 1 finishes on Friday,
27th March at 2.30pm.
PLEASE be on time to pick
up your children.**

Term 2: 14/04 – 26/06

Term 3: 13/07 – 18/09

Term 4: 05/10 – 18/12

CASUAL DRESS DAY

Friday, 27th March

**Students choosing to
participate in casual dress
days are required to bring
a gold coin donation –
proceeds to the Royal
Children's Hospital Appeal**

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL APPEAL

Target \$2 422.20!



From the Principal's Desktop

As Principal of Athol Road Primary School I am responsible for the day to day operation of the school. This sometimes involves making difficult decisions which impact on the school community. I do not take this responsibility lightly. The health and safety of students, staff and the school community always has been and always will be my Number 1 priority!

In line with the latest information from the Department of Education:

- Swimming has been cancelled – the last lesson for Year 5/6 and the last 2 lessons for Year 1/2.
- District Sport planned for Friday has been cancelled
- There will be no excursions in Term 2
- Friday's Assembly and the Singing Assembly on the last day have been cancelled

Apart from this it should be school as usual! Teachers are taking every precaution to ensure the health and wellbeing of students while in our care. Your child should attend school unless there is a specific reason why they cannot.

During this time it is extremely important that parents, not only, have the Flexibuzz app installed on their devices but that they open and read all notices sent out through Flexibuzz. It is also VITAL that the school has the current contact details for parents as well as emergency contacts. Staff are wasting valuable time trying to contact parents whose phone numbers are incorrect. PLEASE advise the office EVERY TIME you change your phone number or your emergency contact changes.

This is a difficult time for schools, knowing that involvement in a range of learning experiences is vital to the development of student skills and knowledge within and beyond the learning space and school environment. School Council will discuss the current situation and put together a plan for our school where the health and wellbeing of our students is top priority.

Unfortunately our Family BBQ had to be cancelled due to the weather last week. However, I must CONGRATULATE Ms Qemal and the Family BBQ Team who did an awesome job of organising the event. We tried to make it happen by changing the time but the weather had other ideas! The Team are hoping to reschedule to Term 4. You will have already seen that some of the activities are going ahead over the next 2 weeks as supplies had already been purchased. Please support your child/ren to participate in these events where you can.

Teachers have been asked to meet with at least one parent of every student before the end of Term 1 to learn about their child. Parents are the first teachers of their children and, as such, have a lot of information which is valuable for teachers to know. If you did not attend the teacher chats held earlier this term or have not yet had a conversation with a teacher, PLEASE contact one of your child's learning space teachers to have that valuable conversation. It is important that teachers have spoken to every parent/carer by the end of Term 1!

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.

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL APPEAL

THANK YOU for the very generous donations to the Royal Children's Hospital. Every year the Athol Road Primary School community amazes me with its generosity – there can be nothing more important than having the best facilities in Melbourne to support our sick and injured children. While I personally have never had to use this service, it is comforting knowing that it is there to ease the pain and suffering of families who do have to use it!

Current Collection: \$3 326.00 – an AWESOME effort – can we reach \$4 000????

PEER MEDIATORS

What is a Peer Mediator? Peer Mediators at Athol Road Primary School are specially trained students in Year 4 – 6 who support other students in the yard to solve minor problems at recess and lunch time.

The Year 4 Peer Mediators have now completed their training program with the school's social worker. They have learned the skills needed to assist their peers and teachers in the yard, building their communication and problem solving ability. These students are taking important steps towards becoming leaders at ARPS and in the future. They are now out in the yard, alongside the Year 5 and 6 Peer Mediators, enhancing their skills and assisting their peers.



Congratulations to these students for being selected and for their hard work in the training program. I know you will do a great job in the yard!

WINNERS of the THE GOLDEN TICKET!!

WINNERS of the last 2 Golden Tickets are: Dean Van Ree and Vincent Thai

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.



LAST DAY OF TERM 1

On the last day of Term 1, Friday, 27th March, school will finish at 2.30pm.

PLEASE be on time to pick up your child/ren.

Out of School Hours Care will operate as usual from 3.30pm – 6.00pm but parents will need to advise Mrs Beveridge to ensure staff coverage.

KINDERGARTEN CORNER

Throughout the year, the kindergarten children will be collecting plastic bottle lids for the charity 'Lids 4 Kids'. They will be sending the lids to a company called Envision which recycles the lids and uses them to make 3D printed mobility aids for children. The children have recently begun the process of sorting the lids into colours and washing them. Through this program, they are learning about the different ways that plastic can be recycled. They are also developing their knowledge of sorting items by colour and size.



As part of their language program, the kindergarten children are learning Mandarin which is taught by Mrs Hong. To commence the program, the children have been learning to locate China on a world map. They have also been learning about the Chinese flag. Many children have shown a strong interest in flags which has led to them to making their own Chinese flags in the kinder craft area. The children have started learning how to say basic greetings in Mandarin with the current focus being upon saying hello – 'Ni Hao'

Miss McDonnell: Kindergarten Teacher



YEAR 3/4 FRIDAY SPORTS SESSIONS

The Schools Sporting Fund allows schools the opportunity to apply for grants to have specialist coaches come and work with students to build their skills in particular sports. Mr Rus lodged a successful application for Term 1 where Year 3/4 students had access to coaches in cricket, touch football, athletics and basketball. The coaches came in every Friday afternoon and worked with groups of students. The photographs above show students practising the skills in the various sports:

- Kingsley and Aarya are practising their touch football skills
- Illuson is practising his batting in cricket
- Melinda is practising her running and baton passing in athletics
- Kevin is practising his basketball shooting

The students have enjoyed these Friday afternoon sessions and have benefited from the expertise of the coaches.