

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**

17th FEBRUARY 2021

NEWSletter

BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ARPS!

SPECIAL INFORMATION AND CALENDAR EVENTS

**PLEASE do NOT
send sick children
to school**

2021 SCHOOL YEAR

**No school for
Foundation
students on
Wednesdays in
FEBRUARY**

**Term 1: finishes
1st April**

**Term 2:
19th April – 5th June**

**Term 3:
12th July – 17th Sept**

**Term 4:
4th Oct – 17th Dec**

**NO SCHOOL ON
CURRICULUM DAY
Friday, 5th March**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
Labour Day
8th March**

**Queen's Birthday
14th June**

**Melbourne Cup
2nd Nov**



From the Principal's Desktop

COVID REMINDERS

The Circuit Breaker snap Lockdown has meant that most students are learning from home for 3 days this week but hopefully they can return to school on Thursday. Parents NEED to:

- watch the news for the latest information
- make sure that they have the Sentral app on their device as that is how the school communicates with you – this is MANDATORY for every family whose child/ren attend Athol Road Primary School

During these 3 days of home learning, teachers have been contacting parents by telephone to conduct a 'getting to know you and your child'. Parents are asked to please answer their telephones as many teachers will be using private numbers.

THANK YOU to all our families for their ongoing support during this difficult time.

The school is required to implement strategies to ensure the health and well-being of everyone. At Athol Road Primary School these strategies include:

- Restricting all visits to the school to only those which are necessary
 - Paying fees, purchasing uniform, attending scheduled meetings
 - Dropping children at the school gate in the morning
 - Waiting in the designated spots in the afternoons for children to be dismissed
 - Complying with school requests as outlined on Sentral and in the newsletter
- Wearing of masks by adults when on school grounds
- Social distancing of 1.5 metres
- Regular hand sanitisation

EVERYONE wants the same outcome – a COVID FREE SCHOOL – let's work together to ensure that we achieve this goal.

The school year is now in its third full week of operation with staff and students settling into routines. Our Specialist programs provide students with opportunities to learn and grow in Environmental Education, Mandarin, Performing Arts, Visual Education (Art) and Physical Education (PE). Mr Rus (PE) remains on sick leave following a motor bike incident last October. He is recovering well and should return to school in Term 2. Mr Keleher is teaching PE and will be at ARPS until the end of Term 1.

Foundation students have settled well in the school routines. Wednesday testing is taking place so they do not come to school on Wednesdays during the month of February. Foundation students will attend school EVERY DAY from Monday, 1st March.

A school where 'Every minute matters'

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Several members of last year's School Council finish their term of office at the next meeting in February. **New members are needed.** School Council meets twice a term for up to 2 hours so it is not a huge commitment. PLEASE consider nominating for School Council. Watch out for the information that will be sent out on Sentral OR come and talk to office staff who will be happy to register your interest.

It is important that everyone of us remains alert and adheres to COVID guidelines in order to protect ourselves and those we love. Please carefully read the strategies that the school has put in place to keep everyone safe.

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS: DIARY DATES

To assist families with planning, School Council is advising that:

1. There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on **FRIDAY, 5th MARCH** – Curriculum Day for Staff who will be consolidating their knowledge and understanding of how to work collaboratively to improve student learning outcomes. Professional learning is a very important part of teacher practice as it is mandatory for teachers to maintain their registration each year.

NOTICE: Club MAY operate on this day IF there is sufficient interest. \$25.00 charge applies.
ACTION: If you wish to register your child for Club on Curriculum Day, Friday, 5th March you will need to:
 - Advise Mrs Beveridge at Club OR register at the office
 - Pay \$25 by Friday, 26th FEBRUARY
2. There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on **MONDAY, 8th MARCH** as this is a **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**. No staff will be at school on this day.

New Arrivals at the ARPS Farm

With a new year beginning, our school farm is back up and running. Over the last 2 weeks, the farm animals have been returning from their summer holiday. Our chickens and ducks returned before Australia Day in order to settle back into the enclosures. We now have 7 ducks and 13 chickens, with 8 of the chickens being from eggs that were hatched at school in Term 4 last year.

Our 2 alpacas came back with the chickens and ducks and have settled in well. I will soon be running a naming competition for them where you can put forward a new name suggestion for one or both of the alpacas.

Our newest arrivals to the farm are 2 young female sheep. Their names are Bubble (light coloured sheep) and Squeak (dark coloured sheep). They were both born just over 4 months ago and are happily settling in to their new paddocks. Bubble and Squeak will be part of our farm for Term 1 before heading back to their farm in Gippsland.



Healthy Schools

Athol Road Primary School has recently been recognised by the Victorian Government's *Healthy Schools Achievement Program* for meeting the benchmarks for the following health priority areas: PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND MOVEMENT, SAFE ENVIRONMENTS and SEXUAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING. A great achievement!



FOUNDATION NEWS

The Foundation students have settled in well during their first weeks of school at ARPS. All students have enjoyed getting to know their teachers and peers and have loved participating in many fun activities within the learning space. They have been learning about the letter 'Mm' and 'Milo the Monkey'. We got to make some delicious milo milk, go on an 'm' hunt with our magnifying glasses and make paper bag monsters.

The Foundation students have been focusing on how to make friends, how to be a good friend and showing respect and caring for their peers. It has been great to see many friendships start being formed. Foundation students have had a great start to school and the their teachers are excited for an excellent year ahead!

Some important reminders: Bring fruit and a drink bottle each day, leave rubbish at home and pack a 'nude food' lunchbox, bring your blue bag to school each day and check this daily at home. There is no school on Wednesdays for the month of February. Remember to connect to Seesaw if you are having trouble, the Foundation teachers are able to assist you. Thank you to those who are already doing this.



Hayley with her monster



FB and their magnifying glasses



Khemmikka making a colour pattern

YEAR 1/2 NEWS

The 1/2 teachers are so excited to get to know all the students in the 1/2 learning space as well as help the students get to know the teachers better. Enjoy reading each of our fun facts below!

Miss Davey: I like to go scuba diving and swim with the fish!	Miss Davis: I used to be a competitive horse rider!
Miss Teitzel: I have a dog that looks like a sheep!	Miss Leela: I love all different genres of music!
Miss Smit: I have swum with sharks!	Miss Nesbitt: I love to sail.
Miss Wallace: Hola! I speak Spanish.	Miss Julie: I have swum with dolphins!
Miss Hawley: I speak more than one language.	Miss Kathryn: I have a dog named Dallas!
Miss Kidner: I have jumped out of a plane! Don't worry, I was wearing a parachute!	



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mrs Altena on the safe arrival of her baby boy, William, on 3rd February. The ARPS community wishes you and your family all the best during this special time as you get to know each other.



Art Smart Online

FANTASTIC ONLINE ART CLASSES

Brilliant artists and instructors take the classes in real-time on Zoom.

- Easy to organise - we make it simple for you.
 - The kids will produce amazing art!
 - The classes are so much fun we had to start a parents' class – Art Play for Adults. Why should kids have all the fun??
 - All age groups covered!
 - To see the activities planned for the classes click [visit our website](http://www.artsmartforkids.com.au).
- www.artsmartforkids.com.au There are some amazing art ideas planned!

FIRST CLASS FREE!

Just \$12.50 a class (exc GST)

The full price varies depending on the number of classes in the term.

**LIMITED PLACES
BOOK NOW!**

To book go to
www.artsmartforkids.com.au
(don't forget the 'au' at the end)



**tiny
Tots**

AGES 3-5

T-Ball

AGES 6-12

**Come'n'Try
Baseball**

REGISTER HERE



FREE

**FRIDAYS IN
FEBRUARY AND
MARCH 2021
5.30PM - 6.30PM**



**BOYS
&
GIRLS**

EMAIL - SPRINGVALELIONS@GMAIL.COM