

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

2nd June 2021

NEWSletter

BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ARPS!

SPECIAL INFORMATION AND CALENDAR EVENTS

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

2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Term 2:
19th April - 25th June

Term 3:
12th July - 17th Sept

Term 4:
4th Oct - 17th Dec

NO SCHOOL ON

Queen's Birthday
Monday, 14th June

Melbourne Cup
Tuesday, 2nd Nov

DIARY DATES: JUNE

INTERSCHOOL SPORT
4th Division Cross
Country
11th v Spring Parks PS

ASSEMBLY DATES:
Friday, 11th June
Start time: 3.00pm



From the Principal's Desktop

LOCKDOWN

Last Thursday brought news that most Victorians did not want to hear – another CIRCUIT BREAKER LOCKDOWN - BUT staff at Athol Road Primary School are very resilient and, when the LOCKDOWN was announced, all staff shifted into top gear to get information and devices out to students and their families by the end of the school day and they succeeded! **THANK YOU** to every staff member as everyone contributed in their own way to make this happen!

The lessons learned from previous lockdowns meant that our school had strategies in place should any further lockdowns occur. While teachers would prefer that students learned onsite, this is not always possible, so teachers are working on giving students the tools to support them to work independently. Seesaw is the chosen engagement tool used at Athol Road and learning spaces are gaining momentum in using Seesaw to engage parents more in their child/ren's learning as outlined in our 2021 Annual Implementation Plan.

Teachers acknowledge that learning at home is NOT EASY for parents, grandparents and/or carers. You are not trained teachers. Your role at home is a SUPERVISORY one, making sure that the child/ren are connecting with their teachers online through Seesaw. Teachers will be providing as much support as they possibly can to support the learning but they cannot do this if the child/ren are not connecting to their learning and their teacher through Seesaw.

THANK YOU to all the parents, grandparents and carers who are supporting child to start their learning at 9.00am and complete all set tasks to the best of their ability, contacting home group teachers as and when needed.

TWILIGHT SCHOOL

It was great that students in 2021 got to enjoy Twilight School, though a different format to previous years because of the extra precautions put in place to keep everyone safe. It was great to see so many parents participate in the first session of the day. I know the students loved having their parents there.

THANK YOU to all the staff who played their part in making the day a special experience for students. Special **THANK YOU** to Ms Walton and Ms Kidner who organized this event – not an easy job trying to please 386 students and over 50 staff members. Congratulations on a great effort! **THANK YOU** to everyone who dressed up (or down) for the occasion as their favourite athlete – you all looked impressive! **CONGRATULATIONS** to all the dress-up winners. **CONGRATULATIONS** to the dance winners.

Parents and students at ARPS are so lucky to have such a great staff who have the best interests of students at heart.

A school where 'Every minute matters'

COVID REMINDERS

All parents/carers/visitors are required to wear masks on the school site and maintain social distancing of 1.5 metres is maintained.

- Students should NOT arrive at school before 8.45am unless they are attending Breakfast Club
- Students (except Kindergarten and Foundation) must continue to be dropped off at the school gate in the morning
- During lockdown, students registered to work onsite are to go directly to the Year 3 – 6 learning space at the back of the school and should be picked up from there.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

THANK YOU to Mr Keleher (PE teacher) who has put in many hours to build the fitness of our cross country athletes so that they were able to compete so valiantly at the District Cross Country and make themselves and their school proud.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 32 students who represented Athol Road Primary School at the District Cross Country: Jessica Heng, Elina Chhor, Leanna Hoang, Ellenie Tiv, Trisha Tran, Sarah Heng, Sarah Diep, Jessie Tran, Sarena Kamerak, Rayyan Hersi, Sophia Vann, Angela Lim, Angela Lim, Alyssa Dale, Emily Chhor, Ashton Ham, Kevin Ha, David Hov You, Nelson Chhor, Luong, Tonu Evile Peni, Aarya Shah, Levis Nam, Brian Bou, Leo Pham, Sophanda Soutara, Lawrence Lim, Francis Huy, Michael Vong, John Pham, Jamaal Duhovic, Andy

They all achieved excellent results and did themselves and the school proud!

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have qualified to compete at the Division Cross Country representing the Springvale District: Jessica Heng, Elina Chhor, Leanna Hoang, Ellenie Tiv, Jessie Tran, Sarena Kamerak, Rayyan Hersi, Alyssa Dale, Emily Chhor, Ashton Ham, Kevin Ha, David Hov You



SCHOOL FINISHES EARLY ON FRIDAY, 25th JUNE

School finishes at 2.30pm on the last day of Term 2

Please be on time to pick up your child/ren

OSHC will operate on this day: parents need to register!

2021 ATTITUDES TO SCHOOL SURVEY (ATOSS)

Athol Road Primary School values student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction. Each year the Department of Education asks schools to participate in the Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS) to assist our school to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school.

In the survey which will be completed online during school hours, students from Year 4 - 6 will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to our school, their learning, peer relationships, bullying and life in general. This is not a 'testing' program, your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any time. All responses are anonymous and your child will not be identified at any point.

The Attitudes to School Survey which takes around 20 - 45 minutes to complete will be conducted between Monday 31st May and Friday 11th June. The results will be reported back to the school in group report form such as Year 4 girls, Year 5 students, etc. No individual student can be identified.

If you would like more information, please speak to Ms Nigro or visit: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/data-collection-surveys/guidance/attitudes-school-survey>

Foundation News

It has been a busy couple of weeks in the Foundation learning space. Students have been participating in weekly PMP sessions with Mr K and the Foundation teachers, building their fine and gross motor skills. Students have participated in many fun activities including balancing, hopping, jumping, throwing a ball and lots of other movement activities.

Students were filled with excitement for their first Twilight School. They began the day showing their parents all about the 'Little Learners' program, followed by a fun craft session. Students created their very own mascot with their family member or special friend. They also enjoyed a night of dancing, where we had a special guest teach us some fun dance moves, followed by an awesome glow party!

Not only was this exciting, but the Foundation students also went to Chesterfield Farm this week. Students had an amazing time learning about many different animals. While at the farm, students got to feed the animals, watch a milking show and pat baby animals. It was a very cold, rainy day but the students still had a fantastic time!



Year 1/2 News

The Year 1/2 students enjoyed taking part in Simultaneous Story time on Wednesday, 19th May. Students listened to the story "Give me some Space", written by Philip Bunting and then had a discussion about how they would get to space. Students had many creative ideas such as using a magic carpet, climbing a giraffe's neck and flying in a hot air balloon. Students then used these ideas to write a narrative about going to space. To finish off the fun morning, each student created their own imaginary planet, giving it a funny name such as 'Feathero' and describing its features using adjectives.



AUSSIE OF THE MONTH - MAY

Gordon Kwan (Year1)

Gordon is always on time in the morning and leads the charge setting up the learning space. He embodies Every Minute Matters by consistently coming prepared to every session and demonstrates initiative by helping his peers and his teachers even when he is not asked to do so. Gordon is very well-spoken and always uses his manners when talking to others. He actively and respectfully contributes to group discussions and shows whole-body listening at all times.



Louis Buekhunthot (Year 5)

Louis shows a willingness to share his learning with his peers and bring enthusiasm to all opportunities at school. He is a kind, thoughtful friend, always bringing smiles to the faces of his peers and teachers. He is not afraid to take a risk in his learning and push himself outside of his comfort zone while also encouraging those around him to do the same.

HEALTHY EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

Athol Road Primary School Kindergarten has recently been recognised by the Victorian Government's Healthy Early Childhood Services Achievement Program for meeting the benchmarks for the following health priority areas: SUN PROTECTION. A great achievement!



LITERACY NEWS

National Simultaneous Storytime

On Wednesday, 19th May, the National Simultaneous Storytime was held. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read at the same time in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country – including ARPS!

This year the chosen story was 'Given Me Some Space', written by Philip Bunting. The event partnered with the Australian Space Agency and the story was read by an astronaut from the International Space Station.



Year 1/2 students watching an astronaut from the International Space Station read the story.

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and ARPS is excited to be participating this year.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 17th September 2021.

Children from Foundation to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 6 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

For more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc