

## 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**

27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022

# NEWSletter

**BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ARPS!**

## SPECIAL INFORMATION AND CALENDAR EVENTS

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

### **TERM 3**

11<sup>th</sup> July

to

16<sup>th</sup> September

### **TERM 4**

3<sup>rd</sup> October

to

20<sup>th</sup> December

## **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Melbourne Cup:

1<sup>st</sup> November

**STAY SAFE!**



## From the Principal's Desktop

### **PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

**THANK YOU** to every parent/carer who has attended their child/ren's Parent Teacher Interview – the home school partnership is an important one and these interviews are vital for teachers to support your child/ren in their learning. Teachers are now contacting those parents/carers who have not scheduled an interview and those who missed their appointments. The school requires ALL parents/carers to participate in a mid-year parent teacher interview! Interviews are available, on request, at other times.

### **COVID, RATs and MASKS**

Unfortunately COVID is now a daily challenges for parents, carers, staff and students. It is important for students to continue to attend school regularly as long as they are well and have not tested positive. It is also important to inform the school should your child test positive so that staff and students in the relevant learning space/s can be on the lookout for symptoms. Acting quickly will help to keep our school open.

Students are being provided with a box of RATs every two weeks, courtesy of the Department of Education. Please test your child if they or someone in their family develops symptoms. If a family member or contact person tests positive, it is important that students are tested every day before school to ensure that they are not bringing the virus to school. The school has a small number of RATs available should any family run out – contact Jess at the office on 9547 1224.

The government strongly recommends that staff and students over the age of 8 wear masks at school. While this is not mandated, it is a very strong recommendation as this is one of the ways to reduce the spread of the virus.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Our Year 5/6 students are heading off to camp at Sovereign Hill in Ballarat on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> August. Sovereign Hill is a great experience. It highlights how far Australia has come from the days of gold mining and living in shacks.

Everyone is excited about Twilight School scheduled for Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> September – school starts at 12.30pm and finishes at 7.00pm. Please make arrangements for your child/ren in the morning. Students are NOT arrive at school before 12.15pm.

*A school where 'Every minute matters'*

## SCHOOL TOURS

In Term 3 our thoughts turn to preparation for the 2023 school year. In order to determine staffing, it is important to ascertain student numbers at each year level. Our youngest students who are currently attending kindergarten will start school in Foundation 2023, so to support parents with decision-making, school tours can be booked by contacting the school office on 9547 1224.

## KINDERGARTEN 2023

A reminder for any parents who wish for their children to attend kindergarten in 2023, if you haven't enrolled your child yet please do so urgently. The 4 year old program is already looking full for 2023 – if you are yet to apply, please do so to secure a spot at the top of the waiting list.

Applications must be made online, on the [Dandenong Council website](#).

*Please note that if your child is currently enrolled at ARPS Kindergarten for 3 year old kinder in 2022, they will be automatically enrolled for 4 year old kinder in 2023.*

## ARPS INCLUSIVE SCHOOL GARDEN

Over the past month or so you would have noticed the wire fencing and disruption in the middle of the school. The contractor and the school have worked hard to keep the disruption to a minimum and they have done a good job.

The workers have been hard at work creating the sensory garden for which the school received a government grant over 18 months ago. It is great that, after many hurdles, the work is finally completed.

When you are next up at the school please take the time to visit the new sensory garden and parent seating next to the kindergarten.



## WHAT FACILITIES WORKS ARE NEXT? IT'S A RAMP UPGRADE

In 2021, the Department of Education (DET) undertook an audit on all Victorian school ramps. This audit identified that an upgrade was required to ramps located in our school. This work will be undertaken by contractors employed by DET and will commence in August, shortly after the conclusion of current works on the sensory garden.

Work will be carried out in stages, with the ramp outside the office being first to be completed. Please be mindful that this will cause some disruption to parents and students entering through the side gate.

The ramp in the kindergarten playground and the internal ramp next to the Foundation toilets will be completed during the September school holidays as these could prove to be the most disruptive. The external kindergarten ramp will be the last to be completed.

Contractors have advised that disruption to school operations will be kept to a minimum.



## Foundation News

This term, the Foundation students are learning about 'Communities' as our Inquiry topic. As part of learning about our community, the students went on a 'Community Walk' outside the school. It was a beautiful sunny day! We walked past many exciting places such as a post office, petrol station, butchers, pharmacy, restaurants, fruit and vegetable shops. We had so much fun learning about the community of Springvale South!



## Year 1/2 News

The Year 1/2 students have begun their Information Report writing unit over the past two weeks. The focus of this unit is on having students follow the correct writing structure as they research facts about a chosen topic. Students have each chosen an animal found at the Sea Life Aquarium and will use this as the basis of their report. Students are very much looking forward to finishing the unit with a visit to the aquarium to further learn about their animal.

In Inquiry, the students have begun a history unit, learning about the past and present and how things change over time. They are currently focusing on how methods of communication have changed. We ask all Year 1/2 families to keep a look out in their mailboxes for a letter the students have posted from school. If you get the chance, please post a letter back to the school. The students will be investigating how long it takes to communicate via post.

