

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

7th OCTOBER 2022

NEWSletter

BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ARPS!

SPECIAL INFORMATION AND CALENDAR EVENTS

FREE ONSITE KINDERGARTEN

- 4 year old (15 hours)
Monday – Wednesday
9.00 – 2.00
- 3 Year old (5 hours)
Thursday 9.00 – 2.00

*Register with Greater
Dandenong Council for
2023 enrolments*

**PLEASE do NOT send
a sick child to school**

TERM 4
3rd October
to
20th December

PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Melbourne Cup:
Tuesday, 1st November

**NO SCHOOL
FOR STUDENTS**

STAY SAFE!



From the Principal's Desktop

WELCOME BACK, everyone, to Term 4. This will be a busy term as students consolidate and build their learning to ensure that they are ready for the next year level in 2023, Year 6 get ready for graduation and their move to secondary college, Year 4 prepare for DOXA camp, Year 5/6 2023 parents learn about Coonawarra camp in March 2023 and all the required end of year practices and procedures are completed to ensure a smooth transition to 2023.

It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

During the last week of Term 3, I wrote attendance letters for 34 students whose attendance was causing great concern. When a student misses 40 days or more of school in any one year they are considered at risk in their learning and may have to repeat their current year level. It is important that students attend school regularly unless they are genuinely sick when they should be taken to the doctor. Interrupted learning is the single most important reason as to why students fall behind in their learning. It is extremely difficult to reverse this trend, despite teachers working very hard to do so. Please make sure that your child/ren arrive at school by the 8.50am bell each morning as this gives them time to get to their learning spaces to prepare for the day's learning. Lateness wastes everyone's time. Obviously there will be the odd occasion that students are late for school due to unforeseen circumstances and that is acceptable but should not be on a regular basis.

As a Parent

- ✓ Commit to sending your child/ren to school every day.
- ✓ Make sure your child/ren arrive at school on time.
- ✓ Inform the school when your child is away by 9.30am and send medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- ✓ Consider catching-up on missed work.
- ✓ Make a child/ren who are away, stay in their bedroom – that is where ill children should be – not playing, shopping or visiting family/friends.

A school where 'Every minute matters'

CONGRATULATIONS

to the Kindergarten staff on achieving **EXCEEDING** in ALL 7 STANDARDS in their 2022 August Assessment



EXCEEDING

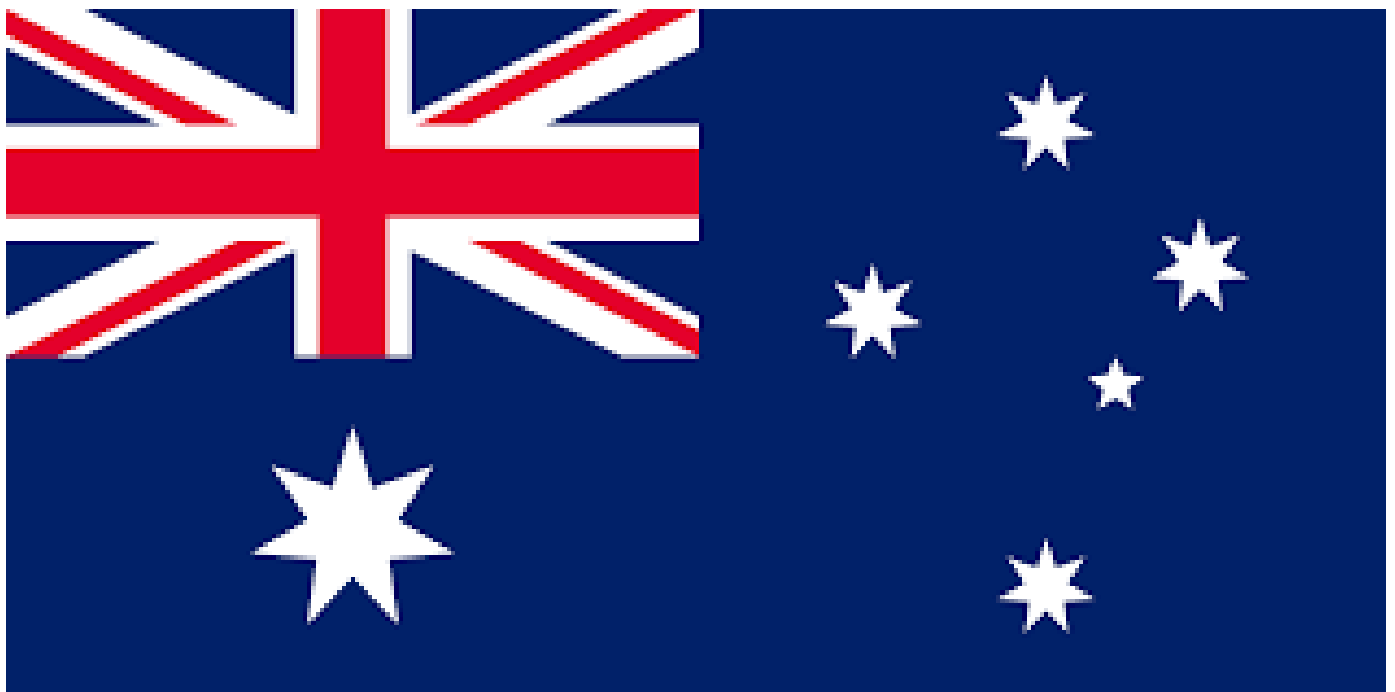
Quality Area 1: Educational Program & Practice
Quality Area 2: Children's Health & Safety
Quality Area 3: Physical Environment
Quality Area 4: Staffing arrangements
Quality Area 5: Relationships with children
Quality Area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families & community
Quality Area 7: Governance & Leadership

CELEBRATING A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT!

LEARNING ABOUT AUSTRALIA THE AUSTRALIAN FLAG

Did you know?

- In 1901 a flag competition was held to design the national flag. There were 32 823 entries from all over the world. All designs were displayed at the Exhibition Building in Melbourne. The judges took six days to decide on 5 winners whose designs were almost identical. Elements from these designs were incorporated into the national flag which was flown, for the first time, over the Exhibition Building in Melbourne on 3rd September 1901.
- The Australian national flag has 3 elements:
 - The Southern Cross - four seven-pointed stars arranged in a cross together with a smaller five-pointed star. The Southern Cross is a constellation that can easily be seen in the night skies in the Southern Hemisphere. The formal name of the Southern Cross is *Crux Australis* and the individual stars are known by the first five letters of the Greek alphabet in order of brightness (clockwise from the bottom star) *Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta and Epilson*. The Australian flag was
 - The Union Jack - acknowledges the history of British settlement in Australia. The flag combines the red cross of Saint George (England) on a white background, the white diagonal cross of Scotland (Saint Andrew) on a dark blue background and the red diagonal cross of Ireland (Saint Patrick).
 - The Commonwealth Star - created in 1901 has six points representing the states (formerly colonies). The seventh point was added in 1908 to represent Commonwealth Territories and match the crest of the Commonwealth Coat of Arms which was created in 1908. The Commonwealth Star is sometimes referred to as the Federation Star.
- There are a number of protocols which are to be observed when flying the national flag:
 - It should not be allowed to fall or lie on the ground.
 - It cannot be used to cover a table, seat, etc.
 - It should never be flown when damaged, faded or in a dilapidated condition.
 - When flown in Australia, the national flag takes precedence over all other flags.
 - When flown with other flags should be raised first and lowered last.
 - It should only be flown at night when illuminated.
 - It should not be smaller than any other flag being flown alongside it.





WELCOME BACK TO ARPS: Mrs Hawley

Mrs Hawley returns to ARPS after the birth of her daughter, Vienna. She will be working in the Year 3/4 learning space on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week to support student learning.

Mrs Hawley is an excellent teacher who will bring a breadth of knowledge and understanding of the ARPS way to her new team.



WELCOME TO ARPS: Mrs HASTINGS

Athol Road Primary School is excited to welcome Mrs Hastings to the Year 5/6 learning space, as the new Learning Specialist. The staff are very excited after being without a Learning Specialist for most of Term 3.

Mrs Hastings, through her extensive leadership work at her previous school, will bring an added dimension to the work at ARPS.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	7 th October: Assembly at 3.30pm – Parents welcome to attend
Tuesday	11 th October: Year 5/6 Coonawarra Information evening via Webex at 6.30pm
Friday	21 st October: Assembly at 3.30pm – Parents welcome to attend
Tuesday	25 th October: Year 4 DOXA Camp Information evening via Webex at 6.30pm

REMINDER: HATS ARE COMPULSORY IN TERM 4



Athol Road Primary School is a SUNSMART school. All students are required to wear their school hats during Term 4. Hats are available from the office at a cost of \$15.00 while old stock lasts.

The sun gives off rays of light that can help and harm us. These are known as ultraviolet (UV) rays. There are three different types of UV rays: UVA, UVB, and UVC.

UVA rays are the most common form of sun exposure. UVB rays make up less sun exposure but are more intense. UVC rays are the worst. Luckily, we are not at risk of UVC rays. The earth's ozone layer blocks these rays.

Even though you can't see UV rays, they can go through your skin. The outer layer of skin is the epidermis. The inner layer is called the dermis. Your nerves and blood vessels are located in the dermis. Epidermis cells contain a pigment (or dye) called melanin. People with light skin have less melanin than dark-skinned people. This is why very fair-skinned people burn easier.

Melanin protects our skin and also creates vitamin D. When your body defends itself against UV rays, your skin tans or darkens. Too much sun exposure allows UV rays to reach your inner skin layers - this is sunburn and can cause skin cells to die, damage, or develop cancer.

Athol Road Primary School implements a NO HAT, NO PLAY policy. Please make sure that your child/ren have their hats at school every day.



2022 Twilight School





SAD NEWS FROM THE FARM

Unfortunately, the school has lost one of its alpacas – Finn, our white alpaca, fell ill at the beginning of the holidays. Despite all Mr Hunter's loving care and attention, she did not respond to antibiotics and died on Monday morning.

Mr Hunter is currently investigating what the best option is for Cruz, our other alpaca, given alpacas are 'pack' animals. In the meantime, the school will not be committing to purchasing a replacement, at least until after the summer holidays.

THANK YOU, Mr Hunter, for giving up your time during the holidays to care for Finn and the other animals.

You are an ARPS SUPERSTAR!



FATHERING PROJECTS PRESENTS OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

Asking open ended questions can help you to get to know your children better - how they are feeling, what they like and dislike, their opinions and ideas and, more importantly, how they are coping each day.

Open ended questions allow you to dig deeper for responses from your child so you can really connect with them. This also lets your children know you really are interested and want to hear their responses and thoughts.



In Term 4 every Athol Road Primary School student will be participating in the PosiSchools initiative as part of this term's Social Emotional Learning Program. This initiative is being paid for by the school at no cost to parents. The program, PosiSchools, is designed to improve the mental health of children, through educating them on the power of a positive mindset. Children need to be taught the power and importance of a positive mindset more than anyone. Establishing positive thinking habits is critical for, not just a child's present, but also for their future.

PosiSchools is a 21 day program consisting of engaging content and activities, featuring learnings and inspiring stories from some of Australia's most renowned athletes. Every student will receive a pair of PosiSchools' Posisocks as part of the program AND a pair of Posisocks will be donated to someone in the homeless community AND \$1 will be donated to support Indigenous schools and communities.

The PosiSchools program will follow the following key topics:

Foundation and Year 1: Gratitude

Year 2: Curiosity

Year 3: Connection

Year 4: Caring

Year 5: Mindset

Year 6: Mindfulness

For more info:

<https://posischools.com.au/>

