



Wednesday 31st July 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for all your support in Semester One. It has been wonderful to see how much the students have progressed in all areas. This semester is going to be full of fun, learning and special events.

Class Organisation

Danielle Ozdirik (Relieving Assistant Principal/Learning & Support Teacher)

Christine Hill (KC and Relieving Assistant Principal- Mondays)

Stephen Pittman (KP)

Connie Hallas (KH)

Lachlan Guthrie (KG)

Positive Behaviour for Learning

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is Alex Park's whole-school behaviour support program, which provides students, staff and families with clear expectations for behaviour and common, positive language for discussing behaviour. The three values of PBL at Alex Park are:



These values are reinforced through direct teaching, the language used by all staff throughout the school, and visual posters displayed throughout the school. We recognise positive behaviour, effort and achievement through our Deadlys achievement system and recognition at assemblies, and we manage behaviour through the school discipline system, which includes behaviour contracts.

Developing Independence

One of the key goals for Kindergarten is to help students develop their confidence and independence at school. As parents you can support your children in this by asking them to carry their possessions including their bags, hat, etc. It is also great if you can ask them to pack their own bag with the things they need that day eg. home reader, lunchbox.

What to bring to school?

Please ensure that your child brings a hat, lunchbox and water bottle to school every day. It is also important that they keep, in their school bag, a **change of clothes and spare underpants in a plastic bag** (even if they have never had an accident).

Please label all items with your child's name.

APCS is an Allergy Aware School

In order to help ensure that all our students are safe, we ask you to speak with your child about not sharing food and if you could also be mindful of this when packing your child's lunch. We have students with allergies to foods such as tuna, sesame, coconut, nuts, eggs, fish and severe allergies to **peanut butter and Nutella**.

Community Opportunity Success

Home Reading and Sight Word Practice

It is important for students to read at home every day. The Kindergarten home reading program will continue this term. If you feel your child needs to swap their books more frequently please contact your classroom teacher to make arrangements. Teachers may also include some "sight words" for your child to practise reading and writing. These are common words that need to be recalled automatically, from memory. Please only spend a few minutes each day practising these, as required by the teacher.

Subscriptions

In Kindergarten we use two at home programs to help students along with their learning.

Matific and Soundwaves. Please contact your classroom teacher for your child's unique Matific code and the class code for Soundwaves login.

Sun Safety

Alex Park is a Sun Safe school. Please ensure that if your child has lost their school hat, they have another spare hat to wear that day (it doesn't have to be a school hat). This term the Kindergarten classes are having a friendly competition to encourage every class member to wear their hat during play time. Teachers will be taking a tally daily and the class at the end of term with the most hat days will win an icy pole. Sun safety is crucial in our summer months. Please encourage your child to take ownership of their hats.

Absences

Please ensure that a phone call or email is sent to the office explaining all absences. If your child is absent due to illness please provide a medical certificate where possible.

Mornings

Supervision at school begins at 8:40am. If your child is at school prior to this, you will need to wait with them until a teacher is on duty or enrol in Camp Australia's Before School Care program.

After School Pick Up

Thank you for your support with our afternoon dismissal procedures. If there is a permanent change in your pick-up routine, you must notify your child's teacher via an email to the school. If there is a last-minute change on the day, please call the school office as emails may not be seen in time. Students are not permitted to wait or go home with their friends' families without prior notification. Please also ensure that teachers are aware of any after-school activities students are attending (eg: yoga, chess). Thank you for your assistance in keeping our students safe.

Birthdays

Birthdays are a special time in a child's life and we enjoy celebrating with your child at school. Due to the variety of dietary needs among our kindergarten students, we ask that you consider **simple, non-food** ways to celebrate at school eg: a sticker or party hat for each child in the class. The canteen offers icy pole buckets for the class as a great alternative. Please contact your child's teacher prior to the day to discuss arrangements.

Library

Get ready for an enchanting Term 3 in our school library! We're thrilled to announce our upcoming CBCA Book Week celebrations in Week 5, centred around the magical 2024 theme: "Reading is Magic." This year, we're highlighting the incredible power of stories to transport minds and inspire curiosity about the wonders of our world. Our library program will focus on vocabulary development and shadow judging the 2024 CBCA Book of the Year Awards, tailored to each stage of learning. From understanding basic words to analysing complex vocabulary, students will enhance their language skills through engaging activities. Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Book Week Parade on August 20th, where we encourage everyone to dress up as their favourite book character. Join us in celebrating the transformative power of reading, as we explore how great stories spark conversations and connect readers. Get ready to experience the magic of talented authors and illustrators who use their craft to captivate young minds! As part of this year's Book Week celebrations, we're excited to announce that author Deborah Abela will visit our school on Thursday, 15th August. Inclusive Unit Classes and Kindergarten will enjoy a 30-minute session with her, while Stage 1, 2, and 3 will have 50 minutes. Deborah is an acclaimed writer with 30 internationally published books, including the bestselling climate change trilogy "Grimsdon," "New City," and "Final Storm." Her work spans picture books to novels, with her latest being "The Kindness Project" and the upcoming "No More Room in the Bed." This visit promises to be an inspiring experience for our students.

Music

Students will continue to sing as a way to develop their musicality. They will also be exploring the instruments of the orchestra through a study of the "Carnival of the Animals" by Camille Saint Saens. Students will create sound effects to accompany the characters of the piece and use tuned and untuned percussion to tell the story.

Show and Tell

This will continue into Term 3, please see the timetable of topics to be discussed. You are more than welcome to email teachers photos and students bring in items to support them talking about each theme. Prepping your child before their show and tell day, to how they can expand on their ideas and what they are talking about is a great way to build up their confidence and speaking skills. It is also helpful that they begin to develop their questioning skills, by asking open ended questions, starting with how, who, why, what and when so others can be prompted to provide more information and make the experience meaningful.

Week 1	Recount of our Holidays
Week 2	Someone Special to Me
Week 3	My Favourite Song
Week 4	My Role model
Week 5	My Favourite Experience at the Farm
Week 6	If I was an Animal I would be?
Week 7	My Favourite way to relax
Week 8	If I had one wish...
Week 9	My Superpower is...

Key Dates

- **Thursday 1 August** - KP Assembly Week 2, 2:15pm in Denzil
- **Monday 5 August to Friday 9 August** - Education Week
There will be a special K-6 Assembly on Thursday 8th August
- **Tuesday 6 August** - K-2 Athletics Carnival 9-11am
- **Wednesday 7 August** - Pyjama day Yr 6 Fundraiser
- **Thursday 15 August** - Book week author visit
- **Monday 19 August** - Weekly Kindy Dance lessons have started. Please ensure you have given permission and paid for this. Please contact the office if you require assistance.

10:00-10:30	KH	2V
10:30-11:00	KP	KG
12-12:30	IEU	KC

- **Monday 19 August to Friday 23 August** - Book Week
- **Tuesday 20th August** - Book Week Parade
- **Thursday 22 August** - KG and KC Farm Excursion
- **Friday 23 August** - KP and KH Farm Excursion
- **Monday 26 August to Friday 6 September** - Hatching Chicks program
- **Thursday 5 September** - KH Assembly Week 7, 2:15pm in Denzil
- **Monday 9 September to Friday 13 September** - Mobile eyes dental and optical clinics
- **Thursday 19 September** - KG Assembly Week 9, 2:15pm in Denzil
- **Friday 27 September** - Last day of Term 3

Curriculum

This table provides an overview of the content taught to all Kindergarten students this term.

Key Learning Area	Topics/ Strands	Content Covered
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing • Reading • Speaking and Listening • Literature appreciation • Digital Technology 	<p>Students will participate in daily English. They will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with a wide range of quality books and texts. They will participate in a variety of whole class, small group and independent reading and writing activities • Continue to develop reading skills such as recognising sight words, using their knowledge of sounds to read words, and using pictures and context to gain meaning • Explain and discuss their understanding and opinions of characters and events in stories • Use their knowledge of sounds to write words • Continue to develop correct pencil grip and letter formation • Write longer sentences to tell stories and recount experiences • Develop their oral language by participating in extended conversations about books and shared experiences • Use technology such as iPads to experiment with simple functions, including typing letters, scrolling, selecting icons and dropdown menus.
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole Number • Patterns and Algebra • Measurement and Geometry • Statistics 	<p>In mathematics, students will continue to learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count, order, read and represent numbers to 30 and beyond • Learn about ordinal numbers e.g. 1st, 2nd, 3rd • Use concrete materials, pictures and technology to add and subtract small collections and numbers. • Use strategies such as counting on from the larger number to add. • Share objects to create equal groups • Compare the length of objects • Describe and create repeating patterns • Create and interpret simple graphs • Explore the area of 2D shapes • Compare the mass of objects by lifting and use language such as heavier and lighter • Read time on the hour on analog and digital clocks.
Integrated Learning History Geography Science and Technology Drama	The Farm	<p>Students will engage in a broad cross curricular topic about farms, farming and agriculture. This topic will be integrated across all daily learning experiences to enhance the depth of students' understanding and engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In science, students will learn about the basic needs of living things by investigating the growth of bean plants and learning about and interacting with farm animals. • In HSIE students will learn about important places in the community and how to care for them, by examining a range of Australian farms and other places where food is grown. • They will also express their learning about farms in creative arts.
Creative Arts	Visual Arts Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will continue to develop their skills in a range of mediums as they make artworks based on the topic 'The Farm'.
PDHPE	Safe Living Dance Playground Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will learn ways to lead safe lives, including being safe in the sun, near water and around roads • Students will develop their gross motor and fundamental movement skills by playing a variety of playground games • Students will participate in weekly Dance lessons.

Many of these Key Learning Areas will be delivered in a play-based, child-centred format we have named *Explore and Learn*. Students will be engaged in a range of rich learning experiences to build skills and knowledge in mathematics, HSIE, science and PDH. Some learning activities students will complete include:

- Dramatic Play
- Art and Craft
- Bush School
- Science Centre- We will be running a two week chicken hatching program in relation to our theme this term "The Farm."

KH Class Timetable Term 3, 2024

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.00 - 10.00	Phonics and reading groups	Phonics and reading groups	Phonics and reading groups	Phonics and reading groups	Phonics and reading groups
10.00-10.05	Crunch and sip				
10.00 - 10.30	Dance	English	English	English	Music <i>Miss Campisi</i>
10.30 - 11.00	English				
11.00 - 11.10	Eating time				
11.10 - 11.30	Lunch 1				
11.30-11.50	Lunch 2				
11.50-11.20	Maths	Maths	Library <i>Ms Soo</i>	PE	English
11.20 - 12.50	Dharawal Language				
12.50 - 1.50	Explore and Learn	Explore and Learn	Maths	Maths	Maths
1.50 - 2.15	Afternoon Tea				
2.15-3.00	PDH	PDH	SRE/Ethics	Assembly/Story	Bush School

We look forward to another great term full of fun learning!

Kind regards,

Kindergarten team

Teacher email addresses

A reminder to please direct all urgent correspondence to the school office as teachers do not check their email during the school day.

Danielle Ozdirik: danielle.ozdirik3@det.nsw.edu.au

KC: christine.hill31@det.nsw.edu.au

KH: constantina.hallas4@det.nsw.edu.au

KG: lachlan.guthrie5@det.nsw.edu.au

KP: stephen.pittman@det.nsw.edu.au