Important information for students in years 7 – 12 and their families for 2024

Dear parents, caregivers and students,

Students Return to School Dates:

Thursday 1st February 2024
- Year 7: 10am - 2.50pm
- Year 11 and Year 12: 8.40am - 2.50pm

Friday 2nd February 2024
- ALL YEARS: 8.40am - 2.50pm

➢ On the first day of school, all students are to report for assembly in the Denzil.
➢ There will be an assembly for each year group to provide important information for the commencement of the school year.
➢ Students will be required to wear their school uniform every day.
➢ Students in years 8-12 will need to bring their Yondr phone pouch every day.
➢ Students in year 7 will be issued their Yondr phone pouch on their first day.

Holiday Opening Hours, School Administration Office

The school administration office will be open on the following day in the holidays:
- Monday 29th January 2024 10am - 2pm

It is preferred if parents order and pay for uniforms on Flexischools. Further Information can be found here: https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/uniform.html

Our office staff will be able to assist you with the purchase of uniforms and the payment of contributions and fees for Kindergarten to Year 12 if you cannot access *Schoolbytes.*

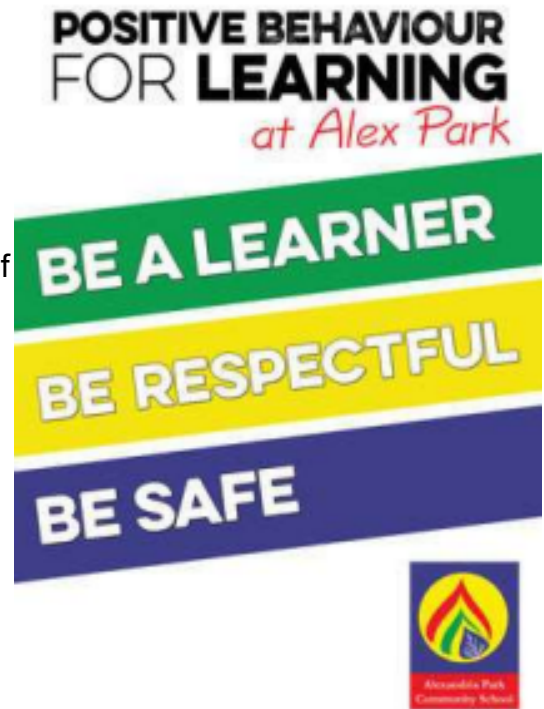**School Bell Times 2024**

Monday - Friday
School commences at 8.40am
School concludes at 2.50pm

PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) at Alexandria Park Community School

Positive Behaviour for Learning, known as PBL, is an evidence-based whole school systems approach that:

➔ addresses the diverse academic and social needs of every student to support them to be successful
➔ supports students in early childhood settings through to senior years of schooling
➔ enables schools to establish a continuum of supports that are intensified to meet the needs of every student
➔ is team driven, using a problem solving approach (data,systems and practices) that engages students, parents and all school staff
➔ establishes positive social expectations for all in the school community
➔ provides a framework for the school and its community to collectively support the wellbeing of every student.

At Alexandria Park Community School:

➔ students respond positively as they have been taught what is expected of them
➔ staff deliver consistent responses to student learning and behaviour
➔ students feel safe and cared for at school. Their parents, family and community are more involved in their school
➔ unproductive and challenging behaviour can be significantly reduced for most students.

Reward system:

➔ at APCS, we use a reward system where students are given positive comments for showing the PBL values of '***be a learner, be respectful and be safe***'
➔ Positive comments are accumulated by individual students and students are able to participate in 'achievers' excursions' if they reach a particular count.
➔ Students may be given verbal praise, positive acknowledgement, merit awards or letter of commendation to reinforce the PBL values.

APCS YONDR Pouches

In 2023, the NSW Government announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones in NSW high schools from the start of Term 4, 2023. The mobile devices plan at Alexandria Park Community School applies to mobile phones, airpods and smartwatches and occurs during **all school hours, including break times such as during lunch and recess**, as well as while students are on school-based excursions. Students can carry their phones while travelling to and from school.

Canteen - Phones are not able to be used to pay at the canteen.

Exceptions/Accommodations - A small number of exceptions/exemptions will be made **only** for managing a health condition. Parents/carers wishing to apply for a medical exemption will need to contact the Deputy Principal. Final approval for exemption rests with the Principal.

Phone pouches locked from Gate to Gate - Every student will receive a YONDR pouch and will secure their phone every day in the pouch when they are at school or on a school-based excursion or activity. Students will maintain possession of their phones and will not use them until they are unlocked at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times.

Behaviour code for students

Information for parents/carers and students on the expected behaviour of students in NSW public schools is available in over 35 languages and can be found here:

https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/translated-documents/behaviour-code-for-students

School Uniform

Students of Alexandria Park Community School are expected to wear full school uniform. It is an important part of our school's "Code of Behaviour", which was introduced after extensive consultation with students, parents, teachers and community groups. All students are to wear full school uniform every school day. This presents a positive school image outside of the school and contributes to a shared school identity within.

High School Uniform - Years 7 to Year 12

- APCS white with blue sleeve polo shirt OR a white school shirt and tie
- Navy or black shorts, pants, skirt or skort – shorts and skirts are to be worn to a modest and reasonable length for school attire
- Navy blue Jumper or jacket with school logo
- School Tie (optional)
- Black school shoes

The High School Sport uniform

- APCS red polo shirt with logo
- Navy blue or black shorts, or track pants

These items are NOT school uniform

- Hoodies
- Tights
- Jeans
- Non-APCS jumpers, cardigans & pullovers
- Non-navy pants or shorts.
- Tops or pants with random logos

Our uniform shop, located in the Bunin, is open each school day. You are welcome to come on any school day that suits you to purchase uniforms for 2024. Uniforms can also be purchased via the Flexischools website. Uniforms purchased through Flexischools can be picked up from the Bunin.

BYOD - BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

All students in Years 7 – 12 are required to bring their own computing device to school each day. A student provided personal computing device needs to meet the APCS BYOD device specifications. Students and Parents are responsible for ensuring the device brought to school meets all the requirements of the BYOD device specifications. A device which does not meet the Specifications will not be permitted access to the school networks and services.

APCS preferred device is the HP 11.5" Chromebook, available through the APCS HP website www.hpshopping.com.au/apcsbyod

The BYOD device specifications identify the minimum system requirements/ hardware specifications for student devices and also offer guidance on some suggested makes and models so that parents are fully informed about requirements to ensure that each student's BYOD enhances their learning. [https://alexparkcs c.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/e-learning/byod policy/BYOD_Recommended_device_specifications.pdf](https://alexparkcsc.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/e-learning/byodpolicy/BYOD_Recommended_device_specifications.pdf)

The personal device must be able to be brought to school every school day fully charged and be used solely by the student throughout the school day for educational purposes. Prior to bringing a personal device for the first time, students and their parents must read and sign the BYOD Student agreement, which sets out the responsibilities and expectations for use of the personal devices at Alexandria Park Community School. [https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/e-learning/byod policy/student_agreement.pdf](https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/e-learning/byodpolicy/student_agreement.pdf)

Students must then use their device in accordance with the school's Cyber Safety Policy, the Department of Education and Communities' policy Online Communication Services: Acceptable Usage and their BYOD User agreement. [https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/e learning/byod-policy/BYOD_policy_2019.pdf](https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/elearning/byod-policy/BYOD_policy_2019.pdf)

Details of APCS BYOD device specifications, BYOD school policy and BYOD User Agreement are available from our school website: https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/e-learning/byod.html