

# Alexandria Park Community School

Community Opportunity Success  
in a caring learning environment



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## Newsletter

Term 3

2015 August



### Book week Parade Celebrating Books!

**Who is Invited:** Kindergarten to Year 6, Parents/Carers/Grandparents/Aunts/Uncles are also invited to come and watch

**When:** Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2015 **Time:** 10.15am

**What to Wear:** Come dressed as your Favourite Book Character

**The Theme this year is "Books Light Our World"**

There will also be a **2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Book Stall.**

All proceeds will go towards Indigenous Literacy Program.

**Books Cost:** 20c to \$2 Year 6 are also having an **Ice Cream/Ice Block stall** on the day. Money raised will go towards the Year 6 Farewell at the end of the year and a present for the school **Ice Block Costs:** \$1.00 **Ice Cream Costs:** \$2.00



ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**P&C**

**BOOK WEEK**

**AUGUST 10-14**

**BE A WORM**

**AND**

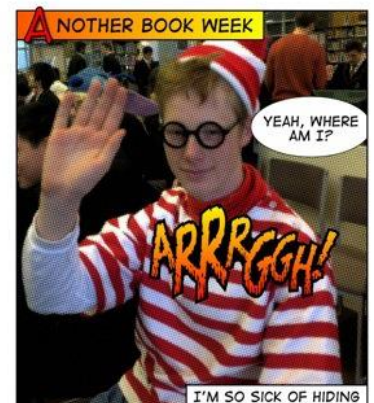
**HELP BUILD OUR BOOK COLLECTION!**

As part of book week this year the P&C are asking for donations to help buy some new books for the classroom.

Please see our book lists in canteen area if you wish to buy a book for your classroom.

You can buy one or more sections of our bookworm for \$5 each. All donations will be accepted during book week 10th - 14th August


**Thanks for your support**




**Thank you!**



## START COLLECTING FOR ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL



**It's back!**  
Earn 1 sticker for every \$10 you spend.



There are thousands of educational resources available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn Program. It's simple to participate From Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July to Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015, when we as staff and parents shop at Woolworths we can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There'll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box on the Junior Campus Front Office. Let's all jump on board and earn much educational resources for our school.

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



The start of term 3 has been widely exciting with many innovative and engaging programs providing opportunities for learning for children from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Most recently we waved off **years 5 and 6**, with Ms Mcleod, Ms Smith and Mr Olsen on their 3 days / 2 nights **excursion to Canberra**. Embedded in the 'Civics and Citizenship' curriculum area, such opportunities provide our children with opportunities for deep 'real world' learning and understanding, whilst strengthening peer and teacher relationships and team work. The team visited the National

Gallery, the Institute of Sport, Old (and new) Parliament House, the tent Embassy and Questacon, whilst also immersing in physical activities such as cycling and ten pin bowling. Here are some of the photos that I was texted from the campers.....looks like too much fun, if quite cold! Thank you to Ms Mcleod, Ms Smith and Mr Olsen for taking our years 5 and 6 on camp this year.



I was thrilled to be able to attend **NSW Parliament for the 2015 'Speak-up'** event, a public speaking forum for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 7 and 8. Many high schools across the Sydney area participate in the program and Alex Park proudly had the largest team. Under the tutelage of Mr Jun and Ms Foley our students displayed the skills of public speaking using persuasive and respectful language to state their thoughts, feelings and beliefs about a topic of their own choice. They also showed great courage in stepping up to the microphone in the legislative assembly and speaking to a packed house of Public education officials, principals and teachers from many schools, parents and family members and numerous students.

It has been a big few weeks for our **year 8 and year 10** students who have been supported in their **selection of electives and courses** for years 9 and years 11 and 12 (the HSC). Head teachers and teachers have been leading seminars for each year group to help them to better understand

what they will be learning about and learn to do in each of the elective and compulsory courses. A parent and student information night was held on the Senior campus to engage parents in the process of subject selection so that they can advise and support their children. Faculty teams set up displays showcasing the resources and student work samples across each course to provide explicit demonstration of what is expected in terms of student learning for each elective. Course selection for the HSC is an especially important process for year 10 students. In follow up Ms Prexl (year 10 year advisor) and Ms Betar (careers advisor and relieving Head Teacher of Learning and Support) have taken the time to meet with each student to provide personalised guidance in the review of their subject sections.



Over the next 3 years our school plan has a strategic focus on the early years of education – **Kindy to Year 2**, with significant resources being implemented to ensure that our children have the best start to their education with continuous improvements in literacy numeracy skills and a love for learning. Critical in achieving such goals is high quality research-based professional learning for our teachers. I have been impressed with the commitment and professionalism our K – 6 team who have been actively engaging with regular professional learning, collaborating in and across their stage teams in 3 targeted programs L3- LANGUAGE, LEARNING & LITERACY, COUNT ME IN TOO & FOCUS ON READING. I have been able to review the mid-course data for the L3 program which has been implemented in Kindergarten classes and I am impressed with the significant improvements that the students are making in

reading and writing in their first 2 terms of schooling. Well done Kindy, Ms Wilson and Ms Micallef

**Year 12** have completed their HSC trial examinations and are in class receiving constructive feedback from their teachers, finishing off course content and immersing in explicit revision and practise for their final examinations. HSC exams run from Monday 12 October to Wednesday 4 November. The HSC timetable for 2015 can be downloaded from this link:

[http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/key\\_dates/pdf\\_doc/hsc\\_timetable\\_2015\\_web.pdf](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/key_dates/pdf_doc/hsc_timetable_2015_web.pdf)

### **Information about the HSC examinations**

All year 12 students must ensure that they have read and understood the information about the HSC examinations in the 2015 Higher School Certificate Rules and Procedures for HSC candidates. Copies of this booklet have been distributed to HSC students, and it is also available on the BOSTES website at [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/yourhsc/hscrulesproceduresguide.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/yourhsc/hscrulesproceduresguide.html).

Further information about the HSC examinations is available on Students Online and on the BOSTES website.

### **NAPLAN 2015 student reports**

2015 NAPLAN student reports will be delivered to NSW schools from Tuesday 18 August. Our school will then check the student results before posting the report envelopes to parents on Friday 21 August.

**New Fencing on the Junior campus.** I am pleased to be able to let the community know that Ms Smith and I had a very productive meeting with our assets manager early this term and we are confident that we will have new fencing on the junior campus, around the car park and at the main entrance to the school. This will mean that cars will not be able to drive into our school playground,

unless they are emergency vehicles. The fences will have child proof gates and locks similar to the gate at the community centre. We plan to lock these gates once school starts at 9.10am which means that anyone seeking entry to the school must report to the front administration office and speak to the office staff about their business. This includes parents who may be coming to the school to drop in lunches or homework etc.

### Staff changes

Last week we said farewell and good luck to the fabulous Ms Constantinides as she begins maternity leave. Ms Constantinides is an amazing high school teacher of history, Geography, Commerce and Business Studies. She is also our year 8 year advisor. We are very fortunate though to be able announce that Ms Kasz will step up as the year 8 year advisor. Ms Kasz has enormous experience in student well-being. She is an expert teacher of PDHPE, sport organiser, leads the morning Fitness club and has been a driving force on our 2015 initiatives in joining the Sage Schools coalition. Ms Kasz has excellent relationships with our children and teachers and all of year 8 so I know that the year group is in excellent hands. Ms Constanides' classes will be taken by Ms Day and Ms Szymanski, both trained HSIE teachers and experienced HSC teachers. Unfortunately Ms Strachan has been on leave due to illness and has extended that leave into Term 4. Her role of Head Teacher Welfare will be filled by Mr Forbath and Ms Betar, both experienced school leaders and both with a passion for supporting students so that they can achieve their educational best.

**Ms Diane Fetherston**  
Principal

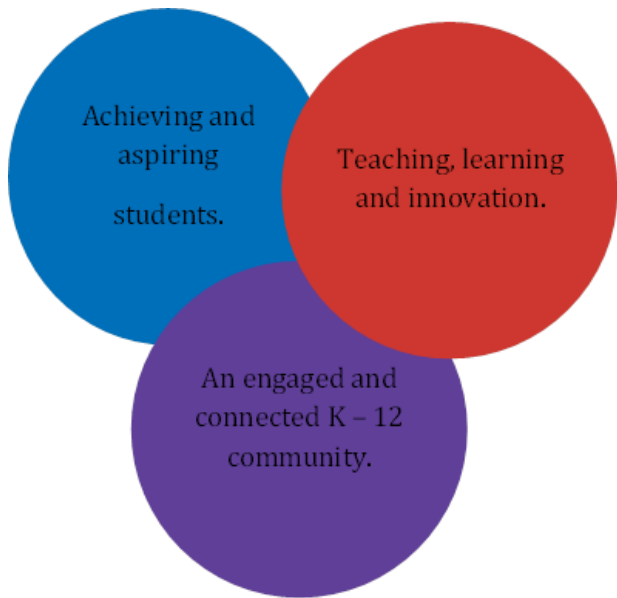
### JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

KM have been writing sentences about snakes.



KW have been creating artworks based on the text *Where The Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak.



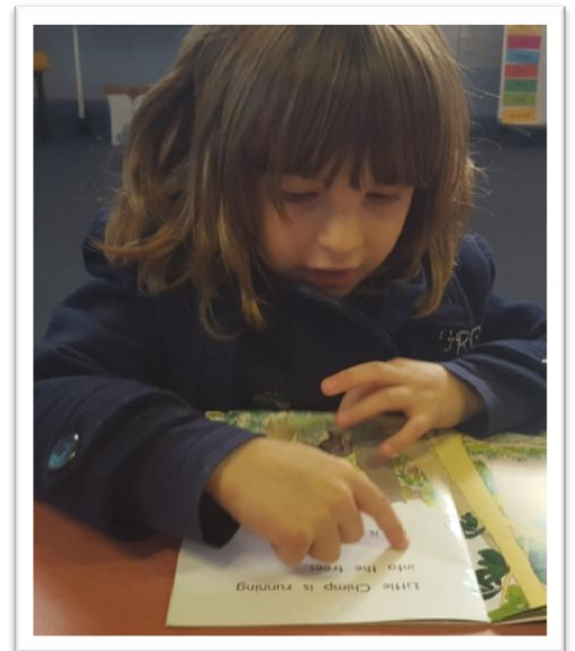
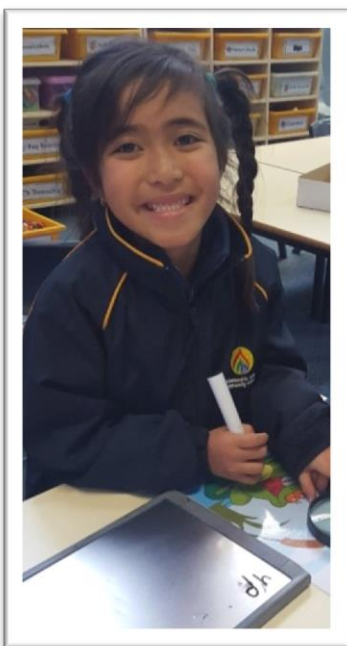


## Language, Literacy and Learning- L3 in Kindergarten at APCS

This year, the L3 program “Language, Literacy and Learning” has been introduced at Alexandria Park Community School as an innovative approach to teaching literacy. Both Kindergarten classes have been participating in this program which focuses on providing rich literacy experiences to assist all children to become successful readers and writers. Ms Micalef and Ms Wilson have been involved in extensive training in how to effectively implement this program in their classrooms.

During literacy sessions, students are taught in small groups of three to four students. While each group is being given short, explicit lessons in Reading and

Writing, the rest of the class complete carefully selected activities to extend their literacy learning. Students also listen to the reading of stories and poems to further their understanding and enjoyment of the English language. At Alex Park, we are lucky to have many parent helpers who assist during L3 sessions. Students in Kindergarten really look forward to L3 time every day.



## **MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS**

### **5/6S National Reading**

Irene Zhong 5/6S was selected in a national reading campaign called SCHOLASTIC READING REVIEW CREW. Irene's application was successful along with 2 other students Deni Kokkinis and Savera Lather. Scholastic send new manuscripts to students around the country to read and review. Irene's latest review of the "SING A REBEL SONG" has been successful and snippets of the review and picture of Irene will appear in future editions of Scholastic's Book Club brochures. Well done Irene!

### **Ramblings from the Year 7 Advisor**

It's been great to see an improvement in uniform from Year 7 this term. As the oldest students on the campus they seem to be embracing being the role models for the younger grades and I think that this is beneficial for all students. I am also proud of the number of students who are taking part in school based extra-curricular activities, ranging from entering the after school basketball program, attending homework centre, school band and Speak Up (which you will read more about later). All year 7 teachers are looking forward to a great 2nd semester.

### **Year 7 Maths**

This term year 7 students have been working towards finishing their Mathematics assessment based on planning a weekend trip or day outing. In completing the tasks students have been given the opportunity to practise a range of Mathematical skills. The task included the preparation of a budget and an itemised running cost of the trip. In preparing the budget they had to search for various ways to save money such as discounts and the timing of the trip. Students also needed to carefully read timetables to maximise the time spent visiting attractions. The quality of the students work presented was outstanding and trips were very thoroughly planned.

### **Year 7 Science**

During Science Year 7 has been learning about Taxonomy and the way Scientists classify plants and animals. We have learnt how to create our own keys through identifying characteristics of objects to place them into a category. We have also looked at the characteristics each animal group has that is exclusive to an invertebrate and a vertebrate. We are now starting to learn about Geology and started the unit with a Year 7 challenge to grow the 'largest crystal' out of Copper sulfate solution. Week 6 is Science week and we are planning a day for middle school students to 'unleash' their inner scientist! This year's theme is light and we will be using that as part of our focus.

### **Year 7 HSIE**

All of Year 7 has swapped from Geography to History this term and they are currently learning about how we know about the past and the skills needed to become a Historian. It has been great to see that we have a number of enthusiastic and knowledgeable students across all 3 classes and I am looking forward to a semester of fun and learning about the ancient world—in particular, Egypt and China. It has been great to see that students from all classes have undertaken the student directed homework competition. The competition involves undertaking tasks each week that have a point value attached and at the end of the term the student with the most points wins. We have exciting times ahead.

### **Year 7 English**

The unit for this term is "The Storyteller and the Story". We've started to look at what makes a 'good' story, and the various ways storytellers engage their readers. Students have learned about folktales and how they are used to spread cultural knowledge. Students are finding new and interesting ways to express their ideas in their creative writing and we are excited to see their progress by the end of the term!

Harry Jun, Teacher

**5/6HM** have been working on revising their class rules and drawing pictures about respect, learning and safety. We are also in the process of making a jobs list for students in order to give them responsibility and ownership of their learning. Another activity we are working on is studying the

animation of Narnia, The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe and comparing the animation to the film. We have been looking at camera angles and music and how they both create meaning to enhance the story.

### Science News

The ICAS results are in and they confirm the outstanding Science students across the whole school. Whilst it is only a snapshot of the talent within the school, the results indicate that Alex Park continues to shine in the Year of Light. Congratulations to all students who entered the competition and we encourage all students to give it a go next year.

This term, Stage 4 students are studying Earth Science, Sustainability and our place in the Environment. Year 7 are getting their hands dirty, examining soils, rocks, minerals and how we utilise these resources.



### Middle School English

Speak Up! Public Speaking Forum



On the 31st of July, ten students represented Alexandria Park Community School at the Speak Up! Public Speaking forum. They each wrote a persuasive speech and delivered it to an audience at the legislative assembly in the NSW Parliament House. Their topics included a range of topics from “Why Education is Important” to “Aboriginal People’s Health”. Our students worked very hard in

preparation for the big day, and every single one of them did exceptionally well. Ethan Johnson, Elijah Munro, Rodney Russell and Zoe Zawetz also competed in the impromptu speaking competition, where the students were given 5 minutes to write a 1 minute speech. It was a tough competition, but Elijah Munro was able to land 3rd place.

The Speak Up! forum was a brilliant way to cap off Education Week, and our students are commended for their effort and behaviour on the day.



Participating Students:

Year 7: Ethan Johnson, Sebastian Wooldridge, Elijah Munro, Jaida Conway, Zoe May Zawetz,  
Year 8: Trinity Dixon, Elizabeth Cox, Siu Afu, Rodney Russell, Jarad Simon  
Harry Jun & Rochelle Foley, Teachers

### **Class 6M**

In Term Two, **6M** students learnt about animal adaptations in **Science**. In particular they have been examining earthworms and the physical features that make them perfectly suited to their habitat. Students made a worm farm and observed the worms' tunnels. They also found out that worms are sensitive to light and need to live in moist soil to absorb oxygen through their skin. In **Creative Arts** students considered different features of animals. They combined these to design a hybrid fantasy creature using collage techniques. The artworks produced are impressive and students can be congratulated on their achievements.



### **Stage 3 Debating Program**

All students in Stage Three have been working in cross class groups to develop their knowledge and understanding of debating. Two teams were entered into the Sydney Region Debating Competition. Some students were selected to be a part of the teams. The other schools in our zone were Eastlakes P.S. and Gardner's Rd P.S. Alexandria Park C.S. hosted the first round with the topic "Debating should be compulsory for all Primary School students." Both teams put together excellent arguments for the affirmative side with Alex Park A winning their debate. In the second





round students visited Eastlakes P.S and debated on the negative side for the topic “Australia should have a 3 day weekend.” The Alex Park B team can be especially proud of themselves as they improved a great deal and spoke remarkably well and rebutted the other team’s arguments with enthusiasm. Unfortunately they were unsuccessful on this occasion. Alex Park A again debated well, narrowly winning against Gardner’s Rd. In the third round Alex Park A vs Alex Park B on the topic “Saturday sport should be compulsory for all Primary School students.” All teams utilised all the strategies they had learnt through the previous rounds and had some great arguments. Alex Park A was successful on this occasion making them undefeated

for the zone eights competition. They will now progress into zone finals.

Alex Park A - Angela Yu, Deni Kokkinis, Antoine Nguyen, Katherine Hung, Samantha Cheung, Irene Zhong, Andre Monteiro, Lauren Young, Kalaish Stanley

Alex Park B – Atticus Brown, Milo Ledvinka, Jessica Gorka, Abigail Connolly, Nadia Aigner, Ella Kelleher, Greg Kokkinis

### Stage 3 Canberra Camp Excursion

On Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of August, 72 students and 3 teachers embarked on a 3 day journey to Australia’s capital city, Canberra.

After a couple of hours of driving, we arrived at our first destination, Cockington Green. The amazing miniature buildings from around the world caused great excitement and we swiftly found Wally (from “Where’s Wally”) and Darth Vader (from “Star Wars”). Everyone particularly enjoyed riding on the mini red steam train that travelled around the garden and showed hidden scenes that were only available to those on the train.

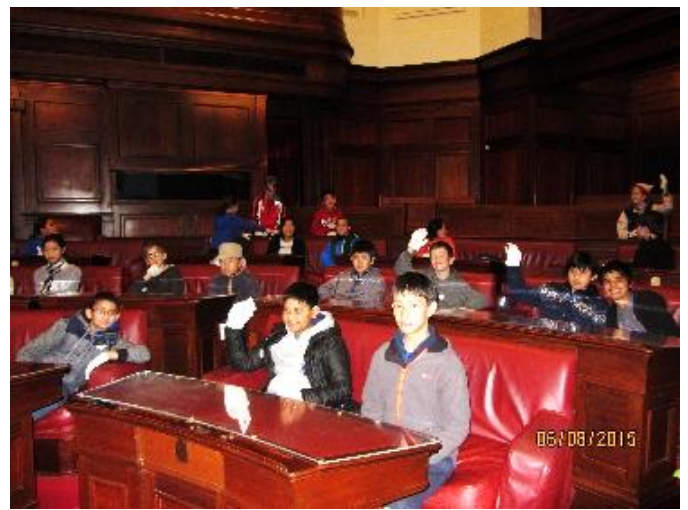


After a quick tour of the international embassies and high commissions, we arrived at the Australian War Memorial where we learnt about the atrocities of war and the many brave stories of our lost soldiers who fought for Australia and its people. We also watched the changing of the guard, a painstakingly perfect procession performed by the catafalque party.

After this we left for the bowling alleys of AMF Belconnen. Everyone played one competitive round of bowling before heading back to the bus singing many songs of victory. We had almost finished our first day and had not lost any one.

We arrived at the Comfort Inn Airport International in Queanbeyan. A delicious dinner was consumed before we were appointed to our rooms. We slept soundly and woke up early on Thursday to face a new and exciting day.

After a quick breakfast of cereal and toast, we headed off to the Australian Museum of Democracy and the Australian Electoral Commission, where we learnt about Australia's democratic system. During the tour around Old Parliament House, we participated in many stimulating activities and fun role-plays. At the Australian Electoral Commission we had a pretend vote with four made up fruit candidates. We also had time to visit the Aboriginal Tent Embassy located on the other side of the road to learn about some important issues. After that, we had a delicious lunch in the nearby rose gardens before getting back onto the bus and heading off to New Parliament House.



After splitting into two groups, we each toured the building and participated in a House of Representatives dress up. We learnt many interesting facts and information about Parliament and the role of ministers and members. We also went to Lake Burley Griffin and had an exhilarating bike ride around Lake Burley Griffin. We then went to the High Court for dinner.

We then set off for Questacon, a highlight of the journey. We toured through many different and exciting exhibits full of interesting science displays. The "Free Fall" was a well-attended exhibit, as was the Lightning Cage that produced electrical volts every fifteen minutes. We then very wearily tramped off to bed, so we would be nice and fresh for the next day.

On Friday, we woke to a freezing morning. We broke camp after a filling meal of cereal and toast before loading ourselves and luggage onto the bus. Whilst riding along the peaceful Canberra streets, we gazed at the landmarks around us for one of the last times. The stunningly strange National Museum of Australia's building took our breath away. A few of the amazing things we saw included a piglet with two bodies, Phar Lap's heart and glass spear heads made by the First Australians.

We then boarded the bus and headed off to the amazing Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). At the AIS we toured the facilities such as the pool, gym and volleyball courts. We also participated in the "Sportex" area where we practiced the skills needed for some of the sports like water polo, diving, skiing, luge, basketball and athletics, and compared themselves to AIS record-holders. After a quick

lunch, we boarded the bus for the second last time. "Farewell Canberra!" we said as we left the capital.

It was a truly unforgettable excursion to Canberra, and the memories that we made there shall stay with us forever. We, the students, had a great educational opportunity, and learnt many things about Government and Canberra.

By Angela Yu and Lauren Young (6M)

### **Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)**

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. This opportunity allows students to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards the cost. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon the completion of the excursion.

### **MUSIC NEWS The Alex Factor**

A year has passed since our sensational Alex Factor Finals Concert and we're ready to go again! Many of our students are busily rehearsing solo and group songs, instrumental pieces and dances in preparation for the heats in week 5. Come along and enjoy the cream of Alex Park's talent at the Finals Concert to be held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> from 1.30.

Here are last year's winners with the Judges Paul Goodchild, Timomatic, Latifa and Don Spencer

### **NSW PUBLIC SCHOOLS INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES 2016**

Students who love playing their musical instrument and who would like to take their playing to the next level are encouraged to join one of the NSW Public Schools Instrumental Ensembles for 2016. These ensembles participate in fabulous concerts each year at the Opera House. Applications are now open and auditions are in October. For more information or to apply visit <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au> or talk to Ms Winfield

### **The Alex Factor 2014**

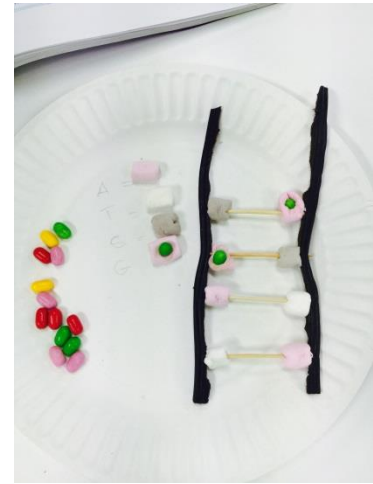
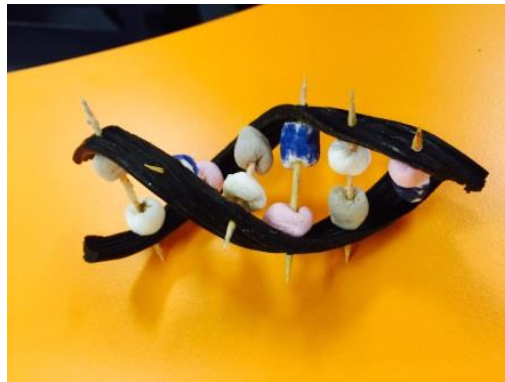
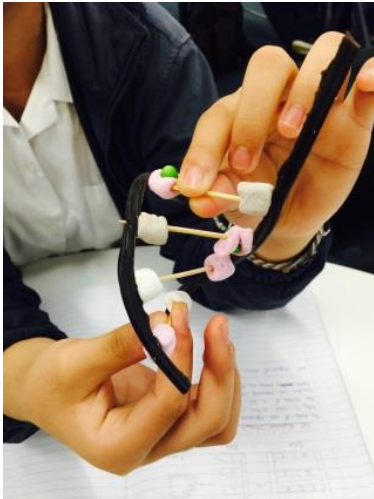


### **Year 8**

Year 8 students are exploring the wonderful, diverse ecosystems that exist in and around our school learnscapes.

Year 9 students have been enjoying the wonders of Electricity and building circuits. Try this one at home <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/circuit-construction-kit-dc-virtual-lab>

Year 10 have been studying the fascinating domain of Genetics and Evolution. Constructing DNA models and along with Year 12 Biology attended an incursion in which Sydney University students presented many modern techniques of Genetic Modification of bacteria and DNA analysis.



Stage 6 students are in the final stages of both Preliminary and HSC courses. Preparing for exams can be a stressful time; students are encouraged to speak with their teachers if they have any concerns as they prepare for their final assessments.

Year 8, 9 and 10 students have all been very busy doing their Science projects, which now are due to their teachers for marking. First hand investigations give the students an opportunity to experiment in an area of interest to them and are an important part of our Science assessment.

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

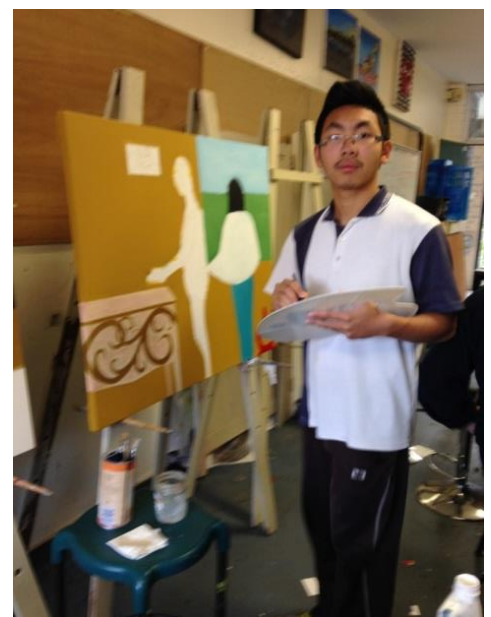


Ebony Avienov is a gifted artist painting up a storm in the senior artroom. Not only does she design and draw digitally but she has a flair for acrylic canvases. Her artistic talents have been noticed and she has been commissioned to create a painting by Ms Kasz. Here she is reflecting on what is next to be done on the pet portrait.

### HSC VISUAL ARTS Body of Work

Zane Fu has been a student of interest to the students visiting the Senior artroom throughout terms 2 and 3. His hard work is paying off now as he puts the final painting strokes to his triptych HSC Body of Work. He says It has

been a major task of commitment and effort, but all of us who have seen him working and his paintings evolving agree it's all been worthwhile and wish him success in the HSC.





Students in the art classes on the Junior and Senior campuses were part of the NAIDOC DAY celebrations. They created decorations and small artworks that were displayed in an installation with the theme; We Are All Standing On Sacred Ground. The art gang of senior girls kindly gave up their time on the big day to install the pop-up artworks.

### **POP UP! Sculpture By Year 11 Visual Arts**

An enthusiastic group of year eleven students organised an art display of their recent sculptures in the CLS (creative learning space). The pop up event has been a tremendous opportunity for them to show off their creative efforts and let other students enjoy looking at their artworks.



### **Year 8 Spanish**

¡Hola APCS! This term in Spanish, Year 8 are studying different parts of their cities and learning how to label rooms in their homes. Students will be using this information to create a map of their neighbourhoods, or *barrios*, so that people who are unfamiliar with it can find their way around.

These maps will then be put on display in the Spanish classroom at the senior campus, where you can come and check them out.

## ENGLISH NEWS

APCS is again participating in the schools debating program run by the Australian Disputes Centre. The Year Ten students participating this year are Trisha Sharma and Alice Clarke. It is a fun experience and thank you to the staff (Mr Liceralde & Mr Jun) supporting these students by attending on Friday evenings. You can follow the competition on the AIDC facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ADCdebating>



**Literature Circles** have been running successfully across Years 7 – 10.

**Romeo and Juliet Excursion** – articles by Year 8 students online at <https://meettheplayers.wordpress.com> and also below:

On Monday 3rd of August 2015, 8X and Ms. Thomson went to see Bell Shakespeare's production of Romeo and Juliet at the Sydney Opera House. After the show, we had a unique opportunity to have a Q&A with the director and the actors. It was an amazing show and we felt very lucky to have this opportunity. In the lesson following the excursion, students had the opportunity to write blog articles to be sent in to the 'Meet the Players' website set up by the Bell Shakespeare Company. Here are some of the blogs they created:

How were visual and sound techniques used to add depth to the production?

The dagger jabbed into Juliet's Heart, darkness and a tragic melody fell upon the stage.

On Monday the 3rd of August, Alexandria Park Community School and other schools had the pleasure to see the play Romeo and Juliet directed by James Evans. The play was one of the best we have seen while in school and not just because of the acting but the amount of effort placed into the use of visual and sound effects. The visual effects within the play were astonishing, the way the lights changed colour and tone really set the theme for the scene. The way they effectively used the panels incorporated within the set also brought the play to life. Romeo and Juliet's families were also distinguished by the colours they wore, Romeo wore blue and Juliet wore red. The sound, also incorporated with the lights, brought the atmospheric level of depth into the scene. When a sad and depressing scene entered the stage, the music changed to a sad score, whilst when a happy scene came on, the music changed to a happy score. The score made and tailored for this play was incredible and no one would want it to change. Overall the visual and sound effects of this play is what really brought the atmospheric depth to this play.

By Igor Andonov, Alix Guo, Jason Lam and Charles Zheng

### **How did the modern representation of the play assist your understanding?**

The modern representation of Romeo and Juliet has assisted us greatly in understanding the play.

Since the original Romeo and Juliet play was about 400 years ago, it was hard for us to understand the use of language. However, by making a modern representation of the play, it helped us to understand the plot of the story much more. It helped us by being able to associate with the actors by understanding their choices of clothing and the props that were used. The use of modern music made it easier to set the mood of how you should be feeling. The set was unique because most stages are generally flat and fairly large, however this was small and had only one big stair-like object and the set was able to represent different scenes at the same time. This was a smart choice, as it didn't over complicate the play.

By Fuad Ferdous, Dayu Huang and Wesley Darmawangsa

### **What did you think of the use of humour in the play?**

The use of humour in Romeo and Juliet gives it a modern twist that is relatable for many people in this day and age. Although the original play's main focus was on the tragedy and romance but the audience received a shock at the light humour used in the play.

The most humorous character that we could relate the most to would be Mercutio as he teased the love sick Romeo about his relationship with Rosaline. Benvolio is his partner in crime and goes

along with his antics. Benvolio is more toned down than Mercutio but still provides occasional laughter to the audience.

People who haven't seen different variations of Romeo and Juliet, usually stereotype the play to be morbid but this particular version of Romeo and Juliet defies all these stereotypes.

In conclusion the humour found in this specific play shows that humour can be incorporated into a romantic tragedy.

By Judie Wang, Shara Haque and Raisa Raihan

### **How are gender roles portrayed throughout the story Romeo & Juliet and the Bell Shakespeare production?**

In the past, if you were considered a woman, you would be considered a lower priority and be shown as the weaker side compared to men. This is proven in the story of Romeo and Juliet.

In the story and play, Juliet was supposed to be married off to a noble figure against her will, as that's how women were expected to live – be married at a young age, give birth, and carry down the family line. Especially at Juliet's age, 14, she had absolutely no freedom or choice of her own, whereas with men, they were allowed to have a will of their own and choose their own future. Since Juliet refused to marry Paris, her parents nearly disowned her.

In the past, men performed women's roles in Shakespeare's plays. Women in the past were not expected and not allowed to get involved in society's work industry and business. For example, in marriage, men were expected to rule over their wives, and all property belonged to them. Men were the primary wage earners, while women were expected to be primarily responsible for housework and childcare. It was evident throughout the play that the king and men had the most say over major decisions.

Therefore, Romeo and Juliet accurately represents gender roles throughout that time period and the actors carried out these roles amazingly with emotion and confidence.

By Angela Fu, Anneliese Ho, Shanna Yan and Elaine Zhong

### **SRC and The Senior Campus Toilets**

As you may have noticed, the SRC and P&C have been revamping the toilets. Over the past few months we have put a momentous effort into improving our toilets. We have listened to student complaints about the toilets and how bad they are so we took action and made it better, and now it is your turn to play your part and that is to take care of your property. Do not destroy them and make them ugly with graffiti!

Thanks to Dulux Rosebery for sponsoring our project and donating over \$600 worth of paint and equipment to paint the toilets and the new senior study room. We would never have achieved our goal without their support because they provided rollers, brushes and paint to improve our toilets.

Anneleise and Angela SRC

### **Year 9 take part in Resistance Training for Newcastle University Study.**

This term in PDHPE year 9 students have taken part in a study conducted by The University of Newcastle aimed at minimising the amount of daily screen time students use, by increasing daily physical activity levels and promoting healthy lifestyle choices. The NEAT and ATLAS programs involve the students taking part in a fun group warm up after which they are given a set of circuit exercises to teach to each other. After learning the exercise from their peers, the students each take part in performing as many sequential steps of the circuit exercises as they can in a seven minute time frame. Exercises range from Corefit activities such as sit ups, Cardiofit exercises such as burpees and body weight squats or push ups and boxfit exercises focusing on boxercise activities. The students then log their physical activity in their personalised NEAT or ATLAS application account on the internet and can see the progress they have made over the course of the entire term.



## **SPORTS NEWS**

There have been some impressive results from our year 7 & 8 grade sport teams, in particular a big shout out to the Alex Park boys' soccer teams. Two out of the three teams made semi-finals, with both teams coming up against our Rose Bay Rivals. It was a close competition all season, however unfortunately we were defeated in the last round of semi-finals. The boys fought to the end and like every other week, showed great sportsmanship and respect to all players and staff. Congratulations on such a fantastic effort!!!

## **NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE**

Yr3-9 students who are participating in NSW Premier's Reading Challenge should make online entries via PRC website.

The closing date is Friday (21/8/15).

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

## **SCHOOL GROUP PHOTO**

Don't forget to order the Music Ensemble, Choir, School Basketball, SRC, Captain photos - these are available to view on the Junior campus office sign in window.

You just need to ask for a photo envelope and can pay cash or order online through MSP Photography.

Please have orders in by 24th August.



## **LIBRARY NEWS** (July-August)

Please find Term 3 Library Monitors' list below. Congratulations to these students who volunteer to help in our school library.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Monitor 1</b>	<b>Monitor 2</b>
<b>2P</b>	Aoife	Tyrhys
<b>3/4F</b>	Atheer	Kayla
<b>3/4J</b>	Kelly	Tearna
<b>5O</b>	Bill	Joy
<b>5/6HM</b>	JeB	Nadia
<b>5/6S</b>	Tiena	Laurienta
<b>6M</b>	Nicholas	Natarsha

<b>Day</b>	<b>Lunch 1 (11:10am - 11:40am)</b>	<b>Lunch 2 (1:40pm – 2:10pm)</b>
MONDAY	Emmanuel & Sebastian	Anika & Irene
TUESDAY	Phoenix & Maya	Leo & Eric
WEDNESDAY	Ella & Jessica	Sumi & Caitlin
THURSDAY	Lara & Trisha	-----
FRIDAY	Tanya & Sharlese	-----

APCS

library is celebrating Australian children's book week this term. We will hold a Book Fair in week 5 (10/8 – 14/8) in our school library and a Book Parade on Wednesday (26/8) in Denzil hall. Details of these events are on our school website.

ICAS maths test were held in Denzil hall on Tuesday (11/8/2015). We now look forward to receiving the results early next term.

## **P&C NEWS**

The votes are in and number 5 is streaks ahead of the other playground designs.

We currently don't have all the money we need, so we are looking at lots of ways to fund raise. In the pipeline for the rest of the year we have a movie night for October 17th, this will be a fun evening for all the family and of course our canteen provides us with ongoing funds, so make sure you buy your children's lunch on a Thursday as it is all going to a good cause.

### **Fundraising and Events**

The P&C Fundraising team have been busy applying for grants and building strong ties with local businesses who would like to support us to improve amenities at the school for all our students. Our playground refurbishment is the major project we are working towards, with new designs about to be presented to the school community for input, and we would like to acknowledge the following businesses for contributing to our fundraising goals:

#### **JAX SPINNING TYRES**

This month we had a fund-raising BBQ at Jax Spinning Tyres on the corner of McEvoy and Young St. Huge thanks to Peter Gallagher for organising this for our school. We raised \$871-00 that goes towards our new playground.

#### **BONDI PIZZA**

A huge thanks to Bondi Pizza who donated vouchers for student of the week and also other vouchers that we will raffle off at our movie night.

**Fountain Street General Practice** - cash donation

**Park Cafe** - Donating all proceeds from the sale of selected sweets to the school over a week long period.

### **SCHOOL CANTEEN**

We are still looking for canteen volunteers, if you think you can help out then give me a call and we will put you on the roster.

### **McGRATH REAL ESTATE**

Suzen and I met with Brad Gillespie this month. See below for his offer:

Are you thinking of selling your home? Brad Gillespie will donate the sales commission of the first Alexandria Park Community School family who sell their home towards the playground upgrade. Brad has worked in the local area for 20 years and has sold over 1,000 homes. If you would like the expertise of the area's number one agent and an exceptional result, please contact Brad for further information.

Brad Gillespie 0418 448 295

bradg@McGrath.com.au

Proud supporter of Alexandria Park Community School

Thank you to all these generous businesses!

Deb HeggatonKlenner

P&C President



### **School Banking**

Pat the Dog came to visit Alex Park to say hello to all our students and staff and to remind everyone about the wonderful prizes available when you bank regularly as part of the School Banking Program.

School Banking is held every Friday morning from 8:30-9:30 at the canteen. If you would like to sign your child up, please come along on a Friday with some photo ID for yourself and we can get you started. Students with existing CBA youthsaver accounts can simply bring their deposit book or account details and we can add them to our school banking system.

### **Inner City High School consultation process feedback**

On Monday 14th September 2015, Dr Sylvia Corish, Director Public Schools NSW, Port Jackson Principals Network will be speaking to Alex Park Community about the consultation process and issues feedback. This information session will be held in the Library on the junior campus starting at 6pm. If you would like to attend please RSVP your name to Linda Turner our office administrator on 9698 1967 by COB Wednesday September 9.

## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

### Notification for Parents and Carers

From 2015, all Government and non-Government schools across Australia are required to participate annually in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD).

All Australian schools will collect data on their students who are receiving adjustments to meet additional learning and support needs in accordance with their obligations under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Disability Standards for Education 2005*. This data will be provided to the Australian Government to assist in the development of a consistent, national picture of the education needs of students with disability.

The data provided to the Australian Government by the NSW Department of Education and Communities is provided in such a way that it cannot be used to identify any individual student or school.

General information about the national data collection can be found on the Australian Government Department of Education and Training website at <http://education.gov.au/factsheets-nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>.

### Privacy Protection

The NSW Department of Education and Communities follows the requirements of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* and the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*. Schools will collect, record, store and use data about individual students in line with these requirements. Data security and protection is a priority and students' personal details will be kept confidential.

Under Clause 52 of the Commonwealth *Australian Education Regulation 2013*, data collected by the NSW Department of Education and Communities for the NCCD must be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. This includes the number of students at each level of education, the number in each category of disability and the number at each level of adjustment. The information is provided to the Commonwealth as a series of number sets that cannot be used to identify any individual student or school.

The Australian Government Department of Education and Training follows the requirements of the Commonwealth *Privacy Act 1988* when handling any data provided by NSW Department of Education and Communities in connection with the national data collection. A privacy notice has been developed to by the Australian Government to provide students, parents and carers with important privacy information in relation to the data collection. This notice is available on the department's website at <http://education.gov.au/notices>

If you have any questions about the data collection please do not hesitate to contact [INSERT SCHOOL CONTACT]

# KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2016 KEY DATES



- **Parent Information Evening**  
**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**  
**6pm – 7pm**
- **Kindergarten Orientation Day**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**  
**9.30am – 11am**
- **Transition Playgroup**  
**Every Wednesday (during school terms)**  
**9am – 11am**



Date	Event
Aug 26	Book Week parade for K - 6
Aug 28	Wear it Purple Day (see website for more info)
Sept 2	Kindergarten 2016 Information Evening
Sept 3	Years 11 and 12 Visual Arts excursion
Sept 4	AleX Factor Finals Legacy Collection Day – SRC The Great Debates showcase – years 9, 10 and 11

## NOTICE TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF APCS, WUNANBIRI PRE-SCHOOL and the COMMUNITY CENTRE

### Child protection and safety

The Alexandria Park Community School junior campus on Park Road runs programs for children from 0 – 16 years of age.

Of paramount importance is child protection and the safety of all children and staff who use this site.

There have been 2 reports this week of persons unknown to our community driving their cars into the school grounds during school hours and using the school facilities without permission. These incidents have been reported to the Police and the NSW Public Schools 'Safety and Security' Directorate.

A full risk assessment of the site will be undertaken with plans to document short, medium and long term improvements for the safety of the children and staff on the Park Road site during school days.

As of August 19, 2015 the car park gate will be locked from 9.15am till 3.00pm on school days.

As the Principal of the school, in partnership with Wunanbiri Pre-School and the Community Centre, we are working to improve the security fencing around the car park and at the entrance to the school on Park Road.

The City of Sydney Council have recently installed timed parking on Park Road and Belmont Street to assist parents and carers with safe drop off and pick up parking.

We trust that our community understands why this action is being taken and supports our school, pre-school and community centre in this matter.

D Fetherston  
Principal  
19 August 2015

