

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Harmony Day celebrations at Alex Park

Harmony Week celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Over 40% of students at Alex Park come from families where English is an additional language. The primary school harmony day assembly showcased our diversity in culture and languages. Students addressed the assembly in languages such as Gomberee, Mongolian, Filipino, Mandarin, Serbian, Polish, Spanish, French, Arabic, Hebrew, Indian, Thai, Italian, Swedish, Russian, Slovakian, Portuguese, German, Japanese, Greek, Korean, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Bengali, Norwegian, Burmese, Catalan, and Maori.

The high school harmony day was planned by the year 8 student leaders. This group of students did an amazing job promoting the event and organising the assembly, the highlight being the photo of year 8 forming the letters A P C S on the Burra Gorang.



I was very proud of all the activities that the students and staff had prepared and participated in throughout the day. And it was a joy to visiting each of the classrooms from K-12.



Visit from Kylie Kwong

Kylie Kwong, extraordinary entrepreneur in the restaurant business and dedicated Ambassador for the South Eveleigh Precinct recently visited Alex Park Community School. Student led Kylie on a tour of our school's unique facilities, such as the Maani, and our open learning classrooms. After the visit Kylie sent this email message to the school

I was on a total high upon leaving your very, very special school! Thank you SO very much for taking all of your precious time to show Suzannah and I around the beautiful community that you have all created, APCS feels like one big loving family. I loved meeting the students and your amazing teachers, was especially



great to hang out in the hospitality room and connect with Hilton, Faridul and Kylee. I loved the presentation your two students gave ::)) Nell and I enjoyed the delicious fresh eggs, basil and parsley last night in our dinner - extra flavoursome because I knew where this food had been grown, by whom and how. Can't wait to see you all again Diane and look forward to collaborating with you in the future. Thanks again for a truly inspirational and memorable experience.

Open Air Concert Program

I love a morning which starts off with our fabulous CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) team leading our students in song, music and movement. Such a great way to start the day. Students and staff loved it.





Neurodiversity Celebration Week – March 15 – 21, 2021

The term "neurodiversity" is used to describe the 1 in 20 people who have any or more than one of the following: Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, ADHD, Autism, Tourette's Syndrome, Dyspraxia, Dysgraphia. At our first P & C meeting one of our parents suggested that Alex Park Community School look at a focus on recognising, nurturing and celebrating the many strengths and talents of being neurodiverse. Difference should not be a barrier that excludes us from achieving our potential and contributing to society. Across the school there were activities to increase our understanding of neurodiversity and acknowledge the creativity, unique insights, perseverance and resilience of neurodiverse people.

High School Tours

We have had the pleasure of hosting tours of our learning spaces for prospective Year 7 2022 students and their families. The tours have included some exciting activities such as a stop past the Science Lab to see Mr Berscheid's chemical reaction of elephant's toothpaste and then down to English with Ms Thomson to create a six-word memoir. Here are some awesome examples. We finish our tour in the kitchen with Ms Mishra who has some delicious lemongrass tea made with lemongrass from our Maani.

The tours have been a great success, with parents and students commenting:

"Thank you for having us, we felt very welcomed', "The school felt very inclusive and the staff appear to have a good rapport", "Very welcoming, impressive facilities" and "All teachers were amazing, you could tell that they loved with jobs and were passionate."





Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2022

Online applications for Year 5 placement in an opportunity class in 2022 open on Tuesday 20 April 2021 and close on Friday 7 May 2021. Parents and carers will be able to apply from this website at that time. Late applications cannot be accepted.

The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 21 July 2021. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will change in 2021 for placement in 2022. The new test will consist of thinking skills, mathematical reasoning and reading comprehension. These changes are in response to the findings of the 2018 Review of Selective Education Access report, commissioned by the NSW Department of Education. In 2021 the placement test will remain in a paper-based format.

Parents and carers should read the information about the process and important dates at this link.

https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5

School Improvement Plan 2021 - 2024

In February 2021, Alexandria Park Community School distributed an online survey to the parent and carer community. The survey was to provide parents and carers with an opportunity to comment on the APCS's Strategic Directions for the School Improvement Plan 2021-2024. A full report of the survey results will be tabled at the next P & C meeting in Term 2 or it is available from the school on request. Here is a snapshot of some of the feedback.

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment:

To improve student growth and achievement in literacy, numeracy from the early years of learning to the Higher School Certificate through a culture of high expectations and quality teaching practice. Is this important to our school as a strategic direction.

Response			
Agree	96%		
Disagree	2%		
Unsure	2%		
Nil response	0%		

Strategic Direction 2 Excellence in Teaching:

To strive for excellence in teaching where teachers implement effective evidence-based teaching strategies and demonstrate high levels of professionalism and personal commitment to quality teaching, as articulated in the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. Is this important to our school as a strategic direction.

Response				
Agree	98%			
Disagree	0%			
Unsure	2%			
Nil response	0%			

Strategic Direction 3: A Proud School Community

The whole school community demonstrates a great sense of pride in our school's history and the uniqueness and diversity of our dynamic and exciting school. As a proud school community, we are proud of ourselves, our family, our culture and Alexandria Park Community School. Is this important to our school as a strategic direction. Why / why not? *

Response		
Agree	100%	
Disagree	0%	
Unsure	0%	
Nil response	0%	

A MESSAGE FROM THE APCS P&C

Each year the Alex Park P&C with the School's strong support requests that parents and carers of students make a voluntary contribution of \$100 per student to the P&C funds.

Importantly this is the only financial request that we make on parents and carers for the year. It enables us to run events for the entire community and either significantly subsidise an event of make it completely free.

The contribution also enables the P&C to discuss directly with the teaching staff what they might want to purchase during the teaching year that is outside the annual School budget. In recent years we have helped fund sporting equipment and clothing; musical equipment; outdoor play equipment; and significantly in 2019 the P&C purchased \$50,000 of iPads and other IT equipment for teaching inside the classroom.

For 2021 we would like to fundraise to support the provision of indoor gym equipment for the new gym and music specific tablets for electronic music making and composition. And of course, we will continue to use the funds to help support whole of School community events such as our two movie nights planned for the start of term 2 this year.

As always, we appreciate the support from parents and carers for our wonderful school community APCS.

Health and Safety Messages

Asthma

Asthma affects a significant number of children and young people. It is timely to remind parents and carers of children with asthma to ensure that their children have ready access to their reliever medication when at school, in classes, on excursions, at sport and in the playground.

Allergies

If your child has been diagnosed with an allergy or allergies, it is important that you tell the Principal as soon as you become aware of it, or if your child's allergy changes. If your child is diagnosed at risk of an anaphylactic reaction, an individual health care plan is developed that includes strategies to minimise the risk of a severe allergic reaction.

We would like to remind all of our families that we have students in our school who have Anaphylaxis and serious allergic reactions to a range of foods. These include: peanuts, tree nuts, eggs, fish, shellfish, and tuna. There are also spreads which can trigger an allergic reaction these include: peanut butter and Nutella. We ask you to be mindful of these foods when packing your child's lunch. Thank you for supporting our school community to ensure the health and safety for all of our students.

Prescribed medication

If your child is unwell and the doctor prescribes medication to treat the illness, please ask your doctor to prescribe a medication where the dosage does not have to be taken during school hours. Ensuring that medication is stored safely and administered to a child using the correct dosage at the correct time is a serious responsibility. Best practice is to have the medication at home, administered by the parent or carer.

This may not always be possible so if your child is being prescribed medication that needs to be taken during the school day, please inform the school in writing so that arrangements can be made for the medication to be administered.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Date	What's Happening
Tuesday, March 30 th	K-6 Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wednesday March 31st	Year 7 2021 High School Tour – current APC students
Thursday, 1 st April	Year 8 Easter Show Excursion
Thursday 1st April	Last day of Term 1
Tuesday 6 th -Friday-9 th	Camp Australia Rocketeers Holiday Club
April	
Monday 12 th -Friday	Camp Australia Rocketeers Holiday Club
16 th April	
Monday April 19 th	Camp Australia Rocketeers Holiday Club
Monday, April 19 th	Staff Development Day (no children at school)
Tuesday, April 20 th	First Day of Term 2
Tuesday April 27 th	Parent Teacher Night – Year 7, 11 and 12
Thursday, 6th May	School Photo Day
Tuesday 11 th – Friday	NAPLAN Online Testing
21 st May	

NEW STAFF INFORMATION

Name: Lachlan Guthrie

Academic Qualifications & Institution: Bachelor of Design (Hons) – University

of New South Wales

Master of Teaching (Primary) – University of New England

Other employment experiences:

Team Kids (Before and After School Care) Orange Grove Public School: 2019 – 2020. In my role as Educator for Team Kids I was in charge of the Kindy Hall and a team of two to three Educators. On an average day I was responsible for the fun and safety of up to 45 students ranging in age from four to six years old. I was required to maintain supervision while also engaging the students in stimulating activities. Coordinating and implementing activities ranging from craft, sports or imaginative play has diversified my knowledge



of what excites and engages learners. I facilitated weekly reflections and programming for all learning activities. Working collaboratively with other educators developed my interest in co-teaching. I am agile and flexible with my thinking, and have fostered professional interpersonal relationship with my colleagues and students. Behaviour management is key in maintaining a safe and engaging environment. My restorative approach to behaviour management has developed my interpersonal and communication skills with students and parents. My experiences at Team Kids consolidated my personal drive to pursue a teaching career and have energised me to see the positive influence teachers have on their school community.

Textile Designer: 2013-2019

As a textile designer working in the fast-paced fashion industry, I demonstrated excellence in how I responded to briefs, researched market trends, and implemented designs and post-season evaluations. This time-sensitive process demands effective time management and project management strategies that I was always able to balance. In this role I combined practical design skills, my knowledge of the brand and customer-base to deliver on trend designs. I have exceptional technology skills and these were tested in a role requiring combining illustration and ICT software to render high-resolution artwork. I thrived in a supportive and collaborative team and enjoyed bouncing ideas around and continued to develop my skill set through a constructive process of peer- and self-assessment.

2021 teaching load at Alex Park (courses, years): Year 2

I have a passion for the creative arts and gardening and I am looking forward to jumping in and getting involved with the wider school community.

I endeavour to be an egalitarian educator that engages all students in my class by reflecting their own experiences in the learning outcomes of the classroom.

First impressions of Alex Park – (the students, the staff, the parents, the educational programs, the learning environment.):

My first impressions of Alex Park have been overwhelmingly positive. The school's commitment to future learning spaces informed by the Positive Behaviours for Learning is exciting. As a Beginning Teacher it fills me with confidence to know I will be working in a collaborative team of educators dedicated to student outcomes and professional development. I am also drawn to the school's unique K-12 structure and focus on the fostering of an engaged and connected school community.



SAVE THE DATE - SCHOOL PHOTO DAY TERM 2

Save the Date for the APCS K-12 School Photo Day - Thursday, May 6th.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

We have made it to the end of Term 1 in our brand-new school building and what a busy term it has been, I thank you all for your patience and understanding as we have been settling in to our new exciting spaces.

Last week our Primary teachers met in stages for their Collaborative Planning Conferences (CPC) days. These days allow our teachers to have time together to reflect on student achievement and the programs taught throughout the term. It also presents teachers with the opportunity to plan units of work for Term 2 to make sure we have consistency across the grades and stages, and are taking advantage of our open plan learning hubs.

We all enjoyed our recent Neurodiversity and Harmony Day celebrations, it is so wonderful to celebrate our diverse, inclusive and proud school community. As the weather is becoming cooler so is the need to wear warmer clothing, especially in the morning. Please encourage your child to be wearing our school uniform every day. If you need to purchase a jacket for winter they are available from the Bunin.

Tonight, we are holding our K-6 parent teacher interviews I would like to thank all of the parents/carers who came to meet with their child's classroom teacher. Building strong partnerships between home and school is paramount in planning for the learning needs of our students.

Mrs Lade will be returning to APCS at the beginning of Term 2 as the K-6 Deputy Principal, I would like to thank everyone in our school community that has supported me over the last three terms as the relieving Deputy, APCS is such a lovely community to be a part of. I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break, with maybe a little chocolate. Mrs Lucy Smith

EARLY STAGE 1 (KINDERGARTEN) NEWS

Kindergarten students have been having lots of fun during 'Explore and Learn' sessions each week. During these sessions learning experiences are play-based, child-centred, investigative and exploratory. Students get to build on ideas and concepts introduced by their teachers, as well as on their own interests and understanding, to engage with content and extend their learning.

These sessions are also a fantastic way of getting to know their classmates and practising their social skills.



Look at how actively engaged we are in these amazing learning experiences!

STAGE 1 (YEARS 1&2 NEWS)

Stage 1 has had a great March, actively engaging in many fabulous and new learning experiences- take a look!

Students enjoyed and explored a range of mathematical topics and concepts this month.



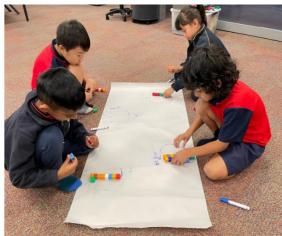


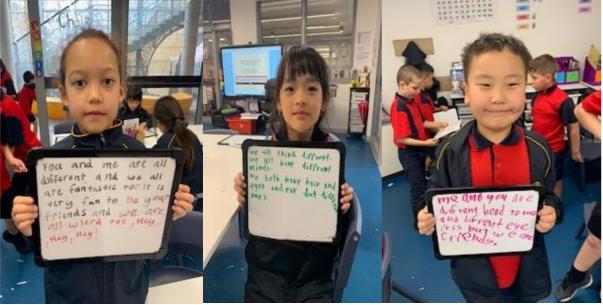
1/2T have been learning to describe and manipulate 2D shapes such as triangles, rectangles, squares, pentagons, hexagons, octagons and circles. They have designed a cubby house using the shapes.

1P Students have been using informal units to estimate and measure the area of their feet while studying the topic of 'Length'.









In 2A, students explored their 'Amazing Brains' during a neurodiversity lesson. They watched a video explaining how neurodiversity means understanding and appreciating how everyone's brains work differently. We then wrote about how wonderful our own brains were and all the great things they enable us to do. We then used a familiar tune and wrote song lyrics to show our appreciation for our fantastic brains. Here are some of the songs we were able to write.

We also celebrated Harmony Day, learning about all the different cultures we are lucky to have as part of our diverse community here at APCS. 1/2T learnt about the Traditional tale "How Maui slowed the Sun" from New Zealand for Harmony Day.

2V used hand templates to represent themselves and their cultural background. The hands were then used to create a harmony tree display. Students also engaged in creating their own mini-portraits that also shared their



identity and cultural background. Together we explored the cultural diversity of year 2. #HarmonyDay #WeAllBelong



STAGE 2 (YEARS 3&4) NEWS

In Stage two students have been participating in STEAM rotations every Tuesday. They are learning all about Material World and doing hands on activities to find out more about solids, liquids and gases. In the Science rotation students made Ooblek, which is a non-Newtonian fluid!



STAGE 3 (YEARS 5&6) NEWS

It's been a busy and exciting term for Stage 3!



Stage 3 gave an impromptu performance of the song "No Roots" which they have been learning in music with Mr Whipp & Ms Campisi.

5/6O are exploring living things. Hey used digital microscopes to look at the characteristics of minibeast and leaves in detail.



50 and 6F had an expert session with Dr Falster, a plan biologist, to learn all about the adaption and diversity of plant species.

6F learnt how to weave on a loom to create beautiful patterns and scenery. They have also been hard at work coming up with creative solutions to their inquiry questions during Genius Hour.

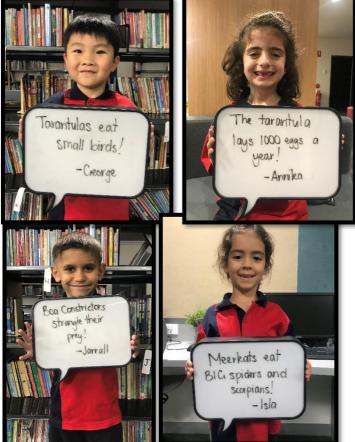


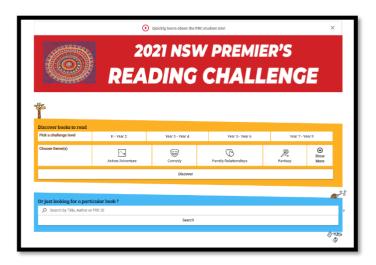
LIBRARY NEWS

Term 1 has been a hive of activity in the K-6 Yakka Taka! Most classes have been busy developing their information literacy skills with many students learning how to hunt for facts in big chunks of text and then how to turn these into their own short, sharp summaries of information. We've even learnt some cool facts along the way!

2021 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)-

This term, we also start the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge! Students in K-2 are read 30 books by their teachers, participating as a class. Students



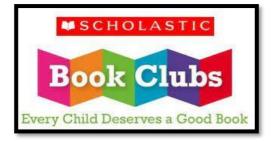


across Year 3-10 must read 20 books independently from specific, age-appropriate, highly comprehensive lists. Students in these classes have been shown how to log the books they have read during library lessons. All students have until the end of Term 3 (Friday, 20th August) to complete this challenge and our K-6 library is working hard to provide lots of exciting new books to help students with this task! Please see Miss Ruschen if you are in Year 3-6 and need help with logging your books.

Scholastic Book Club-

Just a reminder that Scholastic Book Club orders are now to be made online only. The following link can be used to place your order through *Scholastic LOOP*:

https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/.



For further clarification or questions, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Ruschen though the APCS front office.

Library Monitors - This year we have 32 library monitors across Year 3-6 helping in the library! Congratulations to all who applied and were successful in this endeavour!



(Absent: Rienn M, Eadie C, Aryaman P, Amelia Tran)

High School

1. APCS library participates in 2021 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). PRC books are read to K-2 students during class. Yr3-10 students are expected to read for themselves. APCS students should access PRC website



https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html via DoE student portal imaged below.

Secondary students, who had completed *(last year)* 2020 PRC over 7 years consecutively, have qualified beyond the Gold certificates reaching Platinum certificates. **Yr8**: Grace Williams; Yousra Hamadi & Benjamin Tjoeng. **Yr9**: Sam Lin & Marissa Kan. **Yr10**: Bella Williams has won her medallion for completing the PRC for over 10 years.



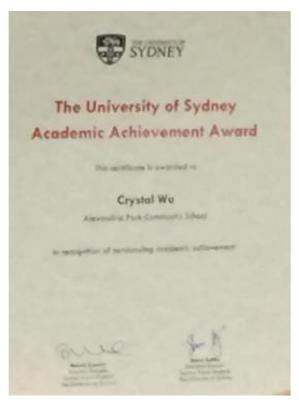
- 2. APCS library is preparing for a huge relocation stocktake this year. We follow below 3 steps when calling for the return of overdue books.
- Step 1: Students are verbally informed of their overdue books.
- Step 2: A printed overdue slip is distributed to students (if no response was received @ step1).
- Step 3: A final overdue letter is posted home to parents (if no response was received @ step2).
- Please let your child bring back overdue library books that are found at home if you a notice slip sampled below. Please write a return message on the back of the overdue slip if you believe the overdue books had

been returned last term. There are no fines for late returns. However, if books are lost, you need to pay \$6 per book to the school office.



3. The Academic Achievement Award is an annual award offered by the University of Sydney in recognition of Yr11 students who have made great academic achievement in their studies at high school. APCS student Crystal Wu has received this award. The University of Sydney usually holds a ceremony on main campus where students can be publicly recognised. However, the ceremony could not be performed due to COVID restrictions. Therefore, Crystal has received her award items this term at school.





4. APCS currently participates in **REACH** instead of ICAS. Yr7-12 students are encouraged to register for **Reach** Assessments in **English**, **Mathematics**, **Science** & **Writing**. Parents can download the form via the school website:

https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/a/alexparkcs-c/news/2021/2021_REACH.pdfif you wish to register your child for REACH. Please return the signed registration form to the school office by April 23, 2021.

SWIMMING CARNIVALS

Students of Alexandria Park have made quite a splash recently (pun intended) competing at the Zone and Regional Swimming Carnivals. A team of 30 students from years 2-6 represented the school at the Zone Swimming Carnival across all ranges of events. All the students put their best foot, hand and everything else required to propel through the water at great pace forward with some outstanding individual performances

on the day. A special mention to Lucas Peake who took out the 50m 9years Freestyle boys title and Kathryn Jordan who looked in a league of her own winning every individual event she participated in on the day as both attending students and staff looked on in amazement.

The results of the Swimming Carnival were:

Blue Gum 119 Banksia 114 Waratah 105 Wattle 93

Age champions

Boys Lucas P 9yrs Chip H 10yrs Noah L 11 yrs Bhenthai S 12 yrs Girls Elizabeth K 9yrs Kathryn J 10yrs Lara W 11yrs Katja M 12yr



The Regional Carnival was next, where both Lucas and Kathryn represented not only Alexandria Park but joined a strong group of swimmers from the South Sydney district. Both Lucas and Kathryn put in strong swims at the Regional Carnival performing admirably in the old Olympic Pool at Homebush. With a remarkably busy card Kathryn swam brilliantly progressing onto

the State Championships later this month in both the 50m Butterfly and 50m Breaststroke.

All of us here at the school wish her the very best of luck at this high-quality event.



CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) NEWS

It's hard to believe we are at the end of term 1! The Primary CAPA Hub is flourishing into a space filled with colour, music and life! We are so amazed at the creativity of APCS students and are proudly hanging up the visual arts work on the walls.

In visual arts, Early Stage 1 have been experimenting with colour, line and shape – appreciating the works of Mondrian, Miro and Bronwyn Bancroft.

In music, Stage 1 students have been singing in preparation for Harmony Day and working on their notation reading skills. Bucket drumming is an absolute hit and translates very well to the real drums. Students have also been enjoying using body percussion to perform a traditional dance.

Stage 2 and 3 students have been enjoying some intricate weaving, singing their hearts out. The CAPA Hub is the new favourite space for many students in stage 3!



Happy Week 10 Musicians!

Well done on a successful return to band and welcome to all our new Junior students to the band program and our 2021 OC students.



I am so excited to tell you all our Senior Band is an incredible 51 students, it is so wonderful to see.

What Should I Practise This Week?

As we all know, PRACTISING your instruments will only make playing easier and more fun! Juniors should be aiming to play their instruments 2-3x a week for 10 minutes. Our more advanced player should be aiming for 3-5x a week roughly 15 minutes. Break up your pieces to make playing time more enjoyable!

Junior Band - Pages 7 & 8 of Tradition of Excellence Book. Working on creating a good sound with your instrument.

Senior Band - Ghostbusters, Rock Your Bones and Ghostbusters **Happy Practising!**

Harmony Day 2021







Everyone Belongs

On Friday, March 19th, Alex Park celebrated Harmony Day. The students dressed up in Cultural Dress and engaged in activities to celebrate different cultures around the world before watching a special assembly of students all across the school speaking in different languages – 33 to be exact!

Unfortunately, the rain stopped us singing in the morning, but we made it up a week later when the sun came out and sang "Rome Wasn't Built in a Day" with Mr Whipp on guitar, Mr Moir on piano, Marta on drums and Ms Campisi on vocals.





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we come to the end of the term it is a good time to remind us all about some important school procedures and policies.

Procedures for signing in and signing out of school

If high school students arrive late to school they are to sign in at the Jenla. This term we have implemented a new strategy to encourage students to arrive on time. The policy is that if students are late they will have to attend a lunch time detention with Mr Okell. This strategy has been highly successful and we have seen a reduction in students arriving late to school. If they have a legitimate reason such as an appointment, could you please give your child a note so their absence will be recorded as explained and they will not have to attend detention.

Students are not to leave the school grounds during the day without permission. They must bring a note to the Jenla and sign out. If they do not have a note but need to leave school, parents/ carers will be contacted.

School Uniform

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. As the weather will start to cool down, now is the time to stock up on your winter school uniform.

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
- Navy socks or stockings

The High School Sport uniform

- APCS red polo shirt with logo
- Navy blue or black shorts or track pants
- Sport shoes and socks

These items are **NOT** school uniform

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

The Uniform Shop

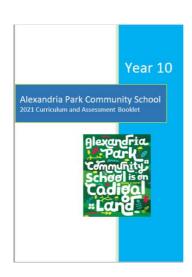
Our uniform shop, located in the Bunin.

Sentral Parent Portal

Students and parents should all have access to the Sentral Parent Portal. Next term our booking system for Parent Teacher Night will be via the parent portal. Parents will be emailed instructions on how to book for parent teacher night early next term. If you do not have access to the parent portal please email me at louise.hawkins1@det.nsw.edu.au

Curriculum Booklets

All students from Years 7 to 10 have been issued with a curriculum booklet. The booklets contain important information about the curriculum structure, communicating with the school, course information and assessment information. The curriculum booklets are also available on the schools' website. https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au/learning-at-our-school/assessment.html



Support for Year 12 students

The school recognises that the HSC year is a stressful time for the students as well as their parents and carers. Here is a reminder of some of the support structures we have in place for all students.

Support at this school includes:

- Subject teachers
- Head Teachers
- Teacher Mentors
- Learning and Support teachers Rochelle Foley and Anna Nicholls
- Head Teacher Wellbeing and Careers Adviser Patricia Betar
- Deputy Principal Louise Hawkins
- Homework Centre the Homework Centre runs every Wednesday afternoon from 3pm to 5pm.

Your subject teachers and your Head Teachers are most happy for you to approach them with any questions you may have in regards to a concept, going through your work or for assessment help. Please speak to them.

APCS has subscribed to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and all students and their families have access to this

wonderful resource. On the website you will find worksheets and videos on how to study effectively, goal setting, managing stress and there are also resources for improving your literacy and numeracy skills. The username is **alexandriapark** and the password is **11success**.

Redfern PCYC

Senior Constable Renee Fortuna and PCYC Club Manager Georgia Stirton came to speak to all students from Years 7 to 10 about the programs they are running at PCYC. They will be holding a community day on the 11th April, families are encouraged to drop by and say hello. On the 16th April they will have a 3x3 basketball tournament, kids are encouraged to get their teams together for this exciting event.



ENGLISH/Languages Other Than English/Creative and Performing Arts

Year 8 English (co-teaching report)

This year 8E and 8L are being co-taught by Ms. Thomson and Mr. Forbath. Setting up routines has been a big focus for us as we have implemented flexible seating arrangements and regular do now activities. Students have set table groups and each lesson they are placed at different tables. The routine is projected onto the board, as is the do now and students begin their lesson. This process allows students to take control of their learning. We have also implemented FLEX time.

FLEX stands for Feedback Letting Everyone eXcel and is a weekly session where students meet with their



teacher, share a piece of work they are proud of and the teacher provides them with feedback and together they set a writing goal. We have been enjoying learning together whilst maximising our use of these new spaces. This has been particularly helpful for our reading groups as we are completing our novel study of *Apple and Rain*. We

have small group guided reading with Ms. Nicholls in one of the interview rooms, larger group guided reading with Mr. Forbath in one of the presentation rooms and independent reading in the open spaces with Ms. Thomson.

VISUAL ARTS

Our new year 7 artists are enjoying their introduction to high school art, and "learning to see" with an observational drawing unit. Through investigating the elements of art and the history of still life artworks, students will build essential skills in drawing, and learn to find and create meaning in representations of everyday objects.

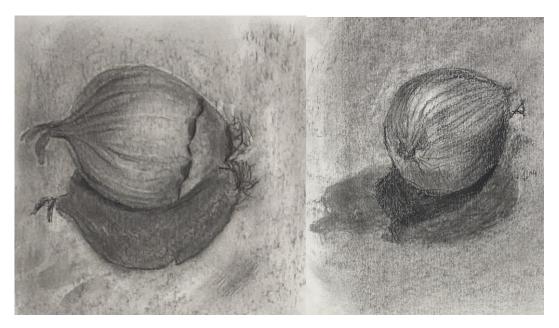
Year 8 artists are learning about the Hermannsburg Potters, a group of Arrernte women who bring the vibrant landscape and spirit of Central Australia to life with their hand-crafted terracotta and underglaze pots. With additional guidance from the school's Aboriginal Pedagogical Mentor, Mr Nathan McEwan, students have come up with designs inspired by their own Country, culture, history and day-to-day activities. Students have been learning hand-coil pottery techniques to make their lids, and are now constructing their pinch pots.

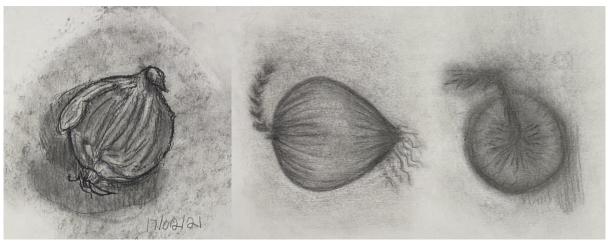






(Works by Erick S, Hanna Y, Oliver I, Jumanah H, Merry Y, Aalia B, Latoya L, Kalisitiane L, and Chloe T.)





Year 12, meanwhile, are busily working on their Bodies of Work, transforming the rich concepts they developed last year into artworks, whilst also developing their own practices and identities as young artists - watch this space!

In week 3 our senior artists (Year 11 and 12 classes) attended an excursion to both the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Art Gallery of NSW. Students experienced a teacher-led tour of Australian artist Lindy Lee's major survey exhibition "Moon in a Dew Drop" at MCA before lunch in Circular Quay. The afternoon was spent at AGNSW being inspired by both ArtExpress - an exhibition of outstanding works from the 2020 HSC - and the wider gallery collection. Much gratitude must go to Ms Sutcliffe for organising an exceptionally interesting excursion in these challenging COVID-safe times!



HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC NEWS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

It is anticipated that the Instrumental Music Program (IMP) will be starting in term 2. It will offer opportunities for high school students to learn a range of instruments one on one with a music tutor. We aim to offer Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Keyboard and Singing.

Lessons will be taught by qualified professional peripatetic (visiting) instrumental tutors. Lessons will be for 30 minutes during school time on a rotating timetable so students do not miss the same lesson each week.

Fees should be in the region of \$45 per lesson. It may be possible to utilise the Creative Kids voucher.

To register an Expression of Interest, go to:

 $https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uGyC6MU2paT4b6huBlxvV4_2C5cZJE0IQ4TMZpf--Es/editable. The state of the control of the contr$

If you have any questions please contact Ms Winfield (High School Music Teacher)

SYDNEY SOUTHEAST SYMPHONIC WINDS 2021

Auditions will be held at the end of April for students in Years 5-8 with current Band experience. The goal is to provide advanced music education and performance opportunities for children in years 5-8 who are currently enrolled in public schools in and around the Sydney area. The band has regularly performed at leading performance venues including the Sydney Opera House, Angel Place, Sydney Town Hall, Parliament House and the Sydney



Entertainment Centre, also representing the Department of Education at official events throughout Sydney. The Band holds a yearly camp where the students work with experienced conductors and tutors.

For more information and application forms please visit www.gspsensembles.com

HUMAN SOCIETY IN ITS ENVIRONMENT (HSIE)

It's been a busy time in HSIE, with all students, in all grades, sitting their first assessment tasks for the year. It has been great to see a majority of our students putting the effort in to complete the tasks to the best of their ability and be rewarded with some outstanding results.

Our junior years will continue with History next term, with Year 7 experiencing our new Ancient Egypt unit, Year 8 are starting their 'Ancient Japan under the shoguns' unit, while Year 9 and 10 will continue looking at Australian History

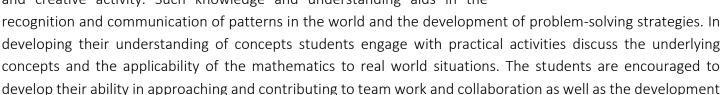
Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal Studies

Extended response writing is really important within both the Preliminary and HSC Aboriginal Studies course. Whilst we cover the extensive content, we also try to find a variety of ways to get students to develop their extended writing skills. This involves class collaborative writing, annotating past student responses, small group paragraph creation and individual essay writing. This picture shows year 11 and 12 students engaging in sequencing tasks as another way to develop or revise our understanding of course content whilst also thinking about the structure of extended responses.

Sometimes we sequence responses from past students or we may sequence responses that the class has written themselves as a form of revision. Our goal is that all students will feel confident to write extended responses by the time they sit their trial HSC examination (if not earlier) as this three-hour exam includes five extended responses across four different examination sections.

MATHEMATICS

The mathematics faculty at APCS is continuing to work towards deepening students' knowledge and understanding of mathematics both as a reasoning and creative activity. Such knowledge and understanding aids in the



of skills in logical thinking and reasoning. The faculty also aims that students in developing their skills have a realisation that these skills are not only applicable across the curriculum but to life in general.

Maths faculty members use technology in their classrooms and various online resources such as Desmos and Geogebra. Students have free access to the online platforms, Education Perfect, Google classroom and One Note. Students can access Education Perfect to achieve fluency in mathematical skills and the consolidation of their understanding of concepts.



Students in year 7 when studying number systems have learnt about the number system of our local Aboriginal people, the Cadigal of the Eora nation their language Gomboree has a base 5 system embedded in a decimal

base system. Year 7 have gone on an angle hunt while 7x have used Tarsia puzzles in Algebra.

Students in year 8 this term have been busy building on their learning in year 7 in the areas of Number and Algebra, and Measurement and Geometry. The topics covered are algebraic techniques, indices, equations, length, perimeter, area, volume and time.

Year 9 is an important year for students, depending on their substage, in consolidating and developing their previous knowledge of mathematics and laying the foundation for more



advanced mathematics. This term they have engaged in the areas of Number and Algebra, and Measurement and Geometry. Topics, at the appropriate sub stage level have included, financial mathematics (earning money), equations and right-angled triangles.

Year 10 is a particularly important year for students as it is the time when they begin to explore topics more



deeply in preparation for senior studies in mathematics. This term they have explored area, surface area, volume, Pythagoras in 3D problems, indices and surds and probability.

Much of year 11 study this term as been consolidation and/or deeper investigation of stage 5 topics that are required for success in mathematics at the HSC. Year 12 are midway through their HSC year courses. Students in Mathematics Advanced have just completed their investigation into the use of trigonometric functions in periodic phenomena. Extension 2 are considering what investigation they will undertake in the examination of the historical development or application of a higher mathematics concept relevant to the course. Mathematics Standard and Extension 1 students will undertake their investigative tasks next term.



SCIENCE and MANDATORY TECHNOLOGY

Year 7 have started the unit 'Cells' this has involved the students learning about the organelles in cells and differentiating between the different types of cells. Practical lessons have included students make models of cells with jelly cups and lollies, use the light microscopes to magnify cells and identify the organelles.

Year 8 have started the unit on 'Space' involving the students learning about the planets, constellations and the formation of stars in the solar system.

Year 9 science have been learning about 'Ecosystems' students have enjoyed time outside to study the food chains in our own Maani area, as well as sustainability and environmental conservation.

Year 10 science have been learning about 'Genetics' students have gone into detail about DNA, genetic traits

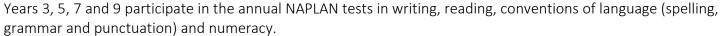
being dominant and recessive, genetic diseases and genetic technology. Students have enjoyed practical activities including extracting DNA from fruit and forming their own ethical views on genetic technology through class discussion and debate.

Year 11 Biology are conducted a range of practical experiment to assist with their understanding of enzymes, surface area to volume ratio, and cell identification.

Photo of year 11 Enzyme experiment- Catalase and Hydrogen peroxide.

NAPLAN Online 2021

The National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in



Our school will be participating in NAPLAN Online between 11 and 21 May 2021.

In preparation for NAPLAN Online, our school will also be participating in practice tests between 22 March and 1 April. The practice test is a trial-run and key preparation activity for NAPLAN Online in May. It is not an assessment of student ability and the tests will not be marked.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN Online is not recommended. Students can use the <u>public demonstration site</u> (https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site) to familiarise themselves with the types of questions and tools available in the NAPLAN Online tests.

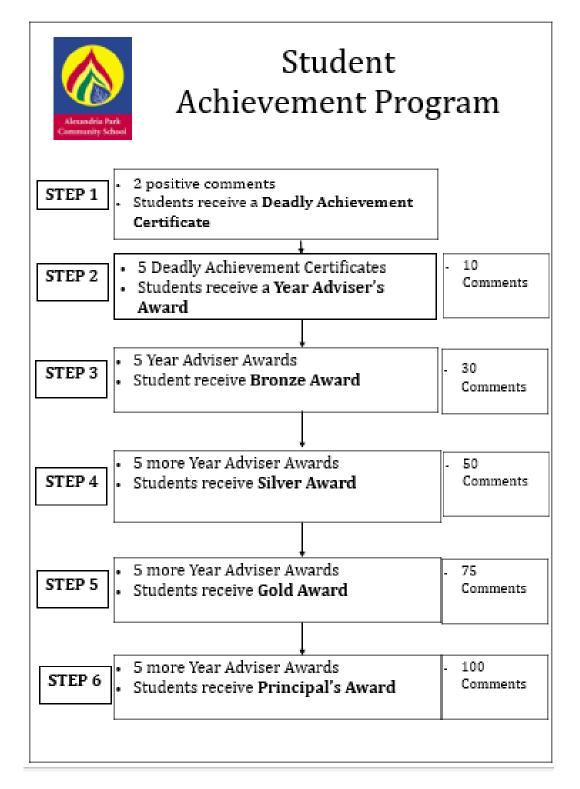
If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) reward system

The PBL team has survey students about the current Years 7-12 reward system at APCS. Currently students can earn awards through deadly stamps and positive comments. Congratulations to our high school students who earnt over 2300 positive comments this term. We have seen a decline in students collecting deadly stamps and have therefore made the decision to just record positive comments. We have also made the awards system more achievable and it will now include a variety of certificates and rewards at each level. These rewards include canteen vouchers, special prizes including movie vouchers, achievers' excursions and pizza lunches. We have updated the student achievement program to reflect these changes.

We look forward to implementing this new reward system in Term 2, 2021.





HOMEWORK CENTRE

APCS Secondary Homework Centre is open every Wednesday after school, 2:50pm – 5pm on the Yakka Takka All students' years 7-12 are welcome to attend to do homework and assignments with help, if needed, from supervising teachers.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the senior office on: (02)96981967 or email muhammad.abdullah@det.nsw.edu.au or laura.a.medway@det.nsw.edu.au

尊敬的家长/监护人,

我校的课后辅导班开始了。时间**是每周三下午**2:50-5:00. **地点是学校**图书馆的 Yakka Takka**教室**。 我们有辅导老师为7**到**12年级的学生提供免费作业辅导。

如果你有疑问的话请**用以上的**电子邮箱来联系高校办公室**老**师或拨打学校点话:02 9698 1967

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APCS хоёрдогч гэрийн даалгаврын төв нь Лхагва гараг бүр хичээл тарсны дараа 14:50 - 17:00 цагт Якка Такка дээр ажилладаг

7-12 насны бүх оюутнуудыг хянах багш нараас шаардлагатай тохиолдолд гэрийн даалгавар, даалгавар гүйцэтгэхэд оролцохыг урьж байна.

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এপিসিএস মাধ্যমিক হোমওয়ার্ক কেন্দ্র বিদ্যালয়ের পরে প্রতি বুধবার, দুপুর ২:৫০ - ইয়াক্কা তক্কায় বিকেল ৫ টা পর্যন্ত খোলা থাকে

7-10 বছর বয়সের সমস্ত শিক্ষার্থী শিক্ষকদের তদারকি করা শিক্ষকদের কাছ থেকে সাহায্যের প্রয়োজনে হোমওয়ার্ক এবং অ্যাসাইনমেন্ট করতে উপস্থিত থাকতে স্বাগত।

Pusat pekerjaan rumah sekolah menengah APCS buka setiap hari Rabu sepulang sekolah, pukul 14.50 - 17.00 di Yakka Takka

Semua siswa kelas 7-12 boleh hadir untuk mengerjakan pekerjaan rumah dan tugas dengan bantuan, jika diperlukan, dari pengawas guru.

Year 7 Wellbeing Enrichment Programs

Year 7 have been enjoying their enrichment programs this term. Each week students are split into four different groups and rotate around different activities that are run by the Year 10 peer support leaders. These leaders



completed training in Term 4 2020 and were part of the Year 6 to 7 transition program. The weekly activities focus on students getting to know each other and their place in the world. Here is a picture of students playing sharing our experience where a peer leader names an experience, for example 'volunteering in your local community', and students who have done it stand and swap seats. The student who does not have a seat then shares more information about that experience.

This program has many benefits. Our peer leaders develop their leadership skills and confidence and each week we have seen a growth in these young people. Our year 7 students are able to

get to know each other in an informal and friendly environment whilst also reflecting on their identity, support networks and communities.

Year 7 students enjoyed their camp which was held back in February.



The students all enjoyed themselves, pushed themselves and made new friends.





LATENESS BLITZ

This year at Alex Park we have begun a focus on lateness. As you can see in the above graphic, lateness can cause students to miss valuable class time that adds up over the course of a year and especially over a school career. It is also an important skill for to learn as they transition to the workforce. As a result, we have set up a daily lateness detention where students make up their time at lunch with our truancy wizard, Mr Okell.

During this time, students can complete any work they have missed, while getting constant reminders about the importance of being at school on time. As with all school absences, students often have a reason such as a doctor's appointment or transport incident which causes the lateness. If this occurs, could you please contact the school on 96981967 or by email alexparkcs-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au so that students don't receive a detention for an event that is beyond their control. We'd like to thank all parents and carers for their help in this important issue.



VOCATIONAL LEARNING SKILLS

Next Term will be a busy one for Year 10.

Starting on the first Tuesday back 16 students from Years 9 and 10 will attend a Certificate I course in Foundation Skills for Vocational Learning. With projects and work-based learning, students will be credentialled for a 100-hour elective study on the Record of School achievement.

LOVE BITES

Week 2 will see the delivery of the Love Bites program to Year 10 and the Tomorrow Man and Tomorrow Woman will be delivered in week 3. Both these programs have a strong emphasis on the stereotypes of gender identity and challenges students to recognise toxic behaviour in their relationships. I encourage all parents and carers to support their child's participation in these very worthwhile workshops.

SMART LITERACY

Week 6, Year 10 will host a visit from the Smart Start Literacy people who will coach students on smart saving and spending.

The wellbeing Team hope you all enjoy the Easter break and take time out of your busy schedules to enjoy the company of those you love.

ANTI-RACISM EDUCATION

Hi APCS community!

On Friday, March 19th the K-12 students at APCS celebrated Harmony Week's theme *Everyone Belongs*. With March 21st being the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) team at APCS thought we could use a re-introduction.

Our ARCO team consists of Mr. Okell, Miss O'Sullivan and Mr. Jun and our aim is to assist in delivering antiracism education to students and staff.



What is an ARCO?

ARCOs are responsible as the contact person between students, staff, parents and community members who wish to make a complaint regarding racism. ARCOs may mediate during incidents of racism, manage the lodging of formal complaints as well as promote anti-racism education at school.

Positive Behaviour For Learning

Anti-racism education is the responsibility of every teacher in every school. In order to create an environment that lines up with our school's PBL values of respect, safety and learning, it is very important to address racism when it occurs and eliminate it.

APCS Behaviour Code and Code of Conduct

Racist language and behaviour are both clearly in violation of our school's Behaviour Code and Code of Conduct which state that students are to "not bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our schools."

What is Racism?

From www.racismnoway.com.au

Racism can directly or indirectly exclude people from accessing services or participating in employment, education, sport and social activities.

It can also occur at a systemic or institutional level through policies, conditions or practices that disadvantage certain groups.

It often manifests through unconscious bias or prejudice.

On a structural level, racism serves to perpetuate inequalities in access to power, resources and opportunities across racial and ethnic groups.

The belief that a particular race or ethnicity is inferior or superior to others is sometimes used to justify such inequalities.

— Australian Human Rights Commission, National Anti-Racism Strategy

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENT SUCCESS

Year 5 Student Jarvis H took part in the ISKA NSW Open Tournament on the weekend.

He Placed 2nd in Xtreme Weapons and 3rd in Traditional Forms.

CAMP AUSTRALIA UPDATE



Guiding children's growth

Newsletter





Term 1, 2021

Dear children and families.

Term 1, 2021 has been a very busy term for us all. At before and after school care we have been particularly busy with some great programs, activities and visitors in the service.

During Week 7 we had a special visit from Isaac and Tye from Wandana Aboriginal Education and Events. They performed an Acknowledgement of Country, Sweeping Ceremony, played some music for us and had our children moving around like native Australian animals. During the Sweeping Ceremony children were swept with branches of gum leaves for cleansing and warding off bad spirits. The children all had a fun time and were appreciative of Isaac and Tye sharing their culture with us.





During Week 7, 8 and 9 we put our handball skills to the test in our first Camp Australia Handball Championship! In week 7 and 8 our children measured and made their own masking tape handball courts, motivated and encouraged each other to participate and practised and honed their skills by playing against their peers.

During week 9 the children competed against each other to score points towards the championship. The winner received a trophy and will compete in the Regional Championships!

There is still time to get involved in the Handball

Championship. There is another trophy and a place in the Regional Championships up for grabs during our school holiday program, Rocketeers.

Join us these school holidays for Camp Australia's new school holiday adventure, Rocketeers. Our program runs from Tuesday 6th April 2021 with the last day being school development day Monday 19th April 2021. Each day is a different adventure and an opportunity for children to have fun, experience new things, interact with their peers and to grow.

Bookings are now open at www.campaustralia.com.au/rocketeers







Alexandria Park Community School

Community Opportunity Success



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

A code of conduct for parents and visitors ensures that everyone who visits the school site is able to do so in a safe and harmonious manner and to ensure that students, staff, parents and other visitors are not subjected to aggressive, hostile or violent behaviours. Parents, carers and visitors are expected to treat all persons associated with the school with respect and courtesy including all of our students, staff, canteen staff and cleaning staff.

I remind parents and carers that if they have a concern or problem with a student in our school they are not to approach that child or their parent about the concern. Parents and carers are expected to discuss issues or concerns about other students through the correct procedures. If the concern is occurring during class time parents are to contact the class teacher and talk to the teacher about the concern or problem. If the concern is happening on the playground or whilst travelling to and from school the parent is to contact the Assistant Principal or Deputy Principal to explain what is happening. The Assistant Principal or Deputy Principal will then investigate and manage the student's issue within the school's 'Student Behaviour Code' and 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' practices.

PARENTS TO FOLLOW THE SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES USING THE BUS BAY

Since introducing and supervising the morning drop off procedures using the bus bay we can report no incidences of 'near misses' and observations show a much safer and well managed car drop off for our students in the morning.

Keys to maintaining an orderly and workable morning drop off routine

- Please drive your vehicle as far as you can into the bus bay to allow more cars to follow you into the bus bay.
- ✓ Please limit the time you spend in the bus bay to a minimum. It is a "drop off" zone.
- ✓ Please ensure that the children exit the vehicles on the passenger side of the car.

Keys to maintaining an orderly and workable afternoon pick-up routine

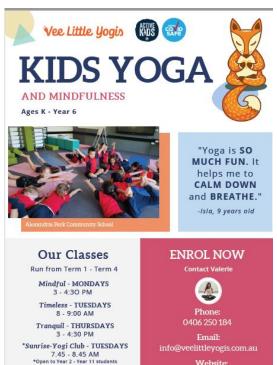
- ✓ Remain the in queue of cars on Power Ave. Do not over-take cars waiting in the queue.
- ✓ Wait your turn.
- Use the bus bay for pick-up.

Diane Fetherston Principal 15 March 2021

VEES LITLE YOGIS KIDS YOGA

YOGA FOR TEENS





Website:

VARIOUS HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY



FREE Trial Class. T&Cs apply.

The Shack Youth Services School Holiday Program

Tuesday 6 th April	Wednesday 7 th April	Thursday 8 ^t	h April		Friday 9 th April
Arncliffe Youth Centre Opening Day - Followed by Lunch & Laser Siege	Hope Street Youth- Graffiti Workshop and Basketball Day	Movies 5.00pm – 9.00pm		Arcade @ I 10.00am -	Entertainment Quarter 2.00pm
10.00am – 4.00pm	9.00am – 4.00pm	5pm meet outside Bo	owen Library	10am meet	t outside Bowen Library
10am meet outside Bowen Library	9am meet at Bowen	Drop-offs after movie	es	2pm pick u	p or make your own way
Visit at Arncliffe Youth Centre	4pm drop off at Bowen library	Bring or buy your din	ner and snacks	home from	Bowen Library
Bring money for lunch or bring your own lunch and snacks - will be stopping at Hungry Jacks before Laser Siege.	BBQ lunch is provided	Popcorn and drink pr		Lunch is pr	ovided
Laser Siege @ 2.30 pm.		Please note this is on offs are available	nly day drop-		
Pick up or make own way home from Bowen Library					
RSVP by 31st March 2021 Email: theshack@benevolent.org.au Phone: Lara- 0401 540 228 or Irena-	_	ike us on	AL.	N al al	
The Shack Youth Services ☐ theshack@benevolent.org.au		f 0	SIII YOUTH	SERVICES	benevol er

The Shack Youth Services School Holiday Program

April 2021- Week 2

Monday 12 th April	Tuesday 13 th April	Wednesday 14 th April
Skyzone	Pizza's in the Park	Multisport's at Arncliffe Youth Centre
11.00am - 3.30pm	12.30pm - 4.30pm	11.00am - 3.00pm
11am meet outside Bowen Library	Meet at Rowland Park near the playground. Will need to be able to make own way to and	10am meet outside Bowen library
An after jump lunch will be provided at Skyzone at 2pm	home from park	4pm pick up or make your own way home from Bowen library at 4pm
3 30 16-1	Bring your footy/soccer ball. We will bring a	Diamond and the dealers
3.30pm Pick up or make own way home from Bowen Library	Volleyball kit	Please wear runners and comfortable clothing
•	Bring your own water bottle. Pizzas will be provided for lunch	

RSVP by 31st March 2021 Email: theshack@benevolent.org.au Phone: Lara- 0401 540 228 or Irena- 0434 981 922

The Shack Youth Services
☑ theshack@benevolent.org.au







Dunbar Rovers FC Football Program 2021



Teams

NPL. We have an under 20's and Men's first grade team in NPL3. Men's first grade team in NPL3.

NPL From under 13's to 18's we
Juniors compete in NPL2 (Boys)

GCL. We have under 14's to 17's in
the GCL (Girls).



WHAT WE OFFER?

- · Shooting and Passing · Controlling and Dribbling
- Speed and Agility
- Iv1, 2v1 and 3v2
- Gala Day Competitions (optional)
- If you are interest, please contact our club Technical Director Christian Soares

