

# ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome from the Kindergarten team. We are:

**Grace Humphreys** (KH) (Assistant Principal - Well being)

**Georgia Sammon** (KS)

**Jessie Attwood** (KJ)

**Coco Page** (KP) (Assistant Principal - Curriculum)

**Lisa Akkoumi** (KA)

**Tine Eriksen** (KP - Wednesdays)



Together we have a broad range of teaching experience across a range of schools, and are passionate about teaching Kindergarten.

The information provided in this letter is written for students of KJ and also contains general information and procedures for Alexandria Park Community School.

## **Positive Behaviour for Learning**

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



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

## **Developing Independence**

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

## **What to bring to school?**

Please ensure that your child brings:

- A hat
- A lunch box (that is easily opened and closed by your child)
- A drink bottle (that is easily opened and closed by your child)
- A change of clothing
- A spare set of underpants in a plastic bag (even if your child has never had an accident)

**Please label all items with your child's name.**

## **Lunch Time**

Please ensure that your child comes with a main meal for lunch and a snack for afternoon tea. All food needs to be in containers that are easy for your child to open, and it is great if your child knows what food to eat at each break. Students will need a bottle of water to keep hydrated throughout the day.

## **APCS is an Allergy Aware School**

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

## **After School Pickup**

Thank you for your support with our afternoon dismissal procedures. By all working together, we will make this process as quick and smooth as possible. If there is a change in your pick-up routine, you must notify your child's teacher via a phone call to the school office as early as possible. Students are not permitted to wait or go home with their friends' families without prior notification. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our students safe.

## **Home Reading**

It is important for students to read at home every day. Please make time to read and enjoy books with your child. The home reading program will begin towards the end of Term One. More information will be sent home at a later date.

## **Administration**

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

## **Communication**

If you would like to speak to your child's teacher, you can contact the office to arrange a meeting. A class parent representative will be allocated to each class via the P&C shortly. Class parents assist with communication and reminders of school business.

## Library

During library lessons, all students will be focusing on developing their skills in information literacy and digital literacy. These focuses help to develop life-long skills that students can apply to many areas of learning throughout their education. This year, some classes will attend the library together and have their lessons co-taught by Miss Ruschen and Mr Moor or Ms Campisi, providing further opportunity for collaboration and networking. There will be many exciting events throughout the year, including the Premier's Reading Challenge, Book Week, book fairs and more. Students are highly encouraged to borrow from the library, but are required to have a library bag to do so.

## Key Dates

- Week 5 Tuesday 23<sup>d</sup> February - Meet the Teacher Sessions 4.30pm - 5.00pm or 5.15 - 5.45pm
- Week 8 Friday 19<sup>h</sup> - Harmony Day celebrations
- Week 10 Tuesday 30<sup>h</sup> March - Parent/Teacher Interviews

## Class Timetable

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRI DAY
9.00 - 10.00	English	English	English	English	English
10.00 - 11.00	English	English	English	English	English
11.00 - 11.10	SUPERVISED EATING TIME				
11.10 - 11.50	LUNCH				
11.50 - 12.50	Music <i>Mr Whipp</i>	Explore and Learn	Sport	Explore and Learn	Mathematics
12.50 - 1.50	Library <i>Ms Ruschen</i>		Mathematics		Creative Arts
1.50 - 1.55	SUPERVISED EATING TIME				
1.55 - 2.15	AFTERNOON TEA				
2.15 - 3.00	PDH	Maths Games	Special Religious Education	Kindy Singing	Developmental Play/ K-6 Assembly

*Please ensure library bags are returned on library day and sneakers are worn on sport day.*

## Curriculum

This table provides an overview of key learning areas for the term.

Key Learning Area	Topics/ Strands	Content Covered
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Speaking and Listening</li> <li>• Phonics</li> <li>• Literature appreciation</li> </ul>	<p>Students will participate in daily English lessons. They will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• engage with a wide range of quality books and texts</li> <li>• participate in a variety of whole class, small group and independent reading and writing activities</li> <li>• develop key reading skills such as reading left to right, pointing to each word and using pictures to gain meaning</li> <li>• develop their knowledge of the alphabet and phonics, by learning letter sounds.</li> <li>• learn correct pencil grip and letter formation and begin to write high frequency words.</li> <li>• develop their oral language by saying simple sentences about familiar topics</li> </ul>

		Students will also participate in a fine motor skills and sound awareness program. Each class will visit a different kindy teacher for half an hour each day to experience a variety of fun activities to build their basic skills needed for reading and writing.
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole Number</li> <li>• Length</li> <li>• 2D Space</li> <li>• 3D Space</li> <li>• Patterns and Algebra</li> <li>• Time</li> </ul>	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• count, order, read and represent numbers to at least 10 and then beyond 10</li> <li>• compare the length of familiar objects</li> <li>• manipulate, describe and sort 2D shapes and 3D objects using everyday language</li> <li>• recognise, describe, create and continue repeating patterns.</li> <li>• learn about the days of the week and months of the year.</li> </ul>
HSIE	'All About Me'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will explore different types of families, share the characteristics of their family with others, and look at how families celebrate and commemorate important events.</li> </ul>
Science and Technology	'Weather'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will develop a greater awareness of the natural environment and the weather patterns that occur around them. They will develop their understanding of the ways that humans and animals respond to changes in the environment.</li> </ul>
Creative Arts	'Exploring Art' Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will develop their understanding of art and develop their art-making skills</li> <li>• Students will listen, respond, and move to music</li> </ul>
PDHPE	'Interpersonal Relationships', 'Games and Sports'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will learn about how to develop and maintain positive friendships.</li> <li>• Students will participate in a range of modified games to develop their fundamental movement skills.</li> </ul>

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

- Dramatic Play, such as exploring families through dress-ups and role play
- Art and Craft, such as making art works about different types of weather
- Construction, such as making weather shelters for toy animals
- Sensory Centre, such as exploring fresh and dry leaves

We look forward to sharing your child's first year of school with you!

Kind regards,

*Coco Page, Grace Humphreys, Lisa Akkoumi, Jessie Attwood, Georgina Sammon and Tine Eriksen*

### **Teacher email addresses**

*Please direct all urgent correspondence to the school office as teachers do not check their email during the school day.*

KP: coco.page@det.nsw.edu.au

KH: grace.humphreys7@det.nsw.edu.au

KA: lisa.akkoumi@det.nsw.edu.au

KJ: jessie.attwood1@det.nsw.edu.au

KS: georgina.kriaris@det.nsw.edu.au