

ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Park Road Alexandria 2015
phone +61 2 9698 1967
fax +61 2 9315 5007
email alexparkcs-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
web www.alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.edu.au



Monday 16th October, 2023

TERM FOUR CLASS LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for what will be an exciting Term Four! We hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. This note contains information for the students and families in Stage Three.

Class Organisation

5W Ms Alyssa Worthington
5/6P Mr John Porter
5/6A Miss Lynette Allen
5/6S Ms Joy Smith
5/6M Miss Courtley Mancell (S3 Assistant Principal)
6O Miss Erin O'Sullivan
Stage 3 Learning and Support / EALD Ms Ciara McNamara



Google Classroom

The table below has your child's Google Classroom code.

Class	Teacher	Codes
5/6S	Ms Smith	jn7c2ds
5/6P	Mr Porter	khryp2k
5/6M	Miss Mancell	p3mnzmb
5/6A	Miss Allen	haatwq2
5W	Ms Worthington	laqjrgj
6O	Miss O'Sullivan	oytobgb

The Department also has digital learning packs that you can use to support your child's learning should they need to learn from home.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home/learning-at-home/2022-digital-learning-packs.html>

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:

Be a Learner

Be Respectful

Be Safe

School Uniform

Students are expected to wear full school uniform including APCS shirt and navy shorts, skorts or pants. During the cooler months, an APCS logo jacket or jumper, or students can wear a plain navy jacket/ jumper. Please contact the school if you require assistance with the school uniform.

A new school cap has been created based on student feedback. Caps can be purchased for \$20.00.

Sun Safety

Students are expected to wear a hat at all times during outside activities. APCS implements a NO HAT- PLAY IN THE SHADE policy. Students will be required to be in the shade during lunch times and may miss out on sporting activities if they do not have a hat.

Curriculum

This table provides an overview of key topic areas for the term:

Key Learning Area	Topics/ Strands	Content Covered
English	Reading and Viewing	Students engage in In Literature Circles where they combine independent reading, Super 6 comprehension strategies and student-led discussions for a range of high quality, high interest literature texts.
	Writing and responding & Speaking & Listening	This English unit addresses the informative text type; specifically, how to write a well-structured informative text. Students will learn the importance of planning written work, and using a range of skills and strategies for self-assessment.
	Spelling	Sound Waves Spelling is a systematic word study program for our whole school. Informed by research on the best practices for teaching spelling, the program incorporates four key areas of teaching: phonemic awareness, synthetic phonics, morphology and etymology. This includes: identifying focus phonemes in words, segmenting words into phonemes, reading and spelling words, working with spelling and vocabulary concepts.
Mathematics	Mass	Students will understand that mass is all around us and is defined by how much matter is inside an object. Students will know how to use the appropriate units to estimate, measure and calculate length, area, volume, capacity and mass.
	Volume and Capacity	Students will select and use the appropriate unit to estimate, measure and calculate length, area, volume, capacity, and mass. They will make connections between capacity and volume and solve problems involving length and area. Students convert between units of length, units of capacity and units of mass.

	<p>3D Objects</p> <p>Angles</p>	<p>Students will identify three-dimensional objects on the basis of their properties. They will visualise, sketch, and construct three-dimensional drawings of different views.</p> <p>Students will measure and construct angles, and apply angle relationships to find unknown angles.</p>
History	Australia as a Nation	Students identify the values that underpin Australia's democracy and explain the importance of the electoral process. They describe the role of different people in Australia's legal system and identify various ways people can participate effectively in groups to achieve shared goals.
Science and Technology	Physical World	Students will investigate contact and non-contact forces such as gravity, buoyancy, air-resistance and applied force. They identify forces as pushes and pulls and describe a range of forces. Students will make observations about forces in everyday life, and design and undertake experiments to deepen their understanding. They will formulate hypotheses and recognise that there are different variables in an investigation. They will work together on STEM challenges, following the design thinking process to plan, prototype and test their designs.
Creative Arts	Music	This term Stage 3 students will be learning about the Instruments of the Orchestra and appreciating various orchestral compositions. They will learn about how sound is made and how each instrument is organised into families. Students will learn to play Beethoven's Symphony Number 9 otherwise known as "Ode to Joy" on the keyboards and experiment in creating their own original composition.
	Visual Arts	Students will explore the works of a range of well-known artists and artworks. What makes them unique? What techniques do they use? Students will explore the process of creating a portrait, focusing on proportion. They will use a variety of mediums and practice skills relevant to the elements of art.
	Drama	This unit has been designed to help deepen the students' understanding of dramatic elements and be able to respond to different contextual forms of drama through puppetry. Students will learn about puppetry from around the world.
PDHPE	PE	Students will collaborate on a number of physical games with a common theme and have the opportunity to create and develop their own game with a focus on safety rules and inclusion.
	PDH	<p>Students will learn about life transitions and attend 'Interrelate' sessions. Interrelate is a Primary Educational program that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses the physical changes of puberty, emphasising that it can be different for everyone • Develop students' understanding of periods and sperm production, as well as the physical, emotional, social and intellectual changes associated with puberty for both boys and girls • Enhance awareness of children's personal safety and protective behaviours
	Got It Program	Students will continue to take part in a series of collaborative lessons based on social-emotional skills development.

Attendance

Your child's attendance at school is important to us. Please ensure that students arrive **before 9:00am each day**. Supervision is available on the playground from 8:40am. All absences are to be explained via phone or email to the Bunin (office), or to your child's teacher. If your child is absent due to illness, please provide a medical certificate where possible. If your child is going to be absent for two weeks or more, it is necessary to apply for extended leave through the Bunin.

Regular attendance at school is essential for students to achieve quality life outcomes. At Alexandria Park Community School we aim to work in partnership with families to promote regular attendance and support students in understanding the importance of attending school daily.



Did you know that if students miss as little as eight days in each school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed an entire year of education?

If you are experiencing difficulties with getting your kids to school, please let us know. You can speak to your child's classroom teacher, an executive member, or even the front office staff about how we may assist you. Our aim is to help you to help your child attend school every day.

Why is regular school attendance important?

Regular school attendance will help your child succeed later in life. Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps children build and maintain friendships with other children. If your child doesn't learn the basic skills in the early years of school, they may struggle in later years.

Library

Stage 3 students will explore the concept of **transformation** through literature and information literacy. Throughout the unit students will develop a deeper understanding of how Australia is constantly changing.

Australia has a long and rich history that goes back to the ancient times of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Many Aboriginal people believe their ancestors have lived in Australia since the beginning of time. Dreaming and Creation stories explain how the land and life was created. Australia's history is also shaped by the people who came from other parts of the world to live here. Since the First Fleet arrived in 1788, many people have left their homes and travelled to Australia for different reasons. Some came to escape war or poverty, some came to seek new opportunities or freedom, and some came to join their families or friends. The people who have settled in Australia have made it a diverse and dynamic country. They have brought their cultures, languages, religions, traditions, and stories with them. They have also contributed to many aspects of Australian society, such as politics, economy, arts, sports, and science. Australia's identity reflects its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and its immigration history. These stories are still being written today by the people who live in this land.

At the end of the Term 4 Library unit, students will use an online tool to create their own digital information product about how Australia has transformed over time.

Homework

- Students are expected to read every night and complete a number of activities that will be distributed throughout the term to complete at home. They will choose some options (3 per week expected) from the homework grid and learn weekly spelling words.

Administration

Payments of fees and for excursions can be made online through the school website via the make a payment button. Alternatively you can pay at the office. Permission notes must be returned to class teachers for students to attend excursions. We cannot accept verbal permission over the phone.

Communication

You are able to contact the class parent for general information on class events. Please refer to the website for upcoming events, key dates and copies of permission notes. If you need to discuss your child's progress, please arrange an appointment with the class teacher. If you have any problems and need to contact your child's classroom teacher/s, please email us.

Extra Curricular

Throughout the term, students will have the opportunity to attend excursions and camps. Canberra excursion will take place **Monday 14th- Wednesday 16th August**.

Class	Teacher	Email
5W	Alyssa Worthington	alyssa.worthington3@det.nsw.edu.au
5/6A	Lynette Allen	lynette.allen7@det.nsw.edu.au
5/6W	John Porter	john.porter13@det.nsw.edu.au
5/6M	Courtley Mancell	courtley.mancell1@det.nsw.edu.au
60	Erin O'Sullivan	erin.osullivan9@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 4 Key Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Yr 5 Check-In Assessment	Mon 9th- Thurs 12th October
Y-Safe online safety session	31st october
High School Tour	7th November
Yr 7 2024 Orientation	28th November
K-6 Presentation Day	5th December
Stage 3 Interrelate	6th December
Yr 6 Luna Park Fun Day Out	11th December
Yr 6 Graduation Ceremony K-6 Reports go home	12th December
PBL Carnival	13th December

Kind regards,

Stage Three teachers