



Edition 16 - 2023

Wednesday 7 June 2023

TERM 2 2023

Wed 07 June	3.45pm - 5.45pm	STEM EXPO
Mon 12 June		King's Birthday Public Holiday - No School
Wed 14 June		Regional Cross Country
Fri 16 June		Student Reports available on Compass
Tue 20 Jun	2.45pm	House Mini Olympics run by the Year 6's
Tue 20 June	6.30pm	School Council
Fri 23 June	2.30pm	Last Day Term 2 (Please note early dismissal - 2.30pm)

TERM 3 2023

Mon 10 July		STUDENT FREE DAY
Tue 11 July		Students Commence Term 3
Wed 12 July		SMILE SQUAD STARTS (More details coming in compass post and below)
Tue 18 July - 21 July		Ski Camp (Tuesday - Friday)
Tue 25 July	6.30pm	School Council
Wed 26 July		Multicultural Day
Tue 01 August		3 WAY CONFERENCES - Students only attend school for their conference.
Wed 02 August		APS Senior Athletics Day
Wed 09 August		APS Junior Athletics Day
Mon 21 August		District Athletics
Tue 22 August	6.30pm	School Council
Wed 06 September		Division Athletics
Mon 11 September		Year 4 Camp - Return Wednesday 13th September
Thu 14 September		Year 2 - 6 Concert (Rehearsal During the Day) TBC
Fri 15 September	2.30pm	Last Day Term 3 (Please note early dismissal - 2.30pm)

TERM 4 2023

Mon 2 October		Students and Teachers Commence Term 4
Wed 4 October		Year 6 Graduation Photo
Wed 11 October		Regional Athletics
Mon 23 October		Year 3 Camp - Arrabri - Return Tuesday 24th October
Tue 24 October	6.30pm	School Council
Thu 02 November		Prep - 1 Concert (PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE)
Mon 6 November		STUDENT FREE DAY
Tue 7 November		Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Thu 16 November		Year 2 Sleepover TBC
Sun 19 November		Alphington Park Wetlands Festival
Mon 20 November		Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming Program begins (Mondays and Wednesdays)
Tue 28 November		Year 5 Camp - Portsea - Return Friday 1st December
Tue 28 November	6.30pm	School Council
Mon 4 December		Year 6 Camp - Return Thursday 7th December
Wed 20 December	1.30pm	Last Day Term 4 (Please note early dismissal - 1.30pm)

NB: Please check Compass for all dates/times including excursions and incursions. **All dates are subject to change.**

Commitment to Child Safety.

Alphington Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Alphington Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Alphington Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability. If there are any concerns or questions regarding Child Safety procedures, please see Melissa Mackenzie or Shane Wilkie

Our Child Safe Policy and our commitment and code of conduct is available on the website.

Principal Update – Melissa Mackenzie

Last week we distributed an information letter about the surveys we do and how we use the data. I hope you found this interesting. We have finished the Student Attitudes to School Survey and will receive this data soon. The Parent Survey and the Staff Surveys both happen next term. Tonight, we celebrate STEM learning through the school and are very excited to open classrooms for all to visit. The event runs between 3:45-5:45. I hope to see you all here tonight.

I was able to attend the statewide Principal Conference on Monday and through the theme of leading people, this year's conference explored key ideas around: leading coherence; leading outcomes; and leading self. We heard from the Minister for Education, Hon. Natalie Hutchins and Professor Lea Waters, a leading authority on Positive Psychology. We listened to a keynote address on First Nations Perspectives from Auntie Geraldine Atkinson and Angela Singh the Regional Director. We were then able to attend workshops delivered by a range of schools. It was reinvigorating to spend time with colleagues and to hear about approaches and perspectives in education.

There is still a fair amount of illness around so please collect RATS from the office if you need them and keep your children home if they are unwell.

2024 enrolments: We have a steady number of Preps enrolled for 2024 and are also gaining a lot of interest for other year levels. We have had a few new students move into the area over the last few weeks and join us. If you have a child ready for school or know of families wanting to enrol, then please complete the process in the next few weeks.

Have a great week.

Melissa Mackenzie

Principal

Assistant Principal Update – Shane Wilkie

Tonight, Wednesday 7 June, join us from 3:45pm to 5:45pm for our 2023 Science Expo. Families are invited to move around the school and engage with the various scientific displays. Students and teachers have been busy this week finalising preparations for the afternoon. We are very excited to have families back onsite to share and celebrate our love of scientific learning.

Attached to today's newsletter is a copy of the scavenger hunt developed to compliment the Science Expo. Copies will also be available to collect from the admin foyer and learning centre at the Science Expo. Families who complete the scavenger hunt correctly will go into the draw to win some science themed prizes.

Offsite Evacuation Drill – Providing the weather is suitable, we will hold an offsite evacuation to Alphington Park tomorrow. As part of our annual emergency Management Plan, we are required to conduct drills at various points throughout the year. This will be our first offsite evacuation for the year and the School Leadership Team to review the protocols and the exit points given the changes which have occurred since the completion of construction. Teachers of Prep students will suitably prepare the younger students for their first offsite evacuation.

Term 3 Planning: Our staff meetings and team planning time for week 8 and 9 is dedicated to the planning and preparation of Term 3. During this time teams are meeting to develop their term unit planners for English, Mathematics, Integrated Inquiry and Wellbeing. Teams will meet to plan their Inquiry units with other year levels to build some collaborative learning opportunities. In Term 3 our school wide focus is 'Humanities Inquiry'. Students will learn about a period from our past and investigate the impacts events from these times had upon the people, culture, and wider society. From this, students will develop a range of skills to compare, contrast, evaluate, and analyse how learning about history can be applied to our lives today.

Student Achievement Data: An extremely important part of ensuring students are achieving and making growth is gathering and analysing a range of data sets to confirm teaching is targeted to current learning needs. Following the completion of our recent semester assessments, celebration writing pieces and staff moderation sessions, we are compiling data to plan semester two learning goals.

One area that we have identified as a school focus is supporting our high achieving maths students. As you can see from the table below, we have a large percentage of students who are currently achieving 6 months or beyond in their current curriculum level for Number and Algebra. You will also see that there is steady decline in the percentage of students as they progress through the school.

As a school we have prioritised this as a focus to ensure we are extending all students achieving at their point of need. We are currently providing extension mathematics in the middle years; have planned professional learning for Term 3 in mathematics and will have a maths PLC focus next term exploring ways to extend all learners in mathematics.

YEAR LEVEL	% of Students Working Beyond Level
Year 1	80%
Year 2	68%
Year 3	65%
Year 4	62%
Year 5	56%
Year 6	44%

Report Cards: Semester One Reports are being finalised this week. An electronic copy of your child's report will be available for you to view online, by 5pm Friday 17 June, and download as required from Compass. If you wish to receive a hard copy of the report, please contact your child's class teacher. The reporting on students' achievements for the semester is an important part of the assessment process and each child's individual journey. We recommend families sharing the report with their child, celebrating their achievements, and positively discussing the next learning steps. If you have any questions regarding your child's report, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Have a great week everyone!
Shane Wilkie
Assistant Principal



CANTEEN OPEN TOMORROW - Thursday 8th June
Everything priced between 50c to \$1.50
This is the last one for the term.



Thank you to our Book Club mums - Dina K and Kim S for organising the recent orders, deliveries, sorting and bundling the scholastic book club items for this term. There will be 2 more book clubs this year (term 3 and 4)

THE SMILE SQUAD DENTAL VAN IS VISITING APS!!!

Check-ups start on the 12th July.

Please follow the link below to fill in the consent form for your child to be included in this free service. Check-ups will start from the 12th July and Smile Squad will be in contact if treatment is needed.

This is the link:

<https://dentalhealthservicesvictoria.snapforms.com.au/form/sdp-consent-form>

A promotional banner for Smile Squad. On the left, a young boy in a blue school uniform peeks over a vertical orange bar. On the right, a young girl with curly hair and a yellow headband smiles. The orange bar contains a magnifying glass icon and the text 'Find out more'. Below this, it says 'Smile Squad means that every child can have a healthy smile. Find out more at smilesquad.vic.gov.au'. At the bottom of the orange bar are logos for 'dental health services victoria' and 'VICTORIA State Government'. The girl's section has the 'SMILE SQUAD' logo (a smiling tooth) and the text 'Information guide for parents'. At the bottom right are logos for 'dental health services victoria' and 'VICTORIA State Government'.

What is Smile Squad?

Smile Squad is a Victorian Government funded program which will provide all Victorian public primary and secondary school students with free dental care.

It's a \$321.9 million program, with a school dental van coming to your area soon. The friendly dental team will provide your child with a free annual oral health examination and follow up care if needed.

Find out more

Smile Squad means that every child can have a healthy smile.
Find out more at smilesquad.vic.gov.au

Information guide for parents

dental health services victoria VICTORIA State Government

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Four simple steps to receiving free high-quality dental care at school.

Who is eligible?

All students attending government primary, secondary or special schools in Victoria.

How can my child register for the program?

Information about the program, along with initial consent forms covering oral health examinations and active preventive care, will be distributed through the school.

When and how will my child be seen?

The Smile Squad team will first visit your school to undertake oral health examinations and active preventive care. Your child will be collected from class when they are due to be seen. After the initial check-up, an individualised treatment plan will be developed and sent home along with a secondary consent form for treatment if needed.

Do I need to attend with my child?

You do not need to attend with your child. However, if you wish to, we can make an appointment time for you to attend together.

What does it cost?

Smile Squad is a free program for all students. It includes an annual oral health check, active preventive care and follow up treatment if needed.

Note: this program does not include orthodontic or cosmetic treatment.

Who can I contact for more information?

Visit smilesquad.vic.gov.au

What if my child has urgent needs/ dental pain?

If your child has dental pain, please contact your nearest dentist or community dental clinic for help.

To locate your nearest clinic, visit <https://www.dhsv.org.au/clinic-locations/community-dental-clinics>.



Step One

Give your consent



Step Two

Your school schedules a check-up



Step Three

You give your consent for treatment if needed



Step Four

Your school schedules treatment



Support Logan and Jude (Year 6) whilst they do The Push Up Challenge

Follow the links below to donate now!!!

Your donation will support mental health & suicide prevention in a big way
thepushupchallenge.com.au

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ALPHINGTON
NETBALL CLUB

**REGISTRATIONS for
SEASON 2, 2023
NOW OPEN**

**Saturday Banyule Competition (U9-U17) ONLY
(Net Set Go Rego will open in Term 3)**

**Registrations close on:
11th June 2023.**

<https://bit.ly/35uup50>

No LATE registrations accepted.

**Any queries, please contact:
alphington.netball.club@gmail.com**



WINTER SOLSTICE BONFIRE 2023

The first Winter Solstice Bonfire was held in 2003. This year marks the 20th anniversary of this auspicious occasion!

Saturday 17 June 2023 is when the Bonfire will thrill and delight thousands of families.

There is something hypnotic about watching flames leaping into the night sky from a massive bonfire. When live music, fire lanterns, face-painting and storytelling are added to the mix. It's truly an evening to remember.

We'll also have a widely expanded range of vendors selling food and drinks, including: Beatbox Kitchen, Blak Brews, The Boiling Crab, Hot Churros, Hudsons Donuts, Inkredible Calamari, Juicello, Mr Fresh Truck, Taco Truck, Twista Bros, Twista Sis, Wrap It Roll It and friends of the Farm—the Country Women's Association.

And as always, the Farm will be running a BBQ sausage sizzle (with sausages supplied by Halal Meats Preston) and a bar with beer, wine and our special mulled wine. Drinks will be provided by Bodriggy, Mountain Goat, Rewine and Noisy Ritual Winery.

This event sells out fast and tickets are available online only via our website and direct from Eventbrite.

Prices are:

Adults \$25 / concession \$15

Kids \$15 / concession \$10

Children under the age of 2 are admitted for free.

These cards entitle you to concession-priced entry: Carer Card, Health Care Card, Pension Card and Veterans' Affairs Card.

This is a card-only event. Strictly no cash. No dogs or glow sticks permitted on site.

The Farm will be closed during the day on Saturday 17 June while we prep for the big event, until gates open at 4:00 pm for Winter Solstice Bonfire ticket holders only.

This event ends at 8:00 pm.

We strongly advise taking public transport to the Bonfire as parking is extremely limited. The closest train station is Victoria Park on the Mernda/Hurstbridge lines, with a 10-minute walk from the station. Buses 200–207 from the city to Bulleen go along Johnston Street regularly. Paid parking is available in the Abbotsford Convent carpark, however, numbers are limited—so again, we strongly advise to look for alternative modes of transport.

<https://farm.org.au/events/winter-solstice-bonfire/>

Family Scavenger Hunt

For the 2023 Science Expo families can go on a Science Scavenger Hunt through the Science Expo. With their scavenger hunt clue sheet, a visit to each year level will find the answer to each of the questions. Families with correctly answered scavenger hunts will go into the draw for some family science prizes.

There are two scavenger hunts; P-2 and 3-6.

Year 3 - 6 Scavenger Hunt

NAME:		CLASS:
Prep	Q. What are the four stages in a butterfly's life cycle?	
	A.	
Year One	Q. How do squids camouflage?	
	A.	
Year Two	Q. Which of the surfaces should the vehicle travel further on - why is this the case?	
	A.	
Year Three	Q. The Earth rotates on an axis (tilt), this creates what?	
	A.	
Year Four	Q. What is the name of worms/maggots/fungi in a food chain?	
	A.	
Year Five	Q. What root vegetable was grown by the Year 5 students?	
	A.	
Year Six	Q. How long does it take for a plastic bottle to decompose?	
	A.	

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Prep - 2 Scavenger Hunt

NAME:		CLASS:	
Prep	Q. How many legs does a caterpillar have?		
	A.		
Year One	Q. What items do you need to make a bee hotel?		
	A.		
Year Two	Q. What three forces did the Year 2s investigate?		
	A.		
Year Three	Q. How long does it take for the Earth to rotate?		
	A.		
Year Four	Q. What are the main needs of a plant to grow?		
	A.		
Year Five	Q. Name one of the plants or vegetables that the Year 5 students grew?		
	A.		
Year Six	Q. Can you list 2 ways families can reduce their use of fossil fuels at home		
	A.		