



TERM 1 2022

Tue 01 Mar	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Talking the Talk Sexual Education - Parent Information Session - Virtual
Thu 03 Mar		Ivanhoe District Swimming
Mon 07 Mar		Divisional Swimming
Tue 08 Mar		International Women's Day (Wear Purple)
Mon 14 Mar		Public Holiday - Labour Day
Thu 17 Mar	3.45pm - 5.45pm	Working Bee - SAVE THE DATE
Fri 18 Mar		ISDDA District Soccer Round Robin - Year 6
Mon 21 Mar		Harmony Day (Wear Orange)
Tue 22 Mar		Regional Swimming Carnival
Fri 25 Mar		RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY
Fri 01 Apr		IDSSA District Footy Round Robin Year 6 (Girls)
Sat 02 Apr		APS Trivia Night - New Date
Fri 08 Apr	2.30pm	End TERM 1 - please note early dismissal

TERM 2 2022

Mon 25 Apr		Public Holiday - ANZAC DAY
Tue 26 Apr		TERM 2 Commence - all students and staff

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

School Council Approved Student Free Days

- Term 2 - Friday 6 May
- Term 3 - Monday 11 July - 1st Day of Term 3
- Term 4 - Monday 31 October - Day before Melbourne Cup

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

We've had another week of exciting learning and feeling like school is normal. The students show such enjoyment at school that we are all finding it invigorating. I have had a few days out supporting another school with their Strategic Review. It is rewarding to go into another school and learn more about the programs and approaches they are using and the results they are getting. Seeing learning in action in another setting and being able to glean ideas is a privilege.

We have been notified that the concrete pour has had to be pushed back to Thursday with a delay in receiving metal in time. Please take measures to avoid the area in a car and choose to walk instead. This is a major part of the process and needs to be done continuously throughout the day.

We have appointed a tutor, Emily Baldwin, who will be working with groups of students throughout the rest of the year. Emily will spend time in the first few days completing induction and learning about the hybrid model of tutoring we provide. She will also be meeting classes across the next few days. The program will begin next week with families being informed if their child is involved.

The annual call for nominations for School Council closes today at 4pm. We still have a few vacancies for parents. If you are interested please have a conversation with other School Councillors or myself. The role is important in the governance of the school and provides insight into the school as part of a larger system.

State Schools Victoria sports teams hold trials each year to select their squad in a wide range of sports. These teams are the collection of elite students excelling at their chosen sport. As a school we are only able to nominate three students to attend a trial. To select these students I require an endorsement from the child's sporting coach to attest to the child being elite. Once I have received this and providing there are not more than three students I am able to sign the form needed to participate. Please email me with this information if you are wanting your child to attend a trial.

The Community and Fundraising team are launching the Trivia night again with fingers crossed that we will be able to go ahead this time. It is booked for April 2 at the Furlan club. As it will be the first event we've been able to hold in over two years we are expecting a fantastic turnout. Tickets will go on sale next week so please set aside the date.

We have begun work with the senior furniture team, a group of students interested in the design and composition of the Forest area, particularly the new play equipment. We expect to place the order next week and have it installed in late term 2. It is so pleasing to be able to act on these final touches of the school as areas of the school are finished off.

Covid 19 update: We have only had a few cases over the last week, all three were in different classes and year levels. We continue to wear masks inside and follow the measures of open doors and windows and keeping the air purifiers running throughout the day. The measures we are taking and the support of families is working to keep this virus at bay at present. I would like to ask parents to ensure their child has a store of masks in the bags each day and that if they are unwell they stay home.

Have a lovely week

Melissa Mackenzie
Principal

Assistant Principal Update – Shane Wilkie

Welcome to week 4. Over the last few weeks, I have managed to catch up with lots of families in the playground each afternoon which has been wonderful. It was also great to see some parents at our assembly last Friday morning. As we continue to navigate our way through the covid-safe environment that we are operating in we will look to further connect with our community in safe and appropriate ways.

Road Safety around APS: recently we have noticed an increase in the number of road safety issues around the school. There are several factors contributing to this, the closure of the main gate on Yarralea Street due to the building upgrade, an increase in cyclists and pedestrians, and less usage on Adams Street.

As a result, I would like to draw families and students' attention to the following:

- **Using the pedestrian crossing:** While I understand the inconvenience for some families having to exit the top northern Yarralea Street gate and then head south to use the pedestrian crossing. We need to encourage this for all pedestrians who may be travelling south or through the laneway to Alphington Park. Currently a number of people are crossing directly outside the northern gate in between parked cars, and this is a very high risk behaviour.
- **Cyclist awareness:** While the obvious benefits of increasing cyclists supports traffic management around the school, please be aware of the dangers of travelling on both the road and paths when riding. Several cyclists are demonstrating unsafe behaviours such as riding at speed along paths, not giving way, heading out into traffic without signalling and weaving through traffic. If you and/or your child is a cyclist please reinforce safe riding behaviours. Our Year 4 Bike safety program will be commencing soon will no doubt reinforce positive road safety messages for cyclists.

- **School Access, Car parking & Adams Street update:** As the school upgrade continues to unfold, we have noted a distinct change in the use of school access points. Currently there are significant increases in the number of students and families utilising Yarralea Street for drop off and pick up, which is currently impacted by the reduction of gate access points. The alternative access on Adams Street has two gates, a southern one with bike storage and a Northern gate next to the gymnasium. We would encourage as cyclists and pedestrians to utilise these access points if appropriate. We are working with Yarra Council and Plan Group to reinstate the timber barricades which will allow safe pedestrian travel into the school, as well as providing some short term 5-10 minute drop off/pick up spots on the roadside.

Mathematics PLC: Our year level teams are implementing our first PLC cycle for 2022. The focus of this PLC is mathematics and the curriculum proficiencies of problem solving and reasoning.

The PLC model supports teachers to use data, mathematics challenges and student assessments to identify a small group of students with a similar specific need, aligned to the curriculum, which utilises evidenced based teaching strategies to improve student outcomes. The short time frame of 4-5 weeks ensures teachers select an explicit, highly specific goal. We use the analogy of a cake, slice and crumb. *For example, the cake may be Fractions; the slice, comparing and ordering fractions; and the crumb, recognising the connection between the order of unit fractions and their denominators, $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$.*

At the end of the cycle teams share their findings with the school community, identifying new strategies to adopt and adding to the collective knowledge of the school's curriculum programs.

Tutoring Program: Attached to today's newsletter is information about our 2022 Tutor Learning Initiative (TLI). Our 2022 Tutor, Emily Baldwin, commenced her induction today and has begun collaboratively planning with teachers the program for semester one. The TLI program will commence from Monday 28 February with a mathematics focus. The major change for 2022 is that rather than 5-6 week cycles, students identified for the program will be supported for the duration of the semester with their mathematics learning. Families of identified students will receive a letter from the class teacher by the end of the week.

Learning Goals – student learning journey: As I work with the Year 3 and Year 4 classes; support the identification of TLI students; spend time in classrooms as well as through my general classroom visits, I am continuing to emphasis our priority of individual learning goals as part of each students' learning journey. As a school we are working on establishing a process for supporting students to articulate their own curriculum goals in a variety of different ways.

Have a great week everyone!
Shane Wilkie - Assistant Principal

School Council Minutes – Tuesday 22 February 2022

Finance report: The Finance Committee outlined that the high yield account is currently higher than last year as a result of funds from the building upgrade being deposited which will be allocated to future purchases. The student Resource Package (SRP) is currently in surplus however there are additional staff costs still for the Tutor and Performing Arts programs which will then mean the SRP will be a deficit figure for 2022.

Voluntary Parent Contributions - changes to how schools can communicate and no longer invoice parents as this contradicts the voluntary nature of the contributions. The school is in a healthy financial position and there are no concerns regarding cash inflow from parent contributions.

Melissa informed the Council that the school was successful in receiving a \$25000 grant for a shade sail. Melissa explained that we are working with Plan Group to organise the installation alongside the project.

Approval of School Policies: School Council approved a number of start of year policies that require ratifying prior to the commencement of a new council. Melissa outlined the process for the development of policies, and how this is now DET managed through PAL (online policy library) and that schools simply adjust and insert contextual details.

Fundraising Sub-committee: The Trivia Night event is confirmed for: Saturday 2 April

A proposal for other events throughout the year to involve students was raised and will be considered by fundraising committee.

Use of School Facilities: There was a wide conversation around the way to allow access to the gym for hirers and which clubs should be prioritised for an agreement.

There was an agreement that the school set out clear communication about the principles of how agreements are set up. Melissa outlined that the administration and financial requirements and time necessary to process these also impact how much use can be made of the gymnasium. Melissa explained that the school has sought information from other schools as to how they set up their agreements, including the hire costs, cleaning arrangements and administration fees.

Environment Sub-committee - Working Bee – SAVE THE DATE – Thursday 17 March 3:45-5:45pm

Year 5 Excursion to CERES

By Emily, Seth and Charlie

On Thursday the 10th of February, Year 5 students went to CERES. At CERES we formed into different groups. Hannah's group started off tasting plants. The first plant we tasted was Pigface; Pigface is a plant that you can drink by picking a big leaf and breaking that in half then squeezing it in your mouth. The next thing we tasted was Saltbush, Saltbush is a bush you can eat, first pick a leaf and then you can eat it. The last plant we tasted was native spinach, you pick a leaf and soak it in hot water for 5min and then you can eat it or put it in a salad.

Next, we made paper pots, which we could plant two things, beans or the native spinach. After that, we got to go to Honey lane market. There, we got to learn about what plants need and how to take care for them.

Before lunch we fed the chickens some pellets and everyone loved it we even got to pat them. Now we all have the skills and the knowledge to make our food project and look after our own crops. We had a great experience and we wish to go back!

A.P.S Year 3 -6 Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday the 9th of February students in years 3 -6 participated in a swimming carnival, which was held at Fitzroy Swimming Pool. Students competed in 50m freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly. There were some water activities in a shallow pool and we even had a year 6s vs the teachers freestyle relay. It was fantastic to see everyone supporting each other and demonstrating our school values. It was a great day had by all and an excellent first house activity for the year.

Ivanhoe District Swimming Championship

Congratulations to the following students who excelled in their races and who have qualified to swim in the Ivanhoe District Swimming Championship, which will be held on Thursday the 3rd of March at Watermarc Leisure Centre in Greensborough.



Under 9/10s	Under 11s	Under 12/13s
Alice Q	Georgie E	Josie S
Rani C	Adele M	<u>Matlida S</u>
<u>Vaiva K</u>	Eve C	Mia M
Ella S	Clio K	Nina K
	Mira F	
Gus H	Ornella N	Ben T
Connor O	Luella A	Allan L
Matthew H	Mali C	Eric R
Oscar T	Xavier C	Charlie Mc
Noah S	Ted O	Simon W
	Hayden Mc	
	Sam E	



APS Trivia Night - new date of Saturday 2 April

All is looking good for the Trivia Night to go ahead on Saturday 2 April! If you haven't already, start organising your table of 10 as tickets will go on sale next week. Further details to follow via Compass.

ALPHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRIVIA NIGHT 2022

2 APRIL / 7PM

**SAVE THE DATE AND
START ORGANISING
YOUR TABLE OF 10!**

TICKETS ON SALE NEXT WEEK

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools this year.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Friday 25 March 2022



Join in the celebration and
ride, walk, scoot or skate to school
on National Ride2School Day.



ride2school.com.au



Parent Seminar

For parents of
Foundation
to Year 6

TALKING THE TALK

Respectful Relationships, Human Sexuality and Body Safety Presentation



Presented by

Vanessa Hamilton

More than 25 Years Experience
Sexuality Educator
Mother Of Three

Learn how to tailor conversations with your children about:

- Healthy & Respectful Relationships
- Body & Protective Safety
- What Is Normal Early Childhood Sexual Behaviour
- How Babies Are Made And Born
- Puberty Preparation
- Internet Safety And Our Sexualised Society

Learn how to tailor conversations with your children about:

- What is appropriate for my family?
- How much do I need to tell them?
- At what age should I discuss these topics?
- More information; www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au

- **Bookings Essential via trybooking**
- **Zoom link will be sent via email**

Online booking:

www.trybooking.com/BXIFK

*Please note this session is not suitable for children to view

Tuesday 1st March 2022

Live on line via Zoom:
www.trybooking.com/BXIFK

8.00pm - 9.30pm

Testimonials from Parents

"Brilliant, every parent should have access to this talk..."

"Such a clear presenter – Easy to listen to, I liked the humour as it took the pressure off heavy topics..."

"I feel a lot more confident talking to my kids now..."

"Vanessa's presentation is probably one of the best parenting sessions I've ever attended. Honest, engaging, knowledgeable, fantastic. Thank you..."

Primary School Parents



St Anthony's Primary School

TWILIGHT FAIR

Friday 4 March 2022, 3:30 to 8:30pm
52 Austin St, Alphington

● **BOCA GELATO BY ADAM D'SYLVA** ●

● **DELICIOUS FOOD** ● **BAR** ● **DODGEMS & RIDES** ●

● **BOOKS** ● **TOYS** ● **PLANTS** ● **CAKES** ●

● **ENTERTAINMENT** ● **SILENT AUCTION** ●

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ALPHINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB
FAMILY OPEN DAY
SUNDAY 6TH MARCH
 ALPHINGTON PARK 10AM-1PM



NEW PLAYERS WELCOME
 ALL ABILITIES & SKILL
 LEVELS FROM 5YO UP UP

JUNIORS - BOYS - GIRLS
 SENIORS - VETERANS

MORE INFO OR TO
 REGISTER FOR 2022
 SEASON
 WWW.ALPHINGTONFC.COM



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