



## **TERM 2 2022**

Thu 28 Apr	7.00pm - 8.00pm	Year 7 Transition Information Evening (via webex)
Tue 03 May	11.30am	APS Fun Run - Whole School - House Dress Up
Mon 09 May		IDSSA District Cross Country
Wed 11 May		NAPLAN Begins - Year 3 and 5
Thu 19 May	11.30am - 1.00pm	Whole School Dance Incursion
Fri 20 May		<b>Student Free Day (OshClub will be running - contact directly to book in)</b>
Wed 25 May	2.15pm	APS OPEN DAY
Mon 30 May		<b>Student Free Day (OshClub will be running - contact directly to book in)</b>
Wed 08 Jun		Science Expo
Wed 15 Jun		Regional Cross Country
Thu 23 Jun		Yr 6 Mixed Netball Round Robin
Fri 24 Jun		Last Day Term 2 - note early dismissal - 2.30pm

NB: Please check Compass for other 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**

Welcome back to term 2! I hope you all had a restful break after a hectic term 1. With the easing of restrictions, we feel that this term will be less disjointed and not be interrupted with blocks of isolation. I have sent a Compass note to all families outlining the changes, the most significant being that students and staff who are household contacts of a COVID-19 case are no longer required to quarantine. They can return to school if they undertake rapid antigen tests (RAT) 5 times within their 7-day period and wear face masks indoors if they are aged 8 and above unless they have a valid exemption. If any household contact returns a positive RAT result during this period, they must isolate for 7 days and not attend school.

We have many activities planned for the term starting with the APS Fun Run next Tuesday, followed by Cross Country for those older students who qualify. Term 2 signifies the start of Interschool Sport for the Year 6 students on Friday afternoons. We focus on science learning through our integrated approach and will hold our annual Science Expo on Wednesday 8 June. There are many excursions and incursions planned and I again appeal to those families who are yet to pay their charges that these events are user pays and if not paid your child will not be able to attend.

We have a student free day on Friday 20 May where the staff will complete the Community Understanding and Safety training, CUST is designed to be an introduction to ongoing learning and engagement with Aboriginal perspectives throughout the curriculum through meaningful collaboration between local Aboriginal Communities and schools. We also have a common Professional Practice Day for teachers approved for Monday 30 May. OSHC will operate on both days where students are not required at school. Our year 3 and 5 students will complete NAPLAN testing online from 11 May onwards and the year 4, 5 and 6 students will complete the annual Attitudes to Schooling survey in the next few weeks. Term 2 is also the term where teachers become busy writing reports, which involves collecting and analysing student data, comparing this to the standards set out in the Victorian Curriculum and making judgements to assign progression points to students. This is then collated into a document that is published to parents through Compass later in the term.

If you have been to the school recently you will see that the main turf has been replaced and the two-level building is taking shape. There are hold ups with supplies of some materials and labour is hard to source but at this stage the building is expected to be finished by the end of term 3. The purchase and installation of the year 5/6 play equipment has been approved by School Council and will be ordered in the next few days, with at least a 16 week wait. I feel proud of the team of students who have worked hard over the last few months last year and this year to gather the plans from 2019 and gather the ideas from the older students and work with the company to shape these ideas into a challenging and engaging playground. There have been surveys taken and votes counted to inform their designs and thoughts about the best equipment for the senior students. Special thanks to Orson who has shown persistence and remained committed right through the process. This is just part of the work to be done in the Forest area which was one of the priorities from 2019 fundraising. The money for this has been kept aside and will be used for this area in the coming months.

We will be picking up the designs from the Prep playground developed in 2018 and working with our younger students to integrate their ideas with current equipment, the year 1 Fort which will be moved and some new linking equipment. This area will become the junior area with a larger playground, a curious learning area and shade sails.

I am pleased to let you know that we have now put in place two School Council agreements for the hire of the gymnasium after school hours. After many considered discussions at School Council, we have decided to hire the space to the Alphington Netball Club and the Ivanhoe Knights basketball clubs for the weeknights. As we are wanting to ensure that the hiring is smooth and efficient, we will have the two agreements for the remainder of the year. This will give us the time to elicit any other groups that may like to hire the space, which will be gained through an expression of interest distributed later this term. We are grateful to have such an amazing space.

*Have a great week*  
*Melissa Mackenzie*  
*Principal*

## **Assistant Principal Update – Shane Wilkie**

Welcome back to school following the Easter holiday period. I hope families managed to get some time to relax, recharge, and reconnect. As a family we spent the Easter weekend camping on Lake Hume just north of Albury. The weather was spectacular, and the kids spent plenty of time in the pool, on the jumping pillow, riding their bikes and playing with new and old friends.

It will be an extremely busy term with just nine school weeks, some public holidays, a couple of curriculum days and lots of events. As we head into Term 2, I would like to set out some of the school's priorities for this term.

**Term 2 Curriculum Focus:** Our Professional Learning Community (PLC) focus for this term will be writing. All students are currently completing their pre-assessment writing pieces related to the focus genre for the term. From these writing samples teachers will evaluate and diagnose student writing goals for the upcoming unit of work.

**Writing at APS:** At APS our writing sessions are 1 hour and generally run from 10-11am. The lesson is made up of the launch, explore and plenary phases. During the launch, teachers will introduce the lesson learning intention and success criteria and then either model a specific writing focus or gather students' ideas to develop a writing skill through a shared piece. The explore phase of the lesson is where differentiation occurs. Students may work with the teacher, work independently on their 'Choice' writing, conference with the teacher, or focus on a particular aspect of their genre focus. The plenary is where we utilise the 'Author's Chair' so students can share their writing from the session with their peers. Generally those students who have worked with the teacher on a specific writing focus will be given the opportunity to share if they would like.

**Mathematics Peer Observations:** In Term 1 our staff learning was around mathematics problem solving and reasoning. Our PLC focus was mathematics and our Leadership and School Improvement Teams reviewed and updated the APS Mathematics Instructional Model. To build upon this work we will be undertaking peer observations this term with a focus on mathematics.

Staff will be given the opportunity to meet with a colleague, undertake a rich pedagogical discussion to develop a learning goal aligned to their practice in the teaching of mathematics. Teachers will focus specifically on utilising the school's instructional model and drawing upon our learning around problem solving and reasoning.

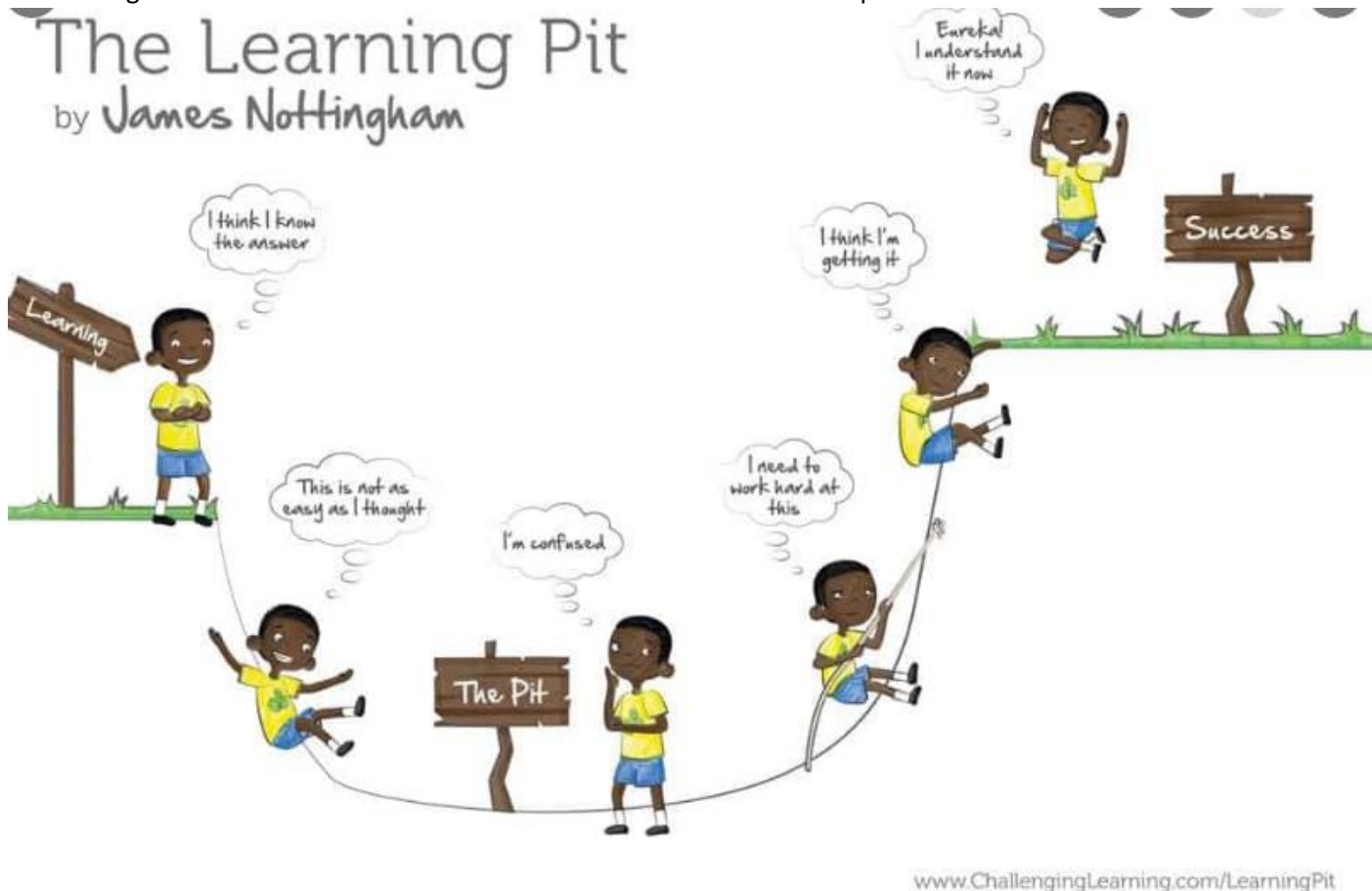
Following the observations, staff meet again to review the observation data and establish new learnings which will best support their practice and student achievement.

Research shows that peer observations in schools can have a significant impact on improving students' achievement by increasing whole school staff capability and capacity.

### **Student Wellbeing – Learning Dispositions and Agency:**

*The ability to take responsibility for their own life, to make decisions that enable them to productively navigate the risks, uncertainties, and challenges they face in life to find a way forwards to achieve their personally owned sense of purpose. To become the agent of their own story.*

This quote is from an article by Ruth Crick about Learner Dispositions. At APS we have been exploring the concept of student voice and agency, and how it can positively impact student wellbeing. This term we will be working with students to develop our schools' model for student agency and the development of positive learner dispositions. Currently classes are exploring a range of different models which can support students to view themselves positively as agents of their learning. Concepts such as 'The Learning Pit', 'Struggle Time', 'The Power of Yet', 'Genius Hour' and 'Brian Challenges' are being explored by different classes as we look to provide students with tools and strategies to help them navigate their learning journeys. In the coming weeks I will continue to share via the newsletter different aspects of this work.



**APS Fun Run:** Next Tuesday 3 May we will hold our annual Fun Run event. Megan has done a fantastic job in organising a fun and inclusive event which will allow all students the opportunity to participate in a way best suited to their needs. Students are encouraged to come dressed in their house colours as they will compete in this way. For those students in Years 3-6 who may wish to represent APS at the district cross country, all students will be timed so we can determine the top 10 finishers in each event. We are very excited about the day... fingers crossed we get some nice weather!

**Pre-service teachers:** This week we have three students from Swinburne University commencing their pre-service placements. Tashi, Vanessa and Chelsea commenced their four-week placements with Debby in Year 1, James in Year 4, and Greta in Year 4. All students are fourth year primary education pre-service teachers. We welcome them all to APS and wish them all the best for their placements. Thank you to our wonderful teachers for allowing APS to continue in our support of the next generation of educators.

**NAPLAN Online:** Families in Years 3 and 5 will today receive Information regarding NAPLAN Online. NAPLAN Online takes place from Tuesday 10 May until Friday 20 May. A timetable and schedule of when tests will be undertaken will be sent home next week. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming assessment period please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. Apologies as this information was to be sent home at the end of Term 2 but due to my absence was delayed.

*Have a great week everyone*

*Shane Wilkie*

*Assistant Principal*

### **APS Fun Run**

On **Tuesday 3rd May**, we will be holding the APS Fun Run. The event will be held at Alphington Oval, and run between 11:20am and 1pm. All students from F-6 will be participating, and training will incur in the lead up.

While the emphasis of this event is participation, fun and whole school engagement, the Fun Run is also an opportunity for year 3-6 students to trial for our District Cross Country Team.

Students are encouraged to wear house colours on the day.

**PARENT HELPERS - Community engagement will be vital for the running of our 2022 APS Fun Run, and we greatly appreciate the support we've received for past events. If you are able to help out on the day, please see or email me (Megan Tsilemanis - [megan.tsilemanis@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:megan.tsilemanis@education.vic.gov.au)) no later than Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April. This will allow time to allocate roles and disseminate information.**

**You will need to have a current Working With Children's Check and be fully vaccinated (booster included) to attend/help on the day.**

*Kind Regards,*

*Megan Tsilemanis.*

### **Library News**

Welcome back to school and to the lovely library! Over the holidays I covered many new books that you will find on the shelves. There is some fabulous literature joining our other books. Keep an eye out next time you visit with your library bag.

This week we are hearing from the year five team and finding out their favourite books.

Keep looking under the couch and under those piles of unfolded clothes on your floor for any books that may belong in the library.

Happy reading folks.

*Lizzy Ferguson*

### **What books did you enjoy reading when you were young?**

*Deborah Luciani - 5DL*

Well, I definitely enjoyed 'The Magic Faraway Tree' and the series which ensued. There was a bright place in the woods where a giant tree stretched to the clouds, its branches hosting a plethora of whimsical residents. The top of the tree broke through clouds, these clouds hosted different lands where the protagonists had many and varied adventures. I loved the characters who lived in the tree and the giant slide which wound its way through the middle of the enormous oak tree.

*Hannah Pullar - 5HP*

As a child I remember reading The Sign of the Seahorse by Graeme Base over and over with my Dad. I absolutely loved experiencing the chaotic but exciting fantasy world and the eccentric characters. With the vivid description and detailed scenes in the illustrations, there was something new to notice each time we read it. still have my original copy stored away to hopefully share with another young child one day!

*Brody Driscoll - 5BM*

I was fortunate to have a grandmother who was a teacher, librarian, writer and director; so, I was exposed to a love of literature from a very young age. I remember being introduced to Beatrix Potter and A.A Milne, and laughing hysterically at

the images in 'When the Wind Changed'. Nevertheless, my love of reading, particularly dark humour, derives from the late great Roald Dahl. I read everything he wrote. His style of writing heavily influenced my own writing style and love of satire and the absurd.



# Open Morning

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Tours commencing at 9am  
from the School Gymnasium (Burke Rd. entrance)

Information session at 11.00 am  
in the School Theatre (High St. entrance)



**NORTHCOTE  
HIGH SCHOOL**

# OPEN MORNING

**WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL 2022**

**9.15am – 11.30am:**  
**Our school in action**

- Student-led tours
- Principal's presentation (9.20am and 10.20am)

**6.20pm: Presentation**  
(repeat session from morning)

**BOOKINGS  
ESSENTIAL for the  
Presentation Sessions**

See website for details and  
bookings: [nhs.vic.edu.au](https://nhs.vic.edu.au)

**YEAR 7 2023 ACE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS OPEN - CLOSING 06 MAY**

# LET'S GET RECYCLING!

Alphington Primary School is excited to be participating in the *Wonder Recycling Rewards* program again this year. Last year we collected just over **15kg** of bread bags and hundreds of bread tags, giving us a total of 1500 credits to spend towards RH Sports equipment.

We would love to get the ball rolling early and start collecting bread bags and tags now. But of course, we cannot do this without your help. A collection box has already been set up in your child's classroom, so please start collecting at home and feel free to send them in weekly!

## TWO RECYCLING REMINDERS

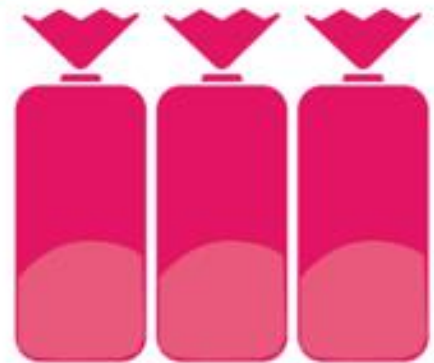
It's important that items being recycled are not contaminated with other products and are as clean as possible. Here's a quick checklist for you:

### What is a bread bag for recycling purposes?

The rule of thumb is that if it has contained bread of some sort and is a soft plastic, then it's a bread bag. If it hasn't contained bread, then it's not a bread bag.

### How clean do the bags have to be?

Bread bags should be free from crumbs to ensure no contamination during the recycling process but they do not need to be washed.

A promotional image for the Wonder Recycling Rewards program. It features a smiling young girl with braids holding a handful of red Wonder bread tags. The background is a textured brown paper with various hand-drawn icons in red and blue, including a Wonder bread bag, a recycling symbol, and a bench. On the left, there is a circular logo that says "Wonder Recycling Rewards for schools". On the right, the text reads "Recycle and earn PLAY equipment for your school!".

Wonder Recycling Rewards for schools

Recycle and earn **PLAY** equipment for your school!

# Parkside Junior Football Club GIRLS DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



**WHEN:** Fridays 5-6pm from 29 April  
**WHO:** Grade 2, 3 and 4 Girls  
**WHERE:** Pitcher Park, Alphington

## Girls footy is fun!!

Join us every Friday night under lights to give footy a try in a safe, inclusive and non-competitive environment



For more info and to register – contact Matt:  
[femalefootball@pjfc.com.au](mailto:femalefootball@pjfc.com.au) or scan the code

